

THE FREEMASON.

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

REPORTS OF THE GRAND LODGES ARE PUBLISHED WITH THE SPECIAL SANCTION OF
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, THE M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND; HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND
SIR CHARLES DALRYMPLE, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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Freemasonry in 1894.



No event of exceptional importance has occurred in Freemasonry during the current year, if there have been no other acquisitions or losses than such as are inevitable in all societies, be they religious, political, or social, it is, in our judgment, beyond all question that the Craft generally throughout the British Empire has fully maintained its position. If, indeed, we take the mere additions to our roll of lodges as a criterion of the prosperity which has attended our labours during the past twelve months, we shall find the Craft materially stronger than it was when we compiled our review of "Freemasonry in 1893." But we are not in the habit of attaching much importance—certainly not too much importance—to the creation of new lodges. When they have been established in new districts, they serve as the outward and visible sign that the sphere of our influence has been extended; but when they have been planted in close contiguity with lodges that have already been constituted and were doing good service, it has yet to be seen whether the new bodies will prove sources of strength or weakness. Fortunately, we are not obliged to base our judgment as to the fortune that has befallen us during the year 1894 on the mere numerical increase of our lodges. There is ample and conclusive evidence to be found in the reports which have been presented, both to the lodges in London and the Provincial and District Grand Lodges in the Country and Abroad, that the year, which a few days hence will have run its course, has been one of steady, if not unexampled, progress. We have been successful in the discharge of our duties, while the Institutions which have been established at different times, for divers purposes, and in different parts of the Country, have been at least as well supported—in not a few instances the support they have received has been greater—as, with a few notable exceptions, at any previous period in their history. That this is no idle assertion will be gathered from the following particulars it has been, once again, our duty to compile.

CRAFT MASONRY.

as it forms the groundwork of our whole Masonic system, naturally claims our first attention. The new lodges for which his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to grant Warrants of Constitution since the Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge in December, 1893, are 46 as compared with the 37 that were issued during the preceding twelve months. Of these, 8 are located in the London district, 21 in the Provinces, and 17 Abroad, as against 9 in London, 17 in the Provinces, and 11 Abroad in 1893. The new London Lodges comprise the Old Boys' Lodge, No. 2500, intended, not as its title might at first suggest, for former pupils of our Boys' School, but for those who have been educated at Montrose College, Brixton Hill; the Barnet Lodge, No. 2509, which was consecrated by the Grand Secretary on the 28th May, and which, though it has for its nearest neighbours the Gladsmuir and Ravenscroft Lodges in the Province of Hertfordshire, is within the London radius; the St. John-at-Hackney, No. 2511; the Fulham Lodge, No. 2512; and the Sir Walter St. John Lodge, No. 2513, which meets in the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell. The Train Bands Lodge, No. 2524, is a semi-military lodge, intended for brethren connected with the old City of London Militia; while the Lancastrian Lodge, which, as its name betokens, is for the benefit of Lancashire men who are resident in, or have business connections with, London, was consecrated by the Grand Secretary in the presence of a very numerous gathering of distinguished Masons, and as it has started on its career with Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Pro G. Master, and Prov. G. Master of West Lancashire, as W. Master, and will derive much of its support from the largest and most influential Province under the Grand Lodge of England, we have no hesitation

in predicting for it a long career of success. The remaining London Lodge is the Fellowship, No. 2535.

The 21 Country Lodges are distributed among twelve of the 46 Provinces, the earliest being the Vale of Eden Lodge, No. 2492, which was consecrated at Appleby towards the close of March by Bro. Geo. J. McKay, P.G. Std. Br., who then occupied the post of Deputy P.G.M. of Cumberland and Westmoreland. The Humber Lodge of Installed Masters, No. 2494, was consecrated on the 2nd February by Bro. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, P.G.W., D.P.G.M. of North and East Yorkshire, and had the good fortune to secure the services of that able Mason, Bro. M. C. Peck, P.G. Std. Br., Prov. G. Secretary, as its first W.M. As many as four new Lodges have been placed on the roll of West Lancashire, namely: the Good-acre, No. 2425, which is worthily named after the G. Secretary of the Province, and meets at Bootle; the County Palatine Lodge, No. 2505, which meets at Birkdale near Liverpool; the City Lodge, No. 2514, Liverpool; and the Thurston Lodge, No. 2525, meeting at Monk Coniston. Cheshire has lengthened its Lodge roll by the addition of the Wirral Lodge, No. 2496, Birkenhead, which was ushered into existence in February by the Dep. G. Master of the Province, Bro. Sir Horatio Lloyd, P.G.D. It is just five years since any new Lodges were consecrated in Northumberland, and the Province, therefore, is to be congratulated on the addition of two, by the constitution, on the same day—the 25th July—of the Carville Lodge, No. 2497, Wallsend-on-Tyne, and the Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 2520, Newcastle-on-Tyne, the ceremony having been performed in both cases by Bro. Sir M. White-Ridley, Bart., M.P., Prov. G. Master. Two Lodges have been established in Kent, of which one, bearing the style and title of the North Kent Lodge, No. 2499, meets at Bexley Heath, while the other—the Shirley Woolmer, No. 2530—is held in Sidecup. Essex has been slightly more fortunate and has increased its array of lodges by three, from 34 to 37, two of its new lodges being located at Buckhurst Hill, viz: the Ixion Lodge, No. 2501, for Wheelmen, which was consecrated by Bro. T. J. Ralling, P.G. Sec., on the 30th April, and the Earl of Warwick Lodge, No. 2504, so named after the Prov. G. Master under his new title, and consecrated by him on the 11th of the same month. The remaining new lodge was consecrated by Bro. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg., the Deputy G. Master of the Province, under the style and title of the Thomas Ralling Lodge, No. 2508, at Chingford, on the 1st May, and started on its career under the auspices of the respected brother from whom it derives its name, and who readily consented to serve as its first W. Master. Surrey has been strengthened by the addition of two lodges, and is now entitled to additional Provincial Officers; the Gatwick, No. 2502, Horley, and the Noel-Money Lodge, No. 2521, Weybridge, named after the present Prov. G. Master, who is presiding as the first W.M., having enlarged the number to 40 lodges. Hertfordshire is now 22 lodges strong, the Charles Edward Keyser Lodge, No. 2518, which meets at Hoddesdon, having been consecrated by Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., P.G.M., on the 5th July. Bro. Keyser was installed as its first W. Master, and we trust the lodge, having started under such favourable auspices, will last for many, many years, and so perpetuate the fame of one who, both in Hertfordshire and generally, has rendered such important services to Freemasonry. Middlesex, by the addition of the Roll-Call Lodge, No. 2523, Hounslow, and the Staines Lodge, No. 2526, meeting in the town after which it is named, has also increased its roll of lodges to upwards of 40, and, like Surrey, is now entitled to additional Provincial Officers; while East Lancashire has been strengthened by the constitution of the Abbey Lodge, No. 2529, Whalley. The remaining new Country Lodge is the Fitzwilliam, No. 2533, which meets at Peterborough, and adds one more to the array of lodges under Bro. the Earl of Euston, Prov. G. Master of Norths and Hunts. As for the 17 lodges which have been constituted abroad, the bulk of them will be found located in South

Africa, while India has also received sundry accessions of strength. The S. African Republic, by the consecration of the Germiston Lodge, No. 2498, and the Ermelo Lodge, No. 2516, meeting in the towns after which they are respectively named, has raised the number of its lodges from nine to 11, and there are new lodges in the Orange Free State and British Bechuanaland, the Star of Bethlehem, No. 2522, being located at Bethlehem in the former, and the Austral Lodge, No. 2534, at Mafeking in the latter. The St. George's and the Metropolitan Lodges, Nos. 2537 and 2538, have been added to the Dist. G. Lodge of the Western Division of South Africa, raising the number of lodges in the District to 12, and the number in Cape Town—in which they meet—to four; while the 16 lodges in the District of Natal have been increased to 17 by the consecration of the Ixopo Lodge, No. 2515, at Stuartstown. There has also been created a new lodge on the West Coast of Africa, namely, the St. George's, No. 2506, meeting at Freetown, Sierra Leone. The following have been placed in the East Indies, namely: the Dharwar Lodge, No. 2527, Dharwar, and the Khan Bahador Lodge, No. 2531, Karachi, Sind, under the Dist. G. Lodge of Bombay; the Zuriel Lodge, No. 2507, Naraingunge, under that of Bengal; the Irrawaddy, No. 2526, Myingyan, in that of Burmah; and the St. George Lodge, No. 2532, Madras, in the District of the same name. Queensland is the richer by the Constitution of the Cleveland Lodge, No. 2503, Townsville, and the Meteor Lodge, No. 2510, Longreach, and now has 42 lodges on its roll. The remaining lodges are the Moore-Keys, No. 2519, meeting at Kingston, Jamaica, which raises the number on the roll of Dist. G. Lodge to 11, and the number in Kingston to eight; and the St. John's Lodge, No. 2517, Lomas de Zamora, in the Argentine Republic, where there are now seven lodges under the rule of Bro. George J. Ryan, as Dist. G. Master. We may add, that so far as our information goes, the prospects in view of these 17 lodges abroad are as hopeful as those which have just been warranted in London and the Provinces.

Let us now give our attention to the proceedings of Grand Lodge, the sessions of which have been held at the usual periods, with a special meeting, to which we shall have occasion to refer later. The Quarterly Communication on the 7th March was far more numerously attended than any previous meeting of an ordinary character. This is, or rather, since the custom has been adopted of choosing a new Grand Treasurer every year, has been the case for some time past, but on this particular occasion excitement ran high over the struggle for the Grand Treasurership, and steps were accordingly taken with a view to offering to the very large number of brethren who were expected to attend every possible facility for recording their votes. Grand Lodge was therefore opened at the unusual hour of 2 p.m., and thence forward till 7 p.m. the stream of brethren entitled to vote was continuous, the excitement in Great Queen Street and its vicinity caused by the constant arrival of cabs and carriages being far beyond anything ever previously witnessed. The competitors for the much coveted office were three in number, Bro. Alderman Dimsdale, P.M. No. 1., Bro. W.M. Stiles, P.M. No. 1987 and other Lodges, and Bro. C. W. Hudson, P.M. No. 315, Brighton, and Past Prov. G. Warden of Sussex. When the poll was closed and the votes counted, it was found that Bro. Dimsdale had obtained 1317 votes, Bro. Stiles 1200 votes, and Bro. Hudson 568 votes, and Bro. Dimsdale was declared to have been duly elected Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year. The one other matter of importance which was brought to the notice of Grand Lodge on this occasion was the appeal of two brethren against the decision of the Board of General Purposes suspending them from all their Masonic rights and privileges for six months for having violated one of the laws of Grand Lodge. These brethren, who, at the time the offence was committed had been W.M. and Acting W.M. of a Lodge, had displaced a Brother from office, such displacement having been supported by a majority of the members of the Lodge who voted, but not as required by Article 140 B. of C. "by a majority of the brethren present" in Lodge when the question of such displacement was considered. The brethren acknowledged the justice of their sentence, but pleaded, in mitigation, that they had not erred intentionally, and threw themselves on the mercy of Grand Lodge. The President of the Board of General Purposes having pointed out that the Board had acted within its powers, Grand Lodge having taken note of this fact, was pleased to remit the remainder of the sentence that was still due. In April the Annual Grand Festival was held as usual, and the Grand Officers for the ensuing year appointed and invested. At the June Communication, after a number of Lodges, which had made no returns for several years, had been ordered to be erased, Grand Lodge, on the recommendation of the Board of General Purposes, accepted the offer of Bro. John Lane, P.M., of Torquay, of the copyright of the second edition of his invaluable "Masonic Records," and agreed that 500 copies of the work should be printed and sold at the price of one guinea each. It was then announced in the course of the Report of the Board that Bro. Thomas Fenn had resolved on declining re-nomination to the office he had held for the last 10 years of President, and the resolution of thanks to Bro. Fenn for his eminent services in that capacity, as passed unanimously by the Board, was put by Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgembe, D.G.M., Acting Grand Master in the chair, as a separate motion and carried by acclamation. Bro. Fenn having briefly, but gracefully acknowledged the vote, his successor, in the person of Bro. R. Loveland Loveland, was invested and conducted to the seat vacated by his predecessor. The business concluded with a notice of appeal given by Bro. Richard Eve, P.G. Treasurer, against the action of the Committee of Masters in rejecting a notice of motion of his relating

to a resolution passed by Grand Lodge in 1893, and the position of the Cambrian Lodge, No. 656, N.S.W. On Friday, the 6th July, a Special Communication was held, under the presidency of Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M., when in the presence of a considerable number of brethren, addresses of congratulation to Her Majesty the Queen and the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., on the recent birth of a prince—son of H.R.H. the Duke of York—in the direct line of succession to the throne, was passed by acclamation amid every possible demonstration of enthusiasm. In September, after letters had been read from the Home Secretary in behalf of the Queen, and Bro. Sir Francis Knollys, the Private Secretary of the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., in acknowledgment of these addresses, and when the reports of the Boards of Benevolence and General Purposes and the Colonial Board had been received and ordered to be recorded on the minutes, a resolution by Bro. W. F. Lamonby, P.M., for the alteration of Article 126 of the Book of Constitutions, in such a manner as would enable the Grand Master to issue a new Warrant or Warrant of Confirmation to Lodge Otago, No. 844, Dunedin (N.Z.), and all other lodges that might be placed in similar circumstances, was carried, the President of the Colonial Board offering no objection to its acceptance. The appeal of Bro. Eve, P.G. Treas., against the decision of the Board of Masters in excluding a notice of motion he had given in accordance with the law from the Agenda for the June Communication, was carried by an overwhelming majority, in spite of the opposition offered by the authorities. At the December Communication the usual nominations for the offices of Grand Master and Grand Treasurer were made, the brethren who are competitors for the latter office being Bros. Alderman Vaughan Morgan, W. M. Stiles, and C. W. Hudson. It was subsequently announced that Bro. A. A. Pendlebury, Assistant Grand Secretary and Chief Clerk to the Grand Secretary, had been compelled by the serious state of his health to retire after thirty years' service, and on the recommendation of the Board of General Purposes he was assigned a pension of £400 per annum, Bro. W. Lake, P.M., P.P.G. Reg. Cornwall, being appointed to the Chief Clerkship thus rendered vacant, at the prescribed salary. A proposed addition to the laws of the R.M. Benevolent Institution, as to the voting privileges of subscribing Lodges, Chapters, and other Masonic Bodies, was adjourned, while a motion by Bro. R. Eve, Past Grand Treas., relating to the Cambrian Lodge, No. 656, N.S.W., was defeated.

Among other events which it is necessary we should record in this summary are the installation at Wolverhampton, on the 6th June, of Bro. the Earl of Dartmouth, as Prov. Grand Master of Staffordshire, in succession to the late Bro. A. Foster Gough, LL.D.; of Bro. Lord Llangatlock, at Cardiff, on the 27th September, as Prov. G. Master of the Eastern Division of South Wales, in succession to the late Bro. Sir George Elliot, Bart., and of Lord Henry Bentinck, at Kendal, on the 2nd October, as Prov. G. Master of Cumberland and Westmoreland, in succession to the late Bro. the Earl of Bective. On all these occasions the duty of installing Master was undertaken by the Pro Grand Master, Bro. the Earl of Lathom, and from the reception which each of the new Prov. Grand Masters experienced, there is very little doubt that the Provinces affected by these events will fare as prosperously under the administration of their new chiefs as under that of the distinguished brethren they have succeeded. It is likewise our duty to announce that early in the year the Grand Master was pleased to accede to the prayer of the lodges in Guernsey and Alderney, that they might be constituted a Province, and in July, Bro. Dr. J. Balfour Cockburn, on whom the choice of his Royal Highness had fallen, was solemnly installed in office as Grand Master of the new Province, by Bro. the Earl of Euston, Prov. G. Master of Northants and Hants. The lodges in these islands, which alone among the lodges at home, were unprovided with a Provincial organization, now constitute the 46th Prov. Grand Lodge under the Grand Lodge of England, and we feel confident the change will bring with it increased strength and good fortune. As for the regular meetings of the different Provincial Grand Lodges, the reports which were presented as usual furnish satisfactory evidence that the Craft throughout the country has been well administered in all things essential to its well-being, and it is only here and there that it has been found necessary by the principal executive officers to sound a note of warning against the repetition of slight irregularities and to renew the caution which has been so often and so wisely addressed to lodges to the effect that it is impossible for them to be too careful in the acceptance of candidates for the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. But the meetings of our Provincial brethren have not been confined to those which are held regularly. Many others have been held in different parts of the country, and amongst them we may mention two that were held in Pontefract and Bideford respectively in the month of January. At the former one our respected Brother, T. W. Tew, P. Prov. G. Master of West Yorkshire, laid with the customary Masonic formalities the foundation-stone of a new hall about to be erected for the St. Oswald Lodge, No. 910, and took the opportunity of delivering one of those thoughtful addresses by which he made his name famous during his presidency over the lodges and brethren in West Yorkshire. Later in the year, on the 10th October, the same brother was present when the brethren of the lodge transferred their quarters to the new Hall, and again our Bro. Tew was as felicitous as ever in his remarks on the auspicious change, and in the sound practical advice he tendered to his younger brethren. At Bideford, Bro. Viscount Ebrington, Past G. Master of Devonshire, formally dedicated to Masonic purposes the new Hall erected by the Lodge of Benevolence, No.

489. On the 16th May the corner-stone of a new Masonic Hall at Yeovil was laid by Bro. B. Whitby, the W.M. of the Lodge of Brotherly Love, No. 329, which meets in that town, and on the 22nd November, Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, Prov. G. Master of Somersetshire, had the satisfaction of dedicating it to the purposes for which it had been erected. Among other events of a similar character may be mentioned the laying of the foundation-stone of a new Masonic Hall in Lincoln by Bro. Major W. H. Smyth, Prov. G. Master of Lincolnshire, on the 27th June, and of a new chapel at Wolverhampton by Bro. the Earl of Dartmouth, P.G.M. Staffordshire, on the 2nd August, and the dedication of New Masonic Halls at Kelvedon, Essex, and Exmouth, in June and September respectively, the ceremony in the former case having been performed by Bro. Sir W. N. Abdy, Bart., W.M. of the Easterford Lodge, No. 2342, and the present Prov. S.G.W. of Essex. But, undoubtedly, the most important gathering for this purpose was that which assembled in Newcastle-on-Tyne on the 25th July, when Bro. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., M.P., Prov. G. Master of Northumberland, assisted by the chief officers of his Province, laid the foundation-stone of a central Masonic Hall, which it is estimated will cost some £15,000. A special Prov. G. Lodge was called for this purpose, and for the consecration of two new lodges, Nos. 2497 and 2520, as already mentioned, and there was a very large attendance of the brethren of the Province, as well as of the neighbouring Province of Durham. Large crowds of people assembled along the line of route to witness the Masonic procession, and all around the site of the proposed hall was thronged with spectators, eager to witness the splendid and unusual spectacle. Such a day had been long unknown to the present generation of brethren in the northernmost Province, and we trust the triple event which they met to celebrate will exercise a beneficial influence on its future career. It remains for us to record under the head of "Craft Masonry" that His Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to grant Centenary Warrants to the following four lodges, which, fortunately for themselves, have one and all been able to prove to the satisfaction of the authorities, that their duties have been discharged continuously for a period of 100 years. The four lodges are the Apollo Lodge, No. 301, Alcester, in the Province of Warwickshire; the Lodge of Hope, No. 302, Bradford, and the Philanthropic Lodge, No. 304, Leeds, both in the Province of West Yorkshire; and the Benevolent Lodge, No. 303, Teignmouth, in the Province of Devonshire.

ROYAL ARCH MASONRY.

The reduction of the qualifying period for the exaltation of Master Masons to the Royal Arch Degree, which was agreed to at the Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter in November, 1893, was only confirmed in February after very considerable discussion and by the not over formidable majority of 18 votes, the numbers voting in favour of and against the proposition being 83 and 65 respectively. The time, therefore, that has elapsed since the resolution became law is too short to enable us to form any opinion as to its effect on the fortunes of this branch of "pure and ancient" Masonry. However, the number of Chapters for which warrants have been granted during the year is 22, as against 19 in 1893, the new London Chapters being six in number, the new Provincial Chapters nine, and the new Chapters Abroad seven. The London six are the Jordan, No. 201; the Canterbury, No. 1635; the Imperial, No. 1694; the St. Leonard's, No. 1766; the Æsculapius, No. 2410; and the Hiram, No. 2416. The nine new Provincial Chapters are distributed as follows: the Wellesley Chapter, No. 1899, meeting at Crowthorne, has been added to the roll of Berkshire, and another—the Herschel, No. 1894, Slough—to that of Buckinghamshire. Gloucestershire is strengthened by the addition of the Sherborne Chapter, No. 702, Stroud, while the number on the roll of Kent has been increased to 25 by the constitution of the Montreal, No. 2046, and the Royal Naval and Military, No. 2404, which meet at Maidstone and Chatham respectively. West Lancashire has gained one, the Makerfield Chapter, No. 2155, meeting at Newton-le-Willows, and Lincolnshire one, in the shape of the Edward Albert, No. 985, Sutton Bridge. The remaining two are located in the Eastern and Western Divisions respectively of South Wales, the Marmaduke Tennant, No. 1992, so named after the Grand Superintendent, meeting at Cardiff, in the former, and the Loyal Welsh, No. 378, at Pembroke Dock, in the latter. The Chapters Abroad are the Jumna Chapter, attached to the Star of Agra Lodge, No. 1936, at Agra, in the District of Bengal; the Cyrus, No. 1359, Bombay, and the Clarence, No. 1065, at Jubbulpore, in the District of Bombay, and the Jullundur Chapter, No. 1990, Jullundur, in the District of the Punjab. A third Chapter has been Warranted in the South African Republic, the Gold Fields Chapter, No. 2478, Johannesburg, and as the Republic has just been erected into a District Grand Lodge, we may hope to see it furnished ere long with a Provincial organisation for the Royal Arch as well. Charters Towers, No. 1546, and the Raphael Chapter, No. 1850, meeting at Charters Towers and Rome respectively, have been established in Queensland, under Comp. the Hon. Augustus C. Gregory as Grand Superintendent. As for the proposed St. Maughold Chapter, No. 1075, to be held at Ramsay in the Isle of Man, the petition for which was in November, 1893, deferred for further consideration; Lodge St. Maughold has since withdrawn its sanction, and in consequence of this and the withdrawal of those among the petitioners who were members of that lodge, the scheme has fallen through. The Warrant of the Rose of Sharon Lodge, No. 1006, St. Day, has been returned to G. Chapter by request of the Prov. Grand Scribe E. of Cornwall, there

having been no exaltation in it for the last 10 years, while the Pythagorean, No. 447, Corfu, and the Wellington Union, No. 537, Wellington, N. Zealand, have been struck off the roll, the former having made no returns since 1865, while in the latter case there have been no returns since 1882, and the lodge to which it was attached was erased in September last from the books of Grand Lodge. Two Chapters—the Shakespeare, No. 284, Warwick, and the Trinity, No. 254, Coventry, have been transferred from the lodges respectively bearing those names and numbers, the former having become the Chapter of Temperance, No. 739, Birmingham, while the latter rejoices in the new style and title of St. Michael's, No. 1630, Coventry. A petition for a new Chapter attached to Lodge 254, has, however, been since granted, and the Chapter consecrated. One Centenary Warrant has been granted to the Stone of Friendship Ezel Chapter, No. 287, Stockport, which has been able to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the authorities the continuity of its working during the last hundred years. As for the proceedings in Grand Chapter, we have already referred to the one subject of importance, the confirmation in February of the minutes of the Convocation in the November previous so far as they related to the reduction of the qualifying period for the exaltation of Master Masons, nor are we aware of any other matter of moment having been brought to the notice of the companions, unless, indeed, it be the election in May of Comp. W. M. Stiles, P.Z., to be Grand Treasurer, after a close contest with Comp. Sir Lionel Darell, Bart., such election having been rendered necessary by the ineligibility of the brother who had been chosen Grand Treasurer of Grand Lodge to fill—*ex-officio* as he would have done, had he been qualified—the corresponding office in Grand Chapter. There are, however, sundry changes in the higher ranks of the Degree to which it is desirable we should call attention. On the 10th November, Comp. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Grand J. and G. Superintendent of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, installed Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., in the office of G. Superintendent of Middlesex, which had remained unfilled since the lamented death of Comp. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., while the offices of G. Superintendent in Northumberland and Leicestershire and Rutland, which had been made vacant by the deaths of Comps. Lt.-Col. Addison Potter and William Kelly, have been filled by the appointment of Comp. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., to the former, and of Comp. Earl Ferrers to the latter. By these changes, the government of both Craft and Arch Masonry in these Provinces has been placed in the same hands. Abroad there have been formed two District Grand Chapters; both of them are located in South Africa, that of Natal, with four Chapters, having been placed in charge of Comp. R. I. Fimmere—who is District G. Master—as G. Superintendent, and that of the Western Division of South Africa, with four Chapters, under Comp. the Very Rev. C. W. Barnett, who thus becomes G. Superintendent as well as G. Master of the District.

MARK MASONRY.

It is not to be expected that a prosperous and popular branch of Masonry, such as the Mark Degree has undoubtedly been for the past ten years, and even longer, should invariably maintain the same rate of progress, and our readers, therefore, will feel little, if any, surprise when they learn that during the past year the number of warrants issued by the M.W. Grand Master has been somewhat limited. In all other respects, however, in the work of the several lodges, in the efficiency of its administration, in the number of fresh certificates issued, and in the maintenance of its prestige throughout the sphere of its influence, as well as in its monetary position, the Mark has held its own, and is far stronger in all things essential to its well-being than it was when we compiled our review of "Freemasonry in 1893." The new Mark Lodges which have been warranted since then are 11 in number, while, as regards two of the lodges comprised in the District G. Lodge of Bengal, which have not met for several years, and are looked upon as practically extinct, the last known Masters have been called upon to show cause why they should not be struck off the roll. The new lodges include the Savage Club Lodge, No. 469, and the Justicia, No. 476, which are located in London; the Southport, No. 473, and the Bootle, No. 478, in the Province of Lancashire, whose roll is thereby increased to 35; the Lilford, No. 471, Thrapston, and the Fitzwilliam, No. 477, both in Northamptonshire, and within the limits of the newly organised Province of Northants, Hants, and Beds. Three new lodges have been added to the District of Bengal—viz., the Quarries, No. 468; the New Capestone, No. 472; and the Ashlar, No. 474; meeting at Jhansi, Mozuffarpore, and Dum Dum respectively. The Henry Byrde, No. 475, has been consecrated at Kandy, Ceylon, and is on the roll of the District G. Lodge of Madras, while the Ballarat Lodge, No. 470, Ballarat, raises the number of lodges in the district of Victoria, Australia, to 10. The number of Mark certificates issued during the year is 1588, increasing the total number of registered Mark Masons from the beginning to 33,365. In respect of the Royal Ark Mariners Degree, which is associated as closely with the Mark, as the Royal Arch is with Craft Masonry, 272 new certificates have been issued, making the total number registered from the beginning 4290, while Royal Ark Mariners Lodges have been attached to the following Lodges, namely: to the Portsmouth, No. 17, Portsmouth, and the William Hickman, No. 320, Sandown, in the Province of Hants and the Isle of Wight; to the Gladsmuir, No. 367, High Barnet, in the Province of Hertfordshire; to the Royal George, No. 456, Bermuda; to the Avondale, No. 460, Antigua, in the Dist. G. Lodge of the West Indies; to the Albert Victor, No. 70, Ipswich, in the Province of East

Anglia; and to the Studholme, No. 197, London. The proceedings in Grand Lodge have been less formal than usual and will, doubtless, help materially to strengthen the Degree. At the Quarterly Communication in March Bro. R. Turtle Pigott, D.C.L., was elected G. Treasurer for the ensuing year, and in June when the new G. Officers were, as usual, appointed and invested, it was announced that Bro. Robert Berridge, who had held the office of Grand Director of Ceremonies for 17 years, and had, in other ways, rendered important services to the Degree, had expressed his desire to be relieved of further active service, and a cordial vote of thanks was passed to him accordingly. The new organ, which has been erected in the Great Hall as a memorial to the late Bro. the Rev. Canon Portal, Past G. Master, was unveiled by the Pro G. Master, after which, a portrait of Bro. the Marquis of Hertford, Past Pro G. Master, and Prov. G. Mark Master of Warwickshire, was formally presented to Grand Lodge by the brethren of his Province, and gracefully acknowledged by the President. In September it was agreed, on the recommendation of the General Board, that the Book of Constitutions, the last edition of which was exhausted, should be completely revised before being re-issued, and the work was done with such promptitude, that at the Communication held early in the present month, the amendments which had been made were submitted and approved by Grand Lodge, the most important change being in the rules of the Annuity Funds, by which male annuities are increased from £26 to £40 per annum, and the widow annuities from £21 to £32, thus placing them on the same footing as the male and widow annuities granted by the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. At the same Communication, on the 4th inst., the customary nominations were made for the offices of Grand Master and Grand Treasurer, those proposed for the latter being Bros. Percy Wallis, Captain T. C. Walls, and W. F. Lamony. But in addition to these regular meetings the Mark Brethren, following the example set them by the Craft Grand Lodge, held a Special Communication on the 12th July, when addresses of congratulation were voted by acclamation to the Queen and the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.M., on the birth of a prince in the direct line of succession to the throne, the replies to the said addresses being read in open Grand Lodge on the 4th September, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. As for the changes that have taken place among the rulers of the Mark, the most notable is that caused by the loss of Bro. William Kelly, who for 36 years had presided over the fortunes of the Degree in Leicestershire, Rutland, and other counties, and to whose valuable services due honour was paid in Grand Lodge when his death was formally announced. On this sad event taking place, the Grand Master was pleased to authorise a rearrangement of the counties which our late brother had so long and so ably administered, and by incorporating other counties which had not previously enjoyed the privileges of a Provincial organisation, it was found possible to create the following three provinces, namely: (1) that of Leicestershire and Rutland, with Bro. the Earl of Euston, as Prov. G. Master; (2) that of Derbyshire, under Bro. A. Woodiwiss, as P.G.M.; and (3) that of Northants, Hunts, and Beds, under Bro. the Earl of Euston, as P.G.M. As for the Province of Dorsetshire, it is now in charge of Bro. W. E. Brymer, M.P., as P.G.M., *vice* Bro. the Rev. W. Mortimer Heath, who has resigned. The only changes abroad have been made in India, where Bro. the Hon. Sir John Edge, Q.C., Chief Justice, has succeeded His Highness the Maharajah of Kuch Behar, as Dist. G. Master of Bengal, while the Lodges in the Punjab have been erected into a District Grand Lodge, under Bro. E. Woodall Parker, as Dist. G. Master. But as usual the great event of the year has been the celebration of the Anniversary Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund, which was held at Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, 11th July, under the auspices of Bro. the Earl of Yarborough, Prov. G. Master of Lincolnshire. His lordship was very strongly supported by the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and other Mark notabilities, and in the course of the evening Bro. C. F. Matier, G. Sec. and Secretary of the Fund, had the satisfaction of announcing that the sum raised by a Board of Stewards, consisting of 154 ladies and brethren, amounted to £1894, which, though considerably less than the total of the previous year's Festival, is unquestionably an ample Return for the present requirements of the Charity.

CHIVALRIC AND HIGH GRADE MASONRY.

There is not much to be said in connection with the several Orders and Degrees which, for the sake of convenience, we have grouped together under this head. They have prospered so far as our information goes to about the same extent as the branches of Masonry which have so far occupied our attention; while in the case of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and the Order of the Temple, there has been, in both, a greater degree of activity than in many past years, and as the result of such activity, a very fair extension of their respective spheres of influence. As regards the Ancient and Accepted Rite we note the addition to the roll of its Rose Croix Chapters of the following, namely, the Rose of Sharon, No. 128, Lahore; the Tuscan, No. 129, London; the Eton, No. 130, Eton; the Salween, No. 131, Moulmein, Burmah; and the Camden, No. 132, London. As for the position of the Supreme Council both as regards its *personnel* and its funds, it remains substantially what it was last year, and we know that, monetarily, it was then most prosperous. On the 11th May meetings of Convent General and Great Priory were held under the presidency of Sir Knight the Earl of Euston, who, after the consent of his Royal Highness, the Grand Master, to the alterations and additions to the Statutes of Convent General in 1890 had been read, proposed a resolution that a Commission of Inquiry should be issued

into the relations existing between the National Great Priorities and Convent General, to consist of seven members from each of the Great Priorities, and the resolution having been seconded and supported by Sir Knights Captain Philips and Captain Beswicke-Royds, as well as by Sir Knight Colonel McCammon of the Great Priory of Ireland, was declared duly carried. Sir Knight the Earl of Euston announced that the Grand Master had appointed him Seneschal, the the Right Hon. H. E. Chatterton, Arch Chancellor, Viscount Dungarvan, Great Marshal, and R. Loveland Loveland, Arch Registrar, while Sir Knight Ralph Clutton was elected Arch Treasurer. It was also announced that his Royal Highness had been pleased to confer the distinction of Knight Grand Cross on Sir Knights W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. Prior of Hampshire, Captain N. G. Philips, Prov. Prior of East Anglia, and William E. Scott, D.L., and Colonel Robert A. J. Cosby, D.L., and that of Knight Commander on Sir Knights Ralph Clutton (England), and Wakefield H. Dixon, Colonel Thomas A. McCammon and Robert Walker (Ireland). Subsequently, at the meeting of the National Great Priory, Sir Knight the Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., was introduced and did homage as Prov. Prior of Northumberland, Durham and Berwick-on-Tweed, and the officers for the ensuing year were appointed. It was also resolved as the result of a long correspondence between the National Great Priory and the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, that the resolution of the 9th December, 1887, be rescinded, and that friendly relations be resumed between the two bodies. On the 14th instant the winter meeting of the Order was held. It should be added that Sir Knight Rear-Admiral A. H. Markham has been appointed Prov. Prior for the Mediterranean, and Sir Knight Viscount Valentia, Prov. Prior of Oxfordshire; and that the Royal Edward Encampment, No. 76, Dukinfield, has been resuscitated, with Sir Knight John Clayton as E.P., and the Temple Court Preceptory, No. 162, Woking, consecrated, with Sir Knight Colonel G. Noel Money, as first E.P. In respect of the Order of Royal and Select Masters there have been warranted two new Councils, the Calcutta, No. 20, Fort William, Bengal, and the Ceylon, No. 21, Colombo, while the Lanka Council, No. 23, Allied Degrees has been warranted for Colombo. In the Order of Rome and Red Cross of Constantine, several new appointments appear to have been made among the chief and divisional Intendants-General, and there figure on the roll the following new Conclaves—namely, La Vallette, No. 151, Malta; the Royal Kent, No. 152, Newcastle-on-Tyne; and the Maritzburg, No. 153, Pietermaritzburg.

OUR INSTITUTIONS.

It must be very gratifying to the whole of the English Craft to know that the great Central Institutions which have been at different periods in our history established for the benefit of our indigent brethren, their widows, and children, have fared most prosperously during the year 1894. The aggregate of the sums raised for their maintenance has greatly exceeded that which was obtained in 1893, while the strain of the Benevolent Jubilee was still felt by the lodges and brethren, while, if a comparison be instituted between the Returns of the present year and those of previous ordinary years—that is to say, of years in which there has been no special call upon the Fraternity, or anything in the nature of commercial or other depression—those who had a share in procuring them will have good reason to be satisfied with the result of their labours. The first of the annual Festivals, in behalf of the R.M.B.I., was held, as usual, at the Freemasons' Tavern on the 28th February. Bro. Col. Gerald Noel Money, C.B., Provincial G. Master of Surrey, occupied the chair, and the Board of Stewards, which consisted of some 300 ladies and brethren, compiled the very excellent total of £12,658 14s. 6d., which, by subsequent augmentations, was increased to upwards of £13,000. Both London and the Provinces bore their part bravely in this good sum, the amount contributed by the former being £5549, while the latter were responsible for the balance, towards which the "Chairman's Province" of Surrey contributed within a fraction of £1400, and West Yorkshire £1837 10s., in which was included a sum of £1260 paid by Bro. George Heaton, with a view to furnishing his Province with a Perpetual Presentation to the Male Annuity Fund of the Charity. Such a result in the second year after the memorable Jubilee Festival of 1892, may not have been anticipated, but whether it was so or not, it reflects the greatest credit on the Stewards and the Secretary and his staff, and cannot have failed to afford the greatest pleasure to the Chairman, whose *début* in this capacity had proved so successful. It was not, however, of such a character as to justify the Committee of Management in recommending any addition to the fixed establishment of either of the two Annuity Funds under their charge, and, therefore, on the 18th May, when the annual meeting of the Governors and Subscribers was held, there were elected from the list of candidates only such a number of Old Men and Widows as would suffice to fill the vacancies that had occurred, together with the three men and three widows ready, as provided by the laws of the Institution, to enter upon the next three vacancies that should occur on the two Funds. Hence, including these deferred annuitants, the numbers elected were 27 men, from a list of 65 candidates, reduced by four deaths, a removal, and a withdrawal, to 59; and 16 widows, from a list of 54, reduced by death to 53, the strength of the two establishments remaining at 194 men—increased by the W. Yorkshire presentation to 195—receiving each £40 per annum; and 240 widows, at £32 per annum. There is but little to add to this record. The usual summer and winter entertainments were given to the

inmates of the Institution at Croydon, and the usual inspection of the premises there was made by the Festival Stewards. It may also be mentioned that at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge on the 5th instant, an addition to Article 23 of the Rules and Regulations of the Institution, by which it was intended to confer certain voting privileges on those Lodges, Chapters, and other Masonic bodies which contribute £105 to each fund, or £210 together, and so qualify as Vice-Patrons, or £210 to each Fund, or £420 together, to qualify as Patrons, and which had been agreed to at a Special Meeting of the Committee of Management, on the 15th November, was submitted for approval. A long discussion followed, and as there appeared to be a strong feeling among those present that the privileges so proposed to be granted were excessive and would place intending contributors to the two scholastic Institutions at a serious disadvantage, it was ultimately agreed that the motion should be adjourned to a future meeting.

Everyone will rejoice at the good fortune which has befallen our Senior Charity—the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls—during the present year. Not a few brethren had begun to grow somewhat nervous about its future. Everyone recognised that it was beloved, both by reason of the splendid work it was doing and for the sake of the fair young children whom it had taken under its charge and was tending with so much diligence and kindness. Yet, until last year the Annual Festivals that had been held since 1888 had not compared favourably with those which had preceded the Centenary celebration. However, as we have said, the Festival in 1893, which was held under the auspices of Bro. the Earl of Euston, Prov. Grand Master of Northants and Hunts, by producing donations and subscriptions amounting to over £14,000—that is to say, some £4000 in excess of the previous Festival—had gone a good way towards restoring the funds of the Institution to a state of equilibrium, and it was universally hoped that a further, and if possible, an equal leap or bound might be taken, and that as the year 1893 had produced a more satisfactory result than the four preceding years, so in its turn might the year 1894 prove more beneficial than its immediate predecessor. Nor have those who indulged in this hope been disappointed. The services of one of the most genial and popular members of our Society—Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Pro. Grand Master, and Prov. G. Master of West Lancashire—were secured at an exceptionally early date. A large Board of Stewards, which ultimately mustered 434 ladies and brethren, was formed, and in due course the Festival was held on Wednesday, the 9th May, not, as it happened, under the presidency of the Pro Grand Master, who was prevented from fulfilling his engagement by the death of the Countess of Clarendon, but under that of his son, Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, J.G. Warden, and when the time came for the Secretary to announce the donations and subscriptions obtained by the Stewards they were found to amount to the splendid sum of £17,732. This was subsequently increased to £18,056, so that, as the 1893 Festival exceeded its predecessor by, in round figures, £4000, so in its turn has it been exceeded by that of 1894 by about an equal sum. No less than 36 out of the 46 Provinces, to say nothing of sundry outlying stations, took part in the good work, the "Chairman's Province" contributing £2500 out of the Provincial total, while, as our readers know well, the Lodges in the Metropolitan district acquitted themselves splendidly. As for the other part of this annual Festival, namely, the distribution of prizes, it was held in the great Hall of the School at Wandsworth, on the Monday preceding the Anniversary Meeting, under the presidency of the Earl of Lathom, while the agreeable task of distributing the awards among the successful pupils was most graciously discharged by the Countess of Lathom. The gathering on this occasion proved an unqualified success, not only in consequence of the musical and elocutionary ability exhibited by the children, and the perfection of their calisthenic display, but also because the reports as to the distinctions achieved by the senior girls at the Cambridge Middle Class and other public examinations, proved incontestably that the educational training which the children receive is of a very high order mentally, physically, morally, and practically. At the half-yearly elections, which took place at the Quarterly General Courts, held in Freemasons' Tavern on the 12th April and 11th October respectively, there were elected on the former occasion 22 children from an approved list of 40 candidates, and on the latter 21 out of 42 candidates. At the Quarterly Courts in January and July the business was of a routine character, but we must not omit to mention that on the 2nd and 28th June, the School was visited on the former day by Bro. the Lord Mayor and Bros. Alderman and Sheriff Dimsdale and Sheriff Moore, and on the latter by a strong contingent of the West Yorkshire brethren, who had arrived in London *en route* for the Boys' School Festival at Brighton, and who took this opportunity of seeing for themselves how well "Our Girls" are looked after, and how admirably they are being trained for their after career.

As to the remaining Charity, that of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, we are gratified at being able to announce that the good fortune which has attended it under its new administration has not been wanting during the present year. The Board of Management and its various Sub-Committees have brought their arrangements into excellent working order, while the Educational Staff is discharging its duties most efficiently. On the other hand, the Craft generously recognising these efforts to place the School on its proper level with the best among our private schools, has been contributing liberally of its means, so that the Executive, though it can never be wholly free from anxiety in respect of funds, has the satisfaction of feeling that while it fulfils its duties in its present fashion, its appeals for the requisite

amount of support will not be made in vain. Thus, when it became known, as it did at a much earlier date than usual, that Bro. W. Lawies Jackson, M.P., who was installed last year as Prov. G. Master of West Yorkshire, had undertaken to preside as Chairman at the Anniversary Festival in June, the Secretary found his task of enlisting the services of brethren as Stewards was, comparatively speaking, light. He knew that West Yorkshire, with such practical men as Bro. W. F. Smithson, P.G.D., to guide it, would work the oracle to good purpose in support of its chief, and that, for the reasons we have stated, London and the other Provinces were ready to bear their part in the good work. Hence, when the appointed day came round and the 96th Anniversary Festival of the Institution was celebrated, as it has been on several previous occasions, at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, under the presidency of Bro. Jackson, it was found that the advocacy of that distinguished brother and the canvass of his Board of 522 Stewards had resulted in the compilation of the large sum of £18,582 5s. 7d., which was ultimately augmented to £19,000 and upwards, the Chairman's Province contributing, in round figures, £4560. A result like this, following upon the equal and even greater successes, achieved at the preceding Festivals held under the present régime, acts as an incentive to the Board of Management, the Secretary, and the staff at Wood Green to continue their present policy. They have worked hard in hearty co-operation with one another, and their reward is increased efficiency in the School and increased means with which to make it still further efficient, the invested capital of the Charity, though it is still inferior in amount to those of its sister Institutions, having been substantially enlarged during the past three years. But to resume our narrative. The Festival itself was preceded by the distribution of prizes, by Mrs. Lawies Jackson, at Wood Green, on Tuesday, the 26th June, while the annual athletic sports were held in the School playing fields, on Saturday, the 16th June, and were witnessed by a numerous gathering of the Stewards and other visitors. The elections were held, as usual, in the spring and autumn of the year, the earlier taking place at the Quarterly General Court, on Friday, the 13th April, when 30 were elected from an approved list of 43 candidates, and the later on Friday, the 12th October, when 18 were chosen from a list of equal length. In April, too, Bro. Charles W. Keyser, was unanimously elected Treasurer, in succession to Bro. E. Letchworth, who had resigned in consequence of the pressure of his official duties, while at the Quarterly Court in October, the rank of Honorary Vice-Patron, with the rights and privileges belonging thereto, were conferred on Bro. W. F. Smithson, P.G.D., in recognition of his arduous labours in connection with the Festival of the year, and at other times. Nothing of moment happened at the Quarterly Courts in January and July, but it is necessary we should state that the Boys who have presented themselves as Candidates at the Cambridge Middle Class and other public examinations, have succeeded, with a few exceptions, in satisfying the examiners, while a considerable proportion of the number had the satisfaction of being awarded honours, with distinction in one or more of the prescribed subjects. We trust the record of this and the other two Institutions may prove as gratifying to their friends and supporters in future years as in that which is on the eve of completing its appointed term.

PROVINCIAL AND OTHER CHARITABLE ASSOCIATIONS.

It is within the knowledge of our readers that in addition to the three Central Institutions, which have been established for the needs of the whole Craft, and to whose labours during the year we have just addressed ourselves, an increasing number of the Provinces, and not a few lodges, have set up their own Benevolent and Educational Funds, of which one class and the more ambitious, provides for the education of the sons and daughters of the poor and deceased brethren in their respective Provinces, or, as in a few cases, allots small annual allowances to poor brethren and their widows, while the other class has been formed to enable brethren of limited means to contribute towards the support of the Central Charities. The more ambitious of these classes is, at the same time, the more numerous, the most notable local Institutions which are included in its list being the Educational, Hamer, and Alpass Institutions established by the Province of West Lancashire for the education of poor and deceased brethren's children, and to grant annuities to poor brethren and their widows. These three together have invested funds amounting to some £50,000, and as the greatest interest is taken in their efficient maintenance, the donations and subscriptions that flow in annually from lodges and brethren, or that are raised by balls and concerts and festivals, amount to a considerable sum, and enable them to carry out their work very efficiently. The support they have received during the present year and the good work they have done in consequence, have been fully up to the average of preceding years. The neighbouring Province of East Lancashire also has its Systematic Benevolent and Educational Institutions, with a capital approaching to £12,000, while in Cheshire there is, in addition to the Educational Fund, which has been in existence for 30 years and upwards, a Benevolent Institution with a capital of about £3000, which has been established some two years. The Durham Educational Fund, which has been established four years, has a capital of about £1500, and devotes between £150 and £200 annually to the education and part maintenance of poor and deceased Masons' children. The Hants and Isle of Wight Educational Fund is in a flourishing condition, while as to that which is maintained by our N. and E. Yorkshire brethren, there was realised at the Fourth Annual Festival, held on the 23rd May, the sum of about £500. Devonshire, Dorsetshire, Cornwall, Bristol, and no doubt other Provinces have

founded similar Charities for local purposes, and though it occasionally happens that the Secretary of one of them sounds a note of warning to the effect that subscriptions do not flow in as regularly and abundantly as is requisite, we believe that on the whole these local Charities, especially the more important we have mentioned, are doing good solid work, and so relieving the central Charities of some at least of the heavy claims which are continually being made upon their resources. The other class of Charity Associations by which men of moderate means are enabled to become Life-Subscribers or Life-Governors to our Institutions are to be found in Staffordshire, Herefordshire,—which held its Seventh Annual Meeting on the 30th June—Cambridgeshire, and, we believe, in other counties, while in London there are several of which, not a few are organized by Lodges of Instruction. All of these do good work, and are greatly valued by the Secretaries of our principal Charities for the liberal contributions they are the means of obtaining for them. We hope their present prosperity may be continued.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The following is a record of the number of cases relieved, and the amount distributed amongst them month by month, from the 1st December, 1893, to the 30th November, 1894, namely, December, 1893, 40 cases relieved with £915; January, 1894, 29 cases with £630; February, 35 cases with £720; March, 33 cases, with £705; April, 33 cases relieved with £875; May, 36 cases relieved with £930; June, 33 cases relieved with £835; July, 24 cases with £505; August, 12 cases with £225; September, 14 cases with £255; October, 47 cases with £1430; November, 40 cases with £1040. Total for the 12 months, 376 cases relieved with £9065. Though, as these returns are reckoned differently from those we published in our last year's review of "Freemasonry in 1893," it is impossible to institute any comparison between the two grand totals, it will nevertheless be seen that the Board has been called upon to disburse a very large sum. Yet there is no doubt that Bro. Robert Grey, the President, his experienced Vice-Presidents, and the members constituting the Board, use their utmost efforts to keep the expenditure within moderate limits. It will be seen, however, from the figures we have given above, that no less than £1430 was distributed among 47 applicants in October, and £1040 among 40 applicants in the month following. With such heavy calls upon its income as these it is impossible to keep the outlay to one uniform level. The only thing a Board of Benevolence can do when distress of an exceptionally heavy character prevails, is to relieve it generously but with circumspection, and with due regard to the needs and position of the several applicants; and if, in so doing, it turns out that the sum distributed is larger than usual, we know the Craft well enough to be certain that the excessive outlay will not be severely criticised.

MASONIC LITERATURE.

We have already referred to the acceptance by Grand Lodge of the copyright of the second edition of the "Masonic Records," which its able compiler, Bro. John Lane, of Torquay, so generously presented in the summer of the present year, and to the fact that Grand Lodge has undertaken that 500 copies of this invaluable work shall be printed and sold to the Craft at the price of one guinea each. The work is in the printer's hands, and doubtless it will be some time before it makes its appearance. Still, though the book will not be ready yet, no review of our literature in 1894 would be complete without some reference to the generous offer of Bro. Lane, and what has befallen it up to the present time. So, again, it has been mentioned in the columns of this journal that Bro. R. F. Gould, P.G.D., is engaged in preparing for the press an epitome of his magnificent "History of Freemasonry," and that it will be circulated amongst the public at the moderate price of half-a-guinea. This will, doubtless, be published in 1895, yet the present year, in which the task of Bro. Gould was begun, is entitled to some share in the credit which will devolve upon him for the great service he will hereby have rendered when the book is ready. Still, though these Records and the Epitome belong properly to the near future and only in a minor degree to the present, the year 1894 has not passed without two most creditable additions to the limited store of Masonic literature. These are both lodge histories, the earliest to appear, that of "The Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192," having been written by Bro. W. J. Hughan, and published, with many excellent portraits of notable members, by Bro. George Kenning. The other is the "History of the Phoenix Lodge, No. 257, 1786 to 1893; Chapter of Friendship, No. 257 (originally No. 3), 1769 to 1893; and Royal Naval Preceptory of Knights Templar, No. 2, 1791 to 1893." This valuable work has been compiled from the books in possession of the Lodge and from other sources by Bro. Alexander Howell, P.M., and was published by him at Portsmouth in the earlier half of 1894. It is embellished with portraits of Dunckerley and other Provincial Masonic celebrities, is finely printed, and handsomely bound, and is worthy to be compared with the best lodge histories that have heretofore been published. Let us add that the Transactions of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, and sundry of its valuable reprints have been published under the able supervision of Bro. G. W. Speth, its energetic Secretary.

OBITUARY.

Though it is a satisfaction to find that the roll of our losses by death is by no means as formidable as we have known it in some previous years, still it is long enough, and includes the names of not a few brethren who won high distinction in our ranks. The most

prominent of those we have lost is Bro. William Kelly, who was for 56 years a member of our Society, had assisted in founding nearly all the Lodges in Leicestershire and Rutland, and who, after serving for many years as Deputy to the late Earl Howe—who was Prov. G. Master of Leicestershire from 1856, and for Leicestershire and Rutland combined, from 1869 till shortly before his death—was appointed to succeed his lordship in 1870, and remained in office till 1873. He was also G. Superintendent of Royal Arch Masons in the same Province, from 1870 till his death, and G. Mark Master for 36 years, from 1858 till death—of the Province which included within its limits the Counties of Leicestershire, Derbyshire, Northamptonshire, and Rutland. He was a Chief Intendant-General for some half dozen counties in the Order of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine, and had taken the 30° in the Ancient and Accepted Rite System. He had been, indeed, during the greater part of his long and active career, the very heart and soul of Masonry in his Province, had taken a leading part in the erection of the Masonic Hall in Leicester, and had compiled a brief but valuable history of the Craft in Leicestershire. His death occurred in August, and at the annual meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge not long afterwards, touching reference was made to his loss, and a just tribute paid to the memory of his services. In May, Bro. Charles H. Dallas, who was initiated in the Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 501, Shanghai, in 1862, and served as Dist. G. Master of Japan from 1873 to 1886, died somewhat unexpectedly, and in September, Bro. Admiral Sir E. A. Inglefield, K.C.B., a P.M. of the Drury Lane Lodge, No. 2127, and J.G. Warden in 1891. On the 10th January, at a ripe old age, there passed away one of the most popular brethren of the day, Bro. Brackstone Baker, who was appointed J.G. Deacon and Assist. G. Sojourner of Supreme Grand Chapter in 1869, and who, at the time of his death, was the representative at our Grand Lodge of the Grand Lodges of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia in British North America, and of those of Alabama, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas in the United States. He was also principal founder and first Master of the famous Anglo-American Lodge, No. 2191, which has done so much towards strengthening the bonds of Freemasonry between England and the United States. He had been, indeed, one of the most active members of the Craft down even to the close of his long career, and it will be some time ere the gap created by his death will be filled. Among other leading Masons who have passed away must be mentioned Bro. A. H. Moyes, P.G. Std. Bearer, D.P.G.M. Cambridgeshire, who died a few days before Bro. Baker; Bro. Col. Addison Potter, C.B., who was J.G. Deacon of England in 1889, G. Superintendent of Northumberland from 1881 till his death, and G. Master Overseer of the Mark in 1886; Bro. Capt. Homfray, P.A.G.D.C., P.G. Std. Bearer of Supreme G. Chapter, D.P.G.M. of Monmouthshire from 1880 to 1885, D.G. Master, and subsequently G. Master, in the Mark Degree, of the same Province; Bro. Ex-Sheriff George Burt, J.P., P.A.G.D.C.; Bro. Butler Wilkins, P.G. Std. Br., D.P.G.M. Northants and Hunts; Bro. Col. Charles Harding, P.A.G.D.C., and P.G. Std. Br., Supreme G. Chapter; and Bro. John E. Dawson, P.G.S.B., P.G. Std. Br. (Royal Arch), and P.D.P.G.M. Hertfordshire; Bro. Sir P. Cunliffe Owen, K.C.B., P.G.D.; and Robert Willoughby, P.G. Std. Br. Among leading Provincial brethren whom we have lost will be found Bro. Peter de E. Collin, P.P.S.G.W., Prov. G. Treasurer, Cumberland and Westmoreland; Bro. E. Haggis, P.P.J.G.W. Cambridgeshire; Bro. Thomas Lamb Smith, Past Prov. G.W. Worcestershire; Bro. E. Worrall, P. Prov. J.G.W. Warwickshire; Bro. Edmund Yates, P. Prov. S.G.W. Middlesex; Bro. Horace E. Stewart, P. Prov. G.W. Middlesex; Bro. Thomas Chirgwin, Prov. G. Secretary, Cornwall; Bros. S. Tryon, P.P.G.S. of W., and Henry Wigan, Prov. G. Registrar, Hertfordshire; and Bro. J. U. Martin, Prov. G. Organist, Norfolk; while of other worthy brethren who did good service to the Craft in their time we note Bro. Bateman S. Liddell, P.M., Treasurer No. 45; Bro. the Rev. Richard Morris, M.A., LL.D., who for some thirteen years was Head Master of our Boys' School; Bro. T. Eccleston Gibb, ex-M.P., the first W.M. of the Hampden Lodge, No. 2427; Bro. John Burgess, C.E., P.M.; Bro. Major W. E. Williams, P.M., P.Z.; Bro. E. Morland, P.M., Mayor of Abingdon; Bro. Alfred Williams, P.M., P.Z., an active member of the General Board of Mark Grand Lodge; Bro. F. H. Doggett; Bro. F. E. Wilkinson, M.D., P.M.; Bro. Charles J. Perceval, who was well known for the interest he took in our Charitable Institutions; Bro. Major Fairtlough, R.A., Governor of the Gambia; and Bro. George E. Baker, No. 192, who for 30 years and upwards had been a prominent figure in the establishment of Bro. George Kenning.

SCOTLAND.

A glance at our official Calendar will serve to show that Freemasonry in this part of the United Kingdom has greatly increased the number of its lodges, while the items of news which we have published from time to time in these columns are additional evidence of its activity and prosperity. Warrants for 14 new lodges have been granted during the year, all of which with the solitary exception of the Balfour Melville, No. 809, which meets at Methil in Fifeshire, are located abroad. No less than eight have been added to the roll of the Dist. G. Lodge of Queensland, namely, the Sir Joshua Peter Bell, No. 798, the Taringa, No. 801, the Valley Ionic, No. 802, the Norman, No. 803, the St. Mungo, No. 805, the Nundah,

No. 806, the Duke of Rothesay, No. 807, and the Fassifern, No. 808. Two are placed in the South African Republic, namely, the Douglas, No. 799, and the Gordon, No. 804, at Jeppestown and Johannesburg respectively; while the Caledonian, No. 796, has its home at Port Elizabeth, S.A. The remaining two are the Lodge of Unity, No. 797 Georgetown, Demerara, and the Zoroaster, No. 800 Bombay. As for the Grand Lodge of Scotland its affairs have been successfully administered, while as to its proceedings, they are marked this year by an innovation, which, from the one experience we have had of it, seems calculated to be of benefit to the Craft in the Provinces. It having been determined that, for the future, Grand Lodge should celebrate St. Andrew's Day in Edinburgh and one of the Provinces alternately, the meeting on the 30th November was held in the Pillar Hall, Glasgow, which had been chosen as the scene of the first experiment under the new law. The attendance was very large, and great enthusiasm shown over the installation of the new Office-Bearers for the year, as well as at the banquet which followed. On this matter we need not say more than that last year's Grand Master, Bro. Sir Charles Dalrymple, Bart., having been re-elected for the current year, was formally re-installed in his chair by his predecessor, Bro. the Earl of Haddington. Among the numerous events in which the Grand Master has been the leading figure, were the installation, in May, of Bro. Thomas Hope, M.P., as Prov. G. Master of Linlithgowshire, and the consecration of a new Masonic Hall at Port Ellen, Islay, the opening of sundry bazaars in aid of the building funds of St. John's, No. 170, and other Lodges, and visitations to different Lodges and Prov. Grand Lodges. In October, a statue, erected in Glasgow City to the memory of the late Bro. Sir William Pearce, Bart., Prov. G. Master of Glasgow City, was publicly unveiled by his successor in office, Bro. John Graham, of Broadstone, while on the 3rd of November, a new Hall in Aberdeen was opened by Bro. James H. Forshaw, Prov. G. Master of Aberdeen City. In September Bro. Sir G. MacPherson Grant, Bart., laid, with Masonic ceremonial, the foundation-stone of a new bridge over the Spey. There have also been very successful meetings held in the Provinces, both by the Prov. Grand Lodges, and Prov. Grand Chapters, and the West of Scotland College of the Rosicrucian Society has exhibited a commendable degree of activity. In short, Scottish Freemasonry, in all its different branches, has enjoyed a full measure of prosperity during the past year, nor is there the slightest reason why, with such men as, for many years past, have presided at the helm of our Masonic Craft, the same condition of prosperity throughout bonnie Scotland and its outlying territories should not be continued.

IRELAND.

The Irish Craft has not shown itself much more communicative to the Masonic Press in the present than in former years. It is still possible, as in the past, to obtain from local newspapers a good deal of information about Provincial and Lodge doings, but these papers are not easily accessible. However, as there is now an Irish Masonic Journal, the *Masonic Visitor*, let us hope that matters, in this respect, will mend a little, and that in future this journal will find it possible to furnish more news than heretofore about the proceedings of the brethren on the other side of St. George's Channel. Still we have published from time to time some items about Ireland, such as the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge on St. John the Evangelist's Day (27th December), 1893, when, in accordance with ancient custom, the Duke of Abercorn, M.W.G.M., and the other Grand Officers for the present year were proclaimed and saluted. On this occasion the very unusual honour of a salute was also given to Bro. Kivas Tully, a Past Grand Master of Canada and the representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland at that Grand Lodge on the occasion of his Masonic Jubilee. The fête, in connection with the distribution of prizes to the Masonic Orphan Schools in Dublin, was also held as usual, and drew together a numerous and brilliant company, while these Institutions were further honoured on the 10th of April by a visit of the Lord Lieutenant. The Masonic Charities in Belfast have received considerable support, and the annual Masonic Ball took place in the Assembly Rooms, Cork. Divine Service was held in Limerick Cathedral on 24th June, and in the Parish Churches of Warrenpoint and Loughgall on the 18th August and 9th September, respectively, on all which occasions there was a large attendance of brethren present. On the 24th October a testimonial was presented to Bro. W. E. Flavelle, Asst. G. Secretary of Grand Lodge, on the occasion of his marriage. We may add that, early in the year, we were enabled to publish in our columns some very interesting particulars, furnished by Bro. W. J. Chetwode-Crawley, L.L.D., D.C.L., S.G. Deacon, relating to the history of three Irish Military Lodges, Nos. 863, 322, and 227, the first two of which, though their existence has not been continuous, are still in a prosperous condition, while the last exchanged its military for a civil warrant in 1847, and has since been absorbed by the Grand Lodge of Canada. We regret that our review of the proceedings of the Craft in Ireland is so limited.

THE COLONIES, &c.

The space at our disposal will not admit of more than certain general observations as to the fortunes of Freemasonry in the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown. In the Dominion of Canada there are, as our readers are aware, no less than six independent Grand Lodges—those of Canada (Province of Ontario), Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, British Columbia, and Manitoba. We receive intelligence of the proceedings of these bodies from time to time, and we are there-

fore in a position to state generally that the year has been a prosperous one, that of British Columbia having made considerable headway, while, as to the Grand Lodge of Quebec, it is to be congratulated on having found so able an historian of its career and of its constituent Lodges as Bro. Graham, Past G. Master. In the West Indies there have been warranted some new Lodges, while of those previously existing, the St. John's, No. 492, Antigua, celebrated the jubilee of its constitution with great success towards the close of 1893. A new Lodge has been added to the roll of the Dist. G. Lodge of the Argentine Republic, the *Lamas de Zamora*, No. 2517. In India the position of things is sound. The same kindly feelings continue to prevail between the English and Scottish Constitutions; while the Charitable Associations in Bengal, Bombay, the Punjab, and wherever else they have been established, continue to make the most strenuous and successful efforts in behalf of our indigent members and their families. The periodical reports which reach us regularly make this very clear. In the two Dist. G. Lodges of China and Japan, though mere numerical progress does not seem to be the order of the day, the reports of proceedings show that good work is being done, while in Australasia, under the newly-established G. Lodges, all goes well. So too, in Queensland, which has enlarged the number of its English and Scottish Lodges, but more particularly of the latter, while in New Zealand, though the so-called G. Lodge has succeeded in increasing the number of its Lodges to close upon a hundred, there is, and, we fear we must add, there is likely to be for some time to come, the same disturbed condition as most people knew would follow upon the creation of an irregular G. Lodge. In South Africa warrants for the constitution of new Lodges, both English and Scotch, are continually being applied for, while those in the South African Republic, numbering in all 11, have been erected into a Dist. G. Lodge. In fact, Freemasonry in the out-lying parts of the British Empire, as in the United Kingdom itself, has been most successful, and our fervent prayer is that as year succeeds year, it may be our privilege to chronicle the continuance of this success.

THE ROYAL ARCH DEGREE.

[Continued from page 101.]

[BY BRO. R. F. GOULD.]

The Degree, if we may credit the eleventh volume of what was at the time—now half a century ago—the leading journal of the Craft, was planted (or replanted) with no slight difficulty on the other side of St. George's Channel. According to this publication: "In 1813, Royal Arch Masonry could scarcely have been known even by name in Ireland. For when the Earl of Donoughmore, the then Grand Master, adopted the suggestion of his illustrious colleague, the Grand Master of England, and promulgated the direction that Craft Masonry should consist of only three Degrees, including the Royal Arch, the ensuing Grand Lodge peremptorily demanded of his lordship what he meant by the innovation of adding to Masonry what was not understood to exist. A vote of censure was actually passed on the Earl of Donoughmore, who frankly said that he was innocent of any knowledge whatever of Royal Arch Masonry." (*F. Q. Review*, 1844.) This vote of censure, it may be added—on the same authority—was a commutation of the sentence originally proposed, which amounted to no less than the expulsion of the Grand Master from Masonry altogether.

The above story may or may not be entitled to our confidence. Several years ago I had some correspondence with the late Bro. S. B. Oldham, Dep. G. Sec. and Treas., Grand Lodge of Ireland, on the subject, and, so far as I recollect, while distrusting the statement in the *F. Q. Review*, he was unable, nevertheless, to positively affirm it to be incorrect, owing to the Minutes of the Grand Lodge for a long period of years having been lost or purloined. A new History of Irish Masonry is, however, understood to be in course of preparation, and the able brother who has taken it in hand, Dr. F. C. Crossle, Prov. G. Sec., Down, will, no doubt, tell us at the proper time all that he has gleaned from official (or other) documents with regard to the rise and progress of the Royal Arch Degree.

At the present moment the G.M. and the Deputy Grand Secretary and Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, are the King and Registrar respectively of the Grand Chapter. The centralising policy which is the leading characteristic of Irish Masonry I must pass over almost without remark. It will be sufficient to say that, besides the Arch, the Christian Degrees, the Encampments (or Preceptories), the so-called Colleges of Philosophy, and indeed every Degree or Rite which—with or without reason—is recognised by the official hierarchy as Masonic, are in close touch with the Grand Lodge.

The Presiding Officer in an Irish chapter is styled King, which corresponds with First Principal in some other jurisdictions. The three principal officers are obligated, but the King is required to be an actual or Past Master. This, as Bro. Chetwode-Crawley, S.G.D., G. Lodge of Ireland, informs me, is only of very recent introduction.

Every candidate for the Degree must be a Master Mason of six months standing, and is required to become a Mark Master Mason by way of further preliminary. There is no ballot for the Mark, which is held to be included as an honorary Degree under the chapter warrant. The Excellent and Super-Excellent Degrees form part of the Royal Arch, and thereby differ from the Mark, which is usually taken a month or so before exaltation.

The Royal Arch in Scotland is worked under the direction of a Grand Chapter, established in 1818, which has always been entirely independent of the Grand Lodge.

Assuming the plea of emergency to be accepted, as it generally is, there is nothing to prevent a Scottish brother from being raised at one *sedesunt* (or meeting), and exalted a few minutes afterwards. The only requirement of the chapter being, that the candidate should be a Master Mason, and whether his standing as such can be measured by years or moments is wholly immaterial. If he has already received the "Mark" in lodge, the chapter merely "affixes" him, otherwise it confers that Degree, sitting as a Mark lodge. Next, the chapter sits as an "Excellent Master's" lodge (working a further ceremony), and finally as a Royal Arch chapter.

Formerly there were three preliminary Degrees—Mark, Past, and Excellent—but that of (constructive) Past Master has now for some years been discontinued.

Separate chair secrets are imparted to the three Principals at their installation, and generally in a severely concise form, each ceremony lasting for a few minutes only. A companion can be elected to the First Chair without having previously filled the others, and on such occasions the secrets pertaining to all three are communicated to him. The Principals are not required to have sat as actual Masters of lodges.

Besides the Supreme Grand Chapter erected (as above stated) in 1818, there is another organisation which claims the right of controlling the Royal Arch Degree in Scotland. This is the *Early Grand Scottish Rite*, formerly called the *Early Grand Mother Encampment of High Knight Templars, Scotland*.

The laws of the rite are entitled the "General Statutes and Ordinances enacted for the government of Red, Black, Green, and White Masonry" [in Scotland].

Prefixes to these laws or "statutes" is an "Historical Sketch" (1893), from which I shall next quote, premising, however, that I do so in any way vouch for the accuracy of the statements presented, and merely cite them (in an abridged form) as resting entirely on the good faith and credibility of the compiler.

According to this "Historical Sketch"—during the latter part of the 18th century a variety of Degrees—Red, Black, Green and White—were worked in the lodges. But in the year 1800 the Grand Lodge of Scotland passed a resolution forbidding the practice, and limiting the control of the lodges to the first Three Degrees. Whereupon the votaries of the "high grades" applied to their fratres in Ireland, who had an established Grand Encampment, for charters, and soon between 40 and 50 encampments were at work in Scotland, under warrants issued by the "Early Grand Encampment of Ireland." In 1811-12, however, Alexander Deuchar, of Edinburgh Encampment, No. 31 (Irish "Early Grand" Jurisdiction), established a schismatic body, which he styled the "Supreme Grand Conclave of Scotland." This conclave continued to work the Red and Black under one head, as had been customary under the Irish "Early Grand." Hence arose a further division, and in 1818, the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter sprang into existence as the spawn of a schism—being in fact the illegitimate grand-daughter of the Irish Grand Encampment. The "Deuchar" Grand Conclave may here be permitted to drop out of the narrative.

On the 22nd June, 1822, Frater Robert Martin, of No. 33 Encampment, presented a petition from Nos. 28 (Muir Kirk), 39 (Ayr), and 40 and 42 (Kilmarnock), to the "Early Grand" of Ireland, praying that the Scottish Encampments might be erected into a Sovereign jurisdiction. The request was granted, and Fra. Martin appointed Provisional Grand Master—a nomination which was ratified at a representative meeting of the Scottish Encampments in July, 1822. This brother retained the office until 1857, and has had 12 successors, from one of whom, Bro. Matthew M. B. Thomson, of Ayr (1877-81), I have derived all the information I possess with regard to the history of the *Early Grand Scottish Rite*, and which I relate on his authority and on that of books and documents he has been so obliging as to send for my perusal.

Subsequently to 1822 a schism befell the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter at Edinburgh (erected 1818) in the form of a Glasgow offshoot, best known as "Donald Campbell's General Grand Chapter." The new Grand Chapter sought a union with the Grand Encampment (of Scotland), but the negotiations fell through owing to irreconcilable differences in working. The fate of the Glasgow Grand Chapter is not disclosed by any papers before me, but it must have long since died out, or ceased to exist as an independent body.

The first event of real importance in more modern times was a resolution of the Grand Encampment in 1880, "delimiting the powers of Grand Encampment and the Grand Council of Rites, enumerating the Degrees to be controlled by each, and handing over the control of Red Masonry to the 'Early Grand Mother Chapter,'—the three bodies working in harmony with each other and having many ties in common."

In 1891 a committee was nominated by the Supreme Grand Chapter at Edinburgh (erected 1818) to confer with one from the "Early Grand," and to endeavour to arrange a union between the two bodies. This came to nothing, and a second conference took place at the Central Hotel, Glasgow, on February 15th, 1893, with apparently no happier result, though the negotiations are seemingly not yet exhausted, as in the "Historical Sketch" before me, "It is hoped, for the sake of Masonic unity, the strayed sheep [meaning the Supreme Grand R.A. Chapter of Scotland], may be brought back to the Early Grand fold."

The 3rd of the Statutes and Ordinances of the *Early Grand Mother Chapter* is as follows: "The Early Grand Mother Chapter recognises the Degrees of Funeral Master, Fellow Craft Mark, Master's Mark, Architect, Grand Architect, Master of the Blue, Past Master, Royal Ark Mariner, Fugitive Mark, Link and Chain, Jacob's Wrestle, Scarlet Cord, Brotherly Love, Royal Master, Select Master, Most Excellent Master, Excellent Master, Super-excellent Master, Holy Royal Arch, and the installed degrees of Noah, J., H., and Z."

The *Grand Encampment* in its 5th Statute "Recognises and controls the Degrees of Knight of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, Knight of St. John the Evangelist, K.H.S., Knight of the Christian Mark, Knight of the Holy and Illustrious Order of the Cross, Pilgrim, Knight Templar, Mediterranean Pass or Knight of St. Paul, and Knight of Malta."

The 7th Statute of the *Scottish Grand Council of Rites* runs: "The degrees of Green and White Masonry as recognised by the S. G. C. of Rites are: The Green, Prince of Babylon, Prince Mason, Knight of the Black Cross, Knight of Bethany, Knight of the White Cross, Knight of Patmos, Knight of Death, Knight of the Rosy Cross, Knight of the Black and White Eagle, the White, Priestly Order of the Temple or White Mason, Priest of the Sun, Priest of Eleusis, Mother Word or Royal Secret."

The number of degrees worked under the "Early Grand Scottish Rite" is as follows: Chapter Series, 4th to 22nd; Encampment ditto, 23rd to 31st; Green and White ditto, 32nd to 44th; total, 41.

To obviate any possible misunderstanding, let me here state, before concluding my remarks on Scottish Capitular Masonry, that the Supreme Grand R.A. Chapter (1818) is, so far at least as I am aware, the *only* governing body of the degree which is recognised as such (or in any way whatsoever) by the Grand Chapters of other jurisdictions. But the existence of the "Early Grand," which *claims* the right of controlling the Royal Arch in Scotland, is nevertheless a *fact* that cannot be got rid of by ignoring it.—*New Zealand Craftsman*.

CONSECRATION OF THE SHIRLEY WOOLMER LODGE, No. 2530.

The 6th lodge in the Province of Kent was consecrated at St. John's Hall, Sidcup, on Wednesday, the 12th inst., by the Prov. G.M., Earl Amherst, assisted by Bros. Rev. C. H. Fielding, Prov. G. Chap., as Chap.; Humphrey Ward, P.G.S.B., as D. of C.; and many Provincial Grand Officers. The new lodge, which takes its names from the respected vicar of Sidcup and the first Master, possesses a strong body of founders, and starts its career with every indication of success.

The following are the founders: Bros. Rev. C. E. Shirley Woolmer, P.M., P.P.G.C.; C. Wallington, P.M.; E. Blanks, P.M.; E. J. S. Layton, P.M.; Thomas Francis Peacock, P.M., P.G.S.; T. B. Sandercock, P.M.; A. Sharp, P.M.; F. Dewsbury, P.M.; R. H. Hale, C. Sheath, J. R. Creasey, H. W. Francis, M. Hewitt, G. Davis, R. G. Bassett, D. T. Corke, Tyson Crawford, G. Dawson, C. Forwood, W. Pearcey, W. Wade, and S. H. Wright.

Amongst the large number of visitors present were

Bros. J. S. Eastes, D.P.G.M.; Rev. A. Jackson, P.P.G. Chap.; Alfred Spencer, Prov. G. Sec., P.G.S.B.; W. J. Hughes, P.G. Reg.; W. M. Bywater, P.G.S.B.; Rev. C. H. Fielding, Prov. G. Chap.; J. Poulard, Prov. G.S.B.; F. Jordon, P.G. Steward; A. Ronaldson, P.G. Steward; H. Ward, P.P.G.S.W., P.G.S.B. (acting D.C.); J. D. E. Tarr, P.P.G.D. Middx.; G. Goble, P.A.G.D.C.; A. F. Bird, P.P.G.S.W.; R. J. Emmerson, P.P.G.W.; G. Anderson, P.G.S.; W. Moulder, P.P.G.P.; W. A. Valon, P.P.J.G.W.; C. Woollett, S.W. 21; R. A. Jack, 14 (S.C.); A. H. Hale, P.M. 1209; W. A. Dowling, P.M. 2012; W. Dunk, P.M. 558; T. F. Clarke, I.P.M. 1837; T. Adams, P.M. 181; G. R. Davies, P.M. 13; H. E. Sanders, S.W. 917; H. J. Adams, P.G.S.B.; G. Spurgeon, P.M. 558; A. W. Dawson, S.W. 829; W. Kiddle, P.M. 2277; G. W. Davis, 1; G. H. F. Pryman, J.D. 1826; J. Farrier, P.M. 829; H. Mill, W.M. 829; G. Martin, J.W. 829; S. Hastings, P.M. 829; A. C. Pennie, 1027, Shanghai; W. Russell, P.M. 1464; T. Elmore, P.M. 503; W. W. Lee, W.M. 1897, P.M. 2381; and many others.

The brethren assembled in the vicarage, and walked in procession to the lodge room, where the PROV. GRAND MASTER took the chair and opened the lodge. He then addressed the brethren, and said they had met together for the performance of a ceremony the like of which had not been seen in that town for 34 years. One of his first acts as Prov. Grand Master was to recommend the M.W. Grand Master to sanction a warrant for a Masonic lodge in Sidcup. That lodge was then the 18th in the province, and they thought they had arrived at a number which marked a great record. On the present occasion they had met to consecrate the 6th lodge, and there was no Mason who would not feel satisfaction at the progress made. Lodges were now thick upon the ground in Kent, and one of the most anxious duties of a Provincial Grand Master, when a petition was submitted, was to see that the new lodge should not injure the older lodges already formed. Happily, they were so circumstanced there that lodges to-day stood much thicker than in other parts without prejudice to the first lodges. He charged the new lodge to be careful whom they admitted, for the character of the Order was not determined by the number of members, but by their personal worth. Each brother had it in his power to heighten or diminish the credit of the Craft. They should not seek for numerical increase, but see that the candidates were such as were likely to prove a credit to the Order and good social companions. He was sure they all wished the new lodge well, and with those few words he would proceed to perform the ceremony.

The ceremony was proceeded with, and an oration having been delivered by Bro. Rev. C. H. FIELDING, the Shirley Woolmer Lodge was solemnly consecrated in due form.

Bro. J. S. Eastes, D.P.G.M., then assumed the chair, and installed Bro. Rev. C. E. Shirley Woolmer, P.M., P.P.G.C., as the first W.M. The following officers were invested: Bros. C. Wallington, P.M., acting I.P.M.; E. Blanks, P.M., S.W.; E. J. S. Layton, P.M., J.W.; Thomas Francis Peacock, P.M., P.G.S., Treas.; T. B. Sandercock, P.M., Sec.; A. Sharp, P.M., S.D.; R. H. Hale, J.D.; C. Sheath, I.G.; F. Dewsbury, P.M., D.C.; J. R. Creasey, A.D.C.; H. W. Francis and M. Hewitt, Stewards; G. Davis, Org.; and G. Randall, Tyler.

Bro. T. F. PEACOCK, P.G. Stwd., was appointed to represent the lodge on the Charity Committee of the province, and the lodge was closed.

An adjournment was made to the Public Hall, where an excellent banquet was served in an admirable manner by Messrs. Hill and Son.

"The Queen and the Craft," and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M." were afterwards proposed by the WORSHIPFUL MASTER, and cordially received.

Bro. ALFD. SPENCER, P.G.S.B., Prov. G. Sec., replying for "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," said their work was shown in the management of the three great Institutions, and on the Board of Benevolence and General Purposes.

Bro. H. WARD, P.G.S.B., also briefly replied.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then proposed what he considered the toast of the evening—"The Health of the Distinguished Nobleman who ruled over their province." A long and distinguished career had been passed by their principal guest. He began by serving his country in the field in the Crimean Campaign, as a Captain in the Coldstream Guards, and when he retired he came to Kent, where, for 21 years, he represented the county in one of the Divisions. No name was more familiar throughout the whole of

West Kent than Viscount Holmesdale. During the last 10 years he had been called to the Upper House, which, although by some maligned, was supposed to be the chief support of our Constitution. For 35 years he had been Provincial Grand Master of Kent—and 34 years ago commenced by consecrating the Sydney Lodge at Sidcup. The Sydney Lodge was the 1812, and the present consecration made the total 60. This result was not to be attributed altogether to the great force of the principles of the Order, but must be due in a great measure to those who ruled the Craft in that county. Two or three years ago the Province of Kent produced one of the largest sums of money for the Charities, which showed that Masonry flourished greatly, owing to the great help and guidance of the Provincial Grand Officers, of whom Earl Amherst was the head. Their chief had crowned his efforts by consecrating that lodge, and they owed him a deep apology for not having recognised that fact in the lodge.

The PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER, in reply, said they would thoroughly understand that after answering the same toast several times in a year for 38 years, it was somewhat difficult to say anything original. They went on as a united and prosperous province. They went from small things to great, and as they had always prospered, it would be a pity if he had anything new to say. They had trebled the lodges in the province, but the whole face of the country had been changed. He had seen hounds running where there were now acres of houses, and they would find that where a few years ago they thought no lodge could find a place, they would have to find places for new lodges, and their number would become greater and greater. It was altogether a thing they might congratulate themselves upon. As he said in the lodge, it was not so much the numerical strength they wanted as the character of their members. In Kent they had the good fortune not to have to seek for recruits, for there were a number of worthy men continually knocking at their doors. They found not only their numbers increasing, but the credit of the Craft also increased. In that district there were great prospects for Masonry, and he was glad to come down and consecrate that lodge, which had such an ensured success. One of his pleasantest and most important duties was the consecration of new lodges. He wished to recognise the services rendered by Bro. Ward, as D.C., who was always ready to give his services, knowledge, experience, and time, and lend those beautiful consecrating vessels he possessed. He thanked the Prov. G. Officers for their attendance, for he was glad to see the purple assembled in such force. What they had done had been a labour of love, and they heartily wished the lodge many years of continued prosperity.

Bro. E. BLANKS, P.M., S.W., proposed "The Dep. Prov. G.M. and Prov. G. Officers," to which Bro. Rev. C. H. FIELDING, P.P.G. Chap., responded.

Bro. H. WARD, P.P.G.S.W., also replied, and said he knew of no Province—and he had been connected with several—where the Prov. G. Officers were more loyal. It had given him great pleasure to be present as D.C., as he had acted in that capacity for 20 years. His services were at their disposal so long as his poor efforts were of any avail. He had been a Mason for more than 35 years, and was devoted to the cause of Masonry, which was calculated to advance the highest interests of man, and make them better men and better Masons.

Bro. C. WALLINGTON, P.M., Acting I.P.M., said he had the great honour of proposing "The Health of the W. Master," and he had taken the trouble to find out his record. Bro. Rev. Shirley Woolmer was initiated in 1840, and was acting as Prov. G. Chap. in 1852, W. Master of the Lewises Lodge at Ramsgate in 1882, and Prov. G. Chap. of Kent in 1886. If the W.M. would allow him (the I.P.M.) to say so, he had crowned his Masonic career by being installed as W.M. in that lodge. As he would have other opportunities of proposing this toast, he would not exhaust all his information that evening. He would simply say he was a fine old English gentleman and a fine old Mason. They wished him every prosperity and happiness in the year of office before him. During the last few months there had been an increasing happy smile on the W. Master's face, and long might that continue, and if they allowed him to vacate his place for a few weeks, they hoped he would return to be with them for many years to enjoy every happiness and prosperity.

The toast was received enthusiastically and accorded musical honours.

Bro. Rev. C. E. SHIRLEY WOOLMER, P.P.G. Chap., W.M., said he deeply felt the honour done him. They had not only made him their first Worshipful Master but had actually named the lodge after him, and he could not but say, "What have I ever done to deserve such an honour?" From the time he became a Mason he had never ceased to be a Chaplain of a lodge in the town where he administered. Although his career might not be as distinguished as many, he had done a certain amount of good work as Chaplain of those various lodges. He felt himself utterly humiliated when he knew how little he had done, and when he thought of the great honours given him. He would do his best to deserve it in the future, and thanked them for the kindness he had always received in Sidcup and in the province during the last 30 years.

Bro. E. J. S. LAYTON, J.W., in an effective and humorous speech gave "The Visitors" which was acknowledged by Bros. STRACHAN, P.P.G.W. Northumberland, and SPURGEON, P.M.

"The Officers" and Tyler's toasts closed the proceedings which were of a thoroughly enjoyable nature, and will, doubtless, linger in the memory of those present for many years to come.

Bro. C. Sheath was assisted in the musical arrangements by Bros. Etherington Smith, Albert Hubbard, T. Powell, and E. S. Cockton.

NATIONAL GREAT PRIORY.

A Great Priory was held at Mark Masons' Hall, on Friday, the 14th inst. Present: The V.E. National Sub-Prior, the Earl of Euston, on the throne; the V.E. Provincial Priors for East Anglia and Kent and Surrey; the Great Officers and Officers, and many Past Great Officers and Officers, Preceptors and other Knights.

The National Great Priory having been opened in ample form, and the muster roll called, the minutes of the meeting of 11th May were read and confirmed.

The SUB-MARSHAL then announced that the V.E. Sir Knight Rear-Admiral Albert Hastings Markham was in attendance for the purpose of doing homage on his appointment as Provincial Prior of the Mediterranean.

The V.E. SUB-PRIOR on the throne ordered him to be admitted, and having, on behalf of the V. H. and E. Great Prior, accepted his homage, assigned him a seat in Great Priory.

The Prov. Prior for the Mediterranean was then conducted to his stall, proclaimed, and saluted, according to ancient custom.

The report of the Council was taken as read.

Motions arising out of the report were made and carried.

A motion was made, pursuant to notice, that various alterations be made in the statutes of Great Priory. The motion was carried.

Alms were collected, and the Great Priory was closed.

A Priory of the Order of Malta, under the banner of the Bard of Avon Preceptory, was then opened. The V.E. National Sub-Prior, the Earl of Euston, occupied the throne, and the E. Sir Knight R. Loveland Loveland took his seat at the east table as E. Prior.

The V.E. National Sub-Prior then appointed and invested Great Priory Officers for the Order of Malta, and they took their seats accordingly. Eighteen members of the Order of the Temple were admitted to the Order of Malta. The Priory was then closed.

The V.E. Prov. Prior for East Anglia, Captain Phillips afterwards presided at the banquet at Freemasons' Tavern, supported by the V.E. Prov. Prior for Kent and Surrey and a large number of Great Officers, Officers, and other knights.

CONSECRATION OF THE FELLOWSHIP LODGE, No. 2535.

The Fellowship Lodge, No. 2535, was consecrated at the Frascati, Oxford-street, on Monday, the 17th inst., in the presence of one of the largest and most representative gatherings ever assembled at a similar function within the Metropolis. The new venture—which owes its origin to its indefatigable Secretary, Bro. James Stephens, starts under exceptionally favourable auspices, having a strong body of founders with an excellent executive at their head, and has already attained a sound financial position. The quaint and significant synonym chosen to distinguish the new lodge was exemplified by the feeling of fellowship pervading the inaugural proceedings, and was evinced in a more practical form by a handsome donation of 25 guineas to each of the three Masonic Institutions. Charity will be a predominant feature of the Fellowship Lodge, which will be represented by a Steward at the next Festivals of the Institutions. The W.M. exerting his influence for the benefit of the Boys' School, being a member of the Board of Management, Bro. Major Clifford Probyn has kindly consented to act in a similar capacity for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and last, but certainly not least, the wife of the esteemed Secretary—a lady who is already known and appreciated for kindly services in this direction—will represent the lodge for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

The consecrating ceremony was impressively performed by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., assisted by Bros. J. B. Monckton, P.G.W., as S.W.; Geo. Everett, P.G. Treas., as J.W.; Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., as Chap.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; and W. M. Bywater, P.G.S.B., as I.G.

The founders of the new lodge present were:

Bros. W. H. Bailey, Prov. G.S.W. Staffordshire, W.M. designate; J. R. Roberts, P.M. 1642, S.W. designate; E. Valeriani, P.M. 1687, J.W. designate; J. Stephens, P.P.G.D. Bucks; B. Carter, E. Rogers, P.G. Stwd.; W. B. Williamson, C. Penny, Stephen Hussers, M. S. Rubinstein, E. Floyd, M. Pratt, W. H. G. Ruddeforth, W. H. Making, W. J. Price, W. Thomas, Col. George Lambert, P.G.S.B.; J. Coningham, H. W. Roberts, E. Reed, J. Welford, J. L. McCabe, W. Pearson, T. Richards, A. G. Shenstone, M. Goldstein, C. E. Braun, Major Clifford Probyn, M. H. Foster, W. G. Dickenson, J. E. Glover, D. P. Holness, J. W. Toneman, W. J. Baths, N. F. Shannaw, J. Buchanan, J. Gillespie, and others.

The large number of visitors present included:

Bros. F. West, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Surrey; Geo. Read, G. Std. Br.; Dr. E. M. Lott, P.G. Org.; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br.; J. A. Bindley, D.P.G.M. Staffordshire, G.D.; J. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M. Ben. Inst.; J. M. McLeod, P.P.G.W. Derbyshire, Secretary R.M. Institution for Boys; W. F. Smithson, P.G.D.; W. H. Kempster, P.G. Stwd.; Sir F. Seager Hunt, M.P., P.M.; E. St. Clair, P.G. Stwd.; E. W. Allen, P.M. 173; P. Clifford Probyn, 357; S. Briggs, P.P.S.G.D. Staffordshire; A. Hooper, P.P.J.G.W. Staffordshire; W. H. Clark, W.M. 753; G. V. Wood, P.M. 1608; T. Dutton, P.M., Secretary 2410; W. H. Bolt, I.P.M. 1563; R. Wright, W.M. 1305; A. Ritchie, I.G. 173; J. Glass, P.M. 453; V. Hunter, I.P.M. 2077; T. L. Green, P.M. 1094; J. Salmon, P.P.G. Reg. Essex; H. C. Lambert, P.P.J.G.W. Herts.; J. Kift, 1791; W. Morley, P.M. 1769; S. H. Baker, P.M. 1260; S. H. Parkhouse, P.M. 1642; H. Carman, P.P.G. Org. Norths.; F. Foxley, P.M. 173; B. E. Blasby, P.M. 2022; W. H. Glass, P.P.G.S. of W. Essex; H. W. Parker, S.W. 2048; A. H. Marks, S.W. 1563; S. Lloyd, P.M. 2398; C. Walker, P.M. 262; E. H. Brown, P.M. 55; B. A. Griffin, P.M. 975; A. E. Hubert, P.M. 173; H. Gros, P.M. 1687; W. Adams, P.M. 1867; H. F. Nash, 1769; J. Pearson, 1196; H. W. Davis, P.M. 173; J. W. Tyler, P.S.G.D. Essex; T. Sewell, 65; F. S. Grosvenor, 185; Geo. Gardner, P.P.G.S.B. Bucks; J. W. Burgess, P.P.S.G.D. West Lancs.; E. M. Lander, P.M. 1642; L. Lichtwitz, P.M. 1891; R. Green, P.M. 1642; W. J. Mason, P.P.G.D. Surrey; R. E. H. Goffin, P.P.G.D.C. Surrey; T. W. Thorpe, P.M. 1704; T. Whaley, P.M. 172; H. Rugg, W.M. 624; W. J. Rogerson, P.P.G.D. Notts.; Haswell Thoner, P.M. 1608; J. G. Head, I.G. 13; H. E. Diamond, P.M. 1704; E. Gibbs, S.W. 2420; A. E. Smith, P.M. 1704; F. Gallizia, W.M. 1687; J. R. Riddelsell, D.D.G.M. South Africa; G. Gabb, P.M. 902; G. Davis, P.M. 167; W. W. Lee, W.M. 1897; and many others.

Lodge having been opened,

The CONSECRATING OFFICER, addressing the brethren, said: In view of the somewhat lengthy ceremonies before us, I will not presume to occupy your time for many moments with any words of my own. We are met here to-day, as you are aware, for the purpose of undertaking a very solemn ceremony—the constitution of a new lodge—and I can assure you it affords me very great pleasure to be here, by command of H.R.H. the M.W.G.M., as his very humble representative, for the purpose of performing the ceremony. At a time when warrants are no longer granted as a matter of course, it is a subject of congratulation for the founders of this lodge that his Royal Highness has been graciously pleased to accede to their prayer, and grant them a warrant. I can only express a hope that this lodge we are about to constitute may have before it a career of very great success.

The ceremony—which included a brief but eloquent oration by Bro. Rev. Studholme Brownrigg—was then proceeded with, and the Fellowship Lodge was solemnly dedicated and constituted.

The W.M. designate, Bro. W. H. Bailey, Prov. S.G.W. Staffordshire, was installed into the chair by the Grand Secretary, and invested the following officers: Bros. Lieut.-Col. Geo. Lambert, P.G.S.B., acting I.P.M.; J. R. Roberts, P.M. 1642, S.W.; E. L. P. Valeriani, P.M. 1687, J.W.; Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, D.P.G.M. Bucks, Chap.; J. Welford, P.M., Treas.

733, Treas.; J. Stephens, P.P.S.G.D. Bucks, Sec.; W. Thomas, I.P.M. 2168, S.D.; E. Rogers, P.G. Stwd., S.D.; E. J. Reed, I.G. 2021, I.G.; H. F. Nash, P.M. 1700, D.C.; B. Carter, W. H. Making, P.M. 1278, and J. H. Haylor, Stwds.; W. S. Rubinstein, Org.; and T. C. Edmonds, P.M., Tyler.

On the proposition of the W.M., seconded by the Secretary, the Consecrating Officers were unanimously elected honorary members, and were each presented with a founder's jewel as a souvenir of the occasion.

It was proposed by Bro. E. L. P. VALERIANI, P.M., J.W., and carried unanimously, that 25 guineas should be voted to each of the three Institutions to be placed on the lists of the three Stewards representing the lodge, viz:—W. Master for the R.M.I.B., Bro. Major Probyn for the R.M.B.I., and Mrs. Stephens for the R.M.I.G.

Other business was transacted, including the proposition of many candidates for initiation and joining, and the lodge was closed.

An adjournment was made to the banquet hall, where a *recherché* banquet was served in a manner reflecting the highest credit on the establishment and all concerned.

The usual toasts were interspersed with a capital selection of music rendered by Miss Edith Wynne, Miss Ethel Bevans, and Bros. May, Chilley, Strugnell, Kilt, and Tito Mattei.

"The Queen and the Craft," and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," having been given, the W. MASTER said the brethren would next show their readiness to pay a tribute to "the Grand Officers" for the manner in which they came forward to discharge their duties. They, who had met for the first time under the banner of the new lodge, could recognise the work undertaken by them, and how spontaneous and kind they had been in coming to assist in their inaugural meeting.

Bro. Sir J. B. MONCKTON, P.G.W., in reply, said that this had been in every sense a great occasion, even in the eyes of those with many years experience of similar functions. Not only was there a great assembly—great in every sense of the word, Masonically as well as numerically—but the whole circumstances had been such as to redound credit on the present, and he thought he might prophecy the future, of that which had taken place. In the first place, the ceremony of consecration had never been better performed. He had heard his good friend, the Grand Secretary, do it, his predecessors, and others, and had even done it himself, but he was bound to say he had never heard it better done. It was a good start for a new lodge. It was impossible to have a better Master, and although he knew very little of that brother before, he had shown in the lodge and at the banquet what sort of man he was. The lodge had started on a charitable career of an admirable kind, and that augured well for it in every sense. Old Masons would rejoice, and young Masons would have an example and pattern in that lodge which would exist from generation to generation. For the toast so heartily drunk, he would simply say to one and all he heartily thanked them.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then said he placed the toast of "The Consecrating Officers" before them with the greatest diffidence, because he felt it was impossible for him to express how sincerely he felt its importance. The majestic, stately, and delightful manner in which the whole of the ceremony was presented by the whole of those engaged in it would be borne out by the testimony of all present, and he must confess that if any element of pride entered into one's constitution, it was that on an occasion like this—so unique of its kind—one heard the ceremony so charmingly portrayed, and saw how true and good Masonry was. They had to sincerely, deeply, and from their hearts thank the Grand Secretary for the admirable manner in which he discharged the duty, and which every one present would remember as long as he lived. They thanked him for undertaking that ceremony, and for doing more than his duty by infusing that feeling which touched the hearts of all. To those who assisted the Grand Secretary they owed a debt of gratitude, and he would express a hope that their ranks would remain unbroken for many years to come.

The GRAND SECRETARY said he felt he should ill requite the attention and patience with which they had listened to him elsewhere, were he to attempt on the present occasion to inflict a speech upon them. He would, therefore, in the fewest possible words on behalf of those with whom he had been associated, thank them for the hearty reception given the toast. During the three years he had had the honour to occupy the position he now filled, it had been his duty to consecrate many lodges, but he could say with all sincerity that he had never consecrated a lodge which had started into existence under more favourable auspices than this, and he was only giving expression to the wishes of those associated with him when he expressed the hope that the Fellowship Lodge might have before it a career of very great and unbroken prosperity. Before he sat down it was his privilege, and he regarded it as a great privilege, to propose to them the toast of the evening. He asked them to join with him in drinking "The Health of their Worshipful Master," whom he had had the great pleasure of installing into the chair. He ventured to think that this lodge would, to a great extent, be secure by having as the first W. Master one so able to guide them in this, the first and most critical year of its existence. Bro. Bailey, as they all knew, was not an untried Mason. Those around the table who had known him in Staffordshire would testify to the admirable manner in which he had discharged all Masonic duties devolving upon him, and those around the centre table would testify to the high esteem in which commercially, and in every other respect, he is held by those who had the privilege of knowing him. He felt confident that under such able and genial rule, this lodge would not fail to prosper, and he could only express the hope that under his guidance, it would support the dignity of the Order, promote obedience to the excellent laws and regulations, and preserve that bond of unity and brotherly love which was the foundation of their Masonic structure.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in response, said he could neither thank the Grand Secretary for the more than kind words used, or his brethren assembled for the kind manner in which they had received the toast. He need hardly say that it was given to few men to rise without some small feeling of natural pride to respond to the toast of the first Master of the Fellowship Lodge. He hoped the first Master would be the worst, and most unworthy the lodge might have, and that the lodge would go on and prosper. It was the Fellowship Lodge, and a proud name it was. It was admirably alluded to by the Chaplain in the ceremony, and the members would try to bind themselves together in a bond as strong as Masonic bonds would allow. It was their desire to make the lodge a good and great one—not great in numbers, for that were indeed easy—but to make it as it ought to be—a lodge composed of good and true men, tied together in the magic circle which was expressed by the word Fellowship. He thought his days of Masonic work were over

and had visions of happy leisure, until he listened to the far too selective charms of the Secretary; but now he felt the old spirit of the war horse, and would do his level best—it was a good Masonic word—for the Fellowship Lodge. If they would only overlook his shortcomings, it would be the greatest support and incentive to him to serve the lodge to his utmost powers.

Bro. Lieut.-Col. G. LAMBERT, P.G.S.B., acting I.P.M., in proposing "The Masonic Charities," said he recollected the small beginnings of the Girls' School, and also of the Boys' School. He also remembered when the "Old People's" was a divided Charity, but, by the aid of Bro. Crucifix, the two were brought together. Progress had been made, and the lodges had done good suit and service in relieving the poor and needy and the infants. He was a Past President of the Old Masonians' Institution, and appealed to the brethren to assist the object of that Institution in finding situations for the boys when they were launched into the world. With regard to the Benevolent Institution, when they had passed away, the name of Bro. Terry, the Secretary, would be long respected.

Bro. TERRY, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., in the course of his response, said Bro. Col. Lambert bore upon his breast a jewel that no other Mason in England wore, or could wear. It was the jewel presented by the Emulation Lodge of Improvement to its first Preceptor, Bro. Peter Gilkes, bequeathed by him to one of the annuitants of the Benevolent Institution, and given to Col. Lambert, and therefore in himself, Bro. Lambert embodied from the first foundation until the present moment that one decoration a memento of the foundation of the Benevolent Institution. He (Bro. Terry) was indebted to his friend, Bro. Probyn, for his great kindness in accepting the position of Steward for the Old People in the first year's existence of this lodge.

Bro. J. M. MCLEOD, Sec. R.M.I.B., also returned thanks for the generous contributions made to the Boys' and Girls' Schools equally with the Old People. He was glad to see the excellent manner in which that lodge was endeavouring to carry out its name. He knew the excellent work the W.M. had done in the past, and it was but natural he should elect to represent the Boys', being on the Board of Management. It was also natural that the wife of the Secretary should select the Girls' School. He congratulated the W.M. and members on the splendid evening, which was but the forerunner of many good evenings to come, and of great assistance to the Charitable Institutions.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in giving "The Visitors," accorded them a hearty welcome, and said their presence was an accession of strength. He had intended to couple the name of Sir F. Seager Hunt, M.P.—one whose whole life had been spent in doing good to his fellowmen—but that brother was, unfortunately, under the doctor's orders not to speak in public.

Bro. J. R. RIBBELSDELL, D.D.G.M. South Africa, said that coming from a long distance he regarded it as a great honour to reply. He had been gratified at the working, which was very similar to the work he was accustomed to, and perhaps he would be able to take back some hints to South Africa. He was grateful to the Grand Secretary for the opportunity of being present.

Bro. R. E. H. GOFFIN, P.P.G.D.C. Surrey, also replied.

Bro. Dr. W. H. DAVEY, P.M., proposed "the I.P.M., Treasurer, and Secretary," and said that in the acting I.P.M., they had a ripe, experienced, and eminent Mason. Their Treasurer, Bro. Welford, was an experienced financier, and, if their funds were handed over to him, he would administer them in a manner redounding to the credit of the lodge. Then he came to the Secretary, and he was almost overwhelmed with the subject. He hardly knew where to commence, for if he went back to the beginning, it would be to the moment this lodge was began in the Secretary's brain. The idea was with Bro. Stephens from that time to this; he had overcome every difficulty, what he could not do himself he had found others to do, and the lodge bore the mark of a successful lodge. Bro. Stephens had selected his workers with great wisdom, and they were a body that would support the W.M. during the coming year and launch the Fellowship Lodge on a period of prosperity. Of the great and indefatigable exertions of the Secretary they could form some notion from what they had seen that evening.

Bro. J. WELFORD, P.M., Treas., said he could only endorse the good things said about the lodge, and say, as their Treasurer, that they were in a strong position. He did not expect that three quarters of a century would be voted at once, but hoped that would not end their Charitable contributions each year.

Bro. JAMES STEPHENS, P.P.S.G.D. Bucks, Secretary, in responding, said their existence in this world was made up of surprises, some pleasant and others not so. That night, having had an experience of Masonry, perhaps, greater than the majority present, he was in the proud position of being the originator, the one who conceived the idea and founded this lodge, and the founder of this his sixth lodge. It was said that practice made perfect, and he hoped the last had culminated to their satisfaction. He had to recall the moment when he first conceived the idea, and when they asked first of all Col. Lambert to honour them by being the first Master. That brother was a Grand Officer, and his acceptance would have been an honour. Bro. Lambert having declined, the W.M. in the chair resisted accepting in a strong manner by correspondence. He (Bro. Stephens) did not wish for the position from the fact that he had already attained that honourable position as first Master of the Rothschild Lodge, and having done so, did not wish to deprive another brother of that honour. He struggled on in correspondence with Bro. Bailey until he accepted. He knew the power and strength he held in their W.M., who wrote, "you most persistent of all good fellows, I suppose you must have your own way." Was he right in his conception of the W.M.? He was proud of that night because of the W.M. in the chair, who, as the Grand Secretary had rightly said, was beloved and respected in the commercial world equally with the Masonic world. The Treasurer had told them they were in a sound position, for Bro. Welford had the pleasure of receiving a cheque for £410 11s. They had expenses incidental to the consecration, but they could give their 75 guineas to the Charities with impunity, and let him hope that the prosperity of the lodge under the régime of the W.M. would not only enable them to do likewise, but might they double it. He was reminded of one thing, that, when they were deciding the name of the lodge, one suggested "Friendship," and at last Bro. W. F. Smithson said "Fellowship." He called it a right good name, and might he express the hope that that fellowship which had been predominant that night would ever be associated with them in the future. In the future he would do everything he could to enhance the prosperity of that, his last, lodge. He was pleased to tell them that, having only solicited one-half of the members, his wife's list for the Girls' School was already something over £130.

"The Officers'" and the Tyler's toasts concluded an eminently satisfactory and successful gathering.

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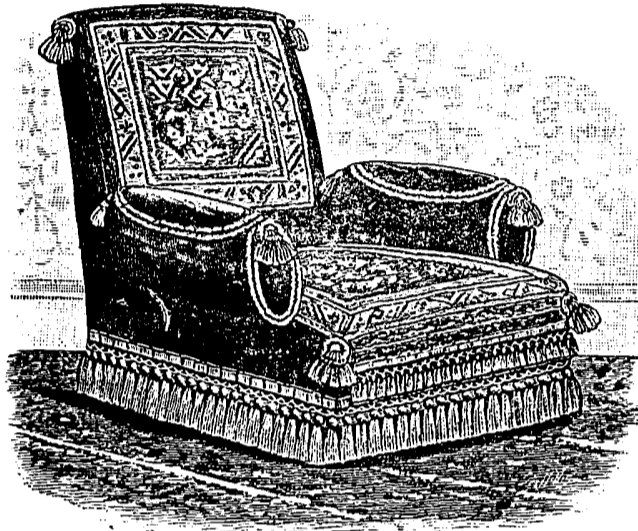
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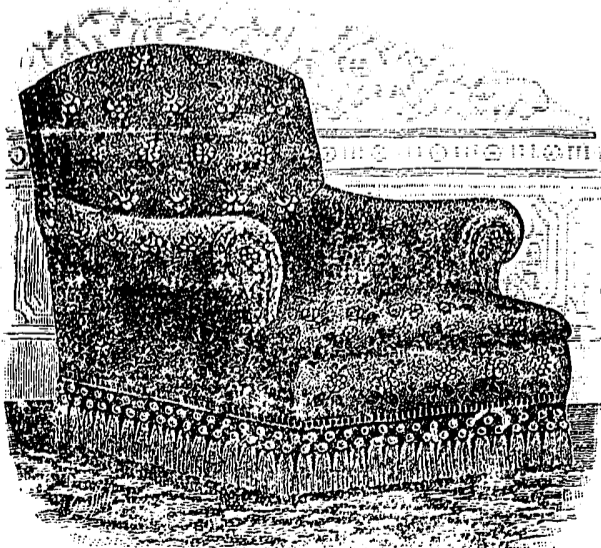
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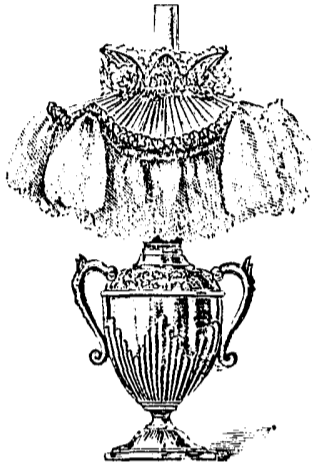
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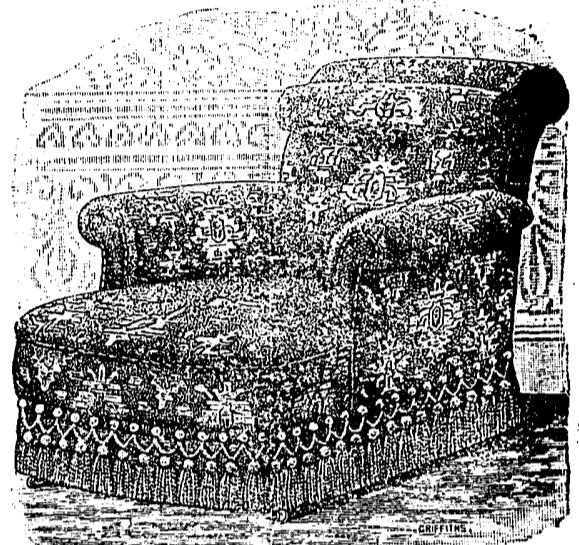
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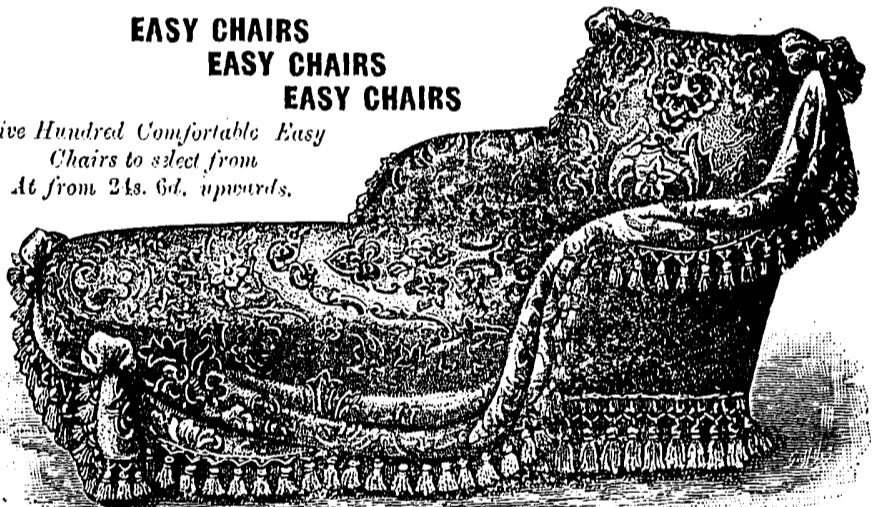


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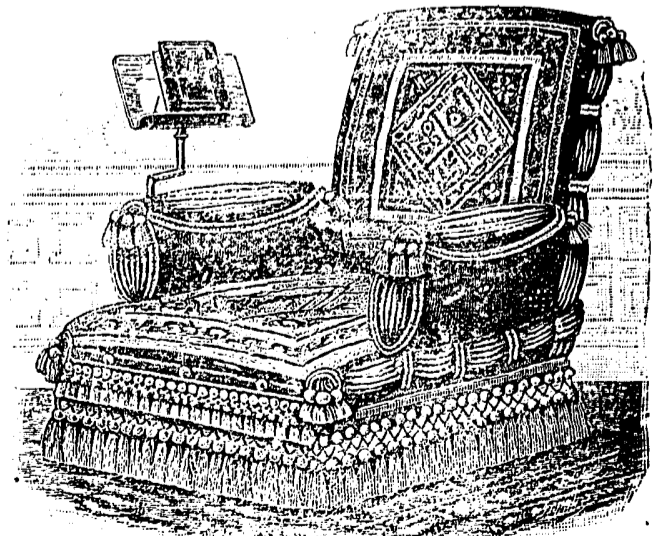
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OCCURRENCES OF THE YEAR.

1ST DECEMBER 1893 TO 30TH NOVEMBER, 1894.

DECEMBER, 1893.

- 1.—Meeting of the Council of the Order of the Secret Monitor.
- 4.—Third Annual Festival of the Clarence Lodge of Instruction, No. 203.
- 5.—Quarterly Communication of the Grand Mark Lodge.
- 6.—Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge; increased scale of salaries granted to the Grand Secretary's staff. Brcs. Alderman and Sheriff Dimsdale, W. M. Stiles, and C. W. Hudson nominated for the office of Grand Treasurer.
- 7.—Annual Meeting, at Nottingham, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Nottinghamshire.
- 8.—Meeting of the National Great Priory of the Order of the Temple.
- 9.—Consecration, by Comp. G. Noel Money, C.B., G. Supt. of Surrey, of the Chertsey Abbey Chapter, No. 2120, Chertsey; Comp. G. Noel Money, first M.E.Z.
Jubilee of the St. John's Lodge, No. 492, Antigua.
Funeral at Croydon Cemetery, of Bro. William Foulsham, P.M., Treasurer No. 1790, P. Prov. J.G.W. Northumberland.
- 12.—Annual Meeting, at Cheltenham, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Gloucestershire.
- 13.—Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.
- 15.—Death of Bro. the Earl of Bective, Prov. G.M. of Cumberland and Westmoreland.
- 18.—Meeting, in Glasgow, of the West of Scotland College of the Rosicrucian Society.
Death of Bro. H. M. Hartcup, P.M. No. 929.
- 20.—Board of Benevolence, 40 cases relieved with £915.
Consecration, by Bro. C. F. Matier, G. Secretary, of the Savage Club Mark Lodge, No. 469; Bro. W. E. Chapman, first W.M.
- 22.—Entertainment to the Aged Poor at Cleckheaton by Lodges Zetland, No. 603, and Friendship, No. 750.
- 23.—Death of Bro. Sir George Elliot, Bart., Prov. G.M. of South Wales, Eastern Division.
- 27.—Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.
First stone of St. John's Church, Boscombe, laid with Masonic Ceremony by Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G. Master Hants and the Isle of Wight.
- 28.—Consecration, by Bro. W. T. Newitt, of the Chudderghat Conclave, No. 20, of the Order of the Secret Monitor; Bro. A. R. Pilcher, first S.R.
- 29.—Council of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

JANUARY, 1894.

- 1.—New Year's Entertainment to 300 Old People, at Weston-super-Mare.
Dinner to the Old People of Worthing and neighbourhood, by the Worthing Lodge of Friendship, No. 851.
- 3.—New Year's Entertainment to the inmates of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at Croydon.
Lecture by Bro. M. C. Peck, P.G. Std. Br., Prov. G. Sec. of N. and E. Yorkshire, on "The Origin of Freemasonry," before the Kingston Lodge, No. 1010, Hull.
- 4.—New Year's Entertainment to the Children of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.
Death of Bro. A. H. Moyes, P.G. Std. Br., D.P.G.M. Cambridgeshire.
- 9.—The 45th Annual Ball, at Liverpool, in aid of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution.
- 10.—Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.
Death of Bro. Brackstone Baker, P.G.D.
- 11.—Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.
Visit of Bros. the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs Dimsdale and Moore to the Bank of England Lodge, No. 203.
- 12.—Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.
- 14.—Divine Service at Auchtermuchty, attended by Masons in their full clothing.
- 16.—Special Meeting of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Cumberland and Westmoreland.
- 18.—Dedication, by Bro. Viscount Ebrington, Prov. G.M. of Devonshire, of the new premises of the Lodge of Benevolence, No. 489, Bideford.
- 19.—Annual Dinner of the Thomas Valentine Lodge, No. 21, Belfast.
- 20.—Annual Meeting, at Banff, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Banffshire.
- 24.—Board of Benevolence; 29 cases relieved with £630.
- 25.—Foundation-stone of new Hall of the St. Oswald Lodge, No. 910, Pontefract, laid Masonically by Bro. T. W. Tew, P.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire.
Annual Meeting, at the Sussex Hall, Kingston, of the District Grand Lodge of Jamaica.
North London Annual Ball in aid of the Masonic Charities.
- 26.—Annual Meeting of the East Lancashire Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution.
Presentation to Bro. John Glass, P.M., P.P.G.S. of Wks. Essex.
Annual Masonic Ball at the Assembly Rooms, Cork.
- 29.—Consecration, by Bro. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., D.P.G.M. Bucks, of the Concordia Lodge, No. 2492, Wendover; Bro. J. W. Burgess first W.M.
Consecration, at St. Helen's, by Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Past G.M.M., Prov. G.M.M. Lancashire, of the Prince of Wales Mark Lodge, No. 466; Bro. D. M. F. Gaskin first W.M.
Convocation, at Winchester, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.
- 31.—Annual Masonic Charity Ball at Beverley.

FEBRUARY.

- 1.—Consecration, by Bro. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, P.G.W., D.P.G.M. North and East Yorkshire, of the Humber Installed Masters' Lodge, No. 2494, Hull; Bro. M. C. Peck, P.G. Std. Br., Prov. G. Sec., first W.M.

- 3.—Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.
- 6.—Bro. John Northcott installed W.M. of the Savage Club Lodge, No. 2190.
- 7.—Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter—reduction of qualifying period for exaltation from one year to four weeks confirmed.
- 8.—Consecration, by Bro. Sir Horatio Lloyd, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Cheshire, of the Wirral Lodge, No. 2406, Birkenhead; Bro. Thomas Shaw first W.M.
A New Masonic Hall for the St. George's Lodge, No. 1095, Tredegar, opened by the wife of the W.M. elect.
- 9.—Banquet given at the Derby Club by Derbyshire brethren to Bro. Edward Terry, Past G. Treasurer.
- 13.—Presentation to Bro. George E. Fairchild, P.M., Sec. Urban Lodge, No. 1196.
Bro. Thomas Catling installed W.M. of the Drury Lane Lodge, No. 2127.
- 14.—Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.
- 19.—Presentation of Address to Comp. Thomas Fenn, by the La France Chapter, No. 2060.
Official visit by the Prov. G. Master and the Officers of his Prov. G. Lodge to the St. Magdalene Lodge, Lochmaben.
- 21.—Board of Benevolence; 35 cases relieved with £720.
- 22.—Lecture on "Birds" to the pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, by Bro. Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, of the British Museum.
- 23.—Annual Festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement; Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Secretary, in the chair.
- 26.—The Duke of Connaught, W.M. entertained at luncheon by the Euston Mark and Ark Lodges, No. 399.
Centenary Meeting of the Apollo Lodge, No. 301, Alcester.
- 28.—Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Bro. Col. G. Noel Money, C.B., Prov. G. Master of Surrey, in the chair; proceeds £12,658 14s. 6d., subsequently increased to £13,086 6s. 7d.

MARCH.

- 1.—Ball, in aid of the Masonic Institutions, by the Sir Hugh Myddelton Lodge, No. 1602.
- 4.—Visit of the Prov. G. Master of Dumfriesshire and his Officers to Eskdale Kilwinning Lodge No. 107, Langhorne.
- 5.—Consecration by Comp. J. T. Morland, G. Supt. Berkshire, of the Wellesley Chapter, No. 1899, Crowthorne; Comp. S. G. Kirchhoffer first M.E.Z.
- 6.—Quarterly Communication of the Grand Mark Lodge; Bro. R. Turtle Pigott elected G. Treasurer for the ensuing year.
- 7.—Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge; Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Dimsdale elected G. Treasurer.
Official visit of Prov. G. Lodge of Durham to the Stranton Lodge, No. 1862, West Hartlepool.
- 12.—Annual meeting in aid of the Belfast Masonic Charities at the Ulster Hall, Belfast.
Concert under the direction of Bro. G. F. Bambridge; arranged by Bro. Charles Hammerton, P.G.S.B., for the pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.
- 13.—Consecration by Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G.D., of the Old Boys' Lodge, No. 2500; Bro. C. Mussard first W.M.
Death of Bro. Capt. Homfray, P.G.A.D.C., D.P.G.M. Monmouthshire.
- 14.—Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.
- 15.—Annual Meeting, at Rawtenstall, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of East Lancashire.
- 16.—Consecration by Comp. E. Letchworth, G.S.E., of the Esculapius Chapter, No. 2410; Comp. Dr. F. E. Pocock first M.E.Z.
- 17.—Death of Bro. Peter de E. Collin, P.P.S.G.W., Prov. G. Treas. Cumberland and Westmorland.
- 20.—Annual Convocation of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland.
- 21.—Board of Benevolence; 33 cases relieved with £705.
- 22.—Grand Masonic Bazaar in Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, in aid of the new hall of Lodge Trafalgar, No. 233, Leith.
- 24.—Bazaar in aid of the Building Fund of the Leven St. John's Lodge, No. 170, opened by Bro. Sir C. Dalrymple, Bart., M.W.G.M. Scotland.
- 29.—Consecration, by Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Past G.M.M., Prov. G.M.M. Lancashire, of the Southport Mark Lodge, No. 473, Southport; Bro. T. Platt first W.M.
- 30.—Consecration, by Bro. G. J. McKay, P.G. Std. Br., D.P.G.M. Cumberland and Westmorland, of the Vale of Eden Lodge, No. 2493, Appleby; Bro. C. R. Rivington first W.M.
Ball at Hull in aid of the Anderson and Bates Masonic Benevolent Fund.
Council of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

APRIL.

- 3.—Annual Meeting at Exeter, of the Devon Masonic Educational Fund.
- 6.—Masonic Ball in the Town Hall, Dover.
- 9.—Tenth Annual Festival of the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction for Mark Master Masons, Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., P.G.W., in the Chair.
- 10.—Visit of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to the Masonic Orphan Schools, Dublin.
- 11.—Consecration, by Bro. the Earl of Warwick, P.G.M. Essex, of the Earl of Warwick Lodge, No. 2504, Buckhurst Hill; Bro. C. C. Black first W.M.
Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.
- 12.—Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls; 22 children elected from an approved list of 40.
- 13.—Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, Bro. Charles E. Keyser, P.G.D. elected Treasurer; 30 children elected from an approved list of 43.

- 13.—Concert in the Town Hall, Rochdale, in aid of the Masonic Charities.
- 16.—Consecration, by Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M. Prov. G.M. West Lancashire, of the Goodacre Lodge, No. 2495, Bootle; Bro. John Fletcher first W.M.
Presentation of Address to Bro. R. Robinson, P.M. 1502, P.P.G.R. West Lancashire, on the occasion of his golden wedding.
- 18.—Board of Benevolence; 33 cases relieved with £875.
Annual Meeting, at Huddersfield, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorks.
Death of Bro. Ex-Sheriff George Burt, J.P., P.A.G. D. of C.
- 24.—Consecration, by Comp. Lieut.-Col. Bentham, P.P. G.H. of the De Percy Chapter, No. 636, Morpeth; Comp. W. Davidson, B.A., first M.E.Z.
Resuscitation of the Royal Edward Encampment, K.T., No. 76, Dukinfield; Sir Knight J. Clayton, installed E.C.
- 25.—Grand Festival of United Grand Lodge.
- 27.—Meeting at the Masonic Club, Plymouth, and establishment of the Western District Masonic Association.
- 30.—Consecration, by Bro. Thos. J. Ralling, P.A.G.D.C., Prov. G. Sec. Essex, of the Ixion Lodge, No. 2501, Buckhurst Hill, Bro. H. French Bromhead first W.M.
Visit of the New Grand Officers and their friends to the R.M. Institution for Girls.

MAY.

- 1.—Consecration, by Bro. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg., D.P.G.M. Essex, of the Thomas Ralling Lodge, No. 2508, Chingford; Bro. T. J. Ralling first W.M.
- 2.—Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter.
Annual Meeting, at Halifax, of the Prov. G. Mark Lodge of West Yorks.
Death of Bro. Thomas Lamb Smith, P.P.G.W. Worcestershire.
- 3.—Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.
Annual Meeting, at Wells, of the Prov. G. Lodge of Somersetshire.
Consecration, at Rosario de Santa Fé, by Comp. C. T. Mold, of the Rosario Chapter, No. 1553; Comp. H. S. Chappell first M.E.Z.
- 4.—Half-yearly Meeting of the Cambridgeshire Masonic Charity Association.
- 7.—Distribution of Prizes by the Countess of Lathom to the pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.
Consecration, at Johannesburg, Transvaal, of the Sentinel Conclave, No. 22, of the Order of the Secret Monitor.
Death of Bro. E. Worrall, P.M., P.Z., P.P.J.G.W. Warwickshire.
- 9.—Anniversary Festival of the R.M.I. for Girls; Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, J.G.W., for Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M., Prov. G.M. West Lancashire, in the chair; proceeds, £17,732, subsequently increased to £18,056.
- 11.—Meeting of Convent General and the National Great Priory of the Order of the Temple.
Visitations by the Prov. Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire to Lodges No. 307, Barrhead, and No. 370, Paisley.
- 14.—Death of Bro. S. Nutter, W.M., Prince of Wales' Lodge, No. 1648, Bradford.
- 15.—Death of Bro. Charles H. Dallas, Past Dist. G.M. Japan.
- 16.—Annual Meeting, at Berkeley, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Gloucestershire.
Foundation-stone of a new Masonic Hall, Yeovil, laid by Bro. B. Whitby, W.M. 329.
Special Meeting, at York, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of North and East Yorkshire, and Annual Meeting of the Prov. Grand Chapter.
Installation, by Bro. Sir Charles Dalrymple, Bart., M.W.G.M. Scotland, of Bro. Thomas Hope, M.P., as Prov. G.M. of Linlithgowshire.
- 17.—Funeral of Bro. the Rev. Richard Morris, M.A., LL.D., formerly Head Master of the R.M.I. for Boys.
Annual Meeting, at Northampton, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Northants and Hunts.
Masonic Bazaar at Crumlin, opened by Bro. the Marquis of Hertford, Prov. G. Master of Antrim.
- 18.—Annual General Meeting of the R.M. Benevolent Institution: election of 27 men from a list of 65, and 16 widows from one of 54 candidates.
New Masonic Hall at Port Ellen, Islay, consecrated by Bro. Sir C. Dalrymple, Bart., M.W.G.M. Scotland.
- 20.—Death of Bro. Edmund Yates, P.P.S.G.W. Middx.
- 23.—Board of Benevolence: 36 cases relieved with £930.
Annual Meeting, at Leeds, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of West Yorkshire.
Fourth Annual Festival in aid of the North and East Yorkshire Educational Fund; proceeds, £481.
- 24.—Annual Meeting, at Rochdale, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of East Lancashire.
- 26.—Meeting of the Prov. Priory of the Order of the Temple in West Yorkshire.
- 28.—Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., of the Barnet Lodge, No. 2509, New Barnet; Bro. J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B., first W.M.
- 30.—Annual Dinner of the Old Masonians; Bro. J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B., Chairman.
- 31.—Consecration, by Comp. Marmaduke Tennant, G. Supt. South Wales (E.D.), of the Marmaduke Tennant Chapter, No. 1992, Cardiff; Comp. D. Williams first M.E.Z.
Consecration, by Sir Knight the Earl of Euston, Great Sub-Priory, of the Temple Court Preceptory, No. 162; Sir Knight Col. G. N. Money, C.B., first E.P.

JUNE.

- 1.—Lecture entitled "A Retrospect, Circumspect, and Prospect of Freemasonry," by Bro. the Very Rev. Dean of York, before the Humber Lodge of Installed Masters, No. 2494.
- 2.—Visit of Bros. the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs Moore and Dimsdale to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

- 4.—Installation, at Wolverhampton, by Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M., of Bro. the Earl of Dartmouth as Prov. G.M. of Staffordshire. Annual Meeting of the Prov. Priory of Northumberland, Durham, and Berwick-on-Tweed. Death of Bro. Horace F. Stewart, P.P.S.G.W. Middlesex.
- 5.—Quarterly Communication of the Grand Mark Lodge. Eight children elected into the Masonic Female Orphan School, Dublin.
- 6.—Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge; Bro. R. Loveland Loveland appointed President of the Board of General Purposes, vice Bro. Thomas Fenn, resigned. Death of Bro. R. Eccleston Gibb, ex-M.P., first W.M. of the Hampden Lodge, No. 2427.
- 10.—The brethren of the Hundred of Elloe Lodge, No. 469, Spalding, attended divine service at the Church of Deeping St. Nicholas.
- 11.—Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., of the Fulham Lodge, No. 2512; Bro. T. Blanco White first W.M. Presentation by the Lodge of Sincerity, No. 189, Stonehouse, to Bro. the Rev. T. W. Lemon, D.D., P. Prov. G. Chap.
- 13.—Annual Meeting, at Devizes, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Wiltshire. First Annual Festival in aid of the Cheshire Masonic Benevolent Institution.
- 14.—Consecration, by Bro. Sir W. N. Abdy, Bart., of the new Hall of the Easterford Lodge, No. 2342.
- 15.—Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., of the St. John-at-Hackney Lodge, No. 2511; Bro. J. E. Hunt first W.M.
- 16.—Annual Athletic Sports of the R.M.I. for Boys.
- 20.—Board of Benevolence; 33 cases relieved with £835. Quarterly Convocation of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland. Grand Festival of the Order of the Secret Monitor. Death of Bro. George T. Brown, P.M., P.Z. No. 65.
- 21.—Consecration, by Comp. J. T. Collins, Prov. G.H. Warwickshire, of the Trinity Chapter, No. 254, Coventry; Comp. A. E. Friedlander first M.E.Z. Presentation to Bro. J. Howarth, P.M., by the Members of the Landport Lodge, No. 1776.
- 23.—Annual Meeting, at Altrincham, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Cheshire.
- 24.—Special Service in Limerick Cathedral for the brethren of North Munster.
- 26.—Distribution of Prizes by Mrs. Jackson to the pupils of the R.M.I. for Boys. Annual Meeting, at Wallingford, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Berkshire.
- 27.—Anniversary Festival, at Brighton, of the R.M.I. for Boys, Bro. W. L. Jackson, M.P., P.G.M. West Yorkshire; proceeds, £18,582, subsequently increased to £19,092. Foundation-stone of the new Masonic premises at Lincoln laid by Bro. Major W. H. Smyth, P.G.M. Meeting, at Crewe, of the Cheshire Committee of Benevolence; presentation of Address and Grand Lodge Clothing to Bro. Salmon, A.G.D.C. England.
- 28.—Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., of the Sir Walter St. John Lodge, No. 2513; Bro. V. T. Murché first W.M. Visit of West Yorkshire brethren to the R.M.I. for Girls.
- 30.—Ex-Pupils' Day at the R.M.I. for Girls.

JULY.

- 2.—Annual Meeting, at Colchester, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of East Anglia; vote of thanks to Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn on his retirement from the office of D.P.G.M.M.
- 4.—Annual Meeting, at Canterbury, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Kent. Presentation of plate to Bro. A. Spencer on his completion of 21 years' service as Prov. G. Sec.
- 5.—Consecration, by Bro. T. F. Halsey, P.G.M. Hertfordshire, of the Charles Edward Keyser Lodge, No. 2518, Hoddesden; Bro. C. E. Keyser, P.G.D., first W.M.
- 6.—Special Meeting of United Grand Lodge. Addresses of congratulation to the Queen and the Prince of Wales on the birth of a son to the Duke of York. Consecration, by Bro. R. Wylie, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. West Lancashire, of the County Palatine Lodge, No. 2503, Liverpool; Bro. W. Simpson first W.M.
- 9.—Annual Meeting, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Northumberland and Durham: Presentation of portrait and address to Bro. the Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., in recognition of his 21 years' service as Prov. G.M.M. Death of Bro. Edward Clark, P.M. No. 1194, P. Prov. S.G.W. Middlesex.
- 10.—Consecration, by Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., Prov. G.M. of Middlesex, of the Roll-Call Lodge, No. 2523, Hounslow; Bro. W. J. Trevinnard first W.M. Annual Meeting, at Durham, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Durham. Summer Entertainment to the Inmates of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at Croyden.
- 11.—Anniversary Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund. Bro. the Earl of Yarborough, Prov. G.M.M., Lincolnshire, in the chair; proceeds, £1894. Special Meeting, at Scarborough, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of North and East Yorkshire: Address of congratulation to the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., on the birth of a grandson.
- 12.—Special Meeting of the Grand Mark Lodge: Address of congratulation to the Queen and Prince of Wales on the birth of a Prince. Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. Annual Meeting, at Ipswich, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Suffolk. Annual Meeting, at Sutton-in-Ashfield, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Nottinghamshire. Death of Bro. E. Morland, P.M., Mayor of Abingdon. Presentation to Bro. R. Hambly, P.M., Secretary St. Maurice Lodge, No. 1855, Plympton, P. Prov. G. St. of Works, Devonshire, on the occasion of his marriage.
- 14.—Annual Meeting, at Slough, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Buckinghamshire.

- 16.—Annual Meeting, at Derby, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Leicestershire, Rutland, Derbyshire, &c.
- 17.—Annual Meeting, at Marlborough, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Wiltshire.
- 18.—Board of Benevolence; 24 cases relieved with £505. Annual Meetings, at Kelvedon, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Essex; at Teddington, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Middlesex; and at Weymouth, of the Prov. Priory of Dorsetshire.
- 19.—Annual Meeting, at Norwich, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Norfolk. Annual Meeting of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Middlesex.
- 23.—Installation, by Bro. the Earl of Euston, P.G.M. Northants and Hunts, of Bro. J. Balfour Cockburn, as P.G.M. Guernsey and Alderney.
- 24.—Annual Meetings, at Croydon, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Surrey; and at Wimborne, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Dorsetshire.
- 26.—Foundation-stone of the Central Masonic Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne, laid by Bro. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., M.P., Prov. G.M. of Northumberland, and consecration by him of the Carville and Prince of Wales Lodges, Nos. 2497 and 2520 respectively, Bro. R. Hudson being installed first W.M. of the former and Bro. R. N. Holmes of the latter. Funeral at Norwood, of Bro. Alfred Williams, member of the General Board of the Grand Mark Lodge.
- 30.—Seventh Annual Meeting, at Hereford, of the Herefordshire Masonic Charity Association.
- 31.—Annual Meetings, at the Hall, Bushey, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire; at Whitchurch, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Shropshire; and at Falmouth, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Cornwall.

AUGUST.

- 1.—Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter. Annual Meetings, at Teignmouth, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Devonshire; and at Dover, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Kent.
- 2.—Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Foundation-stone of a new chapel at Wolverhampton laid Masonically by Bro. the Earl of Dartmouth, Prov. G.M. of Staffordshire.
- 8.—Annual Meeting, at Chelmsford, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Essex. Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Death of Bro. George R. Harriott, P.P.G.M. of Wigtonshire and Kirkcudbrightshire.
- 11.—Death of Bro. Alfred Best, formerly of the Freemasons' Tavern.
- 18.—The Prov. Grand Lodge of Down attends Divine Service at the Parish Church, Warrenpoint.
- 22.—Board of Benevolence; 12 cases relieved with £225.
- 23.—Deaths of Bro. William Kelly, P.P.G.M. of Leicestershire and Rutland, and of Bro. J. U. Martin, P.M. 996, P.G. Org. Norfolk.
- 24.—Grand Masonic Bazaar, at Ballater, in aid of the Building Fund of St. Nathalan Lodge (S.C.).
- 25.—Celebration of the Centenary of the Constitution of the Philanthropic Lodge, No. 304, Leeds.

SEPTEMBER.

- 1.—Consecration, at Dharwar, by Bro. Shields, acting Dist. G.M., of the Dharwar Lodge, No. 2527; Bro. Peter Scott first W.M.
- 4.—Quarterly Communication of the Grand Mark Lodge. Annual Meeting, at Towyn, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of North Wales. Installation, at Chatsworth House, of Bro. Victor Cavendish, M.P., as W.M. of the Dorothy Vernon Lodge, No. 2129, Bakewell.
- 5.—Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge; the Seceding Lodges under the District Grand Lodge of Wellington (N.Z.) struck off the roll. Visit of Bro. Sir Charles Dalrymple, Bart., M.W. G.M. Scotland, to the Prov. Grand Lodge of East Aberdeenshire. Death of Bro. Admiral Sir E. A. Inglefield, K.C.B., P.J.G.W.
- 7.—Consecration, by Bro. Simpson, of the Thurston Lodge, No. 2525, Coniston; Bro. Tom Hunter first W.M. Dedication of a new Masonic Hall at Exmouth. Funeral, at Truro, of Bro. Thomas Chirgwin, Prov. G. Sec. of Cornwall.
- 9.—Service at St. John's Church, Knotty Ash, in aid of the Hamer Masonic Benevolent Institution, West Lancashire. Divine Service at the Parish Church of Loughgall, attended by Lodge No. 625 (I.C.).
- 12.—Annual Meeting, at Haverfordwest, of the P.G. Lodge of South Wales (W.D.).
- 18.—Death of Bro. Col. Moffat, Past Grand Master of Canada.
- 19.—Board of Benevolence; 14 cases relieved with £255. Annual Meeting, at Lancaster, of the Prov. Grand Lodge, and Prov. Grand Chapter of West Lancashire.
- 20.—Annual Meeting, at Claughton, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Cheshire.
- 21.—Annual Meeting, at Portmadoc, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of North Wales.
- 25.—Annual Meeting, at Darlington, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Durham. Centenary celebration of the Constitution of the Apollo Lodge, No. 301, Alcester.
- 26.—Annual Meeting, at Malvern, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Worcestershire. Consecration, by Bro. Col. Noel Money, C.B. Prov. G.M. of Surrey, for Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, P.G.M. East Lancashire, of the Abbey Lodge, No. 2529, Whalley; Bro. W. Forrest, first W.M. Meeting of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland.
- 27.—Installation, at Cardiff, by Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M., of Bro. Lord Llangattock, as Prov. Grand Master of South Wales (E.D.). Annual Meeting, at Yeovil, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Somersetshire.
- 28.—Foundation-stone of a new bridge over the Spey, laid Masonically by Bro. Sir G. Macpherson Grant, Bart.

OCTOBER.

- 2.—Installation, at Kendal, by Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M., of Bro. Lord Henry Bentinck as Prov. Grand Master of Cumberland and Westmoreland. Consecration, by Bro. Col. G. Noel Money, C.B., P.G.M. of Surrey, of the Noel Money Lodge, No. 2521, Weybridge; Bro. Col. Money, first W.M.
- 4.—Consecration, by Comp. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., of the Jordan Chapter, No. 201; Comp. E. Harris, first M.E.Z. Annual Meeting, at Market Harborough, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland.
- 5.—Annual Meeting, at Manchester, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Lancashire. Annual Court of Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution.
- 6.—Statue to the late Sir William Pearce, Bart., P.G.M., Province of Glasgow City, unveiled by Bro. John Graham, P.G.M.
- 8.—Presentation by the St. Margaret Lodge, Lowestoft, of portrait and address to Bro. Major Allez, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., on his 86th birthday.
- 9.—Death of Bro. Butler Wilkins, P.G. Std.Br., D.P.G.M. Northants and Hunts. Convocation of the Supreme Council 33° of the A. and A. Rite.
- 10.—Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Secretary, of the Lancastrian Lodge, No. 2528; Bro. the Earl of Lathom, first W.M. Visit of Bro. T. W. Tew, P.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire, to the St. Oswald Lodge, No. 010, Pontefract, on taking up its quarters in its new Hall.
- 11.—Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls; 21 children elected from a list of 42 candidates.
- 12.—Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; Bro. W. F. Smithson, P.G.D., elected Honorary Vice-Patron; 18 children elected from a list of 43 candidates.
- 16.—Annual Meetings, at Redruth, of the Prov. G. Lodge of Cornwall; and at Totnes, of the Prov. G. Chapter of Devonshire.
- 17.—Meeting, at Sheffield, of the Prov. G. Lodge of West Yorkshire.
- 18.—Deaths of Bro. Col. Charles Harding, P.A.G.D.C., and Bro. James Dawson, P.G.S.B., P.D.P.G.M.; Herefordshire.
- 22.—Annual Meeting, at Aldershot, of the Prov. Priory of Hampshire.
- 24.—Board of Benevolence; 47 cases relieved with £1430. Annual Meetings, at Beaminster, of the Prov. G. Chapter of Dorsetshire; and at Clevedon, of the Prov. G. Chapter of Somersetshire. Presentation to Bro. H. E. Flavelle, Asst. Sec. of the G. Lodge of Ireland, on the occasion of his marriage.
- 25.—Annual Meeting, at St. Helier's, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Jersey.
- 26.—Annual Meeting, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Perthshire East.
- 27.—Consecration, at Kandy, Ceylon, by Capt. G. Harvey, Dist. S.G.W., of the Henry Byrde Mark Lodge, No. 475; Col. Byrde, first W.M.
- 30.—Annual Meeting, at Bridport, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Dorsetshire. Quarterly meetings, of the Prov. Grand Lodges of Forfarshire; and at Falkirk, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Shropshire.

NOVEMBER.

- 1.—Meeting, at Sheffield, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of West Yorkshire.
- 2.—Annual Meeting, at Norwich, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Norfolk. Presentation of portrait to Bro. Dr. Dyke, J.P., by the Cambrian Lodge, No. 110, Merthyr Tydvil, after 56 years' membership of the Craft.
- 3.—The new Masonic Hall in Aberdeen opened by Bro. Forshaw, Prov. G.M. of Aberdeen City. Presentation of Address of congratulation to Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton, P.G.M. Cheshire, on the occasion of his marriage with the Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos.
- 7.—Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter.
- 8.—Presentation of testimonial to Bro. G. W. Speth, Secretary of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, in recognition of his eminent services during the past 10 years.
- 10.—Installation, at Twickenham, by Comp. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Grand J., of Comp. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., as Grand Supt. of Middlesex. Annual Meeting, at Chippenham, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Wiltshire.
- 11.—Masonic Service, at Holy Trinity Church, Southwark, to endow a Masonic Cot in the new Infirmary.
- 13.—Annual Meeting, at Oxford, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Oxfordshire.
- 16.—Annual Meeting of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Aberdeenshire.
- 17.—Annual Meeting, at Worthing, under the presidency of the Duke of Connaught, Prov. G.M., of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Sussex.
- 19.—Consecration, by Bro. the Earl of Euston, Pro G.M.M., of the Fitzwilliam Mark Lodge, No. 477, Peterborough; Bro. G. C. W. Fitzwilliam first W.M. Annual Meetings—at Dudley, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Worcestershire; at Rhyl, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of North Wales; and in Glasgow, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Lanarkshire (Lower Ward).
- 20.—Annual Meeting, at Wisbeach, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Cambridgeshire.
- 21.—Board of Benevolence; 40 cases relieved with £1040. Lecture in the Masonic Hall, Exeter, by Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D.
- 22.—Dedication, by Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, Prov. G.M. of Somersetshire, of a new Masonic Hall at Yeovil.
- 23.—Annual Meeting, at Chertsey, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Surrey. Half-yearly Meeting, at Saltord, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of East Lancashire.
- 20.—Conversazione in the King's Hall, Holborn, by the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076.

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CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, 1894.

Tickets for all principal places on the London and North Western System, available from either Euston or Kensington (Addison-road), and dated to suit the convenience of passengers, can be obtained at the Spread Eagle office, Piccadilly Circus, and other principal Town Receiving Offices of the Company, and at Messrs. Gaze & Son's Offices, 142, Strand, W.C.; 4, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.; 18, Westbourne Grove, W.; The Army and Navy Co-operative Society's Stores; 105, Victoria-street, Westminster; and the L. B. and S. C. Co.'s Offices, 8, Grand Hotel Buildings, Charing Cross; as well as at the Railway Stations.

On SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22nd, Special Trains will be run from Willesden Junction at 2.55 p.m. for Bletchley, Wolverton, Rugby, principal Stations on the Trent Valley Line, and Stafford, in advance of the 2.45 p.m. ordinary train from Euston; and from Euston at 4.25 p.m. for Coventry and Birmingham.

On MONDAY, DECEMBER 24th, the Night Irish Mail, due to leave Euston at 8.20 p.m., will not leave until 9.5 p.m. The Mail Steamer for Kingstown will wait the arrival of the Train at Holyhead.

The 12.0 night Train from London (Euston) due at Warrington at 5.15 a.m. on Tuesday, December 25th, will be extended from Warrington to Kendal and Carlisle as on ordinary week days.

CHRISTMAS DAY.—A Special Train will leave Euston at 6.15 a.m. for Northampton, Rugby, Birmingham, Stafford, Crewe, Manchester, Liverpool, Chester, Ireland, Lancaster, Carlisle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, &c. The ordinary Sunday service of trains will be run.

On BANK HOLIDAY, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26th, the Express Trains usually leaving London (Euston) at 12.0 noon and 4.0 p.m. will not be run, passengers will be conveyed by the 12.10 p.m. and 4.10 p.m. trains respectively. The 4.30 p.m., London (Euston) to Birmingham and Wolverhampton, will also be discontinued, and passengers will be conveyed by the 5.0 p.m. train, except those for Market Harboro', Melton Mowbray, Nottingham, Wellingboro', &c., who must travel by the 3.15 p.m. train from Euston. The 8.10 p.m., Euston to Northampton, will not run. Numerous residential trains in the neighbourhood of important Cities and Towns will not be run.

The Up and Down Dining Saloons between London, Liverpool, and Manchester, will not be run on Bank Holiday, but the Corridor Dining Car trains between London and Edinburgh and Glasgow will be run as usual.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR EXCURSIONS FROM LONDON.

(EUSTON, BROAD STREET, AND KENSINGTON).

On DECEMBER 20th, to Dublin, Cork, Killarney, Limerick, Thurles, Galway, Sligo, and other places in the South and West of Ireland. To return within 16 days.

On DECEMBER 21st, to Belfast, Londonderry, Portrush, Enniskillen, Warrenpoint, Dundalk, Newry, and other places in the North of Ireland. To return within 16 days.

On DECEMBER 21st, to Carlisle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock, Aberdeen, Perth, Dundee, Arbroath, Callander, &c. For 5 or 8 days.

On DECEMBER 22nd, to Londonderry, via Fleetwood and via Liverpool, and thence by Steamer direct. To return within 16 days.

On DECEMBER 22nd (Evening), to Coventry, Leamington, Birmingham, South Staffordshire Stations, Wolverhampton, Nuneaton, Tamworth, Lichfield, Liverpool, Warrington, Wigan, Preston, Windermere, Penrith, Lancaster, Keswick, Cockermouth, Barrow, Grange, Whitehaven, Workington, Manchester, Staleybridge, Stockport, Oldham, Ashton, Macclesfield, Stoke, Chester, Birkenhead, Rhyll, Bangor, Llandudno Junction, Carnarvon, Holyhead, Hereford, Leominster, Ludlow, Shrewsbury, Wellington, Llanidloes, Barmouth, Aberystwyth, Borth, Aberdovey, and other Stations. For 4 or 6 days.

On DECEMBER 28th, to Carlisle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock, Aberdeen, Perth, Dundee, Arbroath, Callander, &c. For 5 or 7 days.

By the Excursion Trains to Carlisle, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, and the North of Scotland on December 21st and 28th, Passenger can also obtain Third Class Tickets at a SINGLE ORDINARY FARE FOR THE DOUBLE JOURNEY, available to return by one fixed Ordinary Train on any day up to December 29th and January 4th, respectively.

For times, fares, and full particulars, see bills, which can be obtained at the Stations, Parcels Receiving Offices, and of Messrs. Gaze and Sons, 142, Strand.

FRED HARRISON, General Manager.

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CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR
HOLIDAYS.

DECEMBER 20, 21, 22, and 24, TICKETS WILL BE ISSUED IN ADVANCE AND DATED AS REQUIRED at King's Cross, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Victoria (L.C. and D.), Ludgate Hill, Farringdon, Holloway, Finsbury Park, the various West End, City, and other offices, at the offices of Swan & Leach, 3, Charing Cross, and 32, Piccadilly Circus; of William Whiteley, 151, Queen's-road, Bayswater; Robertson & Co., 191, Fulham-road, S.W.; at the Army and Navy Stores, 105, Victoria-street, S.W.; Civil Service Supply Association, 136, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.; Civil Service Co-operative Society, 28, Haymarket, S.W.; of Hernu, Peron and Co., 98 and 100, Queen Victoria-street; and of A. Jakins and Co., 99, Leadenhall-street (Leadenhall House), E.C.; 30, Silver-street, Notting Hill Gate, W.; "Red Cap," 6, Camden-road; and 7, Beresford-square, South Woolwich.

DECEMBER 22 and 24, additional trains will be run to meet requirements of traffic. The 10.40 p.m. express from King's Cross, which does not usually run beyond Berwick on Saturday nights, will, on Saturday 22nd and Monday 24th December, be run through to Edinburgh, and be due in Edinburgh at 10.15 a.m. on December 23rd and 25th. Monday, December 24th, the 5 p.m. express from King's Cross will be continued to Melton Constable, calling at all stations east of Peterboro'. A Special Express, at ordinary fares, will leave London (King's Cross) at 12 midnight on Monday, December 24th, for Welwyn, Stevenage, Hitchin, Biggleswade, Sandy, St. Neot's, Huntingdon, Peterboro', Spalding, Boston, Grimsby, Grantham, Lincoln, Nottingham, Newark, Retford, Doncaster, Wakefield, Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Selby, York, &c.

CHRISTMAS DAY, the trains will run as on Sundays, except that the 5.15 a.m. express from King's Cross (at ordinary fares) will be run to Peterboro', Bourne, Stamford, Grantham, Lincoln, Nottingham, Doncaster, Wakefield, Leeds, Bradford and Halifax, stopping at the intermediate stations at which it ordinarily calls, and will be continued to York, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Perth, Aberdeen, &c.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS.

FRIDAY NIGHTS, DECEMBER 21st and 28th, to Newcastle, Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Montrose, Aberdeen, and other stations in Scotland, will leave Woolwich Arsenal, Woolwich Dockyard, Victoria (L.C. and D.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon and King's Cross (G.N.) Passengers by the excursions on 21st, return on Wednesday, 26th, or Saturday, 29th December, and those by the excursion on December 28th, return on Wednesday 2nd, or on Friday, 4th January.

TICKETS AT A SINGLE FARE FOR THE DOUBLE JOURNEY will also be issued by these excursions to places named, available for return on any day within eight days, including days of issue and return.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22nd, Cheap Express Excursions will be run from LONDON, Woolwich Arsenal, Woolwich Dockyard, Victoria, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, and King's Cross (G.N.), to Cambridge, Lynn, Norwich, Cromer, Yarmouth, Lincoln, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Burton, Tutbury, Stoke, Sheffield, Huddersfield, Manchester, Liverpool, Wakefield, Leeds, Bradford, Keighley, Halifax, Hull, York, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle, &c. Returning Dec. 26th or 28th.

For fares and full particulars see bills, to be obtained at Company's stations and town offices.

HENRY OAKLEY,
London, King's Cross, General Manager.
December, 1894.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

On DECEMBER 18th, and during the week preceding Christmas day, CHEAP THIRD CLASS RETURN TICKETS available on forward journey from December 22nd to 25th and for return up to December 29th inclusive, will be issued from PADDINGTON, Kensington (Addison Road), Hammersmith, &c., to Bath, BRISTOL, Taunton, Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE, EXETER, TORQUAY, PLYMOUTH, Falmouth, Penzance, YEovil, DORCHESTER, WEYMOUTH, &c.; and for use on December 22nd and 24th only, to GUERNSEY and JERSEY. The tickets will be available by all trains.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS will leave PADDINGTON STATION as under:

SATURDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 22nd, 11.10 p.m. for BATH and BRISTOL, returning Wednesday night, December 26th.

11.40 p.m. for Oxford, Chipping Norton, Evesham, Worcester, Malvern, Hereford, Banbury, Leamington, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Shrewsbury, Aberystwyth, Dolgelly, Barmouth, Chester, Liverpool, etc., returning Wednesday Night, December 26th, or Friday, December 28th.

12.40 a.m. (Sunday Morning) for Cirencester, Stroud, Gloucester, Che'tenham, Cardiff, Swansea, Carmarthen Junction, Haverfordwest, New Milford, Pembroke Dock, Tenby, &c., returning Wednesday Night, December 26th.

Tickets, Bills, Pamphlets, and full particulars of alterations in ordinary train arrangements can be obtained at the Company's Stations and Receiving Offices at 193 and 407, Oxford-street; 23, New Oxford-street; 4, Holborn-circus; 26, Regent-street; 260, Strand; 17, Brompton-road; 29, Charing Cross; 5, Arthur-street East, London Bridge; 82, Queen Victoria-street; Minorities (opposite Goodman's Yard); 137, Borough High-street; (Nag's Head Yard); 67, Giesham-street; 4, Cheapside; 181, Tottenham Court-road; Cambridge-circus, Shaftesbury-avenue; The Piazza, Covent Garden Market; and the L.B. and S.C. Office (under Grand Hotel), Trafalgar-square.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1894.

Masonic Notes.

The pleasant duty again devolves upon us of wishing our friends and the Craft generally the compliments of the approaching season. The surroundings are not such as we are in the habit of associating with Christmas-tide. There is no bright sunshine, no crisp frost, no endless sheet of snow to look out upon, but instead plenty of mud and slush, a temperature which almost equals that of an average May or June, while over all there hangs a kind of uncoloured wet blanket, the effect of which is the very reverse of exhilarating. However, it is an ill wind that blows nobody good, and if, on the one hand, there is an absence of extreme cold, with its accompanying pleasures of skating, sleighing, tobogganing, and the like, there is, in all probability, less distress and suffering among the poor. So, in spite of rain and mud, murky atmospheres, and

June warmth, we are looking forward hopefully to Christmas and all its genial accompaniments, and sincerely trust our readers are of the same mind, and will enjoy themselves as fully as in the years that have passed. Besides, if we lived at the Antipodes, we should be celebrating Christmas under a sweltering sun, and our thoughts would be directed to cricket and athletic sports instead of skating and sliding.

There are, indeed, many Masons to whom Christmas as a season for special rejoicing holds out no particular attractions. It is not a fête that is looked upon as sacred by the whole body of the Craft, though it is respected by all. However, it is a holiday, if not a holy day, and Masons are as apt as other people to make the most of such an occasion. Besides it used to be under the "Ancient" Grand Lodge of England, and it still is in Ireland, and in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and other jurisdictions in the United States and elsewhere, the most important season of the year, when the newly-elected Grand Master was solemnly installed in office and appointed and invested, or where they were elected by Grand Lodge, invested the Grand Officers for the ensuing 12 months, the day set apart for the important ceremony being St. John the Evangelist's Day, the 27th December.

Indeed, both the St. John's Days, that of St. John the Baptist (24th June) as well as that of St. John the Evangelist, are held in veneration and respect by the Freemasons, not so much, we opine, on account of the holy personages to whom they are dedicated as on account of their being nearly coincident with the summer and winter solstices, and, as our readers well know, the sun plays as important a part in the symbolism of the Craft as it does in the planetary system. Under the "Ancient" Grand Lodge of England, however, St. John the Evangelist's Day appears to have been associated with the installation of the new Grand Master, and the observances proper to the day were of a more solemn character, while festivity and the drinking of the proper healths belonged to the day of St. John the Baptist. Thus on the 24th June, 1758, Bro. Goodman, S.G.W., who presided, ordered "the proper healths to be drunk" and the Grand Master's was drunk with nine, the D.G.M.'s with seven, the G. Warden's with five, "all regular lodges" with five, and the G. Secretary with three. On the 24th June, 1760, "The King and the Craft" was drunk with nine, and "Lodges in General" with the same number, though five would seem to be correct.

On the 27th December following, the Grand Lodge appears to have been guilty of an extravagance which, seeing that a new Grand Master in succession to the Earl of Blesinton, to wit, the Earl of Kelly, had just been installed and proclaimed, was perhaps excusable under the circumstances. We read that—"The Grand Lodge also unanimously Order'd that Bror. George Donovan shall stand upon the Middle Table in the Grand Lodge & shall there audibly read a certain paper given to him for that purpose, which paper contained the following words, viz.: 'The Grand Lodge of Antient Masons (now under the sanction of the Right Honourable Thomas Earl of Kelly) truly sensible of the eminent and disinterested services done by the secretary Laurence Dermott (particularly in his office at the Installation this day) have this day thought proper to Order the General thanks of the Fraternity to be given to him the said Laurence Dermott, and that this Resolution shall be recorded in our Transactions. Not only as a Testimony of our Approbation & high Esteem but also as an Encouragement to future Secretaries to endeavour to immitate him.'"

This appears to have been almost too much for Dermott, who, except when he was affected with the gout, airing his grievances against a Dickey, or rating a Robert Leslie for his carelessness and general incapacity, was not easily perturbed, and he "Told the Grand Master and Fraternity—that the Extravagancy of the last Resolution in favour of his conduct had surprized him so much that he was totally incapable of making a suitable Ansr. Nevertheless the Grand Lodge would do him strict justice in believing two things, viz., 'That he thought himself as happy in his Secretaryship as the Great Pitt was in being Secretary of State. 2dly, that he would exert his utmost powers for the good of the Antient Fraternity so long as he lived.'"

But even this "Extravagancy" was exceeded the year following. It is recorded in the minutes of the 24th June, that after the usual toasts had been honoured, Grand Lodge "Order'd Bror. George

Donovan Master of No 6 to go up to the G. Secretary's place And in the Name of the Grand Lodge return the said G. Secretary public thanks for his unwearied diligence and Emminent services to the Antient Craft in General with five as Master Masons," and when the Grand Secretary, after expressing his thanks, remarked "that the No 5 was Irregular and hoped that it might be reduced to Three, &c," Grand Lodge. not to be disappointed in its desire to do him honour, resolved that "It is the Opinion of this lodge that any worthy Brother (whose merit shall be publicly known) may be drank or toasted with any No. which the G Lodge shall please to dictate and the G.M. or his Deputy shall please to admit" and so it came about that, on the proposition of the Deputy G. Master, the Gd. Secretary was toasted with 39—the number of his years—though in a footnote it is added that "the Secretary was in the 41st year of his age."

In 1866, St. John the Baptist's Day was celebrated in a different manner, and "the Fraternity by permission of the Grand Officers met at the Angel in White Chapell, and from thence walked in procession to Stepney Church, where an Excellent Sermon, founded on the General Regulations of the Craft and upon a suitable Text, was preach'd by the Rev. Mr. Parker Rowlands, our most worthy Brother. After the sermon the Fraternity, amounting to a vast number, with three bands of Musick, &c., walked in a like manner to the Angel aforesaid, where they separated, and Each Lodge went to dine at the Houses where held." These processions were continued in subsequent years, and a Grand Feast was held at some place previously selected, Stewards for its regulation being also appointed. But the winter St. John's Days were reserved for the ceremony of installation, though toasts were also honoured, and it was a very common thing for the brother in the chair to deliver a charge or address on the duties of the day.

It may also be worth while noticing that the ceremony varied according to the rank of the Grand Officers. Thus the Deputy was installed and so were the Grand Wardens and Grand Secretary—see Minutes 27th December, 1777—but the Grand Treasurer and Grand Chaplain were invested, and the Grand Pursuivant and Grand Tyler proclaimed. It seems proper to add that the Grand Officers were elected, with the exception of the Deputy, who was recommended by Grand Lodge and appointed by the Grand Master, and the Asst. Grand Secretary, whenever such an officer was considered desirable, who was appointed by the G.S., subject to the approval of Grand Lodge. Be it added as regards the Grand Wardens and the Grand Sword Bearer, that the general rule was to promote from the junior to the senior office.

What fortune may attend the celebration of the Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in February next, it is, of course, impossible to forecast, but it is a favourable omen, and one of which our readers will be delighted to hear, that Bro. Terry has been making further satisfactory progress in organising the Board of Stewards for the occasion. We announced in our article of the 1st instant on this subject that he had then succeeded in obtaining the services of not far short of 150 brethren, and this number has been since increased to close on 180. There is, therefore, just a possibility that between now and New Year's Day the Board may be nearer still to a full 200. But whether this is so or not, we are in a position to announce that as compared with last year's figures, the prospects, in so far as they may be determined by this particular consideration, are decidedly favourable. The Board that did duty for the last Festival ultimately consisted of 299 members, so that in the two months that still remain, it is not too much to hope that Bro. Terry will be able to show a substantial improvement on that number.

The need of such an improvement is generally recognised. We pointed out in our former article that the sum of £16,000 or thereabouts is needed, and this, as we have again and again remarked, takes a good deal of raising. It is also necessary to bear in mind that, while the lists of applicants are about as formidable as usual, the vacancies are exceptionally few—five on the Male Fund and one on the Widows' Fund. We therefore renew the earnest appeal of three weeks since, and express the hope that at a season, which more than any other season is looked upon as being specially devoted to Charity, Bro. Terry may be enabled to enlist additional support in behalf of our Old People.

It is with the deepest regret we have to announce the death of Bro. Sir E. A. H. Lechmere, Bart., M.P., Prov. G. Master of Worcestershire. The sad event occurred with terrible suddenness on Tuesday evening, at Pershore, just when our distinguished brother was on the eve of addressing a large gathering of his constituents. On entering the building, he was observed by one of his supporters, with whom he was in conversation, to fall against a table, and on being asked if anything was the matter, he replied—"Nothing: I am all right." Almost immediately afterwards he expired. Bro. Sir E. Lechmere had held the office of Prov. G. Master of Worcestershire since 1878, and that of G. Superintendent since 1880. We respectfully offer our sincere condolence with Lady Lechmere and his family in their great bereavement. A memoir of our late brother will appear next week.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. W. J. Murlis, at his residence, 154, Lancaster-road, North Kensington. Bro. Murlis was a P.M. of the Marquis of Ripon Lodge, No. 1489, but was perhaps better known as a founder and first W.M. of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, No. 1642. Having filled the chair, he was subsequently appointed Secretary, and it may be confidently asserted that the success of this lodge and its influence in Freemasonry is in a great measure due to the active interest taken by Bro. Murlis, especially in the earlier years of its existence. Few lodges on the roll of Grand Lodge can show a better record of contributions to the Charities than the "Earl of Carnarvon," and that lodge will always stand as an example to the Craft. Our deceased brother was for many years an active and useful member of various local institutions, and was in every relation of life highly esteemed and respected. The funeral took place at Kensal Green Cemetery on Friday last, and was attended by a large number of old friends and colleagues, as well as by the members of the lodges and chapters with which he was connected, the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge being represented by Bros. F. C. Frye, M.P., P.M.; S. H. Parkhouse, P.M.; and many others.

Correspondence.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

It is only this evening that I have noticed in the *Freemason* of the 15th inst., that you have again referred to what passed at the last Grand Lodge in reference to this Institution, and purport to give a report of what I said.

I was careful to preface my remarks by stating I was not present at the Special General Meeting when the resolution sought to be confirmed by Grand Lodge was passed, and that I moved its adoption by virtue of my office as Treasurer. This you omit. You also put into my mouth words that I never uttered, viz.: "If the present resolution was shelved as the G. Sec. wished, it would throw them over at the next Festival of the Benevolent Institution, for which there were 500 promises for this privilege."

What I did say was—that if the resolution were shelved the Institution would lose 500 guineas. I never made any allusion to the G. Sec. such as you represent. He is a brother who fills an important post with tact and courtesy, and I believe has the welfare of this Institution at heart, and is incapable of the conduct mentioned.—I am, dear sir and brother, yours fraternally,

December 17th.

J. A. FARNFIELD.

ELECTION OF GRAND TREASURER.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I was very much pleased to see in the *Freemason* of the 8th inst., the letter of "Colonial Past Master." I quite coincide with him in all his views as regards Election of Grand Treasurer, that if voting papers were issued to all brethren entitled to vote in Grand Lodge, the same as now done by the three Charitable Institutions, it would save time, overcrowding of Grand Lodge, and save unnecessary expense of brethren wishing to assert their lawful rights. It costs a brother from the Provinces, say Lancashire, Yorkshire, or Cheshire, quite £5, whilst a brother in or near London not more than a shilling cab fare. Another thing, the Grand Lodge meets so late that brethren from a distance have to stay all night. I am sure that if the Grand Lodge were held about two o'clock it would be much better, so that brethren could visit Grand Lodge, and return home the same day. We contribute to the Grand Lodge, also to our own Provincial Grand Lodge; therefore, why this injustice?

The provinces must unite, hold meetings, form a committee, and appoint a brother, or brethren, to attend the next Grand Lodge meeting and give notice of motion that voting papers be sent out to all duly qualified Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens, so as to

enable them to vote without incurring loss of time and expense; and that it is the intention of the brethren of the provinces and Colonies to try and assert their rights. Then, when the time comes, the brethren must make a little sacrifice and go and support the notice of motion by voting.

We provincials have voted before in Grand Lodge, why cannot we do so on such an occasion, and win by a larger majority than ever? I enclose my card.—Yours fraternally,

"FAIR PLAY."

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I am extremely pleased to find that some brother has written complaining of the present method of electing the Grand Treasurer, for I have for some time thought it unfair to the Craft in general. Take, for instance, the lodges situated in the north and far west of England. How can one expect the brethren of those lodges to travel that distance, and lose a day or two's time to transact what is not more than half an hour's work? This even applies to the southern brethren, who would lose the best part of the day if they wish to record their vote. There is also the extra strain of the official to consider, as well as the inconvenience to those brethren attending the lodge—this latter, I understand, at last election was by no means absent. These complaints would be remedied if the suggestion of "Colonial P.M." was carried out, and I do not see a better plan whereby all would benefit, besides attaching greater honour to the office by being elected from the whole Craft, instead of by a comparative few. Trusting this question will meet with due consideration by the higher powers.—I remain, yours faithfully,

J.W. 2450.

RESIGNATIONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I am obliged to Bro. Lovegrove for his letter in last week's *Freemason*, which confirms my view of the matter, as expressed in my previous letter on the subject. As the point is an important one, and of interest to the Craft generally, many of whom are not well informed on points of Masonic jurisprudence, I would like Bro. Lovegrove to refer to the report of the ruling of the Grand Registrar to which he refers, and, perhaps sir, you would be good enough to reproduce same in your columns for the information of your numerous readers.—Yours fraternally,

EX-SECRETARY.



Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Lion and Lamb Lodge (No. 192).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 6th inst., at Cannon Street Hotel, when there were present: Bros. J. Smith, W.M.; T. W. Fisher, S.W.; R. Sarson, J.W.; Thos. Cohe, Treas.; Hy. Legge, Sec.; A. J. Holmes, S.D.; G. Garton, J.D.; J. M. Mower, D.C.; W. Baker, S.W.; C. Couchman, Tyler; F. Hughes, P.M.; Martyn, Johnson, Stokes, Rocher, Crawshaw, Dart, Clarke, Simmonds, F. R. Kenniner, Welch, Robeson, and Virgo. Visitor: Bro. W. B. Stamand, 172.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. Welch, Crawshaw, and Roche were passed. Mr. J. T. Virgo, having been balloted for, was initiated. The report of the Committee, re musical evening, was read and adopted. The Secretary reported the death of an old and valued member of the lodge, Bro. Sutherland, and a resolution of condolence was carried.

Kennington Lodge (No. 1381).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington-park, on the 4th inst. Amongst those in attendance were Bros. J. N. Hearn, W.M.; Dr. Millsom, S.W.; J. Barry, S.D., Acting J.W.; George Everitt, P.G. Treas., P.M., Treas.; W. Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Parratt, J.D.; Chisholm, I.G.; Hopkins, Org.; H. Higgins, P.M.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., G. Std. Br.; C. H. Köhler, P.M.; Cockburn, P.M.; W. W. Westley, P.M.; La Feuille, P.M.; Foalé, P.M.; Dennis, P.M.; Lundie, P.M. Amongst the visitors were Bros. H. J. Lardner, P.P.G.D.C. Surrey, P.M. 1745; F. Salter, 15; Spill, 174; Spott, 186; Webber, 198; A. Read, 861; Deuse, 1306; Walker, 2348; Railton, 2518. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. H. Rulls and W. Huckin were raised to the Third Degree, and Bro. H. C. Linwood passed to the Second Degree, both ceremonies being well performed. Bro. Dr. Millsom was unanimously elected W.M., G. Everett, Treasurer, and F. Reinardt, Tyler. The audit committee were elected and appointed to meet on the third Tuesday in January next. A Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. J. N. Hearn. The lodge was then closed.

Refreshment followed labour. The usual toasts were duly proposed and honoured. Bro. G. Everett responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers," in his customary happy vein. Bro. H. J. Lardner, replied on behalf of "The Visitors." In the course of his remarks he called the attention of the brethren, who had not already become Royal Arch Masons, to the fact that there was an excellent chapter attached to the lodge, which was in a most prosperous condition. Bro. Lundie acknowledged the toast of "The Past Masters," Bros. G. Everett and W. Stuart "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary," and Bros. Barry and Hopkins for "The Officers."

A very entertaining programme of music was carried out, in which Bro. Hopkins, Lundie, Price, Davis, and Linwood particularly distinguished themselves.

Islington Lodge (No. 1471).—An emergency meeting was held on Thursday evening, the 13th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, Bros. R. Loomes, W.M.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, I.P.M.; A. Cox, S.W.; J. A. Blount, J.W.; E. Blinkhorn, P.M., Sec.; S. Napper, P.M., and a very good number of officers and brethren being present. The business of the evening was to pass Bros. Margraff and Goring, which was followed by a lecture on the tracing board by the W.M.

After the lodge was closed a very pleasant hour was spent, when songs and recitations were given by several of the brethren, Bro. E. H. Bury officiating at the pianoforte.

New Cross Lodge (No. 1559).—A meeting of the above lodge was held at the Portland Hotel, on Friday, the 14th inst. Bro. W. Payne Makeham, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. R. Berrett, I.P.M.; W. Cowley, P.M., Treas.; T. Grummant, P.M., Sec.; J. D. Graham, P.M.; C. Grassi, P.M.; Li Calsi, P.M.; C. N. McIntyre North, P.M.; G. F. Mounter, S.W.; A. Cogliati, J.W.; J. S. Targett, J.D.; E. Peroni, I.G.; Cizzio, Mutti, Audagna, Meraldi, Bonaldi, Cavalli, Sangeorgi, Odone, Azario, Abba, Bazzi, Winsler, Hansford, Formaggia, Gibelli, and Bonser. Visitors: Bros. W. Eckersall, P.M.; J. P. Fisher, Treas.; and J. Fumaregalo.

This being the first meeting of the lodge since the death of Bro. J. Faulkner, the banner of our departed brother was draped in crape, and the lodge and brethren were in deep mourning. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, Bro. R. W. Foster was passed, and Bro. P. Cavalli raised to the Third Degree. The by-laws were read, and several questions affecting the internal management of the lodge were discussed, and on the motion of Bro. R. Berrett, I.P.M., a Past Master's jewel was voted to the W.M., to be presented on his retirement from office. Bro. George Felix Mounter, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. W. Cowley, P.M., re-elected Treas., Bros. Antonio Bonaldi, J. R. Hansford, and H. G. Walden, Auditors; and J. Whiteman, Tyler. The usual business being finished, Bro. W. Cowley, P.M., rose to announce in the lodge, the death of one of the Past Masters, Bro. John Faulkner, and to move "That a vote of condolence with their late brother's family be passed, and entered on the minutes, that his name be recorded 'in memoriam' on the lodge summonses in future," and that a copy of the resolution be forwarded to their bereaved sister by the Secretary; it was with deep regret that he (Bro. Cowley) rose to move a resolution which had never been required in that lodge before, and, although many of them were getting old, he trusted would not be again required for many years to come; a gap for the first time had been made in the ranks of the Past Masters, by the death of one of the most able, a brother who always had the courage of his opinions, spoke them straight and fairly, and although one could not always agree with his opinions, no one could doubt his love for his mother lodge, and they must all deeply regret the great loss they had sustained when he was taken from them. Bro. C. N. McIntyre North, as the Past Master who had scarce three years ago installed their departed brother in the chair of King Solomon, rose to second the resolution. He and Bro. Faulkner had for many years been friendly rivals in their endeavours to maintain the reputation of the lodge, and whatever their brother had undertaken had been executed with a rare ability and in an ardent, zealous manner. His death had forcibly reminded him of certain words in the volume of the Sacred Law—"One shall be taken and the other left"—and when standing by the open grave he had felt that in the usual course of events he (Bro. North) would have taken the place of his late brother; but the Great Architect ruled otherwise, and His wisdom was inscrutable. The brother whom He had called away had always done his duty, and whether as one of them in the lodge, as a well-known Preceptor in their lodge of instruction, or as a fellow-worker doing his part in the outer world, Bro. Faulkner was universally respected, and his loss was regretted as of one who had faithfully and ably carried out the work allotted to him. Bro. T. Grummant, P.M., in speaking to the resolution, said he had sent a wreath as a mark of respect on behalf of the lodge, and the large attendance of members from other lodges beside their own, and the vast concourse of those in the outer world, showed the high estimation in which Bro. Faulkner was held, both as a Mason and a man. The W.M., in putting the resolution, gave eloquent testimony as to the loss sustained by the brethren. The resolution was sorrowfully agreed to, and the lodge closed.

Æsculapius Lodge (No. 2410).—The ordinary meeting of this lodge was held at the Cafe Royal, Regent-street, on the 12th inst., when there were present Bros. Jacob Pickett, M.D., I.P.M. 776, W.M.; J. Brindley James, P.M., acting I.P.M.; G. Crawford Thompson, M.D., S.W.; W. Anthony Nutt, J.W.; G. Danford Thomas, M.D., Treas.; Thomas Dutton, M.D., P.M., Sec.; E. H. Ezard, M.D., J.D.; W. H. Kiallmark, P.M., I.G.; Ernest Clarke, M.D., Org.; H. G. Blackmore and Lewis Lewis, Stwds.; James Crooks, M.D.; John R. Bosworth, H. G. Blackmore, John Davis, H. E. Simpson, E. S. Bell, R. J. Best, W.M. 199; M. Cheale, H. T. Sharpe, W. Arbuthnot Lane, M.S., C. M. Simpson, A. B. Alexander, and C. Luxmore Drew, M.B. Visitors: Bros. Will. E. Chapman, P.P.G.S.W. Bucks.; J. Powell, P.D.S.G.W. Bengal.; Walter Gripper, M.A., M.B., Cantab., W.M. 1826; James Heron, M.D., W.M. 206; Alfred Heald, P.M. 168; A. Mitchell, P.M. 200; H. Keeble, S.W. 1906; Albert Fox, S.D. 1706; James Rowe, 2191, and T. H. Openshaw, M.D., F.R.C.S., 2528, and 172.

The minutes of the installation meeting were read and confirmed, Bro. Ernest Clarke, M.D., F.R.C.S., 1827, was unanimously elected a joining member. Mr. Leonard Wilde M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry by the W.M. in a very able manner. By permission of the W.M., the S.W. gave the candidate the charge in a most impressive and perfect manner, the rendering of which was much appreciated by the candidate and also by the brethren present. Twenty pounds was voted to the R.M.B.I., to be placed on the W.M.'s list as Steward. A proposal was submitted to a committee to confer with the Æsculapius Chapter as to the entertaining of medical Masons from all parts of the globe under the banner of lodge and chapter during the meeting of the British Medical Association, to be held in London, August, 1895.

After the Secretary had read some correspondence and

letters of regret from members unable to be present, the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards dined together, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

Bro. Dutton, in proposing the toast of "The Initiate," congratulated the W.M., the S.W., and J.D. on the very impressive manner they had initiated the candidate into the mysteries of Freemasonry. He felt quite sure that when the ceremony was worked out in such a perfect manner it would convince the candidate more forcibly of the beauty of the ceremony and would lead him to take a greater interest in Freemasonry. The J.D. not only did his work without a single mistake, but added to its sublimity by the masterly way he handled the candidate.

Bro. Wilde, in reply, said he was much impressed with the ceremony, and particularly with the charge, and was very glad he had joined the Æsculapius Lodge.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

BRADFORD.

Lodge Acacia (No. 2321).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 6th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Rawson-square. Bro. C. H. Ellis, W.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. J. T. Last, I.P.M.; J. Morton, S.W.; J. B. Fearnley, J.W.; J. Wilson, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Chap.; S. A. Bailey, P.M., Treas.; Sam. Robinson, Sec.; R. S. Hird, S.D.; J. A. Drake, J.D.; J. Bland, I.G.; A. Swaine, Org.; J. Niven, P.M.; S. A. Auty, P.M.; J. Haigh, P.M.; T. P. Sykes, W. Walker, W. Docksey, J. S. Hedley, R. B. Nicholls, H. Holmes, and others. Visitor: Bro. J. Turner, 940.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Paul was passed to the Degree of F.C. by Bro. Bailey, P.M., the working tools being explained by Bro. Fearnley, J.W., and the charge given by Bro. Bailey. Bro. A. J. Boyle was elected a re-joining member of the lodge. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

Refreshment followed labour, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

Bros. Wilson, Fearnley, Sykes, Turner, and Last contributed songs, music, and recitations to the harmony of the evening.

HALESWORTH.

Prudence Lodge (No. 388).—A meeting of the above lodge was held on Monday, the 10th inst., which was honoured by the addition to its roll of members in the person of the Right Hon. the Earl of Stradbroke. The ceremony, which took place in the Masonic Hall, was a brilliant and impressive one, brethren from long distances, and from neighbouring lodges, being in attendance. The initiation was carried out by Bros. Geo. Andrews, W.M.; T. Stevenson, S.W.; D. W. Skuffham, J.W.; and H. A. Mullens, I.G., the musical portion of the ceremony being ably taken by Bro. W. W. Walesby.

There were also present: Bros. N. Tracey, P.M. 376, P.G.S., Prov. G. Sec.; S. R. Anness, P.M. 376, Prov. S.G.W.; C. E. Tempest, P.M. 114, P.G.D.; S. J. Hartcup, P.M. 929, P.P.A.G.D.C.; W. W. Walesby, P.M. 929, P.P.G. Supt. of W.; H. Martin, P.M. 929, I.G.; J. E. Sales, W.M. 929; A. D. Botwright, J.W. 929; E. Philpot, 929; W. J. Jekells, P.M. 71, P.P.A.G. Std.; W. J. Wilton, P.M. 71, P.P.G. Supt. W.; F. R. Freeman, P.M. 71; W. H. Hunt, J.W. 71; A. H. Hunt, J.D. 71; J. Woodger, 71; G. Versey, 71; E. C. Shipp, 71; W. Southey, 100; J. E. Ecclestone, P.M. 305, P.P.G.S.B.; F. J. Allen, P.M. 305; R. Aldous, P.M. 305; T. L. Poll, S.W. 305; E. Perceval Smith, 305; W. G. Cross, 305; E. U. Adnams, P.M. 1083, P.P.G.S.B.; R. T. Brickwell Coling, J.W. 1983; S. W. Reynolds, J.W. 1983; J. Jarvis, I.G. 1983; and a large number of the members of the above lodge.

Forty of the brethren afterwards sat down to a banquet at the Angel Hotel.

MANCHESTER.

Zion Lodge (No. 1798).—The festival of St. John was celebrated on the 11th inst., at the Grand Hotel. Visitors were present from Cheshire, Somerset, and the provinces. Bro. W. Foden, S.W., W.M. elect, was installed W.M. by Bro. John Fisher, P.M., P.G.D., assisted by Bros. Simeon Mamelock, P.M., and George Board, P.M., P.P.G.D. A beautiful 18 ct. gold Past Prov. Grand Deacon's collar jewel was presented to Bro. John Fisher, I.P.M., as a token in recognition of his valuable services to the lodge for many years past. The gift was gracefully acknowledged.

YORK.

Albert Victor Lodge (No. 2328).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 27th ult. at the Masonic Hall, St. Saviourgate. Present: Bros. J. E. Jones, W.M.; the Rev. the Dean of York, P.M., P.G. Chap. Eng.; T. B. Whythead, P.M., P.G.S.B. Eng.; the Rev. C. E. L. Wright, I.P.M., P.P.G. Std.; F. Shaw, S.W.; J. P. Case, J.W.; the Rev. E. Bulwer, Chap.; C. Turner, Sec.; C. E. Wood, J.D.; H. L. Swift, P.M., D.C.; W. C. Oldfield, I.G.; and H. J. Rudyard, Stwd. Visitors: Bros. A. Jones, W.M. 236; H. Foster, P.M. 236, Prov. G. D.C.; M. Bryson, J.W. 236; W. Storey, P.M., F. W. Halliwell, and P. Pearson, all of 161; and many others.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. T. B. Whythead, P.M., P.G.S.B. Eng., then took the chair, and installed Bro. F. Shaw, S.W., as W.M., the latter part of the ceremony being performed by Bro. the Rev. C. E. L. Wright, P.M. The W.M. then appointed his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. J. P. Case, S.W.; C. Turner, J.W.; the Rev. E. Bulwer, Chaplain; H. L. Swift, P.M., Treas.; C. E. Wood, Sec.; W. C. Oldfield, S.D.; H. J. Rudyard, J.D.; T. B. Whythead, P.M., P.G.S.B., D.C.; W. D. Rudyard, I.G.; C. J. Padel, P.M., P.P.G. Org., Org.; and T. Lindberg, Stwd. Apologies were received from Bros. the Marquis of Zetland, P.G.M.; the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, Dep. P.G.M.; M. C. Peck, Prév. G. Sec.; J. Todd, Prov. G. Treas.; E. Carter, J.W. 236; and many others. A candidate's name was received for initiation, and, there being no further business, the lodge was closed.

Royal Arch.

Royal Jubilee Chapter (No. 72).—This old chapter held its annual installation on Thursday, the 13th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. It is remarkable that this chapter has had but two Scribes E., as Comp. J. Nunn acted from the consecration until his death, when the office was undertaken, by the unanimous wish of the members, by Comp. Henry Lovegrove, who was then leaving the chair of M.E.Z., and is now giving up through pressure of other duties. Bros. O'Dea and Atkin were then exalted, the work being well performed by Comp. E. W. Lewcock, P.Z. Comps. W. Roots and H. Bulpit were elected joining members. The officers invested were as follows (the Second Principal being absent in the country): Comps. W. Furner Bates, M.E.Z.; C. R. Williams, P.Z., J.; E. W. Lewcock, S.E.; T. W. Lightfoot, S.N.; E. Walker, Treas.; H. A. Brydes, P.S.; O'Dea, 1st A.S.; J. Cohen, 2nd A.S.; W. Roots, D.C.; Bulpit and Atkin, Stwds.; and R. Potter, Janitor.

Jerusalem Chapter (No. 185).—A meeting of this chapter was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Tuesday, 11th inst. Among those present were Comps. Capt. Walls, P.G.D.C., P.Z., M.E.Z.; Dr. Frye, H.; Cleghorne, P.Z., acting J.; G. Davis, P.Z., S.E., acting P.S.; Harfeld, P.Z., acting S.N., Treas.; Hill, 1st Asst. S.; Witthaus, 2nd Asst. S.; Nathan Moss, L.C.C., J.P., P.Z., Rivers, and Davies. Comp. F. Williams, P.Z. 101, was a visitor. The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, Bro. W. Hambly was duly exalted to the degree of R.A. The resignation of Comp. Peacock was received with regret. Communications from absent companions having been read, the chapter was closed.

A banquet followed, and the customary toasts received full justice.

The exalte, Comp. Hambly, in responding to the toast of his health, stated how highly he had been impressed by the ceremony, and he hoped to become in time a useful member of the Jerusalem Chapter.

Comp. Williams, P.Z. 101, said that his visit to the chapter had been a most agreeable one. He was particularly struck with the manner in which the three Lectures were delivered.

In giving the toast of "The Past Principals," the M.E.Z. particularly alluded to the services of Comps. Harfeld, N. Moss, G. Davis, and Cleghorne, who were always ready to assist at a moment's notice in the working, and what they did was done well. The first-named had been their Treasurer for many years, and long might he continue to hold that position. The chapter was under great obligations to him as their friend, their adviser, and their banker. He hoped that ere long these obligations would be recognised. Of the Scribe E., he (the M.E.Z.) would say that he had been most indefatigable in the discharge of his duties. They had seen how well he had performed the work of the P.S. that evening. In conclusion, he thanked Comp. Cleghorne for kindly taking and discharging so efficiently the duties of Third Principal (*pro tem.*)

This toast having been duly acknowledged, "The Health of the Officers," coupled with the names of Comps. Hill and Witthaus, terminated the proceedings.

GATESHEAD ON TYNE.

Industry Chapter (No. 48).—A very pleasant and agreeable meeting of this thriving chapter was held on Thursday evening the 13th inst., when there was a good attendance. The chapter was duly opened by Comps. T. R. Jobson, Z.; Robt. Whitfield, P.Z. as H.; and Robt. Stewart, J. Amongst others present were: Comps. Robt. Hudson, P.G. Std. Br., Prov. G.S.E.; J. S. Wilson, P.Z. 240; John Spearman, P.Z. 481; W. M. Lyon, Z. 406; M. Lotinga, P.Z. 406; John Duckett, P.Z. 48; W. Dorman, H. 406; W. J. Jobson, S.E.; J. U. Simpson, S.E. 406, as N.; H. Jackson, P.S.; John Boazman, Treas.; Wm. Stafford and W. Holzapfel, A.S.; Wm. Brown, P.Z., D.C.; Robt. Ferry, Org.; W. Douglass, Std.; J. Curry, Janitor; T. A. Moffitt, T. Chegwidden, J. Armstrong, W. Lee, 1119; A. Boag, P.S. 1664; and others. Bros. Adam Dodd and John Neir, duly balloted for previously, were respectively exalted in the degree by Comp. T. R. Jobson, Z., and the mystical lecture was delivered by Comp. W. Brown, P.Z. The admirable manner in which the whole ceremony was worked was highly satisfactory to all present. A proposition for next convocation was made, after which the proceedings terminated, and the companions retired to the ante-room.

Mark Masonry.

BOLTON.

St. John's Lodge (T.I.).—The annual installation meeting was held on Thursday, the 13th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, when there was a very large attendance of brethren. The chair was taken by Bro. Jones, W.M., supported by his officers. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and the ballot was taken for two candidates, both being favourable. Bro. R. H. Phillips resumed the chair and favoured the candidate; he was also the Installing Master subsequently. The Auditors' report was next read, and unanimously adopted. Five pounds was voted to the East Lancashire Systematic Educational and Benevolent Institution, and five guineas to the Mark Benevolent Fund, this making £65 given to the latter during the last 10 years. Bro. W. H. Brown, S.W., W.M. elect, was presented to the Installing Master, Bro. R. H. Phillips, P.M., P.G.J.O., and was duly installed into the chair, and properly proclaimed and saluted. The officers were invested by Bro. J. Harwood, P.P.G.D., as follows: Bros. R. Jones, I.P.M.; J. B. With, S.W.; T. H. Heyes, J.W.; W. Forrest, M.O.; J. W. Thompson, S.O.; C. Hulgate, J.O.; H. Citchley, Reg. of M.; J. Kenyon, P.M., P.P.G.D., P.G.I.G., Treas.; R. H. Phillips, P.M., P.P.G.J.O., Sec.; E. Grego y, S.D.; T. Murphy, J.D.; J. Harwood, P.M., P.P.G.D., D. of C.; G. E. Greenhalgh, I.G.; T. Barnes, O.G.; W. Altham, Org.; H. Smith and J. Miles, Stwds. Their duties were afterwards explained by Bro. John Kenyon, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G.I.G. Eng., who also addressed the W.M., Wardens and brethren.

The lodge was closed after a most successful meeting.



BRO. HENRY LOVEGROVE has been successful in winning the first prize and medals of both the Leghorn Clubs with his fine specimens of Italian poultry.

THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING, Ill. Bro. Charles E. Keyser, 30^s, will be installed M.W.S. of the Invicta Chapter, Rose Croix, at 33, Golden-square, and then brethren will be perfected.

THE REGULAR MEETING of the St. Andrew's Mark Lodge, No. 34, T.I., was held on Tuesday, the 11th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester, Bro. G. A. Myers, W.M., P.G. Std. Br., in the chair, when Bro. A. K. Boothroyd, S.W., P.G.S., was unanimously elected to the chair for the ensuing year.

The long-delayed consecration of the new lodge, Balfour Melville, No. 509 (S.C.), at Methil, was solemnised on the 1st inst., by Bro. J. H. Balfour Melville, jr., of Strathkiness, Prov. G. Master for Fifeshire. Bro. Melville afterwards installed the officers for the ensuing year. Bro. Thomas McKee being continued in the office of R.W.M. The provincial deputation and visitors were at the close of the ceremonial duties entertained at a cake and wine banquet.

THE DIRECTORS OF SPIERS AND POND (Limited), announce that the Debenture Stock Transfer Books will be closed from the 17th to the 31st inst., both inclusive, for the purpose of preparing the Interest Warrants for the half-year ending 31st December, 1894, on the Five Per Cent. First Mortgage Debentures, the Five Per Cent. Debenture Stock, the "A" Mortgage Debenture Stock, the "B" Mortgage Debenture Stock, and the "C" First Mortgage Debenture Stock of the company.

ON SATURDAY, the 5th inst., a large number of brethren of the Coleridge Lodge, Clevedon, paid a fraternal visit to the Eldon Lodge, Portishead. Bro. Rice, W.M., presided. Bro. W. T. Shapland, P.M. and Secretary, was presented with a Past Master's jewel, on which was engraved, "Presented to Wor. Bro. Shapland, P.M. and Secretary, by the brethren of the Eldon Lodge, 1755, as a mark of affection and esteem." After business the brethren dined together at the Royal Hotel.

AT THE REGULAR MEETING of the Arboretum Lodge of Instruction, No. 731, Derby, held on the 28th ultimo, after the ordinary working, the brethren presented a very handsome tea service to Bro. Thos. Day, who had acted as Secretary and Treasurer for a number of years. The presentation was made in a few well-chosen words by the Preceptor, Bro. J. Bland, P.M., supported by Bros. Edgar, P.M., and J. O. Manton, P.M. 1085. Bro. Day most feelingly responded, alluding to the many happy hours he had spent with the brethren in ordinary lodge and at the instruction meetings. A most pleasant evening was spent.

BRO. FRANK WILLIAMS, P.M. and P.Z. of the Temple Lodge and Chapter, No. 101, and Z. of the Rose Chapter, No. 1022, was last Thursday evening installed into the President's chair of the L. 13 Club. The Christmas supper was held in the Duke's Salon, Holborn Restaurant, and was attended by a number of influential members and their friends. Bro. W. H. Blanche installed his successor, and a very happy evening was spent. The musical arrangements under the direction of Bro. Choveaux (Organist of the Rose Lodge and Chapter) were highly appreciated, the artistes including Madame Bulow, Madame Raymond, Miss Maud Lankester, and Messrs. Fred. Stephens, H. Trotere, and Tom Lyles. We may also mention that Bro. Frank Williams is President this year of the popular Chough Musical Society, meeting at Cannon-street Hotel.

THE "FREEMASON CALENDAR AND POCKET BOOK" for 1895, published for the Grand Lodge of England by Bro. George Kenning, London, is now in circulation. The 1895 issue has nothing to distinguish it from those of the last two or three years. It is filled to repletion with every kind of useful information, including a list of all the regular lodges and Royal Arch chapters, home and abroad, with their respective places and times of meeting; all information regarding the United Grand Lodge of England, its Institutions, &c., and the Supreme Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons in England. There is also a list of the lodges chartered by the Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland, and a list of the principal officers in these Grand bodies. Besides this, and much more of Masonic information, the book contains matter usually found in other pocket books.

THE "COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC CALENDAR" for 1895 (the 25th year of publication) is also to hand from Bro. George Kenning's establishment. As its name implies, the information given in the 200 pages embraces the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and foreign jurisdictions, the Ancient and Accepted Rite, &c. It is an indispensable companion to any brother who travels about the country, and is published at 1s.—"Mallet," in *Glasgow Evening News*.

CYCLING AS A PURSUIT.—Frank Shorland, the famous long-distance rider, has commenced in the "Windsor Magazine" a valuable series of articles on "Cycling as a Pursuit." Incidentally he states: "Cycling as a pleasurable pursuit ceases to be enjoyable when it becomes sheer hard work. In nothing is it so easy to make a toil of a pleasure, and therefore, strange and contradictory as it may seem for me to say so, my strongest advice to everyone indulging in the pastime is to take it easy, and not to overdo it. This is, of course, a personal matter entirely. One man's pottering pace is another man's high-pressure effort, and I have often noticed how inferior riders will utterly ruin their enjoyment of a run by dreading to acknowledge that they cannot keep up as high a rate of speed as other men with whom they may happen to fall in during a spin upon a frequented road. Club runs are often spoiled this way by weaker members not caring to ask for the pace to be moderated, and so enduring discomfort rather than be shown up. Pace is all very well at times, but there are plenty of other ways of enjoying cycling besides the calculation of miles per hour. Numbers of our latest men specially avoid travelling at excessive speed except when occasion calls. They have enough of that at the right time, and love to potter and crawl, as well as to hurry."

SIR DOUGLAS STRAIGHT will preside on Wednesday, the 3rd April next, at the 39th annual banquet of the Dramatic and Musical Benevolent Fund, at the Hotel Metropole.

THE STATE APARTMENTS of Windsor Castle will be open to the public on Monday next, the 24th inst., and on Wednesday, the 26th inst., and afterwards on every weekday, Wednesdays excepted, under the usual regulations, until further orders.

THE COUNTESS OF ELGIN recently laid the foundation stone of a Dufferin Hospital at Karachi. The cost of the building, which is estimated at 50,000 rupees, is the generous gift of a wealthy Parsee. The Dufferin Fund has an assured income for the maintenance of the hospital when completed, as well as sufficient money for furnishing and equipping it.

THE DEMAND FOR SEATS for "The Derby Winner" at the Princess's Theatre being so great, Bro. Sir Augustus Harris has decided to commence the run of the Drury Lane drama in Oxford-street to-morrow (Saturday) night, instead of the 26th. On Boxing Night he will inaugurate, at Covent Garden, a brief season of variety entertainment on a large scale.

BRO. TOOLE'S RETURN to town after his annual tour in the provinces, which on this occasion has proved more successful than ever, is always hailed with pleasure by his multitude of friends and admirers. He re-opens his own theatre on Boxing Night, but, though he produces nothing new, he gives the public something almost as good as a novelty, namely, two wholesome English plays, the best in his repertoire, "Walker, London," and "Paul Pry," in both of which he has parts after his own heart. These pieces will be revived for a very limited number of nights.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The competition for the Robert Cocks and Co. prize took place on Monday. The examiners were Mrs. Gertrude Roskell and Mr. Gustav Ernest (in the chair). The prize was awarded to Gertrude Peppercorn, and the examiners highly commended Alicia Adelaide Needham. The Hine Exhibition was also decided. The examiners were Messrs. Ernest Ford, Myles B. Foster, and Edward German, and the prize was awarded to R. Neville Flux. The examiners highly commended Joseph Charles Holbrook.

HONOUR AND GENEROSITY LODGE, No. 105.—It has been decided by the members of this old-established and well-known lodge to present Bro. Robt. Collier Driver, P.M., P.G.D., at the next regular meeting, to be held at the Inns of Court Hotel on the 28th February, with an illuminated address on his resignation of the Secretaryship, a post which he has filled with infinite advantage to the lodge for the last 38 years. During this period, Bro. Driver, who is a Past Master and father of the lodge, has earned the affection and esteem of its members, all of whom deeply feel and regret his resignation, which is caused by ill-health. Bro. G. E. Wainwright, who has twice passed through the chair of this lodge, has been appointed by the W.M. to succeed Bro. Driver as the Secretary.

BRO. WILLIAM MORRISON, S.W., of No. 4, S.C., last year, has succeeded Bro. Larter in the chair of R.W.M. Bro. Larter's reign during the last two years in supreme command of No. 4 has been pleasant and satisfactory. The last duty he performed before assuming past rank, on Wednesday, the 12th inst., was to present, in the name of the members, a gold jewel, of Past Master's design, to Bro. C. C. Thomson, who efficiently filled the chair in 1891, and has rendered valuable service to the lodge during the last 22 years. In his acknowledgment of the jewel, which was accompanied by a handsome gift to Mrs. Thomson, Bro. Thompson referred to the many acts of kindness and consideration shown him while occupying the various offices he had filled in the lodge, especially while serving that of R.W.M.

THE GROSVENOR CLUB gave their final ladies' night for the year on Tuesday evening, and the large drawing room was crowded. Mrs. Trust was at her best, and so was Mlle. Landi, who gave "Oh! Jeunes Filles," from Tchaikowsky's "La Dame de Pique." The grand scena from "I Pagliacci" by Mlle. Elba and Mr. Templar Saxe was well received. Miss Christian Brumley performed on the violin, and Miss Alice Douglas, who made her debut as a solo dancer, gave a charming rendering of D'Auban's new version of the Cachucha. Owing to a contretemps with the machinery the representation of the living pictures was abandoned, but Mr. Charles Bertram, with his ingenious card tricks, and Madame Baldacsy, from the Alhambra, proved good substitutes. Not the least attractive portion of the programme was the playing of a genuine Hungarian Band (the Royal), a recent importation from Budapest.

THE MUSICAL WORLD has been looking forward with a very considerable amount of interest to the exhibition of matters connected with the art that "soothes the savage breast," which opened at the Royal Aquarium on the 12th inst. The main hall has been devoted entirely to trade exhibits, whilst the loan collection is placed in the spacious galleries. It is this latter which will doubtless excite the greater attention amongst musicians, for it has been so arranged that it is possible to trace the evolution of our modern musical instruments at a glance, the various exhibits being classified and arranged in chronological order and according to their varieties; for example, from the primitive dulcimer to the piano of the early part of the present century, almost all the intervening links may be seen. Again, the ophicleide, tuba, or euphonium are shown to be descendants of the zinck, which more resembles the leg of a chair than anything else. Harps may be seen going back almost as far as their remote ancestor the bow-string. The catalogue is admirable, for it contains an enormous amount of information written in an agreeable style. Altogether the exhibition is already an artistic success, and will, it is hoped, very materially advance the interests of music and the allied trades. Visitors to the Musical Exhibition should not omit seeing the marvellous great central stage performances now taking place at the Royal Aquarium, for which there is no extra charge, the small admission money of one shilling admitting to all.

MAN'S INGRATITUDE.—We have it on Shakespeare's authority that the winter wind is not more unkind than man's ingratitude. In many cases this is unfortunately only too true. There are times, however, when the benefit received is so great that ingratitude becomes impossible. When life is rendered a burden to us by sickness, and someone comes and restores us to health, we should be base indeed to feel ungrateful. Thus, millions are to-day grateful to Holloway's Pills and Ointment, which have cured them of all stomach and liver troubles, banished headache, flatulency, indigestion, and low spirits, and cleared their systems of gout, rheumatism, sciatica, and all similar ailments.

MR. A. W. WEBSTER, the Organising Secretary of the Hospital Saturday Fund, has been appointed the Secretary of the City Branch of the Royal National Life Boat Institution.

THE ROYAL HOLLOWAY COLLEGE.—Twelve entrance scholarships, ranging in value from £50 to £75, and tenable for three years, will be offered for competition in July next. Full information may be obtained on application being made to the Secretary, at the College, Egham.

BRO. F. W. DRIVER, M.A., P.M., P.Z., &c., author of "The Noble Soul," "The Submerged City," "Toujours Perdrix" (poems), "A Novel Vengeance," and "The Four Henriets" (prose), recites his original productions at musical entertainments, smoking concerts, &c. For terms, address 62, Lancaster-road, Notting Hill, W.

INFLUENZA FLOURISHES best on cold and damp weather. The Registrar-General's return states that 17 deaths were directly attributable to that scourge during last week—the highest figure reached this season. Throughout the Metropolis the general health of the community keeps a high standard, the fatal effects of nearly all maladies being below the average. The death-rate was 18'6; Brighton's was 18'0; Croydon's, 13'5; and West Ham's, 11'8—the last-mentioned being the lowest among the 33 great towns of England.

RAIN MAKING AND SUNSHINE.—Bro. John Collinson, P.M. 562 and 1869, writes from Brading, Isle of Wight, as follows: "Dear Sir,—With reference to my book on 'Rain Making and Sunshine,' recently published by Messrs. Swan, Sonnenschein and Co., I beg to inform you that, at the request of several gentlemen, I have undertaken to give an illustration, or rather an exhibition, of skill, and, by means of odytic force, to arrange that the present wet weather shall be superseded on or about the 19th instant, and fine weather secured, to last till the 27th instant. This is for the benefit of the poor, in the first instance, and, after, for holiday-makers and all who like to spend their leisure, more or less, out of doors. I trust it will prove to be a boon to Freemasons generally, as a reward for the due and punctual fulfilment of their Craft engagements. It will be so much better than the present windy, showery kind of weather. I should be glad if you and your readers would take note of this very important experiment in the new meteorology."—We can only hope that, whether by "odytic," or any other force or persuasion, the Clerk of the Weather may be induced on this occasion to gladden Christmas with a brighter atmosphere than has afflicted us for so long.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.—Amongst the many firms that have laid themselves out specially for the supply of useful and attractive articles for presentation at this festive season, Messrs. Partridge and Cooper, the stationers, of Fleet-street and Chancery-lane, take a prominent place. Novelties of every description in connection with their business are on view, and they all appear to have the double advantage of combining the useful with the beautiful and artistic. In laying themselves out for reasonable specialities, this old-established firm has in no degree slackened its efforts with regard to the other departments of their business, and their show of diaries and the various requirements of the professional and business men are as complete as ever.

RAILWAY FACILITIES AT CHRISTMAS.—The Great Western Railway Company issue tickets of all classes at the following City and West End offices: 193 and 407, Oxford-street; 23, New Oxford-street; 4, Holborn-circus; 20, Charing Cross; 17, Brompton-road; 5, Arthur-street East, London Bridge; 82, Queen Victoria-street; 269, Strand; Minorities (opposite Goodman's Yard); 137, Borough High-street, Nag's Head Yard; 26, Regent-street; 67, Gresham-street; 3, Cheap-side; 181, Tottenham Court-road; Cambridge-circus, Shaftesbury Avenue; The Piazza, Covent Garden Market; and the L.B. and S.C. Company's Booking Office (under Grand Hotel), Trafalgar-square. This arrangement cannot fail to be a boon to those travellers who desire to avoid the trouble of obtaining tickets at a crowded railway station. The booking office at the Paddington Station will be open for the issue of tickets the whole of each day during the week preceding Christmas Day. Ordinary tickets obtained in London between December 18th and 24th will be available for use on any day between and including those days. Cheap third class tickets at reduced fares will be issued from London to the Yeovil and Weymouth districts, to stations in the West of England and to Guernsey and Jersey; similar tickets will also be issued from those districts to London (except the Channel Islands). On Saturday night, December 22nd, cheap excursions will be run from Paddington at 11.10 p.m. for Bath and Bristol; at 11.40 p.m. for Oxford, Worcester, Malvern, Hereford, Banbury, Leamington, Warwick, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Shrewsbury, Aberystwith, Osw. stry, Barmouth, Chester, Birkenhead, Liverpool, &c., and at 12.40 a.m. (Sunday morning) for Gloucester, Cheltenham, Newport, Cardiff, New Milford, &c. In order to meet the extraordinary demands upon the Company's resources occasioned by the enormous parcel traffic despatched both from and to London at Christmas time, special fast trains carrying parcels only, and calling at the principal intermediate stations, will run between London and Plymouth, Birkenhead, Worcester, and New Milford. On Saturday, December 22nd, and Monday, December 24th, the 5.0 p.m. and 12.15 midnight trains from Paddington to Plymouth will be extended to Falmouth and Penzance; and the 6.20 p.m. train from Paddington to Bristol will be run to Exeter. On Monday, December 24th, a special train will leave Paddington at 10 p.m. for New Milford, and will call at the same stations as the 9.15 p.m. ordinary train. A special express to Reading, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, &c., will depart at 11.50 p.m. The 12.15 Midnight (Christmas Morning) fast train from Paddington to Oxford, will be extended to Wolverhampton, and convey passengers to Banbury, Leamington, Warwick, Birmingham, &c. The usual Sunday service of trains will be run on Christmas Day, but for the convenience of persons who are unable to leave town before the morning of Christmas day, the 5.30 a.m. train from Paddington will run as on week days to Oxford, Bristol, Weston-Super-Mare, Worcester, Banbury, Leamington, Birmingham, Dudley and Wolverhampton. The trains will connect at Bathampton with the 8.47 a.m. train, thence to Frome, Yeovil, Dorchester, Weymouth, &c. The 12.15 Midnight fast train from Paddington to Oxford and Plymouth will be run at the usual times.



Shakspeare in Lodge

There is my blessing with you!
 And these few precepts in thy memory
 Look thou character, Give thy thoughts no tongue,
 Nor any unproportion'd thought his act.
 Be thou familiar, but by no means vulgar.
 The friends thou hast, and their adoption tried,
 Grapple them to thy soul with hooks of steel;
 But do not dull thy palm with entertainment
 Of each new-hatched, unfledged comrade. Beware
 Of entrance to a quarrel; but being in,
 Bear it, that thy opposer may beware of thee.
 Give every man thine ear, but few thy voice.
 Take each man's censure, but reserve thy judgement;
 Costly thy habit as thy purse can buy,
 But not expressed in fancy: rich, not gaudy.
 For the apparel oft proclaims the man,
 And they in Lodge, of the best rank and station,
 Are most select and generous, chief in that.
 Neither a borrower, nor a lender be:
 For loan oft loses self and friend,
 This above all — To thine own self be true;
 And it must follow, as the night the day,
 Thou canst not then be false to any man.
 Hamlet: Act I. Scene III.

Wallis Mackay del.

"Toujours Perdrix."

By the Author of "The Noble Soul," "The Two Angels," "God's Flowers," &c.

How oft illusive is the grasp
Of worldly pleasures which we clasp,
Responsive to their call;
The sweetest transports we can name,
Too long continuous, still the same,
By repetition pall.

Thus, a wise Providence ordains
Unto his creatures, joys and pains,
Waging incessant strife;
Thus, ever varied in its course,
Pain gives to joy contrasted force—
Change is the salt of life.

As with our minds, our bodies too,
The senses delicate renew
Their strength by constant change;
Like butterflies, from flower to flower,
We woo the pleasures of the hour,
Rejoicing as we range.

Precept and practice, hand in hand,
History unites in friendly band,
Useful, whatever hap;
List to a story of old days,
Trite is the moral it conveys,
Sufficient—"Verbum sap."

Attendant at the royal court
Of Le Grand Monarque, did resort
The nobles, old and young;
Among them, one was richly dressed,
With pleasing visage, who possessed
A phant flatt'ring tongue!

By lucky chance, he does attract
The monarch's notice, and by tact
His favour soon obtains;
And, now, by bold ambition fired,
As guest, a seat he much desired,
At royal table gains.

Louis his haughtiness unbends,
As smiling blandly he attends,
And gracious ear accords;
Whilst the young noble's ready skill,
Flatt'ring his royal master's will,
Pours forth mellifluous words.

As thus intent, upon his view
The luscious dainties ever new,
Their tempting forms array;
Vain his resistance, for, in sooth,
His a keen palate from his youth,
No gourmand, though gourmet.

One appetising dish, at hand,
Its odour he could not withstand,
'Twas "Perdrix à la Reine,"
Awhile forgetful, he his taste
Freely indulged with eager haste,
Nor can from it refrain.

In lavish draughts now all combine,
Quaffing the generous purple wine,
Our hero with the rest;
But there's a proverb, old no doubt,
"When wine is in, the wit is out,"
Then Prudence is a jest.

"O, dish divine, supremely good.
Fit only for immortals' food,
Of thee I ne'er could tire;
O, Perdrix, if Fate would decree
That I should always feast on thee,
Completed my desire."

So spake the youth, who little thought
The words, unheeded, had been caught,
By King's attentive ear;
The banquet o'er, farewell is said,
Whilst Louis bowed his gracious head,
To nobles far and near.

Swift pass the days on pleasure's wing—
Basking in sunshine of the king,
To youth all seemed so bright.
Ere long, unnoticed, from the deep,
O'ershadowing clouds of tempest creep—
Obscured the brilliant light.

One day, at court, where he repaired,
(For fickle fortune unprepared),
He met the royal frown.
The crowding courtiers, with amaze,
Observed the monarch's stony gaze
On him, of late renown.

Forbidden speech, not long delayed
The royal mandate, which conveyed
To prison's narrow cell
The former favourite, now disgraced,
Securely in the Bastille placed—
Wherefore he could not tell.

Stunned by the blow, with mind confused,
Answers to questions all refused,
What his offence of late
Although he knew not, he conceals
His mental anguish, and he feels
In patience he must wait.

Well-furnished chambers are assigned
The youthful captive, now resigned
To what fate may decree.
No harsh command nor cold neglect,
To treat with kindness and respect
His jailers all agree.

Partridge at supper-time—the dish
Seemed to anticipate his wish,
Nor was there stint of wine.
"With such good cheer," the prisoner said,
"I can excuse the lack of bread—
Long may this fare be mine!"

Calmed was his mind by sweet repose,
Refreshed at morning dawn he rose,
Hunger asserts its sway.
His toilet o'er, the table sought,
A sumptuous dish of partridge brought
His appetite in play.

At dinner, and at supper, too,
The self-same dish recurs to view—
Though not so highly prized
As 'twas at first, yet still the food
So piquant, rich, and truly good,
Was not to be despised.

Next morning, and throughout the day,
The viand was the same display
Of "Perdrix à la Reine,"
As for each meal this dish alone,
Now appetite and taste were gone,
Past pleasure became pain.

Day followed day, unvaried round
Of the loathed dish on table found,
One ever constant fare—
For other food the captive calls—
Reverberate from prison walls
The echoes of despair.

Each meal successive he rejects—
Long fasting now his health affects—
When one day, he espies
Near to a corner of his bed,
A hardened, mouldy crust of bread—
He grasps the welcome prize.

So sweet, so pleasant to the taste,
Devoured them with ravenous haste,
He interruption fears;
"Ah, happy me!" 'twas thus he said,
"Delicious morsel of dry bread,
Moistened with grateful tears!"

Too soon, alas! the treasure gone—
When hunger calls again, alone
The dish recurrent found;
Though famishing, away he turns,
And as the food detested spurns,
Falls fainting to the ground.

Awhile unconscious, long time ill,
Slowly by court physician's skill
His health becomes restored;
But, O sweet solace of past pain,
Fresh simple diet now again
Is seen upon the board.

News of the prisoner, day by day,
The royal messengers convey
Unto the king at court;
When, suddenly, by his command,
An edict from the monarch's hand,
Pardon and freedom brought.

Our hero, now, at court attends
By royal wish, and as he bends
In homage at the throne,
Louis bestows his favour bright,
And bids him come, that very night,
To sup with him alone.

To banquet as a royal guest
Came the young noble gaily dressed—
A seat to him assigned—
When from the king, a favour great,
Partridge was brought on golden plate,
Past suffering came to mind.

"Oh! Sire, your pardon I implore,
A boon I crave, that nevermore
On me your dainties waste;
For though withheld your favours be,
Yet 'Toujours Perdrix' is with me
Abhorrent to the taste!"

F. W. DRIVER, M.A.

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The Craft uplifts its head,
Its living branches, strong and free,
How far and wide they spread;
Grounded in Faith, upheld by Hope,
(Sunshine with blessings blent),
Whilst Charity with want can cope,
Spending, yet never spent.

Solo and Chorus.

Then let us Brethren, one and all,
Throughout fair England's land,
Responsive to sweet Mercy's call,
Assist with liberal hand!

Increasing, ever, in its strength,
As speed the rolling years,
Come buds and blossoms, till at length,
The ripening fruit appears;
Deep are its roots, in ample form
Extending o'er the ground,
Beneath the branches 'gainst the storm
Protective aid is found.

Solo and Chorus.—Then let us Brethren, &c.

As members of our Mystic Art,
Linked by fraternal ties,
Let each enact a Brother's part,
When want and cares arise;
As branches, strengthened in the past,
May we, with one accord,
Ward off Adversity's cold blast,
And ready help afford!

Solo and Chorus.—Then let us Brethren, &c.

Come, let us drink with right good will,
As Masons true and free,
Our noble Institution still,
In bumpers, three times three;
Pure Charity's exhaustless store,
Faith, Hope, Fraternal Love,
May these our watchwords, evermore,
Lead us to realms Above!

Solo and Chorus.—Then let us Brethren, &c.

F. W. DRIVER, M.A.

FREEMASONRY IN FRANCE.

The Paris Correspondent of the *Globe* has interviewed the newly-appointed Grand Master of the Grand Orient of France, from which we extract the following:

The conversation next turned on the strange ceremonies connected with Freemasonry, or, in other words, the symbolism of the Order. Here the new Grand Priest made a most ingenious defence. "You talk of symbolism," he said. "Why, what would humanity be without it? The civilised man, like the savage, is impregnated with it. In all the acts of our existence symbolism is to be found. The simple gesture which constitutes a salute is merely a symbol. An idea symbolised acquires extraordinary power. Thus, for example, the idea of the Fatherland symbolised in a flag arouses the most noble energies. In family life symbolism is necessary. When a child is born, when a man takes a wife, or when somebody near and dear to us disappear for ever, it is to symbolism alone that one can have recourse to give to our joys or sorrows a form almost tangible. To satisfy these human and eternal sentiments, we are thinking more than ever of organising family ceremonies for the three principal phases of life—birth, marriage, and death. I shall endeavour to draw towards our Order families who are not satisfied with purely religious symbolism, and demand emblematical personifications of the civil phase of human existence."

Here it was suggested that perhaps the female element would be the best auxiliary in this new work, but women are not yet admitted into the lodges. "Their presence there," says Dr. Blatin, "would be attended with more inconvenience than advantage. First of all, our adversaries, especially those in the provinces, would not fail to attribute to us all sorts of abominable designs. Secondly, our meetings being private, the clericals would have plenty of room to indulge in their malicious imagination. It is true a female lodge exists in Paris, but it is not recognised either by the Grand Orient or by any other Masonic Order. It lives entirely apart from all regular jurisdiction. Of course, we cannot prevent a few women, estimable, no doubt, from meeting together to discuss the questions which interest them. In addition, it must be confessed that the women would not be able to keep the doings of the Order so secret as might be desired."

Respecting secrecy, an anecdote is told. It appears that a short time ago the password for the month, communicated by the Chief of the Grand Orient to the members of the Order, was published by a newspaper a few days after its communication. Who and where was the guilty party? After long inquiry he was discovered. He was a tailor, and being short of money, he sold the *mot d'ordre* for ten francs to a clerical print, which lost no time in making use of it. It is unnecessary to add that the dishonest member was expelled from the Order immediately.

Provincial Masonic Calendars.

IN the "Freemason" for June 16th, 1883, I gave a full account of "Provincial Masonic Directories," and on April 9th, 1887, another article on the subject. Some of my friends consider it is high time a third contribution was written, so as to make the trio and bring the particulars down to date, the following being my response to their wishes:

The list is restricted to Calendars, Manuals, or Directories of Provincial Grand Lodges, published officially or privately. There are some excellent Lodge Annuals also printed, especially those by Bro. M. C. Peck, of Hull, and the two Calendars for England, &c.—the Grand Lodge and the "Cosmopolitan"—also call for attention. As to the latter two brief reviews by me will be found in "Freemason," of December 8th, 1894. There is also the "Mark" Annual.

It will be seen that in the following pages some old favourites have been omitted owing to lack of local support. Though their room is occupied by new candidates, I would much rather have been able to notice their presence and activity as heretofore, especially such as the *multum in parvo* series, so long presented annually to the county of Yorkshire (embracing both Provinces), by my esteemed friend, Bro. T. B. Whytehead.

BERKSHIRE.

"The Berkshire Masonic Register and Calendar for 1894. Published under the authority of W. the Dep. P.G. Master (in charge) for Berkshire, and R.W. the Prov. G. Mark Master for Berks and Oxon. Printed and published for the Prov. Grand Lodge by Bro. G. J. Cosburn, *** Caxton Printing Works, Newbury." [Bro. J. W. Martin, Prov. G. Sec., Town Hall Chambers, Reading.]

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

"The Masonic Year Book for the Province of Cambridgeshire for the year of our Lord, 1894 (A.L. 5894). Edited by Bro. W. P. Spalding, P.M. No. 88 [&c.] Advised and assisted by a Committee of Secretaries appointed by Provincial Grand Lodge. Cambridge: W. P. Spalding, 43, Sidney Street."

CORNWALL.

"Official Directory for the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall. Twenty-third year of publication. No. 4, Vol. V. [Bro. E. D. Anderton, Prov. G. Sec.] 1894." [23rd issue.]

DERBYSHIRE.

"The Freemasons' Calendar and Directory for the Province of Derbyshire, 1894. Nineteenth year of publication, comprising a Calendar for the year 1894 [&c.] Published under the sanction and by the authority of the D.P. Grand Master. Compiled by Bro. Wm. Naylor, P.G.S.B. England, Provincial Grand Secretary and P. Scribe E."

DEVONSHIRE.

"By authority and under the sanction of the Provincial Grand Master of Devon. The Devon Masonic Register for the year 1894-95. Edited by W. F. Westcott, P.M. 70 [&c.] Plymouth. Printed by W. F. Westcott, Frankfort Press. 1894."

DORSETSHIRE.

"The Dorset Masonic Calendar. A.L. 5894, A.D. 1894. Compiled by Jno. A. Sherren, F.R. Hist. S., P.M. and Treas. 170 [&c.] Under the authority of the P.G.M. Price One Shilling. [&c.] Weymouth. Sherren and Son, 79, St. Mary Street."

DURHAM.

"1894. The Freemasons' Calendar and Directory for the Province of Durham. (Published by authority of Provincial Grand Lodge.) Leeds: Printed by Beck and Inchbold, Basinghall Street. 1894." [Bro. R. Hudson, Prov. G. Sec., 24, Hotspur Street, Tynewmouth.]

ESSEX.

"The Freemasons' Calendar and Directory for the Province of Essex, 1894. Tenth year of publication. Compiled by the Prov. Grand Secretary [&c.] Printed at the Essex County Standard Office, Colchester."

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

"The Freemasons' Calendar and Directory for the Province of Gloucestershire, 1894, comprising a Calendar for the year 1894 [&c.] Published by authority of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master and the Provincial Grand Lodge. Compiled by Brother R. P. Sumner, Provincial Charity Secretary. Gloucester: Printed by John Bellows. 1894."

HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT.

"A.L. 5894-95. A.D. 1894-95. Under the authority of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master. Masonic Calendar for the Province of Hampshire and Isle of Wight. For the year ending 31st March, 1895. Edited by Bro. Edgar Goble, P.M., Prov. P.G. Swd. Br. (Eng.), Prov. G. Sec., and Bro. G. F. Lancaster, P.M. [&c.] Portsmouth: Printed by Henry Lewis, 114, High Street."

HERTFORDSHIRE.

"A Masonic Calendar for the Province of Hertfordshire. [&c.] Provincial Grand Secretary, Worshipful Bro. Charles Bullock, P.P.G. Reg., The Elms, Great Berkhamstead. (Published by authority of Provincial Grand Lodge.) 1894. Gilbert and Rivington, Ltd, St. John's House, Clerkenwell, London, E.C."

KENT.

"The Freemasons' Manual and Official Directory of the Provincial Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Chapter of Kent, for 1894. Published under the authority of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent. Seventeenth year of publication. Edited by Thomas Samuel Warne, Rochester, P.M. and P.Z. No. 20 [&c.], and Geo. R. Cobham, P.M. Nos. 20 and 1343 [&c.] Rochester: Printed by W. T. Wildish, 'Journal' Office, Rochester. 1894."

LANCASHIRE, EAST.

"A.L. 5894. A.D. 1894. Calendar and Craft and Arch Meetings in East Lancashire. Also Mark Masters, Knight Templars, Knights of Malta, Rose Croix, and Royal Order of Scotland Meetings in Lancashire [&c.] Edited by Bro. John Chadwick, 2, Cooper Street, Manchester, Past Grand Swd. Br., the Provincial Grand Secretary. Copies may be had from the Publisher, Bro. O. C. Compton, Fleet Street, Bury." [44th issue.]

LANCASHIRE, WEST.

"Dedicated by permission to the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., M.W. Pro G.M., R.W. Provincial Grand Master. The West Lancashire Masonic Calendar, compiled by W. Bro. W. Goodacre, Past Grand Sword Bearer, Provincial Grand Secretary, Churchlea, Wigan. 1894-95. Wigan: R. Platt, 17, Wallgate Works, Millgate."

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

"The Freemasons' Calendar and Directory for the Province of Leicestershire and Rutland, 1894. Twenty-second year of publication. Comprising a Calendar for the year (March, 1894—March, 1895). The Meetings [&c.] Compiled by Bro. B. A. Smith, M.A., LL.B. Cantab, P.M. 523 [&c.], Prov. Charity Secretary. Freemasons' Hall, Leicester."

MIDDLESEX.

"Masonic Calendar and Directory for the Province of Middlesex, 1894. Issued under the authority of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of Middlesex. Edited by Howard H. Room, P.M., Provincial Grand Secretary of Middlesex, and Comp. William H. Lee, P.Z., Provincial Grand Scribe E. of Middlesex. London: George Kenning, Freemason Office, 16, Great Queen Street, W.C. Corrected to 31st December, 1893."

NORFOLK.

"Province of Norfolk Freemasons' Calendar and Directory, 1894-95. G. W. G. Barnard, Provincial Grand Secretary, 4, Surrey Street, Norwich. 31st March, 1894."

NORTHS. AND HUNTS.

"By authority of the Rt. Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Euston, D.J. Masonic Calendar and Directory for the Province of Norths. and Hunts. For 1894-95. Compiled by Bro. George Ellard, P.M. 360 [&c.] Printed by Bro. W. J. Stanton, Abingdon Street, Northampton."

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

"Fifteenth year of publication. The Freemasons' Calendar for the Province of Nottinghamshire, for the year 1894. Comprising a Calendar for the year 1894 [&c.] Published under the sanction and by the authority of the Dep. Prov. Grand Master. Compiled by Bro. Arthur Stubbs, P.P.G.W., Provincial Grand Secretary." [Journal Chambers, Pelham Street, Nottingham.]

OXFORDSHIRE.

"The Freemasons' Calendar and Directory for the Province of Oxfordshire and neighbourhood. 1894-95. Contents [&c.] Edited and published by W. Bro. W. R. Bowden, No. 340, P.M. 1515, &c. [Published by the authority of the Prov. G.M., &c.] Printed by Bro. W. R. Bowden, High Street, Oxford.]

SHROPSHIRE.

"The Freemasons' Calendar for the Province of Shropshire for 1894. Vol. I., part 3. Published by the Provincial Grand Lodge. Ludlow. Printed by C. A. Partridge, Broad Street. [Edited by W. Bro. R. G. Venables, D. Prov. G.M.]

SOMERSETSHIRE.

"The Freemasons' Calendar and Directory for the Province of Somerset. 1894-95. Comprising a Calendar for the year 1894 [&c.] Published under the sanction and by the authority of the R.W.P. Grand Master, the M.E.G. Superintendent, and the R.W.P.G.M.M.M. Compiled by Bro. C. L. Fry Edwards, P.G. Treas. Somerset, &c. Bath: Printed at the Chronicle Office. MDCCCXCIV."

STAFFORDSHIRE.

(See Warwickshire.)

SUFFOLK.

"Masonic Year Book. For the Province of Suffolk, for the year of our Lord 1894, A.L. 5894. Ipswich: The Ipswich Journal Printing and Publishing Company, Limited, Museum Street." [Edited by Bro. N. Tracy, Prov. G. Sec., 27 Westgate Street, Ipswich.]

SUSSEX.

"Masonic Almanac. Province of Sussex. M.W. Prov. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and Strathern, Earl of Sussex. K.G., &c., &c., &c. Past Grand Master [&c.] A.L. 5898. A.D. 1894. Farncombe and Co., Lewes." [Bro. Vincent P. Freeman, D.G.D., Prov. G. Sec., St. George's Place, Brighton.]

WARWICK AND STAFFORD.

"The Freemasons' Calendar for the Provinces of Warwickshire and Staffordshire. 1894-95. Comprising the meetings [&c.] Published by command of the Rt. Wor. the Prov. Grand Masters of Warwickshire and Staffordshire. Price One Shilling. Edited and compiled by Bro. Edmund Worrall [deceased], assisted in Staffordshire by Bro. G. W. Walker, P.G. Sec., Staffordshire, and Bro. John J. Smith, W.M. 526" [Bro. Geo. Beech (P.G. Std. Br.), Prov. G. Sec., 37 Temple Street, Birmingham.]

WILTSHIRE.

"Province of Wiltshire. 1894. Masonic Calendar. Issued with the approval of the Right Worshipful the Earl of Radnor, P.G.M. [&c.] By Frederick Hastings Goldney, Provincial Grand Treasurer, Wilts, P.G.D. England, &c. Swindon: Printed by Norris Bros., Advertiser Office."

YORKSHIRE.

"Province of West Yorkshire. Calendar, 1894." [Bro. Herbert G. E. Green, St. John's, Wakefield, Provincial Grand Secretary.]

I believe these, all of which are in my library, represent all the Provincial Grand Directories issued during the year 1894.

W. J. HUGHAN.

The Fatal Divination.

By T. C. WALLS,

Author of "Saved by a Sign," "Light and Shade,"
"The Secret Tribunal," &c.

CHAPTER I.

LIT was a bright moonlight night and near the hour of high tide. Old Father Thames was flowing rapidly. The turrets, pinnacles and gables of the gates and houses on ancient London Bridge stood boldly out. The ruddy gleams from the lights in the windows and oil lamps on the stages or starlings of the picturesque edifice danced merrily on the waters of the then silvorn stream as it madly raced through the narrow nineteen arches of the structure.

On the night in question a light boat, skilfully propelled by the sturdy arms of two men, pulled up at the stairs near the "Three Cranes," in the Vintry, and a gentleman leaped lightly out.

There was another passenger in the vessel who was about to follow the example of his companion, but he was prevented by the latter saying and speaking in the French tongue—

"François, I need no escort, I shall visit the charlatan alone. Hark! Paul's is striking eight. If I do not return by the time it

has chimed two quarters after nine o' the clock, go to yon house and demand admission. If refused, summon the City-Watch and force an entry. But I fear no molestation."

The personage thus addressed rose in the boat and made a low bow in token of assent.

Proceeding up a narrow alley leading from the river, the cavalier paused at the portal of a habitation that was somewhat lofty and commanding in appearance. There being no knocker to the door, the visitor struck the panels loudly with the pommel of his sword. Presently a small casement on the first storey was opened, and a stern voice demanded—

"Who art thou that disturbs thus rudely the studies of the philosopher?"

"It pleases me not to satisfy idle curiosity," was the haughty reply.

"And it pleases me not to open my doors at this time of the night to strangers," was the ready retort.

"Perhaps I spoke too hastily," said the intruder. "I cannot reveal my identity. If I did it would avail thee naught. I seek to consult thee in thine art. I will give thee a handsome guerdon."

"It is well," was the answer of the unseen speaker. "I like thy voice, it is gentle and refined. Thou art not one of the roystering, foul-mouthed gallants that frequent yon plague spot of drink, wantoness and gaming—the 'Cranes.'"

The window was then closed, and after a short interval the street portal was unbarred and opened to the extent of the door chain. A tall, pale-faced, aged man appeared holding a lantern.

"Art thou alone," he asked, cautiously.

"Yes," was the reply, "but I have three attendants in a wherry, at the landing stairs yonder, who await my return."

The old man admitted his visitor, and having secured the massive door, led the way upstairs. It was a very large, gloomy apartment, dimly illumined by an oil lamp, that the cavalier was ushered into. It appeared to occupy the whole first storey of the dwelling. At one end was a black piece of tapestry, covered with cabalistic characters. A small fire burned brightly, and on the hearth, basking in the warmth, was a huge black cat, that upon the entry of the stranger started viciously to its feet and its one eye flashed angrily.

"Down, Cyclops, down," said its master, soothingly.

"A strange name, methinks, to give a cat. Is it your familiar?" smilingly asked the gentleman.

"I had it given to me when it was but a few weeks old, sir," said the other. "One day, whilst experimenting with some chemicals, a few drops of a powerful acid accidentally fell into one of the poor animal's eyes and bereft it of sight. In grim humour, I christened it Cyclops. It knows no other name. It has been my faithful companion for many years, and like me it grows aged."

"Thou art known, I believe, by the name of Nicholas Paracelsus? Art thou a descendant of that juggler and cheat, Philippus Paracelsus?" demanded the visitor.

"I am related to the family of that great man," answered the other, proudly. "But he was neither charlatan nor impostor. By the sceptical in mystical science, by the ignorant, and by those envious of his great erudition and linguistical powers, his name has been handed down to ignominy, but, believe me, he was as true and pure as gold. Some of his writings on hermetical philosophy were in the possession of an ancestor of mine, but they, with other precious documents, the labours of nearly a century, were accidentally destroyed in a fire that razed my father's dwelling to the ground, a few years after I was born."

"Therefore, I take it, that for several generations your family have pursued the same calling or profession? As I do not wish to hurt thy feelings, I will not stigmatise it by a harsher name," remarked the cavalier.

"Yes, good sir, my grandsire, Bartholomew Paracelsus, was a disciple of Christian Rosenkreuz. Somewhat late in life, and when



"There is many a painter of olive and myrtle, | But as we have only one Painter of turtle,
Of the bright flashing eye and the kissable lip, | Hold on by your Painter & stick to the ship."

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Rosenkreuz was nearly a century old, my relative became an adept, a frater of the *Sancti Spiritus*. So clever was he, so skilled in Astrology, Alchemy and Divination, that he became one of the *Immortales* and *Illuminati*. The patriarch Rosenkreuz on his death-bed gave directions that Bartholomew Paracelsus should be one of his pall bearers, and, consequently, my grandsire was one of the few *Fratres* who knew where the great chief of the Order was buried. Yes, sir, like Attila the Hun—that great scourge of ancient Europe who was buried secretly,—no man knoweth where the mortal remains of Christian Rosenkreuz lie. My father followed in the footsteps of his sire and became a Rosicrucian, and I, the last of my race, am also a member of that mystic fraternity."

The stranger by this time had thrown aside his plumed hat, cloak and gauntlets. His features were concealed by a black silk visor. His dark brown, almost black, hair, flowed naturally and profusely to his shoulders. He was slightly above the medium size, gracefully yet muscularly formed. His hands were most delicately and finely shaped, their extreme whiteness was relieved by the blue veins that showed beneath; the fingers were long and tapering. He was attired in black, and was armed with rapier and dagger.

"What seek'st thou of me?" abruptly asked Paracelsus. "Dost thou wish me to consult the stars on thy behalf?"

"No," was the reply. "I may tell thee, that I am sceptical of all that pertains to necromancy. We live, I grant thee, in a superstitious age. No old man or woman that practices false, yet harmless arts, such as fortune telling, charm selling, and other tricks wherewith to dupe the credulous and illiterate, is safe from the mill-pond or the stake. A respected relative of mine, although he is a man of culture, and wise in many things, yet superstitiously believes in witchcraft and astrology. Frankly, I do not."

"Wherefore do ye seek me?" demanded Paracelsus.

"I will tell thee," commenced the cavalier. "Some short time ago, I was travelling in Spain. One day in sunny Seville, I met an old Spanish gitano. According to the custom of her tribe, she asked to be allowed to read my future by my hand. I answered her in her native tongue, and with a jest placed a gold-piece in her palm, expecting to hear the usual farrago of nonsense. On the contrary, she predicted terrible things, matters so dire that they still haunt me. Having heard of thy renown from a friend, one who thoroughly has faith in thy skill, I have this night, and in disguise, sought thy dwelling to test thine art in chiromancy. If thy reading at all corresponds with that of the Spanish crone's, I shall cease to be a sceptic in matters occult."

The old man gently took the right hand of the stranger in his.

"This is an elegantly formed hand," said he, "the hand of a man gifted with artistic thoughts and refined aspirations."

"A truce to flattery, my friend," said the unknown, impatiently.

"I am not to be cozened nor beguiled by fine compliments such as thou wouldst shower upon a vain daughter of Eve's. Get thee to thy business, and that quickly."

The philosopher took no notice of this uncourteous outburst, but keenly examined the lines on the hand, the size of the fingers, and the shape of the nails. Presently, he started violently, and a shudder passed over him.

"Wherefore that tremor," questioned the cavalier. "Dost thou glean aught of evil by thy reading of the palm?"

"A chequered life," murmured the astrologer, not heeding the enquiry, and as if speaking to himself. "A young man born to fill a high destiny, cultured in taste, pure in ideas, capricious and fickle in disposition, prone to make great friendships, yet unfaithful to friends, autocratic, self-dominant, and easily led by minds inferior to his own. One—"

"Strange, very strange," interrupted the gentleman. "The same reading as given by the old gitano, but couched in better language. Thou hast not told me all," he added. "Prithee proceed, I seek to know more."

The aged man dropped the hand of the speaker, and gazed at him for a few minutes in silence.

"I would rather not enlighten thee further, dear sir," gently said Paracelsus. "For some reason—I know not what—I feel strangely drawn towards thee. The spirit of divination, too, is strong within me to-night. Ha! this is the 31st of October, the Eve of All Hallows."

"What of that?" said the other. "I am a Scotchman and I know that in the North all manner of mystic rites are practised on Hallowe'en; but I thought that ye denizens of the South were too matter-of-fact people to believe in supernatural matters or observances."

"Sir," quoth the astrologer, gravely, and straightening himself to his full height, "I come of a long line of philosophers, a race of mental giants, endued by nature with powers far exceeding those given to the most talented of ordinary mortals. I was born seventy years ago on All Hallows' Eve, and have the power of holding communion with beings of another world, especially on Hallowe'en. I also possess the gift of natural and artificial divination as manifested by many of the ancient philosophers of Egypt, Greece and Rome."

The stranger smiled at the egotism and apparent earnestness of the speaker, yet he was attracted by the ringing tones of his voice and the impressiveness of his manner. The enthusiast or fanatic, who was quite six feet in stature and of corresponding bulk, was clothed in a dark crimson robe, the upper part of the garment had a hood attached like the cowl of a monk; around his waist was a silken girdle with four tassels, to which were suspended triangular discs of metal, and engraved thereon were the Latin equivalents for Earth, Air, Fire and Water. His long white hair flowed luxuriantly from his high, massive forehead; his moustache and beard were of great length, his large brilliant blue eyes glowed with intelligence; altogether he presented an appearance both weird and picturesque.

"The hour is getting late," remarked the cavalier, "and thou hast not yet fully foretold my destiny. Peradventure, thy powers will be intensified and accelerated if the guerdon I promised thee be at once placed in thy hands."

These words were uttered somewhat scornfully, as the speaker placed ten Jacobuses on the table. The eyes of the philosopher gleamed angrily as he retorted,

"In good sooth, I seek not thy dross. What are a few gold pieces to one who has nearly perfected the glorious arcanum. For generations past our family have striven to discover the philosopher's stone; every member by his experiments and studies has nearly approached the consummation of his ambition. It remains for me, the last of the race, to complete their labours. This I will tell thee, that I am on the eve of a great revelation, one that will render wealthy those to whom the secret is imparted. As thou wilt not allow me to keep within my breast that which I have divined to-night, and the knowledge of which, I opine, will render thy future days and nights sad and gloomy, hearken to thy inevitable doom. After years of trial and vicissitudes thou art destined to perish, whilst yet in thy prime, by a sudden and violent death."

Those few words were spoken in slow measured terms. At their conclusion, the cavalier rose from his seat, and for some moments paced the room in an agitated manner. He then fiercely exclaimed,

"Man or fiend, thou hast repeated what the Spanish sibyl foretold would be my fate." He then added, "Canst thou inform me the nature of that early death? She could or would not enlighten me."

"Neither can I orally," answered Paracelsus. "But if thou hast the courage to behold, I will try and invoke other and more powerful aids."

"Prithee, forgive my rudeness just now," said the unknown, "but I ask thee, good friend, not to treat me to an exposition of jugglery, I am in no mood for a mock display of the black art."

"Have I not told thee that I am no pretender, no counterfeit wizard such as awe the minds and delude the eyes of the vulgar at Bart'emy Fair or on some village green or market-place," retorted the old man. "I that have passed through many terrible ordeals to be chided thus. A firm believer in the doctrines of Hermes and the

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"I pray thee, forgive me, good Paracelsus," said the other in apologetic tones, "my mind is disturbed to-night by strange, morbid fancies. I know not what to think. Thy divination or augury has unnerved me because it tallies with the prediction of the vulgar Spanish hag. But I must know more. Prithee! proceed, I will not offend again."

Thus directed, the philosopher extinguished the lamp. His next act was to draw back the black curtain at the end of the apartment. In the dim light that came from the embers on the hearth, the cavalier could see two altar-like structures, on the top of which were embroidered in crimson a cross partly covering a rose and at the bottom the letters "F.R.C." At the base of each pedestal was a human skull, in the eye-sockets of which were stones of a luminous nature that scintillated like stars. This effect, no doubt, was produced by some mechanical contrivance within the emblems of poor humanity. In the front of the altars was a small bronze brazier. At the back of all was a mirror, about two feet in diameter and of an oval shape. Round the frame and in raised letters were the names "Raphael," "Gabriel," and "Uriel." Paracelsus then divided the room by a silken cord and placed a chair in the centre, "Pray be seated, sir," said he. "Do not move nor speak till I direct thee, and keep thine eyes fixed on yonder glass. Be stout of heart, naught shall harm thee." He then stooped under the cord and placed something in the brazier. Presently there arose a sweet smell like the combined odours of cedar-wood and myrrh.

The stranger noticed that the philosopher had a long wand in his hand with which he traced a circle and several figures on the floor, that was covered with a white powdered substance. Paracelsus passed eleven times round the brazier, intoning sentences in a strange barbaric tongue. The smoke, by this time, had become so dense, that the form of the astrologer was quite obscured, but the interested witness could still hear his grim mutterings.

The cavalier also thought that he heard the sound of another voice, but this he put down to an excited imagination.

In a few minutes the vapour cleared away and the philosopher could be seen standing close to the cord.

"Look steadfastly at the mirror, and tell me what thou beholdest," said he.

"Nothing at present," replied his companion. "It is covered as with a film." After a pause, he added, "The mist is now passing away, and I can perceive, reflected in the mirror, a number of buildings. There is a great mass of people surging to and fro, and a strong contingent of armed men clothed in uncouth uniforms. The latter are guarding a scaffold draped in black, upon which is a block."

"Aught else?" queried Paracelsus.

"Yes, a procession is slowly emerging upon the scaffold. The majority of the people uncover. There are two ecclesiastics, apparently of high station, in attendance, a headsman, masked and clothed in red, bearing on his shoulder an axe, with its edge turned towards a figure dressed in black."

"Canst thou see the face of the doomed man?" asked the philosopher.

"No, not at present, his back is towards me," was the reply. "Ha! he faces me. Merciful Heavens! it is mine own image, but how changed; the features are careworn, the hair and beard are sprinkled with the frost of Time, the eyes melancholy to a degree. Yet there is an air of resignation and serenity in the face reminding me of the lineaments of the martyrs of old as limned on many a canvas. After a short interval the figure kneels and bends his head, the executioner raises his glittering weapon. There appears to be a

death-like silence in the huge crowd. God of my fathers! I cannot gaze longer."

The strong man then covered his face with his hands and sobbed like a child.

Paracelsus drew the curtain across the room, relit the lamp and approaching a cabinet took therefrom a small vial containing a pale amber coloured fluid and a glass. Placing his hand gently on the shoulder of his visitor, he said,

"Courage, my good sir, courage. Drink of this cordial, it will revive thee."

In a few moments the stranger started to his feet evidently quite composed and refreshed, and cheerfully cried,

"Thou knowest most learned of sages, the qualities of good liquor. Prithee, tell me the name of the delicious compound thou hast given me."

"It approaches as nearly to the elixir of life as the most sanguine of chemists can hope to produce. It is a vital fluid and has taken my progenitors and myself years of study to realise. I do not believe in the wild chimeras of some philosophers that it is possible for mankind to attain unlimited existence here on earth. It is an offence to our Maker even to desire it. All mortals must perish ere they put on the robes of everlasting life. That the ancients knew of an elixir to prolong our brief span here on earth I venture to declare. Take for example, the long lives of the Patriarchs, the Magi, as well as the Rabbins, the last-mentioned were deeply versed in chemical secrets and no doubt the means of extending life was one of their mysteries. In more modern times many learned men have reached ages far above the allotted three score years and ten. Merlin is said to have lived to an almost incredible age. Rosenkreuz is stated to have seen one hundred and seven summers. The Countess of Desmond, ungallantly surnamed "The Old," was nearly one hundred and forty, and then it is recorded that she died from the effects of an accident. When my grandsire was in Waterford, he was frequently consulted by that lady on mystical matters, and he gave her a similar life-preserving tincture to that which I possess. He lived to be one hundred and five. My father nearly completed his century, and doubtless would have exceeded that age, had not his constitution been shattered by the grief subsequent on the destruction of his house and the loss of many precious manuscripts by fire. At seventy I feel mentally and physically stronger than I did at twenty, and by means of yon essence I hope to be enabled to live many years to complete my labours for the ultimate advantage of mankind."

"I will put thy skill further to the test," said the cavalier. "Am I married?"

"No, not yet, but you speedily will be," answered the other.

"Will that marriage be a happy one?" was the next query.

"Yes and no," was the curious response.

"Shall we have issue?"

"Verily ye will," replied the philosopher; "but your offspring, like thyself, will suffer many vicissitudes and indignities, and ere two hundred years have passed, your race in the male line will be extinct."

"One more question and I have finished," said the cavalier. "Will my wife survive me?"

"Yes, by many years, and she will prove to be thy evil counsellor," was the reply of Paracelsus.

"Poor me!" sighed the other, "If thy dire predictions are to be realised I had better terminate my existence at once. Yet, I am but a youth and methinks it seemeth an act of cowardice to take the life that was given to me but a short space ago. Moreover, I am rich in worldly gear and blessed with everything to render my sojourn here on earth, however short, pleasurable. Therefore I will not leave this bright, happy sphere to plunge into darkness or I know not what."

"Bravely reasoned," remarked the sage. "Perhaps thou knowest not, but it is a part of the creed of the hermitic philosophers that there exists an analogy and concord between the wonderful laws of nature and the principles of true religion. That is to say. He rules the kingdom of spirits by the same powers with which He governs

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the kingdom of the material world. Therefore, my son, fulfil thy destiny. Thou canst not combat against fate."

The cavalier did not reply to these observations, but abruptly said, "thou hast shown me what thou termest the elixir of life. I should now like to see thee transmute base metal into gold."

"Thy wish shall be gratified," was the answer; "but I may tell thee that, at present, the cost of the materials of transmutation far exceeds the value of the results." The alchemist, from the cabinet already mentioned, brought forth a small velvet bag and from it he produced a greyish-looking piece of stone. His next proceeding was to procure a crucible, into which he placed some lead.

"Art thou satisfied," said he, "that this is a portion of worthless metal?"

"I am," assented the cavalier.

Paracelsus thereupon melted the lead within the vessel by plunging the latter into the fire. He then scraped a few grains from the aforesaid stone and put them in a waxen-looking unguent, which he moulded into the form of a ball. When the lead was in a molten state he threw the compound into the crucible, and stirred the same with an iron rod. The mixture seethed and gave forth a hissing sound for a few seconds. The operator having emptied the contents of the vessel into a chafing dish, observed "within fifteen minutes that half ounce of lead will be precious metal."

His visitor waited the specified time, and marvelled greatly when he saw the transmutation that had taken place, for, as predicted by the alchemist, the lead had become gold.

"Thou art indeed a clever man," remarked the cavalier. "Thou seemest to know everything."

"My knowledge is but as a grain of sand on the seashore compared with that possessed by the old philosophers," modestly said Paracelsus. "Alas! for modern science, their great labours are irretrievably lost. Tradition has it that the ancient mysteries and scientific discoveries of the Assyrians, Chaldeans, the Magi, the Egyptians and others, written on papyrus, parchment, and vellum, bound in scrolls were deposited in the great library of Alexandria. Those priceless treasures, garnered from all the then civilised countries of the world, as thou doubtless knowest, were ruthlessly destroyed by fire by barbarians in the 7th century. Before thou leavest my humble dwelling," he added, "may I ask thee to ascend a small tower that I have had erected, wherewith to study at mine ease the heavenly bodies?"

The visitor having assented, the old man conducted him by a spiral staircase to the summit of a tower, having an altitude of about 100 feet from the level of the street. It was a glorious night, almost cloudless. The great city, with its numerous churches and lofty public buildings, in Luna's silvery beams, looked exceedingly picturesque. Permitting his companion to gaze awhile at the scene, the astronomer swept the firmament with a telescope. Suddenly he remarked:

"Dost thou see those two clouds in the east, one large and one small, apparently a great distance apart?"

"I do," was the reply.

"Perchance, if I were to try and succeed in bringing those clouds together, thou wouldst set me down as a sorcerer?" remarked Paracelsus.

"Thou hast shown me so many marvels to-night, good sir," returned the cavalier, "that I am a sceptic no longer in thy professions."

The sage then fixed his bright eyes on the clouds, and slowly waved one hand from right to left many times. Strange as it may appear, the smaller cloud gradually drew towards the larger one and became merged with it.

"By what means dost thou claim to have accomplished that feat?" asked the gentleman.

"Simply by force of will, and the magnetism that is in my poor frame," answered his companion.

"Did you know Dr. John Dec?" presently enquired the cavalier.

"Very well, indeed. I was a pupil of his. Many a time at the turn of the tide have I taken boat up the river and visited him at his residence in Mortlake. It chanced one day that good Queen Bess came to consult him, and that without warning. In his haste he concealed me behind a bookcase, from which place I heard many secret matters intended for his ear alone. If her Grace had divined that there was a third party within hearing, it might have cost this poor wight his head."

"Amongst thy other arts, canst thou cast nativities?" enquired the cavalier.

"That can I," was the ready reply. "If thou wilt forward me the date and exact time of thy birth, I will furnish thee with thy horoscope. But I fear me from what I have divined to-night that the result of my labours will please thee but little. I augur that at the time of thy birth, the eighth and twelfth houses or divisions were governed by two powerful and malignant lords."

"Those terms are foreign to me," remarked the other, shrugging his shoulders. "I have not studied thine art."

"I cannot explain to thee fully what I mean," continued the philosopher, "it would take too much time. Suffice it to say, that there are twelve divisions in the celestial sphere, as planned by the astrologers; the eighth refers to *death*, and the twelfth to *foes*. To each house is assigned one of the heavenly bodies, and the latter technically are called 'lords.' But enough of this, the air grows chilly, let us descend."

CHAPTER II.

Just as they were about to leave the roof of the tower, loud laughter, mingled with oaths, and the clashing of swords sounded in the still night air.

"Some brawl over a drinking or gambling bout," said Paracelsus. "Yon tavern is a terror and a nuisance to the law-abiding citizen. It surprises me that his worship the Alderman of the Ward has not interfered. Ben Jonson professes to decry the house when he says: '*Your Three Cranes, Mitre and Mermaid, men. Not a corn of true salt, not a grain of right mustard amongst them all.*' I warrant that he is to be found at the present time at one of those hostels besotting his fine intellect with liquor, or muddling his clever brains with the fumes of tobacco."

"Every man in his humour," quoted the cavalier, smiling.

"A merry and apt conceit of thine, good sir," laughingly returned his companion.

"That is a good instrument thou hast there," casually remarked the unknown. "Pray let me examine it."

"Yea, it is a fine specimen of mechanism. It has a powerful range," asserted the sage. "It cost me many broad pieces. It was made for me by the great astronomer, Galileo, and it bears his name. It contains an ingenious arrangement by which I can also discern objects clearly when they are but a few score yards away. I often amuse myself with it by looking at the people on the river, and in the busy streets."

The cavalier for a time, with the assistance of his companion, gratified his curiosity by viewing the firmament, and the objects on the bridge. Suddenly a brilliant meteor or aerolite fell from the heavens and apparently struck St. Paul's.

"An omen of evil," mysteriously said the astrologer. "For three consecutive nights have I witnessed the fall of a similar meteoric body."

"What thinkest thou it portends?" asked his companion, impressed by his manner.

"The destruction of the ancient cathedral and city by fire," slowly replied the other. "I predict, that ere many decades have passed, nearly all the churches, stately edifices and houses north of yon smiling river, will be but dust and ashes."

"May thy prognostication prove false. It seemeth sad that so fair, prosperous and pleasant a capital, as it now appears, should fall an easy prey to the fiery element, and become but a dreary wilderness. Heaven preserve it from such a doom!"

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"Amen," solemnly murmured the old man, as he conducted his visitor from the tower.

"Farewell, good Master Paracelsus," cordially said the visitor, extending his hand. He then declaimed merrily,

"By the Apostle Paul, shadows to-night,
Have struck more terror to the soul of Richard,
Than can the substance of ten thousand soldiers."

"Ah me!" sighed the astrologer, "I knew the mighty spirit well who wrote those lines. Excuse, sir, an old man's loquacity but when Shakespeare lived at Banksire yonder he often rowed over and honoured this poor domicile with his presence. He was a great believer in the supernatural and frequently consulted me relative to mystical matters. I assisted him in devising the incantation scenes in 'Macbeth,' and suggested some of the spiritual effects in 'Hamlet' and 'Richard the Third.' People are amazed, and it is probable, as years roll on, that that amazement will increase at the wondrous, almost superhuman knowledge he possessed of all things. It was obtained, sir, believe me, not so much by reading and observation, as by consulting men versed in special matters, to wit, clever theologians, botanists, lawyers, heralds, philosophers, doctors and others, and clothing their prosaic information with his own beautiful language and the imagery of genius. He was an amiable companion, sir, with pleasant courtly manners, and all men vied to do him honour and to serve him."

"I have often met him and Ben Jonson at various masques and revels when I was a stripling," remarked the cavalier. "They both appeared to be merry madcaps. I admired Shakespeare on account of his modesty and refinement. Jonson was too boisterous, self-assertive, and apt to be quarrelsome in his cups. Again good-night. Thou mayest hear from me anon as to the casting of my horoscope."

Paracelsus, upon whose shoulder "Cyclops" the cat had perched, bowed his visitor out, and the latter rejoined his attendants, just as the many city clocks were chiming the half-hour after nine.

When the boat was in mid-stream the cavalier's companion said a few words and pointed to the Southwark Gate of London Bridge upon which were displayed on pikes the decapitated heads of those who had offended against the State.

"I note the gruesome objects, good François," was the reply, and the speaker's voice faltered and he shuddered. "I viewed them from the house of Paracelsus a short time since. I suppose that the skull of that arch-traitor, Father Garnet, is amongst them?"

"It is," replied François.

The conversation ceased and the party soon landed at Whitehall Stairs.

* * * * *

Many years passed. One fine morning early in the month of September a well dressed man sought admittance at the dwelling of the old philosopher. He was answered by an ancient serving man.

"Is your master, within," he enquired.

"He is, sir, was the reply, but he is very busy in his laboratory, and I durst not disturb him."

"Perhaps, thy courage will be strengthened if I give thee a crown," returned the other, laughing. "Tell him, if the event still lives in his recollection, that the gallant who consulted him on the eve of All Hallow's years ago wishes to see him again."

Clutching the money in his boney hand, the old man straightway departed. Shortly afterwards he returned and asked the visitor to take a seat within a small ante-chamber in the basement. In a few minutes, Paracelsus, entered. His eye was as bright, his complexion as fresh, his carriage as erect and his voice as clear as when he was first introduced to the reader.

"My servant tells me," said the astrologer, "that a gentleman who saw me nearly a quarter of a century since desires another interview. Is his residence far from here?"

"Some miles up the river." "I was commanded to tell thee that if thy health will not permit of thy braving the night air, that lodgings will be provided for thee till thy return home to-morrow."

"I give thee thanks for the proffered courtsey but I cannot accept

it, as for forty years I have not slept away from this roof and I do not intend to do so whilst I live."

"As it pleases thee not to avail thyself of my master's hospitality I will personally escort thee home to-night after thou hast seen him."

Paracelsus bowed.

"By the way, I am to inform thee that thou wert to bring thy instruments or matters connected with thy profession in the art of divination; they may be required," added the messenger.

The philosopher left the apartment and speedily returned equipped for the journey. He had cast aside his fantastic robe and appeared soberly attired as a well-to-do citizen of the period. He was conducted to a large barge, manned by six rowers. It was a gloriously bright morning and the river danced and sparkled in the sunlight. Soon after passing the gardens of Lambeth Palace, smiling meadows, rich corn-fields, orchards and pastures presented their beauties to the enraptured gaze of the old philosopher, who, for many years, had not been so far from the crowded and smoke begrimed Vintry. After several hours hard pulling the bargemen at a sign from their superior ceased rowing.

"I pray thee, sir, be not alarmed, but I must ask thee to allow me to place this bandage over thine eyes till we reach our destination. I may tell thee that mine honoured master so willed it," respectfully said the messenger.

"As thou wilt, I fear naught," was the stout rejoinder of the sage, and then he added, sententiously "I am not fated to die by violent means—the stars tell me that."

About half-an-hour later the barge was made fast to a landing-stage, and the party disembarked. Taking Paracelsus gently by the arm, his conductor led him through a plantation and, unlocking a postern opening upon a flight of stone steps, he guided him up the stairs and into a room. The bandage having been removed from his eyes, the philosopher perceived that he was in a well-furnished apartment. At one end was a chair, and seated therein was the figure of a handsomely-formed man, attired in a costume of black silk. His features were masked.

"I am glad to see thee once more and looking so well, good Master Paracelsus," said the unknown, speaking in a low musical voice.

"I give thee thanks, dear sir," replied the other, bowing. "I am pleased to say that the weight of my ninety years and four still sits lightly on me. But, although your features are concealed from me, I can plainly see by thy hair and beard, the lines in thy neck and other signs, that Time has not dealt so kindly with thee. Thou hast grown prematurely old—I prithee, pardon my rudeness."

"Thou speakest truly, old friend," returned the cavalier; "I have aged very much. Ah, me! I have gone through many trials since I last saw thee, and I fear that the worst is yet to come." He then added, with a smile, "How fares mine old enemy, Cyclops?"

"The poor creature paid Nature's debt long since," was the reply.

"Couldst thou not have prolonged its life by thy wondrous quintessence?" continued the other, ironically.

"The lives of men and the lower animals, sir, are not governed by the same laws; the latter have no souls; they fill certain places on earth for a time, and then by a natural course perish. They have no higher destiny."

"I have summoned thee here to-day, worthy Paracelsus," said the unknown, "to test thy skill again. Thou didst exercise thy erudite power in chiromancy and astrology, and, alas!"—here he sighed heavily—"thy predictions thus far have been verified. Is there any way, other than the terrible mirror trial, by which my ultimate fate may be foretold? I yet cling to the hope that the black clouds of augured doom may be dispersed."

"The true Rosicrucian, sir, and I humbly crave to be one of the enlightened, professes to be capable of exercising the gift of divination by the aid of the four elements, that is to say, by Geomancy, Aeromancy, Pyromancy, and Hydromancy. We call them the four ordeals."

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A MUNIFICENT OFFER.

A Gentleman has given £3000 to a member of the Committee, which sum is held in trust, and is only available for the purposes of the Homes on condition that a like sum—viz., £3000—be raised by the end of the present year, 1894. This sum is to be exclusively used to pay tradesmen's bills, which amount to over £6900.

It is earnestly hoped that the Friends of the Homes will, by an equally splendid effort, place the Committee in the position not only to claim this Gift, but also to be able to clear off other outstanding liabilities.

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE EARNESTLY SOLICITED,

and will be gratefully received by either of the Secretaries, A. E. CHARLES or W. ROBSON, at the Offices of the Homes, 25, Holborn Viaduct, E.C.

"Dost thou recall to mind what I told thee I saw enacted in thy mysterious mirror, on Hallowe'en nearly twenty-four years ago?" asked the cavalier, anxiously.

"Of a surety do I," was the reply.

"Well, I want thee now to divine again, and tell me whether that awful fate still hangs over me. I also desire thee to inform me if a great step I am about to take will result favourably to my fortunes or not. Canst thou do this?"

"My good, sir, I will try," answered the philosopher

Standing on the sill of the window, was a small vessel of pottery containing a plant in bloom. Paracelsus opened the casement and brought the flower-pot into the room. He removed the plant and placed the vessel on the table. He then lowered the sash of the window and allowed a current of air to enter the apartment. Taking from a bag a small hand-lamp he ignited it. He also drew forth a cone-shaped vase of glass nearly filled with water and hermetically sealed. This he shook violently several times until the water became agitated and sent up air bubbles. The draught of air into the room had caused the lint specks or motes to float and dance in the sunbeams that shone upon the tapestry of the floor. These the philosopher inspected narrowly. He next closely examined the cracks of earth within the vessel of pottery, the sparks that occasionally came from the lamp and the bubbles of air within the vase of crystal. His final proceeding was to spread on the table in a semi-circle thirty-three cards that were covered with cabalistic figures. These mysterious actions occupied a space of time of some fifteen minutes. Shaking his head sorrowfully, with eyes moistened by tears and in a voice disturbed by emotion, he said,

"Woe to me! I cannot give thee any hope. Thou art doomed to perish violently, and that ere long. The enterprise that thou art meditating will hasten that catastrophe. As I told thee years ago thou canst not fight against the inevitable. Thou hast moreover, many foes as thy horoscope foreshadowed, but there is one man in particular whose heart is adamant and whose hatred of thee is so great, so implacable, that he will not rest till he has sent thee to a sanguinary death."

During the delivery of these words the cavalier rested his head pensively upon one hand and with the other hand he nervously clasped his knee.

The astrologer was struck, as he had been years before, by the extreme beauty of the hands thus openly displayed.

Presently the cavalier said,

"Good Master Paracelsus, I yearn to live a few years longer for the sake of those closely allied to and beloved by me, my wife and my darling children. But if I am to die as thou sayest by violent means and that speedily, may I meet my fate with the fortitude of a man and the resignation of a Christian." He then stood up and reverently bowing his head, solemnly added, "His will be done, may He forgive, as I do, all mine enemies. Farewell, old friend, we may not meet again on earth." Before the philosopher had time to reply, the speaker continued, "Thou wilt find a refection prepared for thee, and my messenger will place in thy hands a tribute of my gratitude for journeying so far from home at thy advanced age to execute my bidding. By the way wert thou not afraid to stir abroad and leave thy secrets, thy books, and thy heir-looms at the mercy of any prying visitor or thief?"

"Those treasures, sir, are hidden in a place known but to myself," answered the astrologer. "My time has not yet come. When I feel decrepitude creeping upon me, I shall communicate all my secrets and bequeath my most precious heritages and my personal manuscripts to him who is, if rumour speaks truly, a clever learned man, one Master William Lilly."

"Methinks the name is familiar to me," remarked the other, and a tremor shook his frame. "Once more, adieu!" and he extended his hand.

Paracelsus took the hand thus given, swiftly glanced at the palm, and bending low, saluted it.

This strange action did not appear to startle nor to offend the cavalier, he merely arose and courteously saw his visitor to the door.

The latter was taken to another room where a repast awaited him. At its conclusion he was again blind-folded, conducted to the barge, and reached his dwelling just as St. Paul's proclaimed the hour of midnight. Before bidding him "good-night," the messenger placed a small bag in the hand of Paracelsus, and without waiting for a reply disappeared in the darkness.

Upon examining it later, the old man found that it contained five and twenty gold pieces, and, what pleased him more, an antique thumb or pastoral ring.

About seventeen months after the events last narrated, the philosopher, at an early hour left his dwelling, hailed a boat, and directed the waterman to row him to Westminster Stairs. His appearance was greatly changed. His eyes had lost their brightness, his cheeks were hollow and his back was bent. When he looked in his mirror he noticed these signs of senility, and it troubled him. Yet he felt not ill, his appetite was good, his brain clear, and his voice strong as of yore.

"No, no," he ruminated, "I have years yet to live. I will not consult a leech. Why should I who own and drink the most precious of all medicaments—the Time and Death-defeating elixir."

Upon this particular morning, he carried with him a stout oaken staff and his telescope. Upon arriving at Westminster he found two troopers waiting for him, clad in buff jerkins, jack-boots and steel head pieces. They saluted him profoundly, and escorted him, not without difficulty, through a surging, roaring, screaming mob of both sexes. Proceeding down the crowded street and passing Holbein's Gateway, they halted at the door of a house immediately facing Inigo Jones's Banqueting Hall. Admission having been given, the old man was conducted to a room on the first floor where several persons were assembled gazing through the open window upon the busy scene. In front of the Hall was a large scaffold, draped in black. Between one of the upper and lower windows was an opening leading to the dread object. A block and a basket were also prominent features. Guarding the scaffold were mounted troops, three and four deep; some were armed with pikes and others with drawn swords. Towards one o'clock the crowd became so dense that scores of persons fainted, and they were passed over the heads of others to a place of safety. It was a bright day for the time of the year, but the keen wind blew occasionally and caused many a spectator to shiver. Soon after one o'clock the rattle of drums was heard, and the soldiers forced back the crowd and then sat rigidly at attention on their chargers. A body of halberdiers came first upon the scene, and they were followed by two officers apparently of high position. Then came the headsman, his features covered with black crape, and by his side walked his assistant, also masked. After them strode a stately man, pale but with mien undaunted, and following him were two Bishops in their robes. The rear of the procession was composed of attendants and more halberdiers. Paracelsus was a keen observer of all this, and when the *cortège* was fully assembled on the scaffold, he scrutinised the individuals composing it through his telescope. Presently, in loud accents, he exclaimed, much to the astonishment of those around him, "It is he, my unknown visitor. I recognise him by his graceful carriage and his shapely hands. See, he is addressing the people. Having concluded his speech he raises his eyes to heaven and is evidently mentally praying. A figure approaches, kneels before him, and kisses his outstretched hand. He now prays with the ecclesiastics. He then removes his cloak and doublet, and hands them to his attendants. Again he turns towards the populace and extends his hands as if in the act of blessing them. An officer issues an order, and the drums beat to drown his voice should he attempt once more to address the people. He turns sorrowfully away, and submits quietly to the dread offices of the executioners. He kneels without assistance and bends his head. How hushed the crowd is. Nearly all uncover, many of the spectators are praying, women scream and are borne fainting away. The headsman raises his axe, the victim gives a signal with his hand, the weapon descends—Heaven have mercy upon him! Alas! poor King, to perish thus in thy prime."

THE PHILANTHROPIC WORK OF THE

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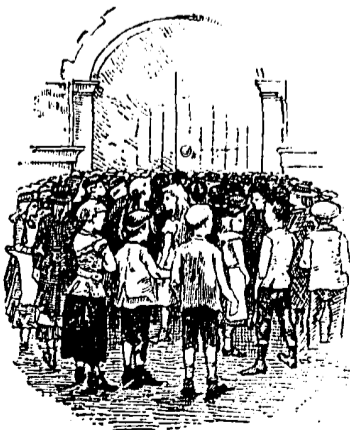
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WAITING FOR BREAKFAST.

Paracelsus's glance then fell upon a tall, broad-shouldered man, who was watching the execution from an adjacent house, and whose features were partly concealed by a broad-brimmed hat and cloak. The old man's eyes gleamed, his frame shook with passion, and he hissed rather than spoke,

"Ha! regicide, comest thou to gloat upon thy fell work? but thy triumph will be short-lived. Fanatic! would that I had the power to destroy thee where thou standest. But may thy few remaining years of life be blighted by the canker of remorse, and shadowed by an abject fear of sudden dissolution. May mother's teach their children to curse thy memory, and in death may thy poor clay lie dishonoured in a grave unknown."

The person thus addressed was too far off to have heard this terrible denunciation, but strange to record, he changed colour, shuddered violently, and hastily left the casement. It was *Oliver Cromwell*.

The philosopher suddenly turned pale, and placing his hand to his forehead in painful, feeble accents moaned.

"Ah, me, what is this dreadful feeling that is stealing over me? I feel faint—I cannot breathe—give me air. Dolt that I was to stir abroad without my safeguard—the water of life. Good people, I pray ye fetch me a surgeon, and that speedily. Too late! too late! I die—I die. Creator of all, receive my soul!"

During this rambling speech, the spectators had rushed to the assistance of the dying man; kind hands loosened his clothing, sprinkled water on his face, and poured a few drops of a cordial through his lips. All in vain, the sands of life in the old frame, that had defied so long the inroads of Time, had run out. He was dead. A leech soon arrived, and having cursorily examined the body, gave an opinion that death was due to natural decay, accelerated by exposure to the bleak weather and the excitement in witnessing the execution.

During the last moments of Paracelsus, loud cries and oaths were heard. Many men shouted, "King Charles is dead!" "Long live King Charles!"

Some of the Royalists who had the temerity to utter these words in the vicinity of the troopers were rewarded with broken pates. Many were trampled upon or ridden down by the enraged Roundheads, and a scene of wild confusion ensued.

It was some hours before the precincts of Whitehall and Charing Cross resumed their wonted tranquillity.

Upon searching the body of the astrologer there was found suspended to his neck a medal of bronze. Upon it was engraved a small altar standing upon a mound, and from which issued a tongue of flame. There was also a device of the sun rising from the sea and over which there hovered a dove, bearing in its beak a label, endorsed with the word *Law*. As Paracelsus died friendless and intestate, his effects were claimed by the Protectorate. The officers who were sent to make an inventory of his goods and chattels found but little to reward their search. A number of retorts, crucibles, bottles, chemicals, old books in black letter and such like comparatively worthless articles were found in every part of the old house, but not a vestige of plate nor money. Lilly, the astrologer, who was secretly a protégé of Cromwell's, was directed to examine everything and to make report thereon. He interrogated the old servitor of the deceased sage, but he knew nothing. Lilly had hoped to have found manuscripts dealing with occult matters, but he was disappointed. If any existed, Paracelsus had concealed them in some secret place, known but to himself. In the great fire of 1666, the ancient domicile was burnt to the ground, and, no doubt, the dead man's hidden wealth, heirlooms, and mystical writings were destroyed in that awful conflagration that reduced London's famous city to ashes.

How Grand Lodge was built up.

BY BRO. G. BLIZARD ABBOTT.



DO not purpose recounting the old familiar story of the "Four old Lodges" meeting at the Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, on the ever memorable 24th June (St. John the Baptist's Day), 1717, and then and there electing Bro. Anthony Sayer, Gentleman, as Grand Master of Masons for the ensuing year; or describing how he was invested by the oldest Master present, installed by the Master of the oldest Lodge, and congratulated by the whole assembly, which forthwith paid him homage, as the Supreme Head for the time being of the whole Craft of Masonry throughout the civilized world; the story has been too often repeated to need further repetition. Neither is it any part of my purpose to write a disquisition on the comparative rights and privileges of these "Four Old Lodges," which existed by Immemorial Constitution, and the Lodges subsequently warranted by the said Grand Lodge: those who desire to study this grave question must consult the pages of our learned Bro. Gould. It is enough for me that from the Grand Lodge thus constituted at an unpretentious gathering of Masons—of which many no doubt were operative brethren—held at an insignificant tavern, which, as its sign suggests,* may once have been the shop of a musical instrument maker, has descended not only our present United Grand Lodge, but likewise nearly all the Grand Lodges which have ever been constituted since throughout Christendom and elsewhere; and it has occurred to me that a brief outline of the steps by which it has grown from a mere congregation of Masters and Wardens, presided over by a Grand Master and Grand Wardens, to its present splendid organisation as the Supreme Diet of English Masonry, may not be without interest to the readers of this journal.

I have said that Bro. Anthony Sayer was installed Grand Master on the 24th June, 1717, and among the few particulars which have been handed down to us of this meeting, it is recorded that Bro. Sayer's first official act after his induction into the chair was to appoint his Grand Wardens. It was not, however, till his Grace the Duke of Montagu was installed G. Master at Stationers' Hall, on St. John the Baptist's Day, 1721, that the office of Deputy G. Master was created and bestowed on Bro. John Beal, M.D. The Duke of Wharton, successor of his Grace of Montagu, appears to have been the first to recognize the necessity of having the proceedings in Grand Lodge duly recorded, and to him accordingly we are indebted for the appointment of a Grand Secretary in the person of Bro. William Cowper, Clerk of the Parliament, but history does not tell us if Bro. Cowper was "installed (in the Ancient Manner)" by the presiding officer, assisted by the Wardens and afterwards proclaimed "thrice according to ancient custom." This, we know, was the happy lot of a far more distinguished Grand Secretary—Bro. Laurence Dermott—who some 30 years later, after undergoing the ordeal of examination as to his proficiency in Secretarial duties, was ceremoniously inducted into office at the Griffin, Holborn, with not a little of the barbaric splendour which generally accompanies the enthronement of an Eastern potentate. Yet a few years later, and we pass at one bound from the creation of a Grand Secretary to the institution of Provincial Grand Masters. The honour of having devised this office for the extension of Freemasonry into districts in which it had been previously unknown, or but little known, belonged to the Earl of Inchiquin, who was Grand Master during

* The Goose and Gridiron is held by many to be a rude interpretation of the Swan and Lyre, the device of the Company of Musicians.

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the year 1726-7. The reason assigned by Bro. William Preston for this considerate—and in its results, exceedingly beneficial—act of his lordship is a remarkable one, and unauthenticated, as are most of that writer's statements respecting our early history, by any scrap of evidence which even a novice in the study of history would consider trustworthy. This particular period, he tells us, "was rendered remarkable by the Brethren of Wales first uniting under the banner of the Grand Lodge in London." He seems to have drawn upon his imagination for this union in consequence of the existence in Wales of "some venerated remains of ancient Masonry, and many stately ruins of castles executed in the Gothic style." The connection between the two is not very obvious, but it is an undoubted fact—*teste* the list of P.G.Ms. and D.G.Ms. appointed from 1717 to the present time in Grand Lodge Calendar—that in 1726 Lord Inchiquin did grant deputations or patents of appointment to Bro. Hugh Warburton as P.G.M. for North Wales, and Bro. Sir Edward Mansel as P.G.M. for South Wales.

Passing on to the G. Mastership of Lord Coleraine—1727-8—we are told by the same eminent historian that at the last Communication held under his lordship's auspices Bro. Dr. Desaguliers brought forward a resolution for the *revival* of the ancient office of Steward, the appointments to be annual, their number to be restricted to 12, and their duties to be to assist the Grand Wardens in the preparation of the Grand Feasts. Why Preston should have found in the undoubted antiquity of the Steward's office a reason for describing the first appointment of Grand Stewards as a *revival* it is impossible to say at this distance of time. There is, however, something interesting about their appointment, or rather about their having been subsequently granted sundry extraordinary privileges not possessed by the rest of the brethren. Thus, under Lord Lovel, G.M. 1731-2, they were allowed to nominate their successors. Then in the G. Mastership of the Earl of Crawford, in 1734-5, it was agreed that in future the Grand Officers, with the exception of the Grand Master, should be chosen from their ranks. About the same time they were constituted into a Lodge, which in 1770 was placed at the head of the roll of Lodges without a number. The grant of these privileges, but more particularly the claim they advanced at the outset of their career as a Lodge, to vote in Grand Lodge as individuals, was the cause of much discontent among the Fraternity, and may be said to have been imperceptibly acquiesced in, rather than formally bestowed upon them. In the Earl of Morton's time it was resolved that the office of Treasurer should be an annually elective one, and that the Treasurer, Secretary, and Sword Bearer should be permitted to rank in future as members of Grand Lodge. Subsequently the regular Grand Lodge agreed upon the creation of the office of Grand Chaplain, while in 1782, when H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland, brother of George III., was elected G.M., it was resolved that he, and any other Prince of the Royal blood who might in future be elected to the same office, should enjoy the privilege of nominating a peer of the realm as Acting Grand Master, the peer appointed by the Duke of Cumberland being the Earl of Effingham, whose successor was the Earl of Moira, afterwards Marquis of Hastings.

I must now hark back to the year 1751, when the then existing Lodges of "Ancient" Masons, or Macons according to the old Institutions, met in solemn form at the Turk's Head Tavern, Greek-street, Soho, on the 17th July, and formed themselves into a separate organisation, with a Grand Committee to regulate its affairs until such time as a Grand Master was elected, and Bro. John Morgan as its Grand Secretary or principal executive. We know what regulations were adopted for the government of this Society at the Turk's Head meeting, but not much as to what was done by the Lodges under Morgan's auspices. It is on record, however, that on the 5th February, 1752, at a meeting of the nine Lodges then existing in and adjacent to London, Bro. Laurence Dermott, a P.M. of Lodge No. 26, Dublin, who had joined the Society, was unanimously elected Grand Secretary, *vice* Morgan resigned, and, as I have before said, installed in office with almost the same pomp and circumstance as was an Eastern monarch on his throne. Yet there are few

Masons who have more richly deserved the honours bestowed upon them than Laurence Dermott, who was not only Grand Secretary in the ordinary sense of the term, but a Grand Secretary who fulfilled duties of every imaginable kind. One time we read of him in the character of a Grand Lecturer, when after he had been re-installed in his office, "according to the ancient custom and manner of installing Grand Secretaries," he "repeated the whole ceremony of Installing Grand, &c., in the manner which he had learn'd from Brother Edward Spratt, Esq., the celebrated Grand Secretary of Ireland," and we are told in the minutes that "the long Recital of the Solemn Ceremony gave great satisfaction to the audience, many of which who never had the opportunity of hearing the like before." On another occasion he was engaged in "altercations not fit to be written," with other brethren, because he had suggested that the election of a noble Grand Master to preside over the Ancient Craft should be postponed until they had a more suitable place than the "Temple Eating House" in which to instal him. Again, after having expatiated at great length on the contents of an old MS., which had been "written or copied by one Bramhall, of Canterbury, in the Reign of King Henry the Seventh," and presented to him in 1748," objection was taken by the adherents of the Temple Eating House "against any thanks or even approbation of the Secretary's conduct, who, instead of being useful, has actually sung and lectured the Brethren out of their senses." Upon this Dermott expressed his willingness to resign, if a better Secretary could be found, and then in his quiet, humorous way remarked that "if he was so unfortunate as to sing any Brother out of his senses, he hoped the Worshipful Master in the chair and the Grand Committee would allow him an hour's time, and he would endeavour to sing them into their senses again." The request, we are told, "was granted with great good humour, and the Secretary made proper use of his time." Later we find him organising the Committee of Charity, receiving instructions to constitute new Lodges, regulating the business to be transacted in Grand Committee, and praying to be relieved of the trouble of delivering the summonses, on the ground that the "Servitude was exceeding troublesome as he was obliged to work twelve hours in the day for the Master Painter who employ'd him." In October, 1753, it was proposed and agreed that "the Grand Secretary shall attend and regulate all processions, and at Funerals take particular care that all persons walk in proper rotation." A few years after the date of this last minute, he issued the first edition of his "Ahiman Rezon," the Book of Constitutions of the ancient Fraternity, so that in his case the duties of the Grand Secretaryship included those which more properly belong to the Grand Lecturer, Grand Director of Ceremonies, Grand Organiser, and in fact he was the heart and soul of the Society, which, but for his ability and zeal, in season and out of season, would never have attained to the position of eminence which it ultimately occupied. In the summer of 1768 he found himself under the necessity of appointing an Assistant Secretary, for whom he held himself accountable to Grand Lodge, but the experiment does not appear to have been wholly successful. Bro. William Dickey, junr., whom he selected for the office, was a most able man, but Dermott and he do not appear to have been able to work together very harmoniously. I judge so from the fact that two years later the minor office was discontinued without apparent cause, and when a vote of thanks was passed by G. Lodge to Bro. Dickey for his services, Dermott appears to have remonstrated and to have complained that his Assistant had neglected his duties and had resigned just at the very time when he (Dermott) "was so ill with the gout that he was obliged to be carried out of his bed (when incapable to wear shoes, stockings, or even Britches), to do his duty at the Steward's Lodge." Some years ago when the second French Empire was in the full swing of its glory, great amusement was caused by the announcement in the Court journals that, in future, gentlemen attending the Emperor's Levees were not to appear in trousers, and in one of Marryatt's best known novels there is a certain boatswain

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Intercolonial Wine and Fruit Exhibition, Mildura carried off six first prizes out of eight. (At the recent Intercolonial Citric Fair and Fruit Growers' Convention, held at Mildura, the judges declared the display of oranges and lemons of Mildura growth was the finest that had been made in Australia. The first prize was awarded to the Earl of Ronfurly, an extensive fruit cultivator at Mildura.) The experience that had been gained so far had also proved that citrus fruits could be grown to great advantage, and in a few years there would be a very large production of oranges and lemons available for the markets. The growers of these fruit trees, from the results already obtained, anticipate returns from them most satisfactory."

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who returned to his duty, after a short spell of leave on shore, without his inexpressibles. There is no evidence that Napoleon III.'s sumptuary edict was ever literally obeyed, while Marryatt's boat-swain was a fictitious personage. But the Dermott incident is recorded in black and white, under his own hand, in the minutes he compiled of his own Grand Lodge, and, I say, all honour to the brother who thus boldly preferred duty to decency, and by so doing created a grand precedent for future Grand Secretaries who may suffer from gout and the apathy of their Assistant Dickeyes, to follow or avoid, as it may seem to them best.

But I must leave Dermott, now regulating and organising, now lecturing and swearing, at one time conversing with an Arab Mason in the Hebrew language, at another exchanging Latin compliments with the Grand Master, with his oddities, his love of detail, his shrewd common sense, and without his "Britches," in order to resume the thread of my story. The officers of the Grand Committee of the "Ancients" were the Grand Secretary, who did everything, and the Grand Pursuivant—sometimes also written "Pursuivant"—and the Grand Tyler, who between them did little or nothing. When, however, the Grand Committee gave place to a Grand Lodge and a Grand Master—albeit not a noble Grand—was elected, he at once appointed a Deputy, and the Grand Lodge elected G. Wardens, who, as well as the G.M., were installed in office. Subsequently, as the funds of the Society increased, there was appointed a Grand Treasurer, and then, as the Society became more and more of a dignified body, there followed a Grand Chaplain and a Grand Sword Bearer, while Stewards were annually elected for the feast, but they were chosen from the general body of lodges, not from particular ones, and were assigned no special place of honour in Grand Lodge. After the Union of the two Societies in 1813 Grand Deacons, a Grand Superintendent of Works, and a Grand Organist were appointed, there being one Senior and one Junior G. Deacon until 1862, when two of each rank were appointed, while in 1893 the number of each was increased to three. In 1814 was also created the office of Grand Registrar, and in 1893 that of Deputy G. Reg. In 1816 we meet with a President of the Board of General Purposes—who in 1862 became *ex-officio* a Grand Officer—and a Grand Secretary for German Correspondence. In 1814 a Grand Director of Ceremonies was appointed, and in 1829 an Assistant Director, while in 1882 was created the office of Deputy Director, and in 1893 the one Assistant bloomed into three. The appointment of two Standard Bearers dates from 1882, and in 1840 the office of Grand Pursuivant was "revived"—as there were Pursuivants under the Ancient régime, I prefer this term to the "instituted" of our Official Calendar—with the rank of Assistant G. Pursuivant, instituted in 1859. Until quite recently, the Grand Pursuivant was not a full Grand Officer until he received the sanction of the G.M., when the term of his service was ended, to take his seat on the dais. There has also been, from time to time, an Assistant G. Secretary, and in 1834, when the Duke of Sussex was suffering from cataract, his Royal Highness was pleased to revive the office of Acting or Pro G. Master. There are likewise 18 lodges—instead of 12 as under the "Modern" G. Lodge—which enjoy the privilege of sending G. Stewards, and which are in consequence commonly spoken of as "Red Apron" Lodges. These have the exclusive privilege of becoming members of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, and, with the Master, Past Masters, and Wardens thereof, as well as of all the regular lodges, are, equally with the Present and Past Grand Officers, constituent members of Grand Lodge; and as there are more than 2000 lodges on the roll of United Grand Lodge, the total number of members may possibly exceed, while it cannot fall far short of, 20,000. And all this has come of the G. Lodge constituted by the Four Old Lodges which met at the Goose and Gridiron, on St. John the Baptist's Day in the year of Grace, 1717, and the year of Light, 5717. Truly, the growth of Masonry in England, to say nothing of its off-shoots abroad, in the 177 years that have elapsed since then has been, as Dominic Sampson would have remarked, "prodigious!"

An Anglo-Irish Lodge in the last Century.



SOME few years ago, while engaged in a friendly discussion as to the origin of the "Ancient" Grand Lodge of England, as propounded by me in "Masonic Facts and Fictions," I ventured to suggest that the refusal of the regular Grand Lodge, in December, 1735, to receive, as visitors, the "Master and Wardens of a Lodge from Ireland," might have had something to do with the formation and working of Irish Lodges in England, and the subsequent establishing of a rival Grand Lodge in London. What gave rise to this opinion, was the knowledge that during the year 1735, and for several succeeding years, a very strong anti-Irish feeling existed in London, which culminated in serious rioting, chiefly caused by a number of poor Irish weavers coming over and working at their looms for a much lower rate of pay than the English weavers had been accustomed to receive. Having noticed that a considerable number of the weaving fraternity hailing from the Emerald Isle were in the Grand Lodge Register of the "Ancients," the foregoing conclusion seemed to me quite rational, although I fancy it made little or no impression on my opponent, who failed to perceive any connection whatever between the before-mentioned incidents and the formation of the rival Grand Lodge some fifteen years later. Unfortunately, the earliest returns, or original lists of members of the "Ancient" Lodges are not now in existence, although their registers are, but these seldom contain information as to the former Lodges of the founders or joining members. Quite recently, however, an important piece of evidence has come to light which goes far towards confirming my previously expressed opinion as to the Irish origin of the "Ancient" Lodges, in the shape of the original list of the Founders of a Lodge, constituted in Manchester on the 21st March, 1795. A copy of this list is hereto appended, and it will be observed that everyone of the brethren were Irish Masons, and, with one exception, all weavers.

Names of the Founders of Lodge No. 289, "Ancients."

- "Hugh Ardery, first Master, No. 681, muslin manufacturer, on the Registry of Ireland.
- "James Gillespie, muslin weaver, No. 671 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "Henry Haddock, muslin weaver, No. 393 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "John Honey, muslin weaver, No. 333 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "George McCormick, muslin weaver, No. 715 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "Andrew Hunter, muslin weaver, No. 333 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "Hugh Holmes, muslin weaver, No. 459 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "Robert Hamilton, muslin weaver, No. 460 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "John Morgan, muslin weaver, No. 618 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "John Park, muslin weaver, No. 741 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "James Irwin, muslin weaver, No. 404 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "Daniel Doras, Tailor, No. 715 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "John Parker, muslin weaver, No. 526 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "James Coal, muslin weaver, No. 592 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "Robert Carroll, muslin weaver, No. 673 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "William Sedgwick, muslin manufacturer, No. 716 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "Moses Halmond, muslin weaver, No. 465 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "Robert Lister, muslin weaver, No. 184 on the Registry of Ireland.
- "Moses Mitchell, muslin weaver, No. 450 on the Registry of Ireland.

This Lodge is now No. 210 on the Grand Lodge Register.

To my thinking, no great stretch of imagination is required to be able to arrive at the conclusion that what was done in 1735, might just as easily have been done at an earlier period, and that prior to the organisation of the Ancient or Anglo-Irish Grand Lodge, these Irish Masons assembled and worked without Warrants, or any other authority, as they themselves admit in their early records, and, indeed, as all other Masons did before the institution of Grand Lodges.

HENRY SADLER.

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It has established about One Hundred and Fifty Penny Banks, in connection with the P.O.S.B., thus inculcating and promoting habits of Thrift and prudence in the young, whilst taking every precaution that the amounts thus put aside for future use are not lost, but are available either on demand or at a few days' notice, the Deposits being transferred to the Post Office Savings Bank in the names of local Trustees.

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"The work of this Society, which for upwards of ten years has been under the Secretarial management of Bro. T. Bowden Green, is being very considerably developed. Thrift Meetings are continually being held under its auspices, and a large amount of Thrift Literature is sent out from its Offices."—*The Freemason*.

Contributions in aid of the work of the N.T.S. are greatly needed. The Society is chiefly maintained by One Guinea Donations.

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A Novel Chase.



DO not possess the scientific knowledge of Sherlock Holmes nor the detective experience of Hewit, therefore I must claim the indulgence of my readers for the purely amateurish style in which I executed a rather difficult commission, which, no doubt, would have been better placed in the hands of either of the above named

gentlemen.

I may say that I occupy a confidential position in the house of Warren & Co., large export merchants, whose chief offices are situated in one of the many courts near to the Bank of England, with branch establishments in various seaports in Europe and Asia.

On many occasions it has been my duty to visit these foreign branches, for the purpose of adjusting little irregularities and other matters requiring tact and discreet management, and the success which has invariably attended my efforts has won for me the entire confidence of my employers.

One morning on entering the office I was surprised to find that the senior partner had arrived before me, and had left a message that he desired to see me in his private room immediately I arrived.

I at once presented myself at the door of the private sanctum, and, on being admitted, found Mr. Warren closely engaged upon the examination of some documents. Without looking up he greeted me with the usual "Good morning Mr. Rowlands," and then desired me to draw a chair nearer to him so that I could have a view of the papers he had before him.

"Well," said he, "I have been most anxious to have your opinion and advice upon a matter which is outside our own business, and may possibly necessitate your having to cross the Atlantic; and as time is pressing I will state briefly the facts of the case which are as follows:

"My old and valued friends General and Mrs. Raleigh are now in sore distress. Their only son about 25 years of age, who held a commission in a crack cavalry regiment, has quarrelled with his Colonel over some gambling transaction, has sent in his papers and left the Regiment some three months since, and after having drawn from a London Bank a considerable sum of money which stood to his credit, has disappeared, leaving not the slightest trace, beyond having exchanged some of the notes at various banks and hotels for gold.

"The matter has been placed in the hands of a private enquiry office, who have not only spent large sums in advertising, but have also visited Monte Carlo and the principal gambling places on the Continent, without success."

"Last week, however, a bank note, which turns out to be one of those drawn from the London bank by young Raleigh, was handed into a Liverpool bank by a large Atlantic Steamship Company who are unable to say from whom it was received by them, as it was paid amongst many others for passage money and freights during the previous few days.

"Both General and Mrs. Raleigh are, as you may suppose, anxious to follow up even the slightest clue. At the same time they are desirous of avoiding putting the matter again in the hands of detectives, as they shrink from the idea of hunting up their boy by the aid of the police.

"As we are not at the present time overburdened with business, I promised the General, who brought the note to my house yesterday, to ask you to assist in unravelling the mystery. Of course everything must be conducted with the strictest privacy."

I was not, on the spur of the moment, prepared to say how far I felt capable of rendering assistance, but promised to consider the matter and let them have my decision that afternoon, in the meantime I begged to be placed in possession of the private inquiry office reports and other papers relating to the case, amongst them were three photographs and the returned five pound note.

Taking these to my private office and giving instructions to the clerks that I was not to be disturbed, I carefully examined the documents. The reports were of the usual character, full of hope, but no positive clue. Then I had a good look at the note; certain characters and figures very faintly written in pencil arrested my attention.

Within an hour I had another interview with Mr. Warren, and agreed to undertake the enquiry; but beyond stating that I should start that evening for Liverpool, I would not give him any idea at present where I should proceed afterwards.

Ample means, with full powers, were placed in my hands, and the next morning I visited the shipping office where the note had been received.

None of the clerks were able to recognise the photos, nor could they give me any further information about the note; they, however, gave me copies of the passengers' lists on their steamers which had left Liverpool for America that week.

On returning to my hotel, I advised my employers that I intended leaving Liverpool the next morning on the Moss Line Steamer for the Mediterranean, and requesting to have letters sent to the post-office, Gibraltar, for the present.

During the five days on board I thought over the case in all its bearings. In the first place it occurred to me that as young Raleigh had served in the army, he would most likely enlist into some regiment under an assumed name, and trust to his superior attainments and military knowledge for rapid promotion, and as Gibraltar is a strong military station, I decided to make the depôts there an early point in my search. Then, if young Raleigh had been on the Rock in any other character, I knew no one so likely to give me information in that respect, as the well known guide Michael, I therefore determined in any case to secure his services if possible.

Immediately on landing I discovered Michael amongst the many guides and porters who swarm on the stage on the arrival of a steamer. I handed him my bag to convey to the Royal, and wait for me as I had several calls to make on my way there.

The first place I made for was the post-office, and upon enquiry found a letter for me which had arrived that morning. Amongst other matters it contained a letter of introduction to an officer in the Highlanders, then in garrison, who had been a schoolfellow of young Raleigh's. I next called upon a friend, and from him received an invitation to visit the Masonic Lodge, of which he was a member, that same evening. This was precisely what I wanted, as I knew from previous experience that many of the officers and non-commissioned officers in the garrison were members of the Craft, and no doubt some of them would be present at the meeting, from whom I hoped to gain information in furtherance of my search. I had also another reason as will be seen presently for visiting that particular Lodge.

After calling upon other friends and refreshing the inner man at the Royal, I made my way to the Masonic Rooms on the Alameda, where I was duly vouched for and admitted; as I surmised there was a good muster of soldiers present. Holding a somewhat distinguished rank in the Craft, I was introduced to most of the officers, and from them received invitations to visit them at their several barracks which I accepted, as this would give me a chance of inspecting the men, especially the recruits on parade. During the evening I found an opportunity for looking over the names in the attendance book, and on comparing them with the passenger list I got in Liverpool, I discovered the name of one man amongst them, who had booked for America on the day the note was paid in at the shipping office, thus giving me a good clue as to the bank-note: for the mark and Nos. I discovered on that note were 278, which to any one skilled in the mysteries of the Craft would indicate the Lodge bearing that number, and which I knew was held on the Rock. Upon inquiry I found from the gentleman who had introduced the individual as a visitor, that they had met on the steamer coming from Tangiers, and finding him to be a Mason he had given him an invitation to visit the Lodge. I casually asked whether he had noticed anything particular about that invitation, when he stated that as neither

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ESTIMATES GIVEN,

TELEGRAMS, "RABBITRY, LONDON."

of them had cards with them, the stranger made a memo of the name and number of the Lodge on a bank-note.

I took down the name and number, and place of meeting of the Lodge in America to which the visitor belonged, so that in case I should require information from him I could easily find him.

I need hardly say that I was somewhat elated with the success which seemed to be opening out in furthering my endeavours, and pleading fatigue I retired from the meeting early.

Before going to bed, however, I arranged for Michael's attendance early the next morning, and after breakfast I commissioned him to secure a good turn out for a drive into Spain; knowing that in going there I should pass the barracks near the North Gate, also the encampment near the neutral ground where the shooting squads were quartered.

On arriving at the former I met one of the officers to whom I was introduced the previous evening, and by him I was conducted through the various rooms and parade grounds. Then at the encampment I was fortunate enough to meet with a non-commissioned officer who also took me on a tour of inspection, but in both instances I failed to recognise any one resembling the photos.

Going back again *via* Catalan Bay, I managed during the drive to elicit, in ordinary conversation with Michael, the fact that several parties of Englishmen and Americans had recently been on the Rock, and that most of them had gone wild boar hunting in Morocco, though, notwithstanding the very full particulars given by the loquacious guide, I could not identify any one as the young gentleman of whom I was in search.

I was almost beginning to fear that I was after all on a wild goose chase, when we pulled up at the Windmill barracks. Here I presented to the young Highlander my letter of introduction. After reading it he exclaimed "By jove, that's queer; I could almost swear I saw Raleigh on the 'Gibellarik' steaming across to Tangiers when I was on a P. & O. steamer seeing off some friends to India."

Coupling this with the information I had already gained, my hopes revived, and as soon as I could get away I called upon the owners of the steamer to whom I was well known. I found that about the time the young Highlander referred to as having seen young Raleigh, a party of six had gone over to Tangiers on their boat, but as the tickets had all been taken by one gentleman, his name only appeared in the books.

However the clue seemed too good to abandon, so the next morning, with Michael as guide, I crossed over the Straits to Tangiers, feeling sure that should young Raleigh have gone inland

on a shooting expedition, I should hear something of him from Ansaldo, the genial host of the Hotel Continental, who generally provides shooting parties with guides and all other necessaries. After the good dinner usually provided at this well-known hostelry, I joined mine host in the luxuriously furnished smoking room, and over our cigars and café I ascertained that the party of six included a young Englishman calling himself Weston.

Meanwhile Michael had managed to find out from the guide who accompanied the party, that there had been a considerable amount of card playing, and that Weston lost heavily.

Thinking that if Weston was really Raleigh, he must now have run through his gold and be making use of the Bank notes, I set about endeavouring to strengthen my clue by gaining possession of one or more of the notes the numbers of which I had in my possession. So, under the plea of wanting some smaller money, I exchanged a £20 note with the landlord, and amongst the change was a £5 note which, on comparing with my list, I found to be one of those drawn from the bank in London by young Raleigh, and was part of the hotel bill paid by Weston to Ansaldo.

I learnt also from Ansaldo that five of the party returned to Gibraltar, and Weston remained at his hotel for a few days after the others had left. He sometimes conversed with Ansaldo on financial matters, and told him that he intended going to Monte Carlo to endeavour to make a pile, or if he failed in that, to commit some rash act, eventually he sailed on a French steamer for Algiers en route for Marseilles.

I wrote to Mr. Warren that evening to acquaint him of the success I had so far met with, and informed him that I should proceed at once to the Riviera. I sent this letter to Gibraltar the next morning by Michael as I did not further require his services. I was just in time to get on board one of the steamers running to France *via* Malaga, and in three days landed in Marseilles.

At the Hotel de Louvre on ascending in the elevator I was rather astonished to hear my name mentioned by a waiter who was going up with us, and who it turned out had been employed for some time in a city hotel where I frequently dined. Through him I got some valuable information from Cook's agents who look after visitors on their arrival by rail and steamer, and I felt convinced that I was still on the right track.

Early the next morning I started for Nice, and the first man I saw upon the platform happened to be a Manchester merchant, with whom our London house had business transactions.

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Making my health the reason of my visit, I went with him to the Hotel des Isles Britanique, where he was staying; and the following day I accompanied him by the "Gamblers' train" to Monte Carlo.

For some time we wandered from one table to another in the magnificent Casino, occasionally trying our luck with moderate success. All at once my friend drew my attention to a young fellow standing near a table, and informed me that he was a reckless plunger, who had recently appeared upon the scene. In a moment I recognised him as the original of my photos, and my next move was to get an introduction to him, so I placed myself near to him and made a few more ventures, strange to say I was a considerable winner, while the young fellow kept on losing. I managed to get into conversation with him, which ended in my inviting him to dine with my friend and myself at the Hotel Metropole.

During dinner I succeeded in inducing him to return that evening with us to Nice instead of remaining in Monte Carlo by himself. Leaving him and my friend to enjoy their smoke, I made my way to the telegraph office and wired to Mr. Warren requesting a reply to be sent to me at Nice.

Before retiring for the night I received a telegram stating that the General and Mr. Warren were leaving London that evening, and appointing to meet me in Marseilles in two days.

In order not to lose sight of Weston, I accompanied him the next day to Monte Carlo, but by my advice he abstained from gambling. In the afternoon on our arrival at Nice I found letters awaiting me and, assuming an important business appointment in Marseilles, I left Weston with my Manchester friend and started off that evening promising to return the next day. I waited anxiously on the railway platform for the arrival of the express from Paris, and was pleased to see the face of Mr. Warren accompanied by an unmistakably English military man. In the short space of time allowed to the passengers for refreshments, I managed to impart sufficient information to the two gentlemen to enable them to find young Raleigh, and thinking that the scene of the Prodigal Son would be enacted better in my absence than in my presence, I sent them on their way rejoicing, with a promise to send me a wire as soon as they had met with the runaway.

That afternoon I received a satisfactory telegraph message from the General, and the same evening saw me on my way home.

J. H. S.

Stokes Bay, 1894.

WILL EDWARDS-SPRANGE.

A Sea Memory.

I STAND beside the mist-wrapp'd sea,
Which hoarsely roars, and shoreward swells;
Borne on the chilling winds to me
Come chimings of the distant bells.

Now loud they sweep the murky air,
Now faint they fall upon the breeze;
No single star shines, silver, fair,
Above the stormcast, sailless seas.

The Village, half a league from shore,
Shows here and there some casement bright,
Between, the leafless elm trees hoar,
Black cerie phantoms girt with night.

The rough-hewn pier, with flaming eye,
Looks out upon the tossing deep,
Whose ghostly foam-wraiths dash and fly
As thund'rous waves the timbers sweep.

It is the Christmas bells I hear
Above the restless wind and wave,
This time, of all the darken'd year,
Hearts human sympathy most crave.

Alone am I—yet not alone,
Since happy visions are with me,
And, in the storm's wild undertone,
Voices I hear, that used to be.

Friends safely housed beside your fire,
Bestow a tender thought I pray
On them, who, with heart-whole desire,
Long to be nigh just this one day.

Is life not like a restless sea,
Which, tempest-ravish'd, moans and swells,
Mingling its hoarse-toned symphony
With chimes of peaceful Christmas bells?

Speed song, and tell of Christmas Peace,
And Love that bridges lives apart,
Go, ere the silver chimings cease,
And with dear mem'ries fill each heart.

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