

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

VOL. XXXV. NO. 1437.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1896.

[PRICE 3D.]

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PROPOSED REMOVAL OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

While we are unable to agree with the main points raised by "D.P.G.M. and Past G.O." in the letter of his we published last week on the "Removal of the Boys' School"—the tenour of our previous articles on the subject will have made this very clear—we are well pleased that he should have written so straightforwardly. He will not concern himself about so petty a side issue "as to whether the opponents of the scheme ought to have come forward at an earlier period." He discusses seriously the Special Report of the Board of Management, admitting "as to a good deal which is contained" in it, that "there is probably no difference of opinion." "The site and surroundings of the School," he very candidly allows, "are not such as would now be selected for the erection of a new school, and the space is insufficient for games on the grand (?) scale which is now considered essential to the education of youth." But though he readily concedes all this, he does not consider it by any means follows that new Schools should be erected elsewhere. His opinion is that the present is a favourable opportunity for seeing whether we cannot "do better for our children by some different arrangement—*ex. gra.*, by grants in aid of education and clothing outside the walls of an 'Institution.'"

But "D.P.G.M. and Past G.O.'s" letter, though admirable in tone and for its candour, contains more than one statement to which exception may properly be taken. Thus in his third paragraph, our correspondent thus expresses himself: "Granting all this"—namely, that "a good deal" of what the Board of Management's report contains about the site and surroundings of the School is just and reasonable—"is it not the very time when the Subscribers may, and ought to, consider—is it necessary that we should expend another £100,000 in the erection of new Schools; or, seeing the altered circumstances in which we now live, cannot we do better for our children by some different arrangements?"—such as we have already noted. In the first clause of his question, "D.P.G.M. and Past G.O." has fallen into a very serious error. It is undoubtedly true that from first to last, during the 40 years that have elapsed since Lordship House and the grounds in which it stood—some 10 acres in extent—were purchased, a sum of £100,000 has been expended on the premises at Wood Green. But in this sum is included what has been spent year by year not only in the purchase of land, &c., and the erection of buildings, but also upon their maintenance, alteration, repairs, &c. According to a report issued

in the spring of 1888—the year in which began the troubles that led to the supersession of the old system of management by the present Board of Management, the "Total Cost of Estate," inclusive of £9013 expended in the purchase of freehold land, was £94,650, and there is little doubt that this has since been increased to the sum stated by our brother. We cannot say off-hand what portion of this has been spent on land and building, but we do not think we shall be greatly understating the amount if we place it at between £50,000 and £60,000, nor would this large outlay have been necessary had it not been for the rapid increase in the number of boys on the establishment from 70 in 1857, when the first batch of 25 boarders was received into Lordship House, as an experiment, to 279 in the present year. The nucleus of the existing premises was commenced in 1863 and opened in 1865 for the accommodation of 100 boys. In the course of the 20 years that followed, this number was more than doubled, and room was made for the additional 115 by enlarging the building, the purchase of Kent House, &c. Then came the erection of the Preparatory School and New Hall consequent upon the successful Festival of 1883. Had the whole of the present buildings been erected, and the existing freehold purchased at one time, the cost would doubtless have been considerably less. But the value of the Estate is estimated in the annual statement of accounts, &c., at £30,000, and if only this sum is cleared by the sale of it, there will be that much in hand towards the purchase of another site and the erection of new School buildings.

Again, in the fourth and fifth paragraphs, the position he takes up in reference to the question whether we are to carry on the Institution under existing conditions or revert to the old system of "out-educating" the boys as in the days prior to 1856 is decidedly weak. True, the Board of Management, as he points out in the paragraph on p. 3 of their report, say, they "can only answer this contention," &c., but we do not interpret the word "only" in the sense in which he takes it, and for this reason, that in two other passages in their report they give two other reasons, as he himself is careful to point out. One of the Board's objections to "out-educating" the boys is, as quoted by "D.P.G.M. and Past G.O." in his sixth paragraph, that "there can be but slight supervision over such boys or over the grant in aid." The second will be found in our correspondent's seventh paragraph, that "in no case has it been known that preference has been expressed for out-education, a convincing proof that they fully appreciate the advantages of the public school life given therein." These are undoubtedly strong reasons against any return to the system prevailing before the purchase of the site at Wood Green, and we are therefore justified in disputing his literal interpretation of the word "only" in the paragraph he quotes from the Board's report. In short, the Board holds that there are three reasons, not *one only*, against reverting to the system of "out-educating"—(1) That the question was settled in 1856; (2) that there can be no proper supervision when the boys are "out-educated"; and (3) that in no case do the parents or guardians of the successful candidates exhibit any preference for "out-education." To these we are able to add a fourth, which ought not to be without its due weight with the Subscribers, namely, that from the very foundation of the Institution, it was intended to house the children as well as clothe and educate them, and the only reason why this intention was not acted upon

sooner was that the funds would not allow of its being done. There was at one time, we admit, a great unwillingness on the part of the Subscribers to erect or hire school premises, but when once it became clear, from the greater interest in the Institution that slowly, but surely, made itself felt among English Freemasons, that the funds necessary for the purpose would be obtained without serious difficulty, the present system, which has been in force since 1857, was eagerly adopted. With all deference to our correspondent, it would, in our opinion, be the height of folly, from a monetary point of view, to revert to a system which, even in "the altered circumstances in which we now live," would be decidedly less beneficial to the children. As for the suggested comparison between "the Mark Educational Charity" and our Institution for Boys, it is almost too grotesque to be treated seriously.

There are some other points in our correspondent's letter on which we think some comments may be necessary, but we have dwelt upon the more important of his arguments, and shall leave the minor ones for some future article.

FREEMASONRY IN CANADA.

The address which Bro. W. R. WHITE, Q.C., M.W.G. Master of Canada (Province of Ontario) delivered at the annual meeting of his Grand Lodge in July last, was characterised by exceptional brevity, but unusually brief as it was, it contained reference to one or two matters of more than mere local interest. Thus as regards "the General Relief Association of the United States and Canada, with which," as he was careful to point out, "this and many of the leading Grand Lodges of the Continent are affiliated," Bro. WHITE had nothing but praise to utter in respect of the work it does. Its system and methods have resulted in the greatest benefit to the Craft. "The experience of the past eight years has shown that thousands of dollars have been saved by the jurisdictions of the Continent affiliated in the Association, and that the work has been so effective that the energies of the impostor and tramp Mason have not only been materially weakened, but the field of labour has been so surrounded with difficulties that many of them have gone into other pathways, where, perhaps, the opportunities of success are greater and the chances of detection less than under the lynx-eyed vigilance of the General Relief Association." This is unquestionably good news—that "the Masonic Vagrant's" occupation is gone, or almost gone in the Dominion of Canada, in consequence of the completeness of the system adopted by this Central Masonic Relief Association. But if an effectual stop has been put to Masonic vagrancy in Canada by the very simple methods of this Association, why cannot we in England take similar steps with the certainty that if they are continued, there will be an end, sooner or later, of the Masonic Vagrant. Last year we brought the question to the notice of our readers, with the result that for a time our Correspondence Columns were filled with letters from lodge Almoners and Secretaries, in which they narrated their experiences of the Masonic impostor. This year, in consequence of the proceedings of one of these fellows, notwithstanding the imprisonments he had undergone, we have reverted to the subject: but, though the Vagrant is a nuisance, no one seems to think it worth while to establish or support a kind of central bureau in which not only his peccadilloes may be recorded, but likewise such particulars noted as may lead to his identification and ultimate punishment. Why there should be such apathy in this matter we cannot pretend to explain, unless, indeed, it be on the principle that what is everybody's business is nobody's. Possibly the testimony of the Grand Master of Canada, when he tells us, of his own knowledge, that during the last eight years "thousands of dollars have been saved" by means of this Relief Association, may arouse our English brethren to greater energy and incline them to the adoption of a system somewhat similar to that which has proved so successful in Canada and the United States.

Another matter referred to by Grand Master WHITE, though primarily, of local interest, is yet worthy of being noticed if only that we may take the opportunity of congratulating the

brethren on the termination of the schism by which their jurisdiction has been disturbed during the last few years. There is no longer in Canada a "so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario," Bro. WHITE being enabled to announce—to his own satisfaction as well as to that of his audience—that "during the past year (pursuant to the authority granted at our last meeting) such arrangements have been made with the members of this organisation as to effectually sweep this body out of existence for, I trust, all time to come. Their charter (granted by the Provincial Government) has been transferred to myself and the Grand Secretary, as Trustees for this Grand Lodge; all warrants issued to subordinate lodges, the seal and all other books and properties of this so-called body, have been, or are being, delivered up, and are now in possession of this Grand Lodge. All members of this so-called Grand Body who have applied have been healed, and declared their allegiance to this Grand Lodge. Many of them have applied for affiliation to our lodges, and are now active and useful members of this Grand Body. The surrender is voluntary and complete—the only concession granted being that members of the extinct body holding the rank of Past Master therein are conceded that rank in any of our lodges with which they may affiliate or to which they may be admitted." This is, indeed, good news, and we hope that Bro. W. GIBSON, M.P., who is the present Grand Master of Canada and to whom the Grand Lodge has left it to determine what recognition shall be given to those brethren of the extinct body who were mainly instrumental in the healing of the long-standing schism, will deal generously with those from whom Bro. WHITE tells us he received such valuable assistance, and to whose "patient, intelligent efforts and wise counsel" it is due "that the difficulty has been so happily adjusted."

The rest of the address dealt with matters of local interest, but it is worth while noting that, from the particulars furnished by the Grand Master, there is little doubt that during the second and concluding year of Bro. WHITE'S Grand Mastership the success of Freemasonry in this jurisdiction has been great beyond all previous experience.

ARS QUATUOR CORONATORUM.*

This second instalment of Volume IX. of the Transactions of Lodge Quatuor Coronati contains two papers of exceeding value to the Masonic student. The first of these is entered in the proceedings of the meeting held on the 14th May. Its title is "German Freemasonry in the Present Era," and it has been compiled with infinite pains by Bro. Gotthelf Greiner, P.M. 92, who has since had the honour of being elected a member of the Inner Circle of the lodge. To attempt to give in brief any adequate idea of the wealth of information which Bro. Greiner has compressed within the narrow limits of a single paper—the paper, by the way, is of unusual length, but, having regard to the importance of the subject of which the author treats, the limits are of necessity narrow—would be in vain. It must suffice, therefore, if we state that the Paper, or Essay, is in three Parts, of which Part I. contains such information concerning the establishment and organisation of Freemasonry in Germany as is necessary to anything approaching to a clear appreciation of its present condition, systems of Degrees, the inter-relations of its Grand Lodges, and their relations with the Grand Lodges of other countries. There is, perhaps, one matter which is deserving of special mention, namely, that the doctrine of "concurrent jurisdiction" finds favour throughout the Fatherland, but it is a "concurrent jurisdiction" which differs materially from that practised by the three Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom. If we are correct in our interpretation of Bro. Greiner's statement, every Grand Lodge in Germany has the right to constitute private lodges in every part of the Empire; but before a St. John's Lodge can be established "in any place where there is already one under a different system, the latter has to be consulted," and if the two Grand Lodges are unable to come to an

* *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum*. Being the Transactions of the Lodge Quatuor Coronati, No. 2076, London. Edited for the Committee by G. W. Speth, P.M., Sec. Volume IX. Margate: Printed at "Keble's Gazette" Office, 1896.

understanding, "the Grand Lodge Diet will settle the question." Our idea of jurisdiction is that it must, in the nature of things, be "exclusive" as regards the three Kingdoms of England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, but "concurrent" as regards those portions of the British Empire in which there are no recognised Colonial Grand Lodges. Thus, as regards the United Kingdom, it is an unwritten law that the Grand Lodge of England can only issue warrants for new lodges within the territorial limits of England and Wales; that of Ireland within those of the Kingdom of Ireland; and that of Scotland within those of the Kingdom of Scotland. In the Dominion of Canada, where there have from time to time been established the Grand Lodges of Canada (Province of Ontario), Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, British Columbia, and Manitoba, as well as in the Australasian Colonies of South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania—to which at an early date we shall be called upon to add New Zealand—the local Grand Lodges having been recognised by us, have sovereign jurisdiction within their territorial limits, while in the other Colonies and Possessions of the British Empire, seeing that the people who migrate thither are, indifferently, Englishmen, Irishmen, and Scotchmen, who, if they happen to be Masons, take with them their particular systems of Masonry—English, Irish, or Scotch, as the case may be—the three Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom exercise "concurrent jurisdiction," each of them being free to issue warrants for the establishment of new lodges, and as these increase in number, patents—issued by the Grand Masters respectively—for the appointment of District or Provincial Grand Masters. There is also another portion of Bro. Greiner's paper which is worth referring to, namely the statistical information he furnishes. From the Tables at pp. 75 and 76, it appears that the eight German Grand Lodges muster together 402 lodges with an aggregate membership of 43,698, while the five independent lodges raise the latter figures to 45,080. It appears also that there are 17 lodges which have a membership ranging from 303 to as high as 632. There is much else in Bro. Greiner's paper to which we should gladly refer if our space permitted, but we must content ourselves with stating generally that the vote of thanks passed to him by the lodge was of the most cordial character, while as regards the main points which were made the subject of discussion, his explanations in reply would appear to be for the most part satisfactory.

The other important paper is from the pen of Bro. Sydney T. Klein, F.L.S., F.R.A.S., and treats of "The Law of Dakheil and other Curious Customs of the Bedowin." This also is replete with information of the most instructive kind, and well deserves the eulogiums bestowed upon it by the brethren present at the meeting at which it was read—on the 24th May, sundry of them praising it because they accepted the conclusions at which the author had arrived, while others were equally ready with their commendations in spite of their non-agreement with some of the material opinions expressed by him.

Among the other contents are a brief paper by Bro. Chetwode-Crawley on "The Ordeal of the Poker," an elaborate catalogue by Bro. Hughan, which he very fitly entitles "Bibliography of the 'Old Charges' in Book form or Facsimile," from 1840 to 1895; and "A Curious Tablet," belonging to the Lodge "Zu den drei Kronen," at Königsberg, which Bro. C. Kupferschmidt, Assistant Grand Secretary German Correspondence, has succeeded in deciphering. In addition, there are Notes, Reviews, Obituary, Chronicle, and an account of the summer outing of the lodge, which was this year made to Leamington and the surrounding country. The Part, indeed, is most interesting throughout, and we think it would be well if Bro. Greiner's paper were reprinted by itself in book form, so that brethren who may not be members of the lodge may have the opportunity of carefully studying it separately, as so meritorious an essay deserves.

THE SCOTTISH CONSTITUTIONS.

A new edition of the "Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Scotland" has just been issued in two sizes. The larger at 3s. 6d., and the smaller at 2s. 2d. per copy (inclusive of postage.) It is by far the best ever published, and Bro. D. Murray Lyon, Grand Secretary, may well be congratulated on its advent. There are several important changes in the new edition, and the several additional portions add much to the attractive features of the handsome volume.

The Degrees officially recognised are those of the first three, the Mark, and that of the Installed Masters, which, since 1872, has been the same as the ceremony worked in England. The Mark, as conferred by either the Grand Lodge or Grand R.A. Chapter in Scotland is mutually recognised by both Bodies, and so by the Mark Grand Lodge of England.

The Grand Cashier is now termed Grand Treasurer, which is a more appropriate title, and, like the Grand Secretary, is not subject to re-election.

These two officials and the Grand Master are exempted from the rule, which provides that no Grand Officers "shall hold the same office longer than two years consecutively," and so also as respects the Provincial Grand Lodges.

Some prefixes vary from ours, that of M.W. belonging to the G.M. only. The R.W. designates the P.G.M., G.M.D., S.G.M., Grand Wardens, G. Secretary and G. Treasurer. V.W. is devoted to the Grand Chaplains to Grand Bible Bearer, and W. from G.D. of C. The Master of a lodge, however, is still entitled to Right Worshipful.

Confirmation of minutes of Grand Lodge "implies that the *res gesta* of a previous meeting have been correctly recorded," so that no matter discussed and voted on at the previous meeting can be reopened when the minutes are read. "Standing Orders of Grand Lodge" may, on cause shown, be suspended by a majority of two-thirds, and if any doubt should exist as to the interpretation of a Law, the power of deciding "shall be vested *not* in the chair, but in the meeting."

The proxy system prevails in Grand Lodge and the roll is made up annually and printed of all brethren having the right to vote. Honorary members of Grand Lodge have a special medal or badge to wear, which is specially provided for the purpose. Excepting sons of Masons under the Scottish Constitution, candidates must now be 21 years of age before being entered as Apprentices, and the minimum sum for initiation has been raised to two guineas. *It is still lamentably low.* I am glad to note that advancement as Fellow Crafts or Master Masons cannot take place at a shorter interval than two weeks, and a rigid scrutiny is kept as to such ceremonies. Installation of office bearers is in an Apprentice lodge. The books of Daughter lodges are periodically examined and reported upon, and every lodge must apply for and obtain a certificate from the Grand Lodge annually, or no meetings can be held. This is to meet the requirements of the Act of Parliament of 1799, and a declaration must be signed.

Office bearers of lodges may wear sashes, and in the complete roll of 597 lodges, carefully printed in the volume, the "colour of clothing"—*more varied than the rainbow*—of each is duly given, as well as many other interesting particulars. There is also a list of military lodges, formerly existing 1747 to 1856, the roll of provinces and districts, and also of the Grand Master Masons, 1736 to 1896.

The ceremonial and ritualistic observances at dedications, consecrations, funerals, &c., are most fully described, and an excellent index is a real boon for the brethren. The illustrations of the regalia and jewels are also most welcome.

The first separate edition of the Scottish Constitutions was not printed and published until 1836, being 100 years after the Grand Lodge was formed—a unique experience undoubtedly. There was an edition published with what is known as Lawrie's History of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, 1804, but, as a matter of fact, the first authorised edition was not until 1836.

Bro. D. Murray Lyon gives the dates of all succeeding issues, for the first time in the Laws; viz., 1848, 1863, 1866, 1868, 1871, 1874, 1879, 1881, 1886, and 1896, 11 in all. A large paper edition was also published of the 1848 issue, most handsomely illustrated, 250 copies only.

W. J. HUGHAN.

CONSECRATION OF THE CESTRIAN CONCLAVE, No. 154, BIRKENHEAD.

The first Red Cross Conclave established in Cheshire was consecrated on Friday, the 4th inst., at the Masonic Chambers, 9, Hamilton-street, by Sir Knight Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, assisted by Sir Knight C. F. Matier, Past Grand Viceroy, Intendant General West Lancashire, Grand Recorder; Sir Knight Dr. J. Balfour Cockburn, Intendant General for Guernsey; Sir Knight Charles Belton, Intendant General Berkshire; and Sir Knight Rev. C. E. L. Wright, Grand High Prelate.

The petitioners for the charter were Sir Knights Dr. C. S. Brewer, 15; A. H. Baird, 15; Rev. G. R. Johnson, 35; and John Armstrong, 97. The warrant is dated the 22nd June, 1896.

At three p.m. a conclave of the Red Cross was opened by Sir Knights Dr. J. B. Cockburn, as Sovereign; Rev. C. E. L. Wright, Viceroy; J. Armstrong, S.G.; A. H. Baird, J.G.; Rev. G. R. Johnson, Prelate, and Dr. C. S. Brewer, Prefect. In due time the undrmentioned brethren, who are all companions of the Royal Arch, were admitted and installed in the Degree of Knights of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine: Bros. W. H. Arnott, A. Birkett, Pearson Chambers, John Clayton, A. E. Coveney, L. Crosthwaite, Col. C. S. Dean, J. Stanley Derbyshire, W. J. Doran, Rev. Robert Edwards, D. M. Foulds, James Gamlin, H. C. Howell, W. Hudson, J. H. Jackson, J. B. Johnson, O. Jones, S. Jones, W. H. Jones, T. Keene, W. H. Landers, S. H. Lawrence, Hugh Lowndes, F. W. Marsh, S. S. Morris, E. G. Parker, Rev. H. V. Pigot, George Proudman, W. F. Robinson, A. Rutherford, A. Saunders, James Smith, F. K. Stevenson, John Watt, Wm. Williams, and Chas. A. Young.

The new sir knights having retired the conclave was opened as a Sanctuary of K.H.S., and a commandery of St. John the Evangelist, the knights re-admitted, and duly created K.H.S. and Knights of St. John. In honour of the occasion the rank of Past Sovereign of the Order was conferred upon Sir Knights John Armstrong, Rev. G. R. Johnson, A. H. Baird, and F. K. Stevenson, who, during the ceremonies, represented the other brethren. At five o'clock the M.I.G. Sovereign and his attendant Grand Officers were announced, admitted and received under the Arch of Steel, and the Grand Sovereign assumed the throne, and was saluted with the customary honours.

The founders of the conclave to the number of 40 having been arranged in their proper places the RECORDER read the warrant of Constitution, after which the beautiful and impressive ceremony of consecration was proceeded with, and the Grand Sovereign constituted the conclave.

During the ceremony the GRAND PRELATE delivered the following oration on the objects of the Order:

We are met here to-day to add one more to the list of conclaves of this Order, already existing on the register of the Grand Imperial Council. The name which the founders have chosen for it—that of the Cestrian Conclave—is, I ven-

ture to think, a singularly appropriate one, not only because of its geographical position, but also because of the associations which such a name must inevitably give rise to. Cicester was, as most of you are probably aware, the ancient name of Chester, and takes us back to the time when the Romans occupied this island, and established a fortified camp there, and, though this period was long anterior to that of our great founder Constantine, yet both he and his family had intimate relations with Britain, and more especially with the northern part of it. The Order of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine is one of the most ancient in existence; indeed, the Abbé Giustiniani declared in 1692 that it was *THE most ancient* in the world; at any rate, it is the most ancient of *Christian* Orders since it was founded in the year 313 A.D. to commemorate Constantine the Great's victory at the battle of Saxa Rubra outside Rome, and the still more important event of his conversion to Christianity in consequence of the vision which he received the preceding evening, with which you are all well acquainted. It is an Order which we may be proud to belong to, for it commemorates circumstances which changed the history of the world. Yet, numerically speaking, we are comparatively a small body. I do not say numbers are everything, far from it. Quality, not quantity, should be every Mason's motto, but we do not make progress so fast as we ought, and I am inclined to think that it is because we ARE so ancient. Our brethren in other Degrees do not seem to realise either the interest or the antiquity of the Red Cross Order so FULLY as they might, and I am sure we should do all we can to show them this, and without unduly influencing anyone to join us, which would be un-Masonic in the highest degree, to point out that in interest and antiquity we are not behind any of the other bodies around us. I have sometimes heard it said that it is a great mistake to have any Christian degrees—that they should not have been perpetuated—and that no test should be required other than that belief in a Supreme Being which throws them open to nearly all the world. Yet I cannot think so, and for the same reason I dislike the term side or fancy Degrees. There is nothing fancy about them. They are higher Degrees, higher in the sense that they are legitimate developments from original Masonry, just as Christianity itself is a development from the old Mosaic ritual. Christianity is the true religion; it is the predominant faith of the world, and surely we may well commemorate that fact by preserving and promoting these Orders which our pious predecessors instituted. Look at the change which has taken place in consequence of that event which forms the tradition of our Order. That cross once so despised and loathed is now triumphant everywhere; though once the instrument of shame, it is now the symbol of victory. Christianity has conquered every obstacle; persecutions have only strengthened the faith, and our Great Captain says to us to-day, as He said to Constantine of old, "Εν τούτω νικα. In this sign conquer. There are three principles which especially animate this Order, and, indeed, form the watchwords of its conclaves—they are Faith, Unity, and Zeal. Faith, the Apostle tells us, is "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Without faith it is impossible to carry out any work successfully. It is the first and great essential. Unless we believe in our Order, in its principles and traditions, we shall not be able to do much to further its objects, but above all must we have faith in the Ever-Blessed Trinity, who alone can enable us to bring the work, thus auspiciously begun, to a successful issue. Unity, which is our second great characteristic, should be the aim of everyone. If we must have faith *first* in the work that we undertake, how equally necessary it is that we should be united in carrying it out. We live in days when unity and schemes for re-union are being constantly brought forward, and though we may not have solved the problem as to how to unite opposing bodies, yet I think we may feel proud that in Masonry we can show the world a body of men *absolutely* united as to their aims and beliefs. Amongst the many beauties of Masonry, one of the greatest to my mind is, that in *it*, men of every creed, nation, politics, and position can meet on a common ground, and the same holds good of Christian Masonry, save that in it, those are associated together who worship the true, holy, and indivisible Trinity. Let us then regard unity as one of our most precious jewels. Let us avoid anything which may at all endanger it. Let us love as brethren, showing kindness and courtesy to all, rejoicing with those that do rejoice, and weeping with those that weep, so that the world may say of us in the words of the Psalmist, "Behold how good and joyful a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Our third characteristic, and certainly not the least important, is zeal. Zeal—enthusiasm—a determination to make a success of whatever you undertake. That is the spirit to start your work with. That is the way in which obstacles are overcome. "Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might," and "whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well," are very old maxims, but they are very true ones, and when our founder took "Zeal" for one of our watchwords, he gave us one, which should continually spur us on to fresh labours. And to you, my brethren, I especially commend it. You have shown your faith by founding this conclave—you are united in support of it. May you have "zeal" to go forward and make it a success! Many institutions are started and do well for a year or two, and then for want of energy they begin to flag and sometimes fail. Do not let this happen to you. Get men to join you who are zealous, and permeated with a real Masonic spirit, and may the blessing of the Holy Trinity be with you, and enable you to make this conclave a real success and a gain to the Order!

Sir Knight C. F. Matier, presented Sir Knight C. S. Brewer, Sovereign Designate, to the M.I.G. Sovereign, who installed him on the throne of Constantine, after which Sir Knight A. H. Baird, Viceroy Designate, was invested and proclaimed.

The newly-installed Sovereign appointed and invested the undermentioned Sir Knights officers of the conclave for the ensuing 12 months, the Treasurer having been previously elected by the members present: Sir Knights Col. C. S. Dean, Senior General; John Clayton, Junior General; Rev. G. R. Johnson, P. Sov., Prelate; Rev. H. V. Pigot, Sub-Prelate; W. F. Robinson (elected) Treasurer; Samuel Jones, Recorder; John Armstrong, P. Sov., D. of C.; W. H. Jones, 1st Aide-de-Camp; James Smith, 2nd Aide-de-Camp; H. C. Howell, Prefect; F. W. Marsh, Std. Br.; W. H. Arnott, Herald; W. Hudson, Org.; and W. J. Doran (elected), Sentinel.

Sir Knight Dr. BREWER, M.P. Sovereign, in very appropriate terms, proposed that the hearty and sincere thanks of the conclave be accorded to the most M.I.G. Sovereign and his Grand Officers for their presence on the occasion, and for the impressive manner in which the magnificent consecration ceremony had been rendered. He further moved that they be asked to accept a founder's jewel as a memento of the event, and allow their names to be placed upon the register of the conclave, as Honorary Members.

The proposition, having been duly seconded by the VICEROY, was unanimously agreed to.

The M.I.G. Sovereign and the members of the Grand Council in attendance gave immediate and hearty consent to both propositions, and were duly presented with founders' jewels.

The officers of the conclave, with the added names of Sir Knights F. K. Stevenson, P. Sov., and Rev. Robert Edwards were appointed to draw up a code of by-laws for the government of the conclave.

Sir Knight John ARMSTRONG, P. Sov., proposed that the thanks of the conclave be tendered to Sir Knights Dr. Brewer, and A. H. Baird, and that

the same be recorded on the minutes, for the important services rendered by them in the formation of the Cestrian Conclave. Their efforts for months had been directed to bring their project to a successful issue, and the result could be judged and estimated by every one present. Outside the Metropolis the conclave, he ventured to say, would rank second to none, both in respect to the number and quality of its members, and in respect to the furniture and appointments necessary for the performance of its solemnities. Sir Knight F. K. STEVENSON, P. Sov., seconded, and the motion was unanimously agreed to.

Sir Knights BREWER and BAIRD, in acknowledging the compliment, said all they had done had been a labour of love, and that in everything they had been inspired by affection for the Order of which they all felt proud to be members. They both referred to the valuable advice and assistance rendered to them by Sir Knights Armstrong and Johnson, their co-petitioners for the charter.

Several letters of apology for inability to attend were read from a number of brethren who had proposed to take the Degrees on the occasion, and from members of other conclaves.

The conclave having been solemnly closed, the sir knights adjourned to the banqueting-room, and partook of refreshments provided for them.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, "The Health of the Newly-installed Sovereign of the Conclave" being proposed by the M.I.G.S.

The musical arrangements during the consecration were under the direction of Sir Knight W. Hudson, and the M.I.G.S. and his officers were pleased to express their approval of, and their admiration at, the music selected, and the manner in which that portion of the ceremony had been rendered.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF DURHAM.

The annual convocation of the above Provincial Grand Chapter was held on Monday, the 14th inst., at Gateshead, in the Masonic Hall, Jackson-street. There was a large attendance of Provincial Grand Officers and Principals of chapters. The Grand Superintendent (Comp. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart.), presided. The Prov. Grand Chapter was opened, when there were present—

Comps. Rev. J. J. Brown, Prov. Grand H.; Dr. C. D. Hill Drury, as Prov. Grand J.; R. Hudson, Prov. Grand Scribe E.; T. Atkinson, as Prov. Grand Scribe N.; John Robson Cutter, P.G.T.; J. Metcalfe, P.G.R.; John Abbey, P.G.P.S.; James Sedcole, P.A.G.S.; Wm. Brown as P.A.G.S.; L. R. Davies, P.G.S.B.; J. Taylor, P.G. Std. Br.; T. R. Jobson, P.G.D.C.; J. W. H. Swan, P.A.G.D.C.; R. Ferry as P.G.O.; J. C. Moor, acting P.A.G.S.E.; Thos. Grieve, P.G. Janitor. G. Mabane, T. Coulson, Richard Luck, John Robinson, J. D. Todd, G. F. Allan, T. Purvis, P.G.S.E. Northumberland; J. J. Wilson, C. S. Lane, T. Pickering, D. Cameron, R. Todd, G. B. Hall, C. F. Sutcliffe, J. S. Wilson, Hopper Holme, F. W. Ingram, T. Harrison, Babington, Boulton, T. G. Garrick, W. Hodgson, J. J. Holme, J. T. Wilson, W. C. Barron, W. J. Jobson, H. Lee Pattinson, W. C. A. Holzapfel, Robt. Stewart, A. Dobbs, J. Curry, F. Wade, B. S. Beckwith, W. Malcolm, G. S. Shaw, J. K. Wilkes, J. Lee, Alf. Grundy, W. R. Staveley, J. J. Clegg, J. Redhead, S. W. Linsley, Hugh Jackson, and G. L. Woolley.

The roll of chapters was called and responded to by the principal officers in each instance. The Grand Superintendent, Comp. Sir HEDWORTH WILLIAMSON, in afterwards addressing the Prov. G. Chapter, feelingly referred to the loss the province had sustained in the decease of Comp. T. Dunn, P.G.D. of C. The chapters maintained their numbers, and he hoped the province would continue to prosper. He thanked the members for their presence in such large numbers, and alluded to the excellent accommodation provided by the officers of the Industry Chapter for their comfort.

Before leaving, Comp. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., G. Superintendent, invested Comp. Richard Luck, M.A., as P.G.H., and Comp. W. R. Staveley, as P.G.J.

Having to leave, Comp. H. J. Turnbull, P.P.G.H., acted for Comp. Sir Hedworth Williamson, and invested the remainder of his officers as follows:

Comp. R. Hudson (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" Richard Hopper Holme	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" B. S. Beckwith (elected)	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Dr. Atkinson	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" G. Harland	...	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" W. C. Barron	...	...	} Prov. A.G. Sojs.
" F. Wade	...	...
" T. Gibbon	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" C. T. Watson	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" T. R. Jobson (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" George Craven	...	...	Prov. A.G.D. of C.
" Jos. Robson Pattison (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. A.G.S.E.
" T. Grieve (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G. Janitor.

It was stated that next year's Prov. G. Chapter would be held at Darlington.

Comps. John Robinson and Jno. E. Backhouse were elected as Auditors. The Provincial Grand Chapter was then closed.

OUTING OF THE ROYAL KENT PRECEPTORY, No. 20, OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

The Royal Kent Preceptory received the honour of a visit from the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, G.C.T., accompanied by the V.E. Sir Knight C. F. Matier, K.C.T., and G.V.C. of England, and the E. Sir Knight Charles Belton, K.C.T. of England, on Monday, the 7th inst, and held a meeting in the Masonic Hall, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle. The following morning a number of sir knights of the preceptory, including Sir Knights Thomas J. Armstrong, P.E.P., and G.S. of England; M. H. Dodd, W. W. Tilley, T. M. Barron, J. A. S. Scott, R. G. Salmon, T. Pickering, J. M. Bruce, Seymour Bell, Errington Dunford, A. C. Richardson, C. B. Fendelow, W. C. Bell, G. E. Macarthy, and others, accompanied the distinguished visitors by a private river saloon steamer from the landing stage, Quayside, up the river to

the works of Messrs. Sir William Armstrong and Co., where they were met by E. Sir Knight T. Purvis, who conducted them over the extensive premises. At the close, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to their worthy cicerone and the directors for the pleasure derived in inspecting the world-renowned ordnance factories.

The visitors then proceeded down the river to Tynemouth, and on returning to Newcastle visited the *Chronicle* Office, where they were received by Mr. R. B. Reed, general manager, and his son, Mr. Joseph Reed, works manager, and made a complete tour of the departments, including the extensive range of offices, which have recently been increased by the addition of the fine block of new buildings, forming a new wing, and completing the T shape of the *Chronicle* Offices, which formerly were fashioned like the letter L. They were first conducted through the commercial offices, and then through the literary departments, comprising well-equipped rooms for the managing editor, assistant editors, literary staff, sporting staff, and reporters. Afterwards they were taken to the spacious composing room where the whole of the editions of *Daily*, *Evening*, and *Weekly Chronicles* are set up by means of the Linotype. The operators were engaged in setting into type the special edition of the *Evening Chronicle*. The room, with its incessant musical clicking of the machines, moved by the busy fingers of operators, was really a hive of industry. The visitors appeared to be deeply interested in the sight, and each before leaving was given a line of type containing his name. From this part of the premises they were taken to the stereotyping department, where they saw the pages of the special edition cast, and from thence they were conducted to the machine room, and there saw the printing machines turning out printed copies of the edition with marvellous rapidity. At the close of the inspection the visitors were received by Mr. R. B. Reed in the *Chronicle* Office Library.

Mr. REED said, on behalf of his principal and himself, he gave them all a hearty welcome. Indeed, he might say he was very proud of their visit, and hoped it would not be the last occasion when he would have the pleasure of seeing them, for at all times he was glad to see Masons.

Sir Knight BARRON: And we are all proud of Mr. Cowen, the tribune of the North.

Sir Knight the Earl of EUSTON said their sincere thanks were due to Mr. Reed for his great kindness in showing them over the magnificent establishment and seeing the wondrous machinery at work. They had had explained and shown to them how news was received and published, and he had enjoyed the visit immensely. It would long remain in his memory. That was his third visit to Newcastle as a Mason, and he had enjoyed every one of his visits, but he must say his trip down the Tyne, to Armstrong's Works, and finally winding up with that visit to the *Chronicle* establishment, was so great a pleasure that it would leave pleasant recollections in his future life. He, therefore, desired, on behalf of his friends and himself, to heartily return thanks for what they had seen.

Mr. REED said he would have great pleasure in conveying to his principal, Mr. Cowen, the remarks of his lordship.

Sir Knight BARRON spoke in high terms of commendation of what he had witnessed in the establishment.

Mr. REED trusted the next time they visited the *Chronicle* he would have something more to show them which might be well worthy of their attention, as they were always trying experiments for still further improving the paper.

Sir Knight T. J. ARMSTRONG remarked that Mr. Reed had specially journeyed from Paris in order to be present and receive the visitors from the South.

Ireland.

CONSECRATION OF THE VICTORIA REGINA LODGE, No. 176.

On Tuesday, the 8th instant, a new lodge—the Victoria Regina, No. 176—was consecrated by Bro. the Rev. Dr. F. E. Clarke, Deputy Prov. G.M., in the absence of Bro. Lord Harlech, Prov. G.M., in the town of Castlebar, North Connaught. Since the year 1817 no Masonic lodge has existed there, and the occasion was made the opportunity of a large gathering of brethren of the Province of North Connaught.

Provincial Grand Lodge was first opened, and the ordinary quarterly business conducted, there being present Bros. W. J. Robinson, P.S.G.W.; Robert Devenish, P.J.G.W.; Benjamin St. George Harrison, P.G. Sec.; Rev. Theophilus P. Landry, as P.G. Chap.; Joseph Irwin, P.S.G.D.; Major Maclean, P.J.G.D.; Arthur Jackson, P.G.S.B.; J. L. Loretto, Org.; and W. A. Shekleton, P.G.I.G.

Subsequent to the Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge, the consecration ceremony took place, and the new lodge received the name of the Victoria Regina Lodge, in honour of the present month, when our Most Gracious Sovereign "beats the record" in the duration of her prosperous reign.

Bro. J. S. Hume was installed first W.M.; Bro. Francis O'Donel, S.W.; and Bro. W. B. Carey, J.W.

The music was admirably conducted by Bro. Loretto, and an address delivered to the brethren by the DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren were hospitably entertained by the founders to dinner, when the loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and a collection taken up in aid of the two Irish Masonic Orphan Schools.

It is only a year ago since another lodge was consecrated in this province by Bro. Lord Harlech, P.G.M., viz., No. 165, Sligo, which was named the Harlech Lodge.

Red Cross of Rome & Constantine.

Mount Horeb Sanctuary, No. 8.

The old and flourishing sanctuary and commandery—attached to the Concord Conclave, No. 8—met at the Masonic Temple, Stopford-road, St. Helier's, Jersey, on the 7th instant, when there were present, among others, Sir Knights P. Bois, Rt. Rev. Prelate; Capt. J. C. Barrette, Prior; L. P. Hespirdoux, P.R.R.P., Seneschal; J. H. Elliott, Sub-Prior; Dr. Maxwell Le Cronier, Capt. of the Guards; Major H. Stevenson, G.S.V.; J. H. Hambling, Reg.; W. T. Pugsley, Treas.; and W. H. Hambly, Beadle.

The sanctuary having been opened, the minutes of the last assembly were read and confirmed, and the ballot was taken for Sir Knights C. E. Male: de Carteret, P. F. Le

Boutillier, J. L. Boyson, and W. H. Hambly, and Sir Knights J. L. Boyson and W. H. Hambly being in attendance, they were admitted into the Order of Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, the ceremony being most effectively and impressively worked by the R.R. Prelate, Prior, and the rest of the officers. The three theological orations were well given by the Prior, Sub-Prior, and Seneschal, and Sir Knight L. P. Hespirdoux, P.R. R.P., delivered the traditional oration of the Order in excellent style. Subsequently a Commandery of St. John the Evangelist was opened by the M.E. Commander, Sir Knight P. Bois, with Sir Knights L. P. Hespirdoux, P.M.E.C., as Seneschal; J. H. Elliott, as Prior; Captain J. C. Barrette, as Sub-Prior; and Dr. Maxwell Le Cronier, as C.G. Sir Knights L. Boyson and W. H. Hambly were admitted, and installed as Knights of the Degree, the Grand Officers going through the lengthy work in a most efficient manner, Sir Knight Captain J. C. Barrette, as Sub-Prior, delivering the lecture in a manner that could not be surpassed, and seldom, if ever, have we witnessed the ancient rites and ceremonies gone through in the manner they were on this occasion, every officer, from the M.E. Commander to the Beadle, striving to excel one another as exponents of the ceremonies. Other business having been transacted, the election of Sir Knights P. Bois, as R.R. Prelate and Commander; J. H. Elliott, as Sub-Prior; W. T. Pugsley, as Treas.; and W. H. Hambly, as Beadle, for the ensuing year took place, and were unanimous.

The commandery having been closed, a banquet followed, at which M.E. Sir Knight P. Bois presided, as usual, in a manner that very few Masonic chairmen can excel.

The toast of "The Queen and Christian Masonry" having been duly and enthusiastically honoured, other toasts followed.

The Beadle's toast brought the proceedings to an end. Excellent speeches were not wanting, and a very sociable evening was spent.

Craft Masonry.

Chorlton Lodge, No. 1387.

The regular meeting was held on Thursday, the 10th instant, at the Masonic Hall, Chorlton-cum-Hardy. Bro. E. T. Trevor-Smith occupied the chair, supported by his officers. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The brethren voted 10 guineas to the Alpass Benevolent Fund, the festival of which takes place on the 6th prox. at Southport. When all Masonic business had been dispensed with, the lodge was closed.

The following were present: Bros. E. T. Trevor-Smith, W.M.; Jno. B. Wolstenholme, P.M.; T. Shaw, S.W.; J. Kennerley, J.W.; J. Chadfield, Treas.; J. Crompton, P.M., Sec.; John Travers, P.M., D.C.; E. P. Woodhouse, I.G.; D. Davis, P.P.G.S.B.; Chesshyre, H. Cooper, W. Pollitt, F. Rensham, P.M.; Rev. Cambusold, G. Fenton, J. J. Lomber, P.G. Reg.; W. Hale, P.M.; H. Sitthuous, H. J. Farthing, W. Goodacre, P.G.S.B. Eng., P.G. Sec.; C. A. Trevitt, J. Morgan, G. S. Smith, P.P.G. Org.; John Walke, W.M. 2359; W. N. Amery, A. Moss, J. Heskett, P.M.; and Dr. Edwards.

Jordan Lodge, No. 1402.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 5th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Torquay, when there were present an unusually large number of brethren, including Bros. George West, W.M.; John Stocker, P.P.J.G.W., Prov. G. Sec.; John Dodge, P.M., P.P.G.T.; John Lane, P.M., P.A.G.D.C. England; John Taylor, P.M., Sec., Prov. G. Reg.; W. Wakeham, P.M. and Treas. 328, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Jos. Grant, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; J. W. McKellar, P.M.; T. H. Wills, P.M.; S. Wills, P.M.; W. Hersey, P.M.; W. Winget, P.M.; G. Halls, W.M.; H. R. Beer, P.M.; E. Richards, P.M. 328; T. J. Crossman, S.W.; J. D. Beer, S.D.; C. Hill, J.D.; F. C. Sanford, Org.; J. G. Turle, W. T. Gale, and R. D. Scholes, Stwds.; R. Pickard, I.G.; J. E. Newton, Tyler; C. J. F. Williams, P.M. 1847; C. W. Perrett, P.M. 1138; R. W. Drew, 1358; W. P. Sanders, P.M. 248; and H. Gillard, P.M. 248; upwards of 60 signing the attendance book.

After the opening of the lodge and confirming the minutes, the W.M. intimated to the brethren that the new Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford H. Northcote, C.B., M.P., had been pleased to appoint Bro. John Taylor, J.P., P.M., Sec., to the important office of Prov. Grand Registrar, and the W.M. proceeded to initiate a candidate as E.A. in his usual able manner. The balance sheet for the past year was then produced by the Treasurer, Bro. S. Wills, and considered highly satisfactory, showing a balance in hand on the lodge fund of £28. The Worshipful Master then proceeded to instal his successor in the chair of K.S., the ceremony being carried out by Bro. George West in a most able and efficient manner. The officers were then appointed as follows: Bros. George West, I.P.M.; J. Beer, S.W.; C. Hill, J.W.; John Dodge, P.M., Chap.; S. Wills, P.M., Treas.; J. Taylor, P.M., Sec.; J. G. Turle, S.D.; W. T. Gale, J.D.; W. Winget, P.M., D.C.; F. C. Sanford, Org.; R. D. Scholes, I.G.; J. Glanfield and W. Grist, Stwds.; and J. E. Newton, Tyler. Bro. West, the retiring W.M., was presented with a Past Master's jewel, and suitably returned thanks. Bro. John Stocker then briefly addressed the lodge, and expressed himself much gratified with the able manner the affairs of the lodge had been carried out, and congratulated the lodge on the correctness of its working; this was Bro. Stocker's first visit to a lodge out of Exeter since his appointment as Prov. G. Sec. After apologies for absence had been read, including expressions of goodwill from Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D. of England, and Bro. R. F. Gould, P.G.D. of England, the lodge was closed.

The brethren, to the number of 53, sat down to an excellent banquet in the Bath Saloons, catered for by Bro. W. J. Nosworthy.

At the conclusion of the repast,

The W.M. gave the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," and said her Most Gracious Majesty had ruled over these realms longer than any other monarch, her 63 years of reign being marked by unprecedented prosperity in Science, Literature, and Art.

"The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," was received with great applause when it was noted how successfully he had governed the Craft for 21 years. "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," also came in for a pretty little speech from the Worshipful Master.

Coming to their own province, the toast of "The P.G.M. of Devon, with the Dep. P.G.M., Bro. G. C. Davie, P.A.G.D.C. Eng., and the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," was received with much enthusiasm, special mention being made of the installation of the new P.G.M., Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford H. Northcote, C.B., M.P.

Bro. John Taylor, P.M., Prov. G. Reg., Sec., responding to the toast, gave a brief *resumé* of the history of the formation of the province, which was first formed in 1775, when Sir C. W. Bampfylde, Bart., was installed P.G.M.; some 50 years after, Cheshire, formed in 1725, and in this period of 121 years four P.G.Ms had ruled over the province. The career of each P.G.M. was briefly passed in review. The 17 years' rule of the late P.G.M., Viscount Ebrington, had been marked as one of rapid progress in the Craft in Devon, and Bro. Taylor ventured to think that the present P.G.M. would have an equally prosperous reign in that large and important province, the honoured name of Sir Stafford Northcote carrying with it, as it did in the county, a charm, was sufficient of itself to ensure prosperity and success to the Craft. That large province, consisting as it did of the whole of Devon, with its 52 lodges, soon to be increased by the consecration of another lodge at Buckfastleigh in October—making the number 53—comprised between 3000 and 4000 Masons and upwards of 800 Past Masters, and the duty devolving upon the ruler of the province and his advisers was no light or easy one, and the selection of brethren for provincial rank became exceedingly difficult, and it was to be regretted that by the recent returns more than 10 per cent. of the brethren were returned as "in arrears"—a matter requiring careful looking into.

Bro. Wakeham, P.M., Treas. 328, P.P.G. Std. Br., also responded.

The toasts of "The W.M.," "The Installing I.P.M.," "The Visitors," and others were also given.

The Charity Steward, Bro. T. H. Wills, gave the toast of "The Charities," giving a tabulated return of the lodge, mentioning that Bro. John Lane had increased his votes in the R.M.B.I. by 25.

The Tyler's toast brought one of the most successful installation meetings to a close.

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Accumulated Funds	-	-	-	£4,444,000



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1896.

Masonic Notes.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Leicestershire and Rutland will be held at the Masonic Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, under the auspices of the St. Augustine's Chapter, No. 779, on Monday next, the 21st inst. After the Principals of St. Augustine's Chapter have been installed, the business of Prov. G. Chapter will be dispatched, and at the close of the day's proceedings a banquet will take place at the Queen's Head Hotel, tickets 5s. 6d. each, exclusive of wine.

Our brethren in Port Elizabeth (Eastern Division of South Africa) are to be congratulated on the excellence of the work they have been doing for some time past. They are not a numerous body. There are two lodges under the English Constitution, and to one of them is attached a R.A. chapter. There are also a Mark lodge, a Rose Croix chapter, and it may be other bodies. Yet for years they have had a Masonic Education Scheme of their own, which, from the report dated 7th August, appears to be in an exceedingly prosperous condition.

From this we learn that 19 children have been educated during the past year, and at the annual meeting, held on the day mentioned—when this Report was presented—that the donations and subscriptions from individual brethren and the various Masonic bodies amounted to £107 8s. 6d., which, with the balance brought forward from previous account and £21 11s. 1d. interest on bond and Cash in P.O. Savings Bank, gave a total of Receipts amounting to £169 6s. 6d. The sum spent in School Fees was £85 3s., and as the only other item of expenditure was £3 1s. 6d. for printing, there remained a balance of Cash in hand and at Bank of £81 2s. The General Fund, which includes this Balance, a Deposit of £100 in P.O. Savings Bank with a year's interest thereon, is returned as £184 9s., while the endowment Fund, consisting of a First Mortgage at six per cent., is £350.

Considering, as we have said, that the English Fraternity is by no means a strong body numerically, the figures we have quoted above show that the brethren must exhibit a considerable amount of zeal and energy, and generous consideration for the children of their deceased and poorer members. We heartily congratulate them on the state of their "Port Elizabeth Masonic Educational Scheme," and trust that, as years roll on, the means at their disposal may be greatly increased, and, as a consequence, that the service they will be able to render in this sphere of Masonic work will be on a greatly enlarged scale.

We learn from the *Canadian Craftsman* that Bro. William Gibson, M.P., who, at the recent annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Canada, was elected M.W.G. Master in succession to Bro. White, Q.C., was initiated in the Barton Lodge, No. 6, Hamilton, on the 12th July, 1871, and five years later was installed its W.M. During the years 1883-85, he was Dist. Deputy Grand Master for the Niagara District, and in 1886 was appointed Representative of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria at the Grand Lodge of Canada, a position which he still continues to hold. In July, 1894, he was elected Deputy Grand Master, and two months ago was chosen to fill his present office. He is also a Royal Arch Master, a Past Dep. Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, a Past Prov. Prior of the Hamilton District in the Order of the Temple, and has taken the 32° in the Ancient and Accepted Rite. He has been a very successful contractor, and has been a member of the Dominion Legislature since 1891. He was born at Peterhead, in Scotland, in August, 1847, and is exceedingly popular, both within and outside the Craft:

Bro. E. T. Malone, who has been elected to succeed Bro. Gibson as Deputy G. Master, is a native of King's County, Ireland, and 43 years of age. He was initiated in the Zetland Lodge, No. 326, Toronto, in 1876, and three years later was installed W.M. In 1882 he was chosen G. Registrar, and in 1888 District Deputy G. Master for the Toronto District, while for the last eight years he has been Chairman of the Committee on the condition of Masonry. He is a Royal Arch Mason, being a Past Grand Scribe N. of the Grand Chapter, and in the Order of the Temple, Past G. Master of the Great Priory, while in the Ancient and Accepted Rite he has taken the 33°.

We learn from the same *Craftsman*, from an extract from the Report on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Canada, that the following lodges have the largest membership in the Masonic jurisdictions in the United States, viz.: Minnesota Lodge, No. 19, Grand Lodge of Minnesota, 746; Hiram Lodge, No. 1, Grand Lodge of Connecticut, 710; Genesee Falls Lodge, No. 507, Grand Lodge of New York, 651; Covenant Lodge, No. 526, Grand Lodge of Illinois, 648; Denver Lodge, No. 5, Grand Lodge of Colorado, 600; Grand River Lodge, No. 34, Grand Lodge of Michigan, 598; La Fayette Lodge, No. 19

Grand Lodge District of Columbia, 567; Washington Lodge, No. 59, Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, 525; California Lodge, No. 1, Grand Lodge of California, 477; and Magnolia Lodge, No. 20, Grand Lodge of Ohio, 476. It appears to us that these lodges deserve the title of Masonic battalions rather than that of lodges.

It is not often we come across so apt an illustration of the truth of the old adage about people in glass houses not throwing stones, as is to be found in last week's issue, of a Masonic periodical published not a 100 miles from Fleet-street. On one of its pages it takes the Board of Management of the Boys' School to task for being so ungrammatical as to speak of "clothes" as "it." On another it announces that the M.W.G. Master "will attend the performance of the Norwich Musical Festival on 7th October," and that during his stay in that city his Royal Highness will "unveil the bust of Lord Suffield." We have heard of performances at a musical festival, but never of a musical festival being performed.

"Of course," these two little slips of the pen which we have taken the liberty of printing in italics are "very trifling matters—unworthy of notice many will say—and we only refer to them in support of our contention," that the periodical which goes out of its way to notice such a trumpery little mistake as that of the Board of Management aforesaid should at least be careful to avoid the commission of similar mistakes.

It is strange, too, that this same periodical, which claims to be a guide and influence in directing Masonic opinion, should commit the unpardonable error of stating—"It seems to be recognised that the removal of the School will entail a loss of £70,000 out of the £100,000 spent on the land and buildings at Wood Green." There are many brethren—"D.P.G.M. and Past G.O." appears to be one of them—who have heard a similar statement, and, having neither materials of their own, nor ready access to official records, by which to test its accuracy, have too hastily assumed that it was true. But a Masonic paper is supposed to possess, at all events, some slight knowledge of what it writes about, and we can only, therefore, characterise the statement we have quoted as a disingenuous one, and misleading withal. The sum of £100,000 has been spent "on the land and buildings," but this expenditure, which, as we state in one of our articles, includes cost of alterations, repairs, extensions, &c., has been spread over 40 years, during which period the Institution has had the full benefit of its freehold tenancy. This is, in part, a set off against the £100,000 which has been expended, and is not therefore a loss.

There are numbers of people who accept this and similarly erroneous statements without question, and excuse themselves for so doing on the ground that they have "seen it in print," or have been told it "on good authority." But the error these commit is venial by comparison with that of the journal which assumes the truth of a statement without apparently making the slightest attempt to test its accuracy.

A very courteous letter from the W.M. of the lodge—St. James, No. 448, Halifax—which has passed a resolution condemning the grant of a pension to Miss Davis, will be found in our Correspondence Columns. We fully understand that this lodge is not attacking Miss Davis personally, but what its members consider as an "abuse," we look upon as an act of justice, and well within the legitimate expenditure of our Institution for Girls. We are afraid there is not much chance of an agreement between us and these worthy Yorkshire brethren, and, therefore, the position must remain as it is. We must agree to differ.

THERE WAS a very large attendance of breeders from all parts of the country at the sale of the late Bro. Lord Fitzhardinge's shorthorns at Berkeley Castle on Tuesday. The herd was formed in 1868, and some good prices were realised, among the purchasers being the Queen and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

TRAFALGAR DAY will not be celebrated by a naval review in Hyde Park. The Navy League, which recently approached the First Lord of the Admiralty with a view to obtaining a suitable demonstration in the metropolis, or at least a naval guard of honour round the Nelson Column in Trafalgar-square on the occasion of the anniversary on October 21st, has received a reply from the authorities intimating that they do not see their way to adopt either suggestion. The decoration of the Nelson Monument will, however, be carried out by the Navy League in a more extensive fashion than last year. The column will be entwined the whole of its length with laurel, and at the foot of the pedestal will be placed four immense wreaths.

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.

CHRISTIANITY AND FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

My attention has been drawn to your issue of the 29th ult., giving a Copy of a Letter which appeared in the *Church Times* on the 14th ult., headed—"Christianity and Freemasonry, and signed, "Offeiriad."

First.—I wish the writer had subscribed his own name, (Why didn't he?) and not hidden himself under a *nom-de-plume*. However, if the Masons are on the open plain, they will not hesitate to reply to their foe sheltering behind the walls of ignorance and bigotry.

Second.—Throughout this letter I am speaking only of Freemasons recognising as their head and centre "The Grand Lodge of England."

Personally, although a Churchman, I am opposed to "a gathering of Clerical and Lay Freemasons to be included in the informal function of the Church Congress," simply because Freemasonry recognises all branches of the Christian Church, and wishes them all "Godspeed," but does not specially and exclusively attach itself to the Church of England.

I have been a Freemason 32 or 33 years, several times Master of my own lodge here. Freemasonry is based on a belief in One God, Architect and Ruler of the Universe, physical and moral, Judge of all men, rewarding or punishing, as His Divine Laws are kept, or broken, and teaches us to look to God the Father, in whose House we may all gather, as an Eternal Home, when we pass from this world; there is nothing in its teaching contrary to, or subversive of, a free recognition of the Divinity of Christ and His mission—"The Redemption of Mankind, Body and Soul."

The teachings of Freemasonry include the exercise of every moral and social virtue, and there is nothing stands out so prominent, nothing that is pressed more earnestly upon its members than the exercise of that Charity described by St. Paul, in the 13th chapter of his 1st Epistle to the Corinthians.

A true Mason to be faithful to his obligations, and to carry out the principles his Masonry teaches must live within the four corners of the TEN Commandments, and in the Spirit of the Lord's Prayer—has "Offeiriad" anything better to teach us than that?

Freemasonry never made a man faithless to his obligations, or weak in the discharge of any of his duties as a Christian, whether a Churchman or a Non-conformist, but exactly the reverse, its whole tendency having a strong bearing to awaken him to a sense of faithfully discharging all his spiritual duties in the particular Church to which he has attached himself.

The Ritual of Freemasonry in its sublimity and solemnity stands second only to the best parts of the Liturgy of the Church of England, and no man can be a genuine disciple of Christ without benefiting all that come in contact with him, so no man can be a genuine Freemason without exercising a similar influence.

I have written and delivered Lectures in Masonic Lodges on "The Religion of Freemasonry"—"The Architect and Ruler of the Universe," and on "Some of the Characters of the Old Testament," and I venture to say that such subjects were not considered out of place in a Masonic Lodge.

The sneers, ridicule, and suspicions contained in "Offeiriad's" letter are the birth of arrogance and ignorance, and the statement is *absolutely false*, that "All English Churchmen would surely do well to refuse to countenance Freemasonry in the slightest degree"—for this reason—there is nothing in Freemasonry antagonistic to the interests of the Church of England, so long as her teachers practice and preach the Gospel as revealed in the New Testament.—I am, yours faithfully and fraternally,

MARK SCOTT, P.M.,
Saint Germain's Lodge, 566,
and P.P.G.W. N. and E. Yorkshire.

Seiby, September 13th.

"MISS DAVIS'S PENSION."

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Allow me to thank you for kindly inserting in your issue of the 5th instant the copy of the resolution passed by the W.M. and brethren of St. James Lodge, 448; nay, more, I thank you for so prominently drawing the attention of the brethren throughout the country to the subject by your remarks in "Masonic Notes."

I am afraid that you, and those who think with you, do not appreciate what we are driving at. Kindly try to understand that we are not attacking Miss Davis personally; but a start must be made somewhere in attacking "abuses," and as this is the latest "abuse"—as we think—we, as a lodge, consider it a suitable time to make a protest against such illegal acts. It is the principle we are attacking, not individuals. The money is subscribed for charitable purposes, and not for pensions.

Are you aware, Sir, that more than 50 per cent. of the brethren in this country do not enjoy an income equal to the pension to be paid to Miss Davis, and yet these men carry out the tenets of Freemasonry by subscribing their five or 10 guineas, as occasion may require; but they do not subscribe it for pensions? If pensions must be given, quite right; but have a separate fund. The names of the eminent brethren given by you are held in high esteem and respected by all good Masons; but, whatever their rank or station, it does not necessarily follow that all their actions are to be passed without question. You quoted about a judge. Let me draw your attention to a little parable in the Bible—"The widow's mite"—and, having read that, do you not think that, in our humble way, we have a perfect right to form our own opinions, on the information given to us, and act accordingly? If these eminent brethren know a thousand times more than we do, why does the Secretary not let all the Subscribers have all and full information?

You speak as though we are completely alone in this matter. Allow me to inform you and your readers that we have the support of brethren from all parts of the county, as testified by letters sent to W. Bro. Shoebridge, and if you will inquire into the proceedings of the West Yorkshire Charity Committee meeting to be held on Saturday next, you will, no doubt, hear of something that will set you and others thinking.

In conclusion, allow me to say that the W.M. and brethren of 448 are not ashamed of, and do not regret, having taken their present action, feeling certain that if the majority of Subscribers will only take the trouble to make inquiries and think for themselves, that we shall be thanked for what we have done.—With fraternal greetings, believe me, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully,

W. S. MILLIGAN,
W.M. St. James Lodge, 448.

Bank Foundry, Sowerby Bridge,
September 14th.

Craft Masonry.

Peveril of the Peak Lodge, No. 654.

We had the pleasure of visiting this lodge, which held its regular meeting at New Mills on the 9th inst., and observed very great alterations for the benefit and accommodation of Freemasons in the district. It appears some time ago it became very apparent indeed that the premises they previously held their meetings at were quite inadequate for the purpose, and it occurred to several, and, at the suggestion of Bro. Richard Thornley, P.M., an old and enthusiastic member of the lodge, that a scheme could be carried out to have private rooms of their own; this matter he went thoroughly into, with the result that a most charming Masonic temple and club combined now exists, which has cost altogether no less a sum than £800. The lodge room itself is well arranged for the purpose, with sufficient ante-rooms. There is also a fine billiard room and dining room, with all other offices, and we are pleased to record that at the end of the first year of its existence the affairs were so carefully managed that it was a financial success, and so pleased were the brethren with the efforts of Bro. R. Thornley, P.M., that they presented him with a most handsome gold Past Master's jewel as a memento for his perseverance and the successful issue of the undertaking. On the above-mentioned date there was a large gathering of brethren present.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. C. Higginbottom, supported by his officers, he also performed the ceremony of raising. During the evening, Bro. C. F. Johnson, P.M., P.S.G.D., presented the lodge with a very fine piano. This handsome present was accepted by the W.M. on behalf of the brethren.

The following brethren were present: Bros. Chas. Higginbottom, W.M.; J. A. Nichol, I.P.M.; Wm. Wild, J.W.; J. H. Jackson, Treas.; J. R. Hill, S.D.; T. J. Clarke, J.D.; J. J. Jackson, Organist; Charles Hudson and E. Higginbottom, Stwds.; Sam. Taylor, P.M.; Sam. Whitehead, P.M.; J. Hawthorn, John Hibbert, Fred. Garside, Thos. Stott, J. T. Gee, G. H. Higginbottom, J. Smith, and Wm. Pot. Visitors: Bros. Robt. E. Walker, P.M.; C. C. W. Ferguson, P.M.; Jos. Lingard, P.M.; J. Bell, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; E. Whittaker, J. Whittaker, A. Schofield, and G. S. Smith, P.M., P.P.G. Org. E. Lancs.

St. John and St. Paul Lodge, No. 615.

The pretty lodge room of the Belvedere Masonic Association, the new *habitat* of this lodge, recently removed from Erith, was, on Tuesday, the 1st inst., crowded with the members of the above excellent lodge and visitors from the provincial and Woolwich and Plumstead district, to witness and assist at the installation of its esteemed W.M. elect, Bro. Josiah Turton. Bro. Turton has steadily risen from inside the door to his present proud position by patient industry and a perfect knowledge of our sublime ritual, and his Mastership is hailed by his legion of Masonic friends with a pleasurable satisfaction that is intensely evident of his popularity, and of the esteem and respect in which he is universally held.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. W. H. Keeble, and the usual lodge business having been accomplished, Bro. Turton, S.W. and W.M. elect, was presented to the W.M. to receive at his hands the benefits of installation, and with the usual ceremony Bro. Turton was installed and saluted. He appointed and invested his officers as follows—Bros. Keeble, I.P.M.; G. W. Kendall, S.W.; C. S. Hithersay, J.W.; W. Solkhon, Treas.; J. D. Brooks, Sec.; W. S. Hithersay, S.D.; E. J. Vallon, J.D.; W. Francis, I.G.; G. H. Letton, P.M., D.C.; W. L. Doddrell, P.M., P.P.G.P.; E. Tinker, and F. Mayall, Stwds.; J. H. Owen and R. Orchard, A.D.Cs.; and W. Lardner, Tyler. Bro. Keeble then recited the addresses admirably and was rewarded for his excellent working by a cordial vote of thanks, a copy of which it was unanimously resolved should be inscribed on the minutes of the lodge, he was also presented with a handsome and valuable Past Master's jewel as a token of the esteem of the brethren and for valuable services rendered the lodge during his year of office, for which he returned thanks. Bro. H. King, P.M., P.P.G.P., was elected to represent the lodge on the Provincial Charity Committee, and it was resolved "that he be presented at the next meeting of the lodge with a Past Secretary's jewel for services rendered the lodge as Secretary during the past five years," for which he returned his best thanks.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the large dining hall and partook of an excellent banquet, admirably served by Bro. George Williams, of the Cambridge Hotel, Woolwich Dockyard Station, and among the other brethren present were Bros. C. Watkins, P.M., C. G. Godwin, P.M., A. C. and W. T. Doddrell, P.Ms., G. Vincer, R. West, James David, H. J. Jones, A. Knowles, C. Leonard, F. Gaywood, G. Chamberlain, J. Thornhill, J. Holloway, J. Holland, and T. Drew, all of the lodge; H. J. Butter, P.M. 913, P.P.G. Reg.; R. Beeby, P.P.G. Treasurer Middlesex; G. Martin, W.M. 820; G. B. Davies, P.M. 13; E. Morris, P.M. 1789 and 913; C. H. Clapham, P.M. 913; J. Farrier, P.M. 829 and 913; W. H. Turton, J.W. 13; J. Wheatley, S.D. 2399; W. Rake, 45; L. Knoblanck, 392; and C. Jolly, P.M. and Sec. 1472, and W.M. 2184.

The usual loyal and Grand Lodge toasts were put by the W.M. and loyally responded to.

In giving the toast of "The Right Hon. Earl Amherst, R.W.P.G.M. of Kent," the W.M. regretted that it had never yet fallen to his lot to meet their esteemed Provincial Grand Master, a pleasure and honour he, however, soon hoped to have, but those who had seen and served under their Grand Master had spoken of him as one of the grandest of Masons and most genial of gentlemen. It was rather an unusual thing to find one brother's name coupled with two such important toasts as those in which their Grand Master's name appeared; it was, as they were aware, the case in his (Earl Amherst's) name, and they, as Masons of the Province of Kent, were proud of it. They were proud to have to associate his lordship's name with the toast of the Deputy Grand Master of England, but prouder still, if it were possible to be so, to have his name not only in their toast, but in their hearts, as their Prov. Grand Master.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, the remarks of the W.M. anent Bro. the Earl of Amherst being received with bursts of cheering.

The next toast was that of "W. Bro. J. Smith Eastes, D.P.G.M., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," and, in giving it, the W.M. said that in asking them to drink the toast he asked them to drink it in sympathy with their respected Bro. Eastes, whose health just at present prevented him from attending that meeting. They all knew how ill Bro. Eastes had been, and what the loss of such a splendid Mason would be to the province, and he felt that it was only a right and proper thing for them to send from that lodge a letter to Bro. Eastes of sympathy with him in his illness. He asked them to drink the toast heartily, and wish their good Bro. Eastes returned health and long life and happiness.

The toast and wishes of the W.M. was drunk and heartily re-echoed by all present.

Bro. Doddrell said he had the lodge and the brethren to thank for his position in the province. At the late annual provincial meeting their Prov. Grand Master, in referring to his position as Deputy Grand Master of England and Grand Master of the Province of Kent, said he was somewhat in the position of the successful candidate returning thanks for his election, when he said "You are the fellows that put me there," and it seemed to him (Bro. Doddrell) that he could say the same to them—"It is you who have put me there." He esteemed his position as a P.P.G. Officer highly, and thanked them for the toast.

Bro. Butter, in the course of an eloquent speech, said it was now almost 15 years ago that he first had the honour of responding to the toast of the Prov. Grand Officers of the Province of Kent, so that they must know that any remarks he might now make must be rather stale; but as there were a goodly number of brethren present, to whom his remarks might come fresher than they would to the brethren of his own lodge, he would at once assure them that he felt it a great honour to have his name coupled in any way with Masonry in the Province of Kent, or in any manner associated with such names as those of their beloved Provincial Grand Master and Bro. Eastes. He was extremely pleased to be present with them on that occasion, and directly he received the invitation he determined to put all business on one side and accept it. He came especially to see a high honour paid to a good man, one who he might say was an exceedingly good man, and nothing had given him so much pleasure for some time past as had that day been given him through seeing their esteemed W.M. installed as Master of their lodge. They would soon find out that they had that day placed one at their head who was not only an excellent Mason, but a just, upright, genial, and courteous gentleman, one who would do honour to their choice, and bring prosperity and harmony to their lodge. He spoke highly of the excellent work done by the Installing Officer, and cordially thanked them for their hospitality and the proceedings of the day.

The Worshipful Master, in response to a eulogistic proposition of his health by the I.P.M., said he rose with some little diffidence to respond to the toast, so eloquently put, and so heartily received. He would, however, assure them that he would try by every means in his power to come up to their expectations of him, and also those of Bro. Butter. Whether he should succeed or not time would prove, but he would promise them that he would do his best, for he wanted to make the St. John and St Paul Lodge one of the best, if not the best in the district. He should endeavour so to discharge his duty, and should expect the officers so to do theirs, that they would be glad to have the brethren of their own and other lodges come to see them do their work, and find it worthy of the lodge and its excellent reputation. The brethren of the Pattison Lodge, his mother lodge, and other lodges, he hoped would visit them, and if he did his work as well as their I.P.M. had done his, he felt sure that he should have done it to their satisfaction. He asked them to bring new and good blood to work with him, officers and brethren together, and then he had no doubt of their approval of his work, and of his efforts for the prosperity of the lodge.

Bro. Bilby, in responding for "The Visitors," congratulated the lodge on its prosperity and its excellent W.M., and spoke well of the manner in which the I.P.M. performed the ceremony of installation.

Bros. Morris and Davis also responded.

"The Past Masters," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers" were the other toasts honoured.

The musical portion of the festival, which was under the direction and lead of Bro. Sydney Horton, P.M. 706, was most enjoyable. The contributors were Bro. S. Masters, and Messrs. H. Bailey and O. Morgan. Bro. Horton played a violin solo, his son Lionel a splendid solo on the 'cello, Bro. Leonard played two solos on the harp, and the National Anthem concluded a memorable day's Masonic work.

Yarborough Lodge, No. 944.

The 84th installation meeting of this highly influential and successful lodge took place on Wednesday, the 9th inst., at the Masonic Temple, Stopford-road, St. Helier's, Jersey. There was some work on the agenda but the brethren went to enjoy the harmony and good feeling which prevail in this lodge, and the excellent working for which the Yarborough is looked upon in the province. The ceremonies of the Emulation ritual, thanks to Bro. J. Caton, P.M., are always gone through in a most exemplary, perfect, and impressive manner, and the precision with which every officer, from the W.M. to the I.G. and Tyler, performs his work is remarkable. The exertions of their indefatigable Past Master, Bro. C. H. Wilson, and the Secretary, Bro. J. T. Baker, P.M., make themselves everywhere beneficially felt. Foremost, however, as a cause of so good an attendance that evening was the great popularity Bro. C. Baker, P.M., W.M. elect, enjoys amongst the Craftsmen in the province.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bros. J. Lesbirel, J. Durell, P.M., acting S.W.; L. P. Hespriadoux, acting J.W.; C. H. Wilson, I.P.M.; J. T. Baker, P.M., Sec.; P. G. Hamilton, P.M., Treas.; A. Anslow, S.D.; L. Boyson, J.D.; J. Mallett, I.G.; and C. Rogers, Tyler. After the minutes of the last lodge meeting had been read, the W.M. passed Bro. W. Sharpe to the F.C. Degree, and his working of the ritual was of the very best and fully maintained his great reputation. A petition to the Board of Benevolence on behalf of the distressed widow of a deceased brother, who had been temporarily relieved in the sum of six guineas, was signed by all members present, having been well recommended. The report of the Audit Committee and balance sheet of the Treasurer (which had been previously circulated among the members) having been taken as read, was received and adopted upon motion. By the general desire of the W.M. and brethren, Bro. C. H. Wilson, I.P.M., then took the chair as Installing Master, after which Bro. C. Baker, P.M., W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. J. Lesbirel, W.M., to receive the benefit of installation at the hands of the W.M. in the chair, who rose from the latter after the usual formalities had been observed and proceed to obligate him as W.M. elect. The Installing Master then appointed as his Installing Officers Bros. J. Durell, P.M., as S.W.; P. G. Hamilton, P.M., as J.W.; and W. H. Hambly, P.M., as I.G. A Board of Installed Masters was formed, in whose presence Bro. C. Baker was formally installed into the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom. The Worshipful Master appointed and invested, in a most able and impressive manner, his officers as follows: Bros. Joshua Lesbirel, I.P.M.; P. F. Le Boutillier, S.W.; Alfred Anslow, J.W.; P. G. Hamilton, P.M., Treas.; C. H. Wilson, P.M., Sec.; J. T. Baker, P.M., Asst. Sec.; A. B. Harden, S.D.; John Mallett, J.D.; W. H. Burt, Org.; J. Durell, P.M., D.C.; T. C. Davis, Stwd. and I.G.; and C. Rogers, Tyler. On this part of the ceremony being completed, Bro. Wilson brought the work of installation to an end by reciting in a highly impressive manner the addresses to the W.M. and his principal officers and the oration to the lodge upon the principles of Freemasonry. The Installing Master was afforded an occasion of once again exhibiting those rare attainments which have rendered his two years of W.M. and I.P.M. so unprecedented a success. Several distinguished visitors warmly congratulated the members of the lodge upon the rare intellectual treat just listened to, and added that such a profound Masonic knowledge as displayed by Bro. Wilson, Installing Master, lent dignity to the lodge and honour to the Craft. A vote of thanks was unanimously returned to Bro. C. H. Wilson.

After "Hearty good wishes" had been interchanged, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the spacious refectory, where about 70 sat down to partake of the annual banquet, which was served in the manner for which the caterer, Bro. W. H. Hambly, P.M. 245, is famous, and under his personal superintendence and whose personal efforts to please gave unqualified satisfaction. The viands were Art and the wines of the best brands.

At the conclusion of the banquet, the toast list was proceeded with without delay. Bro. C. Baker, the new W.M., proved himself an admirably genial host, and time was not cut to waste by speeches of undue length.

The toasts of "The Queen and the Craft" and that of "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," were enthusiastically received and responded to with musical honours, the National Anthem and "God bless the Prince of Wales" being sung.

The rest of the toasts followed and received due recognition.

The proceedings of the evening were greatly enlivened by the kind efforts of several of the brethren, this lodge being for the moment rich in good vocalists and instrumentalists, notably Bros. Thos. Adderson, W. H. Dickson, C. H. Wilson, J. Mallett, A. Anslow, W. Sharpe, J. H. Venn, T. C. Davis, W. H. Venn, and W. H. Burton, who presided at the piano, and was responsible for the musical portion of the evening.

All the arrangements, both of lodge and banquet, were most excellently carried out by the indefatigable Secretary, Bro. C. H. Wilson, P.M.

A most enjoyable evening was brought to a termination all too soon by the Tyler's toast.

Lodge of Perseverance, No. 1743.

The installation meeting of the above successful lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Saturday, the 12th instant. There was a full attendance of the members of the lodge and an especially large number of visitors. Besides the W.M., there were present Bros. H. C. Lonsdale, S.W.; Harry Watts, J.W.; T. Lovell, Treas.; G. J. Tollett, Sec.; H. G. Park, S.D.; W. B. Cossham, J.D.; R. Perry, D. of C.; Millman, I.G.; H. Bridgman, Stwd.; C. E. Ferry, P.M.; John Stait, P.M.; Thos. J. D. O'Brian, P.M.; Bernard Ferry, F. Millman, J. Fleetman, F. R. Frost, S. L. Hinton, W. Smithson, H. Hawkins, Thomas Tyrrell, G. W. White, C. Thompson, W. Farrant, T. Flexman, and F. Kerney. Visitors: Bros. J. T. Dornier, P.M. 1571; Frank Carter, 153; J. Walton, 1360; Harry Foreman, P.M. 1275; H. Mossop, 797; G. Booker, I.P.M. 228; R. Ede, 1471; A. J. Baldock, 1343; G. H. Cole, 1089; H. Magee, P.M. 174; W. Roots, P.M. 1273; Col. T. Davis Sewell, P.M. 1827, P.G. Stwd.; S. Ellis, I.P.M. 1981; J. R. Johnson, P.M. 1320, P.P.S. G.D. Essex; W. W. Morgan, 177; A. Abrahams, 205; J. G. W. James, P.M. 1602, 795, Sec. 2578, P.P.G. Std. Br. Berks; G. J. Symonds, 183; R. J. Hamilton, 781; A. Ford, 171; W. G. London, 1580; and others.

After the confirmation of the minutes, Bro. William Smithson was passed to the Second Degree, after which Mr. Charles Edwin Linaker was initiated into Freemasonry. Bro. H. C. Lonsdale was presented as W.M. elect and impressively installed into the chair by Bro. W. J. Wall, I.P.M., who thus concluded his year of useful and excellent work. The following officers were invested: Bros. H. Watts, S.W.; Hy. G. Park, J.W.; T. Lovell, Treas.; G. J. Tollett, Sec.; W. B. Cossham, S.D.; Sydney Kelly, J.D.; R. Perry, I.G.; H. Bridgman and F. Flexman, Stewards; and Lane, Tyler. After "Hearty good wishes" from the numerous visitors, the lodge was closed.

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

After ample justice had been done to the rich repast, the following toasts were duly proposed and responded to: "The Queen and the Craft"; "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M."; the Pro Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom; the Deputy Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl Amherst; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Bro. W. J. Wall, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said that it was his privilege and honour to give the toast, which was the principal one of the evening. Bro. Lonsdale had proved himself, through his past services in the Perseverance Lodge and the Lodge of Instruction, worthy of the position he then held. He was sure he would reflect credit on the lodge, and he had, therefore, the greatest pleasure in proposing his health.

The Worshipful Master, after returning thanks, said he would do his best for the success and prosperity of the lodge and the comfort of the brethren, the roll of members being about 30; they were very particular whom they received into their midst.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The I.P.M. and Installing Master," and said Bro. W. J. Ball, I.P.M., had rendered good work in the lodge during his year of office and had proved himself a real good Mason in upholding the tenets of the Craft in every way, he had, therefore, the greatest possible pleasure in presenting Bro. Ball with a handsome Past Master's jewel, which had been unanimously voted to him, and hoped he would live many years to wear it as a memento of his year of office.

Bro. Ball, I.P.M., in reply, thanked the W.M. and brethren for the jewel, and said he would prize it much and when looking at it would ever remind him of the pleasant evenings spent in the Perseverance Lodge, and as long as he had health and strength and could pay his subscriptions would always remain a member of the lodge.

"The Initiate" was duly given and ably responded to by Bro. Linaker. The Entered Apprentice's song was sung with Masonic fire.

Bros. Johnson, P.P.S.G.D. Essex; G. Booker, I.P.M. 228; and W. Roots, P.M. 1273, suitably replied for "The Visitors," each thanking the W.M. and brethren for the opportunity afforded them of being present to have enjoyed the treat of seeing the beautiful ritual so well carried out and the hospitable manner in which they were received.

For "The Past Masters," Bros. Ferry, O. Brian, F. Kerney, and Stait suitably responded in well-chosen words.

"The Officers," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and the Tyler's toast brought a successful meeting to a close.

During the intervals a capital musical programme, under the direction of Bro. Alfred Moore, was carried out in a masterly manner, his song, "The wonders of the deep," was given in splendid style, also "Whusky," this last causing roars of laughter. Miss Minnie Chamberlin sang "Killarney" in sweet form, also "Over the hills." Miss Maggie Purvis sang "An Andalusian maid" and "Punchinello," both of which were encored. Bro. James Kiff's song "Long ago in Alcala," was full of humour. Thus ended a very happy evening.

Eldon Lodge, No. 1755.

There was a large and influential gathering of the Craft at the Masonic Rooms of the Royal Hotel, Portishead, Somerset, on Saturday, the 12th inst., and the gathering included many visitors from the neighbouring provinces and from a distance. The special event was the installation of Bro. Alfred Jefferies, S.W. and W.M. elect. The important ceremony was impressively performed by the Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. R. C. Else, P.G.D. England. The newly-installed W.M. proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows: Bros. F. G. Moore, I.P.M.; T. Turner, S.W.; J. W. H. Hall, J.W.; the Rev. A. W. M. Weatherley, P.M., Chaplain; J. R. Thebridge, P.M., Treas.; W. T. Shapland, P.M., Sec.; J. H. Stafford, S.D.; Edward Tedder, J.D.; C. L. Thomas, P.M., D. of C. (invested by deputy, being absent through recent bereavement); Davey, P.M., Org.; T. Lowther, I.G.; J. W. Roberts and C. J. Tonkin, Stewards; and Frank Simpkins, Tyler. The usual points in the installation ceremony were ably and effectively heralded by the veteran Brother W. R. Maby, who has served the office of Grand Herald in the higher grades of Freemasonry. On the proposition of the out-going W.M., Bro. F. G. Moore, the sum of 10 guineas was voted from the lodge funds to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. Bro. W. H. Rice was unanimously chosen as Delegate to the Charity Organisation Committee of the Province for the ensuing year.

The lodge room was tastefully decorated with choice plants and shrubs, and the banquet table was ornamented with beautiful bouquets. The catering of Mrs. Boulter gave general satisfaction.

The W.M., Bro. A. Jefferies, presided at the banquet, and was well supported by a number of Prov. G. Officers and Past Masters.

On the removal of the cloth, the W.M. submitted "The Queen and the Craft," which was cordially received.

The W.M. next proposed "The M.W. the Grand Master, the Pro Grand Master, and Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past," which was suitably acknowledged by Bro. Else, P.G.D.

The W.M. then gave "The R.W. the Prov. G.M., Bro. the Right Hon. Viscount Dungarvan; the W.D.P.G.M., Bro. R. C. Else (the Installing Master); and Officers of Prov. Grand Lodge, Present and Past."

Bro. R. C. Else, Dep. P.G.M., replied to this sentiment, and assured those present that the W.M. had not said one word too much in behalf of their Prov. G.M. and the zeal and ability displayed by him in the execution of his arduous duties. He had on many occasions proved himself a thorough Mason, not in word only, but in deed also, and there was no doubt his efforts and example did much for the credit and advancement of Freemasonry in Somerset. Before resuming his seat, he (the Deputy) would take that opportunity of thanking those who had assisted him in the ceremony that afternoon. He thanked Bro. Alfred Tonkin, who had acted as Director of Ceremonies; Bro. Davey, who ably contributed as Organist; and that veteran of Masonic Heralds and musicians, Bro. W. R. Maby.

Bro. F. G. Moore had the pleasure of proposing the toast of "The W.M.," which was enthusiastically received. He had passed through every chair of the lodge, with credit to himself, satisfaction to the brethren, and benefit to the Craft, and there was no doubt the Eldon Lodge would lose none of its prestige under his rule and during his reign.

The W.M. replied as follows: "Of all the difficulties I have had to meet in the course of my life I have had none more difficult than the present one, and that is to adequately and sufficiently thank Wor. Bro. Moore for the way he has proposed this toast, and the kind expressions he has used in so doing, and to thank the brethren enough for the generous way in which they received my name. The memories of such a kindly reception will remain and last as one of my sweetest recollections. I am, indeed, proud to be in the position to preside over you during the ensuing 12 months, and will do my very best to uphold the dignity and prestige of the Eldon Lodge. It is my earnest desire to do my duty in this high office satisfactorily to you all, and if a year hence you give me the same kindly reception that you have this evening I shall be more than satisfied. I beg of you to believe that though I may be lacking in terms of expression, I am none the less hearty and sincere and none the less appreciative of the honour and kindness you have bestowed upon me."

Bro. Rice, in an amusing speech, proposed "The Health of the I.P.M.," and drew a humorous comparison of his "quiet and contemplative" mood when buckling on the armour of office 12 months ago, and the "joyous frame of mind" which he found him in then, having handed over the cares and responsibilities to some one else. He had heard the charges read to the W.M. that afternoon, and he could honestly say that all those the I.P.M. had faithfully carried out.

Bro. Moore, in acknowledging the compliment so gracefully submitted, said that the success of his year was due in a great measure to the work of his excellent officers and to the help given by the Past Masters. The proposer's speech reminded him of one of the most genial Americans who ever visited these shores—Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes—who once said—when he was young, praise came to him in teaspoonfuls, when he was middle-aged, in tablespoonfuls, and when more advanced in life, in ladlefuls, and this was how he liked it best. He (Bro. Moore) presumed he must be reaching the latter period, for Bro. Rice had been giving him the largest measure.

Bro. Turner, S.W., proposed "The Past Masters," and referred to the good qualities and good deeds of these brethren, and drew particular attention to a recent disinterested and charitable action of one of the P.Ms.

The toast was spoken to in forcible reply by Bro. C. P. Billing, P.M. The Worshipful Master proposed "The Visiting Brethren" in the following brief terms: He said the next toast I have to propose is one that requires no words of mine

to commend itself to the elder brethren, as they are never more happy than when they have plenty of visitors. They liked to hold out the right hand of fellowship to members of other lodges, and were always pleased to welcome them both at the lodge working and at the festive board. I am more than gratified and honoured by the company of so many distinguished visitors from Somersetshire, Gloucestershire, and Bristol provinces. I need add nothing further except to hope that they have so far enjoyed their visit, and that they will continue so to do.

This toast was replied to by the following: Bros. E. Gribble, W.M. 68; E. Machon, I.P.M. 68; Charles Pfeiffer, P.M. 1833, P.P.G.D.; and Biss, 270, all of whom gave a cordial invite to the members of the Eldon, and any visitors who might be present.

"The Masonic Charities" was left in the hands of Bro. Shapland, who gave a large amount of information as regards the good work carried on by the Central Institutions, as well as the lodge and private Charities of the members.

Bro. Rice, P.M., who had that day been re-elected Delegate on the Charity Organisation Committee, spoke in reply, and returned his thanks to the brethren for the ready support he had always met with whether for the Institutions or for any outside cause that he might bring before them.

The Tyler's toast brought the list to a close.

The proceedings were greatly enhanced by the musical brethren. Bros. J. H. Fulford and H. R. Shrapnell, P.M., presided at the pianoforte with much ability, and some excellent harmony was contributed by the following brethren: Bros. J. H. Stafford, Charlie Pfeiffer, J. W. Hall, — Biss, A. Knee, W. T. Shapland, and others.

The brethren separated rather before nine, after a very enjoyable and successful afternoon.

Duke of Cornwall Lodge, No. 1839.

The installation meeting of this well-known lodge was held on Saturday, the 12th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, at which there was a good muster of the members and visitors. Bro. Charles Mussared, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. W. H. Lowry, I.P.M.; Charles Heinekey, S.W., W.M. elect; C. H. Knuth, J.W.; John Culver, P.M., Treas.; J. W. Dewsnap, P.M., Sec.; W. Wright, S.D.; F. H. Stollery, J.D.; Louis Wolff, D.C.; J. E. Perrins, Stwd.; J. Bladon, P.M.; Walter Martin, P.M.; J. W. Brooke, P.M.; C. H. Cox, P.M.; H. Cattermole, P.M.; W. G. Bott, P.M.; W. H. Foot, P.M.; T. J. Jackson, C. W. Bailey, N. Stansbury, C. W. Payne, E. J. Blake, W. F. Norris, G. F. Broad, Perkins, W. Perrins, Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G.C.; C. Elithorn, J. J. Woods, H. E. Toon, Chas. Boyton, A. E. Turner, C. F. Day, J. A. King, C. W. Davies, F. Smallbones, A. J. Brown, C. H. Atkinson, C. T. Cowley, H. E. Griggs, and T. Bowler, Tyler. The visitors were Bros. W. C. Smith, W.M. 2264; Charles Brown, W.M. 35; G. W. Ball, 35 and 2169; J. H. Williams, 569; Orton Cooper, P.M. 211; H. Ives, 1716; J. H. Patrick, 1716; G. S. Miller, I.P.M. 2264; G. F. Smith, 15; J. T. Galloway, W.M. 1598; Rev. S. B. Harris, P.M. 538; E. M. Woods, 1706; J. A. Smallbones, 1897; R. L. Woolf, 188; J. W. Jeffery, P.M. 134; and R. T. West, 1744.

The minutes of the last lodge and emergency meetings having been read and confirmed, the W.M., Bro. Mussared, raised Bro. C. W. Payne to the Third Degree. The W.M. elect, Bro. Charles Heinekey, was then presented, and installed into the chair by Bro. Mussared in an exceedingly able and impressive manner. The new W.M. afterwards stated the following as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. C. H. Knuth, S.W.; W. Wright, J.W.; J. Culver, P.M., Treas.; J. W. Dewsnap, P.M., Sec.; T. J. Jackson, Asst. Sec.; F. H. Stollery, S.D.; J. F. Perrins, J.D.; A. E. Turner, I.G.; J. L. Castiglione, D.C.; F. Smallbones and A. J. Blake, Stewards; W. T. Perrins, Musical Director; and T. Bowler, Tyler. The customary addresses were given by Bro. C. Mussared with marked effect, and he won for himself the hearty approval of the brethren.

The Auditors' report of the Lodge and Benevolent Funds having been received and adopted, and, after other business, the lodge was closed, and a *recherché* banquet followed, under the genial presidency of the W.M.

On the removal of the cloth, and as a preface to the toasts, the W.M. stated that his speeches would be brief, but he hoped sweet, as they had a lengthy musical programme to get through.

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

In giving "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. stated that they were all good and true brothers, and had rendered excellent service to the Craft, and he coupled with the toast the name of Bro. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., who had honoured them with his presence that evening.

In response, Bro. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg said it was then 17 years since he took part in the consecration of the lodge, and he thanked them for one more very pleasant evening.

Bro. C. Mussared, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master," observing that he had been a W.M. and knew what the toast meant. Bro. Heinekey was the ideal of a W.M. and he was pleased and honoured to have installed such a worthy brother. He was a very happy fellow and a bachelor, and it was then their chance to introduce all their sisters and lady friends to him. In his preliminary canter that night he had shown them what he could do, and he had no doubt he would carry out the duties of his high office with lustre, and when his time came to vacate the chair it would be with great *clat*.

The toast was received with much enthusiasm, and Bro. Heinekey, W.M., on rising to respond, had a hearty reception. He said they were told that there was no rose without a thorn, but it was very nice to listen to all the good things said of him. During his year of office he would do his utmost for the welfare of the lodge, and he earnestly hoped he would have some initiates. He trusted that they would look over his many shortcomings, but he was the youngest Master in years who had ever occupied the chair in the Duke of Cornwall Lodge, and upon that ground he asked for their kind indulgence.

In submitting the toast of "The Immediate Past and Installing Master, Bro. C. Mussared," the W.M. stated that it was his privilege and very great pleasure to present him with a Past Master's jewel for his eminent services, and he hoped it would ever remind him of his happy and successful term of office as W.M. They had had a great treat in the way he had performed the installation ceremony, he had been one of the very best, and it would be a very long time before the members would forget the great things he had done for the lodge, and the genial and kind manner he always displayed towards them.

The inscription on the jewel was—"Presented to Bro. C. Mussared by the brethren of the Duke of Cornwall Lodge, No. 1839, Freemasons' Hall, London, as a mark of appreciation of his services as W.M. 1895-6."

The toast was drunk with acclamation, and

Bro. C. Mussared, I.P.M., who was received with much warmth, responded. It was a great pleasure to him to acknowledge the toast, because he felt his work was over. It had not been laborious, but what had been placed before him he had done to the best of his ability. He had been connected with the lodge for 15 years, and had always been received in a cordial and kindly manner. He had gone through the chair in other lodges, but he looked upon that lodge with great pleasure in which he had filled every office. He felt all the happiness the members had conferred upon him, and he wished them all health and prosperity, and, in conclusion, he said that he appreciated the jewel, which would go on the very top of the three he already had.

At the request of the W.M., Bro. J. Culver, P.M., gave "The Visitors," observing that they were all cordially welcome, and he hoped they would come again and again. They were honoured with a goodly number, and he coupled with the toast the name of Bro. G. S. Miller, P.M., who was a household name in that and many other lodges. He was one of the best of fellows, a good and true friend, and he knew no one who had worked harder in the Craft.

Bro. G. S. Miller, P.M., on rising to respond, had quite an ovation. He said it was a great pleasure and honour to have one's name associated with the toast. They had all enjoyed the great treat in the lodge in seeing the I.P.M. perform the ceremony of installation, which was exceedingly well done. The lodge had a Master who would carry out his duties in a most efficient manner and his officers were those who would follow well in his train. The visitors had been—as they always were—lavishly entertained by the members.

Bro. Rev. S. B. Harris, P.M., in very eloquent terms, also acknowledged the toast. The Worshipful Master gave "The Past Masters," remarking that he was pleased and honoured to have such a goodly array of Past Masters at his installation. They

had all done good service in the lodge and they were much esteemed, and he joined with the toast the names of Bros. J. W. Brooke, W. G. Bott, and C. H. Cox.

Bro. J. W. Brooke, P.M., responded. He said in looking back 18 years ago to a small band—whose names he mentioned—who determined to start a little lodge on their own account, they had no idea then that the lodge would make such strides as it had done. As a founder of the lodge he was proud of its success, and by an accident he was the first Master, but the origin of the lodge was due to his old friend, Bro. Dr. Bost. The I.P.M. had elevated the moral tone of the lodge, and as to the W.M., who was an initiate of the lodge, he thought there was no doubt that at the end of his year of office their verdict would be "well done."

Bro. W. G. Bott, P.M., stated that he was gratified to find that he still had a good reception in the lodge. The traditions of the Duke of Cornwall Lodge had never failed to keep up a proper standard in the Craft.

Bro. C. H. Cox, P.M., also responded, bearing testimony to the efficiency of the W.M., who, he observed, would prove one of the successes in the annals of the lodge.

In giving "The Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. stated that no lodge could have two better officers. The Treasurer had proved by his previous conduct what he could do to promote the interests of the lodge. Then, as to the Secretary, the lodge could not get on without him, and he was one of the very best. He also referred to Bro. Jackson, who had been appointed Assistant Secretary, and he felt sure he would render every assistance to the lodge and to the Secretary.

The toast was acknowledged by Bros. Culver, P.M., Treas., and Dewsnap, P.M., Sec., but, the hour being late, their remarks were brief and to the point.

The next toast was "The Masonic Charities," the W.M. urging the members to give liberally to the three deserving Institutions.

Bro. C. H. Cox, P.M., whose name was associated with the toast, responded. In eloquent terms he pleaded hard for the Charities, and made special mention of the great services rendered by the Secretaries of the three Institutions.

In proposing "The Officers," the W.M. said he was gratified with those he had appointed, because he felt they would give him every assistance, and when their time came to go forward they would be found ready in every way. He urged all the members to attend the lodge of instruction connected with the lodge, of which Bro. Walter Martin, P.M., was the Preceptor, than whom it would be impossible to find one better able to give Masonic instruction.

Bro. C. H. Knuth, S.W., responded in appropriate terms.

The Tyler's toast ended a most enjoyable and memorable evening. The musical entertainment, which was excellent, was carried out under the able direction of Bro. Walter Perrins, assisted by Miss Emily Davis, Miss Theresa Kellaway, and Bro. A. H. Gee, who deserve special mention for their efforts. An extra word, however, is due to Bro. Gee, who hails from Australia, who has a splendid baritone voice, and he has only to become known in Masonic circles to be very popular. Bro. Geo. F. Smith, P.M., presided with his well-known ability at the pianoforte.

Graystone Lodge, No. 1915.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Foresters Hall, Whitstable, on Thursday, the 10th inst., when there were present Bros. Sydney Brown, W.M.; A. W. Southwell, I.P.M.; R. T. Wheeler, S.W., W.M. elect; F. Gibbs, J.W.; S. Saunders, P.M., P.P.G.R., Sec.; J. T. Reeves, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., D.C.; M. Kemp, S.D.; C. E. Monkley, J.D.; H. J. Ougham, I.G.; A. A. Kemp and H. Hemsley, Stwds.; A. J. Weatherley, Tyler; T. W. Porter, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; F. T. Browning, P.M.; E. G. Walthew, P.M.; W. B. London, P.M.; J. W. Elvin, P.M.; J. Wood, P.M.; H. Ward, P.M., P.D.G.S.B. England; H. L. Daly, H. Goldfinch, H. W. Clothier, H. K. Daniels, W. H. Wakeford, A. W. Daniels, T. Kemp, J. W. Elvin, J. Spalton, H. Hine, Thos. Seager, and W. H. Turner. A large number of visitors from neighbouring lodges, and even from the more distant parts of Kent, attended in honour of the occasion, among whom were Bros. J. Barnwell, P.M. 2099; T. K. Warhurst, J.D. 2099; J. H. Bridge, 503; E. Lukey, P.M. 199, P.P.G.D.; G. Pope, P.M. 1449; J. W. Farncery, W.M. 1449; F. Clarke, H. Andrews, J.W.; F. W. Drury, J.D. 1449; F. T. Puttick, W.M. 972; R. Blake, P.M. 972, P.P.A.G.D.C.; W. Cowell, W.M. 2448; W. J. Hellyar, W.M. 2099; H. M. Biggleston, S.W. 31; J. Plant, P.M. 31, P.P.G.O.; J. Roe, W.M. 1209; H. Herbert, 2195; J. T. May, P.M. 429; E. H. White, P.M. 2448, P.A.G. Sec.; R. Thompson, W.M. 184; William Baker, S.D. 192; J. Bate, W.M. 1967; F. J. Ilunt, J.D. 194; G. H. Burrell, W.M. 1424; D. W. Sargent, W.M. 2305; W. Adcock, J.W. 2202; R. Hall, W.M. 1206; John Sillitoe, 2353; J. Moore, W.M. 127; J. Bryhurst, P.M. 127; H. Woodward, G. S. Mussared, T. J. Easton, 127; T. G. Gillett, W.M. 133; M. Lexon, J.W. 133; and F. Tett P.M. 133.

The lodge having been opened and the minutes confirmed, the business of the day was proceeded with, and Bro. Richard Theodore Wheeler, S.W., was regularly installed as Master of the lodge by Bro. A. W. Southwell, P.M., who performed the ceremony in a very able and efficient manner. The Director of Ceremonies was Bro. J. T. Reeves, P.M. The newly-installed Master invested his predecessor, Bro. Sydney Brown, as I.P.M., and afterwards appointed his officers as follows: Bros. F. Gibbs, S.W.; M. Kemp, J.W.; Rev. H. W. Maugham, P.M., Chap.; A. Anderson, Treas.; S. Saunders, P.M., Sec.; C. E. Monkley, S.D.; H. J. Ougham, J.D.; J. T. Reeves, P.M., D.C.; A. A. Kemp, I.G.; H. Hemsley and H. E. Limmer, Stwds.; and A. J. Weatherley, Tyler.

After the closing of the lodge the brethren adjourned to the Bear and Key Hotel, where an excellent banquet was served by Bro. W. Brannan, to which nearly 50 sat down. The W.M. presided, and after dinner the usual toast list was gone through, the speeches being interspersed with some delightful music contributed by Bros. Plant, Rhodes, and Pearson, (of Canterbury Cathedral), Sillitoe, C. Monkley, H. Hemsley (cornet), and F. A. Johnson, L.R.A.M., (pianoforte).

Kingswood Lodge, No. 2278.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 12th inst., at the Crown Hotel, Broxbourne, when there were present Bros. E. Blinkhorn, P.M., W.M.; J. Gravatt, S.W.; A. Ingram, J.W.; J. Petch, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Treas.; J. F. Bell, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec.; C. C. Renaud, S.D.; C. Nicole, acting I.G.; J. G. Cobb, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., D.C.; A. Kelly, Org.; T. Williams, Tyler; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D.; E. H. Moore, P.M.; A. C. Little, F. H. Johnson, Donald King, A. Palmer-Palmer, J. E. Little, and J. W. Rattenbury. Visitors: Bros. W. Adams, P.M. 1861; Miles Mole, 2264; C. A. Hooper, P.M. 1613; T. Gibbs, W.M. 167 (Mauritius); and S. Reichenheim (Grand Lodge of Germany).

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read, the next business was the raising of Bro. F. H. Johnson, and, by request of the W.M., the traditional history was given by Bro. J. G. Cobb, P.M. Bro. J. E. Little was then passed. After "hearty good wishes" from the visitors, the lodge was closed.

After the brethren had dined, the customary toasts were proposed. The W.M., in submitting that of "The Visitors," gave them a most cordial welcome, which was heartily endorsed by the brethren.

Bro. T. Gibbs, W.M. 1606 (Mauritius), in reply, expressed the pleasure he felt in once more visiting a lodge in England. He gave a most interesting account of Masonic matters in the Colony, and concluded by sincerely thanking the brethren for the fraternal greeting they had given to his brother visitors and himself.

Some excellent music was given during the evening, including songs by Bros. Johnson, C. Nicole, A. C. Little, Donald King, A. Kelly, and Miles Mole, whose splendid rendering of two songs met with much applause.

The Tyler's toast closed a very pleasant evening's entertainment.

Doric Lodge, No. 2359.

The regular meeting of the above lodge was held on Saturday, the 12th instant, at Chorlton-cum-Hardy. The chair was taken by Bro. John Walker, W.M., Bros. G. S. Smith, P.P.G. Org., acting S.W., and G. A. Myers, P.P.G.D.C., acting J.W.

The lodge being opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Twenty guineas were voted—to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys from the lodge funds and 10 from the Charity-box to the Alpass Benevolent Institution respectively.

In addition to those mentioned above, the following were present: Bros. A. K. Boothroyd, P.M., Treas.; Fred. Morgan, Sec.; J. Laurisch, S.D.; J. Lawsonson, J.D.; J. Ratchford, J. Mess, J. Booth, W. Jepson, W. A. Kay, W. E. Rousell, J. W. Brundrett, R. J. Sayers, I.G., J. Wardle, and W. W. Wilkinson. Visitors: Bros. G. Campbell, P.P.G.D.C. Cheshire; E. Mickson, and J. W. Rowse.

Hadrian Lodge, No. 2483.

The annual installation meeting was held at the Devonshire Hotel, Bexhill, on Wednesday, the 9th inst. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Richard Francis, who was supported by the following: Bros. H. J. Capon, I.P.M.; W. R. Griffin, S.W.; F. Russell, J.W.; Rev. F. Pawson, Chap.; E. W. Stillwell, P.M., Sec.; F. C. Golden, S.D.; J. Wood, J.D.; Sydney G. R. Coles, Org.; G. Nicholson, I.G.; W. N. Oldham, Stwd.; and W. Pennington, Tyler. The members included Bros. F. G. Bretton, L. Russell, A. C. Dymham, W. Goddard, E. Cornwell, E. Piper, C. Miles, F. Gildersleeve, J. Stirling, C. King, F. C. R. Adams, B. J. Hewett, J. Castle, and J. Gore. Visitors: Bros. V. P. Freeman, P.M., P.G.D., Prov. G. Sec.; H. Thwaites, 1110; G. Bainbridge, 15; L. F. Jukes, W.M. 40; H. Boyce, J.W. 40; H. G. White, 2134; J. Killington, P.M. 1790; G. Fowler, P.M. 1110; G. Randell, P.M. P.A.G.D.C.; R. Hughes, P.M. 1184, P.P.G. Std. Br.; C. J. Ticehurst, I.P.M. 40; P. H. Palmer, W.M. 1842; P. Beer, 40; J. C. Berry, W.M. 1303; G. R. Cutler, 217; J. Creighton, P.M. 1110; H. Colgate, W.M. 916; Chapman Marshall, W.M. 2201; T. H. Challis, W.M. 315; J. Peters, W.M. 311; F. Carr, W.M. 1466; A. P. Dollman, W.M. 1821; and E. Chappell.

The chief business of the meeting was the installation of Bro. William R. Griffin as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being impressively performed by the retiring W.M., Bro. Richard Francis. The W.M. appointed his officers for the ensuing year, those present being invested with the insignia of their respective offices as follows: Bros. Richard Francis, I.P.M.; Fred Russell, S.W.; James Wood, J.W.; A. Gosling, Treas.; Henry J. Capon, P.M., Sec.; George Nicholson, S.D.; Rev. F. W. Pawson, J.D.; W. N. Oldham, I.G.; E. W. Stillwell, P.M., D.C.; A. C. Dymham, Org.; B. J. Hewitt and A. C. Dymham, Stewards; and W. Pennington, Tyler. Bro. James Wood was appointed Charity Steward. During the afternoon an initiation also took place, the ceremony being in the hands of Bro. Henry J. Capon, P.M., the candidate Mr. F. Keefe.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren sat down to a banquet, under the presidency of the newly-installed W.M., Bro. W. R. Griffin.

The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

The W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft," and Bro. H. J. Capon, P.M., submitted "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales."

Bro. E. Stillwell, P.M., gave "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," to which Bro. V. P. Freeman, P.G.D., suitably replied.

Bro. H. J. Capon, P.M., in proposing "The M.W. Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, Prov. Grand Master of Sussex," spoke in graceful terms of the interest the Duke of Connaught took in the province, and said his Royal Highness would, if possible, preside at the meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge, which would shortly be held in Hastings, and urging the lodge to send a Steward with a large list to the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at which his Royal Highness would preside.

The W.M. submitted "The W. Deputy P.G.M., the Right Hon. Sir W. T. Marriott, Q.C., and the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," and testified to the able manner in which those officers carried out their duties.

Bros. E. W. Stillwell, P.S.G.W.; G. Randell, and R. Hughes responded, the two last-named embracing the opportunity of congratulating the W.M. upon his installation, and of bearing testimony to the zeal and ability which marked his work on behalf of the Craft.

Bro. Richard Francis, in proposing the toast of the evening, "The Worshipful Master," said Bros. Randell and Hughes had forestalled him in their eulogistic remarks upon the W.M., and he would therefore content himself by endorsing their utterances, and asking the brethren to give the toast a hearty reception.

The W.M., on rising to respond, was warmly greeted. Thanking the brethren for the kindness they had at all times extended to him, he said his powers of speech were limited, but he wished to assure them that he highly valued the confidence they had shown in him in electing him their W.M. His perseverance had been rewarded, he had reached the goal of his ambition in the lodge, and he would do his utmost to carry out the duties of his high office to the satisfaction of the brethren. (Applause.)

The remaining toasts were "The Initiates" (to which Bro. J. O'Keefe responded), "The Visitors," "The Past Masters," "The Officers of the Lodge," and the Tyler's toast.

During the evening a programme of vocal music was sustained by Bros. A. C. Dymham, H. Thwaites, F. Gildersleeve, H. G. White, L. Russell, and S. G. R. Coles, the last-named also carrying out the duties of accompanist. Bro. P. C. Golden contributed a recitation.

Fitzwilliam Lodge, No. 2533.

The installation meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Peterborough, on Monday, the 7th inst. The members mustered in considerable force, under the presidency of Bro. George E. Caster, P.M. 442, P.P.S.G.W. Northants and Hunts, W.M., who was supported by Bros. G. C. W. Fitzwilliam, S.V. and W.M. elect; T. Phipps Dorman, P.M. 1704, P.P.S.G.W., J.W.; H. C. Clarabut, I.P.M. 442, P.P.S.G.D., Hon. Sec.; and the other officers. Among the visitors were Bros. Lieut. Col. W. Newton, P.G.D. England, D.P.G.M. Nottinghamshire; F. W. Fox, P.M. 2017; Barnard, W.M. 1265; Rev. P. Royston, 442; T. W. Rowe, 442; and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. G. C. W. Fitzwilliam was, in due course, presented to the W.M. to receive at his hands the benefit of installation, and the ceremony having been duly and impressively performed, Bro. Fitzwilliam was proclaimed and saluted, and subsequently appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year.

The rest of the business having been disposed of, lodge was closed, and the brethren dined together at the Angel Hotel, under the presidency of their new W.M., the result being a most enjoyable evening.

Royal Arch.

Alexandra Chapter, No. 993.

The regular meeting was held on Monday, the 14th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Cooper street, Manchester. Comp. J. Mansell Moss, M.E.Z., presided; Comp. C. D. Cheatham, P.P.G.D.C., acting H.; and Comp. W. H. Anderton, J.; supported by the following: Comps. H. G. Ward, S.E.; H. Clulow, P.S.; W. H. Peak, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C.; Robt. E. Walker, Herbert Halliwell, C. Shaw, T. Hunter, Buckley Carr, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C.; E. H. Flower, and J. E. Ridgway. Visitors: Comps. G. S. Smith, P.Z., P.P.G.O., and F. Batty, M.E.Z. 1730.

The chapter was opened, and the minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for two brethren, and, both being favourable, they were exalted to the Supreme Degree by the M.E.Z. in a manner which reflected upon himself and the chapter great credit. The election of Principals and officers for the ensuing year took place. The whole proceedings were extremely pleasant and instructive.

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

LA TOLERANCE LODGE, No. 538.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 16th instant, at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., when there were present Bros. Hill, W.M.; Clear, S.W.; Terry, J.W.; Paul, Preceptor; Thom, Deputy Preceptor; Wilby, Sec.; Parker, S.D.; Butcher, J.D.; Pringle, I.G.; Proctor, Tyler; Krauss, P.M.; Jackson, P.M.; Smale, P.M.; Sturgess, Truman, Mason, Zappenfeld, and Cross. Bro. Beedle was a visitor.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by the Preceptor. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Zappenfeld being the candidate. The 3rd Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Mason. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and Bro. Clear, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. It was proposed and seconded that Bro. Smale, P.M., be elected an honorary member of the lodge—carried unanimously. The lodge was then closed.

A meeting was also held at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., on Wednesday evening, the 9th instant. Present: Bros. W. Truman, W.M.; G. Hill, S.W.; T. Clear, J.W.; J. Paul, Preceptor; J. Thom, Deputy Preceptor; W. Wilby, Sec.; T. W. Smale, Asst. Sec.; A. Terry, S.D.; H. Parker, J.D.; F. Evans, I.G.; W. Proctor, Tyler; Wynman, Goldstein, Mason, Beedle, Cumberland, Leather, Sturgess, and Cross.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The 1st Section was worked by the S.W. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Goldstein being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The lodge was called off and on. The W.M. rose for the first time. At the second rising, Bro. Hill, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, the officers being appointed in rotation. The votes of the lodge were given to Bro. Wilby. The W.M. rose for the third time, and the lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The opening meeting of the season was held on Tuesday, the 8th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present: Bros. W. Rapley, W.M.; C. Smith, S.W.; C. C. Renaud, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; J. W. Clarke, P.M., P.G.P. Middx., Asst. Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; A. F. Hardymont, S.D.; S. Cload, J.D.; G. Yexley, I.G.; R. Philip Upton, P.M.; J. Amand, A. L. Langton, W. A. Goring, A. Oldrey, H. R. Bower, R. Eddie, A. Oliver, P.M.; and J. T. Hara.

The lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the questions answered. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Langton being the candidate. The ceremony of passing was afterwards rehearsed, Bro. Hara being the candidate. Bro. C. Smith was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

A meeting was also held on Tuesday, the 15th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. C. Smith, W.M.; V. J. Longman, S.W.; A. F. Hardymont, J.W.; R. P. Upton, P.M., acting Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; C. Horst, S.D.; J. Amand, J.D.; S. Cload, I.G.; A. Oliver, P.M.; W. A. Goring, D. C. Ritchie, R. Eddie, A. L. Langton, W. Rapley, C. Nicole, F. H. Johnson, A. T. Hall, C. G. Pannell, J. R. Carter, G. J. Hanson, H. J. Kembell, G. Yexley, J. E. Thomas, J. R. White, J. H. Thurman, and H. B. Harding, P.M.

The lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Thomas being the candidate. The ceremony of passing was also rehearsed, Bro. Ritchie being the candidate. Bro. Longman was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. Bros. Johnson, Hall, Pannell, and Jeger were elected members of the lodge. The lodge was then closed.

KENSINGTON LODGE, No. 1767.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 8th inst., at the Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, when there were present Bros. H. G. Danby, P.M., W.M.; A. J. Turner, S.W.; E. L. Pope, J.W.; R. H. Williams, P.M., &c., Deputy Preceptor; F. Craggs, P.M., Sec.; W. R. Flack, S.D.; C. Orner, J.D.; T. Lecte, I.G.; W. Thwaites and E. H. Tompsett, Stwds.; William Hide, W.M. 1275; Robert Reid; R. H. Meyer; C. G. Hatt, P.M.; Joseph Cox, W.M. 1585; J. J. Rumbal, J. T. Davies, Maurice Moss, G. H. Poulton, A. Williams, P.M.; Barton Jones, W.M. 1452; W. K. Clapp, and P. Miller.

The lodge was opened in the usual form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Moss offered himself as a candidate for passing, and having given the necessary proofs, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. The lodge was called off, and after being called on, Bro. Meyer offered himself as a candidate for raising; he was, therefore, examined and entrusted, the lodge being resumed in the First and Second Degrees as necessary. The lodge having been opened in the Third Degree, the ceremony of raising was rehearsed—partially. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Turner was elected W.M. for the 22nd inst., the next meeting being the officers' night. The lodge was then closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

A meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E., on Friday, the 11th inst. Present: Comps. J. Loader, M.E.Z.; C. Plant, H.; J. A. Braik, J.; W. Dawson, acting Preceptor; C. H. Stone, P.Z., S.E.; H. Cornford, S.N.; Stone, P.S.; Derham, Telling, Hardman, North, Walker, and Jeffery.

The chapter was declared open, and the minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Hardman personating the candidate. Comp. Edwin Walker, P.Z. 72, was elected joining member. Comp. C. Plant, H., was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting. After "Hearty good wishes" the chapter was closed.

OVER 30 FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES have arrived at Bamberg to attend the Astronomical Congress, including delegates from Austria, Hungary, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Russia.

A CINGALESE girl-baby was born on Thursday morning in the native compound at the Indian and Ceylon Exhibition, Earl's Court. The "naming" of the child, as is the custom of these people, will take place in nine days, with the religious ceremonies observed by the followers of Buddah.

THE ANNUAL Provincial Grand Lodge of Gloucestershire will be held on Tuesday, the 27th prox., at Stroud. The meeting is usually held at Whitsuntide, but it was this year postponed until the autumn in consequence of the condition of Gloucester in the earlier months of the year.

WORTH KNOWING.

"I've wandered much this weary mortal round, and Sage Experience bids me this declare,"

THE

BRITISH WORKMAN'S

18

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Masonic and General Tidings.

BRO SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, Bart., M.P. (Chancellor of the Exchequer), and Lady Lucy and Miss Hicks-Beach are on a visit to Lord and Lady Penryhn, at Penrhyn Castle, Bangor.

THE QUEEN has been pleased to approve of the appointment as a Companion of the Order of the Star of India, of Mr. Joseph Parker, who has retired from the post of Director-General of Stores at the India Office.

A FIRE BROKE OUT at Althorpe House, Northamptonshire, the seat of Earl Spencer, on Sunday afternoon, but the fire brigade connected with the estate, which was immediately summoned, quickly succeeded in extinguishing it.

IT HAS been definitively arranged that the visit of the Italian Fleet to British waters in acknowledgment of the visit paid by our Mediterranean Squadron to Italian ports shall take place next spring. The Duke of Genoa will be in command.

THE LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND and Countess Cadogan visited Birkenhead on Saturday for the purpose of presiding at the launch of the Leinster (City of Dublin Steamship Company) for service between Dublin and Holyhead.

WE REGRET to hear that Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., during his sojourn at Baron's Court, County Tyrone, met with an accident while riding a bicycle, and sprained one of the tendons of his leg, necessitating a rest for a day or two.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, in his report on the work done by the 5300 Volunteers who spent the first week in August at Aldershot, is in the main complimentary. His Royal Highness is careful to point out the weak points in the work that was done, but on the whole his remarks will be gratifying to those who were present on duty in the camp.

THE PRINCE GEORGE, sister ship to the Victorious, having completed her trials at Chatham, carried out her forced-draught trials at Portsmouth on Monday, when, though the weather was stormy, she proved a capital sea-boat, while at the same time she exceeded her contract horse-power by 250, and accomplished an average speed of over 18 knots per hour.

SPICERS AND POND, LIMITED, notify that the share transfer books will be closed from the 21st to the 30th instant, both inclusive, for the purpose of preparing dividend warrants for the first instalment of 4s. per share (less income tax) on account of the dividend for the year ending 31st March, 1897, which will be posted to the shareholders on the 1st of October next.

AMONG THE PICTURES presented by Mr. G. F. Watts, R.A., to the National Portrait Gallery, the Director has selected 17 to be handed over at once, including portraits of Matthew Arnold, Robert Browning, Sir Andrew Clarke, President of the Royal College of Physicians, the Earl of Lytton, Rossetti, Bro. the Earl of Shaftesbury surnamed the Good, and Bro. Viscount Sherbrooke.

A SAD STEAMBOAT ACCIDENT occurred at Beresing en, a small village in Baden, on the left bank of the Rhine, between Schaffhausen and Constance, on Monday morning. The steamer had called there, and was landing passengers, when the gangway, from some unexplained cause, collapsed, and 45 people were precipitated into the water. Of these three were drowned and five rescued in an unconscious condition.

THE COURTS of Alderman and Common Council of the City of London will meet on Tuesday the 22nd and Thursday the 24th instant respectively, while on the 28th instant a further Court of Aldermen "of the outer chamber" will be held for the purpose of swearing in the new Sheriffs. On Michaelmas Day there will be a Common Hall held in the Guildhall for the election of Lord Mayor for the ensuing year.

ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE for the presence of the Channel Squadron at Leith during the visit of the Emperor and Empress of Russia to the Queen at Balmoral. Rear-Admiral Powlett re-hoisted his flag on the battleship Magnificent on Monday at Devonport, and his (the Western) division of the Squadron proceeded into the Sound, preparatory to joining the Eastern Division under Vice-Admiral Lord Walter Kerr in the Downs. On Wednesday the fleet sailed for Leith.

AN ADDITION was made to the P. and O. Company's fleet on the Firth of Clyde on Saturday, when a new vessel tried her speed at the measured mile and made nearly 20 knots per hour. Her horse-power is 10,000, her registered tonnage 8000, and her length 500 feet. She will be able to carry 317 first class and 150 second class passengers. The company now owns 57 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 300,000, and there are five ships building, three at Greenock, one at Belfast, and one at Jarrow.

THE EXPEDITION under Sir E. Kitchener has made a further step in advance on its march on Dongola, having left Kerdema at daybreak on Monday morning, and reaching Feriég about 10 a.m., while the Dr. vishes have retired to Kerma, where it was expected that they would be attacked in the course of the next few days. The Egyptian army is well furnished with stores and transport, while sailing craft and the steamers on the Nile keep pace with the force. The troops are in excellent condition and the best of spirits.

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR J. O. HOPKINS, K.C.B., has been selected for the appointment of Commander-in-Chief of the British fleet in the Mediterranean, in succession to Admiral Sir M. Culme Seymour, Bart., K.C.B., whose period of service will soon expire. Admiral Hopkins entered the navy in 1848, and saw a good deal of service during the Crimean war. He has also served as Captain Superintendent of Sheerness Dockyard, as Admiral Superintendent at Portsmouth, as a Lord of the Admiralty, and as Commander-in-Chief on the North America and West Indies Station.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES concluded his visit to the Earl of Crewe, at Fryston Hall, on Sunday, and arrived in York by special train from Ferrybridge, accompanied by Major-General Clarke (Equerry-in-Waiting), Bro. Sir Henry Keppel, Bro. Christopher Sykes, and the Hon. H. Stonor. His Royal Highness and the Duke of Cambridge, who had been staying in the city for some days, attended Divine Service in the Cathedral, afterwards repairing to Government House. The Prince subsequently left for Tulchan in Elginshire.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—It has been decided to give, during the ensuing autumn and winter months on Wednesday evenings, in the theatre of the Crystal Palace, a series of entertainments and lectures. The main object of these lectures, which will be delivered by eminent scientists, will be to exemplify the various great discoveries and inventions of the Victorian era. In this manner they will form an introduction to and tend to a more intelligent appreciation of the grand exhibition and fêtes to be held at the Crystal Palace next year in commemoration of the 60th year of her Majesty's reign.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES has fixed Wednesday, the 7th prox., for his visit to the Norwich Musical Festival, when Sir A. C. Mackenzie's "Rose of Sharon," with Madame Albani and Mr. Lloyd, will be performed in the morning; and Mr. Cliffe's new violin concerto and Signor Randegger's "Fridolin" in the evening. On the same day, at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, his Royal Highness will present the bust of Bro. Lord Suffield to the Provincial Grand Lodge. The Prince, who this year is President of the Festival, will probably attend the Wednesday morning concert, thus renewing his acquaintance with Sir Alexander Mackenzie's popular cantata, which he heard at its first performance at Norwich 12 years ago.

THE ARRANGEMENTS for the visit of the Emperor and Empress of Russia to the Queen are in a fair way of being completed. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught left Bagshot on Tuesday for London and proceeded thence by the evening mail to Scotland. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and the Duke will go to Leith to receive their Imperial Majesties and will accompany them to Balmoral. The procession from Ballater to the Royal residence will comprise a landau and four greys for the Emperor and Empress and T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, a landau and four bays for the Duke and Duchess of York and Ladies-in-Waiting, a landau and pair for the Grand Duchess Olga and nurses, and other carriages for the Officers of State, the Russian Ambassador, &c. The escort will be furnished by the Scots Greys, of which the Emperor is Colonel-in-Chief, while the Emperor's carriage will be accompanied by outriders and other attendants in scarlet. From the gates of the Royal demesne up to the Palace the roadway will be lined by attendants bearing blazing torches, and in order to ensure that the horses are not disturbed by the glare of the torches, her Majesty has directed that sundry rehearsals shall be held.

THE EARL OF DUNRAVEN, who has been laid up with a sharp attack of gout, has left town to join his yacht at Southampton.

DURING THE ABSENCE of the Duke of Connaught, who has gone on leave for several weeks, the troops at Aldershot are to be under the command of Major-General Bengough.

THE MARRIAGE arranged between Miss Gwendoline Peel, daughter of Lady Emily Peel and the late Sir Robert Peel, with Herr Victor von Müller will take place on the 6th prox. at Geneva.

VISCOUNT FALMOUTH, Colonel of the Coldstream Guards, took over the command of the troops in the Home District on Wednesday, during the absence on leave of Major-General Bro. Lord Methuen.

THERE HAS been further fighting in Matabeleland, resulting in the capture of several more of the rebel chiefs, while operations are being conducted against others, which promise to be equally successful.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY is to pay a brief visit to Belfast. He will arrive in that city on October 8th, where he will be the guest of the Countess of Shaftesbury, at Belfast Castle. The visit will be private.

PRINCES PIERRE AND LOUIS OF ORLEANS, grandsons of Dom Pedro, ex-Emperor of Brazil, accompanied by two friends and eight guides, returned on Wednesday to Chamounix from a successful ascent of Mont Blanc.

THE IMPORTS of Australian wine into this country during the eight months ending the 31st ult. were 442,979 gallons, as compared with 399,118 gallons during the corresponding period of 1895, the increase being 43,861 gallons.

THE SOCIETY OF MINIATURE PAINTERS.—The private view of the inaugural exhibition will be held at the gallery, 175, New Bond-street, on Tuesday next, the 22nd instant, and the exhibition will be open to the public daily, from the 23rd instant to the 17th of October.

ON MONDAY afternoon next and 12 following nights the new Brixton Theatre will be occupied by Mr. Greet's Company in "The Sign of the Cross." At the opening performance Bro. Wilson Barrett will play his original character of Marcus Superbus, and Miss Maud Jefferies her original character of Mercia.

LI HUNG CHANG sailed from Vancouver for China on Monday. Before leaving, he expressed himself delighted with his trip over the Canadian Pacific Railway, the immense forests, the thousands of miles of fertile prairie, the broad level wheat fields, and the lofty mountain ranges being all new to him, unlike anything he had previously seen.

THERE WERE a large number of visitors invited for the journey on the new Castle liner Dunvegan Castle, from Blackwall to Southampton. The magnificent vessel is 5953 tons burthen, and is fitted up as a palace. Bro. Willie Wright, P.M., Organist, of the Sir Hugh Myddelton and Citadel Lodges, had charge of the musical arrangements.

THE LORD MAYOR has received the following letter from a correspondent abroad: "Master the Mayor to London, England.—I you schall grateful and your me to give one great ser-viss of me to send dexterity one either several newspaper acclimatisation either of chase (Englisch). Thanks forestal. Accept, Master, my single-heartest salute."—Daily Telegraph.

THE POPE, says our Rome Correspondent, attaches great importance to the approaching International Anti-Masonic Congress which opens on the 26th instant at Trente, and continues till the 4th of October. This Congress is the first of the kind, and its organisers anticipate great success for it. Adherents are expected from all the countries in Europe and from America.—Standard.

THE DOWAGER LADY AMPHILL'S residence, Amphill Park, Beds, has been entered by burglars. Valuables have been stolen amounting to several hundred pounds, including a number of gold watches, jewelry, and other articles belonging to a lady guest. The robbery was committed during the dinner hour, and the thieves appear to have been disturbed when about to enter a second bed-room.

THE DUKE OF NORFOLK, in his official capacity as the Postmaster-General, visited East Grinstead on Wednesday and opened a new post office. The principal streets were gaily decorated in honour of the occasion, which was celebrated by a general holiday. His Grace received a hearty welcome, and was entertained at a banquet at the Public Hall. Lady Philippa Stewart, the Duke's sister, Dr. Stewart, and Sir Edward Blount were among those present.

AMONG THOSE PRESENT at the wedding of Lord John Parkenham Cecil (Grenadier Guards), youngest son of the late Marquis of Exeter, with Miss Maud Joicey, eldest daughter of the late Col. John Joicey, M.P., in St. Michael's Church, Chester-square, on Tuesday, were the Marquis and Marchioness of Exeter Bro. Lord and Lady Barnard, and Bro. Lord Amherst of Hackney and the Hon. Miss Amherst. In the course of the afternoon Lord and Lady John Cecil left for Burghley House, Stamford, for the honeymoon.

MADAME PATTI recently gave her annual concert in aid of the Charities of South Wales. Hitherto the entertainment has taken place in turn at Swansea, Neath, and Brecon, but this year for the first time Cardiff was chosen, the proceeds being chiefly devoted to the Infirmary of that town. Travelling by special train from Craig-y-Nos Castle, accompanied by Signor Nicolini and the artists whom she had invited to take part with her in the concert, the diva was met at the station by various officials representing the corporation and the infirmary, and amidst the cheers of the large crowd that had assembled outside was driven under an escort of mounted constabulary to the Park Hall. The concert-room was filled to overflowing by an appreciative audience, who accorded Madame Patti an enthusiastic welcome. She was in excellent voice. Her selections were: "Bel raggio," "Ill Bacio," and "Kathleen Mavourneen." The Misses Marianne and Clara Eissler, Mr. Hirwen Jones, Mr. Ffrangcon-Davies, Signor Bonetti, Bro. Franklin Clive, and Signor Tito Mattei also supported the programme, the duties of accompanist being performed by Bro. Wilhelm Ganz.

CRYSTAL PALACE COMPANY'S SCHOOL OF ART, SCIENCE AND LITERATURE.—The following is a list of the inaugural lectures of the 37th session, 1896-97, opening on the 28th September, 1896, and closing on the 31st July, 1897. Monday 21st instant, at 3 p.m., H. Windsor Fry, R.B.A., "Greek Sculptor: The Parthenon" (with lantern illustrations.) Tuesday, 22nd instant, at 3 p.m., Edwd. C. Musson, M.A., "The Sea and its wonders" (with lantern illustrations.) Wednesday, 23rd instant, at 3 p.m., Miss Elsie Fogerty, "The Comrades of Molière and their Successors." Thursday, 24th instant, at 3 p.m., Ernest de Selincourt, B.A., "English Letter-writers." Friday, 25th instant, at 3 p.m., Miss Elsbeth Philipps, Somerville College, Oxford, "Oliver Cromwell—an appreciation." Saturday, 26th instant, at 3 p.m., Gustav Ernest, "Art and Morals." The lectures will be delivered in No. 9 Lecture Room of the school, entrance near the Byzantine Court, at the north end of the Palace. Admission without charge by special ticket, which will be issued only to the capacity of the room. Early application should be made to the Superintendent Educational Department in the Library. Gentlemen as well as ladies are admitted.

THE REPORT that an English syndicate had secured a vast tract of Balata forest, in French Guiana, has been confirmed, and a company, to be called The Rubber Exploration Company, will shortly be before the public with the view of making the best possible use of this remarkable and valuable concession. Balata is a description of India rubber which is peculiarly adapted to the construction of cycle and other tyres. It is stated that the company is backed by one of the strongest cycle manufacturing combinations known, but, at any rate, there should be a large demand for the product, seeing that Balata carries no import duty from Guiana, while Para rubber, the best hitherto obtainable from Brazil, has an impost of 21 per cent. *ad valorem* duty. The advent of The Rubber Exploration Company, whose basis of operations is a secured and absolute fact, is anxiously looked forward to in many quarters, and there will, doubtless, be a big rush for the shares.

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