

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 NEW YEAR.

We commence the new volume of the *Freemason* with more than ordinary feelings of satisfaction. We have always striven to the utmost of our ability to win the approbation of the Craft in the United Kingdom, and the increased and increasing favour in which this Journal is held is evidence that our endeavours in this direction have not been entirely unsuccessful. During the whole of our career we have been actuated by the desire to establish ourselves as the representative organ of British Freemasonry, and though, at the outset, our efforts were on a limited scale, we have succeeded by the favour of the Body we have aspired to represent in enlarging our Journal to its present dimensions. Nor is it only in this matter of quantity that we have striven to please our constituents. We have laid ourselves out to obtain the invaluable assistance of the most esteemed of our Masonic writers, and the innumerable contributions which have appeared in these columns from many distinguished brethren have attracted that special class of readers who delight in studying the more difficult problems of Masonic history and archæology, just as our lodge and chapter reports and other Masonic intelligence have found favour with the general body, who are content to read of what is passing from day to day in the world of Masonry. In short, we have left no stone unturned in order to attract the support and sympathy of all classes of the brethren, and we are honestly proud of the success we have achieved.

That we should avail ourselves of the opportunity afforded by the commencement of a fresh volume to express our thanks for the invariable kindness and consideration we have received from our readers is only natural. We have done so before, and we trust we shall have many more opportunities in the future of expressing ourselves to a similar effect. But on this occasion it is the more desirable that we should discharge this duty, as we are within a few weeks of attaining our majority. The first number of the *Freemason* was issued on the 13th March, 1869, and, therefore, if we had kept strictly to the rule of publishing only one volume a year, we should be now beginning our 22nd volume. We started, however, with half-yearly volumes, and finding that the *Freemason* had increased so much in bulk, we last year reverted to the same plan. The point, however, is immaterial. It is enough that in the course of the present volume we shall complete the 21st year of our existence, and this fact alone is sufficient to justify our belief that what we have done has been appreciated, and that if we pursue the same path as heretofore, and endeavour to meet as far as possible the wishes of all classes of readers, we shall retain the proud position we have won as the representative organ of the Craft in the United Kingdom and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown. At all events, this is what we shall try to do, and we hope that this time next year and for many years to follow the same friendly relations between us and our readers will be found existing.

THE APPROACHING BENEVOLENT FESTIVAL.

We are delighted to hear that in the few weeks that have elapsed since the appearance of our former article on this subject Bro. TERRY has succeeded in adding to his Board of Stewards for the Festival, which will be held on the 26th February next, under the auspices of Bro. Lord Mayor Sir H. A. ISAACS, the names of several brethren who are willing to give their services in behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. But, notwithstanding this good fortune, the Board is still very considerably short of what last year's Board was on the 1st January, 1889. At that date the Board was over 200 strong, while at the present time there are only 171 brethren who have undertaken to act as Stewards at the Festival of the current year. This falling off in numbers is to be regretted, and the more so as the Christmas season is in full swing, and brethren are too immediately engaged in the agreeable duty of visiting and receiving visits from their friends to be able to give much thought

to an event which is still nearly two months distant. However, if Bro. TERRY has anything like the success which attended his efforts last year, there is just a possibility he may be able to bring together a Board which, if it does not exceed, will be at least equal in point of numbers to those he has obtained at his later Festivals.

We are the more urgent in pressing this matter on the attention of our readers, because the Benevolent Institution stands committed to an outlay which, as we have again and again pointed out, falls only a little short of £15,000 a year in annuities alone, to say nothing of the very considerable amount which is needed for the expenses of management and the maintenance of the Asylum at Croydon. As regards this latter branch of expenditure, the result of the recent Committee of Inquiry into the working of the Secretary's office, has been to show that, as far as the executive of the Institution is concerned, the statement of the Committee of Management in their last annual report, as to the moneys of the Charity having been wisely and economically expended, is true, so that our readers may, once and for all, dismiss from their minds the idea of there being anything like extravagance in the expenditure. However, the permanent income more than covers the expenses of management, and the point which has to be solved next month concerns the raising of the requisite £15,000 for the annuitants. Will this amount be forthcoming, or will it not? Present indications are not in favour of an affirmative answer, but we hope the sum in question, or one nearly equal to it, will be obtained. The returns have shown a downward tendency since the year of the Jubilee. The £19,000 raised in 1887 became £15,000 in 1888, and the £15,000 of 1888 was reduced in February last to £13,500, so that it is about time they took an upward direction. Even if the increase as compared with last year's Festival amounts to only a few hundreds of pounds, the mere fact of there being an improvement will have a reassuring effect. We cannot expect every successive Festival to be more productive than its predecessor. We are prepared for a falling off now and again, but when the downward tendency is maintained for two or three years, the position becomes serious, and we wonder how the Committee of Management will succeed in making both ends meet when the outlay is fixed and the income a diminishing one. Nor must we lose sight of another important consideration, namely, that the applicants for admission into the Institution keep on steadily increasing. There were 140 at the election in May last, there will probably be close on 160 in May next, so that the need for increasing supplies becomes more and more apparent every year. Let us hope, therefore, that Bro. TERRY'S success of the last few weeks will be continued, so that Bro. Lord Mayor ISAACS, who has no province to back him up, may have a numerous and effective Board of Stewards to support him, and secure for the Festival over which he presides a total more nearly equal to the returns of 1887 than were those of February last.

OUR BENEVOLENT STATISTICS FOR 1889.

The Statements of Receipt which we publish, as usual, in another part of our columns, will, no doubt, serve to show that if the general total is considerably less than in 1888 and in the year of the Jubilee, the support given by the brethren to our three Institutions has been very evenly maintained during the past year, as compared with former ordinary years, and what is still more gratifying, that this support has been more evenly distributed among them. In 1888, it will be remembered, the Girls' School, with its glorious Centenary Festival, swept all before it, and succeeded in gathering into its treasury, not very far short of £50,000, while the unfortunate Boys' School was fain to content itself with not much more than £12,000, the Benevolent Institution being successful in obtaining £21,360. This year the Benevolent leads the list with a total of close on £19,000, while the two Schools are able to register an almost equal amount of receipts, the Girls', with £14,986, being slightly ahead

of the Boys', with £14,727. As regards Donations and Subscriptions each Institution has received more than the total amount at its Festival, the Benevolent having obtained £15,118, as against £13,508; the Girls' School £11,073, as against £5355; and the Boys' School £13,803, as against £13,604. As regards permanent income, the positions of the three Institutions remain unaltered, the Benevolent, with its large annual grant of £1600 from Grand Lodge, returning a total of £3510, including interest on cash at call, while the Girls' School stands next with £3174, and the Boys' School last with only £709. The Board of Benevolence must be congratulated on having brought its total of grants more nearly to a level with its income, and as we have said elsewhere, should it be able to continue, for a few years, the economy it has found itself able to observe in 1889, we may some day hope to see a return to the halcyon days, when the invariable rule was for the income of the Fund to be in excess—and sometimes largely in excess—of its expenditure. For fuller particulars of the year's Benevolent statistics, we must refer our readers to the detailed statements to be found in another column.

NEW PUBLICATIONS OF LODGE "QUATUOR CORONATI," LONDON.

The welcome "St. John's Card," in the shape of an annual, now issued for the third time by the indefatigable Secretary of Lodge "Quatuor Coronati," No. 2076, aptly illustrates the immense strides made during the past year, and is eloquently suggestive of the ever increasing labours of that most zealous and efficient officer of (what might surely be termed) the International Lodge.

The membership of the "Inner Circle" remains almost as before, the present number being 30, as compared with 25 (nett) in the last return. There were included in the second annual those who had not been elected, so that the list really shows 28. That, however, of the "Outer or "Correspondence Circle," exhibits the gratifying increase from 469 subscribers to 726, out of which large number it is very pleasant and satisfactory to notice eleven Governing Bodies, 87 lodges, &c., and four special libraries, making 102 in all, whereas the number in 1888 stood at 63. The proceedings by thus being distributed through the medium of lodges, lodge libraries, &c., secure a still wider field for usefulness, and are read by thousands of brethren, as compared with the hundreds of personal subscribers, besides which it may fairly be anticipated that their patronage of the "Outer Circle" will not be subject to the fluctuations incidental to all personal membership.

The names of the Grand Lodges of England, Iowa, Kentucky, and Germany (National), as also the Supreme Councils of England and Belgium, furnish pleasant reading for the founders, and they certainly point to work yet to be done in Scotland, Ireland, and elsewhere by the members of their several Grand Bodies, who should seek to secure their representation in like manner. My good friend, Bro. Speth, will not be satisfied unless he reaches the *four figures* this year, and, beyond question, that result might easily be obtained, with not a few to spare, if each member simply induced one more brother to join.

The greater the membership of the "Outer Circle" the more will be given for the *nominal* subscription, and the cheaper will be the "Reprints," as all will easily understand who have ought to do with printing.

The names of Grand Officers of the various jurisdictions being shown in larger type has led me to count their number, and I find that, including both Circles, there are over 80, so that the roll of members is not only a numerous one, but also most distinguished.

The frontispiece aptly represents the extensive influence of the Society by the various countries in which the members reside being indicated by the rays of the sun; the design by the Secretary carefully exhibiting the fact that there are still several rays not yet allotted. Within a circle, bounded by the two parallel lines, are enclosed the historic martyrs four; the appropriate legend "Hearty good wishes" from the W.M. and officers, addressed "To the Members of the Lodge and Correspondence Circle" being also prominent.

The genial address by our esteemed W.M., Colonel S. C. Pratt, should stimulate us all to do more during 1890 than hitherto, for, as he says, "The wider field of architectural and general research remains, however, still to be covered, and both to the student and the observer we appeal for aid." I trust the response will be both hearty and satisfactory.

W. J. H.

(To be continued).

MASONIC BENEVOLENCE IN 1889.

We have much pleasure in publishing the usual statements of receipt by the several Masonic Institutions for the year 1889. On examination we think they will be found as ample as could have been expected under the conditions which have prevailed. As might have been expected, there is a large falling off in the receipts of the Girls' Schools, while the increase in those of the Boys' School has not been all we could have wished, in consequence of the dissatisfaction with its management caused by the Report of the Philbrick Committee of Investigation, which was delivered at the Quarterly General Court in April. In the case of the Benevolent Institution, there is a decrease of upwards of £2600, but this also is capable of satisfactory explanation. We have every reason, therefore, to assume that the Craft as a whole is quite as earnest in its determination to provide the necessary ways and means for its Charities as in past years, the total of the sums received by the three in 1889 being only about £2300 below the average of the five years from 1882 to 1886, both inclusive. There is, however, one point to which we are desirous of calling attention. It will be in the recollection of our readers that in the early days of last year, there appeared in a non-Masonic journal some very unfavourable criticisms of the Girls' School authorities because the receipts in respect of donations and subscriptions were some thousands of pounds below the total, announced at the Centenary Festival of that Institution in the June previous. We pointed out at the time that the criticisms were unjust, and could only have been made by one who was ignorant of the arrangements which govern the collection of this portion of the School's income. A glance at the Statement of Receipt by the Girls' Institution will show that the explanation we then offered is fully justified by this year's figures, which give the Donations and Subscriptions received in 1889 as £11,073 8s. 5d., while the total of the Festival Returns was announced as being £5354 15s., the excess of the former over the latter sum being in round figures upwards of £5700. However, we have no desire to press the point further home, and, therefore, we append the three Statements of Receipt without further comment—

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.			
Donations and Subscriptions	...	...	£15,118 16 8
Grand Lodge	...	...	1,600 0 0
Chapter	...	...	150 0 0
Dividends	...	...	1,752 13 10
Interest on Cash at Call	...	...	168 8 1
			£18,729 18 7

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.			
Donations and Subscriptions	...	...	£11,073 8 5
Grand Lodge	...	...	150 0 0
Grand Chapter	...	...	10 10 0
Part payment North Wales Life Presentation (Centenary)	...	...	250 0 0
Dividends on Stocks and Interest on Deposits	...	...	3014 2 7
Miscellaneous Receipts	...	...	488 8 6
			£14,986 9 6

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.			
Donations and Subscriptions	...	...	£13,803 12 4
Grand Lodge	...	...	150 0 0
Grand Chapter	...	...	10 10 0
Dividends	...	...	548 9 6
Music Fees	...	...	95 11 0
Miscellaneous	...	...	119 7 4
			£14,727 10 2

The table that follows shows (1) the amounts received by each Institution during the seven years 1883—1889, the fourth column containing the aggregate of the three for each year; (2), the average per year for each Institution, as well as for the three together; and (3) the average receipt per year per Institution for the septennial period.

	R.M.B.I.	R.M.I.G.	R.M.I.B.	Total.
1883	£18,449 6 0	£12,650 1 2	£25,010 17 1	£56,110 4 3
1884	19,901 7 8	14,928 19 0	13,993 10 11	48,823 17 7
1885	21,374 7 1	16,768 19 6	16,272 16 0	54,416 2 7
1886	18,194 13 6	15,546 18 10	13,956 15 5	47,798 7 9
1887	28,068 4 4	16,429 0 6	15,661 16 1	61,059 0 11
1888	21,361 15 1	49,259 4 4	12,283 2 5	82,904 1 10
1889	18,729 18 7	14,986 9 6	14,727 10 2	48,443 18 3
Totals for the 7 years.	£146,979 12 3	£140,569 12 10	£111,006 8 1	£398,555 13 2
Average per year.	£20,997 1 4	£20,081 7 6	£15,858 1 2	£56,936 10 5
Average per year per Institution			£18,978 16 10	

The following is a statement, month by month, of the cases relieved, and the total of the sum expended in relieving them by the Board of Benevolence:

Month	Cases relieved.	Amount.
January	40	£1180
February	30	845
March	35	1085
April	34	802
May	32	725
June	25	510
July	29	660
August	19	485
September	9	260
October	41	1005
November	31	805
December	33	782
		358
		£9144

These returns compare very favourably with those of 1888, when 439 cases were relieved with £11,468, the decrease in the number of cases being 81, and in the total granted £2324. The decrease in amount is accounted for in great measure by the smaller number of applicants, but on testing the figures it will be found there is a slight decrease in the average grant per applicant from £26 2s. 6d. in 1888 to £25 10s in 1889. We may, therefore, hope that any further drain on the invested capital of the Fund of Benevolence, will, for a time at all events, be unnecessary.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DERBYSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Derbyshire was held on Tuesday, December 17th, at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby, under the presidency of Bro. Haughton Charles Okeover, Dep. Prov. Grand Master. The attendance of brethren was exceptionally large, probably as a consequence of the intimation that the election of a new P.G. Treasurer would be included in the business of the day. When the D.P.G.M. took his seat, he was supported by the following officers of Provincial Grand Lodge:

Bros. A. Woodiwiss, P.M., P.S.G.W.; J. H. Orme, P.M., P.J.G.W.; Rev. H. Price, P.G. Chap.; Rev. E. E. Morris, P.G. Chap.; Thomas Cox, P.M., P.G. Treas., P.P.S.G.W.; William Naylor, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., P.G.S.B. Eng., P.G. Sec.; J. D. Wragg, P.M., P.S.G.D.; R. Knowles, P.M., P.J.G.D.; R. Slater, P.M., P.G. Supt.

of Wks.; W. J. Piper, P.M., P.G.D. of C.; W. Elphinstone, P.M., P.A.G.D.C.; J. C. Webb, P.M., P.G.S.B.; H. B. Boag, P.M., P.G. Std. Br.; J. F. Donegani, P.M., P.G. Std. Br.; H. N. Biggin, P.G.O.; J. H. Clarke, P.A.G. Sec.; Sam Warhurst, P.M., P.G.P.; J. D. Simpson, P.M., P.A.G.P.; and H. V. Edwards, E. McInnes, A. Brown, F. Huggins, and Thos. Hardstaff, P.G. Stewards.

There were a great many Past Provincial Grand Officers present, as well as representatives from every one of the twenty-two lodges in the province. In short, the handsome lodge room was crowded, and presented a very imposing appearance. The usual formalities having been observed, the Worshipful Masters of the various lodges presented their annual reports. Without a single exception, these documents were of the most satisfactory character, containing as they did evidence of internal harmony and prosperity, and of increasing regard for the splendid Charities of the Fraternity. The report of the Masonic Hall Committee referred to a considerable number of improvements which have either been effected or are in contemplation, and which are all designed to promote the comfort of the brethren. On the motion of Bro. Sir John Smith, P.P.S.G.W., Chairman of the Committee, seconded by Bro. Walters, P.P.S.G.W., it was adopted.

In the absence of Bro. G. T. Wright, P.P.S.G.W., the report of the Charity Committee was read by Bro. Percy Wallis, P.P.S.G.W. It set forth that full voting power of the province would be required during the coming year, and the brethren were earnestly requested to strengthen the hands of the Committee.

The Report of the Audit Committee, which was satisfactory, contained an intimation to the effect that a donation of £100 has been given by Bro. Col. John Evans, and is now in the hands of the Prov. Grand Treasurer, towards the alteration and extension of the ante-room accommodation in the Masonic Hall, on condition that definite steps be taken to carry out this object within two years from 1st January, 1889.

Bro. THOMAS COX, P.P.S.G.W., remarked that he had for a period of nearly a quarter of a century acted as Prov. Grand Treasurer; but he had decided to tender his resignation of that office. Accordingly a few of them had met and resolved to take steps to promote the election of a brother who was well known and respected to them all—he meant Bro. Thomas Roe. He might mention that Bro. Roe had for many years been connected with the Order, and had been a generous and consistent supporter of the Charities. Moreover, he was one of the oldest of their Past Masters, but had not hitherto held an office in Provincial Grand Lodge. He therefore moved the appointment of Bro. Roe.

The proposition was seconded by Bro. WOODIWISS, P.S.G.W., and carried without a single dissident.

Bro. ROE, who was cordially received, briefly acknowledged the honour done him, and promised that his endeavour should be to discharge the duties of the office as faithfully as they had been performed by his worthy predecessor.

A hearty and unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Cox for his past services, the D.P.G.M., Bro. MARSDEN, and others, dwelling forcibly upon the valuable and disinterested character of his labours.

A representative Committee was also appointed with the object of devising some appropriate method of recognising his long official connection with P.G. Lodge.

On the motion of Bro. PERCY WALLIS, Bro. G. T. Wright was unanimously re-elected Chairman of the Charity Committee, and a similar compliment was paid to the members of the Masonic Hall Committee of Management.

The D.P.G.M. then proceeded to invest the Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year in the following order:

Bro. A. C. Cockayne, Dorothy Vernon Lodge ...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" F. Sudbury, Rutland Lodge ...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. E. E. Morris, Dorothy Vernon Lodge...	...	} Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. T. B. Mundy, Tyrian Lodge ...	...
" Thomas Roe, M.P. ...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" B. Woodforde, Beaureper Lodge ...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" W. Naylor, P.P.S.G.W. ...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" J. Whitaker Brigg, Arboretum Lodge ...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" C. F. Chamberlain, Royal Sussex Lodge ...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" Harrison, Phoenix Lodge of St. Anne ...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" W. J. Piper, Repose Lodge (re-elected) ...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Marsden, Peveril of the Peak Lodge ...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" Wilkinson, Scarsdale Lodge ...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" Hodgson, Dorothy Vernon Lodge ...	...	} Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" Jos. Heathcote, High Peak Lodge ...	...
" W. Broadbery, Phoenix Lodge of St. Anne ...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" J. H. Clark, Tyrian Lodge ...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" Homer Mole, Tyrian Lodge ...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" Yeomans, Mundy Grove Lodge...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" W. Watson Hayward, Arboretum Lodge ...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" Copestake, Arboretum Lodge ...	...
" Timmins, Hartington Lodge ...	...
" Berridge, Hartington Lodge ...	...
" Frost, Rutland Lodge ...	...
" Tatham, Rutland Lodge ...	...
" T. Day ...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

After the transaction of some formal business, it was resolved, on the motion of Bro. PERCY WALLIS, that Bro. J. H. Lawson, P.P.S.G.W., be the Steward of the Prov. G. Lodge at the next Festival of the Boys' School. It was further resolved that the candidature of Bro. J. M. McLeod, P.M. of the Derwent Lodge, for the Secretaryship of the Masonic Institution for Boys, be recommended to the support of the brethren in the province.

Before closing the Prov. G. Lodge, the D.P.G.M. addressed a few impressive observations, expressive of his gratification at the moral and material advancement of the Fraternity in Derbyshire.

At the conclusion of the business, a very large number of brethren dined together at the Royal Hotel, the manager of which establishment, Mr. H. Keyl, made abundant provision for their enjoyment.

CONSECRATION OF THE SCOTS MARK LODGE, No. 406.

The success attendant upon the fortunes of the Scots Craft Lodge, No. 2319, the consecration of which took place at the latter end of July last, has been so great as to induce the members to apply for a petition for a Mark lodge. The gracious permission of the M.W.G.M. having been secured, the consecration took place on December 19th at the home of the mother lodge—the Scottish Corporation Hall, Crane-court, Fleet-street.

The Consecrating Officers upon the occasion were Bro. the Earl of Euston, P.G.W., as W.M.; Capt. N. G. Philips, P.G.W., as S.W.; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, P.G.W., as J.W.; W. R. M. Pope, as Chaplain; Charles H. Driver, P.G.M.O., as D.C.; and W. C. Gilles, P.G. Steward, as I.G. In addition to the above, all the founders, with one exception, were likewise present. These were Bro. C. F. Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec.; W.M. designate; Vero Shaw, S.W. designate; John Whitehead, J.W. designate; Capt. J. Parke Airey, G. Steward; H. E. Campbell Beaver; Robert Berridge, P.G.M.O., G.D.C.; and George Henderson. Amongst the visitors we noticed Bro. General W. Laurie, P.G.M. Nova Scotia; Major Ball, 361; and T. E. Biddecombe, G. Stwd., as Organist.

The consecration ceremony having been most impressively performed by Bro.

Lord Euston, Bro. C. F. Matier was installed in the chair by Bro. W. C. Gilles, and invested his officers as follows: Bro. the Earl of Euston, as I.P.M.; John Whitehead, J.W.; H. E. Campbell Beaver, M.O.; J. P. Airey, S.O.; J. MacDonald, J.O.; R. Berridge, Treas.; George Henderson, Sec.; Col. T. Tully, S.D.; and Joseph Whitehead, J.D. Bro. Vero Shaw, the S.W. designate, being unfortunately prevented from being present, owing to a serious illness in his family, his investiture was postponed.

The W.M. proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Consecrating Officers, who had so ably discharged the duties so kindly accepted by them, and added to his proposition that they be elected honorary members of the lodge.

This was unanimously carried by acclamation.

Bro. General WIMBURNE LAURIE, P.G.M. Nova Scotia, was likewise elected an honorary member of the lodge, and returned thanks for the honour done him.

In the earlier part of the evening Bro. James MacDonald, 1910; Col. T. Tully, 2319; Joseph Whitehead, 2319; and W. A. Baskcomb, 2127, were duly advanced to the Honourable Degree of Mark Master Mason by Bro. C. F. Matier.

The brethren subsequently adjourned to the banqueting hall, where a most *recherché* banquet was supplied by Bro. Clemow, of Anderton's Hotel, the proceedings being enlivened by the strains of the lodge's piper. The usual patriotic and fraternal toasts having been duly honoured, and some excellent singing having been thoroughly enjoyed by those present, the party broke up, after having spent a most pleasant and profitable evening beneath the hospitable roof of the Scots Mark Masters' Lodge.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT AT THE GRAND LODGE OF INDIA.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of All Scottish Freemasonry in India was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Byculla, on Monday evening, December 2nd, when H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught was presented with the patent of his appointment as honorary Past Grand Master of All Scottish Freemasonry in India. Sir Henry Morland, the Grand Master, presided at the meeting, which formed one of the grandest Masonic gatherings ever witnessed in Bombay. The costliest preparations had been made for the occasion. The front compound was beautiful, especially under the porch, with arcades of palm leaves and evergreens; and frameworks of tumbler-lights and coloured lanterns picked out the principal outlines of the Masonic Hall and its grounds. Bunting was very liberally utilised, and flags and banners waved aloft in all directions. The reception hall on the ground floor was embellished with Masonic designs and mottoes, with ornamental screens of various shades and colours, and arcades of evergreens, garnished with festoons and lines of lovely flowers. The main staircase leading to the lodge room was decorated with lines of plants in flower and foliage in ornamental flower-pots, and from the top of the staircase to the furthest end of the hall the wealth of Masonic embellishments was particularly noticeable. Each lodge sent its contribution to the general attraction in the shape of elegant banners, under which the brethren of the respective lodges were accommodated. There were present representatives of 31 Scottish lodges working under the Grand Lodge in different parts of India, and others belonging to lodges working under the English Constitution in Bombay.

The Grand Master and his principal Grand Officers were early in their attendance, their breasts decorated with many jewels and medals of different Degrees. The members of the daughter lodges took their seats in the lodge-room under their respective banners. Soon after the Grand Master, with his Grand Officers, entered the lodge room in procession, and opened the proceedings of the evening. Distinguished visitors were then presented to the Grand Master, who welcomed them cordially. Meanwhile, the Officers of the District Grand Lodge of Bombay had assembled in the lower hall, and were awaiting the arrival of the District Grand Master of Bombay, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught. Upon the duke's carriage arriving in sight, the trumpeters sounded a *fanfare* on their trumpets, and his Royal Highness was escorted from the gate to the entrance porch by the pipers of the 2nd Scottish Rifles (Cameronians), specially brought down from Lucknow at the Reception Committee's expense; and as he left his carriage, attended by Colonel Cavaye, his military secretary, and Colonel Becher, equerry-in-waiting, the band of the 2nd Gloucester regiment played the National Anthem. His Royal Highness was received in the landing and conducted to his robing room by the Committee of Reception, which consisted of Bro. J. W. Smith, Chairman; and Bros. K. R. Cama, M. C. Murzban, J. D. Wadia, D. R. Chichgar, Major Babington Peile, Messrs. C. D. Furdonjee, Darashaw S. Taraporwalla, P. N. Wadia, Framjee D. Petit, A. W. Seabrooke, N. M. Pandey, B. V. Kirtikar, R. M. Patel, and W. T. Smith. Accompanied by his officers, and preceded by the Committee of Reception, the District Grand Master soon after entered the lodge room in procession, and, after certain formalities, was presented by the Grand Master with the patent of his appointment as honorary Past Grand Master of All Scottish Freemasonry in India.

The GRAND MASTER, addressing his Royal Highness, expressed a hope that the golden chain of sympathy which had so long united the English and Scottish Constitutions in that Presidency would always remain unbroken, and that the great principles of Freemasonry would be sure means of diffusing light, truth, love, and benevolence among the several communities of this vast Empire, and of inducing men to distinguish themselves with good deeds for the benefit of their fellow-men.

Bro. Dr. K. R. KIRTIKAR, the Grand Bard, then recited the following sonnet of welcome to his Royal Highness:

Great Prince! we greet thee not as Albion's Son
Shining refulgent midst her Royal stars;
Nor as our Warrior-Guide—our Guardian-Mars;
Thy meed of praise as such is duly won
Elsewhere. A Brother thee we greet with one
United voice, for birth nor rank debars
Thee from our fellowship! Such meekness jars
Not with thy height, nor leaves thy might undone.
We welcome thee with all the loyal love
That binds us to our genial Master's throne!
Fondly will memory cling around this night
And teach our sons that Masons rise above
The common surge of life; no factions own
But travel all from Darkness into Light.

The Duke of CONNAUGHT returned thanks for the warm reception accorded to him. They all felt, no doubt, that in their fraternity, and among the brethren in general, goodwill and fellowship and Charity must be the guiding star. He thanked the Grand Master for the honour, the compliment, and the pleasure he had done him; and he was too pleased to be able to come that night to accept the compliment the Grand Master had so readily offered him.

The Grand Master then appointed Bros. Col. Cavaye and Col. Becher honorary members of the Grand Lodge, to mark the occasion of the visit of his Royal Highness, and invested them with the appropriate jewels of their rank.

Bros. Col. CAVAYE and Col. BECHER returned thanks in suitable terms.

The Grand Officers for the ensuing year having been appointed and invested, and some other business having been gone through, the GRAND SECRETARY read a letter from Mr. Framjee Dinshaw Petit, eldest son of the Hon. Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit, offering Government promissory notes for 1500 rupees, as a permanent fund, to be called the "Framjee Dinshaw Petit Fund," in commemoration of the visit to the Grand Lodge of his Royal Highness the Duke of

Connaught, the interest to be applied towards the maintenance, support, and education of poor and destitute orphans of Masons.

The GRAND MASTER thanked Mr. Framjee Dinshaw Petit in person for his munificent gift, remarking that he had been really following in the footsteps of his worthy and distinguished father, and promising that the gift would be carefully and duly applied.

The brethren afterwards adjourned to the banquet.

During dinner the pipers of the Cameronians played at intervals a selection of marches, reels, and strathspeys. The band of the Gloucester Regiment also played a select programme of music during the evening. The musical arrangements were made by Mr. G. W. Roughton. Several speeches were delivered at the banquet table in connection with the toasts.

The GRAND MASTER, who was very warmly received, rose to give the first toast of obligation, which was that of "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress and the Craft." He said he was sure that her Majesty had no more loyal subjects in her vast dominions than the Freemasons. That her Majesty was deeply sensible of the loyalty of Freemasons was exemplified by the fact that he had heard with pleasure at a meeting of prominent Masons just before he left England for Bombay that the Queen-Empress was about to become the Patroness of Freemasonry in England. He had made use of such slight persuasive arguments as he possessed to induce the Grand Lodge of Scotland to ask her Majesty also to undertake the patronage of the Scottish Freemasonry, and to move the G.L. of Ireland in a similar way, so that in course of time they might hope to have one Grand Lodge for the United Kingdom, and be bound by the same bonds of brotherhood as they were at present under the different constitutions.

The toast was most enthusiastically responded to, the band playing "God save the Queen."

The GRAND MASTER then gave the next toast, which was that of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, and Patron of Scottish Freemasonry." He begged, he said, to point out that a closer line of association had been drawn between the English and Scottish Freemasonry by the fact that her Royal Highness the Princess Louise had been married to his Grace the Duke of Fife, who was the Provincial Grand Master of Banffshire. In course of time the Duke of Fife would assume the duties of Depute Grand Master of Scottish Freemasonry, and in the year succeeding they would see him installed as Grand Master on the throne of Scottish Freemasonry. This fact alone should commend itself to the brethren the toast of the Prince of Wales, which he (the Grand Master) hoped would be acknowledged with an enthusiasm it so well deserved.

The toast was cordially acknowledged, the band playing "God Bless the Prince of Wales."

The GRAND MASTER then proposed the toast of "The Grand Master of Scotland, Sir Archibald Campbell of Blytheswood, and the Grand Master of Ireland, the Duke of Abercorn." In connection with this toast the Grand Master said that the Grand Master of Scotland was about to organise a bazaar on a large scale for the benefit of the Scottish Benevolent Society attached to the Grand Lodge, and he (the Grand Master) said that contributions in the shape of Indian curiosities and Indian art works, which were expected to fetch good prices, would be thankfully received.

The toast was cordially accepted, the band playing "Bonnie Dundee."

The GRAND MASTER, who was received with cheers, said: Brethren,—The next toast that I have to propose is the toast of the evening, "The Health of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, the District Grand Master of Bombay." The applause with which you have received the toast assures me that, however wanting I may be in expressing my sentiments, the sense of enthusiasm which inspires the whole of you on this occasion will enable you to receive this toast in a manner which it so well deserves, considering the high position of the District Grand Master, whom we entertain to-night. We drink his Royal Highness's health on this occasion, not only as the District Grand Master of Bombay, but also as an honorary Past Grand Master of All Scottish Freemasonry in India, and an honorary member of the Grand Lodge to which we owe our allegiance. He has come among us, brethren, as a Mason who understands the whole theory and the whole principle which actuate our Order. His Royal Highness has at his heart the interest of Freemasonry generally, and he has always been ready during the time of his incumbency here to support Freemasonry in its integrity and the great principles that we acknowledge. We have learnt, brethren, to regard him as the ruling light than whom no better could have been chosen to rule over this Presidency, and we look on the period during which he has held the high office as one strengthening the bond of union between the brethren working under the Constitutions of England and Scotland in this great Presidency. I have expressed the sentiments that I entertain with regard to this warm interchange of friendship between the two Constitutions, and I know that his Royal Highness entertains the same views. Freemasonry has the power of blending the different castes and religions of this vast continent, and those who belong to it have for their aim brotherly love, truth, and benevolence. I feel that if we were to spread Freemasonry wider and wider throughout this country, we shall be doing a noble and a great act for the various races that inhabit it. I do not wish to dwell longer on the benefits of Freemasonry, because I feel sure that his Royal Highness will, in reply, have something more to say on the subject. With these few observations, I now give you the toast of his Royal Highness the District Grand Master of Bombay, which I trust you will receive with all the honours his high position deserves.

The toast was drunk amidst vociferous cheers, the band playing "St. Patrick's Day." One more cheer was given for the Duchess. All in an instant the Duke, sitting in his chair, was greeted with a shower of roses and sweet-smelling flowers, which fell upon him by the working of a mechanical arrangement upon a crown-shaped receptacle hanging over his Royal Highness's head.

H.R.H. the Duke of CONNAUGHT, who was received with loud and prolonged cheers, said: Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren,—You may have often heard of a person who was supposed to be in a bed of roses. I think I am perhaps one of the few who have ever been in one. That, brethren, must be my excuse for the peculiar appearance that I possess in returning thanks for the toast. I am exceedingly grateful to you, Sir, for the very cordial manner in which you have proposed the toast of my health, and to you, brethren of the Scottish Constitution, for the manner in which you have received me here to-day. This has been a long promised visit of mine, and I only regret that circumstances over which I had no control prevented my coming sooner, but I hope you will understand from my presence here to-night how determined I was that this visit should not be put off any longer than it was necessary. I can assure you that I have been deeply touched with the warmth of your reception. I agree with your distinguished and excellent Grand Master, how important it is that the two constitutions, the Scotch and the English, should work hand in hand together. It has always been a source of deep regret to me whenever I have heard of any divergence of feelings or opinions on a point on which we can certainly be at one. I think from all we have heard, and I am sure from all we feel, that we have no reason to differ on any point. We all have the same feelings, we all are prompted by the same noble desires, namely, to live in brotherly fellowship and harmony one with another, and to do all we can to promote the great interest of the Craft by doing all we can to help those who are in sorrow and distress. With such feelings as exist in both the constitutions, I cannot for a moment think that any difference could last any longer. I am certain that ever since I have been called to the high position of the District Grand Master of Bombay, it has been my utmost endeavour to show on every possible occasion how thoroughly I was in harmony with the sister Grand Lodge. From what we have heard from the Grand Master, we know that our Gracious Sovereign is to be the

Patron of English Freemasonry, and that we have every hope that her Majesty will also be the patron of Scottish and Irish Freemasonry. I think you may look forward, if I may so, almost to a new era of happiness and of brightness in the future of the Craft, if our Sovereign were to be at the head of the Freemasons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and her great dependencies, because it will then have a deep effect and carry great weight with all who belong to the Craft. I am certain that one placed as I am, the son of our Sovereign, I am sure I may say with safety and with confidence, that knowing as I do the very strong feelings that my brother the Prince of Wales holds—the great respect that he has for Freemasonry—I am certain that with the Queen-Empress as our Patron, and the Prince of Wales as the Grand Master of the English Constitution, we will carry all the other constitutions together with us. I am most deeply indebted to you, brethren, for the very warm reception I have met with at your hands, and I am sure that I will never forget the great cordiality with which I have been received this evening, and especially not the roses.

H.R.H. the Duke of CONNAUGHT then proposed the toast of "Sir Henry Morland, the Grand Master of All Scottish Freemasonry in India." He said: Brethren,—It is difficult in the presence of the Grand Master, and as his guest, to say what I would wish on the subject of this toast. However, from what has fallen from his own lips, I think I may safely say that he went home with a great object, and we hope that he has come back with the object very nearly fulfilled. We have heard how much he has laboured towards bringing together of the different constitutions; we have heard how he saw all the principal officers, both of the English and Scottish Constitutions; and we have also heard from his lips how he hoped that some little passing difficulties that had existed would be finished for ever. That being the case, we owe the Grand Master a deep debt of gratitude, and I am sure that what he has done will enhance his popularity. I am indeed sensible of the right hand of fellowship that he has so warmly extended to me this evening, and I thank him for the very great kindness he has shown me personally, and also as the District Grand Master of Bombay.

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm, the band playing "The Campbells are coming."

The GRAND MASTER, in reply, said that he was deeply sensible of the great honour that had been done him that evening by his Royal Highness proposing his toast, which had been so enthusiastically received by the brethren. He felt that he was wanting in merits to deserve all encomiums and the kind words that had fallen from the District Grand Master. He might say that he had done all he could for several years past to promote the best interests of Freemasonry, and would yield to none in his enthusiasm for the same. Although he felt that the kind words that had fallen from his Royal Highness were not his due, he was sure that they would induce him to make more strenuous efforts in the future to deserve them. In conclusion, he thanked the brethren and the lodges working under his jurisdiction for their support in according to his Royal Highness the District Grand Master a reception due to his high position in life as well as in the Craft.

Bro. K. R. CAMA, the Depute Grand Master, proposed the toast of "The Depute District Grand Master, Bro. Harold R. King, and the Officers of the District Grand Lodge." He said that the best proof of the harmonious working of the two Masonic constitutions in Bombay was the fact that they all met under one roof, the conduct of affairs being entrusted to a Committee composed of brethren from both constitutions, and presided over by no less a man than Bro. J. W. Smith, who, as they all knew, was a true and trusty Mason. If another proof were required, it was the desire of the two Grand Masters to build a temple of their own, where the two constitutions might meet together; and it was with that view that they had applied to Government for a piece of land on the Esplanade, which it was hoped, the Government would give on certain terms. He hoped that before H.R.H. the District Grand Master left Bombay in the beginning of the next year, he would see that the site was purchased, and that the corner-stone of the building was laid by him previous to his departure to England. Speaking about the benefits derived from Freemasonry, Bro. Cama said that the Order knew no distinction of caste, colour, creed, clime, or country, but that it was universal, and ought to be extended in every direction. He expressed his gratification at seeing Europeans, Parsees, Hindoos of all sects and denominations, Mahomedans, and Jews extending to each other the right hand of fellowship, and sitting at the same table to dine. He coupled with the toast the names of Bros. the Hon. Justice Parsons, Col. Lloyd, and Hussey, the last of whom, he said, was a very old and tried Mason, having served for 20 years as Secretary to the District Grand Lodge.

The toast was cordially received, the band playing "He is a jolly good fellow." The name of Bro. Harold R. King was not coupled with the toast as he was not present at the banquet, though he attended the earlier part of the proceedings.

Bro. the Hon. Justice PARSONS thanked the Grand Master for his splendid hospitality, and said that he envied him—not in the invidious sense of the term—for the great success he had attained in Freemasonry. He agreed with the Grand Master when he said that in India they ought to have one general lodge working together for the good of Freemasonry. He was glad to observe that the Grand Master had been able to make the Scotch Freemasonry a success all over the country wherever his jurisdiction extended.

Bro. Col. LLOYD, in speaking about the amalgamation of the two constitutions, said that being a comparatively young Mason, he had not opportunities of judging the merits of the question, but it seemed to him that the only way to do it was to begin in a small way, because he thought that universal Masonry would be somewhere before the millennium.

Bro. HOUSEY also thanked the Grand Master for his kind hospitality and coupling his name with the toast.

The GRAND MASTER then gave the toast of "The Depute and Substitute Grand Masters and Officers of his Grand Lodge," and in doing so observed that the success of that night was entirely due to the members of the Grand Lodge, particularly to Bros. Khan Bahadoor Murzban, Darasha R. Chichgar, and Roughton. He owed those brethren a deep debt of gratitude for the kind and hearty manner in which they came forward to support him. His Grand Officers had never failed him on any occasion that he required their assistance.

The toast was warmly received, the band playing "The Blue Bells of Scotland."

Bros. BABINGTON PELLE, KHAN BAHADOOR MURZBAN, and D. R. CHICHGAR responded to the toast, the latter stating that the credit of the success was due, among others, to Bros. C. D. Furdonjee, Hepworth, Roughton, and N. J. Guzdar.

The GRAND MASTER then proposed the toast of "The Visitors," coupling with it the names of Bros. Sir John M. S. Maxwell and Col. Collingwood.

The toast was duly accepted, the band playing "Come lasses and lads."

Bro. Sir JOHN MAXWELL, in responding to the toast, said that he was a Scotchman himself, and it was very interesting to him to come to India and to find another larger Scotland, and it was very gratifying to him to see his national music played by the Highlanders in and about the marquee. He would, he said, always entertain cordial wishes for his brethren in India.

Bro. Col. COLLINGWOOD also briefly replied.

H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught here left the marquee amidst loud and continuous cheers, the Grand Master and his Grand Officers accompanying him as far as the porch. As the Duke drove away he was again loudly cheered.

The GRAND MASTER, after resuming his seat, gave the toast of "The Ladies," saying that the wives and daughters of some of the prominent members of the Grand Lodge had rendered good assistance in arranging the floral and other decorations.

The Tyler's toast having been drunk in solemn silence, the brethren separated at a very late hour in the night.

"THE LETTER AND THE SPIRIT."

The following sermon was preached in St. James' Church, Vancouver, before the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, by the Right Rev. and V.W. Bro. A. W. Sillitoe, D.D., Lord Bishop of New Westminster, Grand Chaplain:

The Letter killeth but the Spirit giveth life.— 2 Cor., iii., 6.

I trust, brethren, that I may not be deemed impertinent if I venture to break away, this morning, from a line of thought which has almost become consecrated by long use on these occasions, viz., the historical view of Masonry, and devote my time, and ask your attention to the consideration of the practical teaching of Masonry; the beauty of its precepts, and the nobility of its purpose, and the influence which these ought to exert upon the lives of Masons, when due diligence is applied to the study of them. This, it appears to me, will be more profitable to us than a dissertation on the antiquity of Masonry, about which we are all of us agreed. We are familiar with its claim in this respect, and we are not concerned with those who doubt it; but not the antiquity of the world itself would lend lustre to any Institution, irrespective of its teaching and practice, and the consideration of these, therefore, will be both more instructive, and more interesting, as well to yourselves, brethren, as to others who hear me. Not that I will be guilty of the presumption of supposing that with regard to the moral precepts of Masonry I can teach anything to those who are so much more competent to be my teachers, or that I can throw new light upon, or add new force to those sublime lectures wherein its beauties are gradually unfolded to the enquiring mind, but a truth is often emphasised by being presented in a new aspect, and I can, at least, point out the practical application to the personal life, without which, the truth, however beautifully portrayed, or perfectly illustrated, fails in the accomplishment of the Will of its Divine Author. For Masonry is excellent, not only, and even not so much, in its conception, or in its plan, as in its effects. It was the completed Temple which excited the wonder and admiration of our ancient brethren, and it is the perfect and upright man, true to his Maker, true to himself, and true to his brother, who demonstrates in his daily life the truth of those principles which constitute the foundation stones of the progressive teaching of our art. For it is not enough that no atheist, or wantonly irreligious man can find a place amongst us; nor is it enough that the doctrine of the resurrection to a future life is embodied in the landmarks of our Order. Something more than this is necessary. We want the superstructure as well as the foundation; we want the pinnacle as well as the corner stone. And my anxious desire to-day is to impress upon you all the solemn obligation that is laid upon each of us by the true spirit of Masonry of making daily progress with the spiritual temple of the heart, the moral edification of a perfect man. Not a mere progress of degrees, or of offices, as if these could in themselves supply a deficiency of honor or dignity in the holder of them, but a progress of the inner man in knowledge and virtue, the gradual subjugation of every evil thought and unruly passion, the preparation of the heart as a fit dwelling place for the All Holy God. Let me take now three several points, and, briefly noticing what Masonry teaches with regard to them, examine the practical application of its teachings to our lives. And, first, the teaching of Masonry as regards the Holy Name, and the Word of God. At the very threshold of their Masonic career are our candidates taught that the blessing and protection of the Almighty are necessary to the successful prosecution of every work. And acting upon this principle, and believing that where two or three are gathered together in His name He will be in the midst of them, we make our supplications, and offer to Him our thanksgivings for the light and knowledge He vouchsafes to us. And so inestimably do we regard the Sacred Name, that it is with the utmost caution and the most profound reverence that we approach the utterance of it, veiling it, indeed, in its most sacred form, till, after many a probation and trial, a brother has been found worthy to be entrusted with it. With equal regard and reverence do we esteem the Word of God. So that no lodge of Masons is complete without the sacred volume, and we apply to it the highest title we possess in the description of the place it occupies in the science of Masonry. It is the first thing upon which the eye of the newly-initiated rests, and it is the last thing to which the attention of the brethren is directed when they rest from their labours. Brethren, nothing can be more true, nothing can be more profitable than this teaching. But then my duty is to ask you, as brother Masons, not, do you accept this teaching outwardly, because I know you do, but do you act upon it? Do you carry away this teaching in your hearts, as you are intended to do, and apply it, as a rule, to every action of your life? Is God in all your thoughts? Is He so set always before you that there is nothing your hand findeth to do but what His blessing shines upon you, His sustaining arm strengthens you? I am speaking of your secular life, not your religious life; and I ask you, do you, in every new enterprise, or in the pursuance of every old one, in every fresh undertaking, do you acknowledge Him as the only Giver of blessing, the only Author of success, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy? Do you so live in His presence, that, without an effort, as it were by very instinct, your heart and mind are lifted up seven times a day in acknowledgment of His Sovereignty and in recognition of His care? This

indeed is to "walk with Him," and to walk with Him is to walk securely, to fear no evil, and to have the assurance of success. But this hourly uplifting of the heart to God, this delight in His presence is a matter of cultivation; and it is not of natural growth, but spiritual. It is the result of an intimate acquaintance with God as He reveals Himself in His word; and it is by making that word a "light unto our feet, and a lantern unto our paths," that we learn the pleasure of serving Him, and the joy that flows eternally from His love. Every Mason, therefore, who would be true to his profession is bound to be a diligent student of the Holy Book; not satisfied with merely gazing on it as it occupies its conspicuous position of honour in the midst of the lodge, but truly making it the handbook of his daily life, learning therein the beginning of wisdom, which is the fear of God, not a servile or conscience-stricken fear, but a holy, reverential awe, such as is due from a creature to his Creator, from a son to the Almighty Father of all, and learning so to fashion his life according to its precepts, that, when the time of eternal refreshment arrives, he may receive his share of the inheritance of "just men made perfect." My second point is the teaching of Masonry in regard to brotherly love; and about this, thank God, there is but little to say, inasmuch as, whatever may be our failings and shortcomings in other respects, love is the predominating character of Masonic life, whether we view it in the calm serenity of the lodge, or in its relation to worthy distressed brethren without. I know nothing that so truly emphasises the good that still remains in our fallen and corrupt nature as the mutual forbearance, the patient tolerance, and the harmony that distinguish meetings of the Fraternity, even on occasions when there is room for wide divergence of opinion. The very atmosphere of the lodge seems laden with goodwill, and it is as if the Spirit of peace and of love made this His special dwelling place. A part of this is due, no doubt, to the solemn dedication of our halls in the name of the Most High, and to the honour of His glory; but I believe that in greater measure it is due to the spirit of Masonry itself; to those cords of love which bind us together more firmly than could any material bands, and which, if they only prevailed more generally, would make "wars to cease in all the world, and break the bow, and snap the spear asunder," and bring in the reign of peace and purity and love. This reign, dear brethren, you and I may not live to see, though I for my part do not deem it very far distant; but, at least, it is our duty each to do his part, according to his vocation and ministry, to prepare the way for the Prince of peace, and the accomplishment of God's great design in the ultimate unity of creation. And to this end we need do no more than steadfastly and faithfully carry out the precepts of our Order. Our obligations as Masons extend to all mankind. We are in an especial manner, no doubt, bound to our brethren in the Craft, but all others are our brethren besides. Love is an infinite thing, and it is beyond our power, as it is beyond our prerogative, to limit it; for, if we limit it, it ceases to be. And, therefore, the love wherewith we love our brethren of the mystic family must be ready to include all men alike, and to exert itself on their behalf freely and ungrudgingly, even as the love of God is bountifully poured out upon ourselves. My third point concerns the teaching of Masonry regarding man's duty to himself. We descend here to a lower plane than those we have occupied hitherto, and yet, when we remember the end and purpose of our being, viz., the glory of God, it is scarcely possible to regard this branch of our subject as of lower importance than the others. It is a difficult thing, no doubt, when we look around and see the lives that are being lived by multitudes of our fellowmen, to realise that the image of God is stamped upon us, and that for his glory we are and were created; but this is so, and the fact discloses the terrible and incomprehensible truth, that every wasted life robs God of a proportion of His eternal glory. Yes, brethren, and it discloses this truth as well, that every life that falls short of the possibility of attainment wherewith God has endowed it is a humanly wrought failure of the omnipotent design and will. There are those who in His inscrutable wisdom He has left in the darkness of ignorance concerning themselves and Him; for them He will make excuse. It is not so with ourselves. We have the light. We make our boast of the light. And, therefore, if we be not walking in the light, we are stultifying ourselves, we are doing violence to our consciences, and we are mocking the Author of light. What then does our light teach us in this respect? It teaches the necessity and importance of self control. It teaches us to put such constraint upon our affections and passions as will bring the body into subjection, and set the mind and spirit above all the allurements of vice. It warns us of the weakness of human nature, unable of itself to withstand the power of darkness, and needing the assistance of that "Power which is from above." It teaches us that life is a school of discipline whereby the rough corners of our characters are to be broken off, and every jagged edge and rude unevenness made smooth; that so we may be fitted to take our places as "living stones" in that "house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." It teaches us, moreover, that this task of self-improvement is a hard and difficult and weary one, like the toilsome ascent of a winding stair, up which, step by step, we must go, daily being strengthened by an increase of knowledge, and the increase of virtue that comes from the nearer approach to God. It teaches us that the Masonic life is a life of special dedication to the service of God, that it is so confessed in the first prayer offered a candidate within

the lodge; and it is further so implied in the fact of the dedications of our halls; for if the material building be dedicated, how much more should they themselves be who dare to dedicate a building to the Most High? For if the temple be holy, so must they be who serve therein. And, brethren, the holiness which we are taught to cultivate within our lodges must sanctify our whole life in the world, as well as in the lodge. We cannot pretend to have a dual existence, one as Masons, another as men. We must be upright men, altogether, and at all times, or we are not true to the Craft, to ourselves, or to God. And this, then, is the conclusion I wish to draw: there must be a reality in all that we do. Masonry must not be a mere profession of morality with the lips, without the solid foundation of moral life. We must not clothe ourselves with the emblem of innocence, and then put off innocence when we put off the emblem. We must not one moment be giving expression to the sublimest sentiments of religion and morality, and the moment after become mere children of this world. Masonry is not a pastime, nor the lodge a club. We are souls in search of the light whereby we may see and know God, and it is by keeping this object in view that Masonry will prosper, and Masons be built up in virtue and in truth. Even our best endeavours will but ill prepare us for the presence of the Grand Master, but half-heartedness and lukewarmness, and unreality doom beforehand to disappointment hereafter, and only merit here the contempt of all earnest and straightforward men. A Mason at certain times must needs be slipshod, but Masonry itself should never be slipshod. With a perfect being to glorify, and perfection to aim at in ourselves, how can we be anything but profoundly and solemnly in earnest? Let the spirit of Masonry, then, prevail in our hearts and in our lives. Let the beauty and harmony and unity of our Order be conspicuous in all we do. Let all the world be better for the good that resides in Masons. Let us in the lodge and in the world be real, and true to God, to our neighbours, and to ourselves.

CHRISTMAS DAY.

At the Field-lane Institution, Vine-street, Clerkenwell-road, recently, upwards of 700 of the poorest people were entertained with a substantial dinner. They were a motley looking company, and obtained admission by being attendants at the Ragged Church service held at the institution every Sunday morning. Each guest had received an invitation last Sunday at the service. The whole of these people may be said to be homeless, living principally in the lodging-houses and casual wards, but their behaviour on this occasion was all that could be desired. By 10 o'clock the people began to arrive at the doors in twos and threes, and as they came they were admitted, no one having a ticket being kept waiting. By 11 o'clock a large company had assembled, and a short service was then commenced. Addresses were delivered, and hymns were sung, and several pieces were rendered by the choir of the institution, which was conducted by Mr. Evans. Dinner was served at 12 o'clock. About 100 ladies and gentlemen attended to carve and wait upon the guests, and the joints of beef and the potatoes were brought from the kitchen by a stream of men who were inmates of the refuges. The following are the details of the viands consumed: 496lb. of beef, 600lb. of plum pudding, seven sacks of potatoes, 150 quartern loaves, and 700 oranges. The rooms of the institute were suitably decorated with evergreens and appropriate texts of Scripture. The Committee also gave the provision for a similar feast to poor families living in the neighbourhood of the charity. The entire cost of these Christmas treats is paid by voluntary offerings to which many Masonic brethren contributed. Mr. Peregrine Platt, the energetic Secretary, like Oliver Twist, is asking for more, in the shape of money, to entertain some 1000 City arabs to a similar feast early in the year.

Order of the Secret Monitor.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

George Andrews Conclave (No. 11).—A meeting was held on Wednesday, December 18th, at the Holborn Restaurant. Present: Bros. J. G. Thomas, S.R.; R. T. Stringer, C.; E. G. Bax, G.; W. Andrews, Treas.; J. J. Pakes, P.G. Gdr., Sec.; Waghorn, Stwd.; W. Martin, N. Brokenshire, Dandridge, and A. Dealer, V.D.'s; Vohmann, D.C.; Walkley, Sentinel; and F. Walden. Visitors: Bros. I. Zacharie, G.S.R.; Horatio H. Shirley, G.V.; and Charles B. Cooper, and Edwin Storr, G. Stewards. The conclave having been opened, by the unanimous wish of the brethren, Bro. Horatio Shirley occupied the chair of S.R. Bro. R. T. Stringer, S.R. elect, was admitted to the Second Degree. Bro. J. J. Pakes, P.G. Gdr., assumed the chair for the purpose of installing Bro. R. T. Stringer. The G.S.R., Bro. Dr. Zacharie, assisted in a portion of the ceremony. Bro. R. T. Stringer, the newly-installed S.R., was unanimously elected as Grand Steward to represent the conclave for the ensuing year. At the subsequent banquet the usual toasts were duly honoured. In responding to the toast of "The G.S.R.," Bro. Dr. Zacharie spoke of the very rapid strides the Order was making in all parts of the globe, and expressed the great gratification he felt at being present to witness the excellent manner in which Bro. Shirley had performed the ceremony of the Second Degree, and Bro. Pakes the ceremony of installation.

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December 19th, 1889.

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To Correspondents.

The following communications unavoidably stand over:

CRAFT LODGES—York, No. 234; Excelsior, No. 1042.

INSTRUCTION—Ranelagh, No. 834; Kensington, No. 1767; Duke of Cornwall, No. 1839.

OBITUARY—Bro. W. Cole Brasher, I.P.M. 1623.

POETRY—The Two Temples.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Nottinghamshire.

New Year's Entertainment at the R.M.B.I. at Croydon.

Dinner to Bro. J. H. Meyer.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"New Zealand Craftsman," "South African Freemason," "Madras Masonic Review," "The Tyler," "Die Bauhutte," and "Masonic Chronicle" (Ohio).



SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1890.

Masonic Notes.

The members of St. James' Lodge, No. 424, (S.C.), Hawick, celebrated the annual festival of St. John, by a torchlight procession on the night of the 27th ult., the brethren turning out to the number of 48. The Rev. Stewart Burns, M.A., the newly elected Chaplain, in the course of a sermon to the brethren in St. Mary's Church, spoke of the relation of churches to Freemasonry. There were three courses open—the church might either absolutely condemn it, and that was the position taken up by the Roman Catholic Church—or the church might regard Freemasonry with absolute indifference, and that position had been taken up by the Protestant Church. He did not think such indifference a sign of wisdom. He thought if there was any good to be done by a movement like Freemasonry, it would be well for the church to recognise and foster the good.

* * *

Our reverend brother's statement is certainly true with regard to the position of the Roman Church, but is he correct in saying that the Protestant Church is absolutely indifferent to the claims of Freemasonry? We think not, at least on this side of the Tweed. We venture to think the clergy of the Church of England are as largely represented in the ranks of the Craft as any other class, and their influence must make itself felt to a greater extent than could be gauged by mere numbers.

* * *

At the regular Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, in the Masonic Hall, Philadelphia, on Wednesday, December 4th, Bro. Clifford P. MacCalla was re-elected Grand Master for the ensuing year, as also were the following, viz.: Bros. the Hon. L. Sampson Africa, Dep. G.M.; the Hon. Michael Arnold, S.G.W.; M. H. Henderson, J.G.W.; Thomas R. Patton, G. Treas.; and Michael Nisbet, G. Secretary.

At the 41st annual convocation, at Indianapolis, in October last, of the Grand Chapter of Indiana, the G.H.P. announced that Comp. J. M. Bramwell had resigned the office of Grand Secretary, owing to his advanced age and continued illness, and the appointment of Comp. W. H. Smythe as his successor. We are aware that Bro. Bramwell has been for many years one of the great lights of Freemasonry in Indiana, and we are sure he will carry with him into his retirement the sympathy and kind wishes of his brethren.

* * *

The Masonic Hall in Philadelphia is now lighted by electricity—the contracts with the Edison Electric Light Company and the Thackeray Manufacturing Company having been completed on the 24th November—and it was on the evening of the same day that the various rooms in the Hall were thus lighted for the first time. The effect is described by the *Keystone* as having been brilliant, there being a marked increase of light, which, as it is a non-heatgiving illuminant, our contemporary thinks will afford no excuse for absence from the meetings held during the warmer months of the year.

* * *

The *Voice of Masonry*, in speaking of the Report on Correspondence presented to the Grand Lodge of Missouri at its annual communication in October, discovers its compiler, Bro. the Rev. John D. Voneil, Grand Secretary, as being, according to the opinions he has himself expressed, in favour of public installations, opposed to the requirement of absolute physical perfection in candidates for admission to the various Degrees, opposed to saloon keeping, and as believing that the time is not far distant when the rage for fine temples will be succeeded by a rage for homes for the widows and orphans of Masons.

* * *

The corner-stone of the new Soldiers' Home, now in process of erection at Hot Springs, South Dakota, was laid with Masonic ceremonial on the 11th November, the duty being very ably fulfilled by Bro. George V. Ayres, G.M., assisted by his Grand Officers, the oration being delivered by Col. M. Price. The home is described as being, or as likely to be, an elegant structure.

* * *

The actual number of lodges on the roll of our United Grand Lodge is 1949, while the highest number is 2332, the difference between the two—namely, 385—representing the number of lodges which have become defunct or have transferred their allegiance to the newly formed Grand Lodges in other parts of the Empire. The Grand Lodges of South Australia, New South Wales and Victoria alone have caused a reduction in number amounting to a round 200, and in the event of the projects for establishing Grand Lodges in Queensland and New Zealand being carried to a successful issue, there will be a further reduction of about 100 lodges. We do not think there is another Grand Lodge in the world that could have borne so large a decrease and yet exhibit so formidable a muster roll.

* * *

It seems that it is not in England only that the clergy have been condemning Freemasonry. The *Canadian Craftsman* tells us that early in November last, several clergymen attended a meeting at Elgin, Illinois, of the Illinois Christian Association, and that in an address of welcome the Rev. George R. Milton, of Elgin, spoke strongly against Masonry, but not against Masons, several of whom were present. Other clergymen delivered addresses on the "Drudgery of Lodges," and there was a prize offered for the best essay on the "Pernicious Influences of Secret Societies."

* * *

Our worthy contemporary considered it not improbable that the clergymen who thus violently denounced Masonry must at some time or other have been found "unsuitable material for the Masonic Edifice."

* * *

There are 85 chapters on the roll of the Grand Chapter of Indiana, with a total membership of 5271, and the state of the funds is satisfactory. The G.H.P. for the present year is Comp. Elmer Crockett, while Comp. W. H. Smythe remains at his post as Grand Secretary.

* * *

The following brethren were elected Officers of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky at its annual meeting at Louisville on the 22nd October, namely: Bros. W. W. Clarke, M.W.G.M.; Charles H. Fisk, D.P.G.M.; James A. McKenzie, S.G.W.; J. S. Smith, J.G.W.; John H. Leathers, G. Treas.; and H. B. Grant, G. Secretary.

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.]

THE GRAND LODGE MOVEMENT IN NEW ZEALAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The *Freemason* has in recent months devoted a great deal of space to discussing the Grand Lodge movements in New Zealand, Queensland, and Tasmania, and in all these cases has in plain terms declared itself as strongly opposed to the erection of Grand Lodges in those colonies. This, of course, causes no surprise to the large body of Masons in the colonies who long for the union under one banner of the lodges holding under the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, because experience has shown us in the cases of South Australia, New South Wales, and Victoria that nothing else was to be looked for. I do not impute any blame to the *Freemason* for exercising its undoubted right of expressing its opinion on current topics, although at times its mode of expression has struck some of us in the colonies as being not strictly fraternal. I do not propose to repeat or review the arguments used over and over again for and against concurrent jurisdiction in the Australasian colonies, as to traverse the old ground would fail to convince either side, neither do I propose to advance any theory as to the number of lodges that must combine to establish a Grand Lodge. Whatever may be the opinion of different brethren on the latter point, I am sure there can exist in the minds of well-informed Masons no doubt that numerous precedents have established the right of lodges in a colony to erect an independent Grand Lodge, and that the Mother Grand Lodges have frequently acknowledged that right. It cannot therefore fail to surprise many brethren in England to hear that attempts are made by officers, high in authority under the Grand Lodge of England in the colonies, to deprive the lodges of the exercise of that right, which the Grand Lodges of the world (including the Grand Lodge of England) require shall be exercised before a new Grand Lodge can be established. In order that the Craft in England may see clearly that this is not an unfounded charge, I append copies of a circular and two letters, addressed to lodges of his district, by R.W. Bro. Thomas Sherlock Graham, District Grand Master of Otago and Southland (N.Z.), under the English Constitution, and would ask you to publish them with my letter. It seems to me that a perusal of this correspondence cannot but reveal to thinking brethren in England that most unfair and illogical measures have been adopted to prevent the lodges exercising their inherent right of free discussion on subjects that do not transgress the landmarks, and that a district Grand Master does not hesitate to usurp powers not conferred upon him by the Book of Constitutions in order to force his will upon the lodges. This usurpation of power is not the first of its kind in the colonies, as it will be remembered that when the first Grand Lodge of Victoria was projected, the Deputy District Grand Master (E.C.) of Victoria forbid the English Lodges under pains and penalties from even mentioning the matter, and the consequence in that case was, that the Craft of Victoria was rent by schism, which lasted for several years. Now, the Grand Lodge of England not only admits the right of the lodges in a colony to establish a Grand Lodge, but absolutely insists that, to make the creation of a Grand Lodge legal, a majority of the lodges must agree to its establishment. This of course means that the proposal for its establishment must have been discussed and voted upon by the brethren in lodge assembled, as meetings of Masons held otherwise than as a lodge cannot bind a lodge nor declare its will. It is accordingly evident that the District Grand Master of Otago and Southland usurped powers not conferred upon him by the Constitutions and otherwise acted un-Masonically and tyrannically in that—

Firstly—By his letter of 16th Feb., 1889, he censured a lodge for discussing, and prohibited it from further discussing a matter which, in parallel cases, the Grand Lodge of England had affirmed that lodges have a right to discuss. He ordered the minutes of a lodge to be mutilated, prohibiting discussion thereupon, although the Grand Lodge of England had decided (at the Quarterly Communication, Dec., 1874), that the minutes were "merely a record of what was passed and concluded," and this without giving the lodge or Master an opportunity of justifying their action. He assumed a power he did not possess in dictating to a lodge, instead of proceeding under Clauses 103 and 106 of the Book of Constitutions if he considered he had cause for complaint.

Secondly—By his letter of 17th April, 1889, he assumed the power of sanctioning discussion on a subject which he had ruled to be unconstitutional, the Book of Constitutions not giving this power of dispensation to a District Grand Master. He further assumed the power of dictating to the lodges of his jurisdiction the form of a resolution (by which, if carried, they would sever their connection with the Grand Lodge of England), and prohibited variation from it.

Thirdly—By his letter of 20th Sept., 1889, he

prohibited discussion in a lodge on a subject inseparably connected with one which he ordered to be discussed; he usurped the power of forbidding the reading of correspondence addressed to the lodges (although the correspondence related to the resolution which he had dictated); and he usurped the prerogative secured to the Master by Article 133 of the Book of Constitutions.

The whole of R.W. Bro. Graham's conduct in the matter of the Grand Lodge movement in New Zealand, is in striking contrast to the dignified and constitutional inaction of the neighbouring District Grand Masters, and has been the cause of much bitterness. The position taken up by him is clearly illogical. The Grand Lodge of England demands that a new Grand Lodge must be erected by a majority of the lodges, consequently the only mode, by resolution, that the lodges have of making their will known must be legal. It is manifestly absurd to say that lodges must declare themselves favourable to a project before it can be accomplished, and at the same time to prohibit them from considering a proposition in its favour.

I must apologise for the length of my letter, and beg that you will fraternally excuse it in consideration of the importance of the subject. As I write at a distance of many thousand miles from London, I have endeavoured, trusting to your indulgence, to state my case clearly and completely, as I am debarred from writing in ordinary course in support of my position and in reply to any comments that may be made upon it.—Yours fraternally,

COLONIAL.

[We regret we have not space to publish the letters referred to in full, but as our correspondent has himself summarised them their insertion is not so necessary.—*Ed. F.M.*]

FREEMASONRY IN BERMUDA.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Thinking possibly that it would be interesting to the readers of the *Freemason* to hear of their Masonic brethren in the far off Bermudas, I have taken the liberty, as a subscriber to your valuable paper, in sending you a little information concerning them.

We have in the islands eight Masonic lodges—four under the Grand Register of England, two under the Scotch Constitution, and two under the Irish Constitution. One English, one Scotch, and two Irish meet in the town of St. George's, the former capital of the islands.

The Scotch lodge—St. George, No. 200—is the oldest charter in the islands, the above bearing date August 7th, 1797. They meet in the old Court House, which was presented to them by Governor Cockburn, a colonial governor of these islands, in the year 1812. The lodge has worked without a break since the receipt of its charter.

The Scotch Constitution is the only one in the islands that has a Provincial Grand Master, this office being filled by the Worshipful Bro. W. C. J. Hyland, the popular Mayor of the town of St. George's.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

A MEMBER OF THE CRAFT IN THE "STILL VENED BERMOUTHES."

St. George's, Bermuda,

October 29, 1889.

[We have much pleasure in inserting our correspondent's report under the head of "Lodge Meetings."—*Ed. F.M.*]

A CAUTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

On Sunday last, an individual, who gave the name of Robert Anderson, of Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 426, Renfrew, called on me for relief. He stated that he was a printer seeking employment. He had heard that the local printer wanted a hand. This was the case, but up to Monday night he had made no application. He has no certificate, and I would therefore suggest to lodge Almoners not to relieve him. He is about 5 feet 7 inches in height, and says he was initiated 24 years ago, and talks about having attended a meeting at Glasgow of about 4000 Masons, &c.

I have written to the Secretary of his lodge for information, and will communicate the result to you. He informed me he was on his way to Chichester, where he had requested his certificate to be sent, so in all probability by the time this communication reaches your readers he will have passed into Surrey or beyond the borders of Kent.—I remain, yours fraternally,

THOS. FRANCIS.

December 31st.

The Cosmopolitan Masonic Pocket Book (Kenning) is justly popular among Freemasons.—*Athenaeum*.

On Friday evening, the 27th December, a numerous meeting of the General Committee of the Masonic Ball was held at the hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, under the presidency of Bro. James De Bels Adam (Chairman). The Honorary Secretary reported the receipt of answers from the patrons of the ball, and that the sale of tickets was proceeding most satisfactorily. The annual Masonic festival, to which the public will be admitted, is again organised on behalf of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, and promises to be eminently successful. The meeting of Stewards, of whom there are about 150, will be held next Friday, at eight o'clock, for the purpose of appointing a captain and making final arrangements for the ball, which takes place at the Town Hall on the 14th inst.



MASONIC ALMANAC, PROVINCE OF SUSSEX.

This is first for 1890, and one of the best issued. Bro. V. P. Freeman, the ever courteous Prov. G. Secretary, has done well to issue it, for although his octavo report of the Prov. G. Lodge, published annually, gives an immense amount of information, the handy form of the calendar and the additional particulars, to our mind, render it an *indispensable* to the members, and we trust it will be continued. The editor has done his work carefully and well, and on similar lines to those of last year. The statistics, often absent from others of the kind, exhibit a total of 27 lodges with 1200 members (an increase of 21 on last return), and nine chapters with 235 members. The tables are most interesting and instructive, as they set forth the number of initiations, joining members, resignations, deaths, and exclusions in connection with each lodge, as also the amount of fees paid and payments to Provincial Charities' Committee. The report of the latter body, which is doing excellent work, and also that of the Board of Finance, are printed for the information of those concerned, and then follow the names of the Prov. Grand Officers from 1854, and likewise the names of the Masters of the various lodges for the same period to the year 1889. The Officers of the Prov. Grand Chapter duly succeed this extensive roll, from the year 1881, and those of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge from 1874. Other features of the capital calendar we have alluded to in previous years. We note, however, that the error is still perpetuated of adding 4004 instead of 4000, to the Christian year to obtain "The Ancient Craft Date." It is very needful to secure uniformity on this point, and without any desire to dogmatise, we submit that the custom of the Grand Lodge for over 160 years should of itself be decisive as to this rule. Bro. Freeman deserves the hearty thanks of the members of his province for such a trusty and ably-edited calendar, for in that and many other ways the Province of Sussex is heavily his debtor.



Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Royal Athelstan Lodge (No. 19).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Thursday, December 12th, when there were present Bros. W. Nicholson, W.M.; A. Wormull, S.W.; R. W. Milby, J.W.; W. M. Bywater, P.M., P.G.S.B., Treas.; C. B. Barnes, P.M., Sec.; A. R. Ramsey, S.D.; A. D. Green, I.G.; A. E. W. Gwyn, Org.; D. Nicholson, P.M.; W. Pound, P.M.; J. P. Hinkel, P.M.; J. Charles, P.M.; H. Glenn, P.M.; F. E. W. Collard, P.M.; J. Glenn, P.M.; G. A. Corderoy, P.M.; G. Sneath, P.M.; C. E. Moser, Milton Smith, Wm. F. Stauffer, and Geo. R. Carsberg.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The by-laws (in accordance with No. 24 thereof) were read, after which the ballot was taken for the chair for the ensuing year, Bro. Arthur Wormull, S.W., being unanimously elected W.M., for which honour he appropriately thanked the members. Bro. W. M. Bywater, P.M., P.G.S.B., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer. The Audit Committee was then appointed, consisting of the W.M., the P.M.'s, the Treasurer, the Secretary, the W.M. elect, and Bro. Milton Smith. On the motion of Bro. H. Glenn, P.M., the sum of £10 was voted to the Girls' Institution. Bro. Bywater, P.M., proposed, and Bro. Dan Nicholson, P.M., seconded a vote of thanks to the retiring W.M., coupled with the presentation of a jewel. Bro. Wm. Nicholson, W.M., expressed his regret at not having any work to do, and also his gratitude for the vote of thanks and the jewel voted him, and for the kindness the members extended to him. Bro. C. B. Barnes, Sec., drew the attention of the lodge to the usefulness of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, and the value of the printed proceedings of its transactions sent to the subscribers of that lodge, and proposed that this lodge become a subscriber to the Quatuor Coronati Lodge. This was seconded by Bro. Bywater, P.M., Treas., and adopted.

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

The first toast, as usual, was that of "The Queen," which was given with musical honours.

The W.M. then proposed "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.V.G.M.," saying that he was the proper brother for that position, and referred to him as being a very busy man, both in and outside Masonry, and that they were all proud of him, and he trusted he would long continue to hold that office.

The toast of "The Pro G.M., the Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," having been proposed, Bro. Bywater, P.M., P.G.S.B., responded.

Bro. D. Nicholson, P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and said he would not disguise the fact that the W.M. came into the lodge through his introduction, and that he had a natural pride in seeing his nephew in the chair. Every one would find him a good fellow in or out of the lodge. He had proved himself a good general, and he believed would prove himself a good member, and he hoped might stick to the lodge like his old uncle for 32 years.

The W.M. said he was exceedingly obliged for all the kind words said of him. He was very proud of the position he had attained, and thanked the brethren heartily for

putting him in that position. His progress up to the chair seemed to have come on him very quickly, and he was sorry to have had no work to do.

The W.M. then proposed the toast of "The W.M. elect," reminding the brethren that up to the present he had acquitted himself with the greatest credit in each of the offices he had held, and referred to his late father, who had been so good a Mason, and was so highly esteemed by all in the lodge who had known him.

Bro. Wormull, W.M. elect, thanked the lodge for the very kind way they had received him, and said it did not seem 10 years ago since he joined. He trusted that next year, when his duties commenced, that he would be able to do all that was wished of him. He at any rate would do his best.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was replied to by Bro. Coredroy, P.M., who said the Past Masters were only too happy on all occasions to do what they could for the lodge.

The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" followed. Bro. Bywater, P.M., P.G.S.B., Treas., in responding, referred to the great exertions of Bro. Barnes, the Secretary, who was every day at his post, and was always warm in the work of the lodge.

Bro. H. Glenn, P.M., informed the brethren that since the adjournment of the lodge he had induced Bro. Green to serve the office of Steward to the Benevolent Institution, and hoped the brethren would support him well.

The next toast was "The Officers."

Bro. Bilby, J.W., said it afforded him the greatest pleasure to see Bro. Wormull coming forward to the chair for he was quite competent to take the position. He was himself anxious to apologise for not attending every lodge night, but hoped to attend regularly in the future. He had had two years of bad health, and had been Master of another lodge during the year, the two meetings coming one night after the other. He assured the brethren it would be his greatest possible study to do justice to that, his mother lodge. He thanked them sincerely for their kindness, and wished all the brethren "A Merry Christmas."

Bro. Ramsey, S.D., considered it a great honour to respond for the officers of No. 19. He was afraid he had done his duty but very badly, still in the distant future, by the time he hoped to find himself in the chair, he trusted to be able to fill that position with satisfaction.

Bro. Green, I.G., said the officers of the Royal Athelstan Lodge had always done their work well, and he was quite certain the coming officers would fulfil their duties with credit to themselves and to the lodge.

The musical arrangements of the evening were conducted by Bro. Moser, whose efforts added considerable pleasure to the meeting, assisted by Bros. Corderoy, P.M.; Milton Smith, Young, and Ramsey.

Waldeck Lodge (No. 1969).—The installation meeting of the above lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on Tuesday, December 10th, when, after a brother had been raised by the W.M., Bro. C. Quitmann, Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, at the request of the W.M. and P.M.'s, took the chair, and installed Bro. E. C. Voss as W.M. for the year ensuing, who thereupon invested the officers as follows: Bros. Max Lindlar, S.W.; J. Schuller, J.W.; Julius Quitmann, P.M., Treas.; Emil Schött, P.M., Sec.; J. B. Holland, S.D.; J. D. Seifert, J.D.; A. Hohley, I.G.; and Ad. Henner, D. of C. The Installing Officer then gave the addresses with his usual ability, after which the W.M. presented the Past Master's jewel of the lodge to Bro. C. Quitmann.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the Freemasons' Tavern, and enjoyed a very agreeable evening, the pleasures of which were much enhanced by some excellent vocal and instrumental talent.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

BATTLE.

Abbey Lodge (No. 1184).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 19th December, at the Masonic Hall, when there were present Bros. R. T. Davison, M.D., W.M.; W. A. Raper, S.W.; J. B. Foster, J.W.; J. Fielding, Org.; H. G. F. Wells, P.M., P.P.G.P., Treas.; R. Hughes, P.M., P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; J. W. Pepper, S.D.; D. White, J.D.; B. H. Thorpe, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., D.C.; T. W. Avis, I.G.; C. Leary, acting Tyler; W. T. Jordan, I.P.M.; W. Lamborn, P.M., P.P.G.P.; T. J. Walder, George Smith, J. Belchamber, J. Hodson, L. F. St. John, and others.

After the usual preliminaries, the W.M. proceeded to pass Bro. St. John to the Degree of F.C., after which Bro. Jordan, I.P.M., delivered the explanation of the second tracing board. A dispensation from Provincial Grand Lodge was then read, authorising the lodge to initiate, pass, and raise Mr. William Newman as a serving brother, and he having been balloted for and declared duly elected, was then initiated, the ceremonies of the evening being very ably performed. The W.M., with the approval of the brethren, then called in Bro. Leary, the late Tyler, and very felicitously congratulated him on the able and satisfactory manner in which he had performed his duties during the period he had been Tyler of the lodge, and expressed the regret of the brethren at losing those services. The W.M. also took the opportunity of explaining to Bro. Newman, the Tyler, some of the duties of a good Mason outside the precincts of the lodge, and after some excellent advice had been tendered, concluded by warning young Masons generally against being led into discussions whereby any part of the working of the Craft might be inadvertently disclosed to the outside world.

All business being ended, the lodge was closed.

BEAMINSTER.

Beaminster Manor Lodge (No. 1367).—The members of this lodge held an emergency meeting at the White Hart Hotel on Tuesday evening, December 17th. The officers and brethren present included Bros. C. Toleman, W.M.; R. Toleman, I.P.M.; H. Maunder, S.W.; R. R. Samson, J.W.; J. Andrews, P.M., Treas.; A. Hann, Sec.; O. Beament, S.D.; R. England, J.D.; C. G. Purkis, P.M., D.C.; W. Oxley, I.G.; S. Cox, P.M., Stwd.; J. Keech, Tyler; S. R. Baskett, P.M.; C. Hann, P.M.; A. Paul, G. Roberts, and Bro. J. C. Collie, P.M., P.P.G.O. Wilts (visitor).

The lodge having been opened, a ballot was taken for Mr. H. A. P. Genge, which proving unanimous, he was

initiated in a very able and impressive manner by the W.M. The charges were given by the I.P.M. and Bro. S. R. Baskett, P.P.G.R. Dorset.

All Masonic business being concluded, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for their customary refreshment.

After the tables had been cleared, the toast of "The Queen and the Craft" was duly given and honoured.

The W.M. gave "The Initiate," which was suitably acknowledged by Bro. Genge.

Through inadvertence, the name of Bro. C. Hann, P.M., was omitted from the list of brethren attending this lodge on December 10th, and in the Committee elected to audit the accounts for the current year the name of Bro. C. Hann, P.M., should have appeared in the place of Bro. C. Toleman, W.M.

HANLEY.

Menturia Lodge (No. 418).—The annual Festival of St. John and the installation of the W.M. took place on December 17th, at the Masonic Hall, Cheap-side, when a highly successful gathering was held, there being a large attendance of members, in addition to a number of visiting brethren from neighbouring lodges. The lodge was opened, when Bro. J. Robinson was installed W.M. for the ensuing year in succession to Bro. Herbert Windle. The newly-elected W.M. was installed by Bro. Windle, assisted by Bros. T. Bickley, P.P.S.G.W.; E. V. Greatbatch, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. S. Crapper, P.P.A.G.D.C.; E. B. Jackson, P.M.; and W. H. Hales, P.P.S.G.W. After the installation ceremony, which was performed in an impressive manner, the W.M. installed the following as his officers: Bros. W. Hampton, S.W.; J. B. Devereux, J.W.; Rev. A. S. Walters, Chap.; W. H. Hales, Treas.; D. Jones, Sec.; J. Barlow, S.D.; E. Jones, J.D.; E. V. Greatbatch, D.C.; J. Goodson, I.G.; W. Jones and M. Tunncliffe, Stwds.; and W. Wood, Tyler.

In addition to the brethren already named, the following, among other brethren, were present: Bros. F. Mountford, 460, P.S.G.D.; J. Bromley, P.P.S.G.W.; T. Ashworth, P.P.G.R.; F. Brandon, P.P.G.R.; J. Stringer, P.P.A.G. Purst.; D. Smith, W.M. 2214, P.M. 637, P.P.S.G.D.; R. Tooth, 657 and 2214, P.P.G.R.; F. Weston, 98, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Webberley, 546, P.P.G.R.; M. Barker, 1792, P.P.S.G.W.; J. Ryder, 1792, P.P.G.S.B.; R. Bebbington, 368, P.P.G.P. Cheshire; J. Godwin, W.M. 98, P.G.S.; J. Davenport, 451; F. Skerrett, W.M. 460; T. Barker, W.M. 1942; G. W. Hancock, W.M. 637; G. Smith, P.M. 2064; A. S. Walters, P.M. 546; P. Bennion, W.M. 546; J. Eardley, P.M. 637; W. Tunncliffe, P.M.; S. Lawton, P.M.; T. H. Beardmore, P.M.; G. Pitchford, P.M.; E. Pearson, S.W. 98; W. H. Bamber, S.W. 637; A. Mear, S.W. 546; H. Bonser, S.W. 460; W. R. Tooth, S.D. 2214; D. Sherwin, I.G. 2064; W. Burt, J.D. 637; T. R. Voxall, I.G. 637; E. Jones, 460; J. Forster, 460; T. C. Wright, 1942; G. H. Walker, 1942; C. Luke, 451; G. Smith, 2064; J. H. Collings, 546; S. Till, 2214; J. H. Fradley, 2214; T. Masters, 637; Mellor, 637; and Bourner, 2149.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the Town Hall, where about 86 sat down to a banquet provided by Bro. J. Munro.

The W.M. presided, and "The Queen" having been honoured, proposed "The Most Worshipful his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England; the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," speaking of the attention that the Prince of Wales devoted to Freemasonry, and the great interest he took in the Craft.

"The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon; the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom; and the Officers of the Grand Lodge, Present and Past," having been proposed also from the chair,

Bro. Bickley submitted "Bro. Col. Foster Gough, the Prov. Grand Master of Staffordshire." Bro. Bickley said he was sure every brother in the province was proud of the present position which Col. Gough occupied, and they all wished him long life and good health to perform the duties pertaining to the office.

Bro. Tunncliffe next gave "Bro. Lieut.-Col. Bindley, Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past." In doing so, he expressed a hope that Bro. Bindley would soon visit the north of the province, when he could assure him of a hearty welcome.

Bro. Pitchford having acknowledged the toast,

Bro. Windle proceeded to propose the toast of the evening, "Bro. J. Robinson," W.M. for the ensuing year. In a eulogistic speech, Bro. Windle said in Bro. Robinson they had no ordinary Master. He was gifted with gifts above many of the brethren, and he felt sure he would use those gifts to the advantage of the Menturia Lodge. Bro. Robinson had been a member of the lodge for a considerable number of years, and during that time he had done credit to himself and to the lodge, in which he had filled many offices, and he had no fear he would fill with credit the chair which he had been elected to fill that day.

The toast was then drunk in true hearty Masonic fashion.

The W.M. responded in a very appropriate speech, and thanked the brethren from his heart for the reception they had given him. He should like to say that if he had not felt capable of fulfilling the office of W.M. he should not have been occupying the position that night. It would be his earnest endeavour to carry out the duties of the office to which they had done him the honour of electing him to the best of his ability. He looked forward with confidence to the support of his officers during the ensuing year.

Bro. Bromley next gave "The Health of the Visiting Brethren."

Bro. Barker first responded. He said he found a fire, a force, and a vigour in Masonry in Hanley, and it was a source of congratulation to find so many Past Masters in attendance, as well as the distinction which the Menturia Lodge had attained in the province. He further congratulated the lodge upon its position in the benevolent portion of Masonry, and the free and open manner in which the brethren of that lodge had contributed in times past.

Bro. Smith also responded, acknowledging the kind and generous hospitality shown that evening to the visitors, and expressed his satisfaction and congratulation on seeing the confidence reposed in Bro. Robinson by the members of the Menturia Lodge.

The W.M. next proposed "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. Windle," and spoke of the latter as a brother who had a great interest in the progress of Masonry.

Bro. Windle returned thanks in a suitable manner, after which he submitted the toast of "The Masonic Charities," which was responded to by Bro. Ryder, the Secretary of the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association, who said that the Menturia Lodge stood very nearly in the premier position as regarded the amount of contributions to the Masonic Charities. He referred with satisfaction to the action taken by Bros. Greatbatch and Tunncliffe in regard to the inquiry in respect to the conduct of the Masonic Institution for Boys. Alluding to the Secretary of that Institution, Bro. Binckes, he said that the pension proposed to be granted to that brother would not trench on the funds of the Institution.

Bro. Greatbatch also replied, and thoroughly justified the action that had been taken in regard to the institution referred to. A clean sweep of the officials had been made, with the exception of the Secretary, and he believed the result would be that the Boys' Institution would in the future raise the credit of the Craft.

The remaining toasts were "The Past Masters of the Lodge," "The Officers of the Lodge," "The Ladies," and "All Poor and Distressed Masons."

During the evening a capital musical programme, arranged by Bro. Baker, was gone through, the members of the lodge contributing to it.

HULL.

Kingston Lodge (No. 1010).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Kingston-square, on Wednesday, December 14th, when Bro. J. G. Smithson was installed W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year. There was a very large gathering of brethren from the sister lodges, and amongst those who signed the attendance-book were Bros. John Bilson, W.M.; H. Fawcett Pudsey, I.P.M.; F. S. Brodrick, S.W.; H. Woodhouse, M.A., J.W.; Canon McCormick, D.D., P.P.G.C., Chap.; F. Fullerton, P.M., P.G. Reg., L.M.; J. Carllill Savill, Sec.; H. H. Briggs, S.D.; F. C. Bishop, J.D.; J. G. Smithson, D.C.; F. Bentley, Mus. Bac. Org.; T. A. Baldwin, M.D., I.G.; F. J. Lambert, P.G. Tyler, Tyler; C. H. Johnson, P.M.; W. H. Wellsted, P.M.; H. Forder, P.M., P.P.G.D.; B. S. Jacobs, P.M.; D. J. O'Donoghue, P.M. 57, P.P.G.S. of W.; E. Corris, P.M. 57, P.P.G.D.; W. Tesseyman, P.M. 57, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. R. Ansdell, P.M. 1605, P.P.G.D.C.; W. D. Keyworth, P.M. 57, P.P.G.S. of W.; S. Rutter, W.M. 57; J. W. Burton, W.M. 250; W. Stratford, W.M., 1605; J. W. Tindell, S.W. 1605; H. Manning, J.W. 1605; W. Woodall, W.M. 2134; G. W. Greenwood, J.W. 2134; J. Mackiall, P.M. 2134, P.G.S.B.; S. Gaskell, W.M. 1511; J. Foley, S.W. 294; T. A. Haigh, S.W. 1511; F. Carter, J.W. 1511; J. Sugden, P.M. 1379; Staff-Surgeon Corril, R.N., 257; F. Long, Silwan Lodge; and others. Letters of apology for non-attendance were received from Bros. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, D.P.G.M.; M. C. Peck, P.M., P.G.S.B. Eng., P.G. Sec.; Walter Reynolds, P.G. Treas.; John Sherburn, M.D. (Mayor of Hull); and W. J. Hughan.

The installation ceremony was performed in a most impressive manner by Bro. John Bilson, the retiring W.M. The officers for the year were then presented, and installed by the W.M., the selection being as follows: Bros. John Bilson, I.P.M.; G. H. Lodge, S.W.; F. C. Bishop, J.W.; Rev. Canon J. McCormick, D.D., P.P.G.C., Chap.; F. Fullerton, P.M., P.G. Reg., L.M.; H. Forder, P.M., P.P.G.D., Treas.; J. Carllill Savill, Sec.; T. A. Baldwin, M.D., S.D.; Jas. Foster, J.D.; F. S. Brodrick, D.C.; W. D. Keyworth, P.M. 57, P.P.G.S. of W., Almoner *pro tem.*; F. Bentley, Mus. Bac., Org.; George Lamb, M.D., I.G.; R. Carson, W. J. Close, and A. E. White, Stwds.; and F. J. Lambert, P.G. Tyler, Tyler.

The banquet was held subsequently in the dining hall under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Smithson, who was supported by the I.P.M., the Worshipful Masters of the sister lodges, and several Provincial Grand Officers.

The W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft," and "The M.W. the Grand Master."

The W.M., in giving "The Prov. G.M. and D.P.G.M.," expressed the deep regret felt by the brethren at the cause of the absence of Bro. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, D.L., D.P.G.M.—namely, blood-poisoning. They tendered to their distinguished brother their heart felt and fraternal sympathy in his affliction, and hoped the G.A.O.T.U. would speedily restore him to health.

Bro. F. Fullerton, P.M., P.G. Reg., in acknowledging the toast, thanked the brethren for their hearty reception. Although the P.G.M., Bro. the Earl of Zetland, had been called by her Majesty to Dublin Castle, there was no reason to fear that he would relinquish the interest he had ever taken in the Craft. To the D.P.G.M. they also owed a debt of gratitude for the energy he had displayed in furthering Masonry in the North and East Yorks Province.

Bro. C. H. Johnson, P.M., submitted "The W.M. and his Officers." He said Bro. Smithson had shown such a zeal for Freemasonry, and had so efficiently discharged his minor offices, that they had no fear that the Kingston Lodge under his charge would suffer. He congratulated him upon the proud position in which the brethren had placed him. But, in electing him to the highest office in the lodge, he reminded the brethren that they had honoured themselves by so doing. Bro. Smithson had displayed wisdom and tact in the selection of his officers, and he had no doubt they would render their Master every assistance possible.

The W.M., in responding, said there were no new tracks to beat out, no new plans or schemes to adopt and carry out—his duty was simply to carry on the work where his predecessor had left off. He felt the responsibility of his important position, but the unanimous vote which had been accorded him at his election, and the cordial support which had invariably been given to the previous Masters, gave him no little encouragement in accepting the chair. He impressed upon the younger brethren the absolute necessity for prompt attendance at the meetings and the lodges of instruction, and he concluded a very neat and well-delivered speech by enforcing upon the brethren the necessity of cultivating those three proud tenets of our Order—Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.

Bro. Lieut.-Col. H. Fawcett Pudsey, P.M., submitted "The Health of the retiring W.M. and his Officers." In eulogising the excellent services performed by Bro. Bilson during his term of office, he said that through the efforts of Bro. Bilson and his colleagues a very large sum had been realised in the lodge towards the Educational Fund of North

and East Yorkshire. The W.M.'s great knowledge on construction, as well as Speculative Masonry, had been of the greatest utility and benefit to the lodge, and he had finished his year of office by installing his successor with the same care, efficiency, and attention to every detail as he had exhibited in the various other workings of the lodge. Although his sun had now set, his term of Mastership in the Kingston Lodge would long be remembered with intense satisfaction.

Bro. J. Bilson, I.P.M., briefly thanked the brethren. It had been a source of pleasure to him to receive the kind and sympathetic support which had been rendered him by the Past Masters, as also his officers. The first festival on behalf of the Educational Fund was most successful, and he thanked the brethren for their liberality. The finances of the lodge were satisfactory, the balance being upwards of £30 more than it had been in previous years. He appealed to the brethren for their support towards the establishment of a lodge library, in order that the members might have the opportunity of becoming acquainted with the historic side of Freemasonry, in which they would feel greatly interested.

Bro. B. S. Jacobs, P.M., proposed "The Sister Lodges," and referred to the unanimity and good fellowship which existed between the Hull lodges. He assured the W.M.'s present that anything the brethren of No. 101 could do to assist their lodges in any way they should be only too happy to render.

Bros. S. Rutter, W.M. 67; Stratford, W.M. 1005; and P. Gaskell, W.M. 1511, responded in reciprocal terms.

"The Visiting Brethren" and the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a satisfactory termination.

IPSWICH.

Perfect Friendship Lodge (No. 376).—On Wednesday, December 18th, the installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, when Bro. F. C. Atkinson was installed into the chair of W.M. There was a large gathering of brethren, including several Grand Officers, the Substitute Grand Master of Scotland, and no less than 20 Provincial Grand Officers.

The lodge having been opened, the ceremony of passing Bros. Kersey, Brown, Oxborough, and Kerridge was performed by the W.M. After a brief interval the ceremony of installation was performed in faultless style by the W.M., Bro. R. E. Younger, the Wardens' chairs being occupied by Bros. N. Tracy, P.M., P.G. Sec., and J. B. Fraser, P.M., P.P.G.D. The ceremony was preceded by the entrance into lodge in procession of the Provincial Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and other Grand and Provincial Grand Officers, Bro. T. Palmer, Mus. Bac., P.G. Org., presiding at the organ. The charge to the newly-elected W.M. was impressively delivered by the D.P.G.M., Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, and before the closing of the lodge the P.G.M., Lord Henniker, congratulated Bro. Atkinson on the high honour to which he had been elected, and conveyed to him the "Heartly good wishes" of the Province of Suffolk. The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. R. E. Younger, I.P.M.; H. E. Leach, S.W.; H. C. Monteith, J.W.; W. P. Mills, P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; H. Sidney, P.P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; T. Thwaites, S.D.; Geo. Turner, J.D.; H. J. Wright, P.P.A.G.S., D.C.; A. Spalding, I.G.; J. Tibbenham and H. G. Tunmer, Stewards; and G. Gould, Tyler.

Subsequently the brethren adjourned to the banqueting hall, where a magnificent menu met with universal approval.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received with full honours, after which the W.M. proposed the toast of "The Pro G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon; the Dep. G.M., the Earl of Lathom; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Bro. William Boby, P.G.S.B. England, responded, speaking in eloquent terms in refutation of the popular idea that Past Grand Officers were the drones in the hive. The untiring work in the cause of Masonry done by the Grand Officers who were honouring the lodge by their presence that evening, the P.G.M., Lord Henniker, and the Deputy P.G.M., Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, was an all-sufficient testimony to the contrary, and throughout the list would be found many mainstays of the Craft as indefatigable and enthusiastic as in their salad days.

The W.M., in proposing "The Health of the P.G.M.," spoke in the highest terms of the grand work that Lord Henniker was doing in the province, and expressed his sensibility of the high honour done to his lodge and himself by his lordship's presence that evening.

Lord Henniker, on rising to respond, was received with great enthusiasm. He alluded to the great interest he had ever taken in the Ipswich lodges, and spoke in high terms of the manner in which the work of the Perfect Friendship Lodge was performed.

The W.M., in proposing "The Grand Lodge of Scotland," informed the brethren that it was no small distinction for him to be supported by so exalted a Mason as Bro. Sir Charles Dalrymple, who held in Scotland a position analogous to that occupied in England by the Earl of Lathom, and was moreover P.G.M. of the Province of Argyllshire.

Bro. Sir Charles Dalrymple, Bart., M.P., in replying, stated that that was the first occasion on which he had ever attended an English lodge. He had seen most satisfactory working with details that he should make a point of re-producing in the Scotch lodges over which he ruled. He hoped also to join the Union Lodge, started in London some years ago by Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn and Lord Henniker, two of his earliest friends, who therein sought to cement the brotherly interests of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

The W.M. proposed the toast of "The Deputy Prov. G.M., Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, and the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," for whom the D.P.G.M. responded in a characteristic speech.

Lord Henniker proposed "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Atkinson," whom he had known for many years as a man who always did his best in everything—and that best uncommonly well.

The W.M., who met with a splendid reception, responded in feeling terms, and expressed his gratification at the presence of so distinguished a body of Masons at his installation—an augury he hoped for the success of his year of office. He proposed "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. Younger," who had done unusual service in installing his successor in the chair he had so ably filled.

Bro. Younger responded in a few well-chosen words.

Bro. R. Anness proposed "The Past Masters of the Lodge," for whom Bro. J. B. Fraser, P.P.G.D., responded.

Bro. S. R. Annes, P.M., P.P.G.D., proposed "The Visitors," for whom Bros. Ralling, P.G. Sec. Essex; H. C. Casley, W.M. British Union; G. P. Price, W.M. St. Luke's; G. D. Pick, W.M. Prince of Wales; and Geo. Booth, W.M. elect Doric, responded.

Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn proposed "The Masonic Charities," coupled with the name of Bro. H. M. Harvey, who acknowledged the toast with his wonted earnestness.

"The Officers of the Lodge," given by the W.M., was acknowledged by the Wardens, and the Tyler's toast brought a most successful festival to an end.

During the evening some excellent songs were given by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and Bros. A. Spalding, Geo. Abbott, Geo. Turner, H. G. Tunmer, John Hunt, G. T. Pick, E. Copeland, E. J. Sherman, and J. W. B. King. Bro. T. Palmer, Mus. Bac., ably presided at the piano.

MONWEARMOUTH.

Williamson Lodge (No. 949).—A large gathering of the members of this lodge assembled at a special meeting in their hall recently, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. G. W. Bain, P.G.R., for the purpose of presenting a congratulatory address to the Mayor of Sunderland, Bro. R. Shadforth, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., on his accession to the Mayoralty. Among those who accepted invitations to be present were Bros. Sir Hedworth Williamson, P.M., Prov. G.M.; Samuel Storey, M.P.; R. W. Halfnight, P.M., P.G.T.; J. G. Marshall, I.P.M. 97; F. Wade, W.M. 1389; J. G. Kirtley, P.P.G.D.; F. Maddison, P.P.G.D.; A. T. Munro, P.P.G.S.B.; J. C. Moor, P.P.G.D.; J. Potts, P.P.G.W.; E. Watson, S.W. 97; G. Porteous, P.P.G.O.; J. R. Cutter, W.M. 97; F. S. Cowper, S.W. 2039; W. H. Swan, I.P.M. 94; G. B. Hall, P.M.; J. S. Chatt, S.D.; T. O. Todd, Sec. 2039; J. D. Todd, P.P.G.S.B.; L. R. Davies, J.W.; J. W. Hedley, J.W. 1389; A. T. Shepherd, 1389; R. Blake, S.W.; R. Todd, W.M. 80; A. Logan, Sec.; J. Hewson, P.M.; J. J. Wilson, P.M. 80; George Craven, W.M. 94; J. R. Pattison, P.A.G.S.; H. C. Jepps, P.P.G.D. Middlesex; W. A. Priestly, I.P.M. 2039; W. Vincent, J.W. 94; A. Gray, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. R. Simpson, I.G.; W. Bryans; James Tait, 240; R. A. Brown, W.M. 2039; James Hudson, I.P.M. 80; T. G. Garrick, P.M. 94; and others.

The lodge having been opened, the W.M. called upon the D. of C., Bro. G. Porteous, P.M., P.P.G.O., to read the address, which was as follows:

"To Worshipful Brother Robert Shadforth, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Mayor of Sunderland.

"Dear Sir and Brother,—We, the Worshipful Master, Past Masters, Wardens, and Brethren of the Williamson Lodge, No. 949, of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in open lodge assembled, do with the utmost pleasure and fraternal respect approach you to offer our sincere and hearty congratulations on the very auspicious occasion of your being unanimously elected to the onerous and distinguished office of first magistrate of the County Borough of Sunderland. We believe that every Freemason in the Province of Durham will hail with equal satisfaction as ourselves your elevation to so distinguished a position. We need not remind you of the requirements of the high office you have assumed, but we would venture to say that the tenets of Freemasonry (of which you have already made yourself master) will assist in no small degree to the maintenance of that dignity and respect which constitutes so vital an element in the successful holding of that office.

Let prudence direct you,
Fortitude support you,
And justice be the guide of all your actions."

We rest assured that if your government is carried out on these principles, aided by the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe, your term of office will be marked by the most lasting and pleasing results. In conclusion, we proffer you our very best wishes for a happy and successful term of office; and we ask you to convey to the Mayoress our most respectful good wishes and congratulations, and subscribe ourselves, George Washington Bain, W.M.; Frederick Maddison, I.P.M.; Remigius Blake, S.W.; Lemuel R. Davis, J.W.; John G. Kirtley, Treasurer; Andrew Logan, Secretary; Joseph S. Chatt, S.D.; Thomas Hunter, J.D.; Luke R. Simpson, I.G.; George Porteous, D. of C.; Brady Swain, Tyler; Hedworth Williamson, Bart., P.M.; R. W. Halfnight, P.M.; William Liddell, P.M.; Alfred Gray, P.M.; George B. Hall, P.M.; Alex. T. Munro, P.M.; Nicholas Taylor, P.M.; and John Hewson, P.M."

The address was set off with Masonic and other emblems. The W.M., Bro. G. W. Bain, P.G. Registrar, then presented the address to his Worship the Mayor. He said:

Bro. Shadforth,—I have had many duties of a special and important character to perform during my Mastership, but not one of them has given me greater pleasure than the duty that lies before me to-night of presenting you with this humble token of the estimation in which you are held by the brethren of your lodge. In addressing you upon the duties of your high office from a Masonic point of view, I know I may incur the censure of the secular world, who will deem it an impertinence to associate the principles of Freemasonry with the duties of the Mayoral chair. But you, Sir, will understand me better; we meet here on a level, where the man of exalted rank may associate with the man of inferior position, and as brethren, sons of one God, interchange sentiments upon each other's duties to mutual advantage. It is interesting and instructive to note how the tenets of Freemasonry fit and qualify a man for the active service of public life. There appear to me to be three great duties devolving upon you of a truly Masonic character—1st, the preservation of order; 2nd, the encouragement of industry; 3rd, the administration of justice. Order is the first law of nature's God; from chaos the world was reduced to order; we can trace the directing genius of order through every department of the natural world. It is the one of the essential principles of our Masonic Institution. As our esteemed Deputy Provincial Grand Master eloquently stated it, "Order and liberty founded on subordination to authority." To you the preservation of order in this borough is committed; to you, Sir, every citizen will look for protection, and you will be expected to do your utmost in the discharge of this great trust. Our distinguished Bro. Alderman Isaacs, the Lord Mayor of London, stated (I think it was in his inaugural address) that a new duty had devolved upon the office of Lord Mayor, the office of "arbitrator" between employer and employed, in face of the many unhappy differences that

now so frequently occur between labour and capital. The man whose efforts are spent in alleviating human misery, in reducing to a minimum the barrier between rich and poor, in promoting peace and goodwill between all sections of society, is a man who has a divine mission, whose labours will be crowned with success, and whose end will be peace. Masonry has inculcated into your mind these identical principles. To preserve order, to promote harmony, and to make each other happy are sentences well-known to the mind of every well-instructed brother. You are to encourage industry, and, I might add, reward merit. It is almost a wantonness of speech to address you on this topic. You owe your position, I venture to say, not alone to your moral virtues, but also because you have made yourself an excellent name in the world of commerce, and in that most laudable and honourable of all means—personal energy and industry. I remember you saying you had risen from an humble sphere by your own application to the position you now occupy. I know you will be zealous in supporting the good name of your ancient seaport, and that you will put forth every effort to foster and support the local industries. The lines have fallen to you in pleasant times; encourage the industrious, that they may be provident, and admonish the improvident, that they may become frugal. Masonry will assist you in this; she points to her tracing board, where delineated you may find the "Beehive" an emblem of "industry"; she enjoins all her sons to labour. We have no room within the circle of Masonic life for the idle or slothful brother; as a matter of fact, such an one falls into arrears with his subscription, and, sooner or later, ceases to be known to us. From Masonry, then, Sir, derive this lesson, and put it to practice in your exalted situation, that each individual citizen may take notice of you, and go their way encouraged, and determined to do their share in the general struggle for existence.

Finally, you are to administer justice. Justice is a universal element of human society. In all stages of human life we find its natural development; in every book of the Volume of the Sacred Law that lies open before us we find lessons on its dispensation; in every epoch of the secular history of nations its dread, as well as beneficial, lessons are taught. In heathen countries amongst the aboriginal tribes a code of justice is recognised, and even amongst societies of abandoned and outlawed miscreants justice is fearfully exemplified. Even in the natural world we may derive lessons from its administrative, of which the following is by way of illustration: A certain professor was desirous of making himself intimate with the habits of the holy and historical family of storks at Constantinople, and obtained permission of the Caliph to make investigation. Ascending to the roof of a mosque he abstracted the eggs from one of the nests, and introduced 11 duck eggs in exchange. The birds seemed not to notice the change, and in due time 11 fledglings were presented to the dignified and grateful male parent. One day the father got a glimpse of the ducklings, and at once got dreadfully agitated, and was seen to reason violently with the poor mother. Not getting the satisfaction he demanded, he summoned his neighbours of both sexes, and they, instituting a tribunal of justice, expelled the mother from the nest, and made inspection of the ducklings. At last, having agreed upon the verdict, they fell upon the female and killed her, similarly dispatched the ducklings, and destroyed the nest and every vestige thereof. The professor added that soon after this judicial murder, the father stork, overcome by mortification or disgrace, drowned himself in the waters of the Bosphorus. Be careful, Sir, to be guided by that wisdom which you may derive from a perusal of the Sacred Law, and which comes from above; be not guided by your own wisdom, for the wisdom of man works foolishness. Were you guided by your own wisdom you might be tempted by either prejudice on the one hand or partiality on the other; but the spirit of God can give unto you righteous judgments. Thus guided, there would your words drop like the refreshing dew from the bough of goodness upon the expectant earth, then would you build up for yourself a good name more to be desired than riches. Your brethren will look with much interest on your career—may it be a long career—they will rejoice with you when honour is done to you; they will participate in that honour, they will sympathise with you in any difficulties that beset your career, and they will do everything that lies in their power to assist you in the performance of your many offices. I could not conclude without wishing your beloved partner every good wish; may she be long spared to assist you in your good life, may she be foremost in the performance of every kind office and the patronage of every benevolent object. Such are the wishes and hopes of the brethren of the Williamson Lodge, and may God prosper you in your office.

The Mayor, who was cheered on rising, said that was one of the peculiar moments of his life. He thanked the W.M. for the very excellent remarks he had made, and felt thankful at the attendance of so many of the leading brethren of Sunderland. He should prize the handsome address they had presented to him that night, and felt sure that the Mayoress would also participate with him in the pleasure that the presentation gave him. She had nobly aided him in the discharge of the duties of the mayoralty, and was seeking to help everything that had a tendency to promote the good work in all directions.

The lodge was afterwards closed, and the brethren sat down to an excellent supper under the Chairmanship of Bro. G. W. Bain, W.M., who was supported by the Mayor, and many Provincial Grand Officers and others.

NEWARK-ON-TRENT.

Newton Lodge (No. 1661).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, December 17th, at the Savings Bank, Lombard-street. The lodge was opened by the Worshipful Master, Bro. Samuel Ironmonger. There were present Bros. Rev. F. Vernon Bussell, M.A., Past Grand Chap., Deputy P.G.M.; Rev. F. G. Lys, P.D. J.G.W. Bengal; T. Thorpe, P.G.S.B.; C. Johnson, P.J.G.W.; George Wilson, S.W.; G. Atter, J.W.; Henry George, P.P.G.D.C., Sec.; H. W. Hutchinson, S.D.; W. Bradley, J.D.; H. Friend, I.G.; Milthorp, Paine, and Harston, Stwds.; and a large number of members.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Frank Handley Hopewell was regularly raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. by the W.M., assisted by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master and Bro. George. Bro. Milthorp moved that £5 5s. be voted from the funds of the lodge on behalf of the Provincial Grand Educational Fund, and, after explanation as to the working of the Charity had been given by the Secretary, the vote

was unanimously carried. The Secretary announced that Bro. J. M. McLeod intended to serve at the next Boys' School Festival as a Steward, also that Bro. McLeod was a candidate for the office of Secretary to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and said he moved that the lodge give its best support, both by its own votes and by the individual work of every member, to support Bro. McLeod in his candidature, knowing as all did his great zeal for the best interests of the Craft and its Charities, as well as his special fitness for that appointment. After 20 years of business life with one of the largest and most important firms in the agricultural implement trade as chief clerk and for the last 15 years as traveller, in the former of these positions he was well known as a clever accountant, while in the latter he has made himself a reputation throughout England, Scotland, and Ireland as a successful ambassador for his firm, who, should he be successful in obtaining this appointment, will part with his services most reluctantly. Another of his qualifications for that Secretaryship was known to all of them there, he meant his easy, elegant, and forcible manner of speaking in public, which, in pleading for funds for the Boys' School, would be, he did not doubt, eminently successful. Bro. Thorpe, P.G.S.B., then said he had much pleasure in seconding the resolution so ably proposed by their Secretary, and felt sure that Bro. McLeod had the best wishes of not only every member of that lodge, but of all who knew him. He believed there were several chairs in that lodge endowed or partly endowed as Governors of the Boys' School, and that there stood to the credit of the Secretary for the time being the sum of ten guineas. He should be pleased to give another ten guineas, to be placed on Bro. McLeod's list as Steward, to qualify the Secretary of that lodge for ever as a Governor of the Boys' School, and was sure that, should Bro. McLeod succeed in being elected to the office of Secretary of the Institution, the Schools would prosper exceedingly under his skilful, painstaking, and energetic Secretaryship. Several brethren having spoken in favour of the resolution, it was unanimously carried with acclamation. Bro. George proposed, and the W.M. seconded, a vote of thanks to Bro. Thorpe for his generosity, which was unanimously carried. The Secretary announced that altogether Bro. McLeod had received some £40 towards his Steward's list from members of the Newton Lodge. Other regular business having been transacted, the lodge was closed.

NORTHALLERTON.

Anchor Lodge (No. 1337).—On Thursday, December 19th, the monthly meeting of the above lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Thomas Russell, W.M., occupied the chair. The business was to elect the W.M. for the ensuing year. A ballot was taken, when Bro. C. Waistell, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., was unanimously chosen. The choice of a Treasurer fell upon Bro. M. Walmsley, P.M.

At the conclusion of the lodge, a complimentary supper was given to Bro. J. S. Winn, P.M., in the banqueting room of the lodge. Over 20 brethren partook of a substantial capitally-served repast, provided by Mrs. Deighton. After the removal of the cloth, the W.M., Bro. Thomas Russell, presided, and Bro. W. Bell, S.W., was Vice-Chairman.

The W.M. proposed "The Queen," "The Prince and Princess of Wales and the Royal Family," and "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M.; the Earl of Lathom, Dep. G.M.; and the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

The W.M. then submitted "The Health of the Earl of Zetland, Prov. Grand Master, and the Hon. Wm. T. Orde-Powlett, Deputy Prov. Grand Master of the North and East Ridings." He said they had reason to congratulate themselves upon the excellent Provincial Grand Officers as the brethren he had named, and he trusted that they might long be spared to attend so effectively to their duties. With the toast he coupled the names of Bros. Waistell, P.M.; Fairburn, P.M.; and Walmsley, P.M.

Bro. Waistell, P.M., P.P.G.R., returned thanks, and said that his duties as an officer of the Prov. Grand Lodge had been light, but during the time he was in office he saw that their head Provincial Grand Officers were most regular in their attendance at the meetings and anxious to do their duty.

Song—Bro. Tweedy, "The Old Messmate" (Thos. Hutchinson).

Bro. Joseph Fairburn, P.M., submitted "The Health of the Worshipful Master of the Lodge." No words of his were needed to recommend that toast, for they all knew that Bro. Russell had discharged the duties of his high office to the satisfaction of every member of the lodge, and had done all he possibly could to promote the interests of the Anchor Lodge. They had been most unfortunate during the past year as at most of the lodge meetings they had to pass votes of condolence, but he hoped that now they had got to the end of that duty, and that their prospects would be brighter in the future. He wished their present Master every success, and hoped that he would have long life and prosperity, and that his year of office would be remembered by him with pleasure.

The toast was drunk with full Masonic musical honours.

The W.M. returned thanks, and said he could not help but think that the brethren had been to his virtues very kind, and to his faults a little blind. When he commenced his year of office everything augured very brightly, but he was sorry to say that they had had a great deal of sorrow to contend with. He would look back upon the past year with satisfaction and with the full knowledge that he had to the best of his ability tried to do his duty as a Freemason conscientiously ever since they honoured him by electing him a member of the Anchor Lodge.

Song—"Anchored," Bro. W. S. Charlton.

Bro. M. Walmsley, P.M., proposed "The I.P.M., Bro. J. S. Winn," and said he was held in the greatest possible respect by everyone who had the honour of his acquaintance. They were met together that evening to say farewell to Bro. Winn, who was about to change the venue of his residence, but they hoped they would not lose him, but would occasionally have the pleasure of seeing him amongst them. Every brother who knew Bro. Winn would, he was certain, agree with him in wishing him in his future long life and a great deal of happiness and prosperity. He did not hesitate for one moment to say wherever Bro. Winn went he would gain respect, and they all trusted that in London he would enjoy good health and long-continued prosperity.

The toast was drunk with hearty enthusiasm and musical honours, after which Bro. Pattinson sang "Brandy and Tea."

Bro. J. S. Winn, P.M., returned thanks for the toast which had been so eulogistically submitted by Bro. Walmsley. It was with feelings of sincere regret that he said farewell to the brethren of the Anchor Lodge. He could look back with feelings of genuine pleasure to the many pleasant meetings he had enjoyed with them, that being more particularly the case during the time that they honoured him with the honourable position as Master of the lodge. He had to thank the Past Masters and brethren of the lodge for the support they had given him. He had made many friends during the 12 years he had resided in their town, which he was now very sorry to part with. But he could assure the brethren that it was his intention to long remain as a member of the Anchor Lodge. Already he had received invitations to join three lodges in London. He had attended Lodge No. 735, held in Anderton's Hotel, but the stiffness and formalities of the Southern brethren were not acceptable to Northerners. He thanked Bro. Walmsley for his far too flattering remarks, and assured the brethren that whenever he came to Northallerton he would try and attend their meetings.

Song—Bro. Dr. Hutchinson, "The Holy Friar."

Bro. J. S. Winn, P.M., then submitted "The Worshipful Master Elect," who had been elected by a unanimous vote, and who, from the way in which he had filled the office of Treasurer, was certain to prove the right man in the right place. He was certain that he would discharge the duties of W.M. to his own credit and to the satisfaction of every brother of the Anchor Lodge. He wished Bro. Waistell every success during his year of office, and hoped he would have the assistance and co-operation of all the Past Masters and brethren of the Anchor Lodge.

Bro. Waistell, P.M., who was visibly affected, replied, and feelingly alluded to the severe losses the lodge had sustained by the death of brethren, but he hoped they had all gone to the Grand Lodge above, and that they would all join them. He thanked them heartily for the honour they had done him, and assured them that he would do his utmost to discharge the duties of the office.

The Chairman submitted "The Past Masters of the Anchor Lodge," and thanked them heartily for the kind assistance they had given him.

Bros. Fairburn, P.M.; Walmsley, P.M.; and Waistell, P.M., returned thanks.

The other toasts were "The Visitors," to which Bro. Soppett responded, and "The Officers of the Anchor Lodge," to which Bros. W. Bell, Jos. Ward, J. Naylor, Tweedy, and W. S. Charlton returned thanks, and the meeting terminated.

PLYMOUTH.

St. John Lodge (No. 70).—The installation meeting of this, the senior lodge in South Devon, was held on December 27th, at the Freemasons' Hall. The popularity of this lodge and the influential positions of its members in the Order, combined with the installation as its W.M. of Bro. Frederick Wreford, a popular brother and the chief constable of the police, occasioned a very large attendance. Over 60 Past Masters were present. The Installing Officers were Bros. W. King, the retiring W.M.; W. T. Hocking, I.P.M.; J. B. Gover, P.P.G. Sec.; J. Griffin, P.P.S.G.D.; and W. F. Westcott. The Board of Installed Masters also included Bros. J. DuPre, P.P.G.D.C.; V. Bird, P.P.G.T.; C. Stribling, P.P.G.S.B.; R. Pengelly, P.P. A.G.D.C.; A. E. Lean; J. G. Kevern, P.G. Stwd.; George Sercombe; Major M. Tracy, R.A., 1247, P.P. S.G.W.; Rev. Dr. T. W. Lemon, 189, P.P.G. Chap., P.P.J.G.W.; J. R. Lord, 1247, P.P.G.T.; G. H. Selleck, 1559, P.G. Reg.; C. H. Cooper, 105, P.P.G.D.; R. Caswey, 20, P.P.J.G.D.; E. Aitken-Davies, 1099, P.P.G. Supt. of Wks.; J. Kinton Bond, 1247, P.P.G.D.C.; F. Hooper, 1212, 2025, P.P.G.D.C.; J. Gifford, 2025, P.P.G.D.C.; W. Trevena, 1255, P.P.G.D.C.; W. Browning, 223, P.P.G.D.C.; W. K. Michell, 156, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. M. Hifley, 223, P.P.A.G.D.C.; T. Goodall, 1559, P.P. G.O.; R. Pike, 230, P.P.G.D.C.; G. Whitley, 156, P.P. G.O.; A. W. Spinney and H. J. Kitt, of 105; W. H. Michell, 156; C. Marshall, H. Mortimore, P.P.G.S.B., F. J. Price, B. St. Johns, and F. R. Thomas, of 189; W. Allford and J. Leonard, of 202; R. Blight and J. A. Lavers, of 223; R. W. Burt, 230; W. Coath and J. Duckett, 893; H. Rogers and E. Roseveare, 1099; J. Wood, 1136; R. C. Wyatt and P. G. L. Pearce, 1247; S. J. Daniel, J. Wallis, and W. L. Lavers, 1255; R. G. Bird and M. C. Lakeman, 1559; J. Gidley and C. G. Withell, of 2025.

The officers invested were Bros. W. King, I.P.M.; J. H. Evans, S.W.; W. L. D. Colling, J.W.; Rev. Dr. T. W. Lemon, Chap.; R. Pengelly, Treas.; J. B. Gover, Sec.; J. Hicks, S.D.; J. Carr, J.D.; M. Jacobs, D. of C.; J. Goad, A.D.C.; W. Holloway, Org.; G. E. Sercombe, I.G.; J. Burton, J. Cory, A. G. Collings, G. Leach, and G. W. Vincent, Stewards; and W. H. Phillips, Tyler. Bros. R. Pengelly and J. Hicks were re-elected severally the representative at the Committee of Petitions and the Charity Steward.

Bro. the Rev. Dr. Lemon then presented to the lodge a copy of "The Yorkshire Lodges: A Century of Yorkshire Freemasonry," by Bro. J. Ramsden Riley, of Bradford (Historian of 387), P.P.G.D.C. of West Yorkshire. The work, profusely illustrated, is very handsomely bound. Bro. Lemon said he thought the brethren would find it very interesting, and add to the attraction of the lodge library. The gift was received with thanks, and handed over to Bro. C. G. Withell, Librarian of the lodge.

The brethren adjourned to the large and handsome refectory, where over 90 of the brethren remained to partake of the annual banquet. The following additional Past Masters joined in the festivities: Bros. D. Cross, 2258, P.P.G.T.; Dr. F. A. Thomas, 1247, P.P.J.G.D.; W. H. Gillman, P.P.A.G.D.C.; N. Radmore, 159; E. H. Littleton, 230; and Rollo Balmain. The W.M., Bro. Wreford, presided. Notwithstanding the guests largely exceeded the number at first expected, the banquet was admirably catered, and did great credit to Bro. S. Harvey, the manager, and the directors of the Hall Company. A portion of the Royal Marine band occupied the dais, and enlivened the proceedings throughout the evening. Among the vocalists were Bros. W. H. Gillman, J. Leonard, T. Goodall, and T. McL. Rendle. Bros. J. Kinton Bond and W. L. Lavers gave recitations, Bro. Ilford cornet solos, and Bro. J. Hicks a violin solo. A handsome gold Past Master's jewel was handed by Bro. Gover to the retiring W.M., Bro. W. King, "In token of fraternal esteem and regard."

In reply to the toast of "The Directors and Shareholders of the Devon and Cornwall Freemasons' Hall and Club Company," Bro. T. Goodall, the late Secretary of the Company,

and Bro. W. H. Dillon, the present Secretary, gave very satisfactory accounts of the progress of the Company, but said its prosperity would be much furthered if the brethren took a larger interest in the undertaking. Many brethren who were warm promoters of the venture at first, had not given it that subsequent support which might have been expected.

The unusually large Board of Installed Masters present at this installation was only approached but once before in any lodge in Devon, viz., at the installation of Bro. J. Kinton Bond, 1247, in 1882, when 50 Past Masters were present.

Charity Lodge (No. 223).—The members of this lodge held their annual meeting on December 17th, at the Freemasons' Hall. The W.M. elect, Bro. J. A. Lavers, was installed. Bros. W. Stenlake, the retiring W.M., W. Browning, P.P.G.D.C., and P. H. Bridgman, 223, were the Installing Officers. The Board of Installed Masters also included Bros. the Rev. Dr. T. W. Lemon, 189, P.P.G. Chap., P.P.J.G.W.; J. W. Cornish, P.P. G.T.; T. C. Lewarn, P.P.J.G.D.; J. M. Hifley, P.P. A.G.D.C.; R. Blight, J. Lavers, F. R. Goodyear, J. Hoyten, and W. J. C. Hannaford, all of 223; S. Jew, 105, 2258, P.P.G.T.; J. R. Lord, 1247, P.P.G.T.; E. Aitken-Davies, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. H. Blackell, S. Panter, W. J. Stanbury, 1099; G. Sercombe, 70; W. H. Michell, 156; B. S. Johns, R. Selmon, H. Miller, 159; R. Pike, 230; J. Duckett, P.G. Stwd.; W. Coath, 893; A. Trout, W. Powell, 1205; J. Bray, 358, 1212; B. R. P. Elliott, 1247; S. J. Hearle, 1255; W. H. Williams, 1847; and J. Gidley, 2025. The officers invested were Bros. W. Stenlake, I.P.M.; G. Payne, S.W.; H. Rogers, J.W.; Rev. T. W. Lemon, D.D. Chap.; F. R. Goodyear, Treas.; W. Browning, Sec.; I. A. Court, S.D.; C. B. Gale, J.D.; S. Yeomans, D.C.; S. W. Sanders, A.D.C.; W. Biscoombe, Org.; C. H. Soper, M.D.; P. H. Hannaford, I.G.; C. H. Tozer, W. H. Hawkins, J. S. Hannaford, and H. Membrey, Stwds.; and W. H. Phillips, Tyler. Bro. W. Browning was appointed the representative of the lodge at the Committee of Petitions. Bro. J. Neno retired from the office of Charity Steward through press of business, having held it for several years with much credit and satisfaction to the lodge. Bro. T. C. Lewarn was elected to succeed him. On the proposition of Bro. J. Hoyten, seconded by Bro. Lewarn, a gold Past Master's jewel was voted to the I.P.M., Bro. W. Stenlake, whose punctual attendance and zealous working during his year of office and his able assistance at the installation of his successor were warmly praised. Bro. C. Soper, the Musical Director, who was initiated into Masonry in this lodge on the same day as the new W.M., presented Bro. Lavers with a handsome gold medallion of the reign of Queen Anne, dated 1710, as a token of esteem and complimentary congratulation on his success in having reached his high office.

The annual banquet of the lodge was appointed to be held at the Freemasons' Hall on the first Monday in January.

PORTLAND.

Portland Lodge (No. 1037).—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Thursday, Dec. 19th, presided over by its genial W.M., Bro. E. Mills, supported by the following officers: Bros. T. Eveleigh, I.P.M.; C. J. Freeman, S.W.; H. Cooke, J.W.; R. Cox, P.M., Chap.; F. T. Dowdeswell, Treas.; N. Ruddock, Sec.; F. W. Crossgrove, S.D.; D. J. Lawson, J.D.; G. J. Brady, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., D.C.; A. Hodder, Org.; J. Hussey and J. Baker, Stwds.; and J. W. Mills, Tyler. The brethren present were Bros. Sir R. N. Howard, P.G.D. of England; A. G. Western, P.P.G.O.; H. J. Butcher, R. C. Bennett, J. Graham, H. Schutte, and G. Palmer. Among the visitors were Bros. Zillwood Milledge, I.P.M. 170, P.P.G.D.C.; G. J. Davis, P.M. 170; and H. Gibbs, P.M. 170, P.P.G.D.C.

After the usual opening ceremony, the minutes were read and confirmed and communications read. The lodge was called off, as the two candidates had mistaken the time of opening. Eventually a candidate of good report was led into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry, while the Second Degree was postponed owing to want of time.

After the lodge was closed, the brethren retired to the supper room, to partake of refreshment, carefully prepared by the energetic Stewards, Bros. Hussey and Baker. A most enjoyable evening was spent, enlivened by the musical talent with which the lodge is well stocked, and which was also possessed by the greater number of the visitors.

STOCKPORT.

St. John's Lodge (No. 104).—The annual meeting for the installation of W.M. and celebration of the Festival of St. John was held on Monday, Dec. 9th, at the lodge rooms at the White Lion Hotel, when Bro. Geo. Gaskill, W.M. elect, was installed into the chair in a very able and finished manner by Bro. Herbert Finch, P.M., P.P.G. D. of C., assisted by Bro. J. Beresford, P.M., P.P.S.G.D. The ceremony of installation was rendered with choral accompaniment, and proved a great Masonic treat for the numerous and distinguished assembly who attended the meeting. The vocalists included Bros. M. Stafford, P.M. 361; W. Booth, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; G. Balfe, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; J. J. Lewis, and W. Alcock. The officers for the ensuing year were invested by the new W.M. as follows, their duties being explained by Bro. Beresford, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.: Bros. C. Clarkson, I.P.M.; J. D. Kain, S.W.; C. H. Andrew, J.W.; E. Johnson, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., Treas.; J. Bell, P.M., Sec.; W. H. Harrison, S.D.; T. Haslam, J.D.; W. Booth, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., as D.C.; Herbert Balfe, Org.; H. R. Nickal, I.G.; J. F. Lomas and J. B. Harrison, Stwds.; and J. Scott, P.M. 322, Tyler. At the conclusion of the installation ceremony, the W.M. invested the retiring W.M., Bro. Clarkson, with a valuable Past Master's jewel, presented by the lodge as a mark of their esteem.

After some formal business had been transacted, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was provided by the hostess (Mrs. Robertson) in splendid style, and gave general satisfaction.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts, interspersed with glees and songs, were duly honoured.

"The Health of the W.M." was received with enthusiasm.

Bro. Gaskill is to be congratulated on the happy auspices under which he commences his Mastership of this ancient lodge, and his own efficiency as a Craftsman, coupled with that of a zealous and able staff of officers, augurs well for the success of this lodge.

Bro. W. Booth, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., officiated as D. of C., and besides the members of the lodge already named there were present Bros. Lieut.-Col. Wilkinson, P.M., P.S.G.W.; Major F. Preston, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; R. Newhouse, P.M., P.G. Sec.; J. Jackson, P.M. 293, P.P.S.G.D.; J. Leech, P.M., P.P.J.G.D. East Lanc.; W. H. Vaughan, P.M. 1030, P.P.G.R. East Lanc.; T. E. Mason, P.M. 361, P.G. Treas.; J. Leigh, P.M. 287, P.P.G. Steward; J. Smith, P.M., P.P.G. Steward; J. Williamson, P.M. 322; R. Barlow, P.M. 1147; J. Cookson, W.M. 287, P.G. Steward East Lanc.; R. Clayton, W.M. 1957; H. Lomas, S.W. 1957; J. Barnett, J.W. 293; W. Merrison, W.M. elect 323; Rev. A. Symonds, 357; J. Penny, 323; J. H. Fletcher, J. A. Jones, A. G. Cumming, P.M., P.P.G. Steward; J. Fox, P.M. 104; G. F. Bowden, P.M.; H. Crossley, J. L. Newton. S. C. Barlow, H. R. Barrington, and others.

It appears from a printed Charity report issued by this lodge that its contributions to the Masonic Institutions have been on a liberal scale, amounting in the aggregate to £686 15s., and as a result the lodge is a Vice-President of all the three great Masonic Institutions, and also of the Cheshire Educational Institution, holding 73 votes for the Benevolent Institution, 31 votes for the Girls' School, 48 for the Boys' School, and 115 votes for the Cheshire Local Institution.

Royal Arch.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

HAMPTON.

Lebanon Chapter (No. 1326).—An emergency meeting of this chapter was held on Saturday, December 28th, at the Red Lion Hotel, to exalt Bro. G. H. Reynolds, J.W. 1614 and J.D. 2191, and C. O. Burgess, 2191. On account of the holiday season and the inclemency of the weather, the attendance was not so large as could have been wished. In the unavoidable absence of Comp. J. W. Hartley, the M.E.Z., the First Principal's chair was occupied by Comp. J. J. Briggs, the others present being Comps. H. Hooper, H.; G. R. Langley, J.; R. F. Potter, Scribe E.; F. Jackson, Scribe N.; E. Hopwood, P.Z.; and F. M. Noakes, 1624.

The beautiful ritual was rendered in a most clear and impressive manner seldom excelled, and reflected the highest credit on all concerned.

There being no further business, the companions adjourned to supper, after which the usual toast list was gone through, and the companions separated at an early hour.

Mark Masonry.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

FRIZINGTON.

Henry Lodge (No. 216).—The regular meeting of the above lodge was held on Wednesday, December 18th, at the Masonic Hall. Present: Bros. B. Craig, W.M.; H. Hartley, S.W.; Jas. Harper, P.M., J.W.; J. Routledge, M.O.; J. Wakefield, S.O.; W. Robinson, J.O.; G. Dalrymple, Sec., as S.D.; W. Heathcote, J.D.; T. Pickering, I.G.; J. Gordon, Tyler; and others.

The minutes were read and confirmed, and two candidates were balloted for and advanced, viz., Bros. Barwise and Bland. This being the meeting for electing the W.M., Bro. H. Hartley, S.W., was elected by a unanimous vote, and Bro. Jas. Harper, P.M., was elected Treasurer. One certificate having been presented, the lodge was closed with "Hearty good wishes."

TORQUAY.

Jordan Lodge (No. 319).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, the 18th December, when there were present together, with others, Bros. W. J. Hughan, P.S.G.W. England; John Lane, P.M., P.S.G.O. England, Sec.; John Dodge, P.M., P.P.G. Reg.; T. Prust, W.M.; W. Taylor, S.W.; T. J. Crossman, J.W.; T. H. Wills, M.O.; John Taylor, Chap., as S.O. and J.O.; John Chapman, Prov. G.M.O., Reg. of Marks; G. West, as I.G.; J. Gorwyn, S.D.; T. Brooks, Org.; J. E. Newton, Tyler; Rowland, and V. Lauzell.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., and after the confirmation of the minutes, Bro. John Chapman was saluted with the honours due to his rank as the recently appointed Prov. G.M.O. A successful ballot was then taken for Bro. J. N. Beer, of 1402, as a candidate for advancement, and he being present, the chair was vacated by the W.M., and occupied by Bro. John Lane, who advanced the candidate to the Degree of M.M.M. with that faultless accuracy for which he is so well known. Sundry other matters were disposed of, and the lodge closed.

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

MANCHESTER LODGE (No. 179).—A meeting was held on Saturday, December 28th, at Tupps, 8, Tottenham Court-road, when there were present Bros. Gittens, W.M.; Goldfinch, S.W.; Marx, J.W.; Dickenson, Treas.; Hoggins, S.D.; Shales, J.D.; Harvey, I.G.; Mathews, Joseph Marcus, Marcus, and Greenway.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Goldfinch worked the 1st Section of the Lecture. Bro. Joseph Marcus having offered himself as a candidate, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Marcus passed. The S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and the lodge was closed.

The sections will be worked on the last Saturday in January.

RANELAGH LODGE (No. 834).—A meeting was held on Friday, December 20th, at the Six Bells Hotel, Queen-street, Hammersmith. Present: Bros. J. Cummings, P.M., W.M.; F. Craggs, S.W.; D. S. Long, J.W.; J. Sims, P.M., Preceptor; H. J. F. Williams, Sec.; A. Williams, S.D.; and H. Wake, I.G.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Williams being the candidate. The lodge was opened and closed in the Second Degree. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by the brethren, under the direction of the Preceptor. The W.M. having risen, the S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).—The usual weekly meeting of the above lodge was held on Friday, December 20th, at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, when there were present Bros. W. Griffith, W.M.; Witney, S.W.; Lundie, J.W.; Westley, Preceptor; Stuart, Sec.; Liell, S.D.; Dennis, J.D.; Gilbert, I.G.; Chamberlain, Robertson, Price, Lingley, Hearn, Edwards, and Knight.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and the 1st Section of the Third Lecture ably worked by Bro. Westley, Preceptor. The ceremony of raising was worked by the W.M., Bro. Knight acting as candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and Bros. Knight and Dowling were elected joining members. Bro. Witney was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. It was proposed by Bro. La Feuillade, and seconded and supported by Bros. Westley and Lingley, that a letter of condolence be sent to Mrs. Collins expressing the sympathy of the lodge at the death of Bro. Collins, late of the Giraffe and Court Taverns, and member of the Kennington Lodge, to whom the lodge of instruction had been greatly indebted for kindness received at his hands during the re-building of the Horns. The proposal was carried unanimously. Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, December 23rd, at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland Gardens, Paddington, W. Present: Bros. J. C. Conway, W.M.; C. G. Wetzlar, W.M. 141, S.W.; W. J. Mason, W.M. elect 2246, J.W.; W. H. Chalfont, P.M. 1425, Asst. Preceptor; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, Sec.; W. R. Hatton, S.D.; H. Campbell, J.D.; H. Windeatt, I.G.; H. Lindfield, Stwd.; and O. W. Battley. Bros. James Chaundler, 1612, and W. Hillier, 1366, were visitors.

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. Chaundler being the candidate. The lodge was called off and on. The questions leading from the First to the Second Degree were answered by Bro. Chaundler. Bros. Chaundler and Hillier were elected members. Bro. Wetzlar was elected W.M. for the next meeting—the officers to be in rotation. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

A meeting was also held at the above address on December 30th, when there were present Bros. C. G. Wetzlar, W.M. 141, W.M.; O. W. Battley, S.W.; H. Windeatt, J.W.; J. R. Allman, I.P.M. 1425, acting Preceptor; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, Sec.; W. Hillier, S.D.; H. Campbell, J.D.; J. H. Taylor, I.G.; J. C. Conway, Steward; J. Chaundler, A. B. Northcroft, J. Cruttenden, H. Lingfield, and J. Smith.

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. Chaundler being candidate, he afterwards answering the questions leading to the Second Degree. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and after the usual preliminaries, the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Northcroft being candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Battley was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and appointed his officers in rotation. A vote of sympathy with Bro. Chalfont on the serious illness of his wife, and votes of condolence with the families of the late Bros. Dr. Gawith and Harris were unanimously passed. After "Hearty good wishes" the lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE (No. 1471).—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 31st December, when there were present Bros. A. Wolter, W.M.; J. C. Yates, S.W.; C. G. Gray, J.W.; W. Hancock, Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, Sec.; J. Duncan, S.D.; T. Williams, I.G.; S. Napper, and E. J. Harrison.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Harrison answered the questions leading to the Second Degree, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Harrison candidate. Bro. Napper 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. Napper candidate. The W.M. gave the traditional history. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Yates was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting, and appointed officers in rotation. Nothing further offering, the lodge was closed.

STUART LODGE (No. 1632).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, December 19th, at the Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, for the purpose of rehearsing the ceremony of installation, which was very ably carried out by Bro. Henry Baldwin, P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex. Bro. M. Spiegel, P.M., the very able Preceptor, presented Bro. Thomas Victor Turner, W.M. 1216, when he was duly installed into the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom in a full Board of Installed Masters. Bro. Spiegel delivered the three final addresses in a very feeling and impressive manner. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The 1st Section of the Second Lecture was worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the following: Bros. Charles Linsey, S.W.; White, J.W.; Salter, acting Sec.; A. Bannister, P.M. 1632; Hill, P.M. 1305; Moorman, P.M. and Sec. 1981; and others. Bros. Moorman, P.M., and Hill, P.M., were elected joining members. The dues were collected. After a hearty vote of thanks had been passed to Bro. Baldwin, P.M., for performing the ceremony in such an exemplary manner, the lodge was closed.

CREATON LODGE (No. 1791).—A meeting was held on Thursday, December 26th, at the Wheatheaf Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W. Present: Bros. H. D. Gilbert, W.M.; W. G. Jennings, S.W.; G. E. Higginson, J.W.; J. Davies, W.M. elect 169, Preceptor; J. Sims, P.M., Deputy Preceptor; W. H. Chalfont, P.M.; Sec.; H. Cotton, S.D.; J. D. Phillips, J.D.; F. Craggs, I.G.; R. Josey, P.M.; Dopson, P.M.; Arnott, Hillier, and Stevens.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Arnott answered the questions leading to the Second Degree. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. Bro. Hillier answered the questions leading to the Third Degree. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Jennings was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

ST. AMBROSE LODGE (No. 1891).—A meeting was held on Monday, December 30th, at the Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. Present: Bros. W. Fayers, W.M.; F. Craggs, S.W.; J. Sims, P.M., J.W.; J. Collings, P.M., Preceptor; G. McCrow, S.D.; W. Hunt, J.D.; P. P. Perry, I.G.; and others.

The lodge was opened in due form, in the First and Second Degrees. A brother having offered himself as a candidate for raising, was examined, and being found proficient, entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed in an admirable manner. The W.M. gave the traditional history. The lodge was closed in the Third and Second Degrees. It was resolved that in future the meetings should be held on Wednesday instead of Monday, at the same place, at 8 o'clock p.m. The next meeting will therefore take place on Wednesday, the 8th instant. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Sims for the able assistance he had given to the Preceptor and brethren during the past year. Bro. Craggs was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and after "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 2012).—A meeting was held on Saturday, December 21st, at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith. Present: Bros. T. W. Biggs, W.M.; A. Williams, S.W.; H. D. Aslett, J.W.; J. Sims, P.M., Preceptor; Hillier, S.D.; Spiegel, P.M., J.D.; L. Lee, I.G.; D. Stroud, P.M.; Reid, and Dusterwald.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The 2nd Section of the Lecture was then worked by the brethren, under the direction of the Preceptor. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. L. Lee offering himself as a candidate for raising, was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. L. Lee being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and Bro. D. Stroud was elected W.M. for the next meeting. Bro. Aslett gave notice that he proposed working the ceremony of installation to-morrow (Saturday). The lodge was then closed.

Royal Ark Mariners.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

TORQUAY.

Jordan Lodge.—The installation meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, the 18th December, when there were present Bros. John Lane, P.S.G.O. England, W.C.N.; John Chapman, J.; J. Dodge, S.; T. Prust, Scribe; W. Taylor, S.D.; T. J. Crossman, J.D.; T. H. Wills, D.C.; John Taylor, G.; J. E. Newton, Warder; G. West, V. Lauzell, and E. J. Pratt.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and a satisfactory statement of the accounts presented by the W.C.N. The W.C.N. then enthroned Bro. John Chapman, Prov. G.M.O., as the W.C.N. for the ensuing year, who appointed and invested as his officers Bros. J. Dodge, J.; T. Prust, S.; W. Taylor, Treas.; John Lane, Scribe; T. J. Crossman, S.D.; T. H. Wills, J.D.; John Taylor, D.C.; T. Brooks, Org.; G. West, G.; W. Hersey, Stwd.; and J. E. Newton, Warder. Bro. Lane then instructed the brethren in some very important and interesting points relative to the proper working of the Degree, which he had obtained during a recent visit to the metropolis. Letters conveying congratulations and "Hearty good wishes" to the newly enthroned W.C.N. were then read from Bros. the Rev. T. W. Lemon, D.D., B.D., Prov. S.G.W., and J. S. Lane.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to an excellent supper, provided by Bro. W. Taylor. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given, and an agreeable and pleasant sociable evening spent.

Straits Settlements.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

SINGAPORE.

Mount Calvary-in-the-East Chapter (No. 47).—The annual installation meeting of this chapter was held on the 18th November last, when the retiring M.W.S., Bro. J. T. Leask, installed his successor, Bro. Arthur Knight, who invested the following as his officers: Bros. T. de M. L. Braddell, Prelate; R. W. Fowke, 1st General; L. H. D. Tripp, 2nd General; G. A. Derrick, Treas.; C. F. McKie, Marshal; J. T. Leask, Recorder; E. A. Thompson, Raphael; and D. G. Presgrave, Captain of the Guards.

West Indies.

Craft.

BERMUDA.

St. George Lodge (No. 200, S.C.).—The last meeting of the above lodge was held on October 22nd, at the Old Court House, and was a very enjoyable and interesting one, there being between 50 and 60 brethren present, including the Prov. G.M., Bros. H. Lockward, P.M., and G. Simpson, P.M., of 224 (E.C.); Bond, 1890 (E.C.); and J. J. Smith, 209 (I.C.).

The lodge being opened, the Rev. H. J. Wood and Mr. C. D. Boyle (son of the esteemed Treasurer) were initiated

by the R.W.M., Bro. C. M. McCallan, the address being rendered in a most eloquent and masterly manner by Bro. G. Simpson, P.M. 224 (E.C.). The tracing board lecture was given by Bro. Bond, W.M. 1890 (E.C.), in a most descriptive and pleasing style, which elicited a round of applause from the brethren. The charge was delivered by the Prov. G.M. in that felicitous mode for which he is so well noted throughout the islands. Bro. J. J. Smith, W.M. 209 (I.C.), kindly presided at the organ, and discoursed appropriate music during the ceremony.

After the lodge was closed, the brethren partook of refreshments.

The R.W.M., Bro. C. M. McCallan, proposed "The Visiting Brethren."

Bro. H. Lockward, P.M. 224 (E.C.), responded.

The toast of "The Newly-Initiated Brethren" was proposed by the Prov. Grand Master.

Bro. the Rev. H. J. Wood responded, and stated that he was very pleased with the ceremony of his initiation, and was delighted at the beautiful symbolic teachings of the Degree, and he felt certain that he should take a deep interest in Masonry, and prove an enthusiastic member of the lodge.

The brethren then sang "Auld lang syne" in the usual Masonic manner, and this closed one of the most interesting meetings in the annals of the lodge.

MASONIC BENEVOLENCE IN HAMPSHIRE.

FESTIVAL AT PORTSMOUTH.

On Tuesday, December 3rd, the festival of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Commercial-road, Landport, under the presidency of the Chairman, Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight). The D.P.G.M., Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, the Worshipful the Mayor, Bro. Sir William King, and other well-known members of the Craft were unavoidably absent. The Provincial Grand Master was supported by the Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. Edgar Goble; the Provincial Grand Treasurer, Bro. John W. Gieve; the Rev. Bro. J. N. Palmer, Past G. Chap. of England; and the Prov. S.G. Warden, Bro. Major W. Campbell, P.M. 257; and the Hon. Secretary of the Institution, Bro. G. F. Lancaster, P.M., P.P.G. Registrar. The company included Bros. Henry Cawte, P.P.J.G.W.; S. R. Ellis, P.M. 342, P.P.G.D. of C.; E. S. Main, P.M., P.P.G.D. of C.; W. A. Hill, P.M. 309, P.P.G.S.B.; T. H. Williams, W.M. 309; Thomas W. Haydon, J.W. 309; J. G. Mason, P.M. 1428; W. Miller, W.M. 2068; R. G. Pither, Sec. 2068; W. H. Sperring, W.M. 342; W. J. Townsend, 1776; H. Edwards, 1776; H. Simes, 487; E. Godwin, Steward 1776; G. W. Peel, 2068; F. Avery, 1903; G. Backler, 1903; W. F. Westerman, W.M. 1776; B. Harfield, S.D. 1112; C. Dobson, 1869; F. Orford; Lieut. T. Cowd, W.M. 1834; F. H. Woodrow, W.M. 2074; W. Bates, W.M. 487; J. Collings, P.M. 804, P.P.G.P.; H. W. Smith-Parsons, P.M. and Treas. 804; J. E. Buck, P.M. 342; R. Boughton-Smith, P.M. 130; A. J. Firth, P.M. 1869, P.P.G.O.; G. Farney Brown, P.M. 1834, P.J.G.D.; F. P. Anslie, P.M., W.M. 551, P.J.G.D.; and others.

An excellent dinner was admirably served under the direction of Mr. Pearce, the Steward of the Club. A string band, conducted by Bro. T. F. Wilton, played choice selections.

Grace before and after the repast was said by Bro. the Rev. J. N. Palmer, after which

The Prov. G.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft." Loyalty to the Sovereign of their native land was, he said, a duty incumbent upon all Englishmen, and discharged with the greatest pleasure, because they cherished love towards her person and a devoted attachment to the Institution of which she was the head. Freemasons yielded to no section of the community in loyalty and devotion to her Majesty.

The Prov. G.M. next proposed "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master," who had presided over them with such great advantage to the Institution for many years. From the moment that his Royal Highness had acceded to the wish that he should be their head, Freemasonry had grown to an almost unexampled extent, and the interest which he had taken in the work of the Order had been of the utmost advantage to and reflected the greatest credit upon it. Looking forward to the time when he must be the head of this Kingdom, though he might not then act as their Grand Master, he was sure that his Royal Highness would not relinquish the love which he bore towards Freemasonry.

The Prov. G.M. submitted "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon; and the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom; and the Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past."

Bro. the Rev. J. N. PALMER, Past Grand Chaplain, in responding, said that as a province they ought to congratulate themselves that they had a man to rule over them who was looked up to in Grand Lodge with such thorough respect and esteem as their Grand Master was. He had often presided at Grand Lodge, and whenever he was called upon his decisions were marked by calmness and prudence, and were universally accepted.

Bro. E. GOBLE, in proposing "Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. Grand Master, Chairman," said that in his capacity as Provincial Grand Secretary he had great opportunities of seeing the work that was done by their Provincial Grand Master. From his youth up he had been a Freemason, and ever since he had joined the Craft he had worked hard in the cause. He was initiated in the Apollo Lodge at Oxford, and he had man-

fully worked himself up from an Entered Apprentice. He had done everything that one could for the cause of Freemasonry, and he could look back with a large amount of pride to a few years ago when he sat as Chairman at the Festival of one of the London Charities, and when the largest sum ever gathered into that fund on such an occasion was received. Whenever there was a call upon him they would always find him to the front, and he was there that night to put before them the cause of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Educational and Benevolent Institution. He hoped that when they heard their honorary Secretary speak they would hear of a good sum being gathered for the Institution, which he looked upon as almost absolutely necessary for that province.

The toast was drunk with three cheers.

The Prov. G.M., in responding, said that it had given him very great pleasure to be there that evening. It was quite true, as Bro. Goble had said, that from the time he was initiated into Freemasonry he had taken a great interest in the welfare of the Craft, and one of the first things he undertook after he had been made a Mason was the Stewardship of one of the Masonic Charities. He thought that gave him the first insight into the good the Craft was doing, because he saw the vast benefits that accrued from the course of education being carried out at one of the great Institutions, and he then made an inward resolve to do all he could to support an Order conferring such great advantages. He did not think he had relaxed his efforts in the cause, neither did he think that his arduous was damped in any way, and he had done his duty whether in a low position or the high one which he now filled for the benefit of the Craft. He was quite sure that it was working a great good amongst those children who had no means of supporting themselves, and in a social point of view, because it brought men together and made them friends in the time of need, uniting them in a bond of brotherly love. Freemasonry did not only a great work in their own social gatherings and in their own country, but was a benefit with regard to the relationship of one country with another. He appealed to them to adhere to the ancient rules of the Craft, and not to allow innovations to be introduced which would destroy the essential principles established by their forefathers. Let them adhere to the ancient principles and traditions, and do their best to fulfil them themselves and transmit them to their descendants. He acknowledged the support he had always received as the Grand Master of that very large and important province, and said it was a great gratification to him to come amongst his brethren and receive such a hearty welcome as he had received that evening.

The Prov. G.M. next proposed "Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, Deputy Prov. G.M., and the Officers of Prov. Grand Lodge, Present and Past." He said that he was sure that Bro. Le Feuvre would have been there if he could have managed it, but unfortunately he was in the North of England. They all knew the interest he took in that province and also in Grand Lodge. He was for many years Prov. Grand Secretary, and in that very onerous capacity always did good service, and his ability and geniality commended him to all his brother Masons. The Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past, always rendered him the most ample assistance in the promotion of Masonry in that province. He associated with the toast the name of Bro. J. W. Gieve, the Prov. Grand Treasurer, who, he said, had served with great credit to himself, and had given the greatest assistance to Prov. Grand Lodge. His office required considerable tact and ability, and he had received from Bro. Gieve the greatest assistance.

Bro. GIEVE, in responding, said the Prov. Grand Officers all felt bound to support the Prov. Grand Master in every possible way that lay in their power. He felt it an honour to work with so able a Mason, who was looked up to not only by the brethren of that province but throughout England, and more especially by those who were connected with the Grand Lodge. Meeting together to celebrate the second anniversary of that Institution he congratulated Bro. Lancaster on its present position. He (Bro. Gieve) had received, with a certain deduction, the legacy of £200 of the late Bro. Major Hooper, a Past G. Warden of the province, and suggested that it should be invested for the benefit of that Institution, and adding that that would be for the brethren to decide at the provincial meeting to be held in January.

The Prov. G.M. next introduced "Success to the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution." He said that but for the inclement weather the attendance would have been much larger, and mentioned that one eminent Mason in that locality had intended to come, but was prevented through being unwell—he referred to Bro. Col. Crease, a P.M. of the Phoenix Lodge. The interest which had been felt in that Institution was very great and unexampled. He thought the balance-sheet in their hands showed that it had been very successful. There were great Masonic Institutions demanding large support from the Craft, which they had received with no stinted hand from the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. There was a time when their Charities received more support from London than the country, where they were not then sufficiently known. But in time they became better known, they received very great support from the provinces, and now the great Central Charities were not only supported by London but very much from the provinces. There were large provinces, which, though they gave great support to those Charities, could not expect to get their children elected very often. If they got one elected every year or two it was all they could expect. When they had a

great number of lodges in a province, with a great many brethren, the demands upon the Charities became greater than they could bear, and naturally there was some call for fresh institutions which might take up those who could not expect to get into the larger Charities. Therefore, he thought a very good work was done when, through Bro. Lancaster, that Charity was established. In most of those things someone must pull the stroke oar, give an impetus to it, and put his shoulder to the wheel, and Bro. Lancaster, with unexampled energy, had instituted and, with the assistance of others, carried out that great work. He thought it reflected great credit upon him and the brethren who had supported him that the Institution had borne such good fruit, as there were no less than six children receiving the benefits of education. He thought the Institution well deserved the support of Freemasons in the province. In smaller provinces it could not be expected that a local Charity should receive sufficient assistance to render it successful. It seemed almost doubtful, even in that province, whether a Charity could be supported, but no doubt it was doing a great and important work in the cause of Charity. He should be very loath himself to support it if their Central Charities were in consequence to suffer to any extent. But such was not the case, and, on the contrary, they did their utmost to support that Institution in harmony and side by side with the great Masonic Charities of the Order. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Lancaster, who had done such very good work in starting the Institution.

Bro. G. F. LANCASTER, in reply, said that when he had the pleasure to bring that idea to the front and to submit it to a few friends in the room overhead, he had no idea that it would reach such successful results as it had done. He explained why a festival had not been held last year, and read the following list of subscriptions handed in by the Stewards:—Province, Bro. J. W. Gieve, £28 6s.; Gloucester Lodge, 130, Bro. R. Boughton-Smith, £12 7s.; Phoenix Lodge, 257, Bro. Major W. Campbell, £31 10s.; Lodge of Harmony, 309, Bro. T. H. Williams, £22 7s. 3d.; Royal Sussex Lodge, 342, Bro. J. E. Buck, £13 11s.; Portsmouth Lodge, 487, and United Brothers Lodge, 1069, Bro. J. Jenkins, £26 5s.; Yarborough Lodge, 551, Bro. F. P. Anslie, £8 18s. 6d.; Panmure Lodge, 723, Bro. J. Miller, £13 13s.; Carnarvon Lodge, 804, Bro. H. W. Smith-Parsons, £53 8s.; Friendship Lodge, 928, Bro. T. Caparn, return not yet received; United Brothers, 1069, Bro. H. Cawte, £1 1s.; Shirley Lodge, 1112, Bro. B. Harfield, £11; Bro. C. F. W. Mortimer, £5 5s.; United Service Lodge, 1428, Bro. J. G. Mason, £5 5s.; Landport Lodge, 1776, Bro. E. S. Main, £69 6s.; Duke of Connaught Lodge, 1834, Bro. Lieut. T. Cowd, £23 12s. 6d.; ditto, Bro. G. Farney Brown, £15 15s.; Saxe-Weimar Lodge, 1903, Bro. George Backler, £28 5s.; Hampshire Lodge of Emulation, 1990, Bro. S. R. Ellis, £2 2s.; Portsmouth Temperance Lodge, 2068, Bro. W. Miller, £40 5s.; St. Clair Lodge, 2074, Bro. F. H. Woodrow, £31 10s.; Lodge of Hope, 2153, Bro. W. Leonard, return not yet received; and W. Hickman, Mark Lodge, 320, Bro. A. J. Firth, £5 18s.; total, £449 10s. 3d. Although they would have liked to see a large number present, the magnificent total—the result of the exertions of 23 Stewards, two of whom had not yet made their return—was matter for great congratulation.

The last toast was "The Stewards," proposed by Bro. GOBLE, and responded to by Bro. E. S. Main, who referred to the fact that in two years the province had subscribed £1764 to that Institution, besides what it had given to the Central Charities.

FESTIVAL OF THE LANGTON LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

This flourishing lodge of instruction, which confines itself strictly to Emulation working, held its annual festival on Thursday, December 19th, at the White Hart Tavern, Abchurch-lane, Bro. J. D. Langton, P.P.J.G.W. Surrey, presided, and was supported by Bros. R. C. Sudlow, P.M. 263, P.P.S.G.D. Kent; G. F. Marshall, P.M. 69; C. W. Mapleton, J.W. 256; F. Knight, 1185; H. M. Hobbs, P.P.J.G.W. Surrey; E. M. Morriss, P.M. 1965; J. S. Fraser, P.M. 174 and 2096; E. M. de Paiva, J.D. 176; Dr. W. H. Causton, W.M. 865, P.P.S.G.D. Sussex; T. Burne, P.M. 162; B. Gardner, J.W. 69; A. Conford, J.D. 1044; E. R. Smith, S.W. 1044; Gordon Smith, W.M. 14, P.G. Stwd.; Geo. Anderson, P.M. 60, P.G. Stwd.; and W. W. Lee, 1897.

Previous to enjoying a substantial repast, a meeting of subscribers to the Langton Masonic Benevolent Association was held, when the Treasurer's report was received and adopted. Since its formation four years ago this association has done good work on behalf of the Charities, the amount collected during that period being no less than £1360 1s. 6d., 112 Life Governorships and four Life Subscriberships have been fully paid up and distributed as follows:

	Life Governorships.	Life Subscriberships.
R.M.I.G.	48	1
R.M.I.B.	38	2
R.M.B.I.	26	1

There was a balance in the Treasurer's hands of £102 7s. 10d., which it was unanimously resolved should be divided in the proportion of one-third to the Hon. Treasurer, and two-thirds to the Hon. Secretary (Bro. Gordon Smith), to be paid to the Masonic Institutions in their names, thus making a total of 126 Life Governorships. The association having thus been

brought to a very satisfactory termination, a Second Langton Masonic Association was inaugurated, Bro. Gordon Smith kindly consenting to again officiate as Hon. Secretary.

Ample justice having been done to the good fare provided by the worthy host, Bro. Anderson, a few Masonic toasts were given and duly acknowledged.

"The Chairman" was proposed by Bro. HUGH M. HOBBS, who said that they regretted the absence of Bro. Langton, sen., but it would be quite unnecessary for him to tell them anything of Bro. J. D. Langton, who occupied the chair that evening.

Bro. J. D. LANGTON, P.P.J.G.W. Surrey, having returned thanks, apologised on behalf of his father, who extremely regretted his inability to be present. As far as he was concerned, he thought he also ought to apologise. Bro. Mapleton and himself were the Secretaries of that lodge of instruction, but upon Bro. Mapleton all the labours of the secretarial duties had fallen, and they were all thankful to that brother for the manner in which those duties had been carried out. He would be always happy to attend and perform the work of Secretary when Bro. Mapleton was unable to be present, and would be happy at all times to render assistance. He thanked them for the way in which they had received the toast.

"The Preceptors" was next given, the CHAIRMAN remarking that they all knew how important it was, if a lodge of instruction was to be successful, to have good Preceptors, and no lodge could boast of better tutors than they had. Bro. Hobbs was known to them all, and any brother anxious to get on would find no better Preceptor and no better friend than he. Bros. Burne and Marshall were also able and willing to give instruction to those anxious to become acquainted with the ritual.

Bro. HUGH M. HOBBS, P.P.J.G.W. Surrey, said he was extremely obliged to the Chairman for the kind things said of them, and to the members of the lodge for the way they had received the toast. To Bro. Marshall the honours were due, for that brother had been more constant in his attendance than he had been able to be. He was delighted to find his poor efforts were appreciated, and should be only too glad to render assistance in the future to those working up in office. He felt it was one of the greatest honours he had in Freemasonry to be able to attend and assist the brethren in those beautiful ceremonies which they so much delighted in. He wished to say also how delighted he was, as the Treasurer of the Benevolent Association, to find they had been successful in collecting such a large sum. In connection with that Benevolent Association, it was only just he should refer to the admirable manner in which Bro. Gordon Smith had performed the duties of Secretary, for, having been Secretary of one association and being now Secretary of another, he knew the troubles and difficulties of the duties. In conclusion, he again thanked the brethren for their kindness.

Bro. BURNE, P.M., Sec. 162, having replied,

Bro. G. F. MARSHALL, P.M. 69, responded, and said that that lodge of instruction endeavoured to follow out Emulation principles. When the brethren attended it was their endeavour to teach them Emulation Masonry, and it was a pleasure to find how all submitted to the ruling of the Preceptor. This year they were fortunate in having more young members than in former years, which was a great encouragement to the Preceptors to continue their work.

Bro. Dr. CAUSTON, P.P.S.G.D. Sussex, replied for "The Committee," after which

Bro. LANGTON gave "The Health of Bro. Mapleton, acting Secretary," and said they knew that the Secretary of any body really had to bear the principal part of the work, and in lodges and lodges of instruction the work of the Secretary was the most important of all. The work of Bro. Mapleton had the approval of every member of the lodge, and their thanks were due to him for the generous way in which he gave up his time to perform the necessary duties of the office. The brethren would show by their heartiness in drinking that toast that they thanked him for the way in which he discharged his duties.

Bro. C. W. MAPLETON, J.W. 256, replied, and called the attention of the brethren present to the annual festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, to be held on the 28th February, 1890.

"The Emulation Lodge of Improvement" was given from the chair, Bro. LANGTON observing that the Langton Lodge of Instruction was proud to do what it could to prepare brethren for that higher lodge of instruction—the Emulation—and while it continued to work on the lines laid down—viz., meeting on the Thursday previous to the Friday on which the Emulation met, and working the same ceremonies performed at the latter lodge on the following night—they hoped to be of some small service to those desirous of working.

Bro. R. C. SUDLOW, P.P.S.G.D. Kent, in response, said that Bro. Langton had been good enough to refer to his work in Masonry, and he should never forget that he really dated the commencement of his Masonic career to his introduction to the Langton Lodge of Instruction. He well remembered his introduction to that lodge, a brother, who was now a Grand Officer, having spoken to him of a lodge of instruction for Emulation working, and asked him if he would take it up. He consented, came into the lodge, was accepted as its Preceptor, and for a long time they all worked very happily together. That period always had been and always would be one of the pleasantest of his Masonic memories. The lodge was now in splendid hands, being under a Committee of Preceptors, num-

bering amongst them Bros. Hobbs, Burne, and Marshall, and it would therefore be unnecessary for him to refer to their ability to teach those coming forward. Until the present moment that lodge of instruction occupied quite a unique position, being the only lodge really carrying out the working of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. He had to tell them that they would have to look after their laurels, because a warrant had just been issued for another lodge of instruction under the control of Bro. H. Sadler, the Grand Tyler and Sub-Librarian, who was one of the old Emulation workers under Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, and that lodge was to meet on a Thursday to work the ceremonies as they did in the Langton Lodge of Instruction. He thanked the brethren for their welcome, and assured them that amongst all his Masonic engagements he thought of none more highly, and there was none in which he numbered more of his oldest friends than in the Langton Lodge of Instruction.

"Success to the Second Langton Masonic Benevolent Association" was proposed by Bro. LANGTON, and replied to by the honorary Secretary, Bro. GORDON SMITH.

"The Visitor" was given in cordial terms from the chair, and responded to by Bro. LEE.

In proposing the toast of "The Masonic Press," Bro. LANGTON said that the best thanks of the Craft were due to the conductors of the Masonic journals for the manner in which the doings of the Craft were recorded, and for their willingness at all times to give assistance to anything appertaining to the welfare of the three Institutions. If the brethren would allow him he should be pleased to take that opportunity of referring to one of the Institutions, namely, the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, with which he had been connected as Hon. Sec. of the Provisional Management Committee. They all knew that for some time past a discussion had been taking place as to a pension being granted to Bro. Binckes on his retirement from the Secretaryship after 28 years' service. This length of service and the manner in which Bro. Binckes had discharged his duties were, in the opinion of the Provisional Management Committee, sufficient to entitle him to a pension, and the Committee, after careful consideration of the question, recommended that a grant should be made of £350 a year. That resolution was, at the last Quarterly Court carried by a small majority. The Committee, in the face of the smallness of the majority, had decided to substitute £250 in place of £350, and a resolution embodying the lesser sum would be brought before the next Quarterly Court with, he considered, every prospect of its being adopted. A scheme had been proposed, and had received the sanction of the Provisional Management Committee, by which, if successfully carried out, a sufficient sum would be obtained for payment of the proposed pension without the necessity of charging the funds of the Institution. It was, shortly, that each lodge throughout England should be asked to contribute towards a fund, and the money so subscribed would be paid into the hands of three trustees, and when he stated that the Grand Registrar (Bro. Philbrick, Q.C.), the Grand Treasurer (Bro. Edward Terry), and Bro. Eve, Past G. Treas., had consented to act as trustees of the fund, he knew that subscribers would have every confidence as to the proper carrying out of the details of the scheme. It had been calculated that if every Provincial lodge would subscribe £2 10s.—and, taking the average number of members as 40, this would be 1s. 3d. each considerably over £2500 would be raised. This was without taking into account the subscriptions from London lodges or from individuals, from both of which sources it was hoped to receive substantial additions to the fund. If the amount of the fund exceeded £2500 the balance would be paid over to the Institution. A distinguished member of the Craft had placed £2500 at the disposal of the Committee for a period of six months, to enable it, should it think desirable, to employ this amount in arranging for the immediate retirement of Bro. Binckes and to give time for obtaining the result of the appeal. He would add the attitude assumed by Bro. Binckes with respect to this question had met with the approval of the Committee, and that he (Bro. Binckes) had done all in his power to assist them. He trusted that this scheme would be successfully carried out, as it would provide for a fitting pension to Bro. Binckes after his 28 years' service without taking from the funds of the Institution, and it would put an end to the friction and ill-feeling which had been so regrettably introduced into the question, and which, if allowed to continue, would most seriously affect the interests of the Institution.

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE CITY MASONIC CLUB.

The annual dinner of this useful institution was held on Monday, the 9th Dec., at the City Arms Tavern, St. Mary's Axe, presided over by the Treasurer, Bro. A. H. Lilley, 12, the Preceptor and Secretary, Bro. J. B. Sorrell, 176 and 1620, occupying the vice-chair. The following members and visitors were present: Bros. Cabel Stanger, 12; J. H. Barker, 1260; J. Evans, 1260; Milton Smith, 19; A. Wormull, 19; W. Stewart, 499; C. Kifford, 1260; C. Wilkinson Pimbury, 1997; R. Greenaly, 1426; W. Lamb, 1260; J. B. Sorrell, jun., F. Varley, 1260; A. E. W. Gwyn, 19; H. S. Cluse, 19; F. Dangerfield, 1260; M. Brown, 1997; G. H. Hoyle, 19; G. F. James, 534; F. Kipp, 1997; J. R. Roy, 1260; H. Pick, 1920;

Frank Tayler, 1260; C. D. Singer, 12; J. P. Baxter, 1216; W. Jepson, 12; O. F. Peall, 12; L. Ferguson, 1997; H. F. Frost, 1260; and J. W. Roy, 12.

The company having partaken of a very admirably served dinner,

The PRESIDENT, in very appropriate terms, proposed severally the following toasts: "The Queen," "The Prince of Wales," and "The Grand Officers," after which the toast of "The Visitors" was given, and responded to by Bros. LAMB and STEWART, who respectively expressed their pleasure at the proceedings.

Bro. PEALL proposed "The Health of the President," and in so doing endeavoured to convey the feelings of high regard that all the members of the Club hold towards their painstaking President and Treasurer, reminding the company that Bro. Lilley had been a member of the Club for more than 20 years, and had all that time assiduously assisted in the useful work of instruction to the members, so much so that he could not call his time his own on any Monday evening during the session.

Bro. LILLEY, in responding, thanked Bro. Peall for his kind sentiments, but thought he had credited him with more than he deserved. He said he was as pleased now as at any time since he joined, 20 years ago, to be their President, and hoped to be able to continue of use to them and to have their support in the future as in the past.

Bro. FRANK TAYLER proposed the toast of "The City Masonic Club," and said most of them there, being members of the Club, owed a deep debt of gratitude to their esteemed President, Bro. Lilley, and their Preceptor, Bro. Sorrell, who were the great pillars of the Club. The high state of prosperity to which the Club had attained was due to their continued exertions, and its career of prosperity was assured while they were at the helm. At no lodge of instruction had he seen so good a chance of acquiring the Masonic ritual as in that Club. The Three Degrees were practised each Monday evening, the ritual being most correctly rehearsed. He did not know what his own Masonic career would have been but for the instruction he received in the Club, and that was the experience of other members. The Club had also been a very considerable benefit to the Masonic Charities. He did not know what the Club would do without Bro. Sorrell, whose name he had to couple with the toast, and he wished to convey to him his sincere thanks for what he had done for so many years, and while the Club existed he hoped for many years to come he would continue as Preceptor and Secretary.

Bro. SORRELL, in replying, said he was anxious to express his gratitude for the toast so kindly given on his behalf. He did not suppose the brethren could have chosen a member more capable of appreciating the rendering of the Masonic ritual than Bro. Tayler, who was a master of ritual himself, and had filled many important positions in Masonry with the very highest credit. One matter occurred to him, that as far as being pillars of the club they only stood at the wish of the members, being elected every year at their bidding, so that they were pillars very easily pulled down. He was very pleased that their services were appreciated, and it was very gratifying to them to know they were of service to the members. So long as it pleased the members, and while they had health, they hoped to always be with the Club. He joined the Club a year after Bro. Lilley. Twenty years had gone by very quickly and very pleasantly. The object of the Club was to benefit its members by fitting them for office in their respective lodges, and he had derived the same benefit himself. Besides the instruction given to its members, the Club had been instrumental in benefiting the Masonic Charities to the extent of several hundred pounds, subscribed for by the weekly collections of members.

The toast of "The Past Masters of the Various Lodges" was proposed, coupled with the names of Bros. Sorrell, jun., and Wilkinson-Pimbury.

Bro. SORRELL, jun., expressed his thanks for the benefit he had received from the Club by the instruction given him, and made a suggestion that the members who had become Past Masters and did not require the services of the Club any longer might be afforded the privilege of honorary membership, and form a sort of reserve strength or pillars of the Club.

Bro. WILKINSON-PIMBURY expressed his thanks for the benefit he had derived from the Club, and considered he was fortunate in having been a member, attributing his success during his year of office in the John Carpenter Lodge to his membership of the Club. He did not want to leave the Club after having got all he could from it, but wished to remain in it as long as he could, to be an example to others, and to demonstrate his gratitude.

The evening was enlivened by vocal and instrumental music, rendered by the following brethren: Bros. Gwyn, Milton Smith, Ferguson, Baxter, Jepson, Reap, Varley, Dangerfield, and Roy. Bro. Laughlin, who presided at the piano during the evening, performed two solos.

The importation of apples during Nov., 1889, amounted to 688,068 bushels, or a decrease of 254,389 bushels as compared with the corresponding month of last year. Onions imported last month exceed by 25,954cwt. the quantity received in November 1888, the total for, 1888 being 339,216 and for 1889 365,170. The importation of potatoes in November amounted to 21,350cwt., as compared with 63,800cwt. imported in November 1888, or a decrease of 42,450cwt. Oranges and lemons are coming to hand in large quantities. The total imports of these fruits in November were 447,143 bushels, as compared with 376,450 bushels imported in the corresponding period of last year.—*The Gardeners' Magazine.*



Boxing Night at Drury Lane has come and gone, and the verdict—more gorgeous than ever—is the same as it has ever been since Bro. Augustus Harris took up the reins there 11 years ago. We do not say "Jack and the Beanstalk" is a finer pantomime than its predecessors, but it is not a whit behind them. Bro. Harry Nicholls has laboured successfully in writing the book, and has made the topical allusions very funny. Of course, the London County Council, the influenza epidemic, the dethronement of the Emperor of Brazil, and the restriction by Parliament of the employment of children on the stage are all dealt with in turn. Bro. Herbert Campbell is supplied with a most amusing song (the funniest thing in the whole pantomime), by Bro. Geoffrey Thorne, anent Mr. McDougall and friends visiting the music halls as Paul Prys. Probably the author will add a couple of verses owing to the encores it receives. The beanstalk is not of the usual growth, but appears at Drury Lane in the shape of the Eiffel Tower. Mr. George Conquest, jun., plays the giant who carries off the Princess. He manages to make himself 10 feet high without being unable to move about with ease. Miss Harriet Vernon again is principal boy, and as Jack plays with vivacity. Mr. Dan Leno makes an extremely comic mama, and sings some good songs. The Brothers Griffiths, of Blondin donkey renown, are the cow and dairyman. Roars of laughter are caused by their humour. Bros. Harry Nicholls (who, by the way, appeared in the *World* last week as the Celebrity at Home) and Herbert Campbell are the King and Queen. As always at Drury Lane, the burden of the pantomime falls on their capacious shoulders, which they seem quite able and willing to bear. Long distant may the day be that they are disunited. Miss Faudelle, the queen of the fairies, sings a lovely song, by Leslie Mayne, with charming effect. A spar between a man dressed up as a rooster and a real game cock is very amusing. The four prettiest things in "Jack and the Beanstalk" seem to us to be the ballet in the market place, where the dresses are lovely and the grouping effective. The procession of Shakespearian characters, the grand procession of the gods and goddesses of ancient mythology, and *pas de huit* danced by the Misses Wilson, Dearing, Charteris, and others. If the Grand Treasurer elect will pardon us making a suggestion, we recommend that these eight ladies should have another dance at the close of the piece. We heartily join in the "Here we are again" of Bro. Harry Payne, the clown. He has a good smack at the disclosures in the London School Board, and introduces much new business. Bro. Slaughter's music is full of melody, and exquisitely played by the orchestra. Madame Katti Lanner is again responsible for the children's ballet, which is as good as ever, notwithstanding the recent act. Bro. Collins' stage management reflects the greatest credit, and the dresses by Wilhelm are lovely in colour and form. Good old Drury Lane ought not to fear any rivals with Bro. Augustus Harris at its head.

Bro. Marius has wisely revived an old and favourite burlesque, which in the palmy days of that form of entertainment had a long run at the house—the Strand—particularly devoted to those pieces. Many of our readers, like the writer, cannot have seen "The Field of the Cloth of Gold" in 1868, so that it comes now with a welcome from all. As it can only be played for a few weeks, owing to Mr. Geo. Alexander having become lessee of the Avenue in February, we doubt not it will be well resorted to. The quips and puns are very smart, which proceed from the facile pen of the late Mr. W. Brough, and the company engaged enter into the spirit of the fun. Mr. Chevalier, who has taken the place vacated by Bro. Arthur Roberts, works hard as the King of France, and has a very amusing song—"It's funny without being vulgar"—which ought to catch on. We take it the singer is also the composer. Mr. Geo. Capel, as King Kenry VIII., is a second best, but might have made more in his topical allusion to the recent prize fight. Mr. Julian Cross, though very nimble, cannot quite shake off melodrama. Miss Minnie Byron, who has not been seen for many a long day, dashingly plays the Earl of Darnley, and Miss Marie Linden, both in song and dance, is sweet and graceful as Lady Constance. The management have gone back to the old style, and give three pieces in the evening. The curtain raiser—"The Express Train"—is amusing, and "La Rose D'Auvergne" meets, as it always does, with favour. Its music is some of the best composed by Offenbach. The three who play in it are each rewarded for their singing qualities, and were well encored. Bro. Alec. Marsh and Mr. Joseph Tapley and Miss Amelia Grün have never been surpassed in this oft-repeated musical operetta. But why does a lady who looks an Englishwoman, and speaks as such, take an ugly German name? The *tout ensemble* in "The Field of the Cloth of Gold" leaves nothing to be desired. The dapper Bro. D'Albertson, with his genial smile, still presides as manager, and long may he do so, and is ably assisted by his lieutenant, Mr. Dove Keighley. Let those who bewail burlesque of these days go to the Avenue and see their own old-fashioned sort.

Bro. Townley (Geoffrey Thorne), who is responsible for several pantomimes this year, has again written that for the Grand, where on Boxing Day merry Islington flocked, being joined by a large contingent from other parts, and methinks for the next six weeks from south, east, and west, people will be drawn to the north. It is one of the most exhilarating pantomimes we have ever seen. At its first performance everything went without a hitch as though it had been running for weeks. It teems with witty lines and ingenious puns, and is mounted in a manner not unworthy that of the West-end. The allusions to the County Council, Mr. John Burns, the gas strikes, the influenza, socialism, and certain political personages are all amusing without being spiteful. The most notable scenes for fun and frolic are the market place of Pekin, the willow-pattern temple, the Imperial baths, and the Egyptian Hall in Aladdin's palace. Mr. Joseph Cheevers, who, though we have never heard of before, we shall hope to see often, again, is the widow Chow Chow, and makes a great hit with his song "I'm so happy." Mr. Wilfred Shine, as Abanazar, works hard all through the piece. The Wishee Washee of Mr. Charles Seel is very clever. Mr. Fred Walton, as a toy soldier, made one of the biggest scores by his very clever buffoonery, which he never made too prominent. Miss Belle Black is a sprightly Aladdin. Miss Louie Wilmot makes and looks a good Pekoe. Miss Beryl, as the Princess, will do better when she learns to sing louder. Mdlle. Elsie is very graceful both in dancing and on her bicycle. The author has kept pretty close to the text of the story, and from it eliminated a thoroughly funny and innocent pantomime, which makes both old and young roar with laughter. The music is capitally arranged, and the ballets and scenery are all that can be desired. The hearts of Messrs. Wilmot and Freeman (lessee and manager) must be quite at ease after the reception "Aladdin" met with.

One of the prettiest and most tuneful operas to be seen just now is at the Avenue, where every afternoon "The Belles of the Village" is played by Messrs. Nolan and Fitzgerald's Juvenile Opera Company. The actors and actresses are between the ages of 10 and 16, and several show great talent as comedians and concert singers. Master Bovill, as the beadle, seems born for the stage, for he renders his part with fluency and feeling. Master F. Allwood, as the sailor, not only acts but sings well, and can dance a hornpipe like any of her Majesty's sailors on board of a man-of-war. The three boys who represent the oldest inhabitants of the village, have quite caught the ways of the crotchety, begging old men one meets with in the country districts. Misses Lizzie Dugate and A. Filber, as the squire of the village and Captain Plume, are in their line quite on an equality with the boys. Of the two little girls, Misses Rose Kilner and Begarnie, we must say that they promise to be Tagliones if they go on as they have begun. The good old English ballads introduced into the opera are very acceptable when sung so well, with such taste, precision, and clearness as by these young folk. Bro. Marius is responsible for the whole production, which does him great credit, as well as the trainers of the children, who seem to be apt pupils of Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald, and take a delight in gaining the applause of their audience. Since Christmas some harlequinade business has been introduced, which adds yet more to the enjoyment of the public who take this opportunity of hearing this pretty opera.

Mr. F. R. Benson deserves the encouragement of the public on opening the Globe Theatre with Shakespearian plays, in which for several years he has made a name for himself in the provinces. He promises a long repertoire, including "Twelfth Night," "Othello," "Merry Wives of Windsor," "Macbeth," "The Taming of the Shrew," "Hamlet," and "The Merchant of Venice," and means to play them somewhat on the stock company scale—that is, changing the programme frequently. His first effort, "A Midsummer Night's Dream," does Mr. Benson the greatest credit, more especially in the way it is staged. The cast for that comedy is very large, consequently the expenses will be in proportion, so that the young lessee ought to be well supported by the public, particularly those who profess to love the great English bard. Lysander and Demetrius are represented by Messrs. Benson and Ross, Bottom by Mr. Weir, who all are excellent. Miss Kate Rorke is sweet as Helena, and has got over the nervousness which we are told she displayed on the first night. Mrs. Benson is a good representative of Titania, and Miss Geraldine of Puck. The scenery is even better than the acting, and worthy of a long run. Mendelssohn's music is given with great effect by the the orchestra all through the play. The duet, "I know a land whereon the wild thyme grows" (Horn), is sung by Misses Townend and Mitchelmore, and encored by the audience. We welcome Mr. Benson with his Shakespearian comedies, and hope he will find they spell "fortune," for he certainly tempts it. Bro. Sir Edward Clarke, after making a big speech in Mr. Justice Butt's Court, was at the Globe with Lady Clarke and family. The Solicitor-General, like Sir Charles Russell, is devoted to the play, especially Shakespeare's.

Bro. Charles Harris, backed by the liberality of the directors of the Opera Company, Limited, of which Bro. H. J. Leslie is manager, has produced a pantomime at Her Majesty's, which one would quite expect from such an experienced and able stage manager. For spectacular pageantry, commend us to Cinderella.

Nothing seems wanting. The dialogue is good from the pen of the two authors who write under the title of Richard-Henry. We have a crowd of clever comedians, beives of young ladies, of all shapes, sizes, and ages, dressed in costumes pleasing and somewhat dazzling to the eye, we have a magnificent procession of characters from Shakespearian plays, and last, but not least, we have the brightest and cleverest star of America (we may now say also of English) fame in the person of Miss Minnie Palmer, who is unrivalled in her line of business. The question almost crops up in one's mind that there is too much value for the money. However, if the management is content to give so much, the public will not grumble. The ball-room scene has not yet been surpassed as a triumph of pageantry; the beauty of design and magnitude of the scene have not been superseded in scope and grandeur. The burning of Ladybird's home is received with loud applause, and the tiny firemen and engines all help to make up a brilliant picture of the most extravagant combination. We miss Miss Violet Cameron, who, on account of illness, has had to throw up her part, now well taken by Miss F. Robina. Amongst the crowd in the cast are Miss Laura Linden, Miss Lila Clay, Mr. Harry Parker, Mr. Shiel Barry, and Messrs. Charles Coborn and John Le Hay as the two ugly sisters. Probably as the pantomime goes on the various artists will introduce a little more comicality into their respective parts. Mr. Edward Solomon's music is just what one hoped for from that composer, and thoroughly suited for "Cinderella." Her Majesty's has been gorgeously decorated and fitted up, and from all parts of the house a clear view of the stage can be obtained.

On Saturday evening, February 1st, "Sweet Lavender" will be played at Terry's Theatre for the 690th and last time. After that date the house will be temporarily occupied for eight months by another management. In the meanwhile Bro. Edward Terry will take a pleasure trip to India, returning in the autumn to produce a new play.

Miss Annie Irish will produce her new play at Terry's Theatre at a matinee on Tuesday, January 21st, in which the following ladies and gentlemen will appear: Mesdames E. H. Brooke, Le Thiere, Josephine St. Ange, and Roma and Annie Irish, and Messrs. Fred Terry and Henry Pagden. The play will be stage managed by Mr. W. H. Vernon, and the business arrangements will be looked after by Bro. Terry's acting manager, H. T. Brickwell.

Obituary.

BRO. EX-SHERIFF HIGGS.

It is our melancholy province to record the decease—awful in its suddenness—of Bro. Ex-Sheriff Higgs, a brother who, by his kindness of character and genial good temper, had won the goodwill and esteem of all who knew him. The ex-Sheriff died at the Hotel Victoria, where he was staying with his wife for the night. It was the intention of Bro. and Mrs. Higgs to be present at the ball that was given at the Mansion House on Monday, December 23rd, in honour of the coming of age of the Lord Mayor's son. After dinner, and just as they were about to leave for the Mansion House, Bro. Higgs, during the absence from the room of his wife, was seized with a sudden stroke of apoplexy, becoming senseless in a moment. Medical aid was at once forthcoming, but the doctor's efforts proved unavailing, for he never recovered consciousness, passing away shortly before one o'clock, two or three hours after the seizure. His wife and several members of the family (who were summoned when the worst was known) were present at the bedside, but, as before said, he was perfectly unconscious, passing away without having spoken a word after the seizure. On the day in question, to all outward appearance, the ex-Sheriff was as well as ever, there not being the slightest indication of the sudden calamity befalling him. On the Saturday he was present at the Bassishaw wardmote, dining in the evening with Mr. Alderman Stone, when to his friends gathered together he appeared to be in the full enjoyment of health and vigour. The funeral will take place at Highgate Cemetery about half-past twelve on Tuesday morning. It was only quite recently that Bro. Higgs commenced to take any interest in public affairs. Indeed, his career as a public man may be said to have commenced with the time when he was elected, in conjunction with Major Davies, as a Sheriff of London and Middlesex. Prior to then he lived in retirement at his house, New Barnet. Of his career as a Sheriff but little need be said, as the events of the year must still be fresh in the minds of our readers. His shrievalty, memorable from the fact that he served during the Mayoralty of Sir Polydore De Keyser, was no less noteworthy by reason of the energetic manner in which he fulfilled the manifold duties of his office. Charities innumerable he supported during the year. Bro. Higgs was a Past Master of the City of London Lodge, and a member of Peace and Harmony and the Alliance Lodges.

The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., completed his 80th year on Sunday last, having been born on 29th December, 1803, and an enormous number of letters and telegrams of congratulation were received by the right honourable gentleman in the course of the day and on Monday. Among those who thus joined in paying him this honour being the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Khedive of Egypt, and others.



The General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will hold their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall to-morrow (Saturday), at 4 p.m.

The Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will hold their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday next, the 5th instant.

Bro. Lord and Lady Brooke have made their usual distribution of coal, tea, and sugar to the poor and infirm in the neighbourhood of Easton Lodge, and provided a Christmas tree for the school children.

Lady Octavia Shaw-Stewart and Miss Shaw-Stewart have made their usual annual present of warm clothing to the poor people on the estates in Renfrewshire of Bro. Sir M. Shaw-Stewart, Bart., Past G.M. Scotland.

The Prince of Wales concluded his visit to Sir Henry James at Westacre High House, Norfolk, on Saturday last, when his Royal Highness, with Prince George of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge, returned to Sandringham.

Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., First Lord of the Admiralty, will take the chair at the 69th Annual General Court of Governors of the Dreadnought Seamen's Hospital, at the *Hôtel Métropole*, on the 18th February next.

Bro. Lord Connemara, Governor of Madras, has issued for private circulation an account of his recent journey through the presidency. It is said that his lordship, owing to the state of his health, will return to England before his full term expires.

Among the recipients of New Year's honours are Bro. Sir John Gorst, O.C., M.P., J.G.W., who has been appointed a Member of the Privy Council, and Bros. Sir O. Clayton, C.M.G., F.R.C.S., and Ralph D. Littler, O.C., who have been made Companions of the Order of the Bath.

A telegram from Belgrade confirms the report that the German police, by order of the Government, have suppressed several lodges of the Grand Orient at Nisch. The brethren were sitting in open lodge when the police entered, and cleared the hall in the most unceremonious manner.

Bro. the Duke of Fife who for some years past has done his utmost to meet the wishes of his tenants to become proprietors of their own holdings, has recently disposed of three large farms in the parish of Botriphnie in Banffshire to the present tenants, who thus become proprietors of the land they cultivate.

A complete list of British lodges, with dates of meetings, is given in the *Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar, Diary, and Pocket Book for 1890*. Lists of foreign lodges, and particulars about every Grand Masonic Lodge in the World, with much other information added. George Kenning, Lincoln's-inn-fields, is the publisher. Price 2s.—*Christian World*.

Bro. Robert Farran, formerly head of the firm of Griffith, Farran, Okeden, and Welsh, of St. Paul's-churchyard and Charing Cross-road, died at Surbiton, on December 13th. He had not been actively engaged in business for nearly two years, and his retirement from the firm owing to his prolonged illness, as from June 30, 1888, was announced only a few months ago.

The Prince of Wales and his guests, including the Duke of Cambridge, and Bros. the Duke of Fife, the Marquis of Hartington, and Lord Randolph Churchill, had some good cover shooting at Sandringham, on Tuesday, and the Princess of Wales, with the Princess Louise and Duchess of Fife, and Princesses Victoria and Maud drove out, and lunched with the party.

The next meeting of the Andrew Royal Arch Chapter, No. 834, will be held on next Wednesday, the 5th inst., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith, when it is hoped there will be a good muster of the companions, as there is much business of importance to be transacted on the opening of the New Year. Comp. John Davies is the M.E.Z. elect, and Comp. George Read, P.Z., Preceptor.

The mortal remains of the poet Browning were interred at Westminster Abbey, on Tuesday, the grave being close to the memorials to Chaucer, Spenser, and Gray. There was, as may be imagined, a large and representative congregation. Among those present being Bro. Sir Frederick Leighton, P.R.A., the Earl of Jersey, Henry Irving, Lord Brabourne, Lord Brassey, the Earl of Carnarvon, G. A. Sala, Lord Wolseley, and J. G. Shaw-Lefevre, M.P.

Mr. John Hogg, 13, Paternoster-row, announces as in the press a new edition, in one volume, of H. A. Page's "Thomas de Quincey: his Life and Writings. With Unpublished Correspondence." This new edition will furnish new matter, and will be thoroughly revised—in great part re-written; Mr. Page having once more, with Mr. De Quincey's family, gone over papers and letters hitherto unexamined. The volume will include portraits of De Quincey, Professor Wilson, and Sir William Hamilton, from originals in possession of Mr. John Hogg.

JUBILEE OF THE PENNY POST.—The jubilee of the penny post, which happens on the 10th inst., will be celebrated by the officials and staff of the General Post Office by a banquet, at which the Postmaster-General will preside, and to which all the past Postmasters-General have been invited. These include the Duke of Rutland, the Duke of Argyll, the Marquis of Hartington, Lord Stanley of Alderley, Lord Emly, and Mr. Shaw-Lefevre. The dinner will be given on the 15th inst., and will be followed at a later date by a public function to celebrate the same occasion.

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.

The Eccleston Lodge of Instruction will on and after to-morrow (Saturday) hold its meetings at Bro. Dickie's, 13, Cambridge-street, Pimlico.

We regret to hear that Bro. Alderman Sir F. W. Truscott, P.G.W., is suffering from a severe attack of bronchitis at Oakleigh, his residence near East Grinstead.

Notice has been given of a dissolution of partnership between Bros. James Crowden and Robt. H. Crowden, trading as Crowden and Garrod, at 62, Southwark-st., S.E.

Bro. Alderman Sir James Whitehead, Bart., recently Lord Mayor of London, has presented a handsomely-bound volume, containing the reports of the working men who visited last year's International Exhibition at Paris, to each of the 120 free libraries and mechanics' institutes in London and the provinces.

At a special meeting of the Hiram Lodge, No. 2008 (E.C.), Christchurch, New Zealand, held to consider the New Zealand Grand Lodge question, the following resolution was unanimously carried: "That Lodge Hiram still remain in allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, and postpone consideration of the matter to a future occasion." The latter clause, it will be noticed, was not embodied in the telegram from Dunedin.

Lord Knutsford, Secretary for the Colonies, arrived in London on Tuesday last, and spent several hours in transacting business at the Colonial Office. At noon he sent a special messenger to Hatfield with despatches for Lord Salisbury. It is understood that the communications had reference to Swaziland and Sir Francis de Winton's mission there. The Colonial Secretary left London in the evening for Whitley, near Godalming.

On Friday, December 27th, the brethren of the Commercial Lodge, No. 180, Oban, assembled in their new lodge to celebrate the anniversary of St. John. After divine service, conducted by Bro. the Rev. W. T. Walker, a procession was formed headed by 40 torchlight-bearers, a rider on horseback, and a band of pipers, and marched through the principal promenades of the town. Afterwards the brethren dined together, Bro. Councillor Dryald MacLachlan, R.W.M., presiding, when a most enjoyable evening was spent.

Bro. E. M. Moyle was installed W.M. of St. Peter's Lodge, No. 1125, Tiverton, on December 27th. The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. G. Hall, I.P.M.; J. Munday, S.W.; Rev. W. French, J.W.; W. Masland, Org.; W. R. Haydon, P.M., Treas.; Rev. Clement Smith, P.P.G. Chap. Somerset, Chap.; T. Parkhouse, P.P.A.G. D.C., Sec.; W. Barrons, S.D.; P. Pyle, J.D.; A. J. Down, D.C.; R. Grate, I.G.; W. Wheeler and J. A. Pleass, Stewards; and J. Viney, Tyler. Bro. J. B. Crabb was elected representative on the Committee of Petitions.

The death is announced of Mr. Oswald Livingstone, the last surviving son of the great missionary explorer. Mr. Oswald Livingstone was born in South Africa in the early missionary days of his father, about 45 years ago, and was named after his father's friend, Mr. Oswald, with whom the great traveller made his memorable journey to Lake Ngami. Mr. Oswald Livingstone had been settled for some years at St. Albans as a physician, but had for a long time been fading away from consumption. It may be remembered that he took part in the search expedition sent out in 1872 by the Royal Geographical Society to find and succour his father, the wreck of which Mr. Stanley met on his way to the coast after he had found and relieved Livingstone. The only surviving children of Livingstone are Mrs. A. L. Bruce, of Edinburgh, and Mrs. Wilson, who resides at Kendal.

The funeral of the late Bro. John Pursall took place on December 26th, at the Cemetery, Warstone-lane, Birmingham. By the death of Bro. Pursall the Craft in the Province of Warwickshire have suffered a heavy loss. The deceased brother was a P.P.G.W. and Preceptor to the general lodge of instruction, P.P.G.J. of the Prov. Grand Chapter and Preceptor to the chapter of instruction. He has been a prominent figure among Masons for something like 45 years, and during that long period has served every office connected with Masonry. His services as Preceptor for nearly 30 years will long live in the memory of local members of the Craft, and the training of the present generation of Masons is largely due to his perfect working of the ritual. He had the respect and esteem of every member of the Fraternity. At the funeral there was a large gathering of friends, who attended to pay a tribute of respect to the memory of their dead brother. The Provincial Grand Lodge and the various lodges of the province were largely represented.

The Freemasons of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight have at their head an enthusiastic and energetic member of the Craft. "An old Parliamentary hand" (Mr. W. W. B. Beach has had a seat at St. Stephen's for more than 30 years), he finds time, even when his senatorial duties demand attendance at Westminster, to respond to invitations to visit lodges in different parts of the province, and under his genial and popular rule—which has now extended over 20 years—there has been a large increase in the numerical strength of the Craft. Mr. Beach has taken a warm interest in the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution, which, though in its infancy, has acquired quite a respectable reserve, and is now educating six children in good schools near the residences of their relatives, so that the home influence is not lost. Mr. Beach presided at the festival of the Institution which was held at Landport on Tuesday, when, owing to various causes—chiefly the severe weather—the attendance was not equal to what had been looked for. But then Mr. G. F. Lancaster, the "father" of the Institution, and its indefatigable hon. Secretary, had the pleasing duty of announcing that the Stewards had brought in goodly lists of subscriptions from their lodges and from individual Masons, the total reaching close upon £450. Other lists have to be received, and probably the full sum will not be far short of £500. Good business! — *Portsmouth Naval Gazette and County Journal*.

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 regret to announce the death of Bro. W. C. Basher, of 8, Oxford-street, W., on the 27th of December. The funeral took place at Finchley on the 31st.

The Freemasons of Dudley have resolved to hold a grand Masonic ball about the latter part of the month of February. The proceeds will be in aid of the scholastic Charities connected with the Craft.

A very large Committee, including most of the influential Masons of North London, with Bro. Herbert Sprate as President, is preparing for a ball, on behalf of the Masonic Charities, which will be given towards the end of next month, at the Freemasons' Tavern.

Bro. Alderman Sir Francis W. Truscott, who has been seriously ill, remains in about the same condition, and we are glad to be able to say that although no improvement has taken place during the last few days there are no dangerous symptoms.

St. Clement's, Eastcheap, one of Wren's historical churches, has received an addition to its stained-glass of an east window, from the studio of Mr. Taylor, of Berners-street, with the subject of the Agnus Dei, carried out in Renaissance style, under the direction of Mr. Butterfield, the Architect, who has just completed the re-decoration of the church.

On Friday last the members of the Cullybackey Lodge, No. 537 (I.C.), met in the Masonic Hall for the purpose of entertaining Bro. James Hill Woods, Northern Bank, Belfast, to supper, and also to present to him an address and presentation on the occasion of his marriage. The address was very neatly engrossed and illuminated by Bro. David Duncan. Bro. Given read the address and made the presentation, and after the usual Masonic toasts and the health of the guest of the evening were drunk, suitable speeches were then delivered as to the many good qualities of Bro. Woods by Bros. Battershell, Duncan, Given, and Reilly.

The Board of Trade have awarded testimonials to the crews of the Brazilian tugs Plata and Emperor in recognition of their services in assisting to rescue the crew of the British barque Georgina, which was wrecked in a storm on English Bank, in the River Plata, on the 21st August last, namely:—A gold medal for humanity to Antonio Fassio, master of the Plata, a gold medal for gallantry, and a sum of money, to Cristobal di Franco, seaman of the Plata (who, at great personal risk, rescued the shipwrecked crew), a silver medal for humanity to Benico Borrazas, master of the Emperor, and sums of money to the remaining members of both crews.

An excellent entertainment was given on Wednesday evening to some 200 patients of Charing Cross Hospital by Sister Mildred, of the Golding Ward. Mrs. Heather-Bigg, who arranged the programme, was assisted by Miss Hollingshead, Mr. Brandon Thomas, Mr. Herepath, Miss E. Heather-Bigg, Mr. P. C. Shorter, Mr. Sherman, and other ladies and gentlemen. A drum march on the banjo was particularly appreciated, as was also a charming presentation of "The Happy Pair," in which Miss Hollingshead sustained to perfection the leading rôle. The ward was artistically decorated with lamps and Oriental draperies, and was fitted up at the end with a tasteful little theatre, generously provided by Mr. L. Hart, and erected, out of due consideration to the patients, with scarcely any hammering.

A very valuable Masonic autograph letter album is now being arranged by *Worshipful Solomon Strasser*, Master of Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 3, who became the recipient of several hundred autograph letters from distinguished brethren throughout the world, relating to the recent grand reception by his lodge to M.W. Bro. Edmund L. Judson, Past Grand Master; Bro. James Ten Eyck, Senior Grand Warden. The reception is said to have been the most notable event in the annals of Masonic history in the States. Among the many eminent Craftsmen from abroad who have recently acknowledged the courteous invitation, are notably Bros. Sir Henry Aaron Isaacs, Lord Mayor of London; Wm. J. Hughan, Masonic Historian of England; and M. Edmund Judson Moffatt, U. S. D. Consul-General, England. The album will be a valuable contribution to his collection of Masonic archaeology.—*The Argus*, Albany, N.Y.

In connection with the appointment of Bro. A. E. Cokayne as P.S.G.W. of Derbyshire, the *Ilkstone Pioneer* has the following: "From a report of the consecration of the Dorothy Vernon Lodge, in Haddon Hall, in 1887, in the *Derbyshire Times* we learn that the new P.S.G.W., Bro. Andreas Edward Cokayne, is an old Mason of a quarter of a century's experience. He has been three times W.M. of Craft lodges, twice of Royal Arch chapters, of one of which he was a founder and First Principal, and twice Eminent Commander of Knights Templar encampments in Staffordshire and Warwickshire and Cheshire, and has twice received provincial honours in each Degree. He was the first Master of the Dorothy Vernon Lodge, the consecration of which is so well remembered by many Derbyshire Masons. The Town Hall of Bakewell, now in course of erection, owes its origin and existence to the Dorothy Vernon Lodge, the members of which subscribed largely to the necessary capital. The corner-stone was laid with Masonic honours in August last. Bro. Cokayne, during the last illness of the late Lord De Tabley, was the acting G. Supt. in Cheshire for about two years. The new P.J.G.W. is Bro. Francis Sudbury, first Mayor of Ilkstone, and a county magistrate. It is very gratifying to find that not only do the inhabitants of Ilkstone delight to honour the man, who, by his genial manners, kindly disposition, and high business capacity, has won the affection and esteem of them all; but that the Masonic Fraternity in Derbyshire have also shown their appreciation of Bro. Sudbury's efforts on behalf of the Brotherhood. The borough of Ilkstone is thus well represented in the Provincial Grand Lodge of Derbyshire, by having Bro. Cokayne, as P.S.G.W.; Bro. Sudbury, as P.J.G.W.; Bro. Wm. Frost and Bro. Walter Tatham, as P.G. Stwds.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Though it is impossible, in this climate of changing temperature, to prevent ill-health altogether, yet its form and frequency may be much mitigated by the early adoption of remedial measures. When hoarseness, cough, thick breathing, and the attending slight fever indicate irritation of the throat or chest, Holloway's Ointment should be rubbed upon these parts without delay, and his Pills taken in appropriate doses, to promote its curative action. No catarrhs or sore throats can resist these remedies. Printed directions envelope every package of Holloway's medicaments, which are suited to all ages and conditions, and to every ordinary disease to which humanity is liable.—ADVT.