

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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THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Sub-Committee appointed by the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at the instance of one of its members, "to inquire into the working of the Secretary's Office" handed in their report at the monthly meeting on the 13th inst., and we trust, after this deliberate expression of opinion on the part of a body of brethren who are well acquainted with the whole working of the Institution, and who had before them all the official evidence to guide them in their deliberations, that we have heard the last of that series of attacks to which the executive officers of the Charity have been subjected. It is now on record, as the result of this inquiry, that the Secretary, the Collector, and the Clerk, to whom is entrusted by the Committee of Management the task of administering the affairs of the Institution, have each and all of them faithfully discharged their duties in accordance with the terms and conditions of their several appointments. The Sub-Committee appear to have done their work exhaustively. They had before them all the minutes relating to the appointment of these officers. As regards the Secretary, they examined minutely into the report of the Sub-Committee, which defined the duties and emoluments of Bro. TERRY on his appointment to office in December, 1872, and the changes which had been made in the latter from time to time, and they state with "much pleasure," not only that Bro. TERRY has performed his part of the contract faithfully and well, but also that, at his suggestion, in consequence of "the ever-increasing work of the Institution," the office hours have been extended from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. The permanent Clerk, who was appointed to assist the Secretary at a certain salary, is also reported to have discharged his duties faithfully, while as regards the Collector, the Sub-Committee directed their attention particularly to the clause in the report of the Sub-Committee to which in June, 1880, was assigned the duty of defining the terms of his employment; and the Secretary having pledged his word that commission had not been charged on moneys paid to him or the Clerk, and there being no such case known to any member of the Committee or any complaint to such effect made to the office, the Sub-Committee report it as their opinion "that all moneys which the Collector had been paid he was fully entitled to in accordance with the terms of his appointment." As regards "the mode of keeping the accounts," the Sub-Committee, in the face of the very favourable opinion recently expressed by the Grand Lodge Auditor, did not consider it necessary to institute further inquiry upon the subject.

It results from this inquiry that the Secretary and Clerk, whose emoluments have been fixed by resolution of the Committee of Management, have regularly and faultlessly discharged their duties, and that the Collector has been paid only such commission as by the terms of his appointment he is entitled to charge. And we consider ourselves entitled to add that the Secretary, Collector, and Clerk, have not only performed their duties as prescribed by the terms and conditions of their respective appointments, but that they have voluntarily rendered services which were not so prescribed, and which have had the effect of materially increasing the resources of the Institution. The office hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily; on Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; but these officers have never recognised a time limit when an opportunity presented itself, which, in their opinion, might enable them to benefit the Charity. It is, at these odd times, outside the limits prescribed for official work, that the services of a large number of the brethren who have acted as Stewards at the various Festivals of the Institution have been obtained, and though no one, we presume, objects that the officers of this or any other Institution should be under the supervision of a governing body, whose duty it is to see that the work for which they are paid is done in a proper manner, and in accordance with a properly regulated system, it strikes us as being the reverse of politic to be continually attacking and questioning the conduct of

officers who are clearly shown to have done their duty, and a good deal more than their duty. We repeat, therefore, our hope that now this report has been published, there will be an end of these complaints, which, if continued, will certainly have the effect of materially damaging the interests of the Charity.

THE PROVINCE OF DEVON.

The proceedings at the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devonshire must have been extremely gratifying, both to the Prov. G. Master, Bro. Viscount EBRINGTON, M.P., who presided, and the large number of brethren who attended on the occasion. All the reports which were presented were very favourable, and showed beyond question that good work had been done in all directions during the past 12 months. The Provincial Grand Secretary's returns show that the number of subscribing members of lodges in the Province is 2871, or 127 more than it was last year, the average per lodge being some 55 members, which, considering that some of the lodges are located in small towns or sparsely-populated districts, is somewhat higher than usual. The Provincial Grand Treasurer reported the receipts for the year at £590, and the balance in hand, after payment of all expenses and the various contributions to the Charities as well as allowing for the sum to which the Fortescue Annuity Fund was entitled, as in round figures £200. The Fortescue Fund is also in a sound condition, its invested capital amounting to £2558, while the number of annuitants it provides for is six. The Committee of Petitions, which met an hour or two before Provincial Grand Lodge, was likewise able to give an excellent account of its doings during the past year, and from the particulars furnished it appears that the voting strength of the Province is some 210 votes greater than it was in 1888, and a good 400 votes in excess of what it was two years since. This progress is due to the support given to the Provincial Grand Master when he presided last year at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and also to the generosity of Bro. the Rev. T. W. LEMON, who, in addition to his previous donations, has given close on £300 among the Central Institutions this year. The organisation of the Committee for supporting the adopted candidates appears also to be in excellent working order, and credit is justly given to Bro. the Rev. W. WHITLEY the London Representative of the Province, for his success in carrying the election of sundry Devon candidates. Moreover, in addition to this Annuity Fund, there is a Devon Masonic Educational Fund, which, though only at the very outset of its career, is already reported to be doing good service. It is clear, therefore, that Devonshire has latterly been making very substantial progress in numbers and financially, as well as in its organisation for Charitable purposes, and there is every reason to hope that, if its proceedings are conducted on the same lines, and with the same able and zealous brethren at their head—there is little doubt of this being done—the Province will occupy a position still more prominent. Nothing succeeds like success, and Devonshire having for some time past enjoyed the benefits arising from a judicious administration of its affairs, may be trusted to leave no stone unturned in order to improve its organisation and make it still more perfect.

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

Leicestershire and Rutland, though it stands, numerically, among the lesser provinces, has done work that would have reflected credit on provinces of twice its strength. It has but 12 lodges on its roll, yet there is never a year passes but it figures prominently in the Returns at one or other of our Charitable Festivals. Occasionally it contributes a sum which makes one marvel that a body of such limited strength can accomplish so much; as, for instance, at the Centenary Festival of the Girls' School last year, when it raised close on £650, and, again, at this year's Boys' School Festival, when it figured for £530. Nor

is it alone in this respect that Leicestershire and Rutland has acquitted itself honourably. The Province is well administered, and the lodges constituting it are efficient as well as regular in the performance of their duties. Under these circumstances, it is not surprising that the proceedings at the recent annual meeting, at Loughborough, should have passed off so satisfactorily. Bro. Earl FERRERS, Provincial Grand Master, presided in person, and there was a full attendance of Provincial Grand Officers, both Present and Past, and the brethren generally. The business did not need much in the way of discussion. The reports that were presented told but one tale, and that was a tale of uniform success throughout the year. The Provincial Grand Treasurer's statement of account was favourable, and a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to that officer for his services. The Charity Committee Report, which was of a similar nature, referred in terms of special eulogy to the successful labours of Bro. J. H. MARSHALL, who acted as Steward for the Province at the recent Boys' School Festival and compiled a list of £530, and, after duly recognising Bro. MARSHALL'S services, it was arranged that the support of the lodges should be given next year to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, with Bro. A. TINDALL as the representative of the Province. Pleasant reference was also made to the celebration during the past year of the jubilee anniversary of the initiation into Freemasonry of Bro. W. KELLY, Past Provincial Grand Master, and to the approaching celebration by St. John's Lodge, No. 279, Leicester, of the centenary of its constitution. Thus, the record of the business done at this meeting is pleasant reading throughout, and the only drawback to the pleasure of those present appears to have been caused by the absence, through feeble health, of the veteran Bro. KELLY, who, in the course of his long Masonic career of 51 years, has rendered such invaluable services to the Province. We trust that future meetings of this Provincial Grand Lodge may be attended with a similar or even greater measure of success.

A CLERICAL ATTACK ON FREEMASONRY.

The more important of Canon KNOWLES'S objections to Freemasonry has been dealt with in our former articles, but the three that remain deserve some notice. The first of these, "which may justly be described as puerile, is, to the effect that, being a Masons' Craft, it has not helped architecture." Considering that since 1717 we have been not operative, but speculative, or Free and Accepted Masons, it is not altogether surprising that in its present form our Society has not figured very conspicuously in the field of architecture. We are indebted chiefly, if not entirely, to the old operative Craft of Masonry for our symbolism, but the morality, which is thus symbolised, is not intended for the training and advancement of architects. But though we are no longer practical architects, we lose no opportunity of exhibiting our sympathy with the art they practice. We are proud of our descent as a Society from the great building fraternities of the Middle Ages. We are proud of the grand ecclesiastical edifices which remain to this day as evidences of their unrivalled skill and ability in architecture; and in the work of restoration, to which many of them have been subjected, we have been only too proud to bear our part, if not as architects, at all events as contributories towards the expenses of restoration. We have also shown our sympathy by the part we have publicly taken in the inauguration of new edifices, the most conspicuous among the many instances of this kind of "help to architecture" being the laying of the foundation-stone of Truro Cathedral by H.R.H. the Prince of WALES, in his capacity of Most Worshipful Grand Master of our Order, in the summer of 1880, and the laying of the corner-stone of the new Central Tower of Peterborough Cathedral by Bro. the Earl of CARNARVON, Pro Grand Master, on behalf of the Prince of WALES, in 1884. These are instances of which it is difficult to imagine that Canon KNOWLES is ignorant, and greatly increase our surprise that he should have included this among his objections to our Society. However, as we have already said, the reason is a childish one, and hardly worth the notice we have bestowed upon it.

His next objection—that "its rural branches lead to drunkenness," of which he asserts he has proof—we most distinctly and emphatically deny. There are many Masons, both rural and urban, who yield to this and other kinds of intemperance, but the teachings of Freemasonry, like those of Christianity, are dead against all vice, and it is as unjust on the part of Canon KNOWLES to charge the former with encouraging or promoting drunkenness, as it would be in us if we attempted to make Christianity responsible for the vices of professing Christians. However, on the strength of a pretty long experience of Freemasonry, both in town and country, we venture to assert—and we think our readers will bear us out in the assertion—that a brother who made it a practice to indulge to excess in liquor at

our convivial meetings would be very soon "sent to Coventry."

The last of the Rev. Canon's objections to Freemasonry is that "it supplies no need that the Church duly organised and supported does not supply." Here again have we indisputable evidence that he knows nothing of our organisation or the special purposes which it was framed to promote, and that he is, therefore, as incompetent to criticise our Order as he is unjust in his criticisms. Freemasonry has never attempted or aspired, never will attempt or aspire, to supplant the Christian or any Church in its influence over mankind generally. It is not a religion, but it furnishes the neutral ground on which men of all religions may meet and learn to esteem, respect, and love each other—their difference of religious faith notwithstanding. It humbly endeavours to instil into the minds of its followers a respect for that practical Charity which is so fully and finely described in the New Testament, and we flatter ourselves that our endeavours in this respect have been not quite unsuccessful. It occurs to us, therefore, that Canon KNOWLES, instead of trying to excite a prejudice against us, should welcome the assistance we are unquestionably rendering to the world generally, by encouraging amongst men of all religions a proper observance of the duty which every one of us owes to his neighbour.

We have now followed Canon KNOWLES through the whole of his objections to Freemasonry, and though, for reasons which must be known to our readers, we have not replied to them all as fully as we should have done had we been able to lay aside all will the responsibilities we have contracted as Masons, we are content to believe that we have met them by fair and in the main convincing arguments. But even if our arguments had been less direct and the evidence we have adduced in favour of Freemasonry less trustworthy, we are still able to rest our case on the two grounds we stated in our first article and which cannot be controverted, namely: (1), that as Canon KNOWLES is not a Freemason, he is not a competent critic either of its merits or demerits; (2), that, let his private opinion of our Society be what it may, he is not entitled to sit in judgment on the members of his own cloth, who show by the fact of their being Freemasons that they are at least as thorough in their approval of its principles as he is in his condemnation.

CONSECRATION OF THE ST. OSWIN'S LODGE, No. 2327. TYNEMOUTH.

A special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Northumberland was held on Monday last, at the Grand Hotel, for the purpose of consecrating the St. Oswin's Lodge, No. 2327. The order of ceremony was of exceptional interest, and was compiled and arranged by the Deputy Prov. G.M. of Northumberland, Bro. Richard Henry Holmes, P.G.D. Eng.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was opened by Bro. Sir Matthew White Ridley, Bart., M.P., P.G.M., who was assisted by the following officers: Bros. R. H. Holmes, D.P.G.M.; Faraday Spence, P.S.G.W.; George Simpson, P.J.G.W.; Rev. M. Greene, P.G. Chap.; Ralph Carr, P.G. Treas.; A. T. Aitchison, P.G. Reg.; Benjamin J. Thompson, P.G. Sec.; Thos. S. Hudson, P.S.G.D.; A. Hepburn, P.J.G.D.; James Treble, P.G.S. of W.; Adam Robertson, P.G.D. of C.; W. H. Ryott, P.A.G.D. of C.; H. R. Smail and J. W. Matthews, P.G. Std. Brs.; R. Seaton, P.G. Org.; John Kidd, P.G. Purst.; and Joshua Curry, P.G. Tyler.

Among the principal Past Provincial Grand Officers present were Bros. Addison Potter, C.B., J. Spearman, H. Hotham, C. A. Bushell, J. Straker-Wilson, J. Page, and Rev. T. B. Nichols, M.A., P.P.S.G. Wardens; J. M. Winter, John Strachan, H. S. Bird, and T. Gillespie, P.P.G. Registrars; J. H. Bentham, J. W. Gibson, W. M. Lyon, and A. M. Loades, P.P.G. Deacons; Rev. H. Bott, P.P.G.C.; R. H. Dickinson, P.P.G.S. of W.; S. M. Harris and T. Dinning, P.P.A.G.D.C. The visiting officers from the neighbouring Province of Durham were Bros. W. Logan, P.G.D. of C.; John Wood, P.P.G.W.; J. Tillman, F.R.I.B.A., P.P.G.S. of W.; J. C. Moor, P.P.G.D.; Walter Ross, P.G.S.B.; J. Barker, P.P.G.O.; and others.

The petition and warrant for the new lodge were read by the P.G. Secretary, Bro. B. J. THOMPSON.

The Chaplain, the Rev. M. GREENE, gave an eloquent address to the lodge, and the prayers and portions of Scripture during the consecration of the lodge were most impressively read by Bro. the Rev. T. B. NICHOLS, P.P.G.C.

The musical portion of the ceremonial was rendered by Bros. D. Whitehead, J. Nutton, J. Walker, and J. Leatham, of Durham Cathedral Choir, Bro. Seaton, of Hexham Abbey Church, P.G.O., presiding at the organ, the brethren of the lodge joining in the Masonic choruses in an effective manner.

The dedication and constitution of the new lodge took place in due form, those important functions being fulfilled most ably by the P.G.M., Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart., assisted in an able manner by the Deputy Prov. G.M., Bro. R. H. Holmes, P.G.D.

The new lodge was declared duly constituted by the P.G. Dir. of Cers., Bro. ADAM ROBERTSON.

The whole ceremony, it should be added, was worked in the most solemn and impressive manner.

After the consecration of the new Lodge of St. Oswin's, the installation of the W.M. and the investiture of officers took place, the officers of the new lodge being Bros. J. D. Gillespie, P.M., W.M.; W. Carnaby, I.P.M.; W. B. McLearn, P.M., S.W.; W. Reed, P.M., J.W.; J. W. D. Wallace, Treas.; J. W. Lambton, P.M., Sec.; Isaac Black, S.D.; Thomas Young, J.D.; Adam Traill, D. of C.; F. Graham, Org.; J. E. Talbot, I.G.; E. Marshall and J. Joel, Stwds.; and A. Mustart, P.M., Tyler.

The above officers having been invested, the proceedings afterwards terminated, and the lodge was closed.

The book, "Frederick, Crown Prince and Emperor," written for the Empress by Mr. Rennell Rodd, and to which the Empress Frederick herself wrote an introduction, realised £400. This sum has been handed over to the Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, in Golden-square.

The Royal box at Olympia was occupied by a brilliant group on Wednesday. There were there the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince George of Wales, the Marchioness of Lorne and the Marquis of Lorne, the Duke and Duchess of Fife, the Princesses Victoria and Maud of Wales, Sir Digton Probyn, General Ellis, the Hon. Oliver Montagu, the Hon. H. Tyrwhitt-Wilson, and Mr. Mackenzie.

Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, Prov. G.M. East Lancashire.

East Lancashire is so strong and influential a province that the addition to its roll of one or two new lodges, though an event which is always worthy of being celebrated, is not calculated to affect its position generally. But the Centurion has been ushered into existence under circumstances of so special a character, that it is not surprising our East Lancashire brethren should have assembled in such unprecedented numbers on the occasion of its consecration. Nor can we picture to ourselves that the very natural desire on the part of the brethren to assist at so important a function as the consecration of a new lodge was the only or even the chief inducement on their part to be present. On the contrary, it is no flattery to suggest that one of the principal reasons why the East Lancashire Craftsmen mustered so numerously at this meeting was that it afforded them an unlooked for opportunity to exhibit their respect and reverence for a distinguished brother, who has presided over them with conspicuous success for close on 20 years, and who, in the case of this particular lodge, occupies the position of principal founder and first Worshipful Master. This alone will, in great measure, account for the meeting at Manchester, on the 15th instant, having been so largely attended, and the enthusiasm displayed so great. But, whatever the reason, there is no denying that the Masonic career of Bro. Col. Starkie has been a brilliant one, and that the services he has rendered to Freemasonry generally, and to East Lancashire in particular, have been both many and great. So at all events we judge from the following record.

Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie was initiated in the St. George's Lodge, No. 32, Liverpool, on 22nd Sept., 1858, and on the 15th Oct., 1860, was exalted in the Jerusalem Chapter, No. 32, Liverpool. Having served as Warden and Master of the former, and having filled the three Principals' chairs in the latter, he had the honour of being appointed Provincial Senior Grand Warden of West Lancashire — within the limits of which he had been initiated, and over which his father, the late Bro. Le Gendre N. Starkie, had been appointed to preside as Provincial Grand Master in 1826—and Prov. G.H. in its Provincial Grand Chapter. In 1868 our then Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland, in recognition of Bro. Starkie's merits in the two branches of Constitutional Masonry, conferred on him the collar of Junior Grand Warden of England, and about 10 days or a fortnight later made him Grand Scribe N. of the Supreme Grand Chapter. Two years later he was appointed Provincial Grand Master and Grand Superintendent of East Lancashire, and since that time has spared no effort in order to promote its interests. He has had the good fortune to gather about him men who were in every way capable of assisting him in his duties, and thanks to him as its president and the loyal aid of its Provincial Grand Officers, East Lancashire has very materially strengthened its position during the



last 20 years. Its lodges have increased in number by some 25, and several chapters have been added to the roll of Provincial Grand Chapter. Above all, in 1875, there was started under the auspices of Bro. Col. Starkie a local Charitable Institution known as the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Benevolent and Educational Association, which in the 14 years that have since elapsed has done an incalculable amount of good in relieving the distress of local brethren and their families. Of this organisation, which has an invested capital of about £8,500, Bro. Col. Starkie is President and Patron, as well as one of the Trustees. It is also under his auspices that the province has contributed so generously towards the support of the three general Masonic Charitable Institutions. It had already distinguished itself under his worthy predecessor, the late Bro. Stephen Blair,

by the support it gave to the Boys' School in 1869, and, though there are only one or two occasions on which it has attempted to rival that particular effort, a contingent of Stewards from some of its lodges is always to be found in the Festival Stewards' Returns in aid of our three Charities. Its greatest success in this respect was achieved in 1879, when Bro. Starkie very generously gave his services as Chairman at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and the province contributed upwards of £3500, or about one-fourth of the total contributed by London and the provinces generally. It also figured very prominently in the Returns in aid of the same Institution for 1888, when some £2800 was raised in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee the previous summer; and there was a good round sum subscribed at the Girls' Centenary Festival, so that the province has been impartial as well as generous, being influenced no doubt in this particular by the example of their Provincial Grand Master, who is a Vice-Patron

of all three Charities, and has given to each the benefit of his assistance as Steward.

There are two other branches of our Masonic system in which Bro. Col. Starkie has won distinction almost as great as in Craft and Arch Masonry. He was appointed Senior Grand Warden of the Mark Grand Lodge in 1873, having been advanced in the Blair Lodge, No. 113, Haslingden, in 1870; while in the Ancient and Accepted Rite, he is a member and Past M.W.S. of the Palatine Chapter of Rose Croix, No. 7, Manchester, and somewhat recently has been made a member of the Supreme Council, 33°, of that Rite. He joined the Westminster and Keystone Lodge, No. 10, in 1873, and is a member of other lodges and bodies of various degrees, while the Starkie Lodge, No. 1634, Ramsbottom, East Lancashire, like the Starkie Lodge, No. 1070, Southport, in West Lancashire, will, we trust, perpetuate not only his name but also the memory of the many great services he has rendered to the Craft in both the Masonic divisions of the great county of Lancashire.

CONSECRATION OF THE LONDON IRISH RIFLES LODGE, No. 2312.

Several leading members of the London Irish Rifles Volunteer Corps being anxious to follow the example of numerous other Volunteer regiments, and have a Masonic lodge attached to the military body with which they are associated, petitioned the M.W.G.M. to grant a charter for this object. H.R.H. the M.W.G.M., was pleased to grant the prayer of the petitioners, and the London Irish Rifles Lodge, No. 2312, was duly consecrated on Saturday, the 16th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., under circumstances which leave no doubt of its future success. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, K.G., K.P., the honorary Colonel of the regiment, readily consented to become one of the founders and also to become the first W.M. H.R.H., however, being absent on official duties in India, nominated Bro. Major C. W. Carrell as Deputy W.M., in pursuance of the provision made in Art. 131 of the Book of Constitutions. The founders are to be congratulated on having a distinguished member of the Royal Family—who is the Prov. Grand Master of Sussex, and also District Grand Master of Bombay—as their first W. Master.

The consecration and installation ceremonies were performed by Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, assisted by Bros. Sir John Monckton, P.G.W., as S.W.; Col. James Peters, P.G.S.B., as J.W.; Rev. R. W. M. Pope, P.G.C., as Chap.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; and Peter de Lande Long, P.G.D., as I.G.

The founders of the new lodge—with the exception of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, W.M. designate—were all present, viz.: Bros. Major C. W. Carrell, Deputy W.M. designate; Col. J. Ward, S.W. designate; Surgeon H. R. Heather Bigg, J.W. designate; Major R. W. Inglis, Capt. R. S. L. Badham, and Capt. W. Billinghamurst.

The numerous gathering of visitors present included Bros. Lord Henry Thynne, P.G.W.; Lieut.-Gen. Laurie, P.G.M. Nova Scotia; Gen. Roddey, U.S.A.; C. F. Matier, P.G. Std. Br.; Capt. N. G. Philips, P.G.D.; J. M. Case, P.G.D.; E. Letchworth, P.G.D.; C. Martin, P.A.G.D.C.; Dr. W. A. Barrett, P.G. Org.; F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., G.R.; Col. G. Haldane, P.G.S.B.; D. P. Cama, P.G. Treas.; R. Eve, P.G. Treas.; Gen. Wolseley, C.B., P.G.D.; Major G. Lambert, P.G.S.B.; Col. Harding, P.A.G.D.C.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; Major-General Hale Wortham; T. G. Nicholson, J.W. 91; C. Coote, 2127; G. Bishop, P.M. 231; Dr. A. G. Bateman, 1491; J. Sidney Turner, P.M. 1397; C. W. Domett; Dr. J. H. Galton, P.M. 1397; W. Bennett, P.M. 1397; T. L. M. Rose, 28; W. C. Hudson, 1706; R. C. Arnold, 279; E. J. Bell, 1319; C. W. C. Webb, P.M. 1397; E. M. Money, P.M. 28; T. McAnally, P.M. 1397; W. H. Harper; T. W. Hanson, D. Sutton Shipley, 1706; J. Hodges, P.M. 1706; Col. James Inglis; S. Hill, P.M. P.G. Stvd.; Capt. A. W. Ramsey, 1909; J. Lees, 416; H. Corstall, P.M. 1934; H. Newland, I.P.M. 286; R. C. Sudlow, P.M. 263; G. W. Taylor, 171; J. Gawthrop, 1706; H. A. Hyde; J. A. Farlow, P.M. 28; Col. W. Baldwin, P.M. 1398; J. F. Wight, I.G. 142; the Hon. W. M. Mainwaring, 23; W. E. Chapman, S.W. 2190; W. Lake, P.P.G.R. Cornwall; H. Paul Monckton, 1150; E. C. Hampton; L. G. Labord, 255; W. A. Baskcomb, 2127; H. T. Chamen; Henry Sadler, G. Tyler; H. F. Sutton, 2127; J. C. Nicholls, 66; T. Richardson, 801; Dr. H. J. Prangle, 397; A. Wolton, 1704; J. B. Baker, P.M. 33; H. Stein, 4; and W. W. Lee, 1897.

The Grand Officers entered the lodge room in procession, and, the Consecrating Officer having taken the chair and appointed his officers *pro tem.*, the lodge was opened in the Three Degrees.

The hymn "Hail! Eternal, by whose aid" was then sung, and

The CONSECRATING OFFICER, addressing the brethren, said: We are assembled here to-day to take part in a very important and impressive ceremony—that of the consecration of a new lodge under the registry of the United Grand Lodge of England—a ceremony which it is possible many present have never witnessed, and therefore I am sure it will be a matter of great interest to them. Amongst the 335 lodges which are comprised at the present moment in the London area there are several which are intimately associated with the various Volunteer and other military bodies, such as the Fitzroy, Queen's Westminster, London Rifle Brigade, Macdonald, London Scottish, West Kent Volunteers, and others. We also have a large number of bodies such as these in the provinces, and I have only just returned from Manchester, where I had the honour to consecrate a lodge much on the same lines, of which Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, Prov. Grand Master East Division Lancashire, is the first Worshipful Master. It happens that in one of the most distinguished of our London Volunteer regiments—the London Irish Rifles—there are a large number of Masons, and they have for some time desired to have a lodge in the regiment, in which they might meet together as brethren and still further cement the friendship formed through their military associations. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, who is Provincial Grand Master of Sussex, and District Grand Master of Bombay, is the honorary Colonel of the regiment, and has kindly consented to accept the position of Worshipful Master of this new lodge. A petition has therefore been presented, and has been carefully considered by the M.W.G.M., with the result that his Royal Highness has been pleased to grant the prayer of the petitioners, and has granted a warrant for a lodge to be formed, to be called the London Irish Rifles Lodge, which will practically be especially for the brethren in the regiment, but, of course, we all know well that, according to Masonic law, the membership cannot be exclusively restricted to any class of brethren. We are met to-day on this auspicious occasion to give effect to the warrant, and to consecrate this lodge, and I am sure you will all share my sentiments when I say that we hope we are about to lay a foundation of a lodge which will be built up perfect in its parts and honourable to the builders. I will at once open the proceedings by asking the Grand Chaplain to give us the benefit of prayer.

The brethren of the new lodge were ranged in order, and signified their approval of the officers named in the warrant.

The following oration was then delivered by Bro. Rev. R. W. M. POPE, P.G.C., acting Chaplain: Brethren,—In addressing so distinguished a body as the members of the Royal Irish Rifles, I find myself in somewhat of a difficulty. Freemasonry is essentially a brotherhood of peace—your business, brethren, directly connects you with arms; and yet, when I recollect how many military lodges range under our banners, and what special directions are given for them in our Constitutions, I am led to think that there must be more connections with Masonry than I at first supposed. And when I consider a little further, it appears to me to recollect three leading excellences in the Masonic character—secrecy, fidelity, obedience. Brethren, what are these but military virtues? Secrecy—every soldier on a campaign must know its value and necessity; fidelity—why, it is the very essence of a soldier's life; obedience—no soldiers of any rank, of any kind, could have any existence without it—

"There's not to reason why."

And so the way is opened to me to speak of three wider virtues—those which are indeed the grand principles of the Craft—brotherly love, relief, and truth. I can conceive no closer tie of fellowship possible than that which must be found between comrades in arms—men who fight side by side and shoulder to shoulder. And if it is possible to dignify the Victoria Cross, the only one thing that would glorify that most illustrious decoration, dear beyond all others to Englishmen, is that it has been given so often for the saving of life upon the battle-field—relief indeed of the very noblest kind. And for truth what can I say except that this, without doubt, is the crowning virtue of a soldier—

"I could not love thee, dear, so much,
Loved I not honour more."

And so, brethren, wide and noble as these virtues are, I find I can pass into a sphere that is wider and nobler still, for I observe in Freemasonry three thoughts that are grander even than them—our duty to our Queen, our country, and our God. To our Queen, wherever the English language is spoken, every Masonic heart must answer to this thought; to our country, it is impressed upon our newest Masonic recruit upon the night of his initiation; to our God, it is written broadly on every page of our Masonic ritual. There is high authority for the statement that "a three-fold cord is not quickly broken;" and so I ask you to-night to take as your leading ideas a three-fold cord, which is made of nine Masonic strands—secrecy, fidelity, obedience; brotherly love, relief, truth; our duty to our Queen, our country, and our God. It only remains for me to express my heartiest wish that from this lodge may spring a long and illustrious roll of names, and, above all, that there may rest upon it the blessing of Almighty God—the blessing of Him who is in the best and truest sense the God of Battles and the Lord of Hosts, and yet who is at the same time the Father of every true and just brotherhood, the Lord Eternal and the Prince of Peace.

The ceremony was then proceeded with, and the lodge duly dedicated and constituted.

The GRAND SECRETARY read Art. 131 of the Book of Constitutions, and also a letter from H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, nominating Bro. Major C. W. Carrell as the Deputy W.M., whom he duly installed into the chair.

Bro. Major R. W. Inglis was unanimously elected as Treasurer, and the following officers invested: Bros. Col. J. Ward, S.W.; Surgeon H. R. Heather Bigg, J.W.; Major R. W. Inglis, Treas.; Capt. R. S. L. Badham, S.D.; Capt. W. Billinghamurst, J.D.; Dr. Bateman, Sec.; E. M. Money, I.G.; and Banks, Tyler.

The usual addresses were delivered by the Installing Master.

On the motion of the DEPUTY W. MASTER, seconded by the S.W., the Consecrating Officers were unanimously elected honorary members of the lodge, and the Grand Secretary was presented with a founder's jewel as a souvenir of the event.

The GRAND SECRETARY returned thanks for himself and colleagues, and several propositions for initiation and joining having been received, the lodge was formally closed.

The brethren subsequently enjoyed an excellent banquet at Freemason's Tavern, at the conclusion of which the customary toasts received due notice.

In giving "The Queen and the Craft," the DEPUTY WORSHIPFUL MASTER said that all loyal Englishmen and Irishmen were sure to be enthusiastic in the reception of that toast. It mattered not whether Englishmen or Irishmen, they all respected her Majesty, and he would not say much in her favour, for she had impressed herself upon all the nationality over whom she had control.

The DEPUTY WORSHIPFUL MASTER next gave "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and said he would not dwell upon his Royal Highness's many good qualities, because they were so representative a gathering of Freemasons that they all knew his good works both in and out of Masonry.

In proposing "The Grand Officers," the DEPUTY WORSHIPFUL MASTER said that was an important toast. They were very much honoured that evening with the presence of so many Grand Officers. He was quite sure that as they had such a large gathering it must be a very good sign of prosperous times in the future, for if the Grand Officers came to help them that day at the consecration they would no doubt repeat their visit. There was a goodly array of Grand Officers and as they were so well known he did not think it desirable to read their names, but all Freemasons knew the great debt of gratitude they owed them. The Grand Officers, unfortunately, had some unpleasant duties to perform at times, and the late inquiry, at which two or three of those present assisted, would evince that they had unpleasant as well as pleasant duties to perform. All the Craft felt that the Committee, of which he thought Bro. Philbrick was in charge, had brought to a successful issue and terminated an unpleasant inquiry. He should call upon Bro. Lord Henry Thynne to respond, and felt sure the members of that lodge would try and give as hearty a welcome as possible to the Grand Officers.

Bro. Lord HENRY THYNNE, P.G.W., said he rose with great diffidence to respond to the toast so kindly proposed by the W.M. He would say one thing. The duties of Grand Lodge had been of the most pleasing nature, but the duty cast upon him of responding was a very onerous one. They would always find wherever they went that there were bees and drones, and he was sorry to say he was a drone and saw many busy bees, and felt shy at responding when he saw around him such Masons as Bros. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Sir J. Monckton, Parkinson, Philbrick, and others who had done more for Masonry than almost any other brethren. But he was sure they would all agree that it was with great pride and pleasure they saw such a grand opening of that lodge. He had been a great many years a Mason, and had watched with pleasure the way in which Masonry had progressed during the last 20 years. He thought they could all congratulate themselves on the prosperity of Masonry, and rejoice with the founders of that new lodge. He thanked them for the kind way in which they had drunk the health of the Grand Officers.

The DEPUTY W. MASTER next gave "The Consecrating Officers," and said it was unnecessary for him to say that the members were pleased at the Grand Secretary and the other officers attending to consecrate the lodge. He thought they had much to be thankful for in the goodly array of Consecrating Officers. The ceremony as worked by the excellent Grand Secretary must have been very touching to those who had not seen it before. The perfect manner in which the work was done showed the great interest they took in Masonry and the great ability they possessed for the positions they occupied. He was sure they could not have had the ceremony performed in a better manner.

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, Grand Sec., said the toast which the Deputy W. Master had been kind enough to propose was a very flattering one, and he was sure that the brethren standing around him were equally anxious as himself to thank the Deputy W. Master for the kind terms in which he had been good enough to thank them for the services they had been able to give that night to the lodge in performing the important and necessary ceremonies of consecration and installation. He could only say on behalf of his colleagues and in his own name that those services had been given with the greatest possible pleasure. He could not too highly speak of the assistance he always received from the various distinguished Grand Officers who were good enough to assist him, and without whose able help his small services would be of little avail. That night he had been ably assisted, and he thought they might flatter themselves that they had carried on the ceremonies decently and in order. Those who had assisted him were distinguished in Masonry, and deserved their best thanks for having come there and given up various engagements in order to attend. They had not been idle in the way of ceremonies, for most of them had only just returned from Manchester, and therefore in the last 36 hours had travelled 400 miles and consecrated two lodges. They could sincerely say it had been a labour of love, and they felt they had started a lodge which had a large field of work in the future, and it would be the fault of the members if they did not make their mark. A distinguished body like the London Irish Rifles must have many good men who, unfortunately, had not seen the Masonic light, and from whose eyes they hoped the bandage would soon be withdrawn by the subtle wiles of the Deputy W.M. In a very few years they should find that the lodge had in its ranks the best men of the regiment. Having thanked them for the high honour paid the Consecrating Officers, he would pass on, and ask the brethren standing round him to take their seats whilst he proposed a pleasing toast. It was a little complicated, for they would find the next toast was "The Worshipful Master." As they were aware, the lodge had the proud distinction of having as its Worshipful Master H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, who holds the unique position of being Provincial Grand

Master and District Grand Master of two different provinces and districts. From what he knew of his Royal Highness—and he had had ample opportunities of knowing—he believed he was capable of managing half-a-dozen, for without any fulsome flattery because he was a Royal personage. His Royal Highness was not present, and had taken advantage of the privilege accorded him of appointing a Deputy, and had appointed an excellent and good brother. He knew the brother in the chair would be the first person to say it would have been more fitting if the Colonel of the regiment, Col. Ward, had occupied the chair. He knew the Deputy W.M. entirely concurred with him, but, unfortunately, Col. Ward was not qualified, and therefore Major Carrell was selected for that post. His Royal Highness acceded to that idea, and they had had the honour of installing Bro. Major Carrell into the chair, and Col. Ward would come on next year. They would now drink the health of the W. Master's deputy, who had been a good many years in Masonry, and who had done good suit and service during that time. The Deputy W.M. had already filled the chair of W. Master with great credit, and that was his fourth lodge. Under his able sway the lodge would carry on its work in a very exemplary and proper manner, and he (the Grand Sec.) felt confident that at the end of the year Major Carrell would leave the chair feeling that the lodge had maintained the prestige due to the position it had taken up as the representative of an excellent regiment. They would drink the health of their W. Master, his Royal Highness, the Duke of Connaught, and also that of his *alter ego*, the Deputy W.M.

Bro. Major CARRELL, Deputy W.M., in reply, said he must first of all thank them most sincerely on behalf of his Royal Highness for the way in which his health had been proposed and drunk. He was confident that when their W.M. returned next year it would be one of his first duties to preside in that lodge. Their W.M. was a very earnest and energetic Mason, and they, as members of his regiment, desired nothing better than to see him as their permanent W.M. When they sent him the result of that evening's meeting his Royal Highness would be pleased to know they had such a goodly assemblage to put them on the way to a prosperous future. In regard to himself, he felt it a special honour to have been selected by his Royal Highness to preside during his absence. When a few years had passed away those who had consecrated the lodge would feel they had started a lodge which had made a name for itself, and which would have a great future. They had a special programme of their own, and that was with regard to the Charities. He had in his time taken up large sums to the Charities, and the brethren had kindly supported him. He thought that as they were taught at their initiation that Charity was one of the most important objects, they should endeavour to make the lodge Vice-Patron of the three Institutions. Those Charities had, during the past few months, been under a cloud, but that had been removed, and he thought they would go on in a very happy way in support of them. He hoped the lodge would make a distinct name for itself, and that as amongst those proposed as initiates they had some good and earnest men, and some excellent Masons proposed as joining members, they would make a record in the Masonic world. They would always have the idea that Charity began at home, and that their foremost duty was to support the Masonic Institutions. They would extend a very strong hand of fellowship to members of the Craft, and hoped it would be taken as it was meant to represent good feeling. He hoped they would have a prosperous time, and that the officers following him to take the chair would always see around them such a representative gathering as they had that night. He thanked them very sincerely for their kind wishes, not only to himself but also for the future of their lodge.

"The Visitors" was next introduced by the DEPUTY W.M., who said there was a wonderful array of visiting brethren present hailing from the four quarters of the globe. They included Bro. Lieut.-Gen. Laurie, P.G.M. Nova Scotia; Bro. D. P. Cama, P.G. Treas., who came from a distant portion of Her Majesty's Empire; and Bro. General Wolseley, recently returned from Burmah.

Bro. Lieut.-Gen. LAURIE, P.G.M. Nova Scotia, in responding, said he had a good deal of Scotch blood in his veins, and, seeing that it was desirable he should continue his acquaintance with them, he had been wondering how he could claim connection with them as a corporate body. It was true he had been under Irish jurisdiction himself, but possibly he would have a stronger claim on the ground that he had a son wearing the uniform of the Irish Rifles who had been up the Nile. In active service officers and men became better for Masonry, and so in their corps, under the peculiar conditions of their service, it was desirable to bring the members as much as possible together, and the more they could meet the more thoroughly they would establish a good *esprit de corps*. He saw the harp and crown associated on their badge, and was satisfied that, as long as the Irish Rifles Lodge continued, so long would that harp and crown be associated. He wished prosperity and long life to the lodge, and thanked them for their welcome.

Bros. General WOLSELEY and General RODDY, U.S.A., also replied.

The DEPUTY WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in proposing "The Officers," said there were some very desirable brethren to follow him to the chair. The S.W., Bro. Col. Ward, he was sure, would do a vast amount of credit to that lodge. The J.W., Dr. Heather Bigg, would follow in the footsteps of his father in his progress through Masonry, and would become a shining light. Their Treasurer, Bro. Major Inglis, was a modest man, and his modesty took a peculiar form at times. In that instance he started the lodge free of debt, and they were deeply indebted to him for furnishing the lodge so handsomely on the first night of its career. Bro. Capt. Badham, S.D., and Bro. Capt. Billingham, J.D., were anxious to come to the front, and Bro. Dr. Bateman, as Secretary, would get through his duties in a perfect manner, as would Bro. Money, the I.G.

Bro. Col. WARD, S.W., said he was delighted the W.M. had given each officer an opportunity of returning thanks for himself, because he assured them that their healths had been received in such a manner that it would be quite impossible for one individual to do justice to what had been said. He trusted that at the expiration of a year the officers would have done their duty, and that there might be some additions to the ranks of Freemasonry. With regard to their W.M., H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, he had had several communications with him on the subject of that lodge, and from the very first his Royal Highness had most heartily

responded to their wishes, and had become a founder, and afterwards a subscribing member and their W.M. That lodge was also deeply indebted to the Grand Secretary, who had done very much, and whose kindness and consideration to the founders had been extraordinary. He thanked them sincerely on his own behalf, and was grateful for the manner in which they had received his health.

Bro. D. P. CAMA, P.G. Treas., replying for the toast of "The Masonic Charities," said it gave him great pleasure to return his hearty thanks on behalf of their three noble Institutions. He saw around him several who had made their mark in Charity. By coupling his humble name with such a distinguished toast, the Deputy W.M. had proved the cosmopolitan character of their time immemorial Society, and had honoured, through him, the subjects of her Most Gracious Majesty the Empress of India. The W.M., who was absent, took a great interest in the welfare and prosperity of India, and Prince Albert Victor was now receiving a hearty reception, proving that the inhabitants were loyal to her Majesty. He was delighted to see the Deputy W.M. occupying the chair of that new lodge, and trusted it would be successful. He hoped that when the Deputy W.M. appealed to the members for Charity they would open their purses and give freely. It pained him to see more applicants than vacancies in the Institutions, and that could only be remedied by supporting the Institutions to the best of their ability.

The Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings, which were throughout of a highly satisfactory and enjoyable nature.

We may mention that all the preliminary expenses were paid by Col. Ward, while Major R. W. Inglis presented the whole of the furniture, and Major Carrell was the donor of a set of ivory gavels.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Wilhelm Ganz, P.G.O., assisted by Bros. John Hodges, P.M., J. Gawthrop, E. J. Bell, T. Hanson, and Sutton Shipley, and Miss Alice Whitacre and Miss Marian McKenzie.

The lodge was furnished by Bro. George Kenning.

CONSECRATION OF THE EAST LANCASHIRE CENTURION LODGE, No. 2322.

The facts surrounding the formation of this lodge fully bear out the appropriateness of the name, as the idea of having such a lodge was first conceived in the officers' mess room of the 3rd Battalion of the East Lancashire Regiment (of which Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie is in command) during their annual encampment at Southport. Amongst the officers of this regiment are several prominent Freemasons, and, naturally, the affairs of the Craft frequently formed part of the "after dinner" conversations, especially when visitors who were Masons were present. Amongst other matters, it was shown to the gallant colonel that a large proportion of the officers of the volunteer battalions in his province were members of the Fraternity, and he at once suggested that it would be a happy means of bringing the officers of the auxiliary forces more closely together if a lodge was formed to embrace the portions of her Majesty's service, but he would like it to be connected with some special event. The Province of East Lancashire then numbered 98 lodges, and it was arranged that the petition for this new lodge should stand over until the 99th had been presented and that the military lodge should be the 100th in the province. In the meantime, active preparations were carried on in order to add to the lustre of this undertaking. In all of these Bro. J. H. Sillitoe, who was present when the matter was first discussed, has materially assisted the Provincial Grand Master and Bro. Col. J. Lees Aspland, who at a very early period was associated with the formation of the lodge, and has carried out the arduous duties of Secretary for the preliminary arrangements. One feature is especially worthy of notice, viz., that every officer in the lodge holds rank as a Present or Past Provincial Grand Officer, and as the members attend the meetings in "Mess kit," the effect of the purple and light blue collars on the scarlet, green, and blue uniforms is very striking. The officer's collars and solid silver jewels, which are specially designed, have been presented to the lodge by Bro. Col. Starkie, and a very handsome set of silver working tools and a Bible have been presented conjointly by Bros. Col. Rocca and Capt. Barlow.

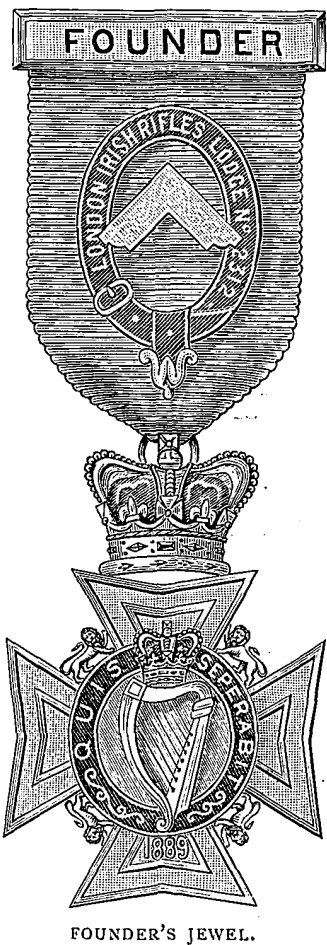
The consecration took place on Friday, the 15th inst. at the Drill Hall, the headquarters of the 5th (Ardwick) V. B. Manchester Regiment, Ardwick Green, Manchester. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, P.G.D., G. Sec., assisted by Bro. F. A. Philbrick, G. Reg., as S.W.; Thos. Fenn, Pres. Board of Gen. Purps. as J.W.; and Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D. of C.

The brethren having assembled in the lodge room, the Consecrating Officer, with his assistant officers, together with such other Grand Officers as were present, entered in procession. The Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Col. Le Gendre Starkie, took the chair, but at once invited Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke to take that position as Presiding Officer for the occasion, who, with a few graceful words, accepted the honour, and appointed his temporary officers as above indicated, after which the lodge was opened in the Three Degrees.

The opening hymn, "Hail Eternal," was then sung.

The PRESIDING OFFICER said: R.W. Provincial Grand Master and Brethren,—The occasion on which we are assembled here to-day is a most important and a most interesting one for all Masons, but more especially must it be so to the brethren of the province in which we to-day meet. We are assembled here for the purpose of giving effect to a warrant which has been issued by his Royal Highness the M.W.G.M. for the formation and constitution of yet another lodge in this Province of East Lancashire, and in order to add one more name to that long and glorious roll of lodges under the United Grand Lodge of England. I need scarcely tell you, the brethren of East Lancashire, that your province has been for very many years one of the foremost and one of the most distinguished provinces we have under our rule. It has increased marvellously in the present generation, and to-day we have met here for the purpose of celebrating an unique event—the formation of the 100th lodge in this province, a position which has not hitherto been gained by any province under the Grand Lodge of England. Your Prov. Grand Master, with that Masonic spirit for which he is so well and so justly celebrated, has determined to make this a special occasion, and he has, notwithstanding the various cares and occupations of his life, come forward to take the chair of this lodge. This you will take to be a compliment, which I am sure will be highly appreciated by the province over which he rules. I also find that this lodge, called the Centurion Lodge, is to be mainly composed of members of the army. I cannot but personally feel that that is very appropriate, because I am quite sure that all those officers of the army who are going to take part in this lodge will show the same loyalty to the Craft that I am confident they have hitherto shown, and always will show, to their Queen and their country. And as, by the law of Freemasonry, a member who is a founder of a lodge cannot take an actual part in its consecration; your Provincial Grand Master has been debarred from performing what I am sure he would have found a very pleasurable task—that of consecrating this lodge. He has therefore done me the honour of requesting that I would come here to-day to perform that ceremony for him. I need scarcely say the honour I felt at performing any ceremony in this grand old Province of East Lancashire caused me most readily to obey his commands. I am also certain that those distinguished brethren who have accompanied me from London to take part in the proceedings will feel equally honoured at being permitted to aid in so important and interesting an event. I will not detain you further, but will now call upon the Chaplain.

The DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES then addressed the Consecrating Officer, and by his direction arranged the founders of the new lodge before him; when that



FOUNDER'S JEWEL.

had been done he read the petition of the founders and also the warrant which had been granted by the M.W.G.M., authorising the formation of the East Lancashire Centurion Lodge in answer to the prayer of the petition, and designating Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, P.G.M., as W.M.; Bro. Col. H. L. Rocca, P.M. 815, P.P.J.G.D., as S.W.; and Bro. Col. John Eaton, P.M. 430, P.P.G. Supt. of Wks., as J.W.

The CONSECRATING OFFICER enquired of the brethren ranged before him whether they approved of the officers named in the warrant?

The brethren having signified their approval in Masonic form, the Chaplain, Bro. E. BIGOE BAGOT, delivered the following oration:

A hunting party in the shires had passed a brook and were mounting an incline when a cry was raised that one of the party had fallen into the stream. The master, hearing a noise, and perceiving that a disaster had happened to some one, stopped, and said "Who's that? We must help him out." "Oh, no," was the cool response of several pressing eagerly on, "It's only the parson, and we shan't want him till next Sunday." It was quite evident that Freemasonry could not wait till Sunday for the Chaplain. The ceremony in which they were engaged demanded his presence and co-operation in a very marked degree, and the most cursory glance at the programme of the consecration revealed the large share which the Prov. Grand Chaplain was called upon to perform. Masonry was distinctly a religious Institution, and all the ceremonies were conducted on religious lines, and had a distinct and emphatic religious colouring. He did not intend to waste any time in regrets at the duty that had befallen him which might not be sincere, as he heartily rejoiced in the privilege of taking part in such a ceremony; nor would he enlarge on so trite a topic as the difficulties of his task, for if there was any reality in Freemasonry there should be no difficulty in setting forth the "nature and principles of the Institution." He would select three aspects of Masonry—three of its salient characteristics—and briefly point out their power and influence in the busy, active, varied, and diverting paths of life. These points were, the *high ideals* running through its ceremonies and principles, the *power of kinship* and union it promoted, and the upward *progress* inculcated in all her scope and operations. "A man's power in England," said an eminent judge, "will depend upon his knowledge, his eloquence, and his moral worth." The last is the crown and completion of the whole. Eloquence may degenerate into vapid declamation or skilful rhetoric if there be no moral force or earnestness as its mainspring. It is the character which gives the power to man. This has been recognised in one of the noblest anecdotes of modern days. When a distinguished patriot in another land was obliged to turn his back on home and country, a penniless exile, some one asked, "What is now left you—when riches, influence, and favour are gone—what is now left?" "Myself," was the reply. It was a true and noble answer. When the true self is left and preserves untainted its priceless treasure, the character, then all remains that need remain, for then man's moral power is left him and character, which is his true glory. Genius is a gift, but character is self-discipline; genius belongs to a man, character is the man himself; genius is the colour of the robe of life, character is its texture. The fading of the colour will not rob the robe of its use, but when the texture is frayed or worn the most imperial purple becomes a rag, and not a robe. Character is the glory of man, and Masonry devotes itself to this aim. Every member of the Craft was taught to be upright, honest, temperate, and just; to be a loyal member of the State; to uphold the fabric of social order and decorum; to be just, brave, and prudent; to love the brethren; to fear God; to honour the king. It was only the persistent negligence of the precepts of Masonry and the constant ignoring of its charges and exhortations that led to imperfect moral character or weak, defective, jelly-fish depravity. The culture of the character is a noble aim, and most needful to check the wild actions of impulse or the whim or fancy of passionate and foolish desire.

"The purest treasure mortal times afford
Is spotless reputation: That away,
Men are but gilded loam or painted clay."

In the next place, mankind craves for *kinship*, for some cementing bond among the jars and contentions of life, and the spirit of Charity which Masonry supplies affords the much felt need. "We have all one human heart," although we differ outwardly in circumstances, habits, modes of thought, and manner of life; we are one in the common aspirations and yearnings, sorrows and anxieties of humanity. The true Charity taught by the Craft brushes aside all the surface distinctions which separate us one from another, and goes down to the depths of the central identities to which we are all alike. If "one touch of nature makes the whole world kin," far more truly may it be said that one touch of Charity makes the diverse classes and sectional characteristics of mankind one. What constant experience we have of her power to remove the sting from suffering. How little are the sacrifices which Charity inspires felt as sacrifices! How lightly have poverty and the other ills of life been found to press when borne in company with brave and loving hearts, and when joy comes, how are its pleasures ten thousand fold enhanced when it brings with it more merely solitary happiness; but, like a light placed in the centre of mirrors, is multiplied by being reflected from the hearts of other sharers in our joys! When the Compagna Della Misericordia passes along the streets of Florence on its errands of tenderness and pity, the Florentines raise the hat, and the military present arms. It is a tribute to the immortality and sweetness of Charity, the strongest link in drawing men together, and the strongest magnet in attracting their noblest powers and developing kinship, unity, and co-operation. Amidst all the faults and failings of Freemasonry, the defective practice of her members, the abuse of her liberties, and the overstraining of her privileges, this one central idea has ever survived, like a lighthouse in a stormy sea, throwing its fair beams upon the troubled waters, and irradiating the darkness of their toil and tumult—

"Each other gift, which God on man bestows
It's proper bounds and due restriction knows;
To one fixed purpose dedicates its power,
And, finishing its act, exists no more.
Thus in obedience to what heaven decrees,
Knowledge shall fail, and prophecy decrease;
But lasting Charity's more ample sway,
Ne'er bound by time, nor subject to decay,
In happy triumph shall for ever live,
And endless good diffuse, and endless praise receive."

In the third place, there is found in the ceremonies of Freemasonry the idea of progress and advancement; a distinct recognition of moral perfection as our conscious aim—we are daily to increase in Masonic knowledge, in intellectual and moral growth—our highest condition is not the attainment of perfection, but the recognition of heights above us which are yet unreachd. Such recognition is the condition of all progress. The artist that is satisfied with his transcript of his ideal will not grow any more. There is a story told of a modern sculptor, who was found standing in front of his masterpiece, sunk in sad reverie, and when they asked him why he was so sad, he answered, "Because I am satisfied with it. I feel that the limit of my growth is reached." So it is ever. Unless we saw an ideal far above us the actual would never approximate towards it. If man could rest, he could not grow or advance in knowledge or power, and so from generation to generation, for the individual and the species the condition of our progress is a distance beyond us and a feeling of imperfect attainment and insufficient accomplishment. All the ceremonies of Masonry point to a higher reach, and an advancing perfection—the love of the beautiful, the thirst for the true, the study of the liberal arts, the training of the intellectual faculties, all meet and coincide with the yearning after progress which exists in every true and earnest heart; the upward spirit which moves in all the ritual ceremonies and principles of the Craft quickens and inspires this presence.

"In hand it bears, 'mid snow and ice,
The banner with the strange device,
Excelsior!"

The occasion of the consecration of this Centurion Lodge was one of unusual interest in the history of Masonry. It commemorates the union between the peaceful tenets of the Craft and the sterner aspect of military service—between the bond of brotherly union and the antagonisms of warfare and contentions. How can we reconcile the two? "Can two walk together unless they be agreed?" The idea of warfare, we are told, is irreconcilable with modern progress. We look forward to the period when

"The war-drum shall throb no longer,
And the battle-flag be furled,
In the parliament of man,
The federation of the world."

But there seems small probability of this beatific vision being realised or that Othello's occupation shall ever be gone. While passion and ambition govern the hearts of men, our over-ruling God, who out of evil can find means of good, employ the man of battles

in the defence of His beloved and as a scourge against the unrighteous. He has ordained and appointed and sanctioned the divisions of mankind by national boundaries, and has given to every one of the nations whom He has appointed its own place in progress, civilisation, and advancement. The God of Battles sanctions lawful wars—wars undertaken not for plunder or selfish aggression, but for the protection of national rights and the spread of civilisation, humanity, equity, and truth. The Volunteer Service represents the principle of the sanctity of home, and our right to guard and defend it. The mediatorial function which pervades the entire field of providence, by which men suffer for each other, consecrates the idea of warfare, makes the military profession a lawful, moral, and salutary calling, and sets every branch of the British Army, Navy, and Reserve to witness to our faith in the God of Nations, to the position and destiny He has assigned to us in His divine economy, and to our distinct and emphatic duty to maintain and defend (even at the cost of cruel war, if necessary) those great principles of progress, humanity, and lofty idealism set forth in the principles of the Craft, which England seems so signally called upon by the finger of God never to abandon or let slip. Masonry pleads with the passing instincts of nations and communities. "Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one with another?" She seeks to maintain unity among them; but a honourable war is better than dishonourable peace, and principle requires at times that military force be enrolled to quell the aggressions of ambitions, and to maintain the life of our country and the sanctity of our hearths and homes. The spirit of Masonry should lessen the horrors of warfare, mitigate its atrocities, and console its sufferers. We in the province of East Lancashire gladly hail and welcome the inauguration of the Centurion Lodge. We commence our career with every augury of hope. The Field Marshal of the combined armies of Masonry in this province condescends to command us. Under his firm but genial and kindly sway we would show forth the true Masonic spirit, and we will! *Nil desperandum, Teucro duce, et auspice Teucro.* The spirit which animates our breasts this day is one of generous emulation that each may be the first in the endeavour to stir up and keep ever ringing in clear melodious strains those chords which have in every age won for Freemasonry a place in the hearts and affections of the good and wise. Some travellers once vainly tried to awaken a wonderful echo. Then a rough bugler by the roadside played a simple scale down the instrument. At once the echo answered, peal on peal, chime on chime, the music sounded on the hills, and melted away into the enchanted distance. Let us play the simple old scale. All the magic is in the echo—that makes the old sounds new. The well tried principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth will ever waken the best and noblest echoes of the past and rouse us in the present to the active exercise of a well spent and upright life.

"What is our duty here? to tend
From good to better, thence to best;
Grateful to drink life's cup, then bend
Unmurmuring to our bed of rest,
Gathering the flowers that round us grow,
Scattering their fragrance as we go.
And so to live, that when the sun
Of our existence sinks into night,
Memorials sweet of mercies done
May shrine our lives in memory's light,
And the blest seeds we scattered bloom
A thousand fold in days to come.

The anthem was rendered—

"Behold how good and joyful a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity,"

Then followed the first portion of the dedication prayer, after which the CONSECRATING OFFICER delivered the invocation.

The PROV. GRAND CHAPLAIN (Bro. A. T. Wigg) read the portion of Scripture appointed for the occasion.

The lodge board was uncovered, and the Presiding Officer and his Wardens, bearing the elements of consecration, marched in procession to solemn strains of music round the lodge three times, halting in the East after each circuit.

The Presiding Officer commenced the dedication of the lodge, and the brethren sang an anthem—

The Chaplain proceeded three times round the lodge with the censor, after which the second part of the dedication prayer was offered up, and the Presiding Officer then proceeded to constitute the lodge, after which the musical brethren sang the anthem. (*Dedication Prayer of King Solomon.*)

The impressive ceremony was brought to a close with patriarchal Benediction, and

The PRESIDING OFFICER said: The consecration of the lodge being complete, it is now my duty to install the distinguished brother whose name is given to me as the first Worshipful Master.

Bro. Col. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie was then installed into the chair of K.S. in the presence of 181 Installed Masters, the ceremony, of course, being performed by Bro. Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, the Consecrating Officer.

In handing to the Worshipful Master the warrant of the lodge, the INSTALLING MASTER said: You have the honour of receiving this warrant direct from the Royal hands of our Most Worshipful Grand Master, and, in placing it in your charge, I do so with the fullest conviction and belief that, pure and unsullied as you have now received it, so you will hand it to your successor at the close of your year of office.

Bro. Col. STARKIE proceeded to invest his officers, of whom the following is a list: Bro. Col. H. Rocca, S.W.; Col. J. Eaton, J.W.; Col. Clark, S.D.; Capt. Andrew, J.D.; Col. Aspland, Sec.; Major Allison, Treas.; Rev. E. Bigoe Bagot, Chap.; Capt. McDowell Smith, D.C.; Capt. Booth, Org.; Major Hopkins, I.G.; Capt. Henry Thomas and Capt. Gilbody, Stwds.; and Sergeant-Major Hardy, Tyler.

After the delivery of the customary addresses by the Installing Officer to the newly-installed Master, Wardens, and brethren,

The SENIOR WARDEN proposed that the two Wardens, the Secretary, and the two Deacons form a Committee to frame the by-laws of the lodge.

Col. ASPLAND, Sec., seconded the motion, which was passed.

Bro. Capt. R. McDOWELL SMITH proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke for his presence and his services as Installing Master.

Bro. Col. ASPLAND seconded.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER: It is proposed and seconded that the thanks of the brethren here assembled be given to Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Sec. of England, for coming here to perform the ceremony of consecration and installing myself as Master of the Centurion Lodge.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, in reply, said: I thank you exceedingly for the kind vote you have passed, and I can assure you that it has been an extreme pleasure to me to have been able to come here to-day to perform this ceremony.

There were several gentlemen proposed as candidates for initiation, and several brethren as joining members.

The lodge was then closed. The musical arrangements were conducted by Bro. Walter O. Pettitt, P.M., Prov. G. Org., to whom great praise is due for the admirable and masterly manner with which he presided at the organ and took the cues from the Director of Ceremonies.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed, and were heartily received, and in every case briefly but cleverly responded to.

We cannot, without injustice, neglect to draw attention to the splendid arrangements carried out at the head-quarters of the 5th V. B. Manchester Regiment for the convenience of the visitors. By the kind permission of Bro. Col. H. L. Rocca, the spacious buildings had been beautifully and tastefully decorated, and the ornaments of the lodge so adjusted that each individual member could distinctly see and hear the whole of the ceremony. The large assembly of brethren and the brilliant uniform of the military officers, mingled with the evening dress and the handsome regalia of the Grand and Provincial clothing, formed, we venture to say, one of the finest and most unique sights ever seen in a Masonic lodge on such an occasion.

The officers' jewels, which were of solid silver, of unique pattern, were, with the collars, the gift of the W.M., Bro. Col. Starkie.

Each of the founders wore a jewel of exquisite workmanship, and all the above were specially designed and manufactured by Bro. George Kenning, of 47, Bridge-street, Manchester, and London.

The following is a list of the founders of the lodge and of the brethren who were present at the ceremony :

Founders and promoters of the lodge—Bros. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, P.G.M. E. Lancs.; Col. H. L. Rocca, 815, P.P.G.D.; Col. J. Eaton, 430, P.P.S.G.W.; Col. Aspland, P.M. 633 and 1170, P.P.G.R. E. Lancs.; Rev. E. B. Bagot, P.M. 62 and 1357, P.G. Chap. E. Lancs.; Major J. W. Allison, P.M. 993, P.P.G. Treas. E. Lancs.; Capt. H. Thomas, P.M. 277, P.P.J.G.D. E. Lancs.; Capt. J. Holmes Poulton, late 44; Capt. G. T. Hardman, P.M. 283, P.P.J.G.W. E. Lancs.; Major W. H. Hopkins, P.M. 815, P.P.G.D.C. E. Lancs.; Col. Clarke, P.M. 317, P.P.S.G.D. E. Lancs.; Capt. R. M' Dowel Smith, P.M. 44 and 64, P.P.G. Treas. E. Lancs.; Col. Bridgeford, C.B., P.M. 44; Major J. C. Heap, 2231; Major Ballantine, P.M., late 1126; Capt. Andrew, P.M. 1213, P.P.G.D.C. W. Lancs.; J. Barlow, 1260; A. A. Hinde, 1011; and Capt. John Booth, P.M. 37.

Visitors—Grand Officers—Bros. T. W. Tew, P.G.D., P.G.M. W. Yorks; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec.; Fred. A. Philbrick, G. Reg.; Thomas Fenn, Pres. Bd. of Gen. Purps.; George Mellor, D.P.G.M. E. Lancs.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; Nathaniel George Philips, P.G.D.; Henry Smith, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. W. Yorks; Edmund Ashworth, P.G.D.; J. H. Sillitoe, P.G. Std. Br.; W. Goodacre, P.G.S.B.; John Chadwick, P.G.S.B.; and C. F. Matier, P.G. Std. Br.

Visitors—Provincial Grand Officers—Bros. Thomas Oakden, P.P.G. Treas.; Thomas Southern, P.P.G.D.C.; S. B. Priestley, P.A.G.D.C.; E. E. Morris, P.G. Chap.; R. C. J. Duckworth, P.P.A.G.P.; William F. Smithson, P.P.G.D.; Abram Clegg, P.P.S.G.W.; Edward Wigg, P.G. Chap.; J. W. Abbott, P.P.G.D. of C.; Joseph Bridgford, P.G.P.; William Bee, P.P.G.S.; Walter Newton, P.P.J.G.D.; A. H. Jefferis, P.P.A.G.D.C.; Jno. Slyman, P.P.G.D.; Walter H. Vaughan, P.P.G. Reg.; Rd. Newhouse, P.G. Sec. Cheshire; Wm. Ramsden, P.G.D.; Walter O. Pettitt, P.G. Org.; Jas. Cookson, P.G.S.; J. Salmon, P.P.G.D.C.; T. Milton, P.P.G. Std. Br.; J. Gibb Smith, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; W. R. Clayton, P.P.G.C.; James Newton, P.A.G. Sec.; Samuel Porrett, P.P.G.D.C.; E. G. Lingard, P.G.S.; C. D. Cheetham, P.P.G.D.C.; Samuel L. Buckley, P.P.G. Supt. of Wks.; William Lamb, P.P.G.P.; John Buckley, P.P.G.D.; J. O. S. Thursby, P.S.G.W.; Edward H. Cookson, P.S.G.W.; John Roberts, P.P.G.D.C.; N. A. Earle, P.J.G.W.; Carl Götz, P.P.J.G.W.; Joseph Harling, P.P.G.P.; E. Hardman, P.S.G.D.; J. A. Foyster, P.P.G.R.; Julius Arenberg, P.P.G.P.; Wm. Nicholl, P.P.G. Treas.; Charles Lane, P.P.G.D.; W. H. Wakefield, P.P.G.S.B.; Frederick Broadsmith, P.G. Reg.; Charles Henton Wood, P.P.S.G.W.; William Davis, P.P.A.G.P.; Thomas Higson, P.G. Tyler; Franklin Thomas, P.P.S.G.W.; John Clayton, P.P.S.G.D.; W. H. Warburton, P.P.G.D.; Hamlet Lees, P.G.D.; Joseph Clifton, P.P.G. Org.; John Greaves, P.P.G. Supt. of Wks.; Henry Crosby, P.P.G.P.; H. Taylor, P.G. Std. Br.; J. W. Taylor, P.P.G.D.; J. D. Murray, P.P.G.D.C. West Lancs.; R. Timperly, P.P.G.D.; Benjamin Taylor, P.P.G. Treas.; J. T. Sawyer, P.P.G.S.B.; Thos. Woodcock, P.G.D.C.; John T. Redfern, P.P.G.P.; Herbert Finch, P.P.G.D.C.; Geo. F. East, P.P.G.D.C.; John Bollard, P.P.G.S.B.; Thomas Robert Peel, P.P.G.D.; James Andrew, P.P.G.S.B.; Edward Ashworth, P.P.S.G.W.; Henry Heys, P.P.G. D. of C.; J. Kershaw, P.P.G. D. of C.; E. W. Irving, P.P.G. Stwd.; John E. Boden, P.G.S.; Joseph T. Richardson, P.P.S.G.D.; George Board, P.M., P.P.G.D.; William H. Cunliffe, P.P.G.D.C.; E. J. Cummings, P.P.G.S.B.; J. W. Kenyon, P.P.G. Standard Bearer; James McLaren, P.P.S.G.W.; E. G. Harwood, P.P.J.G.W.; Wm. Brierley, P.P.G.D.; Charles Brierley, P.G.S.B.; Charles Schuster, P.P.G.D.; Thos. H. Sleigh, P.P.G. Stwd.; John E. Lees, P.P.G. Treas.; Ralph Andrew, P.G.D. Cheshire; Robert Williamson, P.P.A.G.P.; James Howorth, P.P.G.S.B.; Edward L. Littler, P.P.G.P.; Kenneth Maclean, P.G. Stwd.; A. Pemberton, P.P.G. D. of C.; J. L. Hine, P.P.S.G.W.; Charles Collingwood, P.G.D.D. of C.; J. M. Sinclair, P.P.G.D.; W. Cartwright, P.A.G.P.; A. B. Whittaker, P.M. 1633; George S. Smith, P.M. 1134 and 1170; Hugh Rowlands, W.M. 1345; William Brookes, W.M. 1009; W. Corbett, P.M. 249; S. B. Broadbent, P.M. 633; J. Garside, P.M. 317; P. B. Welch, W.M. 992; Bennet Howell, P.M. 1375; R. Barrow, P.M. 1774; A. Williamson, J.W. 1774; Samuel Kay, W.M. 633; Allan Mercer, P.M. 1534; Charles H. Woods, P.M. 381; J. Aspden, W.M. 381; J. R. Sowter, P.M. 815; M. Thomas, P.M. 204; G. E. Wand, S.W. 1083; J. H. Calvert, W.M. 1519; C. D. Sumner, P.M. 1345; R. Bradley, 430; R. H. Chadwick, 1147; F. W. Lean, W.M. 2156; R. H. Robinson, P.M. 1213; A. S. Kinnell, 2156; George W. Wilson, P.M. 1009; E. Dodd, P.M. 78; E. Harris, P.M. 815; James H. Dalglish, W.M. 1147; Joseph Robinson, W.M. 42; E. Kershaw, P.M. 344; George Wheewill, W.M. 344; W. H. Fulford, W.M. 852; Arthur Middleton, P.M. 645; Walter Biggs, P.M. 1496; J. H. Marsh, 317; John W. Mellor, W.M. 854; P. Jackson, P.M. 368; Jno. T. Ogden, 1129; W. J. Melling, P.M. 986; George W. Yapp, 1392; Ambrose James Haworth, W.M. 2279; T. Parker, P.M. 293; George M. Williams, 1055; George W. Davies, 1459; William Chesshyre, 1387; Alfred H. Williams, P.M. 2156; J. C. Brown, 581; M. Naylor, W.M. 37; J. Wilkinson, J.D. 2185; Geo. J. Myers, W.M. 1339; Jno. Cliffe, I.P.M. 204; O. Startup, P.M. 934; W. C. Royle, J.D. 1170; W. H. Southem, S.D. 992; J. W. White, S.D. 815; J. H. Wells, I.P.M. 2109; Alfred Ward, 2109; Abraham Crabtree, 1129; Thos. Hardy, 1814; W. Waive, J.W. 815; Edward Broadbent, 2109; S. H. Cox, 815; Robert Rudman, 2185; Ben Brierley, S.W. 2156; Edward Greenhalgh, P.M. 42; George Hunt, P.M. 1009; Jas. W. Berrie, J.W. 2109; W. Willis, P.M. 1219; James Bomley, P.M. 210; W. Thornley, P.M. 210; Thos. T. Higgins, P.M. 473; S. C. Lowe, S.W. 815; Thos. Rigby, P.M. 42; Wm. G. Thackray, P.M. 381; W. H. Kershaw, P.M. 266; T. Ridsdale Bowley, 2216; Thos. D. Foreman, W.M. 210; R. E. Coates, I.P.M. 210; Geo. Pugh, P.M. 210; Thos. Pike, I.P.M. 852; Edward Goodwin, 526; Fred Batty, Sec. 2231; Christopher Wren, P.M. 1147; Thos. E. Rigby, I.P.M. 1055; Roger Walker, P.M. 1052; A. Williams, W.M. 1052; C. E. Hindley, P.M. 148; H. Harrison, W.M. 126; Wm. Craven, P.M. 1633; G. H. Needle, P.M. 1458; J. Hancock, P.M. 992; A. E. Adair, 645; Chas. Turner, P.M. 2156; E. A. Ellinger, W.M. 1161; Elias Nathan; P.M. 1798; Thos. Stopford, P.M. 1077; Jas. W. Rattray, W.M. 1993; J. H. Wngley, W.M. 815; John W. G. Coombs, W.M. 44; and Wm. H. Peak, P.M. 993.

Apologies were received from the following brethren :—
Bros. Rt. Hon. the Earl of Lathom, D.G.M.; Rt. Hon. the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, D.P.G.M. W. Lancs.; Rt. Hon. Lord Egerton of Tatton, P.G.M. Cheshire; the Rev. Thos. H. Smyth, P.G. Chap.; Lieut.-Col. Bindley, D.P.G.M. Staffordshire; Hugh D. Sandeman, P.D.G.M.; Henry Platt, D.P.G.M. N. Wales; Capt. S. G. Homfray, D.P.G.M. Monmouthshire; R. V. Vassar-Smith, D.P.G.M. Gloucestershire; Capt. W. O. Walker, P.P.S.G.W.; and Fred. Clewes, P.G.D. W. Yorkshire.

The members and their guests subsequently adjourned to the Queen's Hotel, where the banquet took place.

CONSECRATION OF THE HORWICH LODGE, No. 2324, AT HORWICH, BOLTON.

The consecration of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 13th inst., at the Public Hall. The ceremony was performed by Bro. William Goodacre, P.G.S.B. Eng., Prov. G. Sec., assisted by Bros. J. J. Lambert, P.P.G. Reg., S.W.; John Slyman, P.P.G.D., J.W.; Ralph Betley, P.A.G.S.; William Webster, P.G.D.; Richard Walker, P.G.D.; and J. D. Murray, P.P.G.D.C., D.C.

The brethren having assembled in the lodge room, the Consecrating Officer, with his assistant officers, entered in procession, when the Presiding Officer took the chair. The lodge was opened in the Three Degrees.

The PRESIDING OFFICER addressed the brethren in regard to the object for which they had met together, and the CHAPLAIN, by his direction, offered up prayer.

The D. of C. addressed the Consecrating Officer, and, by his direction, arranged the founders of the new lodge in order, and then read the petition and warrant, which had been granted by the M.W.G.M., authorising the formation of the Horwich Lodge in answer to the prayer of the petition, and designating Bro. John Rogers, P.M., W.M.; Bro. G. H. Whitaker, S.W.; and Bro. R. H. Thornton, J.W.

The CONSECRATING OFFICER then enquired of the brethren ranged before him whether they approved of the officers named in the warrant, and the brethren having signified their approval, the CHAPLAIN, at the request of the Presiding Officer, gave an oration on the leading principles upon which the Craft is founded.

The Presiding Officer proceeded to dedicate and constitute the lodge, and the ceremony was brought to a close with the final benediction.

Bro. John Rogers, P.M., W.M. designate, was then presented to the Installing Master by Bro. J. D. Murray, P.P.G.D.C. After the usual formula, a Board of Installed Masters having been constituted, Bro. Rogers was duly installed in the chair of K.S.

The Worshipful Master having invested his officers as follows: Bros. Dr. G. H. Whitaker, S.W.; H. R. Thornton, J.W.; Richard Hampson, Treas.; J. G. P. Simpson, Sec.; A. Crump, S.D.; W. H. Muckley, J.D.; E. Hindley, I.G.; P. Coulthurst, D.C.; William Varley and Joseph Crankshaw, Stwd.; and James Dent, Tyler, they were addressed in a very capable manner by Bro. JOHN SLYMAN, P.S.G.D.

The working tools in each Degree were presented by Bro. J. J. Lambert, P.P.G. Reg. The INSTALLING MASTER presented the W.M. with the warrant and Book of Constitutions, and also gave addresses to the W.M., Wardens, &c.

Bro. Seyland Eccles, P.M., was appointed Charity Representative for the ensuing year. There were eight candidates proposed for initiation.

Each officer having presented his collar and jewel of office, each with a suitable inscription, a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to those brethren for the handsome gift, and that such be recorded on the minutes.

The whole consecration and installation ceremonies were performed by Bro. Goodacre in a masterly style, and all who witnessed it could not fail to be deeply impressed.

Amongst the brethren present were the following: Bros. W. Goodacre, P.G. S.B. Eng., P.P.G.S. West Lancs.; J. J. Lambert, P.P.G. Reg., S.W.; John Slyman, P.P.G.D., J.W.; Ralph Betley, P.A.G.S., Sec.; William Webster, P.S.G.D., S.D.; Richard Walker, P.S.G.D., J.D.; J. D. Murray, P.P.G.D.C., D.C.; and Thos. Forrester, P.M. 730, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., P.P.J.G.D. Visitors: Bros. John Rogers, P.M. 1219; G. W. Dawson, P.M. 343; Hawthorn A. Thornton, 1295; James Dent, 126; Geo. Henry Whitaker, Stwd. 1723; G. H. Needle, P.M. 1458; A. Hindley, 348; Wm. Greenwood, 348; John Barker, P.M., P.P.G. Treas.; Jno. E. Boden, I.P.M. 2231, P.G.S.; Wm. Williams, W.M. 1219; A. Shirley, J.W. 2231; W. H. Muckley, 979; Jno. G. Christian, I.P.M. 1032; A. H. Duffin, S.W. 1134; Jno. Waring, P.M. 1134; Geo. Sam. Smith, P.M. 1134, 1070; Thos. B. Long, P.M. 1723; Thos. Runner, 146; Hy. Broughton, 146; Jno. Urmston, 1723; J. G. P. Simpson, 113; James Coulthurst, W.M. 128; Sam Widdows, Sec. 730; James Leigh, 730; Arthur H. Crump, 253; John Barrett, 146, 1723; A. W. Cross, 730; James Bromley, 730; Jas. Corbett, P.M. 1032; J. H. Holland, 1032; Geo. Tootell, J. Chadderton, P.G.S.; John Sharples, S.D. 730; R. J. Anderson, I.G. 730; W. Redhead, 730; C. H. Richmond, 730; E. G. Harwood, 37, P.M. 1723, P.P.J.G.W.; and William Johnson, 370.

The whole of the furniture and jewels were manufactured by Bro. George Kenning, 47, Bridge-street, Manchester, and of London.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF OXFORDSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Oxfordshire was held on Tuesday, the 12th inst., in the Apollo (University) Lodge Room, under the presidency of the Grand Superintendent of the province, Comp. the Rev. H. Adair Pickard. The attendance of companions was very good.

The rolls of the various chapters in the province and of the officers having been called, the minutes of the last Provincial Grand Chapter were read and confirmed.

Comp. WINKFIELD, Prov. Grand H., then made his report on the chapters of the province.

The GRAND SUPERINTENDENT proposed a vote of £5 5s. to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which was cordially agreed to.

The Prov. Grand Treasurer's report was received and adopted.

Comp. W. G. Emberlin was re-elected Prov. Grand Treasurer with applause.

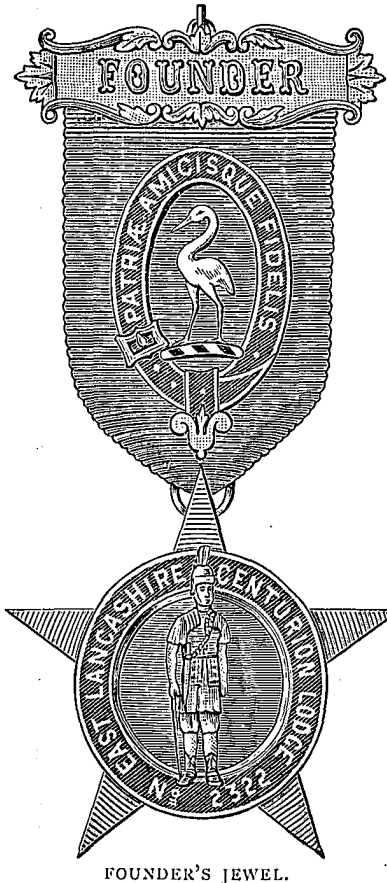
The Grand Superintendent then appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Comp. J. Tompkins, P.Z. 340	...	...	...	Prov. G.H.
" E. Prescott, P.Z. 1399, H. 599	...	...	...	Prov. G.J.
" W. L. Morgan, Z. 357	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" E. Horne, P.Z. 340	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" W. G. Emberlin, 340	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Rev. H. Sayers, A.S. 357	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" A. C. Clark, P.S. 357	...	...	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" W. P. Ellis, J. 599	...	...	...	Prov. G. 1st A.S.
" E. J. Hartley, S.E. 599	...	...	...	Prov. G. 2nd A.S.
" W. R. Pratt, S.E. 1399	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" G. S. Russell, J. 1399	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" W. R. Cooper, P.S. 599	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" P. Colville Smith, S.E. 357	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" W. R. Bowden, A.S. 340, S.N. 1399	Prov. G. Org.
" G. R. Norwood, Janitor 357	Prov. G. Janitor.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

TO THE PATRONS, VICE-PATRONS, VICE-PRESIDENTS, AND LIFE GOVERNORS OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

2 Paper Buildings, Temple, E.C.,
1st Nov., 1889.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The Quarterly Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys having agreed to the retirement of the present Secretary, I intend to offer myself as a candidate for the vacancy which will thus be created.

I have been a Mason over 10 years, and am now nearly 34 years of age.

I was educated at King's College School, London, and Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and took the degree of B.A., in the Mathematical Tripos 1879, (M.A. 1885.) Shortly after quitting the University, I was appointed Mathematical Master in Truro Grammar School, but retired from that position on being called to the Bar in 1881, since when I have practised up to the present time, and have been engaged in the compilation of more than one legal work.

In Masonry I hold the following positions—Past Grand Steward (Eng.); W.M. Tuscan Lodge, No. 14; P.M. and Founder West Kent Volunteer Lodge, No. 2041; Secretary and Founder Argonauts' Lodge, No. 2243; J. Asaph Chapter, No. 1319; P.S. George Price Chapter, No. 2096. Member of the Board of General Purposes, and Life Governor Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

I have for some years been Hon. Secretary of the Langton Masonic Benevolent Association, through which between £1300, and £1400, will in 4 years have been subscribed to the Masonic Charities.

Should I have the honour of being elected I shall always endeavour to discharge my duties with advantage to the Institution and to your full satisfaction.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GORDON SMITH,
M.A., Barrister-at-Law.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

TO THE PATRONS, VICE-PATRONS, VICE-PRESIDENTS, AND LIFE GOVERNORS OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Albert Institute Chambers,
Charles Street, Blackfriars, S.E.
(Provincial Grand Secretary's Office, Surrey).
9th November, 1889.

MY LORDS, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN,

As the announcement of the retirement of Bro. Frederick Binckes, as Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, may now shortly be formally announced, and as other candidates for this post have issued their addresses and advertisements, I take the present opportunity of stating that I intend to offer myself as a candidate for the appointment.

I was initiated in the Grove Lodge, No. 410, in which Lodge I have acted as Secretary, and am now J.W.

For the past three years I have acted in a secretarial capacity in connection with two Charitable Institutions, dealing with extensive endowments.

For two and a half years I have held the honorary appointment of Assistant Provincial Grand Secretary to my Brother, Charles Greenwood, Provincial Grand Secretary for Surrey (35 Lodges and 12 Chapters), of which Province my late father (Bro. Charles Greenwood, P.G.S.B.), was Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and for 30 years Provincial Grand Secretary.

In 1885 I was on the Executive Staff of the Inventions Exhibition at South Kensington, and in 1886 on that of the Colonial and Indian Exhibition. At the termination of these appointments, I received from the Royal Commission Diplomas of Merit and Medals for Services rendered.

I am 26 years of age, and am prepared to devote my whole time to the duties of the office.

I can furnish the highest testimonials as to my capacity and experience from many distinguished persons.

Should you do me the honour to elect me, you may rely upon my exerting my whole energy and ability towards the advancement of the best interests of the Royal Masonic Institute for Boys.

I have the honour to be,
My Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ALFRED CRAVEN GREENWOOD,
J.W. 410, A.P.G. Sec. Surrey.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

TO THE PATRONS, VICE-PATRONS, VICE-PRESIDENTS, AND LIFE GOVERNORS.

Evershot, Dorchester,
13th November, 1889.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In the event of a vacancy occurring in the Secretaryship, it is my intention to offer myself as a candidate for the post, and I trust to be honoured with your support.

I am a solicitor, 37 years of age, a member of the Incorporated Law Society, and for the last eleven years in practice at Evershot and Yeovil, in partnership with my Father.

My Masonic career is shortly as follows:

Initiated, 1112, Shirley, Hants, in January, 1878, joined 1367, Beaminster, and 329, Yeovil, Somerset, 1878; Member of 1168, Sherborne, and Member of the Correspondence Circle, Quatuor Coronati, 2076. W.M. 1367 in 1883, and W.M. 329 in 1887, P.G. Reg. Dorset, 1884.

Exalted, 707, Bridport (since removed to Beaminster), 1883, and at present Z. P.G. Reg. (R.A.) Dorset, in 1887. Joining Member of 329.

Advanced in Mark Lodge, No. 121, Bridport, in August, 1884, at present J.W. Joined No. 162, Yeovil, and at present S.D.

Took the 18° in Weymouth Chapter R.C., in June, 1884; at present First Gen.

Served as Steward for the Province of Dorset for the Girls' School in 1887; as Steward for the Province of Somerset for the R.M.B.I. in 1888; and as Steward for the Province of Dorset for the R.M.B.I. in 1889. Life-Governor Girls' School; Life-Governor R.M.B.I.; Life-Subscriber Dorset Masonic Charity.

Since July, 1887, Hon. Secretary Dorset Masonic Charity.

I hold high testimonials from R.W. Bro. Montague J. Guest, P.G.M. Dorset; M.E. Comp. J. M. P. Montagu, G. Supt. Dorset; and R.W. Bro. Rev. Mortimer Heath, P.G.M.M. Dorset; and as to my capacity as an accountant from Messrs. Kain, Brown, and Co., Chancery Lane, the well-known Law Accountants; copies of which I shall be pleased to forward if wished.

Besides the above-named, I have the support, amongst others, of the following distinguished brethren: R.W. Bro. the Earl of Bective, M.P., P.G.M. Cumberland and Westmorland; R.W. Bro. the Earl of Hardwicke, P.G.M. Cambridgeshire; R.W. Bro. the Earl of Zetland, P.G.M. North and East Yorkshire; M.E. Comp. Rev. H. Adair Pickard, G. Supt. Oxfordshire; and M.E. Comp. Lord Henry Thynne, G. Supt. of Wilts; and of the Charity Organisation Committee of the Province of Dorset.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

S. R. BASKETT.

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I am, yours sincerely,

FREDK. H. WINSTON,

Late United States Minister to His Majesty the Shah of Persia.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

TO THE PATRONS, VICE-PATRONS, VICE-PRESIDENTS, AND LIFE GOVERNORS OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Committee Rooms,
Anderton's Hotel,
Fleet Street, E.C.,

November 22nd, 1889.

The Friends and Supporters of BROTHER EDWIN STORR, P.M., P.Z., &c., request you to kindly note that should a vacancy occur, he will, at the proper time, duly offer himself a Candidate for the post of Secretary.

By order of the Committee.

W. M. STILES,
W.M. 1987, M.E.Z. 19, &c.,
Hon. Sec.

To Correspondents.

F.E.R.—We have already expressed our opinion as to this "fishy" circular. That a brother Mason could so far forget himself as to issue such a circular was to us surprising, but to find that a lodge Secretary has been so weak as to succumb to the wiles of the enterprising fish dealer, by issuing the circulars to the members of his lodge, is a greater surprise still.

S.W.—The W.M. certainly closes the lodge of his own right. We have never before heard of the practice referred to.

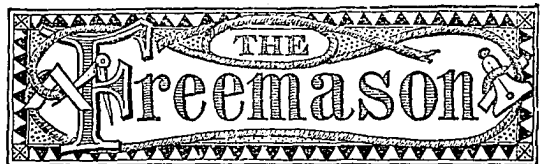
We have received several letters from Bros. Greatbatch, Morley, and others, on the subject of Bro. Binckes's pension. We are compelled, for lack of space, to hold them over this week, and it is quite on the cards that there may be no need for publishing them at all.

The following communications unavoidably stand over:
CRAFT LODGES—Royal Athelston, No. 19; Leigh, No. 957; Capper, No. 1076; Sir Francis Burdett, No. 1503; Covent Garden, No. 1614; Ubique, No. 1789; Alliance, No. 1827; Robinson, No. 2046; and Lodge La France, No. 2060.

MARK—Mallet and Chisel Lodge, No. 134.
ROYAL ARCH—St. Andrew-in-the-East Chapter, No. 68; Starkie Chapter, No. 935; and Henry Cook Chapter, No. 1021.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION—Manchester, No. 179; Israel, No. 205; Prince Frederick William, No. 753; Ranelagh, No. 834; Hyde Park, No. 1425; Islington, No. 1471; Kensington, No. 1767; Duke of Cornwall, No. 1839; and St. Ambrose, No. 1891.

SECRET MONITOR—Felix Gottlieb Conclave, No. 3.
NOTES AND QUERIES—Picart's Ceremonies. Centenary of the Lodge of Fortitude, No. 281, Lancaster. Provincial Grand Chapter of West Yorkshire. United Grand Lodge of Victoria. Masonry in Bermuda.



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1889.

Masonic Notes.

Bro. Stanley J. Attenborough, Life-Governor of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, who gave us last week his views on the subject of the pension proposed to be paid to Bro. Binckes on his retirement from the Secretaryship of that Charity, must forgive us if we describe him as somewhat self-opinionated. He evidently cannot bring himself to believe (1) that there can be any other opinion on the subject of Bro. Binckes's pension than the one he holds, or (2) that if there is such another opinion, it can possibly be worth a moment's consideration.

He tells us point blank that he considers the application of any part of the funds of the Institution for Boys "for the maintenance of retired officers of the Institution is contrary to Law 2." This is equivalent to telling the Provisional Management Committee, which includes a Queen's Counsel and several solicitors of long standing and in good practice, that they are incompetent to perform the duties which have been entrusted to them.

Whether or not, the services of Bro. Binckes, as Secretary to the Institution during upwards of 28 years, are such as to merit a pension, is a question on which we and others have expressed an opinion, nor do we venture to quarrel with those who differ from us on

the subject. But it strikes us as being rather more than a little self assertive on the part of Bro. Attenborough to set up his opinion as to the legality of the proposed pension against that of the Provisional Committee, which includes, as we said, a Queen's Counsel and several solicitors. If the opinion of these legal members of the Provisional Committee is worth nothing—and they are not the men to sanction an illegal proposal—then the opinion of Bro. Stanley J. Attenborough must be worth less than nothing.

From which it follows that the opinion of the Provisional Committee, as justified by their legal members, is, after all, the better worth following of the two.

Bro. Attenborough is also slightly obscure, at least in the following passage: "To my mind, a resolution claiming to be passed, which, if carried into effect, is practically a misappropriation of trust funds, is a distinct breach of faith." It would be just as well that Bro. Attenborough should furnish a key to this sentence, for it is sadly in need of one. It is also a great compliment which he pays to the legal brethren on the Provisional Committee, when he suggests there should be an appeal from them to "some Equity Counsel of eminence." The opinions of one Queen's Counsel, or two if we include Bro. Samuel Pope, Q.C., and several solicitors, is of no account in Bro. Attenborough's estimation.

We are very pleased to state that Bro. W. J. Hughan, of Torquay, was elected to Honorary membership in the "Masonic Veteran Association of Illinois," in October, 1889, the neat certificate of which he has duly received, signed by General John C. Smith, M.W. Grand Master, the "venerable chief," and Bro. Gil. W. Barnard, the Secretary. This compliment from so distinguished a society in the United States will doubtless be much esteemed by our brother, who must have an exceptionally good memory if he can bear in mind the names and localities of all the Masonic bodies at home and abroad who have enrolled him as an Honorary Member. This is the second Veteran Organisation which has thus recognised the literary services of Bro. Hughan.

A series of articles, entitled "Outlines of a History of Freemasonry, from the most Ancient and Modern Times," are being written by Bro. Geo. F. Fort in the columns of the *Telegram*, Camden, New Jersey, U.S.A. The first number was published 26th April, 1889, and the "Outlines" appear from week to week, many months being required to complete the set.

Bro. Fort has already written the most interesting and entertaining history of the Craft extant, though not the most exhaustive or critical, and now he bids fair to achieve a like success in other directions. The articles so far have mainly to do with the remote past, at least, those so far as we have seen, but when more modern times are dealt with, we shall gladly make known the character and extent of his well-directed researches.

The London Irish Rifles Lodge made a most successful start last Saturday. The Grand Secretary, fresh from a similar function at Manchester on the previous day, was in good form, and the Grand Officers who assisted at the consecration carried out their various duties admirably. We offer our sincere congratulations to Bros. Major Carrell, Col. Ward, and the other founders, not only on the event of the day, but on the prospects of a flourishing future. The munificent gift to the lodge of all the furniture, jewels, and preliminary expenses on the part of Bro. Col. Ward, Bro. Major Inglis, and the W.M., starts the lodge free from any encumbrance.

From time to time a good deal of controversy has arisen on the subject of women Freemasons, but it has been reserved for Leeds brethren to be brought face to face with the subject in a practical form. A case recently come under the cognisance of the local Charity Committee, in which an applicant for relief, a Spaniard, produced not only his own certificate, but what appeared an equally valid one on behalf of his wife, who, it is said, proved herself in all the Degrees "a good Mason."

It was explained that in the Spanish lodges from which our brother hailed it was the custom to initiate, pass, and raise the wives of Masons, who were duly vouched for by their husbands, and that this was done for the purpose of keeping the ladies out of

the hands of the Jesuits. The lodges in which this custom prevails are called "mixed" lodges, but what strikes us as the most extraordinary part of the story is that "peace and harmony prevails."

The *Glasgow Evening News* devotes a column or more every Tuesday to Masonic matters. Amongst other items it has the following reference to the newly-elected Grand Cashier of the Grand Lodge of Scotland: "Bro. David Reid is now actively disengaging himself of the duties of Provincial Grand Secretary for Glasgow, and next Tuesday will discharge his last function in that office. He has held the position of Provincial Grand Secretary for six years, and that he has fulfilled the duties of the office with every satisfaction is sufficiently borne out by the testimonials given by the Provincial Grand Office Bearers in recommending him for the high position he has now attained."

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.]

A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Permit me to correct an error which appears in your issue of this week. In noticing the lamented death of Bro. the Rev. George Warburton Weldon, M.A., vicar of St. George's, Bickley, Kent, you state that "the M.W.G.M. was pleased to confer on him the *breve* rank of Past Grand Chaplain at the Masonic celebration of the Queen's Jubilee on the 13th of June, 1887," whereas he was appointed that year as my colleague at the Annual Festival on April 27th.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

THOMAS CARTWRIGHT SMYTH, D.D.,
Past Grand Chaplain.

November 16th.



Craft Masonry.

Metropolitan Meetings.

Strong Man Lodge (No. 45).—This lodge met at the Masons' Hall Tavern, on Thursday, the 7th inst., and was presided over by Bro. Cubbon, W.M. There were present Bros. E. H. Dove, S.W.; W. H. Liddall, J.W.; H. Follet, P.M., Treas.; H. T. Nell, P.M., Sec.; C. Dowsett, S.D.; Bruty, J.D.; G. Symonds, P.M., D.C.; C. Whitby, I.G.; J. G. Cobb and J. Margett, Stwds.; E. Mallet, Tyler; F. Driver, P.M.; J. Smith, P.M.; R. E. Hunt, P.M.; Fontaine, P.M.; C. S. Maden, W. Mills, D. Langdon, F. E. Eastwood, W. W. Soar, B. C. Liddall, W. Saurmes, J. Smethurst, R. Dell, S. Wood, J. B. Rutter, A. S. Best, J. C. Taylor, A. Whitby, and the following visitors: Bros. T. Blyth, 1804; F. Taylor, 2256; Milton Smith, 19; A. H. Osman, J.W. 1178; C. Ackerman, 1706; Rawlinson, I.G. 2186; and R. Sidney, 30.

The lodge being opened, and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed, Bro. Soar was passed, after which the ballot was taken for Bros. Thos. C. Taylor and John Cuer. Both being unanimously elected, they were duly initiated, the ceremony, as well as the passing, being admirably carried through by the W.M. A guinea was voted and handed to a needy brother who had applied to the lodge to support a petition to the Board of Benevolence, which the lodge did not feel competent to recommend. Bro. R. E. Hunt, P.M., accepted the office of Steward to the Benevolent Institution, and was voted £10.

Other formal business having been transacted, "Hearty good wishes" were given, and the lodge duly closed.

The brethren then adjourned to a sumptuous dinner, catered by Bro. S. Wood.

The various toasts of "The Queen," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," having been appropriately proposed and suitably acknowledged.

The W.M. proposed the toast of "The Initiates," and expressed his pleasure and the gratification of the lodge in receiving amongst them such promising members.

Bro. Taylor, in responding, said he need hardly tell the brethren how great his pleasure was in joining so ancient and worthy a lodge, and that he would do his best to be a worthy member. He thanked them sincerely for the kind reception given to him.

Bro. Cuer reiterated the statements of his fellow initiate, and expressed his feeling of the great honour accorded him by the lodge making him one of them, and said he felt no greater duty than that of thanking the members most sincerely.

The toast of "The W.M." was next proposed by the Immediate Past Master, who expressed his admiration of the very able manner in which the working had been done by the present W.M., and said that if all the Masters who followed did the ceremonies in an equally creditable manner the Strong Man Lodge would earn a reputation for good Masters.

The Worshipful Master, in his reply, said he was very thankful for the kind way the brethren received him, and could not see how a W.M. could do but well when he was so well supported by his brother officers who worked so heartily. He wished to be efficient, and tried to throw his

heart and soul into the working. It was a great pleasure to know the brethren, to whom he felt bound by strong ties of affection.

The toast of "The Visitors" was next given by the Worshipful Master, who asked the brethren to drink their health with all the cordiality that was manifest that night.

Bro. Milton Smith, 19, in responding, said he considered that one of the most pleasant features of Freemasonry was the practice of visiting lodges. Brethren were enabled to compare the working of other lodges with their own, and thus able to learn and improve themselves and their lodges. He expressed himself very pleased with the excellence and correct working of the ceremonies that evening and with the musical element. He belonged to an old lodge himself, but had observed during the evening that while his lodge was over 120 years old and numbered 19, this lodge, although numbered 45, was more than 150 years old. One could be proud of belonging to a lodge 150 years old, and particularly when its reputation was so well kept up as the Strong Man Lodge. Anyone could see the lodge was old by the grand old furniture, which was certainly unique and looked quite the age of 150.

Bro. A. H. Osman, 1178, expressed his gratification at the reception given to him and his brother visitors.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was responded to by Bros. Symonds, P.M., and Smith, P.M.

The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" was proposed in a cordial manner by the W.M.

The Treasurer, in response, said he thanked the W.M. for the very kind words he had uttered in his favour, and assured the brethren that while he was Treasurer he would do his utmost to further the welfare of the lodge as he had hitherto tried to do, and said his work was easy because of the ability of the Secretary, the lodge never having had a better Secretary.

The Secretary expressed his thanks for the very kind words spoken of him, and said he tried to do work with satisfaction. He was glad to have had the pleasure of introducing Bro. Taylor into the lodge that night, and who, he thought, would do honour to the lodge. He drew attention to the desirability of the members obtaining centenary jewels, and hoped the members would join in making up an order for at least 25.

"The Officers" was then proposed by the W.M., who said that a lodge could not succeed without good officers, but that they had not much to complain of in that respect, and drew attention to the necessity of officers attending a lodge of instruction.

The S.W. and J.W. responded, expressing their desire to be able to do the working well as they progressed in office.

During the evening songs, &c., were given by Bros. Nell, P.M., Sec.; Taylor, Ackerman, Marden, Milton Smith, and C. and A. Whitby.

Whittington Lodge (No. 862).—This lodge met at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Monday, the 18th instant. It being installation night, there was a good assemblage of brethren. Among those present Bros. James Irvine, W.M.; Brocklehurst, S.W.; Pauncefort, J.W.; Kingston, Treas.; Weaver, Sec.; Day, S.D.; Colles, I.G.; Bonsall, D.C.; Packer, P.M.; Bolton, P.M.; Godden, P.M.; Ross, P.M.; Collinson, P.M.; Lewis, Gumnziroi, Jung, and Harris. Visitors: Bros. Upton, 1599; Gowan, 2029; Scurrah, I.P.M. 107; Whitley, P.G.O.; Faurance, 2168; Heenson, 858; Bolton, P.J.G.W. Kent; Stiles, P.M. 1987; Purvis, P.M. 227; Gregory, S.D. 1962; Hayns, P.M. 619; Little, 1607; Buckley, 2033; Henson, 858; and Ormston, 1607.

In the course of the evening the W.M., Bro. J. Irvine, vacated the chair, having completed his term of office, and in a most fluent and forcible manner, installed his successor, Bro. Brocklehurst, S.W. Great was the ability displayed in this ceremony, and great was the admiration of the brethren present for both the retiring and ascending W.M.'s, who discharged their respective duties with exceptional ability. Through the officers being selected by rotation, Bro. Pauncefort became S.W.; Bro. Day, J.W.; and Bro. Lewis, D.C.

The proceedings gave great satisfaction, and after the lodge was closed, and the banquet over, a very choice jewel was presented by the lodge to Bro. Irvine, I.P.M., who replied to the complimentary remarks of the W.M. in his usual eloquent manner.

The other speeches were of the usual type, and in every case the visitors replied to the toast of their health.

Some excellent songs were sung, Bro. Pauncefort being the Organist.

In this lodge, for many years past, each retiring W.M. has installed his successor, and performed the duties of the chair without fault or failure, and the present W.M. shows himself a true specimen of the normal type of Whittington Masters. The same kind of spirit of emulation is apparent in all the officers of the lodge.

Belgrave Lodge (No. 749).—The annual meeting of this lodge, for the purpose of installing the W. Master for the ensuing year, was held at Anderton's Hotel, on Wednesday, the 13th inst., upon which occasion a large number of brethren, members of various lodges, assembled for the purpose of witnessing the induction of Bro. H. W. L. Hobbs, J.W. and W.M. elect, into the chair of K.S. The lodge was opened by Bro. Thomas Weeks, W.M., assisted by the following officers: Bros. Kedge, S.W.; H. W. L. Hobbs, J.W.; Parsons, P.M., Treas.; Garrod, P.M., Sec.; Triggs, S.D.; Austin, J.D.; J. N. Hobbs, P.M., D.C.; Turnpenny, I.G.; Banks, Steward; and Homewood, Tyler. The minutes of the last regular meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. Rathbone, Turnbull, and Bagge were passed to the Second Degree, after which the ballot was taken for Messrs. J. Miskin and Wm. Denton, which proving unanimous, they were initiated. Bro. H. W. L. Hobbs was presented by Bro. J. W. Hobbs, P.M., for the benefit of installation, and was formally installed as W.M. in the presence of some 28 Installed Masters. Bro. Thomas Weeks, the Installing Master, performing the ceremony, which, it is needless to say, gave the greatest pleasure to all present for the admirable manner in which he fulfilled the task. The newly-installed W.M. appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers: Bros. E. Triggs, S.W.; E. E. Austin, J.W.; P. Parsons, P.M., Treas.; H. Garrod, P.M., P.G.P. Sec.; W. D. T. Turnpenny, S.D.; J. H. Brand, J.D.; A. Banks, I.G.; J. W. Hobbs, P.M., D.C.; J. Mahon, A.D.C.; A. F. Leech, P.M., and F. Kedge, Stewards; and Homewood, Tyler. A Past Master's jewel, unanimously voted by the lodge, was then presented by the W.M. to Bro. T. Weeks,

to prove how well and faithfully the Master's duties had been performed, and the great satisfaction and pleasure every one had felt during his year of office. Bro. Weeks briefly thanked the W.M. and brethren for the presentation, and ventured to remark that the lodge would lose none of its lustre in the hands of their W.M., Bro. Hobbs.

The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, upwards of 70 sitting down.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair, and responded to with the greatest enthusiasm.

Bros. Triggs, Loverds, and Godwin responded to the toast of "The Visitors."

The harmony of the evening was enhanced by the elaborate programme put before them by Bro. G. S. Graham. The following talented artists took part: Messrs. J. Mills and Colnaghi, and Bros. Prenton, Etherington, Smith, and Graham, Bro. Parsons, P.M., singing, by special request, the Entered Apprentice's song in honour of the initiates.

The visitors present were Bros. Lawson, P.M. 591; Bagge, 2191; Dutton, S.W. 1489; Hooker, J.D. 1223; Graham, P.M. 1851; Perrins, 1839; Sheppard, J.W. 141; Hodges, 1591; Loverdo, 880; Godwin, J.W. 1579; Mooney, 2012; Johnston, 1538; and Triggs, P.M. 988.

Cosmopolitan Lodge (No. 917).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Tuesday, the 12th inst., when a large number of brethren attended to evince their interest in the lodge and their appreciation of the retiring Master, Bro. Egbert Roberts, and of the popular W.M. elect, Bro. Carlo Tichiaz. The members and visitors present were: Bros. Egbert Roberts, W.M.; A. Hamilton, I.P.M.; C. Tichiaz, S.W.; H. Draper, J.W.; Lovell Keays, Treas.; Louis Stean, Sec.; E. Francis, S.D.; H. Forss, P.M.; D. of C.; James Bott, I.G.; Selwyn Davies, Asst. D. of C.; Robert Prime, Stwd.; J. T. Salmon, P.M.; G. M. Taylor, P.M.; William Pitt, P.M.; E. Edwards, P.M.; J. F. Van Raalt, P.M.; G. Redding, P.M.; C. Hirsch, Wm. Smith, J. Bass, J. B. Lennard, W. S. Crawford, W. Salmon, S. J. Muncey, Thos. Lucas, J. R. Hewett, W. Hale Hilton, F. A. Parkin, G. J. Hanson, R. C. Read, H. Harrison, C. Stewart, Jas. Johnson, Wm. Nash, J. Williams, J. Keys, G. Antunovich, J. H. Sliheger, P. Hale, J. R. Perks, and C. Taylor, jun. Visitors: Bros. J. W. Kay, W.M. 1624; J. P. Allen, P.M. 1056; F. Hewson, 858; W. F. Shuter, J.D. 1685; T. S. Fullcher, 212; H. Bracawell, J.W. 1633; J. H. Proffy, 1298; Wm. Hile, 1539; J. Anley, 177; H. Clemow, 1744; George English, 901; and R. B. Greenwood, P.M. 1923.

Lodge was opened, the minutes confirmed, and the audit report received and adopted. Bro. A. Hamilton, P.M., then impressively installed the W.M. elect, Bro. Carlo Tichiaz, as the W.M. of the Cosmopolitan Lodge for the ensuing year, and in due course performed the agreeable duty of presenting Bro. Egbert Roberts, I.P.M., with a handsome Past Master's jewel, unanimously voted at the last meeting. In placing the jewel on his breast he was only echoing the sentiments of the lodge that he would be long spared to wear it. The Installing Master, Bro. Hamilton, P.M., having concluded the evening's work of installation with his usual ability, and after appointing the officers, the lodge was closed. The following are the officers for the ensuing year: Bros. Carlo Tichiaz, W.M.; T. Draper, S.W.; E. Francis, J.W.; F. Lovell Keays, Treas.; L. Stean, Sec.; J. Bott, S.D.; Selwyn Davies, J.D.; W. Salmon, I.G.; G. A. Antunovich, D. of C.; H. C. C. Hirsch, Asst. D. of C.; Egbert Roberts, I.P.M., Org.; C. Taylor, Asst. Org.; G. M. Taylor and R. Prime, Stwds.

An excellent banquet by the new proprietors, Messrs. Ritter and Puzey, was served in the Pillar Hall, at which the W.M. presided in a most able and genial manner, and subsequently gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. The Initiate, Bro. C. Stewart, who took his first degree at the Emergency Meeting on the Tuesday previous to this meeting, replied in a few words, well to the point, and thorough appreciation of the honour conferred on him.

The usual toasts, as well as that of "The Visitors" were most heartily drunk and ably responded to. Meanwhile Bros. E. Roberts, I.P.M.; S. Davies, J.D.; Harrison, Taylor, Salmon, P.M., and several other brethren contributed to the evening's harmony. An entertainment by Mr. Jarvis, Ventriquoist, being also most highly appreciated, and by which the enjoyment of the evening was enhanced.

The Tyler's toast having been given, the brethren expressed their entire satisfaction with the whole of the evening's proceedings.

Islington Lodge (No. 1471).—A very successful meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 14th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. H. Hunt, W.M.; J. Petch, I.P.M.; S. Napper, S.W.; J. M. Scarlett, J.W.; J. L. Mather, P.M., P.A.G.D.C., Treas.; E. Blinkhorn, P.M., Sec.; H. B. Harding, S.D.; R. Loomes, acting J.D.; C. M. Coxon, I.G.; A. Hagan and A. Cox, Stwds.; G. Couchman, Tyler; J. Williams, Assistant Tyler; H. Cox, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Works Herts; W. Shurmer, P.M.; P. Taber, C. Hiller, W. G. Hiller, W. Taylor, D. C. Ritchie, C. H. Stevenson, C. Isler, E. J. Harrison, John Baker, A. Fearnhead, E. A. Beer, B. Bridgewater, G. A. Hull, F. Awdas, F. W. White, C. Horst, G. W. Hooker, C. A. Chapman, F. Simmonds, A. Snook, J. J. Samuel, C. Weber, C. A. Colmer, J. Amand, and G. E. Walker. Visitors: Bros. W. D. Church, S.W. 1365; Tom Lester, 776; F. Cakebread, 1178; J. McLaren, 1805; Dr. V. A. Wartenburg, 476; E. Sheldrake, 1693; J. Beer, 453; C. J. Balfour, 902; and R. Phillips, 1021.

After opening the lodge, and the reading and confirming of the minutes, Bros. Horst and White were raised. The names of two brethren appeared on the summons for passing, but they were not in attendance. A ballot was taken for three candidates for initiation, but two of these only were present, Messrs. J. Amand and G. E. Walker, who, having been elected, were duly initiated. The name of Bro. Bostock was placed on the list of country members. A case of distress was relieved by a vote of money, and the sum of one guinea was voted, according to annual custom, to Bro. Terry's Old People's Entertainment Fund. The lodge was then closed.

The brethren afterwards sat down to dinner, when the order of the evening was a condensed toast list and short speeches. Bros. Isler, C. Hiller, W. G. Hiller, Stevenson, and others contributed to the harmony of the evening. Bro. Trego presided at the piano, and the brethren separated after an enjoyable evening.

Royal Kensington Lodge (No. 1627).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 1st instant. Bro. A. Rumsey, W.M., opened the lodge, and the minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, the ceremony of installation was proceeded with. The Installing Officer, Bro. J. H. Jarvis, P.M., assisted by Bro. J. B. Stevens, P.M., as D.C., performed the ceremony of installation in a most impressive and imposing manner, delivering the addresses with perfect clearness and precision. The new W.M., Bro. C. Toope, then invested the following officers: Bros. H. G. Hale, S.W.; H. T. Pitt, J.W.; H. P. Hay, P.M., Sec.; J. B. Stevens, P.M., Treas.; W. Bellamy, S.D.; Emile Daust, J.D.; E. C. Pouard, I.G.; G. Aylwin, Stwd.; Eugene Delacoste, P.M., D.C.; and R. Potter, Tyler. The W.M. then, on behalf of the lodge, presented the I.P.M., Bro. A. A. Rumsey, with the Past Master's jewel, with his congratulations and the thanks of the lodge for his manner of conducting the business of the lodge during his term of office.

The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet room.

The loyal toasts, and that of "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," having been duly honoured,

"The Worshipful Master of the Royal Kensington Lodge" was then proposed by the I.P.M., Bro. A. A. Rumsey, who said he felt sure that in the present W.M. they had one who was an ornament to the position he now occupied, and one who would creditably maintain it during his term of office.

The W.M. briefly responded in a fitting manner. He then proposed "The Installing Master" in eulogistic terms, to which Bro. J. H. Jarvis, P.M., replied.

To the toast of "The Visitors" Bro. St. Clair replied, congratulating the lodge on its growing prosperity, and the efficiency of all who performed the work of the evening in the lodge.

Bro. J. J. Berry, P.M., who spoke on his own behalf and that of several brethren present from East-end lodges, thanked the W.M. and brethren sincerely for the very welcome way in which they had been met. It was at one with all that he had seen in the lodge thorough and Masonic.

Bros. Cundick and Taylor added a few words in the same spirit.

The remaining toasts having been duly proposed and responded to, the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

Besides the officers above named, the following brethren were present: Bro. C. E. Soppet, P.M. 60, P.G. Stwd. Visitors: Bros. E. St. Clair, W.M. 2060; J. J. Berry, P.M. 564, P.M. 1278; J. Carr, 55; S. Covell, 2032; A. Allen, 2032; J. Taylor, 564; J. C. Boulton, 73; J. Stephenson, 1635; J. Hackwater, 1635; U. Harvey, 223; J. Gordon Langley, P.M. 96; W. Douglas Young, 2146; J. Mills, 1765; and many others.

During the intervals between the toasts and the replies, an excellent selection of music, instrumental and vocal, was performed under the direction of Mr. H. G. Chatterton. The violin duet by Misses Claria and Barri, viz., 4th Symphony, by Danckla, was especially admired.

Earl of Carnarvon Lodge (No. 1642).—

The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, 14th inst., at Ladbroke Hall, Notting-hill, when Bro. John Woodmason, P.M., P.P.G.C., opened the lodge for the last time during his year of office as W.M. The business on the agenda included the raising of Bro. Henry Armfield, the ceremony being ably performed by Bro. Parkhouse, P.M., Treasurer of the lodge; taking the ballot for the admission of Mr. George Passingham, chemist, as a candidate for initiation; and for the admission of Bro. Captain Walter Henry James, R.N., L.C.C., 255, and of Bro. Edmund Routledge, P.M. 1365, as joining members, all of whom were admitted. There was also a notice of motion by Bro. Parkhouse, P.M., "That the sum of £15 15s. be given to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, the same to be placed on Bro. Woodmason's list, who will represent this lodge as Steward at the next Festival," which motion was carried unanimously. The main feature of the evening's business was of course the installation of Bro. Reuben C. Green, P.M., S.W., W.M. elect. This ceremony was performed by Bro. Parkhouse, Treas., and Bro. Davis, P.M., the Preceptor of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge of Instruction, who delivered the concluding addresses, and it is needless to add that the working was all that could be desired.

The following is the list of officers for the ensuing year: Bros. J. Woodmason, I.P.M.; J. R. Roberts, S.W.; T. W. Heath, J.W.; S. H. Parkhouse, Treas.; W. J. Murlis, Sec.; Dr. F. E. Pocock, M.D., P.M., S.D.; E. Rogers, P.M., G. Std.; R. H. Rutherglen, I.G.; J. M. Huish and H. Foskett, Stwds.; G. A. Williams, A.D. of C.; and Scolefield, Tyler. The list of visitors included the following brethren: Bros. Robert T. Cooper, 130; W. Craig, P.M. 1425; W. J. Mason, W.M. elect 2246; Richard S. Sly, P.M. 1653; F. L. Chandler, P.M. 1656; W. Middleweek, J.W. 1793; J. H. Pearson, P.M. 1567; W. C. Williams, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.; N. Moss, P.M. 184; William Mate, 1206, P.P.S.G.W. Kent; George English, 901; George Britten, P.M. 22; A. J. Turner, 1767; H. Dehane, 1543; J. P. Pearson, 1196; B. T. Fountain, 948, P.P.G.T.; Philip Monson, P.M. 1194; J. H. Hayden, 901; J. R. Crook, 733; Fredk. Binckes, P.M. Grand Stewards' Lodge, P.G.S.B.; Charles Webster, P.M. 1637; J. M. Belsham, 733; W. Cuff, W.M. 511; W. Longridge, Treas. 425; E. Connell, 1512; W. J. Day, Org. 1642; G. Wilson Watts, P.M. 194; Edmund Routledge, P.M. 1635; Charles J. Biorn, P.M. 733; Russell Lochner; and E. Massey.

After the banquet which followed the lodge meeting, a long list of toasts was proposed from the cross table, where Bro. Green, the new W.M., proved himself to be as efficient a host as he is a Mason. The toast "The Queen and the Craft" was of course disposed of in a few words, the Master merely saying that though they were members of a secret society they had as a first principle loyalty to the Queen, her crown, and dignity. The toast was enthusiastically received, and was followed by the National Anthem.

The toast "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M." was also disposed of in a few words, and was likewise duly honoured by the brethren.

The next was a special toast, "The Earl of Carnarvon," always a separate toast in this lodge, because, as the Master said, they had been authorised by his lordship to bear his name and arms, a privilege for which they had

always been grateful since the foundation of the lodge, in 1876; visitors would therefore understand why they made that a separate toast.

In proposing the toast of "The Earl of Lathom and the rest of the Grand Officers," the W.M. said that, as a young Mason, he was not prepared to criticise those eminent Masons. He knew, as they all did, that the Grand Officers did excellent work, and seeing those who were present to represent Grand Lodge, they could do no less than drink to their very good health. They were fortunate on that occasion in the presence of Bros. Cama, P.G. Treas.; Binckes, P.G.S.B.; and Rogers. Bros. Cama and Rogers were members of the Carnarvon Lodge, and the worthy Bro. Binckes he was proud to say was a somewhat frequent visitor. In proposing this toast he associated with it the names of those three brethren.

Bro. Rogers said he was very proud to respond to the toast in the character of one of the present Grand Officers, who, he hoped, had the entire confidence of the Craft. He was especially proud to return thanks for the Grand Officers in that lodge because it was the lodge in which he had been initiated.

Bro. Cama also responded as one of the Past G. Officers. Bro. Woodmason, I.P.M., proposed the health of the W.M., and in reply

Bro. Green said he thanked the brethren for having drunk the toast, because he believed that they not only drank to the office he held, but drank to the man himself. He had to thank them for their cordiality, and their numbers deprived him of thanking them as he should like to for his own satisfaction. The kindness that had been shown to him, and to one nearest and dearest to him, who had now retired from work, had stimulated him (the W.M.) to work up to that office which he now held, but he was afraid that the very high standard of work which had been set up in that lodge would make his task a hard one. He hoped, however, that he should be able to preserve the kind of work they had set up in the lodge. He would leave it to them to judge him when his year of office was over. He knew that they would extend to him the right hand of fellowship, and it was in reliance upon their support that he said he believed he should be able to get through his year of office to their satisfaction. He would say no more now as they had so many visitors, but he thanked them from the bottom of his heart for the way in which they had received the toast of his health. Bro. Green then proceeded to say that he had a duty cast upon him which he would now attempt to execute with a great deal of pleasure. It was to introduce to them two joining members to the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge who had been elected in the course of the evening previous to his installation. They were Bro. Capt. James and Bro. Edmund Routledge. Those brethren were well known. He had seen from the *Kensington News* that Bro. Capt. James was about to be buried again figuratively; he could only say that he hoped he would be raised again and live for many years to join the brethren at that board. Bro. Edmund Routledge and his good works were so well known that it was unnecessary to say anything particular about him. They were all very glad that these brethren had become members of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge.

Bro. Capt. James said he rose with very mixed feelings to return thanks for the honour and kindness displayed to him and Bro. Routledge. He had been extremely struck with the way in which the W.M. (the worthy son of a worthy father) invested his officers for the next year. Some little reference had been made to the fact that Bro. Routledge and he were sitting side by side on that occasion, in allusion, he presumed, to the fact that their seats—if they got them—in another place would be cast on different sides. Brethren might be satisfied that Bro. Routledge and he would be united in this—that differences of opinion should never alter friendship.

Bro. Routledge, in responding, said that he was present on Monday at a very extraordinary entertainment, in which two circuses were going on at the same time, and it occurred to him whether it would not have been better if his brother joining member had been able to perform in one circle while he (Bro. Routledge) performed in another. He spoke simply on his own account, as he should be the last man to say that his (Bro. James's) entertainment should be shortened in the least degree. Before he was a member he had had the pleasure of partaking of the boundless hospitality of the lodge, and now that he was a member he hoped he should remain one for many years to come. He was gratified to think that he was the invited guest of their worshipful Chairman, a brother for whom he had the greatest respect, and whose respected father he had had the pleasure of knowing for a great many years. He believed the Chairman's father had been clerk of the vestry for 42 years, and his friendship to him therefore went back to a distant date. There was only one other he had been connected with longer—Bro. Pierson—on whose authority he was informed that he had been intimate with him for 52 years. He regretted to say these were the last dying notes of the swan, for he could never again address them as a visitor, and he could not think that he should ever rise to such a position as would enable him to address them in another capacity. The brethren had probably seen in the Barnum show two marvellous freaks of nature, the Siamese twins. Whether or not the brethren agreed with him that Bro. James and himself adequately carried out the functions of the other twins it was not for him to say; but Bro. James never left him. He believed they became members of the Kensington Vestry at the same time—Bro. James said he was there first, but if that was so it must have been by that peculiar accident that occurred at the birth of twins. But he could assure them that Bro. James never left him. They became County Councillors at the same time—Bro. James was elected for three years and he was elected for six; he should therefore endeavour to induce his brother to accept the position of inferiority which he thought he ought to assume on all occasions. That was a wonderful failing of Bro. James's. Bro. James had come up into this pleasant neighbourhood and wanted to be associated with him, and although he (Bro. Routledge) knew it was out of place to allude to politics, he might not be altogether out of order when he said he thought it was to the advantage of the neighbourhood and the lodge that they had a brother like Bro. James; and they might be sure that they would live as Siamese twins for the next three years, and if they should ever have to part, that parting would be made with most deep regret. They would always be united in friendship, and one of the great objects of their partnership would be to show the great interest they felt in the Carnarvon Lodge, and the friendly relations which should exist among Masons. If his brother and he met as political opponents they also met as personal friends.

The W.M. then briefly proposed "Success to the Masonic Charities," coupling the toast with the name of Bro. Fredk. Binckes, Secretary of the Boys' School.

Bro. Binckes, in reply, said that it was now some five or six years since he was at that lodge on a similar occasion, and he thanked the brethren for the continued and continuous support rendered to the various Masonic Institutions by the Carnarvon Lodge. He did not know that he could single out any lodge that had done more than the Carnarvon. Their Master said that he would make his remarks as brief as possible, and he (Bro. Binckes) was sure that no words of his were needed. All that he had to do was to return his very sincere thanks for the Institution with which he was still associated for the support which had been afforded it by the Carnarvon Lodge, and he need hardly say that whatever might be his destiny or his fate he trusted that the efforts of Bro. Woodmason might be as liberally supported in the present as the efforts of others had been in the past. He did not want to make any sensational observations, but with regard to the Masonic Institutions the time lately had not flowed as quietly as usual. There was a fierce light that during the last two or three years had been upon various bodies and various Institutions, and he did not know why they should expect that the Masonic Institutions should be an exception. Why the Boys' School had been selected for attack he did not know, but he thought he could say a few words (that would show them that after all said and done that Institution was not deserving of the grave censure that had been passed upon it. But he was there as a visitor, and he would be sorry to be tempted to make any observations of a controversial nature. He thought, however, he would not find one dissentient when he said, if faults be found, let those faults be remedied, but do not let them interfere with the flow of Charity, which had for its object the maintenance, education, and clothing of four or five hundred of the children of Freemasons. Bro. Binckes added that he was delighted to be there that evening as a not altogether unwelcome guest, and still—however imperfectly he might have discharged his duties—as earnest now as ever he was in the cause of Masonic Charity. Time was a great consolator and it was also a great avenger, and he hoped as it went on feelings would be toned down and opportunity given for dispassionate judgment. In conclusion, he hoped that the efforts of the brethren of the Carnarvon Lodge in the ensuing year would be directed, one and all, to do what they could to place the Carnarvon Lodge in 1890 in connection with the Festival of the Boys' School in the same proud position as it had held in the past.

Several other toasts were proposed, including "The Visitors," which was responded to by Bros. Sly, Dr. Cooper, and Leath; "The Treasurer and Secretary," which brought Bros. Murlis and Parkhurst to their legs; "The Past Masters," for which Bros. Woodmason and Davis returned thanks, and "The Officers of the Lodge," to which the J.W. replied—in the absence of the S.W., who had been obliged to leave before the toast was reached.

In proposing the Past Masters' health, Bro. Green included the presentation to Bro. Woodmason of a handsome Past Master's jewel, which had been voted to him by the lodge, and for which Bro. Woodmason, in his reply, made suitable acknowledgment.

The Tyler's toast, as usual, brought the proceedings to a close.

The intervals between the speeches were enlivened with some pleasant vocal and instrumental music, contributed by Miss Florence Kent, Mr. Walter Turner, Bros. T. W. Heath, W. A. Vincent, and Master Felix Lochner (violin). Bro. Russell Lochner officiated at the pianoforte.

Aldersgate Lodge (No. 1657).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 18th inst., at the Albion, Aldersgate-street. Present: Bros. E. Anderton, I.P.M.; A. B. Hudson, S.W.; M. R. Webb, J.W.; A. Brookman, P.M., Treas.; E. Y. Jolliffe, P.M., Sec.; J. Larkin, S.D.; G. Rawlinson, I.G.; J. Shotton, Steward; H. Thomas, Tyler; S. White, P.M.; W. H. Froom, P.M.; E. C. Philpot, Septimus Croft, and J. S. Jarvis. Visitors: Bros. T. H. Crutnell, 1345, and W. Potter, jun., 1745.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Mr. John T. Donnelly, which, proving unanimous, the ceremony of initiation was very ably performed by Bro. E. Anderton, I.P.M., in the unavoidable absence in Paris of the W.M., Bro. Alderman Renals. Bro. A. B. Hudson, C.C., S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year.

There being no further business, the lodge was closed, the brethren dining together, under the presidency of Bro. E. Anderton, I.P.M.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured.

During the evening a very excellent selection of music was given by Miss F. Starkie and Mr. E. M. Chesham, accompanied by Mr. J. H. Leipold.

Trinity College Lodge (No. 1765).—On Thursday, the 7th inst., the installation meeting of this lodge took place at Trinity College, Mandeville-place, W., the W.M., Bro. Rant Martin, performing the office of installing Master. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, the W.M. elect, Bro. E. Burritt Lane, Mus. Bac., was presented for installation, and, having been duly installed into the chair of K.S., invested his officers as follows: Bros. T. E. Biddlecombe, S.W.; J. B. Sarjeant, J.W.; J. A. Hammond, Treas.; John Mills, Sec.; C. J. Ozanne, S.D.; S. J. Wilford, J.D.; J. T. Hutchinson, I.G.; A. F. Howard, P.M., D.C.; W. C. Hutchinson, Steward; G. H. Warren Tear, Org.; and G. Harrison, Tyler. Bro. the Rev. B. Hunt, Mus. D., P.M., was appointed Chaplain, but was unavoidably absent. The installing Master then delivered the usual addresses in a masterly and lucid manner. A Past Master's jewel was presented, with congratulations, to the I.P.M., Bro. Plant Martin, and after "Hearty good wishes" the proceedings terminated.

The brethren present besides those named were Bros. A. Carnall, Mus. B., L. J. F. Van der Heyden, E. C. M. Fischel, T. Pettitt, Sinclair Dunn, and H. E. Robertson. Among the visitors were Bros. J. E. Shand, P.M. and Sec. 2030; J. Collart, P.M. 749; W. J. Rundall, P.M. and Sec. 1716; J. Oppenheim, 2060; A. M. Brander, W.M. elect 1803; A. W. Lane, 167; J. Echstein, 1196; and D. J. Hatch, 1507.

After the banquet the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, the chief feature being the music between the toasts and the responses.

To that of "The Visitors," Bro. Shand, 2030, replied in a few kindly words, as an old friend and visitor of the lodge, wishing it continued prosperity under the new W.M. and in future.

Bro. W. J. Rundall, P.M. 1716, responded in similar terms; Bro. A. M. Brander, 1803, in the same spirit; and Bro. Oppenheim, 2060, added a few eloquent sentences in the French language, referring to the new movement initiated in the Lodge La France, and foreshadowing that it will make a still closer tie between French and English Masons; Bros. A. W. Lane, 167; J. Echstein, 1196; and J. Collart, 749, also cordially responded.

An admirable programme of music was provided. The Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

Derby Allcroft Lodge (No. 2168).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, N.W., on Thursday, the 14th inst., and proved one of the most successful meetings held since the consecration of the lodge. There was a very large attendance of brethren present, who thoroughly enjoyed the skill and ability displayed by the retiring Master, Bro. J. P. Fitzgerald, in the installation of his successor, Bro. H. Halliday. The members who supported Bro. J. P. Fitzgerald, W.M., included Bros. Harold Halliday, S.W. and W.M. elect; J. Corbett, P.M., J.W.; E. V. Jolliffe, P.M., P.P.G.W. Middx., Treas.; R. D. Cummings, P.M., Sec.; J. P. Harding, P.M., S.D.; W. F. Lord, J.D.; J. Derby Allcroft, P.G. Treas., P.M.; Dr. James Haskins, Org.; G. Rawlinson, I.G.; S. Garcia, P.M., D.C.; W. J. Wetenhall, G. Godfrey, A. A. Millward, and others. Visitors: Bros. John Hughes, W.M. 2222, P.P.G.D. of C. Surrey; E. J. Howe, 1155; G. T. Ayres, P.M. 95; Jno. Maclean, P.M. 1319; L. Engal, P.M. 207; D. J. Potter, S.W. 1321; W. G. Kent, S.D. 1321; J. Miles, P.M., Treas. 180; D. Barrett, W.M. 742; C. F. Quicke, S.W. 1531; C. M. Brander, S.W. 1563; W. Cook, P.M. 22; J. Fearn, I.G. 1195; A. B. Northcroft, 2045; W. Maclin, J.W. 177; A. Salmon, 1022; G. G. Hull, J.D. 1677; F. H. Macklin, I.G. 1319; F. L. Jermy, Stwd. 2005; D. Cooper, S.D. 211; Danl. Hughes, P.M. 901; A. Prince, J.W. 901; G. J. Judge, I.P.M. 1178; R. Pittam Stevens, I.P.M. 901; W. Gayton, P.M. 1607; A. T. Yardley, 901; David Hughes, P.M. 901; J. Morris, 1744; C. P. Coles, 1744; A. J. Bolton, P.M. 862; J. Renworthy, P.M. 1728; H. A. Bonair, 177; F. Johnson, I.P.M. 95; T. A. Bullock, P.M. 101; H. W. Higgins, P.M. 421; J. Fisher, 1114; and W. W. Lee, 1897.

The W.M. and officers having entered the lodge room in procession, and assumed their respective chairs, the lodge was formally opened, and the minutes confirmed. Bro. H. Halliday was presented as the W.M. elect, and duly and impressively installed by Bro. J. P. Fitzgerald, I.P.M. The following officers were appointed and invested: Bros. J. Corbett, P.M., S.W.; J. P. Harding, P.M., J.W.; E. Y. Jolliffe, P.M., &c., Treas.; R. D. Cummings, P.M., Sec.; W. F. Lord, S.D.; G. Rawlinson, J.D.; W. J. Wetenhall, I.G.; S. Garcia, D.C.; Dr. Jas. Haskins, Org.; G. Godfrey and A. A. Millward, Stewards; and Goddard, jun., Tyler.

The addresses were then rendered by the Installing Master, Bro. J. P. Fitzgerald, I.P.M., who well deserved the encomiums subsequently passed on his working by the brethren present. Propositions were received, and the lodge was closed.

At the conclusion of a *recherché* repast, the customary toast list received due notice.

Bro. J. Derby Allcroft, P.M., P.G. Treas., said the W. Master had been pleased to toast "The Grand Officers," and had been kind enough to call upon him to respond. He begged, therefore, on behalf of those distinguished members of the Order who had received so high an honour, to say that they all saw with pleasure when they attended Grand Lodge the excellent services fulfilled and duties performed by the Grand Officers. At the same time, they knew that, whether in Masonry or elsewhere, there must be prizes to look forward to as a stimulus to reward. It could not be given to all to become Grand Officers, but they knew that taking that body all together the members were all very bright ornaments in the Craft, and had done good suit and service, and were now shining in a higher sphere, and shedding light on the brethren around them. There were four or five honorary members on the list of their lodge who were Grand Officers, and one of them—the G. Sec.—would have been present had he not been called away to Manchester. He had no doubt that when they did visit the lodge they would go away with a consciousness that they belonged to a lodge that could show as good working as any in England. As one connected with the lodge, he was glad to see the excellent working that night, and to see that those in authority were supported by so many good friends. It showed the prestige of the lodge and that it was endeavouring to do its duty and uphold the honour of the Craft. He could only hope that so long as he belonged to the lodge he might see the same excellent work, and as pleasant and numerous a gathering as he had had the honour to speak to that night.

Bro. J. P. Fitzgerald, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said that he should probably have something to say with regard to that toast at their subsequent meetings. It was the most important toast of the evening. They had unanimously elected a brother to preside over them who held their esteem and respect, and whom they must have thought a fit and worthy brother to rule over a lodge of such importance as theirs. As loyalty was one of the predominant influences of a Freemason's heart, he asked the brethren to be loyal to Bro. Halliday, W.M., during his year of office. He had no cause to feel any doubt, because as the members had been loyal to those at their head, they would do all they could to make Bro. Halliday's year a successful one. He was pleased to say that from the brilliant meeting of that night no Master of their lodge had ever started under more brilliant prospects. There was no Master who had attained the chair in their lodge who had gathered round him such a gathering since Bro. Derby Allcroft occupied the same position at the consecration. He knew he could rely upon them to give the W.M. their hearty support.

Bro. Harold Halliday, W.M., thanked the I.P.M. for the kind words applied to him, and the brethren for having acquiesced in them. He hardly knew how to thank them for their ovation, which was quite undeserved. He would try to do his best and follow in the footsteps of the I.P.M., and if he emulated him in his working he could hope for nothing better.

In proposing "The I.P.M. and the Installing Master,"

the W.M. said that of Bro. Fitzgerald's admirable working he could say nothing more than he would try to emulate it, but would fall far short of it. He should endeavour to do his best, and if he satisfied the brethren it would be the fulfilment of his desire. Nobody had a greater admiration for Bro. J. P. Fitzgerald, I.P.M., than he, and for his indefatigable work in this lodge from its inception. Their I.P.M. was the actual founder of the Derby Allcroft Lodge, and when he asked him (the Worshipful Master) to become one of the founders he, knowing that when Bro. Fitzgerald took Masonry in hand it would be carried out in its integrity, consented. The Immediate Past Master claimed for their lodge the position of the best in London, and that claim was substantiated for it was certainly one of the best. That result had been brought about solely by the indefatigable perseverance of Bro. Fitzgerald in obtaining in the first place the consent of Bro. Derby Allcroft to have his name associated with the lodge, and then the sanction of that brother to be nominated as the first W.M. Next they had Bro. Eccleston Gibb, who was a tower of strength, and following him came Bro. Fitzgerald, who had culminated his good work by installing his successor. He should take this opportunity of showing the I.P.M. a substantial mark of their appreciation of his services by investing him with a handsome jewel. It was with very great pleasure, and he esteemed it a proud honour, to be allowed to invest the I.P.M. with the Past Master's jewel. He was sure the brethren would join in heartily drinking the health of Bro. Fitzgerald, I.P.M.

Bro. J. P. Fitzgerald, I.P.M., said the brethren had given him a task more difficult than he anticipated by giving an ovation to one he did not think sincerely deserved it. He was not going to be quixotic, for he believed their feelings were absolutely sincere. During the time he had been connected with that lodge he had only done his duty, and what more could a man possibly do? At most the ordinary need of praise was extended to him, and there the matter ended. He thanked them for their support during the past year and during the time it had taken to found this lodge. If there was one brother more than another he had to thank it was the Secretary, Bro. Cummings, P.M. From the reception accorded that name by the brethren, he was glad they had been able to recognise where honour was due, and thanked the Secretary for the manner in which he had supported him in every phase of their lodge. Bro. Cummings had rendered great help in difficulties, for if he undertook to do anything it was certain to be done well. He was now joining the sear and yellow leaf of the P.M.'s, and he thanked the Secretary and the brethren for supporting him in everything he had done.

"The Visitors" was next given, and responded to by Bro. D. Hughes, P.M. 901; J. Maclean, P.M.; Nathan Robinson, and John Hughes, P.P.G.D.C. Surrey.

"The Past Masters" and "The Officers" were given, and the proceedings, which were of an enjoyable nature throughout, terminated with the Tyler's toast.

An excellent selection of music was ably rendered, under the direction of Bros. J. F. Haskins and J. Kift, assisted by Bros. A. James, Robert Grice, W. Coward, and Fred. Stephens.

Regent's Park Lodge (No. 2202).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the York and Albany, Regent's Park, on Saturday, the 2nd instant, when there were present Bros. N. J. Goodchild, W.M.; D. P. Cama, P.G. Treas., acting I.P.M.; John Powdrell, S.W.; W. H. Hosegood, J.W.; N. Goodchild, P.M., Treas.; C. Sheppard, P.M., Sec.; W. Hall, S.D.; J. Passingham, J.D.; G. Lane, I.G.; J. Kew, P.M., D.C.; J. P. Poynter, A.D.C.; E. C. Mulvey, P.M., and H. F. Bangs, Stewards; J. Bangs, Org.; G. Clappitt, G. H. Rutter, W. H. Embley, H. Jordan, A. J. Ward, W. Ellen, F. J. Holden, W. J. Holden, and John Podger. Visitors: Bros. A. Boden, 2108; J. Thompson, 2206; S. L. Smith, 2211; C. J. Gordon, 2090; G. F. Peall, 27; J. L. Lewis, 1681; and W. Barton, 172.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. A ballot was then taken for Mr. John Podger, which proved unanimous. Bros. Ward and Ellen were then raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M., and Bro. G. H. Rutter passed to the Second Degree. Mr. John Podger was then initiated. The W.M. announced his intention of standing as Steward at the next Festival of the Girls' School, and asked the brethren to support him. There being no further business, the lodge was closed.

Argonauts' Lodge (No. 2243).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Cromwell Hall, Putney, on the 11th inst. Present: Bros. Eugene Monteuis, G.S.B., acting W.M.; J. F. Savory, S.W.; J. P. Houghton, acting J.W.; Gordon Smith, Sec.; T. W. Willis, S.D.; E. T. Smith, J.D.; C. W. Mapleton, Stwd.; F. G. Mitchell, Tyler; Lieut.-Col. Adcock, F. E. Williams, A. Thorn, J. A. Drake Smith, C. W. Hughes, and C. V. Hunter. Visitors: Bros. F. W. Wheeler, 2006, and W. Bernard Hamilton, 859.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. Bros. Joseph Thornton Harrison, T.R.C., Calpe, R.C. 278, Gibraltar, and C. V. Hunter, T.R.C., 2205, were elected joining members. Bro. J. F. Savory was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G.D., Treas. Bro. F. G. Mitchell was also re-elected Tyler. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Bro. G. D. Lister, J.W., for his handsome present of a lodge banner, inscribed with the names of the founders.

The remaining business, which was of a formal nature, having been disposed of, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the usual repast.

Provincial Meetings.

BIRMINGHAM.

Temperance Lodge (No. 739).—The installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, the 14th instant. The W.M., Bro. J. Candellent, was in the chair, supported by the whole of his officers and by 12 Past Masters of the lodge: Bros. J. Bragg, P.P.G.W.; Haseler, P.P.G.P.; Wilkinson, P.P.G.P.; Lees, P.P.G.S.B.; Srawley, P.P.G.P.; Harris, P.A.G.S.; Bowley, P.G.S.B.; J. Thomason, P.P.G. Org.; G. A. Thomason, Ketley, Taylor, and Bancroft. Visitors: Bros. Walliker, P.S.G.W.; King Patten, P.P.S.G.W.; Tollady, P.A.G.D.C.; Rev. Dr.

Randall, P.S.G.W. Staffordshire; J. F. Pepper, P.P.G.W. Staffordshire; Councillors Walsh and Jacobs; J. H. Parsons, P.G.P. Shropshire; Harper, P.M. 1039; Weston, P.M. 1039; Warrillow, P.M. 482; Tansley, W.M. 925; Whateley, W.M. 1430; Houghton, W.M. 1551; G. Shread, T. Shread, Giles, W.M. 1016; Spencer, and Evans.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. Constantine was initiated by the W.M., who also installed the W.M. elect, Bro. J. C. Stackhouse, in the chair of K.S., both ceremonies being performed in an able and impressive manner. The W.M. then invested his officers as follows; Bros. Locker, S.W.; Parkes, J.W.; Lees, Chap.; Haseler, Treas.; North, Sec.; Wrighton, S.D.; Parker, J.D.; Bancroft, D.C.; Thomason, Org.; Thomson, I.G.; Srawley, Lamsdale, and Reading, Stwds.; and Chapman, Tyler. The W.M. then presented the I.P.M., Bro. Candelent, with a Past Master's jewel, at the same time congratulating him in the name of the lodge for the very satisfactory manner in which he had discharged his duties during his term of office.

The brethren afterwards adjourned to the adjoining room, where an excellent banquet was served under the direction of the Stewards, and under the presidency of the new W.M., Bro. J. C. Stackhouse. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly proposed and received, being interspersed with a selection of vocal and instrumental music, under the able direction of Bro. Thomason.

BRADFORD.

Acacia Lodge (No. 2321).—The second regular meeting since the consecration of this new lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday evening, the 14th inst., when there were present Bros. A. Stephenson, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., W.M.; J. Ramsden Riley, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., I.P.M.; S. A. Auty, P.M., S.W.; Joseph Wilson, P.M., J.W.; E. P. Peterson, Treas.; J. T. Last, Sec.; T. Jovett, S.D.; John Niven, J.D.; T. W. Holmes, P.M., P.P.G. Org.; S. A. Bailey, P.M., D.C.; John Haigh, P.M., Chap.; J. Thornton, I.G.; A. Holmes, Stwd.; A. J. Boyle, Tyler; and G. Althorp, P.M., P.P.G.P.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Bros. C. H. Ellis, 387; J. Swithenbank, 633; and M. Hayes, 600, as joining members, all of whom were declared duly elected. The ballot was then taken for Mr. Goodman Root, and he being declared duly elected, and being in attendance, was subsequently initiated by the W.M., the working tools being explained by Bro. Wilson, P.M., J.W., and the charge given by Bro. Auty, P.M., S.W. The by-laws, which had been adopted at the previous meeting, were subject to some slight modifications, and duly confirmed.

After "Hearty good wishes" had been tendered by the brethren present, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

After the usual loyal toasts, "The Health of the Initiate and Joining Members" was proposed, and suitably responded to by those brethren.

CHICHESTER.

Lodge of Union (No. 38).—The monthly meeting of this lodge, held at the Council Chamber, on the 7th inst., was well attended. The brethren present included Bros. Lord Walter Gordon-Lennox, M.P., W.M.; G. C. Inkpen, S.W.; W. Doman, J.W.; Rev. H. M. Davey, P.M., P.P.G.C., Chap.; O. N. Wyatt, P.M., P.P.G. Superintendent of Works, Treasurer; J. H. Hawes, P.M., Secretary; W. H. Barrett, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., as S.D.; C. F. Charge, J.D.; A. W. Lambert, P.M. 588, P.P.G.O. Lincoln, Org.; John Fielden, I.G.; E. F. Gower and H. H. Moore, Stwds.; Sir Robert Raper, P.M., P.P.J.G.W. (Mayor elect of Chichester); J. St. Clair, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; Oliver Lloyd, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; A. J. Raven, A. Swann, C. R. B. Knight, Geo. Fielder, E. King, E. J. Caffyn, G. H. Reid, H. Waite, H. Heather, T. Jarman, and Beatson, Tyler.

The brethren appeared in Masonic mourning as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Bro. Gerard Ford, P.G.D., Deputy Prov. G.M. of Sussex, from whose widow a very affecting letter was read in acknowledgment of a vote of condolence passed at the last lodge meeting. It was resolved that the letter be entered on the minutes. A circular letter from Bros. Vergette and Clarabut, of Peterborough, appealing for contributions towards a fund now being raised by the Masons of England for erecting a stall or stalls in the restored choir of Peterborough Cathedral was read, but it was not thought desirable to devote any of the lodge funds to that purpose. There appeared, however, to be a feeling of sympathy towards the object aimed at, and Bro. H. Holding Moore, as an official of Chichester Cathedral, undertook to solicit small contributions from the brethren. A ballot was taken for Mr. Chas. Brassfield, and declared to be unanimous. He was initiated into Masonry by Bro. Hawes, I.P.M., who also passed Bros. Caffyn and King to the Degree of Fellow Craft. The Worshipful Master then took the opportunity—the first he has had since his marriage—of expressing his thanks for the wedding present given to him by the lodge—a silver cigarette box, which he said would be a valued as well as a useful gift. His lordship then, in very affecting terms, alluded to the death of Bro. G. Molesworth, P.M., P.P.G.D., a brother who, during a Masonic career of 34 years, had done much real service to Masonry, both in resuscitating the lodge, in working ceaselessly on behalf of the Charities, and in other work in the province generally. He moved that an expression of the deep regret of the brethren be recorded on the minutes, and that a letter of condolence be sent by the Secretary to Mrs. Molesworth. This was seconded by Bro. Sir Robert Raper, who not only referred to Bro. Molesworth's career as a Mason, but emphasised the valuable services which in many capacities as a public man he had rendered to his native city. The vote was carried unanimously. An application for permission to hold a lodge of instruction under the warrant of the lodge was made by five brethren, and was unanimously granted. One candidate was proposed for initiation, and the lodge was closed.

DERBY.

Arboretum Lodge (No. 731).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, on Wednesday, the 13th inst. The following brethren being present: Bros. Severn Taylor,

W.M.; J. W. Brigg, P.P.G.O., I.P.M.; J. Walker, S.W.; G. Sutherland, J.W.; Rev. T. Orrell, P.P.G.C., Chap.; W. Whittaker, P.M., P.P.G.R., Treas.; W. H. Wright, Sec.; J. Jones, S.D.; G. H. Ward, D.C.; W. Forman, Org.; A. Smith, I.G.; W. W. Haywood and G. C. Copestick, Stwds.; and T. Day, Tyler. Past Masters: Bros. Thomas Cox, P.P.S.G.W., P.G. Treas.; A. Frazer, P.P.S.G.D.; J. Bland, P.P.J.G.D.; C. Webster, P.P.S.G.D.; A. Woodiwiss, P.S.G.W.; J. Worsnop, P.P.G.P.; W. H. Roberts, and Thomas Roe, M.P. Also Bros. L. Tinkler, H. J. Burdett, D. Ottewell, J. Melrose, D. Woollatt, J. V. Woodward, and others. Visitors: Bros. J. O. Manton, P.M. 1085; F. Stone, W.M. 1085; J. H. Clarke, W.M. 253; W. S. Lugg, P.M. 1495; W. J. Piper, P.M. 802, P.G.D.C.; W. L. Dodd, 1085, P.P.G.O.; H. Baker, 802; H. Slater, 802; and G. T. Denison, 1085.

The lodge was opened and the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed, after which the beautiful lecture on the 1st tracing board was most ably given Bro. W. Whittaker, P.M., Treas., to whom a cordial vote of thanks was heartily accorded.

"Hearty good wishes" having been tendered, lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the lower hall for supper, about 50 remaining.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given, "The Prov. Grand Lodge" was duly honoured, and replies suitably given by Bros. W. J. Piper, P.M. 802, P.G.D. of C., and T. Cox, P.M. 253, P.G. Treas.

The toast of "The W.M." met with the usual hearty reception, being proposed by the S.W., Bro. J. Walker, and feelingly responded to.

Bro. A. Woodiwiss, P.M., P.S.G.W., gave the toast of "The Visitors," and said how glad the Arboretum brethren always were to see a good number amongst them, both from the sister lodges and those from a distance. He was glad to see that the banner of reserve between the Tyrian, the mother lodge of the province, had been broken down, and that the W.M., Bro. J. H. Clarke, was likely to become a good visitor; and he could assure him by so doing he would induce others to come more often to the Tyrian. Graceful allusion was also made to Lodges 802, 1085, and 1495.

The next toast was that of "The Past Masters," given by the W.M., and responded to by Bro. W. Whittaker, P.M., Treas., and T. Rose, M.P., P.M.

"The Health of the Officers" was proposed by Bro. J. Bland, P.M., who reminded the brethren of the importance of regular attendance at the lodge of instruction, of which he had so recently been appointed Preceptor.

Bro. Brigg, I.P.M., and Bro. J. Walker, S.W., responded.

The Tyler's toast shortly after brought a very enjoyable gathering to a close.

Songs were most ably sung by Bros. H. Burdett, B. Toff, W. Forman, J. W. Brigg, B. Varley, and W. L. Dodd, the latter presiding at the piano, whilst two selections were beautifully played on the zither by Bro. J. V. Woodward.

IPSWICH.

Prince of Wales Lodge (No. 959).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Monday, the 4th inst., when George T. Pick was installed W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year. There was a very large muster of the members of the lodge and visiting brethren, amongst those who signed the attendance book being Bros. Jno. White, W.M.; G. T. Pick, S.W., W.M. elect; A. A. Bennett, P.M., P.P.G.R., J.W.; E. J. Brown, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; A. R. Trew, P.M., P.J.G.D.; E. Robertson, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; E. J. Sherman, P.M., P.G.S. of W.; C. T. Townsend, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Sec.; Chas. Byford, P.P.G.S.B.; W. B. Hanson, P.M.; A. Raphael, P.M.; S. Snow, P.M.; J. Hardwick, S.D.; Walter Cuckow, Treas.; W. Kemp, I.G.; C. Markwell, H. A. Markin, Chas. W. Vaughan, Chas. J. Cooke, Alma Cocks, John T. Gaul, Geo. Fenn, A. E. Grounds, E. Copeland, Wm. Leathers, E. Black, H. G. Watson, J. M. Pollard, Hy. Jas. Mitchell, Walter M. Cuckow, Samuel Andrews, S. R. Steel, and Geo. Gould, Tyler. The visitors included Bros. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Chap. England, Deputy Prov. Grand Master; W. Boby, P.M. 114, P.G.S.B. England; N. Tracy, P.M. 376, P.G.S.; Hy. C. Casley, P.M. 117, P.P.J.G.W.; H. J. Wright, P.M. 936, P.A.G.S.; Robert E. Younger, W.M. 376; J. Hunt, P.M. 376, P.P.G.P.; R. A. Barber, P.M. 1391, P.P.G.P. Leicester; Geo. Abbott, P.M. 225, P.P.G.S.B.; James Napier, P.M. 225, P.P.J.G.D.; J. L. Brook, P.M. 225, P.P.G. Std. Br.; S. J. Morley, W.M. 225; Edgar S. Scrivener, P.M. 225; A. W. Cook, P.M. 225; Wm. Fisk, P.M. 225; G. P. Price, S.W. 225; Fred. C. Atkinson, S.W. 376; Harry Cockrell, 225; Geo. Vincent, M.D., 939; A. C. Haward, 376; E. B. Lewcock, 225; T. B. Read, 114; R. Anness, 376; and others.

The installation ceremony was very ably performed by Bro. E. J. Brown, P.P.S.G.D. The charge to the newly-installed Master was delivered by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, the working tools of Master Mason being presented by the Immediate Past Master, Bro. John White. The officers for the year were installed by the Worshipful Master as follows: Bros. Jno. White, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; I.P.M.; A. A. Bennett, P.M., P.P.G.R., S.W.; J. Hardwick, J.W.; W. Cuckow, Treas.; C. T. Townsend, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Sec.; J. Foakes Jackson, Chap.; Charles Markwell, S.D.; W. Kemp, J.D.; E. J. Brown, D. of C.; Charles Cooke, Org.; C. W. Vaughan, I.G.; Alma Cocks and S. Andrews, Stwds.; and George Gould, Tyler. Before the closing of the lodge, Bro. A. A. Bennett proposed, and Bro. W. B. Hanson seconded, a vote of thanks to the I.P.M., Bro. White, for the efficient manner in which he had filled the chair during the past year. The proposition was unanimously approved, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. The Deputy Prov. Grand Master expressed his admiration of the work he had witnessed, and complimented the Worshipful Master and the lodge on the numerous attendance.

The banquet was held subsequently under the presidency of the W. Master, Bro. Pick, who was supported by the D.P.G.M., Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Chap. Eng., Bro. Boby, P.G.S.B. Eng., and about 60 other brethren. The menu was an exceedingly interesting production. It contained a splendid cabinet-sized photograph of the W.M. in full Masonic clothing, and smaller portraits of the whole of the new officers. The names of the officers were also set out, and to each an appropriate Shakespearian quotation was allotted. The photographs were from the studio of the I.P.M., Bro. John White; for the literary work and the

general "get up" of the card Bro. W. B. Hanson is entitled to credit; and the catering, not the least important portion of the work, was most satisfactorily carried out by Bro. J. Hardwick, of the Queen-street Restaurant.

The W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W. the Grand Master," and "The M.W. the Pro Grand Master and the Officers of the Grand Lodge," for whom Bro. W. Boby responded. He briefly alluded to the inquiry which was made into the administration of the Boys' School, and expressed the hope that nothing which had transpired would induce any brother to withhold his support and sympathy from the Institution.

Bro. W. B. Hanson proposed "The Prov. Grand Master, Lord Henniker, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn responded in a humorous and entertaining speech.

Bro. Townsend replied for the Past, and Bro. Trew for the Present Officers.

Bro. John White, in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said ever since Bro. Pick joined the lodge he had done everything in his power to promote its success, and had filled the various offices to which he had been appointed with the greatest courtesy and zeal, and to the entire satisfaction of the Masters under whom he had served. Now that he had been elevated to the proud position of Master of the lodge, he felt confident that the brethren would show their appreciation of his worth by supporting him most heartily and loyally, and by doing all they possibly could to make his year of office a most complete success.

The Worshipful Master, who was received with loud applause, expressed the hope that the brethren of the lodge would rally round him, and promised that he would do everything he could to conduct the work of the lodge in an efficient manner. Before sitting down he proposed in complimentary terms "The Health of the Installing Master, Bro. Brown," who was an indispensable member of the lodge.

Bro. Brown responded, and proposed "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. White."

Bro. White responded in felicitous terms.

The other toasts were "The Visitors," proposed by the W.M., and acknowledged by the Masters of the lodges represented and other brethren; "The Masonic Charities," proposed by Bro. A. A. Bennett, and responded to by Bro. N. Tracy; "The Officers of the Lodge," and the Tyler's toast.

The toasts were interspersed with songs and recitations by various brethren.

LEEDS.

Prudence Lodge (No. 2069).—In the presence of about 70 brethren, representing the leading members of Provincial Grand Lodge, the Leeds lodges, and visitors from neighbouring towns, the installation meeting of the above lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Great George-street, on the 9th inst. Bro. Watson, P.M., P.G.S. of W., W.M., was in the chair, and was supported by the following officers: Bros. Trevor, I.P.M.; C. Middleton, S.W., W.M. elect; J. J. Fretwell, J.W.; Tom Atkinson, Sec.; R. Abbott, Treas.; Rev. J. H. Evans, Chap.; A. Butterworth, S.D.; B. S. Bailey, J.D.; R. A. Smithson, Asst. Sec.; Thornton Jones, as I.G.; and J. Buckley, Org. Amongst others present were Bros. Dr. Smyth, P.G.C. England; R. Craig, P.P.G.D.; Joseph Binney, P.M., P.P.G. Reg.; C. L. Mason, P.M., P.P.G. Treas.; Sam Fitton, P.M., Prov. A.G.D.C.; Major Moore, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; Matthewman, P.A.G. Sec.; Allinson, P.M., P.P.G.D.; and many others.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes were duly adopted, and then Bro. C. Middleton was presented by Bro. Trevor for the benefit of installation. Previous to the opening of the Board of Installed Masters, the W.M., Bro. Watson, returned thanks to the brethren for their kind and courteous treatment of him during the time he had ruled over the lodge. Especially were his acknowledgments due to the Past Masters, who had been such a support to him during the past year. There had not been the slightest appearance of discord and, that being the case, he would be wrong if he laid down the reins without thanking all. They had supported him nobly, and he had done his best to deserve their support. He also warmly thanked the officers, singling out for special commendation Bros. Trevor, D.C., and Tom Atkinson, the Secretary. The last-named brother had been exceedingly active and zealous, and his duties had been performed in a way that was beyond all praise. He had thought no labour too great to carry out his work in a satisfactory manner, and the lodge had been the gainer thereby. Bro. Trevor, too, had been a tower of strength. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and the ceremony of installation completed, it being taken part in by Bros. Watson, Dr. Smyth, C. L. Mason, Craig, and Trevor.

Afterwards Bro. Charles Middleton, the newly-installed W.M., invested his officers as follows: Bros. John James Fretwell, S.W.; Tom Atkinson, J.W.; Rev. J. H. Evans, Chap.; Robert Abbott, Sec.; Robert Craig, P.M. 304, P.P.G.D., Preceptor; Arthur Butterworth, S.D.; Benjamin Sykes Bailey, J.D.; Tudor Trevor, P.M., D.C.; R. A. Smithson, I.G.; H. B. Abbott, Asst. Sec.; J. T. Jones and E. Ellis, Stwds.; James Buckley, Org.; and Samuel Barrand, Tyler.

Bro. Watson, I.P.M., the Provincial Charity Member, reported that during the year the brethren had endowed two chairs to the amount of 20 guineas. During the past four years that lodge had sent up to our great Institutions a total of 420 guineas, which all must admit was a noble result. He never pressed for contributions, believing that all Masonic Charity should be voluntary, and the result had shown the wisdom of that course. He earnestly appealed for future support, and said his position as their Charity member had always been a proud and happy one. On the motion of Bro. Dr. Smyth, seconded by Bro. Tudor Trevor, Bro. Watson was unanimously re-elected Charity member for the ensuing year. Bros. Trevor and Fretwell, S.W., were unanimously elected to represent the lodge on the local Charity Committee. The W.M., Bro. Charles Middleton, then, on behalf of the brethren of the lodge, presented to Bro. Watson a handsome gold Past Master's jewel of the lodge pattern, and bearing the word "Founder" on a special bar, Bro. Watson being one of the founders. In making the presentation, the W.M. expressed the pleasure it gave him at being the vehicle through which the lodge presented that mark of esteem. The year that had just closed had been a very happy one, and he hoped they would always be able to keep up the harmony

and good feeling which had since its formation characterised that lodge. Bro. Watson was as highly esteemed in the province as he was in that lodge, as was evidenced by the fact that the P.G.M., Bro. Tew, had raised him to the purple by making him Prov. Grand Supt. of Works. His labours too in connection with the Provincial Library at Wakefield were well known and appreciated, and that work would remain as an enduring monument of his Masonic research and skill long after he had passed away. The members of that lodge could not respect him more highly than they did, and he hoped that Bro. Watson would wear that jewel as a solid and visible sign of their appreciation of him both as a man and a Mason. Bro. Watson, who was most cordially received, thanked the brethren with great warmth, and said that the foundation of the prosperity of the lodge had been well and truly laid by the Past Masters. When he was installed he succeeded to no unpleasant legacy, and he was glad to know that he handed on the work to his successor as free from doubt and difficulty as he received it. The interests of the lodge had ever been in his mind, and he had striven to the best of his ability to promote them. That jewel he should wear as a recognition from his brethren as a proof that they recognised that he had striven, and not in vain, to promote their best interests in the lodge. On the motion of the W.M., seconded by Bro. Tudor Trevor, a resolution of condolence was passed to Bro. Fretwell, who has just lost his father. This duty was most sympathetically and gracefully performed, and, it having been briefly but feelingly acknowledged, the lodge closed.

The *a la fourchette* was served by Bro. Barrant in the banquetting hall, at which most of the brethren were present.

The W.M. most genially presided, and, a long toast list having been gone through, the rest of the evening was spent in harmony, Bro. Jas. Buckley, the talented Organist, taking charge of this part of the programme with his accustomed success.

The Tyler's toast brought to a close one of the most successful and happy installation meetings yet held in the history of the lodge.

MAIDSTONE.

Robinson Lodge (No. 2046).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held, by kind permission of the Mayor (J. Clifford, Esq.), in the Maidstone Town Hall, on Wednesday, the 13th inst. This Masonic event is always looked forward to with interest by many of the leading Masons of the Province of Kent, and this year the presence of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Smith Eastes, added special importance to the gathering. Bro. T. J. Barden was the W.M. elect, and he was duly installed into the chair of the lodge by his predecessor, Bro. J. Beavis Groom, who performed the interesting ceremony in a very impressive manner. Bros. G. Ker, P.M., P.G.D., and D. Welsh, P.M., P.S.G.D., took the Wardens' chairs, and Bro. F. W. Wright, P.M., admirably filled the office of Director of Ceremonies. Bro. Barden, the W.M., appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. J. Beavis Groom, I.P.M.; W. Burne Stonham, S.W.; R. McVicar, J.W.; G. Roberts Dann, Treas.; D. Welsh, M.D., B.S., P.M., Sec.; W. Payler Dickinson, S.D.; W. F. Voss Simmons, J.D.; Francis W. Wright, P.M., D.C.; Herbert F. Whyman, Org.; C. R. Wind, I.G.; E. Gratwick and Ambrose Roberts, Stwds.; G. Taylor Ker, Charity Representative; and J. Gowan, Tyler. After the installation, the W.M., Bro. T. S. Barden, presented to Bro. J. Beavis Groom, on behalf of the lodge, a valuable Past Master's jewel as a memento of services rendered the lodge during his term of office.

There was a large attendance of the brethren of the lodge, and among the visitors, in addition to Bros. Smith Eastes, D.P.G.M., and Alfred Spencer, Prov. Grand Sec., were Bros. G. F. Baker, W.M. 503; Atkinson, W.M. 2305; G. Baker, P.M. 503; G. E. Wallis, P.M. 503; T. Elmore, P.M. 503; J. R. Poord, P.M. 503, P.G.D.C.; Silas Wagon, P.M. 1063; F. Gordon, P.M. 1063; Clarke, P.M. 1422 (Bengal); Sharman, P.S.G.D. Cambridgeshire; H. E. Austin, S.W. 709; Walter Hope, Sec. 503; Robson, 503; and H. Hickmott, 503.

The brethren adjourned to the Bell Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was supplied by Bro. W. Frost.

Bro. T. J. Barden, W.M., presided, and carried out his duties in a genial and efficient manner. He was supported on his right by Bros. Eastes and Spencer.

After the banquet, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts followed.

Bro. Eastes in his speech paid a high compliment to Bro. the Rev. T. Robinson, P.G. Chap. England, after whom the lodge is named. His remarks were received with great applause. He also spoke of the very excellent way in which the work of the lodge was carried out.

The whole proceedings were marked by the utmost unanimity and concord, and Bros. Robson, F. Tavener, Jesse Ellis, W. Jenkinson, and W. F. Voss Simmons contributed largely to the enjoyment of the evening by their excellent singing.

PLUMSTEAD.

Pattison Lodge (No. 913).—The winter session of the above powerful lodge was opened on Thursday, the 7th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Mount Pleasant, by the W. Master, Bro. B. de B. Lopez, P.G. Steward England, who was supported by the following brethren of the lodge: Bros. A. Penfold, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; H. J. Butter, P.M., P.P.G.R.; T. D. Hayes, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; H. Mason, P.M.; E. Palmer, P.M.; C. H. Lawson, P.M.; W. D. Keeble, I.P.M.; Rev. R. Jamblin, P.M. (Hon.); F. Barry, P.M.; C. Jolly, P.M. (Hon.); Col. E. Hughes, M.P., S.W.; W. Busbridge, J.W.; C. Coupland, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., Treasurer; E. Denton, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., Secretary; W. Sanders, S.D.; W. C. Taylor, J.D.; C. J. Clapham, D. of C.; D. K. Summers, A.D.C.; J. O. Cook, Steward; R. F. Tyler, Org.; J. H. Bull, Asst. Org.; and some 60 members of the lodge. Among the visitors were Bros. G. Kenneday, P.M. 1536, P.P.G.S.B.; W. Webber, W.M. 700; Capt. D. Deeves, P.M. 1536, P.P.D.G.D.C. Natal; W. Doddrell, P.M. 615; E. S. Southgate, S.W. 700; W. C. Haley, 1789; G. R. Hunter, W. G. Forden, 1236; E. H. Williams, 1036; E. Slome, 943; J. Bull, 700; A. J. Abbey, 700; and L. Chasteaneuf, S.W. 13.

The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting confirmed, the only business before the

lodge was proceeded with, namely, the election of a Catering Committee, which was happily effected. Bro. Rev. Jamblin was then invested as Chaplain, and took his seat on the right of the W.M. Bro. Butter, P.M., who had just recovered from a severe accident, was present, and on entering the lodge was received with several rounds of cheering, and was accorded a vote of congratulation on his recovery, the W.M. and several of the Past Masters bearing testimony to theirs and the brethren's pleasure at seeing him amongst them again. Bro. Butter having feelingly and eloquently returned thanks, the lodge was closed, and the brethren sat down to an excellent supper, which was thoroughly enjoyed.

The usual loyal and Grand Lodge toasts having been honoured,

The W.M. gave that of "The Right Hon. Earl Amherst, Grand Master of the Province of Kent," and, in so doing, asked them to make it a joint toast by coupling with it the name of the charming and accomplished lady with whom his lordship had lately entered the holy bonds of matrimony.

The toast having been drunk most heartily, the W.M. proposed the toast of "Bro. Eastes, D.P.G.M., and the rest of the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past," coupling it with the name of Bro. C. Coupland.

Bro. C. Coupland, in response, said they had heard so much in praise of Bro. Eastes, that he did not think it at all necessary for him to say more on the subject. They all knew the indefatigable manner in which he discharged his onerous and important duties, and never erred in judgment when selecting brethren for the honours of the purple. Their good Brother Lopez had said that he was not so well acquainted with the officers of the Province of Kent as some of them, and in a large province like that of Kent there were, no doubt, many of the brethren in the same position, and not acquainted with either the persons or the work of the P.G. Officers, but he was sure that before their W.M. finished his year of office, he would know of the good work done by those brethren, especially in the cause of Charity. They might well be proud of their position in the Charities, such was it, that if the province took up the case of a child it was sure of election, because they all threw their votes into one grand aggregate, and so carried their case by the force of numbers. In conclusion, he hoped and trusted before long that their esteemed Prov. Grand Master would call upon a brother of that lodge to receive the purple, and thereby give them further cause of congratulation at the strength and number of those selected by Bro. Eastes and his lordship to assist them in the well ruling and governing of such an important province as that of the Province of Kent.

The I.P.M. then proposed the toast of "The W.M.," and said he had been requested not to say too much on account of the extreme modesty of that brother. Now, Bro. Lopez was no stranger in that locality, and it was not against their feelings to say that they had and did esteem him, and felt sure that he would continue to do all he could for the prosperity of the lodge. He was reminded of an old song that he heard when a boy about a young lady—it said "She is young, she is beautiful, the fairest one I know." Now that, if they altered the pronoun from the feminine to the masculine, would depict their W.M. very well. They were glad to see him in the chair of K.S., and promised him a faithful support during his year of office.

The W.M., in response, said anything he could do for the interest of the lodge would be done with pride and pleasure, and every effort he could make should be for the maintenance of the prestige of the lodge. That had been the course hitherto practised by every Master of the lodge, and he determined their footsteps to the best of his ability.

The next toast was, as the W.M. said, the toast of the evening. It was impossible for him to express his own feelings, let alone the feelings of the brethren, at once again having their excellent and esteemed Bro. Butter with them. During his long and severe illness their anxiety for his recovery had been most apparent by the constant desire of the brethren to hear even the slightest news about him; and, now he had returned amongst them partially recovered, he asked them to drink his health, and wish him long life and health, and all the good wishes they could wish him.

The toast was drunk enthusiastically, the brethren singing "For he is a jolly good fellow," and cheering till the hall fairly rang again.

Bro. Butter, in response, said he always thought that he was one of the most sensitive individuals in the world, and could assure them that after such a storm of kindness he felt unable to say a single word; that was to say, sufficient to thank them adequately for their hearty and brotherly reception of the toast so kindly put by the W.M., but he would do his best, and if he broke down they must forgive him. It was the custom of the celebrated Dr. Johnson to walk with his friend and biographer, Dr. Boswell, down Fleet-street, and say, "I like to dine," and he (Bro. Butter) liked to be a Mason, for he felt that it must be to the fact of his being a Mason, and to that alone, he was indebted for the unceasing kindness, solicitude, and sympathy shown him during his illness; on any other cause he felt most unworthy of it. Well, he had experienced so much kindness at their hands that he felt he could never repay it, more than he felt he could ever sufficiently thank them. It had always been the same, for he remembered when he was first offered the purple by Bro. Eastes how several of the older Past Masters sacrificed themselves so that he might receive Provincial Grand honours before them, and before he deserved them; and he might say further that he was not a member of the lodge one year before he was offered, and accepted, office. All that, as he had said, showed that he had ever received the greatest kindness and consideration at the hands of every brother of the lodge, and he could assure them that, while he treasured it, he returned it. If he were to stand there for the next three or four years he could not tell them sufficiently how much he appreciated their unceasing kindness, he could only say that as long as he lived he should always remember it with pride and gratification, aye and even gratitude. The sympathy he had received paid him for all his pain. It was an experience such as any one might well lose their left hand for. He again thanked them, and trusted that he might live to be with them for many years, but, wherever he might be, he should never forget their sympathy in the past, and their kind reception to the present occasion.

The I.P.M. responded to the toast of "The Past Masters."

Bro. Webber, W.M. 700, having replied for "The Visitors," Bro. Hughes responded to the toast of "The Officers."

The Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings, which had been enlivened with some excellent singing and reciting.

It may be mentioned that the W.M. presented the wine and some 20 brace of pheasants to add to the pleasures of the table.

STOKE DAMAREL.

Huyshe Lodge (No. 1099).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place at Home Park, on Thursday, the 14th inst., when two candidates were admitted and three more proposed. The W.M. elect, Bro. Jeremiah William Foster, was installed. Bros. W. H. Gillman, P.P.A.G.D. of C.; W. J. Stanbury, P.P.A.G.D.C.; E. Aitken-Davies, P.P.G.S. of Wks.; and H. Rogers were the installing officers. The Board of Installed Masters also included Bros. H. W. Pengeley, S. Panter, W. T. Walter, T. May, T. S. May, J. H. Blackell, W. A. Staton, T. Gibbons, 1205, 1247, P.P.G.O.; F. Hooper, 1212, 2025, P.P.G.D.C.; W. W. Wiggins, W.M. 1212; T. Tresise, 1136; R. Selmon, 159; and J. R. Dugdale, 954. The officers invested were Bros. H. W. Pengeley, I.P.M.; G. Vanstone, S.W.; S. J. Page, J.W.; S. Panter, Treas.; W. J. Stanbury, Sec.; G. H. Olver, S.D.; W. H. Dillon, J.D.; S. L. Edgcumbe, D.C.; S. Fry, A.D.C.; G. F. Miller, Org.; W. H. Bird, Asst. Org.; W. H. Penrose, I.G.; A. Moore, A. G. Friend, T. H. Hamley, and W. Frost, Stwds.; and J. Rashbrooke, Tyler. Bro. E. Aitken-Davies was re-elected the representative of the lodge at the Committee of Petitions and the Charity Steward.

A handsome gold Past Master's jewel was presented to the Treasurer with the inscription—"Presented to Bro. S. Panter, P.M., by members of Huyshe Lodge in memory of his 50th birthday." Bro. S. J. Page made the presentation on behalf of the donors in a very eulogistic acknowledgment of the very many services of Bro. Panter to the lodge. That day happened to complete Bro. Panter's first half-century, might he long live in the second.

The lodge resolved to hold the annual banquet this year in the handsome new refectory just added to the hall.

WAVERTREE.

Wavertree Lodge (No. 2294).—The usual monthly meeting of this young and flourishing lodge was held at the Coffee House Hotel, on Wednesday, the 13th inst. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Robert Foote, P.M. 1570, P.P.G. Treas., assisted by Bros. John C. Robinson, P.M., P.A.G.D.C.; W. Shields, P.M.; J. M. Smythe, S.W.; E. Brook, J.W.; J. G. Holme, J.D.; H. Bicknell, I.G.; John Scott, Sec.; Edward Pugh, Org.; C. F. Connor and F. G. Parkes, Stewards; R. Nevill, Tyler; W. O. Callow, T. F. Boyd, J. L. Burns, C. Huxley, Henry Lumby, J. Burns, G. Turner, and W. J. Nugent. Visitors: Bros. Dr. T. Clarke, W.M. 2290, Prov. G. Reg.; J. Tunstall, P.M. 1035, P.P.G. Purst.; R. Warriner, P.M. 1547; G. Ashton, P.M. 203; H. Hatch, P.M. 220; H. B. Houghton, S.W. 314; J. J. Brosme, 613; and others.

After the minutes had been read, a ballot was taken for Messrs. John Dean, Henry Kirby, G. Boyd, and S. Wilson, who were declared duly elected. Messrs. Dean and Wilson being present, were initiated. Bro. Burns was then raised to the Degree of a Master Mason by the W.M. in a very impressive manner. During the evening the S.W. presented, on behalf of himself and two other members, a splendid first Degree tracing board, which was very much admired, the artist, Bro. J. Scott, Sec., being complimented upon the manner in which he had executed the work. After the usual routine business and two gentlemen had been proposed for initiation, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, when a pleasant evening was spent.

WOOLWICH.

Union Waterloo Lodge (No. 13).—The above lodge continues to make rapid progress in numbers, while the excellence of its working is a constant theme of admiration among the lodges in the district, and indeed by every visitor who comes to its welcome gatherings. The usual monthly meeting took place at the Freemasons' Hall, Mount Pleasant, on Wednesday, the 13th inst. Bro. H. Grice, W.M., presided, and was supported by the following officers and brethren: Bros. W. Tailby, I.P.M.; G. Davies, P.M.; H. Syer, P.M.; T. Hosgood, P.M.; W. Akers, P.M.; A. Cleal, P.M.; J. Milbourne, P.M.; J. F. Bell, S.W.; L. Chasteaneuf, J.W.; T. Hutton, P.M. and Treas.; N. Brown, P.M. and Sec.; J. Appleby, S.D.; A. Deans, J.D.; E. Barnes, I.G.; W. Webber, W.M., J. Warren, P.M. and Sec., J. H. Roberts, P.M., J. McCollough, S.W., S. E. Southgate, J.W., J. Sanderson, P.M., C. Boustead, G. H. Porter, H. J. Roberts, and A. Abbey, of 700; J. Gould, P.M. 1685; W. Greaves, J.D. 1531; D. Gyford, 212; E. Carter, P.M. 858; J. Taylor, W. Wren, D. K. Somers, J. H. Spence, and J. Murphy, of 913; W. Abbey, 5; C. Webber, 840; R. Smith, 1000; C. Wilmot, 829; E. Chinery, 184; and C. Jolly, P.M. 13 (Hon.).

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was then taken for Mr. W. H. Lester, and proved unanimous, and that gentleman was in due course initiated. Bros. Cohen, Schofield, and Treaby were passed, and Bros. Vincent and Barker raised.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of refreshment.

After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been drunk,

The I.P.M., Bro. Tailby, proposed "The Health of the W.M.," saying that during his (Bro. Tailby's) Mastership he, although a "star in the East," was threatened by a "star in the West." Well, that star in the West, Bro. Grice, had deposed him (Bro. Tailby), and now, as if adding insult to injury, he (Bro. Tailby) had to propose the health of Bro. Grice, who had deposed him. He asked them to drink the toast in bumpers.

Bro. Grice said they must not expect a long speech from him. He should endeavour to win their approbation by work, so as to make up for want of words. He could therefore only say that he thanked them most sincerely for their kindness in receiving the toast so enthusiastically.

Bro. Webber, in responding for "The Visitors," said he was sure that both himself and his Wardens, who he was pleased to see there, were always glad to visit their old and honoured lodge, because they were, as "Nelsonites," so closely connected with their brethren of the Union Waterloo by, not only neighbourhood, but by birth, the Nelson having sprung from its mother, the Union Waterloo. He spoke highly of the excellent working of the Master and

his officers, and hoped to be able to do his work half so well.

Bro. Murphy said that was his second visit to the Union Waterloo. The first time was when Bro. Tailby was about to take the chair. He was sorry that he had not attended oftener. He trusted that the lodges of the district would unite in one bond of brotherhood for commutual good, and for the progress and honour of the Order.

Bros. Tailby and Davies responded for "The Past Masters," the former wittily and amusingly drawing attention to the peculiarities of the Past Masters, whom he designated under the heads of "Nervous," "The gay and festive," "Business," "Dignified," "The curly-headed," "Long-distance runners," "The easy working," &c.

Several other toasts were honoured, and some excellent singing and reciting filled up the intervals between the speeches.

YORK.

Eboracum Lodge (No. 1611).—The annual meeting for the installation of the W.M. of this lodge took place on Monday, the 11th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, St. Saviourgate, where was a large muster of members of the lodge and visitors. Since the last meeting of the lodge the alterations and decorations of the building, which have been in progress for over two months, had been completed, and the brethren found themselves accommodated in one of the prettiest lodge rooms and halls in the country. The street front of the building has been restored and painted. The entrance has walls of salmon colour, divided from a dado of Pompeian red by a stencilled Hay pattern border. The old stone flags have been removed, and a geometrical tiled pavement in red, white, and blue has been laid down. The smoke room, Stewards' room, and reception room on the left have been painted and fitted with picture rods, as has also the long supper room on the right, and all the rooms have been supplied with patent automatic ventilations, the comfort resulting from which is most marked. The collection of Masonic engravings (one of the best in the country) has been re-arranged on the walls, and the library book-cases have been removed to the reception room, where there is best light. The staircase has been painted grey, with a Pompeian red dado, and a velvet pile carpet has been laid down. Approaching the doors of the Tyler's ante-room, the legend "procul o procul este profani" is seen over the lintel, whilst over the inner doors of the lodge room itself occurs the warning, "nosce Teipsum." The lodge room presents a remarkably effective appearance. The ceiling, divided by interesting beams and mouldings into nine panels, represents the midnight sky, bearing the constellations—Great Bear, Southern Cross, Orion, Pleiades, and Arcturus, the eastern panels showing the morning star and the silver crescent moon. The centre panel contains a Wenham sunlight, which throws a flood of light on the room below. The mouldings are picked out with harmonising tints of delicate blue pink and buff, with binding lines of key pattern in dark pink. Below the ceiling at each end are a series of narrow stained glass lights, and at each side are three panels, or recesses, which have been filled with appropriate frescoes, or mural paintings, after the antique, the work of Bro. T. B. Whythead, P.M., under whose supervision, assisted by a Committee, the room has been decorated. These represent—1, Worship of the Sun and Moon (Babylonian); 2, Judgment of Osiris (Egyptian); 3, the Grip of the Lion (Egyptian); 4, Scene in Ancient Mysteries (Egyptian); 5, Giant Builders of Baalbec; and 6, Act of Consecration (Assyrian). On the cornice below these are the legends, in block gilt letters on a dark red ground, "Audi, Vide, Tace," "Let there be no strife, for we are Brethren," "Honour all Men, love the Brotherhood, fear God, honour the King," "Sirs, ye are Brethren," "Love as Brethren," "For my Brethren and Companions' sakes I will now say, Peace be within thee." The heads of the pilasters, dividing the main panels of the walls, are ornamented with winged symbolic Egyptian figures, and their shafts with Masonic emblems, whilst the upper pilasters carry the signs of the Zodiac and the emblems of the office bearers of the lodge. Fixed polished oak carved seats have been placed along the dais surrounding the room, upholstered in red plush, whilst the floor is covered with a Brussels carpet of Masonic design, specially woven by Messrs. Crossley, of Halifax. The organ has not yet been completed, but is contracted for to be finished next summer. It is also intended in the spring to add the present Tyler's cottage, which is behind the hall proper, to the main building. By this means a series of convenient ante-rooms will be secured for the purpose of working the Rose Croix and other Degrees requiring more than one apartment, and a lavatory and cloak room will also be constructed on the ground floor, which will greatly improve the conveniences.

On Monday, the 11th inst., the lodge was opened by Bro. J. S. Dalton, P.P.G.S., the outgoing W.M., supported by his officers and a number of Past Masters, as well as visitors, there being about 70 present. After the confirmation of the minutes the chair was taken by Bro. T. B. Whythead, P.M., P.P.G.W., who appointed as his Wardens Bros. J. T. Seller, P.M., P.P.G.D., and W. Brown, P.M., and then proceeded to install the W.M. elect, Bro. Geo. Chapman, which having been done, the W.M. proceeded to nominate and invest his officers as follows: Bros. J. S. Dalton, I.P.M.; W. Lackenby, S.W.; W. Storry, J.W.; Rev. R. P. T. Tennent, Chap.; G. Balford, P.M., P.P.G.O., Treas.; J. Kay, Sec.; J. H. Shonksmith, S.D.; P. Pearson, J.D.; G. Lamb, D.C.; J. L. Spetch, I.G.; W. S. Child, P.P.G.O., Org.; F. W. Halliwell, W. Sharp, G. G. Pook, and J. Smith, Stwds.; and J. Hall, Tyler. Bro. Whythead undertook the posts of Preceptor and Librarian, and was also elected Charity Representative. A large number of apologies for absence were read, amongst others from Bros. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D.; the Dean of York, P.G.C.; Hon. W. T. Orde Powlett, D.P.G.M.; T. W. Tew, P.G.M. West Yorks; and many other brethren of eminence.

Amongst those present in lodge or banquet, or both, in addition to those named above were Bros. George Simpson, P.M.; J. Benkin, P.M.; A. T. B. Turner, P.M.; J. W. Woodall, P.G. Treas.; W. F. Tomlinson, P.M. 304; J. S. Rymer, P.M. 236, P.P.G. Reg.; S. Border, W.M. 236; S. Chadwick, P.M. 1040; D. J. O. Donoghue, P.M. 57, P.P.G.W.; W. Baldwin, P.M. 630; H. E. Cousins, P.M. 207, P.P.G.W. Lincolnshire; J. H. Taylor, W.M. 1091; C. M. Forbes, S.W. 236; C. E. Wright, 357; T. E. Jackson, 1448; C. Anderson, 236; T. Laverack, 1991; J. Sutcliffe, 1991; S. J. Crummack, 236; C. Garrood, 1991; and others.

The banquet was held in the De Grey Rooms, where a quartette party, consisting of Bros. W. S. Child, J. E. Wilkinson, J. Sutcliffe, and A. Sample, discoursed sweet music in the intervals of the toasts.

Royal Arch.

Metropolitan Meetings.

Royal Naval Chapter (No. 59).—A large and distinguished gathering of companions assembled at Freemasons' Hall, on the 18th inst., the occasion being the installation of Comp. Augustus Harris as M.E.Z. The ceremony was performed by the Grand S.E., and the newly-installed M.E.Z. received the congratulations of the large circle of companions by whom he was surrounded. The members included Comps. Alfred Williams, M.E.Z.; N. Mildred J.; S. B. Wilson, Treas.; C. F. Matier, P.D.G.D.C., S.E.; J. Church, S.N.; Augustus Harris, P.S.; P. F. Pottway, 1st A.S.; John Barnett, jun., 2nd A.S.; J. L. Mather, P.Z.; Charles Belton, P.Z.; Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, G.S.E.; Dr. E. M. Lott, P.G. Org.; R. Clowes, A. F. Church, J. Howard Thompson, and J. Hart. Visitors: Comps. the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, G. Supt. Norths and Hunts; Col. Townley Caldwell, G. Supt. Cambridge; Harry Nicholls, 1319; A. R. Carter, 1900; B. R. Bryant, P.P.A.G.S.; V. P. Freeman, Prov. G.S.E. Sussex; C. F. Hogard, P.D.G.D.C.; George Gardner, M.E.Z. 1328; Rowland Plumbe, M.E.Z. 46; G. Everett, P.Z. 177; Gordon Miller, P.Z. 257; Jas. Terry, P.G.S.B.; John Jones, S.N. 1602; R. Turtle Pigott, P.G.D.C.; General Roddy, 1538; H. J. Lardner, P.P.G.S.B.; C. H. Driver, P.G.S.B.; George Copes, P.A.G.S.; J. P. Noon, P.Z. 148; C. L. Mason, P.P.G.H.; A. G. Beale, General C. K. Randolph, P.G.H.; Captain T. C. Walls, P.P.G.P.S. Middx.; John Ramsey, P.Z.; Major Clifford Probyn, 21; T. Hastings Miller, P.Z. 907; Edward Terry, G. Treas.; Fred West, G. Supt. in charge Surrey; C. E. Soppet, P.P.G. Treas. Middx.; R. Berridge, P.G.S.B.; Sir John Monckton, P.P.G.S.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.S.B.; Colonel Cook, P.G. Std. Br.; J. F. H. Woodward, P.G.S.B.; Gordon Smith, J. 1319; Capt. N. G. Philips, P.G.S.N.; W. Shurmer, P.Z. 1471; A. M. Broadley, P.Z.; H. Wright, M.E.Z. 1615; Admiral Sir E. Ingfield; W. W. Lee, 1524, and others.

The convocation being opened, the minutes were read and confirmed. Bros. R. Stimpson, 59, R. E. Middleton, 19, and J. Hart, P.M. 59, were exalted into the Royal Arch Degree by Comp. J. L. Mather, P.Z. The installation ceremonies were then performed by Comp. Colonel Clerke, Grand Scribe E., Comp. Augustus Harris being installed, by dispensation, as M.E.Z., Comp. Mildred, as H., and Comp. J. Church, as J. The following officers were invested: Comps. C. F. Matier, S.E.; Portway, S.N.; S. Barton Wilson, P.Z., Treas.; Mainwaring, P.S.; J. Howard Thompson, 1st A.S.; and J. Barnett, jun., 2nd A.S. The M.E.Z.'s first duty was to present the retiring First Principal, Comp. Williams, with a jewel, which was appropriately acknowledged by the recipient. The M.E.Z. next proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Grand Scribe E. for his very great kindness in performing the installation ceremonies in such a magnificent manner, which was carried with acclamation. Comp. Shadwell H. Clerke, G.S.E., returned sincere thanks for the hearty manner in which his small services had been recognised, and was delighted to be the mouthpiece in placing so excellent a companion in the chair as Comp. Harris, whom he sincerely wished a prosperous year of office.

The convocation was then closed, and the companions adjourned to the Great Hall, Freemasons' Tavern, where an excellent banquet was enjoyed.

The usual toasts were afterwards duly honoured, "The Queen and Royal Arch Masonry" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" being heartily given and received.

In proposing "The Grand Officers," the M.E.Z. said he was sure that though the companions had heard his voice twice previously the toast he was about to propose would make them listen with patience, for it was, like the two previous toasts, one that would meet with their hearty support. He felt sure that the members of the Royal Naval Chapter felt highly honoured at the presence of so many distinguished Royal Arch Masons. Personally, he was perfectly delighted to think that they had met in such strong numbers. It showed that that chapter had their hearty sympathy, and the members would endeavour to deserve the support which the Grand Officers had so generously accorded. As there were so many eminent speakers present, he thought he could not do better than allow the companions to listen to their flowery language and eloquent speeches, rather than to his own lame attempts at oratory. He would therefore call upon Comps. Col. Townley Caldwell, G. Supt. Cambridge, and Sir John Monckton.

Comp. Col. Townley Caldwell, G. Supt. Cambridge, said he was proud to have the honour on the present occasion of returning thanks for the Grand Chapter—an honour which he felt was as great as it was unexpected in the presence of his senior officers. His only consolation was that he should have the opportunity of listening to their flights of eloquence as promised by the M.E.Z. With regard to the work, he had the pleasure of witnessing the whole of the ceremony of advancement, and it was exceedingly enjoyable to find the work so well done. The way in which the P.S. did his work, the thoroughness of his knowledge, and the excellence of his delivery, made it a pleasure to be present, and the excellent manner in which the acting M.E.Z. delivered the mystical lecture proved the excellent condition of the chapter. He had no doubt the efforts of the members would be attended with success, and that the growth of the chapter would be as rapid as the passage of the M.E.Z. through the three chairs.

Comp. Sir John Monckton having briefly replied, Comp. the Earl of Euston, G. Supt. Norths and Hunts, in response to unanimous calls, said he thought that as one Grand Superintendent had spoken, it was utterly unnecessary for him to say anything. Although he was a Grand Superintendent, he was also a member of their chapter, having had the honour of being elected an honorary member. He thanked Comp. Augustus Harris for the kind words he had expressed towards the Grand Officers, and could only say that if they felt the same as he did, they had the greatest pleasure in the world in being present at a meeting such as they had that night, and in seeing a companion installed

in such a splendid manner in the three chairs, in consequence of being chosen by the members to pass through them in one evening. He congratulated the M.E.Z. most heartily on being the recipient of such an honour. Anything the Grand Officers could do in their small way to assist in Masonry in general, or the Royal Arch in particular, they would be pleased to do.

Comp. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G.S.E., said that owing to the absence of the I.P.Z., whose health he was sorry to say would not permit him to remain late, the honour of proposing the important and most popular toast of the evening had been kindly placed in his hands, and he need scarcely say that he accepted that pleasurable office with the greatest possible delight. He had been asked to propose "The Health of the M.E.Z. of the Royal Naval Chapter, Comp. Augustus Harris." He was happy to say they all knew Comp. Harris, and knew that his name was synonymous with success, for whatever career of life, Masonic or outside, he had engaged in, it had resulted in the greatest success. They were therefore sure that when he came forward to accept the office of First Principal, it meant that the chapter, during the ensuing 12 months, was bound to have a successful career. Many Masons were not aware that Comp. Harris was really an old member of their Order, although circumstances prevented his taking any active part for some time, but during the last few years he had come to the front in a remarkable manner. It was owing to him that the Drury Lane Lodge had such magnificent success—a lodge which had formed the happy home of so many leaders of distinction in the outer world, who had been enabled to meet together on one common platform. In other Degrees the M.E.Z. had come quickly to the front, and it must be a pleasure to him that in that chapter—in which at no distant date he was exalted by Comp. Mather—they had, as had been so pleasantly said by the Earl of Euston, elected him not only to the first chair, but through the three chairs. It must be a great pleasure to Comp. Harris to feel that the companions had such implicit confidence in him as to place him in the office which he would fill so successfully. They all knew the M.E.Z. was an unusually modest man, and therefore, he would not say more than simply ask the companions to drink his health, but before doing so he would just refer briefly to the fact that Comp. Augustus Harris was not only a candidate, but he believed the only candidate for one of the highest offices in the coming year. They did not as Grand Officers take much part in those elections, but he thought many of his colleagues would say that should it come off as they believed, they would welcome Comp. Harris with the greatest pleasure as a Grand Officer, in the Grand Lodge. He would ask them to drink the health of the First Principal of the Royal Naval Chapter, Comp. Harris.

Comp. Augustus Harris, M.E.Z., said he was really at a loss for words to express his gratitude for the hearty way in which they had drunk his health. He really did not know why they should all have such sympathy for him, show him as much kindness, and support him in that generous manner at so much trouble and inconvenience to themselves. He was only conscious of one fact, and that was that they did support him most heartily. There was something existing between them which he might call the electric spark of sympathy, and he only hoped that, like electricity, they would find it growing more and more. He trusted that as time went he should still find them his friends, for they had been in the past such generous supporters and such true companions that words failed him to express what he felt. Could he find language to express what he felt he should keep them all night, and under those circumstances they must be glad he was not an orator. He thanked them most heartily, and it would be invidious to mention names, as one and all were so eminent in their respective positions. He thanked them all from the bottom of his heart, and could not say more, although he meant a great deal.

The M.E.Z. then said he had one more congenial task to perform in asking them to drink the health of one whom he was sure they all respected, and for whom they all felt brotherly love. Need he say he referred to the Installing Principal of the evening? That toast would appeal to them all, and therefore without more preamble he would ask them to drink the toast, including the P.Z.'s of the chapter.

Comp. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G.S.E., thanked the M.E.Z. very much for the kind thought which prompted him to propose the toast. He was only too delighted to be present, and to have installed so good and excellent a companion. It was five years ago that he consecrated that chapter, and Comp. Barton Wilson was the first Principal he installed in it. Since then he had been present on several occasions, and had watched its progress, and was delighted to find it had every prospect of an excellent future.

"The Exaltees" was next given, and duly responded to by Comps. Stimpson, Middleton, and Hart.

Comp. C. F. Matier, S.E., in giving "The Visitors," said might he be pardoned for looking from their Masonic qualifications to their social life, to tell them what their visiting companions were? They were honoured in the person of Comp. Col. Caldwell, who had attained distinction in the University of Cambridge. They had in Comp. Admiral Sir E. Ingfield, one who had attained the highest possible honours from his Queen and country in the Naval services. They had, in the persons of Comps. General Randolph and Capt. Philips, those who had fought for their Queen upon the tented field of battle, and Comps. Col. Cook and Capt. T. C. Walls had done good suit and service in the Auxiliary Forces. There were present representatives of light and leading in every circle. There were Comps. Berridge, Driver, and Rowland Plumbe representing the great and important science of architecture, and Comp. Turtle Pigott of high distinction in the legal profession. He would couple with the toast the name of Comp. Broadley, who was at one and the same time representative of the English and French Bar, and who bore the name of Ancient Carthage.

Comp. A. M. Broadley, in response, said that from the remarks which Comp. Matier had made they might be apprehensive that he should inflict a series of speeches in unknown tongues. He would take the earliest opportunity of assuring them that his remarks would be as brief as was compatible with the high sense he entertained of the great honour done to his very dear friend, the M.E.Z. It was an honour of no ordinary nature when they saw a companion lifted, as he had been, by the suffrages of his companions, and at the same time by a dispensation from the First Grand Principal to the rank he had attained. If there was anything which could make that compliment still greater, and which could intensify its importance, it was the fact that if it happened, as they all

hoped, that the M.E.Z. would be the next Grand Treasurer, the honour paid him by the companions of that chapter, and that chapter alone, would confer upon Comp. Harris the possibility of being Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter. Other honours might be in store for Comp. Harris, but he ventured to think that to the last day of his Masonic existence, there was no honour he would appreciate more highly than that bestowed upon him that evening, and which was consummated by the magnificent ceremonial, which had been so beautifully and touchingly rendered by the Grand S.E. He was sure the M.E.Z. felt most deeply the honour which had been, in the presence of such an illustrious body of companions, awarded him, and he sincerely thanked Comp. Matier for his kindness in giving him an opportunity of expressing, however humbly, what he considered a privilege to be present. He trusted that at no distant date other honours would be in store for Comp. Harris. He took it as a good omen that they had met in the very room which had witnessed, year after year, the magnificent celebrations of the Drury Lane Lodge, and no one knew more than he how much the labours of Comp. Harris had contributed to the success of that lodge. Their M.E.Z. was a modest man, but no one knew—and he had taken care that none should know—how much he had done for Masonry during the past five years. In his candidature for the office of Grand Treasurer he had the sympathy of everyone present, and he (Comp. Broadley) trusted that within four months they would see him occupying that proud position, and he was sure that to the lustre of that position nothing could add so much as the action of the companions that day. At the same time that Comp. Harris would be Grand Treasurer of England, the Lord Mayor would be the Worshipful Master of the Drury Lane Lodge. As Comp. Harris had laboured for the good of that lodge, so he would labour for the good of that chapter, because he would remember that he owed to it the honour paid him that evening at the hands of the Grand S.E. He returned hearty thanks for the hospitable reception accorded the visitors and for the privilege of witnessing the impressive ceremony.

The M.E.Z. proposed "The Officers," and expressed to them his hearty thanks for the great kindness shown him. Comp. Mildred, H., having replied, the Janitor's toast closed the proceedings.

John Hervey Chapter (No. 1260).—The installation meeting of this celebrated chapter was held at the Holborn Restaurant, on Wednesday, the 13th inst., when there were present Comps. G. F. Salmon, M.E.Z.; D. Glass, H.; H. F. Frost, J.; O. L. M. Latreille, Scribe E.; J. Frank, Scribe N.; Frank Taylor, P.S.; J. Heaton, 1st Asst. Soj.; J. R. Keep, 2nd Asst. Soj.; R. C. Lewis, Chap.; Hill, P.Z.; F. Dangerfield, G. Godwin, P. Woods, and Jas. Evans. Visitors: Comps. C. G. Cutler, P.Z. 217; G. Gregory, P.Z. 704; J. F. Haskins, Org. 22; M. Brown, 141; Arthur Cranch, J. 1216; C. J. Morse, 1642; J. Bartlett, and F. M. Noakes.

The convocation being opened, the minutes were read and confirmed. The Three Principals elect, Comps. D. Glass, as Z.; H. F. Frost, as H.; and J. Frank, as J., were then duly installed by Comp. Hill, P.Z., in a most able manner, which was much appreciated by the companions. The following officers were then invested: Comps. O. L. M. Latreille, S.E.; F. Taylor, S.N.; J. Heaton, P.S.; J. R. Keep, 1st Asst. Soj.; and F. Dangerfield, 2nd Asst. Soj. A ballot was then taken for Bros. P. Woods and J. Evans, which having proved unanimous, they were exalted by Comp. Glass, the newly-installed M.E.Z., the ceremony being performed in a most impressive manner, which augurs well for a successful year of office. Comp. G. F. Salmon, I.P.Z., was presented with a P.Z.'s jewel which had been voted him at the last convocation. The I.P.Z. thanked the companions in a neat speech. A letter was read from Comp. Dr. Jabez Hogg regretting his inability to be present, being confined to his hotel at Rome through an accident. There being no further business, the chapter was closed.

The companions then adjourned to an excellent banquet, to which ample justice was done. On the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received in a hearty manner.

Comp. Salmon, I.P.Z., in proposing "The Health of the M.E.Z.," said they had a companion as First Principal who not only enjoyed the entire confidence of the companions, but would uphold the dignity of the chapter. It had afforded them very great pleasure to hear him perform the ceremony of exaltation, immediately after being installed in the chair. He trusted he would have frequent opportunities of exercising his abilities during his year of office.

The M.E.Z. thanked the I.P.Z. for the kind remarks he had made, and the companions for the very hearty way in which they had received the toast. He would endeavour to carry out the duties of his office to the utmost of his ability, and trusted they would have a successful year.

The M.E.Z. next gave "The Health of the Exaltees," whom, he said, were representatives of a sort of joint stock arrangement between the John Hervey Lodge and the Euphrates Lodge. It added very much to the pleasure of their becoming members of that chapter that they were both good workers. He offered them his hearty congratulations.

Comp. Evans expressed his thanks for the hearty manner in which he had been received into that chapter. He trusted that by diligence and industrious study he would become a worthy member, and able to perform the duties that might devolve upon him.

Comp. Woods said he was much struck with the work. He had no idea there was anything so grand. If acted up to it tended to make a man a good husband and father, and a good citizen.

The M.E.Z. next proposed "The Health of the Visitors," whom, he said, they were always pleased to see, and whom he hoped had spent a pleasant evening.

Comp. Cutler, in reply, said he little thought that when he saw Comp. Glass initiated he should have the pleasure of seeing him attain what might be called the apogee of his Masonic career. It gave him great pleasure to be present and hear the installation ceremony performed with such unflinching accuracy and in so dignified a manner, and also the very able manner in which the M.E.Z. performed the ceremony of exaltation. He thanked them for the hearty way in which the toast had been received.

Comps. Gregory, Halsey, and Mount Brown also replied. In reply to the toast of "The Installing Officer," Comp. Hill thanked the companions for the very kind way in which they had received that toast. It was always gratifying to

perform any duty in that chapter. He regretted his health had not permitted him attending so often as he had wished. It had been a great pleasure to him to hear the excellent way in which he had performed the ceremony, and trusted he would have a successful year of office.

The M.E.Z. next gave the toast of "The I.P.Z.," which, he said, was a position it took some years to attain, and having arrived at it, he trusted he would not desert them, but by his presence set a good example to the exaltees.

Comp. Salmon, I.P.Z., thanked them for the kind way in which the toast had been received. He trusted he should be able to be with them for many years. The jewel which they had presented to him he should always value most highly, and be proud to wear as a memento of his year of office.

The next toast was "The Officers of the Chapter," of which the M.E.Z. said they had an excellent team, and he was sure the chapter would lose none of its prestige under their guidance.

Comp. Latrielle said it was the earnest desire of the officers to do all in their power to support the M.E.Z. as long as he remained. He would assist to the utmost of his ability to increase the prestige of the chapter by creating that social friendship amongst its members which contributed so much to its success. They would all regret the absence of their esteemed Treasurer, who was, as they had heard, confined to his hotel on the continent by an accident, and he trusted he would have a speedy relief from his sufferings, and a safe return to his home.

During the evening an excellent programme of music was performed by Comps. A. Cranch, J. Bartlett, F. Dangerfield, J. R. Keep, and others, under the direction of Comp. Dr. Haskins, who presided at the pianoforte with his usual ability.

Metropolitan Chapter (No. 1507).—The installation meeting of this chapter took place on Thursday, the 7th inst., at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, when there was a good attendance of members and visitors. The members present included Comps. G. W. Knight, M.E.Z.; H. Dickey, H.; T. C. Edmonds, J., M.E.Z. elect.; W. M. Stiles, P.Z., S.E.; James Terry, P.G.S.B.; J. C. Smith, P.Z.; F. Silvester, M. Little, F. Dorey, R. W. Fraser, S.N.; G. Mordey, G. Emblin, J. W. Tubby, B. Kauffmann, Dr. J. Powdrell, and others. Visitors: Comps. W. H. Lee, 1423, P.G.S.E. Middx.; Geo. Gregory, Prov. G. Treas. Middx.; H. Slyman, P.Z. 704; Jas. Carter, P.Z. 1260; G. R. Bolton, M.E.Z. 619; E. E. Elverston, Edwin Storr, M.E.Z. 704; A. H. Scurrah, S.N. 2048; Jas. Kew, H. 179; J. W. Cain, A.S. 177; Geo. Lane, D.C. 619; and W. W. Lee, 1524.

The convocation being opened, Comp. James Terry, P.G.S.B., installed the M.E.Z. elect, Comp. T. C. Edmonds, in an able and impressive manner. Ballot was successfully taken for Bros. J. H. Timberlake, 1507, and J. G. Evans, 1507, and they were exalted into the R.A. Degree by the newly-installed M.E.Z., who proved himself proficient in the ritual. The officers invested for the ensuing year were Comps. W. M. Stiles, P.Z., S.E.; R. W. Fraser, S.N.; F. Silvester, P.S.; G. Mordey, 1st A.S.; M. Little, 2nd A.S.; G. Emblin, D.C.; B. Kauffmann, A.D.C.; J. F. Saunders and Dr. J. Powdrell, Stwds.; and Whiting, Janitor. Comp. Jas. Willing, P.Z., the Treasurer elect, was unavoidably absent. A jewel was presented to Comp. Knight, I.P.Z., by the M.E.Z., in recognition of his efficient services during the past year, and the gift was appropriately acknowledged. A vote of thanks was accorded to Comp. James Terry, P.G.S.B., for his kindness in attending and ably performing the installation ceremony. Comp. Jas. Terry having replied, the Auditors' report, showing a balance to the credit of the chapter, was received and adopted.

The convocation was duly closed, and the companions adjourned to a substantial banquet, at the conclusion of which the customary toasts were honoured.

Comp. Jas. Terry, P.G.S.B., in response to the toast of "The Grand Officers," said that at all times the Grand Officers felt it a special compliment to have their names coupled with any toast that brought them in connection with the companions. Little need be said of the principal Grand Officers, who were pillars of strength in Royal Arch Masonry, whilst the others endeavoured to support them to the best of their ability.

Comp. G. W. Knight, I.P.Z., in proposing "The Health of the M.E.Z.," said Comp. T. C. Edmonds was the most genial companion they had ever had in the chapter, for he had endeared himself to every member. The M.E.Z. had been their tutor and they had been his pupils, and they congratulated him on attaining the chair of one of the best chapters in London, and on being installed by Comp. J. Terry.

Comp. T. C. Edmonds, M.E.Z., returned thanks for the enthusiastic manner in which the toast had been received. He was one of the first exaltees of that chapter, and had endeavoured most earnestly, and as far as lay in his power, to gain their respect and esteem, and had always aspired in the far distant future to become the First Principal. From the manner in which he had been received for many years past, the hearty welcome always accorded him as an officer, and the very enthusiastic way they had received him that evening, he was convinced he held that place in their esteem he was desirous of holding. If he had succeeded in making himself respected in every sense of the word, so he should go on, hoping to maintain that position as long as life lasted. He had received so many favours from the companions, that he would, to the utmost of his power, endeavour to repay them. He thanked them very sincerely, and during his year he felt he should receive at their hands every kindness and encouragement to persevere.

"The Installing Officer" was next given by the M.E.Z., who referred to the fact that Comp. Jas. Terry was the Consecrating Officer, and had installed every Principal since that period, to the intense satisfaction and gratification of all concerned. Comp. Terry devoted his time to attend for their benefit, and he was therefore pleased to find Comp. Dickey, H., had offered himself as Steward on behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and had no doubt he would be well supported by the companions.

Comp. Jas. Terry, P.G.S.B., thanked the M.E.Z. very sincerely for having deviated from the ordinary routine and given that toast precedence. The M.E.Z. had been good enough to refer to the fact that he had installed all the Principals in that chapter, and so long as it was the wish of the companions, he should always endeavour to meet their wishes. He was sorry that in the installation ceremonies only those who happened to be Installed Principals could be

present, because the ceremonies were all of such superlative beauty that it was a pity the companions were not able to witness them. He knew that, should the day come when he was not able to attend, there was one occupying the First Principal's chair who could take that position in an efficient manner. With respect to the other portion of the M.E.Z.'s remarks—the Masonic Institutions—he could only thank Comp. Dickey very much for having taken the position, held by Comp. Kauffmann last year, as Steward for the Benevolent Institution. He thanked that companion very much, and hoped his list would certainly not be the last by many pounds of those brought up.

The M.E.Z. in giving "The Second and Third Principals," thanked Comp. Knight, I.P.Z., for acting as J. in the unavoidable absence of Comp. Dimsdale, J. elect. With regard to Comp. Dickey, H., he would say that had it not been for the generosity of that companion he (the M.E.Z.) would not have occupied his present position.

Comp. H. Dickey, H., thanked the M.E.Z. sincerely for the far too flattering manner in which he had proposed the toast. During the time the M.E.Z. would occupy the chair, the H. and J., in conjunction with the other companions, would endeavour to keep up the prestige of the chapter, and he was certain that the year of office of the M.E.Z. would be a good one.

Comp. Knight, I.P.Z., acting J., also replied.

"The P.Z.'s, S.E., and Treasurer" was next duly honoured.

Comps. Knight, I.P.Z., and Ferguson, P.Z., replied.

Comp. W. M. Stiles, P.Z., also responded, and apologised for the non-attendance of his brother, Comp. Henry Stiles, a P.Z. of the chapter, who was unfortunately in ill-health. The companions would be sorry to hear that, as Comp. Henry Stiles had tried to endear himself to them. It would be his duty to convey to the Treasurer, Comp. Jas. Willing, P.Z., the Auditors' report, showing a satisfactory balance in favour of the chapter, and he thought the members might congratulate themselves on the flourishing state of their chapter.

"The Exaltees" and "The Visitors" were given, and the Janitor's toast brought a pleasant evening to a close.

BOLTON.

Concord Chapter (No. 37).—The regular meeting of this chapter was held in Freemasons' Hall, on Monday, the 18th inst., when there were present Comps. John Hardcastle, Z.; Jno. Book, Prov. G. 1st A.S., as H.; Jas. Taylor, J.; Jas. Newton, Prov. A.G.S.E., S.E.; Wm. Forrest, S.N.; J. W. Thompson, P.S.; Thos. Murphy, as 1st A.S.; A. Nightingale, 2nd A.S.; Thos. Barnes, Stwd.; Thos. Higson, Prov. G. Janitor, Janitor; F. W. Brockbank, and H. L. Hinnell.

The chapter having been opened, the minutes were read and confirmed. Comps. Newton, Booth, and Forrest were appointed a Committee to frame a new code of by-laws for the government of the chapter. A candidate for exaltation was proposed and seconded, and, no other business offering, the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to the dining room, where refreshments were partaken of, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

DEVONPORT.

Friendship Chapter (No. 202).—The annual meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Granby-street, on the 14th inst., to install the Principals for the year ensuing, viz.: Comps. H. Langmead, Z.; J. Leonard, H.; and R. Carter, J. The Installing Officers were Comps. R. Lavers, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B., and W. Allsford, P.Z., P.G.P. Soj. Among the Board of Installing Principals present were Comps. E. J. Knight, P.Z.; J. Viggers, P.Z.; John Burns, P.Z.; H. Welch, P.Z.; E. Murch, P.Z.; the Rev. T. W. Lemon, P.Z. 189, P.P.G.J.; J. S. Jew, P.Z. 105, 2025, P.P.G.T.; J. W. Cornish, P.Z. 223, P.G.T.; John Hifley, P.Z. 223; R. Pike, P.Z. 230; E. Littleton, 230; G. Wilson, P.Z. 1205; James Gidley, P.Z. 1205, 2025; J. R. H. Harris, P.Z. 230, P.G.D.C.; John Wallis, P.Z. 1255; Thomas Goodall, P.Z. 954; R. Pitcher, 230; John Bray, P.Z. 358; W. Coath, P.Z. 230; W. Powell, J. 1205; and A. Trout, J. 223.

The officers were invested as follows: Comps. D. Sedy, S.E.; Geo. Bray, S.N.; H. Welch, Treas.; M. Axworthy, P.S.; Geo. Hancock, 1st A.S.; W. G. Coombes, 2nd A.S.; and Thos. Shears, Janitor. The Treasurer reported a balance in favour of the chapter.

The companions, upwards of 45, adjourned to supper in an adjoining room.

Mark Masonry.

Provincial Meetings.

CHELTENHAM.

Cheltenham and Keystone Lodge (No. 10).—The installation festival of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 7th inst., at the Masonic Hall, when Bro. W. R. Forcher, M.A., was inducted to the chair, in succession to Bro. the Rev. Canon Kynastoon, D.D., Grand Chaplain. There was a numerous attendance, including the Prov. G.M. of Gloucestershire and Herefordshire, Bro. the Baron de Ferrieres, P.G.M.O.; Bros. W. Forth, P. D. Prov. G.M.; G. Norman, P.G.D., Prov. G. Sec.; W. R. Felton, G. Stwd.; and M. Carter, Prov. S.G.W.

In the absence of Bro. Dr. Kynastoon, the ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Forth, assisted by the Prov. G.M. and Bros. Felton and Balcomb. The following were appointed and invested as the officers for the ensuing year, viz.: Bros. Rev. Hattersley Smith, M.A., S.W.; W. C. Ferris, J.W.; Rev. C. E. Lefroy Austin, M.A., Chap.; Dr. Gregory, Treas.; J. Balcomb, Sec.; S. Moss, M.O.; W. Heath, S.O.; J. A. Huband, J.O.; W. Powell, M.R.C.S., S.D.; J. L. Butter, J.D.; and Col. Rogers, I.G.

CROYDON.

Croydon Lodge (No. 198).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, 96, High-street, on the 8th inst. This lodge, which has recently made considerable progress through the influence and exertions of Bro. Hugh M. Hobbs, the esteemed W.M., was further

increased at the meeting under notice by the addition of five distinguished brethren, who were advanced to the Degree, one being Bro. Fredk. West, P.G.D., Dep. Prov. G. Master in charge Surrey. The members present included Bros. Hugh M. Hobbs, W.M.; W. F. Hawes, S.W.; H. E. Vickers, J.W.; Arthur Adams, M.O.; J. S. Fraser, S.O.; W. J. Dyer, J.O.; J. R. Hubbard, P.M.; H. Burgess, P.M.; Stanford Lambert, P.M.; J. Rhodes, P.M., P.P.G.O. Surrey and Middx., Sec.; T. Poore, P.G.I.G.; Fredk. West, and W. Phillips. Visitors: Bros. H. E. Frances, T. W. Willis, Wm. Vincent, P.G.I.G.; Rev. J. Cater, Prov. G. Chap.; and W. W. Lee, 400.

Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed. The following brethren were then advanced: Bros. Fredk. West, P.G.D., Prov. G.M. in charge Surrey; E. C. Holdsworth, J.W. 2096; J. C. Radford, W.M. 2243, P.M. 1420; W. Phillips, I.G. 174; and Wm. Gayton, M.D., P.M. 1607. The ceremony was ably and very impressively rendered by the W.M., who was well supported by the officers. The W.M. was unanimously nominated for the office of Grand Steward, and the Secretary instructed to inform the Prov. G. Secretary of the nomination. Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from several G. Officers and brethren, including Bro. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., who is slowly recovering from a feverish attack, having been confined to his bed for some days.

Lodge was closed, and the brethren enjoyed an excellent dinner under the genial presidency of the W.M., who afterwards gave the usual toasts.

In proposing "The Grand Officers," the Worshipful Master said they were favoured on the present occasion with the presence of two members of Grand Lodge. There were no two Grand Officers whom he would rather see than Bros. T. Poore and Vincent, for it was his good fortune to be advanced by Bro. Poore, and Bro. Vincent was a good worker in the Degree, being the Preceptor of the Grand Masters' Lodge of Instruction. Any brother who wished to make himself proficient could not do better than attend there and he would receive excellent instruction from Bro. Vincent.

Bro. T. Poore, P.G.I.G., returned thanks, and said that nothing he could possibly say would in the slightest degree enhance the good qualities of the Grand Officers more than he had a conviction of. They endeavoured to do their duty, and as long as they had such Grand Officers the Degree would succeed. He was quite sure the W.M. had never regretted being a M.M., and he congratulated the lodge on having such a W.M. If the officers and brethren supported the W.M. the lodge would occupy a leading position in the province.

Bro. W. Vincent, P.G.I.G., also replied, and expressed his regret that other Grand Officers were not present to hear the ceremony performed by the officers of the lodge. That the W.M. would do his duty he was quite sure, for he had attended the lodge of instruction and had been one of the most regular, not only this session, but in previous years. Therefore, he had no doubt of his ability, but knowing nothing of the other officers, he wished to be allowed to compliment them and would say their lodge would hold its own with any lodge. It would be his pleasure to tell the Grand Secretary and other Grand Officers what he had seen, and he was quite satisfied they would then regret not being present.

"The Prov. G.M. and Prov. Grand Officers" was next given by the W.M., who expressed the hope that Bro. Col. Sir Francis Burdett would speedily be restored to good health, for no P.G.M. could be regarded with feelings of greater affection than he was in that province. He was sorry that Bro. the Rev. J. Cater, the Prov. G.C., had left, but he would tell the brethren that that reverend brother would be the first W.M. of a new Mark lodge which would soon be applied for, and in which he had no doubt Bro. Cater would be as successful as in the Craft.

Bro. Lambert, in response, said the P.G.M. had been good enough to write and say how pleased he was that that lodge was getting on so well. The lodge started in the first few years in a condition far too flourishing, for, like a boy who outgrew his strength, it weakened, and sunk so low that the thought was entertained of returning the charter. It had, however, taken a new lease of life, and was now flourishing. Taking the lodges in the province, he thought that lodge would now hold its own, the credit being due to the W.M. more than to any other brother.

Bro. Hubbard, P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," to whom he attributed the success of the lodge and the addition to their numbers. Bro. Hobbs had gone through the duty of advancing five distinguished brethren, and was simply letter perfect in the work of the entire ceremony.

Bro. Hugh M. Hobbs, W.M., said that in the different offices he had held it had been his honest and earnest wish to carry them out to the best of his ability, and if he had carried out his duty that night to their satisfaction he was well repaid. In Masonry he was an attractive person, for he had always attracted many good men into the lodges or chapters with which he was associated. He should continue his efforts in the good cause of that lodge, not only while he was in the chair, but also when he ceased to be the W.M. It was seldom that a W.M. was supported by such able officers—several occupying or had passed the chair in Craft lodges, and others had taken steps towards the chair. There was every prospect of success in the future, and his successor would find a satisfactory balance in the Treasurer's hands.

The W.M., in introducing the toast of "The Advancees," said it was seldom an occupant of the chair had the honour of advancing such a distinguished brother as Bro. Fredk. West, Prov. G.M. in charge Surrey, who, last year, appointed him to the chief offices in the Prov. G. Lodge and Chapter of Surrey. The other candidates had all done something in Masonry, two having attained the chair in the Craft.

Bro. Frederick West, on behalf of himself and the other candidates, said they were much obliged not only for the kind way in which that toast had been proposed, but also for the most excellent manner in which the W.M. had conducted the ceremony. Some might, perhaps, ask how it was that he, who had attained the 30th in Masonry, and was a Grand Officer of the Templars Degree, had not taken the Mark Degree before. It was one of those things which "no fellow could understand," but he knew that Bro. Hobbs was thoroughly and heartily in sympathy with Mark Masonry in the province, and he was attracted to that lodge by the fact that Bro. Hobbs was the W.M. He was proud

to be associated with any lodge over which the W.M. presided, and it gave him the greatest pleasure to be advanced by him. If every Degree was performed as perfectly as it had been on that occasion, many more would be attracted to those Degrees, outside the Three Degrees, with which one was more familiar. He would do his best to allot to the Degree a portion of the small amount of time at his disposal for Masonic matters, and if it should ever fall to his lot to perform the ceremony with a tenth part of the perfection attained by the W.M., he should be heartily gratified.

Bro. Lee, 400, responded for "The Visitors," and "The Officers" having been given, the Tyler's toast brought an enjoyable meeting to a close.

Bro. Rhodes, P.P.G.O., presided at the pianoforte in a brilliant manner, and several brethren rendered some excellent songs.

DERBY.

Derby Lodge (No. 302).—This prosperous lodge met at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, on Monday, the 11th inst. Present: Bros. A. Woodiwiss, P.S.G.W., W.M.; R. L. Homer Mole, S.W.; J. Walker, J.W.; W. Whittaker, P.M., as M.O.; W. R. Woodforde, S.O.; Severn Taylor, J.O.; Rev. T. Orrell, Chaplain; J. O. Manton, P.M., Treas.; C. D. Hart, Sec.; C. Webster, P.M., as S.D.; E. J. H. Hoskyns, as J.D.; W. H. Wheeldon, I.G.; T. Cox, P.M., D.P.G.M.; Percy Wallis, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., P.G.D. Eng.; J. Bland, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; G. John Smith, G. T. Wright, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; Thomas Roe, M.P.; and J. Worsnop, P.M. 339.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Treasurer's report was received and adopted. Bro. S. J. Sanders, J.D. 1085, was then introduced, and advanced by the W.M., who gave the whole of the beautiful ritual in a very impressive manner. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards met in the lower hall for refreshment, when a few only of the usual toasts were given. "The Health of the W.M." having been honoured, Bro. Woodiwiss, in reply, gave quite a short lecture on the symbols peculiar to the Mark Degree, which were highly appreciated by the brethren.

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

EMBLEMATIC LODGE (No. 1321).—The usual weekly meeting was held at the Mona Hotel, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C., on Tuesday, the 12th inst., when there were present Bros. J. H. Price, W.M.; Marshall, S.W.; H. Esling, Treas., J.W.; J. Greenway, Preceptor; G. F. Swan, Sec.; E. L. Berry, S.D.; W. O. Welsford, J.D.; Grimes, I.G.; Forscutt, Hunter, Kent, Potter, Graham, Kirk, Patrickson, Fendick, Beeson, and Groves.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The 1st Section of the First Lecture was worked by Bro. J. Greenway, Preceptor, and the 2nd Section by Bro. R. Kirk, assisted by the brethren. The questions leading from the First to the Second Degree were satisfactorily answered by Bro. Graham. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Graham being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and closed in the Third and Second Degrees. The W.M. rose for the first time, and Bro. W. Groves, 1310, was elected a joining member. The announcement was then made that the Fifteen Sections would be worked in this lodge on Tuesday, the 26th inst., at 7 p.m., Bro. J. Greenway, Preceptor, being the Section Master on that occasion. Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE (No. 1471).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 12th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. A. Wolter, W.M.; S. Napper, S.W.; J. E. Sheffield, J.W.; J. Petch, P.M., Treas., acting Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, Sec.; J. Duncan, S.D.; C. G. Gray, J.D.; T. Williams, I.G.; R. W. Nicole, C. Isler, G. Wheeler, R. Loomes, F. M. Sutter, E. A. Ronaasen, D. C. Ritchie, and J. M. Scarlett.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Wheeler candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when Bro. Nicole answered the questions leading to the Third Degree, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Nicole candidate. The W.M. gave the traditional history. The lodge was closed in the Third and Second Degrees. Bro. Walter Hancock was elected W.M. for the next meeting. Nothing further offering, the lodge was closed.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—The usual weekly meeting was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, S.W., on Thursday, the 14th inst., when there were present Bros. C. Lambert, W.M.; E. L. Berry, S.W.; J. Marshall, J.W.; W. Brindley, Preceptor; J. Greenway, Deputy Preceptor; G. Reynolds, Treas. and Sec.; Jas. Woodward, S.D.; W. Hoggins, J.D.; J. Thrussell, Org.; F. M. Noakes, I.G.; I. E. Weeks, Tyler; H. Matthews, Jas. Graham, and R. E. Cursons.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. J. Greenway, Deputy Preceptor, W. Brindley, Preceptor, and R. E. Cursons worked the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sections of the First Lecture respectively. Bro. J. Matthews having offered himself as a candidate for initiation, the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony. On rising for the first time, Bro. James Thrussell, 1614 and 2191, was unanimously elected a joining member of this lodge. On rising for the second time, Bro. E. L. Berry, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. On rising for the third time, Bro. W. Brindley proposed that a hearty and cordial vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes of this lodge of instruction to Bro. Charles Lambert,

W.M., for the very clear manner in which he had rendered the ceremony of initiation, and also for the able way in which he had conducted the duties of the chair for the first time in this lodge of instruction—seconded by the S.W., and carried unanimously. The W.M. made a suitable reply. Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed.

STUART LODGE (No. 1632).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 14th inst., at the Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, when there were present Bros. Salter, W.M.; Fruen, S.W.; White, J.W.; M. Spiegel, P.M., Preceptor; Morgan, Sec.; Barnard, S.D.; Linsey, J.D.; Baldwin, P.M., I.G.; Petit, W.M. 1632; J. Vickers, P.M.; Bilby, P.M.; Croft, Lemaire, Smith, Prince, Lund, Moses, and others.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Morgan being candidate. The 1st and 2nd Sections of the Lecture were worked by the Preceptor. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. White being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and closed in the Second and First Degrees respectively. Bro. Fruen was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The Preceptor moved that a vote of thanks, to be entered on the minutes, be passed to the W.M. for his able working of the duties for the first time in any lodge of instruction—carried. The W.M. returned thanks. The lodge was then closed.

EARL OF CARNARVON LODGE (No. 1642).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 15th inst., at the Earl of Lonsdale Hotel, Archer-street, Bayswater, W. Present: Bros. W. R. Hatton, W.M.; J. H. Taylor, S.W.; G. Gardner, J.W.; G. Davis, P.M., Preceptor; W. J. Mason, Sec.; M. J. R. Dundas, S.D.; F. Chandler, J.D.; H. Armfield, I.G.; D. Belinfante, and J. Mackay.

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. M. J. R. Dundas candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. W. J. Mason, Secretary. Bro. Mackay having answered the questions leading to the Second Degree, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Mackay candidate. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and closed in the Third and Second Degrees respectively. The S.W., Bro. J. H. Taylor, was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

LANGTON LODGE (No. 1673).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 14th inst., at the White Hart Tavern, Abchurch-lane, E.C., when there were present Bros. Glanville, W.M.; Southwell, S.W.; A. W. Smith, J.W.; Hobbs, Preceptor; Mapleton, Sec.; Hall, S.D.; Conford, J.D.; Daubeny, I.G.; Wood, E. R. Smith, de Paiva, Seton, Simmons, Bush, Burne, Marshall, and Sandemann. Bro. Kew was a visitor.

The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Seton, acting as candidate, answered the usual questions, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. rose for the first time, and the S.W. was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and appointed his officers in rotation. The W.M. elect gave notice that the work would be the ceremony of initiation and the charge. The W.M. rose for the second time, and Bro. Kew was elected a member of the lodge. The W.M. rose for the third time, and the lodge was closed.

PERSEVERANCE LODGE (No. 1743).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 11th inst., at the Old heshire Cheese, Addle-street, Wood-street, E.C., when the following brethren were present: Bros. C. M. Coxon, W.M.; J. G. Cobb, S.W.; Martendale, J.W.; C. G. Sparrow, Secretary, acting Preceptor; Park, S.D.; Mitchell, I.G.; and Hancock.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Hancock answered the questions leading to the Third Degree, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Hancock candidate. The Acting Preceptor gave the traditional history. The lodge was closed in the Third and Second Degrees. Bro. Cobb was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and appointed the officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

CREATON LODGE (No. 1791).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 14th inst., at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W. Present: Bros. H. Nash, W.M.; F. Dusterwald, S.W.; W. Williams, P.M. 1791, J.W.; J. Sims, P.M., Deputy Preceptor; W. H. Chalfont, P.M., Sec.; T. Stonnill, S.D.; R. Josey, P.M., J.D.; W. G. Jennings, I.G.; E. Child, P.M.; J. Arnott, and T. Jobson. Bro. F. Joule was a visitor.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Stonnill candidate. Bro. Joule having answered the questions leading to the Second Degree, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Joule was elected a joining member. Bro. Dusterwald was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 2012).—A meeting was held on Saturday, the 16th inst., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith. Present: Bros. W. Hillier, W.M.; H. D. Aslett, S.W.; J. Cox, J.W.; E. Ayling, P.M., Preceptor; J. Sims, P.M., Deputy Preceptor; G. Gardner, P.M., Treas.; J. Brown, Sec.; D. S. Long, S.D.; M. Spiegel, P.M., J.D.; T. Willcox, I.G.; L. Lee, A. Williams, R. H. Wimpey, R. Reed, E. J. Hiscock, and W. W. Williams. Bro. Massey, of the Wallington Lodge, was a visitor.

The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. H. D. Aslett, W.M. of the Wallington Lodge, who rehearsed the ceremony of initiation. Bro. Hillier re-assumed the chair, and

opened the lodge in the Second Degree. Bro. Massey answered the questions leading to the Third Degree, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of raising, Bro. Massey candidate. On the usual rising, Bro. H. D. Aslett was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM CHAPTER (No. 753).—A meeting of this chapter was held on Thursday, the 14th inst., at the Eagle Tavern, Clifton-road, Maida Vale. Present: Comps. J. T. Rowe, M.E.Z.; Kempton, H.; W. D. Slyman, J.; J. J. Thomas, Treas. and S.E.; S. T. Manktelow, S.N.; R. H. Dillon, P.S.; W. J. Stratton, 1st A.S.; R. T. Redfearn, 2nd A.S.; and Coleman.

The chapter was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Coleman candidate. Comp. Kempton was elected a joining member. Nothing further offering for the good of Royal Arch Masonry, the chapter was closed, and adjourned to the second Thursday in December, at 8 p.m.

ANDREW CHAPTER (No. 834).—A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 23rd ult., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith. Present: Comps. Jas. Sims, M.F.Z.; H. Purdue, H.; John Davies, J.; F. Craggs, S.E.; D. Stroud, P.S.; and C. R. Cross.

The chapter having been opened, the Principals rehearsed the addresses incident to the ceremony of exaltation. Comp. Purdue was elected M.E.Z. for the 13th and 27th instant. Comp. Cross was elected a joining member, and the chapter was closed.

STAR CHAPTER (No. 1275).—The usual weekly meeting of this chapter was held on Friday, the 8th inst., at the Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E., when there were present Comps. G. L. Moore, M.E.Z.; Benedetti, H.; Addington, J.; Stone, S.E.; Grummant, S.N., acting Preceptor; Eedle, P.S.; and Wood.

The chapter having been opened, the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed. Comp. Benedetti was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting, and was heartily congratulated on his able working as H. for the first time. The chapter was then closed.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Provincial Meetings.

YORK.

Hilda Chapter (No. 23).—A meeting of this chapter was held in Freemasons' Hall, St. Saviourgate, on Wednesday, the 13th instant, there being present the following brethren: Bros. A. H. H. McGachen, M.W.S.; H. C. Pickersgill, H.P.; Donald Grant, 30°, 1st Gen.; W. B. Dyson, 2nd Gen.; T. B. Whytehead, 30°, P.M. W.S., Recorder; W. H. B. Atkinson, C. of G.; Wm. Brown, P.M.W.S.; Geo. Simpson, P.M.W.S., and others.

The chapter was opened, and Bro. Chas. J. Banister, 30°, Sovereign Grand Inspector-General for the North Eastern District, was received under the arch of steel. A successful ballot was taken for Bro. Chas. E. L. Wright, of the Apollo Lodge, No. 357, and Zetland Chapter, No. 236, and that brother was duly perfected, the ceremony being taken by the S.G.I. General, by express desire of the M.W.S. A scroll was taken for the M.W.S. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Donald Grant was unanimously elected. Bro. T. B. Whytehead, P.S., was also unanimously re-elected Treasurer. Bro. Whytehead moved, and the M.W.S. seconded a cordial vote of thanks from the chapter to the Sovereign Grand Inspector-General of the North Eastern District, who had come down specially from Liverpool to attend the meeting, adding that the great services of Bro. Banister to Freemasonry, and especially to the Ancient and Accepted Rite, were acknowledged on every hand. He sincerely trusted that their veteran brother might long be spared to come amongst them and instruct them in the rites and ceremonies of the Order. The resolution was carried with acclamation, and Bro. Banister feelingly responded, thanking the brethren for their unvarying courtesy and kindness.

The chapter having been closed, and the S.G.I.G. having retired under the arch of steel, the brethren adjourned to dinner, after which the usual toasts were drunk, including "The Health of Bro. Banister," and that of "The Newly-perfected Brother."

Royal Order of Scotland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE AND CHAPTER OF YORKSHIRE.

Meetings of these bodies were held in Freemasons' Hall, St. Saviourgate, York, on Thursday afternoon, the 14th inst. Amongst those present were Bros. Rev. Wm. Valentine, M.A., Prov. Grand Master; T. B. Whytehead, Deputy Prov. G. Master; Donald Grant, P.S.G.W.; W. H. B. Atkinson, P.J.G.W.; George Simpson, Prov. G. Treas.; W. B. Dyson, Prov. G. Marshal; H. E. Cousins, Prov. G. Examiner; J. T. Seller, and others. Bro. Chas. E. L. Wright, of the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, and Zetland Chapter, No. 236, was admitted to the Order.

A sum of £10 was voted to the Decoration Fund of the Hall.

After the close of the business the brethren dined at the Royal Station Hotel.

Messrs. Dean and Son announce an unusually large number of coloured toy books this season. The newest of these which will be published shortly, is entitled "Barnum's great show," and will be printed in chromo-lithography, from designs by Mr. Dudley Hardy. This work is executed under the personal supervision of P. T. Barnum, and is the only toy book authorised by him.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Robert Grey, P.G.D., President; Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., Senior Vice-President; and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., Junior Vice-President, occupied their respective chairs; Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary; Bro. A. A. Pendlebury, Assistant Grand Secretary; Bro. W. Dodd, Bro. W. H. Lee, and Bro. Neville Green represented Grand Secretary's office; and there were also present Bros. Henry Garrod, David D. Mercer, W. H. Perryman, Wm. P. Brown, J. P. Grieve, A. C. Woodward, R. J. Taylor, George Read, L. C. Haslip, Charles Dairy, William Bywater, J. H. Matthews, Thomas Cubitt, Frederick Binckes, Charles Fredk. Hogard, Walter Hopekirk, H. Hooper, George R. Langley, James Crook, J. Hepburn Hastie, George B. Chapman, Isaac Wilcox, T. C. Cubbon, Louis Hirsch, C. S. Mote, T. Hastings Miller, Joseph Rothschild, W. Eckersall, George W. Tomkins, William Smith, P.M. 228, Arthur C. Tanqueray, J. W. Kemble, Henry Sapsworth, Henry Massey, John Powderell, N. B. Headon, George Simonds, W. H. Rylands, Thos. Honey, Jas. Hartnoll, G. H. Newington Bridges, Alfred H. Jakins, Walter T. Jones, W. T. H. Mayer, J. W. H. Sugg, Thomas Edmonston, John Strapp, J. S. Cumberland, John J. Kern, T. Toler Willcox, H. J. Spurling, Alex. Turen, Joseph Penney, Wm. Rowe, W. Adams, A. H. Shepherd, F. V. Turner, Henry E. Pollard, S. S. Goldschmidt, H. C. Freeman, John Marchant, Charles F. Luckhurst, Vallentine Wing, Charles E. Soppet, Robert Jackson, Walter F. Cook, James D. Graham, Thomas Weeks, W. Wingham, Wm. Lake, C. H. Canning, George Deaton, J. E. Twain, G. Reynolds, H. Mann, Isaac Dunn, John Aldis, John R. Glanvill, and H. Sadler, G. Tyler.

The Board of Masters was first held, when the agenda paper for next Quarterly Communication was read to the brethren.

Before the Board was closed, Bro. JAMES BRETT, S.V.P., proposed a vote of thanks to the President for the able manner in which he had presided over the Board during the past year. He said he thought the brethren would not be discharging their duty if they did not take that opportunity of recognising Bro. Grey's ability and geniality, not only during the past year, but ever since he had been President of the Board, besides his kind and considerate behaviour towards every member of the Board, and every petitioner that came before it. He also moved that the vote be entered on the minutes.

Bro. COTTEBRUNE, J.V.P., seconded the motion. Bro. ROBERT GREY, President, returned his hearty thanks, and assured the brethren that he had only endeavoured to do his duty. He had been so ably supported by the other members of the Board that it was a pleasure to work with them in their great and noble cause.

The Board of Benevolence was then opened, and the brethren first confirmed recommendations to the Grand Master, made at the October meeting, to the amount of £290. The new list contained the names of 38 petitioners, whose qualifications were through lodges in the London district, at Luton, Hong Kong, Stalybridge, Exeter, Manchester, Newport (Monmouth), Calcutta, Mottram, Southend, Whitehaven, Truro, Liverpool, Jersey, Malta, Gosport, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Jhansi, Cawnpore, Egutpoorah, and Halifax. Two of the cases were dismissed, as not coming within the rules of the Board, and five were deferred, not being complete. The remainder were relieved with a total sum of £805. This amount was made up of one recommendation to Grand Lodge of £200, and two recommendations of £50 each; two recommendations to the Grand Master of £40 each, and three of £30 each. There were 11 grants of £20 each, one of £15, nine of £10 each, and two of £5 each.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLASGOW.

The quarterly communication of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held in the St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Tuesday evening, the 5th inst. Bro. James Boyd, S.P.G.M., occupied the throne, while Bros. J. M. Oliver and Colin Galletly filled the Senior and Junior Wardens' chairs respectively.

After the minutes of the previous communication had been read and approved, the P.G.S. intimated apologies from, among others, the P.G.M., Bro. John Graham, and Bro. J. Dalrymple Duncan, R.W.M. 607.

The Treasurer of the Provincial Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund gave in his report, and announced that during the quarter ending October 31st the Benevolent Fund Committee had granted in all £61 11s.

The nomination and election of office bearers was then proceeded with, and, after a few contests, the following were declared duly elected:

Bro. W. T. Paterson	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Colin Galletly	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" John Clark	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" W. O'Brien	...	Prov. G. Architect
" Wm. Barclay	...	Prov. G. Jeweller.
" Robert Kennedy	...	Prov. G. Bible Br.
" James Pettigrew	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" John McPherson	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" T. R. Burrett	...	Prov. G.D. of M.
" Emile Berger	...	Prov. G. Org.
" David Gill	...	Prov. G. Marshal.
" J. McH. Campbell	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" Robert Gardiner	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

Bro. T. Halket was elected Treasurer of the Benevolent Fund, and Bro. Andrew M. Smith, President of Stewards.

The Auditors elected were Bros. J. Kelso Hunter, T. F. Hunter, and C. Petrie.

The Acting P.G.M. called the brethren's attention to the meeting of Grand Lodge on Thursday, the 7th inst., and hoped all the members present would be in their places to assist in transacting the important business that would be brought before Grand Lodge.

A motion was carried that at the next regular meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge a sum of money be granted for the relief of the sufferers from the recent sad calamity at Templeton's Mills, whereby 29 girls lost their lives, and a number were severely injured.

Two other notices of motions were also handed in, after which the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed.

LEEDS MASONIC RELIEF FUND.

The annual meeting of this fund was held on Thursday, the 14th inst., under the presidency of Bro. Allinson, P.M., P.P.G.D., at the Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds. The other brethren present included Bros. Robert Craig, P.M., P.P.G.D.; Trevor, P.M.; Rickard, P.M.; Fretwell, S.W.; Smith, W.M.; and Robert Lucas, the Secretary.

Bro. Rickard presented the annual report to the following effect:—"We have much pleasure in presenting you with the Annual Report of the Leeds Local Relief Fund. The year closed on the 31st day of October, when the books were duly audited, found correct, and signed. It will be known to you that two years since it was recommended that all cash in the hands of the Almoner at the close of the financial year should be repaid to the Treasurer, and the books balanced accordingly. This has been done, and we think, with good results. During the year 66 persons have applied for assistance, 44 were considered worthy and relieved. In some instances we noticed, with satisfaction that the Almoner has consulted the President, Treasurer, and members of the Committee, and on one occasion the Committee met to consider a peculiar case which had arisen. The relief from November, 1888, to October, 1889, included 44 persons, of whom 20 were under the English Constitution, 9 under the Scotch, 4 under the Irish, and 11 under foreign Constitutions. The total amount of relief distributed during that time was £9 12s. 3½d., giving an average per case of 4s. 4½d. It is worthy of notice that during the last nine years 30 applicants more than in the previous 10 years have been relieved with a decreased expenditure of £16 4s. 4d. There is a small amount of 19s. 2½d. due to the Treasurer; a call on each lodge of 1s. per member is necessary. This amount, in all probability, will suffice for two years. The funds of the Society are being wisely and judiciously distributed by the Almoner.

(Signed) "JOSE RICKARD, I.P.M. 304.

"WM. BINGHAM, W.M. 1042."

This report was unanimously adopted on the motion of Bro. TUDOR TREVOR, seconded by Bro. SMITH.

Bro. Allinson was elected President for the ensuing year, Bro. Rickard, Vice-President; Bro. Craig, Treasurer; Bro. Barrand, Almoner; Bros. Rickard and Fretwell, Auditors; and Bro. Robert Lucas, Secretary.

A vote of thanks to Bro. Allinson concluded the meeting.

CONCERT IN AID OF THE MASONIC CHARITIES.

A concert in aid of the Masonic Charities was given at the Eccles Town Hall, on Friday evening, the 8th inst., under the auspices of the Worsley Lodge, 1814 (Bro. W. A. Rothwell, W.M.), under the distinguished patronage of Bros. the Right Hon. Lord Lathom, Prov. G.M. West Lancashire; Right Hon. Lord Ellesmere, first W.M. of 1814; Right Hon. the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, D.P.G.M. West Lancashire; and the Earl of Mulgrave, Chap. 1814.

The weather was not propitious, but despite that there was a fair attendance, and the concert was a most enjoyable one. The artistes were Miss Bessie Hold, Miss Jessie Whitehead, Bros. W. Dumville, P.M., P.Z., P.P.G.O. East Lancashire; A. Lewtas, P.M.; and J. Banks; Miss Maud Dumville, Mr. R. Tomkins, Miss Ada Dumville, and accompanist, Bro. R. F. Coules, F.C.O., and the band of the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry Cavalry, under the conductorship of Bro. G. Batley.

The band started the proceedings with the overture "Crown Diamonds," then a trio, "Up, quit thy bower," by Miss Holt, Bro. W. Dumville, and Bro. Lewtas; song, "A farewell," by Miss Jessie Whitehead; song, "Tom Hardy," by Bro. A. Lewtas; solo flute, "Neapolitan Remembrances," rendered by Mr. R. Tomkins; song, "Come into the garden, Maud," by Bro. Dumville; solo violin, "Semiramide," Miss Maud Dumville; song, "Sing, sweet bird," Miss Bessie Holt, and the band played a waltz, "Ever and ever mine."

After the interval the band played a grand selection, "La Traviata," song, "Father O'Flynn," Bro. A. Lewtas; song, "Once for all," Miss Holt; solo piano-forte, "Romance," Miss Ada Dumville; song, "Masks and Faces," Miss Whitehead; solo flute, "Spanish Tarantella," Mr. S. Tomkins; song, "Dumb, dumb, dumb," Bro. Dumville; and the band played a fantasia on Scotch airs.

The whole of the programme was rendered by the respective performers in a highly artistic manner, the Dumville family rendering great aid, and Bro. Dum-

villè received an encore for his humorous rendering of the song "Dumb, dumb, dumb."

Miss Bessie Holt was encored after her song "Sing, sweet bird," and gave "Killarney." Miss Jessie Whitehead, after singing "Masks and Faces," sung "The Lost Chord." Bro. A. Lewtas sang his songs with great spirit, and as an encore gave "Poor Jack Brown."

Bro. Banks was, unfortunately, unable to appear, being detained by business. Mr. R. Tomkins gave the audience a great treat by his performances on the flute, and as an amateur on that instrument we can readily believe that he has few equals.

The Worsley Yeomanry Band, under the efficient conductorship of Bro. Geo. Batley, rendered the selections in a manner highly creditable to the training they have received, and their performances delighted the audience, the fantasia on Scotch airs fairly "bringing down the house."

Bro. Coules accompanied on the piano in a manner that only a true artist can do, and gained the plaudits of his audience.

It only remains to add that the Executive Committee—consisting of Bros. T. Wilson, P.M., D. McPherson, T. B. Sherwood (Hon. Sec.), G. Batley, and the Past Masters of the Worsley Lodge—have worked hard to render the concert a financial success, and we have reasons for stating that a substantial sum will be sent to the Charities.

Obituary.

BRO. FREDERIC DAVISON, P.G.D.

Bro. Frederic Davison, whose lamented death we briefly announced last week, had been a member of our Order for 36 years, having been initiated in the St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 269, now No. 222, as far back as 1853. But it is less on account of the length of time he had been a Freemason than for the valuable services he was constantly engaged in rendering that his memory will be respected. He occupied the chair in his mother lodge in 1857 and 1858, joined the Westminster and Keystone, No. 10, in the former year—being elected W.M. in 1881—was one of the founders of the Carnarvon Lodge, No. 708, in 1859, and became its Treasurer in 1869; a founder and Treasurer of the Orpheus Lodge, No. 1706, and Earl of Mornington Lodge, No. 2000, and a joining member of the Palladin Lodge, No. 120, Hereford. He was a P.P.G. Supt. of Works and P.G. Registrar of Herefordshire, Past P.S.G.W. of Middlesex, and in 1884 was appointed and invested as one of the S.G. Deacons of Grand Lodge. He was exalted to the Royal Arch Degree in the Alfred Chapter, No. 340, Oxford, in 1857, and having joined the Watford Chapter, No. 404, Watford, in 1868, was installed as Z. in 1874, and again in 1875. In 1873 he was a founder and first J. of the Burdett Chapter, No. 1293, and the year following joined the Westminster and Keystone Chapter, becoming subsequently its Treasurer. He was P.P.G.H. Middlesex, and P.P.G. Soj. Herts, and in 1884 was appointed G. 2nd Asst. Soj. in Supreme Grand Chapter. In 1864 he was advanced to the Mark Degree in the Carnarvon Lodge, No. 7, and was installed W.M. in 1871. In 1870 he was appointed D.P.G.M.M. of Middlesex and Surrey, and in 1873 became G. Registrar in the Mark G. Lodge, and from 1874 to 1885 was annually re-elected G. Treasurer, when the plan of electing a fresh brother to this office, and Bro. Davison received the rank of Past G. Warden in recognition of his services. He was a founder of the Watford Mark Lodge, No. 241, in 1879, and its W.M. in 1880, and a joining member and afterwards Treasurer of the Davison Lodge, No. 331, which was consecrated in 1884. He was a member of the Allied Degrees, was perfected Rose Croix in 1871, and in 1872 founder, and in 1875 M.W.S. of the St. George's Chapter Rose Croix. He was installed K.T. in the Blondel Preceptory in 1878, and elected its E.P. three years later. There were also other bodies in the various Degrees with which he was associated, and, besides, he was a generous supporter of all our Masonic Institutions, for each of which, as well as for the Mark Benevolent Fund, he had served one or more Stewardships. A career so full of activity as was Bro. Davison's is not often met with, and, in proportion to the length and merit of the services he rendered, will be the greatness of the sorrow which will be felt for his loss and the respect with which his memory will be cherished.

BRO. THE REV. G. W. WELDON, P.G.C.

Bro. the Rev. G. W. Weldon was initiated in the Sphinx Lodge, No. 1329, on the 17th July, 1871, and after an absence for some time from England was, on his return, elected on the 23rd November, 1876, a joining member of the Royal Somerset House and Inverness Lodge, No. 4. In 1882-3, he represented that distinguished lodge on the Board of Grand Stewards, and in 1883 he became its Worshipful Master. In 1887 he was, in conjunction with Bro. the Rev. T. C. Smyth, D.D., appointed a Grand Chaplain, and instead, therefore, of being a Jubilee Grand Chaplain—that is, one on whom the rank of Prov. Grand Chaplain was conferred in connection with the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee—Bro. Weldon was one of the regular Grand Chaplains of the year. He was a Life Governor of all three Institutions, and had served a Stewardship in aid of each.

BRO. R. J. PATON, I.P.M. 205.

On Monday evening, Mr. G. P. Wyatt, Deputy-Coroner for East Surrey, held an inquiry at the Sun and Doves, Camberwell, respecting the death of Bro. Robert James Paton, aged 34 years, a bank clerk, lately residing at No. 22, Denmark-road, Coldharbour-lane, which occurred under sad circumstances. It appeared from the evidence of the widow that on Wednesday evening, the 13th inst., the deceased attended a banquet of the Vitruvian Lodge, No. 87, at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, and early the following morning was brought home dead. A friend of the deceased stated that he saw him at Brixton, on his way home, and that he told him that he had been knocked down on London Bridge, which statement was supported by the fact that the deceased's clothes were muddy, and his hat had been knocked in. Another witness stated that he saw him after at Loughborough Junction lying on the pavement in a pool of blood. Several gentlemen stated the deceased was quite sober at the time he left. One among the number, Bro. Dr. Walker, deposed to having known the deceased 16 years, and he had never seen him the worse for liquor, but he had complained to him about the state of his heart. The result of the post-mortem examination made on the body showed that death was due to syncope possibly arising from the state of the lungs, which were considerably congested, and the jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical testimony. Our deceased brother was initiated in the Lodge of Israel, No. 205, in October, 1880, and after filling the other offices, served as W.M. last year, and discharged the duties of his office to the entire satisfaction of the brethren, to whom he had very much endeared himself by his amiable and kindly conduct to all with whom he came in contact. The funeral took place on Wednesday 20th inst., at the Necropolis, Woking, and besides the widow and his eldest boy and girl and other members of the family, was attended by the following brethren: Bros. C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br., W.M.; S. M. Harris, P.M.; H. J. Phillips, P.M.; E. H. Norden, P.M.; J. N. Smith, all of No. 205; Stuart, P.M. 179, and Sec. 87; C. Grammer, P.M. 27; J. S. Pope, P.M. 179; A. H. Cliffe, 948; J. R. Johnson, P.M. 1320; Dr. Walker, 1772; S. Lancaster, W.M. 1668; J. Milsted Spencer, S.W. 1922; and others. The clerks at Messrs. Glyn, Mills, and Co.'s Bank, where the deceased had held for many years a responsible position, sent a magnificent wreath of flowers, as did also the W.M. and members of the Lodge of Israel; the W.M. and members of the Vitruvian Lodge; Mr. and Mrs. Cliffe; and many others. Our Bro. Paton leaves a widow and seven young children to mourn his premature decease.

BRO. FRED. W. FLETCHER.

We regret to announce the unexpected death of Bro. F. W. Fletcher at the early age of 31 years. Bro. Fletcher was on a visit to this country from Poonah with his family, and was on the eve of returning to India when he was taken ill and died. His funeral took place at Abney Park Cemetery on the 18th inst., and was numerously attended.

India.

Royal Arch.

POONA.

St. Andrew in the East Chapter (No. 68, S.C.)—The installation convocation of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, on the 23rd Sept., when there were present Comps. G. F. Guyon, Z.; Dinshah D. Khambatta, H.; T. H. Lloyd, P.Z., J.; C. D. Wise, P.Z., P.G. Dep. Z. Bombay, Scribe E.; C. E. Wilson, as Scribe N.; W. J. Qualtrough, 1st Soj.; J. Dwyer, 2nd Soj.; E. J. Bell, as 3rd Soj.; R. Dickie, P.Z., P.G.H. Bombay; F. J. Laville, P.Z. 1122 (E.C.); E. B. Ruddock, P. King 263 (I.C.); J. H. Warrenner, H. Pocock, and J. L. Slade. Visitors: Comps. J. A. A. Turner, P.Z. 68; T. Marshall, P.H. 68; H. L. Dundas, 278 (E.C.); and W. A. Wilson, 639 (E.C.).

The chapter was opened, and the minutes of the previous convocation read and confirmed. A ballot was then taken for Bros. H. Saunders and J. Waters, 343 (S.C.), candidates for exaltation, and proved unanimous in each case. The election of Principals and office-bearers was the next business, and the following were duly elected: Comps. D. D. Khambatta, Z.; F. J. Laville, H.; W. J. Qualtrough, J.; Pallonjee Nusserwanjee, P.Z., Treas. (re-elected); J. H. Warrenner, Scribe E.; J. Dwyer, S.N.; E. J. Bell, 1st Soj.; C. E. Wilson, 2nd Soj.; H. Pocock, 3rd Soj.; and J. L. Slade, Janitor. The newly-elected Principals were installed in their respective chairs by Comp. C. D. Wise, and the office-bearers were invested with their collars by the M.E.Z. Grand Chapter certificates were presented to several companions, and the M.E.Z. thereafter briefly returned thanks for the honour done him in electing him First Principal of the chapter. The usual proclamations were then made, and "Hearty good wishes" were tendered by some of the visitors.

The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to the banqueting hall, where they spent a pleasant evening, and thus closed another and very successful year in the history of this old chapter.

Mark.

CALCUTTA.

Sandeman Stat Veritas Lodge (No. 220, E.C.)—This lodge held its installation meeting on Saturday, the 21st September, at Freemasons' Hall, Plassey

Gate, Fort William, when there was a good attendance. Amongst the members present were Bros. D. N. Pundit, W.M.; S. P. Sarbadhicary, Prov. G.D.C., I.P.M.; his Highness the Maharajah of Cooch Behar, S.W.; C. C. Mullick, J.W.; S. D. Mullick, M.O.; A. C. Mukerjee, S.O.; J. Ghosal, as J.O.; J. C. G. Kiernander, P.M., Prov. S.G.O., Treas.; P. C. Dutt, P.M., P.S.G.D. Eng., P.P.J.G.W., Sec.; B. C. Pyne, as S.D.; R. K. Gupta, as J.D.; S. C. Seal, I.G.; H. M. Joseph, Tyler; H. M. Rustomjee, P.M. 80 (E.C.), P.J.G.O. England, and P.D.P.G.M.; R. J. Vincent, P. N. Ghosh, N. M. Chatterjee, and others. Visitors: Bros. F. T. Atkins, P.M. 207 (E.C.), P.P.G.R. of M.; R. F. Dedrickson, P.M. 80 (E.C.); J. H. A. Louis, W.M. 80 (E.C.); C. T. Wibley, E. G. Sinclair, C. Browne, K. M. Singha, T. C. Bose, K. K. Sandel, H. E. Parek, and others.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes having been read and confirmed, the following communication received from the Grand Secretary was read by the Secretary:

"Office of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons, 8A, Red Lion-square, High Holborn, London, W.C.

"20th August, 1889.
"To P. C. Dutt, Esq., P.M. 220, P.G.D. of England.
"Sir and Brother,

"In reply to your letter of 27th July, I beg to say that Article 101 gives his Highness the Maharajah of Cooch Behar the power to appoint a Deputy Master, and I have to congratulate the lodge on its new Master.—I am, yours fraternally,

"C. F. MATIER, P.G.W., G.S."

Bro. his Highness the Maharajah of Cooch Behar was presented as W.M. elect, and impressively installed by Bro. S. P. Sarbadhicary, I.P.M. The following officers were appointed and invested: Bros. H. M. Rustomjee, P.M., Deputy Master; J. Ghosal, S.W.; S. D. Mullick, J.W.; A. C. Mukerjee, M.O.; B. R. Mukerjee, S.O.; S. C. Seal, J.O.; D. N. Pundit, P.M., Treas.; J. C. Banerjee, P.M., Reg. of Mks.; P. C. Dutt, P.M., Sec.; B. C. Pyne, S.D.; P. N. Ghosh, J.D.; R. K. Gupta, I.G.; and H. M. Joseph, Tyler. The addresses were admirably rendered by Bro. S. P. Sarbadhicary, P.M.

There being no further business, and after "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

The brethren then adjourned to the banqueting hall, where the dinner was, as usual, plentiful and excellent, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M., and heartily responded to by the brethren.

POONA.

Mallet and Chisel Lodge (No. 134)—The annual installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, the 28th August, before a good attendance of the members of this interesting Degree, when there were present Bros. G. D. H. Robottom, W.M.; C. D. Wise, P.M., P.G.D.; R. Dickie, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; F. J. Laville, S.W.; Dinshah D. K. Khambatta, P.P. G.I. of W., J.W.; Pallonjee Nusserwanjee, P.P.G.M.O., Treas.; J. Dwyer, as M.O.; H. Pocock, as S.O.; J. Mawhood, as J.O.; J. Slade, S.D.; H. Warrenner, J.D.; C. Farquharson, E. Johnson, and others. Visitors: Bros. T. Marshall, 134; A. J. Gibson, W. A. Wilson, 190; and H. C. Macnee, Hiram Lodge (S.C.).

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and some formal business transacted. The P.G.M., Bro. the Hon. Justice Parsons was then admitted and received with the honours due to his rank. The P.G.M. congratulated the W.M. and the lodge on the harmony and goodwill prevailing, and also on the financial condition of the lodge, but he regretted to see so many of the members in arrears with their subscriptions, and hoped that every endeavour would be made to reduce the amount. The W.M. having resumed the chair, installed his successor, Bro. F. J. Laville, S.W., into the chair of A., was appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Dinshah D. Khambatta, P.P.G.I. of W., S.W.; E. J. Bell, J.W.; J. Dwyer, M.O.; J. W. Mawhood, S.O.; H. J. Warrenner, J.O.; C. D. Wise, P.M., P.S.G.D., Chaplain; R. Dickie, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Treasurer; H. Pocock, Secretary; Saunders, S.D.; C. E. Wilson, J.D.; J. Slade, I.G.; and E. Johnson, D. of C. The addresses were given by Bro. C. D. Wise. A Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. Pallonjee Nusserwanjee, who has performed the duties of Treasurer for several years. A vote of thanks was then passed to Bro. Parsons, P.G.M., for having come all the way from Bombay specially to attend the meeting. Bro. Parsons, in returning thanks, expressed his regret that so few Prov. Grand Officers were present, but he felt sure it was through no fault of theirs—pressure of business, and the short notice to those residing in Bombay, was no doubt the cause. It always afforded him much pleasure to visit the Mallet and Chisel Lodge, where he was sure of receiving a hearty Masonic welcome. He further expressed his thanks for the honour done him in electing him an honorary member at a previous lodge. Grand Lodge certificates were presented to several brethren, and two candidates were proposed for advancement. "Hearty good wishes" were tendered by several of the visitors, and after the usual proclamations the lodge was closed.

Bro. Laville is held in much esteem by his brethren, and a successful year is anticipated. He is a Past Master in the Craft, and P.Z. in the Royal Arch.

Allied Masonic Degrees.

CALCUTTA.

Excelsior Council (No. 6)—A meeting of this council was held on Monday, the 29th July, at Freemasons' Hall, 55, Bentinck-street, when the following officers were appointed and invested for the ensuing 12 months: Bros. P. C. Dutt, W.M.; R. F. Dedrickson, S.W.; H. M. Rustomjee, J.W.; J. C. Banerjee, Treas.; A. B. Westerhout, Sec.; J. P. B. Le Patourel, S.D.; S. P. Sarbadhicary, J.D.; and D. N. Pundit, I.G.

Bro. Col. Sir Alfred Kirby and Lady Kirby were passengers by the train that was wrecked at St. Etienne a day or two since. Their escape from injury was most providential, as the carriage in which they were sitting was quite telescoped. With the exception of a severe shaking, which, however they have now almost recovered from, neither the Colonel nor his wife sustained any injury at all.



Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, K.C.B., was advanced to the Mark Degree in the St. George's Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 15, Exeter, on Wednesday, the 13th inst.

We are glad to hear that Bro. Lord Charles Beresford has so far recovered from the severe accident he met with last week while riding in the Bois de Boulogne as to be able to return to London.

Bro. the Earl and Countess of Carnarvon left Portman-square on Saturday last for Highclere Castle, the Countess having sufficiently recovered from her recent indisposition to allow of her making the journey.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice, accompanied by the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, left Balmoral for the South on Tuesday, and arrived at Windsor Castle early on Wednesday morning in time for breakfast.

The Irish Registrar-General's returns show that the population of Ireland at the close of the September quarter was 4,730,532. The number of emigrants during the quarter was 155,510, and the reduction in the population caused thereby was 7473.

It is understood that the Prince and Princess of Wales will leave Marlborough House for Sandringham this day (Friday), where they purpose making a somewhat prolonged stay. The Prince's health has greatly benefited by his trip to Athens and Egypt.

Astbury Hall, Bridgnorth, the residence of Mr. Ross Porter, was entirely destroyed by fire early on Sunday morning. The inmates had a very narrow escape of being burnt, while damage was done to the amount of several thousands of pounds.

A tablet bearing a medallion portrait of the late Emperor Frederick of Germany, has been executed by Sir Edgar Boehm for the Prince of Wales, who intends having it placed in Sandringham Church as a companion to the memorials already there of the late Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse, and the Duke of Albany.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, with Prince George and the Princesses Louise and Maud, returned to London from their visit to the Continent early on Monday morning. In the course of the day his Royal Highness called on the Duke of Cambridge previous to the latter's departure on a visit to the Marquis of Abergavenny at Eridge Castle.

In January, on the occasion of their visit to Lord Wimborne, at Canford Manor, the Prince and Princess of Wales will be entertained by the people of Bournemouth, and besides opening the Jubilee Hospital will visit Poole and open the new People's Park, which has been generously presented to that ancient borough by Lord Wimborne.

Bro. Sir Somers Vine, Assistant Secretary of the Imperial Institute, was received by the Prince of Wales at Marlborough House, on Tuesday, on his return from his mission to the British Colonies and Possessions for the purpose of obtaining sample collections of their various products, and of establishing a system of commercial intercourse in connection with the Institute.

Hedon, which is only a small town in Yorkshire, is able to boast that the mace belonging to its corporation, and which has been in use for more than five centuries, is the oldest in England. It has had a succession of mayors extending over a period of 523 years, and the retiring mayor has just presented it with a new "cheyne" of office for the mayor, the original having been missing for 100 years.

The fund being raised for a memorial to the late Bro. Canon Portal, P.G. Mark Master, and Chairman of the National Deposit Friendly Society, has reached upwards of £1000. The memorial is to consist of a reading and coffee room, to be erected at Burghclere, near Newbury, of which parish Canon Portal was rector for nearly 20 years. A suitable site has been presented by Lord Carnarvon, who also contributed £50 to the fund.

At the invitation of the W.M. of the Gloucester Lodge, Bro. Fewings, the members of the Economy Lodge (Winchester), and the Peace and Harmony Lodge (Southampton), paid a visit to the Gloucester brethren on Thursday evening, the 14th inst. There was a very large attendance, and during the meeting a vote of condolence was passed with the relatives of the late Alderman Furber, J.P., upon the loss which they had sustained by the death of that gentleman.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Board of Governors of the Masonic Orphan Boys' School, Dublin, held on the 12th inst., the result of the ballot for the election of five pupils was declared as follows, viz.: W. Armstrong, 1345; T. A. Moriarty, 624; M. Forrester, 1058; S. J. Patterson, 640; P. C. Hanton, 1831; J. H. Porter, 291; T. Hunter, 661; J. Reid, 1787; W. H. James, 1388; J. G. Rockett, 320; H. A. Johnson, 614; R. Seaton, 1579; W. G. Longworth, 612; W. J. Taylor, 679; and J. A. M'Mullan, 703. Hanton, Reid, Seaton, James, and Armstrong were accordingly declared elected.

Prince Albert Victor of Wales has visited the Nizam at Hyderabad, and has been entertained right royally by his Highness. The Prince took part in a Cheetah hunt, and afterwards had some buck and snipe shooting. On leaving Hyderabad his Royal Highness continued his tour to Madras, where he met with a very hearty reception, the city being illuminated in his honour, and the streets crowded with spectators eager to catch a glimpse of him as he drove through in an open carriage. During his stay in this city his Royal Highness was the guest of the Governor, Bro. Lord Connemara, District G. Master of Madras.

THE UNEMPLOYED IN EAST LONDON.—At a time when much thought is being given to this matter, a practical suggestion may be of service. Last year more than £300,000 worth of foreign matches were purchased by inconsiderate consumers in this country, to the great injury of our own working people, so true is it that "evil is wrought by want of thought, as well as want of heart." If all consumers would purchase Bryant and May's Matches, that firm would be enabled to pay £1000 a week more in wages.—ADVT.

We hear with regret of the indisposition of Bro. J. D. Allcroft, Treasurer of Christ's Hospital.

Bro. F. J. Potter, J.W. 1321, has been engaged as acting manager of the Tivoli, which will shortly be opened.

Bro. D. Waight having resigned the office of D.C. of Lodge St. Aubyn, No. 954, Devonport, which he had held for 17 years, the brethren have presented him with an illuminated address handsomely framed.

Bro. A. J. Barclay announces a performance of "Green Bushes, or 100 years ago," at the Athenæum, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, on Saturday, the 30th inst., and Monday, the 2nd prox.

Sir W. Marriott, M.P., and Lady Marriott, and Sir J. Puleston, M.P., and Lady Puleston were among the patrons of the annual ball on behalf of St. John's Convalescent Home, Brighton, held at the Pavilion on Wednesday.

The members of the Duncombe Lodge, Kingsbridge, numbering about 40, have purchased a site in Duncombe-street, and have contracted with Mr. George Hooper to erect a Masonic hall, which it is expected will be ready for opening in May. It is estimated that the cost, including the site, will be about £500.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Emblematic Lodge of Instruction, at the Mona Hotel, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C., on Tuesday, the 26th inst., commencing at 7 p.m. Bros. J. Greenway, J.W. 1310, W.M.; W. Cleghorn, P.M. 1287, S.W.; H. Esling, W.M. 1321, J.W.; and G. F. Swan, Sec.

We are asked to state that the Minerva Lodge of Instruction, No. 250, Hull, meets every Saturday evening from October to April in the Masonic Hall, at 7.30 p.m. This being the only lodge of Instruction held in Hull, it should be largely made use of by the brethren. The working, we believe, is strictly "Emulation."

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cambridgeshire was held under the auspices of the United Good Fellowship Lodge, No. 809, at the Town Hall, Wisbech (by kind permission of the Mayor, Mr. Ald. Goward), yesterday (Thursday). The brethren attended divine service at St. Peter's Church, in procession, and a banquet took place at the Rose and Crown Hotel, at 7 p.m., at which the Provincial Grand Master, the Earl of Hardwicke, presided.

MASONIC SMOKING CONCERT.—After the ordinary business of the Portsmouth Lodge, No. 487, on Thursday, the 14th inst., about 170 officers and brethren, representing the whole of the lodges of the district, assembled at the banquet hall at Highbury-street, at the invitation of the W.M. Bro. W. Bates, who was fully supported by his officers. A long and attractive programme was ably carried out by some of the best local professional and amateur talent in the Order.

The Primrose Club, 4, Park-place, St. James's, is determined that its members shall not be without opportunities for enjoying themselves and entertaining their friends. Their next Cinderella dance is fixed for this (Friday) evening at the Portman Rooms, while their next smoking concert will be held at the club, 4, Park-place, St. James's, on Friday, the 6th December, when Bro. Sir William McGregor will take the chair.

Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, Prov. G.M. East Lancashire, will preside at the first annual meeting of the Starkie Installed Masters Lodge of Instruction, at the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on the 29th inst. The Secretary, Bro. A. H. Williams, will give a resumé of the work done during the past year, and Bro. J. H. Sillitoe will deliver a short address. This lodge now numbers over 100 members, being P.M.'s and W.M.'s of lodges in the Provinces of East and West Lancashire, Cheshire, &c.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., the W.M. (Bro. Michael H. Clark) of the Coleridge Lodge, No. 1750, Clevedon, together with some of the officers and brethren, visited the Eldon Lodge, No. 1755, Portishead, both in the Province of Somerset, and were received most hospitably by the W.M. of that lodge, Bro. Glasspole. After witnessing an interesting ceremony, the brethren, to the number of about 40, sat down to a banquet at the Royal Hotel, provided by Mrs. Boulter, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

Bro. Brighten, P.G. Sec. of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of Middlesex and Surrey, has, by command of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Sir Francis Burdett, notified to the Worshipful Masters that the lodges under his jurisdiction shall be suitably draped in mourning, and that all members thereof shall wear mourning for the next three meetings, as a token of esteem and respect for their departed Bro. F. Davison, Deputy Provincial Grand Mark Master Mason.

At the meeting of St. Vincent Lodge, in Glasgow, on Wednesday, the 13th inst., the question arose whether or not the lecture to be given under its auspices on Wednesday last should or should not be confined to the brethren. It was ultimately decided that the brethren could bring their friends. A proposal made in all kindness that the back seats be reserved for the ladies was vetoed by the R.W.M., with the rejoinder, "Oh, no; it won't do to give the ladies a back seat." The fair sex therefore had a choice of position on Wednesday night to hear Bro. the Rev. Browlie on "Burns."

On Saturday, the 16th inst., Bro. Henry Lumsden of Pitcairne was installed Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Aberdeenshire West, by Bro. Sir A. Campbell of Blythswood, Bart., M.P., Grand Master of Scotland, who was accompanied by a deputation from the Grand Lodge, including Bros. C. Dalrymple, Bart, S.G.M.; Lord Saltoun, J.G.W.; D. Murray Lyon, Grand Sec.; John Graham, P.G.M. of Glasgow; J. Dalrymple Duncan, S.G.D.; Major F. W. Allan, P.P.G.M. Gibraltar; James Crichton, G. Jeweller, and others. There was a large gathering in the Masonic Hall. The deputation and brethren afterwards dined in the Imperial Hotel.

PERTINENT QUESTIONS.—What is more comforting in cold and damp weather than "Grant's Morella Cherry Brandy?" What is more beneficial to the weak and aged than this wholesome tonic? What do Sportsmen and Travellers find more sustaining than a flask of the "Sportsman's Quality?" What is more disappointing when asking for Grant's to be put off with some inferior make. Sold everywhere. T. Grant and Sons, Maidstone, Makers of the non-Alcoholic Wine "Morella," and of the delicious Morella Marmalade. Sold by Grocers.

Pro. Sir J. Puleston, M.P., has started a project for the erection of a Welsh Church for London.

Bro. J. D. Allcroft will occupy the chair at the forthcoming annual meeting of the Royal Hospital for Incurables. It will be held at the Cannon-street Hotel on Friday week.

Mrs. F. A. Bevan will open a sale of work to be held at the British Home for Incurables, Clapham-road, on Wednesday. The articles to be sold have been made by the patients themselves, and the sale is for their own benefit.

The total amount received by Mr. W. Agnew, Honorary Treasurer of the Holl Memorial Fund, touches £1000. The Committee have secured the services of Mr. A. Gilbert, A.R.A., who will design the memorial, which is to be placed in the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral.

The *City Press* is of opinion that there will be a walk over for the Grand Treasurership next year, Bro. Augustus Harris having received so many promises of support that it is almost certain no brother will have the temerity to oppose his election.

At the Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1288, held at the Old Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., it is intended to rehearse one of the ceremonies, with complete musical service, rendered by an efficient choir with organ accompaniment, on the fourth Saturday in each month, commencing on Saturday, the 26th inst., with the ceremony of initiation. The lodge will be opened at 8 p.m. punctually.

Sir Algernon Borthwick, Bart., M.P., will take the chair on Friday, the 29th inst., at a meeting in the interests of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children at Kensington Town Hall. Cardinal Manning, the Hon. and Rev. C. Carr-Glyn, the Hon. R. C. Grosvenor, Mr. F. Richards Kelly, M.P., Dr. Battershall-Gill, Professor Gladstone, the Rev. Father Francis White, and Miss A. Reade will attend and address the meeting, and the Rev. Benjn. Waugh, hon. director of the society, will state its objects and methods of work.

At the annual general Grand Conclave, held recently in Edinburgh, of the Grand Imperial Council of Scotland, Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, Sir Knight Capt. William Black, C.E., Falkirk, was appointed Deputy-Intendant General of Stirling Province. The Executive Committee was empowered to assist Grand Lodge, if thought necessary, in the matter of the forthcoming Grand Pazaar. The M. Ill. Grand Viceroy, Sir Knight J. T. S. Elliott of Wolfelee, presided at the conclave, and afterwards at the dinner in the Waterloo Hotel.

The brethren of Waveney Lodge, No. 929, celebrated their annual Festival of St. John on the 6th instant, at the lodge room, King's Head Hotel, Bungay. The lodge was opened by the retiring Master, Bro. R. H. Johnson. The W.M. elect, Bro. H. J. Hartcup, was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony of installation being most impressively performed by Bro. W. W. Walesby, P.M., P.P.S.G.W. The W.M. then invested the following as his officers for the ensuing 12 months: 1 ros. R. H. Johnson, I.P.M.; W. H. Mann, P.M., S.W.; H. Martin, J.W.; Rev. G. W. Jones, Chap.; W. W. Walesby, Sec.; J. E. Sales, S.D.; H. J. Weston, J.D.; T. Feltham, J.G.; and J. Norman, Tyler.

On Wednesday, the 13th inst., Bro. R. H. Sootheran died at his residence, South Parade, Northallerton, at the age of 48. Deceased was well-known, not only in North Yorkshire, but throughout the whole of South Durham, he having travelled that district for the well-known firm of Messrs. Ryland and Co., of Manchester, for upwards of 20 years. Lately he had been in indifferent health, and some six weeks ago he had the misfortune to lose his wife. In fact, he had been so seriously indisposed for months past as to be unable to follow his business but his demise was sudden. He suffered from a complication of diseases, the principal of which was kidney and heart disease. He was a Life Governor of the Commercial Travellers' Benevolent Institution and Schools. Deceased was a P.M. of the Anchor Lodge at Northallerton, while at the last Provincial Grand Lodge of the North and East Ridings he was appointed Provincial Grand Standard Bearer. He was also a good supporter of the Masonic Charities, while he was a member of the Royal Arch Chapter at York, and a Rosicrucian. He was very open-hearted and generous, and will therefore be missed by the local Charities of Northallerton and district.

The *St. Stephen's Review*, of the 9th inst., has the following: "Under the genial sway of Mr.—or shall I say Brother?—C. F. Matier, the newly-appointed Grand Secretary of the Mark Degree in Freemasonry, Mark Masonry is giving evidence of a vast increase in popularity amongst the members of the Craft. From the moment, in fact, when the Prince of Wales consented to assume the office of Grand Master, the rise of the Order was assured, but the great personal popularity and business capacity of Mr. Matier, who was only appointed Grand Secretary a couple of months ago, cannot fail to gain recruits for the Mark Degree. I hear of several petitions for new lodges being sent in, and the building of the hall, which is to be used for the purposes of Grand Lodge meetings and such like functions, is making rapid progress. The site of the new structure is that formerly occupied by Bacon's Hotel in Great Queen-street. Thus, in the course of a few months, Craft Masons and Marks will practically be under the same roof."

Among the latest houses supplied with Austin's Sanitary Cylinders are those of Peers, Judges, Doctors, &c. They are used in Hospitals, Clubs, Hotels. Names will be given on application and Testimonials sent. They are odourless, non-poisonous, and cheap (a Cylinder lasts a year). Used for all household disinfecting purposes, waterclosets (being automatic in action no attention required), for ozonizing baths, &c. Prices: 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 9s., and 18s.—A. S. Cylinder Company, 181, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.—Can be obtained of all Chemists.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Counsel for the Delicate:—Those to whom the changeable temperature is a protracted periods of trial should seek the earliest opportunity of removing all obstacles to good health. This cooling Ointment, perseveringly rubbed upon the skin, is the most reliable remedy for ringling over all diseases of the throat and chest. Quinsy, relaxed tonsils, sore throat, swollen glands, ordinary catarrh, and bronchitis, usually prevailing at this season, may be arrested as soon as discovered, and every symptom banished by Holloway's simple and effective treatment. This Ointment and Pills are highly commended for the facility with which they successfully contend with influenza; they allay, in an incredibly short time, the distressing fever and teasing cough.