

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
RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF HADDINGTON, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1892.

[PRICE 3d.]

FESTIVAL OF THE MARK BENEVOLENT FUND.

The Anniversary Festival in aid of the Benevolent Fund established by the Mark Grand Lodge of England and Wales will be celebrated at Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday next, the 20th instant, under the presidency, as Chairman, of Bro. Sir REGINALD HANSON, Bart., M.P., P.G.W., and though the auguries are by no means as favourable as we have known them at sundry of the more recent celebrations, we trust the result will be worthy alike of the distinguished Chairman and the cause he has undertaken to advocate. The Fund in question richly merits the support of all members of the Mark Degree. As originally established, its purposes were limited to meeting the more urgent wants of necessitous Mark brethren; but these purposes are now fulfilled by what is known as the "Benevolent Fund," there being two other branches of more recent foundation, namely, the "Educational Fund," which was established in 1879, and the "Annuity Fund," established in 1885. As regards the senior branch or "Benevolent Fund," its invested capital is £3400, and its receipts for the year 1891 amounted to £702, while its expenditure reached £334 10s. 8d., of which £257 15s. was disbursed in relief. The "Educational Fund" has £2900 invested, and its income for the same period was £693 os. 6d. The number of children it educates and partially clothes is 32—16 boys and 16 girls—and its expenditure on their behalf was £409 10s. 4d., while its general outlay for postage, printing, &c., was £76 15s. 8d. The "Annuity Fund" has £4300 invested, and an income which amounted in 1891 to £749 14s. 1d. The number of annuitants is 12, of whom eight are men and four widows, the former receiving £26 and the latter £21 per annum, with a gratuity at Christmas of £5 to each, whether man or widow. The total outlay required for these poor old folk is £352 a year, to which must be added the one-third part of the expenses of administration, that is to say £76 15s. 8d. Thus the present total outlay by the three branches of the Mark Benevolent Fund amounts in round figures to £1250, of which £230 is in respect of the cost of management; the total capital being £10,600. From these few particulars it will be seen that the Fund of Benevolence connected with our Mark Grand Lodge fulfils the duty as regards its senior branch of the Fund of Benevolence maintained by United Grand Lodge, while, as regards its Educational and Annuity branches, it plays the part of the Craft Masonic Schools and Benevolent Fund, and, as it is admitted on all hands that it fulfils these various objects to excellent purposes, its claims upon the support of our Mark brethren are beyond question.

As for the prospects of Wednesday next, we have already said that the outlook is not quite as favourable as we could wish. In 1888, when the present Pro Grand Master occupied the chair, the Board of Stewards consisted of 153 brethren, and the amount realised was a fraction over £1818. In 1889, Bro. Sir LIONEL DARELL, Bart., the Junior Grand Warden of the year, was in the chair, and the sum of £2087 was raised by 151 brethren. In 1890, the present Deputy Grand Master, Bro. the Earl of EUSTON presided, and a total of £2354 was obtained by the exertions of a Board of Stewards 153 strong while last year when Bro. Viscount DUNGARVAN, P.G.W., presided, a Board of 154 Stewards compiled a total of £1856. The Board of Stewards for Wednesday next is 133 strong, of whom eight are ladies; 29, including the General Board, being representatives from London and Unattached, while the remaining 96 hail from the Provinces. This, then, will be the smallest Board during the last five years, and, though it does not necessarily follow that the amount they will assist in raising should be less than the total for any or all of the four preceding years, it will need a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull all together, in order to bring the result to an equality with the lowest of the four. That this pull may be forthcoming, and that it will prove successful, is a consummation devoutly to be wished, and we sincerely trust it will be our privilege to record the success in our next week's issue, or, at all events, one that will materially assist in strengthening and confirming the position of this most serviceable Fund.

THE PROVINCE OF MIDDLESEX.

Our brethren of the Province of Middlesex are indeed fortunate in their rulers. In their late chief they had a presiding officer, who, while he was strict in the maintenance of discipline, watched over their interests with the greatest solicitude; who never missed the opportunity of doing them a service; and who in all respects was a true "guide, philosopher, and friend" to the youngest as to the more experienced of their members. Last week we had the pleasure of announcing that his ROYAL HIGHNESS the Grand Master had been pleased to appoint Bro. Lord GEORGE

HAMILTON, M.P., as Provincial Grand Master in succession to the late Bro. Sir FRANCIS BURDETT, and there is every reason to anticipate that under his lordship's auspices the Province will maintain the position it has held for so many years. To begin with, he is known throughout the county as a resident of long standing. Moreover, he comes from a thoroughly Masonic family. His father, the late Duke of ABERCORN, who was initiated in the Apollo University Lodge of Oxford, was Grand Master of Ireland from 1874 till his death. His brother, the present Duke, was appointed Senior Grand Warden of England at the memorable meeting in the Royal Albert Hall in 1875, when the Prince of WALES was installed in office as M.W. Grand Master, while for the last few years he has occupied the post so long and so successfully held by his father as chief of the Freemasons of Ireland. Other members of the HAMILTON family are also connected with our Society, while Lord GEORGE HAMILTON himself is a Past Senior Grand Warden of our United Grand Lodge, and on more than one occasion, but especially in 1890, when he presided as Chairman at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, has exhibited a deep interest in the affairs of our Order and the Charities it so generously maintains. We congratulate the large and influential Metropolitan Province on the choice which the M.W. Grand Master has made of its new ruler, whose character and antecedents fully justify the opinion we have expressed already, that under him, as under its late respected chief, it will maintain intact the prestige of which it has enjoyed so ample a measure.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND CALAMITY.

The appalling calamity which has befallen the capital of our oldest Colony is sure to evoke the deepest sympathy of all classes of her Majesty's subjects, whether they reside in the United Kingdom, in British North America, the Antipodes, in our Indian Empire, or in the other Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown. We believe this is the fourth time during these latter years that St. John's, Newfoundland, has been in great part destroyed by fire, but the loss of property on the present occasion is far greater than at either of the preceding fires, amounting, according to the latest estimate, to about two and a half millions sterling. What makes matters worse is the fact that the Colony is far from being a wealthy one, and substantial aid will be needed in order to give the inhabitants, some thousands of whom are homeless and destitute of necessaries, a fresh start.

That this help will be forthcoming there is no doubt whatever. Indeed, Bro. Lord Mayor EVANS has already started a Mansion House Relief Fund, and the Government has dispatched some of the war ships on the North American Station with stores, while the movement has been taken up by the Mayor of Liverpool (Bro. J. DE BELS ADAMS), and will be supported by the chief municipal authorities of our large Provincial cities and towns.

But, as we have said, the amount of substantial aid which will be required will be enormous, and we would suggest that a Special Communication of Grand Lodge should be held at the earliest possible date, so that the Craft may have the opportunity of contributing. It is hardly necessary to remind our readers that there are lodges under the English Constitution in the Colony, and many of them are no doubt aware that the Prime Minister—Bro. Sir JOHN WHITEWAY—who visited England not so very long ago in connection with the Newfoundland Fisheries Question—is District Grand Master. Thus if a special reason is needed for the adoption of so unusual a course, it will be found in the losses sustained by our Newfoundland brethren, whose Hall has been burnt to the ground, and the property it contained destroyed, to say nothing of the personal losses sustained by the brethren themselves. We are convinced, however, that no reason, special or otherwise, is needed, in order to remind the English Craft of its obvious duty. Some thousands of British subjects have lost their all, and as help to be of real service must be immediate, we are certain our Grand Lodge authorities will be only too ready to take the necessary steps towards enabling the Fraternity to bear its part in the great work of brotherly love and relief.

CONSECRATION OF THE RUNNYMEDE LODGE,

No. 2430.

The rapidly growing Province of Bucks was further increased on Monday, the 11th inst., by the consecration of the Runnymede Lodge, No. 2430, at the Angler's Rest Hotel, Wraysbury. The interesting ceremony was performed by Bro. Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., Deputy Prov. Grand Master, assisted by Bros. J. E. Bowen, Prov. G. Sec., as S.W., and J. Hattersley, P.P.J.G.D., as J.W.

The founders—several of whom are members of the well-known Savage Club Lodge—are Bros. Will. E. Chapman, I.P.M. 2190, W.M. designate; J. Crawford Wilson, S.W. designate; Walter J. Ebbetts, W.M. 2190, P.G. Stwd., J.W. designate; P. S. Abraham, C. L. Carson, Oliver A. Fry, J. Holgate, C. Jones, J. Bowdler Sharpe, C. N. Williamson, and C. J. Sheddon Wilson.

The following visitors were also present: Bros. T. E. Metcalf, Reginald Groome, A. Pearce, P.M. 1572; C. A. Hooper, S.W. 1612; E. J. Wade, W. Lake, P.P.G. Reg. Cornwall; G. Millin, W.M. 2262; H. T. Walker, 3; J. Brandon, Gordon Smith, P.G. Stwd.; R. J. Ball, 209, P.P.G.R. Berks; Franklin Clive, 1319; C. Conyers, 2190; W. W. Hedgcock, 101; and W. W. Lee, W.M. elect 2381.

The lodge was opened, and the hymn "Through the night of doubt and sorrow" having been sung, the founders signified their approval of the officers named in the petition and warrant. The ceremony was then proceeded with, and the new lodge was dedicated and constituted in the usual form.

Bro. Will. E. Chapman was installed as W.M., and the following officers were invested: Bros. J. Crawford Wilson, S.W.; W. J. Ebbetts, P.G. Stwd., J.W.; Oliver A. Fry, Treas.; C. N. Williamson, Sec.; J. Bowdler Sharpe, S.D.; C. L. Carson, J.D.; Chas. Jones, I.G.; P. S. Abraham, D.C.; C. J. Sheddon Wilson and J. Holgate, Stwds.; and Ellis, Tyler.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in proposing that the Consecrating Officers should be elected honorary members, said the founders were grateful to those who, at the expense of time and trouble, had attended to consecrate the lodge.

The proposition having been unanimously agreed to, the DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER returned thanks for the compliment.

Bros. Franklin Clive, Chas. Conyers, Reginald Groome, and Walter Hedgcock, to whom the lodge was indebted for their kindness in undertaking the musical arrangements, were also elected honorary members.

Several propositions for initiation and joining were received and the lodge was closed.

After a well served banquet, the customary toasts were honoured, "The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and "The Grand Officers" being heartily received.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER in proposing "The Deputy Prov. Grand Master and the Prov. Grand Officers," said that this was the first time he had had the pleasure of appearing as a Provincial Mason, and it was therefore with a feeling of novelty that he submitted the toast. The province was to be congratulated upon the fact of having at its head so zealous and efficient a Prov. Grand Master as Lord Carrington, who had done excellent work in Australia by bringing together conflicting elements in a manner that reflected a great deal of credit upon him. The Prov. Grand Master was seconded by an able Deputy Prov. Grand Master, who was a worthy son of a worthy sire, for the name of Brownrigg was well known and beloved in Freemasonry. This was not the first time he had had the pleasure of thanking Bro. Rev. Studholme Brownrigg for services rendered, and he could assure the brethren that the founding of this lodge was due very much to the Deputy Prov. Grand Master for the interest he had taken in it, and the encouragement given. He therefore asked the brethren to drink with all heartiness to the Province of Bucks, the Prov. Grand Master, Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and Prov. Grand Officers.

Bro. Rev. J. S. BROWNRIFF, P.G. Chap., D.P.G.M., said he could not lose one moment in rising to thank the W.M. for the kind manner in which he had proposed the toast. It was true that a great deal of the lion's portion of the work of the province fell upon the backs of Bro. Bro. Bowen, P.G. Sec., and himself, and they occupied that unfortunate position that if there was anybody to be abused it was either the D.P.G.M. or the P.G. Secretary. However, they were perfectly happy under it, and tried to do their best, for there was nothing so easy as to find fault. The great difficulty they experienced was that every man thought he ought to occupy the position of P.S.G.W. These remarks were but a preface to saying that they looked upon this lodge as an old friend coming amongst them. They were glad to see brethren from so distinguished a lodge as the Savage Club Lodge coming down into that peaceful district, for they could indulge in all manner of enjoyment on Saturday at the Savage Club, and then come down to Runnymede and be recruited, and be peaceful, not only in locality but in name. He wished the child of so distinguished a lodge as the Savage Club Lodge a hearty welcome. They would all be somewhat civilised by the advent of this lodge, and would learn what it was to aspire to those higher branches of a profession of which there were so many eminent exponents in the Savage Club, and no member could be found more worthy to represent it in its perignations into a place outside civilisation than the Worshipful Master. They only hoped the Worshipful Master—whose health he now proposed—would bring down into their district that literary and artistic knowledge of which he was so well possessed.

Bro. WILL. E. CHAPMAN, W.M., said it was with feelings of pride and gratification that he welcomed all present at the birth of his second born. The first one, now five years old, was old enough and strong enough to take care of itself, and he wanted them all to help him, so that the second should be something approaching its elder brother or sister. He had to thank them for the kind manner in which they had responded to the toast of the W.M., and he trusted that as years went on he should be enabled to retain the confidence and esteem of his brother Masons and all those who knew him. Some of the founders were members of the Savage Club Lodge, and in coming down into Bucks, he would do no harm to Masonry or themselves. He always looked upon the organisation of a new lodge as a good event, not only because of the beautiful ceremony, but because it was another hostage to their Masonic future. It was another pledge of the interest they took in Masonry, and a promise for the future that they would do all they could in this undertaking as they had done in others in the past. The fact that they had come down into that province would not interfere with their work in London. Most of them were good, anxious, earnest, and enthusiastic Masons, and would support him as they had hitherto done in other places.

Bro. J. E. BOWEN, Prov. G. Sec., replying for "The Visitors," said he was assisted by coming down to enjoy the hospitality of new lodges, and long might they keep it up. So far as the province was concerned, he was pleased to see them, and no one could have expressed his pleasure in better terms than the D.P.G.M. had done. They felt that new lodges would do them good, and when the strength came from the Savage Club they could look for nothing but good.

Bros. J. HATTERSLEY, P.P.J.G.D., and R. J. BALL, P.P.G. Reg. Berks, also replied.

In giving "The Officers," the WORSHIPFUL MASTER said he did not think any Worshipful Master was ever surrounded by such officers who would give him valuable services. He could say what few Worshipful Masters could not say, that of the 10 founders beside himself, he had initiated six of them, and when he said that he thought he should be supposed to know their Masonic work.

Bro. J. CRAWFORD WILSON, S.W., responded, after which the Tyler's toast concluded a pleasant evening.

An excellent musical programme was furnished by Bros. Reginald Groome, Franklin Clive, C. Conyers, and W. Hedgcock.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF MIDDLESEX AND SURREY.

The annual meeting was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, on the 1st instant. Bro. Charles Hammerton, Deputy Prov. Grand Master, presided, with Bro. L. G. G. Robbins, P.G.O., as D.P.G.M.; Bro. Henry Lovegrove, Past G.I. of W., P.P.S.G.W., as Prov. S.G.W.; Bro. Major Newington Bridges, P.P.J.G.W., as Prov. J.G.W. A large number of brethren attended, among whom were Bros. W. G. Brighton, P.P.G.W., Prov. G. Sec.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec.; C. Pulman, P.G.I.G.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.G.S.B., P.P.J.G.W.; A. Saillard, P.G.S.; Rev. J. Cater, G. Chap.; Rev. Samuel, Prov. G. Chap.; General Williams, H. Longman, T. C. Edmonds, W. M. Stiles, P.G. Std. Br.; W. A. Scurrah, P.P.G.R.; and many others.

The minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge held on the 29th June, 1891, and the Special Provincial Grand Lodge of 19th February, were read and confirmed.

The report of the Committee of General Purposes was received and adopted.

The Auditors' report was received and adopted, a grant of 10 guineas to the Mark Benevolent Fund being passed.

Bro. L. G. Gordon Robbins was thanked for his services as Provincial Grand Treasurer.

The roll of lodges was called over, and nearly all the lodges in the province were represented.

The DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER proposed a resolution relative to the death of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., which was seconded at some length by Bro. H. LOVEGROVE, acting P.S.G.W., who spoke of the respect in which the deceased brother was held, and his qualities as a Mason and an English gentleman.

Bro. KLENCK supported the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Bro. L. G. Gordon Robbins was re-elected Provincial Grand Treasurer.

The Provincial Grand Officers were then appointed and invested as follows:

Bro. Dr. H. W. Kiallmark	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Major Collins	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. Richard Wood Samuel	...	...	...	} Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. Finlay	...	...	...
" L. G. G. Robbins	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Edward D. Davis	...	...	...	Prov. G.R. of M.
" W. G. Brighton	...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Samuel Green	...	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" R. Clay Sudlow	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" Chas. H. Phillips	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" C. H. Chauffourier	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" Theodore Hinrichs	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" W. J. Bates	...	...	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" Robert Andrew Marshall	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" J. Webb	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" Charles Wood	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" H. Higgins	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" H. J. Macfarlane	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" A. H. Scurrah	...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" C. E. Trotter	...	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" A. Schaffer	...	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" Chas. H. Köhler	...	...	...
" W. J. Crutch	...	...	...
" W. C. Dickey	...	...	...	...
" John Gilbert	...	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

Bro. H. Lovegrove was appointed Steward for the province for the Mark Benevolent Fund.

Several candidates were proposed to serve on the Committee of General Purposes, and Bros. W. A. Scurrah, H. Lovegrove, C. J. Knightley, and W. M. Stiles were elected.

A distinguished nobleman was recommended to the M.W.G.M. for the office of Prov. Grand Master.

Many letters were read from absent brethren.

At the conclusion of the business the brethren dined together under the genial presidency of the Deputy Prov. Grand Master. Thus ended the annual meeting of one of the most successful Provincial Grand Lodges in England. Long may it carry on its work for the benefit of Mark Masonry.

GRAND IMPERIAL CONCLAVE OF THE KNIGHTS OF ROME AND RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.

A special assembly of the Grand Imperial Conclave was held at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on Friday, the 8th inst., at which the following Sir Knights were present: Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, M.E.G. Viceroy; C. H. Driver, G.J. Gen.; Rev. Hayman Cummings, G.H.P.; C. F. Hogard, P.G. Treas.; C. E. Keyser, G. Architect; Robt. Berridge, G. Marshal; Baron de Ferrieres, P.M.E.G., Viceroy; C. F. Matier, G. Recorder; A. H. Bateman, G. Orator; W. F. Lamonty, Int. Gen.; J. Moon, Frank Richardson, G. R. Cobham, C. Chauffourier, J. A. Gartley, S. J. Brice, jun., Dr. E. M. Lott, W. Edge Stewart, Col. Marmaduke Ramsay, Balfour Cockburn, G. Gregory, R. Clowes, Major Clifford Probyn, and W. W. Lee.

The Earl of Euston having declared the Grand Imperial Conclave duly opened, said they had met to support a motion of sympathy to the widow of their late M.I.G. Sovereign, Sir Francis Burdett, who for many years was the head of the Order, and was esteemed by all the members. All the

good qualities of their late M. Ill. Grand Sovereign were known so well that it was unnecessary to enumerate them, and the Grand Recorder would read the address of condolence to Lady Burdett which had been drawn up.

The GRAND RECORDER then read the following address, which was afterwards unanimously agreed to:—

Lady Burdett,—

We, the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, the Most Eminent Grand Viceroy, and the members of the Masonic and Military Orders of Knights of Rome and of the Red Cross of Constantine, Knights of the Holy Sepulchre and St. John the Evangelist, in Special Grand Conclave assembled, desire to offer to you and your family the most sincere expressions of our sympathy and condolence in the irreparable loss you have sustained by the lamented death of our late Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., who for many years has ruled our Order with the utmost dignity and discretion, and at the same time desire to assure you of our profound sorrow.

We humbly hope that the Omnipotent Ruler of Heaven and Earth may endue you with fortitude to support you in the hour of your sad affliction and console you in your grief and sorrow.

Signed on behalf of the Imperial Grand Conclave,

EUSTON, M. Ill. G. Sov.
DE FERRIERES, M.E.G.V.
C. F. MATIER, G. Rec.

Mark Masons' Hall, London,
8th July, 1892.

The Earl of Euston having retired, the chair was taken by Sir Knight Baron DE FERRIERES, who addressed the sir knights, and said that no time had been lost in meeting to appoint a successor to the late M.I.G. Sovereign, for an Order so important as theirs should not be left without a head. In all Masonic Orders the one who held the position equal to S.W. in the Craft was looked upon as entitled to the chair, but in this instance he was certain it was not merely a matter of rotation, for if they searched the kingdom they could not possibly find one they would have more pleasure in appointing than the Earl of Euston. Whatever office Lord Euston took up he took pride in performing the duties, and if he was elected they would find the Degree taking the place it ought to occupy.

Sir Knight C. F. HOGARD, G. Treasurer, seconded the nomination, and said that ever since the Earl of Euston joined the Order he had taken a very deep interest in it, and if elected he would prove a most efficient and kind Grand Sovereign.

The nomination was unanimously agreed to, and the Grand Sovereign elect having been admitted, he was duly obligated and invested, and proclaimed by the Grand Herald.

Sir Knight Baron de Ferrieres was then invested as Grand Viceroy.

The following sir knights paid homage on their appointment as Intendant-Generals: Rev. Hayman Cummings, Kent; Frank Richardson, Middlesex, Essex, and Surrey; Col. Marmaduke Ramsey, Malta and Tunis; and J. Balfour Cockburn, M.D., Guernsey.

Sir Knight Donald Grant MacLeod was appointed Intendant-General of Burmah, and Viscount Dungarvan Intendant-General of Bristol, Gloucester, and Somerset.

Imperial Grand Conclave was closed, and a banquet was afterwards held at Freemasons' Tavern, at which the M. Ill. Grand Sovereign presided.

"The Queen and Christian Masonry" was first honoured.

Baron DE FERRIERES, Grand Viceroy, then said there was one toast which they should honour—"The Health of the Newly-installed Grand Sovereign." It was difficult to speak of a man before his face, and especially a man such as their Grand Sovereign, who did not like fulsome flattery. Many men in high positions were ready to accept office, but few were prepared to do the work. This was not the case with the Earl of Euston, who had always performed the duties attached to the offices he had held, and did not study his own convenience when any work was to be done. The Order would doubtless progress under his rule, and in a few years occupy the high position it so well deserved.

The Earl of EUSTON, M. Ill. Grand Sovereign, in reply, said he could only say that he would do his best for the Order, and he thanked them most heartily for the high honour conferred upon him in electing him as Grand Sovereign. He thought this was an Order which might in due course—if they went on steadily and looked well before they leapt—attain a prominent position. He should personally be ready to render any assistance required, and for a start he had promised to go to Chatham on the 29th of August, when the Province of Kent would hold their Conclave. He thanked the Grand Viceroy very heartily for the way he had spoken of him, and the sir knights for the manner in which he had been received on this and former occasions.

"The Grand Viceroy" was next given by the Earl of EUSTON, who said that Baron De Ferrieres had done good and loyal service to this Order, and he thanked him for again taking office.

Baron DE FERRIERES, G. Viceroy, thanked the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign for the kind way in which he had proposed the toast. He had seen that their late lamented Sir Francis Burdett was failing a good deal, and he thought that if they could get Lord Euston to be his successor it would be a good thing for the Order. He had been willing to fall into the arrangement and take the office of Grand Viceroy for one year, when one who was worthily following in the steps of Lord Euston would succeed him. The proceedings then terminated.

MASONIC SERVICE AT ORTON-LONGUEVILLE
CHURCH, NEAR PETERBOROUGH.

On Sunday, the 26th ult., the brethren of St. Peter's Lodge, No. 442, Peterborough, in response to an invitation from the rector, Bro. Rev. Peter Royston, Chaplain 442, Prov. G. Chap. Norths and Hunts, attended evening service at Orton-Longueville Church, Huntingdonshire. The brethren, to the number of 70, assembled in the school-room at 5.45 p.m., when the Secretary, Bro. Dixey, read the dispensation to wear Craft clothing, which had been granted by Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, D.L., Prov. G.M., and having clothed themselves in the regalia of the Order, walked in procession to the church, which was close by, preceded by the Prov. Grand Tyler and the Prov. Grand Std. Br. carrying the banner of the lodge. Bro. G. C. Caster, P.M., officiated as D.C.

The service commenced by singing the hymn "Onward, Christian Soldiers," after which Bro. Rev. G. G. W. CLEMENGER, M.A., rector of Alwalton, Hunts, and formerly Chaplain of Stability Lodge, No. 824 (I.C.),

read the Litany, and Bro. R. W. ELSEY, B.A., Stwd. 442, read the lesson taken from II. Chron., ii.

Then followed the hymn before the sermon "O Lord, how joyful 'tis to see," after which the PROV. GRAND CHAPLAIN ascended the pulpit and preached an admirable sermon from the text "Be kindly affectioned one towards another with brotherly love."—Rom. xii., 10. He said:

Dear Brothers,—We often meet together in solemn conclave and around the social board. This evening we are gathered together to present our prayers and praises to the "Supreme Ruler of the Universe," not only on behalf of ourselves, but of others also, earnestly beseeching Him that the work begun in His name may be continued to His glory and evermore established in us and them by obedience to His precepts. I bid you, one and all, a hearty welcome here to-night. The command contained in the words of our text is not a new command to mankind. It is as old as the human race itself. It has an original human instinct; a fundamental obligation; born in heaven, promulgated in paradise, retained on earth, though, alas! alas! often marred by the blatant voices of selfishness, passion, and policy. Yet, it still survives in the hearts of the honest and the true, and is manifested in ten thousand outward acts of Christian philanthropy in our midst, in obedience to the Divine injunction—"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself." (St. Luke x., 27.) Let us apply an instance in confirmation hereof, with which we are all familiar, viz.—when two persons come to be united in "the holy bands of matrimony," then the officiating minister, addressing those assembled to witness the ceremony, amongst other things says—that marriage "was ordained for the mutual society, help, and comfort, that the one ought to have to the other, both in prosperity and adversity." From which it would appear that this sentiment exactly expresses the feeling which first united the brotherhood of Freemasons together, it may be hundreds or thousands of years ago, and is the principle which prompts the practical action flowing from that "Charity," or love, whichever should exist amongst those who desire mutual intercourse and benefit. These words—"Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love"—addressed by the Apostle to his Gentile converts at Rome, are no mere idle words, but they tell us how fully he was imbued with the spirit of his Master, and convey to us the motor power for our daily life, belonging as we do to the vast human family, united by the same principles and interests. They denote the badge of discipleship in our mutual intercourse, our natural affection, our trials and afflictions in this sublunary sphere—

Great, generous, virtuous, good and brave,
Are titles Masons justly claim;
Their deeds shall live beyond the grave,
Which some unborn shall loud proclaim;
Time shall their glorious acts unroll,
And love with friendship charm the soul.

The many precepts which exhort us to be "kindly affectioned one to another" abound in the Divine code of Scriptures, and form a valuable digest of practical godliness; a beautiful illustration of the morals of Christianity; illustrating the close and intimate connection between doctrine and duty, faith and practice, so that we may "become the servants of God, have our fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life"—the very code of Freemasons. "There would be less reason for despair, greater promotion of the world's best interests, more confidence in the future, if the true principles of Freemasonry were more fully known, and more zealously translated into action," says a brother Chaplain (Rev. C. E. Bagot). "For if we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and His love is perfected in us." (St. John iv., 12.) A love which leads a true heart to value and esteem his fellow man; earnestly to desire complacency and satisfaction in his welfare, sympathise with him in affliction, and do him good whenever he has opportunity. Surely, this fraternal love is entirely opposed to that natural indisposition which exists in the hearts of those who take no deep interest in their fellow men. Alas! we all of us know, only too well, how by nature pride, hatred, malice, self-love rule in the heart; by nature men are hateful and hating one another. Such feelings it should ever be our daily duty earnestly to strive and eradicate, as they only too often produce and exhibit a hurricane of discordant elements; a whirlpool of contending passions in the midst of the human family. The tender and sincere regard one for another is sufficiently important to make it the subject of Divine command, binding on the brothers of our Master to the end of time. For he distinctly enjoins, "A new Commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another." The sweetness and tenderness with which this was given, as well as the last act of His loved, which he consummated on Calvary, should make a lasting impression on our minds and ensure a faithful and continued observance of it in our midst. St. John, ever styled the beloved disciple, whose soul was imbued with more of this Heavenly principle than perhaps ever mortal enjoyed out of Heaven, inculcated it both by precept and example. Being, as you are aware, the longest lived of our Blessed Lord's disciples, and spending his days in the bright exemplification of "brotherly love," was—as we are told by the historian St. Jerome—when too feeble to walk, wont to be carried to his church at Ephesus, over which he presided as Bishop, and when incapable of the effort of producing a longer discourse, would raise his trembling hands and breathe the exhortation, "Little children, love one another." And on being asked why he so often repeated this one saying, he replied, "Because it is the Lord's command, and enough is done if this be done." Brothers, as the common creatures of one Creator, "For we are His offspring," we ought, at least, to preserve in our minds some regard for our fellow men and never despise the least of whom was "created in the image of God," and who possesses in common with ourselves a principle of immortality which will run on parallel with the existence of Deity Himself. A spark never to become extinct ought most assuredly to claim a yearning sympathy and love for his welfare. We shall thus be saved from the folly noticed by the wise King Solomon, when he declared—"He is void of understanding that despiseth his neighbour" (Prov. xi. 12, xiv. 21). Now let us mark well a fact of vast importance upon this fraternal gathering. Not only is "brotherly love" an injunction of the Saviour's, and enjoined alike by Evangelists and Apostles, as well by the ties of creation and Christian fellowship, but every principle which is opposed to it, which rules in the human heart is productive of misery to the individual himself, as well as to others in proportion to the strength exerted! This is a truth so fully confirmed by daily experience that none will question it. Let anger, pride, covetousness, envy, hatred, reign in the heart, and they will soon be exhibited in the conduct; others will soon feel their bitter effects; the empoisoned breadth of slander, will blast the fairest character; pride will pour unmerited contempt in every form; greedy rapacity will grasp for more than is due; untold misery will

be inflicted on those around; and if the individual himself confessed the truth, his state might be expressed in the language of Milton's archangel—"Hell is where'er I am, myself a hell." Oh! let us earnestly contend against such diabolical sentiments and feelings, and endeavour, on the contrary, to exceed one another in the emulation of exhibiting the same mind that was in Christ. Thus, we shall be obeying the apostolic precept—"In lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves"—a precept containing more true politeness, and far more productive of real happiness, than all the writings of accomplished worldlings, because practically it is productive of no small degree of true happiness in ourselves, and those with whom we are associated. Let us, dear brothers, ask ourselves, individually and collectively, have I this spirit of Christianity, this spirit of true Freemasonry, this spirit of true humility manifested in the spirit of sincere fellow-feelinghood? Is it the ruling motive of our cardiac attachments? The proof to others, and the evidence to ourselves, that we are true members of the vast family of mankind; believers in what He taught who is "God of the substance of the Father, begotten before the world; and man of the substance of his mother, born in the world; perfect God and perfect man, of a reasonable soul and human flesh subsisting." Has the natural malevolence of our hearts been destroyed by a higher power than that which is innate? Has the spirit of our Master been engrafted into our very selves? If we have it not, we cannot class ourselves amongst the faithful family of the Most High! Oh! may we, day by day, go to the source of all benevolence, and rest not till the "love of God" is shed abroad in our hearts by the power of the Holy Spirit. Go, in the language of our Church, and say—"O God, Who hast prepared for them that love Thee, such good things as pass man's understanding, pour into our hearts such love towards Thee, that we, loving Thee above all things, may obtain Thy promises, which exceed all that we can desire, through Jesus Christ our Lord." Finally, from whence comes this fraternity? This dispensing of love and mercy? The prophet answers—"Have we not all one Father, hath not our God created us?" (Malachi ii., 10.) That Creator is He to whom we bow the knee, saying as we do so, "Our Father which art in heaven." And why do we say "Our Father?" Because He is a father not to us only, but to others. St. Paul speaks in Titus (iii., 4) of the philanthropy (original) of God—"He has shown a father's heart to humanity in the Cross of His dear Son." If we would be "followers of Him" (Eph. v., 1), we must have the same mind in us. Philanthropy and fraternity are one. To say "Our Father" is to acknowledge all men as brethren. Out of such acknowledgment real Charity comes—"Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Out of love comes sympathy. "Rejoice with them that rejoice," says St. Paul, "and weep with them that weep." Our neighbour's interest becomes ours; his joys ours; his sorrows ours; he is our brother. If he has wronged or owes us anything we deal gently with him; he is our brother. We love our enemies; we do good to them that hate us; we pray for them that despitefully use and persecute us; they are our brethren. We feed the hungry; we clothe the naked; we search out the poor and destitute; they are our brethren. We look for the same services of mercy when we stand in need; we are their brethren. Thus would the whole family, hearkening to the gospel of the Great Father's love, be bound together by the same blessed tie. This is the true keynote of our Brotherhood and the Church on earth.

Almighty Sire! our Heavenly King,
Before whose sacred name we bend,
Accept the praises which we sing,
And to our humble prayer attend.
All hail, Great Architect Divine,
This universal frame is Thine.

Grant us, great God! Thy powerful aid,
To guide us through this vale of tears;
For when Thy goodness is displayed,
Peace soothes the mind, and pleasure cheers.
All hail, Great Architect Divine!
This universal frame is Thine.

Inspire us with Thy grace Divine,
Thy Sacred Law our guide shall be;
To every good our hearts incline,
From every evil keep us free.
All hail! Great Architect Divine!
This universal frame is Thine.

Amen. So mote it be.

After the sermon the Old Hundredth hymn was sung, during which the offertory, which amounted to £16 3s., was taken. The Rector before commencing his sermon announced that the collection would be given to some specific object in connection with the restoration of the church (which he has been most indefatigable in carrying out during the past two years), to be decided hereafter by a Committee of the brethren of St. Peter's Lodge, No. 442.

After service, the Marchioness Dowager of Huntly kindly threw open the lovely gardens of Orton Hall, and the brethren and their friends were conducted through the grounds by the head gardener, Mr. Harding.

The company then adjourned to the rectory lawn, where they were most hospitably entertained by the Rector and Mrs. Royston, and returned to Peterborough about 8.30 p.m., having thoroughly enjoyed the service, and much appreciated the kindness of Lady Huntly, and the hearty and fraternal welcome accorded to one and all by the much respected and popular Rector and his good wife.

The following is a list of the brethren who attended:

Bros. A. M. Pentney, W.M.; R. Payling, P.P.S.G.D., I.P.M.; J. E. Culance, S.W.; Rev. P. Royston, M.A., P.G.C., Chap.; T. W. Harrison, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., Treas.; W. Dixey, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Sec.; G. C. Caster, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., D.C.; H. C. Clarabut, P.P.G. Org., S.D.; I. Whited, J.D.; W. Varnon, Org.; C. Wigfall, I.G.; R. W. Elsey and G. J. Gray, Stewards; H. Plowman, P.G.T.; Tyler; F. G. Buckle, P.M., P.G. Sec.; J. B. Vergette, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; E. Vergette, jun., P.M., P.P.G.R.; J. Wheeler, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; J. T. Smith, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; E. Waller, M.D., P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. W. Kirby, P.M.; J. Hardy, P.M. 1386; J. Whear, P.M. 996; E. Adams, S. Bamber, Dr. J. G. Barford, W. Brown, S. Boyer, F. Caster, J. Clifton, J. Cocks, T. Cook, P.P.G.T.; C. E. Crawley, J. W. Cutlack, G. R. Dickens, W. Goodyer, jun., T. H. Griffin, J. M. Kennedy, M.D., J. H. Kirk, R. H. Knighton, W. B. Livett, J. H. Pearson, W. H. Pentney, P.G. Steward; D. H. Redhead, W. S. Saunders, W. Seabrook, J. Simpson, G. H. Smalley, W. H. Snow, S. Stanley, G. H. Stewart, C. Tebbs, J. B. Tebbutt, J. T. Tourt, G. H. Wartnaby, and J. J. Wheeler. Visitors: Bros. T. Beesley, J. H. Beeby (Mayor of Peterborough), Rev. G. G. W. Clemenger, H. C. Dunn, J. Maurice Franks, P.M. 376, P.P.J.G.D. Suffolk; Sergeant-Major Fuller, 570 (I.C.); H. H. Garton, S.D. 362; J. R. Griffin, J. Mackinder, F. Pinney, S.W., W.M. elect, and J. C. Royce, P.M., P.S.G.D., of 466; T. T. Groves, W. H. Pike, P.M. 1639, P.G.P. Bucks; and A. P. Turner, 107.

AN ORATION.

The following oration was delivered by Comp. C. L. Mason, P.P.G.H., at the consecration of the Prudence Chapter, No. 2069, held on Saturday the 25th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds:—

It was not my intention to take any prominent part in the proceedings of to-day, but to be a silent observer. However, a few days ago I received the commands of the Grand Superintendent of West Yorkshire to prepare an address, as I should be called upon to deliver one. When the command came I could not as a loyal member of the Order disobey, and hence I must ask your kind indulgence for a few minutes. It was a memorable day for many when on the 8th November, 1884, Lodge Prudence was consecrated by the then Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Tew, now the esteemed Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire (whose absence we all so much regret to-day), surrounded by a brilliant gathering of the Craft, and the installation of the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Leeds, Bro. Edwin Woodhouse, P.M., as its first Master. The establishment of Lodge Prudence may be said to have been a venture, because it was the establishment of a lodge on special lines—lines not previously adopted in this important northern province. I am glad that the feeling then aroused has happily subsided, and the prophecy that the lodge would not exist on those special lines three years has proved incorrect, for the lodge has now reached its eighth year of existence, and has proved itself to be a loyal, active, and flourishing lodge, and we are met to-day to extend as it were its borders, by the establishment of a chapter on its own peculiar lines. The inception of Lodge Prudence belonged to our worthy Past Master, Bro. Tudor Trevor. He has his reward in the success that has attended his labours, as well as the good-will and esteem of his brethren and companions. We are assembled to-day to dedicate a new chapter of Royal Arch Masonry. I need not stop to enquire what a chapter of Royal Arch Masonry is, nor dilate upon it historically, but I would rather dwell on that higher, nobler theme what it teaches. What are we told? It is founded on the name of Jehovah. It has virtue for its aim, the glory of God its object and the eternal welfare of man is considered in every part, point, or letter of its ineffable mysteries. It is the "summum bonum or grand whole." Grand whole of what? One whole Masonic structure. The Royal Arch is, and must be, the very climax of the Order, for it deals with a theme which is above every other theme, and which no other can approach much less surpass; for however graceful, however useful, other Degrees may be as incentives to imagination the Royal Arch can have no equal. Masonry would be incomplete unless it led us by gradual steps to the contemplation of the Great Jehovah, the incomprehensible Alpha and Omega, "who was, and is, and is to come, the actual, future and eternal, and all sufficient God, who alone has His being in and of Himself, and gives to all others their being, so that He is what He was and was what He is, and shall be both what He was and what He is to all eternity, all creation dependant on his mighty will." The more I reflect on, what to us, are the vital principles inculcated in the solemn ceremonial of this Sublime Degree, the more anxious am I that we should approach it with the reverence it claims and to enforce on all the members of the Order the absolute necessity of regarding it with the same amount of veneration. It is very easy and very pleasant to look back and draw the parallel as Freemasonry does between our actual every day life and a true Masonic career. From our dependence on others (as inculcated in the First Degree) for the very preservation of life itself in the days of our childhood, we have drawn the moral that it is our duty to learn and practice an abiding lesson of mutual dependence and equality. Passing onward in life we reached that period when opportunity was given us to practice these principles; the dignity of labour and its usefulness were as clearly shown at its necessity. We were taught that to rightly employ the hours given to us and to consider them as precious talents to be used not only for our own benefit, or for those dependant on us, but for the good of our fellow creatures, and to the glory of our Creator, is the most grateful sacrifice and return we can offer up for all the benefits conferred upon us, when we ourselves most needed assistance. To the man who has cultivated his intellectual powers to the glory of God and the welfare of his fellow creatures, who has modelled his life by the sacred dictates of morality and religion, the warm noon tide of life glides easily and swiftly into the calm afternoon and the gathering shades of evening, until the night comes, when without doubt or fear he lays down his mortal part in the grave as in a bed, his last look not turned back with vain regret to the scenes of his earthly life, but upward with resignation to that "bright morning star, whose rising proclaimed peace and salvation to the faithful and obedient of the human race." Masonry in this Degree points with no faltering finger to that future beyond the grave, when we shall be in the presence of Him who is the great I AM, "the eternal ruler of the universe, the elemental life, primeval source of all its principles, the very spring and fount of all its virtues." As we pass from the contemplation of the things of this world to those of the world to come, to the study of the attributes of that Supreme Being who is all perfect, we pause with awe in the presence of that dread name around which all the mysteries of this Supreme Degree centre. I entreat you, therefore, brethren and companions, to ponder deeply its meaning and mystery, and never to approach it yourselves, or suffer others so to do, with indifference or irreverence. Remember unless you adopt its solemn teaching the circle of your Masonic duties is incomplete, and all your previous professions and practice valueless. Thus the Royal Arch stands as a beacon, a pillar to guide us through the wilderness of temptation, doubt and difficulty by which we are surrounded in our earthly pilgrimage, until having passed through the dark portals which divide life from death, we enter those happy regions, where the true secrets of Masonry shall be disclosed to the faithful and obedient of the human race. To gain this great end we must during our earthly existence perform, "while it is yet day," the task allotted to us with untiring zeal and unswerving faith. As trusty workmen and faithful companions we must employ our working tools: with the pick-axe we must clear away the rubbish and ruins of a fallen nature, with the trowel we must build up a fairer shrine for the reception of truth and virtue, with the sword by our side we must fight for the weak against the strong, for the good against the evil, for the true against the false, and with the shovel we must bury the rubbish of the old Adam, so that our spirits may be purified to arise, "when summoned by our tremendous but merciful Judge to life eternal, immortal, and everlasting happiness." We shall not understand this Degree rightly if we do not recognise the bond of union it creates between our earthly duties and our heavenly prospects. No rigid adherence to the rules of morality; no mere conscientious discharge of our duties to ourselves, our families, or our neighbours will ever raise us, unless we are actuated and sanctified by a thorough belief in the True and Ever-living God Most High. The constant and strict performance of our duties here is recognised most clearly, and enforced most emphatically throughout the whole of this beautiful Degree. Acting on the teaching of our Sublime Order, "let it not be said that you have laboured in vain and wasted your strength for nought, for your work is before the Lord and your recompense with your God. Finally, brethren and companions, "be all of one mind, live in peace, and may the God of love and mercy delight to dwell amongst us," prosper our handiwork of this day in the establishment of this chapter, preserve us from all discord, and "bless us evermore."

KEYSTONE.—Architecturally the name for those stones which form the sweep of an arch, particularly the last or middle stone placed on the top of the arch or vault. It has been said, erroneously, that the arch was not known in King Solomon's time; but that theory has long since been proved to be untenable by the discoveries and remarks of travellers, and specially by the recent researches in subterranean Jerusalem by Bro. Leuit. Warren.

SUMMER OUTING OF THE DALHOUSIE LODGE,
No. 860.

It was indeed a glorious day and a splendid success. Such was the unanimous opinion of the members of this well-known lodge and their ladies and their friends who were fortunate enough to be present at the pleasant gathering on the 30th ult. Many of the members and their friends met at Waterloo Station where saloon carriages had been reserved for them, and travelled to Staines, when they were met by several who had gone down the previous evening.

After a short visit to the Pack Horse Hotel, the party embarked on board the steam launch, Merry Thames, owned by Mr. Harry Tagg, and in beautiful weather started on the trip down the river to Mortlake.

After going some distance, a lobster and champagne luncheon, provided at the expense of Bro. A. N. Clemow (who was unavoidably absent through press of business) was discussed and very much enjoyed. There was a very liberal supply of fruits in season, presented by Bro. S. Samuel, which was thoroughly appreciated. Mortlake was reached at a little after five, when the party adjourned to Bro. Kirby's, Castelnau House, who provided a liberal banquet, served in excellent style.

The following members and their friends were present: Bro. E. Ames, W.M., and Mrs. Ames; Bro. Sandle and Mrs. Sandle; Bro. Bonn, Mrs. Bonn, and Miss Smith; Bro. R. Burleton, P.M., Treas.; Bro. T. B. Dodson, P.M.; Bro. Fisher, Mrs. Fisher, and Mr. Dewsbury; Bros. R. Baron, Sec.; Samuel; Clapp; Glass; Bro. Wade and Miss Morgan; Bro. Bennett; Bro. J. B. D'Ardenne and Miss Lewis; Mrs. and Miss Roberts; Bro. G. Dickinson, P.M. 1681, and Miss Dickinson; Bro. Bennett, 902; Bro. Smith and Mrs. Smith; Bro. John Bishop, 1744, and Mrs. Bishop; Bro. John Fisher, 1744, Mrs. and Miss Fisher, and Miss Millray; Bro. Bott, 917, and Mrs. Bott; Bro. Wetherall, P.M. 1681, and Mrs. Wetherall; Mr. Welfare and Miss Burrell; Mr. Yeowell, and Bro. R. T. West, 1744, and Mrs. West; and others.

After ample justice had been done to the many good things provided and the cloth had been removed, the W.M., Bro. E. AMES, gave, in suitable terms, the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," which was cordially received.

Bro. DODSON, P.M., the father of the lodge, proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who had done his utmost to make the gathering the success it had turned out to be. The lodge had always had a summer outing, and he had no hesitation in saying that this had been one of the very best.

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm, and the W.M. suitably replied, and said that he was more than pleased that all appeared to have thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The next toast—"The Ladies"—was given in genial terms by Bro. R. BURLETON, P.M., who remarked that it was the toast of the day, and that their outing would have been an utter failure without their presence.

Bro. REDHILL responded. He thought it a great honour to reply for the ladies, who, he was requested to state had more than enjoyed themselves, and he heard it whispered that if it had been possible they would like to have had a moonlight trip back to Staines.

Bro. DODSON, P.M., gave the toast of "The Host, Bro. Kirby." He had received them with every welcome, and had provided an excellent banquet. He had never sat down to a better, and hoped the lodge would always dine at Castelnau House on their summer outings.

Bro. KIRBY, in reply, stated that he was at a loss to know why such nice things should be said of him, and hoped that they would forgive any shortcomings. He was very pleased to see them, and thanked them for the honour they had paid him in entrusting him to provide the banquet.

An adjournment was then made to the beautiful grounds which were illuminated, and dancing was indulged in.

During the evening the brethren and their friends were entertained with songs by Mrs. and Miss Roberts, Mrs. R. T. West, Bros. Dobson, D'Ardenne, Bott, and R. T. West, who were ably accompanied by Mr. M. H. Poole.

Great praise is due to Bro. Dodson and to the Secretary, Bro. R. Baron, for their zeal and courtesy in carrying out this successful outing.

SUMMER OUTING OF THE WHITTINGTON
LODGE, No. 862.

The summer outing of the above lodge took place in glorious weather on Thursday, the 30th ult., when the W.M., accompanied by 50 brethren, ladies, and friends left Waterloo Station in saloon carriages for Staines. Well-appointed carriages were in waiting to convey the party for a lovely country drive, which occupied one hour and a half, arriving at the Pack Horse Hotel, Staines, at 1.30. A first-rate hot luncheon was found ready, to which ample justice was done. At three o'clock all were conducted on board the beautiful steam launch, Her Majesty, for a delightful three hours' trip to Windsor and back, returning to the Pack Horse Hotel at six o'clock. Tea being ready, all sat down to take that refreshing beverage, after which dancing was indulged in to music kindly provided by the W.M., and supplied by Bro. Pritchard.

After dancing Bro. Kemp conducted the company through the beautiful garden belonging to his friend, Mr. Stanley Pearce.

All departed in time for the 8.52 train to Waterloo, the day's proceedings having passed without a hitch.

Bro. COLLINSON, P.M., in his usual happy strain, proposed "The Ladies," which was responded to by Bro. VICTOR WRIGHT in a very witty and delightful manner.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to Bro. H. Kemp for the able way in which he had carried out the programme of the day.

Great praise must be given to the host and hostess of the hotel, Mr. and Mrs. Blamey, for the way they catered for the comfort of the visitors.

The following brethren and ladies were of the party: Bro. V. Day, W.M., and Mrs. Day; Bro. Pauncefort, I.P.M., and Mrs. Pauncefort; Bros. Collis, S.W.; Collinson, P.M.; and Kingston, P.M., Treas.; Bro. Kemp, Steward, and Mrs. Kemp; Bro. and Mrs. Guanziroli; Bro. and Mrs. C. Müller; Bro. and Mrs. Bayliss; Bros. E. Müller, Harrison, Tyler, and Gilbert, Tyler. Visitors: Bro. Walter; Bro. and Mrs. Thompson; Bro. and Mrs. Hill; Bro. and Mrs. Main; Bros. Pinchin, Wright, and Pexton; Mr. Hummel, Mrs. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Blackwell, Mr. Himus, Mrs. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Lundberg, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Simmons, Mr. Gunner, Mr. Hicks, Mrs. Challis, Mrs. Doney, Mrs. Glossup, Madame Berger, Mrs. Fullagar, and many others.

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE "OLD MASONIANS."

The sixth annual dinner of the above Association took place on Monday evening, the 27th ult., at Anderton's Hotel, when a good company sat down. The President, Bro. Col. George Lambert, P.G.S.B., occupied the chair, supported by Bros. Geo. Plucknett, J.P. (Treasurer of the School), J. M. McLeod (Sec. of the School), C. K. Benson, and other influential Masons. Amongst the "Old Boys" present were Hare, Platt, Lucas, Dyer, Mayne, West, Boones, O'Doherty, Simmonds, Glenny, McQueen, Senor, Gough, Ker, Motion, Christensen, R. H. Williams, Francis, Booser, W. J. Packer, Hon. Sec.; C. H. Uwins, Hon. Treas.; and R. S. Chandler, Hon. Sec.

Letters of regret were received from Bros. J. Terry (promising a subscription of £3 3s.), W. W. Beach, A. G. Spaul, Alderman Harwood, George Everett, Vassar-Smith, Sir Augustus Harris, George Read, Blundell Maple, Imbert Terry, W. Shurmur, E. Terry, H. F. Nash, Rev. H. Hebb, and many others.

After a very excellent dinner, provided in Bro. Clemow's well-known style, and when the usual loyal toasts had been duly honoured,

The CHAIRMAN, in a happy speech, proposed "Prosperity to the Old Masonians' Association." He pointed out the amount of good an Association of this kind could do, and said he felt sure that if it were more generally known in the Craft it would receive that due proportion of support to which it was entitled.

Mr. C. H. UWINS, in reply, referred to his approaching resignation of the office of Treasurer, which position he had held since the formation of the Association, but his business duties had so increased as to prevent him giving that amount of attention which the office required. He then proceeded to give a few statistics of the year, in which he mentioned that a profit of £5 1s. had accrued on the three Cinderella dances; that the Benevolent concert had yielded a balance of £4, in addition to the handsome donation of 10 guineas from Bro. Col. Lambert, and one guinea from Bro. Vassar-Smith. He stated that the Benevolent Fund at present amounted to £67, and concluded by making a very touching appeal on its behalf.

Mr. R. S. CHANDLER, Hon. Sec., drew attention to the good work being done by the Association, but that their means were greatly limited. He considered that the policy of the Association for a few years must be one of carefully husbanding its strength, and so building it up to fulfil those duties for which it had been established. He thanked Bro. Col. Lambert for the support he had so generously given them during the year, and mentioned that on two occasions Col. Lambert had sent them a cheque for 10 guineas. He also offered the thanks of the Association to Bro. J. M. McLeod, who had on several occasions kindly come forward and taken the chair at their gatherings, and had still further evinced his interest by informing the Honorary Secretaries whenever he had known of vacant situations likely to suit "Old Boys" in quest of one. He wound up by assuring those present that the Association had a grand future before it if only the members would keep steadily before them the grand principles of Freemasonry.

The toast of "The Past and Vice-Presidents" fell to Mr. W. J. PACKER who, alluding to the visit of the Boys' School to Kempton Park, spoke in terms of great praise of the kindly efforts of Bro. George Everett who had invited them and contributed so much to the success of the outing and the pleasure of all concerned. He further said that this year was the first in which the Association had had Lady Vice-Presidents, and he could not help looking forward to the time when the ladies would grace their annual dinner.

Bro. R. H. WILLIAMS next rose to propose "Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys." He considered that as an "Old Boy" proposing the toast of the School he held an unique position, one of which he was proud. He felt sure that in years to come the "Old Masonians" would be of great support to the Institution, and it gave him great pleasure to say that amongst the Board of Stewards of this year's festival there were to be seen the names of two "Old Boys."

The reply by Bro. J. M. McLEOD was, as the continuous applause showed, fully appreciated. He was certain the Association was doing a good work and fully deserved the support of all good Masons. One thing he especially alluded to was the placing of "Old Boys" who needed it into suitable situations. He was glad that on the Board of Stewards he had received such support from the "Old Masonians."

Mr. J. S. FRANCIS, in an enthusiastic speech, proposed the toast of "The Chairman, our President," who replied in most felicitous terms.

The toast of "The Visitors" was proposed by Mr. R. E. BOONES in a few well-chosen words.

Bro. C. K. BENSON, in reply, promised to do all he could to promote the welfare of the Association by advocating its advantages in Wales.

Before separating, the HON. TREASURER announced that donations to the amount of £30 9s. had been subscribed during the evening—viz., Bro. Col. Lambert the munificent sum of 25 guineas, Bro. Jas. Terry three guineas, and Bro. C. K. Benson one guinea.

Between the various toasts songs and recitations were given by Bro. R. H. Williams, Messrs. E. A. Gough, C. P. O'Doherty, F. Dyer, and C. H. Uwins.

DINNER OF THE HOLMESDALE LODGE OF
INSTRUCTION, No. 874.

The brethren, to the number of over 40, met on Wednesday, the 6th instant, at the Pump Room, Tunbridge Wells, to wind up their very successful session by dining together. An excellent repast was provided by Bro. Dartnell, P.M. The chair was taken by Bro. Simpson, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., the vice-chair being occupied by Bro. T. Ryder, P.M., Preceptor, and supported by Bros. Calway, P.M.; Martin, P.M.; and Hammond, P.M.

After the cloth had been removed, and the usual loyal toasts given,

Bro. SIMPSON proposed "The Holmesdale Lodge of Instruction," and stated that he felt it was a great honour to occupy the chair at such a very pleasant gathering. It was with the greatest interest that he had watched the various workings in lodge. He was extremely gratified to see the increase in numbers of membership, also the willingness with which the brethren worked together for its success. The worthy Chairman also stated that there was little doubt that the Holmesdale Lodge of Instruction was one of the best in the Province of Kent, and he put the success down to that not only were the brethren inspired with true Masonic zeal, but that the lodge was well officered, and he had great pleasure in coupling with the toast the names of Bros. T. Ryder, P.M., Preceptor; A. H. Tester, Sec.; and Calway, Treas.

The toast was received with the usual Masonic honours, and

Bro. T. RYDER, P.M., in response, alluded to the devoted energies with which Bro. Simpson had taken to Masonry, not only in the Province of Kent, but the lodge of instruction, and said that it was his (Bro. Ryder's) hope to very soon see the lodge the best in the province. He also alluded to the more than satisfactory way in which the work had been done by the brethren during the last session for which he thought praise was due and should be given to Bro. Calway, who had acted as Preceptor on the formation of the lodge of instruction, and Bro. Tester, the energetic Secretary.

Bro. A. H. TESTER, Sec., after thanking the brethren for receiving his name, mentioned that the lodge numbered over 50. Thirteen meetings had been held during the session, the First Degree had been worked five times, the Second five times, and the Third three times. Bro. Simpson had performed the installation ceremony to the edification of the brethren, and Bro. Duret, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., had been present one evening to answer questions and queries of Masonic working which had occurred in lodge for the instruction of the members. The Secretary went on to say that it was most probable that the Sections would be worked next session, and that the library in connection with the lodge was making very rapid progress. Letters and telegrams were then read from 20 brethren expressing inability to attend.

Bro. CALWAY, P.M., informed the brethren of the good financial position in which the lodge stood.

"The Chairman's Health" was proposed and received with great enthusiasm, Bro. SIMPSON suitably responding.

Bros. DURRANT, 874, and ALLAN, 1678, replied on behalf of "The Visitors."

One of the great features of the evening was the excellent harmony, instrumental and vocal, of the Holmesdale Glee Society, a talented band of brethren giving great satisfaction. Bro. Gunnell, P.M., recited in his usual brilliant way. A word of praise is due to the Stewards, Bros. Anscombe, Gallard, Potter, Westbrook, and Burslem, for their exertions in making the evening one of the best that has been held in Tunbridge Wells.

THE KAISER AND THE CRAFT.

The German Emperor has contributed 5000 marks to the fund for the erection of a hall for the Faithful Heart Lodge in Strasburg. The members of this lodge have always zealously endeavoured to establish good relations between the native Alsatian and the German immigrants into that province.

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The next meeting of the Committee will be held here on MONDAY, 3rd October, at FIVE o'clock, of which this is to be taken as notice.
FRANK RICHARDSON,
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4th July, 1892. Secretary.

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SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1892.
Masonic Notes.

Since writing our article on the Newfoundland Calamity we have been authorised to announce that his Royal Highness the M.W.G.M. has intimated his intention to propose, at the next meeting of Grand Lodge, a vote of a substantial sum in aid of the sufferers by the recent calamitous fire at St. John's, Newfoundland.

We are pleased to announce that the Supreme Council, 33°, have elected our worthy Grand Secretary, Bro. E. Letchworth, a member of the Thirty-third Degree, in the place of the late Sir Francis Burdett. The Degree was conferred upon him on Wednesday last by the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Order, the Earl of Lathom, in the presence of the members of the Council.

Many worthy brethren are presented with testimonials, but few there are who so fully merit them as Bro. Raymond H. Thrupp, P.A.G.D.C. Bro. Thrupp has been D.P.G.M. of Middlesex for the last 10 years. He is an able intrepeter of our ritual, has shown great tact and judgment in the discharge of the duties of his important office, and is personally one of the kindest and most genial of men. So fully, indeed, has he won the love and respect of his Middlesex brethren, that at the recent annual meeting at Teddington of their Provincial Grand Lodge—of which we published a report last week—they presented him with a multiform recognition of his services, one part of which was for personal use, while another part, which took the form of a Thrupp Prize Fund to the Boys' School, will serve to perpetuate his name and fame as an able Provincial Officer, an expert brother, and a genial man. We hardly know which is most to be congratulated, the brethren of Middlesex who presented this gift, or Bro. Thrupp who received it. May the relations personally existing between them be maintained for many years!

His Excellency Sir Terence O'Brien, K.C.M.G., the Governor of Newfoundland, at present in this country, appeals to the Masonic body for aid for the sufferers by the recent terrible fire at St. John's. Sir Terence, who is a Past Grand Deacon of England and Deputy District Grand Master of Newfoundland, states that the sufferers include a considerable number of Masons, many of whom must be homeless, and that among the buildings destroyed was the Masonic Temple, one of the finest erections in the city. Masons are earnestly invited to forward their contributions to the care of the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House.

With its issue for the month of June the *Canadian Craftsman* completed its 26th volume, and the fourth of the series under its present management. It is an admirable Masonic journal, well edited, and well furnished with news of the Craft in the Dominion. There are occasions on which we have found it necessary to differ from the opinions expressed by our worthy contemporary, but these differences have in no wise diminished the respect in which we hold it, and we gladly take this opportunity of congratulating it on the position it has attained in the ranks of Masonic journalism. May its future be as prosperous and as worthy of respect as its past!

Bro. J. Ross Robertson, M.W.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Canada (Province of Ontario) lately visited King Solomon Lodge, in which he was initiated some 25 years ago. When the usual formal business had been dispatched, our respected brother gave a highly interesting lecture on Craft Masonry, in the course of which he referred at some length to the mysteries of ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome, and afterwards described the rise of the Masonic institution. He supplemented this sketch by tracing the rapid progress made by Freemasonry in England, the rivalry of opposing sections, and the Union of the rival bodies, and thence passed home to Masonry in Canada, of whose early lodges he gave some valuable particulars. Before concluding his lecture, which was listened to throughout with profound attention, Bro. Robertson presented his mother lodge with a handsome gavel of the same pattern as that in use by our Quatuor Coronati Lodge.

From particulars cited in an article in the *Canadian Craftsman* for last month, we learn that the increase of membership under the Grand Lodge of Quebec between 1870 and 1892 has been comparatively small. In 1870 there were 30 lodges, with a total of 1379 members; in 1892, there are 56 lodges, with 3141 members. But during the 22 years between 1870 and 1892 the surplus of initiations, joinings, and restoration over resignations, suspensions, and deaths is only 484, the remainder of the increase in membership between the two dates being accounted for by the accession of 20 lodges previously on the roll of Canada.

At the annual meeting last month of the Grand Lodge of New York, Bro. Sherer was unanimously re-elected M.W. Grand Master, but he declined the honour, and Bro. J. Ten Eyck was elected in his stead, the office of Deputy Grand Master, after an exciting ballot, being conferred on Bro. F. A. Burnham. In his address Bro. Sherer referred in very complimentary terms to the valuable assistance he had received in the performance of his duties from Bro. E. M. L. Ehlers, Grand Secretary, and he expressed a hope, which will be echoed far and wide throughout the New York jurisdiction, that for many, many years the Craft may have the full benefit of Bro. Ehler's "strength, wisdom, and fidelity."

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 HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY IN SHROPSHIRE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."
Dear Sir and Brother,

Will you kindly allow me to reply briefly to the letter of Bro. Lane, contained in your issue of June 25th, and to thank him through your columns as well for the information he has supplied to me, as for his kind expression of his appreciation of my "History of Freemasonry in Shropshire."

I must, of course, accept as a fact his statement that the Lodge of Friendship, Bridgnorth (p. 11) was erased in 1783, yet the curious fact remains that the Grand Secretary wrote to its W.M. in 1786. This it was which misled me. My book was written at a distance from Grand Lodge records, and with no opportunity of personally inspecting them, so that I, too hastily, concluded that the lodge was still in existence in 1786, and did not give sufficient weight to the clear statement of Bro. Lane, founded on his knowledge of official documents, that the lodge was really erased in the former year.

Bro. Lane asks me to note that Nos. 1 and 2 in my "List of Extinct Shropshire Lodges" (p. 51) refer to the same lodge. I think he must, in so asking me, have overlooked my footnote upon that page in which I wrote "No. 2 was No. 1 reinstated." I was quite aware (candour compels me to admit that my knowledge was derived from a perusal of Bro. Lane's own colossal work) that these lodges were identical, and I imagined that I had made myself clear upon the point. With regard to the supposed irregularity (p. 155) of raising a brother on December 3rd, 1821, who had been passed on November 5th, I can only plead ignorance of the decisions which established that the words "one month" referred to in the Books of Constitutions from 1815 to 1841 meant a lunar month. I have always supposed them to mean a calendar month, and I imagine that many brethren are labouring under the same mistaken notion.

I can hardly hope that a second edition of my book will ever be required; if it is, I can assure Bro. Lane that any criticisms that he or any other person may make will receive my most careful attention.—Yours fraternally,

July 10th. ALEXANDER GRAHAM.



Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Southern Star Lodge (No. 1158).—The installation meeting of this successful and flourishing lodge took place at the Bridge House Hotel on Tuesday, the 25th ult. Present: Bros. J. F. Tarrant, W.M.; C. T. Wright, S.W., W.M. elect; A. W. Wright, P.M., Treas.; J. Austin, P.M., Sec.; W. Beecroft, S.D.; A. Hands, D.C.; T. W. Downs, Steward; A. Wells, P.M.; Tom Brady, P.M.; J. Bunker, P.M.; W. W. Block, P.M.; C. Wise, P.M.; J. Block, P.M.; Ashdown, Green, Van Veer, Richards, T. Green, F. Austin, A. Scott, H. N. Morgan, W. C. Tanner, Kelham, Blum, Bellinger, G. J. Robinson, Benson, Hurt, C. Day, H. Robinson, D. E. Campbell, S. Foot, and R. Colston. The visitors were Bros. Bro. R. H. Harriss, P.M. 230; F. R. Rayner, S.D. 1790; E. A. Rice, 1320; J. W. Hartley, P.M. 1986; Rev. Vyvian Tyrrell, 2369, Chap. 1685; W. Williams, 1930; J. Lawrence, 1853; A. Darch, P.M., Sec. 72; C. H. Stone, S.W. 507; A. Knapp, 1585; G. Etheridge, P.M. 554; and W. Menniger, 1559.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. C. T. Wright, S.W., W.M. elect, was presented to the W.M. to receive at his hands the benefit of installation, which was carried out in a large Board of Installed Masters in a most exemplary manner. Bro. C. T. Wright, the new W.M., invested most ably his officers as follows: Bro. Tarrant, I.P.M.; Beecroft, S.W.; Knibb, J.W.; A. W. Wright, P.M., Treas.; J. Austin, P.M., Sec.; Hands, S.D.; Downs, J.D.; Bellchamber, I.G.; G. J. Robinson, D.C.; Richardson and Scott, Stewards; F. Austin, Asst. Sec.; and T. Green, Asst. D.C. The addresses were ably rendered by Bro. Tarrant, I.P.M. A ballot was taken for Messrs. Campbell and Foot, which proving unanimous, they were afterwards initiated in an able and impressive manner by the W.M. The Auditors' report was received and adopted, which showed a goodly sum in the hands of the Treasurer and highly congratulatory. Bro. Bunker, P.M., spoke in most feeling terms of the late Bro. Bertolle, P.M., and the great loss the lodge had sustained, and moved that a letter of condolence be sent to his widow in her sad bereavement, which was carried unanimously. He also could not refrain, he said, from referring to the melancholy event which had taken their highly-esteemed Bro. Detective-Sergeant Joyce, I.G. 871, from the midst of a large circle of friends, who deeply mourned his loss; he had attended his funeral. A proposition was handed in for initiation at the next meeting, which augurs well for the coming year. Letters of absence through unavoidable circumstances were read from two brethren.

The business of the lodge ended, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, personally superintended by Bro. Pearce, which was much appreciated.

The Worshipful Master afterwards gave the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft" and "H.R.H. the Prince of

Wales, M.W.G.M.," in a highly appreciative manner; and which were as loyally received.

That of "The M.W. Pro G.M., the R.W. Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," the Worshipful Master remarked was one which was always received most heartily, as they were most deserving of our greatest thanks for their able services rendered to the Craft.

Bro. Tarrant, I.P.M., next gave the toast of "The W.M.," remarking that that was the one special duty which devolved upon him. He was delighted to listen to the W.M.'s excellent working that evening, and was bound to say the lodge had a W.M. second to none.

The Worshipful Master, in reply, most cordially thanked the I.P.M. for his kind remarks, and the brethren for such a reception. He was proud to be in the position of W.M., especially as his father was initiated and had been entrusted as Treasurer for the past 17 years, and now he had the honour of investing him as the Treasurer for the ensuing year. He felt it an unique position. His brother had also been initiated in this lodge. All these circumstances greatly endeared the lodge to him, and he promised his very utmost endeavours for its benefit.

The Worshipful Master next gave the toast of "The Installing Master," whom he said had discharged his duties during the past year as any W.M. had before him, and especially had rendered the installation ceremony exceedingly well. He considered it a great honour and a duty in pinning to his breast the jewel so unanimously voted by the lodge, trusting the G.A.O.T.U. would give him health to wear it in remembrance of his faithful duty to the lodge.

In reply, Bro. Tarrant most suitably acknowledged the kind sentiments expressed, and especially for the splendid jewel, which he trusted he might long wear, and he should never forget his mother lodge. He had had a very successful year, and he heartily thanked the brethren for their kind support.

In giving the toast of "The Initiates," the Worshipful Master stated he had known them for some years, and he was confident the lodge would never regret their admission into Freemasonry, but that they would prove themselves most worthy. The brethren of the Southern Star Lodge gave them a most cordial greeting.

In reply, the Initiates stated they were greatly impressed with the beautiful ceremony, and would endeavour to prove themselves worthy of the lodge.

The next toast was accorded "The Visitors," who were given a most hearty reception, and ably responded to by Bros. Hartley, Tyrrell, Stone, and Darch, who paid a high compliment on the working of W.M. and I.P.M., and also to Bro. Wise, P.M., who acted so ably as Preceptor of the lodge of instruction, and from whom so many brethren of the lodge had gained instruction.

The toast of "The Past Masters" received its just reward, and was suitably replied to by the Treasurer, who remarked he had been connected with the lodge for 25 years, and would assure the brethren he had a great love for Masonry. He had done his best, and would never forget the trust that they had reposed in him for so many years.

Bro. Bunker also replied that he was proud to have invested the W.M. with his first collar during the jubilee year, and he was confident the lodge would never regret electing him to that high office, and that he would go through his year of office with credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren; that he would pass that parchment on pure and unadorned as he had received it, and at the end of the year the brethren would say, well done!

In giving the toast of "The Officers," the Worshipful Master congratulated himself upon so good a body.

This was most effectively responded to by the Senior and Junior Wardens.

The Tyler's toast closed a remarkable and happy meeting.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Mr. Ben Hogg, ably supported by Madame Amy Belmore, Madame Christine Steward, Messrs. Charles Hardy, Ben Hogg, and Parkinson. Mr. Geo. Hardy ably presided at the piano.

Hendon Lodge (No. 2206).—An emergency meeting of this popular lodge took place at the Welsh Harp, Hendon, on Saturday, the 9th inst. Present: Bros. Nottingham, W.M.; A. Scurrah, S.W.; W. M. Stiles, P.M., acting J.W.; Lewis, I.P.M.; W. A. Scurrah, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W. Middx., Sec.; Stiles, P.M., Treas.; W. Powell, D.C.; Jabez Mason, S.D.; Johnson, I.G.; R. Whiting, Tyler; Ling, Jos. Mason, Adam, H. C. Parsons, H. Cronin, Stansall, King, and Gunn. The visitors were Bros. C. H. Stone, S.W. 507; D. Ososki, J.W. 704; Garrard, J.W. 590; Dr. Goodchild, P.M. 704; Searl, 108; and Crofts, 1986.

The ballot was taken for Messrs. E. H. Jenkins, Jas. King, T. G. Pemberton, and H. H. Griffiths (who had been proposed and seconded at the last regular meeting), which proving unanimous in their favour, they were very impressively initiated by the W.M., Bro. A. A. Nottingham. Bros. H. C. Parsons and T. Ling were raised to the Sublime Degree in a most perfect manner by Bro. Lewis, I.P.M.

The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a capital repast catered for by the proprietor, Mr. Warner, which was much enjoyed.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were afterwards given in most befitting terms, and as equally well received.

That of "The Pro G.M., Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," was given in capital style by the Worshipful Master, and heartily received by the brethren.

Bro. Lewis, I.P.M., next gave the toast of "The Worshipful Master," remarking that he had stated at the last regular meeting it was the last occasion he should have the privilege of proposing that toast, but circumstances had so ordered it that once more it gave him the greatest pleasure in submitting it. That evening was the W.M.'s crowning success, for he had worked the ceremony of initiation in an admirable manner.

The toast was received most enthusiastically, and

In reply the W.M. thanked the I.P.M. and brethren for receiving him with such enthusiasm. He was only too pleased to do what he possibly could for the lodge. What he had done was only his duty, and he should always strive to his utmost to advance its interests. He was always delighted to be amongst the brethren of the Hendon Lodge.

The W.M. next gave the toast of "The Initiates" in very becoming terms, remarking the previous knowledge he had of them all only convinced him they would be a credit, and prove themselves worthy of the lodge. He could not but

Knights Templar.

HAMPTON COURT.

Mount Calvary Encampment (D).—

This old encampment met at the Mitre Hotel on the 16th ult. Among those in attendance were Sir Knights L. Steele, E.C.; Nelson Prower, M.A., 2nd Capt.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.E.C.; Reg., W. Maple, C. of G.; F. Egbert Roberts, Org.; H. Hills; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.E.C.; G. Graveley, P.E.C.; H. J. Lardner, P.E.C.; W. Paas, P.G.B.B., P.E.C. (Hon. Mem.); and others.

The minutes of the previous encampment having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Sir Knight the Rev. R. Fillingham, M.A., Old Kent Preceptory, as a joining member, and it proved unanimous. Apologies were received from Sir Knights T. Ward, I.P.E.C.; Major F. J. Stohwasser, P.E.C., P.G.S.B., Treas.; C. Pratt, and others.

The encampment was then closed, and the sir knights partook of an excellent banquet, the viands and wines being, as usual, most excellent, thanks to the catering of the genial and venerable host, Bro. Sadler.

The executive of the encampment are to be congratulated upon the success that attended the whole proceedings. In the earlier part of the day a number of the members and their visitors proceeded by a steam launch from Tagg's Island to Staines and back, lunching *en route* at the Bridge Hotel, Chertsey.

During the banquet Sir Knight F. Egbert Roberts entertained the party by his powerful vocalisation.

Some excellent speeches were made by the visitors, notably Sir Knights T. Simpson, G. Hervert, Rev. P. Oglivie Ashby, M.A., and T. O. Harding, M.A.

MANCHESTER.

St. Joseph Preceptory (No. 9).—The regular meeting was held recently at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street. The preceptory was opened by Sir Knight F. W. Lean, P.E.C., who officiated literally at a moment's notice in the absence of the Eminent Prior, and ably installed Comp. Matthew Aspden as a sir knight.

The following were present: Sir Knights F. W. Lean, P.E.C.; J. H. Hughes, P.E.C.; A. H. Jefferis, P.E.C.; E. Pike, P.E.C., Chancellor; Samuel Warburton, P.E.C.; W. H. Southern, Marshal; G. S. Smith, Sub-Marshal; J. Hardwicke Marsh, acting as C. of L.; G. A. Myers, Almoner; Harry Gordon Small, and Matthew Aspden.

Allied Masonic Degrees.

Metropolitan Council (T.I.).—A meeting of this old council was held at the Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 17th ult. Among those present were Bros. W. G. Lemon, W.M.; H. J. Lardner, S.W., Master elect; W. Vincent, J.W.; Capt. Walls, P.M., Sec.; E. Shepherd, J.D.; E. Sweeny, I.G.; H. H. Shirley, D.C.; Baron de Ferrieres, P.M.; N. Prower, M.A.; and E. J. Mills, Tyler.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Nelson Prower, M.E.Z. elect, 1745, received the Degree of H.P. Bro. H. J. Lardner having been presented was installed W.M. by Bro. Lemon. The following appointments and investitures then took place: Bros. W. Vincent, S.W.; A. McDowall, J.W.; George Powell, Treas.; T. C. Walls, Sec.; G. Graveley, Conductor; C. Shepherd, S.D.; E. Sweeny, J.D.; H. H. Shirley, M.A., I.G.; L. Steele, C.E., D.C.; N. Prower, M.A., Org.; and E. Mills, Tyler. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Officer, and he was invested with a Past Master's jewel. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. An important resolution bearing upon the financial future of the council was unanimously passed. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. C. F. Matier, G. Sec.; Lieut.-Col. G. Lambert, P.M.; A. Williams, P.M.; Major W. B. Williams, J.P., P.M.; R. L. Loveland, P.M.; Geo. Powell, Treas.; A. McDowall, G. Graveley, and T. Poore. Bro. Poore in consequence of ill-health having resigned the active membership of the council he was unanimously elected an honorary member.

The council was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant to dine. The W.M. presided most genially and ably. A few toasts were given and the proceedings terminated.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The July Quarterly Court of Governors and Subscribers of this Institution was held on Friday, the 8th inst., in the Board Rooms, Freemasons' Hall, when Bro. C. E. Keyser, G.D., presided. There were also present on the occasion Bros. W. A. Scurrah, George E. Fairchild, C. H. Webb, G. Adamson, J. S. Cumberland, James Brett, George Bolton, James Terry, J. G. Stevens, H. Massey, W. Masters, G. E. Lake, D.P.G.M., Herts, H. E. F. Bussey, C. Pulman, W. Russell, and J. M. McLeod, Secretary.

The notice convening the meeting stated that the Court was called for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution, to consider the following notice of motion by Bro. George Everett, P.G. Treas., President: "That the Board of Management be authorised to fill up additional vacancies that have occurred in the School by admitting two of the unsuccessful candidates at the election of Friday, 8th April last, who were next on the poll," and to consider and, if approved, to adopt a recommendation from the Council as to the number of boys to be elected at the Quarterly Court on Friday, 14th October, and to determine the list of candidates.

In the course of laying before the Court the minutes of the different meetings held since the former Court,

a statement was read of a resolution of Council, which contained among other things a notice of the unexpectedly large amount of nearly £13,000 collected at the last Festival of the Boys' School, attributing this great collection in a considerable measure to the exertions of Bro. McLeod, the Secretary of the Institution.

Bro. KEYSER said that he fully agreed, and he was sure all the brethren fully agreed, with this reference, and he thought that a more formal recognition should have been made of Bro. McLeod's efforts, which had been unremitting on behalf of the Festival, and in the interests of the Institution.

Bro. MCLEOD thanked the Chairman for his kind reference to him.

The minutes of Council of the 3rd instant showed that 15 boys were unsuccessful at the last election in April, that two of these were dealt with in Bro. Everett's proposed motion, which, if passed, would reduce the number to 13, that two were approved at the Council meeting in May, 12 in June, and 11 in July, and that the Council recommended that this total number of 38 should be declared as the approved list of candidates for the election of Friday, October 14th. The Council also recommended that 24 of this number should be elected.

Bro. W. MASTERS then moved for Bro. Everett, who was unavoidably absent—"That the Board of Management be authorised to fill up additional vacancies that have occurred in the School by admitting two of the unsuccessful candidates at the election of Friday, 8th April last, who were next on the poll." He stated that the brethren were aware that two of the boys in the School left it the day after the election, and this motion was to enable the Board of Management to fill the vacancies thus caused.

Bro. KEYSER remarked that the brethren understood what occurred, and the Council and the Board of Management were anxious to have no vacancy, but to keep the School up to its full state of efficiency.

Bro. J. S. CUMBERLAND seconded the motion, which was then put and carried.

Bro. W. A. SCURRAH moved that the Court adopt the recommendation from the Council that the number of approved candidates for the election of Friday, 14th October, 1892, be 38, and that 24 boys be elected.

Bro. C. PULMAN seconded the motion, which was put by the CHAIRMAN, and carried.

Bro. J. S. CUMBERLAND gave notice that he would move at the next Quarterly Court in October to alter Rule 48—"That the Council shall meet at the office of the Institution on the first Saturday in every month, except when that day shall fall on the Saturday immediately before Bank Holiday, when the meeting shall be held on the following Saturday, September excepted, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon." He proposed that the meeting should be on the last Friday in every month, except in the case of such day falling immediately before Bank Holiday, or on Good Friday, when the meeting shall be held on the next following Friday, September excepted, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. He pointed out that a change of this kind was necessary, as, with the Saturday half-holidays circumstances had so altered since the rule was framed, that it was now extremely inconvenient for the brethren to remain in town for these meetings.

The CHAIRMAN said it would not be necessary to argue the question now. Bro. Cumberland could give notice of his motion for the next Quarterly Court and state his reasons when the motion came before the brethren.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

THE OLD CHARGES.

A short time ago the *Freemason* had some notes of mine upon the old Masonic Charges, touching upon the change of front that would be necessitated by the acceptance of Bro. Howard's theory in regard to the derivation of *Namas Grecus* from Nimes, or Nimes, in France. Since then our learned critic, Bro. Dr. Begemann, has given the great weight of his opinion, in *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum*, against the acceptance of this theory. His opinion is unchanged by Bro. Howard's paper and is practically that which I have previously advocated, namely, that our latest Charges have been derived by evolution and selection from an original charge of Athelstan's time, carried forward thus: (1) in the second part of the original of "Cooke," say 1400; (2) in the original of "Wm. Watson," say 1475; (3) in the original of "The Modern Charges," say 1520. I am, however, of opinion that a good deal may yet be said in favour of Bro. Howard's theory. "The Regius" and second part of "Cooke," as the purest Athelstan version, do not coalesce with our Semitic ceremonies, which are certainly older than Grand Lodge of 1717, such coalition only occurs in the first part or Commentary of "Cooke;" if Bro. Howard is wrong it behoves some one to propose another and better theory, that will account for the Semitic rites. St. Albans would seem to have been prominent in Norman, and later times, as a place where we might expect to find Masonic legends, and there is nothing improbable in the author of "Cooke" having revised his commentary, or preface, from such traditions and writings. Begemann looks however upon "The Cooke Commentary" as the personal composition of the author, and that the original of "The T. W. Tew MS." is the link which unites "The Wm. Watson" and other "Modern Charges." By the kind courtesy of Bro. Wm. Watson I have been able to peruse "The Tew MS.," and it certainly bears out Bro. Begemann's theory.

He relies chiefly upon three things—the naming of Pythagoras with Hermes; the use in the W.W. of words as to the old and the new law of Euclid and Athelstan; but in the name *Mammongretis* he is not so happy, as it appears neither in "Cook" or "Watson" MS. The uncertain way in which the name is spelt rather points to an oral derivation or the unreadable nature of some very old MS. Still, the question is worthy of being more closely argued out, but *Mammongretis* is as difficult to recognise as any other of the numerous forms.

A few words here as to the aid which is being rendered to students of these documents by the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire. For nearly 40 years I have speculated upon the doubtful advantage of these bodies in the economy of Masonry. They certainly do give excuse for a good dinner, no bad thing when your digestion is good. They give an extra jewel and a more flashy apron, no good thing when it creates jealousy and dissatisfaction in the lodges. Acting upon this feeling, when I was more active in Masonry, I declined some minor provincial offices. But Bros. Tew and Watson have shown us how useful and important these bodies may be made by labouring to advance the intellectual status of the Craft as a centre of culture. During the last half century many private lodges have tried to establish small libraries, but either they have not been well looked after, or have not answered, as I have often seen such books exposed for sale.

If it would not appear impertinent I should like to ask how many of our Provincial Grand Masters can take rank with Bro. T. W. Tew? What are the rest doing generally for the scientific and intellectual advancement of the Craft?—and echo must answer, What? They aid the Charities; but there it ends. A glance through the report on the West Yorkshire Library indicates that Bro. Tew, besides the aid which he is known to render to the Charities, is contributing large sums in cash and in books in providing a library for his province worthy of the name, and it is astonishing to see the quantity of most valuable material that has been accumulated in so short a space of time. Nor is this all. This worthy P.G.M. has gone to great expense in printing and distributing, free of cost, seven valuable charges:—(1) A copy of "The Wm. Watson"; (2) "The T. W. Tew," before alluded to as of great archaeological value; (3) "The Clapham"; (4) "The Waistell"; (6) "The Probity," a variation which tends to prove that "The Lansdown and Antiquity MS." are copied from still older versions; (7 and last) "The Hughan." All this seems to indicate the commencement of a new and more useful era for Provincial Grand Lodges, with better objects and more extended duties. It is worthy of remark that so far no systematic effort has been made to popularise these valuable records of the Craft, except by Bros. Hughan and Watson, the Quatuor Coronati alone excepted, whose labours, though carried out in a superior manner, are yet incomplete.

"The West Yorkshire Reprints" will form a nice and useful volume to go with "The Halliwell," "Cooke," and "Hughan" volumes of "Old Charges." It would be worth the while of some other Prov. Grand Lodge to imitate West Yorkshire, and print a handy volume of the remaining charges known to date, and not included in these sources of light.

JOHN YARKER.

P.S.—The statement in "The Tew MS." that Cain slew Abel "with an arrow" is possibly derived from that old romancer, Sir John Maundeville, as he states in Ch. X. that at 2000 years of age Lamech, Noah's father, slew Cain with an arrow. The knight left St. Albans for Jerusalem, which he also terms the land of promise or of behest, in the year 1322. The history was anciently very popular, and the charges may show some little tokens of its influence.

THE RECENT BOYS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

The following new lists and additions to lists have been received since our last issue:

LONDON.			£	s.	d.
Lodge	1673 Bro. H. Godwin	...	2	2	6
	(increasing his list to £38 6s. 6d.)				
PROVINCES.					
ESSEX.					
	214 Bro. Rev. W. Quennell, new list	...	10	10	0
HANTS AND ISLE OF WIGHT.					
	723 Bro. Richard Eve	...	5	5	0
	(increasing his list to £36 15s.)				
LANCASHIRE (WEST).					
	Bro. W. J. Thomson, new Steward	...			
Bro. Thomas J. Barnett, P.P.G.W. Staffordshire, should have been named as representing Lodge 526.					

We should also have stated in our Analysis that Bro. Saunders, who represented Kent, had the highest list, for which we gave Bro. Snell credit, in mistake.

Mr. Cyrus Field, whose death at the age of 73 occurred on Tuesday, will be always remembered for the eminent services he rendered to ocean telegraphy. He took an active part in the construction of the land line in Newfoundland, and in the two attempts to lay the submarine cable between Capes Ray and Breton. He accompanied the expeditions of 1857 and 1858, and on the failure of the latter line at once set about raising the necessary capital to lay a stronger line. He was on board the *Great Eastern* when the 1865 cable was laid, and for his services received the thanks of Congress and a gold medal.



We are requested to state the Coborn Lodge of Instruction, No. 1804, will continue to hold its meetings throughout the summer. Brethren are cordially invited to attend.

We are very glad to hear that Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton has entirely recovered from his late severe attack of illness, and that he is returning to England thoroughly restored to health.

As an indication of thrift amongst the working classes of France, it is stated that there are now 6,000,000 depositors in the French savings banks, with an accumulated fund of not less than £112,000,000.

Bro. Lord Halsbury (Lord Chancellor) and Lady Halsbury gave a garden party at their seat at Woodlands, near Stanmore, on Tuesday afternoon. Unfortunately the weather proved very unfavourable, and many of those who had received invitations were unable to be present.

On some of the prairies in America is found what is called the compass plant, of great value to travellers. The long leaves at the base of its stem assume a vertical position, and point north and south. Travellers on dark nights have only to feel the edges of the leaves to ascertain the point of the compass.

The Princess of Wales and her daughters the Princesses Victoria and Maud arrived in England from the continent on Tuesday. They were met at the Charing Cross Station by the Prince of Wales and Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Fife, the Royal party driving at once for Marlborough House.

Bro. J. Derby Allcroft will preside at a special general meeting of the Governors of the Royal Hospital for Incurables at the Cannon-street Hotel on Friday, the 22nd inst., at 12 o'clock. The object of the meeting is to take into consideration the report of the Select Committee of the House of Lords with reference to the above institution.

It is stated that Mr. Gainsford Bruce, Q.C., M.P., of the North-Eastern Circuit, has been offered and has accepted the Judgeship in the Queen's Bench Division vacant by the elevation of Lord Justice Smith to the Court of Appeal. The learned gentleman, who was born in 1834, is Recorder of Bradford and Chancellor of the County Palatine of Durham.

Sir James Lenton, President of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours, distributed the prizes to the successful pupils of the National Art Training School on Tuesday, the ceremony taking place in the Lecture Theatre of the South Kensington Museum. Among those present were Mr. John Sparks, Principal of the School, Major-General Lennox, Registrar, Bros. Sir P. Cunliffe Owen, Director, and Mr. Armstrong, Art Director, of the Museum.

Captain Fenton Aylmer, of the Royal Engineers, has just been awarded the Victoria Cross for his conspicuous bravery in the assault and capture of the Nilt Fort on the 2nd of December, 1891. The gallant officer accompanied the storming party, burst open the inner gate of the fort with gun-cotton, which he placed and ignited, and, though severely wounded, managed to kill several of the enemy. He remained fighting until he fainted from loss of blood, when he was carried out of action.

On the 6th instant, the members of St. Bede's Lodge, No. 1119, Jarrow, held their annual picnic at Alnwick. The party, which numbered between 50 and 60, arrived in Alnwick early in the forenoon, and after viewing the principal sights in the town, visited the castle and adjoining grounds. Dinner was then partaken of at the Star Hotel, after which a number of brakes were requisitioned, and Hulne Abbey and the Parks were visited, the latter drive being much enjoyed. Tea was afterwards had at the Star, and a pleasant day ended at train time.

In France *Franco-Maçonnerie* is not the institution Freemasonry is in England. In this country politics form no part of the speculative system of Masonic morality; whereas in France, as well as in Italy, and some other countries, politics enter very largely into the proceedings conducted under the cover of Masonic lodges. It is surprising, therefore, to note that according to the *Salut Public* there are 24,500 Freemasons in France represented in Parliament by no fewer than 150 deputies, giving one deputy to every 162 Freemasons. The proportion is a very large one, as there is only one deputy to 22,000 ordinary citizens.—*Newcastle Daily Chronicle*.

THE BIRKBECK BUILDING SOCIETY.—The 41st annual report of the Birkbeck Building Society just issued is a very satisfactory document. Notwithstanding the depression and inactivity of the commercial world during the year, it has not considerably affected the Birkbeck. A substantial increase in every branch of the Society has taken place. Upwards of half a million sterling has been added to the surplus funds, which now amounts to over five and a half millions, and the directors have been enabled during the past year—after payment of all expenses and interest on deposits and shares, and £10,455 bonus to shareholders—to set aside a further sum of £16,091 additional profit, which brings up the balance in excess of liabilities to £300,406. The Permanent Guarantee Fund, invested in Consols, stands at £150,000. The new accounts opened during the year were 10,545, and there are altogether 63,145 shareholders and depositors on the books. Since its establishment the Society has returned to the shareholders and depositors more than one hundred and a quarter millions (£125,444,436)—the whole amount having been repaid upon demand.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Weak Stomachs.—The wisest cannot enumerate one quarter of the distressing symptoms arising from enfeebled digestion, all of which might be readily dispelled by these admirable Pills. They remove all unpleasant tastes from the mouth, flatulency, and constipation. Holloway's Pills use the stomach, liver, and every other organ, helping digestion to that healthy tone which fully enables it to convert all we eat and drink to the nourishment of our bodies. Hence these Pills are the surest strengtheners and the safest restoratives in nervousness, wasting, and chronic debility. Holloway's Pills are infallible remedies for impaired appetite, eruptions, and a multitude of other disagreeable symptoms, which render miserable the lives of thousands. These Pills are approved by all classes.

The 12th annual athletic meeting of the United Westminster Schools will take place, as usual, at Stamford Bridge Grounds on the 28th inst.

Baron Hirsch has forwarded to the committee of the Royal Hospital for Children and Women, Waterloo-bridge-road, a donation of £500 in aid of the funds of that institution.

On the motion of Bro. Lord Carrington, seconded by Mr. John Burns, Mr. John Hutton, Vice-Chairman, was unanimously elected Chairman of the London County Council on Tuesday.

The Cape Colony with its Dependencies is nearly twice as large as the United Kingdom; the population according to the census of 1891 is 1,527,224, three-fourths of whom are of coloured race.

Bro. Sir H. Trueman Wood, Secretary to the British Royal Commission for the International Exhibition at Chicago in 1893, left New York for England on Wednesday and will arrive home about the middle of next week.

Messrs Protheroe and Morris, estate agents, inform us that they intend holding a sale of 80 plots of freehold building land at Leigh-on-Sea, on Monday, the 25th inst. The last sale was a very successful one, the plots sold averaging £300 per acre.

Bro. Arthur Roberts' engagement at the Empire has been a great success, the theatre being crowded nightly. It is hard to say which of the many attractions on the programme helps most to fill this popular house, but a good share of the credit may fairly be taken by our popular comedian.

The Prince of Wales presided at the annual meeting of the Corporation of the Royal College of Music on Thursday, at Marlborough House, and afterwards at the annual meeting of the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music.

Bro. D. P. Cama, P.G. Treas., has forwarded a cheque for 100 guineas to the Lord Mayor for the poor box as an expression of his gratification at the return of his countryman, Bro. Naorogi, as a Member of Parliament. Bro. Naorogi is a founder and P.M. of the Marquis of Dalhousie Lodge, No. 1159, and it was he who introduced Bro. Cama in the lodge, which was the first Bro. Cama joined in in London.

The Duchess of Albany with the young Duke and his sister the Princess Alice of Albany, the Russian Ambassador, the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador and the Countess Deym, the Spanish Ambassador, Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Portland, and the Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury visited the Queen at Windsor early in the week, and so also did the Princess Mary Duchess of Teck, the Duke of Teck, and the Princess Victoria Mary of Teck.

The annual Flower Show in aid of the movement in Lambeth for promoting window gardening among the working classes was held by permission of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the grounds of Lambeth Palace on Tuesday. Mrs. Randall Davidson, wife of the Bishop of Rochester, opened the show and the prizes were distributed by the Lady Mayoress, the vote of thanks to whom, for her kindness in attending, was gracefully acknowledged by Bro. Lord Mayor Evans.

The annual meeting of the National Rifle Association opened at Bisley on Tuesday, the principal competitions being for the Humphry Cup, and between Regular and Volunteer officers. In the latter contest, which was 800, 900, and 1000 yards, seven shots at each range, the Volunteers won by 1683 to 1596 points, majority 37 points. For the Humphry Cup between the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, at the same range, the Light Blues won, as last year, the scores being 746 Cambridge, and 686 Oxford, majority 60.

On the occasion of the laying of the foundation-stone of the new British Home for Incurables at Streatham, by Princess Christian, on Saturday next, there will be a "Flower Market" in the grounds, at which roses sent from the Royal gardens at Frogmore, by command of the Queen, and from the gardens of the Prince of Wales, Duke of Connaught, Duchess of Albany, and Duchess of Teck, will be offered for sale for the benefit of the building fund, an example which, in all probability, will be followed by others willing to assist the Charity, whose offices are at 73, Cheapside, E.C.

Heartiest congratulations are being extended Bro. Solomon Strasser, the Senior Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. His promotion is a fitting recognition of years of faithful, conscientious, and brilliant labour for the advancement of the best interests of the Fraternity. The many honours which he has received at home and abroad come to him unsolicited and are prized laurels in his crown of reward for the work well done.—*Times Union*, Albany, N.Y.

The Princess Beatrice, in the unavoidable absence of her sister, the Princess Louise Marchioness of Lorne, presented the certificates to the successful candidates at the local centre examinations held by the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music. The ceremony took place in the Concert-room of the former Institution on Tuesday, and at the close of the proceedings, a vote of thanks at the instance of Bro. the Earl of Kilmorey, seconded by Sir George Grove, Director R.C.M., was passed by acclamation to her Royal Highness for her kindness in attending.

HULL MASONIC CLUB.—The second annual meeting of this club was held in the Club house on Tuesday evening, the 5th inst., Bro. F. Blackburn, V.P., in the chair. The Secretary's report and Treasurer's statement of accounts, were submitted and unanimously adopted. The progress of the club is remarkable, and in all respects satisfactory, the membership has increased, and there is a balance of funds sufficient to meet the wishes of the shareholders. The retiring officers and members of Committee were re-elected as follows: Bro. F. B. Grotian, J.P., President; Bros. F. Blackburn, P.M., H. S. King, C.I.E., P.M., M. C. Peck, P.M., and Col. Gerard Smith, P.M., Vice-Presidents; Bros. L. P. Brekke, P.M., R. R. Hawley, P.M., Thomas Jackson, M.D., Geo. Leigh, W.M. 2134, and J. G. Wallis, L.D.S., Club Committee. The usual vote of thanks for past services concluded a pleasant evening's proceedings.

A GOOD PLAN.—The Eleventh Annual Edition of Explanatory Book, sent free, gives valuable and reliable information how to operate successfully in Stocks and Shares and obtain handsome profits.—Address, Geo. Evans and Co., Stockbrokers, 11, Poultry, London, E.C.

The new water supply, which has been brought into Liverpool from Lake Vyrnwy, was formally inaugurated by the Duke of Connaught. The works were begun in 1881, and have cost £2,500,000.

On the motion of Mr. Alderman Green, the Court of Common Council readily voted 200 guineas towards the St. John's (Newfoundland) Relief Fund, now being raised at the Mansion House by the Lord Mayor.

Miss Ellen Terry's benefit at the Lyceum Theatre has been fixed for Saturday, the 30th inst., which will be the last night of the present season and the 172nd performance of "King Henry VIII."

Charterhouse School carried off the Ashburton Shield at Bisley with 443 points; Rugby was second with 421, and Winchester third with 419. The first stage of the Albert was won by Private Douglas, of Edinburgh; and Private Billingham, of the 4th Middlesex, won the Army and Navy Cup.

Preparations for the mobilisation of the Fleet are being actively pushed forward at Chatham, at which port nearly 20 ships of all sizes have been selected to take part in the approaching summer manoeuvres. The date mentioned at Chatham for the mobilisation is Wednesday next, the 20th inst.

The Duchess of Albany, as President of the Streatham centre of the St. John Ambulance Association, attended a meeting held in the Streatham Town Hall on Wednesday afternoon, and presented the certificates to those who had passed examinations in nursing and in first aid to the injured.

All classes of small racers except the fivers were well represented in the races held by the Royal Victoria Yacht Club at Ryde. Grey skies and light winds prevailed. Mr. Ralli's Papoose was first in the two-and-a-half class, beating Faugh-a-Ballagh and Cockatoo, which came in second and third. Of the one raters, Mr. Langrishe's Argula was again first, whilst amongst the halves Liliput was first of the eight pretty little boats which started for the race.

Her Majesty's dinner party on Thursday included their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg and the Duchess of Albany, his Serene Highness Prince Louis of Battenberg, Count Albert Mensdorff, the Dowager Lady Southampton (Lady in Waiting), the Duke and Duchess of Westminster, Lady Frances Baillie, the Right Hon. G. J. Goschen and Mrs. Goschen, General the Right Hon. Sir Redvers Buller (Adjutant-General to the Forces), and General the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ponsonby.

The eruption of Mount Etna is rapidly assuming formidable proportions, and the destruction of the villages and habitations in the vicinity appears inevitable. All three craters are very active. One is throwing out a continuous stream of liquid lava, which, although several yards deep, is very wide, and seen from below presents the appearance of a river of fire. From the second crater incandescent rocks are being hurled to an immense height, while the third cone threatens to crumble away.

Miss Lile, who created some sensation in the Bisley camp last year by shooting for prizes in some of the All-Comers' matches, visited the scene of her prowess on Thursday afternoon, and had a few shots with the Martini-Henry at 200 yards, in preparation for the work which she has set herself for next week. Two magpies and an inner, however, were not sufficiently alarming to unnerve the gentlemen who will compete with her in the course of a few days. Miss Lile has not brought with her from the Channel Islands the ladies' team of which there was some talk 12 months ago.

Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, who was accompanied by the Marquis, presented good conduct and other prizes to the young bluejackets in training at the Greenwich Royal Hospital Schools. On the arrival of the Royal visitors the boys manned the yards of their fine ship Fame, and afterwards, headed by the capital band of the institution, marched round the parade ground in 11 companies. They also gave a display of musical drill which evoked general admiration. This over, the visitors proceeded to the Gymnasium, where Princess Louise distributed the awards. O. T. Tuck carried off the £50 foundation exhibition, J. C. Baker one for £40, and A. Owen and H. Everett £30 exhibitions, and loud were the cheers that greeted the "best-behaved boys in the school," J. Edwards and J. Peacock, who each took a silver watch and chain. The Marquis of Lorne addressed the youngsters in kindly terms, and said the Princess hoped they would bear their part manfully, always speak the truth, go straight at the enemy, and support the name and fame of British seamen. Hearty cheers went up at these utterances, and were renewed on the announcement that, at her Royal Highness's desire, the boys would have an extra week's holiday. Among others present were Lord and Lady Grimston, Admiral of the Fleet, Sir John Commerell, Sir G. Baden-Powell, Admiral Sir William and Lady Dowell, Sir G. Hayter and Lady Chubb, and Colonel Howard Vincent.

The Hon. G. R. Dibbs, Premier of New South Wales, was entertained to dinner at the Criterion on Thursday, by a body of colonists largely identified with New South Wales resident in London, and others interested in the commerce and progress of the colonies. Among others supporting the Chairman (the Earl of Kimberley) were Bro. Lord Carrington, Lieut.-General Fremantle, Major-General Sir Baker Russell, Sir Daniel Cooper, Sir Charles Tupper, Bishop Barry, Sir G. Baden-Powell, M.P., Sir J. F. Garrick, Sir Arthur Hodgson, Sir W. Ogg, Sir J. Fowler, Sir Robert Herbert, Sir Saul Samuel, Sir J. C. Bray, and Sir Samuel Wilson. Letters of apology were received by the Chairman from the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of Rosebery, Lord Knutsford, Earl Cadogan, the Earl of Derby, the Earl of Aberdeen, and others. In submitting the toast of the evening, Lord Kimberley made grateful reference to the services rendered by Mr. Dibbs in his native colony. Mr. Dibbs accepted the toast as in a large measure intended as a compliment to the colony he represented, and expressed the belief, without entering into the question of Imperial Federation, that greater good would be effected towards strengthening the bonds of Imperial union by the continued display of full confidence in the self governing powers of colonies, whose proudest boast it was to hold themselves as part of a vast Empire, than by formulating schemes in regard to which there was a marked divergence of opinion. The toast of "The United Empire," proposed by Bro. Lord Carrington, was responded to by Sir Charles Tupper.