

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;
RIGHT HON. LORD SALTOUN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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THE APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The first great Anniversary Festival of the year will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, the 24th inst., when his Royal Highness the Duke of CONNAUGHT and STRATHEARN, K.G., Past G.M., Prov. G.M. Sussex, and Dist. G.M. Bombay, will preside as Chairman and plead the cause of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. There is, therefore, time for us to take a last look round and note the amount of success which has attended the efforts of Bro. TERRY, the Secretary of the Institution, and his able staff, in constituting the Board of Stewards and the prospects which may seem to await us of a return of contributions that shall be worthy of so memorable a year and so exalted a President, and at the same time sufficient for the requirements of so deserving a Charity. As regards the Board of Stewards, we have the pleasure of announcing that in point of numbers it beats last year's record of 400, there being as recently as the afternoon of Thursday, the 17th instant 401 ladies and brethren who have volunteered their services for the occasion. As regards the amount of the contributions to which we are so anxiously looking forward, we can do no more than repeat what we said a fortnight since, that a record Board of Stewards does not necessarily imply a record total of donations and subscriptions, and therefore we can only express a hope that the aggregate sum it will be our privilege to announce next week, will, as far as possible, correspond with the number of those who have volunteered to raise it. We are content with knowing that all who are engaged to take part in this celebration will put forth their utmost efforts in order to ensure its success. They know, and the Craft generally is alive to the fact, that the benefits dispensed by our Benevolent Institution are on a scale of considerable magnitude. Its permanent income is about £5500, its fixed expenditure about £19,000, and it is to the proceeds of this annual gathering that the Committee of Management are under the necessity of looking for the wherewith to make good the large annual deficit. The amount distributed in annuities alone—irrespective of the expenses of Management and the cost of maintaining the Asylum at Croydon—is about three times that of the permanent income, there being 200 male annuitants at £40 each; 242 widow annuitants at £32 each; and some 30 widows receiving half

their late husbands' annuities, that is, £20 each. Moreover, we now know that there are 117 candidates on the lists of candidates, with only 31 vacancies including the three deferred on each fund, and in the event of the Returns on Wednesday next substantially exceeding the sum actually required for the year's expenditure, it is possible that the Committee of Management may feel themselves justified in creating, as they did 10 years ago, a few additional annuities by way of commemorating the Diamond Jubilee of her Majesty the QUEEN.

As regards the circumstances under which this particular Festival in aid of the Benevolent Institution will be held, it may not be out of place to repeat them. In the first place, it is the year in which the QUEEN, the Grand Patroness of the Institution, will complete the 60th year of her reign, and when we know that all classes, Institutions, and Societies throughout the British Empire are busily arranging to commemorate this auspicious event, we see no reason why the English Masons, who are known everywhere for their loyalty, should not put forth some special effort in behalf of their Charitable Institutions. In the second place, the Chairman on Wednesday next will be one of the QUEEN'S sons, and is himself a most devoted member of our Order. It is, therefore, in accordance with the fitness of things that the Craft should respond with more than its usual generosity to the appeal which his Royal Highness will make on Wednesday on behalf of our aged and infirm poor brethren and their widows. We have heard of lodges having made special contributions in honour of the great event which will make the year 1897 memorable in the annals of England, and we know there are others to which appeals are being addressed, inviting them to go and do likewise in proportion to their means; and it is because we have heard and know of these special votes and special appeals, that we are looking forward with some degree of confidence to the result which it will be our duty, as well as our privilege, to publish in next week's issue. May it then be demonstrated most clearly and emphatically that this confidence has not been entirely without justification!

THE GRAND LODGE OF IDAHO.

We have been favoured with a copy of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Idaho, at its 29th annual convocation in September of last year, and from the report herein contained, as well as the statistical tables appended we have been enabled to glean a considerable amount of interesting, if not instructive, information. It is, of course, not to be expected that after so brief an existence this Grand Lodge should be in a position to make any great exhibition in respect of numbers or funds. The lodges on its roll are only about 30, including two at present under Dispensation; the aggregate of its subscribing members is between 1100 and 1200, while its funds are on a proportionately moderate scale. But, to judge from the Address which the then Grand Master, Bro. ISIDORE S. WEILER, delivered on this occasion, there must be a good deal of vitality in the Craft in the Western State, while at the same time it is clear that the lodges and brethren are not particularly well informed as to the rights and privileges they are supposed to enjoy and the duties they are expected to perform. We say this because among the numerous questions which were submitted to Grand Master WEILER during his term of office are included several which cannot otherwise be described than as frivolous. We take the following at random from the questions which

Bro. WEILER announces he received, and to which he returned decisions. In one case the J.W. of one of the lodges asked the G. Master if they were under the necessity of recognising "as a Mason's daughter one whose husband is a profane but whose father is a Master Mason, but living apart from his family." To this the Grand Master smartly replied that "the relationship of father and daughter never ceased," and with this oracular utterance we presume the querist was satisfied. In a second case a lodge requested to be informed if a W.M. who had served for two years and been re-elected "could install the officers elected for a new term and consequently install himself." Bro. WEILER was equal to the occasion and pointed out that a P.M. or W.M. who had been installed could install his officers but not himself, but that if a W.M. had been elected to succeed himself, he remains in office until his successor shall be duly qualified. In a third case the Grand Master was asked if officers could be installed "without first opening the lodge," the inquiry emanating in this particularly frivolous query from a P.M. of the premier lodge in the jurisdiction. On another occasion the question was submitted as to whether or not a lodge could "rent their hall or lodge-room to the Order of Elks on such nights as will not conflict" with the stated meetings of Masonic bodies. To us such an inquiry as this seems most absurd. If the premises belong to the lodge we presume they can rent it to whom they please and for any purpose, provided, of course, that the purpose does not create a nuisance to the general public or an annoyance to the occupants of neighbouring premises. But there is a good deal of grandmotherly fuss about small matters in many of the American Masonic jurisdictions, and the Grand Master with the necessary solemnity decided (1) that before renting the hall or room, a pledge must be exacted that it should be so rented only for Charitable purposes; and (2) that every lodge must be presumed to have "the entire control of its lodge-room, subject to the Constitution and By-laws of this Grand Lodge. In yet another case Grand Master WEILER was requested to decide whether or no a candidate who was a resident in the State of Idaho, and had been initiated in a lodge in Montreal under the Grand Lodge of Quebec, could, if found worthy to become a member of a certain Idaho Lodge, be passed and raised to the Second and Third Degrees respectively. Here we are naturally on delicate ground. The question of jurisdiction according to the American notion is involved. We are not, therefore, surprised to find that the Grand Master decided, firstly, that the lodge in Montreal had done wrong—had violated the jurisdictional rights of the private Idaho lodge referred to and the Grand Lodge of Idaho—and that it had no right to have initiated an Idaho resident; and consequently that the Idaho private lodge could not recognise the said candidate as an Entered Apprentice, and had no right to advance him. In fact, everything and everybody would appear to have been in the wrong, with the result that the unfortunate candidate who suddenly exhibited a desire to be initiated during his temporary residence in Montreal, must remain henceforth and for ever an Entered Apprentice, and is strictly forbidden the opportunity of making any further progress in Masonry. One further decision remains to be noticed, and may be stated thus—A member of Lodge A, in indifferent circumstances, met with an accident, by which he sustained serious injuries—a broken arm, two broken ribs, and a broken finger being amongst those enumerated—within the jurisdiction of Lodge B. The latter made inquiries, and having been told that the unfortunate brother was in good standing, did the proper thing by having him medically attended and nursed, and then did the improper thing by sending the bills for nursing to the mother Lodge, the charges amounting to 80 dollars (£16.) The latter demurred, and pointed out that the unfortunate man was certainly on its roll of members, but was in arrear with his subscriptions to the extent of 50 dollars (£10.) The case was referred to the Grand Master, who decided that the injured brother, though in arrear, was in good standing, and that the Mother Lodge must pay the charges for nursing incurred by Lodge B. The decision will create no feeling of surprise among those who know that it is an article of the Idaho Masonic faith that every lodge must take care of its own members; and if it cannot do so, then the duty devolves upon the Grand Lodge; providing the lodge furnishing relief does not go "beyond

actual necessities without express authority from the lodge to be charged." But though this may be the idea of Idaho Masons of "brotherly love and relief," we trust it will not be allowed to prevail elsewhere. Otherwise, farewell to our boasted Masonic Charity.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF DERBYSHIRE.

The annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Derby, on Tuesday, the 9th inst., under the presidency of the Prov. G.M., Bro. Abraham Woodiwiss, J.P., &c., with whom were Bros. E. C. Milligan, Dep. Prov. G.M.; John Walker, P.P.S.G.W., as Prov. S.G.W.; John H. Orme, Prov. J.G.W.; Joseph Cook, Prov. G.M.O.; Jas. Diamond, Prov. S.G.O.; Joseph H. Cooke, Prov. J.G.O.; Rev. C. W. Groves, Prov. G. Chap.; Rev. S. C. Hayward, Prov. G. Chap.; W. Cooper, Prov. G. Treas.; Percy Wallis, P.G. Treas., Eng., P.P.S.G.W., Prov. G. Sec.; T. E. Yeomans, Prov. S.G.D.; J. Gladwin, Prov. G.I. of W.; W. H. Marsden, Prov. G.D.C.; W. H. Fisher, Prov. G.S.B.; R. H. Griffin, Prov. G. Std. Br.; W. Broadbery, Prov. G. Org.; A. R. Price and W. S. Bass, Prov. G. Stwds.; and J. Johnson, Prov. G. Tyler.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form by the Prov. G.M., and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, after which the Pro G.M., Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, accompanied by the following Grand Officers: Bros. Col. W. Newton, Prov. G.M. Notts; C. F. Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec.; C. Belton, P.G.O.; C. Fendelow, P.G.O.; Percy Wallis, P.G. Treas.; W. Jesse Freer, Dep. Prov. G.M. Leicester, &c.; E. M. Kidd, P.G.D.; G. H. Parke, P.G. Stwd.; and W. L. Ball, P.G. Stwd., was announced, and all were received with the honours appertaining to their rank.

The general business of the Provincial Grand Lodge was then duly gone through, after which the Prov. Grand Master appointed his officers for the year as follows:

Bro. E. C. Milligan, P.G.I.G. Eng.	...	...	Dep. Prov. G.M.
" Y. C. W. Cavendish, M.P., P.G.W. Eng.	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" George Tarver	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" E. J. H. Hoskyns	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" Samuel Robinson	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" W. H. Smedley	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. S. C. Hayward, M.A.	...	...	} Prov. G. Chaps.
" C. W. Groves, M.A.	...	...
" William Cooper (elected)	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" William Whittaker	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Percy Wallis, P.G. Treas. Eng., P.P.S.G.W.	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" George Wild	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" Edward Stockton	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" H. M. Sudbury	...	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" W. H. Marsden	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" Tom N. Turner	...	...	Prov. A.G.D. of C.
" J. E. Sutton	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" William Baker	...	...	Prov. G. Sid. Br.
" Arthur Butt...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" James Cutting	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" J. H. Beckett	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" E. C. B. Saxby	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" Edward Coates	...	...
" W. Nunn	...	...
" W. J. Drinkwater	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then addressed the brethren, saying that he had every reason to be satisfied with the reports which had been received from the various lodges. He had the pleasure of attending each of the lodges during the past year, and felt sure that every effort had been made to perfect the working. He expressed pleasure that the lodges were paying attention to his remarks on a former occasion, and were not trying too much to get members, but were confining themselves to the right men. He said last year he had hoped that the number of lodges in the province would be increased, and that day they had increased by one, which all must agree had started under the most favourable auspices, with 20 well-known founders, and what was more, with one of the oldest Masons in the province as first Master, one whom they had looked up to for many years in Craft Masonry; then as to the Wardens, they, again, were Masons who had passed Craft chairs, and had received provincial honours long before the majority of those present had entered upon Masonry. To-day they had been favoured by a visit from the Pro Grand Master and his officers; they knew that the Earl of Euston's time was fully taken up in other parts of the country, so they must congratulate themselves that he had been able to attend on that occasion and consecrate the new lodge. It was not the first time he had been amongst them, and he thanked him very much for having so favoured the province, and he also thanked most sincerely the Officers of Grand Lodge who had visited them that day, and assured them all that the province was doing all in its power to keep up the Mark Degree. Years ago they did not muster so strongly as at present in Prov. Grand Lodge, which showed that the division of the province had improved its position. They had with them the Prov. G. Master for Notts, he believed this to be his first visit, but he hoped that he would see his way to come amongst them continually. He expressed the pleasure he felt in again seeing Sir John Smith there after his recovery from his long and serious illness, and he hoped that the G.O.O.T.U. would give him many years of health to continue his useful Masonic work.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet in the lower hall, under the presidency of the Prov. G. Master, who was supported by the Pro G. Master and Grand Officers, Prov. G. Officers and brethren, to the number of about 50, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were gone through, the Grand Sec. making an eloquent appeal on behalf of the Mark Benevolent Fund.

There were present in lodge besides those already mentioned :

Bros. Rev. H. J. Mason, Prov. G. Sec. Leicester and Rutland; John Howell, P.P.S.G.W.; Alfred Page, P.P.G.M.O. Notts.; J. W. Lumley, P.P.G. Stwd.; G. Wilkinson, P.P.J.G.W.; Francis Thompson, P.P.G.M.O.; W. L. Dodd, P.P.G. Org.; G. A. Caper, P.P.G. Org.; Sir John Smith, Sir Thomas Roe, J.W. 503; F. Iliffe, S.W. 503; J. O. Manton, P.P.G.O.; G. M. Bond, P.P.G.I. of W.; J. Jones, R. of M. 302; F. Stone, 353; Jno. Hassall, 302; C. Webster, P.P.G.D.; Thomas Hearn, P.P.G.I.G.; A. Fox, P.M. and Sec. 339; W. Spooner, 339; S. Stone, 302; C. F. Chamberlin, P.P.G.O.; Thomas Shipton, 302; J. G. Willis, 373; J. Marsden, 373; J. Littleton, W. C. Riley, 339; J. R. Gee, 302; E. T. Ann, 302; William Hart, Sec. 503; C. D. Hart, S.W. 302; W. Bennett, 302; S. Tinckler, 302; and others.

CONSECRATION OF THE WOODIWISS MARK LODGE, No. 503.

This new lodge, named after the Prov. Grand Master of Derbyshire, was consecrated at the Masonic Hall, Derby, on Tuesday, the 9th inst., by the Pro Grand Master, Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, assisted by Bros. C. Belton, P.G.O., as S.W.; Jesse Freer, Deputy Prov. G.M. Leicestershire and Rutland, as J.W.; Revs. C. W. Groves and S. C. Hayward, Prov. G. Chaps., as Chaps.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec., as D.C.; Fendelow, P.G.O., as I.G.; and Broadbery, Prov. G. Org., as Organist.

The ceremony was most impressively performed by the Pro Grand Master before a large assemblage of brethren.

A very able and interesting oration was delivered by Bro. the Rev. C. W. Groves, P.M., Prov. G. Chap., after which Bro. C. F. Matier duly installed Bro. W. H. Marsden into the chair of the lodge, who appointed Bros. Cooper as acting P.M.; Dr. F. Iliffe, S.W.; Sir Thomas Roe, J.W.; James Cutting, M.O.; E. Horne, Treas.; and W. Hart, Sec.

The preliminary business of the lodge was transacted, the W.M. received the hearty congratulations of the numerous brethren present and the lodge was closed in time for the subsequent meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge.

Great sympathy was felt for Bro. W. J. Piper's inability to attend, who had hitherto acted as Secretary *pro tem.* for the new lodge, sudden illness being the cause.

FUNERAL OF BRO. JOHN WILLIAMS.

The military funeral of Bro. John Williams, Company-Sergeant-Major in the Royal Artillery, took place recently at Bristol. The deceased, who was 45 years of age, died at the hospital from exhaustion following an operation. He had been in the Army 27 years, 12 of which he served in India. When he returned to England he was stationed at Plymouth, and subsequently came to Bristol, where for the past two years he had acted as instructor for the 1st Gloucestershire Volunteer Artillery. The interment was at Arno's Vale Cemetery. The head-quarter companies of the Gloucestershire Volunteer Artillery paraded some 230 strong, and marched to the hospital. Colonel Ord was in command, and the other officers present were Lieut. Swayne, acting adjutant; Captain Stevens, Captain C. H. Cave, Captain Worth, Lieut. Glasson, Lieut. Wise, and Surgeon-Lieut. Lansdowne (who attended the deceased during his illness). A gun carriage and team were kindly sent by Major Newbigging, R.A., commandant of the 63rd Field District, from Horfield, and upon this the coffin was placed. It was covered with the Union Jack, on which rested the deceased's sword and helmet, besides several wreaths. One of these was from the staff sergeants and sergeants, and another from the corporals and bombardiers. There was also a beautiful white cross from the widow. The order of procession from the hospital to the cemetery was—First the firing party, then the band, behind the latter came the gun carriage with the coffin, followed by the mourners, who were Colonel Ord, the widow and her two young children, the three brothers of the deceased, and three nephews. The officers and men of the corps brought up the rear. At Arno's Vale the service was conducted by the Rev. J. G. Alford, the Chaplain of the corps. After the service three volleys were fired over the grave, with the roll of drums between the volleys.

The deceased brother was initiated into Freemasonry in Eldon Lodge, No. 1755, meeting at Portishead, in the Province of Somerset.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The quarterly meeting of the General Committee of Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. James Henry Matthews, P.A.G.D.C., President of the Board of Benevolence, presiding. Bro. D. D. Mercer, P.G.P., Senior Vice-President of the Board, and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., Junior Vice-President, were also present. Bros. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., W. Lake, Asst. G. Sec., W. Dodd, G. S. Recknell, and H. Sadler, G. Tyler, represented the Grand Secretary's department. There were also present, Bros. Charles Dairy, Henry Garrod, George B. Chapman, George Graveley, George R. Langley, T. W. Whitmarsh, S. H. Goldschmidt, W. M. Bywater, Charles J. R. Tjouw, W. Kipps, H. W. Fraser, Robert A. Gowan, Walter Martin, E. W. Nightingale, James Bunker, Wm. F. Smithson, William Willey, J. V. Vesey Fitzgerald, T. Page, Henry L. Davis, H. W. Wybourn, R. W. Huntley, M. Spiegel, R. J. C. Cawse, W. J. Gray, C. M. H. Swan, John Skinner, Joseph Holland, H. Massey, F. V. Catt, C. Colwell, C. Duckett, W. T. Perkins, J. H. Westmoreland, H. Grant, J. Cox, O. Laman, C. Dowse, Walter Ginger, B. Dowsett, R. T. Cook, N. J. Turner, William H. Bourke, Henry J. Moxon, Fredk. Allen, W. Shackleton, A. Williams, Albert Clark, Charles F. Wachter, John R. Roberts, H. Vane Stow, J. Pritchard, C. Woodrow, W. S. Thwaites, Frederick Hughes, J. Balsdon, Samuel Robson, Samuel Johnson, George Parrett, R. Parish, W. G. King, W. Pillinger, Walter Sykes, S. T. Hunns, L. F. H. Lowry, Hugh Campbell, Henry P. Gilbert, W. G. Kentish, Arthur C. Doughty, and W. F. Beazley.

The paper of business for the Grand Lodge of March was submitted to the brethren, and the Scrutineers for the Porch were appointed. The Board of Benevolence was then held. The brethren first confirmed recommendations that the Grand Master made at the January meeting to the amount of £340. There were 39 cases on the new list, qualified through lodges in the London district and at Ripley, North Shields, Gibraltar, Belvidere, Honiton, Ramsgate, Colchester, Colchester, Guernsey, Newport (I.W.), Great Yarmouth, Eton, Demerara, Penang, Rugby, and Princetown. Three of these were deferred and three dismissed. The remainder were relieved with a total of £1000. One case was recommended to Grand Lodge for £60, and two for £50 each. Nine cases were recommended to the Grand Master for £40 each, and 10 for £30 each. Seven grants were made of £20 each, and four of £10 each.

The Craft Abroad.

CONSECRATION OF THE PROSPERITY LODGE, No. 2607, AT JOHANNESBURG.

On the 4th November a very interesting ceremony took place at Johannesburg in the consecration of a new lodge called the Prosperity, No. 2607 (E.C.), and the installation of Bro. David Moss as the first Worshipful Master, Bro. Moss being a P.M. of the Star Lodge, No. 1275, and for many years Preceptor of the Prosperity Lodge, No. 65, and various lodges in London. Bro. Moss is one of the leading sports in Johannesburg, and there is no question that he is very popular there amongst the Fraternity, always ready and willing to assist and give advice to those who need it from him. Masonry in Johannesburg has made wonderful progress the last few years, and now a great educational scheme is on the move, which Bro. Moss is taking a great deal of interest in.

Amongst the visitors at the ceremony were Bro. H. F. E. Pistorius, D. D. G. Master, and Grand Officers E.C.; W.Ms. of the different lodges and Constitutions; and numerous Past Masters. Bro. J. Da Silva, Dist. G. Sec., and P.M. of the Israel Lodge, No. 205, first Worshipful Master of the Barnato Lodge, No. 2265, London, and P.M. of the Gold Fields Lodge, No. 2478, was the Consecrating and Installing Officer.

Before proceeding with the ceremony, the CONSECRATING OFFICER called on Bro. the Rev. Canon FISHER, W.M. of the Transvaal Lodge, No. 1747, and Dist. G. Chap., to deliver an oration, when, in eloquent terms, he referred to the principles of Freemasonry, and earnestly alluded to the scheme which is on the move, namely, the education of Freemasons' children, strongly appealing to the brethren present to give the scheme their hearty support.

After the oration, the consecration of the lodge and installation was proceeded with. Bro. Moss was then duly installed and invested as the first Worshipful Master, and saluted as such by the brethren present in the several Degrees.

The W.M. invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. J. Da Silva, I.P.M.; Geo. Horwitz, S.W.; B. Lazarus, J.W.; A. N. S. Goldberg, Treas.; S. Lavine, Sec.; M. Patlausk, S.D.; A. Apfel, J.D.; P. Rosenthal, I.G.; J. Patlausk, Steward; and K. Klagsburn, Tyler.

During the evening the D.D.G.M. conferred on Bro. Moss the office of P.D.G.S.B.

The ceremonies were carried out in a most impressive manner by Bro. Da Silva, which was very pleasing to the brethren and visitors present. The brethren who assisted in the ceremonies were Bros. C. Aburrow, P.D.S. G.W.; Dr. H. Exton, D.J.G.W.; W. B. Boyes, D.G.T.; Rev. Canon Fisher, D.G. Chaplain; W. Dodds, W.M. 2481; A. Goldberg, W.M. 2478; and S. Hershfield, P.M. 2478.

After the interesting ceremony, the lodge being duly closed, the brethren retired to the banqueting hall, where an enjoyable few hours were spent at the festive board, and the heartiest fraternal good wishes were conveyed to the W.M., the brethren drinking in bumpers "Long Life and Success to the Prosperity Lodge, No. 2607."

Craft Masonry.

Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 60.

This lodge met at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 29th ult. Among those in attendance were Bros. H. J. Lardner, P.M. 1623, P.P.A.G.D.C. Surrey, P.G. Stwd., W.M.; W. H. Kempster, M.D., P.M., P.G.S., as S.W.; Debenham, P.P.G.O., J.W.; H. Young, P.M., P.G.S., Treas.; E. Rogers, P.M., P.P.G.D., P.G.S., Sec.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S., P.G. Std. Br., D.C.; H. Slade, P.M., P.G.S.; Joslin, P.M., P.G.S.; W. H. Kempster, jun., I.P.M., P.G.S.; and Evenden, Tyler.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Debenham, P.M., J.W., was unanimously elected for nomination by the M.W.G.M. as Grand Steward for 1897-8. The resignation of Bro. W. J. Hakim, P.M. 141, was received with regret, there being no by-law to enable him, as he desired, to remain as a non-dining member of the lodge. Communications regretting inability to attend were received from Bros. R. L. Loveland, J.P., P.B.G.P., &c.; S. Cochrane, P.G. Treas.; Chancellor, P.M., P.G.S.; and Barton, P.M., P.G. Stwd. The lodge was then closed.

The banquet which followed was well served under the personal superintendence of the courteous and attentive manager of the Tavern.

"The Health of the W.M." was fluently proposed by the I.P.M. In the course of his remarks he stated that he greatly regretted that there had been no candidate present that evening. Bro. Lardner was well-known to be a most excellent worker in all Degrees of Freemasonry, and it was to be hoped that before he left the chair of No. 60 some eligible candidate would present himself for initiation. Their W.M. at his installation had generously provided a most excellent musical entertainment, and had repeated his kindness that evening. In conclusion, he touched upon the great success that had attended the last Grand Festival, thanks to the efforts of the Board of Grand Stewards, and which distinguished body had the advantage of having Bro. Lardner as their Secretary.

This toast was received with acclamation. The W.M. having replied, then proposed "The Health of the Grand Steward Nominate." He said that Bro. Debenham, who had been unanimously elected that evening to fill the distinguished position, was an old and tried Past Master and a Past Provincial Grand Officer, therefore he would bring experience and ability to bear on the deliberations and efforts of the new Board. He (the W.M.) would always remember with pleasure his association with that Board, and the friendships that he had contracted therein. In conclusion, he trusted that Bro. Debenham would be equally as gratified and fortunate as he had been.

Bro. Debenham replied. The respective toasts of "The Past Masters," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers" terminated the proceedings, which were greatly enhanced by a varied musical programme under the management of the well-known baritone, Bro. Fowler.

Ancient Union Lodge, No. 203.

The annual installation meeting of the lodge was held recently at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, where there was an attendance of about 90 members and visitors. The ceremony of installation was performed in an effective manner by Bro. John Craig, who placed Bro. David Nicholson in the chair as his successor as W.M. for the ensuing year. The following brethren were invested as officers: Bros. John Craig, I.P.M.;

Arthur Walters, S.W.; Alfred Allsopp, J.W.; John N. Hounsell, P.M., P.P. A.G.D.C., Treas.; Benjamin Whalley, Sec.; Stephen Fletcher, S.D.; Thomas Fletcher, J.D.; William Hudson, Org.; John J. Christian, I.G.; Charles Birch, jun., John Thomas, William Lewis Arlett, and Alexander Mair, Stwds.; and B. W. Rowson, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., D.C.

After dinner had been served a musical programme was given by Bros. D. Davies, J. B. Antivis, S. Fletcher, W. Hudson, J. T. Jones, R. W. Jones, Ben Roberts, W. M'Lachlan, and F. Du Chemin, in association with the Cambrian Vocal Quartette.

Harmony and Industry Lodge, No. 381.

The members of the above lodge held their annual festival at the Masonic Hall, Darwen, on Thursday, the 11th instant, to elect officers for the coming year. The ceremony of installation of the W.M., Bro. Horrocks, was performed by Bro. F. Thomas, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., P.P.G. Reg. Oxon. We understand that this is the 36th year in unbroken succession that Bro. F. Thomas has installed the W.M. of this lodge, and although this distinguished brother has reached the ripe age of 80 years, he performed his duty in his usual painstaking and efficient manner, and is acknowledged to be one of the leading stars in East Lancashire Freemasonry. The other officers were invested by Bro. J. Wardley, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., as follows: Bros. C. Hindle, I.P.M.; Ralph Shorrocks, S.W.; Jas. Hy. Bury, J.W.; Jas. Cocker, Sec.; the Rev. W. G. Procter, B.A., P.P.G.C., Chap.; Dr. Steele, S.D.; R. T. Lomax, J.D.; J. H. Ellison, I.G.; J. Apden, P.M., Charity Representative; G. G. Sames, Org.; Wm. Kershaw and Thos. Knowles, Stwds.; and J. Lightbown, Tyler. Bro. Wardley, P.M., being elected Treasurer and D.C., was invested by Bro. S. A. Shorrocks, P.M., P.G.T. East Lancs.

After the investiture the brethren celebrated the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts being duly honoured.

During the evening £10 10s. was voted to be paid over to the East Lancashire Benevolent Institution.

St. John's Lodge, No. 328.

The members of this lodge held their annual festival on Monday, the 5th instant, at the Masonic Hall, Torquay. Bro. G. H. Halls, W.M., presided, supported by the following brethren: Bros. A. Westley, S.W., W.M. elect; E. J. W. Crowe, P.P.G. Org., J.W.; A. Dolbear; W. S. Wakeham, P.P.G. Std. Br., Treas.; H. R. Beer, P.M., Sec.; W. Brenton; W. F. Greenslade; J. Chapman, P.P.G.D., D.C.; C. Shapley, Org.; W. Narracott, Stwd.; R. D. Renwick, P.M., D.C.; G. Burt, Tyler; E. Richards, P.M.; J. Taylor, P.M., P.G.R.; J. Grant, P.M., P.P.G.D.; T. A. Blackler, P.M.; T. J. Crossman, W.M. 1402; C. E. Blackler, T. G. Reade, J. B. Gilley, G. C. Parrot, C. Horton, and G. Crockwell. The visiting brethren were Bros. E. Macbean, I.P.M. 2076; T. J. Mitchell, P.M. 84, P.P.G.D.; W. H. Palmer, 1435; P. A. Bergsma, 163; H. P. Rabbich, W.M. 1358; J. F. Watt, 1358; F. Palk, P.M. 1358, P.P.G.P.; C. Dawson, 1168; E. Appleton, 328, P.P.G. Supt. of Wks.; J. W. McKellar, P.M. 1402; S. Willis, P.M. 1402; W. Grist, 1402; W. Winget, 1402; C. Hill, J.W. 1402; J. Lane, P.M. 1402, P.A.G.D. of C. England; the Rev. J. Henning, P.M. 1486, P.P.G.C.; W. T. Gale, J.D. 1402; and J. D. Beer, S.W. 1402.

Bro. Arthur Westley, S.W., W.M. elect, after being presented, was most ably installed by Bro. J. Grant, P.P.G.D., the accompanying addresses being very appropriately and impressively delivered by Bro. E. Richards. The Board of Installed Masters having been closed, the W.M. appointed, and in most cases invested, his officers as follows: Bros. G. H. Halls, I.P.M.; E. J. W. Crowe, P.P.G.O., S.W.; A. Dolbear, J.W.; the Rev. E. C. Atherton, P.P.G. Chap.; W. Wakeham, Treas.; H. R. Beer, Sec.; W. Brenton, S.D.; W. F. Greenslade, J.D.; J. Chapman, P.P.G.D.C., D.C.; L. Packham, I.G.; Charles Shapley, Org.; J. E. Smith, Asst. Org.; J. S. Wolland and W. Narracott, Stwds.; R. D. Renwick, Rep. C.M.; and G. Burt, Tyler. In presenting a beautiful Past Master's jewel to the retiring W.M. (Bro. Halls), Bro. Chapman said that his year of office had been marked with such signal success, it was desirable that the Secretary should make a summary of the past year's work for entry in the lodge minutes as a permanent record of the event.

The installation banquet followed at the Bath Saloons, about 50 brethren sitting down to an excellent dinner, well served by Mr. Haarer, under the presidency of the newly-installed W.M.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and to that of "The Provincial Grand Lodge," submitted from the chair, Bros. Rev. J. Henning, Colonel Chillingworth, J. Chapman, and Colonel Appleton responded, the last-named presenting the W.M. with the original draft of the wording deposited under the foundation-stone of the Masonic Hall, and duly recorded in Bro. Chapman's History of the Lodge.

"The Health of the Newly-installed W.M." was heartily drunk with musical honours, on the initiative of Bro. Richards, who eulogised Bro. Westley as a man and as a Mason. With pleasure he recalled the fact that he had introduced the W.M. to the lady who was now his wife and to Freemasonry, and had assisted that day in his installation.

The Worshipful Master briefly acknowledged the compliment, conveying his feelings in the expression that that was the proudest moment of his life.

Bro. Rev. J. Henning proposed "The Installing Master," and in acknowledging the toast,

Bro. Grant said that was the 12th successive year he had installed the W.M. of St. John's, an honour for which he cordially thanked the brethren, while Bro. Richards heartily reciprocated Bro. Henning's sentiments respecting Freemasonry.

Bro. Crowe, in a neat and appropriate speech, gave "The Health of the I.P.M. and the other Past Masters," whose services to the lodge and Craft he extolled highly.

To the able hands of Bro. Chapman was entrusted the toast of "The Charities," and he commented favourably on the position of the lodge, which, with its members, held over 500 votes in the different Masonic Charities.

The usual collection was made, and the sum of five guineas was contributed to the Devon Masonic Educational Fund.

The I.P.M. submitted the toast of "The Visitors," for whom the visiting W.Ms. responded, Bros. Crossman, 1402; Rabbich, 1358; Willcocks, 2595; and Mitchell, W.M. designate of the new Dart Lodge at Dartmouth.

From the chair came the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge," on which behalf Bros. Crowe, Dolbear, and Greenslade replied.

With the Tyler's toast a most enjoyable evening was concluded, the speeches being interspersed with musical contributions by Bros. Crowe, Waycott, Richards, Dolbear, and others. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. Lord Churston, W.M. 248, and Councillor Pinhey, 797.

Faith and Unanimity Lodge, No. 417.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. JOSEPH ROBINSON, P.P.J.G.W.

At the annual festival of the above lodge, held at Dorchester, on Wednesday, the 6th inst., when Bro. O. G. Barrow was duly installed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, Bro. Joseph Robinson, P.P.J.G.W., one of the oldest members of the Craft in Dorset, and the senior Past Master of the lodge, was presented with a handsome gold Past Master's jewel and a handsomely-framed address as a mark of appreciation of distinguished Masonic services. The presentation was made by Bro. C. Parsons, who bore generous testimony to the unwavering loyalty of Bro. Robinson to his lodge, his wide Masonic knowledge, and the ready assistance which he had at all times rendered to successive Masters of the lodge. He said the desire had been expressed that Bro. Robinson's 40th year as a Mason should not pass unrecognised, and the proposal to make that presentation was received with acclamation. Past Masters, officers, and brethren had joined heartily in the proposal to offer to so distinguished a brother this expression of their affection and fraternal regard, and it was their earnest wish that Bro. Robinson might be spared many years to wear the jewel, and to give the lodge with which he had been associated for a period extending over so long, the benefit of his experience and advice.

The address, which bore the names of the subscribers, was as follows: "Lodge 'Faith and Unanimity,' 417, Dorchester. To Worshipful Bro. Joseph Robinson, P.M., P.P.J.G.W. We, the W.M., P.Ms., and Brethren of Lodge 'Faith and Unanimity,' 417, in a spirit of fraternal affection and esteem, beg your acceptance of the accompanying P.M.'s jewel as a slight mark of the appreciation in which we regard your loyal support of your Mother Lodge during the 40 years of your membership, and the valuable services you have rendered to the Craft. Your unique Masonic career has been

marked by labours of inestimable value to this Lodge and the Craft in general, and through the medium of this small tribute it is our aim, in however inadequate a degree, to testify to the estimation in which we regard your sterling work as a Mason and your worth as a fellow townsman. Your Masonic record extends to a period beyond the experience of any living member of the Lodge; it is impossible, therefore, for those who now enjoy your friendship and fraternal co-operation to speak as they would wish of the full extent of your services to the lodge and to the Craft. We have had, however, innumerable proofs of your devotion to Masonry, of your willingness to promote the principles of the Craft, and of your zeal in the preservation of the good name of your own Mother Lodge. On this auspicious occasion, on which you may be said to celebrate your fortieth year as a Mason, we offer you our heartfelt congratulations on your long and worthy career in our ancient and honourable fraternity. With this address and gold jewel we ask you also to accept the assurance of the respect of all the members of the Lodge, among whom are many who have learnt much from your wide Masonic knowledge, and none of whom have failed to be stimulated by your jealous zeal for the integrity of the Craft and the honour of your Lodge. We pray the G.A.O.T.U. that you may be spared many years to remain among us—a worthy citizen and a sterling Mason, esteemed by your Lodge and honoured by the Province of whom you are so distinguished a member. Masonic Hall, Dorchester, January 6th, 1897."

The gold jewel, which was very similar in design to that presented to Bro. Robinson's father in 1857, bore the following inscription: "Presented to W. Bro. J. Robinson, P.M., P.P.J.G.W. Dorset, by the brethren of Lodge 417, Dorchester, January 6th, 1897."

In the course of a feeling reply, Bro. Robinson said he was sure they would sympathise with and understand his feelings when he said he could not find words properly to thank them for that beautiful jewel and the address just read by Bro. Parsons. He could assure them they had his heartfelt and sincere thanks. He also thanked them for their kind mention and appreciation of his humble services in striving to render the Masonic work in their lodge as good as possible. He mentioned that 40 years ago the members of the lodge (then No. 605) presented to his father a Past Master's jewel for his services and work rendered to the lodge, and by a strange coincidence they had that night kindly given that beautiful jewel to his son, who had tried, but humbly, to carry on the work; and who thanked them from his heart for those kind expressions of esteem, confidence, friendship, and fraternal love. His experience in Masonry had certainly been a long one, for he was not only the oldest member of the lodge, but since the death of Bro. Soppitt, and their dear old friend Bro. Yearsley, was the oldest subscribing member in the province. It was not with feelings of exultation he mentioned this, but rather with sadness and sorrow. Often he looked around the lodge and missed old friends and companions with whom, in Masonic work, many happy hours had been passed. Particularly he mentioned the late Bro. Gregory, who had so recently passed away. He trusted he might be spared some years yet to wear that beautiful jewel, and assured them that he should always be most happy to do all he could for the lodge, or to give the benefit of his experience to any of the younger members who might wish to take advantage of it. They would, he knew, excuse his saying more on that occasion. He only hoped that when they were called in their turn to leave their lodge here below they might meet again in the Grand Lodge above, where there would be no parting or sorrow, and the G.A.O.T.U. reigns for evermore. (Applause.)

A replica of the address, printed on satin, has been hung in the lodge-room.

Walton Lodge, No. 1086.

On the evening of the 28th ult., the annual installation meeting of this lodge took place in the Skelmersdale Hall, Westminster-road, Liverpool, when there was a large attendance of members and visitors. Bro. James M'Laren was installed W.M. of the lodge by the retiring W.M., and the following were appointed officers for the ensuing year: Bros. Joseph Wild, I.P.M.; J. Oswald, S.W.; Peter Taylor, J.W.; G. G. Coope, P.M., Treas.; J. Lloyd, Sec.; J. W. Weeks, S.D.; R. Evans, J.D.; C. Taylerson, I.G.; Joseph B. Ellison, Org.; Edward Cole, Herbert Rowe, A. Hughes, and W. Reynolds, Stwds.; and J. Lawson, P.M., D.C.

In the course of the evening a Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Wild in recognition of the services he had rendered to the lodge.

Choice musical numbers, after the usual banquet, were given by Bros. W. Hudson, Eaton Batty, E. Rowe, A. Hillier, J. Edwards, J. Wallace, Richards, F. Bannister, and J. B. Ellison, Organist of the lodge.

Beaminster Manor Lodge, No. 1367.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. DR. AND MRS. WEBB.

The annual festival of this lodge was held at the White Hart Hotel, Beaminster, on Tuesday, the 6th inst., and the proceedings were of an unusually interesting character owing to the fact that the opportunity was taken to present Bro. Dr. and Mrs. Webb with an address and an epergne on the occasion of their golden wedding and in recognition of Bro. Dr. Webb's services to the lodge and the Craft. The installation of Bro. W. R. Pile as W.M. took place in the presence of a large gathering of brethren from Bridport, Crewkerne, Chard, &c., there being no fewer than between 20 and 30 Past Masters. The ceremony was ably performed by the retiring W.M., Bro. Oxley. The following were given collars for the ensuing year: Bros. W. Oxley, I.P.M.; G. Roberts, S.W.; S. R. Baskett, J.W.; the Rev. E. G. Austen, Chap.; J. Andrews, Treas.; R. Toleman, Sec.; H. G. Terry, S.D.; J. G. Kitson, J.D.; C. Toleman, D.C.; A. Crosland, Org.; A. A. Pim, I.G.; S. Cox and F. P. Kitson, Stwds.; and G. B. Savage, Tyler.

The lodge having been closed with the customary formalities, an adjournment was made to the banquet hall, when Bro. and Mrs. Moore provided a *recherché* repast, served in excellent style.

The usual Masonic toast list was gone through.

The brethren afterwards held an "at home," at which, by special dispensation, ladies were present. The company numbered about 100, and an excellent musical programme was rendered.

During the evening the presentation to Bro. Dr. and Mrs. Webb was made on behalf of the subscribers by Bro. S. R. Baskett, who, in happy language, expressed the high esteem and respect in which Bro. Dr. and Mrs. Webb are held by all who know them.

The present consisted of a handsome and valuable epergne, suitably inscribed, and the following address, which had been engrossed on parchment: "To W. Bro. John Staines Webb, P.M., P.Z., P.P.S.G.W. (Dorset), P.P.G.H. (Dorset), and Mrs. J. S. Webb. We, the undermentioned lodges and Masonic friends, have very great pleasure in requesting your acceptance of the epergne presented herewith as some token of our love and esteem and as a memento of the 50th anniversary of your wedding day, and we most sincerely wish that your lives may long be spared and may continue to be crowned with health, happiness, and prosperity. Dated at Beaminster this 12th day of January, A. L. 5897."

Then follow the names of 50 subscribers and also of the Beaminster Lodge and Chapter, Bridport Lodge and Mark Lodge, and Weymouth Rose Croix Chapter, each of which subscribed.

Bro. S. Whettam spoke on behalf of the Bridport subscribers and Bro. J. Andrews as the Past Master of the Beaminster Lodge, next senior to Bro. Webb.

Bro. Dr. and Mrs. Webb, who appeared to be taken quite by surprise, feelingly acknowledged the kindness of the brethren.

The festival throughout was one that will be long remembered.

Islington Lodge, No. 1471.

The installation meeting was held at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, on the 11th inst., when there was a good attendance of members and visitors, including Bros. D. C. Ritchie, W.M.; A. Cox, I.P.M.; John A. Blount, W.M. elect; S. Napper, P.M., Treas.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, D.C., acting Sec.; H. Cox, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W. Herts; H. B. Harding, P.M.; R. Loomes, P.M.; G. A. Hopkins, W. F. Roberts, J. Jauncey, L. Danielsson, E. A. Wagstaff, G. Yexley, T. Spotswood, F. Simmonds, R. Blunden, P. Faber, A. Kische, A. Henning, W. A. Goring, T. E. Newman, J. H. Thurman, J. R. White, W. Pannell, C. Webers, A. Pope, J. Johnson, D. C. Attwater, F. Cakebread, and others. The visitors were Bros. G. Blizard Abbott, P.M. 1385, P.P.G.D. Herts; E. T. Clarke, W.M. 1586; R. Philip Upton, P.M. 1328; W. Hancock, P.M. 2191; N. Defries, P.M. 185; J. Petch, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Herts;

F. W. Brett, 749; W. J. Chesterfield, 1766; C. Duvall, 2168; T. Moore, 2168; C. T. Smith, 1424; W. J. Cattermole; T. Goodchild, 1743; T. E. Roberts, 1672; E. Burall, 2332; F. H. Johnson, 2278; F. Allen, W.M. 1686; J. Handley, 475 and 1743; F. Thorpe, 1686; and A. Williams, 1587.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., who was suffering from a severe cold and was almost inaudible, vacated the chair in favour of Bro. A. Cox, I.P.M., who carried out the agenda. Mr. Ernest Henry Yexley, having been balloted for and accepted, was initiated into the mysteries. The Treasurer's account for the year, showing a satisfactory balance in hand, was unanimously adopted. Bro. John Arthur Blount, W.M. elect, was then duly installed in the chair of K.S. by Bro. A. Cox, I.P.M., and he appointed and invested the following as his officers for the ensuing year, namely: Bros. E. J. Harrison, S.W.; C. Isler, J.W.; S. Napper, P.M., Treas. (elected); E. Blinkhorn, P.M., W.M. 2278 (absent), Sec.; C. Horst, S.D.; W. Taylor, J.D.; F. W. White, I.G.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, D.C.; G. E. Walker and J. Amand, Stwds.; and G. Couchman, Tyler. The addresses having been given and the ceremony concluded, the lodge was closed.

An excellent banquet followed. The customary toasts were afterwards given, those of "The W.M." and "The I.P.M."—the latter of whom was presented with the customary Past Master's jewel—being received with the utmost enthusiasm, the heartiest of good wishes being expressed that the former would be successful in discharging the duties of the chair during the coming year, while the latter was congratulated with equal warmth on the able manner in which he had fulfilled them during the past year.

"The Health of the Initiate, Bro. E. H. Yexley," was also received with the utmost favour, Bro. Yexley's brief reply being cheered to the echo.

To the toast of "The Visitors," which was proposed from the chair in very complimentary terms, the names of Bros. G. Blizard Abbott, P.M. 1385, &c.; E. T. Clarke, W.M. 1586; and N. Defries, P.M. 185, were associated, and these having severally acknowledged the honour done them and thanked the lodge for the hospitality of their reception, the few remaining toasts were drunk.

The Tyler's toast, and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" brought the proceedings to a close.

The programme arranged by Bro. T. E. Newman afforded a very agreeable entertainment. Of the members of the lodge, Bros. Henning, Roberts, Goring, and Amand contributed songs, and of the visitors, Bro. F. H. Johnson was greatly applauded for his excellent singing, and Bro. F. Goodchild for some very amusing patter songs, Mr. E. J. Bury supplying the comic element. Bro. H. Stafford Trego, Mus. Bac. Oxon, F.R.C.O., accompanied.

Sir Francis Burdett Lodge, No. 1503.

A meeting of this highly prosperous lodge was held at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, on the 10th inst. Among those present were Bros. A. Macchi, W.M.; A. Brown, S.W.; the Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, P.M., Prov. G.C., as J.W.; J. T. Briggs, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; H. Bright, S.D.; E. Tompsett, J.D.; W. Fisher, P.M., P.P.G. Treas.; and G. Harrison, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. Whitman and Brooking, of 2032.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the by-laws were read. The Treasurer having reported that Bro. A. Toulmin, jun., P.M., P.P.S.G.D., &c., had been very ill, a vote of sympathy was unanimously passed by the lodge, and the Secretary was directed to convey the same to Bro. Toulmin. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. W. H. Saunders, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; R. Perry, P.M.; Dr. J. W. Hinton, M.A., P.P.G.O., J.W.; H. H. Room, P.G. Std. Br., P.G. Sec.; and others.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren partook of one of those homely, yet excellent, dinners for which Host Green is famous.

Bro. the Rev. S. T. H. Saunders responded on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers." In the course of his remarks he called attention to the fact that No. 1503 possessed many members whose respective services to Masonry had been recognised by the conferring of distinguished positions in the Provincial Grand Lodge. He trusted that the Sir Francis Burdett Lodge would never forget its traditions nor lose its reputation as a good working and thoroughly harmonious lodge.

The toasts of "The W.M.," "The Visitors," "The Past Masters," and "The Treasurer and Secretary" quickly followed, and were briefly acknowledged.

Hemming Lodge, No. 1512.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on the 28th ult. Among those present were Bros. G. J. Tagg, W.M.; W. Hopkins, S.W., Master elect; P. Cronin, J.W.; J. C. Jessett, P.M., Treas.; Maj. T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; C. Wheatley, S.D.; C. F. Davis, I.G.; G. Ransford, P.M., P.G. Std. Br. Middx., D.C.; H. Wheatley, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; H. Webster, W. Hill, C. H. Boyce, A. Macchi, and H. Bright, Stwds.; W. Spearing, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; J. W. Clarke, P.M., P.A.G.P. Middx.; E. H. Trotter, P.M.; and J. Gilbert, Tyler. Among the visitors were Bro. J. T. Briggs, P.M. 1593, P.P.S.G.D.; J. A. Harvey, P.M. 1314; W. F. Calthrow, P.M. 1733; A. Tucker, P.M. 1733; S. Fisk, P.M. 1733; F. J. Brook, S.W. 2548; H. Price, J.W. 1614; and J. Andrews, J.D. 1110.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. F. Farrant was passed to the Third Degree by Bro. Clarke, P.M., the ceremony being well performed. The ballot was then taken on behalf of Messrs. T. M. Sadler, J. T. Croxon, A. Barber, and John Collins, who were duly initiated, with the exception of the last named, into Craft Masonry, by Bro. E. H. Trotter, P.M., assisted by Bro. H. Wheatley, P.M. Bro. W. H. Hopkins, S.W., having been presented, was effectively installed by Bro. Clarke, P.M. The officers appointed and invested were Bros. P. Cronin, S.W.; C. Wheatley, J.W.; J. C. Jessett, P.M., Treas.; Maj. T. C. Walls, P.M., Sec.; H. Gale, S.D.; C. F. Davis, J.D.; H. Webster, I.G.; G. Ransford, P.M., D.C.; H. Wheatley, P.M., W. Hill, C. Boyce, A. Macchi, H. Bright, and A. Z. Schulze, Stwds.; and J. Gilbert, Tyler. The audit report was received and adopted. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Officer. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. R. H. Thrupp, D.P.G.M. Middx.; H. H. Room, P.G. Sec., P.G. Std. Br.; G. Read, P.G. Std. Br.; W. Fisher, P.P.G. Treas.; and others.

The lodge was then closed. A banquet followed.

Bro. J. T. Briggs responded on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers." In speaking of the Prov. Grand Master he particularly called attention to the fact of his lordship's occupancy of the chair at the last festival in connection with the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution when so large a sum was collected. He also spoke in flattering terms of Bros. R. H. Thrupp and H. H. Room, whose absence that day from their lodge was caused, he regretted to say, by indisposition.

The I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M." In the course of his remarks he mentioned the circumstance that Bro. W. Hopkins was an initiate of the lodge and had filled all the minor offices with credit. He (the speaker) had every reason to believe that the lodge under the W.M.'s new rule would be an exceptionally prosperous one. The names of several candidates were proposed that evening and he hoped that others would follow later on.

The W.M. having replied, then gave "The Visitors," which toast was warmly received and acknowledged.

"The Health of the Installing Master" followed. The W.M. spoke in high terms of Bro. Clarke's energy and ability. There were other Past Masters of the lodge, he said, who were willing and capable of doing the work equally as well, but had not that time to spare which an early attendance at the lodge necessitated when there were several ceremonies to perform.

After proposing "The Health of the Past Masters," the W.M. called upon the Treasurer to present Bro. G. J. Tagg with a Past Master's jewel and collar. This was done in a pleasant and effective way by the brother named.

The I.P.M., in reply, expressed his acknowledgments in a speech of an emotional nature.

The toast of "The Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers" followed, and was briefly acknowledged by Bros. J. C. Jessett, T. C. Walls, and H. Wheatley.

During the proceedings the brethren were most agreeably entertained by the instrumental and vocal efforts of Madames W. Spearing, R. Spearing, and B. Spearing, and Messrs. A. Humphries and G. W. Edmonds. Miss Rose Spearing's violin solo, "Allegro Brilliant," by W. Ten Have, displayed great skill, her touch and expression being remarkably clever in one so young. As an encore she gave H. Wieniawski's "Kuja-

wiak," in which she displayed even greater ability. Her sister, Miss Blanche Spearing, also created a furor by her selections on the 'cello, a most difficult instrument for a lady to play. If these talented young ladies elect to enter the profession they will doubtless achieve a good position in the musical world. Madame W. Spearing was an effective and able accompanist.

At the conclusion of the proceedings, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the ladies, and was acknowledged by Bro. W. Spearing, P.M., in a neat speech, in which he expressed his pride that the services of his family had been so kindly and highly appreciated by the members of his mother lodge and their guests.

Covent Garden Lodge, No. 1614.

A large number of brethren attended the installation meeting of this eminently successful lodge, held at the Criterion, Piccadilly-circus, on the 9th instant. Bro. C. O. Burgess, P.P.G.D. Surrey, the retiring Master, is well known in Masonic circles, both as an energetic and genial Mason and as an excellent exponent of the ritual, and in the latter capacity he fairly excelled himself when installing his successor on the occasion under notice. Bro. John Mayo, who was installed as W.M., is widely known as the courteous host of the Castle Hotel, Molesey, where he has lately built a Masonic temple of useful proportions and ornamental design, and he is also a founder and member of several lodges.

The W.M., Bro. C. O. Burgess, P.P.G.D. Surrey, was supported by Bros. John Mayo, S.W.; Homer Price, J.W.; G. Coleman, P.M., Treas.; G. Reynolds, P.M., Sec.; H. Walker, S.D.; H. J. Keen, J.D.; T. Middleweek, I.G.; G. H. Foa, P.M., D.C.; C. Morrell, I.G.; W. J. Thrussell, Org.; L. Bullen, P.M.; S. Hewett, P.M.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. A. Coghliati, W.M. 1559; J. C. Jessett, 1512; H. Wheatley, W.M. 2540; C. Wheatley, J.W. 1512; H. J. Brook, S.W. 2549; H. J. Mayo; J. Pritchard, 2222; J. T. Mayo, W.M. 2222; E. J. Packington, P.M. 2441; J. Chilcott, 619; J. T. Taylor, 2410; J. R. Cleave, I.P.M. 2473, Prov. S.G.D.; W. Kedge, P.M. 749; R. P. Upton, I.P.M. 1328; J. Skinner, I.P.M. 2191; W. Dennis, W.M. 9; E. A. Hubbard, 879; E. L. Berry, W.M. 2473, Prov. G. Stwd. Surrey; J. Rowe, 2191; C. G. Sherwood, J.W. 2473; C. W. Paive, 1756; F. Jackson, W.M. 2191; E. J. Churchill, 172; W. J. Harvey, 2191; H. Grainer; J. H. Price, P.M., P.P.G.R.; G. Moorman, P.M.; and others.

The minutes were confirmed and the audit report adopted, after which Bros. A. F. Sarsons and P. R. Bisher were passed to the Second Degree. Bro. G. H. Foa, P.M., D.C., then presented Bro. John Mayo for installation as W.M., and he was duly installed into the chair by Bro. Burgess. The ceremony was exceptionally well rendered and it is not too much to say that for correctness of detail and excellence of style the rendering has seldom been equalled but never excelled. The W.M. ably invested the following officers: Bros. Charles O. Burgess, P.M., P.S.G.D. Surrey, I.P.M.; Homer Price, S.W.; Henry Walker, J.W.; Rev. P. M. Holden, P.M., Chap.; George Coleman, P.M., Treas.; George Reynolds, P.M., Sec.; Henry J. Keen, S.D.; Thomas Middleweek, J.D.; George H. Foa, P.M., D.C.; Charles Morrell, I.G.; Walter J. Thrussell, Org.; George C. Bond, Stwd.; James A. M. Kellaway and Charles Clark, Asst. Stwds.; and Robert F. Potter, Tyler. A handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to the I.P.M., in a few well-chosen words by the W.M., and Bro. Burgess, in returning thanks, said the gift would rank as one of his most treasured possessions, and as a souvenir of a very happy year of office. On the proposition of Bro. Coleman, P.M., Treas., a sum of five guineas was voted to the Indian Famine Fund, and a similar amount to the Hospital Fund being raised in commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee of her Majesty. "Hearty good wishes" were given, and the lodge was closed.

The banquet was served under the personal supervision of Bro. Mantell, the manager, and at its conclusion the customary toasts followed.

The W.M. prefaced his remarks with the wish that brevity would be the order of the evening, and then proposed "The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and "The Grand Officers."

Bro. C. O. Burgess, P.P.G.D., I.P.M., said the possession of the gavel would show the object of his rising and the nature of the toast he was about to propose. It was a toast always received with respect and affection in that lodge, the toast of the evening—"The Health of the Worshipful Master." His old friend—then for the first time Worshipful Bro. John Mayo—had set an example of short speeches, which should be properly imitated by all, but it was impossible to do justice to that toast without a few comments. He mentioned the title of the Worshipful Master because certain irreverent remarks had reached him, such as "Honest John" and other endearing titles, which showed his popularity, but were not consistent with the dignity of his rank. Bro. Mayo had done good for Freemasonry in various Orders, and was a founder of five or six lodges and a subscribing member of all. Many brethren present who visited the W.M.'s house to carry out their Masonic work could testify to his excellence as a host and to the fraternal and Masonic feeling with which he always welcomed them. It was only his natural modesty which had prevented Bro. Mayo from having been installed as W.M. before, but he had reserved for the Covent Garden Lodge the honour of becoming its Master on that occasion, because he regarded it as the one to which he owed chief allegiance, and for which he had the greatest affection. They, therefore, welcomed very much the fact that he had overcome his scruples and had risen to the chair, because for a long time he was doubtful about accepting it, and, in the words of Dr. Watts—"He long stood quivering on the brink, fearing to take the leap." Although modesty was a virtue commended to the Craft, it ought not to prevent any brother who had other qualifications from aspiring to take his proper place. He (the I.P.M.) merely mentioned in passing that there were one or two brethren who had risen to very high rank in the Craft short of W.M., but, in consequence of too large a share of diffidence, had retired; but he was sure the example of the W.M. in overcoming that diffidence would be followed by other brethren who would take heart of grace, and who would receive every possible honour and loyalty, and be most heartily welcomed by their lodges. He did not hesitate to say that their Worshipful Master was esteemed and beloved by the whole of the members and his friends. They valued him more for what he was than for what he did, and if Bro. Mayo's time did not enable him to master every intricacy of the ritual and perform every ceremony, he would be most amply assisted by a number of Past Masters, whose shining talents were rusting for want of using and who would be only too glad to step in and perform the work. He knew the Past Masters would be rather pleased to deputise for the W.M., and would do so with credit and dignity. There were present two sons of the W.M., both Installed Masters, and it was perhaps the example of those youthful brethren that had stimulated their parent to come to the front. They owed a certain amount of thanks to those two brethren for setting the example, because they had long had their eye upon the parent as the W.M. of that lodge, and, notwithstanding the fact that he had given way on more than one occasion, yet now they had him in the chair he would receive from all the brethren a most hearty greeting. They would observe that nothing disturbed the serenity of the W.M., not even the floods in the Thames Valley, the water in his cellar, or the appalling prospect of having to deliver a number of speeches, for he possessed that amiability which was one of his best characteristics. In the name of the Covent Garden Lodge, they wished their W.M. every possible happiness, health, and strength during his year and for many years to come, and with that wish he (the I.P.M.) asked them to be upstanding to drink "The Health of the Worshipful Master."

Bro. John Mayo, W.M., whose rising was the signal for a very hearty greeting, in reply, said: I hardly know how to respond to a toast I have never responded to before, for I feel as I did many years ago—a baby—but I am nevertheless very proud to be in a position to do so. When I look back about 16 years to the time when my father in Masonry, our worthy Secretary, proposed me as a candidate, I little dreamt I should occupy this most honourable and important position in the lodge. As the I.P.M. has told you, I take a great interest in Masonry, for I loved it from the moment I entered this lodge to be initiated. My initiation made such an impression upon me that I thought what a glorious and happy thing it was to be a Mason, and I also thought that I should never occupy the chair of W.M. I still struggled on, with no intention of filling the chair, but with the hope that my sons would become Masons, and my ideas and thoughts have been carried out in this respect. I have often thought that although I have not occupied the chair, I have probably felt prouder than any Past Master to see my two sons pass through the chair and receive Provincial Grand honours. I am now in this position, and why? Through the good feeling and fraternal love that each of the members of this lodge felt for him. I do not know how to thank them sufficiently. As you have that confidence in me and have placed me in this high position, I will endeavour to the best of my ability to fulfil that office with respect and credit to the lodge. To-night I shall pray to the Great Architect to give me strength and assist me to carry through

my duties, that I may be spared to conduct the duties of my office with credit and honour to the lodge.

The Worshipful Master then proceeded to propose "The Installing Master," observing that every member and a great majority of the visitors were fully acquainted with the good qualities of Bro. Burgess. He (the W.M.) had never taken such interest in the working of a Master as he had during the past year under the I.P.M.

Bro. C. O. Burgess, I.P.M., P.P.G.D., returned thanks in a cordial speech, and said he had regarded it as a privilege to render any slight service to the lodge. The W.M. had used a characteristic expression, and said he (the I.P.M.) had been a jewel, but he (the I.P.M.) wore the jewel presented to him as an acknowledgment of his services throughout a happy year of office. He had been supported during his year not only by the rank and file, but by the Past Masters, and more particularly the Treasurer and Secretary—Bros. Coleman, P.M., and G. Reynolds, P.M.—both of whom had met him in the most kindly and Masonic manner. He thanked the members for rallying round him, for they had attended in large numbers whenever there was a meeting.

For "The Visitors" suitable acknowledgment was made by Bros. C. R. Ellis, P.G.S.B. Cambs; E. Berry, P.G. Stwd. Surrey; Moorman, P.M.; J. B. Cleave, P.P.G.D. Surrey; J. Skinner, P.M.; W. Dennis, W.M. 9; and Jessett, P.M.

"The Past Masters," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers" were cordially given, after which Bro. Potter, P.M., gave the Tyler's toast, and a most successful gathering was terminated.

Under the direction of Bro. W. J. Thrussell, Org., the following artists assisted in an excellent programme of music: Miss Susetta Penn, Miss Maria Riversdale, Miss Agnes Matthews, and Bros. Vernon Taylor and Roland Henry.

Farrington Without Lodge, No. 1745.

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Viaduct Hotel, Holborn, on the 25th ult. Among those present were Bros. C. Bachoffner, I.P.M., as W.M.; Evans, S.W.; Wit. J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., P.G.S.; Treas.; W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; Dr. Lott, P.G. Org. Eng., Organist; Maj. T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S., P.G. Sid. Br.; J. Strugnell, P.M.; J. Young, P.M.; E. Schultz, P.M.; N. P. Lardner, P.M.; and E. Mallett, P.M. 141, Tyler.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for a joining member. The Treasurer gave notice of motion "That a summer cutting be held in June or July, to which ladies should be invited." Communications from absent members having been read, the lodge was closed. A banquet followed.

Bro. Dr. E. M. Lott, P.G. Org., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers" in a neatly-worded speech.

The Secretary proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master." He said that Bro. Murphy, who unfortunately was absent that evening through indisposition, had shown that he was fully capable of discharging any Masonic ceremony that he might be called upon to discharge. That night his place had been taken by an old initiate of the lodge whose conduct and manner were the impersonification of gentility and sincerity. He should therefore couple the name of the I.P.M. with the toast.

Bro. C. Bachoffner having responded, gave in a humorous manner "The Health of the Visitors," with which toast he connected the name of Bro. Wilson.

This pledge having been heartily received, was briefly acknowledged by Bro. Wilson.

A few other toasts brought the proceedings to a close, which were greatly enlivened and enhanced by the instrumental and vocal selections of Bros. E. M. Lott, J. Young, P.M.; E. Schultz, P.M.; W. H. Jackson, P.M.; and others.

St. Leonard Lodge, No. 1766.

The installation meeting of this successful lodge was held at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, on the 10th inst. The members present included Bros. G. Bishop, W.M.; S. Batchelor, I.P.M.; Ben Jacobs, S.W.; G. H. Clark, J.W.; A. Cunningham, S.D.; S. C. Kaufman, Treasurer; J. Cox, Secretary; S. G. Matthews, I.G.; H. Prenton, Organist; Greenwood, Steward; H. Pates, G. P. Hamby, Thomas Fearton, J. W. Smith, W. Shea, J. Morris, H. Bugler, H. J. Thrower, P.M.; W. Prevost, A. Barnes, W. Shurmur, P.M., P.P.G. Treas. Essex; D. E. Leman, J. R. Bowen, A. G. Barnes, J. H. Bond, and Legg, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. L. Gershon, 1349; W. B. Peterson, 442; W. Hardy, 2472; E. G. Davis, 2182; G. Bugler, 1635; F. Franklyn, 535; F. Dunstan, P.M. 1336; Geo. Cunningham, S.D. 160; Olton Cooper, P.M. 211; J. Eberstein, W. H. Taye, P.M. 1278; Millbourne, P.M. 13; M. Siegenberg, P.M. 188; Thos. Bugler, W.M. 1155; H. Balls, 77; T. J. Ives, H. Green, 788; A. S. Wall, W. S. Clark, H. C. Browne, W. C. Minto, H. Lotery, Bond, Mills, and others.

After the confirmation of the minutes, Bros. J. Morris and Walton Hardy were passed to the Second Degree, and Mr. J. H. Bond was initiated. Bro. B. Jacobs was then installed as W.M. and invested his officers as follows: Bro. G. Bishop, I.P.M.; G. H. Clark, S.W.; A. Cunningham, J.W.; S. C. Kaufman, P.M., Treas.; W. Shurmur, P.M., P.P.G. Treas. Essex, Sec.; S. A. Matthews, S.D.; A. Kaufman, J.D.; A. Greenwood, I.G.; W. E. Johnson, D.C.; H. Prenton, Org.; M. Shea and D. E. Leman, Stwds.; and David Legg, P.M., Tyler.

A choice banquet was served, presided over by the genial W.M., and the customary toasts subsequently received hearty recognition.

Bro. Dunstan, P.M. 1366, acknowledged the toast of "The Grand Officers."

Bro. G. Bishop, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." in brief and appropriate terms. He referred to his past services in the lodge, and could refer to his work in the lodge of instruction as an earnest of his working as W.M. of the lodge would be. He was sure he would reflect credit, and he had very great pleasure in proposing that toast.

The W.M., after tendering thanks, expressed his satisfaction to see so good a meeting on that his first night as Master of the St. Leonard Lodge. He would do his best for the success and prosperity of the lodge and the comfort of the brethren.

The W.M. next proposed "The I.P.M. and Installing Master," and said Bro. Bishop had rendered most excellent work in the lodge during his year of office. To show the great respect in which the I.P.M. was held, and in recognition of his excellent working a Past Master's jewel had been unanimously voted to him, and in presenting him with that jewel, he hoped he would wear it for many years as a memento of his year of office.

Bro. Bishop, I.P.M., replied.

"The Initiates" was duly given and responded to, and was followed by "The Visitors."

Bro. Dunstan, P.M. 1366, in responding, thanked the W.M. for the opportunity afforded him of being present. He congratulated the brethren of the lodge in having such a W.M. to preside over them.

Bros. Siegenberg, P.M. 188; Toye, P.M.; Cunningham, and Ives also replied.

The W.M. next proposed "The Past Masters of the Lodge."

Bro. Jones, in reply, said: Nineteen years ago that lodge was consecrated, the founders numbered 19, now there were only 4. He felt proud to see one of his initiates installed that evening, and had every reason to believe he would have a successful year of office.

Bro. Cox, P.M., in reply, said he had been their Secretary for nearly 20 years—he was sorry to leave them, and thanked the brethren for electing him as Hon. member.

Bro. Beasley said he had been a regular attendant for 15 years, and anything he could do for the benefit of the lodge would be to him a labour of love.

Bros. Kaufman, P.M., and S. Batchelor, P.M., also replied.

In responding for "The Treasurer and Secretary," Bro. S. C. Kaufman, P.M., Treasurer, said when he took office its funds were in very low water, now he was pleased to say they were flourishing, and he felt certain with such a Secretary as Bro. Shurmur greater success will follow.

"The Officers of the Lodge" and the Tyler's toast brought this very pleasant evening to a close. We may add that Bro. W. E. Johnson, D.C., looked after the comfort of the brethren well.

A capital programme of music, under the direction of the Organist, Bro. Henry Prenton, which materially added to the enjoyment of the evening, was carried out. The following took part: Miss Lillian Buckley, Miss Mary Spicer, Miss Annie Mellows, Mr. Stanley Ince, H. C. Angless, and Bro. W. H. Noel.

In every respect this installation was a decided success, and the lodge fully deserved the congratulations the visitors showered upon it.

Talbot Lodge, No. 2231.

The installation meeting was held at Stretford Local Board Offices on the 13th ult. There was a very large attendance of members and visitors. The lodge was opened by Bro. Edwin Faulkner, P.M., in the absence of the W.M., and was assisted by other officers of the lodge. The minutes were read and confirmed, and the Auditors' report of the balance-sheet was read and confirmed. The W.M. elect, Bro. Harold Nickson, S.W., was presented to the Installing Master, Bro. Faulkner, who performed the ceremony of installation in a most impressive manner. Bro. H. Nickson, W.M., having been duly proclaimed and saluted, Bro. Stringleman presented the working tools. The newly-installed W.M. then invested the following as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. Frank Green, S.W.; George Unsworth, J.W.; T. K. Peacock, Sec.; G. R. Lloyd, P.M., P.P.G.T., Treas.; Evans Jackson, S.D.; Alfred Dawson, J.D.; E. E. Levy, I.G.; R. E. Stringleman, D.C.; Rev. G. Cranston, Chap.; John Allin, Org.; C. F. Baybut, J. Chadderton, F. S. Warburton, W. S. Batey, C. J. Vickers, and H. C. Stewart, Stewards; W. Chesshyre, Tyler; and John Roberts, Charity representative, and their duties were explained to them by Bro. John Slyman, P.M., Bro. Faulkner, P.M., addressing the W.M., and Bro. J. Roberts, P.M., the Wardens and brethren.

The banquet which subsequently followed was held at the Grand Hotel, Manchester. The usual toast list was gone through, and a capital programme had been arranged by Bro. John Allin, Org.

The following brethren were present: Bros. Harold Nickson, W.M.; Frank Green, S.W.; Geo. Unsworth, J.W.; Geo. Cranston, Chap.; T. K. Peacock, Sec.; G. R. Lloyd, P.M., P.P.G. Treas.; Evan Jackson, S.D.; Alfred Dawson, J.D.; E. E. Levy, I.G.; R. E. Stringleman, D.C.; J. Allin, Org.; C. F. Baybut, Jas. Chadderton, F. S. Warburton, W. S. Batey, C. J. Vickers, H. C. Stewart, W. Chesshyre, Tyler; Edwin Faulkner, P.M.; John S. Boden, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; F. Batty, P.M., P.G.S.B.; John Roberts, P.M.; John Slyman, P.M., P.P.G.D.; W. H. Falford, P.M.; H. J. Bowman, R. Shutt, A. H. Bradley, and J. J. K. Fairclough. Visitors: Bros. C. J. H. Crowder, P.M. 1417; W. Sewers, S.D. 1565; D. J. Williams, 1513; G. F. Black, 2357; J. W. Byrom, P.M. 1045; W. F. Farrington, P.M. 1633; Jas. Brocklehurst, 993; Wm. Pincez, 637; A. H. Smith, 384; Wm. Duff, 1561; P. J. Walsh, W.M. 1147; F. Weaver, 2350; H. Bucher, P.M. 1335; W. G. Coombs, P.M. 44; A. Lew. Jones, P.M. 1147; W. Bitt, P.M. 152; Wm. Lea, 1375; S. Locke, P.M. 1387, P.S.G.D.; Thos. Gibson, P.M. 1147; Goddard, P.M., P.G. Sec.; F. Edge, 526; and C. E. Downing, 2295.

St. Pancras Lodge, No. 2271.

The members of this lodge, which includes some of the most energetic brethren in the metropolis, held a very successful regular meeting at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, on the 4th inst. Bro. W. A. Scurrah, G. Std. Br., W.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. J. Irvine, I.P.M.; W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas.; C. Jacob, S.W.; T. Parker, J.W.; H. R. Graham, M.P., Treas.; H. Longman, P.M., Sec.; G. F. Vine, J.D.; C. W. Matthews, D.C.; and F. Cuzner, I.G. Visitors: Bros. W. H. Bailey, G. Treas.; R. Eve, P.G. Treas.; J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; F. Herbert, 2206; S. Huxley, 2361; J. T. Baron, 1531; F. E. Everard, 877; T. H. Mogford, W.M. 2362; T. Jefferies, I.P.M. 1744; R. L. Warner; E. J. Sadgrove, 2048; H. W. Parker, I.P.M. 2048; J. Simpson, S.W. 704; R. J. D. Ward, 1744; W. W. Arter, Org. 1574; L. E. Wilkinson, 2361; Capt. C. J. Knightley, P.M. 1744; A. Weston, 105; and others.

Lodge was opened, and the minutes, which were confirmed, contained a reference to a presentation to the lodge, which took place at the last meeting. It consisted of a handsomely-bound copy of the Constitutions, and the cover bears the following inscription: "The St. Pancras Lodge, No. 2271. Presented by W. Bro. W. A. Scurrah, G. Std. Br., 9th Master—3 Dec., 1896." Bro. O'Malley was raised to the Third Degree, and Bros. Ireland and Mitchell were passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft. Bro. H. R. Graham, M.P., P.M., was invested as Treasurer of the lodge. A letter was read from Bro. Sir J. D. Pimdale and C. E. Keyser calling attention to the fund being raised for the benefit of Guy's Hospital, and a sum of one guinea was voted from the lodge funds. An appeal is being made to all lodges in the metropolis to endow a bed, and the sum of one guinea is the maximum subscription solicited. Letters of regret for non-attendance were announced from Bros. Sir J. Monckton, J. H. Matthews, W. F. Smithson, Howard H. Room, and others.

Lodge was closed, and after ample justice had been done to the various items on a choice menu, the usual toasts followed.

"The Queen and the Craft" was first honoured, and the W.M. in proposing "H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," alluded to the recent visit of his Royal Highness to the provinces to lay the foundation stone of a new building. The arrangements were in the hands of the Prov. G.M., and it was not a Grand Lodge function which probably explained why so few Grand Officers were present.

"The Grand Officers" was next given by the W.M., who referred in eulogistic terms to the services rendered by the Pro G.M., and the Dep. G.M. In reference to the Grand Officers the W.M. said they had a goodly array present that evening, including three Grand Treasurers. Those brethren must have been beloved and esteemed because they obtained their rank by the suffrages of the brethren. There was another Grand Officer—Bro. McLeod, P.G.S.B.—who received his appointment for the hard work he had done.

Bro. W. H. Bailey, G. Treas., thanked the W.M. for the more than kind words he had used. His acquaintance with Grand Lodge had not been so extensive as the brethren on his right who could speak much more easily of the inner life of Grand Lodge than he could. Those brethren were as zealous for the maintenance of the honour and dignity of Grand Lodge as any brethren who had preceded them. They had doubtless the very best Grand Master that could possibly hold the position, the greatest gentleman in the land, one who spent his life in doing good to his fellow creatures. As his (Bro. Bailey's) successor was practically selected for the coming year he was glad to think the arduous duties of his office had not overburdened him.

Bro. R. Eve, P.G. Treas., replied for "The Past Grand Officers," and said he knew no brother who better showed the utility of a Grand Officer than Bro. Scurrah in this eminent Lodge of St. Pancras.

Bro. J. Irvine, I.P.M., said it was his privilege to propose "The Health of the W.M.," and he was sure they were proud and glad to think they had a Grand Officer in the chair. There was no brother in the lodge who did not look upon the present W.M. as the most successful Master that had ever been in the lodge. Bro. Scurrah was the father of the lodge, and had nursed it up to the present time with the greatest distinction. The W.M. had done all he could for the advancement of the lodge, and had also brought into existence a Royal Arch chapter and a Mark lodge in connection with it. When he (the I.P.M.) took the chair of that lodge he said he would do all he could to make it one of the best in London, and Bro. Scurrah expressed approval, but said he was going to beat him. The W.M. was trying all he could, but he did not know if he would succeed.

Bro. W. A. Scurrah, P.G.S.B., W.M., in response, said he took a great interest in Masonry, for Masonry was one of the grandest institutions, and did his best to uphold and support its integrity and honour. He had tried during his Mastership to do the best he could to make the brethren comfortable and bring a few visitors, and do his duty as W.M. of the lodge. He intended to do that until he left the chair, and he should not then relax his efforts, for he hoped the lodge would maintain a foremost place amongst the lodges of London. They would excuse him if he proposed the next toast at once, as Bro. H. Graham, M.P., had to return to the House of Commons immediately. He therefore proposed "The Senior Past Master and Treasurer," and said that Bro. Graham had carried out all his duties in a most exemplary manner, and no better Treasurer could be found.

Bro. H. R. Graham, M.P., P.M., Treas., replied in a humorous speech. He said that as they were aware, on the previous day a resolution was passed in the House in favour of female suffrage. Some people thought they would even have female members of Parliament, and then it might be more difficult for him to get away to attend to his Masonic duties. He was told, however, that ladies had no desire to enter Parliament, but their endeavour was to get into Freemasonry.

The Worshipful Master then gave "The I.P.M. and Past Masters," and said the lodge never had a better year than when Bro. Irvine was in the chair. The I.P.M. was always anxious to make them comfortable, and do his work to the best of his ability. That work was done in a splendid manner, and to the admiration of all. The I.P.M. took up a good list for the Boys' School, and did all he could for the interests of Freemasonry in general, and this lodge in particular.

Bro. J. Irvine, I.P.M., in returning thanks, said he looked upon the Past Masters of any lodge as the cream of the Craft. There was no doubt that if the Past Masters were able to perform their duties creditably it was a great incentive to the other members. He wished the brethren to know that the W.M. was going up as Steward of the Girls' School and would be pleased to have their support.

Bros. Mogford, Capt. Knightley, Jefferies, Parker, McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B., and other brethren replied for "The Visitors."

"The Officers" was duly honoured before the pleasant proceedings terminated.

Bro. W. W. Arter had arranged a capital programme of music, in which he was ably assisted by Bros. Arthur Weston, L. C. Wilkinson (violin), S. J. Derham (flute), and Dick Welch.

Wirral Lodge, No. 2496.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Claughton Music Hall, Birkenhead, on Thursday, the 4th instant. There was a large attendance of brethren present, especially of visitors, and the installation ceremony was witnessed by 20 Installed Masters.

The lodge was opened by Bro. James Gamlin, W.M., assisted by his officers, and after the routine business had been completed, Bro. George Proudman, P.M., S.W., was presented by Bros. J. Gamlin, P.P.G.D., and T. E. Tomlinson, P.M., the duties of Installing Master being most effectively performed by Bro. Owen Jones, P.P.G.S.B., who was highly complimented for the admirable manner in which the duties had been rendered. The address to the brethren generally was given in a masterly and impressive manner by Bro. Gamlin. The following brethren were appointed and invested by the Worshipful Master as the officers for the ensuing year: Bros. A. H. Rigmalden, S.W.; Jas. Woodcock, J.W.; J. T. Thompson, P.M., P.P.G.R., Treas.; Richard Powell, P.P.G. Stwd., Sec.; A. C. Coveney, P.M., P.G.D., D.C.; James Smith, S.D.; Millward Hughes, P.P.G.O., J.D.; J. Carter, I.G.; J. J. Elliott, J. Taylor, R. Rowland Hughes, and Dr. Laird Pearson, Stwds.; W. A. Weston, Hon. Org.; and H. W. Holtaway, Tyler. The next duty of the new W.M., Bro. George Proudman, was, as he remarked, a very pleasant and important one, it being to call upon Bro. Thomas Shaw, P.M., P.P.G.W., to present, on behalf of the brethren, the retiring W.M., Bro. Gamlin, with an illuminated address and jewel; in doing this, Bro. Shaw said that it gave him very great pleasure to present them as a mark of their esteem and to show the high appreciation in which Bro. Gamlin was held, and it was the wish of every brother in the lodge that he might live many years to wear the jewel, and that when his family looked upon the address in years to come they would see the respect and esteem in which their father was held by the brethren of the Wirral Lodge. Bro. Tomlinson was then called upon by the W.M. to ask Bro. Gamlin to accept, on behalf of the brethren, a beautiful bracelet set with diamonds and sapphires, for Mrs. Gamlin. This duty having been feelingly and gracefully performed, Bro. Gamlin, in a few well chosen remarks, thanked the brethren for the beautiful and valuable presents, which he said would be treasured by both himself and his wife.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren retired to the banqueting room, where a dinner of the most *recherché* character was served.

At the close of the banquet the W.M. gave the first toast, that of "The Queen," and said: For the first time from this chair I have the great privilege and pleasure in proposing the toast of the Queen. During the 60 years of her Majesty's happy and memorable reign, her dominions have been extended in every quarter of the globe, and we, her subjects at home, enjoy a freedom unknown to our ancestors and a prosperity unexampled in the history of any nation the world has ever seen. At the present time the feeling of loyalty which actuates the nation is unsurpassed, and we, as Masons, on this important occasion, offer our most hearty congratulations to her Majesty on the remarkable and unique period which her reign has reached, and for the marvellous effect which the success of that reign has produced upon the respect of the whole civilised world. I am sure we all express an earnest hope that no shadow will come over the year to mar the celebration of her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, the 60th year of her reign. No Monarch in England has reigned so long, no Monarch has reigned so wisely and so well, and none has enjoyed so continuously and so increasingly the love and respect of their subjects.

The toast was most enthusiastically received by the brethren, a congratulatory telegram being sent to her Majesty, which was graciously acknowledged by her Private Secretary, Sir Arthur Bigge.

"The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Gamlin. He spoke of the pleasure it gave him in proposing it. He felt perhaps even more pleasure than he did on the last occasion when a similar toast was proposed, as there was less sense of responsibility. The brother who was succeeding him, he was sure, possessed all the skill, ability, and tact needed to guide the lodge, and he hoped the W.M. would have health and strength to perform the duties.

Bro. George Proudman, W.M., in rising to respond, received quite an ovation. He said he regarded the Mastership of a lodge as one that could not be easily undertaken and as one of great importance. It was in that sense he felt his incapacity to follow so able a Master as Bro. Gamlin had been, but he could say his heart was in the work, that his services were at the disposal of the lodge, and that he would do his utmost to make his year of office acceptable to the brethren.

Other Masonic toasts were submitted.

"The Visitors" was responded to by Bro. the Rev. Dr. Knox, P.P.G. Chap., who said: I am not here to utter altogether a panegyric, but rather a philippic, from the things which have struck me in my observations of Masonry. 1st. The lessons learnt so aptly within the lodge should be practised outside. 2nd. Criticism should be based upon knowledge; most frequently it is founded upon ignorance; but in the Fourth Degree knowledge of individual character was most reliable. The Fourth Degree was to most Masons, old and young, most important, because most searching. It was the place of a man amongst men, and a brother among brethren; a place where each character was criticised, because when men met frequently together at the Fourth Degree in this convivial way, their natures and actions would naturally be open, unlettered, and laid bare to the inspection of their companions; hence it became an arena of investigation of character, which forced home in every thinking Mason's heart the conviction that he and his actions become an influence and example among his brethren, and this is true, because the criticism of him has been founded upon intimate knowledge and intercourse. 3rd. That, above all, no Mason could divest himself of the claims of his solemn obligation, and remember that he should ever be ready to lend

An arm of aid to the weak,
A friendly hand to the friendless;
Kind words so short to speak,
But whose echo is endless.
The world is wide, these things are small;
They may be nothing, but they are all.

The members present, in addition to the officers mentioned, were Bros. Peter Duff, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; J. R. Simm, P.M., P.P.G. Treas.; W. Getley, F. R. Wilson, J. W. Barber, H. A. Baty, and A. Rutherford. Among the numerous visitors were Bros. the Rev. Dr. Knox, P.P.G. Chap.; Robt. Edwards, P.G. Chap. Jersey; G. H. Brown, P.M. 537, P.P.G.W.; John Armstrong, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Wks.; E. G. Mason, P.M., P.P.G.D.; W. Richmond, W.M. 267, P.P.G. Stwd.; George Wild, W.M. 537; J. McLeavy, W.M. 477; H. V. Fearn, W.M. 1576; H. Dutton, W.M. 1276; R. Parry, P.M. 1276; J. Clarke, Prov. A.G. Sec.; A. Saunders, P.M. 477; J. Pruddah, P.M. 241; Dr. Brewer, S.W. 2435; J. B. Jones, W.M. 1013; F. Minshull, I.G. 1393; Sam. J. Carr, Sec. 2375; J. H. Jackson, P.M. 605; R. Robinson, P.M. 477; J. Fraser, P.M. 605; and others.

Letters of apology were read from Bros. Col. C. A. Whitney, P.M.; the Rev. G. R. Johnson, P.M., P.P.G. Chap.; F. T. Kinsman; Col. C. S. Dean, P.S.G.W.; W. F. Robinson, Prov. A.G.D.C.; G. F. Bird, P.P.A.G. Sec.; Richard Newhouse, G. Std. Br. Eng., Prov. G. Sec.; J. E. Perrin, W.M. 2375; and others.

An excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music was rendered by Bros. Millward Hughes, Weston, G. Wild, and Wilson, Walter Baker's rendering of the Worshipful Master's song being well received.

Bro. Proudman is a founder of the lodge and is an earnest Freemason. He is a Past Master of the Royal Victoria Lodge, No. 1013, West Lancashire; a Royal Arch Mason; a member of the Masonic Order of the Knights of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine; a K.H.S., and Knight of St. John the Evangelist.

North Kent Lodge, No. 2499.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Bexley Heath, on Saturday, the 6th inst., and was a great success in every way. There was a full attendance of members and friends, and the proceedings from first to last reflected the greatest credit on all concerned. Bro. R. Hargreaves Rogers's term of office has been a memorable one, for during the period he has been elected Sheriff of London, and the lodge is justly proud to number so distinguished a citizen amongst its members. Those present included: Bros. R. H. Rogers, W.M.; G. Ratcliff Steel, I.P.M.; Newton Dunn, S.W.; F. Corbett, J.W.; H. Lawrence Fry, Chap.; T. Jenkins, P.G.S.B., Treas.; G. B. Chapman, P.P.G.S. of W. Sec.; O. O. Dale, W.M. 299, S.D.; D. J. Pitt, I.G.; E. Whomes, Org.; W. J. Weaving, A. Gill, J. Butler, F. G. Harris, A. Marshall, R. Marshall, J. Ellingham, E. R. Boulter, T. G. Baynes, J. T. Davison, W. E. Lucas, P.M. 1837; and W. Royle, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. Ralph Gooding, P.M. 1, P.G.D.; J. D. Griffin, Treas. 1, P.G.D.; W. Russell, P.M. 77, P.G.T.; N. R. Livett, P.M. 857; C. Hind, P.M. 299; C. Berrall, S.D. 1837; R. C. Halse, 181; B. Grant, W.M. 2562; S. C. Phillips, S.W. 2562; A. P. Barratt, 2562; E. Vaughan, 23; W. H. Haylis, 206; H. Grimwade, 2601; W. Greig, P.M. 299, P.P.G.P.; J. W. Gaze, P.M. 1708; H. T. Bailey, I.P.M. 1719; J. S. Barrass, Chap. 1928; E. Wood, 1719; F. Bevan, P.M. 1706, P.P.G. Org. Essex; F. Dalzell, P.M. 2000, P.P. G.O. Surrey; G. May, 2000; and H. Surcombe, 1001.

Lodge having been duly opened and the usual routine business disposed of, Bro. Steel, P.M., installed Bro. Newton Dunn as W.M. for the ensuing year, performing the office in an able and efficient manner that it would be difficult to excel. The Wardens' chairs were occupied by Bros. Griffin, P.G.D., and W. Russell, P.G. Treas. The following officers were appointed and invested: Bro. R. Hargreaves Rogers, 403, I.P.M.; F. Corbett, Sec. 1839 and 1973, S.W.; O. O. Dale, W.M. 299, J.W.; Rev. H. Lawrence Fry, 1209, Chap.; Thos. Jenkins, P.M. 299, P.G.S.B., Treas.; G. B. Chapman, P.M. 27 and 299, P.P.G. Supt. of Works, Sec.; D. J. Pitt, S.D.; A. Marshall, J.D.; Geo. Ratcliff Steel, P.M. 1 and 2499, P.G.S., D.C.; Edmund Whomes, Org.; W. J. Weaving, I.G.; A. Gill, Stwd.; and W. Royle, Tyler. A handsome Past Master's jewel was handed to Bro. R. H. Rogers, who then presented the lodge with a costly banner, which was accepted in a few appropriate words by the W.M., on behalf of the lodge. The banner is a model of design and colouring. On a back ground of light blue, the scroll work shows up prominently and every character is admirably finished. At the top appears "North Kent Lodge, No. 2499," and immediately beneath this is a facsimile of the Shrieval Badge, with the crest painted in correct heraldic colours. The centre piece is an excellent painting of St. Mary's Church, Bexley, as it now exists, and below this is an "Invicta." The inscription which follows is "Presented by Bro. R. Hargreaves Rogers, W.M. 1896-7, Sheriff of London, 1896-7." Bro. T. Jenkins, P.M. and Treas., was re-appointed Charity Officer and the business of the lodge terminated.

The brethren then partook of an excellent banquet served under the superintendence of Bro. W. Stevens, of Bexley, in first rate style. The room was nicely arranged for the occasion, and the table decorated with choice azuleas, spiraes, dracuas, &c., supplied by Messrs Harris and Son, Crook Log, which were afterwards forwarded to the Bexley Cottage Hospital, by command of the W.M.

After the removal of the cloth a pleasant time was spent in toasting and harmony.

City Lodge, No. 2514.

The yearly installation meeting of the above lodge took place on the evening of the 28th ult., the meeting being held at the Alexandra Hotel, Dale-street, Liverpool. There were present about 60 brethren, largely representative of the Province of West Lancashire. The ceremony of installing Bro. Robert Pruddah as the W.M. for the ensuing year was efficiently performed by Bro. Dr. Utting, P.M., and the officers invested were Bros. Charles Arden, C.C., I.P.M.; William Dickson, S.W.; H. P. M'Laughlin, J.W.; Joshua Weaver, Treas.; Edward Taylor, Sec.; C. M. R. Dickson, S.D.; John J. Bell, J.D.; T. Kneen, I.G.; R. Mountfield, Org.; W. H. Landers and W. Unsworth, Stwds.; and S. H. Perry, P.M. 2215, D.C.

A musical after-banquet programme was provided by Bros. Bain, M'Laughlin, Ashley, Beard, and others.

Royal Arch.

Jerusalem Chapter, No. 185.

This chapter met for the dispatch of business at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on the 9th inst. Among those in attendance were Comps. Major T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C., as M.E.Z.; Harfeld, P.Z., Treas., as H.; G. Davis, P.Z., S.E., as J.; Witthaus, S.N.; Nathan Moss, J.P., P.Z.; A. Hardy, P.Z.; and Johnstone, 1st Asst. Sot.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the election of Principals and officers for the year ensuing resulted as follows: Comps. Blankley, M.E.Z.; Hills, H.; Witthaus, J.; G. Davis, P.Z., S.E.; Hambly, S.N.; Harfeld, P.Z.; Treas.; Johnstone, P.S.; and T. C. Edmunds, P.Z., Janitor. A vote of thanks was passed to the M.E.Z. and a Past Principal's jewel voted to him. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. Eisleman, M.E.Z.; Blankley, H.; Hills, J.; Cleghorn, P.Z.; Staley, P.Z.; Dr. Frye, P.Z.; and others.

The conclave was then closed. A dinner followed.

"The Health of the Queen" having been proposed, was drunk with acclamation, and the brief proceedings shortly afterwards were brought to a conclusion.

Zetland Chapter, No. 603.

This recently-resuscitated chapter held its first installation meeting for several years on Friday, the 15th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Tofts, Cleckheaton, when Comp. S. H. Stocks, P.Z., was re-installed M.E.Z., and the remaining chairs were filled as follows: Comps. Wm. Sharp, H.; J. T. Last, J.; Sam. Law, S.E.; S. Mortimer, S.N.; James Clough, P.S.; A. Woodcock, 1st A.S.; H. E. Hodgson, Treas.; and F. Newsome, Janitor. Comps. H. S. Holdsworth, P.Z. 448, P.P.G.S., and J. W. Monckman, P.Z. 600, P.P.G.S., acted as Installing Companions, the former giving the customary addresses. The remaining visitors included Comps. J. Lane Fox, M.E.Z. 208; Richd. Hodgson, P.Z. 448; and Wm. Fielding, 448. The ballot was taken for Bros. John E. Helmsley and Robt. J. Bateman, both of Lodge 603, and John L. Parke, S.W. Lodge 2261, as candidates for exaltation in the chapter, and for Comp. A. Woodhead, 600, as a joining member—all were duly elected. A candidate for exaltation was proposed, after which the chapter was closed.

After the banquet, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

In proposing the toast of "The Visitors," the M.E.Z. gratefully acknowledged the valued services of the Installing Masters, not only at the present meeting, but also at the previous meetings of the chapter, since its resuscitation, and he assured the visiting companions that they would at all times be welcome guests at the regular meetings of the chapter.

Comp. Holdsworth, P.Z. 448, P.P.G.S., responded to the toast. He thanked the M.E.Z. and companions for the hearty reception given to the visitors, and on behalf of himself and Comp. Monckman stated that their services to the chapter had been a labour of love and they esteemed it a privilege to have been given the opportunity of rendering assistance to the chapter on its new start, and the officers were at liberty to command their services at any time they were needed, but from what he knew of them he was of opinion that such services would not be much required.

The toast of "The M.E.Z." was proposed in felicitous terms by Comp. J. W. Monckman, P.Z. 600, P.P.G.S., and in responding,

Comp. Stocks, M.E.Z., thanked the companions for the hearty manner in which his health had been drunk; it was nine years since he was installed into the chair of the chapter, but as it had not worked in the meantime he looked upon it as only one year and this was his re-election; with the hearty manner the chapter was now being worked and the number of candidates that were knocking at the door he had confidence that the chapter would do good work and be prosperous, he would do his best—even at his advanced age—to make it successful.

Other toasts followed.

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EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.
(Under the sanction of the Lodge of Unions), No. 256.
Meeting at Freemasons' Hall every Friday Evening, at Six o'clock, except during July, August and September.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL
has been appointed to take place
At the FREEMASONS' HALL,
On FRIDAY, 26th FEBRUARY, 1897.
The R.W. Bro.
LT.-GEN. J. WIMBURN LAURIE, M.P.,
P.G.W., Past Grand Master of Nova Scotia,
has kindly consented to preside.

The Lodge will be opened at 6 o'clock p.m. precisely.
W. Bro. R. CLAY SUDLOW, P.G. Std. Br., as W.M.

THE FIRST LECTURE WILL BE WORKED.
1st Section by Bro. Rev. C. W. Servanté, 1768.
2nd " W. " D. D. West, P.M. 108.
3rd " " " G. H. R. Clark, 1965.
4th " " " Wm. R. Bennett, W.M. 1965.
5th " " " Chas. Lewis, P.M. 1706.
6th " " " A. M. Barnard, W.M. 1964.
7th " " " F. Baden Fuller, 1494.

W. Bro. E. CUTLER, U.C., P.G. Org., will preside at the Organ and play the following Selection as the Brethren assemble:

1. Overture to 'Samson' Handel
2. Offertory Wely
3. March from 'Tannhauser' Wagner
4. Intermezzo ('Colombe') Gounod
- a. Consecration March Cutler
- b. Minuet
- c. Gavotte

STEWARDS.
V.W. Bro. Edward Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Sec., Treasurer.
R.W. Bro. Sir John B. Mouckton, P.G.W.
" " Thos. Penn, P.G.W.
" " Robt. Grey, P.G.W.
V.W. " Richard Eve, P.G. Treas.
" " Judge Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg.
W. " James Henry Matthews, P.B. of B.
" " Henry J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.
" " Frank Richardson, P.G.D.
" " Ralph Clutton, P.G.D.
" " J. E. Le Feuvre, P.G.D., D.P.G.M.
" " Hants and I. of W. James S. Eastes, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Kent.
W. Bro. J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.
" " Col. J. A. Bindley, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Staffordshire.
" " Lennox Browne, P.D.G.D.C.
" " Jas. Tertius Collins, P.G. Swd. Br.
" " Frederick Mead, P.G. Swd. Br.
" " C. F. Matier, P.G. Std. Br.
" " R. Clay Sudlow, P.G. Std. Br.
" " A. C. Spaul, P.G. Std. Br.
" " Walter Hopekirk, P.G. Purst.
" " Henry Sautler, G. Tyler.

Bro. C. J. Andrews, 165.
W. " Thos. Wm. Alkop, W.M. 2192.
" " F. A. Abraham, 712.
" " Maj. R. L. S. Balham, 21.
" " A. Stewart Brown, 1, G. Stwd., P.P.G.W. Middlesex.
" " J. S. E. Berryman, 518 S. G. Budd, I.P.M. 1818.
" " A. M. Barnard, W.M. 1964.
" " Wm. R. Bennett, W.M. 1965.
" " G. R. H. Clark, 1965.
" " M. V. Cassals, 1115.
" " E. P. Debenham, P.M. 1179, P.P.G. Reg. Herts.
" " James Duff, 2316.
" " J. W. Drysdale, P.M. 293.
" " M. B. Evans, S.W. No. 8, G. Stwd.
" " J. V. Vesey Fitzgerald, Q.C., P.M. 502, P.G.S.W. Warwick.
" " J. W. Freeman, P.M. 117.
" " W. P. Fuller, I.P.M. No. 8, P.G. Stwd.
" " F. Baden Fuller, 191.
" " James D. Graham, P.M. 1559.
" " P. A. Hazzletine, P.M. 88.
" " George B. Hemming, P.M. and Sec. 256.
" " W. G. Kentish, P.M. and Secretary 1293, P.P.G.D. Middlesex.
" " R. G. Penn Kilson, 1820.
" " Fredk. Kebbll, S.W. 1662.
W. Bro. J. Lancaster, P.M. and Sec. 341.
" " Chas. Lewis, P.M. 1706, P.G.J.D. Essex.
" " R. E. F. Lander, I.P.M. 2086, P.G.S.D. Herts.
" " Chas. J. Murrain, S.W. 2182.
" " Percy G. Mallory, 2319
" " C. M. Mapleton, P.M. 256.
" " Thos. Wm. Ockenden, P.M. 1512, P.P.G.D. Middlesex.
" " Hy. Pritchard, P.M. and Sec. 263, P.P.G. Treas. Middlesex.
" " George Powell, P.M. and Sec. 112.
" " P. T. Rushton, P.M. No. 8, P.G. Stwd.
" " Joseph Russell, P.M. No. 8, P.G. Stwd.
" " Geo. W. Rankin, 1681.
" " M. Spiegel, P.M. 1981.
" " E. H. Simmons, Sec. 2013.
" " Percy Sloper, No. 8.
" " T. Y. Strachan, W.M. No. 8, P.G. Stwd.
" " Rev. C. W. Servanté, 1768.
" " Edmund V. Salaman, 1987.
" " F. A. Surgeant.
" " Geo. R. Scott, W.M. Elect 889.
" " Henry A. Tobias, P.M. 1502, P.P.G. Sup. Works, W. Lanes.
" " James E. Terry, P.M. and Sec. 1961.
" " C. F. Van Duzer, 2307.
" " Henry S. Wellcome, P.M. 3, 2307.
" " Chas. J. Weller, 2128.
" " D. D. West, P.M. 108.
* Members of the Committee. † Workers of the Sections.

TICKETS for the SUPPER, including admission to the Lodge, 5s. each, may be had from any of the STEWARDS; of the Secretary, Bro. JOSEPH RUSSELL, 27 and 28, Milk-street, E.C.; and of Bro. W. G. KENTISH, The Glebe, Blackheath, S.E.

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THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL
Will be held at the
FREEMASONS' TAVERN, LONDON, W.C.,
On WEDNESDAY, 24th FEBRUARY, 1897.
Under the distinguished Presidency of

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INCOME AND FUNDS (1895).

Fire Premiums	£732,000
Life Premiums	239,000
Interest	172,000
Accumulated Funds	-	-	-	£4,671,000



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1897.

Masonic Notes.

We have been requested to state that Bro. Major Clifford Probyn, who was one of the two brethren nominated to fill the office of Grand Treasurer during the year 1897-8, has withdrawn his candidature, Bro. Bro. Alderman Vaughan Morgan, the other nominee remains, therefore, the sole candidate, and, as such, will, of course, be elected at the Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge, on Wednesday the 3rd prox.

We have much pleasure in announcing that one of the most important fixtures of the year—the annual Festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement—will be held at Freemasons' Hall on Friday next, the

26th instant. As will be gathered from the announcement in our advertisement columns, the Sections of the First Lecture will be worked in lodge, and we strongly advise those who are desirous of seeing a masterly exemplification of the best English Masonic lodge work, and are able to spare the time, to make a point of being present. When the lodge is closed, the customary banquet will take place in the adjoining Tavern, under the presidency of Bro. Lieut.-Gen. J. Wimburn Laurie, M.P., P.G.W., Past Grand Master of Nova Scotia, and, as the arrangements have been entrusted to an exceptionally strong Board of Stewards, we have every confidence that those who attend will derive both profit and pleasure from the proceedings. For further particulars we refer our readers to the advertisement at page 92.

It is once again our privilege to chronicle the success of "Our Boys" at the Cambridge Local Examinations—Preliminary Stage—which were held in December, 1896. Of the 40 boys who were entered, one obtained first class, two second class, and three third class honours, while 30 satisfied the examiners; in addition five distinctions were awarded in one or other of the subjects of examination. What makes this result more gratifying is that the average age of these 40 candidates was only 13 years 1 month; the oldest of those who were awarded classes being 13 years 1 month, and the youngest 11 years 4 months, while the age of the youngest who passed was 10 years 4 months.

We believe we are correct in stating that this is by far the best result ever obtained at these examinations and it is with the greatest pleasure that we congratulate the Head master, our Rev. Bro. Hebb, and his staff on this further proof of the excellence of their system of training. The Board of Management, too, who are so assiduous in looking after the School and so ready to afford every help in their power in order that the children entrusted to their charge may be thoroughly grounded in all useful knowledge, are entitled to the thanks of all who have in every way contributed towards the support of the Institution.

We are also in a position to announce that of the 19 pupils from the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls who were entered for the same Preliminary Stage of the Cambridge Local Examinations in December of last year, one took third class honours and was awarded distinction in Religious knowledge, while 17—of whom one was awarded distinction in English—satisfied the examiners; there being only one failure. In this case also we heartily congratulate the House Committee, who look so carefully into everything connected with the training of the children, and Miss Redgrave on this result. The latter, in particular, must be gratified at finding that the prestige of the School has been so fully maintained during the brief period it has been under her direction as Head Governess.

The boys who were successful in passing the Cambridge Local Examinations in 1895 have recently been enjoying themselves, having been invited on successive Wednesdays by Bro. Edward Terry, Past Grand Treasurer, to witness the performance of "Love in Idleness" at the theatre which bears his name. The boys themselves have requested us to record the fact, and, at the same time, to express publicly on their behalf their appreciation of our respected brother's kindness.

We are indebted to the courtesy of Bro. John Stocker, Prov. G. Secretary Devonshire, for the receipt of copies of two circular letters which R.W. Bro. the Hon. Sir H. Stafford Northcote, Bart., M.P., Prov. G. Master, has recently addressed to the lodges under his charge. The first of them has reference to the Indian Famine Relief Fund, now being raised by the Lord Mayor of London, and takes the form of an appeal to the lodges and brethren in the Province of Devonshire to contribute—the lodges by votes from their funds and the brethren by personal donations—"towards the relief of our famine and plague-stricken fellow subjects in India." The Prov. Grand Master reminds the lodges in his Province that H.R.H., the M.W.G. Master, intends moving the grant of a substantial sum from the funds of Grand Lodge, and he expresses the hope that "the Freemasons of Devonshire" will not be backward in supporting so laudable a movement. He therefore requests that intending donors will remit their contributions either to Bro. E. Roseveare, Great Western Docks, Plymouth, Prov. G. Treasurer; or to Bro. John Stocker, 66, St. Thomas, Exeter, Prov. G. Secretary, and announces his inten-

tion of closing the list on the 11th proximo and then paying the whole of the sum raised to the Mansion House Fund in the name of "The Freemasons of Devonshire." We trust a goodly sum may be obtained in response to this appeal.

The other circular letter refers to the subject of Masonic funerals. The Prov. Grand Master mentions that he has received several applications from lodges in the Province "for dispensations to attend funerals of deceased brethren in Masonic clothing," and he expresses it as his opinion that "the interests of the Craft are not generally promoted by public processions of Masons clothed with the badges of their Order." He also thinks that respect to the memory of a departed brother will not be "less sincere or less worthily expressed" if brethren attend a funeral in ordinary attire, or if they think some distinctive mark is necessary, wearing whites gloves. The Prov. Grand Master adds that while he does not wish it to be understood that he shall "in every case refuse to grant a dispensation for this purpose," he is most anxious to discourage the practice and that such applications must be strictly limited to those cases in which "strong proofs are afforded that the deceased brother had rendered such special and signal services to the Craft as ought to be outwardly recognised in this public manner." We trust the kindly appeal of Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote will be accepted by our Devon brethren in the spirit in which it is offered. What is manifestly intended as a special tribute of respect to the memory of a deceased brother of eminence must not be granted generally or it will cease to be a special tribute.

The 39th annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Canada (Province of Ontario) was held in the Masonic Hall, Toronto, on the 27th ult. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, M.E.G.Z., presided, and was supported by Comps. M. Walsh Grand H.; W. J. Reid, Grand J.; several Past G.Zs., the Grand Superintendents of Districts, and the Grand Officers, Present and Past. Comp. Robertson, in the course of his address, referred to the approaching centenary of Royal Arch Masonry in Ontario, the 7th June, 1797, being the date on which the Royal Arch was introduced, and a chapter constituted in Kingston. Comp. Robertson recommended that the auspicious event should be duly celebrated with all possible élat, and that Grand Chapter should appoint a Committee to co-operate with the brethren of Toronto, who have already started arrangements for this anniversary.

In the course of his other remarks Comp. Robertson said that there were 96 chapters on the roll, of which "50 are credited with doing good work, 20 with work not up to the average, and 16 are not worth mentioning, so indifferent is their work." This extract is taken from the report of the meeting published in the *Toronto Freemason*, which also is responsible for the announcement of the previous particulars, and also for the statement that the following are the principal Grand Officers for the present year, namely, Comps. M. Walsh, Grand Z.; W. J. Reid, Grand H.; George W. Shapley, Q.C., Grand J.; Thomas Sargent (re-elected), G. Scribe E.; N. Leslie, G. Scribe N.; Hugh Murray (re-elected), G. Treas.; E. W. Case, G. Prin. Soj.; S. W. Mckeller, Grand Registrar.

The *New Zealand Craftsman* for last month contains two very amusing stories. In one case the episode occurred at the installation meeting of the Harvard Lodge. The toast of "The Installing Officer" (Bro. H. J. Williams) was being proposed, when the Grand Superintendent of the District, who was present, waggishly suggested to the proposer that he should couple with it the name of the Director of Ceremonies (Bro. Pitcher.) This was done, and Bro. Pitcher at once rose, and was making a capital speech for the "Installing Officer," when the absurdity of his position suddenly dawned upon him, and exclaiming—"Why, this is all wrong; what have I to do with it?"—sat down amid the most uproarious merriment.

In the second case a portly Grand Officer was the prominent figure. He was quietly smoking a cigar in the hall of the principal hotel, with his luggage and regalia-case close handy, waiting for the train, when a porter and a friend entered, and the latter having, out of curiosity, glanced at the luggage and inspected the regalia-case, remarked to the porter—"I see you've got one of them coves here as runs them enlargement picture shows, and this is the case what holds it. I don't think much of them blokes, and you had better keep your eye lifting on this one." Collapse of "portly Grand Officer."

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.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Will you do me the favour to insert the enclosed letter in your next issue, and I trust that other Provincial Grand Masters may see it in their power to follow the example of Lord Harlech, that a collection may be made to render the Diamond Jubilee year of her Majesty's reign a memorable one in the history of this Institution.—Yours truly and fraternally,

JAMES TERRY, Secretary.

4, Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
February 18th.

Brogynlyn, Oswestry,
18th February, 1897.

Dear Sir and Brother,

I am issuing an appeal to each of the lodges in my province (20 in number), suggesting that they should subscribe £10 each, at least, to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons, &c., in celebration of the Queen having reigned 60 years.

This Charity I have selected because it is more in accord with her Majesty's advanced years.

Believing that some suggestion may occur to you in reference to this that might be of great value, you will much oblige me if you will let me know anything that strikes you.

I remain, yours truly and fraternally,

HARLECH,
P.G.M. North Wales.

To J. Terry, Esq.

A MASONIC RECORD.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

May I, through the medium of the *Freemason*, call attention to the report of the installation ceremony of our Lodge Harmony and Industry, 381, which contains a statement that our highly-esteemed and talented Bro. F. Thomas, P.M. of 345, Blackburn, and Prov. Officer of E. Lancs, and also of Oxon, did, on the 11th inst., perform the ceremony of installation for the 36th year in unbroken succession in Lodge 381, Darwen, and in a style so finished in all its detail as can only be reached by one of vast experience. Bro. Thomas is an honour to his Blackburn lodge and also to East Lancs, as well as a credit to his mother lodge in Oxfordshire. He is in the 80th year of his age, and from appearances may still run freshly on for many more, while he has been a member of the Craft for 56 years. I particularly wish to be allowed to report this statement through the *Freemason*, as I look upon it as a Masonic record.—Faithfully and fraternally yours,

JOHN WARDLEY, P.M. 381.

February 13th.

THE WEARING OF "THE BADGE."

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In the issue of the *Freemason* of this date I find two photographs of eminent brethren—one the Grand Master of Scotland and the other Bro. J. Herbert Marshall, J.P., M.P., who appear to be wearing the badge under the coat. Will any experienced Freemason kindly inform me if this is the correct form, as I have a distinct recollection of being once turned back in Grand Lodge for this disrespect to the badge, or is it to produce "photographic" and not "Masonic" effect?—Yours fraternally,

AN OLD PAST MASTER.

February 13th.

THE LODGE WARRANT AND CONFERRING DEGREES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I had a rather novel experience a few days since. I was present at the first meeting of a new lodge, when several candidates were admitted into the Order, and in the course of the ceremony, the W.M., in the usual manner, referred to the lodge warrant as the authority under which they were working, and which, he explained, was "in the custody of the Secretary." The remark struck me as peculiar, and upon enquiry afterwards, I ascertained that the warrant was away being framed. Note the position—the lodge having been opened and conferring Degrees upon candidates in the absence of the lodge warrant! Is it not an irregularity? Does it affect the validity of the Degree conferred? What says "Lex Scripta" or any of your other correspondents on the subject?—Yours fraternally,

EX-SECRETARY, P.M.

SOME RARE CERTIFICATES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

By an accidental oversight, I described the first certificate in my article on "Some Rare Certificates" in the Christmas number of the *Freemason* as of the Lodge now known as "Douglas Lodge of Fellowship, No. 84."

It is, as I have since discovered, of Lodge No. 1 "Town of St. Helary, in the Island of Jersey," warranted in 1765 by the "Moderns," named "Union" in 1807, and erased in 1813 (*Lanc's Masonic Records*). I would ask those brethren who have copies of my "Catalogue of over 500 Masonic Certificates" to kindly rectify the same error in that list.—Fraternally yours,

FRED J. W. CROWE.

Marsden, Torquay.

A QUERY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Having read, in your issue of last week, with much interest, of the record attendance of Bro. E. L. P. Valeriani, who was initiated on 5th December, 1877, and has never missed a lodge meeting since that date, I am pleased to tell you that one of our Past Masters (Bro. F. W. Prior), who was initiated on 11th November, 1878, was Director of Ceremonies and Secretary of the lodge for over six years, has never missed a meeting, and has, therefore, beaten Bro. Valeriani's record, for, whereas the Rothesay Lodge, No. 1687, meets five times a year—which would make Bro. Valeriani's attendances number 98—our lodge (St. John's, No. 90) meets six times, thus making Bro. Prior's attendances 115, including three lodges of emergency.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

ST. JOHN'S, No. 90.

London, February 16th.

Reviews.

"THE FREEMASONS' CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY FOR THE PROVINCE OF DURHAM, 1897."—This very compact and accurate Annual cannot fail to prove a great boon to the members of the Province of Durham, as the contents are so varied, useful, and interesting. The Prov. G. Sec. is the indefatigable Bro. Robert Hudson, who is assisted by Bro. John Joel, of North Shields. Every endeavour is used to make this Calendar reliable, and, so far as we have tested the compilation, it is wonderfully free from inaccuracies of any kind. There are 36 lodges, 13 Royal Arch chapters, 12 Mark lodges, and several Knights Templar preceptories, Rose Croix chapters, and other Masonic bodies represented in the publication, besides a mass of information also as to the Masonic Charities and other matters appertaining to the province, the whole being neatly and ably arranged in some 160 pages, the printers being Messrs. Beck and Inchbold, of Leeds, as usual. The directory is full of all needful particulars, and as its preparation must have involved considerable labour, time, and patience, it is to be hoped that it will be appreciated accordingly, and its honorary and efficient Editors be gratified to find that their services have been most thankfully accepted by the brethren generally. The oldest lodge is the "Industry," No. 48, Gateshead, and the junior is the "Clarence," No. 2462, West Hartlepool. There are several chapters of the last century origin, and the Craft in Northumberland is also duly noted, and many particulars are afforded as to the higher Degrees in the adjoining county.

Craft Masonry.

Urban Lodge, No. 1196.

The installation meeting of this good and well-known lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 9th inst., when there were present Bros. J. S. Mountford, W.M.; Percy B. Hollick, S.W., W.M. elect; J. Tickle, P.M., P.P.G.R., Treas.; F. R. Farrow, P.M., Sec.; Paul Alliston, S.D.; J. T. H. Baily, J.D.; Jno. R. Roberts, I.G.; Chas. Braid, P.M.; Fred. Eckstein, P.M.; W. E. Haycock, P.M.; Chas. Hawksley, P.M.; J. W. Tacon, P.M.; R. S. Oakeshott, P.M.; P. Haddon Davy, Harry Wildman, C. E. Blore, Thos. Hunt, Alfred R. Hall, Saml. Hunt, T. C. Edmonds, P.M., acting Tyler; and many others. Among the numerous visitors were Bros. E. Hobbs, 453, P.J.G.D. Essex; J. J. Thomas, P.P.G. Treas. Bucks; Clement Alliston, W.M. 2047; Arthur W. Hunt, 425; T. E. Comins, 720; C. Nelson, W.M. 1702; G. J. Anderson, P.M. 781; W. Hibberdine, P.M. 2470; Harry Lloyd, 2409; Jno. Drake, 1907; F. Barker, 507; A. Bailey, of New York; A. Webb, P.M. 1196; A. J. Turner, W.M. 1797; and R. T. West, 1744.

The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the last lodge meeting read and confirmed. Bro. T. C. Edmonds, P.M., was unanimously elected Tyler in the place of Bro. James Very, who had been compelled to resign through ill-health, and two guineas was voted to the Scholarship Fund for the Boys' Institution, and the balance sheet was received and adopted. Bro. W. E. Haycock, P.M., stated that it was known to many of them that the lodge had voted a jewel to the W.M., Bro. Mountford, which was so good so far, but having regard to his grand year of office, it was not considered an adequate return. When Bro. Mountford went into the chair—just 12 months ago—he did everything for the lodge and brought it to a good financial position and his extraordinary services—which were set out at length—deserved special recognition. Noble deeds required eulogy from them as he had during his year of office become, if anything, more endeared to them, and the great things he had done would ever be remembered by them all. He then moved, "That the best thanks of the brethren of the Urban Lodge, No. 1196, be hereby tendered to Bro. J. S. Mountford, W.M., prior to his leaving the chair, for the masterly way in which he has succeeded in rescuing the lodge from the financial difficulties in which he found it at the commencement of his year of office, 1896-97, and the brethren desire to express to Bro. Mountford their high appreciation of the way in which he has conducted the lodge to its present healthy condition, and wish him a long and prosperous career." The proposition was seconded by Bro. F. Eckstein, P.M., and supported by Bro. J. Tickle, P.M., in eloquent terms, and carried unanimously. It was afterwards resolved to engross the resolution on vellum, and to present it to Bro. Mountford at the next meeting of the lodge. In earnest and feeling terms Bro. Mountford, W.M., acknowledged the resolution, remarking that what he had done was, he thought, his duty, and it was very gratifying to him to know that his services were appreciated. Bro. F. Eckstein, P.M., then occupied the chair, and installed Bro. Percy Burrow Hollick, S.W. and W.M. elect, as W.M. of the lodge in a most impressive and perfect manner. The following brethren were appointed and invested officers: Bros. J. S. Mountford, I.P.M.; Paul Alliston, P.M., S.W.; J. T. H. Baily, J.W.; J. Tickle, P.M., Treas.; F. R. Farrow, P.M., Sec.; J. Robinson Roberts, P.M., S.D.; C. E. Blore, J.D.; Frederick Eckstein, P.M., D.C.; J. W. Tacon, P.M., W. Hubert Smith, A. G. Daar, and G. Yate Ashwell, Stewards; P. H. Davy, I.G.; and T. C. Edmonds, P.M., Tyler. The usual addresses were eloquently given by Bro. Fredk. Eckstein, P.M., and were appreciated by the members and visitors. Three gentlemen were proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and, after other business, the lodge was closed.

The brethren adjourned to a *recherche* banquet, which was admirably served, and for which the manager, Bro. Gérards, was responsible.

As a preface to the toasts, the W.M. stated that his speeches would be brief, as they had a lengthy musical programme to get through.

The Worshipful Master gave the customary loyal and Masonic toasts, which were duly honoured.

"The Health of the Worshipful Master, Bro. P. B. Hollick," was proposed by Bro. J. S. Mountford, I.P.M., who stated that it was a great honour and pleasure to submit the toast of the evening. Between the W.M. and him there had ever been a bond of affection, and Masonically they were almost twins. Eight years ago that evening Bro. W. E. Haycock, P.M., was installed, and the W.M., Bro. Hollick, was the initiate on that occasion, and he (the W.M.) then stated, in response to the toast of "The Initiate," "that he felt like a young cockerel who wanted to crow and could not." He congratulated him on not only being able to crow but upon being "cock of the walk." The W.M. would uphold Freemasonry and study the interests of the lodge in every way.

The toast was received with great enthusiasm, as was the W.M., Bro. Hollick, on rising to respond.

Bro. Hollick, W.M., said first let him thank them from his heart for the reception they had given him. He was at all times bad at speech making, but he felt that night it was a great difficulty to speak of himself. He well remembered eight years ago when he was initiated, and his then impression would never be effaced from his memory. At that time he felt it was his duty to do his best to walk in the steps of those who had gone before him, and it was a great honour to be elected Master of his mother lodge. He had only missed attending one meeting since he was initiated, and that was through the death of his mother. It behoved all to fill the office of W.M. to the best of one's ability. He was anxious that he would not fail in his high office, but he would do his very best and he hoped the Past Masters would be to his faults a little kind as it was his earnest wish to give satisfaction and to leave the chair with clean hands. He was honoured to have had three initiates proposed that evening as it was a record in the lodge to have had so many proposed at one time, and, in conclusion, he stated that if he made a slip it would not be intentional.

In giving "The Immediate Past Master, Bro. J. Mountford," the W.M. stated that he could not speak too highly of him. He had done his work splendidly, and had had the pluck and courage to take a certain line, with the gratifying result that he had made the old ship safe and sound, which was a masterly piece of work, but he had done everything fair and above board. All who had the pleasure of his acquaintance could testify that he was one of the best of fellows and friends, and he wished him the best of health and every happiness in the future. He took that opportunity to present him, in the name of the lodge, with a Past Master's jewel, and he hoped it would ever remind him that they all loved him, and that he had their very best wishes, and might the Great Architect give him many years of life to wear the jewel.

The jewel bore the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. James Seba Mountford in recognition of his valuable services as Worshipful Master of the Urban Lodge, No. 1196. 1896-7."

Bro. Mountford, I.P.M., on rising to respond, received a hearty greeting. He said he thanked them very much for the way they had received him, and for anything he had done for the lodge he was amply repaid by their kindness. The year 1896 had been a very anxious time for him and them all, but they laid too much stress upon what he had done. He had had ample support from the Past Masters and his officers, and every consideration from them all. For the future they would be as numerous as they ever were, but they would have to be careful whom they received as initiates. Under the W.M.'s reign the true interests of Freemasonry would be well considered, and they should all work as true Masons. There were some who sneered at Freemasonry, but there was something in their Order that there was not in any other society. He thanked all these who had loyally supported him, and made special reference to Bros. Tickle, P.M., and Fred. Eckstein, and stated he should never forget their great assistance. He honoured the jewel and no other, if he ever received any, could he value more than that, the jewel of a Past Master in his mother lodge.

At the request of the W.M., Bro. Mountford, I.P.M., gave "The Installing Master, Bro. Fred. Eckstein." He said that he was particularly indebted to him for doing the work which he ought to have done. Twelve months ago he stated that he hoped to instal his successor, but a short time after he was installed his business arrangements were all upset, and he had to spend three days in London and three days in Birmingham, so that he had not the time to work up to do the installation ceremony, as it ought to be done properly, but the Installing Master had done it beautifully. At a short notice, he went to Bro. Fred. Eckstein—whom they all loved—and told him that he did not feel in a fit state to instal his successor, and Bro. Eckstein consented to act, and he had no hesitation in saying that the installation ceremony could not have been better performed, and he should never be able to repay him for his great efforts. No toast that had been proposed that evening, with the exception of that of the W.M., would be received with greater enthusiasm than the toast of the Installing Master, Bro. Frederick Eckstein.

In response, Bro. Frederick Eckstein, I.P.M., stated that his first duty was to thank the I.P.M., Bro. Mountford, for the eloquent way he had proposed the toast. He was their servant, as were all the Past Masters, and what he had done that evening was what he was always prepared to do for that his mother lodge, which was a labour of love and delight, and if he had given satisfaction that was his reward, but so many kind things had been said of him which he appreciated. Might he add that during his 20 years membership he had secured their friendship, which was very gratifying to him.

In submitting the toast of "The Past Masters," the W.M. observed that the lodge could not get along without them, and they were always ready with their great assistance and the best thanks of the members were due to them. He coupled the names of Bro. C. Braid, P.M., the "Father" of the lodge, and Bro. J. Tickle with the toast.

Bro. C. Braid, P.M., responded, and said that he had been an absentee from the lodge for many years but he was thankful to hear that the time was arriving when they would again be prosperous. Bro. Eckstein's working of the installation ceremony was splendid and had never been equalled in the lodge, with the exception of Bro. Henry Marston, the great tragedian, and he had no doubt the lodge would return to its former glory.

Bro. J. Tickle, P.M., also acknowledged the toast, observing that it was the proudest thing of his life to say that he was initiated in, and was a Past Master of, the Urban Lodge.

"The Visitors" was heartily proposed by the W.M. and responded to by Bros. J. J. Thomas, P.P.G.T. Bucks, and C. Nelson, W.M. 1702.

"The Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers" was next given, and the very happy evening terminated with the Tyler's toast.

An excellent musical programme was contributed to by Miss Emilia Monteith Webb (a very able pianist), Miss Lillian E. Gardner, Bros. Chas. Braid, P.M., and Paul Alliston, P.M., Mr. G. Ingleton (recitations), and Mr. F. R. Ridley (violinist). Special mention should be made of Miss Lillian E. Gardner for her sweet and exquisite singing. Miss Florence Gardner was an able accompanist.

Granite Lodge, No. 1328.

Last Saturday evening, the 13th inst., at the Holborn Restaurant, Holborn, witnessed a most happy assemblage of the brethren of this distinguished lodge, and a large number of visitors, to do honour to the installation of Bro. Charles Smith, a highly esteemed member of the lodge. Bro. Edward Faux, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. Charles Smith, S.W., W.M. elect; V. J. R. Longman, J. W.; Fred. West, P.M., P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Surrey, Treas.; J. L. Thomas, P.M., P.A.G.D.C., P.P. G.W. Middx., Sec.; H. F. Gidden, S.D.; H. Parkinson, J.D.; Maj. R. Payne, P.M., D.C.; F. Lang Day, A.D.C.; Chas. T. Rayner and J. G. Wyatt, Stwds.; R. Philip Upton, I.P.M.; W. J. Mason, P.M., P.P.G.D. Surrey; W. T. Tonkin, P.M.; R. White, P.M.; F. H. Hardcastle, J. B. Boyle, G. A. Lanedown, G. B. Godson, E.P. Woodman, W. H. Arnold, W. H. A. Mundell, C. Gabriel, A. J. Hewitt, R. Coad, and C. Patrick, P.M., Tyler. The visitors were Bros. Henry J. Dumas, P.G.D.; A. J. R. Trendall, P.A.G.D.C.; Col. Peters, P.G.S.B.; R. Glasspool, 723, 1201, P.P.G.S.B. Isle of Wight; C. M. Coxon, P.M. 1471, P.P.G.D. Herts; T. J. Wood, 1585; J. Duncan, P.M. 59; J. J. Thomas, 753, P.P.G.T. Bucks; H. Theobald, W.M. 1672; A. England, S.D. 1216; W. Rapley, J.W. 1987; W. J. Stratton, P.M. 753; W. Hancock, P.M. 2191; H. J. Abrahams, W.M. 2580; W. Unwin, 1614; L. Lipscomb, 1479; L. S. Burt, S.W. 766; J. Griffiths, 1228; S. Gabrill; R. B. Chessum, 1305; W. Prevost, 861; C. H. Mabej, 173; H. L. Sarson, 2000; W. Griffiths, 1228; W. Emerson, 45; W. Laing, 2611; W. J. Fisher, P.M. 2190; Arthur Saunders, 1803; and R. T. West, 1744.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. R. Philip Upton, I.P.M., then occupied the chair, and installed Bro. Charles Smith as W.M. The working of Bro. Upton was carried out in an excellent manner, for which he deserves the highest praise. The new W.M. then appointed and invested the following as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. Edward Faux, I.P.M.; V. J. R. Longman, S.W.; H. F. Gidden, J.W.; Frederick West, P.G.D., Treasurer; J. L. Thomas, P. Asst. G. Dir. of Cer., Secretary; H. Parkinson, S.D.; J. J. Smith, J.D.; F. L. Day, I.G.; T. Wilson, P.M., D.C.; C. T. Rayner, A.D.C.; J. G. Wyatt and W. H. Arnold, Stwds.; and C. Patrick, P.M., Tyler. The delivery of the customary addresses was most ably and impressively rendered by Bro. R. Philip Upton, who was listened to with marked attention. The W.M., in presenting a Past Master's jewel to Bro. Edward Faux, I.P.M., stated that his first duty was a very pleasant one, and he hoped he would have long life and ever remember the time when he was the Master of the Granite Lodge, and they all appreciated his valuable services and great efforts. The jewel bore the following inscription: "Granite, 1328. Presented to Bro. Edward Faux, P.M., as a token of esteem. Feb., 1897." In acknowledging the jewel, Bro. Faux stated that he should ever prize it.

Other business followed, after which the lodge was closed and the brethren partook of a superb banquet.

At the close of the repast, the W.M. said: The first toast I have the honour to propose is "The Queen and the Craft." Her Most Gracious Majesty has now entered upon the 60th year of her reign, that being the longest reign in English history, and I trust that she may be spared for many years to rule this most peaceful and prosperous country.

The next toast that I have the honour and privilege to propose is "The M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales." Considering the many public duties he has to perform, he devotes a great deal of time to Freemasonry and had now been the Grand Master for the past 21 years, and all Masons knew how ever ready and pleased he was to render assistance in everything appertaining to Freemasonry.

The next toast was "The M.W. Pro Grand Master, the R.W. Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," which was proposed by the W.M., who said: I am glad to find we are honoured this evening with the presence of several distinguished Grand Officers in the persons of Bros. Henry J. Dumas, P.G.D.; A. J. R. Trendall, P.A.G.D.C.; Col. Peters, P.G.S.B.; Frederick West, P.G.D.; and J. L. Thomas, P.A.G.D.C. Whenever the Grand Officers attend the Granite Lodge they can always rely upon meeting with the very heartiest reception and good wishes of the brethren, and I am indeed honoured by their attendance at my installation.

Bro. Henry J. Dumas, P.G.D., whose name was associated with the toast, responded in a very eloquent speech.

The I.P.M., Bro. Edward Faux, proposed "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Charles Smith," and said it was a pleasure to him to submit the toast, which would, he felt sure, be received with great enthusiasm. He was a modest brother, but his working that night showed that he had taken great care to work up the ritual. He took the greatest interest in the Craft and he wished him from his heart a very happy and prosperous year of office.

Bro. Charles Smith, W.M., on rising to respond, received quite an ovation. He said: I am deeply grateful to you, Bro. Faux, for the terms in which you have proposed the toast, and likewise to the Grand Officers and brethren for the Masonic spirit in which they have received the same. I feel most deeply the honour which you have conferred upon me in placing me in the chair. There are several visitors present who have assisted me in learning the ritual, and I have for several years attended lodges of instruction. I can assure you I will carry out my duties to the best of my ability, and, I trust, to the satisfaction of myself and the members and to the credit of the Granite Lodge.

The Worshipful Master then said: I have now the pleasing duty to propose "The Visitors." The lodge is always delighted to have plenty of guests at their gatherings and to give them a hearty welcome, and I trust they have been satisfied with the work in the lodge and the entertainment. We have to-night a goodly array of visitors, and I beg to join the names of Bros. W. Hancock, P.M. 2191, and J. Duncan, P.M. 59, with the toast.

Bro. Hancock, P.M., responded: He stated that it was not his first visit by many. There were several very distinguished visitors present, which made it very difficult for him to acknowledge the toast in adequate terms. He had worked with the W.M. in the ritual for many years, and he thought it was the duty of those who could give instruction to do so, and they were always amply repaid when they saw that their pupils had benefited thereby. He was proud to see the excellent work that evening by the W.M. and the I.P.M., who were two of his most honoured pupils. The W.M. was a very old friend of his, and he was delighted to have been present at his installation.

Bro. J. Duncan, P.M., also responded, remarking that the W.M. would prove equal to any emergency.

In giving "The Installing Master, Bro. R. Philip Upton," the W.M. said: All those that were present in the lodge must have been very much impressed by the excellent way Bro. Upton performed the installation ceremony. He is an ardent Mason and takes a very great interest in Freemasonry, and spares no trouble in everything he does for the interests of the lodge.

The toast was drunk with acclamation, and Bro. R. Philip Upton, P.M., was enthusiastically received. He said it was a great pleasure to him to have had the honour to install the W.M., and they had worked together for a long time. He felt very much indebted to the I.P.M., Bro. Faux, for allowing him to act as Installing Master. He had been called an old fossil, but he did not feel one, and if he could do anything for their good old lodge he would be only too happy.

In submitting the toast of "The Immediate and other Past Masters," the W.M. said: Bro. Faux, the I.P.M., during his year of office did his work in a very efficient manner, and you all know how ably he went through all the offices he filled, and that his great services were appreciated. Then, as to the Past Masters, they are always willing to render any assistance, and I am quite sure they are all endeared to and appreciated by the members.



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

In response, Bro. Faux, I.P.M., stated that, as their late Master, he tried to do his best, but he was now amongst those who were the actual backbone of the lodge and he had to thank them (the Past Masters) for their great assistance while he was in the chair.

Bro. Major R. Payne, P.M., also responded, and said that something that evening had been mentioned about old fossils, and he ought to be silent as stone could not speak. As a Past Master of 10 years' standing he was glad to see the lodge in great prosperity and might it always be so. He and the other Past Masters were deeply grateful to the members for the way they were always received.

The W.M. proposed "The Treasurer and Secretary," and said: Their association with the lodge had been over a great number of years, the Secretary being one of the Founders; both had taken high honours, being Grand Officers, and with their able assistance I look forward with much pleasure to a happy term of office as Master.

Bro. J. L. Thomas, P.M., P.A.G.D.C., Sec., said he had to respond in a dual capacity as the Treasurer had had to leave to catch his train. Their Treasurer was excellent and his great services were much appreciated. He was initiated in the lodge and he (Bro. Thomas) initiated him, and he had gone on in Masonry with great progress, as he was a Grand Officer and second in the Province of Surrey. As to himself as Secretary, he had the lodge dearly at heart and felt the deepest interest in its welfare. He belonged to other lodges, but the Granite was dearer to him than any, and it was an honour to be the Secretary of such an important lodge, and it was a pleasure to do all he could for it. He was going to Gibraltar for two months, but he would be back in time for the May meeting, and in conclusion, he wished the W.M. everything he could wish himself.

In submitting the next toast, the W.M. said: The last toast that I have the privilege to propose this evening is "The Officers of the Lodge." Although it is the last, it is far from the least in importance, for we all know that however efficient a Mason may be, the success of a lodge mainly depends upon the officers. They were all good men and true, and I am quite sure they will perform their duties with zeal and in a manner creditable to themselves and to the lodge, and I couple with the toast the name of the S.W., Bro. Val J. R. Longman.

Bro. Longman, in response, said that he would do his utmost to assist the W.M., and if it fell to his happy lot to be hereafter elected Master of the Granite Lodge, he hoped to be received with the same *accolade* as the W.M. had been.

The Tyler's toast ended a very pleasant and memorable night, and one that will be long remembered.

The W.M. had provided a splendid vocal entertainment, which was carried out under the able direction of Bro. W. Emerson, and the following also took part: Madame Laura Brown, Miss Greta Williams, who received a well deserved encore, Mr. Percy Mordy, R.I.O., Mr. Hubert Gray, Mr. Walter Hengler, and Bro. Wallis Arthur.

A word of praise is due to Miss Greta Williams and Mr. Percy Mordy for their great efforts.

The W.M., Bro. Charles Smith, was initiated in the Granite Lodge 14 years ago, and has filled all the various offices, with the exception of I.G. He has been a subscriber to the three Institutions, and is a Life Governor of the Boys, and is going up as Steward for the lodge at the forthcoming Festival. A worthy Mason he!

Aldersgate Lodge, No. 1657.

The installation meeting of this well-known and renowned City lodge was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on Monday, the 15th instant. Present: Bros. Septimus Croft, W.M.; Geo. Rawlinson P.M., acting S.W.; Thos. Briggs, J.W., W.M. elect; Samuel White, P.M., Treas.; George Kenning, P.M. 192 and 1657, Sec.; H. Nicholas Bennett, S.D.; Rupert Smyth, J.D.; E. Anderton, P.M., acting I.G.; H. Thomas, Tyler; J. Larkin, P.M.; Matthew R. Webb, P.M.; A. B. Hudson, P.M.; Sir John B. Monckton, F.S.A., P.G.W.; Dr. G. Mickley, A.G.D.C.; Sheriff Rogers, I.P.M. 2499; Martin Luther Moss (Mayor of Croydon), 1556; Sir F. Edridge, 1556; the Rev. Stephen J. Barrass, Chap. 1928; E. A. Walker, J. C. Hayes, W. Hooker, W. G. A. Edwards, S. B. Cohen, O. Newling, Baron de Bush, J.W. 1827; Dr. W. H. Bourke, W.M. 1635; J. Crouch, S. G. C. Sansom, C. A. Morris, W. W. Hewitt, H. C. Heard, P.P.G.D. Herts; J. E. G. de Montmorency, G. L. Wingate, Deputy Goodinge, John Williams, Dr. S. Parsons Smith, P.M. 1556, P.P.G.D. Surrey; G. Briggs, P.M. 1572; E. Stratton Gerrish, P.M. 2580; C. J. Thomas, T. H. B. Hitching, Millar Wilkinson, T. W. Chant, J. H. Kemm, P.M. 803, P.P.G. Stwd. Bedfordshire; T. A. Richardson, P.M. 1397; W. C. B. Bellamy, P.M. 1397; J. Gordon Langton, P.M. 96; Fred. Robinson, 1026; J. Dives, 1670; Fred. Ross, 1556; P. S. Smith, S.W. 1768; Ralph Langton; Felix Barry, 1523; T. C. Christmas, P.M. 194; C. Garton, J.W. 192; and C. H. Stone, P.M. 507.

The lodge was opened and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, after which the Auditors' report was received, adopted, and entered on the minutes. Bro. A. B. Hudson, P.M., assumed the chair of W.M. and passed Bro. Saml. G. C. Sansom in a highly creditable manner. Bro. Thos. Briggs, J.W., W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. E. Anderton, P.M., to Bro. Sir J. B. Monckton to receive at his hands the benefit of installation, which was performed in a masterly and perfect manner, who also rehearsed the addresses most impressively. The W.M. invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. Septimus Croft, I.P.M.; Hy. Nicholas Bennett, S.W.; Rupert Smyth, J.W.; Samuel White, P.M., Treas.; Geo. Kenning, P.M. 192 & 1657, P. Prov. G.D. Middx., Secretary; Clarence R. R. Hopper, S.D.; Arthur B. Hudson, P.M., J.D.; Samuel G. Claydon Sansom, I.G.; Edward Anderton, P.M., D.C.; and H. Thomas, Tyler. The W.M. next rose and said a very pleasing duty now devolved upon him, and he was proud to be the medium of presenting to Bro. Septimus Croft the splendid Past Master's jewel, not only as a token for his able work while in the chair, but to show to him the high esteem he was held in by every brother in the lodge. He hoped that the I.P.M. would wear it for many years, and that it would always remind him of their sincere regard and affection. In reply, Bro. Croft, I.P.M., said he was deeply sensible of the many kindnesses rendered him at all times by the brethren and the receiving of the splendid jewel at their hands was indeed to him a very great pleasure. He trusted for many years he should look upon that mark of their appreciation as a souvenir of a very happy year of office. Bro. Thos. Briggs, W.M., announced to the brethren that Bro. Sir J. Monckton, the Installing Master was unable to attend the banquet on account of his not being well, but before he left the lodge it was their duty to pass to him the most cordial and grateful thanks of the brethren for his great kindness in rehearsing the beautiful installation ceremony with such ability and dignity. Bro. Sir John Monckton, the W.M. said had rehearsed that ceremony considerably more than a 100 times, and certainly he showed his sympathy with, and it was a pleasurable duty to him to assist other lodges. The W.M. had always admired his devotion to duty and his kindness in making many sacrifices as he had done that evening although not in the best of health. Such kindnesses and devotion tended to hallow the whole of the proceedings, and, therefore, he and the brethren of the Aldersgate Lodge were deeply grateful and most cordially thanked him. Bro. Sir J. Monckton said he was deeply sensible of the great kindness always shown him. He was not strange to the lodge being already an hon. member. It was a pleasure to him to assist where he was asked in the installation ceremony. He had installed 147 Masters in the chair of K.S., and he hoped to complete the 150th in the course of a few days. It was his desire after that for the ceremony to be performed by younger brethren, as he did not think there should be a perpetual Installing Officer. He should look on the W.M. as one of the most promising upon the completion of his year to perform that ceremony from the manner he had performed his duties that evening, and he was assured that every visiting brother in the lodge was of the same opinion. A proposition for a joining member and also for a candidate for initiation was handed in to the Secretary.

The business of the lodge being ended, the brethren adjourned to a *recherche* banquet.

Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft," remarking that the name of their gracious sovereign was loved and honoured, and commanded their respect. This was an eventful year and her reign the greatest in length and without parallel in this or any other country.

The toast was drunk most enthusiastically.

The toast of "His Royal Highness, the M.W.G.M." the W.M. said was one honoured by all brethren. All knew the deep interest he took in and the benign influence he shed on Freemasonry, which under his sway had extended greatly all over the globe.

The toast was most cordially responded to.

The W.M. next presented the toast of "The M.W. Pro G.M., the R.W. Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past." He said the lodge had expected several to be present, but from various reasons they were unable. The lodge during the earlier years of its existence could boast of two excellent Grand Officers, Bros. J. Derby Allcroft and Dr. Brette, who had passed away. He should be pleased if the lodge could be honoured by Grand Officers being among its members. The Grand Officers were ever ready and always gave their valuable time ungrudgingly for the benefit of the Craft. The lodge gave a most cordial greeting to Bro. Mickley, A.G.D.C.

In reply, Bro. Mickley said he felt very diffident to respond to the toast so ably given and received by the brethren. In fact, it was always received most cordially. He regretted his brother Grand Officers' absence, who were more worthy to respond; but their Pro Grand Master was a host in himself, the Deputy Grand Master most highly honoured and respected, more particularly in the Province of Kent, and the rest of the Grand Officers most worthily chosen. The lodge had witnessed that evening the splendid work of Bro. Sir John Monckton, P.G.W. He was proud to be present at such a lodge, and to have such a cordial reception.

Bro. Septimus Croft, I.P.M., in presenting the toast of "The W.M.," said it was indeed a proud privilege for him to give it, and he was confident it would have a most hearty reception. The Aldersgate Lodge was proud to have so worthy and able a brother as its W.M., for the manner he had performed the duties of the lodge thoroughly justified the choice of the brethren. He was a most ardent worker in Freemasonry, and, above all, had in every way most nobly supported the Masonic Charities, although so young a Mason. Likewise he was a highly-respected citizen and hard worker in the various companies of the City of London, and one most agreeable to work with. He had the best wishes of every brother in the lodge for a happy and prosperous year of office.

The W.M. (who received quite an ovation) replied it was deeply gratifying to have such a greeting and such a reception, not in the least anticipated. He was, indeed, dismayed at the thought when elected to such an honourable position (through the S.W. having been obliged to decline on account of important business which called him away from England), but, having put his hand to the plough, he could not look back. It was only three years since his initiation, but they had certainly been very happy. He would, however, claim their indulgence, but he would endeavour to carry out the duties to the utmost with the same efficiency as his predecessors, so that the harmony and prosperity of the lodge might be sustained.

The Worshipful Master at this juncture stated he should very much desire that the collection should be made for the Diamond Jubilee Commemoration Hospital Fund, which was made and resulted in the sum of £5 14s. 6d. being collected to mark the appreciation of the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

The Worshipful Master next gave the toast of "The Visitors," giving them a hearty welcome, the delight in seeing them, and also the hope they would take away as pleasant memories as he assured them they would leave behind.

Bro. Sheriff Rogers, in reply, said the visitors had had a great treat at the hands of the W.M. Being a Prov. Grand Officer, and there were many others also present, he was delighted to have seen such excellent working. The ceremony of installation had been rehearsed, which was a great feast of reason. He was certainly Sheriff of the first City, but on the present occasion all were brethren, and on behalf of the visitors he said all had thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Bros. Sir F. Edridge, Knt., Moss, and Rev. Stephen J. Barrass also most appropriately and ably responded.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was next presented by the W.M., who stated the gratitude which was due to them for the great support always most readily and cheerfully given. He trusted that kindly feeling might long continue. He would specially mention that the brethren were greatly indebted to the I.P.M., Bro. Croft, for his great kindness and hospitality shown during his year of office in the entertainment given to the brethren at his country residence, which would certainly be a red-letter day with the brethren of the lodge.

Bro. Croft, in reply, said he was thankful for the kind words spoken by the W.M., which he thought were greatly magnified, as his services rendered to the lodge were a great pleasure to him. He was grateful to the brethren for the kind forbearance shown him during his Mastership and would assure the brethren that what services he had rendered were most cheerfully and heartily given.

Bros. Anderton and Hudson also ably replied, pledging their services to assist in promoting the prosperity of the lodge.

The Worshipful Master gave the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," who remarked they were two such excellent officers, so indispensable, and inseparable for many years he hoped; for their services the brethren most cordially thanked them.

Bro. White, P.M., Treas., replied. He was extremely obliged for such words from the W.M., and to the brethren for so kindly receiving the same. He had been Treasurer for some years, and he had never witnessed the work done better. He never responded to the toast with greater pleasure than on the present occasion. In fact it would be a red-letter day in the lodge. All the brethren were so harmonious, and he looked forward with an immense amount of pleasure in the coming year to the various offices being filled with the greatest efficiency.

Bro. George Kenning, Sec., also replied.

The toast of "The Officers" was given by the W.M., with words of high eulogium, which was replied to by the S. and J. Wardens, in terms of high appreciation. The S.W. specially paid a high compliment to the late S.W. (Bro. W. R. Brunskill Briscoe), who had worked so well in the lodge.

The Tyler's toast closed a most happy and enjoyable evening.

An excellent programme of music was provided by the students of the Guildhall School of Music, among whom were Miss Jessie Hudleston, Miss Ada Giles, Miss Maude Clough, and Bros. Tom Powley, and Geo. H. Dawson. Mr. Geo. Douglas Boxall ably presided at the piano.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Just on going to press we hear that at the Matriculation Examination of the London University last month, the two boys entered from our Boys' School have been successful in gaining places in the First Division. Out of 1300 passes only 12 gained a higher place.

Obituary.

BRO. RUDOLPH GUSTAVUS GLOVER, P.D.G.D.C.

It is with deep regret we have to record the death of Bro. Rudolph Gustavus Glover, Past Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies, which, to the great sorrow of his numerous friends, took place at his residence in St. James'-street, on the afternoon of Tuesday last. Bro. Glover, who was the son of the late Mr. Glover, Librarian to his late Majesty King William IV., and to her present Majesty, was born in the year 1834, and received his education at St. Paul's School. In the year 1853, he was appointed to a clerkship in the Treasury, from which he was transferred, the following year, to the War Office, in which he became a Principal clerk in the year 1878, a position he held up to the time of his death. Bro. Glover was initiated into Masonry in the year 1864, in the Universal Lodge, No. 181. He subsequently filled the Master's chair of that lodge, and of the Bard of Avon Lodge, No. 778. In the year 1872, he joined the Prince of Wales' Lodge, of which a few years since he filled the chair of Deputy Master. He was a Past Grand Deacon of Middlesex, a Past Grand Steward of England, and in 1886, received from the M.W. Grand Master the appointment of Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies of England. In the Royal Arch, Bro. Glover was a P.Z. of the Prince of Wales', the Universal, and the Bard of Avon Chapters, Past Grand Scribe N. of Middlesex, and Past Grand Standard Bearer of England. Bro. Glover was associated with numerous Charities both in and outside the Craft. He was Vice-President of two of the Masonic Charities, a Life Governor of the third, and served seven times the office of Steward. He took a special interest in the Foundling Hospital, of which he had been for some years both a Governor and a member of the Managing Committee. In the Ancient and Accepted Rite he was a member of the 3rd Degree, and was a P.M. W.S. of the Bard of Avon Rose Croix Chapter. He was a Past Grand Officer in the Mark and a Past Provincial Grand Officer of Middlesex and Surrey. Bro. Glover, who had a great taste for antiquarian research, was elected many years since a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. He was a member of the Court and a Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Needle Makers. The funeral will take place at Brompton Cemetery to-morrow (Saturday) at 11 o'clock. His genial qualities endeared him to a very large circle of friends, by whom his loss will be deeply and sincerely mourned.

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It is the Ideal Life Office—The Life Office of the People.

What its Business?

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Though only 30 years old, it stands with respect to Premium Income the tenth in a list of British Life Offices.

MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, February 27th, 1897.

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall.
- 6, Castle Lodge of Harmony, Savoy Hotel.
- 28, Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Hall.
- 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
- 183, Unity, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
- 222, St. Andrew, Albion Tavern.
- 706, Florence Nightingale, Royal Mortar Hotel, Woolwich.
- 902, Burgoyne, Anderton's Hotel.
- 1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hotel.
- 1615, Bayard, 33, Golden-square.
- 1744, Royal Savoy, Criterion.
- 2306, Bishopsgate, Great Eastern Hotel.
- 2307, Columbia, Criterion.
- 2614, Household Brigade, Prince's Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 12, Prudence, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
- 1319, Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1015, Bayard, 33, Golden-square.
- 1745, Farringdon Without, Anderton's Hotel.

MARK LODGE.

- 226, Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.

SECRET MONITOR.

- 5, Horatio Shirley, Holborn Restaurant.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Blackheath, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8.
- Cripplegate, Goldsmiths' Arms, Gutter-lane, at 6.30.
- Dalhousie, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.
- Eleanor, Rose and Crown, High Cross, Tottenham, at 8.
- Friars, The White Horse, 94, White Horse-lane, Mile End-rd., E., at 8.
- Hyde Park, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terr., Bishop's-rd., Paddington, at 8.
- Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30.
- Marquess of Ripon, Mildmay Tavern, Ball's Pond-road, N., 7.30.
- Metropolitan, Moorgate Tavern, 15, Finsbury-pavement, at 7.30.
- Neptune, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, S.W., at 7.30.
- North London Chapter, Cock Hotel, Highbury, at 8.
- Perseverance, Ridder's Hotel, Holborn, E.C., at 7.
- Queen's Westminster, Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8.
- Regent's Park, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.
- Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hotel (opposite Wimbledon Railway Station), at 7.30.
- Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, Putney, at 8.
- St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road.
- St. Michael's, Norland Arms, Addison-rd. North, Uxbridge-rd., 8.
- Sincerity, Blackwall Railway Hotel, Fenchurch-street, at 7.
- Stockwell, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 6.
- United Military, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich, at 7.30.
- Upton, Great Eastern Hotel, Bishopsgate-street, at 8.
- Walthamstow, The Chequers, High-street, Walthamstow, at 8.
- Wellington, New Cross House, New Cross, at 8.
- Woodrow, Star and Garter Hotel, Pall Mall, W., at 3.
- Zetland, "The Falkland," Falkland-road, N.W., at 8.
- Doric Chapter, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 6.
- Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8.
- North London Chapter, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 14, Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall.
- 46, Old Union, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
- 92, Moira, Albion Tavern.
- 141, Faith, Anderton's Hotel.
- 145, Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.
- 165, Honour and Generosity, Inns of Court Hotel.
- 186, Industry, Freemasons' Hall.
- 250, Prince of Wales, Hotel Metropole.
- 1348, Ebury, Criterion.
- 1441, Ivy, Surrey Masonic Hall.
- 2108, Empire, Criterion.
- 2424, St. Stephens, The Art Club, Lewisham.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 7, Royal York Chapter of Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall.
- 186, St. James's Union, Freemasons' Hall.
- 548, Wellington, Bridge House Hotel.
- 1339, Stockwell, Holborn Restaurant.

MARK LODGES.

- 3, Keystone, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
- 406, Scots, Mark Masons' Hall.

ROSE CROIX.

- 29, Palestine, 33, Golden-square.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, S.E., at 8.
- Capper, City Arms, St. Mary Axe, at 6.
- Clarence and Avondale, Green Man Hotel, Leytonstone, E., at 8.
- Constitutional, "Apple Tree and Mitre," 30, Cursitor-street, Chancery-lane, W.C., at 7.
- Chaucer, Grapes Tavern (Slee & Pike's), 121, Borough High-street, at 8.
- Corinthian, George Hotel, Cubitt Town, Poplar, at 8.
- Dalhousie, Lord Truro, Dalston-lane, at 8.
- Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.
- Duke of Cornwall, Queen's Arms, Queen-street, Cheapside, at 7.
- Egyptian, Salutation, Newgate-street, at 7.
- Emblematic, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.
- Enfield, Rose and Crown, Church-street, Edmonton, at 8.
- Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tavern, Plough-road, Rotherhithe.
- Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-street, Westminster, at 8.
- Finsbury, The Bell Hotel, Old Bailey, at 7.
- Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-street, Woolwich, 2nd and 4th Tiers, at 7.30.
- Hendon, Railway Hotel, West Hampstead, N.W., at 8.
- Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 7.30.
- Joppa, "The Moorgate," 15, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30.
- Kensington, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.
- Kirby, Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras Station, at 7.30.
- Mount Edgumbe, Havelock Arms, Naylor-road, Asylum-road, Peckham, at 8.
- Nelson, Star and Garter, Powis-street, Woolwich, at 8.
- New Cross, Chester Arms, Albany-street, N.W., at 8.
- New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tav., Finsbury Park, at 8.
- Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, Greenwich, at 8.
- Richmond, Station Hotel, Richmond, at 8.30.
- Robert Burns, Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W.
- South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Waltham Green, S.W., at 7.30.
- St. Kew, Masonic Hall, Weston-super-Mare, at 8.
- St. Leonard's, Bedford Hotel, Victoria Park-road, South Hackney, at 8.
- Southwark, White Hart Hotel, New Cross Gate, at 8.
- Wandsworth, St. Mark's School-room, Battersea Rise, S.W., at 8.
- Westbourne, Oliver Arms, Westbourne-terrace North, Harrow-road, at 8.
- Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8.
- Camden Chapter, The Moorgate, Moorgate-street, at 8.
- Kintore Mark Lodge, Stirling Castle Hotel, Camberwell Green, S.E., at 8.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24.

FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 2, Antiquity, Freemasons' Hall.
- 201, Jordan, Freemasons' Hall.
- 212, Euphrates, Holborn Restaurant.
- 898, Temperance in the East, Assembly Rooms, Poplar.
- 1580, St. Dunstan's, Anderton's Hotel.
- 1718, Centurion, Inns of Court Hotel.
- 1768, Progress, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1818, Clapham, Criterion.
- 2395, Avondale, Clarence Rooms, Brixton.
- 2455, St. Martin's, New Town Hall, Charing Cross.
- 2502, Papyrus, Criterion.
- 2626, Leyton, Three Blackbirds Inn.

ROSS CROIX.

- 107, Shadwell Clerke, 33, Golden-square.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Beaconsfield, Chequers Hotel, High-street, Walthamstow, at 8.
- Belgrave, Salutation Tavern, Newgate-street, at 6.30.
- Bromley St. Leonard, Bromley Vestry Hall, Bow-road, at 8.
- City of Westminster, Cafe Royal, "B" Room, at 8.
- Confidence, Bunch of Grapes, 14, Lime-street, E.C., at 7.
- Creaton, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
- Derby Allcroft, Midland Grand Hotel, at 8.
- Doric, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, at 8.
- Duke of Albany, The Clock House, Battersea-park-road, at 8.
- Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, 8.
- Earl of Lathom, Station Tavern, Camberwell New-road, S.E., 8.
- Fidelity, Alfred Tavern, Roman-road, Barnsbury, N., at 8.
- Gallery, Press Club, Wine Office-court, Fleet-street, at 7.
- Guelph, Plough and Harrow, Leytonstone-road, E., at 8.
- Langthorne, Angel Hotel, Hford, at 8.
- La Tolerance, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.
- Lewisham, Black Bull, Lewisham, S.E., at 8.
- Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John-street, Mayfair, at 8.
- London Scottish Rifles, Albert Hotel, Victoria-street, S.W., 8.30.
- Merchant Navy, Town Hall, Limehouse, at 7.30.
- Mitcham, Vestry Hall, Mitcham, at 8.
- Mount Lebanon, Foresters' Arms, 294, Boro' High-street, at 8.
- New Concord, Farleigh Hotel, Amherst-road, N., at 8.
- Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7.30.
- Plucknett, Railway Hotel, Finchley, at 7.45.
- Prosperity, Weaver's Arms, London Wall, at 7.
- Rose of Denmark, Brunswick House, Wandsworth-road, at 8.
- Royal Jubilee, the Crown, Lambeth-road, S.E., at 8.
- Royal Oak, Lord Clyde, Wotton-road, Deptford, at 8.
- St. Leonard, Prince of Wales Hotel, Bishop's-rd., Victoria Pk., 8.
- Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 8.
- Strong Man, Blue Anchor, 164, Fenchurch-street, E.C., at 6.30.
- Temperance-in-the-East, Greenwich Pensioner, Bow-lane, Poplar, at 7.30.
- United Mariners, Duke of Albany, Kitto-road, Nunhead, at 7.30.
- United Strength, Hope Tavern, Stanhope-st., Euston-road, at 8.
- Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-street, S.W., at 7.30.
- Whittington, Red Lion Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8.
- Zodiac, Denmark Hotel, East Ham, at 8.
- Andrew Chapter, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
- Domestic Chapter, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, W., at 8.
- Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 8.
- Camden Mark Lodge, Earl Russell, Pancras-road, King's Cross, at 7.30.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25.

- General Committee Girls' School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 5.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 22, Neptune, Guildhall Tavern.
- 34, Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall.
- 65, Prosperity, Holborn Restaurant.
- 66, Grenadiers, Freemasons' Hall.
- 99, Shakespear, Albion Tavern.
- 507, United Pilgrims, Bridge House Hotel.
- 858, South Middlesex, Beaufort Hotel, Fulham.
- 861, Finsbury, Great Eastern Hotel.
- 871, Royal Oak, White Swan, Deptford.
- 1563, City of Westminster, Cafe Royal.
- 1601, Ravensbourne, Board of Works Offices, Catford Bridge.
- 1608, Kilburn, Blanchard's Restaurant.
- 1816, Victoria Park, London Tavern.
- 1974, St. Mary Abbott's, Bailey's Hotel, Kensington.
- 2204, Chough, Cannon-street Hotel.
- 2625, Guardian, Ship and Turtle Tavern.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 29, St. Alban's, Albion Tavern.
- 157, Bedford, Holborn Restaurant.
- 102, Cadogan, Freemasons' Hall.
- 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hotel.
- 706, William Preston, Cannon-street Hotel.
- 2271, St. Pancras, Midland Grand Hotel.

MARK LODGE.

- 211, Earl of Carnarvon, Anderton's Hotel.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Burdett-Coutts, Swan Tavern, New Bethnal Green-road, at 8.
- Burgoyne, Coach and Horses, 348, Clapham-road, S.W., at 7.30.
- Covent Garden, The Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8.
- Crescent, King's Head Hotel, Twickenham, at 8.30.
- Duke of Edinburgh, Eastern Hotel, East India Dock Rd., E., 7.30.
- Elliott, Railway Hotel, Feltham.
- Great City, Red Cross, Paternoster-square, at 7.
- High Cross, Coach and Horses, High-road, Tottenham, at 8.
- Higgate, Falkland Arms, Falkland-road, N.W., at 8.
- Hornsey, White Hart Masonic Rooms, Lewisham, S.E., at 8.
- Ivy, Railway Tavern, Battersea Rise, S.W., at 8.
- Justice, Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford, at 8.
- Kent, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, at 8.
- Langton, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 5.30.
- Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, E.C., at 7.
- Montefiore, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 7.
- Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, at 7.
- Priory, Berrymead Priory, Acton, at 8.15.
- Rose, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8.
- Royal Albert, White Hart Hotel, Abchurch-lane, at 7.30.
- Royal Savoy, Prince of Wales, Hampstead-road, at 7.30.
- St. Ambrose, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.
- St. John's, Court House, Harlesden, N.W., at 7.30.
- St. John's, Queen Victoria Tavern, Exmouth-st., Stepney at 8.
- St. Luke's, Victoria Tavern, Gertrude-street, Chelsea, at 8.
- Sir Hugh Myddelton, Star and Garter, Upper-st., Islington, at 8.
- Southern Star, Sir Sydney Smith, Chester-st., Kennington, at 8.
- Stockwell, Salutation Tavern, Newgate-street, at 6.30.
- Tranquillity, Restaurant Frascati, Oxford-street, W., at 8.
- Tredegar, The Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars, E.C., at 7.30.
- Union Waterloo, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-street, Woolwich.
- Victoria Park, George Hotel, Stratford, E., at 7.30.
- Industry Chapter, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, at 8.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26.

- Council Boys' School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 4.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 107, Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall.
- 509, Fitz-Roy, Head Quarters Hon. Artillery Co., City-road.
- 2000, Earl of Mornington, Cafe Royal.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
- 749, Belgrave, Anderton's Hotel.
- 1210, Macdonald, Surrey Masonic Hall.

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS.

- 1, Grand Masters, Mark Masons' Hall.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Albion, The Moorgate, Finsbury-pavement, E.C., at 7.
- All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar, at 7.30.
- Citadel, Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst-road, Stoke Newington, N., 8.
- Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, E.C., at 7.
- Coborn, The George Inn, High-road, South Woodford, at 8.
- Crusaders, Northampton Arms, Goswell-road, at 8.30.
- Earl of Carnarvon, Elgin Hotel, Ladbrooke-grove, Notting-hill, 8.
- Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.
- Euphrates, Green Man, Mansell-street, Whitechapel, E., at 8.
- Emulation, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.
- Gavel Club, Freemasons' Tavern, at 8.
- Harrow, Waterloo Arms, High-street, Marylebone, at 8.
- Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 8.
- Kennington, Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, S.E., at 8.
- Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8.
- Loyalty, Private Rooms, 206, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8.
- Metropolitan (Victoria), Mail Coach, 60, Farringdon-street, at 7.
- Ranelagh, Six Bells, Queen-street, Hammersmith, W., at 8.
- Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-st., Camberwell, at 8.
- Royal Standard, Castle Tavern, 81, Holloway-road, at 8.
- Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 8.
- St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-road, S.E., at 8.
- Savage Club, Savage Club, Adelphi-terrace, at 6.
- Selwyn, Montpelier Tavern, Choumert-road, Peckham, at 8.
- Stability, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons'-avenue, at 6.
- Stanhope, Fox and Hounds Hotel, Upper Richmond-road, Putney, at 8.30.
- Temperance, Railway Tavern, New Cross-road, at 8.
- The Abbey, The Town Hall, Westminster, 7.30 till 9.30.
- United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.
- Woodgrange, Princess Alice Hotel, Forest Gate, E., at 8.
- Eastern Star Chapter, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, 2nd and 4th Friday, at 7.
- Dagmar Chapter, "Slee & Pike's," 121, Boro' High-street, at 8.
- Hornsey Chapter, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace Bishop's-road, Paddington, W., at 8.
- Lily of Richmond Chapter, Station Hotel, Richmond, at 8.30.
- Pythagorean Chapter, Dover Castle, Broadway, Deptford, at 8.
- Star Chapter, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-st., Camberwell, at 8.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27.

- House Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at Croydon, at 3.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 1541, Alexandra Palace, Holborn Viaduct Hotel.
- 1584, Loyalty and Charity, Frascati Restaurant.
- 1706, Orpheus, Holborn Restaurant.
- 2513, Sir Walter St. John, Surrey Masonic Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 1185, Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green.
- 1623, West Smithfield, Anderton's Hotel.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Alexandra Palace, Station Hotel, Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.
- Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, King-st., Hammersmith, at 7.30.
- Duke of Connaught, The Lord Napier, West Side, London Fields, at 8.
- Ebury, The Rockingham, Newington Causeway, at 8.
- Ecceleston, Victoria Tavern, 46 Buckingham Palace-road, at 7.
- Evening Star, Rutland Hotel, Perry Hill, Catford, at 8.
- Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, at 8.
- King Harold, Four Swans, Waltham Cross, at 7.
- Manchester, Waterloo Arms, High-street, Marylebone, at 8.
- Star, New Cross House, Deptford, S.E., at 7.
- Vitruvian, Duke of Albany Hotel, Kitto-road, St. Katherine's park, Hatcham, S.E., at 7.30.
- Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8.

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Masonic and General Tidings.

INDIAN FAMINE FUND.—Down to Thursday night the Lord Mayor's Fund at the Mansion House for the Indian Famine sufferers had reached a total of £310,000, including a donation of £3,000 from Dundee (per the Lord Provost).

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, attended by Major-General Clarke and Bro. Sir Francis Knollys, arrived at Marlborough House from Sandringham on Monday evening.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN and daughter, the Princess Victoria, have concluded their visit to the Bishop of Winchester at Farnham Castle, and returned to Cumberland Lodge, Windsor.

A COURT DINNER of the Spectacle Makers' Company was held on Monday evening, when it was announced that the Company had decided to subscribe 20 guineas per annum for three years to the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund.

BRO. SIR HENRY IRVING has consented to preside as Chairman at the Anniversary Festival, which will be held at the Whitehall Room of the Hôtel Métropole some time during the month of May on behalf of the Royal Society of Musicians.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, who is President of the German Hospital, has promised to take the chair at the 52nd Anniversary Festival on behalf of that institution to be held in the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole, on Friday, the 30th April.

BRO. W. L. JACKSON, M.P., who has just completed his 57th year, has been suffering from a sharp attack of sciatica, but nevertheless was able to preside at the opening meeting of the South Africa Select Committee on Tuesday. The first witness called was Bro. Cecil Rhodes.

BRO. SIR FREDERICK AND LADY DIXON-HARTLAND entertained at dinner at the House of Commons on Monday evening the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, Bro. Lord and Lady George Hamilton, Lady Westbury, Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain, Mr. and Mrs. Ritchie, and Sir David and Lady Salomons.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the Sheffield Press Club was held in the Cutlers' Hall on Saturday evening last under the presidency of the Master Cutler, the principal guest on the occasion being his Excellency the American Ambassador, who made a genial and hearty speech, which was loudly cheered by those present.

BRO. JAMES TERRY, P.G.S.B., Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, has very kindly consented to rehearse the ceremonies of consecration and installation in the James Terry Lodge of Instruction, No. 2372, held at the Four Swans Hotel, Waltham Cross, on Wednesday evening, the 24th March.

BRO. HAMAR BASS, M.P., has promised to contribute £15,000 towards providing a church and vicarage for the proposed new district of All Saints, Burton-on-Trent, on condition that an endowment of £300 per annum is raised. Towards this income Messrs. Bass, Ratcliff, and Gretton have promised £3,000, and Bro. Lord Burton £2,000.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK visited the Adelphi Theatre on Saturday evening last, and witnessed a performance of "Black-Ey'd Susan." The same day their Royal Highness's children, the young Princes of York, left Osborne for York House in charge of their nurses, crossing to Portsmouth on board the Royal yacht Alberta.

THE INTERNATIONAL CHESS MATCH between 10 leading British and American Champions resulted on Saturday last in a victory for the former by 5½ to 4½ points. There was a large attendance at the Hotel Cecil on the occasion and the play on the 10 boards was watched with great interest. The match was played by cable and did not terminate till close on midnight.

LADY KNUTSFORD inaugurated at the Garratt-lane Board School, Earlsfield, on Monday evening, the Wandsworth Branch of the Children's Happy Evenings Association. Her ladyship lost no time in declaring the Branch open, and then the young folks set about enjoying themselves, a pleasant surprise awaiting them at the end in the shape of a bounteous supply of oranges and buns.

THE QUEEN, accompanied by Princess Henry of Battenberg and her children, left Osborne for Windsor Castle on Monday morning and reached their destination about 2 p.m. Her Majesty, with the ladies and gentlemen of her Court, crossed over to Portsmouth on board the Royal Yacht Alberta.

FOR THE VACANCY in the representation of Haggerston on the London County Council caused by the retirement of Mr. E. P. Turton, two candidates, namely, Bro. George J. Shaw-Lefevre and Lord Wolverton offered themselves, and on Saturday last the result of the election was declared to be in favour of Bro. Shaw-Lefevre by 301 votes, the numbers announced being for Bro. Shaw-Lefevre, 2226; and for Lord Wolverton, 1925.

BY COMMAND of the Queen, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales will hold a Drawing Room at Buckingham Palace on her Majesty's behalf, at 3 p.m., on Thursday, the 4th March. On Monday, the 15th of the same month, the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn will hold a *Lévee* at St. James's Palace, and Tuesday, the 30th prox., the Duke of York will hold a similar function at the same Palace, it being her Majesty's pleasure that presentations to their Royal Highnesses shall be deemed equivalent to presentations to the Queen.

THE HOME DISTRICT RIFLE MEETING will be held at Bisley on May the 8th, when the principal prizes offered for competition will be the *Daily Telegraph* and General's Cups. There are 30 battalions in the District, which will be represented by one team each, the object of the competition being to secure excellence in shooting combined with marching. The team will be declared the winner which makes the greatest number of hits on the target after marching some 11 miles.

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY, attended by Bro. Sir R. Collins and the Hon. Mrs. Moreton, opened a three days' bazaar at the Kensington Town Hall on Monday in aid of the Church of England Society for Providing Homes for Waifs and Strays. There was a large attendance, her Royal Highness being received by a committee of ladies, and subsequently accorded a vote of thanks for her kindness in attending. The Duchess has likewise given her patronage to the Queen's Commemoration Fund for the homes provided by the Wesleyan-Methodists Church for the benefit of the men in her Majesty's Army and Navy.

THE EMPRESS FREDERICK OF GERMANY visited T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales at Sandringham towards the close of last week, and on Saturday last drove out with her hosts and the Princess Victoria of Wales, and on Monday her Imperial Majesty left Norfolk for Windsor Castle, where she arrived about 7.30 p.m., and rejoined the Queen. Among the visitors at Sandringham during the latter part of her stay were the French Ambassador, Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry, Earl and Countess Spencer, Bro. Lord Herschell, and Lord James of Hereford.

A DISASTROUS FIRE broke out in the Hop Warehouse of Messrs. Walton, Son, and Co., of Chapel-yard, Union-street, Borough High-street, about mid-day on Monday last, and the Fire Brigade were slowly but successfully getting the mastery over the flames when a tremendous explosion occurred, the roof collapsed, and the walls fell outwards and downwards, carrying with them staircases and floors, the men of the brigade, and falling upon other premises, the result being the deaths of two women and very serious injuries to many men and women, who were at once removed to Guy's Hospital and carefully tended.

LORD RUSSELL OF KILLOWEN, Lord Chief Justice of England, visited Hackney on Saturday last for the purpose of opening the new public baths, which have been erected at a cost of £65,000. His lordship remarked on the growth of Hackney, which 50 years ago consisted of some four or five streets with scattered houses, many parts of the present densely populated suburb then being occupied by market gardens. At the close of his lordship's address, Mr. Weeden, superintendent of the baths, dived through a paper-covered ring, which set free the flags of the United Kingdom and the United States, while the paper was replaced by a covering on which were the same flags with the motto "United we stand," in allusion to the part taken by Lord Russell in the question of arbitration between England and America. The display was received with enthusiastic cheers on the part of the spectators.

BRO. THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF ST. ALBANS have left London, or are on the point of leaving it, for Wimbledon, where they have taken a house for a short term.

DURING THE ABSENCE on leave of Bro. Major-General Lord Methuen, commanding the Home District, his command will be taken by Viscount Falmouth, commanding the Coldstream Guards.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS CARRINGTON returned to town early during the present week from Dublin Castle, where they had been on a visit to the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland and the Countess Cadogan.

CRYSTAL PALACE CONCERTS.—These famous concerts will be resumed on Saturday week, when the programme will consist entirely of the works of Schubert, in commemoration of the centenary of the composer's birth.

WE ARE GLAD to hear that Bro. Sir Henry Irving has completely recovered from the accident which befel him the morning after the production of "Richard III." at the Lyceum, and that he will resume the performance on Saturday next, the 27th inst.

BRO. F. G. DIMERY, P.P.G.P. Somerset, the present I.P.M. of Lodge Prudence, No. 2069, Leeds, and M.E.Z. of the Prudence Chapter, has just been presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel by the unanimous vote of the brethren of Lodge Prudence.

BRO. J. LEWIS THOMAS, F.S.A., P.A.G.D.C., leaves England to-day (Friday) for Gibraltar on the P. and O. steamer Australia, for a sojourn of two or three months with his son, Bro. Surgeon-Major G. Harley Thomas, F.S.A., F.R.C.S. Ed., who is quartered on the Rock.

A CONCERT WILL be given, by the kind permission of the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, at Stafford House, on the 11th May next, under the patronage of her Royal Highness, the Princess of Wales, in aid of the funds of the United British Women's Emigration Association.

THE DOWAGER COUNTESS DE LA WARR has been fortunate enough to recover her diamond tiara, which was found in the safe quite intact, after the recent fire in Grosvenor-street. Her ladyship's pearl necklace was also rescued, being very slightly injured by the heat.

THE LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE has sent cablegrams to the Premiers of the several Australian Colonies inviting them to a special banquet on the occasion of their approaching visit to this country in connection with the commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

IN A LETTER Bro. T. J. Hamp, of the Holborn Restaurant, has received from one of the leading members of the Boston Corps of the H.A.C. the gift of a souvenir paper-weight by the proprietors of the restaurant to each visitor is heartily acknowledged, and a cordial reference is made to the warm welcome extended to their friends by the English people.

THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL in behalf of the Mark Benevolent Fund will be held on Wednesday, the 14th July, under the presidency of Bro. Col. A. B. Cook, R.W. Prov. Grand Mark Master for Middlesex. Full particulars of Bro. C. F. Matier, P.G.W., G. Secretary, Secretary of the Fund, Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.

BRO. THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE presided at a meeting, at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Wednesday, the 17th inst., of the British Empire League, Lord Tennyson, Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., Sir R. Herbert, Sir Charles Fremantle, Sir Donald Smith, and several others being present. Lord Rothschild was appointed a Vice-President.

BROS. A. AKERS-DOUGLAS, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Lord Halsbury (Lord Chancellor), Sir M. Hicks-Beach, Bart. (Chancellor of the Exchequer), the Duke of Devonshire, Lord George Hamilton, W. Hume Long, and Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., were among the Ministers present at the Cabinet Council held at the Foreign Office on Wednesday.

THE GUILDHALL BANQUET TO POOR CHILDREN.—Bro. Alderman Treloar, after paying all expenses, including the cost of 1000 hampers, sent to poor crippled children, has given £34 6s. 1d., the surplus of his fund, to Mr. J. Kirk, the Secretary of the Ragged School Union. Each hamper contained a 2lb. pork pie, a plum pudding, a cake, a packet of tea, and a packet of sweets.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION will be resumed at the Red Cross (J. R. Huggett's), Paternoster-square, at 7 p.m., on Thursday, the 25th inst., and each succeeding Thursday, under the able Preceptorship of Bro. J. K. Gwyn. City brethren cordially invited. Offices will be taken on the first evening by officers of the mother lodge, and in rotation on future occasions.

A VERY SUCCESSFUL CONVERSATION has been held at the Birkbeck Institution, Chancery-lane. The students and friends began to arrive shortly after 6 p.m., and were received by Bro. Justice Gainsford Bruce, who takes a deep interest in educational matters, and was well supported by the principal and council of the Institution. In the course of the evening a succession of interesting entertainments was given.

WE REGRET to announce the death of the Countess of Devon, which occurred on Thursday afternoon at Powderham Rectory, Starcross, South Devon. She was taken ill on Monday, became unconscious shortly after, and gradually sank. The Countess of Devon, who was 82 years of age, was the daughter of Henrietta Annie Countess of Rothes, and married in 1835. The Earl of Devon is rector of Powderham and Prebendary of Exeter, and is in his 86th year.

AMONG THE GUESTS at the Parliamentary full-dress dinner given by the Speaker of the House of Commons (Bro. W. C. Gully, Q.C.) on Wednesday were Bros. the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., Sir John Mowbray, Bart., Sir Charles Dilke, Bart., Sir James Fergusson, Bart., Sir K. Hart Dyke, Bart., the Right Hon. W. L. Jackson, the Right Hon. A. Stanley Hill, Q.C., the Right Hon. C. Stuart Wortley, A. H. Smith Barry, Sir C. Dalrymple, Bart., and W. W. B. Beach.

AN INFLUENTIAL DEPUTATION, which included Lord Lister, Lord Rayleigh, Sir Douglas Galton, Sir Andrew Noble, and others, waited upon the Prime Minister, at the Foreign Office, on Tuesday, for the purpose of urging on his lordship the desirability of establishing a National Physical Laboratory at Kew or elsewhere, at a cost of £30,000 for building and a yearly grant of £5,000 for maintenance. His lordship's reception of the deputation was most cordial, and the answer he gave them, so far as it went, was deemed favourable.

LADY ASHBOURNE gave a ball at the residence, in Merrow-square, Dublin, of the Lord Chancellor of Ireland (Bro. Lord Ashbourne), on Tuesday evening, which was very numerously attended, among the principal personages present being the Lord Lieutenant and Countess Cadogan, the Duke and Duchess of Buccleugh and the Ladies Scott, the Marquis and Marchioness of Downshire, Lord and Lady Metingain, Lady Arthur Hill and Miss Hill, the Earl of Ava, and a number of the officers at present quartered in the Irish capital.

AT THE MEETING at Padstow on Tuesday evening in last week, of St. Petroc Lodge, No. 1785, a beautiful Past Master's jewel, subscribed for by the members, was presented to Bro. W. H. Pope, P.P.A.G. Sec. The presentation was made by Bro. W. Brown, W.M., who remarked that it was in recognition of services rendered the lodge and as a token of respect and esteem. Bro. Pope, to whom the presentation came as a surprise, thanked the brethren for their valuable gift and hoped his future work for the Craft might show, to some extent, how greatly he appreciated their kindness.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, as President of the Society of Arts, presented, at Marlborough House on Tuesday, to Professor D. E. Hughes, F.R.S., the Albert Medal awarded him by the Council of the Society in recognition of his services to arts, manufactures, and commerce by his many inventions in electricity and magnetism, especially the printing telegraph and microphone. In the afternoon his Royal Highness, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Teck, was present at the special service held in the Church of St. Saviour, Southwark, on the occasion of its re-opening after restoration. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, and other prelates took part in the ceremony, while the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress and Sheriffs of London were present in State.

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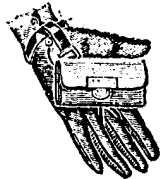
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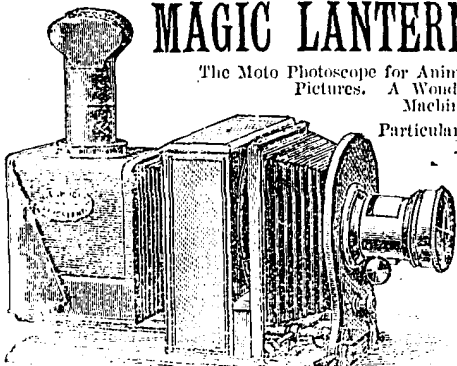


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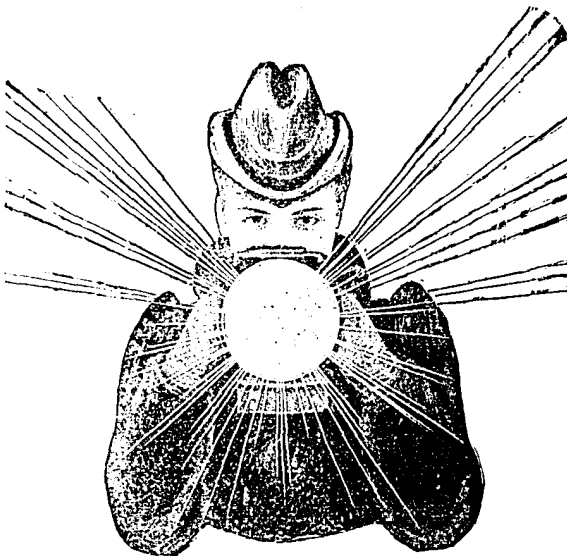
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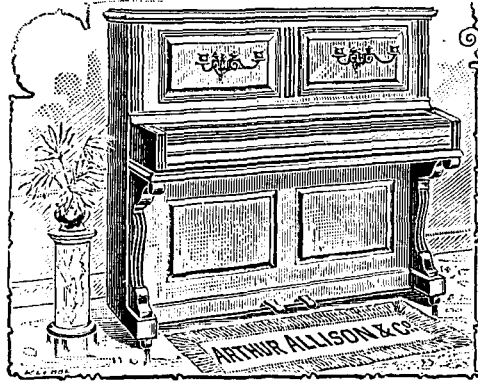
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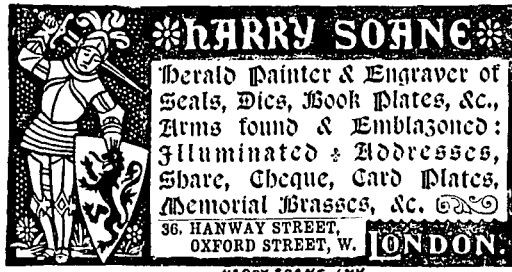
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