

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.

VOL. XXVI., NO. 1153.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1891.

[PRICE 3d.

FINAL REPORT OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL PROVISIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

The Final Report of the Provisional Management Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, which appeared in our last week's issue, and will be presented at the Quarterly General Court of the Governors and Subscribers, which will be held at Freemasons' Tavern to-day (Friday), gives a clear and unimpassioned account of the work done by the Committee during the period it has had charge of the Institution. It is a very business-like document. It states briefly the results of its administration, and contains a cordial expression of thanks to the Governors and Subscribers for the generous support they have at all times given to the Committee. As regards the results, they in every way bear out the statements we made in a recent article. They show that "the whole of the recommendations of the Committee of Investigation have been dealt with, although," as regards some of them, it is added by way of qualification, "not yet as completely as could be desired." The more important of these have already been referred to by us in general terms, but there are certain details which we think it desirable we should lay before our readers, so that they may be in a better position to understand how fully the Committee has carried out the charge with which it was entrusted by the supporters of the Institution about two years ago. Thus it is satisfactory to know that "the Lavatory and Washing Accommodation has been extended and improved, and whilst affording increased facilities for cleanliness, waste of water has been prevented. The present arrangements enable every boy to have at least one hot bath a week." Again, "additions have been made to the fire appliances, and new escapes and shoots provided and fixed to prevent loss of life in the event of an outbreak of fire." These extensions and additions, together with the sanitary improvements, have, indeed, absorbed the £2111, the expenditure of which has caused so much perturbation of mind among the partisans of the old *régime*, but we do not think there is the slightest chance of the alarms they have sounded finding an echo among the general body of Governors. Then as regards the educational arrangements, firstly, we are told that "a sound system of technical education has been introduced, which already promises to bear good and useful practical results," while "the course of study has been modernised, and is gradually being extended, so as to give wider openings for the various tastes and abilities of the boys." It is also noted that "a printing-press has been established, and all the printing for the School is done there in the hours of recreation," and that "a School Magazine has been started, printed by the boys, in order to give full information of what occurs at the School, to maintain the interest of old boys, and to excite the interest of the subscribers and friends of the Institution." These introductions are essentially of a practical character, and will afford those boys who may have a taste or inclination for printer's work a chance of entering into such a business immediately on leaving School, with all the advantages which must result from having already overcome the initial difficulties which beset the path of the ordinary apprentice hand. But this is by no means all the Committee have accomplished in the way of practical training. The Report tells us in another paragraph that "many of the boys employ themselves in playtime in gardening, engineering, and carpentering, under proper supervision." To this, also, we see no objection; provided always that care is taken to prevent what is intended as a recreation from being converted into anything like a serious course of training. It is well that boys who have a taste for engineering and carpentering should have facilities afforded them for cultivating that taste "under proper supervision," otherwise their energy in those directions is not likely to benefit them to any great extent. But it will be the duty of the Head Master to see that what is mainly a recreation is not allowed to blossom into an extra course of study. Cricket, football, and other athletic exercises will do the boys more good—besides being, as a rule, more acceptable as recreations by the boys themselves—than carpentering and engineering during play hours, even

though the latter may be pursued under the necessary supervision. However, we read in the paragraphs almost immediately following the one we have just quoted about gardening, &c., that "the field in front of the Institution" has been turned into "an excellent cricket and football ground," and that "greater freedom" is given to the boys—by which, we suppose, is meant that the boys are not kept under a perpetual surveillance by the subordinate Masters. In respect of these arrangements, it is difficult to say too much in the way of commendation. Cricket and football on the one hand, and the greater freedom on the other, will make men of the boys; the former will help to make them plucky, enduring, and self-reliant, while the latter will create amongst them—to use the words of the Report itself—"something like public spirit and a sense of responsibility." As regards indoor pastimes, intended more especially for the winter season, we find that "a series of evening entertainments in winter have been started," and that they have already had "excellent effects on the spirits and character of the boys;" while to crown all, we are told that "these and other minor but no less necessary improvements have been effected with rigid economy." Therefore, the satisfaction with which the Governors will undoubtedly hear of these improvements will be unaccompanied by the fear, which is not unusual in such cases, that their introduction will involve the Institution in any serious additional outlay. But even if it had been otherwise, and these improvements had entailed a certain amount of extra expenditure per annum, we are inclined to think they would have regarded the addition with a certain amount of complacency, provided it were at the same time shown that the boys were being very materially benefited by the innovations on the previous system of training. But we need not pursue the subject further. In our recent article we pointed out that the Provisional Committee had done the work with which it was entrusted most thoroughly. In the course of our present remarks we have shown more particularly what has been done (1) to improve the premises at Wood Green, and (2) for the benefit of the children the Institution has taken under its charge. We now leave the Report to the consideration of the Governors, and we have very little doubt they will come to the same conclusion as we have—that the Provisional Management Committee has deserved well at their hands, and at the hands of all friends and supporters of this large and important Charity.

THOMAS DUNCKERLEY.*

There can be but one opinion as to the third work which has emanated from the pen of Bro. Sadler. As regards himself, it very materially enhances his reputation as an author, while, as regards the subject of his memoir, it places before us a fund of information which enables us to form a clearer and more complete idea than has hitherto been possible of the part played by Dunckerley in the several branches of Masonry existent in his day. The name of this distinguished brother has, indeed, been long familiar among Craftsmen generally. They may not have known precisely why or in what particular section of our Order he was considered so bright an exemplar to follow. But a mere casual glance at our Grand Lodge Calendar will have sufficed to satisfy them that one who had been Grand Master and Grand Superintendent of so many provinces must either have achieved an extraordinary amount of greatness by means of the rare abilities he possessed; or must have had an extraordinary amount of greatness thrust upon him. But though a general belief may have existed that as regards his enthusiasm for Freemasonry and his ability as a Mason, Dunckerley must have been a head and shoulders above the majority of his contemporaries; and though several of the more curious amongst us may have been able to form a tolerably just estimate of his character and the work he accomplished,

* By Henry Sadler, P.M. and P.Z., Grand Tyler and Sub-Librarian of the Grand Lodge of England; author of "Masonic Facts and Fictions," &c. London: George Kenning, 16 and 16A, Great Queen Street, W.C. 1891.

still it is only an act of justice to Bro. Sadler to say that not only is the biography he has just written of this eminent brother more complete than any that has heretofore been published, but that his researches have been so laborious and at the same time so successful that it is doubtful if there can be anything of material importance left for others to discover. As far as we can judge, Bro. Sadler has fairly exhausted his subject.

In his style of treatment, Bro. Sadler has been, perhaps, somewhat discursing, nor can it be said that he has acquired the art of subordinating the minor to the more important details. This is particularly noticeable in those chapters which relate to "Dunckerley's Lodges," and in which the mere fact of his having been connected with or done something to assist a lodge appears to have been thought sufficient justification for writing—at least, in one or two instances—a somewhat elaborate sketch of the lodge itself. But though in this respect the book is overladen with matter, no fault can be found with the arrangement of the several parts or sections, which follow each other in regular date, and are, at the same time, clearly defined and distinct from each other. Thus we have first of all the story of Dunckerley's parentage, and we are glad to see that, after comparing the several versions which appeared in the *Freemasons' Magazine* and *Gentleman's Magazine* of last century, Bro. Sadler has come to the conclusion that Dunckerley's claim to be a natural son of George II. is an acceptable one, the evidence in its support outweighing that which found favour with its opponents. Next, his career in the Navy is described, and then his connection with the Craft in Quebec. The chapters devoted to "Dunckerley's Lodges" are very interesting, but, as we have said, they are overladen with details which, however interesting in themselves, do not properly come within the scope of the book. In the case of his Provincial labours there is far greater excuse for the introduction of matters not directly connected with Dunckerley, who appears to have been the first to realise the extent of the duties and responsibilities pertaining to the office of a Prov. G. Master; and when it was a question of fulfilling a duty or undertaking what he considered to be a responsibility attaching to that office, the evidence which Bro. Sadler has accumulated shows unmistakably that Dunckerley never gave a thought to himself or the trouble and inconvenience it might put him to. The chapter headed "Memorials of Royal Arch Masonry" is one of the most important in the whole volume. As many of our readers are aware, Dunckerley is by some considered to have been the originator of the Royal Arch on the "Modern" side of English Masonry. Bro. Sadler, however, does not attempt to discuss this point, but is content with showing how many and how valuable were the services which Dunckerley rendered to this branch of Freemasonry, and on the other hand how unscrupulous and at the same time how unjust were the attempts made after his death to detract from the merit of those services. Almost equally interesting and important is the chapter on Templar Masonry and Dunckerley's services on its behalf, while the reader will certainly derive much pleasure from studying the lecture or charge, entitled, "The Light and Truth of Masonry Explained," which Dunckerley delivered in April, 1757, at Plymouth, and from a perusal of the letters written by him to the Earl of Chesterfield. There is, indeed, hardly a page in Bro. Sadler's memoir which does not contain information of value or interest, much of which is entirely new, and which, probably, could only have been brought to light by one occupying Bro. Sadler's position, and at the same time possessing his love of research, and his ability to appreciate the value of such records as he has had the good fortune to unearth.

That Bro. Sadler has formed a just estimate of Dunckerley's character and position in the Craft will, we imagine, be conceded by all who read this volume, nor is there any exaggeration in his remark in the concluding chapter that "every branch of Masonry, as well as each province and lodge with which he identified himself, seems to have had an upward tendency from the moment of his taking an active part in its affairs." This is certainly borne out by the evidence which Bro. Sadler has been at such pains to collate, and so, too, is the further statement, made with reference to the improvements and method introduced in Freemasonry as an organisation in his day, that, "although I have no desire to claim for him exclusive credit for these and many other improvements, I am fully satisfied that if they were not actually the outcome of his suggestions, by his earnest enthusiasm, methodical habits, energy, and example, he did far more than any one else towards bringing them about and establishing them as essentials in the Masonic system." However, as regards these and other points, we must leave the reader to judge for himself. The book is now before the public, and we are convinced there is not one who reads it who will not be edified and instructed, and indeed delighted, by a perusal of its contents.

AN OLD WARRANT.

The West Yorkshire Library has been the fortunate recipient of two valuable presents lately. Bro. Ensor Drury, P.M. 296, Sheffield, has given a copy of the rare "Book of Constitutions," 1738, which is certainly a very handsome gift, and Bro. Harold Thomas, P.M., P. Prov. G. Reg., of the same town, has presented the original Warrant of No. 85, Sheffield. The second edition of the "Book of Constitutions," 1738, is a great acquisition,* and being complete and perfect, save the frontispiece, is a most desirable addition to this rapidly increasing Library. These gifts were sent to the Honorary Librarian, Bro. William Watson, of Leeds, to whom I am indebted for the following transcript of the rare old Warrant of A.D. 1761:

Copy of "Ancient" Warrant, of A.D. 1761.

Kelly Grand Master!

Willm. Dickey
in the Abstance of *David Fisher* s.g.w. *Wm. Osborn* D.G.M.
Willm. Dickey J.G.W.

No. 85



TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
We the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honble. FRATERNITY of Free and Accepted Masons (according to the old Constitutions) in ample form assembled (viz. The Right Worshipful and Right Honble Thomas Erskine, Viscount Fenton, Lord Pittenweem and Grand Master! of Masons; Mr. William Osborn, Deputy G.M.; Mr. David Fisher, Senr Grand Warden; Mr. William Dickey, J.G. Warden, by and with the Approbation and Consent of 34 regular Lodges held within the cities and suburbs of London and Westminster) do hereby appoint, constitute & empower our trusty & well beloved Brethren John Digby Preston, Master Mason; Fras. Halford, Senior Warden, and John Cheatham, Junr. Warden (with proper Assistants) to form & hold a Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons at the Sign of the Swan in King Street or elsewhere in Sheffield in the County of York, and in said Lodge (when duly Congregated) to admit, enter and make Masons according to the most Ancient Honble Custom of the Royal Craft in all Ages and Nations throughout the known world. And we do hereby farther Authorise & empower our said Trusty & well beloved Brethren Messrs. John Digby Preston, Fras. Halford, and John Cheatham (with proper Assistants) To nominate, Chuse and Instal their Successors &c &c &c such Installations to be on every St. John's day during the Continuance of this Lodge for ever.

Providing the above-named Brethren and their Successors always pay due Respect To this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, otherwise this WARRANT to be of no Force nor Value. Given under our Hands and Seal of the Grand Lodge, London, this Twenty-first day of January, In the year of our Lord, One thousand seven hundred sixty and one. And in the year of Masonry, Five thousand seven hundred sixty and one.

Note this Warrant is Registered }
in the Grand Lodge Voll. 3d. } Lau. Dermott, G. Secretary.
Letter C.

The lodge, thus chartered in 1761, is noted in Bro. John Lane's "Masonic Records, 1717-1886" (p. 53). It appears that it was originally No. 85, as before stated, but in 1764 the number 75 being vacant, the members secured that higher position on the Roll, but even that dignity failed to keep the lodge afloat, as it "lapsed about 1765." In this invaluable work no place of meeting is given, but now the Warrant is forthcoming it is found to have been at the "Sign of the Swan, in King Street."

The wax seal is attached to two pieces of ribbon, one of blue and the other yellow, and is of the kind generally used before the advent of the seal by Kirk, of 1775. The motto is "Virtue and Silence," and below are the words "Grand Lodge, London," which enclose a Sword and Square and Compasses.

The earliest original Warrant of the "Ancients" known is the one by which No. 11, the "Enoch" works, viz., 18th June, 1755, when it became No. 6, but prior to that, from its formation, 19th August, 1754, the lodge was No. 37. The original No. 6, of 17th July, 1751 (one of the five which are said to have "revived the ancient Craft," 17th July, 1751), lapsed in 1754.

This Warrant of 1755 is a very meagre affair compared with several of the later issues, and is in striking contrast to those of the prosperous era of the "Ancients." No. 6, "Ancient" Warrant, begins (after the usual signatures) "To all whom it may concern, We, the Grand Lodge in ample form assembled," the names and titles of the Grand Officers not being given, but the Master and Wardens are nominated. The authority is "to form and hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient Masons," due respect having to be paid the "Ancient Grand Lodge."

"St. Mary's," No. 63 (now No. 63), of the year 1757 (14th April), was issued during the Grand Mastership of the "Earl of Blesington;" the title of the ruling body being amplified to "Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons," and due respect was to be paid to the "Right Worshipful Grand Lodge."

On December 27th, 1757, No. 66, Halifax, Nova Scotia, was signed, the Warrant being in many respects very different to its predecessors. The imposing title, "We, the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and

*The only time this work has been reprinted in this country is quite recently by the "Quatuor Coronati" Lodge, No. 2076. Copies may be had at 10s. 6d. each from the Secretary, Bro. G. W. Speth, Margate. Only a few remain unsold.

Accepted (*York*) Masons," was substituted for the mild declaration of former days, and names and titles of the Grand Officers are duly enumerated, &c. The charter was granted "with the approbation and consent of 47 lodges held within the Cities and Suburbs of London and Westminster."* Due respect was to be paid to this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted (*York*) Masons, and the seal was that of the "Grand Lodge, London."

The "Kent" Lodge, No. 8 (now No. 15), works by a warrant bearing date 17th May, 1758, and is much the same in character as No. 66 of the previous year, already noted.

The Warrant of the Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1, is dated 13th August, 1759, and has been fully described by Bro. H. Sadler in the *Freemason*, May 19th, 1885. In it another change is exhibited, as the ordinary recital of the late Warrants seems then (virtually) to have been introduced, viz., "The Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons (according to the original Constitution granted by Prince Edwin of York);" though, of course, in several respects the Charter is quite different to all others, because of its special character.

I believe the original No. 85, so lately donated to the West Yorkshire Masonic Library, is the next warrant preserved that succeeds No. 1, as respects date of issue, viz., 21st January, 1761. In it another variety will be detected; "Prince Edwin" is omitted, and only "34 regular lodges" are noted in the suburbs of London and Westminster.

No. 113, Greenwich, of 19th May, 1763, is very similar to No. 85; but the Warrant for No. 44 (now 47), granted as a "renewal" on 13th January, 1764, has the "Prince Edwin," &c., recited in full, as doubtless have all its successors in like manner.

It seems likely that the earliest use of the term "*York Masons*" by the "Ancients" is to be found in the first edition of their laws ("Ahiman Rezon") of A.D. 1756. If there is any original Warrant of the Ancients extant, save No. 85 between 1759 and 1763, Bro. John Lane and the undersigned will be glad of information thereon.

W. J. HUGHAN.

FIDELITY OF PURPOSE.

If Freemasonry teaches anything with emphasis it is the virtue of fidelity. The Entered Apprentice is taught it at the beginning of his Masonic life. When standing erect, upright to all outward appearance, he is charged that it is his duty always to act and walk in that manner. No temptation or personal ease or self aggrandisement is ever to lead him to prove false to any trust reposed in him. He is to be true to his God; to deal justly with all men, and to practice Charity. The great need of the present day in Masonry and out of it is the practice of fidelity. There are no greater heroes or men more honoured than those who have lived lives of faithfulness. Life is considered of little weight when in the balance with Fidelity. *Fais ce que dois advienne que pourra* should be the motto of every man, especially a Mason.

Every member of the Fraternity should be faithful to his obligations. There is nothing in any requirements of Freemasonry that is intended to interfere in any respect whatever with the ordinary duties of life. Indeed, the man who neglects his family, fails to pay his just debts, oversteps the bounds of virtue in a pretended devotion to Masonry, is plainly unfaithful to his obligations. Unfortunately, some men allow their zeal for the Institution to lead them to place its imagined demands above everything else. The real demands of the Craft make a man a better citizen, a better father, a better merchant, and consequently a better man. Fidelity to obligation means a strict adherence to truth, honesty, virtue, and everything calculated to elevate morally.

Applicants for Masonic light should be known to possess a fidelity of purpose in seeking admission to the Fraternity before they are permitted to cross the threshold of the lodge. No unworthy motive should be allowed to actuate a man in his petition for initiation. Expectation of favours, gain of popularity, increase of patronage, and other selfish considerations that often influence our actions are foreign to the spirit of Masonry. We should unite with the Fraternity with a view to improvement, morally and intellectually. By association with those whose desires are for higher and nobler and better achievements we are sure to be ourselves benefited. Our aspiration will be for a holier and purer life.

Once within the precincts of the lodge, our obligations become mutual. We are all equal. We all stand upon the same broad platform and have all sworn fidelity to every principle of

right. When elevated from the ground floor to the honoured position of Master, our duties are increased, and we owe to the brethren a service of love, and, if possible, a stronger fidelity to the obligations of the lodge than before. The motives that cause men to seek official positions in Masonry are sometimes in direct violation of the obligation assumed upon becoming members of the great Brotherhood. Purity of purpose to lead the brethren to a practise of virtue and uprightness should be found in every Master of a lodge. It is a sad commentary upon the weakness of human nature when we see a man who has chosen to be the embodiment of uprightness so far forgetting himself as to be a profane swearer, a wine-bibber, or unfaithful to his trusts. Fidelity of Masters to the duties devolving upon them brings honour and preferments; a want of it dishonour and oblivion.

What is true of the Master, is true, in a measure, of the other officers. They have promised to do certain things, to perform certain duties. The manner in which these duties are discharged produces good or bad results. The candidates have a right to expect proper treatment from every officer, from the Master of Ceremonies to the Master in the East. Fidelity of purpose in preparing, introducing, and instructing the neophyte is absolutely necessary if the beauties of the hitherto unknown world to him are to be realised. That purpose must be, to make a lasting and favourable impression upon his mind. How much can be done in the preparation room, to cause the candidate to have either a favourable or unfavourable impression of the Institution! How faithful then should be every brother who is sent out to meet for the first time the one who comes for light to Masonry!

There is a duty which the members of the Fraternity owe to the world outside. It is a fidelity to the professions we make. We claim to practice Charity, not in the mere giving of alms but in that broad sense of love. The world has always watched us. It is watching us to-day. It always will watch us. Synods, Presbyteries and Conferences often have the Masonic Fraternity under discussion. Frequently their criticisms are adverse to us. How much of ignorant prejudice or jealousy may enter into their decisions matters not. Let us prove by our fidelity to every principle of justice, every moral and upright doctrine, that we are really what our teachings would lead the world to expect.

Masonry is popular just now, and in that popularity there is danger that one may lose sight of the binding nature and the high, noble, and pure character of our obligations. Let fidelity of purpose actuate us in all of our dealings with our brethren, the applicant for Masonic preferments and the world at large. Then will the wisdom, strength, and beauty of our Institution be fully exemplified and known.—*New York Dispatch*.

THE LATE GENERAL PIKE.

At the good old age of 81, our dear Bro. Albert Pike has been "called home," having, in fact, been waiting for some weeks for his peremptory summons.

Long ago he was named "the uncrowned King of the Hautes Grades" by his friend, Bro. Hughan, and that title has been well earned. No one, living or dead, has ever done for the "Ancient and Accepted Rite" what General Pike has. Of this fact all are well aware who are familiar with the history and literature of that great Masonic organisation, especially during the last 30 years. Born so long ago as December 29th, 1809, his grand figure and name have been before the Craft for many years, and from the year 1859 he has been the Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, 33°, for the Southern Jurisdiction of the U.S.A., occupying that exalted position to the day of his lamented decease.

To do justice to the career of General Pike, either socially, politically, or Masonically, would require a complete issue of the *Freemason*, and even a list of the titles of the numerous works, pamphlets, and poems which have been written by him would take several of its columns.

Of late years he has renewed his interest in English Masonic literature, and was a frequent correspondent of Bros. Gould and Speth, as well as with his old *confrère*, Bro. Hughan, by all of whom his loss will be most keenly felt.

General Pike's grasp of the various intricate points involved in the origin of the "Ineffable Degrees" was firm and complete, and hence his decisions had great weight, and his addresses were models of accurate statements and valuable information, read and consulted by students of all rites and countries.

Bro. McClenachan's verdict will be accepted by the universal Craft, viz., "His standing as a Masonic author and historian, and withal as a poet, is most distinguished, and his untiring zeal is without a parallel." Whatever he touched with his pen became at once interesting, and the common property of all Craftsmen; for it was his delight to instruct and generously share his wonderful store of information.

* No. 69, Philadelphia (U.S.A.), is said to have had same number of lodges noted on its warrant of A.D. 1758. The "Ancients," however, soon dropt that custom.

As Prov. G.M. of the "Royal Order of Scotland" for the U.S.A., since 1877, General Pike has quite revived the interest in that quaint ceremony which has long been languishing in America, and has made his Prov. G.L. the most successful of all in the world.

The library of the Supreme Council at Washington will form our noble brother's permanent monument, for it has been collected by him, many of its choicest treasures donated by him, and all the thousands of books have passed through his hands. The estimated cost of the 15,000 volumes amounts to £14,000, this grand collection being described as the only one of the kind worthy of the name of "Library," because of its general as well as Masonic character.

THE IOWA MASONIC LIBRARY.

The Iowa Masonic Library was organised in 1844, by the present Grand Secretary, Theo. S. Parvin, who has had charge of it since that time. It contains the largest collection of Masonic works ever gathered together, and has a fire-proof building of its own, the first and only one of the kind ever erected by a Grand Lodge. The building was erected in 1885. The library in all its departments of literature contains over 12,000 volumes, mostly of a Masonic nature. It has been the object of the Grand Secretary to collect all works bearing upon secret societies and kindred subjects, as also anti-secret society literature. Its semi-Masonic department contains also several hundred volumes upon Art, Architecture, Egypt, Mythology, Bible and Oriental Lands, Crusades, Chivalry, Templary, etc. The Iowa department is now one of the special features of the library and includes: First, Works by Iowa authors; second, Documents relating to Iowa, published by the State; third, County Histories; fourth, Publications of Societies, Historical, Religious, Educational, Secret and all State organizations which publish their proceedings.

Another feature of interest is that of the Autograph Letter department, being the largest, rarest, and most complete Masonic collection in existence. It has also a large general collection, much of which is rare and valuable, all arranged, classified and placed in the finest style of autograph cases made for the purpose. The Masonic medal collection is quite full and complete, among the best of its kind in the land, and has, in addition, many interesting medals of a general nature, also a large collection of metal and silk badges. Several cases are devoted to the archaeological collection, which has proven one of much interest and instruction to visitors, containing as it does many old time relics and things of the past. The collection of photograph albums and scrap books contains hundreds of old rare prints, engravings, charts, diplomas, certificates, summons, &c., and when properly displayed, will be of great interest. Quite a number of art pieces in bronze, Bisque, Florentine marble, as well as old Japanese bronze and chain armour suits and old vases, jars, jugs, pitchers, &c., from Old Mexico and elsewhere, together with the bric-a-brac throughout the building, and finely framed engravings, pictures and pearl inlaid work add much interest to this collection, which contains also the Proceedings of all Masonic Grand Bodies of the world, and the Masonic periodicals, old and new, of this and foreign countries. The latest feature is that known as the Shrine collection, for the preservation and display of which El Kahir Temple of Cedar Rapids has presented a finely carved case, especially designed for the purpose.—*New York Freemasons' Journal*.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF INVERNESS-SHIRE.

On Saturday, the 4th inst., in St. John's Lodge Rooms, Inverness, the initiatory meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held—Sir Henry Macandrew in the chair—and was attended by representatives consisting of Right Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of St. John's Lodge, Inverness; St. Mary's, Inverness; Spey Lodge, Kingussie; and St. Andrew's, Fort George. Sir Henry presented his commission as Provincial Grand Master from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The following brethren presented commissions from Sir Henry Macandrew, namely: Bros. Provost Ross, St. John's, as Depute Master; John Ellis, St. Mary's, Substitute Master; Bailie J. H. Forsyth, St. John's, Prov. S.G.W.; and Alexander Mackenzie, R.W.M. St. Mary's, Prov. J.G.W. Bro. T. G. Henderson presented his commission as Secretary to the Prov. Grand Lodge. The following additional office-bearers were elected by Prov. Grand Lodge: Bros. William Mackay, R.W.M. St. John's, Prov. G. Treas.; Crerar, P.M. Spey Lodge, Prov. S.G.D.; D. Gordon, R.W.M. St. Andrew's, Prov. J.G.D.; F. F. C. Keeble, Prov. G.D. of C.; R. P. Jenkins, Prov. G.I.G.; and James Hay, Prov. G. Tyler. The above office-bearers were all formally installed, and the remaining offices were left vacant until next meeting.

The following dates were fixed for quarterly communications to the Provincial Grand Lodge, namely: the first Fridays of May, August, November, and February, the last-mentioned date being fixed for the annual election of office-bearers.

After the meeting Sir Henry Macandrew entertained the Prov. Grand Lodge to supper.

CONSECRATION OF THE HOLBORN LODGE, No. 2398.

A large gathering of brethren assembled at the Holborn Restaurant on Tuesday, the 7th instant, to witness the consecration of the Holborn Lodge, No. 2398, which is intended, as the name implies, to be of a purely local character. A large number of brethren who reside or are engaged in business in Holborn felt that although this particular neighbourhood was the head-quarters of Freemasonry, yet there was no lodge especially identified with the district. The new venture has therefore been started under very favourable auspices, and is particularly intended to embrace those of the legal profession engaged in the various Inns of Courts in the vicinity. Bro. Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, was the Consecrating Officer, and was assisted by Bros. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Registrar, as S.W.; T. Fenn, President of the Board of General Purposes, as J.W.; Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chaplain, as Chaplain; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; and James Hemming, P.M., as I.G.

The following is a complete list of the founders: Bros. Dr. S. Lloyd, P.M., W.M. designate; G. Bruce, Q.C., M.P., S.W. designate; M. Angel, J.W. designate; C. R. Ellis, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Cambs.; Dr. S. R. Lovett, W.M. 3; R. W. Steggles; T. Hamp; G. Wallace, P.M.; J. Conquest; H. C. Jones, P.M.; J. Appleton; W. S. Lincoln; E. Angel; C. O. Burgess; H. J. Appleton; Dr. W. C. Sheard; W. H. Allcorn; J. Hemming, P.M.; and J. H. Coulson, P.M.

The following visitors were also present:

Bros. Col. J. Elliott, C.B., P.G.D., D.G.M. Barbados; C. J. Townshend, P.M. 8, Nova Scotia; Gen. S. Laurie, P.G.M. Nova Scotia; Dr. J. F. Haskins, C. M. Morris, 1571; A. Jones, 2099; C. Chilley, 2005; E. Jackman, 2191; J. H. Frye, 201; J. Kingsley, 3; W. Kinsley, 1728; J. Rowe, 2191; A. Cogliati, 1559; C. Bessano, P.M. 66; J. H. Lee, P.M. 1196; C. J. Smith, 2157; A. J. Lane, 704; T. L. Bowden, 1201; Dr. J. Powdrell, P.M. 2271; T. Draper, W.M. 917; R. J. Goldspink, P.M. 1433; H. Watkins, 1853; R. D. Ballard, 1853; G. Smith, 2331; Felix Dennis, 1563; H. J. Dutton, 1706; R. H. Tayton, 1962; S. H. Lloyd, 1201; Sidney Jennings, 142; J. Dale, 1613; W. H. Munday, P.M. 1211; Baron D. Barnett, P.M. 1668; W. Harris, 1585; W. Robinson, S.W. 704; W. H. Fullmore, J.W. 87; F. A. Pullen, P.M. 742; W. Herbert, 1987; F. Kedge, I.P.M. 2101; W. Kent, 1321; J. G. Tongue, 534; H. E. Pollard, P.G. Stwd.; C. P. Bellerby, P.M. 2021; G. Edwards, P.M. 907; R. H. Lyon, W.M. 1201; W. P. Hunt, W.M. 2021; J. W. Truman, 463; C. J. Livett, P.M. 1251; G. Reynolds, P.M., Sec. 1614; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; G. H. Reynolds, W.M. 1614; R. J. Harnell, J.D. 2021; R. Grice, 1399; H. Tildesley, Stwd. 1585; E. A. Harris, P.M. 201; and W. W. Lee, S.W. 2381.

Lodge having been opened, and a hymn sung,

The CONSECRATING OFFICER, addressing the brethren, said the occasion which had called them together was one of a very important Masonic nature, and one which must be deeply interesting to all Masons who had the prosperity of the Order at heart. They had met to give effect to a warrant which had been issued by the M.W.G.M. for the formation of a new lodge. They were all aware of the large number of lodges at the present time in the district of London, and that naturally new lodges were not formed without due and sufficient reason. As a matter of fact, a large number of petitions had to be refused, but of course there were exceptions to every rule, and he was happy to say the founders that day were in that exceptional position. It was a somewhat curious fact that, although this particular neighbourhood of London was the head-quarters of English Masonry, and had been so for a century and a half, there had not been a lodge of a purely local nature. That day they were going to remedy that. A large number of Masons residing in the vicinity had for some time past joined together in the desire to have a lodge established for their special convenience. The founders were a large and influential body of Masons, who had presented a petition, and explained their sincere wish that there should be a lodge for local purposes, where they could congregate and proceed with the work of the Order. Under these circumstances the M.W.G.M. had acceded to their prayer to establish a lodge to be called the Holborn Lodge. There were a large number of founders whom they had reason to believe would do their utmost to promote its success. There was a large field for recruiting eligible candidates. It was a great responsibility placed in the hands of the founders of a new lodge, for it rested with them whether the new body would be an ornament and an advantage to the Craft or the reverse. There was reason to believe from what they knew of the founders that they would exercise a wise discretion and would be careful in selecting only those as candidates whom they thought would do credit and honour to the Order, and if they persevered they would establish for their own benefit a lodge of which they would be proud. They had selected good and experienced brethren as their rulers, and he was glad to see among them the respected Member of Parliament for that Division, whom he hoped to see shortly in the chair. He would not detain them further, but would commence the proceedings by calling upon the Grand Chaplain to offer prayer.

An oration having been delivered by Bro. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., the ceremony was proceeded with, and the new lodge solemnly dedicated and constituted.

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, G. Sec., next installed Bro. Dr. Saml. Lloyd as W.M., who invested the following officers: Bros. E. J. Gardiner, acting I.P.M.; Gainsford Bruce, Q.C., M.P., S.W.; Maurice Angel, J.W.; Dr. S. R. Lovett, Treas.; C. R. Ellis, P.M., Sec.; E. Angel, S.D.; W. S. Lincoln, J.D.; R. W. Steggles, I.G.; J. Hemming, P.M., D.C.; J. Appleton, A.D.C.; C. O. Burgess and H. J. Appleton, Stwds., and Weeks, Tyler.

A Committee was elected to frame the by-laws, and several propositions for initiation and joining were received.

On the proposition of the W.M., seconded by the S.W., a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Consecrating Officers for their services.

The GRAND SECRETARY having returned thanks, was presented by the W.M. with a founder's jewel, and acknowledged this further compliment.

Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Venetian Room, where an excellent banquet was provided.

The usual toasts were subsequently given, the first being "The Queen and the Craft," and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M."

In giving "The Grand Officers," the W.M. said it needed only what they had seen that night to convince them of the work done by the Grand Officers, and, therefore, any comment would be absolutely superfluous. He had pleasure in coupling the name of Bro. Col. Elliott, C.B., a very distinguished military officer, and the D.G.M. of Barbados.

Bro. Col. J. ELLIOTT, C.B., D.G.M. Barbados, in reply, said the object of the toast was to do honour to the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Officers, and he only wished they could add to that list the Pro Grand Master of the past. Wherever that toast was drunk it was sure to be received with enthusiasm, and on behalf of Grand Lodge he thanked them for the reception accorded it. The Grand Lodge had achieved marvellous successes. Its Charities had extended largely, and relief had been extended to brethren who, from age or calamity, were reduced to indigence, and that was something for them to be extremely satisfied at. There was not much for him who lived abroad to say about the working of Grand Lodge, especially in the presence of those who were on the spot, and through whose influence and hard work Masonry had achieved success. They would all agree that among the Grand Officers there was none to whom they were more indebted than their hard working Grand Secretary. He had always been taught in Masonry to feel that to be linked in the indissoluble ties of Freemasonry was to be allowed the privilege of performing little acts of kindness. When he claimed to be a Mason he claimed to belong to a Society the practice of the principles of which had a natural tendency to improve the mind of those who properly followed its precepts. They should not blame an institution for the shortcomings of some of its members, but laud it for the praiseworthy conduct of others. They should look at the principles of the institution and judge them, and Masonry rather than Masons. They knew the principles of an institution determined its merits, and they gave honour to whom honour was due. He again thanked them on behalf of Grand Lodge, and also for the compliment paid himself.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER next proposed "The Consecrating Master, and his Assistants," remarking that most of them remembered a short story about a great Dean of St. Patrick, who was once preaching a Charity sermon. Taking for his text the words "Whosoever giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord," he preached a very short sermon by saying "If you're satisfied with the security, down with the dust." He should be equally short, and should try to be to the point in speaking of the brethren who had honoured them by the new lodge. The brethren saw their work, and the dignity with which it was performed, and they all knew the courtesy and genial kindness of the Grand Secretary. He should say no more, but ask them to drink the toast.

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, Grand Secretary, said it was with very great pleasure that he rose to thank them, on behalf of the excellent and distinguished brethren who assisted him, for the kind way the toast had been received. He was delighted to learn that the W.M. strongly objected to long speeches, especially as they had already heard him *ad nauseam* that night. His remarks would be brief indeed, and those would be to thank them for the kind and fraternal way they had received his colleagues and himself in the performance of their duties, and to assure them it had been a great pleasure to them to be present to do what they could to launch that new ship into the ocean of Masonry. They had done so in the assurance that with proper steering it should be an excellent Masonic barque in the future. There was an excellent field to work on, for it was a large district, and he was delighted to know they were making it a local lodge, for all lodges should be local. They were asked for, "for the convenience of their respective dwellings," and gentlemen should not have to go 8 or 10 miles to be initiated, but should be able to be initiated near. They should have their lodges close to their own places, and it was intended that that should be local, and it would be recruited from that part of London. He hoped they would be careful to select their candidates carefully, and remember that quality was much better than quantity, and that one good man was worth half a dozen bad ones. If they would simply bide their time and wait it would be the best thing for them. In the present day, when Masons was so much in evidence, and people read and thought about it, he was afraid that candidates were put forward who were not proper persons for Masonry, and he, therefore, asked them to be careful whom they admitted. He again thanked them for the way the toast had been received, and also thanked the distinguished brethren who had assisted him with their kind services. If the Grand Officers would sit down he would go on to the toast more congenial to himself and more pleasing to the brethren. He was going to ask them to drink the health of the excellent brother, the first Worshipful Master of that new lodge. He was quite sure when the founders met together—and a large number there were—and began to consider how that lodge was going to be worked, no doubt it was difficult to know who should be the Master. He thought their selection was an excellent one, because Bro. Dr. Lloyd had done good suit and service in his old mother lodge—the Eclectic—and the W.M. of that lodge had just told him that he was initiated by Bro. Dr. Lloyd. That showed him that Bro. Lloyd was an old and tried member of the Order, who knew his regulations and ritual, and would do excellent service in his new capacity. The founders could not have made a better choice, and following him came their highly respected Member for the Division—Bro. Gainsford Bruce, Q.C.—and also Bro. Angel. He thought they had provided for the next two or three years in a manner auguring well for the future prosperity of the lodge. He would ask them to join him in drinking to the Holborn Lodge, wishing it all success, and joining with it the health of its first W.M., Bro. Dr. Lloyd.

Bro. Dr. S. LLOYD, W.M., said he was sure they would excuse him if he was embarrassed. He would first thank the Grand Secretary for the kind way he had proposed the toast, and for the kind words of advice and encouragement given them. He would assure the Grand Secretary that they would endeavour as far as they could to carry out that kindly advice. He would next thank the brethren for the enthusiastic way in which they had received the toast, and thank them once more for the distinguished honour conferred upon him in making him their first Master. What they saw in him to induce them to take that view he could not imagine. It was not for any excellence in the ceremonies, and he was therefore driven to the conclusion—a pleasant one—that the choice fell upon him simply from the esteem in which they held him, and, therefore, he thanked them from the bottom of his heart.

Bro. General LAURIE, P.G.M. Nova Scotia, returned thanks on behalf of "The Visitors," and said that Nova Scotia was as English as England, as Scotch as Scotland. They had the same feeling towards the mother country, and felt they were Englishmen. There were two representatives from Nova Scotia present that evening, and they thanked them for the opportunity given them of seeing another English lodge. On behalf of the visitors he returned thanks for the privilege of seeing the ceremonies of consecration and installation, which were performed with such dignity. Especially they thanked the orator of the occasion for his admirable address, and he was certain the P.G. Chaplain never had greater attention paid him. They also had to thank the lodge for its magnificent hospitality.

Bro. GAINSFORD BRUCE, Q.C., M.P., S.W., proposed "The Treasurer and Secretary," to whom, he said, they were greatly indebted, for they had devoted themselves to the welfare of the lodge, and very much of the success of that day was owing to their labours. They were indebted to the Treasurer for the care he took and for the admirable way he expended the money. The Secretary was indefatigable, and had exerted himself to the utmost in all those numerous arrangements necessary for success.

Bro. Dr. S. R. LOVETT, Treasurer, returned grateful thanks for having been elected to the proud position of the first Treasurer, and assured them he would do his utmost to further their interests so that their confidence would not be misplaced.

Bro. C. R. ELLIS, P.P.G.S.B. Cambs., Secretary, also returned thanks, and said he had been assisted in the work by all those whose hearts had been in the same place as his own in the making of a lodge for the district of Holborn. It was in December last that the present Junior Warden spoke to him of the idea, and he immediately consented to assist. Having looked round for the best men in the neighbourhood, a petition was signed, which had resulted in that evening's

proceedings. All they had done had been a labour of love. Sometimes it had been anxious, but at all times pleasant, and the present was the proudest moment of his Masonic life. As Secretary he thanked them most sincerely for the kind manner they had received his health, and anything he could do for the lodge he would always be found ready and willing to do.

Bro. GAINSFORD BRUCE, Q.C., M.P., S.W., responded for "The Officers," and said their desire was to do everything they could to promote the interests of Masonry, and the welfare of the Holborn Lodge in particular. He should have to leave them for the House of Commons, and he could not help thinking how happily things would go on there if they could elect the Speaker as W.M., with Messrs. W. H. Smith and Gladstone as S.W. and J.W., which would be to the advantage of the country and the convenience of individuals there.

The Tyler's toast brought a very successful meeting to a close.

The musical arrangements were in the hands of Bro. Dr. J. F. Haskins, assisted by Bros. R. Grice, C. Chilley, J. Bartlett, Dutton, and W. Devey.

CONSECRATION OF THE PRINCE EDWARD CHAPTER, No. 2109, AT HEATON MOOR.

On Monday an addition was made to the roll of Royal Arch chapters in the Province of West Lancashire—numbering already some 41 or 42—by the consecration of the Prince Edward Chapter, No. 2109, at Heaton Moor. In this residential suburb of Manchester, the progress of Masonry has of late been very marked. The Prince Edward Lodge, to which the new chapter is attached, has, since its consecration a few years ago, enjoyed a remarkable degree of prosperity, and in point of numbers, efficiency of working, and charitable effort, compares favourably with any lodge in the province. The brethren at Heaton Chapel are fortunate in the possession of a handsome lodge room, and it never looked better than when prepared with beautiful new furniture and appointments for the ceremony of Monday. The Consecrating Officer was Comp. W. Goodacre, P.G. Std. Br. England, and P.G.S.E. West Lancashire, and he was assisted by Comps. Rev. T. Barton Spencer, P.A.G. Soj. England; W. Johnson, P.G.J.; J. Slyman, P.G.S.N; J. J. Lambert, P.P.G. Reg., acting S.E.; J. D. Murray, P.P.G. Treas., acting D. of C.; W. Platt, P.P.G.O.; and other provincial officers.

The impressive ceremony of consecration, undertaken as it was by such masters of the ritual, was faultlessly performed.

In an eloquent oration Comp. the Rev. T. B. SPENCER drew many lessons from the Royal Arch Degree, and enforced upon the companions the duty of observing the high moral and religious aims set forth therein.

The CONSECRATING OFFICER gave the invocation with all solemnity, and duly dedicated and constituted the chapter. Comp. Murray upheld his right to be considered one of the ablest Directors of Ceremonies in the Order, and a choir of vocal companions, under the direction of the P.P.G.O., rendered efficient service. At the close of the ceremony Comp. Goodacre installed as the first Z. of the chapter Comp. W. Webster, and Comp. Slyman then installed Comp. E. Broadbent, as H., and Comp. J. H. Wells, as J.

The following were invested as officers for the year ensuing: Comps. T. A. Hopewell, S.E.; S. I. Thomson, S.N.; T. Thornhill Shann, Treas.; J. W. Berra, P.S.; J. Gardner, 1st Asst. Sec.; W. M. Elroy, 2nd Asst. Sec.; and W. Chesshyre, Janitor.

The addresses to the Principals, officers, and companions, were delivered by Comp. Goodacre.

A goodly list of 11 candidates was proposed for exaltation.

The M.E.Z. said the chapter would be carried on upon the principles which governed the Prince Edward Lodge, and he therefore moved that no intoxicating drinks should be introduced at their social board.

Comp. THOMSON seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Comp. HOPEWELL moved, and Comp. THOMSON seconded a cordial vote of thanks to the eminent companions who had performed the ceremony of consecration.

Comp. BERRA, in supporting the motion, said the ceremony was the most beautiful he had ever witnessed in Freemasonry.

The M.E.Z., in submitting the resolution, observed that it had been a real treat to him to see the ceremony performed as it had been, and, in particular, to listen to the beautiful words of exhortation, praise, and prayer. It had been to him a religious ceremony, and he felt that it had done him good, heart and soul. He hoped it had had the same effect upon the companions who had been privileged to be present. He could not too deeply express the obligation he was under to those who had undertaken the work.

The resolution was passed with enthusiasm.

Comp. GOODACRE, in reply, said that upon Comp. Spencer he felt had devolved the greater part of the consecration. The beautiful oration he had given had been a treat to all of them. Personally it had given him the greatest possible pleasure to assist the companions of Heaton Moor to realise their hopes in the formation of the chapter. The Grand and Prov. Grand Officers present wished them every good wish for the prosperity of the chapter.

In the evening there was a banquet, the M.E.Z. presiding.

The loyal and Masonic toasts were cordially pledged, the festival throughout being of the most enjoyable and fraternal character.

The chapter was furnished by Comp. George Kenning.

J. A. VON STARCK was born in 1741 and died in 1816. His name is familiar to those who have studied the history of German Freemasonry, as very intimately connected with the high grade movement of Templary in Germany. As we think his views mistaken, and his proceedings hurtful to true Masonry, his biography will be short. He is said to have been made a Freemason in a French military lodge, and to have been initiated in the Rite of Melesino in St. Petersburg. He then joined the Strict Observance, and, subsequently dissatisfied, formed a clerical reform of it. What that really was does not clearly appear to us, and we prefer to leave it as is generally stated, though we are not satisfied that he arranged his Reformed Rite in the various grades generally given; and certain it is that it is not properly called the Relaxed Observance—which seems to be a French mistake and misnomer. The Relaxed Observance, as we understand the German writers, was rather the whole English system or Craft system, as opposed to the Strict Observance of Templar Masonry. Starck is accused by German writers of being a Jesuit. He seems to have coquetted with the Church of Rome; though he died, we believe, professedly a Lutheran, he admittedly leant much both to the teaching and company of Roman Catholics. He was perhaps an unconscious rather than a conscious agent of Jesuitism. But this we can say of him: that he did no good to Freemasonry, that his views were erroneous, and his efforts actually injurious to its tolerant and comprehensive principles.—*Kenning's Cyclopædia of Freemasonry.*

GENERAL LIFE AND FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—Established 1837. Chief Office—103, Cannon-street, London, E.C.
 Capital £1,000,000
 Funds in hand 1,200,000
 Total income exceeds 335,000
 Chairman—Sir ANDREW LUSK, Bart.
 Life, Fire, Mortgages, Annuities. Life Policies indisputable after being in force five years. Immediate payment of claims on proof of death and title. Fire Insurances accepted at equitable rates.
 HENRY WARD, Secretary and Manager.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
 10, ST. SWITHIN'S LANE, LONDON, E.C.
 General Accidents. Personal Injuries.
 Railway Accidents. Deaths by Accident.
 C. HARDING, Manager.

HEPBURN AND COCKS,
 ESTABLISHED 1790.
 93, CHANCERY LANE, LONDON, W.C.
 (Two Doors North of Union Bank).

DEED, BALLOT, CASH, AND DESPATCH BOX, AND FIRE-PROOF SAFE MANUFACTURERS.

Air-Tight and Travelling Boxes in stock, and made to order.

Offices and Strong Rooms Fitted up with Iron Frames and Shelves. Sets of Stands and Boxes made to fit Recesses to Order.

Estimates given. Price Lists.

* N.B.—STRONG DEED BOXES of the following dimensions forwarded carriage paid pro nett cash—viz.; 16 in. by 12-in. by 9½-in., 17s. 6d.; 14-in. by 10-in. by 8-in., 14s. 6d.; and 13-in. by 9-in. by 7-in., 11s. 6d.

THE LONDON NECROPOLIS.—
 BROOKWOOD CEMETERY, NEAR WOKING.

188, WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, AND
 2, LANCASTER PLACE, STRAND.

Telephone—No. 4839.

Telegraphic Address—"Tenebratio, London."

BROOKWOOD CEMETERY is the largest and most beautiful in England, and easier and cheaper of access than any of the other London Cemeteries.

Every detail in connection with a Funeral promptly and effectually carried out in response to a message to either of the Offices.

This Company are the Patentees and only Makers of the Earth to Earth Coffins, and carry out sanitary burial in the manner so strongly advocated by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Westminster, the Dean of York, and the Church of England Burial Reform Association.

"The manner of conducting interments in this Cemetery (according to the Government Inspector) is as commendable as the practice of other Companies is the contrary."—*The Times.*

FOR ECONOMICAL AND RESPECTABLE
FUNERALS AT STATED CHARGES,

TO COVER ALL EXPENSES, EXCLUSIVE OF CEMETERY FEES,

BRO. C. G. HATT, UNDERTAKER,
 2, KING STREET, KENSINGTON HIGH STREET.

Orders by Post or Telegrams promptly attended to.
 Price Lists Post Free on Application.

FISH, POULTRY, GAME, OYSTERS.

JOHN GOW, LIMITED,
 17, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.
 (Opposite Railway Station).

121, HONEY LANE MARKET, CHEAPSIDE,
 93, THEOBALD'S RD., HOLBORN, W.C.,
 125, BROMPTON ROAD, S.W.

JOHN GOW, Limited, always have on sale the Largest Stock in London of the Very Best Quality at Lowest Prices.
 BARRELLED OYSTERS.

COALS. COALS. COALS.
COCKERELL'S (LIMITED),
 13, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.

For Prices, see Daily Papers.

Trucks direct from the Colliery to every Railway Station.

W. WALLER, THEATRICAL COSTUMIER AND WIG MAKER.

FANCY COSTUMES SUPPLIED FOR BALLS, FETES, AND CARNIVALS.

Portable Theatres and Scenery Fitted in Town or Country. Costumes for every published Play may be had on Hire.

Also Dress Suits for Banquets, Balls, &c.

Estimates and Catalogues of Goods forwarded on application.

84 & 86, TABERNACLE ST., FINSBURY SQUARE, LONDON.

TO FREEMASON PATRONS and the CRAFT in general.—A P.P.G.C., K.T., 18^o, highest references and testimonials, great experience, views moderate, good health, strong voice, would be grateful for a LIVING, sole charge, or any other suitable post.—Address, CURATE, Myrtle Cottage, Bembridge, I.W.

ANDERTON'S HOTEL & TAVERN
 FLEET STREET, LONDON.

In connection with the Royal Clarence Hotel, Ilfracombe; and Peacock Hotel, and Royal Hotel, Boston, Lincolnshire.

The central position of ANDERTON'S renders this Tavern unequalled for

Masonic Banquets, Public Dinners, Wedding Breakfasts, Meetings of Creditors, Arbitrations or Fovial Gatherings

The Rooms reserved for the above business consist of DINING HALL, PILLAR HALL, MASONIC HALL, CHAPTER, and numerous Smaller Rooms.

The RESTAURANT on Eastern Side of Hotel Entrance is open to the Public from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for BREAKFASTS, LUNCHEONS, TEAS, and DINNERS.

F. H. CLEWOW, Proprietor.

MANCHESTER HOTEL,
 ALDERSGATE STREET.

NOTICE TO SECRETARIES OF MASONIC LODGES, CLUBS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

The Proprietors of the above Hotel, having recently added a number of commodious Rooms to the Establishment, suitable for LODGE MEETINGS, BANQUETS, DINNERS, &c., will be glad to furnish Terms and Particulars for the use of same on application.

THE ABERCORN HOTEL,
 STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.

The branch railway from Harrow is now open. North-Western trains from Broad-street and Euston to Stanmore. Every convenience for Masonic Lodges, Summer Banquets, Dinners, or Private Families.

BRO. CHARLES VEAL, P.M., P.Z.,
 Proprietor.

A. T. LAWRENCE
 (Late J. R. BONE),
 BLACKFRIARS DEPOT

FOR
 LICENSED VICTUALERS' GLASS AND CHINA,
 ALSO
 GLASS AND STONE BOTTLES.

Best Quality and Low Prices. Call and See the

NEW PORCELAIN SPIRIT CASKETS, URNS, &c.
 146-147, BLACKFRIARS ROAD, S.E.

TO LET—To Masonic Brethren—a
 ROOM, 30 feet by 17. Apply to Bro. BLOCK, P.M., "Eagle," 143, Farringdon-road, E.C.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

FOR
 AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF
 FREEMASONS, CROYDON.

MAY ELECTION, 1891.

The favour of your VOTES and INTEREST is earnestly requested on behalf of

BRO. E. C. COOMBS,

Who was initiated in Lodge Unity, No. 71, in 1858, passed the chair, and Subscribing Member until 1873. One of the Founders of Lodge St. Margaret's, No. 1452, and Subscribing Member to that Lodge from 1873 to 1884. Promoted the building of a Masonic Hall in Lowestoft.

The applicant, now in his 72nd year, was formerly Captain in the Merchant Service, and having saved money, retired, and invested his savings in shipping property; this investment, owing to loss of ships and the great depreciation in the value of property of this nature, resulted in the applicant losing nearly the whole of his savings; what remained he subsequently invested in Shares in a Steam Ship, the managing owner of which a short time afterwards became bankrupt. The steamer being sold, the amount realised was insufficient to pay the amounts due on her. Thus the applicant lost his all, and he, and his wife, who is now in her 74th year, are totally without the means of subsistence. The applicant has been unable, on account of his age, to obtain employment of any kind.

This case is strongly recommended by the following Brothers:—

The Rt. Hon. Lord BENNIKER, Prov. Grand Master of Suffolk, R.W. Bro. Sir JOHN B. MONCKTON, F.S.A.; P.G.W.; P. Pres. Bd. Gen. Purps.; The Guildhall, E.C.

* Bro. C. W. BACON, P.M. 213; P.P.J.G.D., P.P.G. Stwd. Norfolk; Blodfield, near Norwich.

* N. TRACEY, P.G. Secretary Suffolk; Ipswich.

* J. K. PITT, P.M. 463; P.P.G.S.B. Surrey; 143, Minories, London, E.

* W. OLDFHAM CHAMBERS, P.M. 71 and 1452; P.P.G.W. Suffolk; 51, Cannon-street, London, E.C.

* J. W. WILSON, P.M. 71; P.P.G.S.W. Suffolk; Lowestoft.

* H. J. EASTAUGH, P.M. 1452 and Sec.; P.P.G.D. Suffolk; Lowestoft.

* B. S. BRADBEER, P.M. and Treas. 1452; P.G.S.B. Suffolk; Lowestoft.

* H. W. BLWES, P.M. 1452; P.P.G.D. Suffolk; Lowestoft.

* W. J. ROBERTS, W.M. 1452; Lowestoft.

* GEORGE KENNING, V. Patron; P.M. 192 and 1657; P.P. G.D. Middlesex; Upper Sydenham, S.E.

* JOHN RANDALL, Lodge Neptune, No. 22, will receive all communications for Bro. Coombs, at 144, Minories, London, E.

All Votes and Proxies will be received by the Brothers marked *.

TO FREEMASON GOVERNORS.
 —A M.M. and R.A., twelve years' experience as Schoolmaster, seeks for Grammar School Mastership or Continental Chaplaincy on moderate stipend. Good testimonials.—Address, CLERICUS, care of the *Freemason*.

UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF ENGLAND.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W.G.M.

THE GRAND FESTIVAL

WILL BE HELD

On WEDNESDAY, 29th APRIL, 1891,

AT THE

FREEMASONS' HALL, GREAT QUEEN STREET,

THE R.W. DEPUTY GRAND MASTER will Preside.

DINNER AT SIX O'CLOCK.

Brethren must appear in full Masonic Craft Clothing.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION
 FOR GIRLS,
 ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

INSTITUTED 1788.

CHIEF PATRONESS:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

ENTIRELY SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD
 ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

Will be held

AT FREEMASONS' TAVERN, LONDON, W.C.,

ON TUESDAY, THE 12th OF MAY,

UNDER THE DISTINGUISHED PRESIDENCY OF

THE RIGHT HON. LORD CARRINGTON, G.C.M.G.,

M.W. Past Grand Master New South Wales,
 and R.W. Prov. Grand Master Bucks.

PRESIDENT BOARD OF STEWARDS.

R.W. Bro. Sir JOHN B. MONCKTON, F.S.A., P.G.W.

TREASURER.

W. Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, P.G.D.

SECRETARY.

W. Bro. F. R. W. HEDGES, P.G.S.B.

Brethren willing to act as Stewards on the above important occasion are urgently needed, and will greatly oblige by sending in their names as early as convenient.

F. R. W. HEDGES,

Office—5, Freemasons' Hall,
 Great Queen-street, W.C. Secretary.

P.S.—As the Chairman of the Festival is Past Grand Master of New South Wales, the Committee will be delighted to welcome all subscribing New South Wales Brethren, not only at the Institution on the Prize Day, Monday, 11th May, but also at the Festival.

GRAND MASTER'S LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

The SEVENTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL of this Mark Lodge of Instruction will be held at MARK MASONS' HALL, on TUESDAY, the 14th APRIL, at 5.30 p.m., when the Ceremony of Advancement will be worked—Bro. W. VINCENT, P.G.I.G., in the chair—with musical accompaniment; and afterwards the Lecture on the Degree will be given by Bro. J. R. GREEN, Grand Steward.

After the Ceremony a BANQUET will be held at FREEMASONS' TAVERN, at 7 p.m., when R.W. Bro. THOMAS FENN, P.G.W., has kindly consented to preside.

Tickets for the Dinner, including admission to the Lodge, Six Shillings, may be obtained from any of the Officers, or at the Office at Mark Masons' Hall.

E. M. MONEY, P.G. Stwd., Secretary.

BRITISH ORPHAN ASYLUM,
 MACKENZIE PARK, SLOUGH.

The Directors have the pleasure to announce that Mr. ALDERMAN DAVIS, J.P.,

Has kindly consented to preside at the

ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL,

To take place at

THE WHITEHALL ROOMS, HOTEL METROPOLE,

ON THURSDAY, 14th MAY, 1891.

Gentlemen willing to act as Stewards are requested to intimate their desire to the Secretary.

The Committee earnestly appeal for funds.

Rev. CANON FLEMING, B.D., } Hon.
 ALFRED MACKENZIE, Esq., } Secretaries.
 CHARLES T. HOSKINS, Secretary.

Offices—62, Bishopsgate-street Within, London.
 Bankers—Messrs. Williams, Deacon & Co., 20, Birchin-lane.

HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY.
 By GOULD. Beautifully bound and illustrated with splendid steel engravings, including H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and other Members of the Royal Family, &c., &c. Three volumes complete for Three Guineas. Published at £4 10s.; a Bargain. Also Vols. 1, 2, 3, and 4 (complete in six), same work, 35s. lot; published 15s. volume.—WM. OLIVER, 14½, Broad-street, Jersey.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS,

ST. JOHNS' HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

INSTITUTED 1788.

CHIEF PATRONESS:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

GRAND PATRON AND PRESIDENT:
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES,
K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

GRAND PATRONESS:
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

At a QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of this Institution held at FREEMASONS' TAVERN, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C., on THURSDAY, 9th April, 1891, Bro. HENRY SMITH, Treasurer of the Institution, in the chair. After the general business was disposed of, the Governors and Subscribers proceeded to the ELECTION by BALLOT of 19 girls into the Institution from a list of 25 approved candidates, when the following were declared duly

No. on Poll.	No. on List.	ELECTED:	Notes.
1	13	Lucas, Nathalie Mary (<i>last</i>)	5133
2	16	Carr, Ruby Victoria	4780
3	19	Messenger, Mabel Emily	4401
4	21	Paton, Harriet Jane	4225
5	10	Miller, Ethel Blanche (<i>last</i>)	4121
6	5	Gardner, Elsie Marian	4053
7	1	England, Helen Maud (<i>last</i>)	3991
8	12	Lewns, Mildred Julia	3966
9	17	Coles, Mabel Emily	3922
10	25	Brine, Ethel Priscilla	3874
11	7	Payne, Maud Catherine	3832
12	23	Heastie, Kate Ethel	3708
13	11	Collinson, Alice May (<i>last</i>)	3515
14	24	Davis, Muriel Ethel	3368
15	18	Gardner, Emily Louisa Mary	3135
16	9	Vivian, Margaret	3008
17	14	Tomalyn-Potts, Mina A. Vera	1852
18	6	Constable, Susan Ellen	1791
19	4	Blackler, Annie Lydia (<i>last</i>)	435

FREEMASON'S HYMN.—THE MYSTIC TIE. Words and Music composed by F. J. STEIN. Price 1s. 6d. nett.
London: GEORGE KENNING, 16 & 16A, Gt. Queen-st.

FIRST PRIZE MEDALS. Adelaide Jubilee Exhibition, 1887; Sydney Centenary Exhibition, 1888.

MASONS' CERTIFICATES, &c.,
FRAMED TO ANY DESIGN.
H. MORELL,
17 & 18, GREAT ST. ANDREW ST., BLOOMSBURY, LONDON, W.C.

Manufacturer and Importer of all kinds of Picture Frame and Decorative Mouldings (Two Million feet always in stock). Every requisite for the Trade and Exportation. Illustrated Book of Patterns, 85 pages 4to demy, revised for 1891, post free for three penny stamps.

NEW VOLUME OF THE "FREEMASON."

NOW READY, bound in cloth, lettered, price 9s., Vol. XXV. of "The Freemason."

London: GEORGE KENNING, 16 & 16A, Gt. Queen-st., W.C.

NOTICE.

A Second Edition of "The Freemason" will be published on Saturday morning, giving the result of the polling for Candidates for admission to the Boys' School, which takes place to-day (Friday).



SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1891.

Masonic Notes.

The result of the Girls' School Election was declared just before going to press, and the names of the successful candidates will be found in another column. The figures exhibited an extraordinary difference between the highest and lowest successful case—the former reaching 5133, and the latter only 435. We shall publish a second edition of the Freemason on Saturday morning, giving the results of the Boys' School Election.

No very satisfactory progress is being made with the Board of Stewards for the Festival on the 12th May next of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. Up to the present time only about 220 brethren have

volunteered their services, and there is but a brief interval left in which to increase the number, that is, of course, to be of any material service in obtaining the necessary subscriptions and donations. Last year, if we remember rightly, the Board numbered about 250 brethren, but the amount they raised—£11,000—represented the high average of £44 per Steward. We must, therefore, indulge in the hope that if this year's Board is not stronger the total of its Returns will at least not be less satisfactory.

* * *

Bro. Viscount Dungarvan has lost no time in showing that his recent promise to undertake the duties of a Festival Chairman, should he at any time be called upon to do so, was made in all sincerity. His lordship is S.G. Warden of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons, as well as Prov. Grand Master nominate of Somersetshire, and, in response to an invitation from the Secretary, has most kindly arranged to preside at the approaching Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund. We trust his lordship's Chairmanship will be attended by the same good fortune as those of his more immediate predecessors.

* * *

We understand that the services rendered by Bro. H. A. Hunt, the Honorary Architect of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, in connection with the Alexandra Hall, which was so lately opened by his Royal Highness the M.W.G.M., will very shortly be recognised by his appointment to the brevet rank of Past Grand Superintendent of Works. The honour thus about to be conferred is most richly deserved, and we very heartily congratulate Bro. Hunt on his good fortune.

* * *

We must again remind our readers that the Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will be held this day (Friday), at Freemasons' Tavern, at 12 noon precisely, when 28 will be elected from an approved list of 45 candidates. The *last* cases are Nos. 2, 4, 19, 28, and 33, and we earnestly appeal to all Governors and Subscribers who are not already committed to the support of these candidates to give all the help they can to these boys, who will have their names removed from the list if they fail to win places at this election.

* * *

We are pleased to be in a position to announce that the office of Prov. G. Master of Surrey, which was rendered vacant in 1889 by the lamented death of Bro. General Brownrigg, C.B., has been at length filled, and that his Royal Highness, the M.W.G.M., has appointed thereto Bro. Col. G. Noel Money, C.B., of Vigo House, Weybridge, Surrey. We gladly avail ourselves of this opportunity to tender our hearty congratulations to Bro. Col. Money on his appointment to so distinguished a position.

* * *

The Craft has sustained a great loss through the death of Bro. J. Finlay Finlayson, member of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, author of "The Symbols and Legends of Freemasonry," a work which was received with a very considerable amount of favour, and will always prove most interesting to the Masonic student. The sad event occurred quite recently and unexpectedly, and we feel confident our readers will unite with us in this expression of regret at the death of so learned and so capable a writer.

* * *

Our readers, and especially those who enjoy the privilege of his acquaintance, will deeply sympathise with Bro. Asher Barfield, Past Grand Treasurer, in the very serious bereavement he has just sustained by the death of Mrs. Barfield, whose funeral took place at Kensal Green on Monday. For ourselves, we take this opportunity of tendering him our sincere sympathy in the midst of his great affliction.

* * *

We imagine there are few Grand Masters who can boast with Bro. J. Ross Robertson, G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Canada (Province of Ontario), that during his first six months of office he travelled upwards of 10,000 miles, and personally visited 116 out of 351 lodges, sometimes as many as three visits being paid in the course of a single evening. The only brethren we can think of in this country who can in any way vie with Bro. Robertson in this class of work are the present and late Secretaries of the Boys' School, and Bro. Terry, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. We have heard it stated that in the course of one single year Bro. Terry devoted 290 evenings to visiting lodges and pleading the cause of the Old People. We cannot

personally vouch for the accuracy of the statement, but Bro. Terry, after an experience of this kind extending over 18 years, and Bro. Binckes, after a 29 years' similar experience, both survive, and are as well as can be expected under the circumstances; while as for Bro. McLeod, he has evidently made up his mind to beat the record sooner or later. Clearly, in the matter of ubiquity, these worthy brethren beat the famous bird of Sir Royle Roche.

Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for 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.]

"OUR BOYS."

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

As one of the senior Vice-Patrons, will you allow me to express my gratification with the report of the zealous "Provisional Management Committee." More particularly, I should like to put in writing my hope that the recommendation of the Committee respecting the increase of salary for our esteemed Secretary, Bro. J. Morrison McLeod, will be carried *unanimously and heartily*.

He well deserves such an acknowledgment, and many of us who cannot attend the meeting trust it will readily be granted.

W. J. HUGHAN.

"Dunscore," Torquay, April 4th.

THE LATE EARL GRANVILLE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In your short obituary notice of the late Earl Granville you mention that he was initiated into Freemasonry in 1833 in the Apollo University Lodge of Oxford, but make the excuse for the circumstance that he never took an active part in the doings of the Craft because "Indeed, his life was too busy a one to admit of his having time to devote to lighter pursuits." I think this must be an inadvertence, for as it stands it is a very left-handed compliment both to Freemasonry and to those who with important public and private avocations do find time to interest themselves in the welfare and advancement of the Order, and this is especially so in the light of the circumstance that the post held by the late Earl of Carnarvon has not yet been filled.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

L. B.

THE ORIGIN OF "FREE" MASON.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In reply to "R. C. P.," he may rest assured that Rev. Bro. Bland was only dishing up an oft told, and as oft disproved, tale about the Pope and the Freemasons. The Masons were not called "free" on the Continent, it is an exclusively English term, and there is no evidence whatever that English Freemasons were exempt from taxes, neither in the worst days of our history would Englishmen have allowed the Pope to interfere to such a serious extent with the internal economy of the realm.

As to the receipt of the Canadian paper, I think I can explain that mystery. To judge by his initials, "R. C. P." is a member of the "Quatuor Coronati Correspondence Circle," and so is the Grand Master of Canada, Bro. J. Ross Robertson. The latter lately requested me to give him the names of 100 members who would like to occasionally receive foreign newspapers. I had much difficulty in making the selection, but tried to distribute the addresses all over the country, so as to produce the greatest possible good, and I trust those brothers to whom the papers are sent will not selfishly keep them, but pass them on after reading.—Yours fraternally,

G. W. SPETH.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

My attention has been arrested by a letter in the Correspondence columns of your last issue. The word *Freemason* is a compound of the words *Free* and *Mason*. *Free* is generally understood among philologists to be connected with the Sanskrit *pri*—to love—and to have designated originally the *relatives* (dear ones) of the head of the family, as distinguished from the *slaves*. *Free* may be from the Sanskrit root *vri*, or *vri*, or *var*—choose. Webster gives from German *vir*. Compare Persian *vara* or *var*—enclosure. The etymology of *Mason* is not very clear; however, compare Persian *Mazan*—sorcerer—i.e., scientist. Mazandun being land of sorcerers. Hence, according to Persian, *Freemason* means an *enclosure*, i.e., select society of *sorcerers*, i.e., scientists.

I welcome this opportunity of ventilating the above history of *Freemason*, as I intend using them in my forthcoming paper, "Masonic Landmarks among the Parsés."—Yours fraternally,

P. J. OLIVER MINOS.

Eastbourne, April 6.



Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Faith Lodge (No. 141).—This old lodge met at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 30th ult., when there were present, among others, Bros. Walter Langdale, W.M.; Welsh, J.W.; W. Stewart, P.M., Sec.; Trott, I.G.; Godfrey, Steward.; C. Hopwood, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; Charles Dairy, P.M.; Capt. Walls, P.M.; Hudson, P.M.; and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Mr. F. A. Woolf, and it proved to be unanimous, but from unavoidable circumstances he was prevented from attending. Bro. W. Carter, P.M., the respected Treasurer of the lodge, having lost his wife, a vote of deep sympathy was passed to him on the great bereavement he has sustained, and the Secretary was desired to forward the same.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

A few toasts followed.

"The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. E. Hopwood.

The Worshipful Master, in reply, stated that he was greatly disappointed that the candidate did not put in an appearance. However, he trusted that during the remainder of his year of office there would be work to do.

Bro. Walls responded on behalf of "The Past Masters," and Bro. C. Dairy acknowledged the toast of "The Masonic Charities." He particularly called attention to the fact that the Girls' Festival would be presided over by Bro. Lord Carrington, and that of the Boys' by Bro. the Earl of Lathom.

The proceedings then terminated.

Corinthian Lodge (No. 1382).—The installation meeting of this extensive lodge was held on Wednesday, the 18th ult., at the George Hotel, Cubitt Town, Bro. Robt. J. Perry, W.M., presiding. He was supported by the following officers: Bros. R. J. Pitt, J.W.; J. Carnaby, Treas.; A. H. Oakley, Sec.; G. A. Saunders, S.D.; John Limn, J.D.; A. J. Delves, I.G.; and W. Blois, Stwd. The following Past Masters were also present: Bros. W. J. Millington, G. B. Smith, H. Doring, J. W. Morrison, and J. Clark. So large a number of brethren were present that we cannot name all, but among them were Bros. E. Brindley, A. W. Flint, A. Tranmer, Louis Klein, J. H. Nightscales, C. Chatfield, D. Russell, T. Tildesley, L. J. Prinant, F. Bassett, H. Rogers, H. A. Durer, R. Ralston, W. C. Flint, H. A. Bailey, R. Lock, J. Reynolds, W. Clark, S. G. Bonner, J. Hood, B. Bareham, G. Carter, W. Greatorex, W. Davison, T. Voisey, W. Lea, Charles McKenzie, H. Hawkins, T. G. Collingwood, G. Plant, C. K. Maddox, F. Ediston, C. Allen, W. S. Esmond, W. H. Drew, J. Salt, D. Toomey, and F. Hince. The visitors included Bros. S. J. Finch, 861; J. Byford, jun., 898; D. Britain, 1278; J. F. Munro, 1259; G. McGeorge, 499; Burry Higgs, 1685; F. Lettley, 27; G. Coote, 1278; H. Seage, 781; H. V. Geary and J. Mills, of 1765; and many others.

The names on the agenda were numerous. Of the initiates Mr. Lewis Griffiths was the only one present, and he was duly initiated. The candidates for passing were Bros. Laughland and Mackay; those for raising Bros. Foote, Freeman, Gadston, Higgs, Wilde, Klein, and Hood. The onerous duties of the lodge were performed by Bro. R. Perry, W.M., with marked ability. The most important work of the evening then took place, and Bro. R. J. Pitt, J.W. and W.M. elect, having been presented to the W.M., a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. R. J. Pitt was installed into the chair of K.S. The duties of Installing Officer were performed by Bro. Millington, P.M. and D. of C., with his usual precision and a due regard to the solemn rite. The W.M. then appointed the following officers: Bros. Saunders, S.W.; J. S. Limn, J.W.; J. Carnaby, Treas.; A. H. Oakley, Sec.; A. Delves, S.D.; W. Blois, J.D.; F. Bassett, I.G.; Bareham and Brindley, Stwds. The Auditors' report having been read and unanimously adopted, the Auditors, Secretary, and Treasurer received a vote of thanks for their efficient services. A sum of 20 guineas was voted to a brother in distress, and this vote was supplemented by Bro. Clark, P.M., by a generous gift of 10 guineas to the same deserving case. Further Masonic business having been transacted, the brethren adjourned to an excellent and well served banquet.

The loyal toasts and those of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," were proposed and accepted in the usual Masonic manner.

"The W.M." was proposed by the I.P.M. in complimentary terms, and the toast was warmly responded to.

The other toasts were equally well accepted, that of "The Visitors" having so many responding that it is impossible to record all their thanks, but they were all truly fraternal.

The speeches were all brief in consequence of the late hour.

The short intervals between were occupied by musical brethren.

Royal Commemoration Lodge (No. 1585).—A meeting was held at the White Lion Hotel, Putney, on Wednesday, the 1st inst. Present: Bros. J. W. Harding, W.M.; Sandalls, S.W.; Coombe, acting J.W.; Watkins, Treas.; Williams, P.M., Sec.; Wright, acting S.D.; Fayers, acting J.D.; Grundy, I.G.; Tildesley, Steward; Knight, Org.; Collings, P.M., D.C.; Walkley, Tyler; Wing, I.P.M.; Robinson, P.M.; Pardoe, P.M.; and some 30 brethren. Visitor: Bro. Higgs, 177.

Lodge being opened, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. Walter Gibbons, and proved unanimous. Bros. W. A. Weeks, A. Leapman, H. Leapman, C. Fuller, and A. W. Reid were impressively raised to the Third Degree. Bros. E. Preston, H. Collings, F. A. Grimshaw, and J. Cox were passed to

the Degree of F.C., and Mr. A. Knapp, who had been balloted for at the last meeting, and Mr. W. R. Gibbons, being in attendance, were initiated. The by-laws were read, and Bro. Sandalls, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. George Watkins was unanimously re-elected Treasurer for the 14th time in succession, he having been Treasurer ever since the foundation of the lodge, and Bro. Walkley was re-elected Tyler. Three brethren were elected on the Audit Committee. A Past Master's jewel was voted to the outgoing W.M., Bro. Harding, and after the correspondence had been read, the lodge was closed.

The brethren then adjourned to dinner, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured, particularly those of "The Initiates" and "The W.M. Elect."

The speeches were interspersed with songs by some of the brethren, and the Tyler's toast closed a very pleasant and harmonious evening.

Farrington Without Lodge (No. 1745).—This lodge met on the 31st ult., at the Viaduct Hotel, Holborn. Among those present were Bros. Schultz, W.M.; F. Kent, P.M. 177, acting S.W.; Nelson Prower, M.A., J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Surrey, Treas.; W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; P. N. Lardner, S.D.; Capt. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W.; J. Young, P.M.; T. Simpson, P.M.; and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. S. O. Shapcott was raised to the Degree of a M.M., and Bros. J. Evans, W. R. Witt, and H. Harden passed to the Second Degree, the ceremonies being well performed. The ballot was taken on behalf of Bro. B. Turner, C.C., P.M. 1328, as a joining member, and it proved to be unanimous. Bro. N. Prower, M.A., was elected W.M.; Bro. H. J. Lardner, Treas.; and Bro. E. Mallett, Tyler for the year ensuing. It was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously—"That the sum of five guineas be subscribed from the Benevolent Fund of this lodge in aid of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, per Bro. H. J. Lardner, P.M., Treasurer, Steward." Bro. R. Webber, the W.M., having died somewhat suddenly since the last meeting of the lodge, the brethren and the lodge were in mourning. Before the lodge was closed a vote of condolence was passed to the widow and family of the deceased brother. Bro. Webber was an old initiate of No. 1745, and by the geniality of his bearing, modesty of demeanour, and kindness of heart had won the esteem of every member of the lodge.

Some minor business having been transacted, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned. There was no banquet.

Warrant Officers' Lodge (No. 2346).—The installation meeting of this young and flourishing lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 20th ultimo, when Bro. Henry Gardiner, Sergeant-Major of the 4th Batt. Royal Fusiliers, was installed as W.M. in the presence of a good muster of brethren.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes were read and confirmed, and a very satisfactory audit report was presented and adopted. Three candidates were then initiated, two passed, and one affiliated. The installation ceremony was then gone through by Bro. M. A. McInerney, W.M., ably assisted by Bro. R. Jennings, P.M. The following officers were appointed and invested: Bros. Molony, S.W.; J. Hitching, J.W.; Lewis, Treas.; Cheesman, P.M., Sec.; Pugh, S.D.; Scott, J.D.; Elliott, I.G.; Williams, D.C.; Greene, A.D.C.; Cook and Laurie, Stwds.; Hazard, Org.; Cowen, Asst. Org.; and Young, Tyler. The Installing Master, Bro. McInerney, I.P.M., very impressively delivered the usual addresses, and was presented by the W.M. with a Past Master's jewel in recognition of his services.

The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet served in excellent style, under the superintendence of Bros. Cook and Laurie. Master C. Johnson presided at the piano, and played selections during the banquet, and also accompanied the songs after.

Under the presidency of the W.M., a very pleasant evening was spent, in the course of which the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

The toasts were interspersed with songs, recitations, and anecdotes, the contributors being the W.M., Bros. Hitching, T. G. Lewis, W. J. Windle, Black, J. Lewis, Cheesman, and others.

The Tyler's toast brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

ALDERLEY EDGE.

Alan Lodge (No. 2368).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Queen's Hotel on the 1st inst. The meeting was especially interesting as Bro. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, P.M., P.P.G.W., W.M., presided. There was a large gathering of influential members, including Bros. John Jones, P.M.; H. G. Small, S.W.; T. M. Markland, J.W.; A. Lawley, Treas.; F. Baxter, Sec.; W. Ramsden, D.C.; A. W. Henry, Org.; John R. R. Jeffery, J. A. Gee, G. T. Everett, P.M., P.P.G.D.; Robt. Bourne, M. Aspden, Elliott A. Crompton, R. Hilditch, W. R. D. Davies, E. Stevens, John Urquhart, and H. Everett, P.M. Visitors: Bros. John W. Sparkes, 163; Jas. Cookson, I.P.M. 287, Prov. G. Treas.; E. Edmonson, 323; J. S. White, 237 and 726; T. Newhouse, P.G.S.; W. Goodacre, P.G.S.B. England; G. Gaskill, I.P.M. 104; John Clayton, P.J.G.W.; W. W. Mortimer, 2109; J. M. McLeod, P.S.G.W. Derbyshire, Sec. R.M.I. for Boys; and John G. Bromley, P.M. 1375.

CARLISLE.

Bective Lodge (No. 1532).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held at the County Hotel, on Wednesday, the 1st inst., when Bro. Thos. J. Richardson was installed W.M. The lodge was opened by the retiring Master, Bro. W. P. Gibbins, assisted by his officers, and amongst those present were Bros. G. Long, S.W.; Thos. J. Richardson, J.W.; J. Cook, Sec.; E. Blackburn, J.D.; J. C. Mason, P.M.; G. Potter, P.M.; C. J. Nanson, P.M.; R. Tweedy, P.M.; W. P. Story; J. C. Thompson, P.M. 2285, P.P.G.R.; J. Wharton, W.M. 310; T. J. Graham, J.W. 310; J. Slack, P.M. 310; D. White, W.M. 327; J. Burgess, P.M. 327; and others.

The lodge was opened, and the W.M., Bro. W. P. Gibbins, raised Bro. F. W. Buck to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. in a very efficient manner. Bro. J. C. Thompson having taken the chair, then installed Bro. T. J. Richardson into the chair of K.S. The following officers were afterwards invested by the W.M.: Bros. W. P. Gibbins, I.P.M.; G. Long, S.W.; W. P. Story, J.W.; J. C. Mason, Treas.; J. Cook, Sec.; E. Blackburn, S.D.; R. Westlake, J.D.; W. F. Buck, I.G.; W. Matthews, Org.; and J. Graham, Tyler.

A banquet was afterwards held at the County Hotel, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, the W.M. being in the chair.

CHESTER.

Clarence Lodge (No. 2386).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at the Masonic Hall, Queen-street. Present: Bros. W. H. Finchett, W.M.; T. Litherland, S.W.; Capt. F. E. Cooper, J.W.; Staff Quartermaster-Sergeant G. McFarlane, Sec.; Sergeant-Major R. H. McKay, S.D.; T. Matthews-Jones, P.M., D.C.; R. Cariss, I.G.; Quartermaster-Sergeant Cameron and Sergeant Osborne, Stewards; Stephen Smith, Tyler; Herbert Ellis, P.M.; Thos. Knowles, P.M.; F. W. Pilcher, C. W. Randle Ford, J. Russell, W. Grice, J. W. Evason, A. W. McKinstoy, J. L. Jones, J. P. Forster, J. Mellor, H. J. Price, H. Brown, J. Thomas, W. Mason, E. E. Bryant, Wm. Minshull, J. Teague, A. C. H. Davies, J. R. Curnow, Wm. Peers, Wm. Lightfoot, M. S. Rogers, A. Truckle, and G. C. L. Allfree. Visitors: Bros. J. Humphreys, P.M. 721; T. G. H. Richards, 721; W. Ramsden, P.M. 425 and 1576, P.P.S.G.D.; G. B. Richmond, 1576; T. F. Ruscoe, 1576; C. R. Cowap, 1908; and J. R. Dutton, 425 and 421.

The minutes of the second regular lodge were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Bro. A. Parkes, 425, as a joining member, and it proving unanimous, he was declared to be duly elected. The ballot was taken for Staff-Sergt. Allfree, of the Army Service Corps, and it being unanimous, he was duly initiated. Bros. Grice, Mellor, Price, and Evason were passed, and Bro. Major McKinstoy, A. C. H. Davies, F. W. Pilcher, and M. S. Rogers were raised. Sums of 25 guineas each were voted for the Masonic Girls' and Boys' Institutions. Two candidates for initiation were proposed and seconded, and one brother was proposed as a joining member. The by-laws of the lodge, which were approved of at the previous meeting, were announced as having been returned approved, and were now placed in the hands of the members by the Secretary. Several letters were read, and "Hearty good wishes" were received from brethren representing Lodges 425, 721, 1576, and 1908.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a capital dinner.

Amongst the usual toasts, that of the W.M. was received with the greatest of enthusiasm. Bro. J. Matthews-Jones proposed it, and spoke in highly eulogistic terms of the splendid work which had been done by Bro. Finchett that evening, and congratulated him on the smoothness and regularity with which every part of the ceremonies had been conducted.

Bro. Finchett, W.M., in replying, thanked the brethren, and said no doubt the work was good, but that the credit was due to the very able manner in which the officers of the lodge had carried out their duties. He had also the greatest pleasure in proposing the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge," and coupled with it the names of Bros. Litherland, S.W., and Captain Cooper, J.W.

Bros. Litherland and Cooper replied in a few appropriate remarks, thanking the W.M. and brethren for drinking their healths so heartily.

Bro. Captain Cooper, J.W., proposed "The Visitors," and coupled with it the names of Bros. Ramsden and Humphreys.

Bro. Ramsden replied with a capital speech, which served not only to amuse but to instruct the brethren.

Bro. Humphreys replied in a few words of thanks, and after the usual Tyler's toast a most pleasant day and evening closed.

DONCASTER.

St. George's Lodge (No. 242).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 3rd inst. Amongst those present were Bros. F. J. Forth, W.M.; Athron, S.W.; J. Fitzgerald, J.W.; Newsom, Sec.; Hartley, Treas.; Webb, S.D.; Blake, J.D.; Pawson, Org.; Woodhouse, I.G.; Rand, P.M.; Goldthorpe, P.M.; Wilkie, P.M.; and many other brethren. Visitors: Bros. Redgard, Constable, Robotham, and Dowson.

After the lodge had been opened, Bro. J. Fitzgerald, J.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Athron, S.W., having declined the honour. Bro. Hartley was also re-elected Treasurer, and J. Hirst, Tyler, and W. Mason, Asst. Tyler. Bros. Hinchliff and Foster were duly raised. After "Hearty good wishes" the lodge was closed, Bro. Fitzgerald thanking the brethren for the honour conferred.

We have since learned that Bro. Rand has been offered by the Provincial Grand Master the office of P.J.G.D. for West Yorkshire.

FRIZINGTON.

Arlecdon Lodge (No. 1660).—The members of this lodge met in the Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 1st inst., Bro. Wilkinson, W.M., presided, assisted by the following brethren: Bros. John Wakefield, S.W.; D. Tolson, J.W.; M. Jones, Sec.; W. Shaw, S.D.; W. Robinson, J.D.; W. Barwise, I.G.; J. Singers, D.C.; John Brown and Jenkinson, Stewards; C. Bland, Tyler; B. Craig, P.M.; Dr. Routledge, R. Douglas, E. Jackson, and others.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed, and two candidates balloted for and initiated. With other general business, the lodge was closed.

GREAT GRIMSBY.

Pelham Pillar Lodge (No. 792).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 2nd instant, when there was an exceedingly large number of brethren present, including Bros. J. Reddish, W.M., G. Middleton, I.P.M.; W. Goodwin, Chap.; J. Waldram, Treas.; J. Duke, Lecturer; J. Morton, S.W.; W. Hurst, J.W.; F. Barrett, Sec.; B. Coulbeck, D.C.; and others. Bro. J. Constable, W.M. 1482, and other visitors.

The most unusual number of candidates were duly initiated, viz.: Bros. Wood, Cook, Roberts, Brown, and Grimoldby. Bro. Louth, a veteran brother, impressively gave the exhortation, and Bro. Middleton the charge. After the lodge, the W.M. invited all the brethren to an Easter banquet, when the usual Masonic toasts were duly and enthusiastically honoured.

KELVEDON.

Easterford Lodge (No. 2342).—The first installation meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 1st inst., and was in every way a great success. There was a large attendance of the members, and many visitors accepted the invitation of the brethren to be present.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. the Rev. Thomas Lloyd, P.P.G. Chap. Staff., and some routine business having been transacted, Bro. Lloyd proceeded to install as his successor Bro. J. H. Salter, performing the ceremony in a manner to call forth the encomiums of all present. The officers for the year were appointed and invested as under: Bros. J. L. Ogier, S.W.; R. L. Curzon, J.W.; Rev. Thomas Lloyd, P.M., P.P.G. Chap. Staff., I.P.M. and Chap.; E. T. G. Darell, P.M. 1591, Treas.; M. W. Meade, P.M. 1977, Prov. G.S.B., Sec.; C. T. Thorn, S.D.; J. W. Moss, J.D.; G. A. Eustace, P.M. 697, Sec. 1977, P.P.G.S.B., D. of C.; R. Galpin, Org.; W. Siggers, I.G.; A. Livermore, Stanley T. King, G. F. Beaumont, and H. T. King, Stwds.; and J. Inifer, Tyler. Bro. Rev. Thos. Lloyd was re-elected to represent the lodge on the Essex Provincial Charity Committee.

Between 40 and 50 brethren afterwards dined at the Angel Hotel, a splendid repast being served by Messrs. Wright and Son.

After dinner the usual Masonic toasts were duly honoured. In giving "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master," the W.M. said all the members of the Easterford Lodge recollected with pleasure the recent visit his lordship paid to the lodge.

The W. Master next gave the toast of "The D.P.G.M. and Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge," remarking that they felt under a deep obligation to Bro. Philbrick for his eminent services to the lodge at its consecration 12 months ago, and they much regretted his inability to be present at the meeting that day.

Bro. the Rev. Thomas Lloyd, I.P.M., gave "The Worshipful Master of the Easterford Lodge," predicting a prosperous year under the Mastership of Bro. Salter, who possessed all the qualifications needful for so important a post.

The Worshipful Master, in acknowledgment, said there was no chance of his being able to carry out the duties of the chair in the able manner that Bro. Lloyd had done, but seeing they had elected him to the position he would do his best, which was all that could be expected of any man.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of the I.P.M.," remarking that he had felt very proud to hear the praises of Bro. Lloyd sounded wherever his Masonic work was known. Personally he had considered it a great privilege to have been an officer under their I.P.M., who he greatly admired, and whose example he should endeavour to emulate. It was a great comfort that he should have Bro. Lloyd on his left hand during the coming year to give him the help he should sorely need.

The toast having been most heartily received, Bro. the Rev. Thomas Lloyd returned thanks. He said he was very proud of the position the Easterford Lodge had taken during the short time it had been in existence. They had no fewer than 32 subscribing members on the books and others in prospect; they were all working with one heart and one soul, and they were determined that the Easterford Lodge should be second to none in the Province of Essex. It was with some anxiety that he undertook the office of Installing Master, but he felt that the work ought to be done by a member of the lodge, and he trusted that it would be a long time before they had to go outside their own members to find an Installing Master.

At a later period of the evening the I.P.M., in responding for "The Charities," said as their Charity Representative, he should shortly be round with the hat on behalf of one or other of the great Charities of the Order. One brother (Bro. MacColla) had started his list with two guineas, and he trusted other members would follow suit, so that the Easterford Lodge was well represented.

"The Visitors" was proposed in a happy speech by Bro. R. L. Curzon, J.W., and acknowledged by Bros. the Rev. T. S. Raffles, Prov. G. Chap.; J. J. C. Turner, Prov. S.G.W.; Jos. Sadler, P.P.G. Treas.; R. Smith, W.M. 1877; and L. J. Watts, Mayor of Colchester.

During the evening several brethren contributed to the harmony of the meeting by some excellent songs.

PLUMSTEAD.

Pattison Lodge (No. 913).—The above powerful lodge held its monthly meeting on the 2nd inst. at Freemasons' Hall, Mount Pleasant, Bro. A. Penfold, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., presiding, in the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Col. E. Hughes, M.P. The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, Bro. T. E. Quick, 1738, was unanimously elected a joining member. Bros. Witts, Freeman, and the Rev. J. N. Horsley were raised, and then the lodge was closed.

A splendid muster of the brethren of the lodge and of the neighbouring lodges took place, among them being Bros. C. Coupland, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., Treas., H. J. Butter, P.M., P.P.G.R., R. J. Cook, P.M., P.P.G. Stwd., H. Mason, P.M., E. Palmer, P.M., E. Denton, P.M., P.P. I.G.D., Sec., F. R. Barry, P.M., C. Jolly, P.M. (Hon.), W. Busbridge, S.W., W. Sanders, J.W., W. C. Taylor, S.D., C. J. Clapham, J.D., Dr. E. Bryceson, I.G., J. Collins, D.C., D. K. Somers and Capt. J. Murphy, Stwds., J. Bull, Org., C. Warren, Tyler, C. Scantlebury, W. Wren, J. Turton, E. Morris, W.M. elect 1789, W. Fenn, T. Griffiths, H. G. Baker, W. Davidson, J. Farrier, W. Dickenson, Lieut. Swiss, G. Roberts, W. Lock, J. Mitchell, J. Taylor, G. H. Letton, W.M. 615, W. Leaver, W. Chaney, E. M. Taylor, B. Hammond, A. D. Capon, W. Young, P. Estler, C. Hager, J. Tucker, T. J. Nell, T. Arnold, G. Frost, W. Frankling, J. Messent, L. Mills, J. Hooton, and B. Littlewood, all of the lodge; G. Grant, 700; G. W. Buffery, 1076; A. Hoeftman, 1076; W. C. Haley, 1789; A. J. Walking, 700; W. Regor, 720; R. Smith, 1000; and A. Ludworth, 871.

After having enjoyed an elegantly-served dinner, Bro. Penfold gave the usual loyal and Grand Lodge toasts, as

also that of "Earl Amherst, Grand Master of the Province of Kent," which were, as they always are, most loyally responded to.

Bro. Palmer then proposed the toast of "Bro. Eastes, D.P.G.M., and the rest of the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past." He said all those who had been in the habit of meeting their P.G.M. and D.P.G.M. knew the great and unceasing interest they took in all things Masonic, not only in the province, but at all big meetings where Masonic work had to be done. It was only the other day when the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, opened a new wing at the Girls' School. There was Bro. Eastes, and they all knew what their own P.G.M. did for the Charities. With regard to the other officers of the province, he thought they were very fairly chosen, and if they looked through the Blue Book of the province, published by Bro. Warne, they would at least see that the Pattison Lodge had not much to complain about. It was fairly well represented or he should not that night have been called upon to propose the toast, which he should couple with the names of Bros. Cook and Butler.

Bro. Cook said he felt much indebted to Bro. Palmer for coupling his name with the toast. It had been said that the Pattison Lodge had no cause to be jealous. No, it had not; the Pattison Lodge was not a jealous lodge. They were bound together in one bond of goodfellowship, and were neither jealous among themselves or of any other lodge. The position of a P.G. Officer was at least a labour of love; although the one he filled was not a very high one, yet he trusted it would lead in due course to higher honours. It was an office that caused the holder to receive a number of invitations. He accepted one a little while ago, and should strongly advise anyone who might receive such an one to go, because on that occasion he received such kindly courtesy and such a hearty welcome that would lead him to accept another. He thanked them kindly for their reception of the toast, and felt it a great honour to have to respond to it.

Bro. Butler said it was scarcely necessary for him to say anything after Bro. Cook, but as his name had been coupled with the toast, he felt it impossible to let it pass by in silence. It was a toast they were constantly drinking, and always in a most pleasant and hearty manner. So far as the duties and constitutions of Prov. Grand Lodge were concerned, it was to the uninitiated a sealed book, and although they might not know the working, they might take his word for it that whatever was done was necessary to promote their interests and to maintain the legality of their proceedings. It was a most necessary institution, and it was quite right that they should remember it, and acknowledge it wherever and whenever they met. He thanked them, and trusted for many years to come the toast would always receive the cordial reception it had that night. He then proposed the toast of "The W.M. presiding," and congratulated the brethren upon the splendid working of Bro. Penfold that evening. He was especially pleased, because the Past Masters were generally considered to be "an effete and worn-out race of old fogies," and "it must have been queer old times when they were in the chair." Well that night they had had an opportunity of seeing what one of their "old fogies" could do, and he asked them to drink Bro. Penfold's health in bumpers.

Bro. Penfold, who was received with cheers, said he regretted the absence of Bro. Hughes, the W.M., who was away for a short holiday, but who before he went asked him (Bro. Penfold) to do the duty on that occasion. It was now sixteen years ago since he occupied the chair of that lodge as its W.M. Those days were pleasant days, and fostered the spirit of emulation that had made the lodge so famous for its good working—a spirit that continued down to the present time. What they, the "old fogies," most delighted in was to see strongly cemented together the unity and good feeling that now and ever had made their lodge such a pleasant one. Some of the Past Masters were getting on towards the "sear and yellow" leaf stage, but so long as he or they were spared they would always do their best for the interests of the lodge and the comfort of the members. He would not take up their time, but would only say that he trusted their W.M. would enjoy himself, and on his behalf he cordially thanked them.

Bro. Coupland responded for "The Past Masters," and Bros. Grant, Haley, Hoeftman, and Wakeley for "The Visitors."

Bros. Busbridge and Sanders replied for "The Officers," and several other personal toasts followed.

The harmony was excellent, nor was the Charity-box forgotten, for on a special appeal by Bro. Butter for a brother (not a member of the lodge) who is bed-ridden, the sum of £7 15s. was realised, two brethren giving a half-sovereign each as a thank offering on recovering from severe illnesses—and "So mote it be."

WITHINGTON.

Architect Lodge (No. 1375).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 3rd instant, in the Town Hall. The following brethren were present: Bros. Henry Nail, W.M.; John J. Tiller, I.P.M.; M. D. Fryer, S.W.; C. H. Beever, J.W.; J. G. Bromley, Sec.; A. Pickford, I.G.; W. Mould, Org.; W. C. Flint, C. Rawle, and T. H. Holland, Stewards; D. Murray, P.M.; W. T. Hesketh, P.M.; John Bradshaw, P.M.; T. Dodd, John Coupland, Wm. Foster, J. Foot, J. A. Carse, S. Hargreaves, P.M. 755; R. R. Kirkham, and J. B. Kirk, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. J. Gibson Thomson, 245 (I.C.); J. Beadmore, J.W. 852; J. Howarth, 1388; J. H. Dalghish, P.M., Sec. 1147; J. Nodal, late 1375; and W. Goodacre, P.P.G.S.B. England, Prov. G. Sec.

The lodge having been opened, Abraham Redfeare was initiated by Bro. Nail, W.M., who afterwards raised Bro. John Kort, and Bro. Wm. Foster was raised by Bro. J. J. Tiller, I.P.M.

Royal Arch.

Kennington Chapter (No. 1381).—This prosperous transpontine chapter met at the Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, on the 2nd inst. Among those present were Comps. W. W. Westley, M.E.Z.; H. Salter, H.; W. A. Dowling, J.; H. Higgins, P.A.G.S. Middx., S.E.; Austin, S.N.; G. Everett, P.Z., Treas.; Sims, P.S.; Smith, 1st A.S.; Davis, 2nd A.S.; G. Gardner, I.P.Z.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.P.G.P. Soj.; C. H. Köhler, P.Z.; H. J. Lardner, P.Z., P.P.G. Std. Br.; E. Ayling,

P.Z.; and others. Among the visitors were Comps. Hartley, P.Z. 1326, P.A.G.S. Middx.; Collick, P.Z. 946; Taylor, P.Z. 1624; and Making, 228. Comp. J. Terry, P.Z., P.G. Std. Br., &c. (hon. member), was also present.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been duly read and confirmed, the report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. The ballot was taken on behalf of Bro. J. T. Parratt, 1381, but he did not attend. Comps. Salter was installed as M.E.Z., Dowling as H., and Austin as J., by Comp. H. J. Lardner, assisted by Comp. J. Terry, the ceremonies being performed in a most admirable manner. The following investitures then took place: Comps. Higgins, S.E.; Sims, S.N.; G. Everett, P.Z., Treas.; Smith, P.S.; Davis, 1st A.S.; Dennis, 2nd A.S.; Reinardt, Janitor. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Officers, Comps. Terry and Lardner, which they duly acknowledged. A Past Principal's jewel having been presented to Comp. Westley, the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to the banquet, which was served by Comp. Buxton in a manner that left but little to be desired.

Upon the removal of the cloth the customary toasts followed.

Comp. J. Terry responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers" in a happy speech. In the course of his remarks he alluded to the great honour that had fallen upon Comp. G. Everett, who had been elected unopposed to the distinguished position of Grand Treasurer of England. It stood high on the roll of Grand Officers, and he felt confident that Comp. Everett was in every respect worthy of the honour.

Comp. Hartley, in responding to the toast of "The Visitors," spoke in high terms of the working that he had witnessed that day. He had attended many installation meetings in the Royal Arch, but he had never seen the ceremonies better performed than they had been that day.

Comps. Westley and Walls having acknowledged the toast of "The Past Principals," "The Health of the Treasurer and S.E." followed.

Comp. G. Everett, in the course of a humorous speech, said that he felt quite overpowered by the encomiums and flattering remarks that had fallen from the lips of Comps. Terry, the M.E.Z., Walls, and other speakers. During his long career in various Degrees of Freemasonry he had striven to do his duty. As Treasurer he was occasionally compelled to be somewhat firm, but it was done from the best of motives. It was his pride to put every lodge and chapter in which he was Treasurer in a sound financial position. A great deal had been said about his coming investiture as Grand Treasurer. He could only say that when it had become an accomplished fact it would be his duty to show the Craft at large how much he appreciated the honour.

Comp. Higgins having said a few words, "The Health of the Officers" terminated the proceedings.

Bro. Burn, Org. 1381, assisted by Bro. Graves, Mr. Wright, and others, provided an excellent programme of instrumental and vocal music.

LEICESTER.

Chapter of Fortitude (No. 279).—The installation meeting of this chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 3rd inst. The chapter was opened, and Comps. Thos. Coltman, F.C.A., was duly installed in the First Principal's chair; S. Knight, H.; and R. Michie, J. The ceremony was most ably and impressively performed by Comp. Robt. Brewin, P.Z., P.P.G.J. Devon. The following were present: Comps. Wm. Kelly, P.Z., G. Superintendent; R. Brewin, P.Z., P.P.G.J. Devon; S. S. Partridge, P.Z., P.G.S.B. England; J. T. Thorpe, P.Z.; Geo. Toller, P.G. Std. Br.; John Harrison, P.Z.; and the following members of the chapter: Comps. J. Herbert Marshall, P.Z. 1007; W. J. Curtis, H. Goodacre Marriott, W. T. Coltman, Rev. J. W. Willson, Rev. Frank Tibbitts, W. H. Chamberlin, C. W. Potter, H. Howe, and Thos. S. H. Ashwell. Visitors: Comps. Thos. Thorburn, P.Z. 537, P.G.H. Cheshire; A. G. Boswell, Z. 1339; Rev. H. J. Mason, P.Z. 1146; Thos. Corcoran, J. elect 1007; R. L. Gibson, Z. elect 1007; B. H. Smith, Z. 1560, P.P.G. Std. Br.; C. Lowenstein, H. elect 1007; W. H. Goodwin, Z. elect 1130, P.G.S.B.; Rev. Faithfull, T. A. Wykes, Org. 1560; and W. Maurice Williams, 1007.

After the reading of the minutes, the M.E.Z. invested the officers elected for the ensuing year as under: Comps. T. Worthington, P.Z., Scribe E.; J. G. Bower, Scribe N.; W. W. Vincent, Treas.; J. B. Waring, P.S.; T. Charlesworth, 1st A.S.; F. S. Preston, 2nd A.S.; Rev. C. Henton Wood, M.A., P.Z., Prov. G. Scribe E., D. of C.; A. Laurence, Org.; Walter D. Grant, Stwd.; and J. Tauser, Janitor. The Treasurer's accounts were received and passed, and showed a balance in hand. Four brethren were balloted for and duly elected, Grand Chapter certificates were delivered to several companions, and before the chapter was closed six nominations of candidates were made.

After the close of the chapter, the companions partook of dinner, which was excellently served in the dining-room of the hall. The table, in arch form, was very prettily decorated, and during the repast a string quintet played a choice selection of music.

After the usual toasts, the M.E.Z. proposed "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.E.G.Z., and the Officers of Supreme Grand Chapter," and it was responded to by Comp. S. S. Partridge, P.G.S.B.

The M.E.Z. then proposed "Comp. W. Kelly, Grand Supt., and the officers of Prov. Grand Chapter."

Comp. W. Kelly responded in a short and feeling speech.

Comp. J. T. Thorp, P.P.G.J., proposed "The Three Principals and continued Success of the Chapter," alluding to its long career, over 50 years, and its success during that period, and its proud position of having three such Royal Arch Masons on its roll as Comps. W. Kelly, Grand Superintendent of the province; S. S. Partridge, and G. Toller. He saw, too, every indication of its success in the future and believed that with a First Principal who took so great an interest in the chapter and a body of active members its prospects were for a future as bright as its past.

Comp. T. Coltman, Z., responded, thanking the chapter for the honour that they had done him, and which he esteemed so much, and promising on his part to do all that lay within his power to promote the prosperity of the chapter and the happiness of its members.

Comp. S. Knight, H., also returned thanks for the toast, and gave assurance of his intention to do his utmost to promote the welfare of the chapter, which now numbered 100 members.

The Z. proposed "The Installing P.Z. and the P.Z.'s of the Chapter," which was acknowledged by Comp. J. T. Thorp.

The toast of "The Visitors" was responded to by Comps. Thorburn, P.Z. 537; A. G. Boswell, Z. 1339; and J. H. Marshall, Z. 1007.

The toast list concluded with that of "The Masonic Charities," proposed by the Z., and responded to by Comp. J. B. Waring, P.S., the Provincial Charity Steward, in a neat and effective speech.

During the evening Comp. T. A. Wykes, Org. 1560, kindly presided at the pianoforte, and songs and recitations were given by Comps. J. T. Thorp, J. Herbert Marshall, C. Lowenstein, A. J. Boswell, J. G. Bower, Rev. J. W. Willson, W. T. Colman, and Rev. F. Tibbitts.

WORKINGTON.

Sun and Sector Chapter (No. 962).—The installation meeting of this chapter was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, the 2nd inst., when the chapter was opened, and the minutes confirmed, and one candidate exalted, and Comps. D. Reed was installed Z.; J. C. Thompson, H.; and J. Wood, J. The following were invested: Comps. E. Loach, S.E.; G. B. McMillin, S.N.; J. Eden, P.S.; A. Salkeld, 1st. Asst. Soj.; J. Dickinson, 2nd. Asst. Soj.; J. Paterson, Treas.; J. Cooper, Org.; Whitehouse and Fletcher, Stewards; and W. Whitehead, Janitor. The following were also present: Comps. J. Gardiner, 371; J. O. Scott, 371; and Dalrymple, 119. A vote of thanks was passed to Comps. Paterson, Dalrymple, and Gardiner for their services.

Mark Masonry.

DRIFIELD.

Drifelt Lodge (No. 291).—At the Masonic Hall on Wednesday, the 1st inst., Bro. C. Gray, P.P. G.S.B., was installed W.M. by Bro. Colonel R. G. Smith, Deputy Prov. G.M., after which the following were invested as officers: Bros. W. Highmoor, I.P.M.; J. Renuard, S.W.; Jos. Kirby, J.W.; J. Moor, M.O.; W. Overend, S.O.; J. Elgey, P.M.; Treas.; G. H. Potts, P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; Jno. Dunn, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., D.C.; and R. Featherston, Tyler.

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

NEPTUNE LODGE (No. 22).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 6th inst., at the Gauden Hotel, Clapham, when there were present Bros. Langdon, W.M.; Russell, S.W.; Livett, J.W.; Westley, Preceptor and Treasurer; Poole, acting as Sec.; Evans, S.D.; King, J.D.; Laker, I.G.; Weeks, Tyler; Cochrane, Purvis, Balcombe, Gilbert, Lyell, Ellison, Sandals, Windsor, Hennell, Cheese, Bate, Gaze, Scott, Folkard, Everett, and Beasen.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation being announced, and Bro. Scott having offered himself as a candidate, was initiated, the W.M. giving the charge. The ceremony of passing being announced, and Bro. Cheese having offered himself as a candidate, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The 1st Section of the Second Lecture was worked by Bro. Gilbert. Bro. Cheese was passed to the Degree of F.C. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and dues were collected. The W.M. rose for the second time, and Bro. Russell was elected W.M. for the next meeting. The W.M. rose for the third time, and the lodge was closed.

CLARENCE LODGE (No. 263).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at Tupp's Restaurant, 8, Tottenham Court-road. There were present Bros. W. H. Kirby, W.M.; A. A. Richards, S.W.; H. S. Wellcome, J.W.; W. Baker, Sec.; D. D. West, S.D.; J. Purnell, J.D.; D. G. Imlay, I.G.; F. Cox, J. Corp, H. Norman, and R. Pontefix, 2163 (visitor).

The lodge being opened in due form, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Bro. J. P. Fuller, S., which was unanimously in favour of his election as a joining member. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Norman having kindly volunteered to act as candidate, he went through the usual examination, was entrusted, and retired. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed. Bro. A. A. Richards, P.G.S., P.M. S, &c., worked the 1st Section of the First Lecture. The lodge was closed in the Third and Second Degrees. Bro. Pontefix was proposed and seconded as a joining member. Bro. Jas. Corp was elected W.M. for the ensuing meeting, and appointed his officers, and gave notice that the work would be the first ceremony, the charge, and the 1st and 5th Sections of the Second Lecture. The lodge was then closed.

RANELAGH LODGE (No. 834).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 3rd inst., at the Six Bells Hotel, Queen-street, Hammersmith, when there were present Bros. F. Craggs, W.M.; H. J. F. Williams, S.W.; R. H. Williams, J.W.; J. Sims, P.M., Preceptor; A. Williams, Treas.; D. S. Long, Sec.; C. C. Barber, S.D.; R. Reid, J.D.; R. Phillips, I.G.; Stonehill, Bright, Lucas, Dyne, Hide, Fox, and Wake.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees. The brethren having saluted the W.M. as M.M.'s, the working tools were explained, and the lodge resumed to the Second Degree. The brethren saluted the W.M. as F.C., the working tools were explained, and the lodge resumed to the First Degree. The brethren saluted the W.M. as E.A.'s, and the working tools were explained, and the warrant, &c., presented to the W.M., who then invested his officers. Bro. Williams acted as Installing Master, and delivered the addresses. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Lucas, the W.M. of the mother lodge. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree. Bro. Dyne, offering himself

as a candidate for raising, was questioned and entrusted. The lodge was resumed to the Third Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and the W.M. having risen, the S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the 17th inst., the next meeting being officers of the mother lodge night. The lodge was then closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE (No. 1471).—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. R. W. Nicole, W.M.; J. W. Clarke, S.W.; C. G. Gray, J.W.; C. M. Coxon, Sec., acting Preceptor; J. Duncan, acting Sec.; E. H. Moore, S.D.; H. J. Kembell, jun., J.D.; H. B. Harding, I.G.; Brendel, J. Amand, Bury, Newman, C. Horst, Kressel, J. M. Scarlett, P.J.G.W. Essex, and H. J. Kembell, sen.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Brendel being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Bury 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. Bury being the candidate. The lodge was then closed in the Third and Second Degrees. Bro. Clarke was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation, and the lodge was closed.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, S.W., on Thursday, the 2nd inst., when there were present Bros. F. W. Buxton, W.M.; G. H. Foan, S.W.; E. J. D. Bromley, J.W.; J. Greenway, Preceptor; R. E. Cursons, acting as Secretary; W. Hoggins, S.D.; J. Gilbert, J.D.; J. H. Warwick, I.G.; T. E. Weeks, Tyler; R. Kirk, and L. Lillico.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. W. Hoggins having offered himself as a candidate for initiation, the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. F. Kedge offering himself as a candidate to be raised to the Third Degree, and having answered the usual questions in a satisfactory manner, was entrusted, and retired. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree. The W.M. rehearsed the Degree of M.M. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. On rising for the first time, Bro. J. Gilbert, 2345, was unanimously elected a joining member of this lodge. On rising for the second time, Bro. G. H. Foan was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation, announcing his intention of working the Second Degree. On rising for the third time, nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed.

CREATON LODGE (No. 1791).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W. There were present Bros. A. J. Taylor, W.M.; A. Love, S.W.; F. W. Woodard, J.W.; J. Davies, P.M., Preceptor; E. Austin, P.M., Treas.; H. P. Gilbert, P.M., Sec.; G. Higginson, S.D.; H. Cotton, J.D.; Kington, I.G.; M. Speigel, P.M.; Jennings, Harbord, Aylett, O. Hagan, Elkin, and Stevens.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. opened the lodge in the Second Degree, when Bro. Aylett was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Aylett acting as candidate. The W.M. included in the ceremony the traditional history, which he recited in a very creditable manner. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree, and Bro. Gane, a F.C., was admitted and answered the questions leading from the Second to the Third Degree. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Berry, a visitor, was unanimously elected a member, and acknowledged the honour in suitable terms. Bro. Love was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

WARNER LODGE (No. 2192).—The regular weekly meeting of this lodge was held at Bridge Chambers, Hoestreet, Walthamstow, on Monday, the 6th inst., when there were present Bros. G. J. Westfield, P.P.G.S.B., W.M.; Urban Smith, S.W.; C. Horst, J.W.; Wm. Shurmur, P.G. Treas., Preceptor; Nathaniel Fortescue, Treas.; W. P. Allen, Sec.; F. Taylor, S.D.; C. H. Bestow, J.D.; E. F. Fuller, I.G.; J. Collett, Hon. Stwd.; J. Ives, P.M.; H. F. Inman-Hallows, P.M.; J. H. Wildash, P.M.; James Pinder, P.M.; A. H. Wilson, T. W. Stacey, C. Spurgeon, A. W. Stacey, R. Eustace, H. F. Bromhead, T. Maynard, W. J. Short, P. Trickett, J. Clark, S. Herbert, W. Alcock, E. James, J. R. Peck, R. Jeremy, J. Kempthorne, W. F. Stauffer, J. King, J. C. Francis, and others.

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. G. J. Westfield discharging his duties with accuracy and precision, being admirably supported by all the officers. Bro. N. Fortescue delivered the ancient charge in a most impressive manner. Bros. Clark, Trickett, and Short answered the questions leading to the Second Degree. Bro. Urban Smith was unanimously elected to occupy the chair at the ensuing meeting, and appointed officers in rotation. Bros. Kempthorne, Clark, and Short, all of 2374, were elected joining members. Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, after "Hearty good wishes" the lodge was closed.

The Third Walthamstow Charity Association was inaugurated. Bros. W. B. Whittingham, C.C., 2256 and 2374, President; N. Fortescue, Treas. 2374, Treasurer; Wm. P. Allen, D.C. 2374, Secretary. A large number of brethren present were enrolled members.

STAR CHAPTER (No. 1275).—The usual weekly meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Camberwell, on Friday, the 3rd inst., when there were present Comps. Scott Young, M.E.Z.; Jackson, H.; North, J.; F. Hilton, P.Z., Preceptor; Voisey, P.Z., Treas.; C. H. Stone, S.E.; Towers, S.N.; Goodwin, P.S.; Phillips, P.Z.; Pettit, H. Martin, Plant, West, P.Z.; Gooding, 1st A.S. 1329; C. W. Davis, Z.; Kimpton, P.Z.; Benedetti, Z.; Hewitt, Osterstock, R. J. Vincent, P.Z. 1329; and J. Hill, H. 1329.

The chapter was regularly opened, and the ceremony of installation of Second and Third Principals was rehearsed by Comp. Jackson, H. 169, J. 2082. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of ex-

altation was rehearsed, Comp. West, P.Z., personating the candidate. Comp. C. Plant, 657, was elected a member. Comp. Jackson was elected M.E.Z. for the 10th inst., when an installation will take place.

The annual supper will take place on the 17th inst. The chair will be taken by Comp. Benedetti, Z. 1275.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of Management held their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, Bro. John Newton, Vice-Patron, presided, and there were present Bros. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; James Brett, P.G.P.; Joseph Freeman, W. H. Hubbert, S. Brooks, William Smith, George E. Fairchild, T. B. Purchas, R. Griggs, C. H. Webb, A. Mullord, S. C. Haslip, C. J. Perceval, John Bulmer, J. S. Cumberland, F. J. Strong, M.D., R. Turtle Pigott, P.A.G.D.C.; C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br.; R. Pittam Stevens, Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; A. Durrant, A. Forsyth, Henry Smith, P.G.D.; W. H. Making, Hugh Cotter, and James Terry, P.G.S.B. (Secretary).

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and verified, the SECRETARY reported the deaths of one male and one widow annuitant.

The Warden's report for the past month was read, and the report of the Finance Committee was read, adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

Bros. Farnfield, Treasurer of the Institution; Newton, and Berry were appointed a Committee to prepare the annual report, and it was agreed that the Stewards for the recent Festival should be invited, as usual, to visit the Institution.

The application of the widow of a recently deceased annuitant to be allowed half her late husband's annuity having been granted, the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The Quarterly Court of Subscribers and Governors of the above Institution was held on Thursday in the Large Hall, Freemasons' Tavern, Bro. Henry Smith, P.G.D., Dep. Prov. G.M. West Yorkshire, Treasurer of the Institution, in the chair. There were also at the Chairman's table Bros. Frank Richardson, C. H. Driver, Capt. Homfray, E. M. Money, and Peter de Lande Long. Bro. Hedges (Secretary) also attended. A large number of brethren were present.

After Bro. HEDGES had read advertisement of meeting, and produced copies of daily papers and copy of notice sent to Provincial Grand Secretaries, the minutes of Special General Court of 12th February were read and verified. The summaries of minutes of General Committees were read for information.

Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, P.G.D., in proposing the re-election of Bro. Henry Smith as Treasurer, said he had great pleasure in doing so, and it was quite unnecessary to dilate on his excellent qualities, as they were so well known.

Alderman E. G. HARWOOD, Chairman of the East Lancashire Charity Committee, seconded the motion.

The motion was carried unanimously. The CHAIRMAN said: Brethren, I thank you for the compliment you have paid me, and I will endeavour to discharge my duty to the best of my ability.

The following brethren were elected the General Committee for the current year: Bros. E. J. Anning, E. Almack, J. W. Berrie, C. H. W. Biggs, J. J. Corney, Colonel Wolseley Cox, J. French, T. G. C. Gambrill, R. C. Green, J. R. Harnell, H. Nicholls, and C. G. Slawson.

Scrutineers of votes for the election of 19 out of an approved list of 25 candidates for admission to the Institution having been elected, the poll was declared open, and the election was proceeded with.

At the declaration the following was found to be the result:

NAME.	VOTES.
Lucas, Nathalie Mary	5133
Carr, Ruby Victoria	4780
Messenger, Mabel Emily	4401
Paton, Harriet Jane	4225
Miller, Ethel Blanche	4121
Gardner, Elsie Marian	4053
England, Helen Maud	3991
Lewns, Mildred Julia	3966
Coles, Mabel Emily	3922
Brine, Ethel Priscilla	3874
Payne, Maud Catherine	3832
Heastie, Kate Ethel	3768
Collinson, Alice May	3515
Davis, Muriel Ethel	3368
Gardner, Emily Lousia Mary	3135
Vivian, Margaret	3008
Tomalyn-Potts, Mina A Vera	1852
Constable, Susan Ellen	1791
Blackler, Annie Lydia	435

MASONIC LECTURE AT SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

A second visit to the Priory Lodge of Instruction, No. 1000, at Southend-on-Sea, Essex, was paid by Bro. James Stevens, P.M., P.Z., on the 3rd inst., for the purpose of his continuing his lectures on "The Ritual and Ceremonial of Symbolic Freemasonry." Amongst the numerous brethren present were Bros. Thomas Hood, W.M.; B. Thomas, S.W.; A. Vandervord, J.W.; A. Lucking, P.G.P., Treas.; G. R. Dawson,

P.M., Sec.; C. W. Barnard, S.D.; F. J. Cumine, J.D.; A. Marlin, I.G.; T. Walker, Tyler; W. Bridgland, P.M.; Hon. O. G. Lambert, P.M.; B. Fearnside, Org.; Geo. Berry, P.M.; C. Walton, A. Adams, J. Pritchard, C. Cresswell, C. H. Bowmaker, G. F. Vandervord, G. Reed, W. Trigg, J. Bull, J. E. Forbes, C. Floyd, Val. Mason, J. A. Brown, H. Cogill, J. A. Hobday, H. A. Armitage, W. J. Chignell, R. F. Brown, and others.

The lodge having been opened, Bro. STEVENS commenced at eight o'clock an extempore address, which, saving only a brief "call off" for refreshment, riveted the earnest attention of his hearers until eleven. The several Craft Degrees and their ritual, with the allegorical and symbolic meanings attached thereto, were illustrated by the lecturer in a manner very different to that of the ordinary method of instruction by sections, and the quality as well as quantity of the valuable information, much of which was entirely new to many of the veteran Masons present, occasioned agreeable surprise. There can be no doubt that Bro. Stevens can both instruct and entertain his hearers, and judging from the hearty reception accorded to him on introduction and the applause which followed his address it may be fairly assumed that his lectures are doing good service to the Craft generally, and more particularly to the lodges in which he may be heard.

A vote of thanks to the lecturer having been unanimously carried, the lodge was closed, and the brethren separated, well pleased with the evening's proceedings.

MASONIC PRESENTATION IN LEEDS.

On Friday afternoon, the 3rd inst., Bro. J. Cooper Malcolm, W.M. 306, P.P.G. Reg., and Mrs. Malcolm were the recipients of very handsome presents at the hands of the brethren of Alfred Lodge, No. 306, of which Bro. Malcolm is for the second time fulfilling the office of W.M. The brethren had worked so assiduously and yet so quietly, that the first intimation Bro. Malcolm had that there was anything unusual about was the receipt of a request that he would ask Mrs. Malcolm to be at his office on Friday afternoon.

At about five o'clock a large number of the officers and brethren of the lodge entered the office, and fraternal greetings having been discharged,

Bro. the Rev. C. A. LAMBERT, M.A., who is S.W., asked Mrs. Malcolm to accept a magnificent silver salver, sugar basin, cream jug, and hot water jug.

The salver, which was of very chaste design, bore the following inscription: "Presented to Mrs. J. C. Malcolm as a mark of esteem by numerous brethren of the Alfred Lodge. 3rd April, 1891." It should be mentioned that upon the salver and each piece of silver Masonic emblems are engraved, the chasing being most effective.

The presentation was made in suitable terms, allusion being made to the graceful hospitality which Mrs. Malcolm had dispensed to the brethren and their friends, and the earnest hope was expressed that she might long be spared to use the present that was so heartily handed to her.

Bro. MALCOLM, who was evidently deeply touched and gratified by this mark of goodwill to his wife, made a suitable response, assuring his friends that he and Mrs. Malcolm would never use that handsome tea service without a sense of deep gratitude and regard to the donors.

Bro. WEDDERSPOON, J.W., then stepped forward and asked Bro. Malcolm to accept from his officers and other brethren a magnificent gold Past Master's jewel. On the front of the jewel was the following inscription: "Alfred Lodge, 306. W.M. 1876 and 1891." At the back the following is inscribed: "Presented to Wor. Bro. J. C. Malcolm, W.M., P.M., P.P.G. Reg. West Yorks, by the following officers: C. A. Lambert, S.W.; D. Wedderspoon, J.W.; J. Dyson, P.M., Treas.; W. Towers, Sec.; A. Neill, S.D.; J. F. Towers, J.D.; G. Darley, I.G.; C. Fenton, S.S.; E. Harlow, J.S.; R. E. Seanor, P.M., D.C." Bro. Wedderspoon bore testimony to the high estimation in which the W.M. was held by his officers, and hoped that the jewel would prove a lasting souvenir of their regard and esteem.

Bro. MALCOLM suitably responded, and the pleasant gathering was brought to a close.

The jewel was manufactured by Bro. George Kenning.

THE OLD MASONIANS.

The second of the most enjoyable reunions, to which ladies are invited, in connection with the above took place on Friday evening at Anderton's Hotel. The attendance was very good, there being over 200 present, who by their constant applause showed that the efforts to amuse them were fully appreciated. Bro. J. Terry, P.G.S.B. (President of the Association), again kindly presided, and the concert was further honoured by the presence of Bro. Geo. Hayes, P.G.S., P.D.D.G.M. 8th Dist. N.Y.S.

The programme, a lengthy one, was admirably executed by all concerned. Miss E. Bloomfield, as on the last occasion, sang charmingly, and won the enthusiasm of the audience. Mrs. Cresswell Hewitt, who gave her songs with much piquancy and expression, was highly applauded, and the Misses M. and B. Gough's contributions were excellently rendered. Songs and recitations, both serious and comic, were given with great success by Messrs. C. Bloomfield, A. J. Gordon, E. A. B. Gough, V. Harcourt, Jackson, W. J. Packer, H. Pickett, A. H. Stephenson and R. H. Williams.

During the evening Bro. G. HAYES, who is present in London as a delegate from New York, made a few most interesting remarks. His object in visiting London was to enquire into the working of the Masonic Institutions, as they contemplated organising similar Institutions in America, and were anxious as far as possible to take those of England as their model. He was pleased to say that they had already sufficient funds to enable them to start without a debt.

Mr. R. S. CHANDLER (Hon. Secretary), in a few well-chosen words, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Jas. Terry, who replied in his usual felicitous manner.

NEW MASONIC HALL AT WALLSEND.

On Wednesday afternoon, the 1st instant, the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of a new Masonic Hall for the Tyne Lodge, No. 991, took place at Wallsend in the presence of a number of brethren. Among those present were Bros. Sir Matthew White Ridley, P.G.M. of Northumberland; Col. Addison Potter, C.B., P.G.S. and P.G.D. of England; the Rev. T. B. Nicholls, P.S.G.W. of Northumberland; Ralph Carr, P.S.G.W.; Corder, P.G.R. and acting Deputy Sec.; G. Heslop, P.G.S.B.; Geo. Allan, P.M., P.P.G.D.; William Gladstone, P.G.M.O.; John Wm. Lambton, P.P.G.S.B.; John Calvert, P.P.S.G.W.; Cowan, W.M. 431; G. D. Gilhespy, P.M., P.G.S.; Geo. Blair, and many others. The brethren attending the ceremony marched in procession from the Café Hall to the new building, which is situated close to the railway station. The ceremony according to the Masonic ritual was then formally gone through. The Prov. Grand Master of Northumberland, Bro. Sir Matthew White Ridley, Bart., M.P., delivered the address, after which prayer was offered up by Bro. the Rev. T. B. Nicholls. Current coins of the realm, the three Newcastle daily newspapers, and a history of the Tyne Lodge, No. 991, were placed in the cavity of the stone by the Treasurer, Bro. George A. Allan. The Worshipful Master of the Tyne Lodge, Bro. G. Blair, then presented a handsome silver trowel, bearing a suitable inscription, to Sir Matthew White Ridley, who afterwards formally proved the stone, declared it laid, scattered corn, poured wine, and sprinkled oil over it. After prayer by the Grand Chaplain, Sir Matthew Ridley handed the plans of the building to the architect, Bro. Hope, desiring him to proceed with the completion of the work. This terminated the ceremony.

A banquet was afterwards held in the Café Hall. The new building has been designed by Mr. Wm. Hope, of North Shields, in the *renaissance* style. It faces the station road with a bold and imposing gable of red brick, stone dressings, with a turret over. The whole of the ground floor has been planned for the occupation of Messrs. Hodgkin, Barnett, Pease, Spence, and Co. and the Wallsend Local Board. The upper floor will be entirely devoted to Masonic uses, and consists of a lodge room 38 feet by 26 feet and 21 feet high, and refreshment and ante-rooms. Mr. W. T. Weir, of Howdon, is the contractor, to whom the execution of the designs has been given.

The Theatres.

It has become almost an annual custom on the last night of the pantomime season at Drury Lane to present the popular lessee with a testimonial from the principal members of the company. This year was no exception to the rule, but the proceedings were carried out less formally than usual. Bro. Sheriff Augustus Harris had been assisting Bro. the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress to present the prizes at Freemasons' Tavern to Colonel Haddon's regiment, the 4th East Surrey, and, therefore, was detained somewhat late. We may here mention that the worthy Sheriff has for many years taken a deep interest in our citizen army, and it is as well to remember that the subject of the total lack of equipment of the Volunteers was first brought to the notice of the public and a suggestion made for their proper equipment by Bro. Augustus Harris in a letter he wrote to the *Daily Telegraph* nearly three years ago, and which the editor thought so important that it appeared in leaded type. Although such a subject hardly comes within our province, still we think sufficient notice has not been taken of Bro. Augustus Harris's patriotic and practical movement, and we should be glad to know that it is not yet too late, and in some way or other recognise what he has done for his country's good. The presentation to which we have alluded was intended to have taken place early in the evening while one of the ballets was going on and the principals of the company were off the stage for a time. However, as this could not be, owing to Bro. Harris's engagement, the interesting and brief ceremony was held at the close of the pantomime in Lady Dunlo's room, which for the last three months the lessee has vacated for her ladyship. Bro. Harry Nicholls, as the senior member of the company, handed over the testimonial, which was a handsome clock of French style in gilt, with enamel face. He said that, owing to the smallness of the company left to take part in the proceedings, he would not make a speech, and, in true pantomimic fashion, he, in a few appropriate gestures, uncovered the timepiece, and gave it into the custody of the recipient. Bro. Harris said, in reply, he would follow Bro. Nicholls' lead, and not make a formal speech, but he thanked them most sincerely for that mark of their esteem. In a few humorous sentences—which the Sheriff has lately often

come out in—he said whenever they came to his house the clock would remind them when to leave. Amongst the few friends gathered in the little room were Lord and Lady Dunlo, Miss Flo Bilton (Lady Dunlo's sister), Lieut. the Hon. W. L. Bagot, Grenadier Guards; Mr. C. J. Davies, Sec. Royal Theatrical Fund; Bros. Harry Nicholls and Herbert Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Leno, Mr. Tom Pleon, Bros. Arthur Collins and F. S. Latham, and Miss Emma D'Auban. Previous to this the children of the ballet, who had been presented by Bro. Harris with prizes for their lessons, gave him a silver match box, a gift which he much prized coming from his young company and friends.

* * *

"The School for Scandal" is one of the plays that is good for all time, and whenever performed in the West End is sure to draw for several reasons. It is a brilliantly written play. Its dialogue is full of sparkling wit, and represents the conversation and manners of a bygone age. Those who have heard and read of the play but yet never seen it are sure to go and see for themselves when an opportunity is given. But the largest portion of the audience are those who have seen "The School for Scandal" scores of times and never get tired of it, and are always anxious to see new actors and compare their playing with what they have seen before. Bro. Wyndham is just now giving this opportunity at the Criterion, and though we have seen Sheridan's immortal play time after time, the present representation is very welcome, and compares most favourably with previous records. Bro. Wyndham has chosen to alter the scenes, and consequently much of the text. On the whole, we find no fault with this novelty in one particular—we commend it—though we miss the scene betwixt Trip and Premium. Mr. Wm. Farren is the Sir Peter Teazle, and is allowed to be the acme of perfection of the present day in this character. Mrs. Bernard Beere is not so happily placed as Lady Teazle. She is too modern in her style, and scarcely refined enough for the wife of Sir Peter. In the screen scene Mrs. Beere is at her best. Her dressing of the part is faultless. In one act she wears a skirt and cuffs painted with different coloured dahlias. We have heard that they are hand-painted. In another act she wears a white gown with red and orange embroidery. The turban harmonises well, and so does the granny muff of white satin and orange feathers she carries with it. We have referred to this as we lately discovered that the *Freemason* is read by the fair sex. A lady informed us that she always reads her husband's paper, and takes thereby a great interest in our Craft. Possibly she hopes—with the cravings of her sex—to find out some of the secrets through the recognised journal. Bro. Charles Wyndham is an ideal Charles Surface, and never have we witnessed the scene of the sale of the pictures better done than in the newest revival. He is the life of the piece. Another good rendering is Bro. Cyril Maude's Sir Benjamin Backbite. He thoroughly grasps the artistic humour of the play. Mr. Arthur Bouchier is not well placed as Joseph Surface. Miss Mary Moore is pretty as Maria, and the Sir Oliver of Mr. H. Vincent is simple, but well conceived. There can be no reason for doubt that Bro. Wyndham will find "The School for Scandal" a safe draw for a time.

Obituary.

BRO. GEORGE McCALLUM.

We regret to have to record the somewhat sudden demise of Bro. George McCallum, well known in the Cambridge district. The deceased, who was head clerk in the London and County Bank at the University town, took a chill early last week, but kept at the bank (of which he was just then in charge owing to the temporary absence of the manager) until Friday last, when he had to be taken to his lodgings. He became unconscious on the following day, and died early on Monday morning, aged about 53. Bro. McCallum joined the Scientific Lodge, No. 88, in October, 1879, and served the office of W.M. in 1885. He was P.J.G.D. in the Province of Cambridgeshire, and only a few weeks ago was elected Treasurer of the Provincial Grand Chapter. He was also D.C. in No. 88, and was universally esteemed by a large circle of friends. He came from Scotland, near Crieff, and the body was removed thither for interment. Amongst the wreaths was one from the Scientific Lodge.

ASTHMA CURED,

No matter of how long standing or how severe, by

DR. SPENCER'S ASTHMA CURE.

The beautifully illustrated book, fourth edition, entitled "ASTHMA: Its Treatment and Cure," by that eminent authority, E. Edwin Spencer, M.A., M.D., &c., &c., gives plain, intelligent, and comprehensive information, which meets every phase of Asthma, Catarrh, and Bronchitis. It presents a course of treatment which is instant in relieving, permanent in curing, safe, economical, and never-failing. Sent post free on receipt of 3d. by

THE GEDDES MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
249, High Holborn, London.

PILES.—"PILANTRA," Pile Cure. Immediate relief and a permanent cure guaranteed. Sample Free. Postage 3d. Address—THE GEDDES MANUFACTURING COMPANY, 249, High Holborn, London.

MASONIC AND GENERAL NEWS

Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise (Duchess of Fife) and Bro. his Grace the Duke of Fife have given their special patronage to Mrs. Baskcomb's annual musical and dramatic matinee, to be given in June at St. James's Hall, on which occasion Mrs. Baskcomb will be supported by many artistes eminent in the worlds of music, the drama, and Masonry.

Bro. Matthew R. Webb, J.P., has been re-elected Solicitor to the Parish of St. Botolphs, Aldersgate-street.

Bro. Arthur B. Hudson, C.C., has been re-elected Surveyor to the Parish of St. Botolphs, Aldersgate-street.

Bro. Harry S. Foster has been admitted to the Livery of the Patten Makers' Company.

Bro. Deputy Rose-Innes is suffering from an acute attack of pneumonia, for which his doctors advise him to seek the warmer climate of Algeria.

Bro. the Rev. J. Jackson Wray is to be presented with a testimonial by the congregation of Whitfield Tabernacle upon the occasion of his resignation through continued ill-health.

The Merchant Taylors' Company have contributed the sum of 200 guineas to the Building Completion Fund of the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn-road.

Bro. Lord Mayor Savory will preside at the anniversary festival of the King's College Hospital, which will be held at the Hôtel Métropole this (Friday) evening.

There will be a matinee of "The Bookmaker" at the Crystal Palace on the 14th inst. with the company from the Globe Theatre. The company will return to town in time for the usual evening performance.

The 26th annual benefit of Bro. G. W. Moore took place in St. James's Grand Hall on Tuesday, when an immense audience was present and testified their appreciation of the excellent programme provided by frequent applause.

The Empress Frederick of Germany and her daughter, the Princess Margaret of Prussia, left England on Wednesday, travelling to Sheerness and embarking there on board the Royal Yacht Victoria and Albert for Flushing.

Bro. T. W. Ockenden, P.M., announces a concert by the "Scarlet Runner Lady Minstrels" on Monday next at the Gaskell-street Schoolroom, Clapham, on behalf of the funds of the St. John's Schools, of which schools he is the Treasurer. Bro. Dr. Coryndon Baker will take the chair at 8 o'clock.

The 35th show of sporting and other dogs by the Kennel Club was opened at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Tuesday. The number of exhibitors is over 700, and the number of exhibits 1377, the quality of the latter, especially in the Great Dane, bloodhound, old English mastiff, and St. Bernard classes, being quite up to the average.

By permission of Lord and Lady Wimborne, a morning concert will be held at Wimborne House, Arlington-street, on Friday, the 1st May, in aid of the Trinity College Mission, in St. George's, Camberwell, under the patronage of the Princess of Wales, the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, the Duchesses of Buccleugh, Leeds, and Abercorn, the Marchioness of Headfort, and other ladies.

The pictures at the Royal Naval Exhibition, Chelsea, will be arranged in three galleries, which will be named the Blake, Benbow, and Nelson Galleries, and will illustrate the leading incidents of Great Britain's naval supremacy during the last three centuries. Many of the works will be from Greenwich or lent by her Majesty and private owners. The collection of portraits of the admirals and captains of the British navy will be very complete, and most of the great sea-fights will be represented. Bro. Admiral Sir E. A. Inglefield is president of this section of the exhibition.

According to a report issued by the Committee of "The Light Brigade Relief Fund," of which Bros. the Marquis of Hartington, Lord Wolseley, and others were members, the total contributed by the public in response to the appeal made in behalf of the survivors of the celebrated Charge amounted to £6753. Of this sum about one-half has been expended in grants varying from £10 to £60, while as regards the remainder, the Committee propose to ask the Commissioners of the Patriotic Fund to dispose of it in pensions of a few shillings a week to a certain number of the oldest and most destitute of the men.

The Minnehaha Amateur Minstrel Troupe are giving an entertainment at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, tomorrow (Saturday), in aid of the funds of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution, and the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. This talented troupe has already handed over to the various local Charities nearly £6000, and as dispensations have been granted for the brethren to appear in Craft and Royal Arch regalia, a strong muster is expected. The entertainment is under the patronage of Bros. the Earl of Lathom, Dep. G.M., and Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, P.G.M. East Lancashire.

The funeral of the late Bro. Earl Granville took place at Stone, Staffordshire, on Saturday last, and was attended by a numerous body of his lordship's friends. The coffin containing the body was conveyed from Euston to the place appointed, and was imbedded in wreaths sent by, among others, the Queen, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, Prince and Princess Christian, and the Duke and Duchess of Teck. Among those present were Lord Leveson-Gower, the present Earl Granville, Bro. the Hon. E. F. Leveson-Gower, brother of the late Earl, and Bro. Lord Suffield, representing the Prince and Princess of Wales. A memorial service was also held at the Chapel Royal, St. James's, at which the Countess Granville and her daughters and younger son were present, as well as Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone, and representatives of several members of the Royal family, together with Bro. the Hon. H. and Lady Elizabeth Byng, Bro. Lord Carrington, Bro. Lord Monk Britton and Lord Kensington, several of the Foreign Ambassadors and Ministers, and many others. Bro. C. S. Jekyll, P.G. Org., presided at the organ.

Bro. Rev. H. C. Shuttleworth, of the Cornish Lodge, preached on Sunday at Lincoln's Inn Chapel.

Bro. Rev. Viscount Molesworth, rector of St. Petrock, St. Issey, will shortly arrive in town for a few weeks.

The Law Courts were re-opened for the Easter Sittings on Tuesday, and will remain open up to and inclusive of the 15th May next, when term ends.

We are glad to hear that Bro. the Earl of Londesborough, who has recently been laid up with a severe attack of gout, has so far recovered as to be able to move about, but up to the close of last week he had been unable to leave the house.

It has been officially notified by the Mayor to the Corporation of Windsor that the marriage of Prince Aribert of Anhalt with the Princess Louise of Schleswig-Holstein will be solemnised in St. George's Chapel on Monday, the 6th July next.

The Duke of Clarence and Avondale will preside as Chairman at the annual festival, which will be held at the Savoy Hotel, on Wednesday, the 22nd inst., in aid of the Royal Albert Orphan Asylum for Destitute Children, Bagshot, Surrey.

Bro. Baron Henry de Worms, M.P., presided at a banquet held at the Hôtel Métropole on Tuesday to celebrate the opening of railway communication between Natal and the South African Republic, the guests being very numerous on the occasion.

The Prince of Wales, attended by Rear-Admiral Stephenson and Prince Christian, attended by Colonel Elliot, travelled by the London, Brighton, and South Coast to Epsom Downs on Tuesday for the purpose of attending the Epsom Spring Meeting.

At the last meeting of the West Lancashire Mark Lodge, No. 65, held at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, Bro. John C. Robinson, P.P.G. Stwd., W.M., in the chair, it was resolved that the sum of £10 10s. be forwarded to the Grand Mark Benevolent Fund.

It appears from the annual report of the Royal Humane Society that last year the number of bathers in the Serpentine was 175,000, some of them availing themselves of the facilities for bathing even during the protracted frost. Only one fatality, resulting in the death of a boy, occurred.

Bro. Sir J. W. Ellis, Bart., M.P., presided at a meeting held at Buccleugh House, Richmond, on the 2nd instant, for the purpose of organising a presentation to be made to the Princess Mary of Cambridge, Duchess of Teck, in commemoration of her silver wedding.

By command of her Majesty the Prince of Wales will hold levees at St. James's Palace, on Monday, the 20th inst., and on Friday, the 15th May. It is the Queen's pleasure that presentations to his Royal Highness shall be considered equivalent to presentations to her Majesty.

We regret to hear that Bro. G. A. F. Cavendish-Bentinck, M.P., has been unable to resume his parliamentary duties. He had been getting the better of a protracted indisposition, when, unfortunately, he had a relapse and is confined to his residence on Brownsea Island, Poole, Dorset.

Bro. Sir William Hart-Dyke, Bart., M.P., Vice-President of the Council for Education, spoke at the Conference banquet of the National Union of Teachers, at Cardiff, on Thursday, the 2nd instant, expressing a hope that they would not be long before they had an Intermediate Education Act for England.

"Olivia," with Bro. Henry Irving as the Vicar of Wakefield, and Miss Ellen Terry in the title rôle, will be reproduced at the Lyceum Theatre on Wednesday, the 22nd inst., and the two following nights, and will thenceforth be continued on the same nights in each week, and will be likewise played at a matinee on the 25th inst.

Bro. Lord Burton, we are glad to say, has entirely recovered from his recent severe illness, and has enjoyed excellent health during the past week. His lordship and Lady Burton are at present at Rangemore, Derbyshire, but will visit London next month for a few weeks previous to leaving England for some continental watering-place.

Bro. J. C. Dimsdale presided at the 78th Anniversary Festival held at the Hôtel Métropole, on Tuesday, in aid of the London Orphan Asylum, Watford, when the subscriptions and donations were announced as amounting to £4692, including her Majesty's annual donation of £21, £525 from the Grocers' Company, and £210 collected from former pupils.

The Princess Mary Duchess of Teck, the Duke of Teck, and the Princess Mary and Prince Francis of Teck, were present in Chelsea Barracks, on the 2nd inst., and witnessed a performance of the Guards' Burlesque of "Robinson Crusoe," which went exceedingly well throughout. The audience included the Marchioness of Londonderry. Bro. Lord and Lady Hothfield, and Bro. Lord Cheylesmore.

Lord Lathom is to take the chair at the anniversary festival of the Royal Society of Musicians of Great Britain on the 20th instant. The dinner will be held at the Whitehall Rooms in the Hôtel Métropole. The Royal Society of Musicians is more than 150 years old, and its Royal Charter was received more than a century back. It bears the date of 1789, the year of the National Thanksgiving for George the Third's recovery from that serious illness which involved Pitt in the troublesome question of the Regency. Handel bequeathed to this society a thousand pounds, and its history is full of other interesting links with the past. These are told annually to the guests at the festival dinner in what may be called the Book of the Feast. The institution last year was the means of distributing £4000 for the maintenance and relief of old and indigent musicians or of musicians' widows and orphans.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Any dyspeptic sufferer aware of the purifying, regulating, and gently aperient powers of these Pills, should permit no one to cloud his judgment or to warp his course. With a box of Holloway's Pills, and attention to its accompanying "Directions," he may feel thoroughly satisfied that he can safely and effectually release himself from his miseries without impairing his appetite or weakening his digestion. This most excellent medicine acts as a nerve and bodily tonic by aiding nutrition, and banishes a thousand annoying forms of nervous complaints. An occasional resort to Holloway's remedy will prove highly salutary to all persons, whether well or ill, whose digestion is slow or imperfect, a condition usually evidenced by weariness, languor, listlessness, and despondency.—ADVT.

The Queen, on the invitation of the Prince of Wales, has been graciously pleased to become Patron of the Hackney Horse Society.

The Ballad Singers had a very successful Soirée Musicale at the Suffolk-street Galleries on Wednesday evening under the direction of Bro. Wilhelm Ganz, Past G. Organist.

Bro. Viscount and Viscountess Sherbrooke have been spending Easter at Sherbrooke, Warlingham, Surrey. It is satisfactory to know that his lordship has passed well through the late severe winter.

The foundation-stone of the church at Strathpeffer, which is to be raised as a memorial to the late Duchess of Sutherland, Countess of Cromartie, was laid with Masonic honours by Sir Hector Munro, of Foulis Castle.

There are very good grounds for believing that the Royal Commission on Labour will include, among others, Bros. the Marquis of Hartington (president), Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., and Sir John E. Gorst, Q.C., M.P.

There will be a meeting of the Order of Knights of Malta on Thursday, the 16th inst., when approved candidates will be admitted after the meeting of the Shadwell Clerke Preceptory of Knights Templar. The Recorder is Sir Knight H. Lovegrove, 26, Budge-row, E.C.

His Royal Highness, the Duke of Cambridge, presided at the 133rd anniversary festival held at the Hôtel Métropole, on Wednesday, in aid of the Orphan Working School. The subscriptions and donations announced in the course of the evening amounted to about £1500.

The ceremony of consecrating the Hornsey Lodge of Instruction, No. 890, at the Masonic Rooms, adjoining the White Hart, High-street, Lewisham, originally announced for the 9th inst., will take place on Thursday, the 16th, at 7 p.m. precisely. The ceremonies of consecration and installation will be performed by Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B. England, &c., Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

The annual dinner of the Institution of Civil Engineers was, by the courtesy of the Company, held in the hall of the Merchant Taylors' Company, Threadneedle-street, on Wednesday evening. The chair was occupied by Sir John Coode, K.C.M.G., and among the principal guests were the Duke of Teck, and Bros. Sir Redvers Buller, V.C., Sir Frederick Abel, Sir Charles Hutton Gregory, Sir Albert W. Woods, John Aird, M.P., and others.

At the meeting of the Denison Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1248, held at the Masonic Hall, Scarborough, on the 1st instant, Comp. Chambers, M.E.Z., in the chair, Comp. T. Dawes Sarony was installed as H.; in the chapter Comp. T. H. Dunn, was installed as Z.; and Comp. R. Hamper as J. of 200. The companions, together with Craft Masons, afterwards assembled at Bro. J. H. Reas's, Brunswick Hotel, and partook of an excellent supper.

Those who, having seen Mr. E. J. Lonnen in burlesque, would like to see him in comedy, should wend their way on the afternoon of Tuesday next to the Queen's Gate Hall, South Kensington, where Mr. Frank M'Donnell is to give a dramatic and musical matinee, of which the screen scene from "The School for Scandal" is to form a prominent item. In that scene Mr. Lonnen is set down to play Charles Surface, with Mr. M'Donnell as Joseph and Mr. W. Farren, jun., as Sir Peter.

The tableaux which are to be given at the Duke of York's school on the 16th and 17th inst., are already causing much interest in London society, as several of those who assisted in Mrs. Frederick Beer's tableaux have promised to take part in these. The Commander-in-Chief has signified his intention of being present to witness what will certainly be a most artistic as well as novel entertainment. The programme will include representations of well-known military pictures, portraying the leading events of a soldier's life in peace and war from enlistment till he becomes a pensioner in Old Chelsea Hospital.

A report having been circulated to the effect that the Grand Master of Maine had recommended the use of the phonograph in order to obtain uniformity of ritual, Bro. Stephen Berry, Assistant Grand Secretary of that jurisdiction, has written to say that the Grand Master never made any such recommendation, but in the course of some remarks had jocularly said that absolute perfection in ritual could not be looked for until such an instrument had been purchased, and the brethren who wished to be good workers must study the full meaning of our symbols, and what each of them is intended to represent.

An announcement of the resuscitation of the Highland clans will doubtless be received by some as only a joke. There is, however, really a movement on foot with the object of at least bringing about some sort of practical union among Highlanders of the same name, though the aims of the union may, like those of Masonic lodges, be for the present rather of a benevolent than of a political character. The Duke of Argyll patronises the movement on the part of the Campbells, and various other Highland chiefs have been mentioned as more or less favourable to the movement among men of their respective names.—Court Journal.

The Royal Military Tournament will be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, from the 26th May to the 6th June inclusive, and this year several new features will be introduced. A detachment of the Victorian Mounted Rifles, which left Melbourne on the 28th ult., will be present, as well as a representative party of the fencing instructors of the French Army, who will attend by permission of the French Government. There will also be riding and jumping competitions for both officers and men. The Queen is Patron, and the Duke of Cambridge President of the Tournament, which, since its establishment in 1884, has contributed £24,500 to the military charities.

On Friday evening last, the 3rd inst., an enjoyable Masonic social in connection with the Lodge of Perseverance, No. 345, and in aid of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution, took place in the Exchange Assembly Rooms, Town Hall-street, Black-burn. There was a very good gathering, including the W.M. of the lodge, Bro. Robert Parkinson. An excellent programme of dances had been arranged, and was interspersed with songs by Miss Baron, Miss Pickering; Messrs. V. M. Kisielowski, J. H. Bury, Hartley, T. Sharples, and J. Birch. A duet was also given by Bros. Hartley and J. Clough, and a violin solo by Mr. James Southworth. The M.C. was Bro. S. Goldstone, P.M., who was assisted by an efficient staff of Stewards.