

# THE FREEMASON.

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

REPORTS OF THE GRAND LODGES ARE PUBLISHED WITH THE SPECIAL SANCTION OF

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

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SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1891.

[PRICE 3d.

## THE APPROACHING ELECTION OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

It will be seen from the voting papers which were issued last week for the elections at the annual meeting of the Governors and Subscribers to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution on Friday, the 15th prox., that the lists of candidates are only slightly less formidable in point of numbers than they were last year. Then there were 68 men and 84 widow candidates, while at the approaching election the numbers will be 66 men and 81 widows. Nor will there be a very appreciable difference in the numbers of vacancies to be filled. In 1890 there were, including the deferred in both cases, 19 on the Male and 11 on the Widows' Fund, while on this occasion they will be 14 and 12 respectively, together with such further vacancies as have occurred between the declaration of numbers in February and the day appointed for the election. There are, indeed, good grounds for believing that for many years to come the numbers of approved candidates will be largely in excess of the vacancies on the two Funds, unless some special good fortune should befall the Institution which would enable it to make a large permanent addition to its present establishment. However, this is a point which does not immediately concern us at this moment, our purpose being to glance through the lists, and lay before our readers any special points in connection with the several candidates.

### MALE FUND.

There are, as we have said, 66 candidates who will compete for the vacancies on this Fund of the Institution. No. 1, hailing from Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, has been on the list for 10 years, and has 798 votes in hand. No. 2, from North and East Yorkshire, though only 61 years of age next month, has had his candidature before the Governors for nine years, the particulars of his case setting forth that he is "permanently paralysed." He does not, however, appear to have made much headway as yet, the votes to his credit being only 68. No. 3, who hails from Northumberland, and is also permanently incapacitated from work, has been on the list for eight years, is close on 60 years of age, and has 230 votes in hand, while No. 4 (Devonshire) has been a candidate seven years, and will start with 131 votes. No. 5 (London) has 676 votes to his credit from five previous attempts, and Nos. 6 and 7, with 30 and 50 votes to their credit respectively, have made four unsuccessful attempts, and unless their friends put forth more serious exertions than they have done hitherto, there seems very little chance of their faring better this year. No. 6 hails from North and East Yorkshire, and No. 7 from Berkshire. The group of eight from Nos. 8 to 15, both inclusive, have been on the list for four years. No. 8, with 81 votes in hand, hails from N. and E. Yorkshire; No. 9 from East Lancashire; No. 10 from Surrey, and has 2117 votes to his credit; No. 11 from Devonshire; Nos. 12, 14, and 15 from London, of whom No. 12 has 1433 votes and No. 14 512 votes to the good; while No. 13 is from Kent and starts with 130 votes. The eight that follow—from No. 16 to No. 23—were candidates for the first time in 1889. No. 16 with 757 votes to his credit, No. 20 with 1963 votes, No. 22 with 637 votes, and No. 23 with 1966 votes derive their claims from London; and No. 17 from N. and E. Yorkshire will start with 2247 votes; while Nos. 18, 19, and 21 are from Devonshire, West Yorkshire, and Lincolnshire respectively. The remaining old candidates are 18 in number, No. 24 (Bengal) having 1198 votes at starting; No. 25, West Yorkshire; Nos. 26 and 27 from Devonshire; No. 28, Durham; No. 29, Lincolnshire, with 114 votes to his credit; No. 30, Durham; No. 31 with 874 votes, No. 33 with 503 votes, No. 34 with 682 votes, No. 38 with 106 votes, and No. 40 with 58 votes, from London; No. 32, Cambridgeshire, with 192 votes; No. 35, Northumberland; No. 36, the Channel Islands, with 988 votes; No. 37, West Lancashire; No. 39, Kent, with 189 votes; and No. 41, East Lancashire. There are also 25

candidates who will make their first appearance at this election, namely, No. 42 from Kent; No. 43 from Dorsetshire; No. 44 from Leicestershire and Rutland; Nos. 45, 49, and 55 from West Yorkshire; Nos. 46, 59, and 60 from London; No. 47 from Durham; Nos. 48 and 65 from West Lancashire; No. 50 from Suffolk; No. 51 from Hampshire and the Isle of Wight; Nos. 52 and 62 from Gloucestershire; Nos. 53, 54, and 58 from East Lancashire; No. 56 from North and East Yorkshire; No. 57 from Cornwall; Nos. 61 and 66 from Cheshire; No. 63 from Norfolk; and No. 64 from Northumberland. Taking the old and the new cases together, we find that London furnishes 16 and the Provinces 50, the provincial being distributed as follows: namely, five each from Devonshire, North and East Yorkshire, and West Yorkshire; four each from East and West Lancashire; three each from Durham, Kent, and Northumberland; two each from Cheshire, Gloucestershire, Lincolnshire, and Hants and the Isle of Wight; and one from Bengal, Berkshire, Cambridgeshire, Cornwall, Channel Islands, Dorsetshire, Leicestershire and Rutland, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Surrey. In some cases the particulars show that the reverse of fortune has been very marked, that many have achieved distinction in lodge and province, and that there are several who, in the days of their affluence, generously supported our Institutions either as Stewards or contributors. Not a few of the candidates were subscribing members for upwards of 30 years.

### WIDOWS' FUND.

The 81 candidates for admission to the Widows' Fund comprise 31 hailing from London and 50 from the Provinces, &c., the latter being distributed amongst the following:—Kent, 9; Devonshire, 7; Cornwall, 3; Essex, 3; East Lancashire, 3; Hants and the Isle of Wight, 3; Durham, 2; Lincolnshire, 2; West Yorkshire, 2; and one each from Bristol, Cheshire, Cumberland and Westmorland, Dorsetshire, Norfolk, Northumberland, Oxfordshire, Somersetshire, South Wales (East Division), South Wales (West Division), Staffordshire, Suffolk, Sussex, Turkey, Warwickshire, and Yorkshire (North and East). Only 10 out of the total number have been approved since the election in May of last year, so that the very large proportion of 71 have been already once before the electors, while several have had their names on the list for four years and upwards. Thus a Lincolnshire widow who has been a candidate for 11 years stands at No. 1, but as she brings forward 2782 votes, we should think her chances of success on this occasion are very promising; while No. 2 (London), who has been applying for admission during a period of equal duration, has only 116 votes to her credit. No. 3, also a London candidate, has 1829 votes to the good as the result of eight contests, and No. 4, Hants and the Isle of Wight, 3187 votes brought forward from precisely the same number. No. 5, from Kent, starts on her eighth attempt with only 143 votes in hand; and Nos. 6 and 7, from Cumberland and Westmorland and East Lancashire, are also applicants for the eighth time, the former with 17 votes, and the latter with 147 votes. The five next in order on the list have been trying their luck for seven years, No. 8, Hants and the Isle of Wight having 1387 votes to the good, No. 9 (Kent), 2276 votes, No. 10 (Kent), 615 votes, No. 11 (London), 1129 votes, and No. 12, also from London, 522 votes. Nos. 13, 14, and 15, from Devonshire, Durham, and Devonshire respectively, have stood five previous elections, but none of them with any great amount of success, No. 15, with 174 votes, being the best off of the three. Nos. 16 (Cornwall) and 17 (Devonshire) have made four attempts and have a few votes in hand; while Nos. 18 to 28, both inclusive, are candidates for the fourth year; No. 18 (Essex) being well placed with 2088 votes to her credit, No. 19 (London) still better placed, with 2978 votes; No. 20 hailing from Bristol; No. 21 (London) with 976 votes; No. 22, from Kent, No. 23 (London) having 1932 votes; No. 24 (Durham), No. 25 (London), No. 26 (Hants and the Isle of Wight), No. 27 (Warwickshire), and No. 28 (Devonshire), having so small a credit each as to be hardly worth considering. The next

group of 26 widows commenced their candidature in 1889, the following amongst them having obtained such a number of votes as will materially strengthen their prospects of success next month—No. 31 (London), 1378 votes; No. 36 (London), 1095 votes; No. 38 (London), 2143 votes; No. 40 (Cheshire), 1197 votes; No. 41 (London), 2929 votes; No. 46 (London), 877 votes; and No. 51 (Suffolk), 3187 votes; and there are one or two others who have polled 400 and 500 votes each, which, if their supporters work well, may be of considerable benefit. The next group of 17 widows—from Nos. 55 to 71, both inclusive—were candidates for the first time in 1890, and of these Nos. 57 and 58, both of London, bring forward 724 votes and 850 votes respectively, No. 61, London, 2036 votes, and No. 68, Oxfordshire, 1420 votes. Of the ten new cases—Nos. 72 to 81—four hail from London, namely Nos. 72, 79, 80, and 81, and the rest from the Provinces of Sussex, South Wales East, Cornwall, East Lancashire, Somersetshire, and West Yorkshire. As regards the husbands when living, a fair proportion of them achieved distinction in lodge, chapter, and province, many of them were supporters of the Masonic Charities, and had acted in the capacity of Stewards in their behalf, while 41 had been subscribing members of a lodge or lodges for periods ranging from 20 years upwards, two of them having subscribed for 40 years, and one for the exceptionally long period of 56½ years.

### BRO. SADLER'S NEW BOOK.\*

A general consensus of opinion will doubtless prevail that the "Life of Thomas Dunckerley" is by far the best and most valuable of Bro. Sadler's books. The information he has compiled is simply invaluable to all Masonic students, especially to those who take an interest in the history of the old lodges. In fact, the records of these lodges are to me the chief attraction of the volume, and I have no hesitation in stating that the information given is of great worth, historically considered. I do not mean that the subject is exhausted, but in these 300 pages Bro. Sadler has accumulated the results of very much labour and research, for which he is entitled to our hearty thanks. He will, I think, find that the lodge at Portsmouth (p. 58) was never *actually* erased, the order for erasure being in respect of another lodge in the same town—No. 234, formerly No. 291, of 2nd November, 1762 ("Masonic Records," p. 84). Grand Lodge ordered the latter lodge to be erased on 23rd April, 1773 (Consts. Appendix, 1776), but one of the officials evidently struck out the Lodge No. 20 by mistake from the Engraved List, as pointed out in my "Handy Book," p. 80. The error, however, was discovered and rectified, I consider, without any intervention on the part of Dunckerley.

One of the most interesting portions of the book is the record of the early history of the lodge held at the "Castle at Highgate," the notorious No. 79. It confirms, unmistakably, the position maintained by me in the discussion some years ago with Bro. Jacob Norton—that not only was there a Lodge No. 79 previous to that at the "Castle at Highgate," but that subsequently (*i.e.*, after its erasure in 1733) another, and *altogether distinct lodge*, occupied the same position on the list—No. 79—meeting at the "Two Angels and Crown, Little St. Martin's-lane." The date of constitution of No. 79b is now ascertained to have been 27th June, 1731, which may be noted in "Masonic Records," page 29. Another fact on which I have previously insisted is also incidentally proved, *viz.*, the date of the Third Manuscript List in the G.L. Minutes, which although formerly stated to be of the year 1730, was undoubtedly much later, namely of 1732. When the lodge at the "Castle at Highgate" was constituted on 29th June, 1731, Bro. Edward Price was Master, and Bros. Moor and Crawford Wardens. On 29th April, 1732, the election of a new Master took place, and "Bro. Thomas Moor, Esq., Senior Warden, was duly elected for the ensuing half year as Master, who appointed Bro. Thomas Crawford to be his Sen. Warden & Bro. Chandler his Jun. Warden."

In the MS. list above referred to "Thos. Moore, Esq., Mar.," heads the list of members, followed by "Mr. Thos. Crawford" and "Dr. Philip Chandler." Hence it is evident that the list must have been compiled after 29th April, 1732.

Bro. Sadler deserves to have this edition of "Thomas Dunckerley" speedily exhausted. The volume should be in every Masonic library, as well as in the possession of all who value and appreciate the records of the lodges of last century. I very cordially commend the book to all Masonic students.

JNO. LANE.

\* George Kenning, 16 and 16A, Great Queen-street, London, W.C.

## PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

A Provincial Grand Lodge of the Province of West Yorkshire was held in the Masonic Hall, Huddersfield, on Wednesday, the 15th inst., under the banner of Lodge Huddersfield, No. 290, when there were present—

Bros. Thomas William Tew, J.P., Past G.D. of England, Prov. G. Master; Henry Smith, Past G.D. of England, Deputy Prov. G. Master; Thomas Bateman Fox, J.P., Prov. S.G.W.; Thomas Crossley, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. C. A. Lambert, M.A., as Prov. G. Chap.; Rev. Benj. Mayou, M.A., Prov. G. Chap.; Thos. Harrison, Prov. G. Treas.; Harold Thomas, Prov. G. Reg.; Herbert G. E. Green, Prov. G. Sec.; J. B. Wostinholm, Prov. S.G.D.; William Henry Jessop, Prov. S.G.D.; W. Rigard Massie, P.J.G.D.; Wm. Watson, P.P.G.S. of W., as Prov. G.S. of W.; H. T. E. Holmes, P.G.D.C.; W. F. Tomlinson, Prov. Dep. G.D.C.; Thomas Lang, Prov. Asst. G.D.C.; John James Rutherford, P.P.G.S.B., as P.G.S.B.; Thomas Riley, P.G. Std. Br.; John Throup, P.G. Std. Br.; George Carbert, P.G. Org.; Joseph Matthewman, Prov. Asst. G. Sec.; Robt. Henry Armitage, P.G. Purst.; John Shoesmith, Prov. Asst. G. Purst.; John Hunt, P.G. Stwd.; Joseph Thos. Walker, P.G. Stwd.; Capt. Arthur Tupman, P.G. Stwd.; Fred. Rand, P.G. Stwd.; Robert Thompson, P.G. Stwd.; Joseph Wilson, P.G. Stwd.; Samuel Barrand, P.G. Tyler; Thomas Leighton, Prov. Asst. G. Tyler; and a large number of Past Prov. Grand Officers and representatives from the lodges in the province.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened, and

The Prov. Grand Master and the D.P.G.M. were saluted according to ancient custom, as were also the Worshipful the Mayors of Wakefield and Dewsbury, Bros. J. Haslegrave, P.M. 1019, and James Walmsley, P.M. 827.

The roll of lodges was called, and it was found that 73 out of 75 were represented.

The roll of Provincial Grand Officers was called; only two were unavoidably absent, and they sent substitutes.

The minutes of Provincial Grand Lodge, holden at Halifax the 15th October 1890, were taken as read, and confirmed.

The Right Worshipful PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER then delivered the following address:—

Brethren,—By the cordial invitation of the Worshipful Master and brethren of Lodge 290, Huddersfield, we are assembled here to-day, and I am gratified to know that no pains have been spared to provide for our comfort and convenience. The original warrant of this lodge bore the date of 1793. This is the 202nd meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge, the 40th time it has assembled in this town, and the fifth under the banner of Lodge 290. I desire to express the obligations of myself and Deputy for the salutations accorded to us and to the officers of the province this afternoon, as well as for the £100 subscribed to the Boys' School and Annuitants' Funds. It is our most anxious desire to encourage the prosperity of the Craft in the 42 towns in which the 75 lodges are located under our administration, and to render these meetings attractive and popular, in order that all may feel the desirability of attending them, and may have individually an interest in the affairs of the Craft. The Masonic Charities and their administration grow more important every year, and we are most desirous to maintain both our present pleasant relations with other provinces, as well as our influence in the Grand Lodge of England. The annual returns of the lodges to the 31st December last show considerable variations. There have been 300 initiations and joinings; 113 resignations; 69 deaths; 36 exclusions; and 161 brethren in arrears. The total number of active members on the roll is 3611, showing an increase of 71 members. The fees and contributions have come to £417 9s., being an increase of £5. In 1890 you were generous enough to contribute £643 4s to the annuitants, £393 19s. to the Girls', and £778 6s. to the Boys' Schools, making a total of £1815 5s. This is exclusive of grants made to various necessitous persons, a state of things which we may consider satisfactory. A conference of influential brethren of the northern provinces was held at Leeds, in the Masonic Hall, Great George-street, on the 6th February, to discuss the new laws relating to the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys and the equitable distribution of representation on that Board. It also considered the desirability of giving substantial support to Lord Lathom's presidency at the annual Festival of this Institution, to take place on the 24th June next. Nine provinces, containing 440 lodges, were represented at this meeting, and the brethren agreed to support the proposal that the 15 northern provinces, with 560 lodges, should claim to occupy six seats upon the Board. The northern provinces have cordially co-operated with us in this matter, and without this concerted action it would have been impossible to secure that representation to which we are entitled. The Charity report says the provinces, for the first time, have equal representation with the London brethren on the Board, there being 15 provincial and 15 London Masons elected. The Boys' School has been completely reorganised, and from the report recently issued by the Provisional Management Committee, we may conclude that it is now in a very much improved and more satisfactory condition. The balance-sheet issued by this Committee has been somewhat severely criticised by writers in the Masonic journals, but their strictures appear to have arisen through lack of discrimination between a balance-sheet on the one hand and an income and expenditure account on the other. We, in West Yorkshire, are supporting Lord Lathom most heartily. The amount already subscribed to the Festival is over £1600, and we are not without hope that it will eventually reach the handsome sum of £2000. Your Provincial Grand Master was invited to preside at the Girls' Festival this year, but having committed ourselves to the Boys', it was considered better to defer it for the present. Sir John Monckton hopes, however, that your Prov. Grand Master will take this position in 1892, and the conference at Leeds expressed their willingness to support us on this occasion. With your generous assistance, brethren, I should be glad to accede to this request. We hope that the 15 northern provinces will assemble next year in Leeds or elsewhere, as we are convinced that such conferences will be productive of great advantage, whilst I and my Deputy cannot help feeling regretful that the lapse of time has brought about a change in the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Charity Committee. Bro. Smithson, G.D. of England, who has been a member of it for the past 15 years, the last five of which were as Chairman, has retired, and Bro. T. Bateman Fox, on the 21st March last, was elected in his place, whilst Bro. W. C. Lupton succeeded Bro. Fox as Vice-Chairman. I hope there may be recorded on our minutes to-day a resolution of thanks to Bro. Smithson for the noble exertions he has made for the success of our Charities. May he be long spared to give to this Committee the advantages of his experience, his tact, and his great business capacity. On the lamented death of our esteemed brother, Edward Tozer, the collar of P.G.W. became vacant. This I bestowed upon our worthy Chairman of the Charity Committee, Bro. T. Bateman Fox. As considerable misunderstanding exists as to the status of honorary members of lodges, I have obtained the ruling of Grand Lodge on this question, which our Registrar will shortly read to you. This will also be placed upon the minutes, so that every member of this Prov. G. Lodge will receive a copy. As to the initiation of minors, which question has recently arisen, we are advised that in London it is never permitted, and unless under very exceptional circumstances, it should not be allowed in the provinces. I want Past Masters and Worshipful Masters to use their influence to prevent the discussion in public of matters relating to the affairs of their lodge. It is destructive of administrative harmony to allow unauthorised persons to listen to such discussions. Since we last met much mischief has been caused by the meddling interference of those who, not being members of a lodge, have yet endeavoured to influence its proceedings, and such conduct cannot be too strongly deprecated. During the year 1890 Grand Lodge issued 7848 certificates to new members. If more discrimination were exercised in the selection of candidates, and objectionable persons prevented joining us, I am convinced it would be to the advantage of the Craft, and would materially lessen the friction which from time to time has arisen in our lodges. The Wakefield Masonic Literary Society, under the guidance of Bros. Matthewman and Childe, has quietly continued its useful career. Amongst the recent lecturers it has numbered Bros. R. F. Gould, Edward Macbean, and other distinguished Masons. Our Librarian has worked hard to obtain some choice works for the Masonic library. He has succeeded in securing an unique copy of the 1687 MS., which Bro. Hughan has called "The W. Watson MS.," a copy of which has been sent to every lodge. A brother in Egypt has forwarded to me a humorous tale of Old Egypt, of the year 1315. I want the Grand Masters to inculcate a desire in brethren to avail themselves of the library and lectures, and make our Masonry something more than a Charity club or a "Restaurant" Society. To my Deputy and Officers I owe many thanks. They have attended various

functions in London, amongst which the inauguration of the Centenary Hall and new buildings of the R.M.I. for Girls stands out prominently, on which occasion their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and their daughters were present. On the 7th April we dedicated the new Masonic Hall at Batley, built by the brethren of Trafalgar Lodge, No. 971. The warrant of this lodge is now safely housed in most commodious lodge premises, the building of which reflects great credit on the members of this lodge. We offer hearty congratulations on the construction of this new temple to Masonry in Batley. In the appointment of officers I am surrounded with difficulties, so many Past Masters and so few collars to bestow, I have done my best in selection. I shall distribute these collars as widely as possible, and I beg of all the lodges to accept my impartial efforts as the best I can do with 1064 Worshipful Masters and Past Masters on the roll, to recognise merit with so few honours at my disposal under the powers I possess by the Book of Constitutions. I thank you for your attention in listening to this annual address.

The D.P.G.M., Bro. HENRY SMITH, after thanking the numerous brethren assembled for their hearty greeting, called the attention of W.M.'s and Secretaries of lodges to several small matters of discipline and detail. Amongst these were the occasional neglect of Provincial Grand Lodge By-law 46, and the omission of names and ages of candidates on lodge summonses. He also impressed upon them the duty of promptly communicating with the Prov. G. Secretary in the case of the death of any member of their lodges. The following ruling of Grand Lodge in respect to honorary members was then read by the Prov. G. Registrar, Bro. HAROLD THOMAS :

1. By accepting the position of honorary member a brother, *ipso facto*, removes his name from the lodge as a subscribing member. He therefore ceases to belong to it at all; he cannot speak therein; his name cannot appear in the annual returns; and if he is not a subscribing member to some other lodge he comes under Art. 152, Book of Constitutions, and can only be present *once*.

He can only be re-instated in his former position of subscribing member by proposal, ballot, election, and paying joining fee exactly like any other joining member.

2. A lodge has no power whatever to remit arrears of subscription. The by-laws of all lodges distinctly order each member to pay a certain sum annually, and to declare that he need not do so is to deliberately violate those by-laws.

3. A Past Master who is a Past Provincial Grand Officer does not lose his Provincial rank by non-subscription for 12 months; he retains it under Article 96, Book of Constitutions. What he does lose is his seat in Grand or Provincial Grand Lodge, under Articles 9 and 81.

4. Grand Lodge not recognising honorary members, of course lays down no laws as to their election.

Some lodges provide for this in their by-laws, but in the absence of any such rule the majority present can elect at any meeting without previous notice, it being a matter outside the laws of the Craft.

5. It would clearly be impossible to include in the Book of Constitutions regulations on a subject not recognised by it. Those Constitutions legislate entirely for subscribing members, whereas honorary members are actually not members at all.

The report of the Charity Committee having been read and adopted, the P.G. Treasurer next presented his statement of accounts for the year ending 31st March, 1891. This, which showed a balance in Messrs. Beckett and Co.'s bank of £914 14s. 3d., on the motion of Bro. H. THOMAS, seconded by Bro. JOHN HEY, 387, was received and adopted.

Bro. WATSON, the Hon. Librarian, reported upon the number of books which had been added to the collection during the year, briefly called attention to the valuable MS. which had been purchased and presented by the Prov. Grand Master, and concluded by moving, according to previous notice—"That a grant of £20 be made to the Library Fund." This was seconded by Bro. JOS. BINNEY, P.M., and carried.

Bro. T. HARRISON, P.M. 296, P.G. Treasurer, then proposed that Bro. Wm. Pepper, P.M. 1042, be appointed Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Bro. B. BROUGHTON seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

Bro. PEPPER, who was received with cheers, was then invested with the collar of his office, and after returning thanks took his place on the dais.

The following brethren were then appointed and invested as the Prov. Grand Officers for the year :

Bro. W. F. Smithson	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Capt. Arthur Tupman	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. Thomas J. McNulty	...	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. Claud A Lambert	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" William Pepper (elected)	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Frederick Walker	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Herbert G. E. Green	...	...	Prov.S.G.Deacons
" Frederick Laxton	...	...	Prov. J.G.Deacons
" Fred. Rand	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" John Hunt	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Alfred Jubb	...	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" John Gerrard	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" Wm. R. Thompson	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" James Jenkin	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" John Yates Rideal	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Colonel Francis C. Wemyss	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" Robert Thompson	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" Joseph Wilson	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" George Frederick Carr	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" Joseph Matthewman	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" Joseph Thos. Walker	...	...	Prov. A.G. Tyler.
" George Blackburn	...	...	
" Albert Walker	...	...	
" Sydney T. Steele	...	...	
" John Hey	...	...	
" Caleb England	...	...	
" William Ramsden	...	...	
" John Symonds	...	...	
" Samuel Barrand	...	...	
" Thomas Leighton	...	...	

By-law 27 having been suspended on the recommendation of the Charity Committee, £20 each was voted to Bros. H. N. C., 275, and J. J., 1211.

Bro. T. B. FOX, P.M., then proposed: "That the best thanks of this Provincial Grand Lodge be given to W. Bro. W. F. Smithson, P.M., Prov. S.G.W., for his devoted and constant labour as a member of the Provisional Management Committee in the re-organisation of the Boys' School, and that a sum of £25 be and hereby is voted to him towards the travelling expenses which he must have incurred in the fulfilment of his onerous duties."

This was seconded by Bro. W. GAUKROGER, P.M., supported warmly by several brethren, and carried with acclamation.

Bro. SMITHSON thanked the brethren for the kindness and sympathy which they had always shown to him, assured them that his work had been a labour of love,

that there was every reason to believe that the Boys' School was now on the way to success, and that in his capacity as a member of the new Board of Management the interests of that Institution should continue to receive his careful attention. He also thanked them for the help they had given him during the time he was Chairman of the Charity Committee, and incidentally mentioned that during those five years £13,000 had, through the munificence of his brethren, been subscribed to the Masonic Charities by this province, and that, in the election of their candidates, West Yorkshire, thanks to its excellent organisation, had not had a single failure.

The Mayors of WAKEFIELD and DEWSBURY having acknowledged the salutations and welcome of the brethren, invitations to hold the next meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge were given by Bros. Hallas, 1283, and Fred. Rand, 242, on the part of their respective lodges.

Prov. G. Lodge was then closed.

Dinner was served at the George Hotel, the P.G. Master occupying the chair.

## CONSECRATION OF THE AVONDALE LODGE, No. 2389.

The Freemasons of Middlewich, some of whom have been members of the Samaritan Lodge at Sandbach, while others have been associated with the Sincerity at Northwich, have at last a home of their own. In the early part of the present century Masonry appears to have flourished in the town, but for some reason now unknown the lodge, which was styled the Noah's Ark, and was numbered 542 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England, ceased to exist, and for many years the local Masons have been compelled to travel to neighbouring towns if they wished to meet in lodge. The following copy of a circular issued by the W.M. of the Noah's Ark Lodge 69 years ago, and now preserved in a frame by the Middlewich brethren, will be read with interest: "Middlewich, 22nd May, 1822. Festival of Masonry. St. John's Day will be celebrated at Middlewich, on Monday, the 24th day of June next, and the Master, officers, and brethren of the Noah's Ark Lodge, No. 542, held at the King's Arms, request the pleasure and company of any visiting brethren. The brethren are desired to meet at the King's Arms Inn at 10 o'clock precisely, and from thence proceed to the church, where a sermon will be preached on the occasion by the Rev. George Leigh. Dinner tickets, 4/-, to be had at the inn. It is requested that the Secretary of each lodge sends an account of the number of brethren who may attend the meeting, in order to provide accordingly.—J. SMITH, Master."

When the idea of constituting a new lodge in Middlewich was mooted, it was taken up with enthusiasm, and no difficulty was experienced in securing a charter from the Grand Lodge, the following brethren being registered as the founders: Bros. Thomas Haddon, 591; John Plant, 1126; R. S. Cross, 368; Orlando Ball, 368; Peter Hancock, 368; Dr. Joseph Moore, 428; Dr. McJannett; James Earl, 1724; James Fletcher, 368; Richard Yeomans; Thomas Manley, 368; and Robert N. Banks, 428. The name given to the lodge was Avondale, after H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, and its number on the Grand Lodge register is 2389.

The consecration took place on Monday, the 6th instant, the ceremony being performed by the Right Hon. Lord Egerton of Tatton, P.G.M. Owing to the accommodation at the King's Arms Hotel (where the lodge is to be held) being inadequate for the occasion, the proceedings took place in the Town Hall, the windows and walls of which had been prettily draped for the day. The P.G.M. was supported by the following brethren:—

Bros. Hon. Henry Holbrook, P.P.G.M. British Columbia, P.P.G.S. of W. Cheshire, who acted as D.P.G.M.; James Salmon, P.S.G.W.; A. H. Gilbody, acting P.J.G.D.; Rev. T. W. Sturges, acting P.G. Chan.; G. Bowen, P.A.G.P.; G. H. Brown, P.G. D. of C.; R. H. Baker, P.A.G.D. of C.; J. H. E. Heywood, P.G.S.B.; Fairbrother, P.G.S.; J. Cookson, P.G. Treasurer; W. Dunn, P.G.S. of W.; G. McLelland, P.J.G.D.; W. Wildgoose, P.P.G. Treasurer; E. G. Parker, P.P.G.P.; W. Nicholls, P.P.G.P.; R. Newhouse, P.G. Sec.; R. Finlow, P.P.S.G.O.; R. Bebbington, P.P.G.P.; W. Booth, P.P.G.D. of C.; T. Moore, P.P.G.S.; W. Ramsden, P.P.G.D.; T. H. Maddocks, P.M., A. G. Peterkin, I.P.M., A. Spann, J.W., S. S. Mellor, J.D., E. Pritchard, Org., J. Leicester, I.G., T. Senior, Sec., W. Leigh, A.O., H. Yeomans, and W. C. Such, all of 428; J. Heyworth, P.M. 1126; A. Parkes, W.M., J. T. Appleby, I.P.M., and J. H. Bebbington, Tyler, all of 941; R. Hughes, I.P.M., and J. Lowery, both of 1219; R. Yeomans, 451; T. Walker, W.M. 1126; Peter Jackson, P.M., G. Bratherton, S.W., and S. Sharatt, J.D. of 368; Randle Ford, 425 and 2386; T. Hassall, P.M. 1213; F. Williams, 993; and R. Bourne, 2368.

All the first members of the new lodge were in attendance.

The unanimously appointed W.M. elect was Bro. J. Plant, and he was accompanied by Bros. R. S. Cross, P. Hancock, T. Haddon, J. Earl, R. H. Yeomans, O. Ball, Dr. McJannett, Joseph Moore, T. B. Manley, and R. N. Banks, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, having opened the lodge in the three Degrees, addressed the brethren on the motive of the meeting, and expressed the pleasure which it afforded him to assent to the petition in favour of a charter to constitute a lodge in Middlewich. The P.G. Secretary then read the petition and warrant, after which Bro. Sturges, Acting P.G.C., delivered an oration on the nature and principles of the Institution. The consecration was proceeded with, and the lodge having been dedicated and constituted by the P.G. Master, the benediction was pronounced.

The installation of Bro. Plant as first W.M. of the new lodge followed, the ceremony being ably and effectively performed by Bro. Salmon, P.S.G.W., assisted by Bros. Brown, P.G.D. of C., and Cookson, P.G. Treas. Having been duly installed in the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom, Bro. Plant invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. R. S. Cross, S.W.; P. Hancock, J.W.; T. Haddon, Treasurer; J. Earl, Secretary; R. H. Yeomans, S.D.; O. Ball, J.D.; Dr. McJannett, I.G.; Dr. J. Moore and T. B. Manley, Stwds.; and J. Fletcher, Tyler. The W.M., Senior and Junior Wardens, and Treasurer and Secretary were appointed a Committee to frame by-laws. Ten candidates were proposed for initiation. A bible and a large engraved and framed portrait of the Prov. Grand Master were presented to the lodge by the W.M. The music during both ceremonies was beautifully rendered by a special glee party, consisting of Bros. Baker, P.G.O.; Booth, P.G.D.C.; Dumville, and Stafford. The business being concluded, the lodge was closed.

An adjournment was made to the King's Arms Hotel, where a splendid banquet was provided in the new lodge room by Mr. and Mrs. Buckley, whose catering gave every satisfaction. The chair was occupied by the W.M., who was supported by Bros. the Hon. H. Holbrook, J. Salmon, and most of the brethren who had attended the ceremony.

During the banquet which was subsequently held the following telegram was despatched to the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, his Royal Highness

the Prince of Wales: "From Avondale Lodge, Middlewich. To H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, London. The hearty good wishes of the Avondale Lodge, No. 2389, just consecrated, and Worshipful Master and Officers invested." His Royal Highness replied as follows: "To Worshipful Master, Middlewich. I sincerely thank Avondale Lodge for their fraternal greeting.—ALBERT EDWARD."

The telegram, endorsed "O.H.M.S.," was handed in at the South-Western District Office at 8.33 p.m., and was received at Middlewich at 9.10 p.m. It was read by the W.M. to the brethren amid enthusiastic applause.

The lodge was furnished by Bro. George Kenning.

## CONSECRATION OF THE ORDE-POWLETT LODGE, No. 2391, AT MIDDLESBROUGH.

On Wednesday, the 15th inst., there was added another to the two successful lodges which propagate the mystic art in the metropolis of the iron country. The Orde-Powlett Lodge, No. 2391, has been promoted by a number of experienced and worthy brethren, having at their head as W.M. Bro. W. J. Watson, P.M. 602, Past Prov. Grand Registrar, who, previous to the ceremony of opening the lodge, entertained several distinguished visitors to luncheon at the Erimus Club.

At 2 o'clock the spacious Masonic Hall in Marton-road was filled, upwards of 130 brethren being present, when the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, attended by other Provincial Grand Officers, entered in procession. The customary ceremonial of consecration was performed by Bro. Lieut.-Col. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, Past Grand Warden of England and Deputy Prov. G.M., who afterwards installed the W.M. of the new lodge. The charges were delivered by Bro. J. A. Manners, P.P.G.D. The D.P.G.M. presented an elegant banner bearing his arms, &c.

A banquet was served at the Oddfellows' Hall, and was very numerously attended.

The entire proceedings reflected the highest credit upon the Committee who had been entrusted with the arrangements for the meeting, and by whom no trouble or expense had been spared to ensure the successful launch of the new lodge, which, we doubt not, will prove another worthy exponent of Freemasonry in the north.

The following oration was delivered by Bro. M. C. Peck, Past G. Std. Br. of England, Prov. Grand Secretary:

We are met to-day to welcome the birth of a new lodge of Freemasons, another centre of light, of union, of brotherhood, in that great Fraternity to which it is our happiness to belong. Let us, therefore, for a brief space contemplate some of the excellences of a good lodge, and the difficulties a lodge should avoid, to become a worthy representative of our time-honoured Institution. As to the origin of Freemasonry, that is lost in the dim obscurity of the past, and certain it is that the recent investigations of our most learned brethren seem to point to an earlier date than they were a few years ago willing to admit. Its present position, however, is one of which we may justly be proud; the great interest which the Craft takes in our noble Charities is evinced by the liberal, nay, even lavish manner in which they are supported, whilst the general condition of the private lodges themselves indicates an increasing love for the practice of Freemasonry. We can all remember the circumstance of our initiation as a momentous period of our lives, and how complimented we felt when accepted by the brethren of the lodge; with what interest we listened to the dictates of the officers, and how sedulously we anticipated each instruction. When at length raised to the rank of M.M., how gladly we assumed the neat blue apron of our Degree. The regular meetings of the lodge were attended with unflinching punctuality, and when at length appointed to the post of Inner Guard, how zealously the duties of that office were performed. We listened to the utterances of the Past Masters with reverence and the greatest attention, regarding those veterans as the sages of the lodge, and amongst the wisest of mankind. With what delight we looked forward to the simple pleasures of the festive board, and how thoroughly the annual festival of the lodge was enjoyed! These may appear to the world trivial details, but our life is made up of little things, and, brethren, how much these trifles go to form the basis of a good Masonic life. A Mason, happy and contented with his own lodge, should regard it as the best lodge in the world, and the members truly as his brethren, his associates, and dearest friends. The encouragement shown by his seniors to a young and ardent brother, whose mind is bent on the acquisition of knowledge in that science just opening before him, will ever be cherished with the most pleasing recollections, and is never thrown away. Whilst, on the other hand, work indifferently performed in the lodge, and the evident desire to reduce the practice of Freemasonry to the briefest limits tolerable, disgust the newly-initiated brother, who soon ceases to feel an interest in that particular lodge; he retires from the Craft, and so a good Mason is lost to us for ever. A good lodge may be known by the regularity of its meetings, by punctual attendance of the officers at the appointed time, by a careful and conscientious adherence to the Constitutions, correct performance of ritual, orderly and reverent attention of the brethren, wise discrimination in the selection of candidates, by its support of the Charities of our Order, by temperate enjoyment of refreshment, the period for which should never be extended beyond 11 o'clock at the latest, and lastly by courtesy extended to visitors. This is an important point, and may make or mar the reputation of a lodge. It is often unhappily the custom for certain lodges not to expect visitors unless specially invited, consequently those brethren who, availing themselves of the good old custom of the Craft, desire to pay visits to a strange lodge, are looked upon as intruders if unknown to the members of the lodge they purport to visit. I have heard of brethren visiting such a lodge, and after due examination and long detention at the door, being at length admitted only to find the work nearly over. When closed, there was no friendly hand to welcome, no cheering word to greet, but the members retired to another room to dine, leaving the disconsolate visitor to depart a sadder but a wiser man. Of course, it could scarcely be expected that when a banquet at a guinea a head was being discussed that the lodge could afford indiscriminate visiting, but the brother used to the modest but excellent supper provided in his own lodge, together with the cordial and hearty welcome which visitors invariably receive, must contrast the customs of these two specimen lodges. A lodge should always be a place where good and virtuous men of all classes meet, and, as old Masons, we cannot look upon the establishment of lodges in which brethren of some particular profession or social position are almost exclusively the members with any degree of satisfaction, believing such will prove a source of weakness to our Order. A narrow exclusive spirit is utterly opposed to the tenets of our Institution. Freemasonry teaches man broad and liberal opinions, before which all distinctions of class and creed vanish; and the true Master Mason is defined as one "who views in every son of Adam a brother of the dust. In this great mercantile centre Masonry is well established, and its followers worthily support the reputation of the two successful lodges with which they are associated. May they prosper in the future as in the past, and *Fuimus, sumus et erimus* be their motto for ever! The founders of the Orde-Powlett Lodge being brethren of rank and experience, well versed in the science of Freemasonry, will, we know, maintain the true spirit of our Order in the conduct of the new lodge which is this day inaugurated; and copying the example of that illustrious Mason, whose name it is privileged to bear, will manifest to the town and to their sister lodges:—

"How good and joyful a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

A series of *tableaux vivants*, entitled "Peace and War," and a military concert were held in the Duke of York's School, Royal Military Asylum, Chelsea, on Thursday, the 16th inst., in aid of the Organ Fund. Among those present were the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, the Princess Victoria of Teck, Field-Marshal Sir Patrick and Lady Grant, and others. The performances gave the utmost satisfaction, and were repeated on the following afternoon and Saturday evening last.

## DISINTERESTED FRIENDSHIP.

There are friends and *friends*. Friendship is a poet's word. It is rythmical and sweet. Around it cluster most beautiful figures. From it is exhaled most intoxicating perfumes. Its sound falls upon the ear as a chord from the celestial choir. It is, however, too often a lost chord. Floating out upon the calm evening air we hear it and strain every nerve to catch its sweetness, but it was of heaven, and to heaven it has returned and is lost to us. Friendship is a priceless jewel, and when found should be treasured as such.

There are grades in friendship. Very little of it is from a purely disinterested motive. Professions are cheap. There is nothing more counterfeited than friendship. It is put on and off as a mask. Policy in all affairs of life too often lead to a masking of friendship. Friends who will stick to you through thick and thin; through good report and evil report; through adversity as well as prosperity, are rare.

Masonic friendship ought to be pure and disinterested. No selfish motive should control our actions, but, alas! such is not always the case. We are too apt to forget the tessellated floor upon which we have trodden. We leave Masonry behind the tyled door, safely deposited in the archives of the lodge, and mingle with the world, uninfluenced by the principles of equality, brotherly love, friendship, and all the galaxy of virtues we talked of so glibly in the lodge.

Disinterested friendship, which is the only quality that is of any value, is Masonic friendship. It will go on foot, and even out of the way, to serve a brother in need. It will bend the knee before the Grand Architect of the Universe, imploring a blessing upon our brother's head. It will treasure the words confided to us in a faithful breast. It will stretch forth the hand to aid a brother in his efforts and to save him from falling. It will whisper words of good counsel in his ear and warn him of approaching danger. A brother's welfare will be remembered, not forgotten. His friendship will be sought outside the lodge room, not only in it.

Masonry is a Society of friendships. They are formed in such a manner that they ought to be strong and lasting. The lodge is a place for social enjoyment and mental and moral improvement. We meet with congenial spirits and pass most delightful seasons together. How much of this enjoyment is real? How much of real brotherly feeling is there in the grasp of the hand? How many times have we seen a brother bending under a load of adversity, and by word or deed endeavoured to relieve him? If we could only break the chrysalis of selfishness that so completely envelops us, perhaps we would perform more acts of pure, disinterested friendship than we do. Then would be the full and complete enjoyment of our professions.

We all possess more ability to aid our fellowmen than we think we do. We can do a great deal if we only *do* it. The trouble is, however, we are content to let every fellow take care of himself. If he succeeds we praise him and say, "I told you so." If he fails—"Just as I expected." He would not have failed, perhaps, if we had not "expected" it.

We can slide down hill, but we must climb up. If a brother has started down, his pace is surely accelerated by the "disinterested" kick of his friends. If he is climbing, a dozen will catch on to his coat-tails, and make his climbing the more difficult. We should abhor that disposition that leads to the taking advantage of another in trade. It is unfriendly and un-Masonic. No man ever enjoyed the advantage gained by selfishly leading another into a transaction whereby he was profited and his friend defrauded. Such is not according to our teaching, and that man guilty of such an act should be treated to severe discipline.

Disinterested friendship leads to peace and prosperity, happiness and contentment. Let us cultivate it for a little while. It is a plant that will pay for all the care bestowed upon it. The aroma it will shed about our lives will make the journey a foretaste of the peace and happiness of the celestial world.—*New York Dispatch*.

SLOANE MSS.—There are three in the British Museum. One is No. 3848. It was transcribed by Edward Sankey, October 16th, 1646. The other is 3323, and was transcribed by Thomas Martin, 1659. We do not consider either of these transcripts very important, pace the valuable opinion of Bro. W. J. Hughan, from whom we always dislike to differ. We consider them but transcripts of the Harleian, though there are some differences between the two; or of some common copy—perhaps Dowland's original. The Sloane MS. No. 3329 is a most interesting one, and which we studied many years ago in company with Mr. Walbran, who unhesitatingly fixed the archaisms as of early seventeenth century use. The paper mark denotes the early part of the eighteenth century; but we apprehend experts do not deny that the language is seventeenth century language. It has been stated that it is our operative Masons' Catechism: we do not think so. It is identical, in some of the expressions, with a MS. Dr. Plot professes to have seen; and we believe it represents the ceremonial of those lodges of Freemasons who initiated Ashmole in 1646, and gave him another grade in 1682. It was published in extenso by Bro. Woodford in 1872.—*Kenning's Cyclopædia of Freemasonry*.

**ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE GRAND MASTER'S MARK LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.**

The seventh annual festival of this Mark lodge of instruction was held at Mark Masons' Hall, on Tuesday, the 14th instant, under the presidency of Bro. Thomas Fenn, P.G.W., when there was a good attendance. Lodge was opened by Bro. W. Vincent, P.G.I.G., W.M., supported by the following officers: Bros. J. R. Green, G. Stwd., S.W.; Hugh M. Hobbs, G. Stwd., J.W.; F. H. Miller, P.M., M.O.; A. Escott, P.S.G.W. Kent, S.O.; E. Armitage, P.M., J.O.; Rev. J. Cater, Chap.; J. B. S. Lancaster, R. of M.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W., Treas.; E. M. Money, P.G. Stwd., Sec.; F. O. Carr, Org.; G. S. Criswick, P.M., S.D.; A. H. Scurrah, J.D.; and R. L. Thornton, I.G.

The ceremony of advancement was worked in a very impressive manner, and the lecture on the Degree ably given by Bro. J. R. Green, G. Stwd.

On the motion of Bro. T. FENN, P.G.W., a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the brethren who had assisted in the ceremony.

Bro. W. VINCENT, P.G.I.G., in acknowledging the compliment, said that praise from so distinguished a Mason as Bro. Fenn was very welcome indeed.

Honorary membership was unanimously conferred on Bro. Fenn, the Chairman of the evening, and a similar compliment was paid Bro. F. O. Carr, who kindly presided at the harmonium.

Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Freemasons' Tavern, where banquet was served.

"The Queen and Mark Masonry" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.M." having been honoured, the CHAIRMAN proposed "The Grand Officers," observing that the Marquess of Hertford, Pro G.M., was an extremely affable nobleman, and the Earl of Euston, Deputy G.M., was one of their most active members. They would all be pleased to hear that the Earl of Euston was fast recovering from a severe and skilfully performed operation, and would be amongst them again within a fortnight. He could not give a better illustration of the way the Grand Officers performed their duty than the fact that the Earl of Euston, notwithstanding his high position, and the fact of his having been a P.S.G.W., undertook the duties of the President of the General Board, which was analogous to that occupied by himself in Grand Lodge. Of the Grand Officers none were more worthy of notice than Bro. Frank Richardson, who had been an active member of the Degree for a long time as the Grand Registrar, and was now a P.G. Warden.

Bro. F. RICHARDSON, P.G.W., G. Reg., said he esteemed it a great honour to have his name coupled with such a toast as that of the Grand Officers. When the brethren considered who the Grand Officers were, and the long array of distinguished noblemen who had taken a most active and honourable part in the Degree, they would acknowledge how fortunate they were in the Order to have these noblemen really and honestly doing their work in every possible way they could. Bro. Fenn had referred to that fiasco when it was proposed that Mark Masonry should be recognised by the Craft. It was the most fortunate thing ever happened that the minutes were non-confirmed. The Order was increasing daily and taking an enormous position, but he was afraid if they had been attached to the Craft this would not have occurred. Every Order should have a different organisation and somebody different at the head to push it forward. On the part of the Grand Officers he thanked them, feeling sure they would go on and prosper.

Bro. C. F. MATIER, P.G.W., Grand Secretary, said it had been his privilege at previous meetings such as that—and that was the seventh annual festival—to propose "The Health of the Chairman," the brother who had ruled over them so gracefully and with so much dignity. He would follow their Chairman's example of short speech, although he had a temptation to enlarge very considerably upon Bro. Fenn's merits. But everyone knew Bro. Thomas Fenn, whose name was a household word to them in another and in a more imperial sense than the Mark Degree. They looked upon him in the Lodge of Emulation as the example and the perfection of Masonic ritual in the Craft, and were only too delighted and pleased to see him among them to show him what they could do as exemplars of Masonic perfection in the Mark Degree. Bro. Fenn had alluded to certain differences which years ago existed between the Craft and the Mark. Those he was most happy to say were all buried deep in the bosom of the earth. There was between the Craft on the one side and the Mark Masons on the other only a dinner table, and who more qualified to assume the head than Bro. Fenn, with the Craft, the President of the Board of General Purposes, and with them a very honoured P.G. Warden. He would not detain them, but ask them to drink the health of the Chairman of the evening, Bro. Fenn.

Bro. THOMAS FENN, P.G.W., in reply, said that Bro. Matier had perfectly overwhelmed him with his flattering remarks. He was told in the lodge that the speeches were to be very short, and he was glad he could avail himself of that injunction with respect to his response. It was never a very pleasant thing to speak of one's self, and it was particularly unsatisfactory to him on that occasion because he simply

had to make a confession. He was a very unworthy Mark Mason, and was surprised he should be pressed to take the position of Chairman. He knew extremely little of Mark Masonry, for although he was made a Mark Mason 35 years ago, he left it, and only joined it again at the consecration of the Ruspini Lodge, which was formed in connection with the Girls' School, of which he was one of the House Committee, in which he had so many friends that he desired to join. His engagements in the Craft and Royal Arch were so great that he never took any office, but having the great honour conferred upon him of being made a P.G. Warden—a rank which he accepted with great pleasure although undeserved—he thought he should pass through the chair. No sooner was that desire known to his lodge than they put him in the S.W.'s chair, and elected him to the Master's chair, which he now filled. Strange to say, he had never been in any other lodge of Mark Masons, except the one in which he was advanced and his own lodge. There was one circumstance that had given him pleasure, which was to find that in the model he took in the lodge from Bro. Letchworth—the first W.M.—he had departed very little from the excellent specimen they had heard that night. He was reluctant to preside that evening, because he did not feel worthy, and because there were many more distinguished Mark Masons who could have taken the position. He had done his best, and it had given him great pleasure to be present. It must be a pleasure to any man, especially himself, who had taken such an interest in the Craft to attend that night. He thanked them for the cordial way in which they had received his health. The next toast was that of "Success to the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction," coupled with the name of their excellent Preceptor, Bro. Vincent. The success of any lodge of instruction must be of interest to him, and he knew from long experience the use of lodges of instruction, and how important it was for a Master or for any officer to practise his work. There was nothing gave a Master so much confidence as to feel he was master of the work, having practised it in a lodge of instruction. He could strongly recommend all aspirants to office to attend a lodge of instruction. The manner in which the work was done that evening was, as he had said in the lodge, beyond all praise, and he might speak of it more at length, but that he feared he should be anticipating what would be said by Bro. Vincent, who, no doubt, would give them an account of the rise and progress of Mark Masonry and that lodge of instruction.

BRO. WM. VINCENT, P.G.I.G., in response, said he esteemed it a high honour to be associated with such a toast as that of the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction, but was afraid it would be out of his power to tell them anything of the rise of the lodge, as it was only four years ago that it was his good fortune to be selected by Bro. Matier as a successor, and Bro. Matier recommended him to the General Committee, and he was formally elected to the post. Since that time the lodge of instruction had gone slowly forward. He said slowly, because there was an evident want of a desire to learn on the part of Mark Masons generally. The lodge had slowly progressed, and year by year they had elected new members, some of whom had attended fairly regularly, but he did not find in the Mark Degree that interest that he had seen in Craft lodges of instruction. He had found that the Masters having learned their duty seemed to think that Mark Masonry was at an end. They looked to those whom they had taught, to assist them in teaching others. He was proud to think so distinguished a critic as their Chairman had been pleased with the work. He confessed that when he heard that Bro. Fenn was to be the Chairman, and desired to see the work, it having been the practice only to give the lecture, he felt considerably nervous. He was told that he should, of course, take the chair. He knew what a Past Master in ritual Bro. Fenn was in the Craft and felt satisfied, although Bro. Fenn had been good enough to say he knew little of Mark Masonry, that any shortcomings would be uncompromisingly pointed out. It had been a labour of love in the Mark Degree to act as Preceptor, and he hoped those who had that night given their names as members would bear it in mind and attend. They would be heartily welcomed, and an endeavour made to teach them the ritual. The officers of the Permanent Committee were desirous of meeting in every way any brother coming on in office, and the W.M. elect was asked to give way if a Master of any lodge desired to rehearse the ceremony. He thanked his officers for their kindly help, and was gratified with the manner in which they performed their duties. He returned thanks for the kind wishes expressed to the lodge of instruction, and he hoped with such examples as Bro. Fenn and others who had presided that they would yet make it not the equal, but a good second to the Emulation Lodge.

Bro. W. M. STILES, Grand Std. Br., gave "The Visitors" in cordial terms, and in response Bro. Dr. EGAN, D.G.M. South Africa, said that when he went out next month the Mark Masons would be enquiring of him about the work. He was pleased to see the work done, because it was a sample of what it should be.

"The Health of the Secretary" was given by Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, G. Reg., and duly replied to by Bro. E. M. MONEY, P.G. Stwd., and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

The brethren present included Bros. Thomas Fenn, P.G.W.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec.; F. Richardson, P.G.W., G. Reg.; Dr. Egan, D.G.M. South Africa; C. H. Driver, P.G.M.O.; W. M. Stiles, G. Std. Br.; Dr. Kiallmark, C. M. Jessop, W. Vincent, P.G.I.G.; E. M. Money, P.G. Stwd.; J. R. Green, G. Stwd.; H. M.

Hobbs, G. Stwd.; A. Escott, P.S.G.W. Kent; G. S. Criswick, P.M.; R. L. Thornton, P.M.; J. B. S. Lancaster, F. H. Miller, P.M.; E. Armitage, P.M.; Rev. J. Cater, F. O. Carr, J. D. Vicary, P.P.S.G.O. Madras; C. J. Knightley, W. A. Scurrah, P.P.G. Reg. Middx.; H. Dickey, A. H. Scurrah, W. J. Churcher, Murray Haynes, W. Maple, P.M.; W. Mapleton, G. Mordey, J. J. Thomas, G. Richardson, S.W. 54; W. J. Ferguson, S.W. 355; W. H. Francis, A. Jephson, J. T. Fielder, Capt. Knightley, E. Mills, P.A.G.I.G.; A. Lamette, W. W. Lee, and many others.

**Knights Templar.**

**PROVINCIAL GRAND PRIORY OF LANCASHIRE.**

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Priory of Lancashire was held on Thursday, the 16th inst., at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester. It was one of the most successful and numerous attended ever held in this province. The following were present: Sir Knights C. E. Hindley, E.C.; C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds, P.G.P.; W. H. Hughes, P.E.C.; E. Pike, P.E.C.; F. W. Lean, P.E.C.; W. H. Southern, J. Andrew, Wm. Duncan, J. Gardner, G. S. Smith, P. H. Nicholls, C. E. Towell, R. T. Sutcliffe, E.C.; Wm. Bracewell, John Milne, P.E.C.; E. Graham, P.P.G.S.B.; H. Thomas, D.G.C. Lancashire; J. Clapton, P.G.O.; F. N. Molesworth, P.G. Reg.; J. R. Blacka, P.E.C.; P. Ratcliffe, S. Fisher, George H. Whitaker, Edward Pierpont, Joseph Harling, Walter Vere Stallon, E.C.; E. King Ellison, Wm. J. Read, J. H. P. Leresche, A. Hopkinson, W. J. Thomson, Charles H. Garner, Robt. W. Bourne, John Halliwell, P.G.C.; C. Hesketh Knowlys, E.C.; Abraham Clegg, E. G. Harwood, L. Rowbottom, P.P.G.M.; John Booth, P.C.; Reginald Young, P.P.; Wm. Bagnall, J. Butterworth, P.E.C.; A. H. Jefferis, P.E.C.; T. G. Sinclair, W. Patterson, Joseph Rawlinson, J. W. Kenyon, P.E.C.; T. A. R. Littledale, P.E.C.; Samuel Warburton, P.E.C.; Oliver C. Crompton, P.E.C.; J. Moffgaad, P.E.C.; C. M. Challender, Nathaniel Nicholson, P.E.C.; and J. A. Martin.

The sir knights having assembled, and St. Joseph's Preceptory (under whose banner the meeting was held) was opened by Sir Knight C. E. Hinley, E.C. The provincial sir knights were received with due splendour.

The muster roll was replied to by representatives from every preceptory in the province.

The General Purposes Committee reported that the number of members in the province presented a favourable increase, and all the preceptories appeared to be in active working order, and had paid their dues.

The Treasurer's accounts were received and adopted, the balance in favour of the province being £160.

Ten guineas each to the Boys' and Girls' Schools were unanimously voted, as was also a "souceur" to the late Equerry, who has retired through age and ill-health.

The V.E. Prov. G. Commander then appointed and invested the following knights as his officers for the ensuing year:

- |          |                          |                     |
|----------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Sir Knt. | Henry Thomas ...         | Sub-Prior.          |
| "        | Rev. C. H. Knowlys, M.A. | Prelate.            |
| "        | Wm. Tyrer ...            | Chancellor.         |
| "        | Albert L. Dickins ...    | Constable.          |
| "        | W. E. M. Tomlinson, M.P. | Marshal.            |
| "        | Wm. J. Thomson ...       | Treasurer.          |
| "        | F. N. Molesworth ...     | Registrar.          |
| "        | F. W. Lean ...           | Vice-Chancellor.    |
| "        | S. G. Sinclair ...       | Sub-Marshal.        |
| "        | T. R. S. Littledale ...  | Almoner.            |
| "        | W. H. Hughes ...         | Wrden. of Regalia.  |
| "        | E. G. Harwood ...        | Herald.             |
| "        | A. H. Jefferis ...       | St. Br. Beauceant.  |
| "        | John Booth ...           | St. Br. Vex. Belli. |
| "        | C. E. Hindley ...        | Banner Bearer.      |
| "        | Nathaniel Nicholson ...  | 1st A.-de-Camp.     |
| "        | James Butterworth ...    | 2nd A.-de-Camp.     |
| "        | Joseph Rawlinson ...     | Chamberlain.        |
| "        | C. M. Challender ...     | Capt. of Guard.     |
| "        | H. B. Browne ...         | Sword Bearer.       |
| "        | Joseph Clapton ...       | Organist.           |
| "        | Oliver Crompton ...      | 1st Pursuivant.     |
| "        | J. R. Blacka ...         | 2nd Pursuivant.     |
| "        | Sergt.-Major T. Hardy... | Equerry.            |

A Provincial Priory of Malta was afterwards opened by the Provincial Grand Prior, who duly installed 10 sir knights as members of the Order, and appointed his officers for the ensuing year.

The sir knights dined together at the close of the proceedings.

After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and enthusiastically honoured,

The PROV. GRAND COMMANDER, in reply to the toast of his health, expressed the great satisfaction he felt in meeting the knights of his province on that occasion, the loyal support they had given to uphold and maintain the dignity of their illustrious Order, and through him to carry forward in their day and generation the inheritance handed down to them by those whose memory they delighted to honour, that it might be preserved and continued by them with its banner still unsullied. He expressed his satisfaction at the restoration of past rank by Great Priory.

Thanks were accorded to St. Joseph's Preceptory for their hospitality, and the admirable arrangements for the convenience of Prov. Grand Priory.

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 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 HENNIKER, Prov. Grand Master of Suffolk.  
 R.W. Bro. Sir JOHN B. MONCKTON, F.S.A.; P.G.W.; P. Pres. Bd. Gen. Purvs.; The Guildhall, E.C.

\* Bro. C. W. BACON, P.M. 213; P.P.J.G.D., P.P.G. Stwd. Norfolk; Blofield, 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. OLDHAM CHAMBERS, P.M. 71 and 1452; P.P.G.W. Suffolk; 54, Cannon-street, London, E.C.

\* J. W. WILTON, 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. ELVES, P.M. 1452; P.P.G.D. Suffolk; Lowestoft.

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

\* GEORGE KENNING, V.-Patron; P.M. 192 and 1057; 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.**  
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ON TUESDAY, THE 12th OF MAY,

UNDER THE DISTINGUISHED PRESIDENCY OF

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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.

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.

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The Directors have the pleasure to announce that

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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.

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**To Correspondents.**

The following communications unavoidably stand over:

- CRAFT—**  
Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 877.  
Skelmersdale Lodge, No. 1380.  
Selwyn Lodge, No. 1901.  
St. David's Lodge, No. 2226
- ROYAL ARCH—**  
George Price Chapter, No. 2096.
- MARK—**  
Florence Nightingale Lodge, No. 44.



SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1891.

**Masonic Notes.**

Last week we were enabled to report satisfactorily as to the progress of the arrangements for the approaching Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. Since then, however, we hear that recruiting for the Board of Stewards has been at a standstill, and that absolutely no fresh names have been added to the list of those who have volunteered their services in this capacity on the 12th prox. This is much to be regretted. The three or four weeks which precede one of these celebrations are always a very critical period. They afford the opportunity for strengthening a Board that is weak and making still stronger one that is only fairly strong. It is, therefore, with very great concern that we report the news which has reached us to the effect that no further progress has been made since our last week's issue.

There are 237 Stewards at this moment, and on comparing notes with last year's figures we find there is a slight increase in number over the 1890 Board. Unfortunately this trifling advantage is more than neutralised by the greater proportion this year of Unattached to representative Stewards. The latter compile lists to the best of their ability, but the former as a rule do little else than contribute their own personal donations. When, therefore, the Unattached are exceptionally strong, we must expect to see an exceptionally low average per list.

But as we remarked in one of our last week's notes, it is on a high list average that we shall have to depend chiefly for such a total as will enable the authorities of the School to meet the current year's expenditure; and we sincerely trust that such an additional number of brethren will, between now and the day fixed for the celebration, enrol themselves as Stewards, so that the donations and subscriptions may approximate as nearly as possible to the year's outlay.

We have much pleasure in announcing that the lodges and chapters to which Bro. George Everett belongs have resolved on presenting him with a complete set of Grand Treasurer's clothing as a slight token of the respect and esteem in which he is held by the members. The presentation will be made on the 7th May, at a dinner which will be held at the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly, and any brethren who may be desirous of attending this very pleasant re-union will have the opportunity of gratifying their wishes if they apply to Bro. Harry Price, the Honorary Secretary of the Committee in charge of the arrangements, at 13, Clapham-road, S.W.

We have been favoured with sundry letters of complaint against the method of electing the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. The idea which the writers mostly favour is that voting papers should be sent to the members of the Council—lately the General Committee—just as are the voting papers for the election of boys. They raise no objection to the Board of Management which was elected at the recent Quarterly Court; on the contrary, they consider it is composed of good men who will exert themselves conscientiously and to the best of their ability to promote the interests of the Institution which they will have the chief hand in governing. They are, however, of opinion that the election should be as open as possible.

For ourselves, we are not seriously concerned about this matter. We think the law as it stands is a good one, and that the election of the Board may very safely be left in the hands of those who attend the Quarterly Courts, and who may reasonably be expected to know more about the qualifications of the brethren who offer themselves as candidates than those who do not even trouble to ascertain what are the Rules and Regulations. As it is admitted that a good Board has been elected under the existing law, we suggest that the present rule should remain in force for some time longer, but we repeat the matter is one which does not materially concern us. The chief difficulty will be to ascertain the opinion of a body of electors which numbers about 9000 brethren and ladies.

It will have been seen from our advertisement columns last week that it has been arranged for the Boys' School Festival to be held at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, where it has already been held three times—under the late Marquis of Londonderry, in 1881, and under Bros. Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart., and Lord Suffield—and we have no doubt the Stewards and their friends will enjoy themselves and that the Festival will prove a very brilliant success. The majority in favour of this decision was a large one.

By the way, an evening contemporary, whose suggestion that the Festival should be held at Liverpool, we once described as insane, is desirous of knowing if we consider the selection of Brighton is also an act of insanity. The best answer we can give to this question is to refer that journal to our preceding note. Brighton can be reached in a little over an hour, that is, in not much longer time than is occupied in travelling to the Crystal Palace, whereas the journey to Liverpool occupies between four and five hours. In short, it takes nine hours to Liverpool and back; two hours and a half to London-super-Mare and back. The comparison speaks for itself.

We are also in a position to announce that the following distinguished brethren have been elected as principal officers of the Board of Stewards for the same Festival, namely, Bros. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of London and T. W. Tew, J.P., Prov. G.M. West Yorkshire, to be Honorary Presidents; Bro. Richard Eve, Past G. Treasurer, to be Acting President; and Bro. Thomas Fenn, Pres. Board of Gen. Purps., to be Hon. Treasurer. Our readers will agree with us that a better or more influential selection could not have been made. We will add that the Secretary of the Institution will be Hon. Secretary of the Board.

It has also been arranged that the cost of the journey (first class) to Brighton and back shall be defrayed out of the usual Steward's fee, so that brethren acting in that capacity will incur no extra expense on that score, and that the ladies shall dine with the brethren. We understand, further, that the return tickets will be available by any train on the day following the Festival.

We have much pleasure in announcing that Bro. J. H. Matthews has been advanced to the 33° in the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and has been appointed Inspector-General South-Eastern District, in place of Bro. Col. Money, who has accepted a seat on the Supreme Council, 33°.

We are authorised to state that Lord Carrington, the Provincial Grand Master designate of Buckinghamshire, will be installed by Lord Suffield, the Provincial Grand Master of Norfolk, at a Provincial Grand Lodge to be held at the Guildhall, Aylesbury, on Whit-Tuesday, May 19th. The Provincial Grand Lodge will be opened at 1.30 punctually, and will be followed by a banquet at the Corn Exchange at 2.30.

**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.]

**THE BOYS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.**

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I hear with great regret of the selection of Brighton as the rendezvous of the Boys' Festival. It is a great inconvenience for many of the Stewards to give up the whole day—in the case of country brethren at least two days—to attend a Festival held away from the great Metropolis.

Personally, I must withdraw my name, as it is quite impossible for me to attend. Can nothing be done before too late to select a more convenient place? Thanking you in anticipation.—Yours faithfully,

PADDY.

April 16th.

**HONORARY MEMBERS.**

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I take the liberty of asking you if you will kindly favour me with an answer in the *Freemason*, at your earliest convenience, as the question may lead to a discussion at our next regular meeting. It is this: At our last lodge meeting it was proposed to make an old P.M. an honorary member of the lodge for services rendered. The brother in question agreed to it, but he stated that he wished to pay his Grand Lodge dues, also his Prov. Grand Lodge dues. I suppose it was to retain his membership in Grand Lodge, also in Prov. Grand Lodge.

Now has that brother a right to vote on any question in the lodge, considering that he pays nothing at all towards the funds of the lodge? Nor is he responsible for anything which may happen at any time to the lodge.—Yours fraternally,

P.M. and P.Z.

[The only membership the Grand Lodge of England recognises is solely obtained by the payment annually of the stipulated subscription fixed by the by-laws. Honorary membership is simply a compliment paid to brethren for special or general services to the Craft, and gives no right to vote in the lodge which conferred the honour.—ED. F.M.]

**"THE OLDEST FREEMASON" AGAIN.**

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I was no little amused to-day in looking over a copy of the *Auckland Times* of March 7th, 1889, to read that at that date Bro. G. J. Wilson, who had been recently appointed Prov. Grand Third Principal for Durham, was stated to be "the oldest Freemason of England, if not in the world." The editor must have been joking, or else you do not have any very aged Masons in England.

I have photographs and autograph letters of some old Masons "in the world" in our collection, from which I transcribe a few items:

John B. Hollenbeck, of Burlington, Vermont, for very many years Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, was born February 11, 1792, aged now 99 years; initiated May 5th, 1814—a Mason 77 years.

Bonum Nye, of North Brookfield, Mass., born January 29th, 1791, aged 100 years; initiated October 1st, 1816—a Mason 75 years.

Both of these venerable brothers were made Masons before I was born.

Nathan Whitney Franklin Grove, Ill., born January 22nd, 1791, aged 100 years; initiated August 21st, 1817—a Mason 74 years.

I am here in Iowa called an old Mason, and sometimes an old man, but I am only a boy in the presence of these venerable men and brothers. I was born January 15th, 1817; initiated March 14th, 1838.

Nor are these instances either the oldest men who are Masons or the oldest Masons in the United States of America. There are several who outrank them, but I have selected these three from the fact that I have the data from themselves in our autograph collection. Two of them are quite feeble, but one (Bro. Nye) is hale and hearty, an officer of the bank in his town, and daily attends to the duties as other but younger officers.

On the 15th of February last I helped (delivering the historical address) celebrate the 50th anniversary of my lodge—Iowa, No. 2, Muscatine—in which I have all these years held membership, and am the sole survivor of the two charter members.—Fraternally yours,

T. S. PARVIN.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa,

April 7th.

**COLONIAL GRAND LODGES AND THE GRAND REGISTRAR'S RULING.**

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Out here, in Victoria, we have recently been slightly agitated through the publication of the now famous ruling of the Grand Registrar of England, in the matter of the application or otherwise of Clause 219, Book of Constitutions, to a minority of members of a lodge who may decide not to retire from their mother Grand Lodge. The especial case in point is

the Combermere Lodge, No. 752, which has been working under its old banner ever since the local Grand Lodge was started, namely, two years ago.

To begin at the beginning, I may state that, after it had been carried by a majority of one (25 to 24)—out of a total of 103 members, all in good standing, those in arrears being outside the question—that the Combermere Lodge should join the new constitution, the minority at the informal meeting decided to hold the warrant, in pursuance of the powers conferred upon them by Clause 219, Book of Constitutions. The warrant, however, was stolen by one of the 25, but was subsequently restored by command of the M.W. the Grand Master of Victoria. Ever since we have worked side by side with the colonial constitution on the most friendly terms, as may be gathered from the circumstances that several members of the old Combermere belong to Victorian lodges, that brother, Sir William Clarke, Bart., the Grand Master, is still a subscribing member of the Combermere Lodge, and that we subscribe annually to the only permanent Masonic Charity in the colony.

Such was the situation when the ruling of the V.W. Grand Registrar, in the case of the New Zealand lodges came to light, only a few weeks ago. And it is in this connection that I desire to ask, through the columns of the outspoken and independent *Freemason*, how the italicised words in the following extract from the Grand Secretary's letter to the District Grand Secretary of Wellington come about? "The question was raised during the formation recently of the various *Australian Grand Lodges*," &c.

Now, it happens that I was an active member of the Executive Committee for the formation of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria, over two years ago, but never once did the question crop up, and the best proof of our ignorance of its existence is the fact that the Grand Master of Victoria ordered the restoration of the Combermere warrant, under the provisions of Clause 219. Further, I took considerable interest in the proceedings connected with the formation of the Grand Lodges of South Australia and New South Wales, and I have yet to learn that Bro. Philbrick's ruling was in either case officially made known or acted upon. On the whole, therefore, I am inclined to think there must be some misconception or confusion about the matter in the Grand Secretary's office in London.

As to the Grand Registrar's reading of Clause 219, I beg leave to differ from him *in toto*. It may also, in the contention, interest him to know that a high official of the Grand Lodge of Victoria, like Bro. Philbrick, a barrister-at-law, though desirous that the Combermere Lodge should come in, has verbally expressed his dissent from his English brother's ruling. I regret that he has not seen his way to place his ideas and opinions on paper.

Let me further say that the solution of so apparently difficult a *crux* might be rendered much easier were we to have some information as to whether the then existing Grand Registrar delivered any similar opinion in the case of the three Quebec lodges, on the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada. If no legal ruling were at the time pronounced, what is the position of those three Quebec lodges now that the extraordinary deliverance of the present Grand Registrar has been applied to New Zealand, and possibly may be applied to the Combermere Lodge in Melbourne, if the 32 members who could not get their way and resigned, succeed in their agitation?

Turning back to New Zealand the present state of affairs is, to say the least of it, confusing—some will say ludicrous—seeing that the Grand Lodge of England has refused to acknowledge the recently-formed local body. It would be altogether well were some brother to take a notice of motion for consideration of the whole question at the June Communication of our Grand Lodge.—Fraternally yours,

W. F. LAMONBY, P.M. 752,  
P.S.G.W. Victoria.

Melbourne, March 14.

#### THE CITY OF LONDON SHRIEVALTY.

Bro. H. Seymour Foster's candidature for the office of Sheriff of London to succeed Bro. Augustus Harris grows apace. His list of supporters increases every day, both numerically and influentially. His address will be in the hands of the liverymen in a few days. Being young (only 35) he will be found vigorous in the work he is called upon to fulfil. His experience on the London County Council and the London School Board eminently qualifies him for the office of Sheriff. His genial manner towards those he is brought in contact with is much in his favour in retaining the promises of support he has had given him. Bro. Foster is a much-respected member of the Emulation, Alliance, Temple, and Covent Garden Lodges, and Bayard Chapter. He is a member also of several learned societies, and a liveryman of 15 City Guilds. We wish him every success in attaining to the office he aspires to fill, believing him to be singularly well qualified to fill the important and dignified position of Sheriff of London.

A handsomely-equipped free public library was opened in Streatham on Friday, the 17th inst., by Sir Lyon Playfair, M.P. It stands on a plot of ground given by Mr. Henry Tate, J.P., after whom the library is named. The building is said to have cost about £6000, and there are already some 6000 volumes on the shelves.

## Reviews.

### FREEMASONS' CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY FOR THE PROVINCE OF OXFORDSHIRE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD. 1891-2.

This issue is the most important of the series, as it includes Berkshire, which the editor, printer, and publisher (Bro. W. R. Bowden) is willing to incorporate with Oxfordshire until a separate calendar is prepared for that new province. We should judge that the brethren in the Royal county would much prefer the present plan to any independent publication, especially as the editor provides such excellent fare for both provinces, at the same subscription as hitherto (*viz.*, eighteenpence, post free, per copy). In Oxfordshire there are 10 lodges, the returns for 1890 exhibiting 534 members, being a slight decrease from those of 1889. The four Royal Arch chapters have 168 companions. Berkshire has 13 lodges, but only seven of these appear to be represented in the present calendar. Nos. 10, 1118, and 1523, of London, are duly given, and so No. 859, Cambridge. The higher Degrees have full justice done them, and the Charities are well and carefully attended to so that for all purposes in relation to the Craft Bro. Bowden's admirably-printed calendar must be a boon to the two provinces, and besides, is very interesting to all brethren who study the details of these most useful and indispensable publications.

### FREEMASONS' CALENDAR FOR SOMERSETSHIRE. 1891-92.

This is one of the largest and most comprehensive of the several calendars published in England, and is edited by Bro. C. L. Fry Edwards, of "The Court," Axbridge, who has discharged his duties with efficiency, and evidently with delight, for in the preface that indefatigable brother speaks of "the work of compiling the calendar as indeed a labour of love." The province has lost during the past year its honoured chief, the lamented Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon, and also Bros. J. L. Stothert and G. H. Perrett. These three deaths mean 269 votes for the Central Masonic Charities less for the province, so it is very gratifying to find by the elaborate tables that the large number of 2839 are still available. This is a very favourable proportion for the size of the province. There are 25 active lodges on the roll with 1157 members, 10 chapters and 304 members, the Mark lodges numbering 8, with 225 members, No. 102, the ninth, being in abeyance. The three Preceptories, and the same number of Rose Croix chapters, have only 37 and 56 on their rolls respectively. This issue is adorned with a portrait of the new Provincial Grand Master, the Right Hon. Lord Dungarvan, who is to be installed in May, and the editor expresses his belief that "under his rule Freemasonry in the province will maintain the high standard of its previous history," of which there cannot be a doubt. This guide for the Provincial Grand Lodge and all other Masonic bodies in the county is accurate and complete as usual.



## Craft Masonry.

### METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

**Ranelagh Lodge (No. 834).**—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 14th instant, at the Criterion, Piccadilly-circus. The following were present: Bros. E. Lucas, W.M.; F. Craggs, S.W.; H. F. Williams, J.W.; Geo. Butt, P.M., Treas.; H. Purdue, P.M., Sec.; A. Williams, P.M. 2090, S.D.; W. W. Williams, J.D.; E. Newland, I.G.; H. Scharien, D.C.; H. Hewitt, Steward; A. Walkley, P.M.; Tyler; W. J. Coplestone, I.P.M.; H. Shaw, P.M.; C. Barker, P.M.; F. J. Oliver, P.M.; J. Doncaster, P.M.; J. Sims, P.M.; W. Fisher, P.M.; H. W. Blake, P.M.; Dyne, Bennett, Worth, Philips, Inderwick, Segar, Icton, G. E. White, Richards, A. White, Herbert, Blanch, Buck, Hardwick, Wilkins, Banks, Stokes, Bowles, Ward, Lucas, Pinn, Ward, jun., Shaw, Collins, Stehr, Pauchin, Heinemann, Iredale, Gerbert, May, and Cartwright. Visitors: Bros. J. B. Hubbard, P.M. 463; S. Cockrane, P.M. 3; J. Davis, P.M. 169; D. Stroud, P.M. 1637; E. Austin, P.M. 1791; W. H. Causton, M.D., P.M. 865; H. P. Gilbert, P.M. 1828; L. Bryett, P.M. 1828; Meacock, P.M. 1512; J. McLeod, P.S.G.W. Derbyshire, Sec. R.M.I.B.; R. H. Williams, 2090; Morle, J.D. 167; Hillier, J.D. 1366; Fox, J.D. 1275; Kemp, J.D. 1706; Heath, S.W. 1642; Vandyke, 1017; E. Gilbert, 172; and C. A. Loes, 1512.

After the formal business of the lodge was completed, Bro. Bennett was raised to the Third Degree, and Bros. Buck and Blanch were passed to the Second Degree, both ceremonies being given in an able and impressive manner by the W.M., Bro. Edwin Lucas, who then vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Sims, P.M. and Preceptor, the well-known Hammersmith Mason, by whom the important ceremony of installing the new W.M., Bro. F. Craggs, was most excellently performed, Bro. Shaw, P.M., acting as D. of C. in a very effective manner. The new W.M. then proceeded to invest the following officers: Bros. H. F. Williams, S.W.; A. Williams, J.W.; Geo. Butt, Treas.; W. J. Coplestone, Sec.; W. W. Williams, S.D.; E. Newland, J.D.; H. Hewitt, D. of C.; H. Scharien, I.G.; R. Philips and Banks, Stwds.; and A. Walkley, Tyler. A Past Master's jewel and collar was then presented to Bro. Lucas in a very sympathetic and kindly manner, for which

mark of esteem Bro. Lucas, P.M., expressed his sincere thanks. The Audit Committee having presented their report and balance-sheet, a vote of thanks, to be inscribed upon the minutes, was then unanimously accorded to them. Bro. Purdue, P.M., having retired from the Secretaryship of the lodge, a hearty vote of thanks was given, and it was resolved that he should be presented with a Past Secretary's jewel for his able and efficient services. The W.M. then performed the ceremony of initiation, with impressive ceremony, Messrs. Lomer and Smith being candidates. A vote of condolence to Bro. Asher Barfield, P.G. Treas., was passed. "Hearty good wishes" having been accorded to the W.M., the formal business was ended and the lodge closed.

Immediately afterwards the brethren re-assembled in the Victoria Hall, and did ample justice to the installation banquet prepared under the direction of Bro. Bertini.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given by the W.M., the gavel was assumed by the I.P.M. for the purpose of giving the toast of the evening, *viz.*, "The W.M." Bro. Lucas in giving the toast said, that he presented that toast to the brethren with the greatest satisfaction, as the W.M. was a brother well qualified to fill the high and honourable position to which the brethren had elected him, not only on account of his knowledge of Craft Masonry, but also because he carried into effect the precepts and teachings of Freemasonry in their highest significance. Most especially did he ever practice the virtue of Charity, not only by continually according such relief to the unfortunate as he was able, but also by devoting a large portion of his time in serving the interests of those who appealed to him for his aid and influence. To Masons he was always a friend and brother, ever ready to teach that which he knew so well, and afford instruction and assistance in the mastery of the beautiful ritual which it was the duty and honour of all Masons to become acquainted with. The brethren had had an opportunity of seeing the competent way in which the Master had conducted his lodge that evening, and he, the I.P.M., congratulated the brethren on having such a Master, and congratulated the W.M. on the consummation of that high and deserved honour to which he had now attained.

The Worshipful Master, in responding to the cordial and enthusiastic greeting which had followed the toast, expressed his thanks to the brethren in feeling and well chosen terms, assuring them that he felt it indeed an honour to preside over so large and influential a lodge as the Ranelagh, and that he would endeavour during his term of office to uphold and maintain the integrity of the lodge, and would do his best to continue the splendid traditions of their former Masters in doing justice, so far as lay in his power, to the beautiful and noble teaching of the Order.

"The Health of the Initiates" was then proposed by the W.M. in cordial and brotherly terms, to which Bros. Smith and Lomer replied, stating that from what they had seen and heard of Freemasonry that evening, it would be their ambition and constant endeavour to become good Masons.

The Worshipful Master then gave the toast of "The I.P.M." He said that the able and perfect manner in which Bro. Lucas, P.M., had discharged his duties, was yet fresh in the minds of the brethren, and that the careful and economic administration, coupled with the earnest sincerity which had marked his year of office was a pattern which it was his desire and intention to follow, and he trusted with as good a result.

Bro. Lucas, P.M., in responding, said that it was his duty, or pleasure, to faithfully discharge the obligations which rested upon him as Master of the lodge, and it was a great happiness to him to realise that he had been able to discharge those duties to the satisfaction of the brethren, as to which the handsome jewel which he was then wearing was a precious testimony. One great advantage of arriving at such an honourable position was this, that it had brought him in much closer contact with all the brethren, and made him feel the great significance of the underlying principle of Masonry, that they were all brothers. He begged to assure the brethren that he felt the ties between himself and every member of the lodge had been drawn much closer together, and that he considered, and should always consider them all, not only as friends, but as brothers, and although he had completed his service in the lodge as an active officer, yet he should at all times be most happy to perform any service that might be called for.

"The Installing Master, Bro. Sims, P.M.," was the next toast. The W.M. stated that he was deeply grateful to Bro. Sims for the way in which he had performed that ceremony. Both of them had worked shoulder to shoulder in Masonry for many years not only in the lodge, but also in many lodges of instruction, and he was happy to have the opportunity of recording his appreciation of Bro. Sims' good qualities and grateful services through many years both in and out of Craft work.

Bro. Sims, P.M., in replying to the toast, said that it was most gratifying to him to have had the pleasure of officiating upon the happy occasion when Bro. Craggs had arrived at the crowning honour of his Masonic career. Masonry was to him something more than a name—it was a beautiful creed and a solace to those who, like himself, found his pleasure and recreation in the practice of its mysteries. He could not help reverting to the I.P.M., whom he had also had the pleasure of installing, and he was quite sure that the present W.M. would continue the high purpose of former Masters in making the Ranelagh an ideal lodge.

The next toast was "The Masonic Charities," which was responded to by Bro. McLeod, P.M., P.S.G.W. Derby, the Secretary of the R.M.I. for Boys, thanking the brethren for the interest taken in the cause of the Charities, and made a stirring appeal for the support of the Ranelagh Lodge at the next Festival, for which the W.M. was a Steward, and trusted that his subscription list would be well filled as the Institution needed much support.

The next toast was that of "The Visitors," and the W.M. stated that the Ranelagh Lodge was always delighted to see a good number of their brothers from other lodges and would always extend a hearty and cordial welcome to them. He coupled with the toast the names of Bros. Bryett, P.M., and J. Davies, P.M., to respond on their behalf. This was drunk with enthusiasm.

Bro. Bryett, P.M., replied, that beside being a P.M. of the Shepherd's Bush Lodge, he was a P.M. of the Ranelagh Lodge, but having retired from it some years since, he was pleased on re-visiting it to find that it had lost none of its fame as a good working lodge and that the harmony which had at all times prevailed amongst the members in his time still continued.

Bro. J. Davies, P.M., thanked the brethren for their cordial reception, and as it had been his pleasure to work in various lodges of instruction with the members of the Ranelagh Lodge and had had many opportunities of noticing the zeal with which they entered into their various duties, he wished heartily that the W.M. and the lodge might have a successful year.

The Worshipful Master then proposed the toast of "The Past Masters of the Lodge," which was ably responded to by Bro. Blake, P.M.

"The Health of the Treasurer, Secretary, and Past Secretary Purdue," was then proposed and heartily responded to by the brethren.

Bro. Butt, P.M., replied. As Treasurer, he said, he felt the confidence reposed in him by the lodge was to him a great source of satisfaction. Having held the office for a long time, and thereby gained much experience of the duties of that office, it had always been his pleasure to assist the W.M. and the lodge at any time when needed.

Bro. Purdue, P.M., thanked the brethren for the kindness shown him during his Secretaryship, and assured the lodge that it was only through the exigencies of his private business which caused him to resign that office.

Bro. Coplestone, P.M., also replied, stating he felt honoured by the position to which he had been appointed as Secretary that evening, and trusted that while he retained that office he should be able to give satisfaction to the members individually and collectively.

The toast of "The Officers of the Lodge" followed, which was replied to in suitable terms by Bros. A. Williams, J.W., and W. W. Williams, S.D.

The Tyler's toast concluded a very enjoyable evening, the musical portions of which were ably rendered by Bros. May, Dyne, Segar, Hardwick, Hubbard, A. Williams, and Oliver, Org.

**Upper Norwood Lodge (No. 1586).**—The installation meeting took place at the White Hart Hotel, Upper Norwood, on Wednesday, the 8th inst. Bro. J. D. Arnold, W.M., occupied the chair, and the following brethren were present: Bros. A. C. Wood, S.W.; A. W. Southwell, J.W.; G. H. Finch, P.M., Treas.; J. A. Stock, P.M., Sec.; F. Dusterwald, S.D.; H. H. Jones, J.D.; J. Brunker, D. of C.; W. H. Izod, I.G.; T. Pilkington, Org.; E. W. Smith, M.D.; W. J. Cheffins, Stwd.; G. F. Swan, Tyler; J. C. Larner, P.M.; H. Meadows King, D. Jones, Edmund T. Clarke, S. Rose, C. Gurr, W. F. Redknap, W. C. H. Mann, H. F. Trigg, F. Kempell, and F. Marshall. Visitors: Bros. J. Wood, S.W. 1915; W. Poole, Treas. 1572; P. Joslin, 452; A. Leonard, P.M. 720; F. Rouse, 95; T. R. Ferguson, 2182; H. D. Mitten, P.M. 765; and J. T. Collar, 1915.

The lodge having been opened, Bros. Trigg and Meadows were raised, and Bros. Kempell and Rose passed. Bro. G. Thompson was afterwards initiated. The ceremony of installation was then proceeded with. Bro. A. W. Southwell, J.W., having been unanimously elected as W.M. for the ensuing year by the brethren at the last meeting, Bro. J. D. Arnold, W.M., performed the ceremony in a most satisfactory manner. Bro. A. W. Southwell having been installed into the chair of K.S., proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. A. C. Wood, S.W.; F. Dusterwald, J.W.; H. H. Jones, S.D.; J. Brunker, J.D.; E. W. Smith, D.C.; T. Pilkington, Org.; W. J. Cheffins, I.G.; W. F. Redknap, Stwd.; H. F. Trigg, M.D.; and G. F. Swan, Tyler.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet which was supplied by the host, Bro. David Jones, giving satisfaction to everyone present.

The usual loyal toasts having been given and duly acknowledged, that of "The W.M.," was proposed in a few kind words by the I.P.M., Bro. J. D. Arnold, and the W.M., in reply, said he felt honoured by being placed in such a proud position, but he had a very pleasant duty to perform and that was to present a Past Master's jewel to Bro. Arnold from the brethren expressing their gratitude for the able manner in which he had carried out the duties during his year of office—having had 12 new members elected during the past year.

The toast of "The Visitors," replied to by Bros. H. D. Mitten, P.M., P. Joslin, and others, and "The Past Masters," replied to by Bros. G. H. Finch and J. D. Stock (Sec.), with the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to an end, a most enjoyable evening having been spent.

The musical arrangements were in the hands of Bro. H. H. Jones, who was assisted by his wife (as vocalist), and his brothers, G. H. and A. E. Jones, who gave a violin and pianoforte solo which was highly appreciated by the brethren. Bros. A. C. Wood, Redknap, and others assisted in the harmony of the evening.

**Wanderers Lodge (No. 1604).**—The day appointed for the installation ceremony is always a special event with the members of this lodge. The Wanderers, it will be remembered, is a military lodge, and the new Master was installed in the midst of a crowd of Past Masters—many in uniform, while the dress of civilian members was varied by Masons, in military garb, from all branches of the service. Many of our warriors look forward to the second Tuesday in April as the day when by a visit to the lodge they may renew acquaintances and fight old wars over again, and it was, no doubt, with this in all their minds that a host of visitors, including our gallant Grand Secretary, hied to No. 1604 on Tuesday, the 14th inst., at Freemasons' Hall.

Bro. Glover, the retiring W. Master, having disposed of the ordinary business, proceeded to install Bro. Geo. Holland into the chair of K.S. in the presence of 21 Past Masters. The usual ceremonies in connection with the Installed Master's Degree were disposed of in excellent style, and the new officers were appointed as follows: Bros. G. Musson, S.W.; Ogg, J.W.; Sims, S.D.; H. E. Fraser, P.M. 2206; W.M. elect 2331, J.D.; Smales, D.C.; Young, Org.; Thatcher, I.G.; Gardiner and Roberts, Stwds.; and Lackland, Tyler; and for the 14th year in succession Bro. R. J. Scott was appointed Secretary. The brethren have sustained a loss by the sudden death of Bro. Meredith, P.M., who had filled the post of Treasurer from the foundation of the lodge. Bro. Wray, P.M., alluded in a few well-chosen sentences to the worth of the deceased brother, and it was agreed to send a vote of condolence to the late brother's widow and family. Bro. Capt. Butterworth was elected and invested Treasurer.

At the banquet which followed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. In reply to "The Grand Officers," with which his name had been

coupled, Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke said: It is a very great honour and a great privilege also to be permitted to return thanks to a toast so important as the one you have just been good enough to honour, because it is one which comprises gentlemen and noblemen in all stations of life, and amidst all the cares of their private avocations they manage to devote a good deal of their time to our dear old Craft. The Grand Officers' desire is to prove by their acts and their services to the Craft that they are not altogether undeserving of the honour bestowed upon them by the Grand Master. For myself it is a great pleasure to me to be here amongst you again to-night. I had the pleasure of visiting you a few years ago and of making your acquaintance, and as an old soldier myself of nearly 40 years standing, I can assure you that my heart warms when I find myself once more in the presence of good old friends of the service. I like to talk over events of long ago, and to speak of old faces who have long since gone to their last rest. Above all to-night it has been a peculiar pleasure to me to be here, because your W.M. happen to be an old comrade of mine; we served together in the Scots Fusiliers for something like 17 years, and I was, therefore, especially delighted to be present at his installation to-night. Let me take this opportunity of congratulating him upon the proud position he has attained, and to express the belief that he will occupy that position most worthily. Since I came here last, I had the pleasure of consecrating the Warrant Officers Lodge and I am pleased to see the W.M. of that lodge here to-night wearing a collar as an officer of your lodge. I am pleased to find that although that lodge and your own are running practically on the same lines, there is room for both, and there is no reason why they should not continue to work together in perfect amity. The Grand Secretary then resumed his seat amid loud cheers.

Bro. Glover, the I.P.M., then proposed the toast of "The W.M." in very flattering terms, alluding particularly to the excellence of the W.M.'s working, in which Bro. Holland had done his best to keep up the prestige of the Wanderers Lodge in that respect.

The toast was honoured in an enthusiastic manner.

Bro. Holland, in reply, said: When one gets into this position it prevents him saying much about himself, but having selected me for the high office of W.M. of this lodge I shall endeavour, with the help of the G.A.O.T.U., to do my duty honestly and conscientiously. I have been a member of this lodge for 14 years, and am proud to be the Master. One experiences great difficulty in even trying to emulate those Masters who have filled this chair. I do not think there is any lodge in the universe that can boast of a better show of Past Masters than I have on my left. I hope, however, with the assistance of my officers and the brethren, to imitate some of the best of our Past Masters; they are a first-class lot of brethren; they have been and are always ready to give assistance to any brother or officer. We are proud of them and proud of our lodge, and, brethren, with that feeling, I do not think I shall fail to discharge my duties as W.M. to your satisfaction.

"The Past Masters" was responded to by Bro. F. J. Wray, the senior P.M. present.

Other toasts followed.

The proceedings were interspersed with vocal and instrumental music, contributed to by the members and visitors.

During the evening the usual Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Glover, I.P.M.

Amongst the Past Masters present were Bros. G. Boulton, Gibson, Coleman, Captain Butterworth, Folsom, Mimms, and others.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

BATTLE.

**Abbey Lodge (No. 1184).**—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, the 16th inst., when there were present Bros. W. A. Raper, W.M.; J. B. Foster, S.W.; J. W. Pepper, J.W.; Very Rev. E. R. Currie, D.D., P.M., Grand Chap., Prov. G. Chap., Chap.; H. G. F. Wells, P.M., P.P.G.P., Treas.; R. Hughes, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; George Smith, as S.D.; T. W. Avis, J.D.; W. T. Jordan, P.M., D.C.; T. J. Walder, as I.G.; W. J. Newman, Tyler; R. T. Davison, M.D., I.P.M.; W. Lamborn, P.M., P.P.G.P.; B. H. Thorpe, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; Martin, Skinner, Ticehurst, Chance, Honisett, Hodson, St. John, Towner, McMillen, and others.

Bro. McMillen was passed to the Second Degree, and a ballot was then taken for Mr. H. N. Crutenden, which proving successful, he was initiated. Both ceremonies were very ably performed by the W.M., Bro. Raper, who was well supported by the various officers, the whole passing off without the slightest hitch. Some matters of business connected with the lease of the building and the purchase of an organ was then transacted, and a candidate having been proposed for initiation, the lodge was closed.

HAMPTON COURT.

**Wolsey Lodge (No. 1656).**—This very prosperous lodge met at the Greyhound Hotel on the 13th inst. Among those present were Bros. E. Dare, P.M. 2032, W.M.; H. Sapsworth, S.W.; Chisholm, acting J.W.; J. Featherstone, P.M., P.P.G.P., Treas.; W. I. Peat, Sec.; Bond, S.D.; Spooner, J.D.; Figg, Org.; Smith, D.C.; Rice and Simpson, Stwds.; F. Chandler, P.P.G.P.; R. Drummond, P.G.P., I.P.M.; Capt. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W.; Gentle, Suggett, and others.

The minutes of the previous and of an emergency meeting having been read and confirmed, the ceremony of passing several brethren was performed by the W.M. in a most able manner. The ballot was then taken for Messrs. H. G. Gedda, D. Ross, and A. S. Jehu, and it proving to be unanimous, those gentlemen were duly initiated into Craft mysteries in a manner that left but little to be desired. The by-laws having been read, Bro. H. Sapsworth, P.M. 2032, was elected W.M.; Bro. J. Featherstone, Treas.; and Bro. J. Gilbert, Tyler. It was arranged that the audit should take place at the Holborn Restaurant on the 3th May next. A Past Master's jewel having been voted to the W.M., and a vote of thanks ordered to be recorded on the minutes Bro. Peat formerly announced that it was his intention to resign the Secretaryship of the lodge in June next, as he desired, subject to the Master's approval, to be placed on the rota of officers working up for the position of W.M.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned

to the banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth the customary preliminary toasts were duly proposed and honoured.

In reply to the toast of his health, which was proposed by the I.P.M., the W.M. said that he had had a most enjoyable year of office, and he was bound to admit a most prosperous one. When the balance-sheet was presented to the Auditors it would be found that the sum of 15 guineas had been paid to the Masonic Charities, so that whilst enjoying the good things of this life the lodge had not forgotten the poor and distressed. He could only hope that the Master elect would have an even better year than his had undoubtedly been.

"The Initiates" and "The Visitors" followed. "The Past Masters" was acknowledged by Bros. Drummond and Chandler.

In response to his health, Bro. Sapsworth, Master elect, briefly said that he would do his best to make the lodge prosperous and the brethren comfortable, but the W.M. had done so well that he was afraid that he had a difficult task before him.

In giving the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" the W.M. paid a very high compliment to both those officers. He said that they were all sorry at losing the latter as Secretary, but he had worked so well for them as Organist and Secretary that it was only fair and right that he should be placed in a position to enable him to pass the chair in due course.

This toast having been acknowledged, "The Health of the Officers" terminated the proceedings.

LIVERPOOL.

**Skelmersdale Lodge (No. 1380).**—On Monday, the 13th inst., the brethren of the above lodge celebrated their 20th anniversary, when Bro. Peter Blackburn, D.C., was installed W.M. for the second time, Bro. Sword retiring. The Latham Hall, in which the lodge meets, was well filled with brethren, among whom were noticed Bros. T. K. Hughes, P.P.G.D.C.; S. Hale, W.M. 1473; H. Isaac, W.M. 2114; J. Romlin, W.M. 1703; W. Hughes, P.M. 1013; H. J. Nicolls, P.M.; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C.; E. Ford, P.J.G.D.; W. S. Limrick, P.M.; P. Sword, W.M.; W. Woosey, J.W.; T. R. Parker, Sec.; J. T. Darby, S.D.; A. Arrowsmith, J.D.; J. Jones, Org.; T. Edwards, Stwd.; F. H. Huneans, 1759; W. Hargraves, 2289; J. Pending, 1713; and numerous visiting brethren from the various lodges in the district. Bro. Peter Blackburn was presented for installation by Bros. Geo. Broadbridge and Edward Ford, and the ceremony was performed in a most impressive and efficient manner by the retiring Worshipful Master, Bro. Sword, after which the following members were appointed officers for the ensuing year: Bros. P. Sword, I.P.M., D.C.; W. J. Woosey, S.W.; T. R. Parker, J.W.; E. Ford, P.M., Treas.; J. T. Darby, Sec.; J. Jones, Org.; A. Arrowsmith, S.D.; T. Chesters, J.D.; T. Edwards, I.G.; W. C. Bedder, Stwd.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler.

During the banquet the presiding W.M. performed the pleasant duty of investing Bro. Sword, I.P.M., with a very handsome Past Master's jewel in recognition of the esteem in which he is held by the brethren of the lodge.

A very interesting musical programme was rendered by Bros. Nicholls, Edwards, Hollis, Wright, Huneans, and others.

SCARBOROUGH.

**Old Globe Lodge (No. 200).**—The lodge assembled at the Masonic Hall on the 15th inst., it being their regular meeting day for the month, to celebrate the 100th year of a continuous existence. This date was fixed by the Committee before they were aware that the constitution of the Orde-Powlett Lodge, No. 2391, was to take place in this province on the same day, consequently the Old Globe Lodge was debarred the presence of Bros. W. T. Orde-Powlett, P.G.W., D.P.G.M.; M. C. Peck, P.G. Std. Br., Prov. G. Sec.; and many Provincial Grand Officers and W.M.'s of lodges in the province, all of whom expressed regret at being unable to be present. Notwithstanding there was present a considerable number of brethren, including many from a distance, amongst whom were the following: Bros. G. W. Walshaw, W.M.; E. H. Gawne, I.P.M.; F. Goodricke, S.W.; W. S. Robson, W.M. 643, acting J.W.; Dr. J. W. Taylor, P.M., P.P. S.G.W., Chaplain; J. W. Woodall, P.M., P.G. Treas. England, P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; R. W. Leadbeater, Sec.; J. Seals, S.D.; R. Cuff, J.D.; G. H. Walshaw, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., D.C.; W. Peacock, jun., Org.; A. Hartmann, acting I.G.; Dr. F. Godfrey, Stwd.; C. Travers, P.M., Tyler; R. Y. Powley, P.M., P.A.G.D.C.; W. B. Richardson, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; W. Garbutt, P.M.; Dr. W. C. Everley Taylor, P.M.; R. H. Peacock, P.M., P.P.G. D.C.; Wm. Peacock, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; W. Parkin, P.M.; A. W. Tomlinson, P.M.; D. Fletcher, P.M., P.P.G. S. of W.; E. Cooper, P.M.; Henry Darley (the Mayor), P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; the oldest surviving member, F. Robinson, initiated 10th May, 1848; E. Harland, P.M.; R. J. Tonge, P.M.; G. F. Martin, I.P.M. 1248; N. H. Delemere, P.M. 1248, P.P.S.G.D.; T. F. Taylor, S.D. 1248; A. G. Wellburn, W.M. 1760; T. H. Pexton, I.P.M. 1760; J. Knaggs, P.M. 1760, P.P.G.D.C.; J. Richardson, 1760; T. King, 1760; T. Atkinson, W.M. 312; J. S. Stewart, P.M. 312; J. Stevenson, P.M. 312, P.P.J.G.W.; W. S. Meek, P.M. 643; A. Chapman, W.M. 280; H. C. Clarke, W.M. 734; F. W. Wardill, P.M. 734; S. Firth, 1789; W. B. Jobson, 1634; S. W. Close, W.M. 123; R. Luck, P.M. 111, P.P.G.R. Durham; G. Wilkinson, P.M. 250, P.P.J.G.W.; and many others.

The lodge having been opened, Bro. G. T. Laman was passed to the Second Degree. The centenary warrant was then read and formally presented to the W.M. by Bro. J. W. Woodall, P.G. Treas. England. The warrant having been neatly framed at the order of Bro. Sarony, P.M., the thanks of the lodge were voted him. Bro. R. H. Peacock, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., then read an epitome of the lodge history, which was listened to with great attention. The space at our disposal will not admit of our reproducing the address, but we hope to be able to do so in some future number. A vote of thanks was given to Bro. Peacock for his admirable paper, who stated that he had received very great assistance from Bro. W. Ascough, P.M. 1248, P.P. J.G.W.

The brethren, to the number of about 90, adjourned to the Royal Hotel, where a most *recherché* banquet had been carefully prepared, under the superintendence of Bro. A. Hartmann, Steward.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given, Bro. Dr. J. W. Taylor proposed, in eulogistic terms, "The Health of the Mayor, Bro. H. Darley," which was received with musical honours.

Bro. H. Darley suitably responded.

Other toasts followed, and were duly acknowledged.

An exceptional musical programme was provided, for the preparation of which the lodge was indebted to Bro. A. W. Tomlinson P.M., and G. H. Walshaw, P.M., and which was ably rendered by Bros. J. W. H. Catley, J. Raine, E. Harland, D. Fletcher, Wm. Ascough, and Wm. Peacock, jun.

STAFFORD.

#### Staffordshire Knot Lodge (No. 726).

On Wednesday, the 15th inst., at the annual Festival of St. John, held in the assembly room at the Swan Hotel, Bro. Dr. E. W. Taylor, P.P.G.O., was installed W.M. of this lodge in the presence of a large number of distinguished visiting brothers and brethren of the lodge. The ceremony was very ably performed by the Installing Master, Bro. F. Taylor, Prov. G.S. The following lodge officers were invested for the ensuing year by the W.M.: Bros. F. Taylor, P.G.S., I.P.M.; W. G. Taylor, S.W.; C. J. Nevitt, J.W.; Rev. A. H. Talbot, P.G. Chap., Chaplain; N. Joyce, Treas.; G. Wormal, Sec.; J. E. Evans, S.D.; J. T. Marson, J.D.; J. Mottram, P.P.A.G.P., D.C.; W. Hall, I.G.; B. T. Oswell and P. H. Harston, Stwds.; and Tomlinson, Tyler.

At the conclusion of the business the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, when the following toasts were duly honoured: "The Queen and the Craft," proposed by Bro. Dr. Taylor, W.M.; "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.; the Dep. G.M., the Earl of Lathom; and the Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past," proposed by the W.M., and responded to by Bro. John Bodenham, Prov. S.G.W., and P.A.G.D.C. England.

The next toast, that of "The Prov. G.M., Col. Foster Gough; the Deputy Provincial G.M., Lieutenant-Colonel Bindley; and the Officers of Prov. Grand Lodge, Present and Past," was proposed by Bro. Joyce, and responded to by Bros. Pepper, P.P.S.G.W., and Perkins, P.P.A.G.D.C.

Bro. Bodenham then proposed "The Health of the Newly-installed W.M.," wishing him a prosperous year, to which the W.M. suitably responded.

"The Visitors" was proposed by Bro. J. E. Evans, to which Bros. Dr. Willmore, King, and Wilson replied.

"The Health of the Installing Master" was proposed by Bro. B. T. Oswell, and responded to by the I.P.M.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was proposed by Bro. W. G. Taylor, S.W., and responded to by Bros. Mousley, P.P.G.S., and Batkin, Prov. G. Std. Br.

Bro. J. C. Nevitt, J.W., next gave "The Masonic Charities," the Charity Steward, Bro. Woolley, P.P.A.G.D. of C., replying.

Bro. W. Peach gave "The Officers of the Lodge," to which the Wardens replied.

The toast of the Tyler brought the evening's proceedings to a close.

Bros. Wilson, Mousley, Wheway, Taylor, Hall, and Peach enlivened the proceedings with songs and recitations, Bro. Dr. Willmore presiding at the piano.

TWICKENHAM.

#### Sir Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 1503).

This lodge met for the dispatch of business at the Albany Hotel on the 8th instant, when there were present, among others, Bros. Augustus Toulmin, jun., W.M.; the Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, M.A., P.P.G.C., acting S.W.; J. T. Briggs, P.M., P.P.G.D., Treas., acting J.W.; Captain Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., Sec.; and Davis, I.G.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Treasurer rendered his annual financial statement. Several matters in connection with the by-laws having been discussed, apologies for non-attendance were read and announced from Bros. Lieut.-Col. R. Cumings, S.W.; Capt. Perry, J.W.; W. H. Saunders, P.M., P.P.G.D.; W. Taylor, P.M., P.P.G.W.; A. H. Gurney, P.G.S.; E. W. Jenkins, P.M.; H. Jenkins, P.M.; and others.

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

A few toasts followed.

Bro. the Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, P.M., responded on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers," Bros. Briggs and Walls for "The Treasurer and Secretary," and Bro. Davis for "The Officers."

The proceedings terminated at an early hour.

## Royal Arch.

#### Jerusalem Chapter (No. 185).

This old chapter met at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on the 14th instant. Among those present were Comps. Kimpton, M.E.Z.; E. A. Harris, H., M.E.Z. elect; Hardy, J., H. elect; F. Smith, P.Z., P.P.G.J. Cheshire, J. elect; G. Davis, P.Z., S.E.; Harfeld, P.Z., Treas.; Rest, I.P.Z.; Capt. Walls, P.Z., P.P.G.P.S.; Nathan Moss, L.C.C., P.Z.; Ellborn, P.Z.; Staley, P.Z.; Cleghorne, P.Z.; and others. Comp. Wallis, late 185, was a visitor.

The minutes of the past convocation were read and confirmed. Comp. Kimpton, with the valuable assistance of Comps. G. Davis and Cleghorne, installed the three Principals. Among the officers invested for the year ensuing were Comps. G. Davis, S.E.; Rivers, S.N.; Harfeld, Treas.; Dr. Frye, P.S.; and E. Mallett, P.Z. 1623, Janitor. A Past Principal's jewel was presented to Comp. Kimpton, and the report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted.

The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to the banquet, which was well served. The usual toasts received full justice.

"The Health of the M.E.Z.," was fluently proposed by the I.P.Z. In the course of his remarks he said that Comp. Harris, from the date of his exaltation in the Old Jerusalem Chapter, had worked well and worthily in every minor office, and he felt confident that having arrived at the First Principal's chair, he (the M.E.Z.) would do the work of that high position equally as well.

The M.E.Z. having replied, gave "The Second and Third Principals," to which toast Comps. Hardy and F. Smith responded. The latter made an excellent speech.

He mentioned the circumstance that in 1874 and 1875 he served the office of First Principal, and he believed that he discharged the duties of that office to the satisfaction of the chapter. He, however, little thought that he should be called upon in 1891 to take the Third chair. He would endeavour to discharge the responsibilities of that position to the best of his ability, but if he should be a little "rusty" he trusted that the companions would overlook it.

"The Past Principals" followed, to which toast all the Past Principals replied, the speeches of Comps. Kimpton, Moss, and Cleghorne being exceedingly good.

In giving "The Health of the S.E. and Treasurer" the M.E.Z. spoke in the most flattering terms of the services of those companions.

The toast having been warmly received, Comps. Davis and Harfeld replied. The latter said that the funds for the first time for many years showed a small balance on the wrong side; however, he hoped that in the course of the coming session that state of things would be altered.

"The Health of the Officers" terminated the proceedings.

The M.E.Z., in addition to generously providing a beautiful floral display, had engaged a staff of instrumental and vocal artistes.

#### Lion and Lamb Chapter (No. 192).

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 15th inst., at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street. Present: Comps. F. D. R. Copestick, P.Z., acting M.E.Z. (in the absence through illness of Comp. Henry Hughes); W. R. Dixon, H.; Dr. W. A. Dingle, J.; George Kenning, P.Z., Treas.; Chas. Arkell, P.Z., S.E.; W. Haaves, S.N.; H. Birdseye, P.Z., P.S.; Thos. Cohu, P.Z., D.C.; Marsh, Janitor; John Taylor, P.Z.; John Kent, Thomas Barker, and Robt. Marke. Visitors: Walter Gompertz, P.Z. 141; Richard Bird, I.P.Z. 1851; and Thos. Butler, 975.

The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. Bro. Robert Marke, P.M. 192, was duly balloted for, approved, and exalted. A brother was proposed for exaltation at the next meeting.

The business of the evening being ended, the companions dined together under the able chairmanship of Comp. F. D. R. Copestick, P.Z. Much satisfaction being expressed by the presence of Comp. Henry Birdseye, P.Z., an old and much-valued member of the chapter, ill health having prevented his attendance for some time.

## Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

NEPTUNE LODGE (No. 22).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 20th inst., at the Gauden Hotel, Clapham, when there were present Bros. Ellison, W.M.; Lyell, S.W.; G. Lavington, J.W.; Westley, Preceptor and Treasurer; Poole, acting as Sec.; Laker, S.D.; Cheese, J.D.; Scott, I.G.; Weeks, Tyler; Hennell, Cochran, Folkard, Davies, Purvis, Janau, Windsor, Livett, Wyer, and Russell. Visitors: Bros. T. G. Ball and J. J. Elliott, of 1641.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Hennell having answered the usual questions, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Hennell duly passed to the Degree of M.M., the W.M. giving the traditional history and the explanation of the tracing board. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and the ceremony of initiation being announced, and Bro. Livett having offered himself as a candidate, was initiated, the W.M. giving the charge. The W.M. rose for the first time, and the dues were collected. Bros. Ball and J. J. Elliott were elected joining members. Bro. Lyell was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting, and returned thanks, and appointed his officers in rotation. The W.M. rose for the third time, and the lodge was closed.

ST. LUKE'S LODGE (No. 144).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 20th inst., at the Somerset Arms, Fulham-road, when there were present Bros. Moody, W.M.; Thomas, S.W.; Wilts, J.W.; Carlstrom, Preceptor; W. H. Tucker, Sec.; J. Chapman, S.D.; Olive, J.D.; Ingram, I.G.; Morrish, Barber, Cox, Neville, and Ambler.

The lodge was opened in the First and Second Degrees. Bro. Barber having offered himself as a candidate, answered the usual questions, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree. The W.M. then vacated the chair, which was taken by Bro. Wilts, who rehearsed the ceremony of raising. Bro. Carlstrom then worked the 1st Section of the Third Degree. Bro. Thomas gave the traditional history. The W.M. resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. rose for the first, second, and third times, and the lodge was closed.

CLARENCE LODGE (No. 263).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 16th inst., at Tupp's Restaurant, 8, Tottenham Court-road. There were present Bros. G. A. Nock, W.M.; D. D. West, S.W.; J. B. Corp, J.W.; W. H. Kirby, Preceptor; C. E. Bulling, Treas.; W. Baker, Sec.; D. G. Imlay, S.D.; H. S. Wellcome, J.D.; F. Mason, I.G.; H. G. Cubitt, Jas. Thompson, F. W. Bincliffe, H. Sadler, James Corp, R. Pontifex, Chas. Hurst, and W. Freemantle. Visitor: Bro. Albert Leighton, 263.

The lodge being opened in due form, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Bros. Jas. Thompson and F. W. Bincliffe, duly proposed and seconded at the previous meeting, and proving unanimously in their favour, they were cordially welcomed as joining members. Bro. Bincliffe volunteered as candidate, and was examined and retired. The lodge then being opened in the Second Degree, Bro. Bincliffe was re-admitted, and the ceremony of passing admirably rehearsed by the W.M., who also gave the explanation of the tracing board. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. Bros. Hy. Sadler, Grand Tyler, and W. H. Kirby, Preceptor, worked the 4th Section of the First Lecture. Bro. Albert Leighton, of the Bank of England Lodge, was proposed and seconded as a joining member. Bro. Hy. Sadler was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing meeting, and having appointed his officers, announced that the work would be the third ceremony, and the 2nd and 3rd Sections of the First Lecture. The lodge was then closed.

ZETLAND LODGE (No. 511).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 20th inst., at the York and Albany, Regent's Park, N.W., when there were present Bros. H. Hazel, W.M.; L. Simon, S.W.; E. Styles, J.W.; E. C. Mulvey, P.M., Preceptor; J. P. Pointer, Sec.; J. W. Ward, S.D.; E. Loder, J.D.; H. Hempel, I.G.; F. Marx, P.M.; G. Clarke, P.M.; A. E. White, J. M. Caie, W. Hoggins, W. R. Righton, R. Higgs, J. Goldfinch, F. J. Holden, and J. W. Hunt.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. E. C. Mulvey, P.M., and the 2nd Section by Bro. F. Marx, P.M. The ceremony of initiation was ably rehearsed, Bro. J. W. Hunt acting as candidate. Bros. H. Hempel and J. M. Caie then answered the questions leading to the Second Degree. The W.M. rose for the first and second times, Bro. L. Simon, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The W.M. rose for the third time, and it was proposed by Bro. E. C. Mulvey, P.M., and seconded by Bro. H. Hazel, that Bro. F. Marx, P.M., be elected Assistant Preceptor of the lodge of instruction, which was carried. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

RANELAGH LODGE (No. 834).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 10th inst., at the Six Bells Hotel, Queen-street, Hammersmith, when there were present Bros. E. Lucas, W.M.; F. Craggs, S.W.; H. F. Williams, J.W.; J. Sims, P.M., Preceptor; C. C. Barber, S.D.; E. Newland, J.D.; W. Hide, I.G.; R. Read, Blackman, T. W. Biggs, R. Phillips, H. Scharien, W. W. Williams, E. Fox, and Cumbers.

This being officers' night, the Master and Wardens of the mother lodge took their respective places, and the lodge was opened in due form. Bro. Read offered himself as a candidate for passing, and was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degrees, and the ceremony rehearsed. Bro. Biggs offered himself as a candidate for raising, and proving proficient, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and after the third rising of the W.M. it was closed.

HORNSEY LODGE (No. 890).—A large gathering of Master Masons assembled at the Lewisham Masonic Rooms, adjoining the White Hart Hotel, High-street, Lewisham, S.E., on Thursday evening, the 16th inst., for the purpose of hearing the ceremonies of consecration and installation rehearsed by Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B. and Sec. R.M.B.I. Amongst those present were the following officers of the mother lodge: Bros. G. A. Pickering, W.M.; E. Carderlier, S.W.; Squire J. Pitt, J.W.; Dr. H. Kempster, P.M., Treas.; A. A. Drew, P.M., Sec.; B. Garrard, S.D.; F. H. Villaneuve, J.D.; and numerous members. There were also present Bros. James Stevens, Walter Martin, H. E. Joyce, J. T. Axford, H. T. Bonner, R. Tilling, W. Fieldson, F. F. Catt, S. Lancaster, and A. Norris, Past Masters; Walter Robin, Secretary; and 33 other members of the lodge of instruction. Other lodges represented were Nos. 140, 147, 201, 217, 525, 548, 834, 871, 879, 1076, 1275, 1329, 1423, 1446, 1471, 1539, 1563, 1571, 1572, 1981, 1997, and 2332, by a grand total of 43 visitors, of whom 26 became members before the lodge was closed.

About 100 brethren were seated comfortably, leaving ample room and verge enough for all the important and imposing details of the consecration ceremony. How that ceremonial was performed by Bro. Terry it is needless to describe, his great ability and impressive method in connection with this beautiful portion of Masonic work being so generally known throughout the Craft. As with the first portion of the evening's labour, so with that of the installation, Bro. Terry's exposition gave general satisfaction, which at the conclusion of his several addresses was expressed by acclamation.

The thanks of the lodge of instruction and the customary compliment of honorary membership were voted to Bro. Terry with one voice, and after the usual routine business, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to supper, Bro. G. A. Pickering, the W.M. of the mother lodge, No. 890, presiding.

The entire proceedings reflected the greatest credit upon those brethren concerned in providing for the reception, comfort, and entertainment of the members and their visitors, and the lodge itself has, we imagine, good reason to be satisfied with the success which has attended its first exoteric announcement of its very recent establishment.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, S.W., on Thursday, the 16th inst., when there were present Bros. G. H. Foon, W.M.; W. Hoggins, S.W.; J. Rowe, J.W.; J. Greenway, Preceptor; G. H. Reynolds, acting as Secretary; C. O. Burgess, S.D.; J. H. Warwick, J.D.; A. Cogliati, I.G.; T. C. Seavy, Org.; T. E. Weeks, Tyler; J. Wise, W. Hancock, and others.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. G. H. Reynolds having offered himself as a candidate to be passed to the Second Degree, and answering the necessary questions satisfactorily, was entrusted, and retired. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The W.M. rehearsed the Degree of F.C. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. G. H. Reynolds. Bro. J. Wise offering himself as a candidate to be raised to the Third Degree, and having answered the usual questions, 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 second time, Bro. W. Hoggins was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. On rising for the third time, nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed.

LANGTON LODGE (No. 1673).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 16th inst., at the White Hart Tavern, Abchurch-lane, E.C. There were present Bros. S. W. Morris, W.M.; S. Lea-Smith, S.W.; F. G. Ivey, J.W.; H. M. Hobbs, Preceptor; J. S. Fraser, Treas.; C. W. Mapleton, Sec.; E. A. de Paiva, S.D.; S. M. Southwell, J.D.; E. Mansell, I.G.; H. E. Diamond, F. Knight, J. H. Williams, L. A. Francis, R. T. Whites, and G. F. Marshall.

The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The

lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. Bro. Diamond gave the explanation of the tracing board. A vote of thanks to the W.M. for the excellent manner he had filled the chair in the lodge for the first time was unanimously carried. Bro. W. T. Grant was elected a member. It was unanimously resolved that the session of the lodge should close on the last Thursday in April instead of May. The lodge was then closed.

**CREATON LODGE (No. 1791).**—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 16th inst., at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W. There were present Bros. Catling, W.M.; Brown, S.W.; O. Hagan, J.W.; E. Austin, P.M.; Treas.; Henry P. Gilbert, P.M., Sec.; Elkin, S.D.; Jennings, J.D.; Kington, I.G.; R. Josey, P.M.; F. Craggs, W.M. 834; G. Higginson, R. N. Larter, L. Cox, and H. Cotton.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Higginson acting as candidate, and Bro. F. Craggs acting as Preceptor. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, after which it was resumed to the Second Degree, and the 1st Section of the Second Lecture was worked by the brethren, Bro. Higginson putting the questions. The lodge was closed in this Degree. Bro. W. M. Brown was elected W.M. for the next meeting. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Catling for occupying the position of W.M. for the first time in the lodge, after which the lodge was closed.

**CHISWICK LODGE (No. 2012).**—A meeting was held on Saturday, the 18th inst., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, Hammersmith, W., when there were present Bros. T. W. Biggs, W.M.; W. Hillier, S.W.; F. A. Barth, J.W.; J. Sims, P.M., Deputy Preceptor; F. Craggs, Sec. (*pro tem.*); Joseph Cox, S.D.; T. Willcox, P.M., J.D.; W. F. Harbord, I.G.; T. W. Barth, R. Reed, W. G. Foster, and W. E. Clark.

The lodge was duly opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Foster offered himself as a candidate for passing, and was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree and the ceremony rehearsed. Bro. Foster answered the questions leading to the Third Degree and retired. Bro. T. W. Barth was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Hillier was elected W.M. for the next meeting. Bro. W. S. Clark was elected a joining member, and the lodge was closed.

**Ancient and Accepted Rite.**

**Mount Calvary Chapter (No. 3).**—This old and prosperous chapter met at 33, Golden-square, on the 10th inst. Among those present were Bros. G. Graveley, 30°, C.F., M.W.S.; H. J. Lardner, 30°, P.M.W.S., 1st Gen.; Major F. J. Stohwasser, 30°, 2nd Gen.; W. Paas, 30°, P.M.W.S., Treas.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M.W.S., Recorder; G. Grimwood, R.; Dr. Coffin, 30°, P.M.W.S.; W. Roebuck, 31°, P.M.W.S.; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M.W.S.; Egbert Roberts, Asst. Org.; Nelson Prower, M.A., W. Maple, Dr. Jaielski, M.D., C. Grant, F.R.C.S., H. Hills, and Dr. Inglis. Bro. F. Smith, late of the Liverpool Chapter, was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous chapter having been read and confirmed, Bros. W. Shurmur and James Speller were duly and impressively perfected by the M.W.S. Bro. F. Smith was balloted for, and elected as a joining member. Ill. Bro. H. J. Lardner was unanimously elected M.W.S. for the year ensuing, and Ill. Bro. W. Paas re-elected for the 24th time as Treasurer. A Past Sovereign's jewel was voted to the M.W.S., and a vote of thanks ordered to be recorded on the minutes, in recognition of his services. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. Major J. E. Anderson, 30°; Capt. W. B. Williamson, J.P., 30°; F. Curlier, 30°; Capt. Hawkins, W. Fisher, and others. The resignation of Bro. Andrew Pears was received with regret.

The chapter was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Café Royal, where an excellent banquet was provided.

The customary loyal toasts having been disposed of, Ill. Bro. Paas proposed the toast of "The M.W.S." In the course of his remarks he congratulated the M.W.S. upon the excellent manner in which he had discharged his onerous duties not only that night, but on previous occasions. He had also shown great interest in the prosperity of the chapter by introducing new members.

The M.W.S. having replied, then said that as some of the members were about to leave, he should at once proceed to give "The Health of the Treasurer." Ill. Bro. Paas, he stated, that evening would receive a testimonial in recognition of his many and varied services to the Mount Calvary Chapter. It had personally afforded him a great deal of pleasure in being permitted to present Bro. Paas with the several articles of plate and illuminated testimonial that had been subscribed for by the members. He should call on the Recorder to read the latter. The address, which was an elegant work of art, was executed by Bro. George Kenning, and read as follows: "Mount Calvary Encampment of Knights Templar, Priory of Knights of Malta, and Sovereign Chapter Rose Croix. This illuminated address, together with a pair of bronze vases, and several articles of plate, was presented to Sir Knight and Illustrious Brother William Paas, Past Eminent Commander, Past Great Banner Bearer of Great Priory, Past Eminent Prior, Past Most Wise Sovereign, 30°, &c., &c., in recognition of his great services to the above distinguished bodies for the long period of upwards of 28 years. By his courtesy, bearing, goodness of heart, and zeal in the cause of Christian Masonry, he has endeared himself to all those with whom he has been brought in contact. The testimonial was subscribed to by both Institutions. The presentation on behalf of the Knights Templar and of Malta taking place on the 13th of March, 1891, and that of the Rose Croix on the 10th of April following. (Signed) Thomas Wood, E.C.; George Graveley, M.W.S.; F. J. Stohwasser, Hon. Treasurer to the Fund; T. C. Walls, Hon. Secretary to the Fund."

Ill. Bro. Paas having made an excellent emotional speech in reply, the toasts of "The Past Sovereigns," coupled with the name of Ill. Bro. Dr. Coffin, "The Recorder," "The M.W.S. elect," and "The Officers" terminated the proceedings.

**BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.**

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening, in the Board room, Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Robert Grey, President, occupied the President's chair for the first time after his return from Italy, where he went for a holiday with his family three months ago. Bro. James Brett, Senior Vice-President, and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Junior Vice-President, occupied their respective places. Bro. A. A. Pendlebury, Assistant Grand Secretary, Bro. W. Dodd, and Bro. W. H. Lee represented the Grand Secretary's office, and there were also present Bros. H. Garrod, P.G.P.; D. Mercer, S. C. Haslip, W. P. Brown, S. Vallentine, A.G.P.; Geo. B. Chapman, J. Matthews, P.D.G.D.C.; Geo. Read, Jas. Bunker, Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; T. W. Whitmarsh, P.G.P.; Charles F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br.; W. Hopekirk, P.G.P.; E. Shedd, R. J. Taylor, A. Woodward, W. J. Stratton, H. Rogers, C. E. Packer, W. D. Church, J. Boulton, L. Finch, Tom Brady, George Parrett, J. Newton, Charles Rawle, W. Adams, H. Dickey, H. Massey, Frederick C. Woolmer, H. H. Nuding, W. Rowley, Walter Potter, F. W. Hancock, George Ellard, Henry Jay, Alfred Cockerill, H. M. Lindsell, H. E. Coffin, J. Perry, W. Oldham Chambers, Charles R. Prideaux Brune, George H. Lewis, George L. Wingate, H. Shaw, W. T. B. McQueen, Walter Gompertz, Henry W. Gompertz, C. Williams, Henry Nuding, T. B. Richards, Richard Prill, J. Hurdell, J. Lloyd, and William Boyce.

The President, on entering, was received with a hearty round of applause, and on taking his seat,

Bro. JAMES BRETT said he was sure the brethren would concur with him that they should pass a hearty vote of welcome to the President on his return from abroad. They were all very glad to see him again among them, and hoped that his sojourn in a foreign country had resulted in great benefit to him. They would all agree with him in conveying to their President their sincere pleasure at seeing him back again.

Bro. ROBERT GREY said he sincerely thanked the brethren for that mark of their kindly feeling towards him. Whilst he had been away they had been in his thoughts very often. It had been a pleasure to him to remember what good, with their help, he had been able to do to those who wanted their help, and the discretion with which that help had been distributed by those who had attended the Board. He thanked them once again.

The brethren then confirmed grants recommended to the Grand Master, to be granted at the March meeting, to the extent of £310. There were 39 new cases on the list, qualified through lodges in the London district, and at Holyhead, Helston, Saltash, Kimberley, Canterbury, Padstow, Biggleswade, Chelmsford, Northampton, Bingley, Salford, Derby, Grimsby, Lowestoft, Beccles, Torquay, H.M.'s 14th Regiment, Harwich, Shanghai, Filey, Halifax (N.S.), Melbourne, and Whitehaven. Five of these cases were dismissed, and three were deferred.

The remainder were relieved with a total of £765, which was composed as follows: Two recommendations to Grand Lodge of £50 each, six to the Grand Master of £40 each, five of £30 each, and one of £25. There were nine grants of £20 each, one of £15, four of £10 each, and three of £5 each. The Board sat four hours

**MASONIC LECTURE BY BRO. R. F. GOULD, P.G.D., AT PORTSMOUTH.**

Saturday, the 11th inst., was a "red letter" day in the history of the Hampshire Lodge of Emulation, No. 1990, Portsmouth, Bro. R. Freke Gould, P.M., Past Grand Deacon of England, and author of "Gould's History of Freemasonry," having accepted an invitation to attend and deliver a lecture on Freemasonry.

The chair was occupied by the W.M., Bro. John Brickwood, W.M. 257, P.P.J.G.D., and among those present were Bros. J. E. Le Feuvre, D.P.G.M., P.G.D. England; T. Francis, P.P.J.G.W.; Richard Eve, P.P.S.G.W., P.G. Treas. England; T. H. Williams, P.M.; John W. Gieve, P.M., P.G. Treasurer; W. Miles, P.P.G.D. of C.; J. W. Willmott, P.P.G.S.B.; J. E. Buck, P.P.S.G.W.; T. Caparn; G. F. Lancaster, P.P.G. Registrar, Prov. Asst. G. Secretary; C. J. Lawrence, W. T. Dupree, P.G.S.B.; S. R. Ellis, P.P.A.G.D. of C.; E. S. Main, P.P.G.D. of C.; H. Cawte, P.P.J.G.W.; Capt. A. H. Markham, R.N., I.P.M. 257; W. H. Sperring, W. Miller, W. A. Hill, H. Cooke, T. W. Haydon, H. Cook, 1069; C. W. Bevis, Lieutenant Cowd, W. E. Leamy, C. Birch, B. H. Mumby, J. E. Mumby, G. B. Irons, H. W. Smith Parsons, H. Silvester, G. C. Inkpen, and J. Jenkins.

Bro. Gould's lecture was of a deeply interesting character, and at its termination a discussion ensued, in which the Deputy Prov. G.M., also Bros. Lancaster, Francis, Eve, Irons, and Hill took part.

Bro. Eve was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and will be installed on the second Saturday in May.

At the banquet which followed, the WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in highly eulogistic terms, proposed "The Health of Bro. Gould," and a hope was expressed that he would pay the lodge another visit.

The enjoyment of the evening was much enhanced by the excellent singing of Bros. Eve, Jenkins, Miles, Lancaster, and Gieve, the last-named being the indefatigable Secretary, upon whose shoulders rests the chief burden of maintaining the Hampshire Lodge of Emulation at its present high standard of efficiency, as a school of Masonic instruction for the Installed Masters of the province.

**Obituary.**

**W. BRO. REGINALD BIRD, M.A., P.G.D., AND D.P.G.M. OXON.**

By the death of Bro. Reginald Bird, which took place in his rooms at Magdalen College, Oxford, on Sunday, the 12th instant, the Craft of England has lost one of its most constant supporters, and the Province of Oxfordshire one of its most devoted servants. Born in 1831, Bro. Bird was initiated in the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, in 1852, during the first Mastership of the present Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. His active work in that lodge, however, did not begin till nearly 20 years later, for though, as a Demy of the college, he succeeded to a Fellowship at Magdalen on the old foundation, about 1859, he spent several years in travelling in different parts of the world. On his return to Oxford he speedily resumed active membership of the Apollo University Lodge, and having filled several of the junior offices, became W.M. in the year 1872, and acted as Deputy Master in the following year for H.R.H. the M.W.G.M. He was appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Master upon the resignation of the late Bro. R. J. Spiers, P.G.S.B., on May 18th, 1875, an appointment which he continued to hold throughout the Provincial Grand Masterships of H.R.H. the Duke of Albany and of the Earl of Jersey, till his death. In 1879 Bro. Bird was appointed S.G.D. of England, and from 1874 till the early part of the present year he was Treasurer of the Apollo University Lodge. He was one of the founders and first Master of the Saint Mary Magdalen Lodge, No. 11523, founded in London in 1875 to provide a Metropolitan Masonic home for the members of his own college, and remained a member of it till his death. In the Province of Oxfordshire no face was better known, no brother more heartily welcomed in every lodge. His kindly words of sound advice, his accurate knowledge of Masonic law, and his inflexible integrity were deeply appreciated by the brethren over whom he ruled. During his 16 years of office as Dep. Prov. G.M. the most important events in the province were the installation of the Duke of Albany as Grand Master in the Sheldonian Theatre on February 23rd, 1876;—the consecrations of the Windrush Lodge at Witney on December 21st, 1877; of the St. Mary's Lodge at Thame in 1878; of the Thames Lodge at Henley on June 9th, 1881; of the Jersey Lodge at Bicester on March 10th, 1890;—the installation of the Earl of Jersey as Provincial Grand Master on October 28th, 1885;—the laying of the foundation-stones of the new Masonic Hall at Banbury by the Duke of Albany on November 17th, 1882; of the Indian Institute in Oxford by his Royal Highness the Grand Master with full Masonic ceremonial on May 2nd, 1883; and of the new Masonic Hall at Henley on October 30th, 1885, in each and all of which Bro. Bird took a prominent part. Outside Craft Masonry Bro. Bird was also distinguished; an active member of the Mark Degree, of the Knights Templar, and of the Antient and Accepted Rite, he had held the chair in all of these Degrees. That such a blank as his death makes in a small province is no easy task to fill, was amply testified by the large number who attended his funeral in the College Chapel on Friday, the 17th inst. Among the brethren present were Bros. the Rev. H. A. Pickard, P.G.C.; F. P. Morrell, P.G.D.; R. W. M. Pope, D.D., P.G.C.; Viscount Valentia, P.G.W.; Rev. D. H. W. Horrock, Prov. S.G.W.; A. C. Clark, Prov. J.G.W.; P. Colville Smith, W.M. of the Apollo University Lodge; Alfred Winkfield, M. Weyland, W. G. Emberlin, Prov. G. Treas.; E. L. Hawkins, W. Peppercorn, R. E. Baynes, W. L. Morgan, Prov. G. Sec.; Major Wilson, H. Drinkwater, A. Rowley, R. A. S. Paget, Montagu Marshall, the Rev. H. R. Cooper Smith, F. P. Bulley, H. H. Riach, and the Rev. C. J. F. Yule. Among the members of Magdalen College were the President, the Vice-President, the Estates Bursar, the Rev. C. Wilson, Bro. G. Underhill, and a number of other Fellows. The coffin was borne into and out of the chapel, and to the grave in Holywell Churchyard, by the servants of the college, and there must have been fully 200 to 250 present at the grave. "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

The annual dinner of the London Press Club was held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Saturday evening last, among the principal guests being the Secretary of State for War, Bro. Sir G. O. Trevelyan, Bart., M.P., Colonel the Hon. C. Byng, and Sir J. R. Somers Vine.

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## MASONIC AND GENERAL NOTICES

Bro. Lord Alcester has returned to town after visiting Bro. Lord and Lady Carrington at their seat, High Wycombe Abbey, Buckinghamshire.

Sir Lyon Playfair, M.P., opened at Streatham, on Friday afternoon, the 17th inst., a free public library, erected by Mr. Henry Tate, at a cost of £6000.

We are glad to hear that Bro. Sir John Gorst, O.C., M.P., who resigned his Parliamentary duties last week, has greatly benefited in health by his recent trip to Teneriffe.

According to present arrangements, the Queen will conclude her visit to Grasse early next week, and will arrive at Windsor Castle from the continent on Wednesday, the 29th instant.

Bros. Lord Halsbury (Lord Chancellor), Lord George Hamilton, and Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Bart., attended the Cabinet Council which was held at the Foreign Office on Saturday last.

The Duke of Edinburgh took part in the concert held at the Colston Hall on Wednesday by Mr. Riseley, assisted by the British Society of Instrumentalists and the members of the Orpheus Glee Society.

Among those present at the performance of "Tannhäuser," at the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, on Saturday last, were the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and the Grand Duchess of Oldenburg.

The Duke of Connaught has accepted the invitation to preside at the anniversary festival of the North-Eastern Hospital for Children, which will be held at the Holborn Restaurant, on Friday, the 15th prox.

Mr. T. K. Tapling, M.P., who was an ardent philatelist, has, it is said, bequeathed to the British Museum his magnificent collection of stamps. The collection is valued at from £50,000 to £100,000.

A general meeting of the Masonic Musical Union, of which the Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire, Lord Leigh, is patron, will be held at the Colonnade Hotel, Birmingham, on Monday next, at 8 p.m.

The Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Provincial Grand Master of Gloucestershire, has fixed Tuesday in Whitsun week for the holding of the Provincial Grand Lodge in the Town Hall at Dursley.

Arranged by Messrs. Liberty and Co., an exhibition of silken fabrics of British manufacture is now open at Chesham House, Regent-street. The Weavers' Company have offered several prizes in connection with the exhibition.

The 85th anniversary festival of the Society of Friends of Foreigners in Distress was held at the Hôtel Métropole on Saturday last, under the presidency of Count Deym, the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador. The subscriptions amounted to £2349.

A marriage has been arranged and will take place sometime in the course of June between Pamela, youngest daughter of Mr. Frederick A. Campbell, and Bro. Lord Ernest Hamilton, M.P., son of the late Bro. the Duke of Abercorn.

A farewell dinner to Bro. Lord Randolph Churchill, M.P., previous to his departure for Mashonaland, was held at the Amphitryon Club, Piccadilly, on Saturday evening last, among the principal guests being Bros. Sir H. Drummond Wolff, J. Aird, M.P., and Sir F. Knollys.

The late Mrs. Elizabeth Orr Bell, widow of Mr. David Bell, who died in Glasgow on the 12th inst., has bequeathed the whole of her property, subject to the payment of certain legacies, to "General" Booth for the purposes of the Salvation Army. The amount is estimated at from £60,000 to £70,000.

The brethren of the Franklin Lodge held a lodge of emergency on the 16th inst., in celebration of the 105th anniversary of the death of Sir John Franklin, after whom the lodge is named. The Franklin coat of arms was unveiled, and Bro. W. S. Barratt gave a lecture on the American mode of rendering the ritual.

The Duke of Connaught has arranged to lay the foundation-stone of the Church House, Westminster, on Wednesday, the 24th prox., but there is reason to believe that the ceremony will be somewhat less elaborate than was originally intended, owing to several fixtures of great importance having been already arranged for that day.

Bro. Lord Mayor Savory presided at the Jubilee Festival of the Provident Clerks' Benevolent Fund held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on the 17th instant. His lordship was supported by Sheriff Farmer, Bro. Sheriff Augustus Harris, the Governor of the Bank of England, and other influential persons. The amount of subscriptions announced in the course of the evening was £2879.

The annual hunt meeting connected with the Royal Buckhounds and Mr. W. H. Grenfell's Harriers was held on the Hawthorn Hill Steeplechase course, between Maidenhead and Windsor, on the 16th instant, among those present being Prince Christian, the Master of the Buckhounds, the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry, and the officers of the 2nd Life Guards and Foot Guards now in garrison at Windsor.

I have sometimes wondered what good was accomplished by Masonic writers. I met a good brother in the ante-room the other night who complained that a certain lodge was not noticed as often as its prominence demanded. He said when that lodge was not mentioned, he found nothing in the paper of interest to him. The fact that every lodge in the city was doing work, and the Masters and Secretaries felt sufficient interest in the matter to report the proceedings, was not a matter of interest to him. It reminds me of that good Christian soul, who, in offering his prayers to the throne of Grace, besought a blessing "on me and my wife, my son John and his wife, us four and no more." What is the use of reporting prosperity and harmony throughout the jurisdiction? What good does it do to print editorials, or preach sermons? What good is all this effort to propagate morality? But somebody reads them, and somebody gives attentive ear to preaching—hence the word is not lost.—*New York Dispatch*.

The Princess Christian has appointed Monday, May 4th, to visit Brighton for the purpose of opening the Home of Rest for Nurses, which has been established there in connection with the British Nurses' Association.

Bro. the Earl of Zetland has built and fitted up at his own expense a chapel and reading room at Grangemouth, which is his lordship's property, for the benefit of the British and foreign seamen who come to the port.

The annual Trinity College Dublin dinner—the tercentenary of the foundation by Queen Elizabeth of the Dublin University—will be held in the Hall of the Middle Temple on Wednesday, the 13th prox., under the presidency of Bro. the Archbishop of York.

It is the intention of Bro. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, Provincial Grand Master, to hold the next Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire at the Masonic Hall, Beverley, on Wednesday, the 13th of May next.

Bro. Sheriff Augustus Harris presided at the 24th anniversary dinner held at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, on Monday evening, in aid of the Waiters' Provident and Pension Society, Bros. Major George Lambert and Under-Sheriff Beard being among the principal guests.

The Princess of Wales and the Princesses Victoria and Maud returned to Marlborough House on Monday. It is understood that the Prince and Princess and family will revisit Sandringham at Whitsuntide, when his Royal Highness is to present new colours to the Norfolk Regiment and inspect the Artillery Militia.

The Duke of Cambridge dined with the Secretary of State for War and Mrs. Stanhope on Tuesday evening, when there were present among the guests invited to meet his Royal Highness, the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador and the Countess Deym, Bro. Lord and Lady Wantage, and Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford and Lady Northcote.

The 28th annual May Horse Show will be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, from 14th to 20th May, under the joint auspices of the Royal Agricultural Hall Company and the English Horse Show Society. There is a very liberal extension of the prize lists, and great improvements in the shape of greater accommodation will be made.

The "Maske of Flowers," which was given by the benchers of Gray's Inn in their fine hall in the year of the Queen's Jubilee, will be repeated some time during the month of June, in aid of the Convalescent Home of St. Michael, Westgate-on-Sea. Lady Halsbury is organising the entertainment, and among the many patronesses are the Princess Christian and the Princess Mary of Teck.

Lady Brassey, who will be accompanied by Lord Brassey, has consented to open, on Wednesday next, the second annual Holborn Industrial Exhibition at the Holborn Town Hall. On the following day Mr. James Rowlands, M.P., will open the exhibition, while on May-day the inaugural ceremony will be performed by Sir A. K. Rollit, M.P.

The latest American idea is that in very ancient times the whole Western American Continent south of the United States was the home of Buddhism, and a picture in stucco has been unearthed in the palace of Palenque, Central America, supposed to represent the Lord Buddha, with features of the American-Indian type, sitting cross-legged on a couch, ornamented with two leopards' (lions) heads.

The *Hospital Gazette* says:—"Some confusion seems to exist in medical circles as to the recent consecration of the Galen Lodge of Freemasons. This, I am told, is not a lodge of medical Masons, as the name would seem to imply, but of gentlemen connected with chemistry and pharmacy. Regarding the new medical lodge, the *Æsculapian*, which is being formed, I understand that matters are being pushed forward very satisfactorily, and that Dr. J. Brindley James has been nominated as the first W.M."

On behalf of her Majesty the Queen, the Prince of Wales held a levee at Buckingham Palace on Monday afternoon. Amongst those presented were Mr. R. H. Savory, by the Lord Mayor; the Rev. Borrodale Savory, by Sir William Savory; and Lieut.-col. Henry Smith, by the Secretary of State. The City notabilities who attended the levee included Lord Rothschild, Hon. W. Rothschild, Sir Thomas Chambers, Alderman Sir J. W. Ellis, Bart., M.P., Sir Owen Roberts, Baron F. de Rothschild, M.P., Sir J. Stainer, Mr. H. D. Truscott, and Col. A. B. Cook.

It will be remembered that a short time ago Dr. Crane, Roman Catholic Bishop of Sandhurst, issued a Lenten pastoral, in which he bitterly attacked the Craft of Freemasonry, and said that no man could be a Freemason and good catholic at the same time, and that the spirit of Freemasonry was strongly antagonistic to Jesus Christ and His work. To this strong indictment certain lodges at Sandhurst have now published a reply. Of course they emphatically deny the charges, and insist that the Masonic system teaches most reverent and simple godliness, strict morality, justice tempered with mercy, and a wide-embracing Charity; and, moreover, it includes many Degrees, the members of which are bound solemnly to defend Christ.—*Melbourne Daily Telegraph*.

At the "Spinning Wheel," the establishment carried on by Lady Monckton and Miss Firth, two very interesting relics are now on view. One is a lozenge-shaped crystal locket set in gold. On one side is a miniature gold crown, and this inscription in gold lettering, "Queen Anne's hair, 1714." On the opposite side is a twist of reddish brown hair slightly streaked with grey. The second interesting object is a sedan chair just parted with by the family to whose ancestors it belonged. The chair is handsomely painted and upholstered in rich old brocade. The bearing poles are massive and richly ornamented. The roof is surmounted by a countess's coronet in gilt, and the very mat upon which the countess's feet rested when she was being carried about is still on the floor, showing decided signs of wear.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Important for the delicate. It is difficult to determine which is the more trying to the human constitution, the damp, cold days of autumn and winter, or the keen, dry easterly winds of spring. Throughout the seasons good health may be maintained by occasional doses of Holloway's Pills, which purify the blood and act as wholesome stimulants to the skin, stomach, liver, bowels, and kidneys. This celebrated medicine needs but a fair trial to convince the ailing and desponding that it will restore and cheer them without danger, pain, or inconvenience. No family should be without a supply of Holloway's Pills and Ointment, as by a timely recourse to them the first ailing function may be reclaimed, suffering may be spared, and life saved.

The Prince and Princess of Wales and the Princess Victoria and Maud of Wales visited the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, on Tuesday evening, and witnessed the performance of "Romeo and Juliet."

Bro. George Reynolds, Secretary of the Anglo-American Lodge, has, we are pleased to say, returned from the seaside in good health, and we trust with no ill-effects from the severe accident he met with a short time since.

The Directors of the Empire Palace Company have insured, through the Marine Department of one of the oldest insurance offices, six months' profits of this undertaking, thus providing, in case of fire, that two consecutive quarterly interim dividends would be paid to the shareholders at the usual rates.

The memorial for the proposed Savage Club Chapter of R.A. Masons designates Comps. Edward Terry, as Z.; Will. E. Chapman, H.; and Walter J. Ebbetts, J. The other signers are Comps. Sir Somers Vine, J. D. Beveridge, Raymond Tucker, Dr. E. Milner, E. S. Penley, and Dr. Maitland Coffin.

Bro. F. Faithful Begg has reprinted the speech he delivered at the meeting of the Scots Lodge held in January last in response to the toast of "The Grand Lodge of Scotland, and the Immortal Memory of Bro. Robert Burns." We are pleased to find that our brother's eloquent tribute to the immortal Scottish Bard is reproduced in a shape that can be preserved.

At a regular meeting of the Citadel Lodge, No. 1897, held at the Railway Hotel, Harrow Station, on Saturday, the 18th instant, Bro. Willie Wright, P.G. Org. Middx., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and will be installed at the next meeting by Bro. John Osborn, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Sec., a relative, who initiated, passed, and raised him in Freemasonry.

The annual dinner of the Middlesex Yeomanry Cavalry (Duke of Cambridge's Hussars) was held at St. James's Hall Restaurant on Tuesday evening, Col. Harfield being in the chair, and Bro. Viscount Ebrington among the guests. A testimonial, consisting of a silver inkstand and a cheque for £120, was presented in the course of the evening to Sergeant-Major Langrish, in recognition of his 17 years' service with the regiment.

It is proposed by some of the brethren of the Province of Surrey to present a testimonial to Bro. Frederick West, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, as a token of their esteem as well of their high appreciation of his valuable services during the period in which he has held the responsible position of Deputy Provincial Grand Master in charge. A Committee is being formed to carry this proposal into effect, and Bro. J. D. Langton, P.M. and Sec. 2096, P.Z. 2096, P.P.J.G.W., Prov. G. Reg., is the Hon. Sec. *pro tem*.

The *Masonic Journal*, Portland, Me., says: "There is too much familiarity in vogue concerning the happenings of the various bodies of the Craft. The less the profane Press have to say about Masonry, the better it will be for the Fraternity. Neither do we believe it is in good taste to publish the doings of lodges and their attendant bodies in papers and magazines not devoted to Masonry. We mean the number of candidates who receive the Degrees. It is no part of the public's business to know such details."

A case came before the Board of Relief recently that was a little queer, to say the least. A young man, hailing from the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England, asked assistance. His story was about like this: He was 21 years old. On the 3rd of the month he received the First and Second Degrees; on the 13th he was raised. Two days after he called for and received his dimit. The next day—the 16th of the month—he sailed for America, on the 23rd he reached New York, and on the 24th promptly applied to the Board of Relief for assistance. Did he get it? Ask any member of the Board whether he did or not. Talk about young America, this young English takes the lead.—*New York Dispatch*.

Amongst the number of persons who attended the obsequies of the late Bro. Colonel Hambro on Tuesday there were few more genuine mourners than a House of Commons shoeblick, who had travelled at his own expense from London, and who, though a cripple, had walked with the aid of a crutch from Blandford, seven miles away, to be present at the funeral. It seems that Colonel Hambro, sympathising with the poor fellow's affliction, used his influence to get him into a country hospital in Dorsetshire, where the sufferer greatly benefited in health, and it was in gratitude to his benefactor that he undertook the tiresome journey.

Babylon, the great city of the Chaldeans, was five times as large as the London of to-day. Its walls were as high as lofty church steeples—340 feet above the ground. The palace of Nebuchadnezzar, the destroyer of Jerusalem, was seven miles in circumference. The bed of the great Euphrates was paved with bricks. The palaces and temples were full of wonderful triumphs of painter, sculptor, and libraries of history, science, and letters. The Babylonians were astronomers of great proficiency, considering the age in which they lived, and they watched the movements of the heavenly bodies with intense interest, and recorded them accurately. The moon was the object of their special regard, and her changes were noted with unflinching assiduity and recorded in calendars. They called her the father of the sun.—*Exchange*.

On Thursday, the 16th inst., a meeting was held at the Tivoli Restaurant, at which many prominent Freemasons and actors were present, to appoint a Committee and discuss the subject of raising a memorial to the memory of Bro. John Maclean, so well known in his profession as an actor and his earnest work in the cause of Freemasonry. The Committee included, amongst many eminent names, Bros. Henry Irving, Edward Terry, James Fernandez, J. W. Beveridge, W. Lestock, R. Soutar, H. Meyer Lutz, Harry Nicholls, W. S. Penley, Alfred Bishop, F. H. Macklin, and Sam Johnson. It was resolved that a Sub-Committee be appointed and that subscriptions be limited to the sum of one guinea, and it is hoped and expected that such a sum will be raised that, in addition to a memorial stone, some lasting tribute to the memory of this brother, who did so much for young Masons by instructing them in the ritual of the Craft, may be established. In furtherance of this object any member of the Committee will be glad to receive subscriptions.