

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

It is evident from the report we published last week of the half-yearly meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge—which was held by permission of the Mayor, Bro. GEO. JOHNSON, P.M., of the entertaining lodge—Integrity, No. 380—in the handsome new Town Hall of Morley, that far greater interest than usual was taken in the proceedings, and consequently there was an exceedingly numerous attendance of the brethren from all parts of the Province, there being only one out of the 78 lodges on the roll which was not represented. There were, indeed, two items on the Agenda which were certain to arouse the feelings of our West Yorkshire brethren, the first being a proposal emanating from the Charity Committee of the Province for the establishment of an Educational and Benevolent Institution to be known as "The West Yorkshire Educational and Benevolent Institution," while the other was a resolution having reference to the proposed removal of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. As regards the first of the schemes, we have no hesitation in at once expressing our most cordial approval, the only other feeling that actuates us being one of surprise that so strong and influential a Province as that of West Yorkshire should have been so long in following in the footsteps of the two Lancashires, Cheshire, Durham, N. and E. Yorkshire, Devonshire, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and other Provinces, which for periods of greater or less duration have established and successfully maintained one or more Institutions of this character. True, such a scheme was ventilated some 20 years ago by Bro. C. LETCH MASON, though nothing came of it at the time; while for some years Leeds has had a local Association of its own of this character, which has rendered valuable assistance to the poorer members of the Fraternity in that city. Still, West Yorkshire, as a whole, has been without a Provincial Charity, and the establishment of this "West Yorkshire Educational and Benevolent Institution" has our heartiest sympathy and support. Its objects were declared at this meeting to be to maintain, clothe, and educate, wholly or in part, the children of deceased Freemasons, and make grants towards their advancement on leaving school; to grant temporary relief or annuities to aged and decayed Freemasons and their widows; and generally to "promote the cause of Masonic Charity." These are the objects which West Lancashire, with its three local Institutions, Cheshire, with its two, and East Lancashire and other Provinces, with their Institutions, have for years past set themselves to accomplish, and the best evidence we can refer to of

the success with which these objects have been carried out are the reports which have appeared from time to time in our columns. We trust—indeed, we are assured—that West Yorkshire, with its known energy, and the resources it is able to command, will not be long behind its sister Provinces in placing its local Charity on a sound substantial basis, and that when this has been effected, it will hold a foremost place among the supplementary Charities of the Craft. It will do for West Yorkshire on a modest scale, yet sufficient withal, what the great Central Institutions do for the whole body of English Masons.

As regards the second of the items—the removal of the Boys' School from Wood Green—we cannot say we regard what happened with anything like equanimity. It was generally understood that West Yorkshire was opposed to the removal; at all events, if any doubt ever existed on the subject, it must have been set at rest by the speech which Bro. W. C. LUPTON delivered at the Quarterly Court of the Subscribers to the School on the 9th instant. But Bro. LUPTON and those who spoke and acted with him at that Court were in a hopeless minority of *nine* in a meeting of about 170. A more favourable opportunity for the consideration of the course adopted by the Board of Management in reference to the proposed removal could hardly have presented itself. It was election time, and as nearly as possible one-half of the Subscribers present hailed from the Provinces, and yet the minority in opposition to the resolution confirming the steps taken by the said Board amounted, as we have said, to only *nine*. We note that Bro. LUPTON, at the West Yorkshire meeting on the 14th instant, is reported to have "pointed out how West Yorkshire and other Provinces were hopelessly ignorant as to what was really taking place." Yet Bro. EVE, the Chairman of the Board, explained, in a clear and concise speech, what had been done in the selection of a new site at Bushey; the opinions of the experts were read out by the Secretary, or so much of them as would enable the meeting to judge of the character of the property to be purchased; a plan of the said property was exhibited in the hall; and the objections raised to the proposal by sundry speakers were promptly answered by members of the Board. How under the circumstances "West Yorkshire and other Provinces" could have been in ignorance of what was taking place we fail to understand. The Chairman at all events (Bro. W. W. B. BEACH, M.P.) appeared to know what was passing, and when the resolution had been carried, gave his opinion in favour of the arguments in support of the scheme rather than to those in opposition to it. Having done this, he went on to express the hope that as the question had been settled, opponents and supporters equally would do all they could to secure its success. And what is West Yorkshire's response to this generous appeal? A resolution passed unanimously in open Provincial Grand Lodge five days later to the effect "That this meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire protests against the sale of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the purchase of a new site for the Schools, and considers no steps should have been taken in this direction until the opinion of the general body of the Subscribers had first been ascertained." We are afraid we cannot congratulate this Province which has done so much for our Institutions on the attitude it has taken up in response to Bro. BEACH'S appeal. We are afraid, too, we have no alternative but to point out how unfavourably this attitude of West Yorkshire contrasts with that which Bro. ROBERT WYLIE, P.G.D., Deputy P.G.M. of West Lancashire, assured the Court of

Governors would be taken by his Province if the scheme for the removal of the School were adopted. He said that not only West Lancashire, but East Lancashire and other Provinces which were opposed to the policy of removal, would loyally support it if it were adopted. It has been adopted. Are we, then, to exclude West Yorkshire from all future loyal co-operation with the rest of the Provinces and London in behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys?

FREEMASONRY IN KANSAS.

The Grand Lodge of Kansas is of comparatively recent formation, having been established in the city of Leavenworth towards the close of 1855. Yet its growth has been marvellous in the 40 years that have since elapsed, and according to the Returns published in the Proceedings of the 40th Annual Communication held in the City of Wichita in February of the current year, it has now on its roll 353 lodges, with an aggregate subscribing membership of upwards of 19,000 bréthren. But the amazing progress it has made is shown rather by the perfection of its organisation and the care which is taken by the Grand Master and his principal executive officers that the duties of Masonry shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the ancient usages and customs of the Order. There is, as far as we are able to judge, no weak point in the system which prevails in the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge. Though there are many things that must appear strange in the sight of English Masons, more especially in the multiplicity of the laws enacted for the government of the Craft, and the very little latitude that is allowed to private lodges to look after their own business in their own fashion, things seem to work smoothly enough and, as we have said, the progress which Masonry has made in this State is simply marvellous. The address which the Grand Master, Bro. JAMES H. MCCALL, delivered at the annual meeting occupies some dozen pages, but a considerable portion of it relates to small details which it appears to us are hardly worthy of being noticed in so important a document. Among the decisions he rendered, which we are pleased to find muster only seven in number, we notice one in which it is declared to be "unlawful for the Craft to lay the corner-stone of an opera house, auditorium, or any building to be erected by an individual or corporation for the purpose of gain. Such ceremonies should be confined exclusively to public buildings, monuments, and structures, religious, educational, and charitable institutions." If Grand Master MCCALL had declared it "inexpedient" that the corner-stones of buildings erected for purposes of gain should be laid with Masonic ceremonial, we should have raised no objection to his decision, but we are not aware of any law in Masonry which places any restriction upon the character of the buildings thus honoured by the Craft or the purposes for which they are erected. If we remember rightly, GEORGE, Prince of Wales, M.V.G.M., laid the foundation stone of Covent Garden Theatre in 1809. Undoubtedly such a building is erected for purposes of gain, and yet at the same time it might be contended with justice that a theatre is a building for the cultivation of the drama, which in itself is a most desirable object, and one from which great public benefit is hoped to be derived. With another of his decisions, however, we most cordially agree, namely, that "a lodge should not pass resolutions concerning the acts of any individual organisation, or take any Masonic notice of the acts of the profane." Lodges have a perfect right to criticise what takes place in Masonry, but it is neither more nor less than an unwarrantable piece of impertinence when a Lodge of Masons takes upon itself to censure the acts of Mr. A, or of the municipality of B, with which it has nothing whatever to do. But though the number of decisions given by Grand Master MCCALL is limited, as we have said, to seven, it must not be imagined that other questions were not submitted to him. On the contrary, "attention is again called to the unnecessary volume of correspondence forced upon the Grand Master by officers of lodges, on subjects of which they have no right or excuse to be ignorant," and it is added, "more than half the questions asked by them are plainly answered in the Constitution, Bye-laws, and Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, to which a very little study would save them ex-

posing their ignorance and the valuable time of the Grand Master." We are glad also to find that the Grand Master set his face against begging circulars, and that whenever application was made to him for permission to send them out, he invariably refused "unless it was some urgent case that the local lodge, with the assistance of the Grand Lodge, could not relieve." Among the other subjects which he specifically referred to were the establishment of a Masonic Home and the formation of a Library, with both of which objects Bro. MCCALL was pleased to express his entire sympathy.

The reports of the executive officers are most satisfactory, that of the Grand Treasurer showing a balance in hand on the General Fund on the 3rd February last of 17,129 dollars, and on the Charity Fund on the same date of 37,244 dollars. Of the tender care bestowed on the widow and the orphan we have evidence in the two special cases referred to by the Grand Master in his address, in both of which the relief furnished was of the kindest and most thorough-going character. As to the Grand Secretary's report—that of Bro. ALBERT K. WILSON—it shows him to be a man of exemplary zeal and energy, in whom the love of hard work appears to be innate. In that part of his report which relates to Records, Bro. WILSON has the pleasure of announcing that "in separating and classifying the various papers of the office" he had the good fortune to find "the original minutes of the Convention to organise the Grand Lodge of Kansas, held in the City of Leavenworth, November 14 and December 27, 1855; also the original Constitution and Bye-laws as adopted at the Convention of December 27, 1855. These documents are in an excellent state of preservation, and each year will bring such added historical value, that no delay should arise in providing for their preservation." He further states that during the past year he has "assorted, arranged, and filed in the vault" the various "petitions, dispensations, transcripts, charters, dimits, and commissions." Unfortunately, a complete array of these authoritative documents is not forthcoming, and the Grand Secretary has appended to his report a full list of those found, and earnestly invites the co-operation of those lodges whose documents are not included in helping him to make the list complete. The labour of assorting all these various documents, and the compilation of the list so assorted, must have been excessive, but, as we have said, work seems to come quite naturally to Bro. WILSON, and if he does succeed in obtaining a complete set of returns, he will, indeed, be amply rewarded for his pains. At all events, what we have said concerning Masonry in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Kansas, and the manner in which the leading officials set about their labours, is most creditable, and we trust, as time goes on, that the Craft will continue to prosper, and be still more confirmed than it is in the good opinion of the general community.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF ENGLAND.

The following is the business to be transacted on Wednesday, the 4th proximo:

The minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation to be read for confirmation.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England.

The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from the 15th July, to the 20th October 1896, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:

To Balance, Grand Chapter	£1246	4	10	By Disbursements during the			
" " Unappropriated				Quarter	...	...	£489
Account	...	206	7	" Balance	...	...	1102
" Subsequent Receipts..	356	18	5	" " Unappropriated	...	...	217
				Account	...	...	19
							8
							£1809
							10
							11

which balances are in the Bank of England, Law Courts Branch.

The Committee have likewise to report that they have received the following petitions:

1st. From Comps. John Gordon, as Z.; John Harold Milton, as H.; James Pinder, as J.; and eight others for a chapter to be attached to the St. John at Hackney Lodge, No. 2511, to be called the St. John at Hackney Chapter, and to meet at the Old Town Hall, Hackney, London.

2nd. From Comps. Frederick A. Bowles, as Z.; Walter Hailes, as H.; Charles W. Garraway, as J.; and seven others for a chapter to be attached to the Mount Everest Lodge, No. 2439, to be called the Mount Everest Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Darjeeling, in the District of Bengal.

3rd. From Comps. Augustus Frederick Lay, as Z.; Henry Burton Chamberlain, as H.; Edward James Anning, as J.; and 10 others for a chapter to be attached to Earl of Zetland Lodge, No. 1364, to be called the Earl of Zetland Chapter, and to meet at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham street, London.

4th. From Comps. the Earl of Portarlington, as Z.; Capt. George Hewen, as H.; Lieut. Robert Andrew Marshall, as J.; and 15 others for a chapter to be attached to the Military Lodge, No. 2621, to be called the Military Chapter, and to meet at the New Trocadero, Piccadilly, London.

5th. From Comps. Rev. William Morris, as Z.; William Calder Aiken, as H.; John Wetherston, as J.; and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Tyrian Lodge, No. 1628, to be called the Tyrian Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Bundaberg, Queensland.

6th. From Comps. W. Trevor Parkins, as Z.; James Daniel Murray, as H.; John Hackett, as J.; and seven others for a chapter to be attached to the St. Augustine's Lodge, No. 1941, to be called the St. Augustine's Chapter, and to meet at the Shrewsbury Arms Hotel, Rugeley, in the county of Stafford.

The foregoing petitions being regular, the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

The Committee have likewise received memorials, with extracts of minutes, for permission to remove the following chapters:—

The Cray Valley Chapter, No. 2147, from the Institute, St. Mary Cray, to the Crown Hotel, Chislehurst.

The Addiscombe Chapter, No. 1556, from the Masonic Hall, High street, to the Public Hall, Croydon.

The Punjab Chapter, No. 782, to meet at Meean Meer, and at Lahore, alternately or as occasion may arise.

The Committee being satisfied of the reasonableness of the requests, recommend that the removal of these chapters be sanctioned.

A memorial with particulars has also been received from the companions of Fortitude Chapter, No. 279, praying for a charter authorising them to wear a centenary jewel. This memorial being in form, and the chapter having proved an uninterrupted existence of 100 years, the Committee recommend that the prayer thereof be granted.

(Signed) GEORGE D. HARRIS, President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
21st October, 1896.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

The annual communication of the above Prov. Grand Lodge was held at the Town Hall, Hinckley, on Thursday, the 8th inst., under the banner of the Knights of Malta Lodge, No. 50. Bro. Earl Ferrers, the Provincial Grand Master, was unfortunately unable to be present, and Bro. S. S. Partridge, P.A.G.D. of Cers., D.P.G.M., presided in his absence, and was supported by Bro. C. J. Wilkinson, P.P.S.G.W., as acting D.P.G.M.

Other Prov. Grand Officers present included Brcs. W. M. Williams, P.M. 279 and 2429, Prov. S.G.W.; F. B. Wilmer, P.M. 2028, Prov. J.G.W.; the Rev. R. Blakeney, M.A., Prov. G. Chap.; E. Holmes, P.M. 279 and 2429, Prov. G. Sec.; G. Neighbour, P.M. 523, Prov. G.D. of C.; A. J. West, P.M. 2081, Prov. G.S.B.; H. J. Grace, P.M. 2028, Prov. G. Std. Br.; E. R. Fox, Org, 2081, Prov. G. Organist; and J. J. W. Knowles, I.P.M. 1007, G. J. B. Woolley, I.P.M. 1391, and C. Arno Jahn, I.P.M. 2081, Prov. G. Stwds.

There was a large attendance from the various lodges in the province, amongst whom were Bros. B. A. Smith, M.A., LL.M., P.M. 523, P.P. S.G.W.; W. S. Allen, P.M. 779, P.P.J.G.W.; W. J. New, P.M. 1130, P.P.J.G.W.; the Rev. H. J. Mason, P.P.G. Chap.; T. Harrold, P.M. 50, P.P.J.G.W.; and others.

Letters and telegrams, expressing regret at inability to be present, were received from over 80 brethren, including Bros. R. Vassar Smith, D.P.G.M. Gloucestershire, P.G.D.; T. B. Whythead, P.G.S.B.; R. G. Venables, D.P.G.M. Shropshire, P.A.G.D.C.; John Lane, P.A.G.D.C.; R. Hudson, Prov. G. Sec. Durham, P.P.G.S.B.; and Percy Wallace, P.P. S.G.W. Derbyshire.

The ACTING PROV. GRAND MASTER expressed the regret of the Prov. Grand Master at his enforced absence, and said how pleased the brethren would have been if it had been possible for him to be present.

The report of the Committee of General Purposes showed that on the 24th June last there were 738 subscribing brethren in the province, or an increase of 11 on the year. Regular lodges held numbered 120, emergency lodges seven. The work performed included 58 initiations, 47 passings, and 38 raisings.

Reference was made in the report to the brethren who had died during the year, particularly to the death of Bros. G. Oliver, Prov. G. Treas., and S. Knight, P.M. 1391.

From the report of the Charity Committee, as read by the Hon. Secretary, Bro. G. NEIGHBOUR, P.G.D.C., it appeared that two children—a boy and a girl—had been elected to the Schools during the year, and that Bro. S. S. Partridge, D.P.G.M., had, as Charity Steward for the year, taken up a list of £231 10s. to the Boys' School. Good progress was reported with the Kelly Memorial Fund, on behalf of which Bro. S. S. Partridge, D.P. G.M., had appealed to the various Masonic bodies in the province, with the result that over £230 had actually been subscribed and several further sums had been promised. The report concluded with a very hearty acknowledgment of the able services which had been rendered, as Hon. Secretary to the Committee, by Bro. B. A. Smith, M.A., LL.M., and an expression of deep regret at his resignation.

Bro. B. A. Smith, M.A., LL.M., was unanimously nominated for election on the Board of Management of the Boys' School, and to represent the province at the elections and other meetings in London of the Masonic Charities.

Bro. George Carter Oliver, P.M. 1007, P.P.S.G.D., was unanimously elected P.G. Treasurer, in place of his deceased father.

The following brethren, all of whom (excepting Bros. Maynard and Allen, P.G. Stewards) were present, were then invested by the Acting Prov. Grand Master as P.G. Officers for the ensuing year:

- Bro. Robert Bradshaw Smith, P.M. 50 ... Prov. S.G.W.
- " William Wilkins Vincent, P.M. 1391 ... Prov. J.G.W.
- " Rev. Richard Blakeney, M.A., Chap. 1130 ... } Prov. G. Chap.
- " Rev. Warwick Whiteley, M.A., Chap. 2028 ... }
- " George Carter Oliver, P.M. 1007 ... Prov. G. Treas.
- " Charles Frederick Oliver, P.M. 1007 ... Prov. G. Reg.

- Bro. Edward Holmes, P.M. 270 ... Prov. G. Sec.
- " Richard Ball Starkey, P.M. 1391 ... Prov. S.G.D.
- " Walter Daniel Grant, P.M. 279 ... Prov. J.G.D.
- " Michael Shelbourne, I.P.M. 1130 ... Prov. G.S. of W.
- " George Neighbour, P.M. 523 ... Prov. G.D. of C.
- " Richard Porter Keates, P.M. 2428 ... Prov. A.G.D. of C.
- " Charles Arno Jahn, I.P.M. 2081 ... Prov. G.S.B.
- " William Singleton Fulshaw, I.P.M. 50 ... } Prov. G. Std. Brs.
- " William Aldridge Spencer, I.P.M. 523 ... }
- " Harry Nicholson, Org. 1256 ... Prov. G. Org.
- " Benjamin Furley, I.P.M. 1265 ... Prov. G. Purst.
- " John Turner, I.P.M. 779 ... Prov. A.G. Purst.
- " Alfred Ernest Hawley, W.M. 50 ... }
- " Thomas Williscroft, J.W. 779 ... }
- " Wyatt d'Auvergne Barnard, W.M. 1265 ... } Prov. G. Stwds.
- " Henry Robert Maynard, P.M. 25, W.M. 1339 ... }
- " Edwin James Allen, J.W. 2028 ... }
- " John Wootton, I.P.M. 2428 ... }
- " James Tanser, Tyler 279 ... Prov. G. Tyler.

The rank of P.P.S.G.W. was conferred on Bro. E. Holmes, Prov. G. Sec., who was subsequently elected Provincial Charity Steward, the Girls' School being the Charity selected.

The special report of the Board of Management, with respect to the proposed removal of the Boys' School, was submitted for the consideration of the brethren by the acting Prov. Grand Master, and on the proposal of Bro. B. A. SMITH, M.A., LL.M., seconded by Bro. G. S. CATLOW, the following resolution was ultimately unanimously approved: "In view of the proposal to remove the Boys' School, the members of this Provincial Grand Lodge desire to express their entire confidence in the judgment of the Board of Management, feeling fully assured that its decision will be in the best interests of the Institution."

In reviewing the events of the year, the ACTING PROV. GRAND MASTER expressed his great personal satisfaction that only a small increase had occurred in the number of brethren in the province, as he inferred from this that proper care and judgment had been exercised in accepting candidates for initiation. Considerable laxity in this respect had been shown at different times in the province. Freemasonry was not a benefit society, and candidates should not be approved who would not be acceptable in one's own home. He thought it very likely that the present strain on the accommodation of the Boys' School was largely owing to a want of proper care and judgment in this respect.

The annual banquet took place at the George Hotel, Hinckley, Bro. S. S. Partridge, D.P.G.M., acting Prov. G.M., presided, and was supported by a large number of brethren.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF CHESHIRE.

A meeting of the above Prov. Grand Chapter was held at the Town Hall, Altrincham, on Saturday afternoon, the 24th inst. The Hon. Alin de Tatton Egerton, M.P., the G. Supt., presided, and there was a large attendance of companions from all parts of the province, including Comps. Rev. C. C. Atkinson, P.G.P.S.; Frederick Broadsmith, P.G.H.; J. Beaumont Piercey, P.G.J.; Richard Newhouse, P.G.S.E.; John Lewis, P.G.P.S.; Hugh Lowndes, P.A.G.S.; R. B. Dutton, P.G.D.C.; J. S. Derbyshire, P.G.O.; Charles Vickers, P.G.T.; and others.

The GRAND SUPERINTENDENT said he was pleased to find that the chapters generally were in a healthy state financially. They were thus all the better enabled to carry on the grand work for which the Degree was instituted.

The following Prov. G. officers were invested for the ensuing year:—

- Comp. John Armstrong ... Prov. G.H.
- " James Cookson ... Prov. G. J.
- " Hugh Lowndes ... Prov. G.R.
- " Joel Foden ... Prov. G. Treas.
- " Richard Newhouse ... Prov. G.S.E.
- " John Frazer ... Prov. G.S.N.
- " Thomas H. Annett ... Prov. G.P.S.
- " Charles S. Bremer ... Prov. G. 1st A.S.
- " Francis Harding Tait ... Prov. G. 2nd A.S.
- " William T. Thompson ... Prov. G.S.B.
- " William Henry Pugh ... } Prov. G. Std. Brs.
- " William Peers ... }
- " William A. Doherty ... }
- " Andrew Henry Baird ... Prov. G.D.C.
- " Robert Robinson ... }
- " William Barnes ... }
- " Thomas Wood ... }
- " John Stanley Derbyshire ... Prov. G.O.
- " John Ferguson ... Prov. A.G. Sec.
- " George H. Hollins ... }
- " C. H. Higginbottom ... }
- " William Dykes ... } Prov. G. Stwds.
- " James Davenport ... }
- " Arthur Huxley ... Prov. G. Janitor.

It was decided that the next meeting of Prov. Grand Chapter should be held at Birkenhead, in connection with the De Tabley Chapter.

"THE OLD MASONIANS."

On Friday, the 16th instant, the above Association of old scholars of our School at Wood Green held their first social gathering of the eleventh season of the existence of the Society. The concert was arranged by the Committee, and the chair was occupied by Mr. R. S. Chandler, the Treasurer of the Association.

The evening was opened by the singing of the National Anthem, all present standing and joining in it most heartily in celebration of her Majesty's record reign. The programme was mainly composed of Old Masonian talent, and comprised the following: Bro. C. P. O'Doherty, "Thy sentinel am I" and "The sailor's grave"; Mr. Gilbert Wilkinson, "The vagabond" and "The deathless

army;" Mr. A. H. Stephenson, "Best of all" and "Simon the cellarer;" Mr. W. J. Packer, "The Lorgshoreman;" and Mr. Robb, "The Bandellero." The humorous element was contributed by Messrs. V. J. Lee, Harry Elliott, and J. Haverson. Two mandoline selections were played by Mr. C. W. Barber. Mr. J. H. Hewett acted as accompanist.

During the interval between the parts,

Mr. CHANDLER stated that on the 30th ult. he had, by the desire of the Committee, written her Majesty the Queen, Grand Patron of their old School, and conveyed to her Majesty the congratulations of the members of the Association on her Majesty having attained the longest reign in English history; at the same time expressing their love and loyalty to her Majesty's person. He added that, by a peculiar appropriateness—almost, in fact, as if the time had been calculated—1 letter had that minute arrived from the Right Hon. Sir Matthew White Ridley, Secretary of State, informing the members of the Association that the resolution had been laid before her Majesty, and that her Majesty had been most graciously pleased to receive the same—an announcement which was received with cheers.

At the conclusion of the concert, Bro. R. H. WILLIAMS proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was passed with musical honours, and the evening closed with the National Anthem.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

A meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Stroud on Tuesday, the 27th inst., when there was a large attendance of the brethren. This annual festival should, in the ordinary course, have been held about Whitsuntide, but it was postponed till the autumn owing to the small-pox epidemic which was raging at Gloucester earlier in the year. The meeting was held in the Lansdown Hall, which was handsomely fitted up for the occasion, and the brethren ranged themselves under their respective banners.

The proceedings commenced with a procession into the lodge-room of the Prov. Grand Officers.

After the usual salutations, the minutes of the Prov. Grand Lodge held in Gloucester on June 5th, 1895, were passed.

The report of the Prov. G. Treasurer was then submitted, from which it appeared that the balance in hand was £74.

Proceeding to receive the report of the Operative Masonry Committee, the Provincial Grand Lodge was informed that the work at Gloucester Cathedral would cost £520, towards which the lodges and brethren of the province had already subscribed £422.

It was then agreed, on the motion of the P.G.M., that 40 guineas be voted from the Provincial Grand Lodge funds.

After the transaction of other business in connection with the Charities, and the re-election of the P.G. Treasurer and P.G. Tyler, a vote of confidence in the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was passed, consequent upon their recommending the removal of the School from Wood Green to Bushey.

Bro. BAKER brought forward, and Bro. Sir J. E. DORINGTON, M.P., seconded, a motion cordially approving of an appeal to be made by Bro. Baker to the whole of the lodges in the kingdom for subscriptions towards the restoration of Tewkesbury Abbey.

The Prov. Grand Master then invested the officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Bro. L. Bretherton, 2541	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" C. G. Clark, 493	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. L. Wilkinson, 1067	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" J. L. Tickell, 82	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Bruton	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" J. B. Winterbotham, 82	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" G. J. Holloway, 702	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" T. H. Rea, 246	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" Dr. A. J. Campbell, 761	...	...	Prov. G.S. of Wks.
" R. Willis, 900	...	...	} Prov. G.D.Cs.
" F. B. Budgett, 1363	...	...
" W. J. Jenkins, 493	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" J. Owner, 270	...	...	} Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" W. J. Jefferies, 592	...	...
" L. Hann, 82	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Llewellyn Evans, 82	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" S. B. Darke, 2407	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" J. T. Woolwright, 702	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" J. Brown, 2407	...	...
" J. Estopp, 2407	...	...
" Window	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

To have Past rank in commemoration of the completion of the 21st year of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's Grand Mastership: Bros. Edwin Dinning, 951, and G. C. Hewitt, 1363. Past Provincial Junior Grand Wardens.

Subsequently the brethren partook of a banquet in the Subscription Rooms, under the presidency of Bro. Sir Michael Hicks Beach.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The large Alexandra Hall was thronged with visitors on Saturday afternoon, the 17th inst., on the half-yearly occasion of the performance of Calisthenics, Marching, Music, and Singing by the girls. It was the first "reception" under the new Head Mistress, Miss Redgrave, and additional interest was consequently excited. In loyal tribute to the Royal jubilee year, the National Anthem, musically arranged in parts, was sung at the commencement of the proceedings, which from first to last were of the most satisfying and successful character, and the enthusiasm, which was hearty throughout, culminated when, at the close of the calisthenic exercises, the girls, after a series of circular and semi-circular evolutions, performed with the most accurate precision, were found on halting to form on a mammoth scale the figures of the year 1896. This novel and pretty effect literally "brought down the house."

The following statement was made by Bro. Sir JOHN B. MONCKTON, Chairman of the House Committee for the month, in the course of a few remarks, that there was literally no illness in the School, two children with colds being the sole occupants of the Infirmary, a state of things on which Miss Buck, the estimable Matron, was heartily congratulated.

A more successful or satisfactory "afternoon" has seldom, if ever, been given at the Institution.

ROMAN CATHOLICISM AND FREEMASONRY

It may be said that all the world is aware that 400 Catholic prelates assembled at Trent to curse Freemasonry and bless the lying revelators who attribute Manicheism and the worship of Lucifer to our Order. Very few Masons, however, are aware of the gravamen of the charges brought against the Order, and I was myself ignorant of this literature, until I read Mr. Arthur Edward Waite's new work entitled "Devil Worship in France," published by George Redway, of London, 325 pp.

The charges made against Freemasonry in the penny dreadfuls of Paris is shortly this. The late Bro. Albert Pike was a man of great magical power and kept Lucifer in almost perpetual seance at the seat of his S.G.C. 33° in Charleston, along with a goat-like idol termed Baphomet, and the skull of Jacques de Molay. He also renovated and attached to his Rite an Androgyne order termed the Palladium which he had the courtesy to extend to Mizraim and Memphis Rites. Personally I may say that if Lucifer had been at his back, he would have done his best to use him for the destruction of the latter rites. Bogus rituals are also attributed to him of the most horrible description.

Amongst many other writers who vouch for these things, may be named a Dr. Bataille, Segr. Margiotta, and a Diana Vaughan, the fiancée of Lucifer before she perverted from Freemasonry, and for whose existence the 400 prelates have vouched.

Most Freemasons will think that these writers are harmless lunatics, but the matter should not be lightly estimated. With the Catholics these writers are believed, their numbers and homogeneous cohesion is great, and the books have been blessed by all the Catholic Bishops and Archbishops, and the Pope has given his Apostolic Benediction over the seal of St. Peter. *It is an organised conspiracy.*

Mr. Waite's well-written book is as interesting as a romance, which in some sort it is, and, though a non-Mason, the Order has fallen into good hands, and owes him some gratitude; the book is critical, scholarly, and dispassionate. He concludes his inquiry, whilst admitting that the Parisian world may have a sect of Luciferians, by saying: "I can find no Mason of what grade or Rite soever who has ever heard of Pike's 'Zepher d' Hebarim,' his book called 'Apadno,' or lectures in which he imparted unacknowledged extracts from Eliaphas Levi; they may rank with Triangular Provinces, Lucifer *chez lui*, the skull of Molay, and the Palladium; in other words, they are lying myths."

JOHN YARKER.

REMOVAL OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

We publish the following documents, which we doubt not will be read with attention by all who are interested in the important question of the removal of the Boys' School from its present site at Wood Green. The first is a letter from the owner of the property at Bushey, which testifies to the healthiness of the site selected by the Board, while the others are the resolutions passed by the Provincial Grand Lodges of Leicestershire and Rutland and Gloucestershire at their annual meetings, on the 8th and 27th instant, respectively:

Enderfield, Chislehurst,
October 6, 1896.

Dear Sir,

Bushey Grove Park.

I don't think a more healthy or desirable climate or subsoil could be found. The whole of the Park is clear of the great bed of London clay, and in other respects is almost identical with, but superior to, Croydon, which is the healthiest large town in England, the mortality per 1000 population for 1895 being 14.6. That of Bushey and Watford for 1894 was 10.46, and on the average for the last seven years 13.12.

The elevation above the sea level is at Bushey Hall corner 234 feet, rising along the Avenue to 274 feet at the Old Bushey end.

The Colne Valley water ranks in the last report as the purest and softest of any of the London inner or outer circle water companies.

The solidity and suitability of the subsoil as a foundation for a large building is unquestionable.

I have referred to these subjects in consequence of your stating that some of the points were said to be doubtful.

Yours faithfully,

R. PALMER TEBB.

J. M. McLeod, Esq.

Copy of resolution passed at meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland, held on the 8th instant:

"In view of the proposal to remove the Boys' School, the members of this Provincial Grand Lodge desire to express their entire confidence in the judgment of the Board of Management, feeling fully assured that its decision will be in the best interests of the Institution."

At Provincial Grand Lodge of Gloucestershire, held at Stroud on 27th inst., it was proposed by the Prov. G. Secretary, seconded by the Prov. G. J. Warden, supported by the Prov. G.M., and carried unanimously—

"That this Provincial Grand Lodge desires to express its entire confidence in the good judgment of the Board of Management of the R.M.I.B. in recommending the removal of the School to a healthier and more rural locality."

We have been favoured by the Prov. Grand Secretary of Northumberland with the following:

The vote which the Charities Committee of the Province of Northumberland passed in favour of the removal of the Boys' School was mainly brought about by a consideration of the unfitness of the surroundings of the present site, the situation of the site itself, and the unfavourable nature of the subsoil. It was also thought that a new building, designed in its entirety for the purposes desiderated, would provide more ample accommodation and could be more economically worked than the present building, even in the same amount of space. The Committee also, while not deprecating a handsome design, hoped that more ornament would give place to the comfort and suitability of the internal arrangements. They are also at one with the educationists of the day in desiring for the boys every opportunity of cultivating bodily vigour in conjunction with mental and moral development. They feel that agreeable and healthy surroundings are no small item in the production of a good citizen, and they desire that the boys of our brethren should have the best of every educational influence which can be obtained for them by the funds which a large-hearted Fraternity are willing to supply.

Craft Masonry.

Lion Lodge, No. 312.

The regular meeting of the above lodge was held on Monday, the 19th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Whitby, under the presidency of Bro. Rev. E. Fox-Thomas, W.M., when there was an exceptionally good attendance. The W.M. was supported by Bros. R. Gray, S.W.; E. Smithson, P.M., as J.W.; I. N. Lawson, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Treas.; B. Newbald, Sec.; J. Brand, as S.D.; T. Taylor, J.D.; H. S. Horne, J.G.; T. Allen, D.C.; H. Spiegelhalter and G. K. Meares, Stwds.; and many others. Bro. R. Hudson, P.G. Std. Br. England, was a visitor.

The lodge was opened, when the W.M. raised Bros. L. Frazer and J. Seymour to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. During the evening 40 Masonic books and tractates—some being very old and valuable—were presented by the W.M. on behalf of several donors, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to them. The W.M. also made a presentation of a large framed portrait-group of the officers of the lodge for the present year, which was a gratifying testimony to the perfect harmony and efficiency with which the officers have co-operated with the Master during the year which is now so fast approaching its termination. The portrait-group is complete so far as the pictorial presentment goes, but death has broken in upon the official circle during the year by the lamented death of Bro. John William Berry, S.D., whose portrait is, however, included in the interesting group. The S.W., on behalf of the officers, presented a portrait group of four of the senior brethren who have completed their Masonic jubilee in connection with this old established lodge. The brethren who were thus specially honoured are Bros. J. Stevenson, P.M., P.P.G.W., initiated 1844; Silvester Reed, P.M. 1844; T. Smailes, 1844; and J. N. Lawson, P.M., Treas., P.P.G. Std. Br., 1846. When these brethren were initiated the lodge was held at the Angel Hotel. The well-executed production of local photographic art is very pleasing and interesting as a memento of the valuable services rendered to the lodge by the four brethren who are so well depicted, and it should be an incentive to younger brethren to walk worthily in the footsteps of the old Masters who are so much respected, and of whom local Craftsmen are justly proud. It may be added that there are other three surviving jubilee brethren who were initiated into Freemasonry in the Lion Lodge, viz.: Bros. W. Wood, John Weighill, and W. E. Corner; they were admitted respectively in 1838, 1839, and 1840. Bros. Stevenson, Reed, Smailes, and Lawson were warmly congratulated by the "Lions" present on the auspicious event, which was also appropriately and ably spoken to by Bro. W. G. Lockety, P.M.; and the four brethren to whom this special mark of esteem and regard was paid, feelingly acknowledged the kind and graceful recognition which had been so heartily accorded to them. We believe it to be almost unprecedented for a lodge to have so many jubilee brethren connected with it, and the distinction is none the less noteworthy from the fact that the lodge will celebrate its centenary next year. On the 20th November four jubilee brethren intend journeying to Leeds for the purpose of attending the installation of the W.M. elect of the Zetland Lodge, No. 1311, when Bro. Dr. R. Smailes, eldest son of Bro. T. Smailes, will receive the highest honour his mother lodge can confer upon him. During the evening Bro. R. Hudson, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., delivered an eloquent address on "The Benefits of Maintaining the Principles of Freemasonry," and concluded his remarks by congratulating the lodge on the prospect of its approaching centenary celebration.

St. Cuthbert Lodge, No. 630.

The annual meeting of the above lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Howden, on Thursday, the 15th inst., when Bro. George Brindle was installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. G. H. Anderton, J.P., P.M., P.P.J.G.W. East Yorks. The following officers were afterwards duly invested: Bros. Anderton, I.P.M.; G. G. Everingham, S.W.; W. H. Rylatt, J.W.; the Rev. W. Hutchinson, M.A., Chap.; H. B. Anderson, J.P., P.M., Treas.; W. L. Rowntree, Sec. and Org.; P. M. Crow, S.D.; W. Slather, J.D.; J. G. Loum, D.C.; J. B. Walker, I.G.; and W. Drury, Tyler.

There was a goodly number of brethren present, and visitors hailed from lodges at Hull, Selby, Thorne, &c.

The customary banquet was afterwards held at Walmsley's Hotel, presided over by the W.M.

The usual Masonic toasts were duly proposed and responded to, interspersed with capital songs, &c. Altogether a most pleasant evening was spent.

Dobie Lodge, No. 889.

A goodly number of members assembled on the 21st instant, at the Kingston Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames, when all three Degrees had to be conferred. Lodge having been opened by the W.M., Bro. Arthur Watkin, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. H. Packham and J. F. L. Gaydon were raised to the M.M. Degree; Bros. Cayley and Bignall were passed to the F.C.; and Mr. W. Monday, successor to Bro. George Galb in the proprietorship of the Kingston Hotel (the lodge's meeting place), was initiated. The traditional history was given in the Third, tracing-board explained in the Second, and address given to the E.A., all done by the W.M. with a correctness rarely attained, enhanced by purity of enunciation and eloquence of a very high order. The assistant officers did their parts so admirably that they deserve to be named—Bros. G. R. Scott, S.W.; W. H. Gaze, J.W.; J. W. Wells, S.D.; Geo. Cowen, J.D.; and J. Mortimer, I.G.

After refreshment, a few toasts were given.

Bro. Hunt, P.M. of St. Paul's Lodge, followed by several other brethren of long-standing in the Order and well skilled in the Craft, spoke in terms of the highest praise of the splendid display of working which they had witnessed.

Excelsior Lodge, No. 1042.

VISIT OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

The regular meeting of this lodge, which was held at the Masonic Hall, Leeds, on Thursday, the 15th inst., will be a memorable one in its history by reason of the visit of the Prov. G. Master, Bro. the Right Hon. W. L. Jackson, M.P., and the officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, together with other distinguished brethren from various parts of the country. The lodge was opened, the following officers and brethren being present: Bros. J. Smith, W.M.; H. Banks, I.P.M.; R. Waide, S.W.; A. H. Dugill, J.W.; H. Cowbrough, jun., Treas.; G. Tooley, Sec.; C. Grosvenor, Asst. Sec.; H. Whitfield, S.D.; V. R. Morley, J.D.; W. T. Carter, P.M., D.C.; A. Jowitt, Mus. Bac. Oxon, Org.; T. C. Nettleton, I.G.; J. H. Gash, J. W. Dobson, G. H. Harrison, and G. Wardman, Stwds.; J. H. Newton, Tyler; R. O. Allison, P.M., P.P.G.D.; W. Bingham, P.M., P.P.G. P.M.; E. Crosby, P.M.; T. Thorp, P.M.; J. W. Blackburn, P.M.; T. Huntley, B. Walker, A. Atkinson, R. Simpson, R. Routledge, W. Foster, G. Dyall, H. B. Rhodes, J. H. Battye, F. Bagshaw, H. Gale, and W. Jackson. Visitors: Bros. Blackburn, W.M. 306; T. Bromley, P.M. 1214; W. Taylor, 52; F. Grant, P.M.; F. Durant, P.M. 1648; Dr. A. S. Bacon, S.W. 1211; R. Spencer, S.D. 1019; Dr. E. A. White, Sec. 304; Dr. Barley, Stwd. 304; A. E. Nichols, J.D. 304; J. Freeman, 1211; W. A. Millard, 306; T. Child, 304; and H. Dittmar, 1001.

The minutes of the last regular lodge and lodge of emergency having been read and confirmed, a Committee was appointed to make arrangements for the annual social gathering on the 27th prox., in which the members of the Excelsior Chapter were invited to participate. A resolution of condolence to Bro. J. W. Dobson on the recent death of his daughter was adopted, Bro. Dobson afterwards thanking the brethren for their sympathy.

The following distinguished brethren then entered the lodge: Bros. J. G. Malcolm, J.G.D. Eng., D.P.G.M. West Yorks; H. Smith, P.G.D. Eng., P.D.P.G.M.; J. T. Whytehead, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., P.P.G.W. N. and E. Yorks; J. Todd, P.G.S.B. Eng., Prov. G. Treas. N. and E. Yorks; H. Allen, Prov. S.G.W.; J. A. Godwin, J.P., Prov. J.G.W.; the Rev. L. S. Calvert, M.A., and the Rev. J. L. Brereton, M.A., Prov. G. Chaps.; R. Jackson, Prov. G. Treas.; Capt. H. G. E. Green, Prov. G. Sec.; A. Robertshaw, Prov. S.G.D.; H. S. Wood, Prov. J.G.D.; T. R. Vaux, Prov. G.S. of Wks.; W. Watson, P.P.G.S. of Wks., Hon. Librarian; J. Matthewman, Prov. A.G. Sec.; J. W. Handforth, Prov. G. Org.; H. Telford, Prov. G. Stwd. (all of West Yorkshire); E. Woodhouse, J.P., P.P.G.W.; R. Wilson;

P.P.G.W.; J. D. Kay, P.P.G.D.; D. R. Glover, P.P.G.D.; A. Scarth, P.P.G.D.; the Rev. W. Wilkinson, P.P.G. Chap.; J. A. Withey, P.P.G. Reg. West Lancs.; and T. G. P. Barlow, P.P.G.D. N. and E. Yorks. Bros. W. F. Smithson, P.G.D. Eng.; Robert Hudson, P.G.S.B. Eng., Prov. G. Sec. Durham; and E. W. Hudson, P.P.G.S. of Wks. of N. and E. Yorks entered at a later stage of the proceedings.

The distinguished visitors having been welcomed by the W.M. on behalf of the lodge, were saluted in due form. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and the later portion of the traditional history which had been deferred from a previous occasion was given by the W.M. to Bros. Battye and Jackson, the lodge being then closed in the First Degree. The customary "Hearty good wishes" were tendered by the visiting brethren, during which the Dep. Prov. G.M. stated that the Prov. G. Master had desired him to express his very deep regret that an important business engagement in London prevented him having the pleasure of being present in the lodge as he fully intended, but he hoped to reach Leeds in time to join the brethren at dinner. This intention was shortly afterwards realised, as the lodge having been closed and the brethren seated at the table in the adjoining room, the Prov. Grand Master was announced, and took his place at the right of the W.M. amidst the hearty acclamations of the brethren.

At the conclusion of the dinner the W.M. gave the toast of "The Queen," and in afterwards proposing the toast of "The Grand Lodge of England," referred to the pleasure which it afforded the brethren of the lodge to welcome among them so many members of that distinguished body.

Bro. T. B. Whytehead, in responding said he was sure that the officers of Grand Lodge were desirous of only one end, namely, that of promoting the peace, harmony, and welfare of the lodges under their jurisdiction, and he was glad to say that such a happy condition of affairs now existed. Bro. Whytehead went on to show that in former years such was not always the case, and gave an interesting account of the origin of the Grand Lodge of England and the formation of and subsequent fusion with it, of the three other Grand Lodges which existed during the last century.

Bro. R. Hudson, who also replied to the toast, expressed his pleasure in being present on such an important occasion, and stated that although he was now an officer of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham and residing at a distance, he was a native of Yorkshire, and should always possess a strong affection for the county of many acres; he urged upon the younger brethren especially, the advisability of unceasing loyalty to their noble Order, and trusted that by their devotion to its service, some at least of them, might attain the honour of a collar in the Grand Lodge, of which he had been the proud possessor for over nine years.

In proposing the toast of "The Provincial Grand Master, and the officers of Provincial Grand Lodge," the W.M. said that that was a toast upon which any man might wax eloquent, and although he himself felt unable to do full justice to it, no one could feel greater pleasure and pride in proposing it. The lodge was indeed honoured by the presence of so many of the officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, a number which he ventured to think was a record in the history of that lodge, and he heartily thanked them on behalf of the lodge and himself for their very cordial response to the invitation. With regard to the Provincial Grand Master, it was unnecessary in Leeds to say anything of their distinguished guest in order to commend the toast to their acceptance when the subject of their congratulations comprised in himself the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, the Mayor of Leeds, the senior Member of Parliament for the city, the Chairman of one of the great railway companies, and ex-Minister of the Crown, and a member of her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, he need say no more, as words were unnecessary.

The toast was received with the utmost enthusiasm, and in reply the Provincial Grand Master said that although the W.M. had been very complimentary in proposing the toast, he had not been altogether kind in so doing, as he had recalled very forcibly to his mind some of the heavy responsibilities which rested upon himself. It was, indeed, a proud position to be placed at the head of such a large and important Province as West Yorkshire, and he felt it as such, at the same time it was not without its anxieties. He had so far endeavoured to discharge his duties and responsibilities, as well as his somewhat limited opportunities would allow, and the brethren of the province had been very considerate with regard to any deficiencies which he might have exhibited. Had it not been for the devoted and loyal service of his former Deputy, Bro. Henry Smith, and since his retirement, of his successor, Bro. Malcolm, it would have been impossible for him to have adequately discharged his duties. In speaking of the Masonic Charities, Bro. Jackson referred to the action which had been taken the previous day at the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge at Morley, and stated the step was one which was of the very greatest importance, and he greatly regretted that in taking it they had placed themselves in opposition to the views of Bro. W. F. Smithson, whose efforts on behalf of the great London Charities were his life's work, and no one in the province had done so much on their behalf. In paying a very high tribute to his past services, the Provincial Grand Master hoped that although not in accord with the new movement, Bro. Smithson would still continue his valuable work for the Charities, and that they might always rely upon his assistance.

Shortly after his reply to the toast, the Provincial Grand Master retired.

In response to the toast of "The Visitors," Bro. J. Todd expressed the great pleasure it had given him, after an interval of 20 years, to visit the lodge once more, and made humorous reference to his experience on a former visit. He found that the character of the lodge in past years was still retained, and that hospitality was still a marked feature.

Bro. E. Woodhouse, J.P., ex-Mayor of Leeds, also expressed his pleasure at having been present on such an interesting occasion. Although not so active a worker now as in former years, he believed that if they gave him the opportunity he should not fail to join them more frequently. He was very sorry that the Provincial Grand Master had left the gathering, as he wished to bring before him, as Chairman of the Great Northern Railway Company, a very important question, and which affected them all very closely. Bro. Woodhouse proceeded, amid great laughter, to express the opinion that Freemasons ought to have the privilege of travelling by rail at half price, by this means they in the distant provinces might be enabled to take a more active part in the deliberations of their more fortunate brethren of the "upper crust" in London, and in the important movement in connection with the Boys' School, which had raised such a strong feeling of hostility in the province.

Bro. J. Dunning Kay, in further responding for the visitors, alluded to the reference of the W.M. to his position as head of the province in the Order of Knights Templar, and said that it was, indeed, his privilege to hold that office, and he felt very gratified in having had the opportunity to be present. Many changes had taken place during the 40 years in which he had been a member of the Craft, and he thought from the proceedings that evening that progress was being made, especially amongst the younger brethren, and he urged upon them the advisability of extending their researches into the higher Degrees, and so follow the example of the W.M.

Bro. the Rev. J. L. Brereton, Prov. G. Chap., also responded in fitting terms.

A very pleasing feature of the evening was the excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music and recitations contributed by Bros. H. Dittmar, F. Child, A. Jowitt, W. Tooke, H. Whitfield, H. Gale, and others, which gave great delight to the numerous assembly.

Warrant Officers Lodge, No. 2346.

The above lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Friday, the 16th instant, when the following were present: Bros. W. A. Greene, W.M.; M. A. McInerney, P.M., P.D.G.S.B. Gibraltar, acting as I.P.M.; H. B. Dickins, S.W.; J. D. Ladbury, J.W.; W. F. Cheesman, P.M., Sec.; J. P. Newsham, S.D.; W. H. Smith, J.D.; G. Gale, I.G.; R. Jennings, P.M., D.C.; R. H. Johnson, A.D.C.; J. Betts, Asst. Org.; A. G. Young, Tyler; H. Gardiner, P.M.; A. Molony, P.M.; C. A. Pugh, P.M.; J. Berry, B. Betts, J. Bruckland, W. Callow, A. Copsy, J. A. Dent, J. Genese, G. George, F. Grumbridge, C. B. Hawkins, J. D. Kingsoury, J. R. McGill, J. J. Mumford, W. Norman, P. A. Premi, J. Smith, L. Solomon, J. W. Watson, and W. Woodcock. Visitors: Bros. J. Pascoe, 1136, and J. F. Carruck, 105.

The lodge having been opened, Bros. Hawkins, Bruckland, and Smith were raised to the Third Degree, and Mr. W. Woodcock was initiated. A candidate was proposed for initiation, and Bro. James Duffy, 1383, having been proposed as a joining member, the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards adjourned for refreshments.

PRINCE CHRISTIAN of Schleswig-Holstein, arrived at Cumberland House, Windsor Great Park, on Saturday last, from Berlin, on the conclusion of his autumnal visit to Germany.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1896.

Masonic Notes.

It is to be regretted that a paper professing to be representative of English Masonic opinion should have so far forgotten what is due to Masonry, to journalism, and to itself, as to charge the management of one of our great central Institutions with the perpetration of a "job." The passage in which this charge was made was contained in a leading article that appeared in the said paper on the 17th inst., and read as follows: "A few years hence the Craft may have occasion to regret the 'job' that is now being perpetrated at their expense." It is almost needless to add that the body against which this alleged charge is laid is, as the context shows, the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Now brethren may differ with this Board of Management as to the wisdom of the course they are pursuing. They may doubt the advisability of removing the School from Wood Green, they may question the suitability of the property which it is proposed to purchase at Bushey, and the reasonableness of the price it has been agreed to pay for it. But we venture to think we are not arrogating to ourselves any undue measure of authority when we affirm that however widely they may dissent from the course which the Board has adopted, there is not an English Mason in London, the Provinces, or abroad who believes that the Board is capable of lending itself to the perpetration of anything in the nature of a "job."

* * *

We all admire and respect the constituent members of this Board for the distinctions they have won in Masonry, for the generous support they have given to all our Institutions, and for the services they are ungrudgingly rendering as the administrators of this particular Institution of the Boys' School; and we all repudiate the idea that in the policy they are desirous of carrying out, they are prompted by any other motive than that of serving the School to the utmost of their ability, and promoting and safeguarding the best interests of Masonry.

* * *

That our readers may know who and what manner of men they are against whom this charge of perpetrating a "job" is laid, we mention the following, who, with other members, constitute the Board of Management of our Boys' School. First of all, there is Bro. Richard Eve, Past Grand Treasurer, and Patron and one of the Trustees of the Institution, who is Chairman of the Board, while Bro. George Everett, Past Grand Treasurer, and a Vice-Patron, and Bro. W. F. Smithson, P.G.D., and a Vice-President and Hon. Vice-Patron, are the Vice-Chairmen. Among the London members are Bros. Stanley J. Attenborough, Vice-Patron and Hon. Solicitor; George E. Fairchild, A.G.D.C. Vice-Patron; John Glass, Vice-President; Joseph D. Langton, D.G.D.C., Life Governor; W. A. Scurrah, G. Std. Br., Vice-Patron; A. C. Spaul, P.G. Std. Br., Vice-President; James Stephens, Vice-Patron; and J. J. Thomas, Vice-President. The Provincial members include Bros. W. H. Bailey, Grand Treasurer, Vice-Patron; Harry Bevir, Prov. Grand Secretary Wilts, Life Governor; Richard Clowes, P.G. Std. Br., Vice-President; Major John E. Le Feuvre, J.P., P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Hants and the Isle of Wight, Vice-President; Major O. Papworth, Prov. Grand Secretary Cambridgeshire, Vice-President; William Russell, J.P., Prov. Grand Treasurer Kent, Life Governor; and R. V. Vassar-Smith, J.P., P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Gloucestershire. To these must be added Bro. C. E. Keyser, J.P., P.G.D., who, as Treasurer, is *ex-officio* a member of the Board.

* * *

There are one or two points in Bro. Whytehead's letter of last week to which it is desirable to call attention. Firstly, as regards the sum—£13,000—proposed to be paid for the new site at Bushey, it is undoubtedly large, and Bro. Whytehead's contention as to the price for which good land can be had may be correct. But there are many other points which have had to be considered in making the purchase. It may not greatly matter whether the School is located in "Middlesex, Essex, Kent, Surrey, Hampshire, Berks, Bucks, or Hertford." But if a site can be obtained which is in the country and, at the same time, within easy reach of "the Great Babylon" and is likewise accessible from all parts of the country, such a consideration has undoubtedly carried its due weight with the Board in the selection they have made. We were given to understand at the Quarterly General Court on the 9th instant the Board had selected this from a number of sites, and we presume that price was not the only consideration to which they attached importance.

* * *

If we assume that Bro. Whytehead is correct in his opinion "that a magnificent estate could be bought for our purpose within reasonable distance of London for £25 an acre at the outside," still it would not be much good buying such an estate unless it happened to be "within reasonable distance" of a station on some principal line of railway, and with something like decent roads to traverse between School and station. The proposed site at Bushey is within a mile of Bushey Station, and there are good roads bordering the estate on all sides. There will, therefore, be no difficulty on the part of the boys, the masters, the Board, and visitors, in going to and fro.

Again, as we remarked in our Note of last week, if the price is excessive, there are compensating advantages in the "sewers" which have been constructed along two of the roads bordering the estate and the water and gas mains which have already been carried close up to the boundary. There would not be much economy in buying an estate for £3,000 or £4,000 and then having to spend several thousands in laying down sewers and gas and water mains. But is the price paid so excessive considering the healthiness of the site, its accessibility from all parts of the country, and the fact of there being sewers and mains already laid down? The estate at Wood Green, which comprises some 14 acres, cost £9,000; here we have 66—or, we believe the correct figure is nearly 68—acres; and the price to be paid for it is £13,000.

* * *

As for the idea that 10 or 15 years hence Bushey will be over-run with bricks and mortar as Wood Green is now, we think the probability is too remote to be worthy of serious consideration. Moreover, with 68 acres, or thereabouts, the Institution can never be cramped for room as it is at Wood Green with 14 acres. There will always be ample space for the School buildings, and for purposes of recreation, even if the estate should at any time be surrounded with houses; and that is not very likely to happen with residential estates in nearly every direction round the property.

* * *

It is some eight years since any addition was made to the roll of lodges in Devonshire, the last lodge that was consecrated being the Western District United Service Lodge, No. 2258, Stonehouse, which was consecrated in 1888, while the last new lodge which was established on new ground was the Ashburton Lodge, No. 2189, Ashburton, which was warranted in 1886. It was, therefore, to have been expected that the attendance of brethren would be a full one at the special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devonshire, which was held at the Anthony Assembly Rooms, Buckfastleigh, on the 13th instant, when Trinity Lodge, No. 2595, was consecrated by the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, M.P. The new lodge starts apparently under very good auspices, and we trust the anticipations expressed at the meeting—that it will prove "a credit to the Province and a worthy gain to the ranks of Freemasonry"—will be verified.

* * *

Certainly, if the advice so carefully tendered by the Dep. G. Master of the Province at the inauguration of the new lodge is followed, these anticipations as to its success cannot fail to be realised. Bro. Davie, in the first place, urged upon the founders not to be in too great a hurry to increase their numbers. It is not, as he justly said, "the quantity of the members," but "their quality," which constitutes the strength of a lodge. We often hear it said when a new Master has been installed in office, that he hoped he should have plenty of work to do during the year of his Master-ship; that is, of course, that he should have many candidates to initiate, pass, and raise. The wish is very natural, and provided the candidates are fit and proper persons to be made Masons, there is no one who will not endorse the wish. But as Bro. Davie pointed out, all persons are not "fit and proper" to be received into our ranks, and the lodge which is not cautious in the election of its members must not be surprised if its future does not run as smoothly as could be desired.

* * *

Again, there is, as Bro. Davie remarked, the danger that Freemasonry may degenerate into a well-organised Charitable Society. People nowadays hear a great deal about our splendid Charitable Institutions, and the idea not unnaturally occurs to many that it must be a grand thing to become a Mason, and then you, your widow, or your children will be provided for. This is the danger against which Bro. Davie warned his hearers when he said there was "danger of people joining their Order for its material benefits." The benevolence of Masons is very great, but it cannot be too often or too strongly pointed out that the mere payment of entrance fees and annual subscriptions does not, as in the ordinary benefit society, constitute a claim on the part of its members on the funds of the Order.

* * *

There is also another point to which Bro. Davie did quite right in referring, namely, the tendency in some quarters "to carry the Order outside its sphere and to interfere as a body with the individual freedom and convictions of the brethren," Masonry, as he said, is

"exempted from the ordinary law regarding secret societies, because it did not interfere with anything outside itself." There is no doubt that this is a point which is often lost sight of, and Bro. Davis is to be commended for having drawn attention to it thus prominently.

The Alfred Wootton Chapter, to be attached to the Lodge of Union, No. 127, will be consecrated in the Masonic Hall, New Cross-street, Margate, on Wednesday, the 4th prox. The ceremony will be performed by M.E. Comp. the Right Hon. Earl Amherst, Grand Superintendent for Kent, who will be assisted in his duties by M.E. Comps. J. S. Eastes, P.G.S.B., Prov. G.H.; Benjamin Snell, Prov. G.J.; Alfred Spencer, P.G. Std. Br., Prov. G.S.E.; and Horatio Ward, P.G. Std. Br., P.P.G.J. When the chapter has been constituted, the Principals designate—M.E. Comps. Alfred Wootton, P.Z. 429, P.P.G.I.; J. F. Stanley, M.E.Z. 429; and W. H. Marcolyn, P.Z. 429, P.P.G. 2nd Asst. Soj.—will be installed as M.E.Z., H., and J., respectively. The proceedings will commence at 3.30 p.m., and at 1.30 p.m. luncheon will be served at Lilley's Arcadian Hotel, Fort-road, tickets for which are to be obtained of Comp. W. J. Clarke, Scribe E. designate.

Next week will be a busy one with Lodge Quatuor Coronati, No. 2076. On Thursday, the 5th proximo, it will hold its second conversazione in the King's Hall of the Holborn Restaurant. From 8 to 9 p.m. the W.M. (Bro. E. Macbean) will receive his guests in the ante-room and will afterwards address to them a few words of welcome in the Hall. There will be an interesting exhibition of Masonic clothing, jewels, and medals, under the direction of Bro. W. H. Rylands, F.S.A., and Bro. S. T. Klein, F.R.A.S., has kindly arranged to illustrate some of "the hidden mysteries of Nature and Science" by means of microscopes and the Röntgen X Rays. The musical arrangements will be in charge of Bro. G. Greiner, and brethren will appear in Craft clothing, for which a dispensation will be obtained. Members of both Circles are privileged to introduce ladies and other friends, whether Masons or not. Tickets, to include light refreshments, price 5s., to be obtained only of the Secretary, Bro. G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C.

On Friday, the 6th prox., the lodge will hold its annual installation meeting, when Bro. C. Kupferschmidt, Assistant Grand Secretary for German Correspondence, will be installed in the chair, and appoint his officers. Past Master's jewels will be presented to the Past Masters, including the I.P.M. of the lodge, and a paper, entitled "Historical Notes on the German Ritual," will be read. The brethren will afterwards dine together at the Holborn Restaurant.

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.

AN APPEAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

It may possibly be in the recollection of many of your readers that at the consecration of St. Mary of the Harbour Lodge, a service was held in St. Mary's Church, New Shoreham, and a collection made on behalf of the Tower Restoration Fund, which resulted in a sum of nearly £10 being paid over to that Fund. This restoration, I am glad to say, is now nearly completed, and on Tuesday, November 3rd, 1896, at 3 p.m., the Lord Bishop of Chichester will hold a service for the purpose of re-opening the tower and dedicating the bells, which have been re-cast. I am writing you this to ask the assistance of my Masonic brethren to enable us to start again free of debt. I am informed that the sum of £280 is now required for this purpose. Our church is one of national and historical interest, and contains some magnificent specimens of our ancient operative brethren's skill.

Subscriptions may be sent to the Rev. C. M. A. Tower, The Vicarage, New Shoreham; Bro. the Rev. J. Puttick, The Rectory, Kingston-by-Sea; or the Capital and Counties Bank, New Shoreham.—I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours truly and fraternally,

R. B. HIGHAM, 2591, &c.

New Shoreham, Sussex,
October 24th.

P.S.—You will see by the enclosed circular fuller particulars as to this matter, but I do not like to intrude further on your space.

Craft Masonry.

St. Marylebone Lodge, No. 1305.

This prosperous lodge met at the Criterion, Piccadilly-circus, on the 12th instant, when there were present Bro. A. C. Bonham, W.M.; L. Harcourt Coles, I.P.M.; W. Humphrey, S.W.; W. Brett, J.W.; J. Chaplin, Treas.; J. J. Pope, P.M.; Sec.; J. G. Head, S.D.; B. H. Head, J.D.; E. C. Lane, D.C.; J. Hume, Stwd.; T. Wright, P.M.; R. Raymond, P.M.; F. Spurgin, P.M.; E. White, P.M.; W. D. Schwarz, P.M.; H. Ansell, P.M.; C. J. Webb, H. Adams, W. A. Shaw, W. J. Bennett, F. Hucklebridge, J. J. Gomm, A. Wheeler, Sydney Chapman, G. T. Beeching, W. Read, D. F. Tuffin, A. Oram, and G. Couchman, Tyler. Visitors: Bro. W. S. Lincoln, P.M. 534; James Kift, 1791; C. P. Bellerley, P.M. 2021; and R. T. West, 1744.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read, the W.M., Bro. A. C. Bonham, raised Bros. Shaw and Hucklebridge and afterwards passed Bro. A. Oram. The W.M.'s working of the ritual was performed in a manner that was faultless, and was much appreciated by the brethren. After some discussion, it was decided to have a ladies' night in December. Other business followed, after which the lodge was closed.

The brethren adjourned to a substantial dinner, which was well served under the superintendence of the manager, Bro. Mantell.

The usual toasts having been given, Bro. L. Harcourt Coles, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master," and said that the toast would be drunk with great heartiness. No words of his were necessary to call attention to his great abilities and many virtues, as "Good wine needs no bush."

Bro. A. C. Bonham, W.M., responded. He said he had tried to do the work appertaining to his office to the best of his ability, and no one could do more. He hoped to do credit to the lodge, and when his time came to vacate the chair, he earnestly trusted that the little he might do would give satisfaction to them all, which would be very gratifying to him.

"The Visitors" having been toasted, Bro. C. P. Bellerley, P.M. 2021, said he was particularly pleased to be present and to respond to the toast. The lodge was well-known to him, and many of the members were personal friends of his.

Bro. W. S. Lincoln, P.M. 534, stated that his best thanks were due to them for the happy proceedings in the lodge and at the festive board. Everyone who knew the St. Marylebone Lodge was glad to come again and again. He congratulated the W.M. on his splendid working—he had never seen better. The Third Degree was very difficult, but the W.M. had performed it with perfection.

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

The W.M. gave "The Past Masters," remarking that for a small gathering they had a goodly number present. The Past Masters were always happy and willing to give a helping hand, and without their assistance it would not be possible to conduct the business of the lodge.

Bros. L. Harcourt Coles, P.M., and E. White, P.M., responded, the latter observing that everything that evening was admirable. It was always a pleasure for him to attend the lodge as a Past Master to enjoy himself, but since he was there last he had taken the office of Secretary of the London County Council Lodge, as he felt it became the duty of every Mason to act when called upon. He was glad it had been decided to have a ladies' night. Ladies were apt to think that Freemasons were somewhat selfish, and he was afraid that there was some truth in that; but that charge could not be laid to the members of the St. Marylebone Lodge if they had an entertainment for the ladies every year. The last was most enjoyable, and he hoped the one coming on would be, if anything, more so.

The next toast was "The Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. stating that they were both good and important officers. Bro. Chaplin, Treasurer, had been associated with the lodge for many years, and took great care of the funds. The Secretary, Bro. Pope, P.M., was the only surviving founder of the lodge, and during his long tenure of office he had been most efficient in carrying out his arduous duties. He was always ready to do anything to promote the interests of the lodge; his was not an enviable position, but what he did was a labour of pleasure. He loved to be the Secretary, and that he might hold that office for many years to come was the wish of them all.

Bro. Chaplin, Treas., having responded,

Bro. Pope, P.M., Sec., said he did not deserve all the kind things the W.M. had said of him, but so long as he was honoured by being appointed Secretary he hoped to do his duty. The lodge was a very successful one, and he was certain its prosperity would continue under the happy reign of their good W.M.

The toast of "The Officers" was responded to by Bros. W. Humphrey, S.W.; W. Brett, J.W.; B. H. Head, J.D.; and J. Hume, Stwd.

The Tyler's toast brought a very happy evening to a close, which was greatly enhanced by songs by Bros. D. F. Tuffin, J. Kift, J. G. Head, G. Beeching, R. Wright, A. Wheeler, and S. R. G. Chapman (cornet solo), who received a well-deserved encore, and he and Bro. A. Wheeler are worthy of special mention for their great efforts.

Blackheath Lodge, No. 1320.

The installation meeting of this prosperous and highly successful lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel, on Thursday, the 16th inst. Present: Bros. Augustus W. Le Cren, W.M.; E. A. Rice, S.W.; G. Pike, J.W., W.M. elect; W. H. Morson, P.M., Treas.; H. A. Stunt, P.M., Sec.; H. Cornford, acting S.D.; Thos. Hobbey, J.D.; T. Tucker, acting I.G.; J. Whiteman, Tyler; T. Cass, I.P.M.; J. Hooper, P.M.; E. Hesse, H. Bluff, A. Heseckiel, R. Weller, W. R. King, W. Orton, H. S. Browne, C. W. Robinson, W. T. Tempest, and W. Wright. Visitors: Bros. H. Witney, W.M. 561; G. Thompson, J.W. 1744; J. C. Sampson, D.C. 1564; F. H. Wear, 1185; H. Buckeridge, J.W. 1658; H. Dunstan, P.M. 1326; Saml. H. Ballard, W.M. 1622; C. H. Wade, 1185; W. Dawson, S.W. 1622; W. R. Barr, W.M. 1632; R. Chattey, P.M. 2271; Wm. Chattey, 2271; W. F. Sarjeant, J.D. 1297; E. C. Chandler, I.G. 2369; J. Chubb, 1706; F. Mash, Steward 1539; D. J. Robinson, 1867; S. J. Derham, P.M. 1622; C. L. Plant, W.M. 101; Tom Powley, 2032; and C. H. Stone, P.M. 507.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. H. Bluff was raised to the Sublime Degree by the W.M., and the ballot was taken for Bro. Chas. J. Robinson, 1897, as a joining member, which proved unanimous in his favour. Bro. A. W. Le Cren vacated the chair in favour of Bro. T. R. Cass, I.P.M., who rehearsed the installation ceremony in a most impressive and faultless manner, Bro. G. Pike, J.W. and W.M. elect, being installed into the chair of K.S. in a large Board of Installed Masters to the number of 20. The officers for the ensuing year were invested as follows: Bro. A. W. Le Cren, I.P.M.; E. A. Rice, S.W.; T. G. Hobbey, J.W.; W. H. Morson, P.M., Treas.; H. A. Stunt, P.M., Sec.; W. R. King, S.D.; H. Cornford, J.D.; T. Tucker, I.G.; John Hooper, P.M., D.C.; E. Hesse, Org.; W. T. Tempest and A. Heseckiel, Stewards; and J. Whiteman, Tyler. The balance-sheet as audited was presented, received, and adopted, and showed the lodge to be in a flourishing condition.

The business of the lodge ended, it was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent repast.

The cloth removed, the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were presented by the W.M. right royally, and were received in the same loyal spirit.

In giving the toast of "The Pro G.M., Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. stated they were most efficient officers, and carried out their respective duties for the benefit of the Craft.

Bro. A. W. Le Cren, I.P.M., next presented what he considered the toast of the evening—that of "The W.M." He was afraid he could not do the W.M. justice, for he had shown himself so competent, and had made a very rapid advancement in the lodge. He was already a Preceptor in a lodge of instruction, and he (the I.P.M.) was confident he would prove as good a Master as any of his predecessors, and the lodge would lose none of its lustre under his able guidance. If the brethren would only bring him worthy gentlemen for initiation they would have a Masonic treat in his able working.

The toast was drunk most enthusiastically.

Bro. G. Pike, W.M. (who received quite an ovation), said if there was one duty he would wish to be relieved of it was the replying to the toast, proposed so kindly by Bro. Le Cren and cordially received by the brethren. For such flattering terms expressed it placed him upon his mettle to follow such a Master as the I.P.M.—an ornament to any lodge. His utmost endeavour would be to uphold the prestige of the Blackheath Lodge. For such hearty and cordial greetings he thanked all most heartily.

The W.M. next presented the toast of "The I.P.M.," for whom he had the deepest regard, and whom he hoped to emulate. A very pleasing duty now devolved upon him in presenting the handsome jewel, so unanimously voted him in recognition of his excellent services in the chair. None were more proud than himself in handing the jewel to Bro. Le Cren, not only for valuable services rendered, but also to mark an epoch in his life of having been a member of the Blackheath Lodge for 21 years, which also constituted him the oldest member of the lodge present.

In reply, Bro. Le Cren tendered his sincerest thanks, and said the year of office had been one of very great pleasure to him. His professional duties had necessitated his absence more than he desired, and had taxed the esteemed late I.P.M., Bro. T. R. Cass, very much indeed. He would now thank him for his great kindness in performing the duties during his absence, which was always most cheerfully given, and specially for the installation ceremony so perfectly rendered. The jewel he had been presented with was the first he had ever donned, and he trusted he should wear the same to the day of his death. For such a testimony of their good will he most sincerely thanked them.

The Worshipful Master, in presenting the toast of "The Visitors," remarked that it was one which the brethren of the Blackheath Lodge always gave with great cordiality. There were several distinguished and influential brethren present, and he trusted that they would at no distant date honour the lodge with their presence. He would ask the brethren to drink to it in bumpers.

Bro. Dunstan, P.M., stated the delight it gave him to be present at the kind invitation of the I.P.M., who had worked the Third Degree most impressively. It was always a pleasure to be a visitor in the Blackheath Lodge to witness its working and such a fraternal feeling which pervaded.

Bro. Plant, W.M. 101, also was honoured in being present to witness the installation of the W.M. so efficiently performed by Bro. Cass, P.M. It certainly was a Masonic treat to witness such working.

Bros. Ballard, W.M. 1622, and Witney, W.M. 561, most ably eulogised the working, specially the installation.

Bro. Wm. Dawson, P.M., S.W. 1622, thanked the W.M. most sincerely for coupling his name with the toast. He was present as also was Bro. Stone, P.M. 507 (respectively as Preceptor and Secretary of the Blackheath Lodge of Instruction) at the invitation of the lodge, for which he tendered his thanks. His labour in the Blackheath

Lodge of Instruction was a labour of love, and whatever he had done as Preceptor of that flourishing lodge in the past would be most cheerfully accorded in the future.

The W.M. next proposed "The Health of the Installing Master, Bro. T. R. Cass," who was a very great favourite in the lodge; in fact, beloved by all. He (the W.M.) felt a great honour conferred upon him—first he was introduced into Freemasonry by Bro. Cass, and now installed into the chair of K.S. also by him. The lodge had increased considerably through his exertions, and, above all, the Charities of our noble Institutions had also profited greatly at his hands. He could say much more, but time at present would not permit.

The toast was drunk most rapturously.

In reply, Bro. Cass said he had to thank the W.M. for such generous sentiments expressed towards him as Installing Master, and also to the brethren for such a reception of what he considered but feeble efforts. The ceremony of installation did require a large amount of attention, and the first time he heard it, when installed by Bro. H. A. Stunt, P.M., the worthy Secretary, it so deeply impressed him, that at the end of his year he installed Bro. E. Cren. He had hoped the W.M. would have been installed by the I.P.M., and really had no thought of being called upon to perform it the second time. However, he had done his best, and he thanked all for their kind acceptance of the same. His opinion was that any worthy brother who had worked up to and filled the position of W.M. should do his very utmost to give the crowning touch of installation, which contained the very pith of Freemasonry. He again most heartily thanked the brethren for their cordial greetings.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was next honoured.

Bros. Morson, Treas., and Stunt, Sec., responded, promising the continuance of their support to the lodge to maintain its efficiency.

The W.M. next gave the toast of "The Officers" in eulogistic terms.

Bros. Rice, S.W., and Hobbey, J.W., ably replied.

The Tyler's toast closed a most happy meeting.

An excellent programme of music was given under the able directorship of Bro. F. E. Choveaux, ably assisted by Madame Alice Sampson, Miss Bessie Spells, Bros. T. Powley, T. W. Turner, T. G. Hobbey, J.W., and S. J. Derham (flautist). Bro. Choveaux ably presided at the piano.

King Harold Lodge, No. 1327.

The regular meeting of the above lodge was held at the Four Swans Hotel, Waltham Cross, Herts, on Thursday, the 15th inst. Present: Bros. W. S. Metcalfe, W.M., in the chair; J. Mark, I.P.M.; J. Priddle, S.W.; H. Park, J.W.; W. A. Sprout, Treas.; T. Reilly, Sec.; W. Bangs, S.D.; H. Trask, P.M. 2372, P.G.S. of Wks., J.D.; J. Robinson, P.M., P.P.G.W., D.C.; Platt, I.G.; Witte and Holdsworth, Stewards; Lewis, P.M.; Holdsworth, P.M.; Bilby, P.M.; Blackmore, P.M.; Bickel, P.M.; Metcalfe, P.M.; Smith, P.M.; Robinson, Shepherd, Hodgson, Newman, Jackson, Carter, Brant, W. J. Nash, Blackburn, Sharp, Cohen, F. Godfree, S.W. 2372; Harwood, Clifton, Fairhurst, Antcliff, A. J. Williamson, I.P.M. 2518, P.G. Std. Br.; Burgum, Rutherford, and Chittenden. Visitors: Bros. McInerney, P.M. 2346; Mascall, 1652; Thompson, 1586; Ainsley, 765; Leaman, 217; Jacobs, 205; and Boggis, 1804.

The lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. Three gentlemen were balloted for, and the ballot proving unanimous in their favour, they were regularly initiated. The candidates were Messrs. Wm. Passfield, Joseph Brown, and George Parnell. Bro. W. J. Nash was then passed, the W.M. performing the ceremony in excellent style, which elicited high commendations from the brethren. Two gentlemen were proposed as candidates for next meeting. The Secretary read the report of the Herts Masonic Charity Committee, which was ordered to be inserted in the minute-book. This concluded the business, and the lodge was closed.

The brethren adjourned to supper, provided by the new host, Bro. W. J. Nash.

During the intervals between the toasts there was some good harmony, and the Tyler's toast brought a very successful and pleasant meeting to a close.

Clausentum Lodge, No. 1461.

The above lodge paid a late, though well-deserved, compliment to Bro. Admiral Martin, their first W.M. and founder, on Wednesday, the 14th instant. Some months ago a founder's jewel was voted him by the lodge, and it was hoped he would have been able to attend at their October meeting to receive it, but a severe illness not only prevented his being present, but has made it impossible for him to attend for some months to come. In consequence of this, the lodge appointed their W.M., Bro. A. B. Khoss, together with Bros. Chapman, Methven, Brown, and Dr. Ehrmann, to wait upon him at his residence, Bitterne Lodge, Bitterne, and make the presentation.

On assembling there, Bro. Methven, the Secretary of the lodge, made a few remarks, explaining the intention of the brethren, and thanked him, in their name, for the great interest he had taken in the lodge since its foundation.

The W.M., in presenting the jewel, said that the members had heard with great regret of his illness, and expressed their hope for a speedy recovery. They would always owe him a deep debt of gratitude, not only for his services as their first Master and founder, but also for his kindly presence and assistance on many occasions. He hoped that the jewel would recall to him many happy memories of brethren, with whom he had worked, and that he would long be spared to wear it and continue his attendance.

The other brethren testified to the great services of Bro. Admiral Martin, and stated that the lodge's present success was due to his exertions in its earlier days.

Bro. Martin, in returning thanks, spoke of the difficulties encountered in the early days of the lodge, expressed the pleasure it gave him as its first W.M. to note its success, impressed upon the deputation the necessity of the careful election of candidates and members, and while thanking them all sincerely for the compliment paid him, expressed a hope that he would soon be present at lodge to thank them in person.

Bro. Admiral Martin was initiated in the Watford Lodge, Hertfordshire, by special dispensation, in 1849, and took his Second and Third Degrees at Malta, where he afterwards held the position of Deacon. He joined the Royal Gloucester Lodge, Southampton, in 1866, and only severed his connection with it in 1875, when he became W.M. of the Clausentum Lodge. He was elected a second time W.M. of that lodge in 1877, and was appointed P.S.G.W. of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, in 1880, by the present P.G.M., Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P. Turning to his naval career, we find that he joined the navy as a volunteer of the first class in 1842, in the Craysfoot, and on being transferred to the Vernon, he landed a party of seamen at Monte-Video to defend it when beleaguered by the forces of General Rosa. After serving in other vessels, he was appointed to the Medea as lieutenant in 1848. In 1853 he joined the Terrible, and as its senior lieutenant, took part in all those operations in the Black Sea, which earned for that vessel the commendations of both Sir James Dundas and Lord Lyons. The latter said that no vessel was more distinguished or did better service than the omnipresent Black Sea Cat, as the Russians called the Terrible. After further services he was employed in the suppression of the slave trade on the Coast of Cuba, and at Fort Monroe during the Civil War of the States. He was promoted captain in 1865, and retired from the Active Service List in 1873; was promoted Rear-Admiral in 1873; Vice-Admiral in 1888; and Admiral in 1893. He is a J.P. of the County of Hampshire, and represents South Stoneham on the County Council.

Isle of Axholme Lodge, No. 1482.

The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Crowle, on the 20th instant. Present: Bros. J. Hemingbrough, W.M.; H. L. Burtonshaw, I.P.M.; W. S. Scholey, S.W.; J. Franks, J.W.; T. Staniforth, Treas.; G. S. Tyack, S.D.; J. Lee, Org.; J. W. Cundall, I.G.; M. Dowson and G. Barratt, Stewards; W. Burtonshaw, P.M.; J. Constable, P.M.; C. Fox, P.M.; and G. Naylor, P.M., Tyler.

The lodge was opened, and the ballot was taken for Mr. A. E. Brock, which proving successful, he was initiated, the whole of the work being splendidly done by the W.M., who clearly showed himself no "book-Mason."

After lodge the brethren adjourned to the Court Room, where Bro. Cranidge had provided a substantial supper.

Sir Francis Burdett Lodge, No. 1503.

This lodge held a meeting at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, on the 14th instant. Among those in attendance were Bros. W. Fisher, P.P.G.T., W.M.; E. W. Davis, I.P.M., as S.W.; A. Brown, J.W.; J. T. Briggs, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Treas.; Capt. F. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G.S.B., Sec.; Dr. J. Hinton, M.A., Mus. Doc.,

P.M., P.P.G.O., S.D.; H. Bright, J.D.; E. Tompsett, acting I.G.; A. Toulmin, jun., P.P.S.G.D.; and G. Harrison, Tyler.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. A. Macchi, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M.; J. T. Brigg, P.M., Treas.; G. Harrison, Tyler; and E. Tompsett, Auditor. A vote of thanks was passed to the W.M. and a Past Master's jewel voted to him in recognition of his services during the past year. The resignation of Bro. Col. R. Cuming, P.M., was received with regret. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. A. Macchi, S.W.; the Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, P.M., P.P.G.C., Chap.; Capt. R. Perry, P.M.; and others. The lodge was then closed. A banquet followed.

The usual toasts were proposed in happy and genial terms by the W.M.

Bro. A. Toulmin, jun., responded on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers," Bro. E. W. Davis, P.M., for "The Past Masters," and Bros. J. T. Briggs, Brown, Dr. Hinton, and H. Bright for "The Officers."

The brethren then separated.

Hemming Lodge, No. 1512.

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on the 15th inst., when there were present, among others, Bros. J. W. Clarke, P.M., P.A.G.P. Middx., as W.M.; W. Hopkins, S.W.; P. Cronin, J.W.; J. C. Jessell, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G.S.B., Sec.; Gale, J.D.; C. Davis, I.G.; G. Ransford, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., D.C.; H. Wheatley, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., Stwd.; W. Spearing, P.M., P.G.S.B.; W. Fisher, P.M., P.P.G. Treas.; and J. Gilbert, Tyler. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Mr. F. Tarrant, and it being unanimous, he was duly and impressively initiated by the acting W.M. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. G. J. Tagg, W.M.; C. Wheatley, S.D.; A. F. Scholding, P.M.; and others. The name of a candidate for joining was proposed and seconded. The lodge was then closed. Refreshment followed labour, and the usual toasts received full justice.

In response to his health, the initiate expressed himself as being thoroughly satisfied with the step he had taken that evening. He had to thank his friend, Bro. W. Spearing, P.M., for having proposed him. It appeared to him that Freemasonry was a great institution, and the principles taught by it were pure and noble to a degree. He hoped to become a good member, and a frequent attendant at both the lodge and convivial board.

Bros. Spearing, P.M., and G. Ransford, P.M., responded on behalf of "The Past Masters," and Bros. J. C. Jessell, P.M., W. Hopkins, S.W., and H. Wheatley, Stwd., for "The Officers."

During the proceedings several of the members and their guests instrumentally and vocally entertained the brethren.

Abercorn Lodge, No. 1549.

The last meeting of the season of the above lodge was held at the Royal Abercorn Hotel, Great Stanmore, on the 7th instant. Bro. C. J. Veal, W.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. Blackburn, I.P.M.; Conway, S.W.; Winterbottom, J.W.; E. Bamford, P.M., Treas.; C. Veal, P.M., Sec.; F. S. Winkley, S.D.; R. E. H. Fisher, J.D.; W. Taylor, I.G.; J. Percival, Tyler; W. Mansfield, P.M.; C. Tolman, P.M.; R. W. Bilby, P.M.; Bull, Hilsden, F. Gurney, Overhead, Bleaney, J. Gurney, J. Hayes, Westcott, Jones, R. Woodman, A. Withers, A. Harris, Dickson, Webb, S. Lea-Smith, H. Grinling, F. Tootell, W. Woodman, G. Cheshire, and J. S. Bailey. The following visitors were also present: Bros. Wilton Smith, I.P.M. 19, Sec. 2396; G. Coleman, P.M. 1425; J. S. Gridstein, 2265; F. Harris, 1805; A. Toovey, P.M. 1541; and J. Hill, P.M., Sec. 1702.

The lodge having been opened by the W.M., the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for five candidates for initiation, three of whom were present, viz., Messrs. Joseph Harris, James Eldred, and James Widmer. These were each initiated. Bro. Hy. Grinling, having proved his efficiency, was prepared for the Third Degree and ably passed, the full traditional history being given by Bro. S. Lea-Smith, P.M. Bro. C. J. Veal, W.M., having made the usual inquiries, received "Hearty good wishes" from the visiting brethren, and also notice of several candidates for the next meeting. Prior to closing the lodge, a very agreeable ceremony was performed by Bro. John Blackburn, I.P.M., assisted by Bro. E. Bamford, Treas. This was the presentation of a beautifully-illuminated framed testimonial to Bro. C. Veal, P.M. and Sec., together with a small token of the regard of the brethren, whose names are added to the testimonial, as some recognition of his services for over 21 years. Bro. C. Veal, with much emotion, duly acknowledged the kind words which had been expressed, and accepted the souvenir with gratitude.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren partook of a dinner such as is usually prepared at the Abercorn Hotel. Comment would be flattery, as it is notorious that none know better how to provide refreshment after labour than host and hostess Veal.

Æsculapius Lodge, No. 2410.

A most successful and enjoyable installation meeting was held at the Café Royal, Regent-street, on the 14th instant, when there was a very full attendance of members. Bro. G. Crawford Thomson, M.D., W.M., presided, supported by Bros. W. Anthony Nutt, S.W.; W. J. D. Best, P.M., acting J.W.; Rev. W. Harrison, M.A., Chap.; J. Pickett, M.D., P.M., Treas.; Thomas Dutton, M.D., P.M., Sec.; E. H. Ezard, M.D., S.D.; H. W. Kiallmark, P.M., J.D.; J. Brindley James, P.M., D.C.; E. Clarke, M.D., Org.; H. G. Blackman, I.G.; E. S. Ball and M. Cheale, Stewards; Thomas Shepperd, acting Tyler; J. Davies, M.D.; W. C. Dring, P.P.G.D.; L. Wilde, M.D.; G. Herschell, M.D.; A. B. Alexander, G. Rowell, F.R.C.S.; C. M. Simpson, J. Bosworth, J. Startin, F. Fowler, W. Arbuthnot Lane, M.S.; H. P. Simpson, W. C. Blaker, P.M.; T. H. G. Wrightson, and H. J. Sharpe. Visitors and Hon. Members: Bros. Rev. R. J. Simpson, M.A., P.G.C.; Ralph Gooding, M.D., P.G.D.; F. Lawrence, W.M. elect Cavendish Lodge, P.A.G.D.C.; E. H. Cartwright, 357, P.P.G.P.; W. E. Wailes, 404; T. Stonnill, 1366; G. Taylor, W.M. 171; J. Wallraf; W. Dothridge, 1356; F. Lloyd Palmer, 2054; A. Milner, 867; Dere William and Albert Fox, 1706.

The lodge was duly opened, when the minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. J. Campbell Maclean, M.D., C.M. Ed., P.P.S.G.W. Wilts, was elected a joining member. A very satisfactory balance-sheet was distributed to the members, which, on the motion of Bro. Ezard, was unanimously passed and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Bro. Brindley James, P.M., D.C., then presented Bro. Thomas Dutton, M.D., P.M., W.M. elect, to receive at the hands of the W.M. the ceremony of installation, which was performed in a very perfect manner by Bro. G. Crawford Thomson, W.M., who afterwards gave the addresses. The newly-installed W.M. appointed and invested the following officers: Bros. G. Crawford Thomson, M.D., I.P.M.; Edward H. Ezard, M.D., D. Sc., S.W.; H. W. Kiallmark, P.M., J.W.; Rev. W. Harrison, M.A., Chap.; G. Danford Thomas, M.D., Treas. (elected); J. Pickett, M.D., P.M., Sec.; H. C. Blackmore, S.D.; Montague Cheale, J.D.; Montague Simpson, D.C.; E. Clarke, M.D., I.G.; E. Stock Bell, A. B. Alexander, and W. Arbuthnot Lane, M.S., Stwds.; J. Davies, M.D., Org.; and S. Ellis, P.M., Tyler (elected). The business of the lodge was then proceeded with. Several propositions for initiation were received, and a number of letters of regret for inability to attend were read by the Secretary, among those from Bros. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W.; Edward Letchworth, G. Secretary; Thomas Fenn, P.G.D., P. President of the Board of General Purposes; A. Cooper, W.M. 859 and 2546, P.G.D.; and Professor G. Hare Philipson, M.D., D.C.L. The W.M. presented Bro. G. Crawford Thomson, I.P.M., with a Past Master's jewel, and, in doing so, he said, although the lodge had been fortunate in having exceptionally good Masons as Masters, none had ruled the lodge better or rendered the ritual more perfectly than Bro. Thomson, and he (the W.M.) felt a great support in having an I.P.M. who he could always rely upon in case of difficulty. Bro. Thomson made a suitable reply, and thanked the brethren for the gift.

A banquet followed, which fully maintained the reputation of the Café Royal. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured in an adequate manner. Bros. Fox, Herschell, and Kiallmark entertained the brethren between the toasts, and added much to the pleasure of a very pleasant meeting.

Lancastrian Lodge, No. 2528.

The installation meeting of this young and prosperous lodge was held at the Frascati Restaurant, on the 14th inst., when Bro. James J. Marsh was re-elected to the chair of King Solomon. The members present included Bros. Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., acting I.P.M.; R. J. Railton, S.W.; W. H. Booth, J.D.; Thomas Evans, Treas.; T. H. Openshaw, F.R.C.S., Sec.; R. H. Hampson, LL.B., B.A., Stwd.; A. Jones-Roberts, and Patrick, P.M., Tyler. Visitors: Bros. A. Gibbs, 1872, P.P.G. Treas. Surrey; S. M. Worthington, 1350; H. J. Clipperton, 508, P.M. 180; C. E. Everett, 869; F. B. Beck, I.G. 2272; Morgan, T. H. Mills, and others.

After the opening of the lodge and confirmation of minutes of the previous meeting, Bro. J. J. Marsh was re-installed as W.M. by Bro. Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., in his usual masterly manner. After he had been proclaimed and saluted, the W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bro. R. J. Railton, S.W.; T. H. Openshaw, F.R.C.S., J.W.; Rev. T. S. Raffles, M.A., P.P.G. Chap., Chaplain; Thomas Evans, Treas.; H. Horrocks, M.D., B. Sc., Sec.; W. H. Booth, S.D.; R. H. Hampson, LL.B., B.A., J.D.; Peter Horrocks, M.D., P.M., D.C.; R. Maguire, M.D., Org.; J. R. Hosker, I.G.; G. W. Taylor and A. F. Penny, Stwds.; and Patrick, P.M., Tyler. A number of apologies were received from absent brethren, and after "Hearty good wishes" the lodge was closed.

The brethren adjourned to a *recherche* banquet, presided over by the genial W.M., who proved himself a thorough Master of the art.

The preliminary toasts having been disposed of, Bro. Marsh, W.M., proposed "The Health of the M.W. Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom, the R.W. Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past." He said no man was more beloved than Lord Lathom. Two years ago, when that lodge was consecrated, his lordship was first Master, and ever since had taken the greatest interest in its welfare. He had just received a letter from him saying how sorry he was in not being able to attend at the installation, and wishing the lodge every success. He felt it difficult to follow such an I.P.M. who had Masonry at heart, and that lodge in particular.

"The Installing Master" was proposed by the W.M., who said in Bro. Brownrigg they found a marvel of electricity in his work, so beautifully rendered as Installing Master.

Bro. Railton, S.W., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said Bro. Marsh had been elected for the second time. Last year he carried out his duties so well that this year, by the unanimous wish of the brethren, he was again in the chair. They owed a debt of gratitude to the W.M., who had done his very best for the comfort of the lodge in every way; by his genial manner he had overcome obstacles, and he had done it to the satisfaction of the brethren, he had therefore the greatest possible pleasure in proposing the toast.

Bro. Marsh, W.M., in returning thanks, said, to be again their W.M. was a great pleasure to him. Lancashire was a county they all need be proud of, associated as it was with their beloved Queen. The little he had done had been a labour of love. The officers were jolly good fellows, and anything he could do for the benefit of the Lancastrian Lodge he would do with all his heart.

The W.M. next proposed "The Officers of the Lodge."

Bro. Railton, S.W., in reply, said the lodge was not a large one, being a representative one restricted to Lancashire men, to whom they would always give a hearty welcome.

Bro. Openshaw, F.R.C.S., echoed in similar language.

The W.M., in giving "The Masonic Charities," said Charity was the great virtue impressed on every Mason from the time he entered.

The W.M. next proposed "The Visitors." They were always pleased to see visitors amongst them and to do their best for their comfort. He hoped they had had a pleasant evening, both at the lodge and banquet.

Bro. Gibbs, in reply, said he presumed he was responding for the visitors in particular, and being a very old friend of their esteemed W.M., he was very pleased to be present. The prosperity of a lodge depended on the firmness of the Master. He wished he had been present earlier in the evening, and to have listened to Bro. Brownrigg's installation ceremony. He heard him install Lord Onslow, Prov. Grand Master of Surrey, and it was a Masonic treat. His experience told him it was better to have one working only. When visiting South Africa a little while since he visited one or two Dutch lodges, and was greatly impressed with their beautiful rendering of the ritual; it was of ancient date. He advised any brother when visiting South Africa to see for themselves how beautiful and impressive it was carried out.

Bro. Everett also replied, endorsing the remarks of Bro. Gibbs as regards the working of the ritual. It was a common occurrence in visiting lodges to hear Preceptors say that or this mode was not according to our working. He quite agreed with Bro. Gibbs that there should be one ritual only. He congratulated the brethren on having such a good man and Mason installed for the second time into the chair of King Solomon. He had known him many years, and the more they knew of him the more they would like him.

Bro. Worthington replied for the Lancashire lodges in a true Masonic spirit. Although a young Mason he had Masonry at heart, and hoped to become a joining member.

The Tyler's toast brought to a close a very happy meeting.

The proceedings throughout were enlivened by excellent vocal and instrumental music.

Royal Arch.

Chapter of Emulation, No. 40.

The installation meeting of this chapter was held at the Castle Hotel, Hastings, on Monday, the 10th inst. There were present Comps. W. Carless, M.E.Z.; G. H. Gaze, H.; A. E. Young, J.; G. Randell, S.E.; H. Boyce, S.N.; F. W. Hotham, P.S.; H. A. Stratford, 1st A.S.; F. Rossiter, P.Z., P.P.G.P.S., Treas.; J. Baker Guy, Org.; C. E. Botley, P.Z., Prov. G.J.; R. Hughes, P.Z., P.P.G. Std. Br.; W. T. Jordan, P.Z., P.P.G. Std. Br.; W. H. Russell, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B.; C. W. Duke, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N.; T. Trollope, P.Z., P.A.G.S., Prov. G.H.; H. W. H. Elwes, P.Z., P.P.G.H. Suffolk; F. Duke, Percy Beer, L. V. St. John, H. C. Wilson, J. T. Edmed, J. B. Foster, W. S. Allen, and J. Foster, Janitor. Visitors: Comps. V. P. Freeman, P.G. Std. Br., Prov. G.S.E.; H. Pearce, M.E.Z. 811; A. Lloyd, M.E.Z. 732; J. Bray, and J. Pearce.

The chapter having been opened, and the minutes of the previous convocation read and confirmed, Comps. G. H. Gaze was duly installed M.E.Z.; A. E. Young, as H.; and F. W. Hotham, as J. The M.E.Z. afterwards invested the following officers: Comps. P. Beer, S.E.; H. Boyce, S.N.; F. Rossiter, P.Z., Treas.; G. Randell, P.S.; H. A. Stratford, 1st A.S.; J. Baker Guy, Org.; and J. Foster, Janitor. Comp. Boyce having intimated his intention of going up as Steward for the Old People in February next, the sum of five guineas was voted for his list. The Treasurer read the report of the Audit Committee, which showed the chapter to be in a flourishing condition.

All business being ended, the companions sat down to an excellent banquet, which reflected the greatest credit on Comp. Boyce's catering, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

Industry Chapter, No. 48.

The annual convocation of this thriving chapter was held on Thursday, the 8th inst., at the Industry Masonic Hall, Gateshead, for the installation of the Principals and investment of officers. The proceedings were opened by Comps. R. H. Holme, M.E.Z.; R. Stewart, H.; and W. J. Jobson, J., who were assisted by Comps. T. R. Jobson, P.Z.; Wm. Brown, P.Z., D.C.; M. Corbitt, P.Z.; R. Whitfield, P.Z.; C. B. Ford, P.Z. 481; John Usher, P.Z. 481; Wm. M. Lyon, P.Z. 495; and others.

The installations then followed, when Comp. R. Stewart was installed as M.E.Z. by Comp. W. Brown, P.Z.; Comp. W. J. Jobson as H. by Comp. Stewart, M.E.Z.; and Comp. Hugh Jackson as J. by Comp. W. J. Jobson, H. The Treasurer's report was afterwards received and adopted, showing a balance of more than £16 in favour of the chapter. The investment of officers then took place as follows: Comps. R. H. Holme, I.P.Z.; W. Stafford, S.E.; W. C. A. Holzappel, S.N.; Wm. Dalrymple, Treas.; Alfred Simpson, P.S.; A. Dodds, 1st A.S.; T. A. Moffitt, 2nd A.S.; Wm. Brown,

P.Z., D.C.; R. Ferry, Org.; H. H. Pitt, Steward; and J. Curry, Janitor. There were six propositions for exaltation, which augurs well for the prosperity of next year.

After the usual good wishes, the chapter was closed, and those present adjourned to the banquet room, where the annual festival was enjoyed.

Jerusalem Chapter, No. 185.

A meeting of this chapter was held at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on the 13th inst. Among those present were Comps. Eisenmann, M.E.Z.; Blankley, H. elect; Hill, J. elect; G. Davis, P.Z., S.E.; Witthaus, S.N.; Harfeld, P.Z., Treas.; Hambley, P.S.; Dr. Frye, P.G.S.B. Bucks, I.P.Z.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C.; Nathan Moss, J.P., P.Z.; Cleghorn, P.Z.; and F. C. Edmunds, P.Z., Janitor. Comp. Tuck, H. elect 201, was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. At the request of the M.E.Z., Comp. Dr. Frye took the chair, and ably installed Comps. Blankley and Hill respectively as Second and Third Principals. The resignation of Comp. J. Mander, P.Z., was received with regret. The chapter was then closed.

A banquet followed, after which the customary loyal and Royal Arch toasts were duly honoured.

The I.P.Z., in proposing "The Health of the M.E.Z.," expressed a hope that at the next meeting Comp. Eisenmann would have an opportunity of performing the ceremony of exaltation. He (the speaker) felt confident that the work would be ably performed.

The M.E.Z., in his reply, said that it was a difficult matter to follow in the footsteps of so many excellent workers in the Royal Arch Degree as the old Jerusalem Chapter possessed. However, he hoped to acquit himself to their satisfaction, with the valuable assistance of such excellent workers and Past First Principals as Comps. Dr. Frye, Harfeld, Cleghorne, Davis, and others.

Other toasts followed. For the first time for many years there was no vocal or instrumental entertainment, and the proceedings were somewhat tame in consequence.

Lion and Lamb Chapter, No. 192.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 21st inst., at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, when there were present Comps. John Taylor, P.Z., M.E.Z.; S. M. Banker, I.P.Z.; T. E. Biddlecombe, H.; W. H. Dunn, J.; George Kenning, P.Z., Treas.; F. D. R. Copestick, P.Z., S.E.; Frederick Hughes, S.N.; Robert Sarson, 1st A.S.; G. Grant, 2nd A.S.; Thos. Cohu, P.Z., D.C.; G. Couchman, Janitor; Dr. W. A. Dingle, P.Z.; Rev. T. Selby Henrey, Herbert Todd, George K. Durrant, David Ringrose, and Walter Fisher. Comp. Cooper, 496, was a visitor.

The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The following companions were elected officers for the ensuing year: Comps. T. E. Biddlecombe, M.E.Z.; W. H. Dunn, H.; Fredk. Hughes, J.; F. D. R. Copestick, P.Z., S.E.; T. W. Fisher, S.N.; George Kenning, P.Z., Treas.; Robert Sarson, P.S.; George Grant, 1st A.S.; William Baker, 2nd A.S.; Thos. Cohu, P.Z., D.C.; and G. Couchman, Janitor. A brother was proposed for exaltation at the next convocation, and the chapter was closed.

The companions afterwards dined together under the gavel of the M.E.Z., Comp. John Taylor. The pleasure of the evening was enhanced by the vocal ability of Comps. F. D. R. Copestick, Frederick Hughes, David Ringrose, and others.

Star Chapter, No. 1275.

The election meeting of this prosperous and influential chapter was held at the Guildhall Tavern on Tuesday, the 27th inst. Present: Comps. H. W. P. Makeham, M.E.Z.; Wm. Eckersall, H.; C. H. Stone, P.Z., J.; Woolmer Williams, P.Z., Treas.; Thos. Grummant, P.Z., S.E.; J. H. Edwards, S.N.; W. R. Barr, acting P.S.; Hy. Hardman, 2nd A.S.; C. N. McIntyre North, P.Z., D.C.; C. Patrick P.Z. 1623, Janitor; Chas. Meierhoff, P.Z.; Jas. Addington, P.Z.; G. G. Elliott, P.Z.; Wm. Cowley, P.Z.; G. G. Benedetti, P.Z.; J. H. Witty, Wm. H. Smith, and Angelico Cogliati. Comp. R. J. Wishart, P.Z., P.D.G.H. Malta, was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Bro. Angelico Cogliati, W.M. 1559, which proving unanimous, he was exalted most impressively by Comp. Thomas Grummant, P.Z. (by the courtesy of the M.E.Z.), he being a great friend of the exalte. The historical and symbolical lectures were ably rehearsed by Comps. C. H. Stone, J., and Wm. Eckersall, H., respectively. The election of officers for the ensuing year was as follows: Comps. W. Eckersall, H. M.E.Z.; W. R. Barr, H.; Hy. Hardman, J.; Woolmer Williams, P.Z., Treas.; T. Grummant, P.Z., S.E.; C. N. Mc I. North, P.Z., D.C.; Targett, S.N.; J. H. Witty, P.S.; Wyatt, 1st A.S.; and C. Patrick, P.Z., Janitor. A Past Principal's jewel was voted to Comp. H. W. P. Makeham, M.E.Z., for able services rendered the chapter, on his retiring from the chair.

The business of the convocation ended, it was closed, and the companions adjourned to a capital repast, which was much appreciated.

On the removal of the cloth, the M.E.Z. gave the customary loyal and Royal Arch toasts.

The M.E.Z. having proposed "The Grand Officers,"

Comp. Stone, I.P.Z., upon rising to present the toast of "The M.E.Z.," remarked upon the amount of zeal which had been shown towards the chapter by him, and his attendance was as regular as his many professional engagements would allow him. He had always conducted the affairs of the chapter to the utmost of his ability, and thoroughly deserved the Past Principal's jewel which had been voted him by the chapter. All heartily desired to see him wear it for many years to come.

The toast was drunk most cordially.

The M.E.Z. most heartily thanked the I.P.Z. for his very kind remarks, and to the cordial reception by the companions. It had always been a source of very great pleasure to attend to the duties of the Star Chapter, and specially during the past year, holding the exalted position of its First Principal. His time would always be devoted for the benefit of the chapter so far as his duties would allow.

The toast of "Co-Principals, H. and J." was ably given by the M.E.Z., who stated they were two such excellent companions, Comp. Eckersall, H., had done his duties remarkably well, and fully justified the choice of the companions in the selection of their First Principal. Of Comp. C. H. Stone, J., and also Past Principal of the chapter, every one knew his capabilities and the very perfect manner he performed his duties.

Comp. W. Eckersall, H., M.E.Z. elect, in reply, returned his sincere thanks for the honour done him in electing him to the chair of M.E.Z. He accepted the same with some amount of misgiving, as the office required a very great study. He trusted the companions would kindly overlook his many shortcomings; he had done his best, and would endeavour to do the same to uphold the prestige of the chapter.

Comp. C. H. Stone, J., stated he was very proud of having filled the position of J. for the second time, and especially during the year of his having been I.P.Z. Circumstances had occurred which caused it, and he was delighted to have kept the chair in readiness for Comp. Hy. Hardman, who was initiated with him in the Crichton Lodge some 16 years ago. The chapter had elected two worthy Companions—W. R. Barr and H. Hardyman—to the respective chairs of H. and J., and they had every confidence of the work being carried out in a very perfect manner during the coming year. He (Comp. Stone) felt in relinquishing the position of J. he would take his seat at the lowest among the Past Principals of the chapter, which was a position honourable and one to be coveted.

The M.E.Z. next presented the toast of the evening—"The Exalte." He said said he was a very worthy brother and W.M. of the New Cross Lodge. He had shown his capabilities in the lodge, and all were convinced he would prove an excellent companion. The one great fault of the exalte was his extreme modesty, but the members of the Star Chapter would help him to overcome that difficulty, and would render him the assistance he required to aspire to the position of M.E.Z. All gave him a most cordial welcome.

Comp. Cogliati, who seemed quite overcome with such a greeting, said he felt quite at home seeing so many worthy brethren of the New Cross Lodge around him. He was certainly much impressed with the splendid ceremony, and should do his utmost to advance the chapter by mentioning to his worthy brethren the hearty manner in which he had been received.

The toast of "The Visitor" was given by the M.E.Z., who remarked quality was the order of the evening. Comp. Wishart, who was a very old Mason and companion to many for a number of years, had honoured the chapter once more. He had visited the chapter before he left England for Malta, and now the companions most heartily greeted him again.

Comp. Wishart, in reply, said it gave him very great pleasure to be present among old friends and brethren of some 18 years' standing. He hoped his professional duties would allow him to be stationed near London, and it would be his desire, if circumstances permitted, to be proposed as a joining member of so distinguished a chapter.

The toast of "The Past Principals" was most ably placed before the companions by the M.E.Z., who remarked the honour he felt in being supported by no less than nine. All had done such excellent service; he would ask the companions to drink to the toast most cordially.

In reply, Comp. W. Williams, P.Z., Treasurer, said, holding such an honourable position in the chapter, he was much indebted to the companions for such, and he felt very proud. As the senior Past Principal, he was under many obligations, and should be very ungrateful if he did not offer his services to the chapter, which he hoped would be at its disposal for many years to come.

Comp. T. Grummant, P.Z., S.E., also thanked the companions for their hearty greeting to the Past Principals. As S.E. he would endeavour to perform his duties to the utmost. He had many pleasing reminiscences of the chapter, and looking down the long vista of time—some 18 years—he had filled all the offices up to the chair of M.E.Z. His services had been appreciated, and now as S.E. he would continue to perform the duties thereof to his utmost. He felt the position of Past Principal and S.E. a very honourable one. He must thank the M.E.Z. for the privilege of allowing him to exalt his old friend, Comp. Cogliati, and he trusted other members of the New Cross Lodge would offer themselves and increase the numbers of the chapter, in whose service he hoped to continue for many years.

The toast of "The Officers" was next given in appropriate terms.

Comps. Barr and North ably responded.

The Janitor's toast closed a very happy meeting.

Some capital harmony was rendered by Comps. North, Smith, and Stone.

Willesden Chapter, No. 2489.

The installation meeting of the above chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, the 21st instant, when Comp. O. Claude Robson was installed as M.E.Z., Comp. E. R. Bartley Denniss as H., and Comp. C. Borradaile as J. The installation ceremony was entirely carried out by Comp. Capt. T. C. Walls, P.Z., A.G.D.C.

At the banquet which followed, Comp. Wellsman, on leaving the chair of M.E.Z., was presented with a very handsome P.Z.'s jewel and also a magnificent silver punch bowl bearing the following inscription: "Presented to Comp. Walter Wellsman, P.M., P.Z., as a token of esteem and regard by the Founders of the Willesden Chapter, No. 2489, of which he was the first M.E.Z., 1895-1896."

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

PROSPERITY LODGE, No. 65.

The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 21st inst., at the Weavers' Arms, London Wall, E.C., when there were present Bros. Greig, W.M.; Butcher, S.W.; Spencer, J.W.; D. Harlow, P.M., Preceptor; J. Smith, P.M., Sec.; William Baker, S.D.; Saunton, J.D.; Cuzner, I.G.; Harris, P.M.; Parr, Collins, Robeson, Lloyd, Bullworthy, Callingham, and Shipman.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Robeson being the candidate. The W.M. then opened the lodge in the Second Degree, and Bro. Callingham answered the questions leading to the Third Degree, but was not entrusted. The W.M. then opened the lodge in the Third Degree, when Bro. Bullworthy was raised to the Degree of M.M. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree, and afterwards closed.

A further meeting was held on Wednesday, the 28th instant, when, at the close of the business, it was announced that the annual dinner would be held at their place of meeting—the Weaver's Arms, 17, London Wall—on Wednesday, the 11th prox., and the hope expressed that all the members and other brethren wishing to attend on that occasion would apply to the Secretary (Bro. H. T. Meadows) at the above address for tickets, price 3s. 6d., not later than the 4th prox., as not more than 50 brethren can be comfortably seated. There is the promise of a very successful and pleasant evening for all able to attend.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 27th instant, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. G. R. Carsberg, W.M.; C. Nicole, S.W.; J. E. Thomas, 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.; C. T. Rayner, S.D.; M. Mirov, J.D.; W. F. Roberts, I.G.; C. W. Rayner, A. F. Hardymont, C. Smith, A. E. Armfelt, E. J. Harrison, C. Is'er, H. R. Bower, J. Amand, R. P. Upton, P.M., E. A. Wagstaff, G. J. Hanson, L. Danielsson, W. Rapley, G. Yexley, A. Oliver, P.M.; M. Tuck, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Essex, Knapp, and H. B. Harding, P.M.

The lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Danielsson being the candidate. The ceremony of passing was afterwards rehearsed, Bro. Amand being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and closed in the Third and Second Degrees. Bro. Nicole was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. A vote of thanks was accorded to the W.M. for his services in the chair for the first time. 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 23rd inst. Present: Comps. C. N. McNorth, M.E.Z.; W. Eckersall, H.; C. Plant, J.; T. Grummant, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, P.Z., S.E.; G. Benedetti, P.Z., S.N.; W. R. Barr, P.S.; Cornford, Hardman, C. G. Marcus, Cureton, Edwards, Lewis, Wilcox, and Kirby.

The chapter was declared open, and the minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Cornford personating the candidate. Comp. C. Geo. Marcus, 1593, was elected a member. Comp. North, M.E.Z., gave a highly interesting lecture upon Holy Royal Arch Masonry, for which he received the thanks of the chapter. The business of the chapter ended, it was closed.

Knights Templar.

Mount Calvary Preceptory (D).

A meeting of this encampment was held at the Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn Fields, on the 9th inst., when there were present, among others, Sir Knights Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., E.P.; H. Hills, J.P., 1st Constable; B. Stewart, 2nd Constable; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.G.C. of Guards, P.E.C., P.E.P., Reg.; J. R. Carter, Std. Br.; Egbert Roberts, Org.; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.E.C., P.E.P.; H. J. Lardner, P.E.C., P.E.P.; L. Steele, P.E.C., P.E.P.; Nelson Prower, M.A., P.E.C., P.E.P.; and H. Lindus.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Comps. Christian Horst and Joseph Owen were duly installed as knights of the Order by the E.P., with the assistance of Sir Knight L. Steele, acting Prelate. Sir Knight Harris Hills was unanimously elected E.P., Sir Knight Lieut.-Col. F. J. Stohwasser, P.G.S.B., Treas.

and Sir Knights Stewart and Carter, Auditors. A Past Preceptor's jewel was voted to the Eminent Preceptor. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Sir Knights Lieut.-Col. F. J. Stohwasser, Treas.; B. Johnson, Marshal; J. H. Thomas, G. Graveley, P.E.C., P.E.P., and others. Sir Knight H. F. Bromhead was, at his request, placed on the country list for the present. The preceptory was then closed.

A banquet followed, which was served in a manner that reflected the greatest credit on the management.

The E.P. presided in an able manner. From him, to whom impromptu speaking is by no means a difficult task, the members of this old preceptory or encampment expected much, and they have not been disappointed during his occupancy of the chair.

In proposing the numerous toasts, the E.P. was very felicitous. In giving the toast of "The Past Preceptors," he paid a high compliment to them all, particularly referring to Sir Knights Lardner and Steele, who were each excellent exponents of the ritual. In concluding, he mentioned the fact that one of that distinguished body—Sir Knight Nelson Prower—would in a few days sail for an island of historic fame, namely, Cyprus. He trusted that the separation would not be for long. In the name of them all, he wished their highly-respected colleague a *bon voyage* and a speedy return to old England.

Sir Knight N. Prower responded in an emotional speech. He was followed by Sir Knights F. W. Driver and H. J. Lardner.

"The Treasurer and Registrar" came next, and this pledge was acknowledged by the latter.

Sir Knights Stewart, Carter, and Roberts responded for "The Officers."

During the proceedings Sir Knights Egbert Roberts, the E.P., H. Hills, and F. W. Driver entertained the members, the latter's paper on a recent tour to Russia being particularly interesting and worthy of a more than passing compliment.

Our Portrait Gallery.

COMP. DR. H. W. P. MAKEHAM, M.E.Z. 1275,

is well-known and respected in the neighbourhood of New Cross, S.E., where he resides. His professional duties bring him in contact with many, by whom he is greatly appreciated. He was initiated in the New Cross Lodge, No. 1559, in 1885, served all the offices, and was unanimously elected to the chair of



W.M. in 1894, the duties of which he carried out in an exemplary manner. During his Mastership he acted as Steward to the Boys' Institution, of which he is a Life Governor, taking up a goodly list. In 1887 he was exalted in the Star Chapter, No. 1275, and after filling all the offices with credit, he was installed its M.E.Z. Under his able guidance the chapter is carried on most successfully.

THE QUEEN held a Council at Balmoral on Monday, at which there were present Viscount Cross, G.C.B., Lord Privy Seal, Bro. the Duke of Fife, K.T., and Lieut.-Col. Sir Fleetwood Edwards, K.C.B. Parliament was further prorogued till the 10th December. H.R.H. Princess Louise (Duchess of Fife) and Bro. the Duke of Fife lunched with her Majesty, and in the afternoon returned to Mar Lodge.

WORTH KNOWING.

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

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Masonic and General Tidings.

BRO. J. C. PARKINSON has left England for a tour through India.

BRO. THOMAS MURRAY JAMES has been elected the Renter Warden of the Painters' Company.

THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE will be held at Cambridge on Monday, the 23rd prox., under the auspices of the Isaac Newton University Lodge.

THE QUEEN will leave Balmoral for Windsor Castle on the 7th or 14th of next month, and on the 18th December will go to spend Christmas at Osborne, and remain there for about two months.

THE 35TH anniversary banquet of the Warrant Holders to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales will take place at the Hôtel Métropole on Monday, the 9th proximo, when Bro. Major Herbert Lambert, V.D., will preside.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES has forwarded a donation of £30 in aid of the Extension and Improvement Fund of Queen Charlotte's Lying-in Hospital, Marylebone-road, of which her Royal Highness is a Vice-Patron.

MESSRS. GOWANS AND GRAY, Glasgow, and Messrs. S. W. Partridge and Co., London, will issue immediately a new handy-sized illustrated Bible, containing 135 views, from photographs of the Holy Land. The prices will be 3s., 4s. 6d., and 6s. net.

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL Southwark and Lambeth Free Loan Picture Exhibition at Red Cross-street, Southwark, was opened by the Bishop of Rochester, on Saturday afternoon last. Among those who have lent oil paintings are her Majesty the Queen and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

A LIFEBOAT SATURDAY demonstration was held for the first time in Coventry, on Saturday last, when a most enthusiastic reception was given to a crew from West Hartlepool, who manned a cyclist lifeboat. The various trade benefit and philanthropic societies, took part in the demonstration.

THE SECOND-CLASS CRUISER Diana, which was built by the Fairfield Shipbuilding Company, of Glasgow, returned to Chatham on Saturday last after successfully completing her official trials, at which she attained a mean speed of 19.72 knots per hour under natural draught and 20.16 knots under forced draught.

TO-MORROW (Saturday) the Commander-in-Chief, Bro. Lord Wolseley, will open the newly-erected Head-quarters and Drill Hall of the Tower Hamlets Royal Engineers (Volunteers) in Victoria Park-square. His lordship will arrive at 6.30 p.m., and will be accompanied by Bro. Lord Methuen, Sir Francis Grenfell, General Salmond, and other officers.

THE EXECUTORS of the late Bro. Sir Augustus Harris have made arrangements for the fancy dress balls to commence at Covent Garden Theatre about the 18th prox. They will be on exactly the same magnificent scale as hitherto, and the ballroom will represent Canton *en fête*. Mr. Bruce Smith, the celebrated scenic artist, is now busy on the work.

THE MIDLAND RAILWAY COMPANY announce that, following the policy which they adopted some time ago of providing pillows for the convenience of passengers in the night trains, they have now decided to further add to that convenience by supplying rugs to passengers during the cold weather at a nominal charge of sixpence each. The arrangement will come into force at St. Pancras on November 2nd.

A TRIAL WAS MADE on the Horse Guards Parade, Whitehall, on Saturday last, of one of the London Electric Omnibus Company's carriages. The vehicle ran very smoothly and the vibration was practically nil. As soon as the Horseless Carriages Act comes into force, which will be next month, the company will run several of their omnibuses between Liverpool street and Hammersmith, and on other lines.

THE LYCEUM THEATRE was filled from floor to roof on Saturday afternoon last, with an enthusiastic audience assembled to witness Bro. John Hare's impersonation of Eccles in the play of "Caste." The theatre had been lent for the purpose by Bro. Sir H. Irving, and at the close Bro. Hare delivered a brief speech of farewell for a time, and expressed his great acknowledgments to the audience for their reception.

THE DIRECTORS of the Crystal Palace have decided to give a short series of the Saturday Classical Concerts after Christmas, commencing on the last Saturday in February, after the close of Wulff's Circus, and terminating with Mr. Mann's annual benefit concert on March 27th. In April a longer series of popular Saturday afternoon vocal and instrumental concerts will be commenced, also under the direction of Mr. August Manns.

PRINCESS LOUISE, MARCHIONESS OF LORNE, who was accompanied by the Marquis of Lorne, distributed the prizes at the Royal School for Daughters of Naval and Marine Officers, at St. Margaret's, Isleworth, on Saturday last. The house in which the school is located formerly belonged to the Kilmore family, and the ceremony took place in the spacious entrance hall, a vote of thanks to her Royal Highness terminating the proceedings.

THIS BEING the Jubilee year of the National Chrysanthemum Society, it will celebrate its 50th show with a remarkable display of the rarest chrysanthemums, and an exhibition of magnificent fruits, vegetables, and flowers from all parts of the Empire. Two enormous floral shows of two days each, to be held at the Royal Aquarium, and to continue on the 3rd and 5th of November. A sight never previously witnessed, and may, perhaps, never be seen again.

IN THE LIFE of Bro. Archbishop Magee, just published, appears, amongst many other extremely interesting letters, one written to Bro. Major Henry Wright, P.M. 1827, under the heading of "Christian Socialism," and *apropos* of a sermon preached at the Chapel Royal St. James's Palace in 1889. In another letter, Bro. the (then) Bishop of Peterborough alludes to the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone at that sermon, and he adds that Mr. Gladstone should not have looked so "venomous, considering the good instruction he then gave him."

SEVERN END MANSION, near Malvern, the historic abode of the Lechmere family, was discovered to be on fire on Saturday morning last, and in spite of all the efforts that were made to subjugate it, the building with its valuable collection of manuscripts and family relics was totally destroyed. It was an interesting specimen of a timber-framed house, its internal work of embossed ceilings and oak panelling dating back to the reign of Henry VII., and being in an excellent state of preservation. The place was given to the Lechmere family at the time of the Conquest.

THE TRIENNIAL HANDEL FESTIVAL will take place at the Crystal Palace next June, and the directors on Wednesday definitely settled the list of the chief artistes engaged. The sopranos are Mesdames Albani, Ella Ru-sell, Clara Samuelli, and Nordica; and the contraltos Madame Marion McKenzie, and Miss Clara Butt. Mr. Lloyd is the only tenor, and Messrs. Santley and Andrew Black are the baritones. Mr. Walter Hedcock will play an organ concerto, and Mr. Manns will conduct a band and chorus of 3500 performers. The public rehearsal will take place on June 11, "Messiah," June 14, the "Selection" June 16, and "Israel in Egypt" June 18.

BRO. SIR HENRY IRVING laid the foundation-stone of the new library which is about to be erected in Lordship-lane, Dulwich, at the corner of Woodward-road, at an estimated cost of £5834, the site having been given by the Estates Governors of Dulwich College, while Bro. J. Passmore Edwards has munificently contributed £5000 towards the building fund. At Bro. Edwards's wish the library will remain always as a memorial of Edward Alleyn, the Elizabethan actor, and founder of Dulwich College. Among those present at the ceremony were Miss Ellen Terry, Bro. Sir Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., Bro. Sir J. Blundell Maple, M.P., and Lady Maple, the Committee of Public Libraries and Museums, and many of the leading inhabitants of Dulwich and the neighbourhood.

EXTRACT FROM A LECTURE ON "FOODS," BY DR. ANDREW WILSON.—"The consumption of cocoa happily increases year by year. I say 'happily,' because, as tea and coffee are not foods, while cocoa is a true food, any increase in the national nutrition means an increase in the national prosperity. Winter, besides, is close upon us, and I advise those who are susceptible to colds to fortify themselves against chill by attention to their food. The easiest way of effecting this end for many is to substitute cocoa (Epps's being the most nutritious) for tea and coffee."

THE MERCERS' COMPANY has sent a donation of 100 guineas towards the funds of the Additional Curates' Society.

THE HERTS COUNTY COUNCIL held a meeting on Monday, when Bro. Earl Cowper, the Chairman, moved a resolution complimenting the Lord Mayor elect on his appointment.

THE BRITISH WARSHIPS, Trafalgar, Hood, Hawke, Nile, Collingwood, and Astrée arrived at Athens early in the week under the command of Rear-Admiral Hawes, and will remain till further orders.

WE HEAR ON AUTHORITY that Bro. Alderman Walter Vaughan Morgan, P.M. (Treasurer of Christ's Hospital), will be nominated at the December Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge for the office of Grand Treasurer for 1897.

AMONG THOSE WHO sent wreaths to the funeral of the late Sir Albert Sassoon, at Brighton, on Tuesday, were Baron Rothschild, Lady Augustus Hervey, and Lord Battersea, while H.R.H. the Prince of Wales sent a letter of condolence.

LADY GERARD, who recently had a fall and sustained a fracture of the collar-bone, when hunting with the Quorn at Lodge-on-the-Wolds, is progressing satisfactorily, but it will be some time before her ladyship will be again able to take part in the chase.

THE CONSECRATION of the Lewisham Lodge of Instruction will take place on Wednesday, December 9th, at the Parish Hall, when Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.L., has kindly promised to work the ceremony of consecration and installation at 6.30.

THE INAUGURAL BANQUET took place in the Masonic Hall of the Trocadero Restaurant on Thursday, the 22nd instant, which has been fitted up by Messrs. George Kenning and Son with every convenience for the use of the lodges dining at the restaurant—*City Press*.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON has been translated to the Archbishopric of Canterbury, and to-morrow (Saturday) afternoon will open the Pepsy House Mission Hall and Club, which has recently been erected in Rochester-row, Westminster, by the munificence of the Baroness Burdett Coutts.

THE AGENT-GENERAL for Western Australia has received a telegram from the Colonial Treasurer to the effect that the revenue of the Colony for the 12 months ended the 31st September, 1896, was £2,222,021, as compared with £1,235,904 for the previous year, the increase being £986,117.

THE KING AND QUEEN OF ITALY gave a grand banquet to the Diplomatic body at the Palace of the Quirinal in Rome on Monday in connection with the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Naples, who were present, while on Tuesday there was a grand review of some 20,000 troops of all arms in Rome in honour of the same event.

MR. MCCONNELL and Bro. Loveland Loveland, Chairman and Deputy Chairman respectively of the Quarter Sessions for the County of London, have accepted the invitation of the members of the Middlesex Sessions Bar to dine with them at the Trocadero Restaurant, to-morrow (Saturday), in celebration of their recent appointment to those offices.

AT THE RECENT show of the Royal Horticultural Society at the Drill Hall, Westminster, the Queen contributed a beautiful exhibit consisting of a large group of winter flowering zonal pelargoniums from Windsor, to which a silver Banksian Medal was awarded. A silver-gilt Banksian medal was also awarded to Bro. Earl Percy, who exhibited, in addition to several dishes of apples and pears, a handsome group of crotons.

ON HIS RETIREMENT from the office of Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Bro. the Earl of Derby has received a unanimous vote of thanks from the City Council for his services, the speakers, in moving, seconding, and supporting the vote, declaring that Liverpool had never had so good a Mayor before. His lordship has also returned the £2000, the emoluments of his office, with the suggestion that the sum should be devoted to local charities.

IN OUR REPORT of the installation meeting of the Lewisham Lodge, No. 2579, we omitted to mention that Bro. Edward Hall, Secretary of the lodge, was the recipient of a very handsome gold-mounted umbrella, presented by the first W.M., Bro. Christopher Sims, at the banquet held subsequent to the meeting. A letter was also read from Bro. Sir Matthew White Ridley (on behalf of her Majesty the Queen) expressing her thanks for the resolution of congratulation sent by the brethren of the Lewisham Lodge.

THE PRINCESS CHRISTIAN OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN visited Brighton on Tuesday for the purpose of opening a bazaar and sale of work at the Royal Pavilion in aid of the Albion Hill Home for the reclamation of young women. Her Royal Highness having lunched with Bro. Gerald Loder, M.P., and the Lady Louis Loder, drove to the Pavilion, where she declared the bazaar open, and made the round of the stalls. Subsequently she visited the Police Seaside Home at Hove and St. Mary's Hall, a school for clergymen's daughters, at King's Town, and, after partaking of tea, attended a concert in the schoolroom.

THE LORD MAYOR ELECT, Alderman George Faudel-Phillips, attended with the Sheriffs and City officials at the House of Lords on Monday for the purpose of receiving from the Lord Chancellor (Bro. Lord Halsbury) an intimation of the Queen's approval of his appointment as Chief Magistrate of the City of London. In conveying this approval, Bro. Lord Halsbury was pleased to congratulate the Alderman, and laid particular stress upon the fact that the late Sir Benjamin Phillips, father of the Lord Mayor elect, had filled the same office some 30 years ago.

THE EARL OF MEATH, in the unavoidable absence through indisposition of the Countess of Meath, opened a three days' bazaar in the Parish Room of St. Matthew's, Wandsworth-road, Stoke Newington, on Monday. There was a large attendance, and, in the course of his address, the vicar stated that the object of the bazaar was the enlargement and improvement of the school buildings. It was hoped to provide additional accommodation for at least 179 children. This would cost about £1000, and £600, including £50 from the Marquis of Salisbury, had already been collected.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. PASSMORE EDWARDS.—Bro. J. Passmore Edwards, of London, has been presented with the honorary freedom of the borough of Liskeard, in recognition of his gift of a cottage hospital and free library to the town. The Mayor (Mr. W. H. Stanton) presented to Bro. Edwards the certificate of freedom, which was enclosed in a solid silver casket (gilded), and spoke in eulogistic terms of that brother's many generous gifts to his native county of Cornwall. Bro. Passmore Edwards afterwards opened the free library, a handsome building in the centre of the town, which has cost about £2000. The cottage hospital was completed and presented in April last. Bro. Passmore Edwards is thus the first honorary freeman ever elected for Liskeard.

"I DREAM THAT I DWELT IN MARBLE HALLS" will be the pleasing fancy to every one who first crosses the threshold of the gorgeous Trocadero Restaurant, which now holds such a proud and enviable position in the "New London" starting into life round and about Piccadilly Circus. But instead of the "vassals and serfs" of the old song we shall find a warm and hospitable welcome from the courteous and spirited proprietors, Messrs. J. Lyons and Co., Limited, and the proverbial attention and personal comfort ever extended to the public by these well-known caterers and restaurateurs. The basement floor is devoted to the grill room, with the buffet, smoking, reading, and billiard rooms. The entrance floor is occupied by the grand restaurant, with its golden minstrel and great gallery in the style of Louis Quatorze, and attached to the gold hall and gallery is a splendid adjacent saloon in the style of Louis Quinze. Small but deliciously cosy dining rooms surround these splendid public rooms. The first floor of the new Trocadero is another welcome surprise, consisting as it does of a ball room, a banquet hall in the Empire period—a most admirable reproduction—and an ante-room in the style of Louis Treize. On the gallery level, at the top of the grand staircase, will be found a reception room, again in the style of Louis Treize; a magnificent Masonic lodge in the period of Francois Premier, with, of course, the necessary ante-rooms for the comfort and convenience of the brethren of the Craft. Full particulars can be had on application at the Trocadero, Piccadilly Circus.

MARRIAGE.

LIGHT—EVERETT.—On the 29th instant, at St. James's, Piccadilly, by the Rev. F. W. Parkes, M.A., Edward Fall Light, of Kensington, to Alberta Charlotte, third daughter of Bro. George Everett, P.G. Treas., of "Claremont," Clapham.