

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.

VOL. XXXIV. NO. 1366.]

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1895.

[PRICE 3d.]

ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The 107th Anniversary Festival of this Institution was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Deputy Grand Master, Prov. Grand Master of Cornwall. His lordship was supported by a very large company, which included Bros. the Rev. Sir William Vincent, P.G.C.; Sir J. B. Monckton, P.G.W.; Peter de L. Long, P.G.D.; Horace Brooks Marshall, P.G.T.; George Everett, P.G.T.; C. E. Keyser, P.G.D.; Robert Grey, P.G.D., President Board of General Purposes; Dr. James Balfour Cockburn, Prov. G.M. Guernsey and Alderney; Richard Henry Holmes, D.P.G.M. Northumberland; Henry Smith, D.P.G.M. West Yorkshire, Treasurer of the Institution; Col. James Peters, P.G.S.B.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; P. Colville Smith, Prov. S.G.W. Cornwall; E. D. Anderton, Prov. G. Sec. Cornwall; and Charles Belton, P.G.D.

After the dinner, which was an excellent one, had been partaken of, the usual toasts were proposed and honoured.

The Earl of MOUNT EDGCUMBE, in proposing the toast of "The Queen," said: Many of you may remember the Centenary Festival of this Institution in the Albert Hall. Very few who were present on that occasion will be likely to forget that remarkable scene. You will perhaps remember, therefore, that it was under the presidency of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and that he then gave the first toast of the evening with due Masonic honours, although there were a large number of visitors present. But I believe that his Royal Highness on consideration would not think that was a precedent to be followed always; and, therefore, on this occasion, I shall follow the toast list with the loyalty and warmth you drink it, and with which every member of the Craft ever drinks it, whether in the boundaries of the United Kingdom, or throughout the vast dominions of this Empire. I give you the Health of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, the Chief Patroness of this Institution.

The Earl of MOUNT EDGCUMBE next said: The history of the development of the Institution which we have met here to support to-night is a small reflection of the history of Masonry in this country; of the development of Masonry during the last half century, and especially during the last 20 years of that half century; and I would ask you whether one of the great causes of that development has not been that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the heir to the Throne of this country, and the other members of the Royal Family have not supported us most loyally and heartily; because it is our pride to have his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as our Grand Master, and because we acknowledge the benefits he has conferred upon Masonry in this country, and also because of our loyalty to the office which he holds as Grand Master that we always welcome his name with the greatest enthusiasm at our meetings, and with not the less enthusiasm when it is coupled with the gracious Princess who, while he is Grand Patron and President of this Institution, also graces this Institution with her patronage as Grand Patroness. I shall, therefore, give you without any further words, because they are absolutely unnecessary, the toast of "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Patron and President of this Institution, the Princess of Wales, Grand Patroness of this Institution, and the other members of the Royal Family."

Bro. BALFOUR COCKBURN, Prov. G.M. Guernsey and Alderney, proposed the next toast. He said: A most important toast has been entrusted to me, being no less than that of the "Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom, and the Grand Officers, Present and Past." It would almost be unbecoming on my part to enter into any eulogium as regards the Pro Grand Master, his services to Masonry have been so devoted and so long, that I might almost say that the history of the Grand Lodge and the history of your Pro Grand Master have been intertwined for many years past. With regard to the Grand Officers, Present and Past, you all know that they must have been true and trusty men before they received the approving mark of the Grand Master and got the purple; and it is not likely that brethren who have served the Craft so long and so worthily would be found wanting when they have reached a higher and more exalted position. (Hear, hear.) I would wish on this special occasion to have made some remarks with regard to the noble Institution whose Festival we are celebrating to-night, but you will hear more of that from our noble Chairman, and you will have more interesting details from him than I could give you; but I cannot refrain from expressing what I saw and what occurred on Monday last. Those ladies, and brethren, and gentlemen who were privileged to visit the Girls' Institution on that occasion, must have felt that the Grand Officers and the brethren to whom was entrusted the management of that glorious establishment had rendered an account of their stewardship which might well be received and approved of by the most captious and the most fastidious critic. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) If the Grand Officers who are engaged in the government of the Institution can do so well, I am quite sure there are many others who could supply their places and would willingly do so. I, therefore, have no hesitation in asking you to drink most cordially and most warmly "The Health of the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and I couple with that toast the name of Bro. the Rev. Sir William Vincent, Past Grand Chaplain of the Order.

Bro. the Rev. Sir WILLIAM VINCENT, Bart., P.G.C., replying, said: I regret that the Pro Grand Master is not present upon this occasion to return thanks for this toast, which has been so eloquently proposed by Bro. Dr. Cockburn, and so cordially received by you. But everybody knows that on every occasion when Grand Lodge meets there is the heart of the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom. (Hear, hear.) In his absence, though very unworthily, I return thanks in his name; yet I do it with peculiar satisfaction, because I had the privilege and honour of being a Mason before him, and of having been associated with the ceremony of his initiation in the Apollo Lodge at Oxford. Ever since that occasion he has devoted himself most warmly and enthusiastically to the interests of Masonry, as almost every brother in this room can most amply testify; and I would that every member of Grand Lodge should be equally energetic and enthusiastic as he is. It is not, of course, however, to be expected that every one should show the same facility, or have the same opportunity, though we may all in our smaller measure have the welfare of the Craft and of these Masonic Institutions at heart equally with him. I trust that as the tradition of the past has been kept up to a large extent in the officers who have been appointed in Grand Lodge, so that that tradition may be carried forward for years untold to the benefit of Freemasonry and of those noble Charitable Institutions. (Applause.)

Bro. SIR JOHN B. MONCKTON, P.G.W., proposed the next toast, "The Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Deputy Grand Master, Prov. Grand Master for Cornwall, Chairman of the Day." He said: I avoid addressing, at this moment, his lordship, because he is the honoured subject, honoured by us; I mean, we are honoured by proposing the honoured subject of this toast. Fortunately, perhaps, for you—unfortunately for me, for I am brimming over with eloquence on the subject—this is in one sense the toast of the evening; by which I mean I am not entitled to detain you at undue length in proposing it. Happily, however, eloquence is not wanted. Most of you, probably all of you, know the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Masonically if not personally. As for me, I have the privilege of knowing his lordship in both capacities. I sat by him when he presided over Bro. Terry's wonderful Jubilee meeting a few years ago in Covent Garden Theatre when he was the proud Chairman—I am sure he was the proud Chairman—of a meeting that brought together a record sum in the annals even of English Charity. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) I stood by his lordship on the stormy billows of the Adriatic. (Laughter.) There was not much danger, brethren; there was a good deal of consumption of tobacco, and long pipes. I am not sure I did not prefer the atmosphere of the Adriatic to that of Covent Garden Theatre. To his lordship we look forward, as we have on many occasions, Masonic and otherwise, and we have found him to be always the same—*semper idem*—always the same—always master of what he has to do, always most punctilious and most careful, and most thorough in doing it. I cannot better sum his lordship up than by using words expressed to me just now by our Bro. Anderton, the Provincial Grand Secretary of Cornwall, a Past Senior Grand Warden of Cornwall, who is here to do honour to this meeting, who, in speaking of his lordship, said to me—"he is thoroughly beloved throughout the Duchy." (Hear, hear.) It would be presumptuous in me to attempt to add to that, and I ask you to rise and drink as one man "Long-continued hearty good health to the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Deputy Grand Master, Provincial Grand Master of Cornwall, Chairman of the Day."

The Earl of MOUNT EDGCUMBE, in acknowledging the toast, said: Brethren,—I thank you personally for the very kind and cordial reception that you have given to this toast, and I thank Bro. Sir John Monckton for the too flattering words which he has made use of in proposing that toast. I can say that it is a great pleasure—that it is a great honour to be associated as Chairman with the annual Festival of this most important Institution, and I am very glad to see this Festival so well supported by you, brethren. (Applause.) I have no doubt many of you have done all you could to make it a success in a pecuniary sense for the Institution in which you are so well interested, and among them I find my own brethren of the distant, of the small and distant, but at the same time loyal, Province of Cornwall. (Applause.) I thank you sincerely for your support and for your energies, and I trust that the result may be a material addition to the funds of this Institution. (Cheers.) I now desire that you will allow me to go on without first sitting down and propose "Success, Long-continued and ever-increasing prosperity and usefulness to this Royal Masonic Institution for Girls." (Cheers.) I think it must be satisfactory to the ladies who take an interest in our proceedings, and to whom I think my apologies are due for having given permission to smoke which I did just now without asking their sanction—I think it must be a matter of satisfaction to them that this is the oldest, the earliest of the Masonic Institutions of this country—that the first thought of a society exclusively of men should have been the care and education of their daughters. (Hear, hear.) As you all know, it dates back so far as 1788, that the Chevalier Ruspini, whose portrait hangs upon the walls of our School, and whose memory will always be associated with the Institution as long as it lasts, originated that scheme, and under the auspices of the Duke of Cumberland, who was then our Grand Master, and the Duchess of Cumberland, he first established this Institution which was then called "The Royal Cumberland Freemasons' School," in a small building at the back of the Duke of Bedford's house in the New Road, somewhere, I believe, between Tottenham Court-road and Islington, at the rent of £35 a year, to accommodate

15 girls. It was in 1795 that the Institution was removed to a larger building in St. George's Fields, and the number was raised to 30 children. At the Jubilee in 1838, the number was raised to 65. In 1852 the new building at Battersea Rise was commenced—I cannot say "erected," because it was a very different building then to what it is now; but it was commenced, and was consecrated by Lord Zetland, then Grand Master of our Order, and whom some of us still remember. But up to the year 1860—that is not so long ago—the number of girls in that Institution was still only 80. It 1878 we made a great stride. An addition to the building was made, which by permission of the Princess of Wales was called the Alexandra Wing, and the number rose at once to 200. (Hear, hear). Then came the centenary, when his Royal Highness the Grand Master was present in that great assembly, to which I have already referred, in the Albert Hall, which was honoured by the presence of many distinguished guests, and among them the King of Sweden and Norway, whose remarkable speech in English, I think, struck many who were there. (Applause). At that time the Committee of this Institution had before them plans for additions estimated at £20,000; but they did not like to give the order for their erection until they knew the result of that Festival. They were wise in doing that, but they need not have hesitated. (Cheers.) At the Jubilee, of which I have spoken, in 1838, there were 57 Stewards, and the amount realised was £1000. At the Centenary there were 1475 Stewards, and the amount realised was over £51,500. What an evidence is that of what I have already referred to—the vast increase of Masonry in this country during the last half century, and especially during the last 20 years of that half century in which his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has been our Most Worshipful Grand Master! The School has now 263 daughters of Freemasons within it, and I believe it may safely be regarded as one of the very foremost educational establishments for girls in this country. (Hear, hear, and cheers). If any one visits that Institution as I had the pleasure of doing last week he will be able to form an opinion upon that point; he would see that these 263 girls are being brought up as we should like our daughters to be brought up; and while, fortunately, it gives to them a physical and mental instruction of the highest class, I believe the tone of the Institution is not such as to develop them afterwards into what we call the "New Woman" of the period—(loud applause)—but into modest—not shy and awkward—but modest, natural, and, at the same time, active and highly-educated English maidens. (Renewed applause). And it is a satisfaction I think to all of us to reflect that since the formation of this Institution 1790 daughters of Masons have had the advantages of that instruction and that education. (Hear, hear.) I would ask those who have not been there to go there and see for themselves. You can go there very easily; the site of the place where it stands is called St. John's-hill, Battersea Rise. That sounds somewhat out of the way to those who do not know where it is; but it is really within a stone's throw of, and indeed only separated by a party fence, from that "hub of the universe" Clapham Junction. (Laughter.) But although its surroundings are not as rural as they were at first, still, although it is now built round with houses in every direction, yet it stands far above the station, and above the buildings that cover it. It has "three acres"—I will not say "and a cow"—(laughter)—within its walls as playgrounds and otherwise, and I believe it to be most healthy, at any rate, the evidence of the medical records of the Institution tend to prove that, and I can believe it, for during the last 15 years there have been only three deaths in the Institution. (Hear, hear.) Many of you, no doubt, have been there; many of you, no doubt, were there last Monday, when I was very sorry, indeed, that I could not be present; but business I could not avoid, which my Cornish friends know, prevented me. If you went there you would have seen those 263 girls performing their graceful calisthenic exercises and marching, under the direction of that admirable Head Mistress, Miss Davis. If there were any military brethren present, I am quite sure they would like to have her as their adjutant, for they would envy the drill and discipline of those 263 girls, although, no doubt, they performed with a grace which the men under their own command would, perhaps, hardly copy. They would have heard also, perhaps, their musical performances, which show a really wonderful care and teaching in the instructress, Mrs. Roworth. (Hear, hear.) Swimming, which in the moments of my youth was supposed to be an unfeminine exercise, is now taught, and very wisely taught; the swimming bath was not in commission when I was there, and I am not sure that the Deputy Grand Master would have been allowed to be present. (Laughter.) But teaching of course is the real centre of the School work. That can only be judged of from what the girls are doing at the time—that can only be seen by the results; and those results are not only satisfactory but most remarkable. (Hear, hear.) I think that the Committee have not dealt very kindly with me; there is a lot of information given in a paper I hold in my hand which if it had been given privately to me would have been a most excellent brief for my speech; but they have scattered it far and wide, and therefore I might move the resolution adopted in company meetings, that it be taken as read. You will see that besides a very good English education, including classes in connection with the Science and Art Department, including type-writing, everything that is up-to-date, shorthand writing, and also the domestic duties of the house, plain needlework—and it must be remembered that they make all their own clothes and many all their dresses—and they are taught practical cookery. It should also be remembered that all the teachers, with the exception of Miss Davis, have been trained in that School. And now one word as to the result of the examinations. At the Cambridge Local Examination there were 23 entered; they were in the first class competition, and all passed—eight with honours and 11 with distinction. I think it is the second and third class which entered for the examination of the College of Preceptors. Fifty-four competed, and 48 passed. In the Associated College of Music nine entered; all passed, and one with distinction. In mathematics—that seems rather dry, but it is useful all the same—26 entered, and all were passed. There were 112 entries, out of which 100 passed. But there is something besides the results of the examinations, there is the after success of those girls after they leave the School. That, perhaps, if we could get at it in all cases, would be the best test of the success of the School. The teaching is to enable them to get on in life afterwards; and I have every reason to believe, although I am not going into the details altogether, that the successes have been quite remarkable. I can say this, that one of these girls from this School is the Superintendent of the Masonic School at Dublin, another is Superintendent at the British Orphan Asylum at Slough, another at the Orphan Asylum at Beddington, and there are many other posts which they get employment in and creditably; and besides, there is another phase of life in which it is very natural that girls so brought up and educated should succeed, and that is that many of them get very well married. (Cheers.) Now, I know it

may be said that there is a large amount of money invested for this Institution. That is the case; but the Institution is a large one and an increasing one, and the interest on the invested capital, which is the only permanent and certain source, though I dare say what we are doing to-night may be certain for many years to come, I hope—the permanent income of that which is invested in Mr. Goschen's Consols is £2000 a year. The annual expenditure is between £12,000 and £13,000. Therefore the total income is only one-sixth of the expenditure, and that you will think is not an unreasonable amount. Then if there is money over, and the Committee has been very economical, they have not attempted to spend all they had, because they had it, but if they had money over there are plenty of ways in which it could be spent—in making grants for education—it has not been attempted at present, but it might be usefully done for the education of Masonic daughters at home, and not in the Institution. There are many instances in which that could be most suitable. Going into details you can judge for yourselves it is so. And there are grants made to the girls on leaving the Institution and going into life, and very often the future of a girl may very much depend on her having a certain amount given her in starting. I think therefore that we may safely, not only this year but in the future, support this Institution, and not think that because there is a large amount of capital invested, it is not deserving of help. I hope that the result to-night may be satisfactory. I cannot expect it to equal that of the last year when the Pro Grand Master, who rules over, I suppose, the largest province in the country, presided, and who, I am happy to say, has returned from his foreign trip much improved in health; although I do not think I can possibly hope to equal that, or to rival it in any way, still I trust on this occasion the result will be that which will give satisfaction to those interested in the Institution. I give you the toast of "Success to the Institution."

Bro. Henry Smith, P.G.D., Treasurer of the Institution replied. He said: I ask your indulgence for a very short time whilst I endeavour adequately to acknowledge the toast so kindly and so ably proposed by our noble Chairman, and who has so forcibly and eloquently advocated the claims of the Girls' School. He has told you all that I can tell you and a good deal more, he has placed before you in very forcible language the position of our great Institution, and I think his pleading on its behalf will, in all probability, have induced some, if not a large number, to have doubled their subscriptions. All I can say is that if they will notify the circumstance to Bro. Hedges it will be recorded in the announcement this evening. I cannot neglect on an occasion like this, when so many earnest supporters of the School are present, to state to them the absolute necessity of an increase in our funded property. We have from time to time gradually and steadily increased that amount, and it is now altogether a respectable amount, but not that which I have for many years advocated in this Institution, as well as in the Boys' and the Old People's. There are times of success, and some times of adversity, and when these occasions occur we ought to have something behind us to fall back upon to enable us to meet the emergency. It has been stated by our noble Chairman that our fixed income is about £2000 a year. Now, that is a very small amount, and we have to depend upon the splendid liberality which is rendered to the Institution year by year on these occasions to supplement that amount, and give us as much as we require for the support of the Institution, that I am happy to say on many occasions you enable us to supply our wants, and to fund a considerable amount of money. I hope when the result is announced by our worthy Secretary to-night we shall have an amount which will be satisfactory not only to our noble Chairman, but to you, brethren, who have worked so arduously on behalf of this Institution. We have a noble Institution; it is well organised; we have a splendid staff of teachers, and we have a House Committee watching over its interests second to none in this country. I have had proof of that many years; every year my confidence is increased, and I can assure you that due economy with efficiency is observed in that School. (Cheers.) There is one other point which I might venture, if you will allow me to trespass for a time, to mention to you. Our good friends, the Old People, which we all support in turn, have a considerable amount from Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, something like £1600 a year from Grand Lodge, and £150 from Grand Chapter; whilst the Boys' and the Girls' have a very small amount. Now, I think that they might fairly ask that these amounts be increased. No doubt it will happen in due time when it is properly in order. Then, brethren, there are only two other items I should like to mention to you. There are times we take liberties, not taken with other people, and therefore I ask your permission to say that I think that by offering special inducements to brethren to give money on special occasions is a very pernicious and objectionable proceeding. I don't see why what we have given in years past should be swamped—I use the word "swamped"—by the privileges granted for the same amount of money to those who follow after us, and I think you ought to be very cautious before you sanction such a proceeding. (Hear, hear.) I don't wish to rebuke those who have gone before us; we all do wrong; we have broken the laws, and I think it is a very wrong thing, and I hope it will not occur again. Giving extra votes when a centenary or a jubilee occurs is not right; we ought not to swamp those who have been our friends in the past by giving extra voting power to new subscribers. It is breaking faith with our former friends, and although it attracts funds for the time we suffer for years afterwards. I throw out these suggestions and hope they may have consideration.

Bro. HEDGES then read the following

STEWARDS' LISTS.

LONDON.		Lodge	
HOUSE COMMITTEE.		£ s. d.	
Bro. Ralph Clutton ...	10 10 0	1 Bro. Richard Creed ...	26 5 0
Bro. Robert Grey (see also Lodge No. 259) ...	105 0 0	2 " Leonard H. Bristowe ...	38 17 0
" Charles Hammerton ...	15 15 0	4 " Albert Ellis ...	21 0 0
" H. A. Hunt ...	38 7 0	5 " John C. Collard ...	44 2 0
" E. Letchworth ...	21 0 0	6 " His Hon. Judge W. Wightman Wood	21 0 0
" P. de Lande Long ...	21 0 0	Chapter	
" R. Loveland Loveland (see also Lodge No. 1869, Hants and I. of Wight)	10 10 0	7 Comp. Julius O. Jacobs (see also Lodge No. 55)	
" Sir John B. Monckton ...	63 0 0	Lodge	
" Col. James Peters ...	11 10 0	8 Bro. Morris B. Evans ...	21 0 0
" Frank Richardson ...	47 5 0	14 " Harold Burke ...	21 0 0
" Henry Smith (see also West Yorkshire) ...	44 2 0	19 " J. H. Whadcoat ...	12 12 0
" A. C. Spaul ...	500 0 0	21 " C. S. Eady, LL.D., Q.C. ...	33 12 0
Edward Ferry ...		22 " Walter Whiting ...	54 12 0
		23 " Edgar M. Brandon ...	50 0 0
		26 " E. J. Leveson, jun. ...	10 10 0
		29 " Edgar Waterlow ...	39 18 0
		30 " Sidney Cronk ...	23 6 6

Table listing Lodge members with columns for name, amount (£ s. d.), and lodge number. Includes entries like Bro. W. A. Thorp, Julius O. Jacobs, Daniel Mayer, etc.

Table listing Provincial members with columns for name, amount (£ s. d.), and province. Includes entries like Bro. George Rice, Major Frank Sheffield, Paris E. Singer, etc.

Table listing members from various counties including Lancashire (West Division), Middlesex, Norfolk, Northants and Hunts, Northumberland, North Wales, Oxfordshire, Shropshire, Somersetshire, Staffordshire, Surrey, Sussex, and Guernsey and Alderney.

Table listing members from various counties including Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Yorkshire (N. and E. Ridings), Yorkshire (W. Riding), and Foreign Stations (Malta, Egypt, Bombay, Transvaal, Montreal, Scotland).

Summary of the Provinces.

Summary table of provincial members with columns for province name and amount (£ s. d.). Includes entries like Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Northumberland, etc.

Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D., proposed "The other Masonic Institutions, and success to them."

Bro. J. M. McLEOD said that he felt in a difficult position with respect to his response, as the proposer had made so eloquent an appeal for the sister Institutions—and nobody could better or more rightly make it—that it left him nothing to say. But in the name of the Benevolent Institution as well as the Boys' he could most heartily express gratification at the great success of the evening, and congratulate the noble Chairman and Stewards on the result of their labours. Following the success of the previous year, he sincerely hoped it was a forecast of what all devoutly wished—a return to the regular and steady festival announcements of former days. Happy Girls to be presided over in two successive years by the great chiefs of the Order. There was one point he would like to emphasize on the present occasion, and he was glad that Bro. Henry Smith had alluded to it. It would be remembered that some two years ago he had drawn the attention of Grand Officers to the fact that the Girls' and Boys' Schools deserved, and ought to receive, larger annual grants from the funds of Grand Lodge. The grant of £150 per annum had been made for nearly 60 years, and was a commutation of a previous capitation grant which at the present time would bring in an enormous income. Since 60 years ago lodges and members had increased five-fold, and the benefits conferred by each Charity had also increased five-fold—yet the grant remained the same! He knew the generous instincts of the Craft prompted them to give freely and voluntarily, but for what purpose was Grand Lodge accumulating so large a Fund, which now reached £100,000, and which during the past year had been increased by £6000? He felt strongly that the strain on members of the Craft year after year should be lessened, and their generosity encouraged by an increase in the grant to the Educational Institutions from Grand Lodge, and so enable them to enjoy the larger assured income which had been so pointedly asked for by previous speakers. He hoped the brethren below the dias would support him in his efforts to get such increased grant, and he should rely on the Grand Officers making an early application to Grand Lodge.

Bro. ROBERT GREY responded to the toast of "The Stewards," proposed by Bro. SMITHSON, P.G.D., and the brethren then adjourned to the Temple where the Earl of Mount Edgumbe presided over a choice concert, at which a selection of vocal and instrumental music, under the direction of Bro. John Lemmoné, was performed by Mdme. Amy Sherwin, Miss Marian McKenzie, Miss Fanny Wentworth, The Meister Glee Singers (Bros. William Sexton, William Forington, Gregory Hast, and Webster Norcross). Bro. John Lemmoné (solo flute), and Mr. George Clutsam (piano). The Erard Concert Grand Piano was used.

The Steward's jewel was a silver-gilt hall-marked oval badge, on which appears three shields, enamelled in correct heraldic colours, bearing the arms of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, the Province of Cornwall, of which he is Prov. G. Master, and those of Grand Lodge, as Deputy Grand Master, the whole surrounded by a garter bearing the name of the Institution. The jewel was suspended by a white watered silk ribbon on which appeared the crest of the Chairman hanging from a top bar with the word Steward on enamelled ground.

The above jewel was specially designed and manufactured by Bros. George Kenning and Son.

ANALYSIS OF THE RETURNS.

It is needless to say that the task of analysing the Returns contained in the preceding list is one that we shall fulfil with the greatest pleasure, firstly because we were not prepared for so large a total, and secondly because it will have the effect of restoring the yearly average which marked the six or seven years that preceded the celebration of the centenary. We did not expect that the success of last year would be repeated, and it has not been. What we ventured to hope for was that the result would be a second edition of 1893; as the figures show, the record for that year has been exceeded by £2000. However, let us turn our attention to the facts and figures as published elsewhere, and let us proceed to offer such explanatory remarks as may seem necessary or desirable.

The Grand Total, as announced by the Secretary, was £16,016 4s. 6d., the number of Stewards who took part in accumulating this amount being 327; the London section of the Board numbering 138, who returned £7231 2s., and the Provincial section 189, by whom was raised the sum of £8785 2s. 6d.

As regards

LONDON,

it should be noted that the number of Masonic Bodies that were represented comprised only 82 lodges, three Royal Arch chapters, a lodge of instruction, and a Mark lodge, and the General Committee Dinner Club. As, according to Grand Lodge Calendar, there are 411 lodges in the Metropolitan district, it is clear that Wednesday's success, in so far as London helped to bring it about, was achieved by only one-fifth of the lodges which meet within the 10 miles' radius of Freemasons' Hall, the proportion being ordinarily about one-fourth, and sometimes we have known it as high as one-third. But if the number of contributing lodges is smaller than usual, they have made amends for this by furnishing a larger proportion than usual of "big" lists. Last year, it will be remembered, Bro. Oscar Philippe had the honour of compiling a total of £1050, which was subsequently increased to over £1100. It is not given to everyone to repeat so brilliant a success as that, but Bro. Philippe nevertheless has the satisfaction of holding for the second time the premier place among the London Stewards, the total of the subscriptions and donations his list contained being £510 10s. Next in order, and very close indeed to Bro. Philippe, we find Bro. Edward Terry, Past Grand Treasurer, a member of the House Committee, who completed £500, and he is followed by Bro. Fred. Arnold, who represented the Eccleston Lodge and had the satisfaction of raising £411 12s. Next in order is a lady—Mrs. James Stephens—who has won fame as a Masonic Steward at more than one previous Festival, and who, on this occasion, as the representative of the newly consecrated Lodge of Fellowship, had the pleasure of handing in a list of £304 10s. Fifth in order will be found the Return of Bro. Walter Fielder, as Steward of the Lodge of Justice, No. 147, for £278 5s., and then that of Bro. Robert Grey, President of the Board of Benevolence and member of the House Committee, who represented the Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 259, and succeeded in making up a list of £234 15s. The Steward for



the Asaph Lodge, No. 1319—Bro. W. S. Penley—has a list to his credit of £210, of which 180 guineas was his personal donation, the next in order being Bro. George Cockrell, who as representative of St. Michael's Lodge, No. 211, compiled the excellent total of £139 7s. 6d. Bro. James Tollworthy, Clarendon Lodge, No. 1760, raised £131, and Bro. George Bruce-Johnston, of the Creaton Lodge, No. 1791, £127. Bro. Walter R. King, who had under his charge the credit of the Mizpah Lodge, No. 1671, being well up with £117 12s. Bro. Julius O Jacobs, who acted for the Constitutional Lodge, No. 55, and the Royal York Chapter of Perseverance, No. 7, obtained £115 10s., and Bro. John Macgregor, Wellington Lodge, No. 548, £110 5s. Bro. H. Gardener represented the Warrant Officers Lodge, No. 2346, to such excellent purpose, that he has standing to his credit £107 12s. There are three brethren who returned £105, namely, Bro. Charles Hammerton, of the House Committee, Bro. F. G. Knight, who acted as Steward for the St. Thomas's Lodge, No. 142, and Bro. Robert A. Gowan, of King Solomon's Lodge, No. 2029. Two brethren, Bro. S. Rashleigh, Burgoyne Lodge, No. 902, and Bro. O. Claude Robson, Willesden Lodge, No. 2489, raised each £100, and with these is concluded the array of lists ranging from £100 upwards. Other lists that may be mentioned are those of Bro. A. L. Reynolds, St. John's Lodge, No. 90, for £73 10s.; Bro. E. H. Johnson, Temperance Lodge, No. 169, for £79; Bro. W. Lawson, Nelson Lodge, No. 700, for £99 15s.; Bro. A. S. Ginger, Kilburn Lodge, No. 1608, for £85 1s.; and Bro. Spencer W. Morris, London Rifle Brigade Lodge, No. 1962 for £72 19s. 6d. The number of Unattached Stewards was large in proportion to the total number of London Stewards.

The section of the Board which represented

THE PROVINCES

numbered 189 ladies and brethren, and the amount they raised is £8785 2s. 6d. There was a smaller proportion than usual taking part in Wednesday's proceedings, there being only 33 which sent up Stewards, while 13 were unrepresented. The latter include BEDFORDSHIRE (7 lodges), which has been doing exceedingly well for the last few years. In 1892 it raised £152 5s. for the Old People and the Girls' School, and in 1893 and 1894 the still greater amounts of £183 17s. 6d. and £238 9s. respectively, the three Institutions in both years receiving a share of the subscriptions. In February it raised £43 1s. for the Benevolent Festival, so that there are only two occasions since the beginning of 1892 in which this Province has figured among the absentees. BRISTOL (nine lodges), with one exception, has played a minor part or the part of an absentee since 1892, the one exception being the Festival of the Girls' School last year, when the total of its contribution was £441. In 1892 and the preceding year it gave its undivided attention to the Boys' School, raising for its requirements £316 in the former and £595 in the latter. CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND (21 lodges) was represented at the Benevolent Festival in February by Bro. W. F. Lamony, whose list amounted to £102 18s., while in May, 1894, it contributed, per Bro. T. A. Argles, £178 10s. to this Institution. In 1893 it figured in the Boys' Returns for a moderate amount, and in 1892, at the Benevolent Jubilee, for £420. DEVONSHIRE (52 lodges) has allowed the present year to pass thus far without making any sign, and we would suggest, with all deference to the views of our Devon brethren, that a greater degree of interest in our Central Charities may not unreasonably be looked for in the case of so strong a Province. We are aware that it has its own local Masonic Charities, and it is on record that it raised £135 12s. for the School in 1894; £181 2s. for the Boys' School and Benevolent Institution in 1893; and £923 8s. 6d. in 1892, the Benevolent Jubilee being benefited to the extent of £807 13s. 6d., and the balance being apportioned between the Schools. But a total of less than £1250 distributed over a series of 11 Festivals—and one of them a Jubilee—is not impressive when the contingent of lodges is so numerous. DORSETSHIRE (13 lodges) figured in the Returns of February last, when Bro. S. R. Baskett, as the representative of Prov. Grand Lodge and Prov. Grand Chapter, handed in a list of £105. Last year it gave £157 10s. to the Old People and £35 to this Institution; in 1893, the Boys' School received £150 15s. and this Institution £82 5s.; and in 1892, £521 6s. was received for the Benevolent Jubilee. We trust that HEREFORDSHIRE (five lodges) has no intention of entirely ignoring the claims of our Charities upon its consideration. Its last appearance was at the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892, when one of its members returned a list of less than £10, while the year previous it raised a little more than £20 for the Boys' School. We are aware that it has a Charitable association of its own, by means of which sundry amounts from time to time find their way into the coffers of one or other of the Charities, but our Herefordshire brethren must not consider we are judging them unkindly when we suggest that such small returns are unworthy of them. LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND (14 lodges) was represented to such good purpose at the Benevolent Festival in January, when Bro. Howe, as its representative, handed in a list of £300 6s., that we are not surprised at its absence from Wednesday's celebration. Indeed, it is the custom of this Province to confine its attention mainly to one Festival a year, each Institution in turn being liberally supported. This year, for instance, the Old People, as we have said, was benefited; in 1894, the Girls' School received £330 10s. 1d.; while in 1893 the Boys' School was the favoured Charity, and was the richer for the £267 10s. received from this Province. LINCOLNSHIRE (24 lodges) has been very quiet since 1892, having raised only a small sum for the Boys' School last year, and for the Festival of this Institution the year previous. But it figured in the Benevolent Jubilee Returns for £660 5s., and in those of the Boys' School Festival in 1891 for £481. It is, therefore, quite in the order of things that before the current year is ended, we may find that Lincolnshire has not been holding itself in reserve without some good reason. MONMOUTHSHIRE (10 lodges) is another of those moderate-sized Provinces which support each of our Institutions in turn. Thus, in 1894, this Institution was favoured to the extent of £297 11s. 6d.; in 1893 it was the Benevolent Institution which received £272 8s. 6d., while in 1892, £316 18s. was raised for the Boys' School, and £21 for the Benevolent Jubilee. Therefore, according to this rotation, the Boys' School stands next in order for support, and we shall be very much surprised if Monmouthshire is found among the absentees at the Festival on behalf of that Charity in July. NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (16 lodges) was entered in the Benevolent Returns in February last for £107 12s. 6d., but prior to that appearance it had been an absentee since May, 1893, when it raised £131 5s. for this Institution. In 1892 it contributed £157 10s. to the Benevolent Jubilee, and £34 13s. to the Boys' School, while in 1891 the total was £241 5s. 6d., of which the Boys' School received £203 9s., and this Institution the small balance of £37 15s. 6d. SOUTH WALES, WESTERN DIVISION (10 lodges), directs its attention to the Charities turn and turn about: Thus, in 1892, £161 1s. 6d. was raised for the Boys' School; in 1893, £177 19s. for the Girls' School; and in 1894, £154 12s. for the Old People. We may, therefore, reasonably look forward to the appearance of this Province in the Returns at the approaching Festival of the Boys' School. WILTSHIRE (11 lodges) raised £175 14s. 6d. for the Old People, and £120 4s. for the Boys' School last year; £185 17s. for this Institution, and £110 5s. for the Boys' School in 1893; and in 1892, £483 14s. for the Benevolent, with minor sums for the Schools, which placed the year's contributions at the high total of £530 19s. We trust, therefore, we shall have the pleasure of chronicling the appearance of this Province at the Boys' Festival two months hence. The other absentee Province is JERSEY (seven lodges), which subscribed £263 for the Boys' School in 1893, and £63 for the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892. These 13 Provinces muster in all 198 lodges, which had no part in Wednesday's Festival.

The first in alphabetical order among the represented Provinces is that of

BERKSHIRE,

which has 15 lodges on its roll, and signalled itself at the Festival of the Old People in February, when six of its lodges, represented by five Stewards, together raised the handsome sum of £450 17s. On Wednesday only three lodges sent up Stewards, and there were two brethren Unattached, the total of their lists being £131 10s. In 1894, the Old People received £247 13s.; the Girls' School, £207 8s. 6d.; and the Boys' School, £30 12s., or together £583 16s. 6d. To judge, therefore, by what has been done thus far, the total of the amount will not be very far short of, or, better still, perhaps it may exceed the total of 1893, when £724 7s. was distributed among the three Institutions. In 1892, the Province raised altogether £954 11s. 6d., of which £661 9s. 6d. was in respect of the Benevolent Jubilee.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,

which now has 18 lodges, had three of them represented by four Stewards, and an Unattached Steward in the person of Bro. James Stephens, the Dagmar Lodge, No. 2262, Wraybury, having two strings to its bow. These five brethren compiled amongst them £199 10s., and, as the Province returned £52 10s. to the Old People in February, there is a good deal of ground to be covered in order to reach the total of 1894, when the amount raised for the three Charities was £590 16s., or even that of the year preceding, when the figure was £479 16s. In 1892, the year of the Benevolent Jubilee, the year's total was £705 15s., and in 1891, when Lord Carrington presided at the Festival of this Institution, it reached £511 1s.

Of the six lodges in

CAMBRIDGESHIRE,

one was represented, the Isaac Newton University Lodge, No. 859, Cambridge, whose Steward, Bro. R. Percy F. W. Simpson, returned £131 5s. It was an absentee in February, so that we shall, in all probability, hear of it in connection with the approaching Boys' School Festival. Last year it distributed £239 among the three Charities, and in 1893 £290 17s.; but in 1892 it confined its attention to the Benevolent Jubilee, the sum raised being £326 8s. These figures, though moderate, are highly creditable to a Province of such limited strength.

It is an agreeable surprise to find

CHESHIRE

taking part in Wednesday's gathering. It has long been known that Lord Egerton of Tatton, its Prov. G. Master, has undertaken to preside at the forthcoming Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and it is only natural that it should direct its energies towards ensuring as great an amount of success as possible for his lordship's presidency. It was unrepresented at the Benevolent Festival in February, and had it been so on this occasion likewise, its absence would have been only too readily condoned. However, three of its 46 lodges, each represented by two Stewards, will be found in the Returns we publish elsewhere, the sum of four of their lists being £42. As for its work in recent years, we have again and again pointed out that it has a well-organised Educational Institution, which has been more than 30 years in existence, and during that time has rendered important services to the children of Cheshire Masons, while only two years since it subscribed about £3000 towards the foundation of a Benevolent Fund. Moreover in 1891, it raised £1184 10s., of which the Boys' School received £1050 and the Girls' School the remainder, and in 1892 the total of its contributions was £2169 10s., of which £1988 10s. was subscribed for the Benevolent Jubilee, £117 12s. for this School and £62 8s. for the Boys' School.

We now come to the "Chairman's Province" of

CORNWALL,

which, though it has 30 lodges on its roll, is by no means a strong, or let us say rather, a wealthy Province; indeed, a glance at the places in which its lodges are held, as shown in the Grand Lodge Calendar, will suffice to show that, however devoted they may be in their attachment to Masonry, its principles, and its Institutions, the bulk of them must be limited in membership. However, those who have been at the pains of reading our Festival Analyses during the last dozen years must have learnt ere this that Cornwall gives generously of its means. Thus in 1890 it raised £380 1s. for the three Charities, and in 1891 £289 15s. for the Benevolent Institution and Boys' School, while in 1892, when its Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcombe, who the year previous had been appointed Deputy Grand Master of England, presided at the Jubilee Festival of the Benevolent Institution, it raised the very considerable sum of £776 15s. In 1893 it contributed £225 15s. towards the Boys' School and apportioned £241 10s. not very unequally between the Schools in 1894. On Wednesday, as in 1892, Bro. E. D. Anderton acted as the representative of the Province, and there were five lodges, as compared with six in the latter year, which were specially represented, the Cornish Lodge in London, and one Steward as against two Unattached. In short at both these Festivals the Province and its lodges sent up a small but compact band of Stewards, of whom there were eight on Wednesday and nine in 1892, while the total in this case was £750, the principal list being necessarily that of Bro. Anderton, who compiled a total of £390 12s., while Bro. Chirgwin, of Mount Sinai Lodge, No. 121, was responsible for £73 10s. and Bro. Major Shanks, Unattached, for £52 10s.; the CHAIRMAN'S donation being £52 10s. This is most creditable for Cornwall, which though it comprises 30 lodges, is neither strong nor wealthy. However, we most heartily congratulate it on the loyalty it has exhibited towards its respected chief, and the latter on the generous support he has received from the lodges and brethren who have been placed under his charge.

DERBYSHIRE

began the year well in February, when it subscribed £297 10s. to the funds of the Benevolent Institution, the Province having for its representative Bro. W. H. Marsden, J.P., while five of its lodges sent Stewards. On Wednesday, there were only two Stewards, of whom one acted for the Buxton Lodge, No. 1688, Buxton, and the other was Unattached, the total of their lists being £68 5s. Last year it raised £648 5s. 6d., that is to say, £600 10s. 6d. for the Boys' School, and £47 15s. for this Institution. In 1893 its total was £1025 8s. 6d., of which all but £10 10s. was raised for the Boys' School, and in 1892 it reached the large sum of £1738 14s., there being contributed to the Benevolent Jubilee £1362 16s., to this Institution £126, and to the Boys' School £249 18s. In 1891 the Schools were supported, the Girls' being benefited to the extent of £136 10s., and the Boys' to that of £843 17s.

DURHAM,

with 36 lodges on its roll, made a prominent figure in the Returns for the Benevolent Festival in February, when its Provincial representative and that of one of its lodges compiled lists amounting together to £330 15s. On Wednesday a sum of £84 appears to the credit of the Province, but the name of the Steward has not yet been forwarded. Last year the total distributed among the three Institutions was £509 2s., and in 1893, £388 2s., but in 1892, the year of the Benevolent Jubilee, it reached £1034 2s., of which £720 5s. was in respect of the said Jubilee.

Of the 37 lodges on the roll of

ESSEX,

there were seven which sent up Stewards, and of these two—Nos 1343 and 2184—had part in the Benevolent Festival last February. The total of the lists, including £105, compiled by Bro. C. E. Egerton Green, of the Angel Lodge, No. 51, and £64 1s. by Bro. C. Westwood, of St. John's Lodge, No. 1343, amounted to £207 2s. 6d. In February the Stewards were 10 in number, one

being Unattached, and the other nine acting for lodges, the amount they obtained being £324 7s. Last year, the total distributed amongst the three Institutions was £1123, of which this Institution had the good fortune to secure £723 13s., while the balance was pretty equally divided between the "Old People" and "Our Boys." In 1893, when the Prov. Grand Master acted as Chairman at the Boys' Festival, the year's total was £2258 3s. 6d., of which all but £102 17s. 6d. was received by the Boys' School. In 1893, including £2318 2s. 6d. for the Benevolent Jubilee, it reached £2608 5s., and in 1891, £1648, of which £1265 15s. 6d. was in support of the Boys' School.

The representatives of

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

with Bro. R. V. Vassar Smith, P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M. at their head, were six in number, the remaining five being Stewards from five out of the 15 lodges in the Province, and the total they together compiled £224 14s. This is a decided advance on the contributions to the Benevolent Institution in February, when three Stewards returned by two lodges, and the chapter attached to one of them, made up the modest total of £44 11s. In 1894, the subscriptions amounted to £428 6s. 6d., the Benevolent Institution receiving £78 10s.; the Girls' School, £249 16s. 6d., and the Boys' School, £105. In 1893, they were on a somewhat smaller scale, totalling only £304 18s. 6d., the Girls' School being the favoured Charity; but, in 1892, when Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., Prov. G. Master, took the chair at the Boys' School Festival, the year's subscriptions amounted to £1729 11s., of which "Our Boys" obtained £1645 11s.

Five of the 48 lodges on the roll of

HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT

were represented by as many brethren, of whom Bro. Loveland-Loveland, of the Sandown Lodge, No. 1869, Sandown (I.W.), will also be found among the House Committee in the London section of the Board. These brethren compiled a total of £185 5s., the principal list being that of Bro. Francis Newman, of the East Medina Lodge, No. 175, which amounted to £63. In February, three Stewards returned £142 5s. 6d. Last year the Old People received £208 18s. 6d.; the Girls' School £477 19s., and the Boys' School £264 12s., making the total for 1894, £951 9s. 6d. In 1893 it was on a smaller scale and reached only £680 4s., but in 1892, the Province gave £1650 17s., of which £1345 19s. 7d. was towards the Benevolent Jubilee. The Returns for 1891 were £695 11s. 6d., and as there has latterly been organised an Educational and Benevolent Fund for those brethren in the Province and their families who need assistance, it is beyond question that the Charity of Hants and the Isle of Wight fails not in the discharge of its duties and responsibilities.

It looks very much as if the Province of

HERTFORDSHIRE

were bent on beating the records of all previous years, those of 1892, when the Benevolent Jubilee was celebrated, and 1893, when the chair was taken by Bro. C. E. Keyser, a leading Hertfordshire Mason, at the Benevolent Institution, being excepted. At all events, in February last, the sum of £452 3s. 6d. was raised for the Old People, while on Wednesday, when the Stewards were eight in number, two—Bros. C. O. Burgess and W. Baddeley—being Unattached, and the others for seven of the 22 lodges on its roll, the total of the lists was £353 5s. 6d., that of Bro. Keyser, as the representative of the Bushey Hall Lodge, No. 2323, and No. 2518, which bears his name and meets at Hoddesdon, amounting to £91 17s. 6d. In 1894 the total was £958 6s. 6d., of which the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution received £464 9s. 6d., this Institution £227 6s. 6d., and the Boys' School £266 8s. 6d. In 1893, when, as we have said, Bro. Keyser presided at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the year's total was £2106 14s., and in 1892, the year of the Benevolent Jubilee, £2135 6s. 6d.

There were fewer Stewards from the Province of

KENT

on Wednesday than at the Benevolent Festival last February, but on both occasions there were five lodges out of 61 which sent Stewards, and on both Bro. F. Hughes Hallett was Unattached. Only at the earlier of the two Festivals, one of the represented lodges had three Stewards, while on Wednesday each lodge sent a single representative. In February, the total of the lists was £253 11s. 6d., one of the nine brethren having his Return included in the London section; on Wednesday it totalled up £228 18s., the most important item being £78 15s. obtained by Bro. Geo. Wilks, M.B., of the Spar Lodge, No. 2305. In 1894, the sum distributed among the Charities was £1225 10s. 6d., the share of the Benevolent Institution being £582 17s.; that of the Girls' School, £239 5s. 6d.; and that of the Boys' School, £403 6s. In 1893 it amounted to £2103 12s. 6d.; in 1892, the year of the Benevolent Jubilee, it was £3003 13s. 6d.; and in 1892, when Earl Amherst, P.G.M., presided at the Festival of the same Charity, it was £4018 6s., of which the favoured Institution received £3483 14s. 6d.

We regret to find that the Province of

LANCASHIRE (EASTERN DIVISION)

is not more strongly represented than at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in February last, the only difference being that on Wednesday three of its 108 lodges sent up Stewards, while in February one lodge was entered, but there was no Return, and there were two Stewards Unattached, whose contributions amounted to £21. As regards contributions, this Institution, however, has fared better, the total amounting up to £138 15s. As it has 11 girls in the School, and shares with other Provinces the responsibility of furnishing three others, this sum is not excessive. However, it is organising a Festival in aid of its own Systematic Educational and Benevolent Institution, and we presume, therefore, that this will absorb the bulk of its subscriptions during the current year. In 1891 it raised £1278 0s. 6d., most of which was received by the Boys' School, while this Institution and the Benevolent shared the remainder between them. In 1892 the year's total was £2824 15s., of which £2567 5s. was subscribed towards the Benevolent Jubilee; in 1893 it stood as low as £389 18s., and in 1894 at £772 7s. 4d.

Five of the 111 lodges in

LANCASHIRE (WESTERN DIVISION),

were represented by six Stewards, and there was also a Brother Unattached, the seven lists making up a total of £126 14s. In February, three lodges contributed by the hands of five Stewards, £132 6s. of which £105 was returned by the representatives of the Prince Edward Lodge, No. 2109, Heaton Moor. In 1894, the chair at the Festival of this School was taken by the Earl of Lathom, who is Grand Master of this Province, as well as Pro Grand Master, or rather by his son, Lord Skelmersdale, acting on his behalf, and the Province, supported his lordship to the extent of £2500, the subscriptions to the other two Institutions raising the total for the year to £2768 2s. 6d. In 1893, the sum was only £792 18s., while in 1892, when the Benevolent Jubilee was held, it reached £1697 14s. 6d.; but in 1891, when a great effort was made to restore the somewhat dilapidated fortunes of the Boys' School, and Lord Lathom took the chair at the Anniversary Festival, this Province raised £6126 14s. 4d., the total for the whole year being £6341 19s. 4d. Add to this that the Province has three Charities to meet its own necessities, one Educational and the others for Male and Widow Annuitants respectively, and we have no difficulty in realising that though West Lancashire may occasionally figure among the smaller contributors, it bears its full share in supporting the central Institutions.

There were seven out of the 41 lodges in

MIDDLESEX,

which sent up Stewards to Wednesday's Festival. Bro. E. Monson, who acted in that capacity for the Villiers Lodge, No. 1194, Hampton Court, doing duty for a London lodge and a London chapter likewise. The total compiled by these was £227 17s., the principal item being the £81 18s. obtained by Bro. Monson, representing the Villiers Lodge, No. 1194, Hampton Court. In February, four lodges represented by six brethren, contributed £168 10s., so that the Province has done well thus far during the current year, especially as Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., has kindly arranged to preside at the Festival of the Benevolent Institution in February, 1896. Last year, the R.M.B.I. received £160 18s., this Institution £506 1s., and the Boys' School, £376 18s. 6d., giving a total for the year of £1043 17s. 6d. In 1893, the subscriptions were on a modest scale, and amounted to only £630 18s.; while, in 1892, including £1315 9s. 6s. for the Benevolent Jubilee, they reached £1619 15s. 6d. In 1891, the total was £540 2s.; but, in 1890 when the late Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., presided at the Girls' School Festival it was £1387 15s.

NORFOLK,

which has 17 lodges on its roll, placed its interests in charge of Bro. H. J. Sparkes, as its representative, and he had the good fortune to raise £205 5s. Last year it raised £134 13s. for the Boys' School, and the year previous £78 15s. for this Institution, while, in 1892, it figured in the Returns at the Benevolent Jubilee Festival for £1406 5s., and, in 1891, at the Boys' School for £225 5s. As the Province is largely agricultural, we regard these figures as satisfactory.

Bro. the Earl of Euston, Prov. G. Master of

NORTHANTS AND HUNTS.

and Bro. Adkins, No. 1911, were the representatives of this Province, and they are entered as having contributed £31 10s. towards the general total. In February last, a member of one of the 14 lodges under his lordship's charge returned £10 10s., so that the Province, thanks to the action of these members, has kept itself out of the list of absentee Provinces. Last year it raised in all £328 7s., of which the Old People received £202 7s., this Institution £26 5s., and the Boys' School £99 15s., Lord Euston taking part in all three gatherings. In 1893, when his lordship was Chairman at the Festival of this Charity, the total for the year was £1107 12s., of which £1050 was subscribed to this School. In 1892 it raised £388 10s., of which nearly all was subscribed to the Benevolent Jubilee.

The last occasion on which the Province of

NORTHUMBERLAND

made any effective appearance was at the Boys' School Festival, when it raised £136 4s. Since then it has contributed £105 to the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892, and £04 10s. to the same Charity the year following, while in 1894 it figured in the Boys' School Returns for £80 10s. On Wednesday Bro. R. H. Holmes, P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M., took the Province under his charge and was rewarded for his labours with the splendid list of £2315 5s., the lodges in the Province, which has thus acquitted itself so creditably, being 25 in number. This is the highest list we have met with in our experience, and we most sincerely congratulate both Bro. Holmes and the Province of Northumberland on the result.

Two of the 19 lodges in

NORTH WALES

had Stewards acting in their behalf, and there were also two Unattached Stewards—Bro. C. K. Benson, whose name is familiar enough to the student of our Festival Returns and Mrs. Kershaw, the wife of one of the lodge Stewards. The sum raised by the four is £57 15s. In February, the representatives of three lodges and a brother Unattached compiled a total of £57 15s. In 1892, there was subscribed towards the Benevolent Jubilee £224 14s.; to the Girls' School, £30 15s.; and to the Boys' School, £234 3s., making a total of £495 12s.; in 1893, the year's Returns reached £474 18s., of which the Boys' School secured the largest portion; and in 1894 they amounted to £400 17s. 6d., the Boys' School again being chiefly benefited with £291 4s.

OXFORDSHIRE

with its 12 lodges, is regular in its attendance at the Festivals of all our Charities, and on important occasions its Returns are high in proportion to its strength. This year it began somewhat indifferently. Three of its lodges sent up Stewards, but one of them failed to make any return, and the other two raised only £21 2s. between them. On Wednesday, the number of represented lodges was again three, but one of them—the Alfred, No. 340, Oxford—had three Stewards, and the Bertie, No. 1515, Oxford, two, the total compiled by the six brethren being £150 19s. Last year, the total included £122 10s. 6d. to the Benevolent Institution; £91 18s. 6d. to the Girls' School; and £97 6s. to the Boys' School; in all £312 1s. In 1893, it reached £440 4s. 6d., and in 1892, £631 19s. 6d., of which the Benevolent Jubilee absorbed £428 7s.; while in 1891, it was £414 2s., of which the Boys' School obtained £246 9s.

Only one of the 12 lodges—the Salopian, No. 262, Shrewsbury—in

SHROPSHIRE

took part in Wednesday's celebration, the sum raised by Bro. Alexander Graham, as its representative, being £36 15s. At the Benevolent Festival in February the total was £136 10s., the Prov. G. Master—Bro. Sir O. Wakeman, Bart.—with £73 10s., and Bros. W. L. Southwell and the Rev. H. K. Southwell, with a joint list of £63, being the Stewards. In 1893 and 1894, the contributions from this quarter were on a small scale, but in 1892 they reached £615 15s. 6d., of which £456 1s. was subscribed towards the Benevolent Jubilee. In 1891, £455 9s. 6d. was subscribed, of which not far short of one half found its way into the coffers of the Boys' School. But its greatest achievements have been connected with our Girls' School, to the Centenary of which it contributed £770 15s., while in 1887, when its Prov. G. Master, then newly-installed into office, presided at the 99th Festival of the Charity, the sum raised by the Province was £1022 7s. At this time, Shropshire had been organised as a separate Province for less than two years.

After the splendid work which

SOMERSETSHIRE

did at the Benevolent Festival in February, when Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, Prov. G. Master, occupied the chair, and the Province with its 26 lodges raised £1057 17s. 6d., we were hardly prepared to find it taking part in any further Festival celebrations during the current year. Yet Bro. William Rice, of the Eldon Lodge, No. 1755, Portishead, handed in a list of £37 16s., which, under the circumstances, is none the less welcome, because it is moderate in amount. Last year the Province was absent from all the three Festivals, but in 1892, it raised £841 15s., of which upwards of £600 was in behalf of the Benevolent Jubilee, while the balance was shared between the Schools. In 1888 it subscribed very little short of £1000 to the Girls' School.

Bro. W. G. Davies did duty as the representative of

SOUTH WALES, EASTERN DIVISION,

with its 19 lodges and the amount of his list, which included a donation of £52 10s. by Bro. Lord Llangattock, P.G.M., was £300. In 1894 its contribution to the Boys' School, the same Bro. Davies being the Steward who raised it, was £350. In 1893 this Institution was favoured, the amount subscribed in its behalf being £325 10s., while in 1892, the total was £501 15s. 6d., of which £180 was for the Benevolent Jubilee and £321 15s. 6d. for the Boys' School. In 1891 the amount was £479 15s., and of this the Old People had the good fortune to obtain £380.

The 31 lodges in

STAFFORDSHIRE

were represented collectively by Bro. W. H. Builey, who also figures in the London action of the Board as Steward of the Anchor Lodge, No. 1704, while

four of the lodges sent up their own representatives. The total of the lists reached £240 9s., the chief item being the £103 19s. compiled by Bro. Bailey. In February the sum of £152 5s. was raised by two Stewards for the Old People, Bro. A. Dewsbury, of St. Matthew's Lodge, No. 539, Walsall, being responsible for £89 5s. of this, and Bro. Bailey, Unattached, for the balance of £63. Last year £428 8s. was apportioned between the Schools, the Girls' School receiving £181 13s., and the Boys' School £246 15s. In 1893 the total was slightly less—£424 7s. 6d.—and the Boys' School obtained £355 12s., while in 1892 and 1891 the totals differed by a few shillings only, that for the former year reaching £762 2s., of which £392 10s. was subscribed for the Benevolent Jubilee, and that for the latter, £761 15s. 6d., of which £452 0s. 6d. was raised for the Boys' School.

At the Benevolent Festival in February the Province of

SUFFOLK

was in great force, eight of its 22 lodges and the chapters attached to three of them being successful in raising £655 17s. On Wednesday, three lodges, which had taken no part in the proceedings in February, sent up Stewards, who amongst them compiled a total of £125 9s. 6d. Last year, the sum of £809 5s. was distributed amongst the three Charities, and in 1893, £533 9s. 6d., but in 1892, the very large sum of £1449 4s. was raised, and of this £1291 14s. was subscribed for the Benevolent Jubilee. These Returns are in the highest degree creditable, as the Province is mainly agricultural.

There are some 40 lodges on the roll of

SURREY,

and of these seven took part in Wednesday's celebration, the result of their efforts being shown by a total of £253 13s., the heaviest list being that of Bro. Hugh Taylor, who represented the Lorne Lodge, No. 1347, and had the satisfaction of obtaining £60 18s. In February, six lodges, with seven Stewards and an Unattached brother, compiled a total of £178 3s. 6d. These Returns reflect great credit upon a Province which, in 1894, was called upon to support its Provincial Grand Master as Chairman of the Benevolent Festival, and responded loyally by raising £1399 2s., the contributions to the Schools augmenting the total for the year to £1673 4s. 6d. In 1893, the total was £913 3s. 6d., but in 1892 it reached the formidable sum of £2817 19s. 6d., the Benevolent Jubilee being benefited to the extent of £2148 9s. 6d., and the Girls' and Boys' Schools with £219 and £450 19s. respectively.

SUSSEX

has done exceedingly well thus far. It began in February with a total of contributions to the Benevolent Festival amounting to £320 15s. 6d., there being 10 out of the 30 lodges in the Province represented. On Wednesday nine lodges took part in the meeting, the Tyrian Lodge, No. 1110, Eastbourne, having two, and the Stanford Lodge, No. 1947, Hove, three Stewards, while Bro. Thomas Wickham did duty for the South Down Lodge, No. 1797, Hurstpierpoint, and the Adur Lodge, No. 2187 Henfield. The total raised by these amounted to £418 3s., Bro. Dr. Ewart, of the Yarborough, No. 811, Brighton, being responsible for £81 18s. As for the contributions during the last four years, they stand very high. In 1891, 1893, and 1894, the Boys' School Festival was held at Brighton, and Sussex, as on previous similar occasions, took a prominent part in them, while in 1892, it subscribed heavily to the Benevolent Jubilee, and the Girls' School Festival, at which its Prov. G. Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, presided as chairman. The following are the totals for the four years, namely: in 1891, £1347 2s.; in 1892, £2227 4s.; in 1893, £1234 16s.; and in 1894, £1477 17s.

In February last, only one out of the 31 lodges in

WARWICKSHIRE

was represented at the Benevolent Festival, the sum to its credit being small, evidently the Steward's own personal donation. On Wednesday, four lodges took part in the Festival, the total of their lists being £212 2s. In 1874, £637 16s. 3d. was subscribed for the Institutions, the Benevolent Institution receiving out of it £264 0s. 3d.; and in 1893, £530 7s. 6d., out of which the Boys' School received £325 10s.; while in 1892, it stood as high as £2410 4s., of which £2186 was subscribed for the Benevolent Jubilee.

At the Benevolent Festival in February,

WORCESTERSHIRE

was transferred, at the last moment, from the list of absentee Provinces to that of the represented, Bro. T. R. Arter returning £42 as an Unattached Steward. At this gathering there were three out of the 13 lodges which furnished Stewards, with Bro. Arter, Unattached, their lists together amounting to £153 5s. The total last year reached £193 0s. 6d., of which £130 0s. 6d. was subscribed for the Old People. In 1893, the Province confined its attentions to the Schools, and raised for them £308 3s., while in 1892, it subscribed in all £498 5s. to the three Charities, of which £245 12s., or close upon one-half, fell to the share of the Benevolent Jubilee.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST)

was an absentee from the first Festival of the year, but on Wednesday Bro. Arthur Jones did duty as Steward for the York Lodge, No. 236, and handed in a list of £71 10s. 6d., while Bro. Carrick for the Cleveland Lodge, No. 543, Stokesley, gave in £10 10s., making the total £82 0s. 6d. We are, therefore, looking forward to this Province, which, be it remarked, musters 32 lodges, taking a part worthy of itself in the approaching Festival of the Boys' School. In 1894, including £301 19s. subscribed to the Boys' School, its contributions amounted to £441 15s.; in 1893, to £424 4s.; and in 1892, to £733 4s., of which all but £15 15s. was raised for the Benevolent Jubilee.

Last year the Province of

YORKSHIRE (WESTERN DIVISION)

exerted itself so successfully, especially in behalf of the Boys' School, at the Festival of which Bro. Jackson, M.P., Prov. Grand Master, occupied the chair, that it was not surprising to find its Returns at the Benevolent Festival last February at the comparatively low figure of £441, the number of brethren who acted as Stewards being 16. On Wednesday it was far more strongly represented, there being 47 Stewards, of whom 17 hailed from the Alfred Lodge, No. 306, Leeds, which will shortly celebrate the centenary of its constitution, while the total they raised was £921. The total for 1894, inclusive of the £4559 15s. raised for the Boys' School Festival, as before noticed, reached £6697 5s.

The Province of

GUERNSEY AND ALDERNEY,

was constituted last year, and Bro. J. B. Cockburn, who was then installed Prov. G. Master, figures in the Returns for a personal donation of £10 10s. It took no part in the recent Benevolent Festival, nor, indeed, considering the paucity of its lodges, and its remoteness from headquarters, would it be just to expect that it should contribute largely and frequently. However, in 1892 it raised over £240 for the Benevolent Jubilee, and the year following £57 10s. for the same Institution, and £31 10s. for the Girls' School. Last year Bro. Cockburn served as Steward for the Old People and the Girls' School, his list on each occasion being limited to his personal donation of £10 10s.

One of the nine lodges in the Province of the

ISLE OF MAN

sent up a Steward in the person of Bro. George C. Heron, who as representing the St. Germans Lodge, No. 2164, Peel, compiled a list of £26 10s. Last year the Province contributed £46 4s. to this Institution, and in 1893 £31 10s. to the Boys' School, while in 1892 it raised £52 10s. for the Benevolent Jubilee and

£46 3s. for "Our Girls." These are small sums but they serve to exhibit the goodwill of this distant Province to our Charitable Institutions.

The remaining Stewards, to the number of half a dozen, hailed from various Foreign Stations, the two whose lists have been received being Bro. John Kenyon, of the Lodge of St. John and St. Paul, No. 349, Malta, who figures for £10 10s., and Bro. William Pine, of the St. George's Lodge (Scottish Constitution), whose list is £20. We dare say Bro. Hedges would gladly include more of these outlying districts in his Festival Returns.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

Having completed our usual examination of the figures, and noted such matters as appear to deserve comment, it remains for us once again to express the satisfaction we have derived from discharging this part of our duty—that of commenting on a total which is so much in excess of what was anticipated.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

Monday last was fixed as the day for the Chairman of the 107th Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls to attend at the Institution at St. John's Hill, Battersea-rose, to distribute the prizes won during the year by the pupils of the School. The Earl of Mount Edgcumbe was not, however, able to be present, and the House Committee had to seek another Chairman for the day. Him they found in the Earl of Euston, Provincial Grand Master of Norths and Hunts, and they also had the good fortune to secure the services of his lordship's niece, Miss Sybil Harbord, in the distribution. The Stewards of the festival attended, with the ladies of their families, in large numbers, and there was a gathering of visitors amounting altogether to nearly 650 persons.

The day was most beautifully fine, and the ladies and brethren who attended had the advantage of seeing the Schools and grounds under the most favourable conditions. Among the brethren who took a prominent and active part in the proceedings of the day were Bros. Robert Grey, Edward Letchworth, G. Sec., A. C. Spaul, Frank Richardson, Col. James Peters, Sir John B. Monckton, Ernest St. Clair, T. W. Whitmarsh, C. J. R. Tijou, W. G. Kentish, F. R. W. Hedges (Secretary), Dr. Balfour Cockburn, Rear-Admiral Markham, J. S. Peirce, J. H. Matthews, T. H. Gardiner, R. Loveland Loveland, Peter de Lande Long, Edward Terry, Eugene Monteuis, H. A. Hunt, and Ralph Clutton.

The entertainment provided for the visitors consisted of the usual programme, but with the difference that the improvement in the performances was very marked. The execution of the singing and music was far in advance of anything witnessed previously at these annual meetings, while the recitation of Anita Thorne left no doubt at all as to who should have Mrs. Sykes-Bailey's prize for elocution.

The singing of the Old Hundredth Psalm opened the proceedings, and then followed the playing by 16 hands on eight pianos Ed. German's Dance from "Henry VIII.," the singing of a part song, conducted by Mrs. Roworth, Behrend's "Voice of Spring," the recitation of "The Pride of Battery B," by Anita Thorne, the playing by 48 hands on eight pianos of a trio from the "Ouverture Barbier de Seville," and the singing of the part song "Gentle Swallow." Miss Harbord then presented a portion of the prizes, after which there was more pianoforte playing, part singing and recitations, and the distribution of the remainder of the prizes. At this point,

Bro. ROBERT GREY said this closed the exhibition of part of what the girls could do, but he felt sure, after the kind expressions of applause the company had given during the performance, that one and all would wish him to express in their name his sincere thanks to Miss Harbord for distributing the prizes so gracefully, kindly, and feelingly. From what Miss Harbord had said to him during the afternoon, it was clear that it was not a mere perfunctory act that she had been performing, but it was one she felt a great deal of pleasure in doing, and she congratulated the Institution and all connected with it on the happy result of their labours.

The Earl of EUSTON, in acknowledging Bro. Grey's kind remarks, said he thanked them on behalf of his niece and himself, who had had very great pleasure in attending that day. She was so ready to come that when she was asked she immediately telegraphed her acceptance of the offer. To her, as well as to him, it was a very great pleasure to see the Institution succeeding so well in the object for which it was originated. He took the opportunity of congratulating Miss Davis on the success the children had had in their examinations, and on the excellent condition of the School, which was a result of the admirable rules under which the School was governed. It could easily be seen that their efforts were highly appreciated. To the pupils he would say—those who had taken the junior prizes, should endeavour to get higher, and he hoped that on another occasion they would take higher prizes. Never say they had done enough, but do their best to get higher and higher. They all tried to do their best, but they should go on striving to do better. By so doing they would be bringing credit on themselves, on the Institution, and on all who tried their hardest to take care of them.

Light refreshments were afterwards partaken of, and then Miss Davis put the Girls through their calisthenic exercises, which won general applause.

The Earl of EUSTON, at the close of the performance, made some more remarks to the same effect as in his previous address, stating, however, that while he had for many years been drilling in different parts of the country, he had never seen it done so well as it had been that day. It reflected great credit on Miss Davis and her staff. He had seen the exercise at this Institution several times before, but he had never seen it so admirably performed. He particularly praised the children for their attention to their governesses, and again exhorted them to follow up with earnestness what they had begun, and so reflect honour on the Institution which had taken care of them.

The remainder of the evening was spent in dancing, and in viewing the building and its accessories.

The following is the list of prizes:

PRESENTED BY THE INSTITUTION.

Gold Medal for Proficiency (with £5 by the late Bro. William Winn)—Helena Tims.
 Silver Medal for Good Conduct (with £5 by the late Bro. Wm. Winn)—Elsie Mackey.
 Cambridge Local Examinations (23 entered, all passed). Senior. Class II. Honours—Nellie Cooper (Silver Medallist, 1894). Satisfied Examiners—Florence Bexfield (Gold Medallist, 1894). Junior. Class I. Honours—Helena Tims, distinction in Religious Knowledge and Arithmetic; Ethel Sanders (with £5 by Bro. D. P. Cama), distinction in Religious Knowledge and French. Class II. Honours—Mary Baverstock, distinction in Religious Knowledge, English, and Drawing; Mabel Bohli, distinction in Religious Knowledge and French. Class III. Honours—Ada Turton, Olga Tattenborn (distinction in Religious Knowledge), and Dora Ireson.

Satisfied Examiners—Ethel Michael, Alice Taverner, Grace Goodchild, Winifred Chinneck, Grace Glenny, Enid Pennington, Elsie James, Edith Hopgood, Eliza Hamer, Clara O'Hara, Constance Green, Hilda Liverd, Fanny Campbell, and Ruby Webster.

College of Preceptors' Examination (54 entered, 48 passed)—Prize Winners—Edith Melhuish (Distinction in Drawing), Margaret Vivian, and Beatrice Turner.

Proficiency in Lower Classes—3rd, Alice Bingham; 4th, Rose Davis; 5th, Gladys Jones; 6th, Emma Hardy; and 7th, Edith Hobson.

Needlework—Amelia Thaw, Winifred Belton, Lilian Astington, and Selina Booth.
 Order and Attention (as proved by Conduct Marks throughout the year)—Eliza Pether and Agnes Le Gros.

PRESENTED BY FRIENDS OF THE INSTITUTION.

Religious Knowledge (Bro. Robt. Grey)—Helena Tims, Mary Baverstock, Ethel Sanders, Mabel Bohli, Ada Turton, and Olga Tattenborn.

English Subjects (Bro. A. C. Spaul)—Mary Baverstock.

Arithmetic and Mathematics (Bro. Thomas Fenn)—Helena Tims.

Music—1st Prize (Bro. J. H. Matthews) Elsie Mackey; 2nd Prizes (The "Wentworth Little.")—Gwendoline Robson, Muriel Smith, and Dorothy Besly; 3rd Prizes (An Ex-Pupil)—Grace Glenny, Marie Gregory, and Mabel Messenger.

Singing (Bro. J. H. Matthews)—Helena Tims and Anita Thorne.

French (Bro. Eugene Monteuis)—Mabel Bohli, Ada Turton, and Hilda Liverd.

French—Special Prize, distinguished in Cambridge Exam. (Bro. Oscar Philippe)—Ethel Sanders.

Drawing (The "John Boyd.")—Mary Baverstock and Edith Melhuish.

Elocution—(Mrs. Sykes-Bailey)—Anita Thorne.

Good Conduct (The Supreme Council, 33°)—1st Prize, Enid Pennington.

Good Conduct (Bro. Frank Richardson)—2nd Prizes, Ida Wilkinson and Madeline Blyth.

The Best Perfect (Bro. Ralph Clutton)—Elsie Mackey.

Cookery (Bro. D. P. Cama)—1st Prize (£5), Ida Wilkinson.

Cookery (Bro. Henry A. Hunt)—2nd Prizes, Anita Thorne and Edith Melhuish.

Cookery (Mrs. H. Homewood Crawford)—3rd Prizes, Winifred Chinneck and Fanny Campbell.

Shorthand (Bro. R. Loveland Loveland)—Florence Bexfield (Pitman's Theory Certificate).

Type-Writing (Bro. W. G. Kentish)—Agnes Saville and Florence Sissons.

Usefulness in Domestic Duties (The "Yates," St. James' Lodge, No. 342)—Edith Cooper, Agnes Saville, and Florence Sissons.

Calisthenics and Deportment (Bro. Col. James Peters)—Mabel Cookes and Kathleen Luke.

Swimming (Lady Monckton)—Alice McCue, Henrietta Staff, and Clara Hodgson.

Amiability (Bro. John Faulkner) (Selected by her Schoolfellows)—Ruby Webster.

JUNIOR SCHOOL.

General Proficiency (Bro. Frank Richardson)—Mary Maslen.

Arithmetic (The "Henry Levander")—Nellie Bleakley.

Perseverance and Attention (Bro. W. G. Kentish)—Nora Floyd.

A SCRAP OF MASONIC HISTORY.

The following paragraph from the *London Journal* of 16th June, 1722, may possibly interest some of the readers of the *Freemason*. I have no recollection of having previously met with any reference to it.

H. SADLER.

"A few days ago, a select Body of the Society of Free Masons waited on the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount Townshend, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, to signify to his Lordship, That being obliged by their Constitutions, to hold a General meeting now at Midsummer, according to annual Custom, they hoped the Administration would take no Umbrage at that Convention, as they were all zealously affected to his Majesty's Person and Government. His Lordship received the Intimation in a very affable manner; telling them, he believed they need not be apprehensive of any Molestation from the Government, so long as they went on nothing more dangerous than the ancient Secrets of the Society; which must be of a very harmless nature, because, as much as mankind love Mischief, no Body ever betray'd them."

Craft Masonry.

Henry Mugeridge Lodge (No. 1679).—An emergency meeting of this well-known lodge was held on Saturday, the 20th ultimo, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, when there were present Bros. John W. Woodthorpe, W.M.; T. Sibley, S.W.; R. J. Hall, J.W.; A. Sack, P.M., Treas.; G. Clarke, P.M., Sec.; C. J. Sowton, S.D.; J. W. Gomm, J.D.; W. Boyce, I.P.M.; Stampfer, P.M.; A. J. Street, P.M.; S. W. Reddall, P.M.; A. Rawles, Tyler; Horace Laws, T. P. Baragwanth, C. W. Hiscocks, T. F. Strutt, Paul Bevan, G. I. Storey, C. E. Blogg, A. E. Patman, and R. T. West.

The lodge having been opened, the W.M. raised Bro. A. E. Patman to the Third Degree, and afterwards passed Bros. Hiscocks, Baragwanth, Bevan, and Storey. Bro. Woodthorpe's working of the ritual was performed in a manner that it would be impossible to excel. The lodge was then closed, and a substantial supper followed.

After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, Bro. W. Boyce, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," observing that his year of office was nearly at an end. When he handed over the gavel to his successor there would be the unanimous verdict of "well done."

Bro. Woodthorpe, W.M., responded. He was extremely grateful to them for the very hearty reception they had accorded to the toast. It was, he expected, the last occasion on which he would be in a position to thank them from that chair, but he assured them that he should never forget the many kindnesses he had received at their hands whilst acting as Master of the lodge. He was exceptionally pleased that evening—in being an emergency meeting without the inducement of a banquet—to find the lodge so well attended, as it went to show that the members of the Henry Mugeridge Lodge appreciated the working quite as much as they, in common with all Masons, enjoyed the refreshment after labour. It had been a source of great satisfaction to him to have had a fair share of work to perform whilst occupying the chair, and though leaving it, he lived in hopes that he might still be of some service to the lodge, and he again thanked them for their hearty good wishes.

"The Past Masters and Officers" were next honoured.

Bro. Geo. Clark, P.M., Sec., whose name, together with those of Bros. Sibley, S.W., and Hall, J.W., was associated with the toast, responded. He stated that all the Past Masters and officers were willing at all times to do anything to further the interests of the lodge—which was in a prosperous condition—and each Master had been able to do everything asked of him. That was the last occasion the W.M. would preside, and he had well carried out his many duties. His successor, Bro. Sibley, the W.M. elect, would also make an excellent ruler. He earnestly hoped that the lodge would maintain its great reputation for the best of working, and he trusted that those who were coming on would make themselves efficient. Bro. Woodthorpe had broken the record, as that night was unique, it being the only emergency meeting the lodge had ever had.

Bro. Sibley, W.M. elect, also replied, remarking that the officers had before them a bright example in their W.M., and they would do their hardest to follow in his footsteps. The W.M. had on all occasions given him good advice, and he and the other officers appreciated the kind opinion the W.M. had expressed of what they had done during his term of office. When he (Bro. Sibley) was installed he would do everything possible to merit the approval of the brethren, and he hoped the kindness he had received in the past would be extended to him in the future.

Bro. R. J. Hall, J.W., stated that in trying to emulate the Past Masters he hoped to give stability to the Henry Mugeridge Lodge.

Bro. Gomm, J.D., said as that was such a pleasant evening he should not be sorry to attend another emergency meeting.

Some excellent songs and recitations were well rendered by Bros. Strutt, C. E. Blogg ("Carl Brandt"), Sibley, R. J. Hall, Sowton, Horace Laws, Hiscocks, G. Clark, and Gomm, but a word of praise is due to Bros. Blogg and Laws for their great efforts.

PHENIX FIRE OFFICE,
19, LOMBARD ST., & 57, CHARING CROSS,
LONDON.—Established 1782.

Lowest Current Rates | Assured free of all Liability
Liberal and Prompt Settlements | Electric Lighting Rules supplied
W. C. MACDONALD, } Joint
F. B. MACDONALD, } Secretaries.

THE FOLLOWING HOTELS OF
THE MIDLAND RAILWAY
COMPANY will be found complete in all the
arrangements, and the charges moderate.

MIDLAND GRAND
(St. Pancras Station) London, N.W.

The new
VENETIAN ROOMS
at this Hotel
are available for Wedding Breakfasts, and Public and
Private and Masonic Banquets.

ADELPHI
(Near Central Station), LIVERPOOL.

QUEEN'S, LEEDS.

MIDLAND, BRADFORD.

MIDLAND, DERBY.

MIDLAND, MORECAMBE.

Tariffs on application.

Telegraphic Address—"MIDOTEL."

WILLIAM TOWLE, Hotels, &c., Manager.

Dining and Luncheon Carriages (1st and 3rd class) are
attached to express trains between London (St. Pancras)
and Glasgow (St. Enoch). Luncheons, Teas, Dinners and
other refreshments served *en route* at Midland Railway
Buffet prices. For times of departure and other particulars
see Midland and other Time Tables.

MONTAGUE MANSION
(Opposite the British Museum Entrance),
GREAT RUSSELL STREET, W.C.

Most conveniently situated for Business or Pleasure. Cab
Fare from "Montague Mansion" is One Shilling to nearly
all Railways, Theatres, and the Royal Courts of Justice.
Omnibuses to all parts for a few pence.
Bedroom, Bath, Breakfast, and Attendance, 5s. and 5s. 6d.
Night Porter: Telephone 2906. Terms Moderate.

FISH, POULTRY, GAME, OYSTERS.

JOHN GOW, LIMITED
86, OLD BROAD STREET, E.C.

(late 17, New Broad Street, E.C.),

12, HONEY LANE MARKET, CHEAPSIDE, E.C.,

93, THEOBALD'S RD., HOLBORN, W.C.,

AND

86, HIGH STREET, PECKHAM, S.E.

JOHN GOW, Limited, always have on sale the Largest
Stock in London of the Very Best Quality at Lowest Prices.
HIGH-CLASS PROVISION STORES (NOW OPENED),
50, 51, and 52, OLD BROAD STREET, E.C.

MONEY!

ADVANCES MADE UPON
PERSONAL SECURITY,
BILLS OF SALE, OR OTHERWISE,

At moderate interest, without delay.

NO FEES FOR INQUIRY.

Bona-fide Applicants only invited.

H. HART, 14, GLASSHOUSE STREET,
PICCADILLY CIRCUS, LONDON, W.

FOR ECONOMICAL AND
RESPECTABLE FUNERALS at stated charges.
To cover all expenses, exclusive of cemetery fees.

BRO. C. G. HATT,

UNDERTAKER,

82, HIGH STREET, KENSINGTON, W.
CREMATION AND EMBALMING.

Distance no object.

Orders by post or telegrams promptly attended to.
Price Lists free on application.

PICTURE FRAMES,
MASONS' CERTIFICATES, &c.,
FRAMED TO ANY DESIGN.

H. MORELL,

& 18, GREAT ST. ANDREW ST., BLOOMSBURY,
LONDON, W.C.

Importer and Manufacturer of all kinds of PICTURE
FRAME and ROOM MOULDINGS, Carver, Gilder, and
Mount Cutter, having the Largest Stock in the United
Kingdom, and a large staff of experienced Workmen, is
able to execute all orders at the lowest rate with dispatch.
Send for Pattern Book, containing all the newest Designs,
95 Pages, Post free for 6 Penny Stamps. Estimates given.
Telegrams, "Rabbitry, London."

SITUATION AS CLERK, TIME-
KEEPER, or any position of trust, WANTED. Any
brother knowing of an opening, please send communication
to O. 16, 2 Caroline-street, W.C., which will be thankfully
received.

THE FINEST OF SPIRITS IS
OLD GRANS SPECIAL TODDY,
THE CREAM OF

HIGHLAND WHISKIES
(Registered), carefully blended under our own supervision.
Guaranteed Ten Years Old.

See Reports of ARTHUR HILL HASSALL, M.D., London,
Author of "Food and its Adulteration;" EDWYN GODWYN
CLAYTON, F.I.C., F.C.S.; Dr. GILBERT D. SUTHER-
LAND, F.E.I.S., Consulting Analyst and Food Expert.
Specially retained by the National Food Reform Associa-
tion.

48s. per Dozen. Carriage paid on one doz. and upwards.
LODGES SUPPLIED UPON SPECIAL TERMS.

CHARLES WRIGHT & SON

(Established 1795.)

WIRKSWORTH and LONDON.

BONDED STORES—LEITH.

CAFE MONICO.
MASONIC TEMPLE.

BANQUETING ROOMS
FOR REGIMENTAL DINNERS, &c.

46, REGENT ST., & 19, SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, W.

ANDERTON'S HOTEL & TAVERN
FLEET STREET, LONDON.

F. H. CLEWOW, Proprietor.

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

The central position of Anderton's is unequalled for
Masonic Banquets, Public Dinners, Wedding Breakfasts,
Meetings of Creditors, Arbitrations, &c.

The RESTAURANT on Eastern Side of Hotel Entrance
is open to the public from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for Breakfasts,
Luncheons, Teas, and Dinners.

The 2s. Hot Luncheon, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., in Coffee
Room, unequalled.

Registered Address for Telegrams:—
CLEWOW, LONDON.

WASHINGTON HOTEL,
LIVERPOOL.

OPPOSITE LIME STREET STATION, L. & N.W. RAILWAY.

Centrally situated, comfortable beds, and every
accommodation.

Parties catered for on reasonable terms.

Proprietor, Bro. JOHN B. JOHNSTON.

COALS. COALS. COALS.

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

For Prices, see Daily Papers.

Trucks direct from the Colliery to every Railway Station.

BREE'S ROYAL HOTEL, JERSEY
Healthiest situation in St. Helier.
20 degrees cooler than the sea front.

BED AND BREAKFAST 5/6 AND 6/-.
FULL BOARD, ROOMS & SERVICE, 8/6 & 9/- per day.

Telegraphic Address—"BREE'S, JERSEY."

THE SHIP AND TURTLE.

Proprietor, Bro. C. J. PAINTER.

Best and oldest house in London for recherche
Masonic Banquets, Private Parties, and Dinners.

OUR TURTLE "THE ELIXIR OF LIFE,"
Vide faculty.

Purveyors to H.R.H. Prince of Wales, H.I.M. Emperor
of Russia, Dukes of Saxe Gotha, Connaught, Cambridge.
Manager, Bro. E. ASHBY.

LIVERPOOL—COMPTON HOTEL
UNRIVALLED FOR ITS COMFORT.

EXCELLENT CUISINE, & MODERATE FIXED CHARGES.
Adjacent to best shops, shipping offices, stations, etc.

BOURNEMOUTH.—"SOUTH-
CLIFFE."—A HEALTH RESORT, under
the residential management of E. P. PHILPOTS,
M.D., F.R.G.S. (formerly of Bourne Hall), and author
of the Masonic Song Book (see page vi.). Opposite
the Pier and Club, and directly facing sea. Fifty
visitors received en pension. Billiard-room, &c. Fixed
temperature. Five hundred feet of sea front. Pros-
pectus free.

MASONIC SONG.

"IN THIS OUR CALM RETREAT,"
By Bro. THOMAS SAMPSON,
Late 329, &c., &c.

Price 2s. per copy net.

LONDON:

GEORGE KENNING, 16 & 16a Great Queen-street, W.C.

THOMAS MORING,

Established 1791.

SEAL ENGRAVER, HERALDIC PAINTER, &c.

52, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

ILLUMINATED ADDRESSES IN THE BEST STYLE.

MASONIC AND HERALDIC BANNERS.

Send for Specimens of High Class Stationery, Visiting
Cards, and Dies gratis.

Also gratis on application:—Book of Examples of Monu-
mental Brasses, and Specimen Book of Brass Door Plates.

Catalogue of Seal Engraving, etc. (illustrated), 13 stamps.

MAY ELECTION, 1895.

To the Governors and Subscribers of the
ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT
INSTITUTION.

FOR
AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF
FREEMASONS, CROYDON.

The favour of your VOTE and INTEREST is respectfully
solicited on behalf of

JANE LOUISA SILLIFANT,

AGED 62.

Widow of the late Bro. EDWIN SILLIFANT (Professional
Accountant, Gresham Buildings), who died on the 19th
February, 1875.

Bro. EDWIN SILLIFANT was initiated in the Stability
Lodge, 207, in December, 1854; Member also, at the time
of his death, of the Acacia Lodge, 1309; P. Prov. G.D.
Middlesex; P.M. and P.Z. of more than one Lodge and
Chapter, Life-Governor to all the Masonic Charities, and
also on the Audit Committee for the Girls' School.

His widow, having passed through many untoward cir-
cumstances since her husband's death, through the misman-
agement of her Solicitor (now an outlaw), as also the
property vested in her husband reverting to his surviving
brothers, is now left entirely without an income and in too
delicate health to earn her living, she craves, therefore, the
sympathy and help of his Masonic Brethren.

The case is strongly recommended by—

Bros. *George Kenning, Vice-Patron, P.M. 192 and
1657, P.P.G.D. Middx., Upper Sydenham; *John Davies,
P.M. & Sec. 1309, P.P.G.D. Middx., 5, Finsbury Square,
E.C.; J. Addington, P.M. 217, and M.E.Z. 14, Peckham-
road, S.E.; W. Eckersall, P.M. 217, and Chapters 89 and
1275, 110, Lewisham-road, S.E.; T. Hinks, 217, 52,
Leyette Avenue, Clapham, S.W.; Marfleet, P.M. 217,
S18, and 322, 61, Chriss-street, E.; J. Nixon, P.M. 217,
44, Great Tower-street, E.C.

Proxies will be thankfully received by those marked *;
or by the Widow, 30, Rockley-road, Shepherd's Bush
Green, W.

Illustrated Tariff Post Free.

FUNERALS OF EVERY
DESCRIPTION.

LONDON NECROPOLIS Co.,
188, WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD,
2, LANCASTER PLACE, STRAND.

Telephone No. 2879.

Established 1808.

MATTHEWS, DREW, & CO.,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
STATIONERS, PRINTERS, LITHOGRAPHERS
ACCOUNT BOOK MAKERS.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED.

"THE PROFESSIONAL NOTE,"
A High-class Vellum Paper, with Rough or Satin Surface.
SAMPLES ON APPLICATION.

Send for Illustrated Price List Free.

MATTHEWS, DREW, & COMPANY,
37 & 38, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.
(Opposite Chancery Lane).
Law Writing Department—10, GRAY'S INN PLACE, W.C.

FREEMASON WANTS SITUA-
TION in any capacity. Age 32. Life character,
Address, C. B., 28 Claremont-square, Islington, N.

FOR SALE, £4 4s.

GOULD'S HISTORY OF FREE-
MASONRY,
Morocco. Published Price, £5 5s.
Freemason Office, 16 & 16a, Great Queen-street, London,
W.C.

CANVASSERS and COLLECTORS
Wanted by the London and Manchester Industrial
Assurance Company in London and country; life and
medical life assurances; liberal terms to suitable men.
Apply by letter to MANAGING DIRECTOR, 42 to 47,
Southwark Exchange, London.

"THE CYNTHIA QUARTETTE."
UNACCOMPANIED MALE VOICES.

Alto, Bro. FRED HOWARD, *Tenor*, Bro. REYNOLDS WOOD,
Baritone, Bro. ALBERT RAYMENT,
Basso, Bro. ARTHUR JOHNSON.

The above Quartette is open to accept engagements in London or Provinces for Masonic Gatherings.

Glees, Part Songs, Plantation Melodies, and Solos. The whole of the Music provided for Consecrations, Installations, and Banquets.

For terms and vacant dates, apply to—
SECRETARY, 1 CHATSWORTH RD., BRONDESBURY, N.W.

MAYO'S CASTLE HOTEL,
EAST MOLESEY, HAMPTON COURT STATION
(Adjoining the RAILWAY, and facing the RIVER and PALACE).

BRO. JOHN MAYO has ample accommodation in the new wing of this old-established and noted Riverside Hotel for Banquets for any number up to 100. Every convenience for Ladies' Gatherings. Spacious landing to river, whence Steam Launches can start. Specimens of Menus, with prices, sent on application. Five Lodges meet at the Castle Hotel, and reference may be made to the respective Masters as to the catering, &c.

BAN ST. MARTIN, near METZ.

Beautifully situated in the neighbourhood of the Battlefields of St. Privat, Gravelotte, and Mars la Tour.

A COMFORTABLE HOME,
Combining an agreeable Country Life with the amusements of the Town.

Facilities for acquiring the French and German Languages. GENTLEMEN RECEIVED EN PENSION.

HIGHEST ENGLISH REFERENCES.
FOR TERMS, &c., APPLY, BRO. OTTO GRUENHALDT.

THE ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS,
EARLSWOOD, REDHILL, SURREY.

SECOND APPLICATION.

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

SILVANUS GUY WOOD,
Aged 9 years.

His father is a Commercial Traveller on commission, residing at Bellevue, Uckfield, Sussex. His mother, who suffered from epilepsy, is dead. Five children are dependent on their father, between the ages of 7 and 15 years. SILVANUS has been imbecile from birth. The Case is for election by Part Payment of £21 per annum.

This case is strongly recommended by the following Ladies and Gentlemen—

J. Cooper, Esq., J.P., Campbell-square, Northampton; the Misses Cardale, Belmont, Uckfield; Miss Fitzhugh, Manor House, Uckfield; Francis Barchard, Esq., J.P., Horsted Place; Lieut.-General Clarke, Church House, Uckfield; and R. J. Streatfield, J.P., The Rocks, Uckfield
Proxies will be thankfully received by the Father.

LAURENT-

PERRIER'S

"SANS-SUCRE."

1889 CHAMPAGNE.

BOUZY-REIMS.

This is the
CHAMPAGNE RECOMMENDED WHEN OTHERS
ARE PROHIBITED,

Being without any added sugar or alcohol.

THE PURE PRODUCT OF THE FINEST
CHAMPAGNE GRAPES.

LAURENT-

PERRIER'S

"SANS-SUCRE."

1889 CHAMPAGNE.

BOUZY-REIMS.

HERTZ & COLLINGWOOD,

4, SUSSEX PLACE, LONDON, E.C., Sole Consignees.

TO NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS
AND MANAGERS.—Freemason, who has been in business on his own account, desires SITUATION as Compositor on a morning newspaper. Over 20 years experience. (Idle through no fault of his own). First class references as to ability, trustworthiness, &c. Could take charge when necessary. Address, J.G., KENNING & SON, 2, Monument-place, Liverpool.

Price 1s. Post Free, 1s. 1d.

THE MASTER MASON'S HAND-BOOK, by Bro. FRED. J. W. CROWE, with an Introduction by Bro. W. J. HUGHAN, P.G.D., &c.
London: GEORGE KENNING, 16, Great Queen-st., W.C.

Price 7s 6d.

A HANDY BOOK to the Study of the ENGRAVED, PRINTED, and MANUSCRIPT LISTS OF LODGES of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England ("Moderns" and "Ancients") from 1723 to 1814, with an Appendix and Valuable Statistical Tables. By Bro. JOHN LANE, F.C.A., P.M. 1402, Past Senior Grand Warden of Iowa, Past Prov. Grand Registrar of Devonshire, &c., &c., &c., Author of "Masonic Records, 1717-1886," "Masters' Lodges," &c., &c., and dedicated to Bro. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN, P.S.G.D. England. London: GEORGE KENNING, 16 & 16a, Gt. Queen-st. W.C.

GAIETY RESTAURANT,
STRAND.

LUNCHEONS (HOT AND COLD),

At Popular Prices, in BUFFET and RESTAURANT (on First Floor), also
Chops, Steaks, Joints, Entrées, &c., in the GRILL ROOM.

AFTERNOON TEA,

Consisting of Tea or Coffee, Cut Bread and Butter, Jam, Cake, Pastry, *ad lib.*, at 1s. per head, served from 4 till 6 in RESTAURANT (First Floor).

DINNERS IN RESTAURANT,

From 5.30 till 9, at fixed prices (3s. 6d. and 5s.) and à la Carte.

In this room the VIENNESE BAND performs from 6 till 8. Smoking after 7.45.

AMERICAN BAR.

THE GRILL ROOM

is open till Midnight.

PRIVATE DINING ROOMS for large and small Parties.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.
Established 1836.

LONDON: 1, MOORGATE STREET, E.C.
ABERDEEN: 1, UNION TERRACE.

INCOME AND FUNDS (1893).

Fire Premiums	...	...	...	£716,000
Life Premiums	...	...	...	224,000
Interest	...	...	...	169,000
Accumulated Funds	-	-	-	£4,293,000



SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1895.

Masonic Notes.

We publish, as usual, a full report of the proceedings at the Girls' School Festival on Wednesday, together with the Stewards' Lists, and a careful Analysis of the figures, but we cannot let the occasion pass without offering our sincere congratulations to the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, D.G.M., and Prov. Grand Master of Cornwall, his Province which supported him so well, and the Board of Stewards, whose labours resulted in the accumulation of so large a total as £16,016. When all have done well, it seems at first sight invidious to select any one brother, lodge, or Province for special congratulation, but it appears to us that Bro. Holmes, P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M. of Northumberland, who took upon himself the heavy responsibility of representing single-handed the Province with which he is so prominently associated, and who, as the result of his labours, handed in a list of £2315, has acquitted himself so well as to deserve special measure of commendation and congratulation. We cannot call to mind any previous case of a single Steward returning so large a sum. We must also congratulate the Institution and its House Committee and Secretary on the splendid total which it is our privilege to record this week. We trust that future anniversaries will be as productive, or nearly as productive, as that which has just been celebrated.

The annual general meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will be held in the great hall of the Freemasons' Tavern, on Friday next, the 17th instant. The business to be transacted will include the presentation of the Report of the Committee of Management for the past 12 months, and the election of qualified brethren and widows to fill the vacancies which have occurred on the Male and Widows' Funds of the Institution respectively. On the Male Fund there were declared in February, 17 vacancies, namely, 14 immediate and three deferred, while the number of candidates is 61, and on the Widows' Fund there were declared 10 vacancies, of which seven are immediate and three deferred, the number of candidates in this case being 51. Since then, however, other annuities have become vacant, and in accordance with the Laws of the Institution, the Committee will recommend that these likewise shall be filled up. Considering that the Committee have increased the number on the Male Fund from 195 to 200, and that the recent Festival under the auspices of Viscount Dungarvan was a great success, we have no doubt that the recommendation will be readily adopted by the Governors and Subscribers.

As regards the candidates, we have already, in our article of last week, drawn attention to all that is worthy of note in the particulars contained in the published lists. But there is a matter that we mentioned then to which we feel it again our duty to call the attention of our readers. In these lists are to be found no *last* cases; that is to say, no candidates who, if they do not succeed at a particular election, will have their names struck out under the operation of a certain law as to age. When brethren and widows once become approved candidates for admission to the benefits of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, their names are retained on the lists until removed by election or death, provided, of course, their circumstances continue to be of such a character as to justify their retention.

Unfortunately, some of these poor people remain for years without succeeding in getting more than a few steps nearer to the goal of their ambition. In the present lists there are men who have been before the electors as candidates for 11 years and upwards, while there are as many as 10 widows that have had their names in print as eligible for admission since 1888, and of these one is about to make her *fifteenth* attempt to win an annuity, two are about to make their *twelfth*, and two their *tenth*, the senior of these, who is in her 80th year, having been on the lists year by year ever since she was approved as a widow of 65 years. In behalf of these we appeal most earnestly to those who have spare votes to do what in them lies towards putting an end to what is little less than a scandal. If these poor old folk are not worthy to be admitted to the benefits of this Institution their names should be removed from the list; if they are, vigorous attempts should be made to have them elected—it necessary over the heads of those who have only just been adopted as candidates.

We are at length in a position to announce that Lord Egerton of Tatton, Prov. G. Master of Cheshire, who has arranged to preside as Chairman at the approaching Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, has appointed Wednesday, the 3rd July, for the celebration of this important event. We are also able to announce that the first meeting of the brethren, who have volunteered their services as Stewards on the occasion, will be held at Freemasons' Hall on the 16th inst., when the Board will be constituted, officers appointed, and the necessary preliminary arrangements for holding the Festival made.

The Boys' Athletic Sports will be held at Kempton Park on Saturday, the 8th June. A year or two ago, the meeting was held in the same delightful locality, and, thanks to the excellence of the arrangements, proved a great success. We trust the forthcoming meet will be equally well organised, and, as a consequence, will prove equally successful.

Bro. F. H. Macklin, W.M., assisted by brethren of the Lodge of Asaph, No. 1319, has arranged to give a musical and miscellaneous entertainment to "Our Boys" on Wednesday, the 15th inst., at 2.30 p.m., at the Institution, Wood Green, London, N. We have only to mention that "Our Boys" will have the privilege of hearing such well-known and distinguished dramatic and musical brethren as Bros. Macklin, Penley, Bertram, Le Hay, Hambleton, Howard, nolds, Spurr, and others, to show that the ent

ment will be exceptionally high-class. We are authorised to state that Subscribers and friends of the Institution will be privileged to attend on production of ticket, which may be had from the Secretary of the Institution, Bro. J. M. McLeod, 6, Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

The Earl of Lathom, Pro Grand Master, has returned home from his visit to the West Indies, whither he had gone for the purpose of recruiting his health, and we sincerely trust his lordship has benefited by the trip. Undoubtedly, the cordial welcome he experienced from the brethren in Jamaica and Trinidad must have had an exhilarating effect. On the occasion of his visit to Kingston, which is the head-quarters of our District Grand Lodge of Jamaica, a grand Masonic reception was held in his lordship's honour. Addresses were given and received, and his lordship had the opportunity of making the acquaintance of the leading members of the Craft in that early home of Freemasonry. A similar reception awaited him when he called at Trinidad, and, we doubt not, was similarly appreciated by our distinguished brother.

Correspondence.

MASONIC VAGRANTS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I am glad to find that another brother (Wm. Smith) has entered into this subject of "Masonic Vagrancy," and I hope will assist in adopting some system which will minimise or annihilate it altogether.

I would suggest that (with your kind permission) every Almoner, when he has fully verified a case as one of vagrancy and is thoroughly satisfied he has been duped, shall at once forward to the *Freemason* the name of the vagrant brother, the number and name of the lodge he professes to belong to, and a synopsis of the reply from the lodge; and a corner of your valuable paper be set aside in which their replies, &c., should be published. Of course, every Almoner should be supplied with a copy of your paper, at his lodge's expense. The various Almoners of our lodges would then be somewhat prepared for a visit from one of these Masonic pests. Although the amount we dispense may be trifling, it is very annoying to find that you have been helping a brother who has not the slightest "Claim on our Charity." I select the following from my Almoner's books as a sample:

*24th July, '94. H—A—A— (an Irishman), of 323, Concord, Stockport.

Reply says: "Not known here."

*13th April, '95. E—W— (an Irishman), 328, Torquay.

Reply: "Not known at 328."

J—N—, 406, Northern Counties.

Reply: "Can find no trace of any brother of this name."

T—B—, 157, Bedford Lodge.

Reply: "This is not a case deserving of support. I am continually having inquiries of this description."

These are a few cases selected from those of recent dates. I shall be glad to have the opinion of other Almoners on this subject. Apologising for thus troubling you further, I am, Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,

J. WARDLEY, P.M. 381.

Darwen, May 7th. P.P.G.D.C. E. Lancs.

*I have since discovered that these are one and the same person.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL AND THE CRAFT.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Referring to the article in your issue of April 13th, in which you so ably advocated that the brethren should assist in the work of providing funds for the restoration of our National Pane—St. Paul's Cathedral, this must, I am sure, have touched a sympathetic chord in the heart of many a brother beside myself, and may I say—

When I wrote the letter which you kindly published in the same issue, and in which I suggested that we should acquire, or assist in the acquisition of the Alexandra Palace and Park for ourselves and the people, I had not seen or heard of the letter from Mr. Woodward with the suggestion as to St. Paul's.

For one I would like to say that so long as the time I give to Freemasonry is spent in trying to do some good, I would not question much the form, and I shall therefore be happy to do anything I can in my humble capacity to assist in promoting either of these suggestions; but there must be many others like myself who shrink from undertaking, single-handed, the grave responsibility of the initiatory steps. Hence the suggestion that a "Forward Lodge" or Committee should be formed, not that such a lodge should produce, as you have remarked, I am sure a little playfully, "30 perfect Masons."

May I then, Mr. Editor, suggest that you should act as Secretary (*pro tem.*), and ask that any brother willing to help in either of these matters will send you his name so that a Committee may be formed to consider anything, and if so, what best can be done to forward these movements.

"Forward" we must go, or soon the Craft will discover that "retrogression" has set in. Again thanking you, I am Dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

JAMES E. CARVER.

Heigham, Aubrey-road, Hornsey, N.,

April 30th.

P.S.—The minor movement to which I alluded in mine of the 13th, was the provision of a small local social institute useful for the Craft and the community around. This is much needed, and would be highly appreciated.—J. E. C.



Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Egyptian Lodge (No. 27).—The installation meeting of this old and prosperous lodge was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, when there was a large attendance of brethren and visitors to honour the installation of Bro. H. J. Macfarlane, a very popular member of the lodge. The lodge was opened by Bros. F. Brendel, W.M., supported by Bros. A. E. Todd, I.P.M.; H. J. Macfarlane, S.W.; D. Niven, J.W.; C. J. Cuthbertson, P.M., Treas.; Matt. H. Hale, P.M., Sec.; J. Bull, J.D.; C. J. Pallot, I.G.; C. R. Kemp, Stwd.; W. H. Libbis, P.M.; J. W. Dixon, P.M.; L. R. Lambie, P.M.; F. Harrison, P.M.; D. H. Jacobs, P.M.; C. B. Todd, P.M.; Isaac Scarth, P.M.; R. Douglas-Smith, P.M.; J. Whiffen, Robert Emery, F. May, R. J. Ham, F. Linfoot, Arthur Farrants, J. Farrants, J. C. Barns, W. Notting, Arthur Porter, H. C. Todd, L. Ullmann, W. H. Allcorn, W. A. Pattison, Joseph Hollyman, W. D. Stevens, and H. P. Robinson. The visitors were Bros. Richd. Eve, P.G. Treas.; C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br.; Arthur Briscoe, P.M., P.P.G. Org. Surrey; R. S. Taylor, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W. Surrey; E. C. Mulvey, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Surrey; W. A. Scurrah, P.M. 167; W. S. Hale, 2362; A. H. Cooper, 2551; J. H. Cureton, P.M. 2182; F. A. Baldwin, 2168; J. F. Croager, 30; H. C. Minnitt, 1638; E. H. Lewis, P.M. 2444; A. Laurence, 163; J. H. Reap, 1622; J. H. Hewett, 1828; H. J. Cousins, 172; H. Foreman, P.M. 1275; Channon, 1017; J. J. Lamigeon, S.W. 2551; D. Saines, 2450; J. E. Culverhouse, 534; Hollingsworth, 127; R. W. Nichol, S.W. 2278; W. G. Cannon, 1539; G. W. Niblett, 1622; H. Hill, P.M. 1305; W. A. Needes, 53; Ben. Johnson; G. Hooper, P.M. 1486; W. Lane, P.M. 1638; J. Sumner, W.M. 1638; C. M. Hagen, W.M. 1828; and R. T. West, 1744.

After the confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting, Bro. H. J. Macfarlane, the W.M. elect, was presented and installed in a most exemplary manner by the outgoing Master, Bro. F. Brendel. The new W.M. then appointed the following brethren as his officers: Bros. D. Niven, S.W.; F. Bull, J.W.; Matt. H. Hale, P.M., Sec.; C. J. Cuthbertson, P.M., Treas.; C. J. Pallot, S.D.; C. R. Kemp, J.D.; Robt. Emery, I.G.; J. W. Dixon, P.M., D.C.; D. H. Jacobs, P.M., Stwd.; and R. F. Potter, P.M., Tyler. The usual addresses were very ably rendered by Bro. F. Brendel, and he is to be congratulated for the efficient manner in which he carried out the installation ceremony. The W.M. then initiated Mr. W. D. Stevens, and the working of the ritual was excellent. The Auditors' report having been received and adopted, a gentleman was proposed for initiation and a joining member for the next meeting. Letters were read from Bros. E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; J. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; and many others, regretting their inability to attend, and, after "Hearty good wishes" from the numerous visitors, the lodge was closed.

A sumptuous banquet followed, which was supplied by Bro. A. Clemow in his usual well-known style, and was admirably served, for which his manager, Bro. Evans, was responsible.

At the close of the repast, and as a preface to the toasts, the W.M. stated that his speeches would be brief, and he ventured to hope that those who had to follow him would adopt the same course, and so enable the whole of the musical entertainment to be carried out. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured.

In submitting the toast of "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. stated that never in the annals of the lodge had they had so many Grand Officers present as on that occasion, and he coupled the names of Bro. R. Eve, P.G. Treas., and C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br., who had honoured them that evening.

In response, Bro. Eve, P.G. Treas., stated that Bro. Stiles, the Grand Treasurer for the year was not far off, and he did not think that he would have been called upon to reply to the toast. Although he was not on Bro. Stiles election Committee he was glad to greet him as the Grand Treasurer. The M.W. Grand Master had made many good selections for his Grand Officers, and it was no doubt a difficult task to pick out the right ones, yet he thought that those who had worked hard in the ranks ought not to be forgotten. He knew many distinguished brethren who had done their utmost for many years for Freemasonry, had been overlooked. He being elected by the Craft thought he could speak openly as to those not elected.

Bro. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br., said that he would obey orders and be brief. He was pleased to see Bro. Brendel instal his successor in such an efficient manner, and the officers had done their work well, and he hoped to come their again.

At this point the Worshipful Master announced that he had just noticed that Bro. Stiles, G. Treas., had entered the room and he intimated that the brethren would be glad to hear him also respond to the toast.

Bro. W. M. Stiles, G. Treas., stated that he had been attending another Masonic gathering under the same roof. It had been his good fortune to attend many installation meetings of the Egyptian Lodge. He stood before them as Grand Treasurer and they had worked hard for him in helping him to attain that high position, for which they had his deep gratitude and he should never forget the

great efforts they had made on his behalf. He recently had the pleasure of meeting Bro. Brendel at a lodge of instruction, when he rehearsed the ceremony of installation with perfection, and for a foreigner to have such a command of the English language it was a grand thing.

Bro. F. Brendel, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." He said that it was his privilege and honour to give the toast, which was the principal one of the evening. He was one of the best friends, and his working that night of the ceremony of initiation was perfect. The W.M. joined the lodge five years ago that night, the same date as he (Bro. Brendel) was initiated, and he was made an officer at the first installation meeting after he joined, and he had been in office ever since, and had given every satisfaction, and it went without saying that he would make one of the best W.Ms. the lodge had ever had.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

Bro. H. J. Macfarlane, W.M., who had a very hearty reception, responded. He tendered his sincere thanks for the way in which the toast had been proposed and received. It was indeed a pleasure to be Master of their good and ancient lodge, and he would do everything in his power to uphold the prestige of the lodge. Last summer they had an outing, at which ladies were invited, who voted it a great success, and the result was that ever since they had not once grumbled when their husbands attended the meetings of the lodge.

The W.M. gave "The Installing Master, Bro. Brendel, I.P.M." He stated that it was his very pleasant duty to present to Bro. Brendel a Past Master's jewel as a slight return for the great services he had rendered to the lodge, and as a small token of the members' appreciation of his many virtues. The jewel bore the following inscription: "Presented by the Egyptian Lodge, No. 27, to Bro. F. Brendel, P.M., as a token of esteem for his most efficient services during his year of office, 1894-5."

The toast was drunk with acclamation, and

Bro. Brendel, who was well received, responded. He appreciated the kind words of the W.M., and he thanked the members for their cordial reception. He had had only one initiate, but he hoped the W.M. would have more. He had started well by having an initiate that evening. He had had a happy year of office, and one that would never be effaced from his memory.

In proposing "The Initiate," the W.M. stated that he had known him from his boyhood. He was his brother in matrimony, and he was delighted that he was now his brother in Freemasonry.

Bro. W. D. Stevens replied in appropriate terms, remarking that that was the first time he had ever spoken in public, and he hoped to become a credit to the lodge which had honoured him by making him a Freemason.

The W.M. gave "The Visitors," observing that time would not permit for him to read out the names of their many guests, but they were all welcome, and he hoped they were pleased with what had taken place. He joined with the toast the names of Bros. W. M. Stiles, G. Treas.; R. R. Taylor, the W.M. of the Mozart, his mother lodge, and Bro. Sumner.

Bro. Stiles, G. Treas., having responded,

Bro. R. S. Taylor, W.M., said that was his first visit, and he was delighted to be present. That evening was of peculiar interest to him, because shortly he would have the honour of installing Bro. Macfarlane W.M. of the Mozart Lodge, and he would have to be careful to make himself perfect as the Egyptian Lodge was noted for its excellent workmen. This lodge appreciated the great worth of Bro. Macfarlane, and if he (Bro. Taylor) could carry out his duties as from repute their W.M. would do, he would be gratified.

In giving "The Past Masters, Treasurer, and Secretary," the W.M. stated that they were all worthy and a great credit to the lodge, several of them having been members for half a century, and he coupled the names of Bros. Hale, Sec., and Dixon, P.M., with the toast.

Bro. Matt. H. Hale, P.M., Sec., responded in a happy speech.

Bro. J. W. Dixon, P.M., also replied. He was proud to be a Past Master of the Egyptian Lodge, where he gained all his Masonic knowledge.

Bro. D. Niven, S.W., acknowledged, in genial terms, the toast of "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast ended a very enjoyable and successful gathering.

The W.M. had provided a musical entertainment of an exceptionally superior quality, in which the following took part: Bros. Etherington Smith, Charles Strong, Horace Reynolds, Thomas Powell, and the Lyric Vocal Quartette, but special mention should be made of the last named.

Quatuor Coronati Lodge (No. 2076).

This lodge met at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 3rd inst. Present: Bro. Rev. C. J. Ball, W.M.; W. H. Rylands, A.G.D.C., as I.P.M.; G. W. Speth, Sec.; S. T. Klein, J.D.; R. F. Gould, P.G.D., D.C.; also the following members of the Correspondence Circle: Bros. H. W. Sharp, C. S. Wilson, J. H. Clemens, C. Bampfyld, Warre, T. Cohu, D. M. Finlay, H. D. Willock, F. Dowse, R. Palmer Thomas, J. Edwin Thomas, A. Scarth, Rev. A. G. Lennox Robertson, Rev. V. P. Wyatt, John Newton, Grand Pursuivant, as J.W.; E. A. T. Breed, Rev. J. W. Horsley, Thos. Smith, T. Charters White, C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br., as S.W.; J. Joel, W. R. D. Adkins, W. J. Songhurst, J. Leach Barrett, W. F. Stauffe, F. W. Levander, as I.G.; Dr. J. Pickett, Dr. E. J. Reynolds, W. G. Poole, H. J. Gardiner, P. L. Simmonds, C. N. MacIntyre North, J. Porter, J. Bodenham, A.G.D.C.; J. E. Burkmar, R. A. Gowan, W. Lake, A.G. Sec.; J. A. Gartley, E. Glaeser, and others.

Bro. Gould, P.G.D., called attention to the gratifying fact that at the last Festival of Grand Lodge Bro. W. H. Rylands, their distinguished P.M., had been appointed by the M.W.G.M. Asst. G.D.C. The brethren would rejoice with him that the deserts of their gifted brother had met with well-merited recognition. Among the members of their Correspondence Circle were no less than five who had also been honoured on the same occasion with Grand office, viz., Bros. J. S. Cumberland, as D.G.S.B.; Joseph Todd, as G. Std. Br.; W. Lake, as A.G. Sec.; John Newton, as G. Purs.; and Harry Tipper, as A.G. Purs. He moved that the hearty congratulations of the lodge be tendered to these brethren on their attaining Grand office. This was seconded by Bro. Speth, and carried by acclamation. Bro. Rylands returned thanks on behalf of himself and the others. Bro. Gen. Sir Charles Warren, G.C.M.G., was appointed Steward to represent the lodge at the next Festival of the R.M.I.G.

Eleven lodges or other bodies and 80 brethren were elected members of the Correspondence Circle as follows: The District Grand Lodge of Northern China, and the Masonic Club at Shanghai; the Grand Lodge of Ham-burgh; the Masonic Library, Ottawa, Canada; Gold Fields Lodge, No. 2478; Jeppestown Lodge, No. 2481, and Golden Thistle R.A. Chapter, No. 245, (S.C.) all in Johannesburg, S.A.R.; Meteor Lodge, No. 2510, Long-reach, Charleville Lodge, No. 2393, Charleville, and Stanley Lodge, No. 680 (S.C.), Brisbane, all three in Queensland; Read Lodge, No. 2337, Kwala Lumpur, Straits Settlements. And the following brethren: In the U.S.A., R. A. Shirrefs, 33, Elizabeth, and Dr. J. A. Miller, P.M. 155, Hopewell, New Jersey; R. W. Morgan, P.G. Marshal, A. F. Servin, 454, G. W. Brown, jun., 454, and A. C. Stevens, 88, all of New York City; W. H. Holt, 5, Sioux Falls, E. T. Taubman, P.M. 38, Aberdeen, F. A. Spafford, Flandreau, and S. J. Moore, P.M. 31, Mitchell, all in South Dakota; J. J. Weller, W. M. Brooks, S. Slager, J. D. Huhn, T. J. Barchus, E. Lang, of Memphis, and E. B. Parke, Knoxville, Tennessee; R. M. Baird, 33, Wheeling, West Virginia; in India, C. Campbell, 1841, Mysore; in China, F. L. Crompton, D.G.O., Rev. H. F. Hackman, 570, J. I. Miller, D.G.M., and H. A. Collins, 570, all of Shanghai; in the Straits Settlements, H. C. Paxon, 2337, Kwala Lumpur, Selangor; in Africa, G. S. Rideal, 774 (S.C.) Johannesburg, F. Anderton, C. Edwards, and A. Heller, all of 747 (S.C.), Barberton, South African Republic; A. Bousefield, 2486, Kimberley; F. D. Changuiou, Malmesbury, H. Forbes, P.M. 711, Port Elizabeth, Cape Colony; W. E. Harvey, and G. F. Reid, 2522, Bethlehem, Orange Free State; in Victoria, A. R. Davie, R. Hall, P.M. 36, M. Bloustein, P.M. 63, J. Roberts, 114, J. S. Hall, 53, C. Flohm, P.M. 63, all of Ballarat, E. J. F. Sayers, P.G. Stwd., Geelong, and S. R. Smith, 91, Castlemaine; in Queensland, D. Armstrong, 286 (I.C.), and G. P. Hanify, 339 (I.C.) of Brisbane; J. de Coulay, 1372, Warwick; and M. L. Lewis, 1315, Toowoomba; in New South Wales, W. H. Rowland, P.M. 48, Inverell; W. Hawker, P.M. 218, Quirindi; W. H. Parker, 183, Scone; J. Thacker, 37, Hay; and G. H. Leigh, Germanton; in Tasmania, J. H. Room, P.Pro-G.M., W. A. MacDougall, D.G.M., J. Brickhill, D.G. Sec., W. Stroud, P.G. D. Sec., Chambers, P. Ins. of L.L., all of Launceston; in Switzerland, L. Soldano, Sentier; in Germany, C. Wiebe, G.M. of Hamburg; in Scotland, G. Maltman, W.M. 782, Tillicoultry, and C. R. Baptie, 571, Glasgow; in England, J. Inman, 40; W. Crewdson, 4; Rev. V. P. Wyatt, 2343; A. Page, 1676; T. Aitken, P.M. 8; F. Dowse, 2101; T. A. Withey, P.M. 1299; C. Meeker, 973; W. A. Tharp, 49; H. Tharp, 49; H. M. Williams, W.M. 271; T. H. Roberts, P.M. 1538; F. G. Burton, 1803; J. H. Clemens, 183; M. J. Jarvis, 12; A. Sparks, 1987; J. J. Lamigeon, 2551; R. Emery, 2551; F. S. Guy, W.M. 1343; E. St. Clair, P.G. Stwd.; and C. E. Wilson, P.M. 99.

The Secretary read a paper by Dr. W. J. Chetwode Crawley entitled "Notes on Irish Masonry, Three lost Lodges," giving an account of two lodges warranted last century in England, and one in France by the Grand Lodge of Ireland with an extract from the Grand Lodge registers referring to them. The information respecting the two English lodges, provokingly meagre as it is, was especially welcome and interesting. These two lodges have always been a mystery to students, and though this is far from being cleared up, we at least know something more than we did. A vote of thanks to Bro. Crawley was passed *nem. con.* Bro. W. H. Rylands, A.G.D.C., then read a paper entitled "Notes on some Masonic symbols." The paper chiefly dwelt on those symbols which he showed were useful to our operative fathers in the actual construction of their edifices; he explained their uses, in the course of which recent discoveries of a startling nature were summarised; and he then showed how the real practical significance of these symbols was lost owing to the change in the style of architecture, but the symbols remained as something sacred and mysterious, and how their meaning became obscured and fresh meanings invented to account for them. The lecture opened up an entirely new vista to students, and will form a new starting point for further research. It was commented on by Bros. Speth and Rev. W. J. Horsley, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the lecturer. Bro. Bampfylde Warre exhibited a curious hand-painted apron, a poignard with perforated ornamentation, presumably Masonic, and a remarkable copper jewel found during the recent opening up of the Lavant Caves at Roach Hill, which led to much speculation.

The brethren adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant for dinner.

Savage Club Lodge (No. 2190).—A meeting of this popular lodge was held on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, when Bro. Edmund Rosenthal, W.M., occupied the chair of K.S., that of S.W. being filled by Bro. Carson, Bro. H. S. Wellcome acting as J.W., and Bro. E. E. Peacock, P.M. 1928, officiating as I.G. There were also present Bros. J. Northcott, I.P.M.; W. E. Chapman, P.M., P.P.S.G.W. Bucks, Sec.; W. J. Fisher, P.M.; W. Ebbetts, P.M.; T. Catling, P.M.; W. S. Penley, S.D.; Harold Burke, Org.; C. Townley, Steward; W. Terrott, Shadden-Wilson, Wilton Jones, Hugh Moss, Henry de Mosenthal, Melton Prior, Harcourt Cecil Beryl, E. G. Salmon, S. A. K. Strahan, J. Sachs, D. Law, and Wilford, P.M. 47.

The minutes of the last regular and emergency meetings were read and confirmed. A candidate for initiation—Mr. Phil May—was balloted for and elected. Bros. H. Cecil Beryl and Edward George Salmon were raised to the Third Degree, Bro. S. A. K. Strahan was passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft, and Messrs. Paul Frewzeny, Havelock Fisher, and Phil May were initiated into Freemasonry. Bro. Edmund Rosenthal, W.M., performed all the foregoing ceremonies in an exceedingly impressive and masterly manner, and he certainly merited the hearty congratulations which were awarded him by all the members present. The Secretary then announced the death of Bro. Charles Stuart, who had only become a joining member of the Savage Club Lodge at the previous regular lodge meeting (March 5th). After sympathetic references by Bros. W. J. Fisher, P.M.; W. E. Chapman, P.M.; and the W.M., a vote of condolence was unanimously passed by the lodge, expressing deep sympathy with his widow and other relatives.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren subsequently dined together at the Savage Club.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

BUCKHURST HILL.

Ixion Lodge (No. 2501).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at the Roebuck Hotel, under the presidency of the Worshipful Master, Bro. H. French Bromhead, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Wks. Essex. There was a large attendance of brethren, the lodge having made great progress since its consecration 12 months ago, when Bro. French Bromhead was installed as first Worshipful Master. The worth of the lodge was testified to on the previous Wednesday by Supreme Grand Chapter, which, on the recommendation of the Committee of General Purposes, granted a warrant for a Royal Arch Chapter to be attached to the lodge, although the usual practice is that a lodge shall not have a chapter until it is three years old. The brethren who attended the lodge were Bros. H. French Bromhead, W.M.; J. Wilson, I.P.M.; H. E. Herman, J.W.; C. Spurgeon, Sec.; W. Gower, J.D.; W. J. Barnes, D.C.; J. H. Lloyd Org.; W. Lucas, P.M.; Charles J. R. Tijou, P.M., P.A.G.P. Eng.; A. F. Lay, P.M.; G. T. Peall, G. Elgratton, F. Zimmerti, B. Dietrich, Leo. Taylor, B. G. Jones, M. Mitchell, W. Peadley, T. Wakeling, J. Holden, E. H. Thompson, H. Hamblock, E. Reid, W. Elliott, J. R. Carter, V. Y. Goddard, F. Summerland, T. Rumble, R. J. Morley, F. I. Hughes, A. C. Smith, A. Miller, and J. Morrison. Visitors: Bros. W. Shurmur, P.P.G. Treas. Essex, 2374; S. J. Taylor, 2361; W. H. Jones, 2077; G. Chivers, 65; H. W. Lee, P.M. 1056; J. Tollworthy, W.M. 1709; H. B. Holliday, P.M. 1076; J. J. Olley, 898; J. W. Robinson, P.M. 585; F. S. Guy, W.M. 1343; W. S. Wright, W.M. 30; J. W. Gibbs, P.M. 1804; E. R. Alexander, 1662; John Wright, W.M. 1543; F. H. Meggy, P.M. 276; C. R. Cutler, J.W. 1949; E. Newland, W.M. 834; A. W. Hib, 1730; H. Massey, 160, P.M. 619 and 1928; S. Herbert, Sec. 2472; A. H. Church, J.W. 1665; W. A. Gower, 2472; C. Pateman, 12377; H. B. Chamberlain, P.M. 1364; F. J. Edle, W.M. 2184; H. Clay, P.M. 1489; and P. Lloyd, P.M., 2342.

After the formal opening, Bro. Bromhead passed Bro. Flight to the Second Degree, and afterwards initiated Messrs. Thomas Tarminster Fosse, Edward Wilmot, and Victor Taylor. Bro. Nathaniel Fortescue, C.C., P.M. 2374, was elected a joining member, and Bro. Bromhead installed Bro. Henry Edward Herman, S.W., W.M. elect, as W.M. for the year ensuing. The brethren appointed or elected to office were Bros. H. French Bromhead, I.P.M.; W. Gower, S.W.; Clement Spurgeon, J.W.; the Ven. Archdeacon Dunbar, Chap.; R. Sandell, Treas.; Geo. T. Peall, Sec.; W. J. Barnes, S.D.; T. H. Lloyd, J.D.; J. R. Carter, I.G.; F. Gemmell, D.C.; G. Taylor, A.D.C.; G. E. Gratto, Org.; H. Miller, B. G. Jones, F. N. Zimmerti, and B. Dietrich, Stewards; and David Legg, P.M. 1227, Tyler. Bro. French Bromhead was presented with a Past Master's jewel in recognition of his great services to the lodge during his year of office. Bro. the Earl of Warwick was elected an honorary member, and was voted thanks for the honour he had done the lodge by attending, for which purpose he had made a journey from Warwick. His lordship acknowledged the compliment and expressed his regret that he was absent when the lodge was consecrated, but his absence was necessitated by a business engagement in America. He was delighted to see the lodge had made such progress, and he was proud of it, as he was of all the lodges in his province, which were never wanting in their working, in their desire to promote the cause of Freemasonry, and in their support of the great work of Charity. The W.M. then announced that he would be Steward at the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and on the motion of Bro. Bromhead, seconded by Bro. C. J. R. Tijou, P.A.G.P., 10 guineas were voted to his list from the lodge funds and 10 guineas from the Benevolent Fund of the lodge. The lodge had given 25 guineas to Bro. Bromhead's list as Steward for the Girls' School at the last Festival.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a choice banquet provided by Bro. A. C. Smith, of the Roebuck Hotel.

Before the banquet, the Earl of Warwick, in the name of the brethren, presented to Bro. Bromhead a memento of his year of office in the shape of a valuable set of table cutlery and plate, and a costly bracelet for Mrs. Bromhead. The noble Earl said it was a token of the high esteem in which Bro. Bromhead was held by the brethren.

Bro. Bromhead said it was a great pride to him to occupy the chair as first Master of the Ixion Lodge. The gift now made to him would remain a happy memory as long as he lived of the esteem in which he had been held by the brethren.

After the banquet the usual toasts were proposed and honoured.

Bro. Thomas J. Ralling, Past Asst. G. Dir. of Cers., Prov. G. Sec. Essex, responded to the toast of "The Grand Officers." As the brother who consecrated the lodge a year ago, he was very glad to find the lodge had taken such root in the neighbourhood.

Bro. Herman, W.M., proposed "The Health of the Earl of Warwick," observing that he was a Provincial Grand Master of whom they were all proud. Whenever the Earl of Warwick was called upon to perform a duty he performed it even at great personal inconvenience, an instance of which they had that day, as his lordship had come all the way from Warwickshire to attend that meeting. This showed the great interest he took in his province. His lordship had been 13 years their Grand Master, and during his reign the number of lodges in Essex had been doubled. In the 148 years that the province had been established there were only 19 lodges in it; but there were now double that number. That showed the great interest his lordship took in provincial work, and the brethren were greatly indebted to him for coming among them that day at such great personal inconvenience. But every brother in the province appreciated it.

The Earl of Warwick said, although no one in the room was keener in regard to Freemasonry than himself, no one was more aware of his deficiencies. It had been a great pleasure to him to be present among the Essex brethren. He had watched with great interest the progress of Masonry in the province both as regarded the number of lodges and the number of members of the Order. It had been his endeavour, supported by his Grand Officers, to promote lodges where he found there was a necessity for

them. Fortunately, all the lodges in Essex were in a state of excellence, which was most creditable. Every one of them held high the banner of Masonic Charity. Masonry promoted this object in a very marked degree, and benevolence was always first and foremost in a Mason's mind. Essex was not a rich province, but whenever he, as their Provincial Grand Master, took a leading part in the cause of the Charities the brethren had come forward and placed him in a leading position. Of this he had felt very proud, and if in the future it should occur that he was called upon to take a prominent part for any one of the Masonic Charities, he felt sure he had only to appeal to the Essex brethren to supply him with a good list. In conclusion he expressed his sense of the admirable working of the lodge that day by Bro. Bromhead.

The Earl of Warwick next proposed "The Health of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. F. A. Philbrick, O.C.," and with this toast coupled that of "The Worshipful Master." He regretted that the absence of Bro. Philbrick was caused by illness, and he wished him speedy restoration to health. Most honestly and earnestly did he wish the W.M. every success during his year of office, and he hoped the brethren would give him their support and loyalty, because therein lay the success of the lodge. There might be occasions when the brethren did not entirely agree with the W.M., but then they should tell him so; but they should support him honestly on every occasion. He was in every way certain that Bro. Herman would require little or no advice in the chair, and that he would carry on the business of the lodge creditably to himself, to the brethren of the lodge, and to the brethren generally. He must say also a word to the initiates, to whom the ceremony was always most impressive. He asked them as he had asked the older Masons of the lodge to support their Master, and they, like himself and others around that table, would never look back with any regret to the day they became Masons. He was sure he might extend this expression also to those who had assisted, by producing such a good banquet. He had never sat down to a better repast than that which the brethren had just partaken of, provided by Bro. Smith. He wished the brethren every success. He was sure the lodge would be an honour to the Craft and to the province.

Bro. Herman, W.M., said he could only repeat the hope expressed by the Earl of Warwick, that he should have the loyal support of every brother of the lodge. He had had the privilege of being initiated under the hands of Bro. Shurmur, in the Province of Essex, and the first chair of W.M. he was installed in was in the Province of Essex. He did not like to say too much; it was not for him to make rash promises. He could only trust that when he should be relegated to the class of Past Masters, called fossils, he should carry with him the goodwill and esteem of the brethren. He was much indebted to the Earl of Warwick for his very great kindness in attending.

The Earl of Warwick then left, drinking, first of all, "To our next merry meeting."

Bro. Shurmur responded to the toast of "The Provincial Grand Officers," and said that while he was Prov. Grand Treasurer he had a most happy year of office. He asked the brethren to support the candidature of Bro. Nathaniel Fortescue for the office of Prov. Grand Treasurer.

Bro. Bromhead, in replying to the toast of "The Installing Master," again thanked the brethren for the handsome present they had made him and his dear wife. He had had the honour of being appointed the first Master of the lodge. He was a funny sort of chap, and had ways perhaps peculiar to himself; they might be peculiar to the province; but if they were the brethren would excuse them. They all had peculiarities. As the first skipper of this ship he was placed in an important position, and it devolved upon him, with the assistance of the brethren to carry the ship into safe harbour. He had endeavoured to do so. They had had rocks ahead and breakers, but with the kindness, assistance, and co-operation of the brethren, and doing that which was constitutionally and legally right, they had overcome those difficulties. In handing his charge over he had reflected on the expression "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth," but he could only say "Look at the W.M." The present W.M. was initiated in the Shurmur Lodge and was a brother who had proved himself a distinguished Freemason. Although he had not been a Mason many years he had shown distinguished qualities from the very time he was initiated. The brethren must remember that they had in this lodge, he would not say the backbone of the Shurmur Lodge, but they had officers and brethren who were many of them in the Shurmur Lodge. That spoke volumes in praise of the Shurmur Lodge. They were men who had proved themselves efficient Freemasons, gentlemen and true men in every sense of the word, and he was quite sure in handing the warrant over pure and unadulterated, as he had received it, into the care of the W.M., he had given it into the keeping of a man, a personal friend of his, a skilled lawyer, and a proficient Mason, and who would prove himself a skilled skipper. As the Provincial Grand Master had said, they had all got to bear with one another, and he was sure they would assist the W.M. in the same hearty and cordial way they had assisted him.

The toasts of "The Visitors" and "The Officers of the Lodge" were given and responded to, and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Interspersed with the toasts, an excellent selection of music was given under the direction of Bro. T. H. Lloyd, J.D. Mrs. Charlton Kelly and Mr. Henry Thorn sang some solos and duets with admirable taste, and they were assisted in the quartettes by Miss Marggraf and Bro. H. Marggraf.

DONCASTER.

St. George's Lodge (No. 242).—The installation festival of this lodge was held at the St. George's Rooms on Friday, the 3rd inst., when there were present the following: Bros. C. H. Woodhouse, W.M.; E. Newsum, I.P.M.; J. H. Pawson, S.W.; B. Bridge, J.W.; Rev. G. H. Stock, Chap.; H. C. White, Sec.; F. H. Buckland, S.D.; Geo. Smith, J.D.; Fred Webb, D.C.; J. F. Hanson, I.G.; C. Duff, Org.; J. Denison and C. Hopkinson, Stwds.; John Mason and C. Richardson, Tylers; George Brooke, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; F. Webb, P.M.; C. Goldthorpe, P.M., P.A.G.D.C.; F. Rand, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; J. J. Fortt, P.M.; E. E. Wilkie, P.M.; A. W. Fretwell, P.M.; C. Hartley, P.M., P.P.G.R.; T. Baron, W. C. Wright, T. W. Turner, W. Goddair, J. M. Axe, T. Blototic, J. Hastie, P. Jenner, Tom Anclay, W. W. Peacock, H. W. Hardy, G. M.

Parkinson, H. Gunby, S. B. Castle, S. Lete, H. W. Burnett, H. Foster, C. Reasbeck, G. White, A. M'Call, G. T. Smith, Sam Smith, and others. Visitors: Bros. W. Langbridge, P.M. 2078, P.P.G.S. of W.; M. Frampton, P.M. 904, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Constable, P.M. 2259, P.P.G.S.B.; B. Maskill, 2259; W. Dickie, P.M. 904, P.P.G.S. of W.; H. A. Brook, W.M. 2263; H. G. Green, 1019, Prov. G. Sec.; R. Brew, W.M. 2259; J. Valpy Thomas, P.M. 1802, P.G.P. Notts; C. Lingard, P.M. 1513; J. S. Ingall, D.C. 1513; W. Masterman, P.G.D.; Theo. Barber, J.W. 2259; S. Pegler, P.M. 1802, P.P.G.R.; E. L. Mason, 304, Prov. S.G.W.; and C. D. Nicholson, W.M. 939.

After the minutes had been read, the members of Prov. Grand Lodge were admitted and saluted. Bro. J. H. Pawson was afterwards duly presented for installation. Collars were collected, and Bro. E. Newsum was called upon to occupy the chair as installing Master, Bro. Forth acting as S.W.; J. Constable, as J.W.; C. Goldthorpe, as I.G.; and F. Webb, as D.C. The ceremony was beautifully and impressively performed by Bro. Newsum. Bro. Pawson invested his officers as follows: Bros. C. H. Woodhouse, I.P.M.; R. Bridge, S.W.; F. H. Buckland, J.W.; Rev. G. H. Stock, Chap.; H. C. White, Sec.; F. Rand, Treas.; G. Smith, S.D.; W. W. Peacock, J.D.; F. Webb, D.C.; F. Duff, Org.; S. Lester, I.G.; S. B. Castle and H. Foster, Stwds.; J. Vason and C. Richardson, Tylers. Bro. C. Goldthorpe was unanimously re-elected Charity Steward. Bro. W. Masterman was saluted as a member of Grand Lodge.

After hearty good wishes from all the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed.

A banquet was held in the ante-room, when a very large number of brethren sat down to honour the newly-installed W.M. In fact, it is reported that this was the most numerous-attended lodge and banquet that has ever been held in 242.

After ample justice had been done to the rich repast, the following toasts were duly proposed and responded to: "The Queen and the Craft."—National Anthem, Bro. Webb.

The W.M. proposed "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.; the Pro G.M. the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom; the Dep. G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcombe, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Bro. Judge Masterman, P.G.D. Eng., responded. The W.M. next proposed "The R.W. Prov. G. Master and Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge of W. Yorks.," which was responded to by Bro. Hartley, P.P.G. Reg.

Bro. G. M. Parkinson, in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," spoke with the greatest fluency and brilliancy, and was heartily cheered, not only for his eloquence, but for his eulogiums on the work of the W.M.

The W.M. appropriately responded. The toast of "The Installing Master" was proposed by Bro. the Rev. G. H. Stock, and responded to by Bro. Newsum.

Bro. F. H. Buckland, proposed "The Masonic Charities," and Bro. Goldthorpe responded.

Bro. F. Webb proposed "The Visitors," to which Bros. Thomas, Nicholson, and Constable responded.

Bro. Bridge gave "The Past Masters," and Bro. Rand responded, and in his speech hinted at the desirability of founding another lodge in Doncaster, which met with hearty approval.

The speeches were interspersed with music by the band (Bros. White, piano; Duff, organ; Reasbeck, violin; Venus, flute; and Woodhouse, piccolo) which was a great musical treat. Songs were given by Bros. Jenner, Brooke (Sheffield), Peacock, Webb, Duff, Buckland, and Hanson.

Altogether it was a most enjoyable evening, and Bro. Pawson is to be heartily congratulated on such a successful and complimentary festival.

Royal Arch.

Lily Chapter of Richmond (No. 820).—This prosperous chapter held its regular convocation at the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, on Monday, the 29th ult., when there were present: Comps. Dr. R. W. Wilson, M.E.Z.; Major F. Lerner, P.Z., as H.; Fred. Arnold, J.; W. H. Myers, P.Z.; A. Bassington, P.Z.; J. Galt Fisher, P.Z., Scribe E.; W. F. Bull, Scribe N.; Arthur Bull, P.S.; Dr. R. J. Hamill, 1st A.S.; H. R. Willans, 2nd A.S.; Chas. Arnold, C. P. Wyatt, W. C. Hodgkinson, R. P. Webster, T. Fred. Isherwood, H. H. Jordan, F. A. Monflet, and A. G. Young, Janitor. Visitors: Comps. J. T. Davis, H. 1348; and W. Huntingdon, 278.

Chapter having been opened and the minutes of the last convocation read and confirmed, Comp. A. A. Jordan, 1624, was unanimously elected a joining member. The following brethren were unanimously elected for exaltation, namely, Bros. Walter Tyler, 1707; Thos. B. Tipton, and Thos. H. Parry, 2550; J. Halle, 2426; and R. P. Webster, 2054. The last four named of these brethren being in attendance were exalted in due form.

The chapter was then closed, and a sumptuous banquet, served under the personal supervision of Comp. Monflet, then followed, at which a brilliant array of ladies were present in the persons of Mrs. R. W. Wilson, Miss Webster, Mrs. Fred. Arnold, Mrs. Fred. Lerner, Mrs. W. Cockburn, Mrs. James Jones, Mrs. Galt Fisher, Miss Raison, Mrs. Chas. Arnold, Mrs. Wm. Arnold, Mrs. Walter Bull, Miss Dorothy Bull, Mrs. C. P. Wyatt, Mrs. Bignold, Mrs. J. T. Davies, Mrs. W. C. Hodgkinson, Mrs. Fred. Isherwood, Miss, G. Webster, Mrs. T. B. Tipton, Mrs. T. H. Parry, and Mrs. R. J. Goddard.

In the course of the proceedings, the toast of "The Ladies" was gracefully proposed by the M.E.Z., and briefly but appropriately acknowledged on their behalf by Comp. Willans.

A well-arranged concert followed, in which Miss Webster, Miss Raison, and Miss Dorothy Bull, Bros. Wheeler and J. H. Thompson, jun., and Comp. J. Halle (at the piano), took part. Comp. J. Halle opened with a well-executed selection on the piano, which included the celebrated intermezzo from "Cavaleria Rusticana," &c. Bro. Wheeler sang "The Dear Home Land" (Slaughter), and in the second part gave "Sing on, Dear Love" (Pinsuti). Miss Webster followed with "Ashore" (H. Trotère), and in the second part sang "In Sweet September" (Hope Temple), which was heartily encored. Bro. J. H. Thompson sang "The Heart of a Sailor" (S. Adams),

and in the second part gave "Blow, blow thou Winter Wind" (Sargeant). Miss Raison sang "Thy Heart's Rest" (Bevan), and in the second part gave "Kathleen Mavourneen" (Crouch), with great feeling, which was loudly encored, when she sang "Needles and Pins." A feature of the evening was the execution on the violin by Miss Dorothy Bull, the little daughter of Comp. Walter F. Bull, of two selections, "The Blue Bells of Scotland" (Farmer), and "Air Variée" (Dancla), the accompanist being Comp. Halle.

The chapter rooms, when labour was ended, were converted into a drawing room, in which coffee and light refreshments were served.

Sir Hugh Myddelton Chapter No. 1602.

—A meeting of this chapter was held at the Cock Tavern, Highbury Corner, on Thursday, the 25th ult., when there were present Comps. W. Wright, P.P.G. Org. Middx., M.E.Z.; T. Green, H.; A. A. Dettmar, J.; John Weston, P.Z., Treas.; John Osborn, P.Z., S.E.; Cox, P.S.; J. James, A.S.; McLaren, P.Z.; Bailey, P.Z.; Greenfield, P.Z.; Homan, P.Z.; Bird, P.Z.; Sage, Herman, Anning, Parker, and others.

The chapter having been opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, Bro. Benvoise was exalted by Comp. Western, P.Z., in the unavoidable absence of the M.E.Z., in a most earnest and praiseworthy manner, and ably assisted by his officers. "Hearty good wishes" having been given, the chapter was closed.

A choice banquet followed, under the care of Comp. Tuck, manager of the hotel, who spares neither time or trouble to meet the satisfaction of the companions.

The loyal toasts were given with commendable brevity, and heartily received.

The toast of "The M.E.Z." was very warmly received. The companions of the chapter take every opportunity to express the very high esteem they entertain for their M.E.Z.

The M.E.Z., in replying, thanked the P.Zs. and companions for the kind expression of their feelings. Though unable to be with them in the early part of the day, he had been providing for their comfort. There was an excellent programme of music, and he should therefore set them an example of short speeches, which all would observe. He was gratified with his reception, and the welfare of the chapter should be his constant care.

The toasts of "The P.Zs.," "The Visitors," "The Exalte," and "The Officers" followed, and the replies were in accordance with the wishes of the M.E.Z.

Too much praise cannot be given to the M.E.Z. for so thoughtfully adding to the pleasure of the companions. The singing of Miss Edythe Kemp was highly appreciated. Miss Jesse McLaren, a daughter of Comp. McLaren, P.Z., played a fantasia on the violin in splendid form, and those excellent artists, Comp. James Bayne, Bros. R. Evans, Cecil Barnard, and Mr. Hall, who so successfully contributed to the harmony of the evening, felt amply repaid by the genuine praise they received from the M.E.Z. and all present.

The Janitor's toast closed a very successful meeting.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. G. E. FAIRCHILD A.G.D.C.

There was a good attendance of well-known brethren at the Café Royal, Regent-street, on the 3rd inst., when a complimentary banquet was given to Bro. G. E. Fairchild, A.G.D.C., and a presentation of Grand Lodge and Chapter clothing made to him from numerous well wishers. Bro. Robt. Manuel, P.M., presided, supported by Bro. W. S. Penley, P.M., Vice-Chairman, and numerous members of the Phoenix, Asaph, Urban, and Derby Allcroft Lodges, and Logic Club, including Bros. G. E. Fairchild, A.G.D.C.; W. M. Stiles, G. Treas.; R. Eve, P.G. Treas.; S. Cochrane, P.G. Treas.; G. Everett, P.G. Treas.; J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B.; Jas. Stephens, P.P.G.D.; W. Thomas, P.M.; J. J. Thomas, P.M.; W. J. Mason, P.M.; J. P. Fitzgerald, P.M. (the Secretary of the Presentation Committee); R. Cummings, P.M.; and many others.

After the banquet, the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the CHAIRMAN, who, in proposing "The Grand Officers," said he did not intend asking any of those distinguished brethren to reply, as they would doubtless refer to a brother who should be nameless, and the "fat" would thus be cut out of his own part.

The CHAIRMAN then proceeded to the principal business of the evening, and said that all present had gone through the emotions of an initiate, which were serious and momentous in the career of every Mason. There was a great deal to learn in Freemasonry, and opportunities were offered to those taking up Masonry in what he conceived to be the ideal spirit—in which it should be taken up—that it was an ancient and honourable Institution which united men of many opinions and many views on a common platform. Some of the brethren present, stirred by a spirit of ambition, had ventured to go into office in their respective lodges, and what was essential in filling any Masonic office was an appreciation of the grandness of Freemasonry and an earnest desire not to discredit the office held. The particular episode in Freemasonry he invited them to regard happened between 22nd February, 1876, and 24th April, 1895. On the 22nd February, at the Old St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell—which had many associations dear to those interested in art, literary, and dramatic life—there was initiated a young man—he would not disclose his age, but say about 19 years younger than he was that night. The distinguished Mason (Bro. Tickle) who had the honour of initiating him was prevented from attending on the present occasion through illness. The Urban Lodge in which the initiation took place was, and is to some extent, although not so much as in the old days, associated with the Old Urban Club named after Sylvanus Urban the proprietor and founder of the "Gentleman's Magazine." Amongst the members of the Urban Lodge was Bro. Henry Marston, who raised the particular Mason he

was referring to. The Urban Lodge was not undistinguished in the realm of literature and art and they had present the W.M. who illustrated that point, being no mean student of art, but one whose name was known and revered in artistic circles. The particular brother he was referring to was attracted by a kindred lodge, the Asaph, and there would have been many more members of that lodge present if possible. This particular Mason not only joined the Asaph, but won great distinction in it and as a Past Master was honoured and respected. His Masonic sympathies were not exhausted and he joined one of the oldest lodges—a lodge which but for some irregularity of a past Secretary would have been entitled to a centenary jewel—the Phoenix Lodge, of which the particular brother was now W.M. The fact that in Masonry it was necessary to have private rehearsals before public performances was recognised by Bros. John Maclean and Buckland, who formed a little society known as the Logic Club. The particular Mason referred to happens to be the Preceptor of that club and the brethren would appreciate what that meant, for they knew what stubborn materials the Preceptors had to deal with week after week. That was an honourable record, but he felt there was still another sphere in Freemasonry in which he might and had done most useful work, the Masonic Charities, in which he had served as Steward 17 times. Freemasonry required a governing body, and the guest of the evening had been returned on the Board of General Purposes on several occasions, on two of which he was at the head of the poll by the suffrages of the brethren. Their brother had waited patiently for that recognition which was his due, and the M.W. Grand Master, in the exercise of his discretion, had selected him to fill a most distinguished office in Grand Lodge. The brethren had assembled to express their appreciation for the honour so worthily bestowed. It had been felt that the Masonic bodies with which he was associated would esteem it a privilege to be permitted to ask him to accept those beautiful things which as a Grand Officer he was entitled to wear. He (the Chairman) asked their guest to accept these things with their hearty congratulations on the distinguished office he filled. They hoped he would live many years to wear them and that his children's children would regard the jewel as a token of the goodwill they felt towards him.

Bro. G. E. FAIRCHILD, A.G.D.C., who met with an enthusiastic reception, said he was overwhelmed in many directions. By the kind and flattering remarks made about himself, by the reception given him, by the presence of the distinguished brethren who had honoured them, and by the magnificent present they had been pleased to give him on his appointment to Grand office. Of course he was the particular brother referred to by the Chairman. It was certainly a matter of regret to him that Bro. Tickle, his father in Freemasonry, was not present through illness. He was delighted to know they had present one who, in the Urban Lodge, was an older member even than Bro. Tickle, and who had been his constant friend, and rendered him invaluable assistance—Bro. Pearce. It was gratifying to know that so many had attended to do him honour. He regarded it as a particular honour that he had been elected an honorary member of the Derby Allcroft Lodge. Why he hardly knew, for he only did in a small way what any brother would do. It scarcely seemed nearly 20 years ago since he was initiated into Freemasonry by Bro. Tickle, and a most distinguished brother did him the honour of raising him—Bro. Henry Marston. He was then imbued with the highest principles of Masonry, and had endeavoured, in his humble capacity, to carry them out. The high honour conferred upon him by the Most Worshipful Grand Master came upon him as a great surprise and with an extreme amount of pleasure. It was not, of course, in the power of everyone to get Grand honours, and it was naturally most difficult to make selections. He sincerely hoped that none would regret his appointment, and he would endeavour to discharge his duties to the best of his ability. He had not founded many lodges or gone into the higher Degrees, but had confined himself to four lodges and one chapter. He had been somewhat of a worker in Freemasonry where names were not published and where the work was practically unknown. He had had the honour of being a member of the Board of General Purposes for some years, and had been appointed to every committee, also to the Committee of Management of the Old People, and House Committee of the Boys' School. He was one of those who liked to take part in the internal workings of the Institutions, and more particularly on the Board of General Purposes. His only regret in accepting Grand office was that of losing his association with that Board. They all knew what he had done at the Logic Club, and with the exception of Bro. Fitzgerald, he was the only living founder of that club. It was a private club where they had subscribed over 2000 guineas to the three Institutions. He had endeavoured to carry out his duties as Preceptor, and was deeply obliged for their kindly appreciation of his efforts as evidenced by his re-election for the past seven or eight years. He desired to express his deep gratitude and his sincere appreciation of what they had done for him. He could say he tried not to allow this presentation to take place, and if he had succeeded he would have deprived them of a very pleasant evening. He was pleased to think he was over-ruled, and from the bottom of his heart he thanked them deeply and most gratefully.

"The Secretary, Bro. J. P. Fitzgerald, P.M.," was then given by the CHAIRMAN, after which Bro. W. THOMAS, P.M., gave "The Visitors," to which Bros.

W. M. STILES, G. Treas., and R. EVE, P.G. Treas., responded.

Bro. G. E. FAIRCHILD, A.G.D.C., proposed "The Chairman," which was duly responded to, and the proceedings terminated.

The Concord Part Singers had charge of the musical programme, and individually and collectively performed a varied selection that was heartily appreciated.

"THE HOUSE OF THE HIDDEN PLACES."

The following letter may be of interest, having been addressed by a Roman Catholic priest and Professor of Theology to the author of "The House of the Hidden Places," with reference to the review of that book in the *Freemason*.

"Many thanks for sending me a copy of the *Freemason's* review of your attractive and remarkable book. I, of course, know nothing of Freemasonry (though I have followed what you say easily enough), but I have been greatly struck with the notice in question. For whereas the reviewer, writing evidently as an expert on that subject, 'strongly commends' your book as containing matter of deep interest to his fellow Masons, I, on the other hand, as one whose special avocation is the study of Catholic theology, have been surprised beyond measure at the profound doctrine of the Catholic Faith, and the numerous illustrations of our own Scriptures, which seem to me, in reading your book, to have been foreshadowed beneath the symbols of that most mysterious religion, almost as though we had in it the very 'Word of God,' of which the Apostle speaks, 'the mystery which hath been hidden from ages to generations.'

"This double significance would be extraordinary enough if your views on the subject were derived from the teaching of Catholicity, or from the secrets of Masonry, but its singularity is enhanced a hundredfold when one reflects that they come neither from one source nor the other, but from the records of ancient Egypt."

THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE PERSEVERANCE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1743.

The fifth annual dinner of the above lodge of instruction was held at the Old Parr's Head, Knight-riders-street, on Monday, the 29th ult. Bro. R. Poore, P.M., presided, assisted by Bro. G. S. Dauntton.

After a most excellent and well-served dinner, which reflected great credit on the host, Bro. Martin, a very extensive programme was commenced, beginning with the loyal toasts "The Queen," "H.R.H., the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," "The Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Officers Present and Past," all of which were given with musical honours.

Bro. Beadell sang "The White Squall."

Bro. F. W. ROBINSON proposed the toast of "The Chairman," after which Bro. J. Goddard sang "Soldier Jim" in a manner which delighted the assembly.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply, next engaged the attention of the company. In his remarks, Bro. Poore expressed his opinion that the programme before him could not be disposed of unless the brethren were prepared to stay far into the night. He, therefore, recommended brevity in the speeches in order that the brethren might avail themselves the more of the pleasure of listening to the talented artistes who had so kindly offered to entertain.

Bro. Barry Lindon, now sang "The Deep Deep Sea," his grand vocal powers and perfect rendering greatly astonished a few who had not heard him before, and, needless to say, pleased everyone.

The toast of "The Visitors" was proposed by Bro. G. S. DAUNTTON, who remarked that visitors to the lodge of instruction rarely came as such a second time for they invariably joined the roll of membership on their first visit.

A musical sketch by Bro. Edwin Henry Lough, entitled "The Silver Wedding" (Grossmith) was thoroughly appreciated.

After the visitors had expressed their thanks and compliments, Bro. W. Perrins sang "The Island of Dreams" with a perfection that will make his effort long remembered by those who heard him.

"The Perseverance Lodge of Instruction" was next proposed by Bro. CLAYTON and neatly responded to by Bro. F. HAINES.

The widely-known Bro. A. B. Hopkins then gave a campanological entertainment in his usual inimitable manner; as a ringer of bells he ringeth alone.

Bro. W. INGLIS proposed "The Preceptor" in eulogistic terms.

Here followed a duett "Love and War," by Bros. Barry Lindon and J. Goddard, and also a song by Bro. Broadway.

Bro. POORE, in his reply, urged the brethren to persuade all the Masons they knew to join a lodge of instruction, and not only join but to attend regularly, by so doing they could make themselves an ornament to the ancient and honourable Institution of which they were all so justly proud.

Bro. W. Perrins then sang "The Queen of the Earth."

The next toast was that of "The Treasurer," proposed by Bro. JOSEPH.

Another musical sketch was here given by Bro. Edwin Henry Lough, "The Choking Smoking Concert," composed by himself.

After Bro. J. W. MARTINDALE'S reply, Bro. Goddard gave another song.

Bro. J. BELL, in proposing the toast of "The

Secretary," spoke in complimentary terms of the efficient manner in which his duties were always carried out, and alluded specially to the careful arrangements which had been made for this dinner.

Bro. G. S. DAUNTTON, after a short speech in which he thanked the brethren for their courtesy and useful co-operation in conducting the business of the lodge and providing such a splendid array of musical talent, read a letter from the widow of a late member, Bro. T. Franklin, P.M. 1662, in which Mrs. Franklin asked for votes and influence to assist her to get one of her little girls into the Girls' School at the next election, she being left with a family of five unprovided for. Bro. Dauntton added that he had visited Mrs. Franklin since receiving the letter, and could bear testimony that the case was well worthy of support. This had the effect of drawing promises of a number of votes.

A successful and pleasant evening was spent.

Our Portrait Gallery of Worshipful Masters.



BRO. H. J. MACFARLANE, W.M.,

was initiated into Freemasonry in the Mozart, Lodge, No. 1929, early in 1887, being introduced by Bros. Dr. E. M. Lott and H. J. Lardner, both P.G. Officers—so he had a fairly good start. He has brought in many excellent candidates to that lodge in which he has filled every office up to S.W., which he now holds. He enjoys the respect and esteem of every brother of that lodge, and this was testified to about two years ago, when the late Bro. Col. Noel Money, Prov. G.M. Surrey, made him a handsome presentation on behalf of the lodge on the happy occasion of his marriage. Our brother is W.M. of the Mallet and Chisel Lodge, No. 5, in the Mark, and was the last G. Organist appointed for the Provinces of Middlesex and Surrey, and the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to signify his approval of his nomination as Grand Steward for the coming year. Bro. Macfarlane joined the Egyptian Lodge in 1889, and has served every office there since. He has the highest interests of Freemasonry at heart, and has the good opinion and affection of every member of that lodge. He is a great lover of music, and considerably known in the musical world, and not inexperienced with the organ, having taken the services at St. Sepulchre's Church in the absence of Bro. Dr. Lott, the Organist.

THE GOLDSMITHS' BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The 65th annual festival dinner in connection with this institution took place at the Holborn Restaurant on Monday, the 29th ult., under the presidency of Mr. G. Matthey, F.R.S. (the prime warden of the Goldsmiths' Company), who was supported, among others, by Bro. Colonel Lambert, V.D. (the treasurer), to whom the institution is indebted for many munificent donations. There were present also: Messrs. F. B. Thomas (the president), F. Eady, W. C. Walker, H. L. Symonds, N. Jones, W. J. Hutchinson, Ridpath, H. C. Pearson, W. C. Smith, W. Waters, L. H. Whitehorn, J. H. Brinton, P. L. Robinson, W. Webber, W. R. Burwash, and B. Maskell (the secretary). The Goldsmiths' Benevolent Institution is one of those Charities which should never be permitted to languish for want of assistance, seeing that the majority of those engaged in the trade are wealthy men, while those who are not can at least afford to contribute something to the funds of the Institution. A small sum of money is paid to the pensioners in monthly instalments, the age of eligibility being fixed at 55 years. In one important particular the Charity differs from others of a kindred character, inasmuch as non-contribution to the fund out of which relief is granted does not debar any worthy man or woman from participating in the benefits of the charity. Altogether since its foundation as many as 523 persons have

shared and enjoyed its advantages. Last year the receipts from all sources (including a munificent life subscription of £500 from Mr. A. Roskell, and the balance of £352 brought forward from last year) amounted to £3079 18s. 6d., while the sum paid to annuitants was £1579 13s. 6d. A further sum of £810 was added to the investments, and the office expenses of the year came to £267 19s. 1d., a balance of £102 thus remaining to be carried forward. Unfortunately at the last election only 10 candidates could be elected out of a total of 50.

At the festival on Monday, after the company had drunk the usual loyal and patriotic toasts,

The CHAIRMAN proposed "Prosperity to the Goldsmiths' Benevolent Institution." At the outset he reminded his hearers that the invested funds of the institution amounted to £28,000, and then he alluded to the gratifying circumstance that, notwithstanding the fact that strikes had taken place in almost every trade, no strikes had occurred in theirs. On the contrary, the men had always remained loyal to their employers, and he thought the fact was highly creditable to those engaged in the trade. In conclusion, the Chairman explained in detail the objects of the institution, and made a powerful speech for increased aid.

The PRESIDENT followed with the toast of "The Chairman," who, he said, was the sixtieth Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company who had occupied the chair. Mr. Thomas then paid a graceful compliment to the Goldsmiths' Company for its consistent generosity and for its sustained interest in the welfare of the institution.

The CHAIRMAN responded to the toast, and then proposed "The Health of the President," which was drunk in a bumper. Afterwards that of "The Treasurer" was honoured with the enthusiasm it deserved, as Bro. Colonel Lambert is a sincere friend to every Charity (and their name is legion) in which he takes an interest. This and much more that was equally true was said by the Chairman of Colonel Lambert, whose name was received with three hearty cheers and "one cheer more."

Colonel LAMBERT, in his acknowledgment of the toast, entertained the company with some of his experiences while he had been employed in canvassing for the Institution. He said he had tramped from St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, to Holborn without getting a shilling, and remarked that, while he was prepared to admit that a great many of the tradesmen he visited did not sell gold, he believed they sold something very much like it.

The toast of "The Trustees," namely, Mr. J. W. Hunt, Mr. J. M. Garrard, and Mr. H. C. Lambert, was next drunk, and those of "The Stewards" and "The Ladies" followed.

The SECRETARY then announced the subscription list, which amounted to £814, and included £25 from the Chairman and the handsome sum of 100 guineas from Colonel Lambert. The last announcement was made amid loud cheers.

A selection of vocal music was rendered by Madame Marie Belval, Miss Susetta Fenn, Mr. S. Dunn, and Mr. J. Josey, while Mr. H. Tipper gave two melodious hand-bell solos.

Obituary.

BRO. A. KIRK, P.P.S.G.W., P.G. TREAS. (R.A.), &c.

On Tuesday, the 30th ult., at the Bank House, Gainsbro', the death of Bro. Alfred Kirk, who has been manager for the Lincoln and Lindsey Banking Company for 33 years, took place. Bro. Kirk, who had been in the employ of the bank for 53 years, had been suffering since November from an internal complaint, and passed away in an unconscious state. Bro. Kirk was formerly manager at Horncastle Bank, and in Gainsbro' had been a very active member of society, having been identified with almost all the important movements in the town, social, sporting, &c. He was a speaker in the Amateur Parliament, an energetic rowing club man, and a member of the parish choir when first surpliced. He held the highest Masonic offices open to him in the Province of Lincolnshire, and was Prov. Grand Treasurer (R.A.) at the time of his death. He was connected particularly with Epworth and Kirton, and having taken a prominent part in the Masonic consecration of St. John's Church, afterwards attended and read lessons there. He was associated with cricket, football, amateur acting, and was a Conservative in politics, and his death will leave a vacancy hard to fill. He was interred in Gainsbro' Cemetery on the 3rd inst., and the funeral was of a Masonic character, all the brethren possible appearing in Masonic clothing and every lodge in the neighbourhood being represented. His death is much regretted in the wide district where he was known.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES has very graciously consented to open a grand bazaar in aid of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, at the Portman Rooms, on Thursday, the 27th June.

THE QUEEN of the Netherlands and the Queen Regent lunched with the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the Princess Louise, Duchess of Fife, at Marlborough House, and subsequently visited the Duke and Duchess of York at York House, St. James's. In the evening their Majesties entertained at dinner the Lord Chamberlain (Bro. Lord Carrington), the Netherlands Minister (Baron Goltstein), and the Baroness Goltstein, Sir John McKelly, Lord Reay, Sir Horace and Lady Rumbold, and the Dutch Consul General and Consul.



THE DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG GOTHA has made a liberal contribution towards the maintenance of the Missions to Seamen's Institute, in which his Royal Highness has always taken a deep interest.

THE PRINCESS LOUISE, Marchioness of Lorne, and the Marquis of Lorne visited the Royal Lyceum Theatre on Saturday last and witnessed the performance of Bro. Irving's "A Story of Waterloo," and "Don Quixote."

THE QUEEN and Queen Regent of the Netherlands visited the Queen at Windsor Castle last week, their visit terminating on Friday, when their Majesties returned to Brown's Hotel, Dover-street. On Saturday their Majesties were visited by the Prince of Wales, while on Thursday their visit to this country came to a conclusion.

A MEETING of Old Harrowians will be held at the Westminster Palace Hotel, on Thursday, the 23rd inst., under the presidency of the Head Master of the School, the Rev. Dr. Welldon, when the form of the memorial which it is intended to erect to the late Earl of Bessborough, in recognition of his great services to the School, will be decided upon.

THE FIFTH of the series of Sunday Orchestral Concerts was held in the Queen's Hall, Langham-place, on Sunday evening last, under the direction of Mr. A. Randegger. The programme, which included selections from the works of Bro. Sir A. Sullivan, Schubert, and Berlioz, was a most interesting one, and the audience separated well satisfied with their entertainment.

THE DUCHESS OF CLEVELAND, the Countess of Jersey, Bro. Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Bro. and Mrs. Akers Douglas, Bro. the Hon. and Mrs. Gathorne Hardy, and Mr. Coningsby Disraeli were among the guests at the dinner party given by Bro. Sir M. and the Hon. Lady White Ridley at their residence in Carlton House-terrace on Saturday last.

THE QUEEN has lost one of her oldest and most valued friends, the Dowager Duchess of Roxburghe, who died at her residence in Hereford-gardens, from an attack of acute bronchitis supervening on a cold, on Wednesday morning. Her Grace, who was married to the sixth Duke of Roxburghe in 1836, was a Lady of the Bedchamber from 1865, and Acting Mistress of the Robes.

AT A SALE by auction at Christie's Rooms on Saturday last of the pictures belonging to the late Duchess of Montrose, the portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds of Lady Smith and her children realised £50.40, and Gainsborough's "Madam Le Brun," 2150 guineas, while "Lady Anne Fitzpatrick as 'Sylvia,'" by Reynolds, fetched 1550 guineas. The total realised was £14,167, and that of the whole week's sale of the late Duchess's effects, £55,016.

ST. BOTOLPH ALDERSGATE.—As the time is now drawing near for the withdrawal of Bro. the Rev. F. Selby Henry from the parish, the churchwardens (Bro. B. Norman and Bro. Holliday) invite subscriptions towards the testimonial it is intended to offer to him as a mark of the esteem in which he is held by the parishioners, and in recognition of the earnest work he has performed during the years he has been associated with the parish.

A COMPLIMENTARY DINNER to Sir W. Robinson on the eve of his departure for the colony of Western Australia, of which he has been appointed Governor, took place in the King's Hall of the Holborn Restaurant, on Monday evening. The chair was taken by the Marquis of Ripon, and among the principal guests were Bro. the Marquis of Tweeddale, the Earl of Jersey, the Earl of Donoughmore, Sir J. Dimsdale, and Sir J. Puleston.

ONE OF THE GREATEST attractions which the directors of the Crystal Palace have offered to the public will undoubtedly be the "African Loan Exhibition and East African Village," which have been arranged and produced under the direction of Herr Carl Hagenbeck. This exhibition, which is known briefly as "Africa in London," will be on view from the present month of May till October. Already the bulk of the animals, birds, and reptiles, and about 80 Somalis, from Somaliland have arrived in London, and as among the arrivals are lions, elephants, dromedaries, leopards, antelopes, gazelles, &c., there is very little reason to doubt that the enterprise of the Palace authorities will have its reward in the shape of a largely increased number of visitors.

THE DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG GOTHA presided at the annual meeting, which was held on Saturday morning last, at the Royal United Service Institution, of the Royal School for Naval Officers' Daughters; among those present being Lady Louisa Egerton, Lady Dowell, Lady Houston Stewart, Admirals of the Fleet Earl of Clanwilliam and Bro. Sir J. Commerell, V.C., Bro. Admiral Sir George Wiles, and others. In the afternoon of the same day the Duchess of Teck presided at the annual meeting in the same place of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, there being present Lord and Lady Kelvin, Lady C. Gordon Lennox, Lady Audrey Buller, Bro. Sir J. Whitaker Ellis, Bart., and Lady Flowers.

THE ANNUAL BANQUET by the President and Council of the Royal Academy was given at Burlington House on Saturday evening last. In the absence of the President, who is abroad for the purpose of recruiting his health, the chair was taken by Sir John Millais, and he was supported on his right by the Prince of Wales, the Dukes of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, Cambridge, and York, the Hereditary Prince of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, and the Duke of Teck, and on his left by the Russian, German, Austro-Hungarian, Italian, United States, and French Ambassadors, and the Netherlands Minister. Among those to whom invitations were addressed, and who, in the majority of cases were able to accept them, were the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, Bro. Lord Ashbourne, Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., Lord Carrington, the Lord Chancellor (Lord Herschell), Earl Cowper, the Earl of Derby, the Duke of Devonshire, Lord Halsbury, Lord George Hamilton, M.P., the Earl of Jersey, the Lord Mayor (Alderman Sir Joseph Renals), Lord Roberts, G. J. Shaw-Lefevre, M.P., Lord Wantage, Viscount Wolsley, Sir Evelyn Wood and Baron H. de Worms, M.P.

TWO FATAL boating accidents occurred on Monday, one at Portrush, County Antrim, and the other in Pool Harbour. By the former three lives were lost, and by the latter two.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Children's Country Holidays' Fund will be held at the Hôtel Métropole on Friday next, the 17th inst. The Duchess of Albany has very kindly consented to be present on the occasion.

BRO. THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD MAYOR and the Lady Mayoress had the honour of receiving the young Queen and the Queen Regent of the Netherlands at the Guildhall, and afterwards escorted their Majesties to the Tower Bridge.

A FIRE broke out on Monday evening in the apartments occupied by Mrs. Chamberlain at Hampton Court Palace. The room in which it occurred was just under the Picture Gallery, but prompt measures were at once taken, and the fire was extinguished without doing any material damage.

THE PRINCESS Mary Adelaide, Duchess of Teck, will visit the Chelsea Hospital for Women on Wednesday, the 22nd inst., for the purpose of opening the "Mary Adelaide" Ward. Her Royal Highness will subsequently receive purses from ladies who are willing to aid this deserving institution.

THE FINAL SERIES of mural decorations illustrating the Art of Music have now been completed and placed in the Donaldson Museum. These paintings, which are presented by Mr. Donaldson, have been executed by M. Gaston de Vaere, who has had the honour to submit them to the Prince of Wales, president of the college, at Marlborough House.

ALDERMAN FAUDEL PHILLIPS presided, in the unavoidable absence of the Duke of Cambridge, at the annual dinner, which was held at the Hôtel Métropole, on Monday evening, in aid of the Metropolitan Drinking Fountain and Cattle Trough Association. In the course of the evening, contributions, including donations from the Dukes of Westminster and Bedford, were announced, amounting to £1000.

THE ANNUAL BANQUET of the Library Committee of the Corporation of London was held at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Monday evening under the presidency of Mr. J. D. Matthews, the Chairman, the Lord Mayor (Bro. Alderman Sir Joseph Renals), the Sheriffs of London, the Bishop of Stepney, Sir Stuart Knill, Bro. Sir George Tyler, and the Librarian, Mr. C. H. Welch, being among the principal guests.

THE AMATEUR ART EXHIBITION at Moncorvo House, Ennismore Gardens, which has been organised for the purpose of benefiting the East End Mothers' Home, the East London Nursing Society, and the Parochial Mission Women's Fund, was visited by the Duchess of York on Monday. Her Royal Highness was received by sundry members of the Ladies' Committee, and conducted through the rooms, among them being Lady Chesterfield, Lady Romney, Lady Elizabeth Cust, and the Hon. Mrs. Charles Eliot.

THERE WAS a large and fashionable attendance at the Garrick Theatre on Monday afternoon, when a *matinée* was given in aid of the Boys' Home, Limpsfield, Surrey. The Duke and Duchess of York, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, and the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz occupied two boxes. The programme included "A Quiet Rubber," "The Vicarage," in which Bro. and Mrs. Bancroft, and Mrs. A. Cecil took part, and a new tragic farce, entitled, "Threepenny Bits," and there is every reason to believe that the Home will be very greatly benefited by the performance.

THE FIRST great annual Summer Pastimes' Exhibition will be held in the great galleries of the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, from the 29th June to the 6th July, under the patronage of Lord Hawke, Bro. Sir Albert Altman, C. W. Alcock, J.P. (Secretary of the Surrey County Cricket Club), and other gentlemen. The exhibits will be classified into sections devoted to cricket, riding, boating, swimming, athletics, lawn tennis, &c., &c., while those relating to aquaria, apiaries, football, polo, &c., will be eligible for admission. Full particulars can be obtained by intending exhibitors of Mr. Ernest H. Lowe, at the officers, 222, Strand, W.C.

THE QUEEN, accompanied by the Princesses Beatrice and Christian and the Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, and attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, left Windsor Castle for London on Tuesday morning. On arriving at Paddington shortly after noon, the Royal party drove, under an escort of the Household Cavalry, to Buckingham Palace. In the afternoon her Majesty went for a drive in an open carriage, and in the evening had a dinner party. On Wednesday a Drawing Room was held, at which a number of presentations were made, the attendance of the diplomatic and general circles being very numerous.

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES the Prince and Princess of Wales gave a dinner party at Marlborough House on Monday, in honour of her Majesty the Queen Regent of the Netherlands. Among the guests were the Duke of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, the Duchess of Albany, the Duke and Duchess of York, the Princesses Victoria and Maud of Wales, the Hereditary Prince of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince and Princess Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Earl of Rosebery, the Netherlands Minister, Bro. Lord Carrington, Lord and Lady Reay, and Sir Edward and Lady Grey. The band of the Grenadier Guards, under Bro. Lieut. Dan Godfrey, played during the dinner.

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 Henries" (prose), recites his original productions at musical entertainments, smoking concerts, &c. For terms, address 62, Lancaster-road, Notting Hill, W.

COMMERCE, WITH ITS SPREADING WINGS, has traversed the globe many times, and binds nations together with the strong ties of mutual self-interest. Through its influence London has become the metropolis of the world, and her merchants have amassed wealth sufficient to make them the envy of princes. Holloway's Pills and Ointment have now become essential articles of commerce with all parts of the world. They have effected cures which have seemed miraculous, and given relief in complaints when all hope had been lost. In all known diseases their success has at all times been wonderful. In cases of disorders of the stomach, bile, liver complaint, indigestion, fevers, ague, &c., they act like a charm, as the cure is speedy and certain.

BRO. COLONEL SEWELL, D.P.C.M. Cumberland and Westmorland, has been appointed Grand Superintendent (R.A.) same province.

THE KENSINGTON LODGE, No. 1767, will, in future, meet at the Royal Palace Hotel, High-street, Kensington, Saturday, the 18th inst., will be the opening night at this address.

THE EIGHTH annual exhibition by the Universal Cookery and Food Association was opened by Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar at the Portman Rooms, on Tuesday, the 7th inst.

THE DUCHESS OF TECK occupied the chair at a meeting of the Society of Arts on Tuesday afternoon, when a paper was read on the "Improvement in Design, Colour, and Manufacture of British Silks."

THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY of the opening of the Parkhurst Theatre and complimentary benefit to the manager, Mr. J. H. Perfect, jun., will take place on the 20th instant, when a strong programme has been arranged for.

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES the Prince and Princess of Wales have signified their intention of visiting the Horse Show at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Tuesday afternoon, and the Duke and Duchess of York will attend on Friday.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz and suite visited the Lyceum on Thursday, to witness Mr. Irving in "A Story of Waterloo" and "Don Quixote."

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES, accompanied by the Duchess of Fife and Princesses Victoria and Maud, witnessed the performance of "Hansel and Gretel" by the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company at the Savoy Theatre on Thursday evening.

IT IS ARRANGED that the Duke of York will be present next month as the special representative of the Queen at the opening of the Baltic North Sea Canal. He will proceed in the first instance in the Royal Yacht Osborne to Hamburg, whence he will join the selected ships of the British Channel Squadron.

THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S returns for last week show a marked improvement in the health of London, the rate of mortality being as low as 16.5 per 1000. The chief decline is in the number of deaths from affections of the chest. Influenza was responsible for 34 deaths as compared with 27 the previous weeks.

THE ANNUAL general meeting of the corps of Royal Engineers will take place in the theatre of the Royal United Service Institution, on the 8th prox., at 2 p.m., and in the evening the Duke of Cambridge will preside at the annual dinner which will be held in the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole.

IN CONNECTION with the Convalescent Home, St. Margaret's Bay, to-morrow (Saturday) the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., will open the Morley House Caxton Wing, which has been established for the benefit of the employés in London newspaper offices and the various branches of the printing and allied trades.

AS AN INSTANCE of the promptness with which officers on leave whose regiments were warned for the Chitral expedition returned to duty, probably a record was broken in the case of Lieutenant J. S. Corlett, 13th Bengal Lancers. He received his order from the India Office on the morning of Good Friday. The same night he left England, caught the Caledonia at Brindisi, and in 12 days from receipt of orders was in India, on his way to Peshawar.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT is made of the sale by auction, on the 15th inst., of a portion of the historic and picturesque estate at Broadstairs known as Pierremont Park, formerly the residence of the late Duchess of Kent, and also of her Majesty the Queen when a child; the property being easy of access from town, and situated in the centre of Broadstairs. The owner intends to reserve a large portion of the beautiful park, which will be laid out as ornamental grounds for the use of the residents.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES honoured Captain and Mrs. Naylor-Leyland with his presence at dinner last evening at Hyde Park House. There were present to meet his Royal Highness the Austrian Ambassador and Countess Deym, their Serene Highnesses Prince and Princess Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Marquis and Marchioness of Ormonde, the Marchesa de Santuree; the Earl and Countess of Dudley, the Earl of Rosslyr, the Countess of Powis, Viscountess Coke, Lord Carrington, Lord and Lady Tweedmouth, Lord and Lady Rossmore, Lord and Lady Brougham and Vaux, Lady Gerard, Lady de Trafford, Sir Henry Calcraft, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Sassoon, Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, Mr. Sykes, and Captain Holford (in waiting on his Royal Highness).

THE QUEEN, accompanied by Princess Christian, Princess Beatrice, and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, and attended by the suite left Buckingham Palace on Thursday evening upon the conclusion of her visit to the Metropolis. The Royal departure was witnessed by a large number of spectators who had assembled in St. James's Park and along the route. Her Majesty and the Princesses drove under an escort to Paddington, where they were received by Viscount Emlyn (Chairman) and several officials of the Great Western Railway. Leaving at 25 minutes past six o'clock, the Royal train arrived at Windsor at seven. The Palace Guard was mounted on the Castle Hill, opposite Henry VIII's Tower, and saluted as the carriages proceeded to the Victoria Tower.

CRYSTAL PALACE JOHN BOND'S MARKING INK.—The character of this well-known "Gold Medal Marking Ink," as prepared by the daughter of the late Mr. John Bond, is too well known to need further commendation; but we imagine that the inducement to purchase it will be greater since the proprietor has introduced his "improved linen stretcher for marking linen, cotton, silk, &c." This is presented gratuitously to every purchaser of an "enlarged shilling bottle of the blue wrapper marking ink" in addition to the rubber stamp with name or monogram mounted, to which, for years past, every purchaser of a sixpenny or shilling bottle of this celebrated ink has been entitled. The stretcher fits compactly with the bottle in the case, and will be found very useful for the purpose for which it has been designed.