

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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THE APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

It is desirable we should again call attention to the second of the great anniversary Festivals of the year—that of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. This, as our readers are aware, has been appointed to be held at Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday, the 13th May, and it was announced many months ago that the Right Hon. the Earl of YARBOROUGH, Provincial Grand Master of Lincolnshire, had very kindly promised to preside as Chairman. As regards the Board of Stewards which will support his lordship's advocacy, we believe we are correct in stating that the number of those whom Bro. HEDGES, the esteemed Secretary of the Institution, has succeeded in enlisting is, if anything, slightly in excess of the number at the corresponding period of last year. But though this is satisfactory so far as it goes, we fear we must add that the prospects are by no means as encouraging as we could wish them to be. Lincolnshire itself, as the "Chairman's Province," has sent up a fair contingent of brethren, and we may be very sure that it will spare no effort to return a goodly sum, not only from its known loyalty to its Provincial Grand Master and the great interest it has for a long time past manifested towards all our Charities, but also, we doubt not, just to show that, though it may be many years since it took a leading part at one of these great annual gatherings, it can, nevertheless, do excellent service even by comparison with other Provinces which have had greater experience in connection with these meetings and of the methods of organisation which are best calculated to ensure a big success. But though we fully realise, as we have said, that Lincolnshire will put forth its whole strength in behalf of the Girls' School in order to ensure it a good return under the auspices of its chief, we must not lose sight of the fact that it is mainly an agricultural county, and that almost year by year the fortunes of agriculture have been on the wane, nor are there any great local industries which would help to serve as a counterpoise to the depression which exists in whatever is connected with or dependent upon agriculture. Again, there never was a time when the competition among our Institutions for the support of the Craft was so great as it is now, and he would be a keen judge of passing events who should take upon himself to decide offhand that the brilliant success which attended the recent Benevolent Festival will not exercise a depressing effect upon the results of the approaching Festival in behalf of "Our Girls." Doubtless, in the long run, after comparing the results which have been achieved during a succession of years, it will be found that there is little, if any, difference to be found in the favour with which the claims of our three Charities have been received by the general body of the Craft. Thus in 1893, 1894, and 1895, this Institution obtained a very

generous measure of support from both town and country, while the Benevolent Institution—which held its Jubilee in 1892—was less successful than it had been on the average prior to the celebration of that important anniversary. It may, therefore, be the turn of the Girls' School to experience a falling off in its receipts from the Festival; but we trust this will not prove to be the case, and for this most excellent of reasons—by its successes at the Festivals of the past three years, it has been enabled to raise its average Returns for the seven years since its Centenary in 1888 more nearly to a level with that of the seven years which preceded that event. But if next month there should happen to be an appreciable diminution in the total of the donations and subscriptions, there will again be a reduction of the yearly average and this, of course, will need to be followed by an effort to restore it. What we strongly desire is that the flow of subscriptions into the treasury of each of our Charities should be as nearly equal to the year's requirements as possible. We do not admire this see-saw performance in which two or three successful years are followed by two or three which are comparatively unsuccessful. At all events, there appears to be a prospect of a falling off in the Returns at the approaching Festival unless in the meantime a strong effort is made to strengthen the Board of Stewards; and for this there is ample time between now and the 13th May, provided only that the lodges which are at present unrepresented on the Board bestir themselves and those who have already volunteered their services become still more urgent in their canvass. The average annual expenditure is between £13,000 and £14,000, and the average permanent income about £2000, so that the deficiency to be made good is about £11,500; and considering that the number of children in the Institution is close upon 270, we do not think the amount is overwhelmingly large, more especially as it is to the interest of the Craft as a whole that the School should be maintained in a condition of unimpaired efficiency. Moreover, the evidence of the splendid work which it is doing goes on accumulating from year to year. It was only in the beginning of last month that it was our privilege to report that the whole of the 30 girls who entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations in December, 1895, succeeded in satisfying the Examiners, namely, 11 for the Preliminary and 19 in the Junior Division of candidates, while of the latter, six were placed in the "honours" classes, and 11 distinctions in one or other of the prescribed subjects were awarded. For the College of Preceptors' Examination 77 passed out of 78, and as the nine who submitted to the examination by the Associated Board of the Royal College and Royal Academy of Music were likewise successful, it follows that 117 out of the 269 girls on the establishment—or allowing for those admitted during the year and those retained for further educational purposes—fully one-half of the School passed in the prescribed examinations, there being out of the whole number just *one* solitary failure. But this is not all. It is the *fourth* year consecutively that all who have entered for these Cambridge locals have succeeded in passing, while out of 143 entries during the last seven years the number who have failed is only *three*. Here then, as we have said already and in many previous articles, we have evidence annually becoming stronger and stronger that the Institution is fulfilling its duty admirably towards the children who are admitted to its benefits, while it is only necessary that a brother should visit the School in order to see and judge for himself of the excellent tone and high character of the pupils as the result of the training they receive. But we need not lay stress

upon this point, which has been so often urged before and on all occasions with a justice which cannot be questioned. What we now desire to impress upon our readers is (1) that these results cannot be obtained unless the funds necessary for the maintenance of the Institution are forthcoming; and (2) that it is eminently desirable that these funds should be gathered in regularly. It is far better that the subscriptions and donations should flow in as a consequence of regular and well-sustained efforts, at a fair annual average, than that there should be big and small Returns in alternate years. We appeal, therefore, to all lodges and individuals who can in any way help forward the good cause to give their services in behalf of the approaching Festival. We learn, with regret, that the outlook is not as promising as we could have wished, and under these circumstances, any response that may be made to our appeal will be most heartily welcomed.

FREEMASONRY IN NORFOLK*

The third, fourth, and fifth Chapters of this History are occupied with records of the proceedings of the P.G. Lodge, and here, as in the case of many of the earlier lodges in the Province, the author has great cause to be thankful for the preservation of sundry lodge minutes and stray memoranda, and the occasional references to Freemasonry which he has been able to find in the local press. In the opening paragraphs of the first of these chapters we read that "no separate minute books of the Provincial Grand Lodge appear to have been kept, or, at all events, none have been preserved, anterior to the appointment of Mr. COKE as P.G.M. in 1818; but, fortunately, the minute books of some of the early private lodges contain entries, which, to a great extent, supply the deficiency, and enable us to trace the first inception and early history of the Provincial Grand Lodge during the latter half of the eighteenth century. The letter books and returns preserved in Grand Lodge Library also supply a considerable amount of information." Our impression is that Provincial Grand Lodge proceedings are more often to be found recorded in the minutes of the private lodges in connection with which they were held than in separate minutes compiled by the Provincial authorities, so that in this respect the Provincial Grand Lodge of Norfolk is not less favourably circumstanced than other Provincial bodies. Still, considering how far back the P.G. Lodge goes, Bro. LE STRANGE is fortunate in having had such early minutes to consult. By these means and the stray sources of information we have before indicated, as well as by the letters and returns in Grand Lodge, he has been able to compile what almost amounts to a continuous history of Norfolk as a Masonic Province under the Grand Lodge of England ("Moderns") for 136 years, and we greatly doubt if there are many other writers of Provincial Histories who can justly claim to have been as fortunate in this respect as he has been. Certainly, none of them have succeeded in compiling a more trustworthy, more interesting, and more readable narrative.

It seems that the initiative in obtaining a Provincial organisation was taken by the lodges meeting in the city of Norwich, of which there were at the time as many as 12 in a more or less prosperous condition. A meeting was held at the rooms of the then premier lodge of Norfolk, which dated from the year 1724, on the 10th August, 1758, which was attended by the Masters and Wardens of the Norwich lodges, and at which the following resolution was passed: "That a Provincial Grand Master for this City, the County of Norfolk, and Beccles in Suffolk, would greatly conduce to the benefit of Masonry in general, and to the satisfaction of each lodge in particular, and that our worthy Brother, EDWARD BACON, Esq., is a proper person for that important office." The recommendation had the desired effect, and on the 13th January, 1759, a patent was made out appointing Bro. EDWARD BACON, of Earlham, a man of senatorial rank, who sat in the House of Commons uninterruptedly, but not always for the same constituency, from 1742 to 1784, and what is of still greater importance, a very active member of our Order, to be Prov. Grand

Master as aforesaid. Bro. BACON lost very little time in entering upon his duties. On the 2nd August following he attended a meeting of the senior lodge in the Province, and having produced his deputation as P.G.M. and at his own request been enrolled a member of the lodge, he summoned the Masters of the lodges in the city to attend him as P.G.M. on the 6th September. The meeting was accordingly held, and it was agreed to hold a quarterly communication in connection with each of the Norwich lodges in rotation. In December of the same year we read of Bro. FRANCIS FRANK attending and taking the chair as Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and a few years later we hear of a Prov. Grand Secretary and Provincial Wardens. At the annual communication in 1784, a letter from Bro. BACON resigning his office was read, and it was agreed to recommend Sir E. ASTLEY, Bart., and the Hon. HENRY HOBART to the lodges to make choice of one of them as successor. Ultimately the former was chosen and appointed in accordance with the recommendation. Sir E. ASTLEY held the office till towards the close of 1798, when the Hon. H. HOBART, his former rival for the post, succeeded him. He died, however, the following year, when the lodges petitioned for the appointment of Bro. W. EARLE BULWER, of Heydon Hall, for whom a patent was made out in 1801, though it was not till the 14th January, 1802, that the new Prov. Grand Master was installed in office by Sir ROGER KERRISON. General BULWER died in 1807, but though at a meeting of the Gate-House Lodge in May, 1808, which was attended by the Masters and Wardens of other Norwich lodges, it was unanimously agreed to recommend ROBERT SUCKLING, Esq., of Woodton Hall—Was this any relation of the Captain SUCKLING, NELSON'S uncle, to whom our great naval hero owed his early advancement in the navy?—as Prov. Grand Master, no appointment was made till 1810 and then the brother appointed—the Rev. S. S. COLMAN—was a London, not a Norfolk Mason. In 1813 Bro. WILLIAM PALGRAVE was appointed, and in 1816 Sir JACOB H. ASTLEY, Bart., son of Sir E. ASTLEY, P.G.M. 1785-1798, who however died in 1817 while the preparations were being made for his installation. At length in 1818 Bro. THOMAS W. COKE, subsequently Earl of LEICESTER, consented to accept the office and was installed by the Duke of SUSSEX, M.W.G.M., on the 23rd August, 1819, and thenceforward Provincial Grand Lodge appears to have been a settled institution, for particulars relating to which, as well as for the details connected with the Provincial Grand Lodge from 1759, we must refer our readers to Bro. LE STRANGE'S history, merely adding that in Chapter V. will be found lists of all the brethren whom he has been able to trace as having from time to time being appointed to Provincial office.

Chapter VI. is devoted to Royal Arch Masonry, the earliest mention of which, as quoted from Bro. W. J. HUGHAN'S "Origin of the English Rite," belongs to the year 1763, but it is not till 25 years later—in 1788—that a chapter was established in Norfolk. This was the Royal George, No. 61, meeting in Norwich, and now attached to, and bearing the number of, the Union Lodge; No. 52, meeting in that city. The warrant for this body was granted by the "Moderns," but it works under a charter of confirmation granted by Supreme Grand Chapter on 7th November, 1821. One other chapter survives from pre-Union days, the Perseverance, No. 213, which was established in connection with the "Ancient" Lodge bearing that name in 1797, or two years after the lodge itself was founded. Other chapters existed in the same early days, but none of them survived up to the Union of the two Grand Chapters in 1817. Evidence, however, is given that the Hon. HENRY HOBART was appointed Grand Superintendent in 1792, mention of him being made in that capacity in the minutes of Unanimity Lodge, then meeting at Coltishall, as having been present with the Principals of the Royal George Chapter and other Royal Arch Masons at the opening and consecration of a new lodge room on the 17th October, 1793. In 1802, Comp. JOSEPH TAYLOR received the appointment of Grand Superintendent, and then, after a long interval, we come to Comp. THOS. W. COKE, who was installed as Grand Superintendent at a special Grand Chapter held at Holkham Hall, in the presence of the Duke of SUSSEX, Grand Z., two days after he had been installed Prov. Grand Master. He, however, never performed any duties, nor did Comp. BOND-CABELLI, who was appointed in 1854, though under the latter a

* 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.

great revival of Royal Arch Masonry took place in 1861. Comps. Colonel DUFF and Lieut.-Col. H. P. L'ESTRANGE were appointed successively in 1878 and 1879, but neither of them survived his appointment more than a few months, and in 1880 the present occupant of the post, Comp. Lord SUFFIELD, was appointed and installed by Comp. the Rev. C. J. MARTYN, Grand Superintendent of Suffolk. Of the 12 chapters which at divers times have been constituted, and of which such particulars as the author has been able to discover are recorded in this chapter, there are seven still on the roll of Provincial Grand Chapter.

Chapter VII. is occupied with particulars of the Order of the Temple, &c., but such remarks as we may conceive it necessary to offer on this and on the work as a whole must be reserved for another issue of this journal.

CENTENARY OF COLUMBIAN LODGE.

The Centenary Celebrations of the "Columbian Lodge," Boston, U.S.A., were of a most enjoyable and interesting character, and happily the noteworthy utterances, the scholarly Oration, and the able History delivered on the two great commemorative occasions in June last have been printed and published in the Centenary Volume of the lodge.

The "Columbian" is the fourth oldest lodge in the Boston District (No. 1), having as its respected seniors "Saint John's," of 1733; "Saint Andrew's," of 1756; and "Massachusetts," of 1770. The dispensation was granted by the Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on the 8th of June, 1795, this event being celebrated "precisely one hundred years after," but the original document has long been lost. The regular warrant was issued on June 9th, 1796, an excellent photo of which has been kindly sent me by my esteemed friend, Bro. W. T. R. Marvin. It is signed by *Paul Revere*, the Grand Master, also by the D.G.M., the two Grand Wardens, and the Grand Secretary. The patriotic Grand Master was the second to occupy that position from the union of the rival Organisations in 1792, his D.G.M. succeeding to the chair, 1799-1801.

I have known many lodges to celebrate their centenaries, and several their 150th anniversaries, but am not acquainted with any that have done so in a more dignified, appropriate, and truly Masonic manner than the "Columbian." The commemorative volume of some 250 pages and numerous illustrations—restricted to 550 signed copies—is published by order of the lodge, and has been beautifully printed by the well-known firm of Messrs. T. R. Marvin and Son, the Publication Committee being Bros. Dr. J. Foster Bush, W.M.; Right Wor. W. T. R. Marvin, P.G.W., the Secretary; and Rt. Wor. E. Bentley Young, D.D.G.M., the Treasurer. About the same number of the special centennial medals were struck, the order for the dies being entrusted to Mr. Henry Mitchell, of Boston, who has certainly done his part admirably. A few impressions in silver are "to be attached to the collars worn by the officers as part of their regalia," and a sufficient number in bronze have likewise been provided, so that every member may have one, and others are placed as "examples in the cabinets of a few public Institutions, &c., to be preserved in commemoration of the event." *The dies have been destroyed.* I am proud to possess one, a few others being also sent to this side of the "big pond," and are much appreciated.

The grand Volume and its attractive features may be thus summarised—Portrait of *Paul Revere*, G.M. 1795 (crayon, by a French officer, about 1801). Four engraved plates relating to the Centennial, 1795-1895 (by the Columbian Eng. Co., Boston). Title, &c. Seal of the Lodge (in blue), and Certificate of number of the Volume, signed by the W.M. Chapter I.: "Introductory" (16 pages), with page illustrations of the Centennial Committee and the Centennial Medal. Chapter II.: "Services at the Centennial of the Granting of the Dispensation" (June 8th). These were observed in the Church of the "Second Society of Universalists," on Columbus Avenue, and occupy 22 pages in description. The portrait of the W.M., Dr. J. Foster Bush, is aptly introduced in this portion, and will be highly valued by the members. The Chairman of the Committee, Bro. Albert A. Folsom, introduced the W.M., who called upon the Chaplain to invoke the Divine blessing, and the address of welcome was then given by the W.M., which was wholly worthy of the occasion.

The charter was read by Bro. Frederick Alford, and then the esteemed Secretary, Bro. W. T. R. Marvin (P.S.G.W. of Mass.), was introduced by Dr. Bush, and delivered the historical address. This is the feature of the commemoration, and, being lengthy, only a portion was read, but the whole is printed in this noble work, an excellent likeness of the historian being placed immediately before the history, which occupies over 90 pages, and is of great interest and importance covering as it does the full 100 years in its survey, and including all the chief events in the career of the lodge. These have been sketched by a master hand, in a most graceful manner, and with conspicuous care, judgment, and accuracy, the history being pre-eminently the best work of the kind achieved by this accomplished Craftsman. The numerous engravings of halls and other places of meeting of the lodge add much to the value of the historical address, the concluding print being devoted to the historic "Green Dragon Tavern."

The centennial poem by Bro. Charles W. Stevens is the next attraction, with portrait of the author, followed by the centennial oration by Bro. E. Bentley Young, whose portrait most happily greets the reader at page 141, where the oration begins and is continued to page 162. It is a most creditable reproduction, and is on the same high level as all the other special features of the commemoration.

The banquet, on June 22nd, was held in the Odd Fellows' Hall, the proceedings being of a most enjoyable and soul-stirring character, and the 70 pages are none too many in which to briefly describe this grand festival, as the speeches were much above the ordinary, and the evening was an unqualified success from first to last.

Some of us who could not attend sent letters, and a few are printed in the volume, Bro. Fred J. W. Crowe, the enthusiastic Masonic Collector, of Torquay, also sending an ODE, which is duly printed after his communication.

The loving-cups were especially manufactured by Josiah Wedgwood and Sons, of Etruria, England. Only 25, alas! but these were "greatly admired for their chaste and attractive design" by many more than the fortunate recipients, and were the gifts of the Chairman of the Centennial Committee, whose portrait and also others are additional and interesting features of the artistic book. The musical programme of each celebration appears to have proved most suitable, and, indeed, there was not one drawback to chronicle throughout.

W. J. HUGHAN.

CONSECRATION OF THE FELLOWSHIP CHAPTER, No. 2535.

From the phenomenal success which has attended the Fellowship Lodge since its inception, it was but natural that a desire should speedily arise to have a Royal Arch chapter in connection therewith. A petition having been signed and presented, and a charter granted, it followed, as a natural sequence, that all the arrangements for the consecration of the chapter would be carried out by Comp. Jas. Stephens with that completeness and success which marks all his Masonic work. To Comp. Stephens belongs the credit of the formation of the Fellowship Lodge, and the new chapter gives every promise of proving a worthy adjunct to that influential body.

The consecration ceremony took place at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., on Monday, the 30th ult., when Comp. Edward Letchworth, F.S.A., G.S.E., was assisted in an excellent rendering of the impressive ritual by Comps. W. M. Stiles, G. Treas., as H.; Thos. Fenn, Past Pres. Committee of General Purposes, as J.; C. E. Keyser, P.G.S.B., as S.N.; and Frank Richardson, G.D.C., as D.C.

The founders of the chapter are Comps. W. H. Bailey, Walter Adams, P.Z. 73; W. A. Scurrah, P.Z. 749, P.P.G.S. Middlesex; E. Rogers, P.Z. 1642; J. J. Thomas, P.Z. 753, &c.; James Stephens, P.Z. 753, &c.; W. H. G. Ruddleford, J. R. Roberts, P.Z. 1196; F. Farrow, M.E.Z. 1196; J. S. Mountford, W. J. Batho, T. B. Harpham, J. Lusty, E. L. P. Valeriani, P.Z. 73; and J. W. Morrell.

The visitors present included—
Comps. Geo. Everett, P.G. Treas.; W. Lake, A.G.S.E.; H. Sadler, G. Janitor; J. Irvine, 862; L. Lazarus, P.Z. 188; H. J. Thomas; E. M. Lander, P.Z. 1642; J. Weston, 753; A. Williams, 834; W. H. Making, 1676; J. W. Burgess, M.E.Z. 591, P.G. Reg. Bucks; J. J. Mackay, 1642; W. Lewis, P.Z. 1385; W. J. Mason, P.Z. 1328; W. F. Fendick, 177, P.Z. 1321; Carl T. Fleck, P.Z. 172; C. Woodrow, P.Z. 22; C. Coleman, M.E.Z. 753; G. Cook, M.E.Z. 28; R. J. Laundry, M.E.Z. 890; G. Nelson Watts, P.Z. 1196; F. L. Chandler, M.E.Z. 1642; H. Peck, 1446; G. Davis, 185; Geo. R. Langley, Prov. G. Treas. Middx.; A. Blenkarn, P.P.G. Treas. Middx.; H. J. Graham, 10; J. Morriss, H. W. Schartau, I. Goodman, J. Bartlett, W. Bradford, W. E. Collison, W. Chapple, W. J. Boyle, Geo. Mickleby, P.Z. 63; J. Baill, 975; F. J. Bonham, M.E.Z. 25; E. W. T. Hoare, W. P. Clark, 751; W. Thomas, P.Z. 177; N. J. Turner, S.N. 1196; F. Kedge, P.Z. Ebury; W. E. Blasby, P.Z. 875; A. Reeve, 624; W. Martin, P.Z. 548; J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I. for Boys, P.P.G.S.B. Notts; L. Mantell, 173; H. H. Scurrah, P.P.G.S.B. Middx.; W. J. Stratton, P.Z. 753; H. Longman, P.Z. 2271; and W. W. Lee, M.E.Z. 1524.

The chapter was opened, and, a hymn having been sung, the CONSECRATING PRINCIPAL addressed the companions on the nature of the meeting, and said it would be unnecessary for him to detain them long on the present occasion. They had met for the purpose of constituting

and consecrating a new Royal Arch chapter, to be attached to a lodge he had the honour of consecrating about 12 months ago. He could only express a hope that the chapter they were about to start into existence might prove itself in every way worthy of the lodge to which it would be attached.

The ceremony was then proceeded with, and an excellent oration on the principles of the Order was delivered by Comp. THOMAS FENN, acting J., after which the chapter was duly dedicated and constituted.

The installations were then proceeded with, and the following companions were duly installed into their respective chairs: Comps. Wm. H. Bailey, M.E.Z.; W. A. Scurrah, P.Z., P.P.G.S. Middx., H.; and E. Rogers, P.Z., J. The officers elected and invested were Comps. Walter Adams, P.Z. 73, acting I.P.Z.; J. J. Thomas, P.Z. 753, &c., S.E.; W. H. G. Rudderforth, S.N.; James Stephens, P.Z. 753, &c., Treas.; J. R. Roberts, P.Z. 1106, P.S.; F. Farrow, M.E.Z. 1196, 1st A.S.; J. S. Mountford, 2nd A.S.; W. J. Batho, D.C.; T. B. Harpham, Stwd.; and T. C. Edmonds, P.Z., Janitor.

The M.E.Z. proposed that a hearty and cordial vote of thanks should be accorded the Consecrating Officers for the magnificent and delightful manner in which the very impressive service had been rendered, that they should be asked to accept a founder's jewel, and allow themselves to be ranked as honorary members.

Comp. W. A. SCURRAH, H., seconded the proposition, which was carried *nem con.*, and the GRAND SCRIBE E. returned thanks on behalf of himself and colleagues.

The Three Principals, S.E., and Treasurer were elected a Committee to frame the by-laws, and eight candidates were proposed for exaltation and joining.

Letters of regret for non-attendance were announced from Comps. Sir Albert Woods (Garter), Sir F. Seager Hunt, and others, and the chapter was closed.

A *recherché* repast was followed by the customary toasts, which were heartily honoured.

In proposing "The Grand Officers," the M.E.Z. said they were proud of the goodly number present on that occasion. The companions felt that every officer of Grand Chapter did his duty in promoting the extension and expansion of their glorious Institution.

Comp. T. FENN, P.P.C.G.P., said that before responding he felt he must offer some personal explanation in the way of an apology. He was not, as they were aware, a Grand Chaplain, and had acted somewhat in a false character. About 35 years ago, he was performing that office very frequently for Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, who at that time was the great Consecrating Officer. The Grand Secretary did not at that time consecrate lodges, and did not do anything but attend to his duties in the office. On one occasion, he (Comp. Fenn) performed the duties of Grand Chaplain when the consecration ceremony was performed at the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, so that he was not new to the office. He once consecrated a distinguished lodge which was now holding a very high position, when Bro. Binckes acted as Chaplain, and very well he did it. To return to the immediate object of the toast, he thanked them sincerely for the compliment paid the officers of Grand Chapter. Those Grand Officers made a very good appearance in Grand Chapter, and formed the majority of those who attended.

The M.E.Z. proposed "The Consecrating Officers," and said the companions would receive the toast with peculiar satisfaction and pleasure. It had not been his good fortune to have seen many consecrations of Royal Arch chapters, but he thought the ceremony he had seen that day had made an impression which he should never forget. They were deeply grateful to the Consecrating Officers who were good enough to attend and give them the benefit of their invaluable services. No ceremony could have been more delightfully rendered, and the companions thanked those officers from the bottom of their hearts for their assistance. He therefore asked them to join him in giving a hearty welcome to the Consecrating Officers, and especially the Grand Scribe E. for the magnificent and delightful manner in which he placed the whole of the ceremony before them. Two Grand Officers had left—Comps. Richardson and Keyser—but they were grateful for their assistance. From the commencement the chapter had made they hoped to make a goodly record, and if they failed it would not be their fault for the want of trying, for they would endeavour to carry out the wishes of the Grand Scribe E.

Comp. E. LETCHWORTH, G.S.E., said that once more he found himself designated as the mouthpiece of the Consecrating Officers, and privileged in their behalf as well as his own to tender their warmest thanks for the more than kind reception given the toast proposed in such cordial terms by the M.E.Z. He could assure them it had afforded the Consecrating Officers, one and all, the greatest possible pleasure to be present and assist in starting into existence, under such favourable auspices, that new chapter. He extremely regretted that some of the Consecrating Officers had left, but he felt sure that both Comps. Richardson and Keyser were present in spirit. He had to acknowledge the great services rendered to him personally by those who had done him the honour to assist him. He referred particularly to the services rendered by Comp. Stiles as H., and also to those services so admirably rendered by Comp. Fenn as J. He hardly presumed to say how fully he endorsed every word with regard to the manner in which the priestly functions had been performed by Comp. Fenn, and the oration delivered by him could not fail to have made a great impression upon all present, whether they regarded his eloquent diction or the information with regard to Royal Arch Masonry which that oration afforded them. On the part of the Consecrating Officers, he thanked them for the reception given them. It was his agreeable duty to propose the next toast, and ask them to join in drinking "The Health of the First Principal of the Chapter," whom he had had the great privilege of installing into his chair. It seemed but a few months since he had the pleasure of installing Comp. Bailey into the chair of the Fellowship Lodge, and he hoped on the 29th of next month to have the pleasure of greeting him as a brother Grand Officer. They all knew what place Comp. Bailey occupied in the hearts of all present, and they most heartily congratulated the companions on the fact that during the most important and critical year of the existence of the chapter it would be presided over by a companion who enjoyed their deepest respect and warmest affection. He gave them "The Health of the M.E.Z., H., and J." of the chapter.

Comp. W. H. BAILEY, M.E.Z., said he did not know how to thank the G.S.E. for the very kind words used in proposing the toast of his health as First Principal of that chapter. He felt so conscious of his own shortcomings that in looking to the future he felt nervous for the first time in his

life. He would much sooner seek a bubble reputation at the cannon's mouth than endeavour to control that chapter, but he would do his level best and should rely upon the support of all the companions in making it a credit and an ornament to Royal Arch Masonry. He thanked the Grand Scribe E. for his kind remarks and would endeavour to deserve them, and nothing should be lacking to do what he could to carry out the duties of his office with credit to himself and satisfaction to the members. His experience was small and he knew so little that they would pardon him, nervous as he was, from saying more than that he would endeavour to deserve the good things said of him and the kindly feelings of all the members of the Fellowship Chapter.

"The Visitors" was next given by the M.E.Z., and Comp. IRVINE replied, as representing the St. Pancras Chapter, in which the M.E.Z. was exalted. He apologised for Comp. Graham, M.P., the M.E.Z. of St. Pancras Chapter, who had been obliged to leave for the House of Commons. He said it would be impossible for any companion to leave without feeling a better man than he was before. With reference to the request of the M.E.Z., that any shortcomings might be overlooked, he thought Comp. Bailey must have been well coached to have performed so creditably.

Comps. W. MARTIN and A. REEVE also replied. Comp. WM. STILES, G. Treas., briefly proposed "Success to the Masonic Institutions," and Comp. J. M. MCLEOD, Sec. R.M.I. for Boys, returned thanks.

Comp. JAMES STEPHENS, Treas., replying for "The Officers," said that a few weeks ago he never expected to see such a splendid gathering. They were delighted to see the Grand Scribe E., for he had endeared himself to all, and with respect to Comp. Fenn, who was for many years President of the Board of General Purposes, they hoped he would be spared for many years to continue in the work, a fair sample of which they had had that night. He (Comp. Stephens) conceived the idea of the Fellowship Lodge, and at that time there was a warfare between the M.E.Z. and himself as to who should be the first W.M., as both declined to take the position. Knowing the sterling qualities of Comp. Bailey, he felt that success was assured. That lodge had been established for 15 months, and in five weeks hence they would be most pleased to see the Grand Officers present. It was no uncommon thing for a first Worshipful Master to leave the lodge heavily in debt, but their lodge had given £100 to the Charities—the lists amounting to £700, which was very satisfactory, and something to be proud of. He remembered at the consecration of the Hugh Owen Lodge the W.M. said they would like to establish a scholarship for the Girls' School, and if they could only have the same prosperity in the chapter as they had enjoyed in the Fellowship Lodge, they might find the 1000 guineas to do it. There would be a balance in the lodge funds of £500 when the W.M. left the chair, after recognising the honour reflected on the lodge by the election of Bro. Bailey as Grand Treasurer, and presenting him, as they hoped to do, with the insignia of his office. Whatever he (Comp. Stephens) could do in the future he would be pleased to do, and was glad Comp. J. J. Thomas had accepted the office of Scribe E.

The Janitor's toast closed the proceedings. The Schartau Part Singers—Comps. Schartau, Bradford, Bartlett, and Appleby—carried out the musical arrangements, and both in the ceremonial and in the after-dinner proceedings, gave every satisfaction and enjoyment to all present.

CONSECRATION OF THE WHITE ROSE OF YORK CHAPTER, No. 2491.

A ceremony of an interesting character attracted a large number of members of the fraternity to the Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street Sheffield, on the 25th ult. Two Royal Arch Chapters have flourished in Sheffield for a great number of years, and the membership has reached proportions which were held to justify the establishment of a third. The necessary charter from Grand Lodge was obtained, and the consecration of the White Rose of York Chapter, No. 2491, in connection with the White Rose of York Lodge, consecrated a couple of years ago, naturally excited a special interest in local Masonic circles. It is nearly 100 years since any such event occurred, the Paradise Chapter having received its charter in 1796, and the Loyalty three years previously.

In the absence of the Grand Superintendent of West Yorks, Comp. the Right Hon. Wm. Lawies Jackson, M.P., the ceremony of consecration was delegated to Comp. Ensor Drury, P.Z. 139 and 296, Past Prov. Grand H., whose labours on behalf of Royal Arch Masonry are well-known and highly appreciated, not only in Sheffield, but in a wider area outside.

Provincial Grand Chapter was opened at four o'clock, among those present being—

Comps. Henry Smith, P.G.P. Soj. of England, P. Prov. G.H.; W. H. Brittain, P.G.S.B. of England, P. Prov. G.H.; Harold Thomas, Prov. G. Reg.; Herbert G. E. Green, Prov. G. Scribe E.; J. H. Gration, P. Prov. G. Treas.; J. P. Hewitt, P. Prov. G. Soj.; H. W. Pawson, P. Prov. G. Scribe N.; H. Arnison, P. Prov. G. Scribe N.; H. J. Garnett, P. Prov. G.H.; J. Hunt, P. Prov. Asst. G. Soj.; E. Billington, P. Prov. G.D.C.; W. Watson, P. Prov. Asst. G. Soj.; and Simeon Hayes, P. Prov. G. Scribe N.

The CONSECRATING PRINCIPAL, who was supported by Comps. Henry Smith, as H., and John Shaw, as J., briefly addressed the companions on the character of the ceremony to be performed, after which the PROV. G. REGISTRAR read the petition addressed to Grand Chapter, and the charter granted in response thereto.

The Dedication Prayer and the Invocation having been rehearsed, the Consecrating Principal perambulated the chapter strewing corn, emblematical of plenty; pouring wine, emblematical of gladness; pouring oil, emblematical of peace; and strewing salt, emblematical of friendship.

The chapter having been formally constituted, the CONSECRATING PRINCIPAL again briefly addressed the companions, and proceeded to invest the three Principals designate: Comps. John Hunt, P.Z. 139, as M.E.Z.; J. Shaw, P.Z. 139, as H.; and T. H. Vernon, M.E.Z. 139, as J.

The other officers invested were Comps. W. Gadsby, Scribe E.; W. Gunstone, Scribe N.; C. F. Brindley, P.S.; Dr. John Stokes, 1st A.S.; and Geo. Wish, 2nd A.S.

Provincial Grand Chapter having withdrawn, a number of propositions for joining and exaltation were received, and after "Hearty good wishes" had been tendered by the visiting companions, the chapter was closed.

The companions thereupon adjourned to a banquet, served by Comp. Turner, Steward of the hall, the M.E.Z. presiding.

After the cloth was drawn, the M.E.Z. proposed the toast of "The Queen."

The toast of "The M.E. 1st Grand P., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales; the M.E. Grand H., the M.E. Grand J., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," was also given from the chair.

Comps. W. H. BRITAIN and HENRY SMITH responded in felicitous terms.

The toast of "The G.S. of West Yorkshire, and the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past," was heartily received.

Comp. H. J. GARNETT proposed "The Health of the Three Newly-Installed Principals," prophesying, from the success which had attended the White Rose of York Lodge, a brilliant future for the chapter associated with it.

Comp. JOHN HUNT responded in a happy speech, the H. and J. also acknowledging the toast.

The services rendered in the consecration of the chapter were dwelt upon by Comp. H. ARNISON in proposing "The Health of the Consecrating Principal, Comp. Ensor Drury," the toast being suitably acknowledged.

Other toasts followed, the speeches being pleasantly interspersed with a musical entertainment, to which Comps. W. Gadsby, W. H. Peasegood, Albert Howe, and others, contributed.

ORDER OF THE SECRET MONITOR.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your Executive Committee met on Monday, November 11th, and beg to report as follows:

That the following conclaves are two years in arrear with their returns, and recommend that they be called upon to make such returns forthwith:

- Felix Gottlieb, No. 3.
- Queen's Westminster, No. 12.
- Adullam, Singapore, No. 17.

That R.W. Bro. Finnemore, of Natal, who is relinquishing most of his active work in Masonry, has asked to be relieved of the office of District Grand Supreme Ruler of South Africa, and recommend—"That the resignation of Bro. Finnemore be accepted with regret, that he be heartily thanked for the signal services he has rendered to the Order in that colony, and that in accordance with his recommendation, the Deputy Ruler of the District, Bro. Thomas Cook, if willing, be recommended to the Grand Supreme Ruler for appointment in his room; also, that the new District Grand Supreme Ruler, when appointed, be requested to submit the name of a brother whom he desires to recommend for appointment to the office of Deputy Ruler of the District.

They recommend that the meetings of Grand Council for 1896 be held on Wednesday, June 17th, and on a Friday in December to be arranged.

With regard to the action recently taken by the Grand Council of the Allied Degrees, your Committee beg to report:

That no further remonstrance, of any kind, has been received from the brethren administering the American Degree in Virginia, U.S.A.

That repeated official and other applications have entirely failed to elicit, either

- (a) a copy of the letter referred to in Lord Euston's rescript, or,
- (b) of such portions thereof as touch upon the affairs of this Order, or even
- (c) a sight of the contents of the letter itself, or of so much as affects this Order.

Your Committee therefore recommend:

That a notice be issued to all conclaves in Great Britain and the Colonies, pointing out

That the American Secret Monitor Degree, wherever taken, cannot be recognised as entitling its possessor to admission to our conclaves, or as being in any way connected with the Order under the jurisdiction of this Grand Council.

That the Order, as sanctioned by Grand Council, differs essentially from the Degree practised in America, where no one is eligible as an inductee unless he is already a Royal Ark Mariner (a qualification not necessary with us) and where obligations are imposed, which Grand Council does not recognise as forming any portion of the ancient rites of the Order.

That every Supreme Ruler is therefore hereby charged to decline to admit to his conclave brethren who cannot produce evidence of their having been duly inducted into the Order in a conclave under the allegiance of this Grand Council.

That brethren of the Order are hereby forbidden to assist in any function connected with the S.M. Degree now attempted to be introduced into England and the Colonies under the authority of the American organisation of the State of Virginia, U.S.A., delegated to the Grand Council of the Allied Degrees. Assistance at such a function is a distinct infraction of the obligation taken at induction.

That brethren of the Order be further informed, that our rituals are protected by the law as the property of Grand Council, and that the American body from whom the Grand Council of the Allied Degrees claim their authority to invade the undoubted territory of this Grand Council, is an organisation within the State of Virginia of very recent formation so far as the S.M. is concerned. It writes to us under date, October 4th, 1892, "we do not pretend to govern any 'Order' of Secret Monitors on this continent; and it has, during the present year, expressed its willingness to 'communicate the matter of' our Second and Third Degrees if permitted by this Grand Council. Grand Council regards the introduction of this American

Degree into England by the Council of the Allied Degrees, as an unwarrantable intrusion.

Dated this 6th day of December, 1895.

By Order.

W. J. SPRATLING, B.Sc., G. Recorder.

At a meeting of Grand Council held at Mark Masons' Hall, W.C., on Friday, the 6th December, 1895, this report was, on motion duly made, adopted unanimously and ordered to be circulated among the conclaves.

FREDERICK A. PHILBRICK, D.R.O.
W. J. SPRATLING, G. Recorder.

YE OLDE MASONIANS.

Our "Old Boys" spent an exceptionally pleasant evening on Friday the 27th ult., at Anderton's Hotel, when an excellent Bohemian concert was arranged and carried through by Mr. C. H. Uwins, who presided over the gathering. A number of members put in an appearance, many of whom were accompanied by lady friends.

The programme consisted of the following items: "Caller Herring," and "Dan'l Darlin'" (H. Trottere), Miss Marian Beckett; "Angus Macdonald" and "The Moorish maid," Miss Phyllis Hope; "The bells of St. Ethelred" (Barnby) and "Blow, blow thou winter wind" (Sergeant), Bro. C. Patrick O'Doherty; "Tell her I love her so" (De Taye), and "The message" (Blumenthal), Mr. Geo. Coles. The humorous songs were "The giddy little polka" (Arthur) and "Some danced the Lancers," Mr. Harry Hawkes; "Susie" and "Sweet little lady" (Wieland), Mr. Gilbert Wilkinson; and "That's his girl," Mr. C. R. Cloran. Two recitations—"Silver bells of Lea" (Le Meut) and "Three parsons" (Overton)—Mr. Harry Stone; and two pianoforte solos—"Sarterello" (Hiller) and "Souvenir de Londres" (Kaiser)—Mr. E. J. Fisher. Mr. Harry Hawkes acted as Musical Director.

During the evening, Mr. UWINS called the attention of the members to the presence of their past President, Bro. James Terry, and, in the name of the Association, gave him a hearty welcome, and also pointed out that Bro. Terry was one of those who gave great help to the Association on its formation.

Bro. J. TERRY replied in a humorous speech, creating a good deal of laughter.

At the close of the concert, Bro. L. H. WILLIAMS moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was carried with hearty cheers, a further cheer being given for Mrs. Uwins.

Mr. UWINS responded, mentioning that, although he had presided over Old Masonians' gatherings on several occasions, that was the first time his wife had shared with him the honours of the evening.

The evening closed by the company singing the National Anthem.

Mark Masonry.

All Soul's Lodge, No. 126.

The installation meeting of the above flourishing lodge was held, on emergency and by dispensation, on Tuesday, the 10th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Weymouth, when Bro. the Earl of Portarlington, Past Senior Grand Warden of England, was installed as W.M., and Bro. the Rev. F. Mondey as Deputy Master, by Bro. J. H. Bowen, P.M., P.P.S.G.W. The occasion was a great one, and the gathering of a very important character. At the last moment, Bros. Viscoun' Durgarvan, his Honour Judge Philbrick, and the Rev. W. M. Heath were unable to attend; but Bros. Sir R. N. Howard, P.G.O. England, P.D.P.G.M., and H. T. Gorge, D.P.G.M., and upwards of 40 brethren were present.

The ceremony was performed in a faultless manner, and the officers appointed were as follows: Bros. J. E. Crickmay, P.G.S.B., S.W.; A. Rayner, P.P.J.G.D., J.W.; Zillwood Milledge, P.J.G.W., Chap.; B. Morris, M.O.; D. H. Williams, S.O.; T. Sedgwick, J.O.; Nelson Bowes, P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; J. W. Board, P.P.J.G.O., acting Treas.; Sidney S. Milledge, P.G.I.G., R. of M.; E. L. W. Chave, S.D.; H. A. Huxtable, J.D.; J. H. Bowen, P.P.S.G.W., D.C.; H. A. Hindle, A.R.A.M., Org.; C. F. Hope, acting I.G.; A. Graham, P.P.J.G.W., Steward; and J. F. Piddington, Tyler.

The brethren and visitors adjourned to the banquet hall, and, under the genial presidency of the noble Earl, who most hospitably entertained his guests to a *recherché* banquet, a very pleasant evening was spent. The speeches and music were far above the average.

Chorlton Lodge, No. 394.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 25th ultimo, at the Masonic Hall, Chorlton-cum-Hardy. The lodge was opened by Bro. Batty, W.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The following brethren, who were not able to be present at the installation, were invested: Bros. Griffiths, as S.W.; T. W. Bone, J.W.; Jordan, M.D., M.O.; and Arthur Middleton, P.P.G.S.B., D.C. The Wardens were addressed by Bro. Joseph Crompton, P.M. The ballot was taken for Bro. J. Travers as a re-joining member, which resulted favourably, and he was admitted and congratulated by the W.M. There being no ceremony, the W.M. closed the lodge after "Hearty good wishes" had been given. Afterwards a rehearsal of the ceremony was given, which was most enjoyable.

The following brethren were present: Bros. James Batty, W.M.; T. Griffiths, S.W.; Thos. William Bone, J.W.; T. W. Jordan, M.O.; R. W. Critchley, S.O.; J. Hardwicke Marsh, J.O.; J. Crompton, S.D.; Fred. Renshaw, J.D.; Arthur Middleton, P.G.S.B., D.C.; J. Sharples, I.G.; Samuel Locke, P.M.; and J. H. Wells, P.M. Visitors: Bros. Arthur C. K. Smith; G. S. Smith, P.M., P.G. Org.; Chas. Shaw, John Travers, and J. Chesshyre, Tyler.

Knights Templar.

Mount Grace Preceptory, No. 118.

The annual installation meeting of the above preceptory was held on Monday, the 2nd ult., at the Masonic Hall, West Hartlepool, Sir Knight H. Lamb, E.P., presiding. The usual formal business being transacted, the chair was assumed by the Eminent Prov. Sub-Prior, Sir Knight Dr. Hill Drury, who in a painstaking manner installed Comps. Woolley and Laycock into the Order. Sir Knight H. G. W. Baumann, E.P. elect, was then presented to the E. Sub-Prior for installation as E.P. for the ensuing year. The installation ceremony being completed, Sir Knight Baumann appointed his officers as follows: Sir Knights Ed. Hudson, Prelate; G. J. Reay, Constable; C. E. Smith, Marshal; John Burn, Treas.; Biddcomb, Sub-Marshal; C. A. Forslid, Almoner; John Abbey, Std. Br.; W. B. Foxon, Herald; H. B. Olsen, Peg.; and H. Lamb, Capt. of Guard.

The preceptory was then closed, and the fratres adjourned to the Royal Hotel to celebrate their annual festival.

The usual toasts were proposed and duly honoured, the Prov. Sub-Prior, Sir Knight Dr. Hill Drury, responding for "The Great Priory," of which he is G. Std. Br.

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HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES,
K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

GRAND PATRONESS:

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF
WALES.

A GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held in the LARGE HALL of the FREEMASONS' TAVERN, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, on THURSDAY, the 9th day of April, 1896, at 12 o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution; and to elect 24 Girls into the School, from a list of 31 approved Candidates. The election will commence at one o'clock, or after the usual business is over.

F. R. W. HEDGES,

5, Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen St., W.C.,
April 2nd, 1896. Secretary.

The 108th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will take place on WEDNESDAY, 13th MAY next, under the Presidency of the Right Hon. THE EARL OF YARBOROUGH, R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Lincolnshire. Brethren willing to act as Stewards on this important occasion are earnestly solicited to send in their names to the Secretary as early as convenient, Stewards being greatly needed.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION
FOR BOYS.

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GRAND PATRON:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT:

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES,
K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

A QUARTERLY COURT of the Governors and Subscribers will be held in the LARGE HALL, FREEMASONS' TAVERN, Great Queen-st., Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London, on FRIDAY, the 10th day of APRIL, 1896, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution:—

To consider the following Notice of Motion given at the Council held 27th March, by the V. Wor. Bro. RICHARD EVE, P.G. Treasurer, Patron and Trustee, Chairman of the Board of Management:—

"That the Quarterly Court of Governors and Subscribers of 5th April, 1892, having authorised the Board of Management to entertain negotiations for the realisation of the Estate of the Institution to the best advantage, and the Board having determined 'that it is desirable to remove the Institution from Wood Green to some more eligible Site where sufficient space for an enlarged School-House and play-ground accommodation would be available,' this Quarterly Court hereby authorises the Board to purchase a Site, and to erect thereon a new School, and to dispose of the present Land and Premises to the best advantage."

To elect a Treasurer for the ensuing 12 months.

To elect as Members of the Council, Twelve Brethren not being Life Governors.

To elect Ten Life Governors to fill vacancies on the Board of Management, Five to be Members of London Lodges or Chapters, and Five to be Members of Provincial Grand Lodges or Chapters.

To elect Twenty-eight Boys from an approved list of Fifty-one Candidates, reduced to Fifty by the withdrawal of (No. 34 on List) Hart, Maurice William.

The chair will be taken at 12 o'clock at noon precisely.

The Ballot for the Election of Boys and for Members of the Board of Management, will open at One o'clock, or so soon as the General Business of the Court shall have terminated, and will close at Three o'clock precisely.

By order.

J. M. McLEOD,

6, Freemasons' Hall,
London, W.C.,
2nd April, 1896. Secretary.

** The Ninety-eight ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will be held on 24th June, 1896, under the distinguished Presidency of His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., R.W. Prov. G.M. for Derbyshire (Vice-Patron of the Institution). The services of Brethren representing Lodges or Provinces, and of Ladies as Stewards on this important occasion, are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

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	£	s.	d.
Ley Spring Lodge, 1597, collected by Bro. J. T. Galloway, W.M. Elect	1	13	0
Finsbury Lodge, 861, collected by Bro. F. Hal-lows, Sec.	1	10	0
Edward Letchworth, Grand Secretary	(A)	1	10
Bayard Lodge, 1615	(A)	1	10
Caledonian Lodge, 134	1	10	0
Clapham Lodge, 1818	1	10	0
Derby Allcroft Lodge, 2163	1	10	0
London Scottish Rifles Lodge, 2310	1	10	0
Ordinance Lodge, 2399	1	10	0
Rahere Lodge, 2546	1	10	0
St. Andrew Lodge, 222	1	10	0
St. Mark Lodge, 857	1	10	0
Semper Fidelis Lodge, 529	1	10	0
Sphinx Lodge, 1320	1	10	0
Sterndale Bennett Lodge, 2182	1	10	0
S. J. Nottley, P.M. 1150	0	10	6
Buckingham and Chandos Lodge, 1150	0	10	6
Great City Lodge, 1426 (2nd Donation)	0	10	6
Molesworth Lodge, 1954	0	10	6
Prince Frederick William Lodge, 753	0	10	6
Virtue and Honour Lodge, 494	(A)	0	10
J. C. Collard	(A)	0	10
J. F. Heath	(A)	0	10
Camalodunum Lodge, 660	0	10	0
Concord Lodge, 1534	0	10	0
Fidelity, Lodge of, 269	0	10	0
Fitzwilliam Lodge, 2533	0	10	0
Lewis Lodge, 1209	0	10	0
Prince of Wales Lodge, 1705	0	10	0
St. John's Lodge, 1564	(A)	0	10
Union, Lodge of, 414	0	10	0
H. E. Deats, from U. States of America	(A)	0	8
Goddard Clarke, J.P.	(A)	0	5
Mrs. F. Hunt, collection	0	5	0
W. F. Lamony	(A)	0	5
Frederick Mecey, P.M. 1615	(A)	0	5
Bayard Chapter, Rose Croix	(A)	0	5
Bisley Lodge, 2317	(A)	0	5
Bisley Chapter, R.A., 2317	(A)	0	5
De Tatton Lodge, 2144	0	5	0
Fidelity, Lodge of, 230	0	5	0
Fidelity, Lodge of, 289	0	5	0
Fraternity, Lodge of, 1418	0	5	0
Greta Lodge, 1073	0	5	0
Grove Lodge, 1957	0	5	0
Hartington Lodge, 916	0	5	0
Herga Lodge, 2548	0	5	0
Howard of Brotherly Love Lodge, 56	0	5	0
Imperial George Lodge, 78	0	5	0
John of Gaunt Lodge, 523	0	5	0
Liberty of Havering Lodge, 1437	0	5	0
Loyalty and Charity Lodge, 154	0	5	0
Wm. William Dodd, Sec.	0	2	6
G. S. Recknell	0	2	6
Philanthropy, Lodge of, 940	0	5	0
Prudence and Industry Lodge, 1953	0	5	0
P. M. Mitchell	0	5	0
Royal Clarence Lodge, 271	0	5	0
St. John Lodge, 279	0	5	0
St. Barnabas Lodge, 948	0	5	0
St. Mary's Lodge, 63	0	5	0
St. Oswald Lodge, 850	0	5	0
St. Peter's Lodge, 1125	0	5	0
St. Vincent's Lodge, 1404	0	5	0
Stockwell Chapter, R.A., 1339	0	5	0
Tyssen-Amherst Lodge, 2242	0	5	0
United Good Fellowship Lodge, 809	0	5	0
Western District United Service Lodge, 2258	(A)	0	5
Wilton Lodge, 1077	0	5	0
Yarborough Lodge, 551	0	5	0

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SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1896.

Masonic Notes.

There are people who find it impossible to understand why anything in the nature of courtesy and forbearance should be exhibited towards the authorities of a society or institution who, for good and sufficient reasons of their own, are desirous of observing secrecy in reference to the resignation and appointment of officers, at all events, until those resignations and appointments have reached their final stage, and become *faits accomplis*. Resignations are not necessarily accepted, appointments not necessarily made, and until they are accepted or made, silence is undoubtedly the golden rule. For one thing no harm is done by observing it; least of all can any feeling of distrust be created among those with whom the acceptance of resignations and the making of appointments is no part of their prerogative.

We are in a position to announce that Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe has expressed a wish that he should not be re-appointed Deputy Grand Master of England, and that his Royal Highness has acquiesced in his wish with regret. That regret will be shared by all classes and conditions of the Brotherhood, from whom, during his five years' tenure of the office, his lordship has won golden opinions. As regards the appointment of a successor to his lordship, we can say no more than that it will not be made till the Grand Festival. There is no harm, however, in stating that

the rumours current for some time past as to Bro. Earl Amherst, Prov. G.M. Kent, becoming the successor of Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe are fully justified.

We have to remind our readers that the School Elections will take place next week, that for the Girls' School being held at the Quarterly General Court in Freemasons' Tavern on Thursday, the 9th instant, at noon; and that for the Boys' School at the Quarterly General Court in the same place at the same hour on Friday, the 10th inst. In the former case there are 31 candidates for 24 vacancies, 15 of whom remain over from last October, and 16 are new cases. In the latter case there are 28 vacancies to be competed for by 51 candidates, of whom 26 were unsuccessful in October last, and bring forward their votes, and the remaining 25 are new cases.

Among the candidates at both Elections are several whose names will be removed from the lists in the event of their failing to win places on this occasion. The Girls thus circumstanced are Nos. 1 (Monmouthshire and Somersetshire), 7 (West Lancashire), 15 (Madras and Burma), 19 (South Africa, W.D.), 24 (Warwickshire), 25 (London), and 29 (Leicestershire and Rutland), the last four being competitors for the first time. The Boys are only three in number namely, No. 22 (Kent), a candidate in October last; and Nos. 29 (London, Suffolk, and Norfolk) and 35 (London), who are both new cases.

In behalf of these 10 children, we address our usual earnest appeal to all those Governors and Subscribers who have not already promised their votes and influence to any candidates to render all the help they can in securing their election. We do this on the usual grounds, that the other children, if they do not succeed in obtaining vacancies, will still have further opportunities allowed them of competing. But the 10 we are referring to will have exceeded the maximum limit of age before the election in October next. They will therefore have their names struck off the list, and will thus lose all chance of receiving the benefits of which they have been adjudged worthy. Our appeal in connection with the election in October, 1895, was successful, as all the *last* cases on both lists were elected, and we devoutly hope that our present appeal may be attended with equally satisfactory results.

It is with very sincere regret that we announce the death of Bro. J. I. Miller, District Grand Master of Northern China. At the Quarterly Communication in the month of January, to which we referred in one of our recent articles, Bro. Miller was prevented by illness from being present in District Grand Lodge, and his place was occupied by Bro. Moore, Deputy District Grand Master, who presided at the meeting, and read the address which his chief had prepared and would have delivered in person had the state of his health permitted of his attending. At its conclusion, general regret was expressed at the enforced absence of Bro. Miller, and all present united in the hope that he might soon be restored to them. The hope, however, has not been realised, and, to the grief of our Northern China brethren, the place of our lamented Bro. Miller will know him no more.

Bro. Miller, who was appointed District Grand Master in 1886, in succession to Bro. Cornelius Thorne, on the latter's retirement from office, was an extremely popular member of our Order, and greatly respected by the brethren of the lodges he presided over, as well as by those of the lodges holding under other Grand Lodges, and when his death became known, it was resolved to show respect to his memory and for the very valuable services he had rendered to the Craft, by burying him with Masonic honours. A full report of the funeral will appear next week; but in the meantime we respectfully tender our warmest sympathy to the family and friends of our late brother, and to the brethren of the lodges over which he had presided with so much credit to himself, and so greatly to their advantage during the past 10 years.

There is yet another "Masonic Vagrant" against whom we have been asked by an esteemed correspondent to offer a few words of caution to our readers. He passes for a clergyman and dresses accordingly. For many years past he has lived chiefly by the gifts he has succeeded in obtaining from the charitably-disposed, but he is a rank impostor and Charity is misapplied in affording relief to such a man.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.

QUALIFICATION FOR MASTER'S CHAIR.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Would "Lex Scripta" or some others of your readers kindly inform me of the general interpretation of the word *servus*, in the fourth line of Rule 130 Book of Constitutions? It is held here to mean "invested," i.e., Bro. A. is appointed Warden and being present on the night of installation is duly invested and placed in his chair. After this he takes no further interest in his lodge and does not attend another meeting during his term of office, yet on the next regular day of election he is deemed fully qualified to stand for the position of W. Master. On the other hand Bro. B., who has also been appointed Warden at the same time, but owing to the pressing emergencies of his public or private avocations was unable to attend on the night of installation, but attends upon the next regular night of meeting and is duly placed in his chair and fills it regularly for the following 11 months, is not qualified.

I know that in the latter case Grand Lodge says that the office must be filled for 12 months, therefore Bro. B. would not have the necessary qualification, but what about Bro. A.?—Yours fraternally,

A. MEARS, P.M. 1978 (E.C.).

Townsville, New Queensland,
February 17th.

SIGNING OF MINUTES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In the absence of the W.M. of a lodge, who is the legal and proper person to sign the minutes after they have been read and confirmed at next lodge—the W.M. or the brother who acted for him at the last lodge?—Yours fraternally,

D.C.

Craft Masonry.

Industry Lodge, No. 48.

The annual and installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Industry Masonic Hall, Gateshead, on Monday, the 23rd ult., when there was a large muster of members and visitors. The retiring W.M., Bro. A. Dodds, P.P.G.S., presided, and there were also present Bros. Hugh Jackson, J.W., W.M. elect; W. Stafford, I.P.M.; Wm. Brown, P.M., D.C.; W. Dalrymple, P.M.; M. Corbitt, P.M., P.P.G.D.; J. G. Smith, P.M., P.P.G.D.; E. Shewbrooks, P.M.; W. M. Pybus, P.M., P.P.G.R.; W. J. Jobson, P.M., P.P.D.G.D.C., Treas.; T. R. Jobson, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; D. Sinclair, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; Mark R. Wright, P.M., P.P.G.S.; R. Ferry, P.P.G.O.; and also the following visitors: Bros. J. C. Moor, P.J.G.W.; W. M. Lyon, P.P.S.G.D.; C. B. Ford, P.P.G.D.; Thomas Lewens, P.P.G.D.; James Shaw, P.M. 424, P.P.G.D.; T. A. Moffatt, P.M. 424, P.J.G.D.; E. Milburn, P.P.G.D. Durham; E. Turnbull, P.P.G.S.B.; J. G. Ross, P.P.G. Stwd.; T. R. Short, P.M. 424, P.P.G. Stwd. Durham; Rev. W. Bowker, P.P.G.C.; W. Madgson, W.M. 1119; W. A. Bell, W.M. 2520; Nicholas Lee, W.M. 2039; J. A. Stelling, W.M. 481; Cornwall Smith, P.M.; F. Turnbull, P.M. 481; Wm. Dorman, P.M. 406; Robert Stewart, P.M. 424; Thomas Wright, P.M. 1342; F. Jameson, S.W. 24; Leo Nixon, S.W. 481; Jos. Banks, J.W. 406; J. H. Inman, S.W. 2520; J. Stark, S.W. 1676; Geo. Lisle, S.W. 2260; J. Burrell, J.W. 424; and others.

After the ordinary business had been transacted, the W.M. elect, Bro. Hugh Jackson, was duly presented by the senior P.M., Bro. M. Corbitt, P.P.G.D., and the ceremony of installation was performed with much ability by the Installing Master, Bro. Adam Dodds, P.P.G. Stwd., who also delivered the addresses to the officers and brethren. Bro. Hugh Jackson having been duly installed in the chair of K.S., invested the officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. A. Dodds, P.P.G. Stwd., I.P.M.; Alf. Simpson, S.W.; W. C. A. Holzapfel, J.W.; Rev. W. Bowker, P.P.G.C., Chap.; Wm. J. Jobson, P.M., P.P.D.G.D.C., Treas.; T. R. Jobson, P.M., P.P.G. Stwd., Sec.; J. Armstrong, S.D.; J. T. Pragnell, J.D.; Wm. Brown, P.M., D.C.; R. Ferry, P.P.G.O., Org.; Thomas Douglas, I.G.; H. H. Pitt, W. E. Peacock, R. Hewett, and R. Atkinson, Stwds.; and J. Curry, P.P.G. Tyler, Tyler. The hearty congratulations of the visiting brethren were afterwards expressed to the newly-installed W.M. by the large and representative number of visiting brethren from lodges in the district, and the lodge was closed.

Afterwards the annual festival was held in the banqueting hall of the lodge, Bro. Hugh Jackson, W.M., presiding, when he was supported by a large and influential number of members and visitors.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and received with due honours, and a pleasant and harmonious gathering completed the evening's entertainment.

Lodge of Prosperity, No. 65.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. W. C. THOMAS.

The installation meeting of this old-established, popular, and prosperous lodge was held at the Guildhall Tavern, on the 26th ult., when the members and visitors mustered in strong force. There were present Bros. W. C. Thomas, W.M.; D. Harlow, I.P.M.; W. J. Greig, S.W.; J. Kinipple, J.W.; J. Roberts, P.M., Treas.; H. J. Harriss, P.M., Sec.; S. Spencer, S.D.; W. J. Graham, J.D.; G. Schadler, P.M., D.C.; J. Smart, A.D.C.; J. Huckell, Steward; T. F. Noakes, Org.; C. J. Rich, P.M.; C. Daniel, P.M.; Wm. Chicken, P.M.; E. C. Talbot, P.M.; F. J. Ruse, P.M.; Wm. Strong, J. Meurice, W. Downes, G. Pécé, W. Haines, F. King, C. H. Dalton, H. Rattle, H. Newman, H. H. Hubbs, A. Seneschall, E. T. W. Drake, H. Cox, J. Cohen, C. Chivers, J. Hall, W. W. Woodman, J. Foyer, W. H. Lovell, D. L. Jenkins, M. J. Harris, J. S. Lidbury, C. Martin, R. Martin, H. Burge, G. Brown, J. Goodrich, G. W. Shepherd, R. C. Harris, H. W. Miles, Jno. Savage, O. Talbot, H. H. Karslake, J. Baines, J. Dobbs, R. Portwine, W. J. Tidder, G. A. Davidson, S. J. Wormsley, P. J. Beaver, G. Greig, R. R. Tough, Bernard Keane, A. Underwood, F. Haigh, J. M. Game, G. W. Burrows, W. H. Montague, D. L. Thomas, C. Newman, E. Gray, jun., O. W. Rix, O. T. Miller, W. M. Huckell, J. Biss, W. Evans, A. J. Kirk, A. Sergeant, W. E. Knight, A. Grantham, T. White, W. H. Newman, C. J. Rich, jun., F. A. Simmonds, W. T. Cocks, C. Martin, F. Green, H. C. Betts, J. Jasper, G. Warwick, C. H. Fuller, G. Costa, H. T. Napier, H. T. Brooks, and W. Lane, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. R. Clowser, P.M., P.G. Steward; John Hooke, P.M. 403, P.P.G.D.C. Surrey; E. Milsom, 2484; W. Englefield, P.M. 1321; W. Edwards, 548; W. Pollard, 1330; Jno. P. Ledbury, 2436; T. Hobbey, 1320; J. Morris, 1050; G. J. Warland, 1723; H. Williams, 1507; Robt. Sarson, W.M. 192; William Baker, S.D. 192; W. Sarjeant, 1765; J. Fulford, 2021; H. Sillis, P.M. 2362; Wm. J. Harris, P.M. 548; H. W. Kance, 781; Bernard Ferry, 1743; Robt. Ferry, 2241; A. Schneider, 157; Fredk. A. Sier, 1585; J. Giggis, 548; D. R. Rudd; C. Coram, 2332; F. G. G. Hone, 1306; J. W. Joyce, 2184; Jno. J. Franklin, 1622; and A. G. Morris, 1329.

The lodge being opened, the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, also the report of the Audit Committee adopted, the W.M. immediately proceeded to raise Bros. Karslake, Seneschall, Newman, Rattle, and Dalton, then passed Bros. Costa, Woodman, Hall, Lovell, and Jenkins, and the ballot being unanimous in their favour, initiated Messrs. A. L. Underwood, Fdk. High, John Game, and Marshall W. Burrows, and without any delay proceeded to install his successor in the chair. Bro. Thomas was

in splendid form, and went through the whole of the above work in such a masterly and perfect manner as to reflect the greatest credit on himself, and to win for him the most hearty approval and congratulations of all present. Bro. Greig then proceeded to invest his officers for the year, giving the addresses to each in such excellent form as to prove that if the lodge will only find him plenty of work to do, he will not be behind any of his predecessors in the chair in carrying out his duties successfully, the appointments being Bros. W. C. Thomas, I.P.M.; G. T. Kinipple, S.W.; S. E. Spencer, J.W.; J. Roberts, P.M., Treas.; H. J. Harriss, P.M., Sec.; W. J. Graham, S.D.; J. Huckell, I.G.; G. Schadler, P.M., D. of C.; J. Dobbs, A.D. of C.; W. J. Downes and J. S. Lidbury, Stwds.; T. F. Noakes, Org.; and W. Lane, Tyler. The Installing Master then gave the usual addresses with the same ability that marked all his previous work.

A summer banquet Committee was then appointed, and all other business being disposed of, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, served under the personal superintendence of Bro. J. Marcham.

The Worshipful Master gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in brief but happy terms, and in giving that of the "Present and Past Grand Officers," drew attention to the great amount of time they devoted to their Masonic duties, and the excellent manner in which they carried them out, simply desiring as their reward the approval of the brethren at large.

Bro. R. Clowser, P.G. Stwd., briefly replied, stating that it gave the Grand Officers the greatest possible pleasure to do all they could for the furtherance and benefit of the Craft.

Bro. W. C. Thomas, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master," saying this needed no words of his to commend it to the brethren, as Bro. Greig had already won the esteem of every member of the lodge, and many brethren present that he came in contact with at the lodge of instruction, being a most excellent worker and genial companion.

The toast was most enthusiastically received, and

Bro. W. J. Greig, W.M., in reply, tendered his sincerest thanks for the very kind manner in which Bro. Thomas had proposed his health and to the brethren for so cordial a reception. He would use his best endeavours to give full satisfaction during his year of office, only asking them for plenty of work to do, his heart being in Masonry and nothing pleased him better than seeing large numbers present.

The Worshipful Master, in submitting "The Health of the I.P.M.," observed that he had conducted his work in a most perfect manner, characterised by great courtesy to all the brethren, and it gave him very great pleasure to invest him with a handsome gold Past Master's jewel, which he richly deserved, and to further ask his acceptance of the handsome piano standing in the corner of the room as a small token of their affection and esteem and appreciation of the able manner in which he had presided over the lodge during his year of office as W.M.

Bro. Thomas, who, on rising, met with a most cordial reception, heartily thanked the brethren for the appreciation of his work during the past year, he certainly endeavoured to do his best and had had a very busy as well as pleasant time whilst in the chair, having initiated some 20 brethren, this would remain a red letter day in his life and he hoped to be spared many years to wear the jewel they had so kindly presented him with and be of service to the lodge, and in conclusion he thanked them all on behalf of his wife and daughters for the splendid piano, which he was sure would be greatly appreciated by them.

The toasts of "The Initiates," "The Visitors," "The Past Masters," and "The Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers," were all most cordially received and briefly responded to.

Bro. Hooke, P.P.G.D.C. Surrey, responding for the visitors.

The Tyler's toast then brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

The pleasure of the evening was greatly enhanced by the capital singing of Miss Ada Hunt Smith, Miss Miriam Beckett, Mr. Harry Hudson, Bro. Kinipple, and last but not least of one of the visitors, Bro. C. Coram, 2332, the music being under the direction of Bro. T. F. Noakes.

United Pilgrims Lodge, No. 507.

The installation meeting of this old and flourishing lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, on Thursday, the 26th ult., when there were present Bros. G. W. Beste, W.M.; Wm. Lipscomb, S.W., W.M. elect; W. C. Chaney, J.W.; J. S. Terry, P.M., Treas.; C. W. Peters, P.M., Sec.; G. W. Comfort, S.D.; T. R. Robert, acting J.D.; C. W. Stone, I.G.; A. W. Brewer, Charity Steward; S. Elison, P.M., D.C.; Charles Thomas, P.M., Stwd.; G. Harrison, Tyler; Thomas Noakes, P.M.; R. B. Gibson, P.M.; H. E. Cockell, P.M.; G. W. Levy, P.M.; H. E. Joyce, P.M.; C. H. Stone, P.M.; F. W. Madge, W. E. Dean, R. A. Brangwin, and Charles Fisher. The visitors were Bros. C. E. Fitch, 2345; G. Gardiner, 898; A. C. White, P.M. 141; W. W. Westley, P.M. 186; Wyndham Hart, P.M. 49; M. Delmar, 2190; G. R. Hoare, P.M. 1314; J. H. Laing, S.W. 2469; J. Hernaman, P.M. 1329; A. Collins, 1962; C. J. Brewer, 1853; W. Fanner, 1056; Samuel Cochrane, P.G. Treas.; S. Ainsworth, 509; J. Mann, 1172; J. W. Dickinson, 913; W. Bailey, P.M. 49; C. Garton, J.W. 192; A. Appleby, 1706; T. F. Pira, 800; and P. B. Skelton.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. Dean and Madge were raised in an exemplary manner, the W.M., Bro. Beste, giving the traditional history most perfectly and impressively. Bro. S. Elison, P.M., D.C., next presented Bro. Wm. Lipscomb, S.W., W.M. elect, to receive from the hands of the W.M. the benefits of installation, which was carried out by Bro. Beste faultlessly, who also rendered the addresses admirably. Bro. Lipscomb, W.M., invested his officers as follows: Bros. G. W. Beste, I.P.M.; R. B. Gilson, P.M., S.W.; W. C. Chaney, J.W.; J. S. Terry, P.M., Treas.; C. W. Peters, P.M., Sec.; C. W. Stone, S.D.; R. A. Brangwin, J.D.; A. W. Brewer, I.G.; S. Elison, P.M., D.C.; C. Thomas, P.M., and T. R. Roberts, Stewards; F. C. Atkinson, P.M., Org.; and G. Harrison, Tyler. The balance-sheet was presented and adopted, which showed the lodge to be in a thoroughly sound state. A letter of apology was read from Bro. Atkinson, P.M., Org., for not attending through a severe illness, and it was unanimously resolved to send a letter of sympathy wishing him speedy recovery.

The business ended, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, which was much appreciated.

The cloth removed, the W.M. gave the customary loyal and Masonic toasts in very appropriate terms, and which were royally received.

In presenting the toast of "The Pro G.M., Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. remarked they were noble and brethren who well deserved loyal support for their untiring energy bestowed for the benefit of the Craft, and he was particularly pleased and honoured that the lodge was favoured with the presence of Bro. S. Cochrane, P.G. Treas.

The toast was drunk most cordially.

Bro. S. Cochrane, P.G. Treas., most heartily thanked the brethren for the kind reception which the toast of the Grand Officers always received, and also for the kind remarks said of him. He was very pleased to be present and see some of his oldest and dearest friends whom he had met in lodges of instruction, specially under the able Preceptorship of Bro. Westley, who had done much for the good of Freemasonry. He would say of the working in the lodge that he had seldom seen it equalled and specially the installation ceremony. The lodge need be proud of such workers and he trusted he should have the opportunity at some future time of again visiting them.

Bro. G. W. Beste, I.P.M., next rose to give the toast of the evening, "The W.M.," who had endeared himself to every brother in the lodge, the best proof of which was his unanimous election to the chair. He was an excellent worker as was exhibited in the investing of officers. The one hearty desire of the brethren was long life, health, and happiness to him and prosperity to the United Pilgrims Lodge.

Bro. Lipscomb, W.M., stated, in reply, that his remarks were inadequate for the able manner the toast had been proposed, and its hearty reception at the hands of the brethren. His knowledge of Freemasonry had been received from those excellent brethren who had preceded him in the chair, also from Bro. Westley, the Preceptor of the lodge of instruction. It would be his aim to conduct the affairs of the lodge to the best of his ability, and emulate the bright examples before him in the lodge. He most heartily thanked the brethren for their cordial greeting.

The next toast—one very important, the W.M. said—was that of "The Installing Master, Bro. Beste," who had worked side by side with him in the lodge, and had deaconed him when initiated. The I.P.M. had ingratiated himself with every one in the lodge, and the rendering, both in voice and manner, of the splendid ceremony that evening had thoroughly inspired all present. He had the greatest pleasure in presenting the jewel, so richly deserved, and trusted he might live many years to wear the same, and continue one of the pillars of the lodge.

Bro. Beste, I.P.M., replied that he tendered his hearty thanks for the kindness shown him. He had now reached the climax in Craft Freemasonry. The handsome jewel presented to him should be the ambition of every brother, and received only by those who had most conscientiously performed their duties to the lodge. He would say it was in that spirit he had received it, and trusted the Great Architect would spare him for very many years to wear the same in that worthy lodge.

The Worshipful Master next presented the toast of "The Visitors," stating there were many distinguished brethren present, and the lodge gave them a most hearty welcome.

This was most ably responded to by Bros. Hernaman and Westley.

That of "The Past Masters," Bro. Lipscomb, W.M., said was most important, as they formed the foundation of the lodge, and had proved themselves to be also pillars of strength. The lodge welcomed that night Bro. Levy, the father of the lodge, and one who had done so much good in the past. The other worthy P.M.s. were Bros. Torry, Peters, Noakes, Gilson, Ellson, Thomas, Cockell, and Stone, and asked the brethren to give it a hearty reception.

In reply, Bro. Levy, P.M., said he was very pleased, indeed, to be present, and to have witnessed such excellent working. The P.M.s. could now rest and feel satisfied. It was now 30 years since he had been actively engaged in resuscitating the lodge, and felt he deserved that rest, but with the full confidence that the business of the lodge would be most efficiently carried out. He most cordially thanked the brethren on behalf of the P.M.s.

The toast of "The Officers" was next presented, the Worshipful Master remarking the work had been performed most creditably, and he was gratified to have such an excellent staff.

Bro. Chaney, J.W., thanked the W.M. for the great honour done him in appointing him to that office, and felt it incumbent on him to carry out the duties thoroughly, and thereby sustain the high reputation the lodge had for its working.

Bro. Peters, P.M., Sec., also said he felt very proud of the manner in which the ceremonies had been performed. Likewise he must congratulate the lodge upon its beneficent character, for the brethren had during the past year given over 40 guineas in Charity, which was most creditable for not a large lodge, and he hoped that beneficence would continue. The lodge, indeed, welcomed Bro. Levy, P.M., among them again, who had presided over the lodge some 36 years ago, and had brought it up to a high state of efficiency. Their aim should be, and was, that that same prestige and efficiency should be maintained. His services as Secretary to the lodge would be most heartily tendered to advance its interests.

The Tyler's toast closed a happy and highly intellectual meeting.

An excellent programme of music was arranged by the W.M. and Bro. Arthur Appleby (accompanist). The artists were Miss Rosabelle Baste and Miss Mary Morgan (both of whom were rapturously encored), Miss Mildred Morgan (violin obligato), Bros. Henaman (reciter), Cockell, P.M.; and Arthur Appleby.

Camden Lodge, No. 704.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, the 17th ultimo, when Bro. Charles Gammon, W.M. elect, was installed as W.M. The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee was presented by Bro. Simpson, and adopted, the same showing that the funds of the lodge were again in a satisfactory state. Bro. Coplestone, I.P.M., performed the ceremony of installation in a thorough and impressive manner. The following are the officers for the ensuing year: Bro. Charles Gammon, W.M.; H. W. Coplestone, I.P.M.; John Simpson, S.W.; John Sandon, J.W.; F. Trinder, Treas.; Dr. Nathaniel Goodchild, Sec.; Dr. N. John Goodchild, Asst. Sec.; F. V. Mackenzie, S.D.; G. Cartwright, J.D.; Alfred J. Lane, I.G.; W. T. Hawkin, D.C.; F. A. Bint, A.D.C.; G. H. Henwood, G. E. Smith, and W. Hudson, Stewards; G. Brown, Org.; A. Mills, Asst. Org.; and J. Very, Tyler.

About 200 (in all) brethren, with their wives and other lady visitors, sat down to a sumptuous banquet, when the usual toasts were proposed and responded to, amidst a splendid array of vocalists, and the evening closed in perfect harmony.

The visitors included Bros. W. Ware (Worshipful Master Poulterers' Company), P.M.; N. Robinson, L.C.C.; Thom, P.M.; Baker, P.M.; Ransford, P.M.; Coffin, P.M.; Nottingham, P.M.; Styles, P.M.; F. Robinson, P.M.; and Langley, P.M.

Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 780.

The annual installation meeting, which took place at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, on Friday, the 13th ult., was altogether an unprecedented gathering in the history of the lodge, and it is doubtful whether similar proceedings have ever taken place before in any lodge in the country. The brethren present included Bros. William John Gomm, W.M.; George A. Littlewood, I.P.M.; Frederick J. Larkman, S.W.; Chas. Coombs, P.M., J.W.; William Eydmann, Treas. and acting Sec.; Chas. Robinson, S.D.; Charles Joseph Drey, J.D.; Justen Allen, I.G.; Henry Thomas Gomm, D.C.; Edwin Eydmann and Thomas Henry Dorey, Stewards; B. E. Blashy, P.M.; William D. Becket, P.M.; William Rowe, P.M.; H. Jason Saunders, P.M.; John Edwards, P.M.; Henry Erjwne, Edward F. Wyer, Francis G. Brown, W. A. Hanchet, John Brooks, Thomas Whittle, Thomas J. Buse, John B. Everitt, C. W. Bennett, W. H. Ellis, Ernest G. Beer, William H. Day, John Ball, Albert Edward Furness, Walter O. Vincent, Henry R. Worth, Henry T. Johnson, J. Halstead, and J. Gilbert, Tyler. The 23 visitors were Bros. R. H. Warner, J.W. 2536; D. N. Finlay, W.M. 2089; L. Lee, 2309; J. H. Frye, P.M. 201; A. A. Nottingham, I.P.M. 704; W. Tylor, W.M. 1707; E. S. Wright, P.M. 2400; R. Smith, J.D. 2400; F. Rayner, I.G. 2432; C. Hunt, 861; A. J. Bott, 1232; E. Styles, P.M. 704; G. Brand, 2400; M. F. Turpin; R. Harwin, 2400; J. H. Collingridge, P.M. 1677; R. Goff, J.W. 1793 and 2427; F. C. Cross, I.G. 1732; P. H. Davies, P.M. 2417; A. J. Harrison, I.G. 946; W. Eydmann, J.D. 1996; and W. R. Wood, 2098.

The lodge was opened and the routine business proceeded with, after which Messrs. John, H. P., and F. R. Roper—three brothers, all resident in the immediate vicinity—were duly initiated into the mysteries of the Craft according to ancient custom. Subsequently Bro. W. J. Gomm proceeded to install the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, Bro. F. J. Larkman, W.M. elect, who is an initiate of the lodge, and this was done with unusual ability in the presence of a very strong Board of Installed Masters. Bro. Larkman then proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. Chas. Coombs, S.W.; C. Robinson, J.W.; W. Eydmann, Treas., and Sec. *pro tem.*; J. Allen, S.D.; H. J. Gomm, J.D.; W. H. Day, I.G.; J. Halstead, D.C.; E. Eydmann and Thos. Dorey, Stwds.; and J. Gilbert, Tyler, and he did this portion of the work in a manner that elicited much praise. Subsequently Bro. Gomm, I.P.M., announced his intention of acting as Steward to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, when the lodge voted that a sum of 10 guineas be placed upon his list. An application for relief was received on behalf of a brother who had been initiated in the lodge 30 years previously, and a sum was voted to him forthwith.

After "Hearty good wishes" had been expressed by the various visitors, the lodge was closed by the W.M., and all present sat down to a very nicely-prepared banquet, to which full justice was done.

The usual loyal, patriotic, and Masonic toasts having been honoured, the brethren were much edified by a mandoline and guitar trio, which had been kindly provided by Bro. Edwin Styles, P.M., his daughter, Miss Zoe Styles, and his niece, Miss Amy Brook, R.A.M., who jointly rendered "Ach Hapsberg" in such a brilliant fashion that an encore was insisted upon forthwith, with the result that, if possible, a more enjoyable fantasia on Scotch airs was given.

The gavel having been placed in the hands of Bro. Gomm, I.P.M., that worthy officer duly proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master," which was received with unbounded enthusiasm. He pointed out that Bro. Larkman had been constant in his attendance as a member of the lodge for several years, that he was an excellent worker, a sound ritualist, and had proved himself in the previous year the most efficient Senior Warden the lodge had had within the memory of any of its members.

Needless to say, the toast was honoured in full Masonic fashion. Mr. Leonard Fowles, of the Royal College of Music, then gave a classical violin solo to the pianoforte accompaniment of Miss Amy Brook, R.A.M., and was well received.

On rising to respond to the toast of his health, the W.M. was greeted with thunders of applause. He thanked the brethren in a very brief but pertinent speech for the honour they had done him, and thought that too much credit had been given him for having done what he considered to be his duty pure and simple in time gone by, adding

that the welfare of the lodge depended quite as much upon the officers as it did upon its Master, and he felt sure that he would be supported during his year of office by the strongest body of officers any Master could wish for; but before sitting down he had to perform the very pleasant duty of pinning on the breast of his Immediate Past Master, Bro. W. J. Gomm, a handsome Past Master's jewel, which had been voted him by the lodge as a mark of appreciation, respect, and esteem, and this was the signal for another outburst of enthusiastic applause.

Bro. H. T. Gomm, J.D., gave a solo "The Holy City" in a pleasing manner, and then his natural brother, the I.P.M., rose to respond. He stated that his own grandfather had occupied the chair of the Royal Alfred Lodge; his father had been cut off from this life just prior to reaching the same exalted position; but he himself had made up his mind from the time he became a member of the lodge that if he was spared he would fill its chair. He had done so and he hoped in a successful manner, and in that respect he was satisfied that the testimonial just presented to him proved that his efforts to serve the lodge and its members had been appreciated, and he was thankful to find that such was the fact.

The W.M. next proposed "The Health of the Initiates," and dwelt upon the peculiarity of the initiation of three natural brothers at one time, and considered that this established a record which could be rivalled by few other lodges, whereupon the brethren were again charmed by the excellent manner in which Miss Amy Brook, R.A.M., sang "Don't be cross," from "An Artist's Model," whilst accompanying herself on the mandoline, and Miss Zoe Styles assisted at the pianoforte.

The initiates having responded, Bro. Edwin Styles, P.M., was called upon by acclamation to sing his song "The Widow," for which he has established quite a reputation, and had he consented to sing this by the hour it is doubtful whether his hearers would have been tired of it.

Next came from the chair the toast of "The Visitors" in language of much felicity, although regret was expressed that in consequence of the large number of guests present the responses would be limited to two only, Bros. Dr. P. H. Davies, P.M., and Wright, P.M.

The former made a humorous speech, which was well received, whilst the latter had an equally good reception for his neatly put comments.

Bro. Wood, a visitor, effectively rendered "Life is sweet," and then the toasts of "The Past Masters" and likewise "The Officers" were each given, received, and responded to in excellent style, but the demand of the brethren for a repetition of the instrumental trio was such as to permit no refusal, and father, daughter, and niece once more were called upon to minister to the pleasures of the evening, which shortly afterwards concluded with the Tyler's toast.

Dobie Lodge, No. 889.

The installation meeting of this very successful lodge was held at the Young Men's Institute, Kingston-on-Thames, on Wednesday, the 18th ult., when members and visitors, to the number of about 70, attended to witness the installation of Bro. Arthur Watkin as W.M. Bro. Watkin, since his initiation, about seven years ago, has taken an active interest in Freemasonry in this and another lodge, and was instrumental in forming a lodge of instruction for the brethren residing at New Maldon. The members present included Bros. T. Wilkinson, W.M.; A. Watkin, S.W.; G. R. Scott, J.W.; J. Drewett, P.P.A.G.P., Treas.; W. Drewett, P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; W. H. Gaze, S.D.; W. Wells, J.D.; J. C. Mortimer, D.C.; J. R. Abbott, Org.; F. J. Hayward, P.A. G.P., P.M.; A. M. Levy, P.M.; W. Chapman, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; J. Edgell, P.M.; T. Long, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; E. Weaver, P.P.G.D.C.; and T. H. Stiles, P.P.G.D.C. Visitors: Bros. C. G. Graves, 1872; W. E. Phillips, 1872; A. S. Taylor, 1872; A. W. Willis, P.P.A.G.D.C.; F. Neale, W.M. 1931; P. G. W. Typke, P.M. 1671; J. W. Parsons, P.M. 1564; F. A. Taylor, S.W. 72; S. Rashleigh, 902; G. I. Salmon, P.M. 1260; E. Mann, 1638; N. Pearce, 2278; E. J. Packington, W.M. 2444; D. Goldsforth, 86; S. J. Byng, 902; J. Purkess, 2222; B. Colbrow, 2096; C. Oldridge, S.W. 1638; H. Curtis, 1638; H. Gloyns, 40; R. J. C. Cawse, J.W. 1360; J. Davis, W.M. 1368; J. H. Sumner, P.M. 1638; F. Lockett, W.M. 2222; W. Lusson; J. Pollard, P.J.G.W.; A. Street, S.W. 2157; F. Callam, W.M. 1139; P. Ramsay Murray, P.M. 1470; W. W. Lee, P.G. Steward; and others.

The opening of the lodge was followed by the confirmation of the minutes. Bro. Arthur Watkin, S.W., W.M. elect, was presented for installation, and, the first portion of the ceremony having been carried out by Bro. Wilkinson, the retiring Master, it was successfully continued by Bro. J. Drewett, P.M., Treas. The following officers were appointed and invested Bros. T. Wilkinson, P.M. 1420, I.P.M.; G. R. Scott, S.W.; W. H. Gaze, J.W.; J. Drewett, P.M., P.P.A.G.P., Treas.; W. Drewett, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; W. J. Wells, S.D.; Dr. George Cowen, J.D.; J. C. Mortimer, I.G.; J. R. Abbott, Org.; E. G. Whitehead, D.C.; C. T. Lewis and Wm. Salt, Stewards; and Gilbert, Tyler. A notice of motion by Bro. Wilkinson, I.P.M.—"That the Dobie Lodge should join the Provincial Charity Organisation"—was adjourned for discussion at the next meeting. Other business was transacted, and the lodge was closed.

A banquet was subsequently held at the Kingston Hotel, where a choice menu had been provided, and the usual toasts were afterwards given.

"The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and "The Grand Officers" were duly honoured.

"The R.W. Provincial Grand Master" was proposed by the W.M. He said the M.W.G.M., with that discrimination and tact for which he was well known, appointed to the vacant post of Provincial Grand Master a distinguished brother and nobleman under whom they were all proud to serve. Bro. the Earl of Onslow fully intended being present, but an hour or two previously a telegram had been received stating that he was detained on a Committee of the London County Council.

In giving "The Provincial Grand Officers," the W.M. expressed his pleasure at seeing Bro. Dr. Pollard, the Prov. J.G.W., present, for Masonry had brought them together after an interval of 15 years. There were two other Provincial Grand Officers present—Bro. Hayward, whom they were all delighted to see receive a collar last year, and Bro. Willis, from whom he acquired much of his information in a lodge of instruction.

Bro. J. Pollard, Prov. J.G.W., returned thanks, and said that many of the Provincial Grand Officers present were wearing the Purple when he was but a Master Mason, and he felt they had a right to speak before him. He thanked the W.M. for giving him the opportunity of visiting that side of the province and attending the strongest lodge in West Surrey. It had been a great pleasure, because he had been associated more with the eastern part. He wished they could meet from the east and west of the province in some central spot and exchange views. He thought some arrangement could be made to meet in a friendly way once or twice a year to exchange views and hear all sides of the various questions that had to come before the Provincial Grand Officers. Another point was that of the Provincial Charity Committee. Having been a member of that Committee, he had seen some advantages in its working, and he would simply say to the members of that lodge that the Committee did not wish to influence individual members who had personal cases in which they were interested. What they desired was that votes that were not going to be used should be given for the benefit of the Provincial Charity Committee. Surrey would have greater weight if they could all meet at the Charity Committee, and he could only hope that at some future time the Dobie Lodge would see its way to send its representative, and at least hear the views of all the divisions of the province.

Bros. Hayward, Prov. A.G.D.C., and Willis, P.P.A.G.D.C., also replied.

Bro. T. Wilkinson, I.P.M., then said it afforded him great pleasure to propose "The Health of the W.M." He had the pleasure of introducing Bro. Watkin into the lodge, and from what he knew of him previously he formed the opinion that he would make a good and true Mason. Every brother would agree that the W.M. had proved himself as such. Bro. Watkin had spent a great deal of time in Masonry, and was Secretary of the first lodge of instruction formed in New Maldon, and carried it to a very successful issue. They could now congratulate themselves that he had attained the office of W.M., and it was to him (the I.P.M.) a great pleasure that Bro. Watkin should be his successor.

Bro. A. Watkin, W.M., in returning thanks, said that in rising to reply to that toast, his mind could not help going back to a certain installation night not so many years ago when he had a short time previously been a poor candidate, and then rose to return thanks for the toast of his health as an initiate. When his first speech had been made he thought his worst duty had been performed. Although that was a difficult task, he must confess they had given him a more difficult one in asking him to reply to the cordial way in which they had drunk his health. He had been told on

good authority that he was the youngest Master that lodge had ever seen. That was the 35th installation meeting the lodge had held, and therefore he presumed he was the 36th Master, and he could say he would be second to none in his earnestness to do his duty during his year. He had endeavoured during the years he had been a Mason to prepare himself for the duties he hoped lay before him, and trusted that during the coming year he should be able to perform his duties in a manner satisfactory to them. Should the Great Architect give him power, he was prepared to do all the work that might fall upon him, and he trusted that they would give him plenty to do. Although it might be egotism, he was somewhat energetic, and should like as much to do as he could possibly crowd in. Since his election he had been the recipient of many congratulations, for which he had to convey his sincere thanks, and he had heard remarks made which were very complimentary. He begged them all to remember that he had yet to justify those remarks, if he was a straightforward Mason. They were not all perfect, and he might have to fall back upon the assistance of the Past Masters. It was his desire to do his duty, and if a year hence he was received with the same kindly feelings that were evinced towards the I.P.M., he could not be otherwise than satisfied. That brought him to the next toast, which was "The I.P.M.," and he asked them to accept it with a perfect knowledge that they could cordially accord it that greeting if so thoroughly deserved. In the I.P.M. they had a Mason who had been throughout his year actuated by a genuine desire to do his duty under the most difficult circumstances. The I.P.M. had travelled very long distances to attend the lodge, and had only been absent once, and he, therefore, felt the brethren owed him a word of gratitude and praise. In presenting Bro. Wilkinson, I.P.M., with a Past Master's jewel, he (the W.M.) asked him to accept it as a token that he had performed his duties in a manner acceptable to the brethren. He asked the I.P.M. to accept the jewel for three reasons—firstly, as a mark of their esteem and respect; secondly, in appreciation of his services; and, thirdly, as a memento of his year of office in which he filled the chair of the Dobic Lodge.

Bro. T. Wilkinson, P.M. 1420, I.P.M., said he felt very deeply the kind words in which the W.M. had expressed himself as to his services to the lodge. The very kind reception he had always received after travelling long distances had amply repaid him for any trouble taken. He should like to have done a little more work, especially as during his year there had been a large number of initiates. He thanked them for the handsome jewel presented to him, which it would give him great pleasure to wear in remembrance of many happy hours spent in the lodge. Although he was leaving the chair, he hoped the Past Masters would receive him very heartily. He was pleased to hear the remarks of the Prov. J.G.W. about the Charity organisation, and he hoped they would all see the advantages to be gained by joining that Committee. Unity was strength, and whilst as a province they could do something, yet as individual members they could do nothing.

"The Visitors" was cordially given, and duly acknowledged by Bros. F. Callam, W.M. 1139; P. G. W. Tytpe, P.M. 1671; and E. J. Packington, W.M. 2444.

Other toasts were given, and a very enjoyable meeting terminated with the Tyler's toast.

Bro. Abbott, Organist, presided at the pianoforte, and was ably assisted in the musical arrangements by Bros. Goldsworth, Mortimer, and others, and Bro. J. Drewitt, P.M., Treas., in conjunction with the Stewards, was indefatigable in his endeavours to cater for the enjoyment of all present.

Shadwell Clerke Lodge, No. 1910.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 23rd ultimo, under peculiarly sad circumstances, the W.M., Bro. Jabez Church, having passed away to that bourne from whence no traveller returns only a few short hours previously. So comparatively sudden was this most excellent and popular brother's death, that many of the brethren arrived at Mark Masons' Hall to learn then, for the first time, that their lodge had no longer a W.M. After the lodge was opened, Bro. Matier, the Secretary, and Senior Past Master, took the earliest opportunity of apprizing the members of the sad loss which had been sustained, and, in the most feeling and sympathetic terms, to move that it should be notified in the minutes how deeply the lodge deplored the sad event, and how they wished that, in due course, their warmest sympathies and most earnest condolences should be conveyed to the widow and family of their respected and beloved Master. It is almost needless to remark that the eloquent language of the Secretary was listened to with breathless attention, and his suggestions were most cordially and warmly supported. The rest of the business consisted in the passing, on behalf, and at the request, of the Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1, of Bro. Harold Geo. Parsons. This was conducted by Bro. Charles Belton, P.M. 1. Then followed the initiation of Messrs. Thos. Henry Wye (a son of the I.P.M.) and Fred. W. Williamson. This was carried out by the Provincial Grand Master of Guernsey and Alderney, Bro. Balfour Cockburn. Twenty guineas were voted for the Boys' Festival, and the Stewardship, which had been undertaken by the late W.M., was taken up by the I.P.M., Bro. Wye.

The lodge was then closed in the usual manner.

Ember Lodge, No. 2540.

This lodge held its last meeting for the season on the 11th ult. in the new Masonic Temple recently erected by Bro. John Mayo, Castle Hotel, East Molesey, Surrey, for the use of the lodges and chapters holding their meetings at this hostelry. It is worthy of record that the Ember's last meeting is the first regular lodge meeting that has been held in the new building, and the members were highly gratified with the arrangements as now provided for their comfort. The W.M., Bro. Beck, presided, and the whole of the officers and brethren were present to support him.

Royal Arch.

St. Magdalen Chapter, No. 242.

A meeting of this chapter was held on Friday, the 27th ult., at the Masonic Rooms, Doncaster. Present: Comps. J. Constable, M.E.Z.; C. Goldthorpe, H.; W. Fretwell, J.; J. Fitzgerald, S.E.; S. Pegler, P.Z., acting I.P.Z.; F. J. Forth, Treas.; F. Rand, P.P.G.T., acting S.N.; H. Fenton, P.S.; and others.

Bro. F. H. Buckland, J.W. 242, received a unanimous ballot, and will be exalted at the next convocation.

The companions after chapter partook of light refreshment in the ante-room.

Era Chapter, No. 1423.

A meeting of this chapter was held at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, on the 14th ult. Among those present were Comps. R. Poore, P.A.G.D.C., M.E.Z.; F. Robinson, H.; W. Fisher, P.Z., P.P.G.P.S., as J.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C., S.E.; Dauntton, S.N.; E. H. Thiellay, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; Masters, P.S.; G. L. Wingate, P.Z., P.P.A.G.S.; H. Higgins, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C.; C. H. Köhler, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B.; and A. Collins.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. It was unanimously resolved that in future the installation meeting be held on the last Saturday in September instead of the second Saturday in July as heretofore. Comp. G. L. Wingate was presented with a Past Principal's jewel. The resignation of Comp. J. Faulkner, P.Z., P.P.G.S., was received with regret. A vote of condolence with the widow of the late Comp. S. Burridge was passed, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. Wells, J.; W. H. Matthews, P.Z.; W. H. Lee, P.Z.; and others.

The chapter was then closed, and a banquet followed.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the customary toasts were duly honoured.

Comp. W. Fisher responded on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers;" Comps. Wingate, Higgins, and Köhler for "The Past Principals;" and Comps. Dauntton and Masters for "The Officers."

The proceedings then terminated.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The regular monthly Council meeting was held on Friday, the 27th ultimo, Bro. Richard Eve in the chair, and amongst those present were Bros. Lefevre, Pulman, Jas. Stephens, W. Russell, J. W. Burgess, J. Leach Barrett, Thomas Taylor, and J. M. McLeod, Secretary.

The Council meeting of January having referred a case to the Dep. Grand Registrar, it was reported that in Bro. Bucknill's opinion the Council were wrong in rejecting the petition of the candidate.

The matter was referred back to the Petitions Committee for further report, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Bucknill, Q.C., M.P., Dep. G. Registrar.

The attendance of Bro. Vassar-Smith at meetings of Board of Management was excused for six months in consequence of ill-health.

Bro. Keyser, P.G.D. and Patron, was re-nominated as Treasurer for ensuing year.

Bros. Fairchild, Fitzgerald, Fritchard, Stephens, and A. C. Spaul (retiring members) were nominated for election on the Board of Management, and none other being nominated, there will be no contest for the London section of the Board at the election on Friday, 10th April.

Bros. Bevir (Wilts), Diamond (Derbyshire), Pulman (Northumberland), and Russell (Kent), retiring members, were re-nominated, and also the following representatives of provinces: Bros. Clowes (Sussex), Levick (Herts), Smith (Leicestershire and Rutland), W. H. Spaul (Shropshire), Whittley (Devonshire) for the five vacancies in the provincial section of the Board.

Bro. Eve gave notice of motion for the Quarterly Court—"That the Quarterly Court of Governors and Subscribers of April 5th, 1892, having authorised the Board of Management 'to entertain negotiations for the realisation of the estate of the Institution to the best advantage,' and the Board having determined 'that it is desirable to remove the Institution from Wood Green to some more eligible site, where sufficient space for an enlarged school-house and play-ground accommodation would be available.'

"This Quarterly Court hereby authorises the Board to purchase a site and to erect thereon a new School, and to dispose of the present land and premises to the best advantage."

It was again reported that Maurice William Hart, No. 34 on list of candidates, had been withdrawn, he having secured a presentation for Christ's Hospital. There will thus be 50 candidates for the 28 vacancies.

We are pleased to learn that the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., has fixed Wednesday, 24th June, for the 98th Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, over which his Grace will preside.

The Secretary, Bro. McLeod, will be glad to receive names of brethren as Stewards, the number at the present time falling far short of the requirements of the Institution.

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

CAMDEN LODGE, No. 704.

A meeting was held on Friday, the 20th ultimo, at the Earl Russell, Pancras-road, King's Cross, when there were present: Bros. Hume, W.M.; Meurice, S.W.; G. Gritths, J.W.; James Thom, P.M., Preceptor; George Smith, Treas.; J. Swift, Asst. Sec.; Burningham, S.D.; Cartwright, J.D.; Hicks, I.G.; Eyes, P.M.; Ransford, P.M.; Makin, Fleming, Mackenzie, Baker, J. W. Slack, W. Rignall, Clarke, Copleston, C. Gammon, Deane, and Revett, making a total of 102 attendances during the last five weeks.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Gammon acting as candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Gammon, who rehearsed the ceremony of investiture of officers, Bro. Rainsford, P.M., acting as D.C. Bro. Copleston, W.M. 704, gave the three addresses in the ceremony of installation. The W.M. rose for the first and second times. Bro. Meurice was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Bros. Copleston and Gammon expressed thanks for the indulgence granted them. The W.M. rose for the third time, and, all Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

A meeting was held on Friday, the 27th ult., at the Earl Russell, 2, Pancras-road, King's Cross. Present: Bros. Hume, W.M.; Johnson, S.W.; Parish, J.W.; Thom, P.M., Preceptor; Hancock, P.M., Deputy Preceptor; G. Smith, Treas.; Styles, P.M., Sec.; Meurice, S.D.; Burningham, J.D.; Hicks, I.G.; Smith (G.H.); Slack, W. Rignall, Adamson, Webb, McQueen, George, Fox, Makein, Swift, W. M. Gammon, and Briggs.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last lodge read and confirmed. Bro. Johnson, assisted by the brethren, worked the 1st Section of the Lecture. Bro. Makein answered the questions leading to the Second Degree, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bros. Thom, P.M., and Johnson worked the 1st Section of the Lecture. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Makein acting as candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. rose for the first time, dues were collected, and three new members were elected. The W.M. rose for the second time. Bro. Johnson was elected W.M. for the next meeting. The W.M. rose for the third time, and all Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

BLACKHEATH LODGE, No. 1320.

A meeting was held on Monday, the 30th ult., at the Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, when the 15 Sections were rehearsed under the able presidency of Bro. W. Dawson, W.M. 785, Preceptor, assisted by the following brethren: First Lecture—1st Section, Bro. Taylor, 2182; 2nd, Bro. Niblett, 1622; 3rd, Bro. Lord, 1326; 4th, Bro. Hill, 1512; 5th, Bro. Cornford, S.D. 1922; 6th, Bro. Rice, S.W. 1320; and 7th, Bro. T. H. Salmon, W.M. 1475. Second Lecture—1st Section, Bro. G. Niblett, 1622; 2nd, Bro. C. Plant, W.M. 101; 3rd, Bro. C. H. Stone, P.M. 507; 4th, Bro. T. H. Salmon, W.M. 1475; and 5th, Bro. J. Hooper, P.M. 1320. Third Lecture—1st Section, Bro. T. R. Cass, P.M. 1320; 2nd, Bro. S. Billard, S.W. 1622; and 3rd, Bro. J. Loader, P.M. and Sec. 1622. Present in all 33. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Bro. Dawson, President, and the section workers for their excellent work. Bro. T. H. Salmon, W.M. 1475, S.W., was elected hon. member. Bros. Dean, Roberts, Smith, Grove, and Addington were elected members, and the lodge was closed.

CITY OF WESTMINSTER LODGE, No. 1563.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 25th ult., at the Café Royal, Regent-street, W., when there were present Bros. Marks, W.M.; Ashplant, S.W.; H. T. Culliford, J.W.; Smith, P.M., Preceptor; Brander, P.M., Treas.; Beach, Sec.; Flood, S.D.; Dixon, J.D.; C. Culliford, I.G.; Long, Tyler, and others.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Bro. W. M. Marks, W.M., assisted by the brethren, worked the 1st and 2nd Sections of the Lecture. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. A. Marks acting as candidate. The lodge was then closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

The weekly convocation was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, on Friday, the 27th ult. Present: Comps. J. Loader, M.E.Z.; Cureton, H.; Derham, J.; T. Grumant, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, P.Z., S.E.; Cass, S.N.; Lewis, P.S.; West, F. Williams, Wm. Dawson, Cope, Addington, Atkinson, Block, Barr, Phillips, Reed, Telling, and Pullen.

The chapter was declared open, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Barr personating the candidate. Comp. Jos. Atkinson, 1901, was elected a joining member. Comp. Cureton, H., was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting. The chapter was then closed.

MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)
For the week ending Saturday, April 11, 1896.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries for Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Rose Croix Chapters, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place, day, or month of meeting.

MONDAY, APRIL 6.

- CRAFT LODGES.
60, Unity, Inns of Court Hotel.
53, United Lodge of Prudence, Albion Tavern.
144, St. Luke's, Anderson's Hotel.
259, Unions, Freemasons' Hall.
1310, Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.
1060, Royal Leopold, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1853, Canton, Freemasons' Hall.
2029, St. Botolph's, Albion Tavern.
2578, National Artillery, Criterion Restaurant.
ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.
28, Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Hall.
2029, King Solomon, Mark Masons' Hall.
MARK LODGE.
5, Mallet and Chisel, Mark Masons' Hall.
LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.
Blackheath, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, &c. 8.
Cripplegate, Goldsmiths' Arms, Gutter-lane, at 6.30.
Eleanor, Rose and Crown, High Cross, Tottenham, at 8.
Friars, The White Horse, 94, White Horse-lane, Mile End-rd., E., at 8.
Hyde Park, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terr., Bishop's-rd., Paddington, at 8.
Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30.
Marquess of Ripon, Mildmay Tavern, Ball's Pond-road, N., 7.30.
Metropolitan, Moorgate Tavern, 15, Finsbury-pavement, at 7.30.
Neptune, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, S.W., at 7.30.
North London Chapter, Cock Hotel, Highbury, at 8.
Perseverance, Rider's Hotel, Holborn, E.C., at 7.
Regent's Park, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.
Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hotel (opposite Wimbledon Railway Station), at 7.30.
Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, Putney, at 8.
St. James's Union, St. James's Restaurant (Piccadilly entrance) St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road.
St. Michael's, Norland Arms, Addison-rd. North, Uxbridge-rd., 8 Sincerity, Blackwall Railway Hotel, Fenchurch-street, at 7.
Stockwell, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 6.
United Military, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich, at 7.30
Up-ton, Great Eastern Hotel, Bishopsgate-street, at 8.
Walthamstow, The Chequers, High-street, Walthamstow, at 8.
Wellington, New Cross House, New Cross, at 8.
Woodrow, Star and Garter Hotel, Pall Mall, W., at 3.
Zetland, "The Falkland," Falkland-road, N.W., at 8.
Doric Chapter, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 6.
Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8
North London Chapter, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8

TUESDAY, APRIL 7.

- Colonial Board, at 4.
CRAFT LODGES.
18, Old Dundee, Cannon-street Hotel.
101, Temple, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
104, Union, Criterion.
217, Stability, Anderson's Hotel.
1150, Marquis of Dalhousie, 33, Golden-square.
1250, Duke of Edinburgh, Eastern Hotel, West India Dock-road.
1201, Golden Rule, Cafe Royal.
1472, Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich.
1003, Kingsland, Cock Tavern.
1003, Cornhill, Cafe Monaco.
2102, Savage Club, Freemasons' Hall.
2500, Hortus, Freemasons' Hall.
2524, Train-Bands, Finsbury Barracks.
ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.
1, Grand Master's, Hotel Victoria.
62, Moira, Albion Tavern.
100, Temperance, White Swan, Deptford.
570, Southwark, Bridge House Hotel.
MARK LODGE.
35, Royal Savoy, Criterion.
LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.
Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, S.E., at 8.
Capper, City Arms, St. Mary Axe, at 6.
Clarence and Avondale, Green Man Hotel, Leytonstone, E., at 8
Constitutional, "Apple Tree and Mitre," 30, Cursitor-street, Chancery-lane, W.C., at 7.
Chaucer, Grapes Tavern (Slee & Pike's), 121, Borough High-street, at 8.
Corinthian, George Hotel, Cubitt Town, Poplar, at 8.
Dalhousie, Lord Truro, Dalston-lane, at 8.
Domatic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.
Duke of Cornwall, Queen's Arms, Queen-street, Cheapside, at 7.
Egyptian, Salutation, Newgate-street, at 7.
Emblematic, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.
Enfield, Rose and Crown, Church-street, Edmonton, at 8.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tavern, Plough-road, Rotherhithe, Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8.
Finsbury, The Bell Hotel, Old Bailey, at 7.
Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-street, Woolwich, 2nd and 4th Tues., at 7.30.
Hendon, Railway Hotel, West Hampstead, N.W., at 8.
Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 7.30.
Joppa, Boundary Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C., at 7.30.
Kensington, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.
Kirby, Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras Station, at 7.30.
Mount Edgumbe, Havelock Arms, Naylor-road, Asylum-road, Peckham, at 8.
Nelson, Star and Garter, Powis-street, Woolwich, at 8.
New Cross, Chester Arms, Albany-street, N.W., at 8.
New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tav., Finsbury Park, at 8.
Prince Frederick, William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton-road, Maida Vale, W., at 8.
Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, Greenwich, at 8.
Richmond, Station Hotel, Richmond, at 8.30.
Robert Burns, Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W.
South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Waltham Green, S.W., at 7.30
St. Kew, Masonic Hall, Weston-super-Mare, at 8.
St. Leonard's, Bedford Hotel, Victoria Park-road, South Hackney, at 8.
Southwark, White Hart Hotel, New Cross Gate, at 8.
Wandsworth, St. Mark's School-room, Battersea Rise, S.W., at 8
Westbourne, Oliver Arms, Westbourne-terrace North, Harrow-road, at 8.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8.
Camden Chapter, The Moorgate, Moorgate-street, at 8.
Kintore, Mark Lodge, Stirling Castle Hotel, Camberwell Green, S.E., at

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8.

- Committee R.M. Benevolent Institution, at 4.
CRAFT LODGES.
3, Fidelity, Freemasons' Hall.
14, Enoch, Freemasons' Hall.
13, Union Waterloo, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.
15, Kent, Freemasons' Hall.
17, Justice, White Swan, Deptford.
58, Wellington, Cannon-street Hotel.
120, Belgrave, Anderson's Hotel.
120, John Hervey, Freemasons' Hall.
158, St. Martin's-le-Grand, Holborn Restaurant.

- 1886, Upper Norwood, White Hart Hotel.
1766, St. Leonard, Great Eastern Hotel.
1000, Montague Guest, Inns of Court Hotel.
2272, Rye, Peckham Public Hall.
2362, Bloomsbury Rilles, Head-quarters, Chancery-street.
2410, Esculapius, Cafe Royal.
ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.
1524, Duke of Connaught, Anderson's Hotel.
1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hotel.
MARK LODGES.
Old Kent, Mark Masons' Hall.
385, King Solomon, Mark Masons' Hall.
LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.
Beaconsfield, Chequers Hotel, High-street, Walthamstow, at 8.
Belgrave, Salutation Tavern, Newgate-street, at 6.30.
Bromley St. Leonard, Bromley Vestry Hall, Bow-road, at 8.
Confidence, Bunch of Grapes, 14, Lime-street, E.C., at 7.
Derby Allcroft, Midland Grand Hotel, at 8.
Doric, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, at 8.
Duke of Albany, The Clock House, Battersea-park-road, at 8.
Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, 8.
Earl of Lathom, Station Tavern, Camberwell New-road, S.E., 8.
Fidelity, Alfred Tavern, Roman-road, Barnsbury, N., at 8.
Gallery, Press Club, Wine Office-court, Fleet-street, at 7.
Guelph, Plough and Harrow, Leytonstone-road, E., at 8.
Langthorne, Angel Hotel, Ilford, at 8.
La Tolerance, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.
Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John-street, Mayfair, at 8.
London Scottish Rilles, Albert Hotel, Victoria-street, S.W., 8.30
Merchant Navy, Town Hall, Limehouse, at 7.30.
Mitcham, Vestry Hall, Mitcham, at 8.
Mount Lebanon, "Slee & Pike's," 121, Boro' High-street, at 8.
Pannure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7.30.
Plucknett, Railway Hotel, Finchley, at 7.45.
Prosperity, Weaver's Arms, London Wall, at 7.
Ravensbourne, Black Bull Inn, Lewisham, at 8.
Rose of Denmark, Brunswick House, Wandsworth-road, at 8.
Royal Jubilee, the Crown, Lambeth-road, S.E., at 8.
Royal Oak, Lord Clyde, Wotton-road, Deptford, at 8.
St. Leonard, Prince of Wales Hotel, Bishop's-rd., Victoria Pk., 8.
Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 8.
Strong Man, Blue Anchor, 164, Fenchurch-street, E.C., at 6.30.
Temperance-in-the-East, Greenwich Pensioner, Bow-lane, Poplar, at 7.30.
United Mariners, Duke of Albany, Kitto-road, Nunhead, at 7.30.
United Strength, Hope Tavern, Stanhope-st., Euston-road, at 8.
Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-street, S.W., at 7.30.
Whittington, Red Lion Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8.
Andrew Chapter, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
Domatic Chapter, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, W., at 8.
Camden Mark Lodge, Earl Russell, Pancras-road, King's Cross, 8.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9.

- Quarterly General Court Girls' School, at Freemasons' Tavern, at 12.
CRAFT LODGES.
10, Royal Athletean, Cannon-street Hotel.
91, Regularity, Freemasons' Hall.
200, Friendship, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
238, Pilgrim, Freemasons' Hall.
203, Bank of England, Albion Tavern.
860, Dalhousie, Anderson's Hotel.
870, Southwark, Bridge House Hotel.
1076, Capper, Guildhall Tavern.
1471, Islington, Cock Tavern.
1548, Duke of Connaught, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1590, Skelmersdale, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
1791, Creton, Freemasons' Hall.
1804, Coborn, Bow Vestry Hall.
2047, Beckenham, Public Hall.
2090, Hammersmith, Vestry Hall.
ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.
140, St. George's, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
619, Beadon, Anderson's Hotel.
813, New Concord, Guildhall Tavern.
1472, Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich.
1042, Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbrooke Hall, Notting Hill.
1901, Selwyn, Montpellier Hotel, Peckham.
ROSE CROIX.
44, Bard of Avon, 33, Golden-square.
ROSICRUCIAN.
Metropolitan College, Mark Masons' Hall.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10.

- Quarterly Meeting of Boys' School, at Freemasons' Tavern, at 12.
CRAFT LODGES.
134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
157, Bedford Freemasons' Hall.
1559, New Cross, Portland Hotel, Greenwich.
1997, John Carpenter, Albion Tavern.
2390, Ordnance, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.
ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.
33, Britannic, Freemasons' Hall.
MARK LODGE.
101, Adoniram, Mark Masons' Hall.
SATURDAY, APRIL 11.
CRAFT LODGES.
108, London, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
173, Phoenix, Freemasons' Hall.
1440, Mount Edgumbe, Bridge House Hotel.
1007, Loyalty, London Tavern.
1012, West Middlesex, Municipal Buildings, Ealing.
1071, Mizpah, Albion Tavern.
1743, Perseverance, Anderson's Hotel.
2369, Cornish, Mark Masons' Hall.
2384, Mitcham, Vestry Hall, Lower Mitcham.
2513, Sir Walter St. John, Surrey Masonic Hall.
2570, Lewisham, Parish Hall, Lewisham.
ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.
1928, Gallery, Anderson's Hotel.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION
FOR GIRLS.

APRIL ELECTION, 1896.

The VOTES and INTEREST of the Patrons, Vice-Patrons, Vice-Presidents, Governors, and Subscribers, are respectfully solicited in favour of

CONSTANCE LOUISE V. COOPER,

Elder daughter of the late Bro. WILLIAM COOPER, who lost his life on the 29th of September, 1893, in his 33rd year, leaving a Widow and Three young Children.

Bro. COOPER (who was shot during the Argentine Revolution of 1893, whilst in charge of a pilot engine to a special train on the Central Argentine Railway carrying Government troops to quell the insurrection) was, to the time of his death, a member of the Southern Cross Lodge, No. 1740 (Cordova), in which he had been initiated in 1887.

The case is strongly recommended by—

*Bro. R. S. Cushing, Life Governor, 85, Darenth Road, Stamford Hill, N.; Bro. H. W. Hunt, Life Governor, The Elms, Alley Road, West Dulwich, S.E.; Bro. Frederick Neild, Steward 1896, 27, Tavistock Square, W.C.; *Bro. H. T. Thompson, Life Governor, 85, Palmerston Buildings, E.C.; Bro. Frederick Wright, 85, Stamford Hill, N.

Promises of support and proxies will be thankfully received by those marked thus *, or by the Widow, Mrs. COOPER, 98, Purves Road, Kensal Rise, N.W.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION
FOR BOYS.

The Votes and Interest of the Patrons, Governors, and Subscribers of the above Institution are respectfully solicited in favour of

ARNOLD BEVERLY MINERS,

Eldest 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. Hert., Gresham-street.
* John A. Gartley, P.M. 205, P.Z. 205, 112, 5, Sackville-street, Piccadilly.
* J. S. Powell, 1287, Newgate-street.
* Richard Kelly, 907, 54, Holborn Viaduct.
* Sam Barfoot, 2018, 2519, Cleveland House, Wanstead.
* W. H. Smith, Kidderminster.
* B. L. P. Valeriani, P.M. and Sec. 1087, 24, Cranbourne-street, W.C.
* J. B. Green, W.M. 180, 22, Bartlett's-bldgs., Holborn, W.C.
* J. G. Taylor, J.P.M. 180, 11, Mostyn Row, Brixton.
* W. C. Parsons, P.M., Sec. 180, P.M. and P. Sec. 1687, P.Z. 180 and 755, 4, Mount-street, W.
* T. J. Dibley, P.M., Treasurer 180, 38, Holborn Viaduct.
* G. A. B. Fletcher, P.M. 180, 138, New Bond-street.
* W. Brownwood, P.M. 180, 10, Bush-lane, E.C.
* F. J. Street, P.M. 180, 19, Loraine-place, Holloway.
* C. J. Wade, P.M. 180, 8 and 9, Great St. Helen's, E.C.
* L. Herf, P.M. 180, 24, Crutchedfriars, E.C.
* Lt.-Col. W. H. Baker, P.M. 180, 7, Bank-street, Regent-st.

And all the P.M.s., Wardens, and Brethren of the St. James's Union Lodge.

Promises of support and proxies will be thankfully received by those marked *.

Proxies for other Institutions will be acceptable for the purposes of exchange.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT
INSTITUTION
FOR AGED FREEMASONS.

MAY ELECTION, 1896.

TO THE PATRONS, GOVERNORS, AND SUBSCRIBERS,
Your VOTES and INTEREST are earnestly solicited on behalf of

BRO. JOHN OLIVER, P.M. 1328,
26, KESTREL AVENUE, HERNE HILL, S.E.,

Who was initiated in the Patterson Lodge, 913, in 1868; was one of the Founders and P.M. of the Granite Lodge, 1328, in 1874; one of the Founders and First Secretary of the Surrey Masonic Hall Lodge, 1339, in 1876; a Subscribing Member 24 years; Member of the Royal Arch; Life Governor of the three Masonic Charitable Institutions.

Bro. OLIVER was in a large way of business as a Builder and Contractor up to 1877, when he met with a serious accident in the Witcombe Bridge catastrophe, at Bath, Somersetshire, his hip joint being dislocated, and his thigh bone broken, by which he was incapacitated, and is still very lame. This calamity ultimately led to the loss of his capital and business.

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Masonic and General Tidings.

THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will hold their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, the 8th instant, at 4 p.m.

BRO. THE MARQUIS AND MARCHIONESS OF TWEEDDALE have left London for Paris, where they purpose making a short stay.

THE 49TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL in behalf of the Earlswood Asylum, Red Hill, Surrey, will be held, by permission of the Company, at Fishmongers' Hall, on Wednesday, the 13th May, under the presidency of Alderman Samuel.

THE 11TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL of the Westminster Orchestral Society was celebrated at the Holborn Restaurant on Saturday evening last under the presidency of Mr. Walter Macfarren, there being present a considerable number of guests.

THE ROYAL MAIL STEAMER DAHONEY has arrived at Liverpool from West Africa, bringing with her a number of officers and men who had served in the Ashantee expedition, as well as Captain Denton, Deputy Governor of Lagos, and Judge Richards of the Gold Coast.

THE KING OF THE BELGIANS and his daughter, Princess Clementine, arrived at Cannes at 2 p.m., on Saturday afternoon last. They were met at the railway station by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, by whom they were escorted on board his Royal Highness's yacht Britannia.

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein visited Cannes on Saturday morning last for the purpose of attending a service held in St. George's Church in memory of the late Duke of Albany, it being the anniversary of the Duke's death in 1884.

AS THE RESULT of the ball recently held in the Inner Temple Hall, in behalf of the funds of St. Michael's Convalescent Home, Westgate-on-Sea, Lady Halsbury has been able to hand over to the managers of that institution the sum of £530 17s. 6d. out of the £1000 required for the building of the new wing.

A SAD ACCIDENT occurred on Saturday afternoon last off Greenhithe, by which a boat was capsized by a sudden squall and two of the three occupants drowned. The third, who belonged to the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, was picked up in an insensible condition, but in about an hour and a half was restored to consciousness.

BRO. LORD MAYOR Sir Walter Wilkin will return to the Mansion House for the purpose of receiving the boys of Christ's Hospital and presenting them with their usual buns and wine, and coins of the realm, and will afterwards attend Divine service with the Sheriffs and other members of the Corporation at Christ Church, Newgate-street, to hear the customary Spital sermon.

A SALE AND EXHIBITION of handwork by the workers of the Countess of Warwick's County Schools of Needlework Association—formerly known as the Fuston School of Needlework—will be held at Stafford House, by the kind permission of the Duke and Duchess of Stafford, on Thursday, the 30th instant. The Countess of Warwick will personally conduct the sale from 3 p.m. till 7 p.m. on that day.

ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON the service of thanksgiving at St. Paul's Cathedral in connection with the completion of the mosaics of the choir will be attended by Bro. the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs in State, together with a large deputation of the Courts of Aldermen and Common Council. The Corporation representatives will assemble at the North Entrance at 3.45, the Aldermen wearing their violet robes and the Commoners their mazarine gowns.

AT A MEETING on Saturday last of the fellows and members of the Royal Botanic Society, Regent's Park, a resolution was proposed for opening the Gardens to the general public on every Monday and Saturday throughout the year on the payment by each person of one shilling, and recommending that a band should be engaged to play on public days. After a long discussion, the Chairman announced that the Council of the Society would give the matter due consideration.

IN THE ABSENCE of Bro. Lord Mayor Sir Walter Wilkin, Alderman Sir Stuart Knill presided at a meeting, held at the Mansion House on Saturday evening last, of the Hospital Saturday Fund. The report showed that the receipts for the past year from all sources amounted to £20,354 0s. 4d., and the expenditure to £2,493 3s. 1d., and that the sum of £17,650 had been awarded to 170 hospitals, dispensaries, and convalescent homes. The report was adopted, and subsequently certificates were presented to students who had passed examinations in "first aid to the injured."

THE HOME SECRETARY (Bro. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., M.P.), and the Hon. Lady Ridley gave a dinner party at their residence in Carlton House-terrace, on Saturday last, at which Bro. the Earl and Countess of Lathom and Lady Bertha Wilbraham and others were present. Among those who attended the subsequent reception were Bro. the Earl of Crawford, Bro. and Mrs. A. Staveley Hill; Bro. the Hon. B. Bathurst, Bro. Sir Thomas Sutherland, M.P.; Bro. Sir Joseph Savory, Bart., M.P.; Bro. Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bart., M.P.; and Bro. Sir J. Blundell Maple, M.P.

THE RACE BETWEEN Oxford and Cambridge on Saturday was one of the hardest rowed on record, the distance being covered under the most unfavourable conditions as to weather in 20 minutes one second. The Light Blues led the greater part of the way, but not by more than a length. During the last 100 yards or so, Oxford, which was then more sheltered than its rivals, put on a tremendous spurt, and in spite of all the efforts of the Cambridge stroke, won a grand race by about two-fifths of a length. Those who were on board the steamers that followed the race must have had one of the finest rowing treats.

A NEW first-class battleship was launched at Messrs. Laird's yard at Birkenhead on Monday in the presence of several thousands of spectators. The vessel, which was christened the "Mars" by Mrs. Laird, will have a displacement of 14,900 tons, the power of engines with natural draught being 10,000, and with forced draught 12,000 horse-power. She was designed by Sir W. White, and is 393 feet long and 75 feet beam, with a mean draft of 27 feet 6 inches. Her coal carrying capacity is 1900 tons, and her speed is estimated at 16½ knots with natural and 17½ knots with forced draught. She is an exceptionally powerful vessel, and her main armament will consist of four 12-inch 46-ton breechloading guns, firing a projectile of 850 lbs.

MEMBERS OF THE CRAFT will be interested to learn that the Leopold Lodge, No. 1775, Church, have (with the consent of the Rev. T. E. S. Catters, vicar) made arrangements to hold a Masonic service at St. Paul's Church, Oswaldtwistle, on a Sunday afternoon sometime in June or July. The sermon will probably be delivered by one of the Chaplains to the Order, and the date will be fixed to suit the convenience of the clergyman selected. The W.M. of the Leopold Lodge (Bro. Lord) is taking a great interest in the matter, and it is intended to invite the attendance on this occasion of all Freemasons who can make it convenient to be present. The proceeds will be devoted to the East Lancashire Masonic Educational Systematic and Benevolent Fund.

A MEMORIAL TO BRO. GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA.—At an influential preliminary meeting held on Friday last under the presidency of Bro. the Duke of Abercorn, it was decided to raise a memorial fund in recognition of Bro. Sala's long and distinguished journalistic work. Among those who have consented to act on the Committee which has been formed are Bro. the Duke of Abercorn, the Duke of Fife, Lord Rosebery, Bro. Lord Glenesk, Lord Dufferin, Sir A. Otway, Bro. Sir Douglas Straight, Sir H. de Bathe, Sir David Salomons, Bro. Sir Augustus Harris, Sir Charles Dilke, Sir Walter Besant, Sir George Newnes, Sir H. G. Reid, Bro. Sir W. B. Richardson, Sir H. B. Poland, Bro. Sir Somers Vine, Sir Richard Quain, Mr. William Black, Mr. George Alexander, and the Hon. W. F. D. Smith.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK brought their visit to Knowsley, where for the preceding week they had been the guests of Bro. the Earl and Countess of Derby, to a conclusion on Monday. Previous, however, to their departure they paid a visit to Liverpool and inspected the overhead railway under the guidance of Sir William Forwood, who is chairman of the Company. The Royal visitors made a journey as far as Seaforth in a specially-decorated saloon carriage, and on their return were received by their hosts, as Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, at the Town Hall, where they were entertained at luncheon. Afterwards they left for York House, St. James's, accompanied by Lady Mary Lygon and Sir Charles Cust. During their excursion to Liverpool the traffic was stopped and their Royal Highnesses were enthusiastically cheered along the line of route.

THE DUCHESS OF TECK attended a special dedication service which was held in the new chapel of the Home for Incurables, Streatham, on Tuesday.

BRO. LORD MAYOR Sir W. Wilkin will open in State on Saturday, May 2nd, the International Horse and Horseless Carriage Exhibition at the Crystal Palace.

NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND.—The 33rd anniversary dinner will be held at the Hôtel Métropole on Saturday, the 10th May. The chair will be taken by the President of the Fund, Bro. Lord Glenesk.

IN SUCCESSION to Sir Albert Rollit, M.P., who has retired after four years' service, Bro. Sir Stafford Northcote, M.P., has been elected the President of the Association of Chambers of Commerce.

FOR THE BENEFIT of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, a Cinderella will be given at the King's Hall of the Holborn Restaurant on Friday, the 24th inst. Tickets may be had of Mr. H. Kemp, 7 and 8, Thavies-inn, Holborn-circus.

THE DUCHESS OF ABERCORN and Lady Alexandra Hamilton have left town for Eaton Hall, Cheshire, on a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Westminster, until the end of the week, when they go to Baron's Court, Newtown Stewart, county Tyrone.

THE AMOUNT PAID in fees to the various professors of music and singing at the Guildhall School of Music during last term is announced to have been £8500, and in this are not included the salaries and wages paid to the various members of the staff.

THE EARL OF ALBEMARLE presided at the fourth annual dinner of the London County Cycling and Athletic Club, which was held at the Hôtel Métropole, on Saturday evening last, among the guests being Lord Granville Gordon and Bro. J. C. Parkinson.

THE GOLD ORNAMENTS and other articles taken from King Prempeh's palace at Coomassie have, by the authority of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, been lent to the Museum of the Royal United Service Institution, where they will be on view for the next two months.

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK has forwarded £5 as an annual subscription to the Sailors' Orphan Girls' School and Home, Hampstead, which Institution is greatly in need of assistance. The office of the Charity is at 50, Bishopsgate-street Within, London, E.C.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES has arranged that the festival dinner which is to be held at the Imperial Institute in aid of the re-endowment of Guy's Hospital, and at which his Royal Highness has graciously consented to preside as Chairman, shall take place on Wednesday, the 10th June.

IT IS OFFICIALLY announced that the Committee of Council on Education have decided to open the South Kensington Museum, including the Indian and Science Collections in the galleries on the Western side of Exhibition-road, as well as the Bethnal Green Branch, as an experiment on Sundays.

IN CONNECTION with the approaching Royal visit to Croydon in May next, the Mayor (Bro. Alderman F. T. Eldridge) has offered to present the Corporation with a silver gilt mace. It is proposed to spend £1000 in decorations and entertainments, while the day will be observed as a public holiday.

THE FETES in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the War of Independence will begin at Athens on Monday, the 6th inst. The principal feature will be the revival of the Olympic games, and already a large number of visitors have arrived in the Greek capital in order to take part in the festivities.

THE DUKE OF SAXE COBURG GOTHA paid a private visit to Eltham College, the Royal Naval School in which for so many years his Royal Highness has taken so deep an interest. His Royal Highness was very heartily received, and on being conducted to the College library, inspected the plans for the new chapel which is about to be erected.

THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL of the British Orphan Asylum, Slough, will be held at the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole, on Wednesday, the 22nd inst., under the presidency of Lord Rothschild, while Mr. James Bailey, M.P., will preside at that of the Royal Eye Hospital, Southwark, which will be held at the same hotel on Tuesday, the 21st inst.

GENERAL SATISFACTION will be felt at the announcements made in the daily press on Wednesday that the excess of income over expenditure for the financial year ending on the 31st ult. reaches the unprecedented sum of £7,642,642. It is evident from this that both the home and export trade of the country has been in a flourishing state during the past 12 months.

LEWISHAM PUBLIC LIBRARIES POLL.—The Ratepayers refuse the Penny.—The voting papers issued to the Lewisham ratepayers of the parish last week to ascertain if they were in favour of increasing the library rate to a penny in the pound was collected on Saturday last. The result was as follows: Against the increase, 4044; for, 3035—majority against, 1008.

THE SECOND annual dinner of the St. Martin's Old Boys took place at the Holborn Restaurant last Saturday under the presidency of W. McIntyre, Esq. After dinner, which was admirably served, a capital programme of music was rendered by members and friends of the Post Office. A handsome gold watch-chain was presented to Mr. G. H. Webb, Hon. Sec., for services rendered to the Club.

THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY will be opened to the public, but without any ceremony, to-morrow (Saturday), at 10 a.m. It will be free on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays during the summer months from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., but on Thursdays and Fridays, which will be students' days, it will be opened to the public only on payment of sixpence each person, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

PORTSMOUTH FREEMASONS' CLUB.—The annual meeting of the shareholders of this Club was held on the 25th ult., Mr. H. Croucher, President, in the chair. On the proposition of Mr. Buckle, seconded by Lieutenant T. Cowd, R.N., the whole of the retiring Directors were re-elected, and Mr. T. P. Hall was appointed to fill a vacancy on the directorate, caused by the death of the late Mr. W. Gunnell. Messrs. Casey and Windsor were re-appointed Auditors.

THE KENNING CRICKET CLUB held their first Bohemian Concert on Tuesday evening at the Horseshoe, Tottenham Court-road, when Bro. William Baker presided over a large audience which assembled to enjoy a long and varied programme, both vocal and instrumental, which had been provided under the musical directorship of Mr. J. H. Murphy. The executive of the club are to be congratulated on the success which marked their first efforts, and we learn with pleasure that it is intended to be an annual affair.

THE STEAMSHIP ESSEN has left Colombo, with a large number of Cingalese artisans, devil dancers, carvers, potters, painters, goldsmiths, brassworkers, lacewomen, &c., for the Empire of India and Ceylon Exhibition at Earl's Court. An opportunity will thus be afforded this summer of seeing both Indian and Cingalese workmen and performers plying their varied vocations, and endeavouring in their different ways to amuse the public. Work on the grounds and various buildings at Earl's Court is being rapidly pushed forward for the opening early in May.

BROS. THE LORD MAYOR and Alderman Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart., Mr. F. L. Cook, M.P., Mr. Ernest De La Rue, Mr. T. Andros De La Rue, Mr. H. Gilliat, Mr. J. S. Gilliat, M.P., M.P., Mr. B. L. Cohen, L.C.C., M.P., Mr. S. Hope Morley, Mr. Charles Morley, M.P., Bro. Lord Pirbright, the Hon. W. F. D. Smith M.P., Lord Rothschild, Bro. Baron F. De Rothschild, M.P., and Colonel Makins are acting as Stewards in connection with the forthcoming festival dinner of the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest. Lord Charles Bruce will preside.

A "HISTORY OF THE STEWART LODGE, No. 1960 (E.C.), Rawal Pindi," by Bro. Major J. H. Leslie, with an introduction by Bro. R. F. Gould, P.G.D., will be published early next month. The work will be brought down to the close of 1895, and will contain several appendices, a facsimile of the lodge warrant, copy of the lodge by-laws, &c., and a portrait of the late Bro. Colonel Anthony Stewart, after whom the lodge is named, in full Masonic regalia. The price, including postage, is four shillings, and applications for copies should be addressed to Major J. H. Leslie, R.A., The Gables, Shaesburyness.

SEVERAL INCORRECT STATEMENTS have appeared in the papers (says *Truth*) respecting the wedding of Princess Maud of Wales and Prince Charles of Denmark. The ceremony is to take place early in July at the Chapel Royal, St. James's Palace, and the arrangements will be much the same as when the Duke and Duchess of York were married there. The Primate is to officiate, assisted by the Bishops of London and Winchester. The statement that "there will not be any State procession through the streets" is nonsense. The Royal Family and guests will assemble at Buckingham Palace between 11 and 12, and there are to be four carriage processions to St. James's Palace before the wedding, and three afterwards on returning to Buckingham Palace.