

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
LEADERS—	
The Multiplicity of Offences in American Masonry	167
Freemasonry in Norfolk	168
Consecration of Baring Lodge, No. 2602, at Cromer	169
Provincial Grand Chapter of East Lancashire	170
Entertainment at the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at Croydon	170
First Ladies' Night of the Royal Kensington Lodge, No. 1627	170
The Recent Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution	171
Annual Ball of the Callendar Lodge, No. 588, at Falkirk	171
Provincial Grand Lodge of North Connaught	171
Secret Monitor	171
Knights Templar	171
Red Cross of Rome and Constantine	171
Masonic Notes	173
Lodge and Chapter of Instruction	174
Craft Masonry	174
Royal Arch	177
Obituary	177
Masonic and General Tidings	178

THE MULTIPLICITY OF OFFENCES IN AMERICAN MASONRY.

One of the most marvellous things about latter-day American Masonry is the facility with which offences are created. Our Craft, like every other Society which possesses a more or less elaborate organisation, stands in need of something in the nature of a code of laws for its decent government. But the principles of Freemasonry are so clear, and its attributes characterised by such exceptional simplicity; the meetings of its principal and subordinate bodies are so few in number, and the purposes for which they are held so obviously innocent of all harm, that reason and common sense alike appear to suggest that, provided the rules and regulations which are necessary to the maintenance of order, the appointment of officers, the payment of those contributions which are necessary to the maintenance of the body corporate, and the working of our ceremonial are duly observed, there is nothing of which a Grand or private lodge need concern itself to take any cognisance. Our American brethren, however, appear to be of a different opinion. In some of their jurisdictions even the most trivial matters are deemed weighty enough to be dealt with by the laws of Masonry. We have just been favoured with a copy of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, at its 82nd annual communication, at Nashville, in the month of January last, and, while we readily concede that the volume contains a mass of sound information and much that is calculated to elicit from the readers of its pages a strong feeling of admiration for our Tennessee brethren, there is also much in it which appears to be utterly beyond the scope of Freemasonry as we understand it. Taking mainly the Grand Master's address for our guide, we find among the score of "Official Rulings" which he delivered during the past, we find the following, which, from an English Mason's point of view, would appear to be based on matters the most puerile. According to No. 4, two brethren had a fight, were disciplined by their lodge, and were awarded a certain punishment. They appealed to Grand Lodge, but their appeal was dismissed. "After punishment was inflicted, both demanded dimits, saying hard things about their treatment by the Subordinate and Grand Lodge, and refusing to be reconciled." However, the lodge refused the dimits, and was "directed to discipline the brethren for their insubordination and slander." In the 8th case, the Grand Lodge ruled that "A Lodge may discipline a member for making, or selling whisky, or brandy, or for any infraction of the moral law;" from which some people might feel themselves justified in deducing that making or selling whisky, or brandy, is "an infraction of the moral law." In another case (No. 18), it was decided that "if a Mason pleads

the Statute of limitation to a *bona fide* debt, or in the language of the Brother making the question, 'pleads honest debt out-of-date,' and thus avoids payment, he is a proper subject for Masonic discipline. *Masons cannot afford to be dishonest,*" even if the laws of our country do in some instances permit it. In the 19th case, we are seriously told that "A Mason who is charged with an assault on a Master Mason, and confesses that he committed the assault, but pleads that he did not know that the person assaulted was a Mason, is guilty of a Masonic offence, unless the assault was justifiable under the civil law." The want of knowledge of the fact that the assailed was a Mason might be considered in mitigation of punishment, but that a Masonic offence in this case was committed the then Grand Master of Tennessee appears to have had no doubt whatever, and he ruled in accordance with his opinion. In the last case of all (No. 20), he ruled that "Slander, 'perpetrated in the heat of political debate,' is a Masonic offence. To traduce the good name of a Brother under *any* circumstances whatever is a grave Masonic offence, and should receive prompt punishment."

The decisions we have quoted are those which appear to us to be the most extraordinary, on the common ground that they, one and all of them, relate to matters with which Masonry has no business whatever to concern itself. What matters it to a lodge of Freemasons as such that two of its members had a dispute, and after a few harsh words proceed to exchange a few hard blows? If the dispute and fight occurred in lodge, then we can understand the W.M. intervening and ordering them to leave the lodge instantly; and in the event of their setting his authority at defiance, it would be his bounden duty to bring the matter to the notice of Grand Lodge, or rather to the Committee or Board in Tennessee, which most nearly corresponds with our Board of General Purposes. But if the squabble occurred outside the lodge—let us say, in the ordinary course of squabbles—the proper thing for the lodge to do, in our opinion, is to leave it alone, only taking care that the squabblers do not engage in their differences during the time the lodge is in session. Again, as regards the making or selling of whisky or brandy, while we yield to none in our respect for what are known as "Temperance" principles, we take leave to point out that a man is not guilty of any offence who makes or sells that which the laws of the country he is a citizen of or resides in sanctions his making or selling; and when a Grand Master—or Grand Lodge—takes upon himself to decide that that is an offence against Masonry which is sanctioned by the law of the State, he is not only setting himself above the law, but he is acting *ultra vires*; he is deciding in a matter with which he has no concern whatever. So, likewise, with the other cases, the assault on a Master Mason in ignorance of the man's Masonic status; the slander in the heat of political argument; and the plea of the statute of limitations for not paying a just and *bona fide* debt—these are matters which, as we have already said, are entirely beyond the scope of Freemasonry. All it seems to us that a lodge is able to do is to take all possible precaution against accepting as members those who by their acts outside the lodge, that is to say, in every day life, are likely to bring Masonry into disrepute. It is very undesirable that a lodge should number amongst its members men of a quarrelsome disposition, who in their intercourse with their fellowmen are unable to get on without having recourse to fisticuffs in order to emphasise their opinions. These are the class of people against the admission of whom the most eminent members of our Order in England make a point of

cautioning our lodges, and especially those which have been newly-formed. But where a lodge is so unfortunate as to have accepted such a person as a member, the only course left open to it, in our humble opinion, is, to use a familiar expression, to make the best of a bad bargain. At all events, let its members behave like sensible men and keep all their petty squabbles and contentions, slanders, and the like, outside the lodge and treat them as they deserve to be treated, that is to say, as matters with which Freemasonry has no concern.

FREEMASONRY IN NORFOLK*

Bro. HAMON LE STRANGE, whose "History of Freemasonry in Norfolk" has just been published, is to be congratulated on the wealth of material he has had to work upon. True, he has not fared much better than other writers who have undertaken a similar task in respect of other Provinces as regards official records. Our Norfolk brethren of last century, and even of later times, appear to have been as studiously indifferent to the preservation of minute books as the most careless that ever donned the white apron of Masonry. But it is not every Province, even among those which are far stronger in the number of their lodges, that can boast, as Norfolk can, of an uninterrupted Masonic History of 170 years, or that it has possessed what is virtually an unbroken Provincial organisation for 135 of those 170 years. Masonry in this favoured county, as elsewhere, has had its vicissitudes. Lodges have come and gone, some after a brief existence and without leaving behind them much else than the record of the simple facts that in certain years they were constituted in certain places, and bore certain numbers on the roll of the Grand Lodge which warranted them; while others maintained their position, through a long course of years, with a greater or less measure of prosperity, and the wonder is, that, with so many men around them of good social standing whose devotion to the interests of Freemasonry must always pass unquestioned, bodies of such long-established repute should have been allowed to pass out of existence. Still, Norfolk, through all its varying fortunes, and though the number of lodges on its roll, even including that which was consecrated only a few days since at Cromer, is but 18, has always maintained an honoured position among the Provinces, and, in compiling its History, Bro. LE STRANGE has done a service to the Craft of Masonry in this country, which cannot be too highly valued, in a manner for which he cannot be too greatly commended. It is a history which deserves to have a place of honour assigned to it in every Masonic Library in England, which will be read with interest by every student of Masonic History, and of which, as it is a credit to the author, as well as an honour to the Province in which he holds so distinguished an office, every one of his brother Masons in Norfolk should possess a copy. It is not every Province, of which so ample and valuable a work as this could be written, and it is not every brother, of whom it could be said without flattery, that he possessed the patience and ability, as well as the leisure, to write it.

Having regard to the fact we have already mentioned that at the present time the number of lodges on the roll of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Norfolk is only 18 all told, the list of those which from time to time have been warranted is a somewhat formidable one. Of the 50 and odd lodges which at different periods have met on Norfolk soil, the earliest is that which was constituted at the Maid's Head, Norwich, in 1724. The ceremony was performed by Bro. MARTIN FOLKES, Deputy to CHARLES, Duke of RICHMOND, Grand Master, and there is evidence that the lodge was working till the close of 1793, that it continued to send in returns to Grand Lodge till 1797, and that its last payment thereto was made in April, 1802; but in 1809 it was erased from the list, and then a lodge, which "all through its career maintained its position as premier lodge of the Province," which numbered among its members brethren belonging to some of the principal families in the county, and of which the first four P.G.Ms. of Norfolk were initiates or joining members, was allowed to pass away, the one memorial of its existence

being a minute book from 27th December, 1743, to December, 1793, which came into the possession of Prov. Grand Lodge in 1894, and to which, as may well be imagined, the author is indebted for the bulk of the narrative he has been able to compile of its history. The second senior lodge, founded at the Duke's Head, King's Lynn, in 1729, has also passed away, having been erased from the roll of Grand Lodge on 1st February, 1786. Respecting this, Bro. LE STRANGE has been able to discover very few particulars, the most important being that about the year 1781, the lodge contributed £5 5s. towards the building fund of Freemasons' Hall, and that in 1785 a Bro. ROBERT PARTRIDGE, as proxy for the lodge, signed the petition for the appointment of Sir EDWARD ASTLEY as Prov. Grand Master. The third in point of seniority has been more fortunate. It was warranted at the King's Head, Norwich, in 1736, and is still on the roll of Grand Lodge as Union Lodge, No. 52, meeting in the same city. In 1817 it united with and took the name of the Union Lodge, No. 236—No. 357 of 1765—and in 1819 it obtained a warrant of confirmation, while in 1878 his Royal Highness, the M.W.G. Master, was pleased to grant it a centenary warrant. The information which Bro. LE STRANGE has been able to collect relating to this lodge is very fragmentary, nor has he been very much more successful than Bro. JOHN LANE—in whose "Masonic Records," as well as in this volume, the facts we have quoted will be found mentioned—in unearthing particulars as to its doings during last century. The Lodge of Unity, now the senior lodge on the roll of Suffolk, was the fourth lodge warranted in Norfolk, having been established in 1747 at the Bear, Norwich. Later in its career it removed to Acle, and thence to Yarmouth, while in 1814 it migrated to Lowestoft, where it still flourishes under a centenary warrant.

The lodges that follow after the Lodge of Unity are extinct till we come to what is now the Faithful Lodge, No. 85, Harleston, which was originally established in Norwich at the Castle and Lion, in 1753. This lodge, though it has lost its records anterior to 1821, is fortunate enough to have preserved its warrant or dispensation, which is in the handwriting of Bro. Dr. THOMAS MANNINGHAM, who was Deputy firstly to Lord CARYSFORT, G.M., and then to his successor, the Marquis of CARNARVON, subsequently Duke of CHANDOS. Of the six lodges that follow, no less than three are happily preserved to us, namely, the Social Lodge, No. 93, Norwich, warranted in 1755; the Lodge of Friendship, No. 100, Yarmouth, warranted in 1757; and the Lodge of Unanimity, No. 102, North Walsham, in 1758. All these have received centenary warrants, as also one other lodge of later date, so that one-third of the number on the Provincial roll, can boast of the honour of having been able to trace out an existence of 100 years and upwards. Of the 13 lodges that follow, only one actually retains its place on the roll of Grand Lodge, but this—the Shakespere, Lodge, No. 284—which was originally formed in Norwich in 1792, migrated in 1808 to Warwick, where it still flourishes. However, the Union Lodge, of 1765, meeting in Norwich, was united with and gave its name to the present Lodge, No. 52, which, as Bro. LE STRANGE points out, would in all probability but for this circumstance, have dropped from the roll altogether. Of the remaining eight pre-Union Lodges, there remain on the roll of the Province the Lodge of Perseverance, No. 213, one of the ten lodges warranted by the "Ancients," and dating from the year 1795—to this a centenary warrant has lately been granted, and the lodge celebrated the event with all possible *éclat* at a meeting held during the present year; the Lodge of United Friends, No. 313, warranted by the "Moderns" in 1797; and the Philanthropic Lodge, No. 107, King's Lynn, which, though it figures in Grand Lodge Calendar as an "Ancient" lodge, dating from 1766, in reality is of 1810 origin. Thus of the 38 lodges established in Norfolk prior to the Union of 1813, namely, 28 "Moderns" and 10 "Ancients," six of the former and two of the latter remain on the roll of Norfolk and two others are to be found in other Provinces, while yet another united with, and gave its name to, the lodge which dates from 1736 and is the senior in the Province. Of the 15 lodges that have been warranted since the Union, including the Baring Lodge, consecrated at Cromer last week, and therefore not dealt with in

* History of Freemasonry in Norfolk, 1724 to 1895. By Hamon Le Strange, P.G.D. England, D.P.G.M. Norfolk. Norwich: Agas H. Goose, Rampant Horse-street. 1896.

this volume, ten are on the roll, the number of those that have been erased being five. In addition to these 52 lodges of English Constitution enumerated by Bro. LE STRANGE reference is made to the lodge warranted at Norwich by the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 1745, respecting which Bro. Dr. CHETWODE CRAWLEY gave sundry particulars in Vol. VIII. of *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum* last year. On the subject of this Irish lodge, however, he is unable to furnish any particulars for the simplest of all reasons, that as far as he and others have been able to ascertain, there are none to furnish. But as regards those of English origin, Bro. LE STRANGE has been able to bring together what, considering the absence of so many of the records, may be looked upon as a fair amount of valuable information. He has, too, been careful to note everything of striking interest, and more particularly what is calculated to throw light upon the manner in which our lodges conducted their proceedings in olden time.

Respecting the further portions of the history, in which the origin and progress of Provincial Grand Lodge, Royal Arch Masonry, &c., are traced, we must reserve such remarks as it may seem desirable to make for a further article.

CONSECRATION OF THE BARING LODGE, No. 2602, AT CROMER.

The eighteenth Masonic lodge of the Province of Norfolk was consecrated at the popular seaside resort of Cromer, on Monday, the 16th inst. The lodge being opened, the consecration ceremony was most ably and impressively performed by Bro. Edward Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Secretary, assisted by Bros. Hamon Le Strange, P.G.D., D.P.G.M., as S.W.; Sir Francis G. M. Boileau, Bart., P.P.G.W., as J.W.; H. Wimple, M.A., P.P.G.C., as Chaplain; G. Baxter, P.P.S.G.W., as D.C.; and other prominent Masons.

The commodious lodge-room at Tucker's Hotel was filled, seats being placed in every available corner, and it is worthy of note that of the 17 lodges in the province, 15 of the Worshipful Masters were present to wish the infant lodge prosperity.

The following oration by the ACTING CHAPLAIN was listened to with rapt attention:

Brethren,—It is the custom, on the erection of any stately edifice, that in words should be set forth the motive and principles that originated and carried it out. Thus, as we see in Holy Writ, our G.M., King Solomon, with much prayer and supplication, set forth in the presence of his people, the motives that led his father David to make such goodly store for building a House to the Lord, and called upon them to obey His commandments, to fear Him, and walk in His ways. Even so, it behoves me, in accordance with our ancient Constitutions, to set before you in brief measure, somewhat of the nature and principles of the Craft, that we may be justified thereby in the solemn act we are about to perform this day. For as King Solomon, while acknowledging that heaven, yea, the heaven of heavens, could not contain their Architect and Maker, yet ventured to build Him a House wherein he prayed He would deign to dwell, and in very sooth the glory of the Lord, the Shekinah, that Light which is the object of our research, and the centre of our system filled that House; even so are we about to consecrate to T.G.A.O.T.U. a lodge wherein we shall supplicate His special assistance upon our undertakings. Here for time to come will be that point from which no M.M. can err; here to E.A., to F.C., and to M.M. in turn, that teaching will be revealed which spans the whole of life, from the hour when he is received into Masonry as a helpless babe, to that solemn moment when, with one lone star to illumine the tomb of transgression, and point him to hope, he learns that one day, all alone, he must lie down to die. Such, my brethren, is the extent of Freemasonry, so solemn is our present undertaking. It is well then, to review, if but briefly, the nature and principles of that Order, which is viewed with such varied and mingled feelings, that some governments persecute it, a great hierarchy denounces it, and many people not initiated in its secrets regard it as but a Society for temporal benefit, with lofty pretensions, and accessories of pomp and ceremony that provoke a smile. But, my brethren, Freemasonry is more than this. Undoubted as are the benefits that are to be derived from it, we should not find in its rank princes and tradesfolk, nobles and artisans, every grade and profession, represented if this were all. It deals with something higher than mere temporal benefit, and in its definition strikes a higher note. Freemasonry is a system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. A system of morality—this carries it at once into a higher region, brethren, and deals with the higher nature of man. As St. Paul taught that the body should be the Temple of the indwelling Spirit, and, therefore, pure and holy; as Paul's Master taught, the house when swept and garnished, must be filled at once with high and lofty thoughts and aims, so teaches in all humility, the Mason in that Temple where he derives aid and encouragement for his course through life—where he learns to practice as a Mason in lodge, and a man in the world, every public as well as private virtue; to regard all mankind whatever their race, rank, or creed, as equal, especially those linked by the mystic tie; above all, to practice in its deepest and broadest sense divinely Charity—that Charity which believes all things possible in the upward progress of humanity, that hopes full success to perseverance and a steadfast soul, that thinks no evil—in a word, the love of God and man—and all this not for outward show to be seen of men, but as here, in the quiet and secrecy of our lodge—in the safe and sacred repository of our heart, the purposes of Freemasonry are to be carried out. And how rich a store of symbolic meaning do we inherit from the forefathers of our Craft, level and plumb rule, gavel and ladder, gauge and square, have all their deep lessons, but it is not for me in this assembly of Masters of the Craft to instruct you in these things, but to remind you of them—they will form part of the teachings of this lodge, where our children's children will bless this auspicious day, as they learn from every legend, every charge, every symbol of the Craft, how to become better citizens, better subjects, better men, how to discharge their duties to God, to their neighbour, to themselves, and the Craft. Nor if we enquire into the antiquity of our Order need we fail to find both answer and encouragement. Avoiding too rash speculation and enthusiasm on the one hand, and too great scepticism on the other, can we not read many a lesson of the wisdom and piety of the fathers of our Craft in the part, which Bible teaching, signs, and symbols have in our ritual? do they not stamp the whole system with a

higher character as they direct our solemn attention to that Volume of the Sacred Law whose place is ever before the Master's chair? And, again, if we search into our origin, while claiming much in common with societies of the most ancient date, let us be content to see that we are most closely linked with those great Masonic and architectural guilds that are the glory of the middle ages. When the Masonic year 5000 passed, in which all christendom expected the Judgment Day, a wave of thankful enthusiasm swept over Europe that showed itself in stately cathedral and holy fane. Then rose Masonry to a place of dignity under bishop and abbot. Then under Lozinga arose the stately pile at Norwich. Soon, however, they drew apart, and out of their independence and sense of the dignity and beauty of the Craftsman's art, out of the high morality that wrought the loftiest pinnacle, out of human ken with the same care as that work which all men might plainly see, arose the Freemason, who wandered where he would to do his appointed task, sure of brotherly love and relief, sure of truth in answer to the true signs and symbols which he bore as his credentials, even as he was true himself to his art. Then arose the orders as we have them now—the E.A., the F.C., the M.M. designers and builders of fanes that are the glory of the world, men who increased in knowledge and added to science that philosophy and sacred symbolism which is our heritage to-day. Yes, my brethren, we are to-day linked to these forefathers of the Craft by an indissoluble bond, a chain that will not break. Though operative no longer, we can claim to be their successors, and in all essential points our ritual contains and preserves their ancient symbols and their ancient signs. The principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth, do they not stand forth still as the grand principles on which our Order continues to be based? How many a lesson from symbol does the true Mason learn to fit him for life here and hereafter. Does he not learn how it is necessary to obey before he can command? How slow and gradual every step must be, how impossible it is to rise, no matter what the rank or station of the man, except from beginnings that are humble, and by patience in learning? Does not the chequered pavement of our lodge instruct us of the shadow as well as the sunshine that falls on life, while we know that there we find ready sympathy, and, if required, relief? And when men reproach us for the secrecy of our Order, shall we not point out to them how valuable is that quality which our system fosters? For whom is there such honour as the man who can keep counsel, for whom such contempt as the man whom men feel they cannot trust? And, above all, have we not that brotherly love one to another which is far more than the relief that comforts the orphan and dries the mourner's tears, which expresses itself in sympathy, in good will, in courtesy, in all the relations of life, making us considerate one towards another, respecters of the honour of those dear to our brethren, mindful in small matters as well as in great, and which, passing beyond the limits of race, rank, politics, or creed, joins all good men together in one bond—the dominant thought, the keynote of which is the brotherhood of man and the truest progress of humanity? Such, my brethren, is Freemasonry.

At the conclusion of the ceremony of consecration, Bro. R. Fenner was installed W.M. by the Grand Secretary.

The Worshipful Master then appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Jas. Francis, W.M. 1808, as acting I.P.M.; Jas. Lovelace, P.M. 1808, S.W.; H. W. Churchyard, S.W. 1808, J.W.; J. C. Rie, J.W. 1808, Sec.; Sir Kenneth H. Kemp, Bart., P.M. 52, Treas.; W. G. Sandford, 93, S.D.; J. Clarke, 93, J.D.; W. Price, I.G.; and W. Smith, Tyler.

The musical part of the consecration was most ably carried out under the directorship of Bro. J. H. Brockbank, P.P.A.G. Sec.

Several names of candidates for initiation and brethren as joining members were proposed, and, after appointing a Committee to frame by-laws, the lodge was closed.

The brethren then adjourned to the Hotel de Paris, when a great number sat down to the banquet, amongst whom, in addition to the founders and Consecrating Officers, were—

Bros. Chas. Strickland, 1808; R. P. Noverre, P.M. 52, P.P.G. Reg.; Benjamin B. Morgan, W.M. 213; Edward Austin, W.M. 807; W. G. Crotch, 807; G. H. L. Blake, W.M. 313; Edward R. Woodward, J.W. 213; E. R. Adams, 373; Henry J. Gidney, P.M. 102; C. R. Dewhurst, P.M. 102; J. A. Anderson, 102; B. Cook, P.M. 102; J. H. Brockbank, 93; W. Churchyard, 1808; Johnson Foster, 943; G. W. G. Barnard, P.M. 943, P.G. Sec.; H. J. Brookes, 93; Hy. Thouless, P.M. 93; George Sharley, I.P.M. 1808, P.G.C.; J. Spurrell, S.W. 102; Hy. Sadler, P.M. 2148, Grand Tyler; Cubitt Page, W.M. 93; Chas. Hall, W.M. 100; Thos. Peake, W.M. 107; C. B. Cross, W.M. 943; Walter Waring, J.W. 52; Sir Kenneth Kemp, Bart., P.M. 52; Ambrose Goddard, 996, 2237, P.P.G.W.; Edgar Smith, W.M. 1114; E. Reeve, W.M. 52; Ernest F. Jarvis, 807; R. F. Aldis, 102; G. O. Maynard, W.M. 1193; Robert Wortley, P.M. 102; William Welsford, W.M. 1500; C. Payne, P.M. 1193; P. E. Hansell, S.D. 52; Thomas H. Morse, I.G. 52; E. Skinner, J.D. 1300; W. E. Smith, J.D. 487, 1300; S. Howard, 1500; Fred Mills, 943, P.P.G.I.G.; S. M. Mills, 52, P.P.S.G.W.; J. B. Pearce, P.M. 52, P.P.G.S. of Wks.; H. G. Barwell, 52, P.P.S.G.W.; H. W. Youell, P.M. 313, P.P.S.G.D.; W. P. Eversley, 52, P.P.J.G.W.; L. Spence, P.M. 100; G. Dunkley, P.M. 1893, P.P. G.D.C.; J. B. Aldis, P.M. 52; S. F. Creswell, W.M. 102; H. J. Sparks, P.M. 996, P.S.G.W.; and W. H. Smith, 93, P.P.G.S. of Wks.

The toast list included "The Queen and the Craft"; "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., &c."; "The M.W. Pro G.M., Bro. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B.," and "The R.W. Deputy G.M., Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcombe, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," which was given by the W.M. and responded to by Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, Grand Secretary.

The W.M. next submitted "The R.W.P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., and the Grand Officers of the Province of Norfolk," to which Bro. HAMON LE STRANGE, D.P.G.M., responded. He remarked that he was sure that Lord Suffield, P.G.M., would take a very great interest in the new lodge and that illness alone prevented him from being present, but he felt sure that when he was restored to health he would often visit the lodge when at his country seat, Gunton Hall.

"The Consecrating Officers" was given by the W.M. and responded to by Bro. E. LETCHWORTH and Sir FRANCIS BOILEAU, Bart.

"The W.M. of the Baring Lodge" was given by Bro. HAMON LE STRANGE, D.P.G.M., and responded to by Bro. R. FENNER.

"The Visitors" proposed by the W.M., responded to by Bros. G. BAXTER and H. J. SPARKS.

"The Officers of the Baring Lodge" was given by the W.M., and responded to by Bros. J. LOVELACE, S.W., and Sir KENNETH KEMP, Bart., Treas.

Bro. Sir FRANCIS BOILEAU, Bart., gave "The Chaplain," and in doing so spoke in the very highest terms of the oration delivered by him at the consecration.

Bro. Rev. H. WIMBLE responded.

"The Masonic Charities" was proposed by Bro. H. J. SPARKS, P.P. S.G.W., and responded to by Bro. W. P. EVERSLEY, P.P.J.G.W.

The Tyler's toast concluded the business of the evening.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF EAST
LANCASHIRE.

PRESENTATION TO COMP. J. H. SILLITOE, P.G.H.

The above-named meeting was held on the 19th instant in the Technical Schools, Elizabeth-street, Barnley, when there were about 180 companions present. They assembled at 2.30 p.m. and a procession was immediately formed and conducted the Grand Superintendent into the chapter room, which had been tastefully decorated for the occasion.

The roll of Prov. Grand Officers being called, all answered or sent apologies.

The roll of chapters was next called, all being represented but two, which were had, unless a suitable reason could be given for the absence of their representatives.

The minutes of the last Provincial meeting held at Manchester on the 25th March, 1895, were read and confirmed.

Comp. J. H. SILLITOE, P.G.H., read his report for the past year. He said it was his agreeable duty to report that as a rule the working of the chapters was good, and he strongly recommended and exhorted all the companions to go on persevering, so that each Principal would not only be able to perform the ceremonies but install their successors.

The G. Supt. expressed himself highly satisfied with the report.

The Prov. Grand Treasurer's accounts were submitted and adopted.

Comp. J. Sharples Veevers was unanimously elected P.G. Treas., whilst Comps. Gouiborn and Samuel Newton were elected Auditors for the ensuing year.

At this stage of the proceedings the Grand Superintendent, Comp. Col. STARKIE, said he now had a very pleasing duty to perform. As most of the companions would be aware, it had been the desire of himself and the companions of the Province of East-Lancashire to give Comp. J. H. Sillitoe, P.G.H., a testimonial in some way to acknowledge the yeoman service he had rendered to Royal Arch Masonry especially for the last 20 or 21 years. Comp. Sillitoe was one of those who had won the esteem and affection of all with whom he had come in contact. He could not speak in too high praise for what he had done in those long years. He had thrown his heart and soul into the cause of Royal Arch Freemasonry, and many, and many a time, at great personal inconvenience, had he travelled long distances, so that the companions might not be disappointed. He felt that such a life of usefulness to the noble Degree deserved the acknowledgment they were that day going to show. Comp. Sillitoe, I have great pleasure in presenting you with this exquisite and beautiful present which the companions of the province have thought fit to give you, to mark in some manner your valuable services for the last 20 years. I sincerely trust you may live long to enjoy it, and be assured when that handsome and costly gift is at your own house it will always be looked upon by your family and those who are left after you with pleasing recollections of one who was good, noble, and true, and who had the affection of his fellowmen.

Comp. SILLITOE, in his reply, said: Most Excellent Grand Superintendent and Companions,—I feel sure that you will extend to me your kind indulgence, and permit me to convey to you in brief, though sincere terms, my heartfelt thanks for the magnificent gifts you have to-day made to me and mine. In the first place, Most Excellent, I must thank you for your kind expressions towards me. You have alluded to my long services to the province, and also to the material assistance I have, during a long period, rendered to you, especially in this Degree of Freemasonry. I fear I do not deserve so much commendation as you in the kindness of your heart have given me credit for, but I can conscientiously say that I have always striven to do my best to render you assistance in the discharge of your important duties, and I should indeed be ungrateful had I not done so after the uniform kindness I have always experienced at your hands. I have also done my utmost to promote the interests of Royal Arch Masonry throughout the province. The presentation which you have to-day so graciously bestowed upon me proves that I have not altogether failed in my endeavours. I am more than delighted with the form in which the presentation has been made. In the first place, I presume that it is intended that the splendid watch is to be considered as a compliment to myself, and I shall wear it with indescribable pleasure. Whenever I look at it I shall think of the proceedings of this auspicious occasion, and I shall take care that when it shall please the Most High to remove me from amongst you, it shall pass to those who will appreciate and value it as a memento of your kindness to me. The magnificent service of plate is, I take it, ostensibly a gift to my wife, and the beautiful bracelet for my daughter. You, Most Excellent, have just alluded to the inconvenience they must have experienced through my being called away from home so frequently on Masonic business. Undoubtedly they have had to put up with some inconvenience in that respect, but I can assure you I have never once heard either of them utter one word in protest, but they have many times put off family engagements in order that I might be free to keep my Masonic ones. Situated as I am in regard to the Masonic Charities, I have, naturally, a good deal of Masonic literature sent to my house, and with that proverbial inquisitiveness with which ladies are said to be endowed, it generally gets well read, but the more my wife and daughter read of Freemasonry the more highly do they admire it, and when these splendid gifts reach my home they will bear sufficient testimony that while I am attending Masonic meetings, especially the Charities, I am not only endeavouring to promote the good of our Order and to do good to those who through misfortune are unable to help themselves, but that I have at the same time been gaining the esteem and good-will of my brethren and companions in Freemasonry. Most Excellent and companions, let me again, in my own name and that of my wife and daughter, most heartily and sincerely thank you for the magnificent presents.

The testimonial comprised a gold lever keyless watch, with open face and Arabic dial, bearing 12 holes, jewelled escapement in end, Stone's chronometer balance. The inscription reads as follows: "Presented to Comp. J. H. Sillitoe, Prov. G.H., by the Royal Arch chapters and companions of the Province of East Lancashire, in recognition of 20 years' faithful service. March 19th, 1896."

A service of silver plate, consisting of a tea and coffee service, together with hot-water jug and 24 inch tray. The tea and coffee service is one of the finest specimens of the silversmith's art. It is richly engraved with floral

festoons in the true Adam's style, made and finished in the very best possible manner. The tops of tea-pot, coffee-pot, and hot-water jug are surmounted with ivory knobs, carved to imitate pine apples, and the centre of each of the five pieces is relieved with the monogram of the recipient. The tray is 24 inches long and is appropriately engraved to contrast with the set, the outer edges being mounted with an early century ornament, the centre is a very fine oval medallion bearing the inscription: "Presented, together with a silver tea and coffee service and gold watch, to Comp. J. H. Sillitoe, Prov. G.H., by the Royal Arch chapters and companions of the Province of East Lancashire, in grateful recognition of his valuable services in Royal Arch Masonry during the last 20 years. March 19th, 1896."

This is done in the finest manner. The whole forms a most complete breakfast and tea service, and reflects great credit upon the manufacturers.

In addition to the above was presented to Comp. Sillitoe, for his daughter, a gold bracelet set with 24 pearls.

After the presentation, the ordinary business of the Provincial Grand Chapter was proceeded with.

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

Comp. J. H. Sillitoe	...	...	...	Prov. G.H.
" Jas. Heelis	...	...	...	Prov. G.J.
" Jas. Newton	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" F. Reiss	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" J. S. Veevers	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" H. J. Robinson	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" W. F. Chambers	...	...	...	Prov. D.G. Reg.
" John Marshall	...	...	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" G. Oldman	...	...	...	Prov. 1st A.G.S.
" J. Smallpage	...	...	...	Prov. 2nd A.G.S.
" J. M. Sinclair	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" J. Carter	...	...	...	Prov. D.G.S.B.
" John Williams	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" J. W. Mellor	...	...	...	} Prov. A.G. Std. Brs.
" W. H. Hulley	...	...	...
" W. B. Akerman	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" John Partington	...	...	...	} Prov. A.G.D.Cs.
" W. H. Phillips	...	...	...
" P. Bibby	...	...	...
" Reay	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.

The sum of £10 was contributed from the funds of the Prov. Grand Chapter to the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution, and £10 10s. to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

The question of where Prov. Grand Chapter should be held next year was held over for the present.

All business being completed, the Prov. Grand Chapter was closed.

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE ROYAL MASONIC
BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION AT CROYDON.

With the kind permission of the House Committee, a concert was given by the W.M. (Bro. Dr. J. Wayte, Honorary Medical Officer of the Institution), officers, and members of the George Price Lodge, No. 2096, to the inmates of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at Croydon, on Tuesday, the 17th inst. The programme, which was well-chosen and admirably carried out, included in Part I. a pianoforte duet by Bro. F. Cambridge and Mr. Royston Cambridge; songs, "Pull away, cheerily," "The gay tomtit," and "The merry monk," by Bros. Colbron, P.M., Frank Leaver, P.M., and H. Thrift; a violin solo by Mr. Royston Cambridge; Molloy's song, "The Kerry dance," by Mrs. Thrift; a recitation by Bro. Rowlands; and a quartette by Messrs. Walters, Still, Whishaw, and Jackson. In Part II., Mr. Still sang "Only once more" and "The Maghie said come in," and Dr. Whishaw "The Bay of Biscay" and "The death of Nelson;" Mr. Royston Cambridge played another violin solo; and Mrs. Thrift sang a second song, "Through sunny Spain;" Bro. Frank Leaver sang "Across the blue sea," the whole concluding with Bro. Seymour Smith's humorous part song, "Ye Catte," by Messrs. Walters, Smith, Whishaw, and Jackson.

Where all did so well, it would be invidious to single out any particular member for special commendation, but we may state that Mrs. Thrift received, in each case, the well-merited compliment of an encore for the admirable manner in which she gave both her songs.

This is not the first occasion on which the George Price Lodge has been the means of affording a pleasant evening's entertainment to the Old Folks at the Asylum, Croydon. On this occasion they thoroughly appreciated the music, both vocal and instrumental, and we trust there may be many similar entertainments in store for them, whether provided by the George Price or other lodges in the neighbourhood or elsewhere.

FIRST LADIES' NIGHT OF THE ROYAL
KENSINGTON LODGE, No. 1627.

A regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 6th instant at Freemasons' Hall, and Mr. Arthur Choubry was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry by the W.M., Bro. C. F. Bennewitz, in a very admirable manner.

The lodge having been closed, the ladies were received by the W.M. and the following Stewards: Bros. Glaeser, Wilson, and Edwards.

A capital banquet was served under the personal superintendence of the manager of the Freemasons' Tavern, at which the following were present: Bro. Bennewitz, W.M., and Mrs. Bennewitz; Mr. and Mrs. Steele; Mr. and Mrs. Ranofor; Bro. and Mrs. Marshall and Bro. J. Kingston; Bro. J. B. Ehrmann, S.W., and Bro. King; Bro. O. Heinemann, J.W., and Mrs. Heinemann; Mr. and Mrs. Hiller; Bro. Major Roberts and Mrs. Roberts; Bro. W. H. Cannon and Mrs. Cannon; Bro. Stevens, P.M., Treas., and Miss Stevens; Bro. Hay, P.M., Sec., and Mrs. Hay and Mrs. J. J. Smith; Bro. Walker, S.D.; Bro. Glaeser, J.D., and Mrs. Glaeser; Dr. D. Donald and Bro. Donald; Miss Smith, Mr. T. Tamplin, and Bro. R. Finlayson; Bro. Prince, I.G.; Miss Winifred Gawes, Miss Elsie Teague, and Madame Flora Mella; Bro. Bellamy, P.M., and Mrs. Bellamy; Mr. and Mrs. Jackson; Bro. Coleman and Mrs. and

Miss Coleman; Bro. E. Daoust, P.M.; Bro. Wilson; Bro. Butter; Miss Millicent Prince and Bro. Gross; Bro. Goswin and Mrs. Goswin; Mr. and Mrs. Cook; Mr. Hayes and Bro. Wood; Bro. Edwards and Bro. Mill; Bro. Parsons, Miss Dimmock, Mr. G. Beet, Mr. Harold Anning, Mr. Edgar Anning, Bro. Diamant and Mrs. Diamant; and Bros. Beet, Jones, and Choubry.

During dinner, bottles of scent were distributed to the ladies, the gift of the Wardens, Bros. Ehrmann and Heinemann, and sprays of very beautiful orchids were given to all present by Bro. Sanders, of St. Albans.

At the conclusion of the banquet, the usual toasts were given, those of "The Ladies" and "The W.M.," both proposed by Bro. STEVENS, P.M., Treas., being received with special favour.

A concert followed, kindly provided by the W.M., at which the following artistes assisted, under the direction of Bro. Butter: Misses Edith Serpell, Emily Foxcroft, Winnifred Burgess, Kate Bunkell, and Millicent Prince; Bros. W. H. Webb, W. M. George, and Bob Rae; and Mr. Geo. Nelson.

The company separated about 11 o'clock, the visitors having expressed themselves much gratified at the welcome given to them, and hoped that it would become an annual institution.

THE RECENT FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The following additions to lists have been received since our report of last week:

Lodge	LONDON.			
1263 Bro. J. R. Reep	... ..	...	5	5 0
	(raising his list to £160 5s.)			
	PROVINCES.			
Lodge and Chapter	HERTFORDSHIRE.		£	s. d.
403 Bro. C. E. Keyser	... ..	...	21	0 0
	(raising his list to £206 16s.)			
Lodge	MIDDLESEX.			
778 Bro. Guy G. Repton	... ..	...	21	0 0
	(raising his list to £37 16s.)			

Scotland.

ANNUAL BALL OF THE CALLENDAR LODGE, No. 588, AT FALKIRK.

The annual ball under the auspices of the above lodge was held in the Town Hall, Falkirk, on the 11th instant. As in past years, the event had been looked forward to with much interest by the brethren of the lodge, and at the hands of the Committee entrusted with the preliminary arrangements everything was done that was necessary for making the ball at once attractive and successful. The hall was tastefully adorned with evergreens and other decorations. There was also a neat arrangement of mirrors, which were placed on the walls on either side of the hall, and these again were pleasantly relieved with embellishments of a floral character. The platform and refreshment tables were prettily set out with a number of beautiful palms, ferns, and pot plants. Besides this there was a very nice display of "fairy" lamps, and these added much to the festive aspect of the platform and stalls. Altogether the hall presented a bright and pleasing appearance.

There were in all about 70 couples present, including the R.W.M. and Wardens of Lodge Carron, No. 139; Lodge Zetland, No. 391; Lodge Denny and Loanhead, No. 176; and Lodge Polmont, No. 793. The grand march was led off by Bro. W. W. Barr, R.W.M., with Miss Duckett as his partner, the band playing "The Merry Masons." Thereafter the dance proceeded merrily, and was continued with much enthusiasm till an early hour in the morning. The music was supplied by Mr. Johnston's Falkirk Orchestra, Bros. H. Johnston and Alex. Oliver officiating as Masters of the Ceremonies. There were in all 20 dances. The purveying was in the hands of Bro. Linn, of the Black Bull Inn, whose catering gave general satisfaction.

Ireland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NORTH CONNAUGHT.

There was a largely attended gathering at the stated communication of this province on Tuesday, the 10th instant, in Boyle, to dedicate a new Masonic Hall recently completed in that town, and although, to the general regret, Lord Harlech, Provincial Grand Master, was unable to be present, yet the proceedings were conducted with much *éclat* under the gavel of Bro. Rev. Dr. Clarke, 31^o, Deputy Prov. Grand Master.

The brethren of Boyle, who, for over half a century, have carried on good Masonic work in all the Degrees in the Court House of their town, are to be congratulated on the acquisition of a very commodious Masonic Hall.

Secret Monitor.

CONSECRATION OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS VICTORIA CONCLAVE, No. 27.

A branch of the Order holding under the Grand Council of Great Britain (being the first in Australasia) was opened at the Masonic Hall, Geelong, on Friday, 24th January. The warrant was granted in answer to a petition signed by a number of M.Ms. and Bro. Henry Bannister was appointed a Grand Officer to conduct the consecration and installation. The

conclave was opened by Bros. Henry Bannister, as Supreme Ruler; A. P. McMellan, as Councillor; W. Denning, as Guide; E. I. F. Sayers, as Guarder; and T. Hooper, as Sentinel.

The induction of 16 candidates was then proceeded with, and the Southern Cross Victoria Conclave, No. 27, having been consecrated by the Commissioning Officer, the Supreme Ruler installed the following officers: Bros. A. I. McMellan, Counsellor; Wm. Denning, Guide; H. Speed, Sec.; E. I. F. Sayers, Treas.; A. H. Bowman, W. Nicholson, W. H. Kingsbury, and I. Bladiston, Visiting Deacons; J. L. Massingham, Guarder; S. Wrathall, D.C.; T. Cooper, Steward; and T. Hooper, Sentinel.

Several candidates not being present, it was decided to call an emergency conclave for induction at any early date. The three principal officers were requested to prepare a code of by-laws and other necessary matters. It was resolved that for the first six months the induction fee, including certificate, should be fixed at one guinea and a half. Several propositions were received.

The SUPREME RULER mentioned that he had been applied to for information from different localities.

The conclave was then closed.

The brethren sat down to a banquet to celebrate the inauguration of the conclave.

The usual toasts being given, very complimentary remarks were made by several of the brethren on the energy and perseverance shown by Bro. Bannister, and so successful a result; and pleasure was expressed that the Grand Supreme Ruler, the Earl of Warwick, had appointed him a Grand Counsellor of the Grand Council.

A very pleasant evening was spent by all present.

Premier Conclave.

The ordinary meeting of this conclave, which is composed of Grand Officers of the Order, was held at the Holborn Restaurant, on Monday, the 9th inst. In the absence of the S.R., Bro. A. Stewart Brown, P.G.V., the proceedings of the conclave were conducted under the presidency of Bro. W. M. Bastone, P.G.V., as S.R., assisted by Bro. Baron de Ferrieres, P.G.G., as Chancellor; and Bro. W. J. Spratling, G.R., as Guide. Among the brethren present were Bros. Capt. T. C. Walls, P.G.V.; W. G. Lemon, P.G. S.R., Treas.; J. J. Pakes, Sec.; and Dr. Roberts, P.G.V. A proposal to change the day of meeting was brought up and referred to a Special Committee, with instructions to obtain the views of the brethren generally as to the most convenient day. Feeling reference was made to the accidental death of Bro. Bradshaw Brown, a member of the Order, and formerly a member of this Conclave.

Knights Templar.

Mount Calvary Encampment (D).

This ancient encampment met at the Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn-Fields, on the 13th inst., when there were present, among others: Sir Knights the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., E.C.; H. Hills, 1st Capt.; B. Johnson, 2nd Capt.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.E.C., P.G.C. of Gds., Reg.; B. Stewart, Expert; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.E.C.; H. J. Lardner, P.E.C.; N. Prower, M.A., P.E.C.; W. Maple, P.E.C.; C. Slater, P.E.C.; J. R. Carter, Egbert Roberts, Org., and H. Lindus.

The minutes of the previous encampment having been read and confirmed, Sir Knight W. Maple, P.E.C., was presented with a Past Commander's jewel. It was arranged that the summer banquet should be held at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, on the third Tuesday in June next. A letter was read from Sir Knight J. Henwood Thomas, an old member of the encampment, who has been very ill for the past six years, conveying to the sir knights the tidings that he was improving in health. A vote of congratulation was passed and directed to be forwarded to him. Communications regretting inability to attend were received from Sir Knights Lieut.-Col. F. Stohwasser, P.E.C., Treas.; L. Steele, P.E.C.; T. Wood, P.E.C.; J. R. Ubsdell, O. Berry, and others.

The encampment was then closed. A banquet followed.

The E.C. presided in a most genial manner, his speeches being models of good taste and diction.

Sir Knight W. Maple responded on behalf of "The Past Commanders," in which he thanked the sir knights for their sympathy in his recent illness, and particularly he expressed his acknowledgments to Sir Knight H. J. Lardner for performing the ceremony of installation for him.

During the proceedings, Sir Knights Egbert Roberts, H. Hills, and F. W. Driver, P.E.C., entertained the sir knights. The latter recited a short, but very beautiful poetical composition of the Eminent Commander's, viz., "The Requiem."

Red Cross of Rome & Constantine.

Premier Conclave.

A meeting of this distinguished conclave was held at Mark Masons' Hall on the 2nd inst. Among those attending were Sir Knights J. J. Pakes, M.P.S.; G. Graveley, V.C.; H. J. Lardner, P.G.C., P.M.P.S., Treas.; Captain T. C. Walls, P.G.C., P.M.P.S., Recorder; J. Purrott, P.M.P.S.; F. G. Robinson, P.M.P.S.; and C. Keyser, P.G.G., P.M.P.S.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, "That in future the conclave meet on the first Monday in February, instead of January as heretofore." Communications were read from absent members, viz.: Sir Knights L. Steele, the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A.; T. Phillips; H. C. Heard, P.M.P.S.; and W. A. Scurrah. The conclave was closed.

The sir knights then attended the Grand Conclave, which was held under the presidency of the Grand Sovereign of the Order, Sir Knight the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston.

The subsequent banquet took place at Freemasons' Tavern.

ADVICES FROM Copenhagen are to the effect that H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, the Princesses Victoria and Maud, and the Duke and Duchess of York will be present at the marriage of the Princess Louise of Denmark with Prince Frederick of Schaumburg-Lippe in May.

A SALE WAS opened at Sotheby's on Monday of Greek coins from the collection formed by the late Bro. H. Montagu, Vice-President of the Numismatic Society, and some very good prices were obtained, a gold stater of 400 B.C., realising £100; a croton stater, circa 420 B.C., £75; a gold drachm (altic), with head of Pheidon, £40 10s.; and a gold diobol, £25 10s. The day's sale realised £1300, giving an average of £10 per coin.

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EASTER HOLIDAYS.

On MARCH 30TH and following days, CHEAP THIRD CLASS RETURN TICKETS, available for use from April 2nd to 6th inclusive, and for return to April 8th inclusive, will be issued at PADDINGTON, Victoria (L.C. & D. Ry.), Battersea, Chelsea, West Brompton, Kensington (Addison-road), Uxbridge-road, Hammersmith, Shepherd's Bush, and Westbourne Park, to BATH, BRISTOL, EXETER, PLYMOUTH, Falmouth, Penzance, Yeovil, Dorchester, WEYMOUTH, and other stations in the South and WEST OF ENGLAND. Tickets will also be issued for use on April 2nd, 4th, and 6th to Guernsey and Jersey, 25s. return, available for 14 days.

EXCURSION TRAINS will leave PADDINGTON as under:—

THURSDAY, April 2nd, 7.55 a.m.—For WESTON-SUPER-MARE, Taunton, Minehead, BARNSTAPLE, Ilfracombe, EXETER, Torquay, PLYMOUTH, &c., to return April 9th, 10th, or 11th.

11.10 a.m.—For OXFORD, BANBURY, Leamington, BIRMINGHAM, Wolverhampton, Shrewsbury, Hereford, Manchester, Chester, Birkenhead, Liverpool, Cheltenham, Evesham, Worcester, Malvern, &c., to return April 7th, and from certain stations at option on April 6th.

12.5. noon.—For Newbury, Devizes, CLEVEDON, WESTON-SUPER-MARE, Wells, YEOVIL, Bridport, DORCHESTER, WEYMOUTH, &c.; to return April 9th, 10th, or 11th.

Passengers to Clevedon and Weston-super-Mare can also return on April 6th or 7th.

12.10 noon and 11.10 p.m.—For BATH and BRISTOL, to return April 6th or 7th.

11.55 p.m.—For NEWPORT, CARDIFF, SWANSEA, Llanelly, Carmarthen, and New Milford, to return April 6th.

12.35 p.m.—For Chippenham, GLOUCESTER, CHELTENHAM, &c., to return April 6th, and from certain stations at option on April 7th.

GOOD FRIDAY, 9.20 a.m.—For READING, OXFORD, &c.; to return same day. Oxford passengers can also return April 6th.

SATURDAY, April 4th, 12.35 p.m.—For BATH, BRISTOL, WESTON-SUPER-MARE, &c., to return April 6th or 7th.

FASTERS MONDAY, 6.15 a.m.—For BATH, BRISTOL, Weston-Super-Mare, &c., to return same day or April 7th.

6.55 a.m. for CIRENCESTER, GLOUCESTER, CHELTENHAM, &c.; to return same day or April 5th, 9th, or 10th.

7.40 a.m.—For READING, Hungerford, Didcot, &c.; to return same day.

TUESDAY, April 7th, 12.10 noon.—For Oxford, Leamington, and Stratford-on-Avon; to return same day.

CHEAP THIRD-CLASS RETURN TICKETS will be issued by certain Trains on GOOD FRIDAY, SATURDAY, FASTERS SUNDAY and MONDAY, to Staines, 2s.; Windsor, 2s. 6d.; Maidenhead, 3s.; Henley, 3s. 6d.; Goring, 6s., &c.

Pamphlets, Excursion, Ordinary, and Cheap Tickets can be obtained at the Company's Stations and the usual Receiving Offices.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

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ARNOLD BEVERLY MINERS,

Elders son of the late Bro. Harold Beverly Miners, who died suddenly from the effects of bursting a blood vessel on the brain, leaving a Widow and Four Children totally unprovided for.

Bro. Miners was at the time of his death the Senior Warden of the St. James's Union Lodge, No. 180, in which he was initiated in 1890.

The case is strongly recommended by—

- Bro. George Taylor, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., Prov. G. Secretary Worcester-shire.
- " John Petch, P.M. 1171, 2278, P.P.G. Std. Br. Herts., Gresham-street.
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NOTICE.

In consequence of Friday next being
Good Friday, the "Freemason" will be
published on the evening of Thursday,
April 2nd, instead of Friday, as usual.



SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1896.

Masonic Notes.

The annual convocation of the Provincial Grand
Chapter of Hertfordshire will be held at the Red Lion
Hotel, Barnet, on Wednesday, the 15th April. The
business to be transacted will be of the usual character,
and a banquet will follow, for which tickets may be
obtained of Comp. Brittain, 52, Hilldrop-road, N. The
hour fixed for the meeting is 5.30 p.m., and for the
banquet 6.30.

The regular Quarterly Communication of the
District Grand Lodge of Canterbury (N.Z.), was
held at the St. Augustine Masonic Hall, Christchurch,
on the 16th January. Bro. Peter Cunningham, Dist.
G.M., presided, and there was a fair attendance of
brethren present. The accounts of the District Grand
Lodge and of the Fund of Benevolence and Widows'
and Orphans' Fund were shown to be in a satisfactory
state and were adopted, there being a deposit of £200
and balance of over £12 in hand in the case of the
former and a deposit of £300 with a balance of over
£50 in that of the latter. The business included the
appointment of District Grand Lodge officers for the
ensuing year.

The Holloway Lodge, No. 2601, for which his Royal Highness, the M.W. G. Master, was pleased to grant a warrant of constitution some time since, was consecrated at Beale's Restaurant, 370, Holloway-road, on Monday, the 23rd inst. The ceremony was performed by the Grand Secretary, Bro. E. Letchworth, F.S.A., who was assisted in his task by Bros. W. M. Stiles, G. Treas., as S.W.; C. E. Keyser, P.G.D., as J.W.; the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., as Chaplain; J. H. Matthews, P.D.G.D.C., as D.C.; and John Newton, F.R.A.S., G. Purst., as I.G. Bro. Brownrigg's oration was, as usual, brief, but admirably to the point, and the whole ceremony was, as is always the case under the auspices of the Grand Secretary, carried out most impressively. When the lodge had been constituted, Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., Secretary of the R.M. Benevolent Institution, was installed in the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom, and appointed his officers, and a vote of thanks to the Consecrating Officers, with the compliment of honorary membership, having been passed unanimously, lodge was closed, and the customary banquet in honour of the occasion was held. It is needless to say that the lodge has our best wishes for its success. It has started on its career under very favourable conditions with 19 founders, of whom as many as nine are Installed Masters, while it has the good fortune to be presided over during the first and most critical year of its existence by our esteemed Bro. Terry, than whom no more capable and experienced a Master could have been chosen to fill the office.

The *Daily Telegraph*, in announcing that two new lodges are in the course of formation—one to be called the London School Board Lodge and the other the Brigade of Guards Lodge—remarks, *apropos* of "class lodges being all the rage in English Freemasonry," that "the City Corporation will probably come next." This may or may not be the case, but we beg to point out that there is already a certain lodge—the Alliance, No. 1827—which was founded in 1879, and which during the whole of its career has been doing admirable work. The membership of this lodge is restricted to those who are officers of the Corporation of the City of London, or have business at Guildhall.

The decisions enumerated in the address delivered by the Grand Master of Tennessee at the recent annual communication of his Grand Lodge form the text of our article, in which we show the facility with which offences increase and multiply in American Freemasonry. But other matters were referred to by him for which he deserves the highest possible commendation. Thus it appears that some time since dissensions broke out between the Grand Lodges of Ohio and Tennessee. In reading through the report on correspondence of Ohio, the Grand Master of the other Grand Lodge found some complimentary remarks about Tennessee, and he at once conceived the idea of putting an end to the unfriendly relations between the two bodies. He accordingly wrote to the Grand Master of Ohio suggesting a renewal of their old relations of amity, and received a reply couched in the same fraternal spirit. He then wrote a second letter suggesting that the two Grand Lodges should meet each other half way, forget their differences, and become friends again. The Grand Lodge of Tennessee has approved of the action of its Grand Master, and complimented him on the true Masonic spirit he had shown.

Here is another passage from the same address, which reflects honour upon the aforesaid Grand Master—now Immediate Past Grand Master—Morgan. The W.M. of a lodge wrote to ask him what they should do with an old brother, who had always been a zealous Mason, but lately had become so deaf that he could not often attend lodge, and so poor that he could not pay his dues. The answer, we are told, was as follows: "It will cost your members about one and a quarter cents a year each to pay the good old brother's dues. Carry him on till he reaches the brink of the river, and God will carry him safely over; you will all feel better by even having given the good old brother a cent and a quarter apiece for a short time. Bury his remains with Masonic honours when he dies, and in the sweet by-and-bye, when his hearing is restored to him in the Celestial Lodge above, where he can hear the voices of the angelic hosts, may he never hear that you asked the Grand Master the question, 'What shall we do with him?' Go, learn again the early-taught lessons in Masonry of brotherly love and relief." All honour to Past Grand Master Morgan.

Lodge and Chapter of Instruction.

HARROW LODGE, No. 1310.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 20th ult., at the Waterloo Arms, High-street, Marylebone, W., when there were present: Bros. Talbot, W.M.; Millbourn, S.W.; Hills, J.W.; Geo. Wood, P.M., Preceptor; Weston, Treas.; Jabez Mason, Sec.; Sandland, S.D.; Roberts, J.D.; Terry, I.G.; Linn, P.M.; Borrett, P.M.; Weston, Cogliatti, McVey, Rowe, Dingley, Drewell, Sandland, Eedle, Handford, Price, Lewis, O'Marsh, Fuller, and Metcalfe. Visitors: Bros. Bendi, Ward, and Tyler.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees and resumed to the First Degree. The Fifteen Sections were admirably worked by Bro. Talbot, W.M., assisted by the following brethren, viz., 1st Section, Bro. Weston; 2nd, Bro. Metcalfe; 3rd, Bro. Weston; 4th, Bro. Mason; 5th, Bro. Sandland; 6th, Bro. Millbourn; and 7th, Bro. Sandland. The 1st Section in the Second Lecture, Bro. Weston; 2nd, Bro. Hills; 3rd, Bro. Talbot; 4th, Bro. Millbourn; and 5th, Bro. Eedle. The First Section of the Third Lecture, Bro. O'Marsh; 2nd, Bro. Sandland; the 3rd and last by Bro. Millbourn. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the W.M. and his Wardens for the excellent manner they had carried out the duties of their respective offices, and they were unanimously elected hon. members of the lodge. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

The weekly convocation was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, on Friday, the 20th instant. Present: Comps. Towers, M.E.Z.; Loader, H.; Derham, J.; R. J. Voisey, P.Z., Treas.; T. Grummant, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, P.Z., S.E.; Cureton, S.N.; Bowers, P.S.; Lewis, Dawson, Plant, Benedetti, and Cass.

The chapter was declared open, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Cass personating the candidate. Comp. Loader was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting, and he being the M.E.Z. elect of 1822, the chapter was placed at his disposal. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Comp. Towers for so ably performing the duties of M.E.Z. for the first time. The installation of H. will be rehearsed by Comp. Stone at the next meeting. The chapter was then closed.

Craft Masonry.

St. John's Lodge, No. 325.

The installation meeting of this most successful lodge was held on Wednesday, the 18th inst., at the Adelphi House, Salford, Bro Alfred Hibbert, W.M., presided, who has (we are pleased to find) had a most prosperous year of office, as the yearly balance-sheet shows, for after paying all expenses, and contributing no less a sum than £40, there is still a good balance in hand held by the Treasurer.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, when Bro. Hibbert proceeded to instal his successor, Bro. J. Higson, S.W., W.M. elect, and we may say we never had a greater treat, Bro. Hibbert being an elocutionist of great ability, and, consequently, the ceremony was rendered with dignity, and most impressively. In addition to the actual installation, he presented the working tools, and addressed the W.M., Wardens, and brethren. The installing officers appointed were Bros. J. Ramsbottom, P.M., as S.W.; Thos. Power, P.M., as J.W.; and Ivan Williams, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., as D. of C. The newly-installed W.M. was proclaimed and saluted in the different Degrees. Bro. J. Hill invested and explained their duties to the following officers: Bros. J. Higson, W.M.; A. Hibbert, I.P.M.; G. W. Howe, S.W.; T. S. Deakin, J.W.; T. Powers, P.M., Chap.; Hy. Lord, P.M., Treas.; S. Sharpley, Sec.; F. Dicks, S.D.; W. Gibson, J.D.; T. Irving, I.G.; Evan Williams, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., Charity Representative; W. R. Sharp, P.M., D.C.; H. Rushworth, Org.; J. Ainsworth, J. Pearson, W. Hemingway, and T. S. Womack, Stwds.; and J. H. Moore, P.M., Tyler. The installation being ended, the rest of the duties were conducted by the W.M. "Hearty good wishes" were expressed by the members of provincial and private lodges, and the lodge was closed.

Subsequently a banquet was held in the dining hall, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to.

The I.P.M., Bro. Hibbert, was presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel for the valuable services he had rendered to the lodge during his year of office.

The following is a list of those present: Bros. Alfred Hibbert, W.M.; J. Hislop, I.P.M.; G. W. Howe, J.W.; F. S. Deakin, Sec.; S. Sharpley, S.D.; F. Dicks, J.D.; A. K. Seville, I.G.; J. Hill, P.M.; H. Kushton, P.M., Org.; John Ramsbottom, P.M.; Evan Williams, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; F. Armstrong, P.M., P.P.A.G.D. of C.; Walter R. Sharpe, P.M.; William Gibson, Thos. Irving, Thos. Shorrocks, M. Oddic, John Fenton, A. Popplewell, B. Bellhouse, A. Threadgold, J. Leason, C. F. Hay, J. H. Moore, P.M.; W. Hemmingway, W. Munroe, and John Ainsworth. Visitors: Bros. J. M. Sinclair, P.P.G.D.; Daniel Cooper, Wm. Hardman, Ben. S. Henty, A. W. Sidebottom, W.M. 852; M. H. Barrett, John Smith, W.M. 915; Wm. Martin, W.M. 992; Wm. Harris, P.M., P.P.A.G.D. of C.; Jas. Clough, W.M. 1773; Herbert Johnson, and G. S. Smith, P.P.G. Org. East and West Lancs.

Royal Union Lodge, No. 382.

The installation meeting of this old-established lodge was held at the Public Rooms, Uxbridge, on the 21st inst., when there was an unusually large attendance of members and visitors. Amongst the former were Bros. W. H. Reed, W.M.; H. J. Bragg, I.P.M.; A. Foyer, S.W.; H. Mercer, J.W.; W. T. Harvey, S.D.; C. Brown, J.D.; J. Taplin, P.D.P.G.D.C., D.C.; A. C. Fleming, Treas.; H. W. Nicholson, Sec.; A. S. Hanson, Org.; A. A. Hardy, I.G.; J. T. Anderson and A. Newman, Stewards; C. Mead, P.M.; German Fehrenberg, P.M.; J. J. Wilson, P.G.P.; J. A. Carter, P.M.; W. A. Thorpe, Andrew Chappell, Edward Reed, C. H. Cartwright, G. Birch, A. E. Lucas, Harry Sanders, R. H. Whitaker, H. C. Anson, A. Grey, T. B. Jarvis, J. R. T. Hanger, C. Hall, A. Hawkes, G. Barns, G. J. Mercer, Thos. Twamley, W. A. Hardy, L. S. Kimos, A. Bailee, and Wm. L. Eves. Visitors: Bros. The Right Hon. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., H.M.'s Secretary of State for India, Prov. G.M.; W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M. Hants and the Isle of Wight; R. Raymond Thrupp, D.P.G.M.; R. J. Simpson, M.A., P.G. Chap.; Howard H. Room, G. Std. Br.; Sir F. Dixon-Hartland, M.P., P.P.S.G.W.; G. R. Langley, P.P.G.D.; A. Torkington, P.G. Steward; A. Louvaine Houlder, P.M. 1351; B. G. Hannen, 2163; J. Wells, P.M. 1612; F. J. Walton, 2163; G. W. Nott, 382; W. A. Cocks, P.M. 2113; W. H. Bale, P.M. 87; W. H. Liddall, P.M. 45; R. McMillan, 1549; J. H. Edwards, 945; C. Veal, P.M. 1549; A. Oliver, P.M. 1702; C. John Hill, 2133; Thomas S. Hardman, D.C. 2163; J. Chandler, J.D. 1612; and others.

Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed. Several gentlemen having been proposed for initiation, Bro. Alfred Foyer was duly installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being very impressively rendered by Bro. W. H. Reed, I.P.M. The following officers were invested: Bros. Harry Mercer, S.W.; W. T. Harvey, J.W.; R. J. Simpson, M.A., P.G.C., Chap.; A. G. Fleming, Treas.; H. W. Nicholson, P.M., P.D.P.G.D.C., Sec.; A. A. Hardy, S.D.; A. Hanson, J.D.; A. E. Lucas, Org.; J. Taplin, D.C.; J. T. Anderson, I.G.; Newman and A. Hawkes, Stewards; and G. L. Duffin, Tyler.

Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the large hall, where a *recherché* banquet was served, at which the W.M. very ably presided.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts followed.

The *menu* card was an elaborate composition of beautiful design, and special care had evidently been given to this detail.

In giving the toast of "The Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past," the W.M. remarked upon the exceptional presence of five Grand Officers—Bros. Lord George Hamilton, W. W. Beach, M.P., R. Raymond Thrupp, the Rev. R. J. Simpson, and Howard Room.

Bro. Lord George Hamilton, on rising to respond for the Grand Officers, received a grand reception. While thanking the W.M., officers, and brethren of the lodge for the hearty reception given him, and the pleasure it was to him to witness the installation of Bro. Foyer into the chair that afternoon, he said: "When I was asked to become Chairman of the late Benevolent Festival, I had some hesitation in accepting it, as I felt I was asked to do so, not from any merits of my own, but from being head of the Province of Middlesex. The Province of Middlesex had not then had an opportunity of coming personally in contact with me as they would if I had been less busily engaged, and, therefore, I consulted my friends and advisers—Bro. Thrupp, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and Bro. Room—as to whether, under these circumstances, I would be justified in accepting the position, and whether I could rely on the province's hearty support. Bros. Thrupp and Room told me there could be little doubt as to the loyalty and fidelity of the province as to the way they would respond. I am told by Bro. Terry that the amount now received is over £20,000, and that Middlesex contributed £4000, the largest amount that has ever been sent up by any one province.

These figures were received with loud applause.

Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight, in replying, said it always gave the Grand Officers the greatest pleasure to visit lodges, and to do their best to advance Freemasonry in every way. He was sure all present must have been delighted at the way in which the beautiful ceremony of installation was carried out.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The W. Dep. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Raymond H. Thrupp, and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," which was ably responded to by Bro. Thrupp.

The I.P.M. next proposed "The W.M."

The Worshipful Master, in reply, expressed his satisfaction at so good a meeting on that, his first night as W.M. He was also pleased and honoured with the company of so many Grand Officers, including their Prov. Grand Master, and would do his level best for the success and prosperity of the lodge and the comfort of the brethren.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Visitors."

Bros. Sir F. Dixon Hartland, P.P.S.G.W., and Langley, P.P.G.D., ably responded. Other toasts followed.

The arrangements were complete and to the satisfaction of everyone, the floral decorations being very tasteful. A selection of music under the direction of Bro. G. May, St. Paul's Cathedral, reflected the greatest credit on all concerned. Capital songs were given by Bros. H. Stubbs, Vernon Taylor, Fred. C. Everill, Partridge, and J. R. Thonger, while Bro. David Wilcocks ably presided at the piano.

New Concord Lodge, No. 813.

The installation meeting of this well-known lodge took place at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, on the 19th inst., when a large number of members and visitors attended to honour Bro. H. D. Blake, the W.M. elect. There were present Bros. Herbert Sprake, W.M.; H. D. Blake, S.W.; John I. Moore, J.W.; Rev. C. J. Stevens, Chap.; H. J. Gabb, P.M., Treas.; A. J. Potter, P.M., Sec.; G.

Simpson, S.D.; R. Clarke, J.D.; J. J. Lewen, I.G.; T. M. Couch, Stwd.; C. Weeden, P.M.; T. B. Richards, P.M.; J. Downing, P.M.; E. Levesque, P.M.; C. H. Ockelford, D. Bartlett, Tom Coles, A. G. Denton, J. Howard, J. Alleyway, T. W. Buckner, E. H. E. Fletcher, A. Bray, W. M. Johnson, P. Petchell, E. Johnson, J. Cox, A. Amider, W. A. Hammond, J. Deaton, J. Woods, A. Levesque, R. Marshall, A. T. Margetts, H. West, R. Fletcher, Thomas Brooks, W. H. Carter, A. K. Turberfield, Tyler, and others. Visitors: Bros. G. Wallace, P.M. 907; J. R. Reen, P.M. 2241; G. S. Maull, 1297; Orilton Cooper, P.M. 211; G. H. Barrett, P.M. 1579; Capt. W. R. Wilkinson, 250; J. H. Bidwell, P.M. 2120; T. Jones, P.M. 1007; A. E. Purkis, J.D. 1314; G. R. N. Wheeler, 2130; C. Sims, P.M. 851; J. Levy, P.M. 205; R. Stuart, 2098; J. H. Anderson, 2272; G. R. Mustoe, 813; W. M. Wells, P.M. 34; A. Stewart, 394; W. Batt, 1716; F. J. Oliver, 1056; Pierpoint, P.M. 177; W. J. Price Taylor, 79; J. Speller, 2374, P.P.G.D. Essex; D. M. Forbes, P.M. 909; C. W. Raymond, P.M. 1716; L. Potts, P.M. 1716; G. Gabb, P.M.; R. A. Kearney, P.M. 15; F. C. Bradley, J.W. 15; A. Smith, 2426; F. M. Fisk, 19; J. Hughes, 1316; J. F. Knibb, P.M. 1158; W. Robinson, 860; N. Magee, P.M. 174; D. M. Sherwill, 813; H. Pepperdine, 2394; G. H. Peters, 2394; C. Anderson, 95; R. W. Hobden, 1328; R. Tarrant, 1220; and R. T. West, 1744.

The minutes of the previous meeting and of an emergency meeting having been read, the W.M. initiated Mr. Thos. Brooks and Mr. Wm. Henry Carter. Bro. C. Weeden, P.M., then occupied the chair, and proceeded with the important task of installing Bro. H. D. Blake as W.M., which he did in a very praiseworthy manner. The new W.M. then appointed and duly invested the following as his officers for the year: Bros. J. I. Moore, S.W.; G. Simpson, J.W.; Rev. C. J. Stevens, Chap.; H. J. Gabb, P.M., Treas.; A. J. Potter, P.M., Sec.; R. Clarke, S.D.; J. J. Lewen, I.G.; E. Johnson, Org.; C. Weeden, P.M., D.C.; T. W. Buckner, A.D.C.; T. W. Couch, J. Alleyway, and A. Bray, Stewards; and A. K. Turberfield, Tyler. The delivery of the customary addresses was ably and impressively rendered by Bro. C. Weeden, P.M. The Auditors' report having been received and adopted, and after "Hearty good wishes" from the large number of visitors, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a superb banquet, which reflected the highest credit on the establishment, and was well served, for which Bro. J. Marcham was responsible.

At the close of the repast, and, as a preface to the toasts, the W.M. stated that the hour being late, his speeches would be brief; he hoped that those who had to follow him would adopt the same course, as they had a lengthy programme to get through.

The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in brief but happy terms, which were duly honoured.

"The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Herbert Sprake, I.P.M., who stated that it gave him much pleasure to submit the toast, which would be received with great enthusiasm. Bro. Blake would make a model W.M., and he was honoured by being his I.P.M. He had not the slightest doubt that their new W.M. would do everything for the lodge, and would keep up its well-known reputation and add to its lustre. He wished him every happiness during his term of office, and everything he could wish himself. The toast was drunk with acclamation, and

Bro. H. D. Blake, W.M., received a hearty greeting on rising to respond. He said that after the way he had been toasted it was difficult for him to adequately respond, but he thanked them from his heart. It was now six years since he was initiated in that his mother lodge, and he hoped during his year of office to have their confidence, and that they would never regret electing him their Master. It would be his earnest endeavour to follow in the footsteps of his able predecessors, and at the end of his tether to be able to hand over to his successor what he had received as pure and unadulterated.

The W.M. gave "The I.P.M.," Bro. Herbert Sprake, remarking that the proof of the pudding was in the eating. He had had a most successful year of office, a large number of initiates, and the lodge had prospered under his genial presidency. It was now his pleasure and honour, on behalf of the lodge, to present him with a Past Master's jewel, as a small token for his great services, and what they all felt towards him, and he hoped he would be spared for many years to be with them to wear the jewel, which he so richly deserved.

The inscription on the jewel was—"Presented to Bro. Herbert Sprake, by the brethren of the New Concord Lodge, No. 813, in appreciation of his zeal and assiduity of W.M. 1895-96."

The toast was received with enthusiasm, and

Bro. Herbert Sprake, I.P.M., in response, said that the W.M. had been too laudatory in his remarks. He had endeavoured to do his best, and if he had succeeded, to their satisfaction he was more than satisfied, but he was a busy man, having to play many parts. His term of office had been a very happy one, and he thanked his officers and all the members for the many kindnesses he had received at their hands, and he hoped his successor would have the same support as he had had. It was 20 years ago since he joined the lodge, and during that time the Treasurers had well-guarded the funds. When he went into the chair he stated that all should be well entertained during his reign, but at that time it was thought by the members that he would be an expensive Master. However, the audit showed them to be in a good condition, and what was prognosticated had luckily not come to pass. In conclusion, he referred to the summer outing, which, he observed, was a splendid success, and he was proud of it.

In submitting the toast of "The Installing Master, Bro. C. Weeden," the W.M. stated that all those who were fortunate enough to see the whole of the ceremony must have been impressed with Bro. Weeden's grand working.

Bro. Weeden responded, and said that it was a pleasure and honour to act as Installing Master, and he assured them that he would be always ready and willing to do his best to promote the welfare of the lodge.

The toast of "The Visitors" was next given, the W.M. remarking that lodges would be tame indeed without visitors. He was glad to see so many friends, and, on behalf of the lodge, he gave them a very hearty welcome, and hoped to see them there again. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Pierpoint, P.M., who was better known as "London Bridge."

In acknowledging the toast, Bro. Pierpoint, P.M. 177, stated that he was not accustomed to make speeches. It had fallen to his happy lot to have been present on many occasions, and he was always delighted when asked to attend the New Concord Lodge. The members were to be congratulated in having such an efficient W.M., and he wished him every happiness. In looking to the shelf of Past Masters he missed many dear friends, but there were some left who were also dear friends of his. He had spent a very pleasant evening, and, on behalf of the visitors (and it was a great honour to be called upon to respond for the whole, who, he felt sure, had thoroughly enjoyed themselves), he thanked the members for their very kind treatment and entertainment.

The W.M. proposed "The Initiates." He thought they were of the right sort, and hoped they would be a credit to the lodge and the Craft in general.

Bro. Thos. Brooks responded. He said that he was pleased to be a Mason and it would be his duty to make himself a fit and proper member. He observed the kindly feeling which prevailed all round, and he felt he had done the right thing in joining the Order.

Bro. W. H. Carter stated that it was one of the dreams of his life to be a Freemason and he was sorry that he had not entered before. The splendid ceremony he had gone through he should never forget, and he hoped to prove a good and true brother to the Craft.

In giving "The Past Masters," the Worshipful Master said that he was honoured and glad to see so good an array present, as they were beyond the slightest doubt the very backbone of the lodge. He associated with the toast the name of Bro. T. B. Richards, P.M.

In response, Bro. Richards stated that all the Past Masters reciprocated the kind words of the W.M.

In appropriate terms the W.M. gave "The Treasurer and Secretary," remarking that they had every confidence in their Treasurer, Bro. Gabb, and as to Bro. Potter, the Secretary, he was well-known in the Masonic world in the Metropolis, he was a good fellow and he could not say too much in his praise.

Bro. A. J. Potter, P.M., Sec., acknowledged the toast and thanked the W.M. for again appointing him as Secretary.

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Officers," observing that those he had appointed were of the very best and would give him every assistance. He joined with the toast the name of Bro. J. I. Moore, S.W.

Bro. Moore replied, remarking that he would do his utmost to assist the W.M., and he felt sure that his colleagues would do the same.

The Tyler's toast brought to a close a very happy gathering. Bro. Edward Johnson was assisted in the musical entertainment by Messrs. Herbert Stockwell, Chas. E. Johnson, Fred. Russell, the Musical Zettos, Madame Marie Rowlands, Miss Maud Curette, Miss Lily Heale, Madame Byron Ballard, and Miss Cora R. Johnson.

Stuart Lodge, No. 1632.

The installation meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, on Monday, the 23rd inst. Present: Bros. F. H. Lynn, W.M.; W. R. Barr, J.W., W.M. elect; John Morgan, S.W.; G. H. G. Morgan, P.M., Treas.; A. Bannister, P.M., Sec.; J. M. Klempner, S.D.; Jas. Vagg, J.D.; Hy. Baldwin, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Middx., D.C.; Thos. Bowler, I.G.; T. Bailey, Tyler; H. Mascall, P.M.; J. G. Barker, Jas. Cook, E. C. Russell, G. C. Brooker, J. Harp, E. Voigt, E. Falkner, D. R. Mulch, E. Brook, F. Knell, W. E. Challis, J. Whiteman, M. A. Pearce, R. B. Whiteman, J. R. Morgan, A. T. Mustler, W. Hipgrave, Evan Cook, R. Ferris, J. H. Wolpert, A. H. Pardo, G. K. Bradley, A. Vaughan, J. O'Connor, Hy. Montgomery, and J. Gilioto. The visitors were Bros. E. Winterbottom, S.D. 1549; Christopher Sims, P.M. 861; H. Broughton, 1269; F. E. Pow, J.W. 1901; W. H. Snow, 902; F. E. Germain, 749; W. Wicken, I.G. 742; T. R. Cass, I.P.M. 1320; W. H. Harper, P.M. 2182; G. J. Garland, P.M. 1728; F. Beer, 954; E. Hancock, 87; Thos. Grumman, P.M. and Sec. 1559; W. H. Newton, 1963; Carlo Grassie, P.M. 1559; V. H. T. Germain, 2272; J. Hooper, P.M. 1320; and C. H. Stone, P.M. 507.

The minutes of the regular and emergency meetings were read and confirmed, and Mr. H. Montgomery was duly initiated by the W.M., after which Bro. W. R. Barr, J.W. and W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. Baldwin, P.M., to receive at the hands of Bro. Lynn, W.M., the benefits of installation, which was creditably performed. The new W.M., Bro. Barr, invested his officers very commendably as follows: Bros. F. H. Lynn, I.P.M.; John Morgan, S.W.; M. J. Klempner, J.W.; G. H. G. Morgan, P.M., Treas.; A. Bannister, P.M., Sec.; J. R. Vagg, S.D.; R. Milch, J.D.; H. Baldwin, P.M., D.C.; A. Jewell, A.D.C.; T. Bowler, I.G.; J. Ottway and F. Knell, Stwds.; and T. Bailey, Tyler. The addresses were delivered by Bro. Lynn, I.P.M. Bro. Bowler, I.G., presented the Senior and Junior Wardens' brass columns to the lodge, for which he received the hearty thanks of the members. A Past Master's jewel was next presented to the I.P.M., the W.M. remarking Bro. Lynn had conducted the affairs of the lodge so ably for the past year, and the jewel was to mark their appreciation of his services. Bro. Lynn very suitably responded. Three propositions were handed in for initiation at the next meeting, which augurs well for the lodge. The balance-sheet, as audited, was deferred till the next meeting. A notice of motion was made that it be printed and placed before the brethren then. It shows the lodge to be in a thoroughly sound financial position. The W.M., Bro. Barr, presented to the lodge copies of hymns and short anthems, to be used during the ceremony and in opening and closing of the lodge, which were much admired.

The business of the lodge ended, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, supplied by Mrs. Venables, the proprietress, in her best style, which was much appreciated.

The cloth removed, the W.M. gave the loyal and Masonic toasts in becoming terms, which were duly responded to.

The toast of "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," the Worshipful Master remarked, was one deserving of the best thanks of the brethren for their untiring energy and enthusiasm always shown for the benefit of the lodge.

Bro. Lynn, I.P.M., next presented the toast of "The W.M.," which was received with acclamation. The W.M. was one of the most enthusiastic Masons, and his work was most thorough. The lodge was proud of such a Master. He was connected with two chapters—the Star and Addiscombe—of which he was 1st A.S. in each, and, what was more commendable, carrying out the tenets of Freemasonry, inasmuch as he was Life Governor to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and Royal Masonic Institution for Boys and Life Subscriber to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and was standing Steward to the Girls' Institution that year to qualify as Life Governor. With such credentials, the W.M. had proved himself most worthy to preside over them, and all wished him long life, health, and happiness, and a most successful year of office.

In reply, Bro. W. R. Barr, W.M., said he little expected such an ovation, but he heartily appreciated it. Since the time he was initiated—five years ago—when he was deeply impressed by the beautiful ceremony, he resolved to make himself master of it, and regularly attended lodges of instruction, specially the Rose, No. 1622, and Blackheath, No. 1320, which he strongly advocated to the brethren. He felt it a great honour to preside over such a lodge, and he hoped to carry out the duties appertaining thereto to the entire satisfaction of all, promising no lack on his part to acquit himself as perfectly as possible. He most heartily thanked the brethren for such kindly expressions in drinking to his health.

The toast of "The Installing Master," was next presented by the Worshipful Master, who complimented him upon the manner he had performed the ceremony, for which he deserved great praise.

In reply, Bro. Lynn, I.P.M., heartily thanked the brethren for such a greeting. He had done his best, and had been enabled to leave a substantial balance upon the right side, having had 17 initiates during the year. He hoped that the succeeding Masters would be enabled to continue the good work, and thoroughly restore the Stuart Lodge to its former excellent position.

The Worshipful Master next gave the toast of "The Initiates" in very suitable and congratulatory terms, which were duly responded to by Bros. Montgomery, Grimshall, and Gilioto.

In presenting the toast of "The Visitors," the Worshipful Master stated that they were most heartily welcomed to the lodge. Among them were many distinguished brethren, and excellent workers in Masonry, and such as the brethren ought to emulate to the fullest, both in the Craft and Royal Arch.

Bro. Thos. Grumman, P.M., most suitably replied. He said it was his first visit, and brought up happy memories of 40 years ago, when Stuart Barker (the first Master of the Stuart Lodge), and he were most intimately acquainted. His name was still honoured in the lodge. He was proud and delighted to see the W.M. installed and rewarded for his past labours, after so short a connection with the lodge. He was confident that the duties would be most efficiently carried out, and he felt he was only voicing the feelings of every brother in the lodge, when he wished the W.M. a happy and most successful year of office. He most cordially thanked the W.M. for such kind and complimentary remarks.

Bro. I. R. Cass, P.M., also remarked upon the devotion of the W.M. in perfecting himself in the beautiful ceremonies, and the untiring energy he displayed in order to promote the good of Freemasonry. On behalf of the visitors, he most cordially thanked the W.M. for such a reception.

The W.M., in presenting the toast of "The Past Masters," remarked they had sustained the reputation of the lodge, and the brethren were proud of them.

Bro. Baldwin, P.M., in reply, thanked the brethren for their kind reception of the toast, and said the lodge had passed through various vicissitudes, but he was delighted as it was becoming a most successful lodge. One point which struck him was the deep interest it was taking in the Charities, of which the W.M. was so good an example, and so long as that interest was shown towards their Charitable Institutions, so long would the lodge prosper.

The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" was next given, the W.M. complimenting himself and the lodge upon two such worthy and indefatigable brethren.

This was most ably responded to by Bros. G. H. G. Morgan, P.M., Treas., and Alf. Bannister, P.M., Sec.

The W.M. next presented the toast of "The Officers" in most complimentary terms. Bros. John Morgan, S.W., and M. J. Klempner, J.W., most cordially replied.

The Tyler's toast closed a most happy and successful meeting.

An excellent programme of music was provided under the able direction of Bro. Arthur Court, ably assisted by Miss Masie Riversdale, Miss Winifred Grant, Bros. Arthur Crouch, John Morgan, S.W., and J. R. Vagg, S.D. (euphonium). Bro. W. H. Harper, P.M., efficiently presided at the piano.

Wallington Lodge, No. 1892.

The installation meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Thursday, the 19th inst., at the Public Hall, Sutton, where a large attendance of members and visitors, amongst whom were many provincial brethren, evidenced the interest aroused by the proceedings. The lodge was opened at five o'clock, when the following brethren were present: Bros. James Andrews, W.M.; W. J. Baker, C.E., J.W.; J. G. Horsley, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; William Pile, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; W. C. Sabine, S.D.; S. T. Baker, J.D.; T. W. Aird, I.G.; F. Carter, P.M., D.C.; G. C. Barry, P.M., P.P.G. Org., Org.; Thos. F. Jones, Stwd.; A. Rowley, Tyler; R. H. Ward, P.M.; Hy. Aslett, P.M.; F. C. Baker, Duncan Stewart, B. H. Antill, and W. G. Smith. Visitors: Bros. E. Doring, P.M. 959, P.P.G. Sec. Suffolk; and

Rev. E. L. G. Houndle, P.M. 2422, P.P.G. Chap.; Jno. O'Connell, P.M. 2422, P.P.G. Org.; the Rev. H. W. Turner, P.M. 1347, P.P.G. Chap.; G. Dixon, 1347, P.P.G. S.G.W. Berks and Bucks; J. H. Price, 2096, P.G. Treas.; C. A. Hardwick, P.M. 1347, P.P.A.G.D.C.; C. P. King, W.M. 2422; E. Gibson, W.M. 1297; C. A. Gibbs, I.P.M. 1347; W. Gripper, I.P.M. 1826; T. Smith, P.M. 30; H. G. C. Bailey, P.M. 1920; T. A. Hib, P.M.; W. J. Green, S.W. 2422; Hugh Taylor, S.W. 1347; R. J. Richards, 1056; W. Easterbrook, 1216; E. R. Capon, 2422; H. G. McKinney, 2546; A. Stubbing, 1347; C. S. West, 2182; J. R. Folkes, 2096; S. G. Pailthorpe, 1228; S. J. Tomkins; I. R. Porter, 1347; and A. Millbourn, 1217.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and the report of the Audit Committee adopted, after which a Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Andrews on his retirement from the chair, as a slight recognition of his services and the example he had set during his year of office. Bro. Andrews, in acknowledging the gift, said it gave him great pleasure to receive from the lodge the jewel. He had been a member of the lodge for some years, during which he saw the true brotherly love existing as it should, and he had always received the greatest consideration from all. The W.M. elect was then presented to the Installing Master, Bro. Andrews, who performed the ceremony of installation in an impressive manner. The newly-installed W.M. then invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. James Andrews, P.G. Stwd., I.P.M.; James Salter White, S.W.; W. Churchill Sabine, J.W.; John G. Horsey, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; William Pile, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; Samuel T. Baker, S.D.; T. Wilson Aird, M.D., J.D.; Francis Carter, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Surrey, D.C.; G. C. Burry, P.M. 1347, P.P.G. Org. Surrey, Hon. Org.; B. H. Antill, I.G.; Thomas F. Jones and Fredk. C. Baker, Stwds.; and Anford Rowley, Tyler.

The lodge was then closed, and an adjournment made to an excellent banquet in the small hall, which was artistically decorated with shrubs and flowers from the Worshipful Master's conservatory.

The arrangements made for the comfort of all deserve a word of commendation for Bro. Pile, the deservedly popular Secretary.

Letters were received from Bros. the Earl of Onslow, Prov. G.M.; F. West, Dep. Prov. G.M.; and Chas. T. Tyler, Prov. G. Sec., expressing regret at their inability to be present.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were neatly given by the W.M.

The toast of "The W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," was proposed by Bro. Pile, who said: I have had the command from the W.M. to present the toast, and it is only for me to obey. It is a matter of congratulation that we have amongst us so many Provincial Officers of our own province, and no lodge in Surrey extended a heartier welcome to them than did the Wallington Lodge; amongst them our Bro. Price who, although a Mason not of great age in one sense, was in another, he had performed royal work, as the numerous jewels he was now wearing would prove. He was one of those brethren who made up his mind to go forward, and whom they all delighted to honour. We have also Bro. Turner, the rector of Sutton, W.M. of the Lorne Lodge, for whom all have the greatest regard, in addition to Bros. Houndle, Hardwick, O'Connell, and many other distinguished brethren, and he asked the most hearty reception for the toast—a request that met with a spontaneous reply.

Bro. Price, Prov. G. Treas., in reply, said: I thank you very heartily for your reception of the toast of the Provincial Grand Officers, and Bro. Pile for the manner in which he submitted it. Bro. West, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, is so well known and highly respected; of whom the province is justly proud; who comes amongst us and makes us feel that he is one of us; whilst the rest of the Provincial Officers are all popular. I am proud to be their Treasurer; I don't suppose I shall hold the post for 30 years like my dear namesake, George Price. I must state the pleasure I had this evening in witnessing the excellent manner in which the Masonic duties were carried out, and thank you for the admirable way our comfort has been studied and the hospitality extended to us.

Bro. Rev. H. W. Turner, P.G. Chap., also replied, saying that he had considerable diffidence in following Bro. Price, who had spoken so ably, and he would endorse all that Bro. Price had said. His own work in the province was not very laborious, but he endeavoured to uphold the working of the Craft. His collar brought a great number of invitations, and he liked to attend to show good feeling to the brother in the chair, and he had never known a brother appointed to whom was shown more affection or better bestowed. There was a Masonic spirit of competition amongst the neighbouring lodges without the slightest ill-feeling, and he caused great amusement by saying that unless they were very careful the W.M. of the Wallington Lodge would prove the "Baker" who would "make, and bake, and take the cake."

Bro. Andrews, I.P.M., then proposed "The W.M.," regretting that the toast was not in better hands, but it was a great pleasure to him to have installed Bro. Baker in the chair, as he had won the respect and affection of all the brethren, and he knew from personal experience of him that the Wallington Lodge would receive renewed lustre during his year of office.

The W.M., who, on rising to reply, met with an enthusiastic reception, said: The kind expressions used by Bro. Andrews, and the assurance that I have the esteem and affection of my brethren of the Wallington Lodge touches me deeply, and I feel that today is one of the brightest of my existence; it has made a very proud man of me, and the recollection will remain with me till I am no more. It is to me a source of infinite satisfaction that my two sons are present as officers of the lodge and have heard the words of Bro. Andrews, and, knowing their nature so well, I confidently look forward to them following in my footsteps. I am glad to see so many brethren present, and for the way in which they acknowledged the toast I can only return hearty thanks, with the assurance that the memory of it will be ever retained by me.

The other toasts were "The Immediate Past Master"; "The Visitors," to whom a hearty welcome was extended, and for whom Bros. O'Connell, P.M., P.P.G. Org.; E. Douling, P.M., P.P.G. Sec. Suffolk; Major Dixon, P.P.G. Sec. Berks and Bucks; C. E. Hardwick, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Surrey; and Stribling, W.M. of the Lorne Lodge, 1347, responded; "The Past Masters," and "The Officers."

The Tyler's toast brought a most successful meeting to a close at a late hour. The evening's enjoyment was greatly assisted by the musical arrangements under the direction of Bro. G. C. Burry, who was ably assisted by Bros. J. Asman, S. T. Baker, C. Spencer West, F. C. Baker, the Rev. H. W. Turner, A. Stribling, and T. A. Hill, accompanist.

Barnato Lodge, No. 2265.

The usual meeting of this lodge was held at the Café Monaco, Regent-street, on the 16th inst., when there were present: Bros. C. Vandyk, P.M. 1017 and 1828, W.M.; J. Jacobs, S.W.; Genese, J.W.; C. F. Hogard, P.M., P.G. Std. Br., Treas.; E. J. Acworth, P.P.G. Treas. Essex, Sec.; T. D. Phillips, J.D.; Willie Wright, Org.; H. Barnato and M. A. Hyman, Stwds.; J. B. Joel, P.M.; Geo. Everett, P.G. Treas. (hon. member); Thos. Honey, P.M.; L. M. Myers, H. Townend, H. G. Goldstein, A. E. Oliver, L. A. Britton, L. E. White, H. C. Adams, F. Raphael, R. Lush, A. Abrahams, S. F. Jones, L. A. Harward, John S. Piggott, Sidney Baker, J. J. Harward, B. Marcus, P.M. 205, P. Abrahams, R. Snapper, A. Reitlinger, Sol. Abrahams, and R. J. Morley, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. Rosedale, P.M. 1017; L. Hudson, 1475; H. Harward, 2374; F. W. Downes, 1158; J. Harward, 2374; G. Lichtenfeld, 205; H. Lichtenfeld, 205; J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I. Boys; and R. T. West, 1744.

After the usual routine business, the W.M. initiated Messrs. Joseph J. Harward and Albert Reitlinger. He afterwards passed Bro. S. F. Jones, and subsequently raised Bros. J. S. Piggott and R. Lush. The working of the W.M. was carried out in an excellent manner, and was much appreciated by the brethren. The W.M. having stated that he intended to go up as Steward for the Boys' School, 10 guineas were unanimously voted from the lodge funds, to be placed upon his list. It was reported that Bro. Gluckstein, I.P.M., was not able to be present through severe illness, and it was resolved to write him a letter deploring the cause of his absence and conveying the sympathy of the members. Bro. H. Barnato gave notice of motion for the next meeting to increase the amount of the fee for joining members.

A strong appeal having been made to the members and visitors to support the case of Bro. Lazarus—a candidate for the Old People's election—the lodge was afterwards closed.

A *recherché* banquet followed, which was well-served, under the personal superintendence of the manager, Bro. Noble.

"The Queen and the Craft" having been duly honoured,

The W.M. proposed "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," and he coupled with the toast the names of Bros. Geo. Everett, P.G. Treas., and C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br.

In response, Bro. Geo. Everett, P.G. Treas., stated that the W.M. had, in felicitous terms, proposed the toast. Nothing was more delightful to the Grand Officers than to see good working and the W.M. had gone through the Three Degrees that evening in splendid form. He was glad the lodge had not forgotten the Charities, and he hoped the W.M.'s list as Steward for the Boys would be greatly augmented in amount. Bro. McLeod had paid them a visit that night and there was no better beggar in the world. He would leave to Bro. Hogard—a very eminent Mason—to add what he had left unsaid in acknowledging the toast of the Grand Officers.

Bro. C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br., also responded, observing that Bro. Everett had referred to him very pointedly as a Grand Officer, but Bro. Everett had had very great experience as a member of that body. He thanked the members for the kind way he was always received there and he would be glad at any time to do everything in his power for the lodge.

Bro. E. J. Acworth, P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and said it was the toast of the evening. Bro. Everett had referred in eloquent terms to the W.M., and it would be needless for him to add to that, but he was the right man to keep up their prosperity and he wished him best health and happiness.

In responding, Bro. C. Vandyk, W.M., thanked Bro. Acworth for his kind remarks. At the time he was installed he stated that he would do his best, which he then confirmed, and when his term of office was up he would ask them for their verdict. When he came to the lodge that evening and was told that Bro. Gluckstein, I.P.M., was not able to be present it gave him a fright, as he was always ready to help him in the working of the ritual, and he earnestly hoped, and he felt sure the members did likewise, that he would soon be restored to health and be there on the next occasion. He mentioned that Bro. H. J. Phillips, P.M., the Secretary of the Lodge of Israel, had acted that night as I.P.M. at the request of Bro. Gluckstein, and he thanked him for his services. The W.M. referred to his Stewardship for the Boys, and he urged the members to give liberally to his list, and so keep up the well-known reputation of the lodge for its support of their noble Institutions.

The W.M. gave "The Initiates," remarking that they appeared to be very anxious to aspire to the chair, and he hoped to live to see them installed in that their mother lodge.

In response, Bro. J. J. Harward thanked the members for the honour in electing him as one of them. He was impressed with the very beautiful ceremony, and should not forget the solemn obligation that he had undertaken, and the way the W.M. had initiated him would never be effaced from his memory.

Bro. A. Reitlinger also acknowledged the toast, and said that he was bad at speech-making, and it ever he regretted that lack he did that night, as he was unable to express in words his feelings and thanks for having been initiated into their noble Order.

In suitable terms, the Worshipful Master proposed "The Visitors," to whom he gave a hearty welcome, making special mention of Bro. J. M. McLeod, and he coupled the names of Bros. H. Lichtenfeld, and of our representative, R. T. West.

Bro. H. Lichtenfeld responded. He said that it was his first visit, and he was taken by surprise in being called upon to respond to the toast. He was delighted with the excellent working he had witnessed, and he complimented the W.M., who appeared to be a great success.

Bro. R. T. West also acknowledged the toast.

In submitting the toast of "The Past Masters, Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. stated that the Past Masters were the pillars of the lodge, and they were all jolly fellows. He made special reference to the Treasurer and Secretary, and he associated with the toast the names of Bros. Thos. Honey, P.M., and E. J. Acworth, P.M., Sec.

Bro. T. Honey, P.M., responded for the Past Masters, who, he observed, were all willing to do anything for the lodge and the members, and it was always a pleasure to them to attend the lodge.

Bro. E. J. Acworth, P.M., Sec., said that he regretted that they had not a larger array of Past Masters, but those who had gone had borne the heat and burden of the day. As their Secretary, he had always endeavoured to do his best, and he hoped to be spared for many years to work for the lodge.

"The Masonic Charities" was next given by the Worshipful Master, who remarked that they were honoured with the genial presence of Bro. McLeod, who, it went without saying, was there to get what he could for his large family of boys, and they could have no better advocate in the cause of Charity.

Bro. J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B., responded. He said that it was a great pleasure to visit the lodge, although it was some years since he last attended. In very eloquent terms, he urged the members to give liberally to the W.M.'s list as Steward for the Boys' Institution, which, they must know, was supported by voluntary contributions. That day the boys had had a big treat by attending the Drury Lane Theatre, through the kindness of Bro. Sir Augustus Harris, P.G. Treas.

In proposing "The Officers," the W.M. observed that he thought his staff were of the best, and he made special reference to Bros. J. Jacobs, S.W.; Genese, J.W.; and H. Barnato, who all responded in very appropriate terms.

The Tyler's toast ended a very enjoyable evening.

An excellent entertainment was carried out under the able direction of Bro. Willie Wright, Org., assisted by Miss Daisy Walker, Miss Royner (violin solo), Miss Venie Emmett, Bros. Trefeln David and W. Noel, and Mr. Harry Hudson; but a word of praise is due to Miss Daisy Walker for her great efforts, and she has only to become known in Masonic circles to be very popular.

Duke of Fife Lodge, No. 2345.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Alexandra Hotel, Clapham Common, on Wednesday, the 18th instant, and proved most successful. Among those present were Bros. John Langdon, W.M.; A. Harvey, I.P.M.; Charlie Woods, S.W., W.M. elect; John Mitchell, P.M., J.W.; R. Steele, P.M., Treas.; J. W. Folkard, P.M., Sec.; I. Morris, S.D.; A. Robertson, J.D.; W. W. Westley, P.M., D.C.; G. F. Winny, I.G.; W. Baldwin, Steward; S. Cochrane, P.M., P.G. Treas.; C. Everett, P.G. Treas.; E. Beaven, P.M.; Fitch, Taylor, Henry Mitchell, H. C. Highway, J. Wier, P.P.G.D.C. Kent; F. Roberts, C. Hearsey, C. W. Shannaw, F. Beckwith, F. W. Sinclair, Wilfred Stracey, H. J. Mitchell, 1056; J. B. Dixon, D.C. 2513; J. Billing, S.W. 2244; R. J. Voisey, P.M. 1329; Henry Lynn, P.M. 217; Oscrift, 902; A. Higerty, 2437, P.P.G.W. Herts; John Hernaman, P.M. 1329; J. J. White, W.M. 2513; J. Woodley, 2417; and C. Patrick, P.M. 1227, Tyler.

Bro. Taylor was raised and Bro. Beckwith passed, Bro. Harvey occupying the chair. Bro. Charlie Woods was installed by Bro. Langdon, and the following were invested: Bros. Langdon, I.P.M.; John Mitchell, S.W.; T. Morris, J.W.; R. Steele, Treas.; Folkard, Sec.; A. Robertson, S.D.; G. F. Winny, J.D.; Henry Mitchell, I.G.; W. W. Westley, D.C.; W. Baldwin, A.D.C.; C. W. Shannaw, Hearsey, and Fitch, Stewards; and Patrick, Tyler. Mr. F. W. Sinclair was initiated by the newly-installed Master. The Auditors' report was received and adopted. On the motion of Bro. Cochrane, P.G. Treas., seconded by Bro. Geo. Everett, P.G. Treas., it was resolved to subscribe to the "Boys' Scholarship Fund." Bro. Baldwin spoke on the motion.

After the lodge was closed, the brethren adjourned to a capital banquet.

After dinner, the W.M., Bro. Charlie Woods, proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were duly honoured.

In proposing that of "The Grand Officers," the W.M. pointed out the work they did as the main pillars of the Order, regulating its minutest affairs. That lodge was in its seventh year, and numbered two capital Grand Officers amongst its members—Bros. Geo. Everett, P.G. Treas., and S. Cochrane, P.G. Treas.—while the Grand Treasurer elect was formerly a member of the lodge.

Bro. Geo. Everett, P.G. Treas., replied in an able and felicitous speech, pointing out that the Grand Officers were much encouraged by the hearty support they received. He also flattered the new Master on his work that evening.

Bro. S. Cochrane, P.G. Treas., proposed "The Worshipful Master" in a style well known and appreciated by the members. He traced the work of the Master from the first inception of the lodge until the present time.

The W.M., in responding, said he was proud to hold the position in a lodge that could not be beaten for good fellowship.

The W.M. proposed "The Initiate," and Bro. Sinclair suitably responded. In proposing "The Installing Master," the W.M. said that he had known Bro. Langdon for upwards of 12 years. As a man he was kind, gentle, genial, generous to a fault; who could wish for a better friend? Full of zeal for that which is right, uncompromising in his denunciations of anything not fair or above-board, as a Mason he had reached the goal of his ambition. In the name of the lodge, he presented him with a very handsome Past Master's jewel, trusting he might long live to wear it.

Bro. Langdon replied, thanking all for their kindness to him.

The W.M. proposed "The Visitors," pointing out that as hospitality was a

Masonic virtue, they were delighted in having such distinguished visitors—brethren well-known and highly respected workers for the well-being of mankind.

Bro. R. J. Voisey responded, saying that he had come for the first time, had received great pleasure from his visit, was delighted with what he saw, and hoped to again visit the lodge.

Bro. J. J. White also responded, congratulating the lodge on its general well-being. The W.M. proposed "The Past Masters." They were six "of the best," each with his characteristics, all highly respected.

Bros. S. Cochrane, P.G. Treas., E. B. Aver, and A. Harvey duly responded.

The W.M. pointed out that for the seventh time the Treasurer, Bro. Steele, was entering upon his duties, which he fully understood, and very ably performed. It was stated somewhere that "Secretaries were born, not made," so that excellent officer, Bro. Folkard, might, perhaps, not be able to help himself. Any way, his work was perfectly done.

Bro. Folkard responded.

Bros. Mitchell, S.W., and Morris, J.W., responded for "The Officers."

The harmony of the evening was enhanced by the musical efforts of Bros. Winny, Woodly, Langdon, Horace, Mitchell, C. W. Shannaw, Harvey, and Wilfred Stracey.

Royal Arch.

Fidelity Chapter, No. 3.

This old chapter held a meeting at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on the 6th instant. Among those in attendance were Comps. Larcumb, M.E.Z.; Captain Walls, P.D.G.D.C., H.; W. Mapleton, J.; W. J. Collins, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N., S.E.; H. J. Lardner, P.Z., P.P.G. Std. Br., S.N.; J. Heming, P.Z., Treas.; Lieut.-Col. W. Hart, P.S.; Nash, 1st A.S.; Birch, 2nd A.S.; G. Larter, Steward; Radcliffe, P.Z.; F. McDougall, P.Z.; and Birch, P.Z.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. A sum of money was then voted to the three Masonic Charities from the Alms Fund, according to custom. A Committee was formed to consider the advisability of holding a summer banquet up the river, instead of in town, as heretofore. Comp. F. Graves, P.Z., sent an apology for non-attendance.

The chapter was then closed, and the members dined together.

Upon the removal of the cloth, a few toasts were given and duly honoured.

The M.E.Z. had again provided an excellent musical entertainment, which gave the members more gratification than the most ornate post-prandial oratory would have afforded.

Old Concord Chapter, No. 172.

The installation convocation of this old and flourishing chapter was held at the Holborn Restaurant on Tuesday, the 10th inst., when there were present Comps. A. E. Austin, M.E.Z.; Thos. Grummant, P.Z., H.; Chas. Meierhoff, P.Z., J.; Carl T. Fleck, P.Z., Treas.; Geo. King, P.Z., S.F.; F. D. Norman, P.S.; R. F. Godfrey, 1st A.S.; H. Tatton Sykes, 2nd A.S.; H. R. Cope, P.Z.; Woolmer Williams, P.Z.; Jas. Hoare, Ernest Vaughan, Wm. Hunt, Walter Ravaisson, B. Groves, and G. Haig. The visitors were Comps. Thos. Grummant, P.Z. 1275; G. L. Moore, P.Z. 169; S. H. Catham, 1326; A. W. Fawkes, 862; W. J. Hakin, M.E.Z. 1503, P.P.G.P.S. Middx.; F. E. Choveaux, Org. 1622; and C. H. Stone, M.E.Z. 1901, P.Z. 1275.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The balance-sheet as audited was presented and adopted, which showed the chapter to be in a sound financial position. Bro. Ernest Vaughan was next exalted, the lectures being most impressively rendered by Comps. Cope, as M.E.Z.; T. Grummant, H.; and Chas. Meierhoff, as J. The dispensations were read granting permission for Comps. Godfrey and Sykes to be installed into the chairs of H. and J., and Comp. Godfrey installed into the chair of M.E.Z., which installations were performed in a most exemplary manner, Comp. Thos. Grummant, P.Z., installing the H. and J., and Comp. Chas. Meierhoff, P.Z., installing the M.E.Z. Comp. Woolmer Williams, P.Z., was inducted into the chair of J. The M.E.Z. invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Comps. Carl Fleck, P.Z., Treas.; Chas. King, P.Z., S.E.; B. Groves, P.S.; Jas. Hoare, S.N.; and Marsh, Janitor. It was unanimously resolved that a Past Principal's jewel be presented to Comp. Austin for the able manner he had presided over the chapter for the past year.

The business ended, the companions adjourned to a *recherché* banquet, which was admirably served.

The cloth removed, the M.E.Z. presented the loyal and Royal Arch toasts in most becoming terms, which were well received.

In giving the toast of "The Pro G.Z., G.H., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," the M.E.Z. remarked these Grand Officers were able workers and excellent guides, and always took the greatest interest in the management for the benefit of the whole.

Comp. Austin, I.P.Z., next presented the toast of "The M.E.Z., Comp. Godfrey." He said it was the highest honour that could be bestowed upon a companion. All knew his sterling qualities, and the able manner he had performed his duties while in the lower offices. He would ask the companions to drink to the health, happiness, and prosperity of the M.E.Z.

The toast was drunk most enthusiastically.

Comp. Godfrey, M.E.Z., in reply, thanked the I.P.Z. for such very kind remarks, and for the kind and generous manner they were received by the companions. Certainly his was a most extraordinary chance to be exalted to such an eminence from 1st A.S., and was such as seldom had its equal. He trusted to be enabled to perform his duties as M.E.Z. in the same manner as he had carried out the duties of A.S.

The M.E.Z. next presented the toast of "The H. and J.," stating that two more excellent Masons could not be found in Royal Arch Masonry. Their J. was already a P.Z., and having their united support, he was sure the business of the chapter would be most efficiently carried out.

In reply, Comp. Tatton Sykes, H., said his best thanks were due to the companions for having voted him to that proud position. It certainly was one of great honour in such a chapter, and he promised his most hearty support to the M.E.Z., which he trusted would not be derogatory to the chapter, but rather show to the companions, for the honour conferred upon him, that their confidence would not be misplaced.

Comp. Woolmer Williams, J., also replied, and said that he was grateful for such a reception. He felt a considerable responsibility in accepting the honoured position in so distinguished a chapter as the Old Concord, and having two such excellent co-Principals, who had done such suit and service, he hoped that the same high standard of efficiency would be maintained by him as had been done by the officers hitherto in the chapter.

The M.E.Z. next gave what he considered the toast of the evening, "The Exalte," who had been introduced by two such excellent Past Principals as Comps. Carl Fleck and King, and having such good credentials, he was most heartily welcomed to the chapter.

The Exalte, in reply, stated he was pleased to join so worthy a chapter, and considered it an honour to be exalted in the Old Concord Chapter attached to so old a lodge. He thanked most heartily Comp. Fleck for his strong recommendations, and promised his utmost endeavour for the benefit of the chapter.

The toast of "The Visitors" received at the hands of the M.E.Z. some most pertinent remarks. There were several excellent companions who had honoured the chapter by their presence. The best thanks of the companions were due to Comp. Thos. Grummant, P.Z., for his able services rendered in the installation ceremonies. He asked the companions to drink to the toast in bumpers, wishing them health and prosperity.

Comp. Hakin replied that he felt almost overwhelmed with the expressions that had fallen from the M.E.Z. That was his first visit to the chapter, but he felt that he was not amongst strangers, as the same brotherly feeling and loving welcome was shown to all the companions, that it was impossible to feel strange. The Lodge of Old Concord had an honoured name, and the chapter was proceeding on the same lines. On behalf of the visitors, he most heartily thanked the companions.

Comp. Thos. Grummant, P.Z., thanked the M.E.Z. for such flattering remarks of him. It was a very great pleasure to him to assist in any way that excellent chapter, as he had some happy reminiscences of the Old Concord Lodge, and he was delighted that the chapter was becoming more united with the Star Chapter, and extending its fraternal greetings. He was glad to see Comp. W. Williams in the chair of J., who was a Past Principal of the Star Chapter, and felt confident that for many years the

same hearty welcome and kind expressions would be extended to all who had the honour of attending the Old Concord Chapter.

Comp. C. H. Stone, M.E.Z. 1901, also very gratefully replied.

The M.E.Z. next presented the toast of "The Past Principals," who, he said, had done excellent service in the chapter. Comp. Austin, who had just vacated the Z.'s chair, had done his best, and he (the M.E.Z.) had the great pleasure in presenting the splendid jewel, unanimously voted him by the companions, with the earnest desire that he would live many years to wear the same. All of the Past Principals were excellent companions.

Comps. Austin, Cope, and Meierhoff most forcibly replied, Comp. Meierhoff adding the great pleasure it afforded him in installing the M.E.Z. into the first chair. He thought those beautiful installations had been worked almost beyond all praise, in fact, it was the lot of very few Royal Arch Masons to witness the same as had been performed that evening. He would always be most ready and willing to further the prosperity of the chapter.

The toast of "The Treasurer and S.E.," the M.E.Z. said, was most important, as the Treasurer, Comp. Fleck, took the deepest interest in the welfare of the chapter—it was one of his pets. His only delight was when he saw it flourishing—on the same lines as the Old Concord Lodge. The S.E. was also a very worthy companion; all held him in the highest respect; he was quite a father to the chapter, and all the companions looked up to him, for he was always ready to do his utmost.

Comp. Carl Fleck, P.Z., Treas., in reply, thanked the M.E.Z. for his very kind remarks. He was honoured as first M.E.Z. of the chapter, and since that time had taken the greatest interest in it, and hoped to continue the same. He was then proud to be the Treasurer, and so long as he held that position, he should carry out the duties to the very best of his ability.

Comp. King, P.Z., S.E., also most cordially responded.

The M.E.Z. next presented the toast of "The Officers" in complimentary terms, which was replied to by Comp. B. Groves very ably.

The Janitor's toast closed a most happy meeting.

An excellent programme of music was given under the able management of Comp. Choveaux, Org. 1622, ably assisted by Miss Marie Hollinshead, Miss Kate Hemming, Mr. James Avon, and Bro. T. W. Turner. Comp. F. Choveaux was the able accompanist.

St. Martin's Chapter, No. 510.

At a meeting of the above chapter held at Liskeard, Comps. R. H. Williams was installed as M.E.Z.; W. H. Huddy, P.Z., as H.; and R. Faul, as J., by Comps. R. A. Courtney, P.P.G.D.C.; W. Hammond, P.G.P.S.; and W. H. Huddy, P.P.G.O., and there were also present Comps. T. White, P.P.G. Reg.; G. P. N. Glencross, P.A.G.S.E.; E. Venning, and S. Trehane. The officers invested were: Comps. Trehane, I.P.Z.; A. E. Morcom, S.E.; J. Cleave, S.N.; J. Harris, P.Z., Treas.; C. Mitchell, P.S.; C. D. Smith, 1st A.S.; J. Gilbert, 2nd A.S.; and R. Penwarden, Janitor.

Subsequently the companions dined together at Comp. Cleave's Stag Hotel, where a *recherché* repast was served, and a pleasant evening spent.

The chapter continues to enjoy great prosperity, and has now the largest membership since its consecration in 1865.

Humphrey Chetham Chapter, No. 645.

The regular meeting was held on Tuesday, the 17th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester. Comp. C. H. Arnold presided. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The principal business was the election of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows: Comps. Nathan Heywood, as M.E.Z.; T. Griffiths, H.; R. W. Routley, J.; J. E. Lees, P.Z., P.P.G.T., S.E.; Samuel Warburton, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; Samuel Moore, S.N.; W. Loose, P.S.; T. H. Black, 1st A.S.; Bernstein, 2nd A.S.; and G. S. Smith, P.Z., P.P.G.O., Org. It was proposed, and carried unanimously, to subscribe two guineas to Comp. J. H. Sillitoe's testimonial. The chapter was then closed.

The following were present: Comps. C. H. Arnold, M.E.Z.; Nathan Heywood, H.; S. Warburton, P.Z., P.G.S.B., Treas.; R. W. Routley, John E. Lees, P.Z., P.G.T., S.E.; Max Weyenthaler, P.Z.; G. S. Smith, P.P.G.O., Org.; T. H. Black, W. Loose, J. J. Craig, and E. W. Flower, P.Z.

St. Dunstan's Chapter, No. 1589.

This chapter met for the dispatch of business at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 12th instant, when there were present, among others, Comps. H. H. Nuding, M.E.Z.; R. Evens, H.; H. Clemow, P.Z., J.; Captain F. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G. D.C., S.E.; W. Farrington, S.N.; W. E. Farrington, P.Z.; J. W. Gaze, C.C., P.Z.; and I. Farthing, P.Z.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the following companions were elected Principals and officers for the year ensuing: Comps. R. Evens, M.E.Z.; H. Clemow, P.Z., H.; W. Farrington, J.; Captain Walls, S.E.; T. A. Woodbridge, C.C., P.Z., Treas.; and J. Gilbert, Janitor. A Past Principal's jewel was voted to the M.E.Z. The resignations of Comps. Lieut.-Col. J. Beningfield, P.Z., and R. Skelton were received with regret. The S.E. read a letter from Comp. H. J. Lardner, P.Z. 1623, P.P.G. Std. Br. Surrey, &c., accepting, with thanks, the honorary membership of the chapter. Communications from Comps. F. Farrington, P.Z.; C. Moore, C.C., P.Z.; and others, regretting inability to attend, were received. The chapter was then closed. Refreshment followed *à la carte*.

A few toasts were subsequently given, and the proceedings terminated at an early hour.

Obituary.

BRO. COUNCILLOR JACOBS.

We announce with deep regret the death of Bro. Councillor Jacob Jacobs, which took place shortly before midnight on Monday, the 16th inst., at his residence, The Rookery, Handsworth. The deceased had been ailing for a considerable time, and though his indisposition did not necessitate his entire absence from business, he was compelled to visit the South of England at frequent intervals for the benefit of his health. He was the victim chiefly of bronchitis, his heart was affected, and he suffered intensely from attacks of gout in their most acute form. Just before Christmas he spent a brief period at Bournemouth, from which he derived much benefit, but he had a relapse on his return, and had to take to his bed, from which he never rose. The deceased had been attended by Dr. Darby Weston, of Handsworth, and several times during his illness was seen by Sir Walter Foster. Three or four weeks ago he rallied somewhat, and hopes were entertained by his friends that he would ultimately recover. Latterly, however, he had another relapse, and on Wednesday, the 11th inst., became much worse, the result of an attack of angina pectoris. On Saturday, pneumonia supervened, and in his weakened condition it was thought impossible that he could survive so dangerous a malady. Unfortunately the anticipation was realised. On Monday he was in a critical state, and, along with Dr. Weston, Sir Walter Foster visited the patient. He took a little nourishment at about 10 o'clock in the evening, but shortly after midnight expired. Though in a dazed condition, he retained consciousness almost to the end. Our deceased brother was a P.M. and P.Z. of several lodges and chapters both in Warwickshire and Staffordshire, and a P.P. G.H. of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Staffordshire. He was a member also of several friendly societies and of organisations associated with the Jewish community in Birmingham.

Masonic and General Tidings.

THE REPORT of the Council of the Order of the Secret Monitor is unavoidably held over till next week.

BRO. EX-SHERIFF HAND has been placed on the Commission of the Peace for the County of London.

BRO. R. D. M. LITTLER, Q.C., has been re-elected Chairman of the Middlesex County Council.

A BALL, under the banner of the Albany Lodge, No. 151, will be held at the Drill Hall, Newport, in aid of the Masonic Charities, on Thursday, the 16th prox.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF SAXE COBURG GOTHA concluded their visit to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales at Sandringham on Monday, and returned to Clarence House, St. James's.

BRO. ALDERMAN TRELOAR will preside at the Bohemians' next smoking concert at the Crystal Palace on the 31st instant. The Royal Artillery Band and the Westminster Singers have been secured.

BRO. SIR AUGUSTUS HARRIS has very kindly promised to take part in the organisation of the entertainments which are to be given in connection with the forthcoming East London Trades, Industries, and Arts Exhibition.

BRO. THE EARL OF LATHOM has very kindly consented to preside at the anniversary festival, which will be held at the Hotel Metropole on Saturday, the 30th May, in behalf of the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Institution.

BRO. LORD MAYOR SIR WALTER WILKIN and the Lady Mayoress, Bro. Sir J. Blundell Maple, M.P., and Lady Maple, and Bro. Sir Augustus Harris are giving their patronage to the carnival which is to be held in Eastbourne in the month of May.

BRO. LORD HERSCHELL (ex-Lord Chancellor) has agreed to open the Whitechapel Picture Show in the Toybee Hall, Commercial-street, on Tuesday, the 31st instant, after which the exhibition will be open free on weekdays and Sundays until Sunday, the 19th prox.

AN APPEAL, supported by the Bishop and Dean of Rochester, Bro. Lord Charles Beresford, Bro. Sir Charles Warren, and others, has been issued in behalf of the fund for the restoration of the old parish church of St. Mary, Chatham, the sum required being about £3000.

ON THURSDAY, April 23rd, the Fifteen Sections will be worked in the St. John's Lodge of Instruction, at the Court House, Harlesden, by Bro. William Hillier, P.M. 1366, Preceptor; assisted by Bros. James Lawrence, P.M. 1326, P.P.G.D.C. Middx.; G. E. Higginson, P.M. 1791; and Arthur Williams, P.M. 834 and 2099. The lodge will be opened at 6.30 precisely.

A THREE DAYS' CRICKET MATCH at Cape Town between Lord Hawke's team and an eleven of the Western Province had to be abandoned on Thursday, the 19th inst., in consequence of rain. The two days' play resulted as follows: Lord Hawke's team, first innings, 224; second innings, 168 for nine wickets. Western Province, first innings, 122.

A GRAND CONCERT, under the patronage of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of York, the Duchess of Albany, the Duchess of Fife, and the Duchess of Teck, will take place at the Queen's Hall on the 11th June in aid of the Ladies' Association Endowment Fund, Great Northern Central Hospital, with a view to providing for the permanent maintenance of the Victoria Mary Ward.

WE HAVE BEEN REQUESTED to announce that a preliminary meeting of the Board of Stewards for the 108th Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls (to be held in May next), will take place in the Board Room, Freemasons' Hall, on Tuesday, the 31st instant, at five o'clock precisely, to elect the officers of the Board, and to make such arrangements for the dinner, &c., as may be considered desirable.

EARL AND COUNTESS STANHOPE gave a dinner party at their house in Grosvenor-place on Saturday last, and at the reception which followed the dinner, there were present, among others, the Danish Minister and Madame de Bille, the Netherlands Minister and Baroness Goldstein, the Earl and Countess of Dundonald, Lady Lucy Hicks Beach, Bro. Sir James Fergusson, Bart., M.P.; B. O. G. J. Shaw-Lefevre; and Bro. the Right Hon. C. Stuart-Wortley.

PECULIAR INTEREST was attached to the recent meeting of the St. Dunstan's Lodge, No. 1589, held on Wednesday last, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Upon the conclusion of the usual business, a presentation was made on behalf of the members of the lodge by the Master, Bro. Henry L. Buck, to the late Master, Bro. Walter Henry Wellsman (son of Bro. Wellsman, C.C.), to mark his approaching marriage. The gift took the nature of a very handsome silver punch bowl, a suitable inscription being attached to the stand.

MESSRS. DIGBY, LONG, AND CO. have in the press, and will publish immediately, a book that is likely to create a considerable amount of controversy, and will, no doubt, be read with avidity by all who are interested in the South African problem. The work, which is entitled "Boer and Uitlander," is from the pen of Mr. William F. Regan, the well-known South African financier, of 41, Threadneedle-street, London, and is an attempt to present the various issues and episodes in the Transvaal from the Boer point of view. The book will contain portraits and map.

THE DUCHESS OF TECK opened an industrial exhibition of work done by Sunday School children, at the Town Hall, Bermondsey, on Tuesday, a most cordial reception being given to her Royal Highness by the large crowds which lined the streets on the line of route. Outside the hall a guard of honour of the 3rd Volunteer Battalion of the Royal West Surrey Regiment was on duty, and Col. Bevington, of the same regiment, escorted the Duchess to the platform, where an address was presented and acknowledged. Before leaving, her Royal Highness inspected the display, and expressed her satisfaction with the quality of the exhibits.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK, who visited Lancashire on Monday, and remained the guests of the Earl and Countess of Derby, at Knowsley, opened the new infirmary, at Lancaster, on Tuesday. As this was the first occasion since 1851 that the town has been visited by any member of the Royal Family, the reception their Royal Highnesses met with was of the most enthusiastic character. At the Town Hall an address of welcome was presented, and suitably acknowledged by the Duke, a similar address being presented by the Committee of Management at the infirmary. The Duke announced that the Queen had given her gracious permission that the new building should be known as the Royal Lancaster Infirmary. After the Duchess of York had received a number of purses, for the benefit of the institution, the party returned to the Town Hall, where luncheon was partaken of under the presidency of the Mayor.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the supporters of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution was held in St. Martin's Town Hall on Saturday last, under the presidency of the Duke of York. His Royal Highness, in moving the adoption of the annual report, drew attention to the principal services rendered by the institution during the past year. The lifeboats were launched 437 times, and saved 533 lives, while 35 vessels were saved by them, the number of lives saved by the shore-boats being 176. These figures raise the total number of persons rescued from death by means of the institution since it was established in 1824 to 39,354. His Royal Highness also referred, in terms of deep sympathy, to the disaster which befel the Kingston lifeboat on Christmas-eve, and the loss of the whole of its crew of 15 men. He mentioned that £16,800 was raised last year by the Lifeboat Saturday Fund, and announced that Saturday, the 16th May, had been chosen for the first Lifeboat Saturday in London. A vote of thanks to the Duke closed the proceedings.

THE GOOD DIE YOUNG.—Unlike most popular sayings, this has very little truth in it. Experience every day proves that some at least of the good are spared to make the world brighter and better, and a more pleasant place to live in. In fact, our experience is that good people, and good things generally, live the longest. For example, consider the thousands of articles which have been widely advertised and are now forgotten. Why? Because they were bad. On the other hand, we have Holloway's Pills and Ointment, which have proved the faithful friend of poor humanity for fifty years and more. Why? Because they are good. Of a truth, that which is good does not die, but lives for time.

THE EIGHTH annual banquet of the London Press Gang will be held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Saturday, the 11th proximo, under the presidency of Bro. H. Lawson, M.P.

THE MEMBERS of the Royal Choral Society propose to place a bust of the late Bro. Sir Joseph Barnby in the Royal Albert Hall. Mr. J. Hedley, who is acting as Treasurer of the Fund, may be communicated with at the Hall.

THE DUCHESS OF SUTHERLAND, accompanied by Sir Donald Currie, M.P., and Lady Currie, opened a bazaar in Myddelton Hall, Upper-street, Islington, on Tuesday, in aid of the Islington Presbyterian Church, Colebrooke-row.

THE FIFTEEN SECTIONS will be worked in the St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction, No. 144, on Good Friday, April 3rd, at the Victoria Tavern, Gertrude-street, Chelsea, under the presidency of Bro. W. Cleghorn, P.M. 1287. The lodge will be opened at 6.30 precisely.

THE QUEEN'S WESTMINSTER LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 2021, which consists of the amalgamated Lodges of the William Preston, No. 766; Great Northern, No. 1287; St. Marylebone, No. 1305; and the Queen's Westminster, No. 2021, being desirous of obtaining the services of Bro. Major E. J. Reed, of the Queen's Westminster Lodge, as Secretary, decided, at a meeting held at the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly-circus, on Friday, the 20th inst., to change the night of meeting from Friday to Monday, the first meeting to be held on Monday, the 13th prox., and at the same meeting Bro. Major E. J. Reed was unanimously elected Secretary.

AN EXTRAORDINARY CASE of committal for contempt of court is reported in a Chicago paper. Mr. W. H. Freeman appeared in the interest of a client in the Superior Court of Anderson, Indiana, before Judge Devin, who is a Freemason. Freeman, who also belongs to the Craft, wore a "Masonic pin"—whatever that may be—and as the case proceeded he gave the "Masonic sign of distress." This was quickly recognised by the Judge and by some Masons on the jury. The Judge forthwith sent Freeman to gaol for contempt of court. The advocate, who denies having made any signs at all, threatens to appeal to the Grand Lodge for vindication. Meanwhile, another judge, Seymour D. Thomson, has made a statement to the effect that he has been frequently approached while on the bench by persons giving Masonic signs.—*Morning*.

WE HAVE MUCH PLEASURE in announcing that the City of Westminster Lodge, No. 1563, held at the Masonic Temple, Café Royal, Regent-street, W., have formed a lodge of instruction and hold its meetings every Wednesday from 8 to 10 p.m. in B Room. The Preceptor is Bro. W. C. Smith, P.M. and Sec. of the mother lodge, and many of our readers will remember him as late Preceptor to the Emblematic, Covent Garden, Londesborough, Albion, and Ecclectic Lodges of Instruction, which offices he resigned in 1887, business requiring his residing at Leeds. On his return to the Metropolis he was appointed Secretary of his lodge, and the brethren have now obtained his services as Preceptor. The Treasurer of the lodge, Bro. Branden, P.M., has accepted the office of Treasurer, Bro. T. H. Beach, a Past Warden, the Secretaryship, and Bro. J. Swift that of Asst. Secretary.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY announce that on the night of April 2nd, a cheap excursion will leave London (Woolwich Arsenal, Woolwich Dockyard, Victoria (L.C. and D.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross, &c.), for Newcastle, Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Helensburgh, Stirling, Perth, Dunfermline, Oban, Montrose, Aberdeen, Inverness, and other stations in Scotland, returning on Monday, 6th, or Friday, 10th April. Good Friday night, April 3rd, for two or three days, from London (Woolwich Arsenal, Woolwich Dockyard, Victoria (L.C. and D.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, and King's Cross to Edinburgh and Glasgow, returning on 5th and 6th April. Tickets at a single fare for the double journey will also be issued by above excursion to places named, available for return by one fixed train on any day within 16 days, including days of issue and return. On Thursday, April 2nd, cheap excursions will also be run for six days to and from London (King's Cross) and Scarborough, Whitby, York, Bradford, Keighley, Halifax, Leeds, Wakefield, Doncaster, Huddersfield, Liverpool, Southport, Manchester, Sheffield, Leicester, Derby, Nottingham, Hull, Grimsby, Lincoln, Gainsboro', Lynn, Yarmouth, Norwich, Spalding, Wisbech, Cambridge, St. Ives, Ramsey, &c. On Good Friday, April 3rd, the 5.15 a.m. express from King's Cross will be run through to Lincoln, Nottingham, Sheffield, Manchester, Wakefield, Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, York, Newcastle, and Scotland. On Good Friday, April 3rd, cheap two or four days' excursions will be run from Manchester, Oldham, Sheffield, Hull, Keighley, Halifax, Bradford, Leeds, Wakefield, York, &c., to London. On Saturday, April 4th, cheap three days' excursion trains will be run from Manchester, Oldham, Huddersfield, Wigan, &c., to London. On Easter Monday, April 6th, cheap day excursions will be run from Victoria (L.C. and D.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, King's Cross, Finsbury Park, &c., to St. Albans, Wheathampstead, Harpenden, Luton, Dunstable, Hitchin, Royston, and Cambridge. A cheap day excursion will also be run from Moorgate, King's Cross, Holloway, Finsbury Park, &c., to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, and Mablethorpe. Cheap day excursions to London will be run from Derby, Nottingham, Lincoln, Peterboro', Huntingdon, Cambridge, Luton, Dunstable, &c. To prevent inconvenience from crowding at the company's principal terminal station, King's Cross, tickets, dated in advance, will be issued at King's Cross (G.N.R.), Victoria (L.C. and D.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, and Finsbury Park Stations, and at all the company's ticket offices.

ON APRIL 2ND, CHEAP EXCURSION TRAINS will be run from London to Leicester, Nottingham, Newark, Lincoln, Birmingham, Burton, Derby, Manchester, Blackburn, Bolton, Rochdale, Oldham, Liverpool, Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, Scarborough, Newcastle-on-Tyne, the Furness District, Carlisle, &c., &c., returning the following Tuesday; and from London (St. Pancras) to Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock, Perth, Stirling, Aberdeen, Inverness, &c., returning Monday, April 6th, or Friday, April 10th; also on Friday, April 3rd, for two or three days, to Edinburgh and Glasgow (for International Football Match, England v. Scotland, at Glasgow, April 4th) from St. Pancras at 9.15 p.m. Tickets will also be issued by the Scotch excursion at a single ordinary third class fare for the double journey, available for returning on any day within 16 days from date of issue. On Easter Monday, April 6th, cheap day excursion trains will be run to St. Albans, Harpenden, and Luton. Cheap week-end and day excursion tickets will also be issued to Southend-on-Sea during the Easter holidays, for particulars of which see special bills. Tickets for joining the trains at St. Pancras Station can be obtained on the two days previous to the running of the trains at the offices of the Company. Cheap excursion trains for six days will also be run on Thursday, April 2nd, to London from Carlisle, Bradford, Leeds, Sheffield, Liverpool, Manchester, Blackburn, Bolton, Lincoln, Newark, &c., and from Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Walsall, &c., for five or six days. On Good Friday, April 3rd, from Bradford, Leeds, Sheffield, Blackburn, Bolton, Oldham, Manchester, &c., for two or four days, and from Burton, Derby, Nottingham, Birmingham, Leicester, &c., for one, four, or five days. Passengers will be booked by these trains at cheap fares to Brighton, and other South Coast stations, and to the Continent; those for the Continent having the privilege of returning by any ordinary train within 16 days. Cheap three-days' trips will also be run to London on Friday night, April 3rd, from Colne, Blackburn, Bolton, Rochdale, Oldham, &c., and on Saturday, April 4th, from Manchester, &c. On Easter Monday, single day trips will be run from Burton, Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, Northampton, Bedford, Luton, St. Albans, &c., and a one or two days' trip from Birmingham and the South Stafford District. To prevent inconvenience and crowding, the Booking Offices at St. Pancras and Moorgate-street Stations will be open for the issue of tickets all day on Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, April 1st, 2nd, and 4th, and tickets to all principal stations on the Midland Railway will also be issued beforehand at any of their offices. The tickets obtained at these offices will be available from St. Pancras Station, and will be issued at the same fares as charged at that station, and dated to suit the convenience of passengers. On Good Friday, the trains on the Midland Railway will run as appointed for Sundays, with the following exceptions: The Newspaper Express leaving St. Pancras at 5.15 a.m. will run to Bedford, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Sheffield, and Manchester. The 8.55 a.m. local train, Sheffield to Leeds, &c., will await the arrival of the Newspaper Express at Sheffield. The Up Night Express leaving Edinburgh at 9.45 p.m., Glasgow at 9.45 p.m., and Carlisle at 12.38 a.m. for London, will run on Good Friday night, April 3rd, and Saturday morning, April 4th, the same as on ordinary week-days. The 3.32 a.m. Carlisle to Stranraer, and 8.50 p.m. Stranraer to Carlisle, in connection with steamers to and from Ireland, will run on Good Friday, the same as on ordinary week-days. The steamers between Barrow and Belfast will sail on Good Friday in both directions. That from Barrow will await the arrival of the 4.5 p.m. train from Leeds. On Easter Monday, April 3rd, certain booked trains will be discontinued, of which due notice will be given by special bills at the station.