

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.

VOL. XXXVI. NO. 1461.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1897.

[PRICE 3d.]

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
LEADER—	
The Approaching Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls ...	115
The Grand Lodge of Tennessee ...	116
United Grand Lodge (Quarterly Communication) ...	116
Consecration of the Christ's Hospital Lodge, No. 2650 ...	118
Annual Festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement... ..	119
Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons (Quarterly Communication) ...	121
Annual Supper of the Citadel Lodge of Instruction, No. 1895 ...	121
The Recent Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution ...	121
Secret Monitor ...	121
MASONIC NOTES—	
Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge ...	123
Quarterly Communication of Grand Mark Lodge ...	123
Death of Mrs. Edward Terry ...	123
Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge of Victoria ...	123
Correspondence ...	124
Masonic Notes and Queries ...	124
Reviews ...	124
Ladies' Night of the Gallery Lodge, No. 1928... ..	124
A Ball of the St. John's Lodge, No. 1343 ...	126
Craft Masonry ...	126
Royal Arch ...	128
Consecration of New Masonic Chambers at Glasgow ...	129
Rosicrucian Society ...	129
Masonic and General Tidings ...	130

THE APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The Festivals of our three Institutions follow each other in, comparatively speaking, such rapid succession that now that of the Benevolent Institution has been held, and very successfully held, under the presidency of his Royal Highness the Duke of CONNAUGHT and STRATHEARN, there is no time to be lost in presenting to our readers the claims which the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls has upon the generous support of the whole English Craft. It has been arranged that its 109th Anniversary shall be celebrated on Wednesday, the 12th May, and R.W. Bro. Lord LLANGATTOCK, Prov. G. Master of South Wales (Eastern Division), has very kindly undertaken to preside as Chairman. We understand that Bro. F. R. W. HEDGES, the respected Secretary of the Institution, has every reason to be satisfied with the success, which, up till now has attended his efforts to form an efficient Board of Stewards for the occasion; but the satisfaction we feel at being able to make this announcement must not be understood to imply that this success has been above the average he has met with during the last four or five years, or that it will justify any relaxation on his part in the efforts it devolves upon him to make in obtaining the services of additional brethren as Stewards. In ordinary years the competition among the Secretaries of our Charities in order to obtain the requisite assistance has become so keen that it is not until the total of the Donations and Subscriptions has been announced at the very Festival itself that anything like relaxation in this direction is permissible. Moreover, the work which is being done by our several Charities has been so greatly extended of late years, there are now so many more old men and widows receiving annuities from our Benevolent Institution and so many more children being educated in our Schools than there were some 20 or 25 years since, that it has become a terribly hard struggle on the part of each of the three Charities to obtain the necessary amount of funds to maintain them in a state of efficiency. There is also this further difficulty that in the case of none of them is the permanent income sufficient for the year's requirements. Thus, the Girls' School now has on its establishment some 270 girls, and its annual expenditure falls very little short of £14,000. But the permanent income derived from the

very modest grants by Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter and the interest on invested capital amounts only to about £2000. There is consequently a deficiency of between £11,000 and £12,000, which must be made good annually or one of two alternative results must follow—either the number of girls on the establishment must be reduced, or an inroad made upon the small amount of invested capital. Now we do not for one moment think that the Craft desires that recourse should be had to either of these alternatives and as it is upon the proceeds of the Annual Festival that the authorities of the Institution have to rely year by year for the supply of the necessary ways and means, we sincerely trust between now and the second Wednesday in May Bro. HEDGES will succeed in constituting a Board of Stewards sufficiently numerous and influential to place beyond all doubt the success of the approaching Festival. Our lodges and brethren must bear in mind that it is at the instigation of the Craft generally that the School has been so greatly enlarged, and the present heavy annual expenditure made imperative. Some five and twenty years ago, the School supported only 100 girls, now it is well on its way towards supporting thrice that number. Moreover, the education and training which the children now receive is vastly superior to what it was then, and what tells still more strongly in favour of our appeal, the success of that education and training is more pronounced. It is but the other day that we had the pleasure of announcing that out of 19 girls who were entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations (Preliminary Stage) one passed with honours and 17 satisfied the examiners, while last year and for several years previous, the results in the same or more important public examinations have been equally or even more creditable still. Hence as it is by the will of the Craft generally that the School has been so considerably enlarged, and as it is clear that the children who are elected upon the establishment are thus admirably trained and educated, it is the manifest duty of the lodges and brethren to see that the efficiency of this magnificent School suffers no detriment from any relaxation of effort on their part to provide the ways and means for maintaining it. We, therefore, most earnestly appeal to all lodges and brethren under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England to render such assistance as may be in their power towards raising the £11,000 or £12,000 required towards the expenditure of the present year. We have every confidence that the Chairman and his Board of Stewards will do their part towards ensuring a success, but, as the Duke of CONNAUGHT very properly pointed out in one of his speeches when presiding last week at our Benevolent Festival, there are just now many Funds being raised for different purposes in connection with the approaching celebration of the QUEEN'S Diamond Jubilee, and in proportion as the number of applications is enlarged, so will the difficulty of obtaining donations and subscriptions be increased. Still, in this year, above all others, when her Gracious Majesty, who is Grand Patroness of our Girls' School, completes the 60th year of her glorious reign, and every Society and Institution is bent on commemorating an event which is unique in the annals of this country, we English Freemasons must not be behindhand in evincing our loyalty to her whose reign has been one long continuance of progress and prosperity throughout the whole of her vast empire, and whose family has been so closely associated with our Order during 160 years out of the 180 years our Grand Lodge has been in existence.

THE GRAND LODGE OF TENNESSEE.

The Grand Lodge of Tennessee, which was founded in the early part of the second decade of the present century, held its 83rd annual communication at Freemasons' Hall, Nashville, on the 27th-29th January last, under the presidency of Bro. PHILIP N. MATLOCK, M.W.G. Master. There was, as is usual on these occasions, a full attendance of Grand and Past Grand Officers as well as of the representatives of private lodges, and from the printed report of the proceedings for which we are indebted to the courtesy of the Grand Secretary—Bro. JOHN B. GARNETT—the meeting passed off most satisfactorily. Bro. MATLOCK'S address, in which, as Grand Master, he reviewed the events of the past year, is very far from being a lengthy one and the bulk of what he stated is of local interest only. But among the matters which he was called upon to render decisions are sundry of sufficient importance to claim our attention. Here, for instance, is a question—"What is an answer to a summons?"—to which, as it seems to us, the aggregate wisdom of the whole world might find it difficult, if not impossible, to give a satisfactory answer. Yet, Bro. MATLOCK appears to have taken infinite pains to explain his views on the subject. Having examined "the Tennessee Text Book and Masonic Code," and "CHASE'S Digest of Masonic Law," he was unable to obtain any light from these compilations, nor could he recall any ruling of his Grand Lodge that would help him. He, therefore, answered—very wisely, as we think—oracularly, and replied that "a respectful response to a summons ought to be treated *prima facie* as an answer, its sufficiency to be determined by the lodge in each case." But how is the unfortunate lodge to determine the point at issue in these cases, namely, the sufficiency of the reason given for non-attendance at a lodge meeting. And if we assume that a lodge takes upon itself the unenviable task of inquiring as to the reason alleged and determining its sufficiency, where is there set forth in any code of Masonic law any standard of sufficiency by which the lodge will be in a position to arrive at a satisfactory decision. Grand Master MATLOCK appears to have overlooked the fact that to pry into the private arrangements of a member of any one of the lodges under his jurisdiction is an act of the most inquisitorial character, such as no amount of zeal on the part of a lodge to have full meetings would or could justify. In our opinion, it is enough that the member of a lodge is courteous enough to furnish a reason why he will be unable to attend a meeting; for a lodge to go beyond that and take upon itself to test the sufficiency of the reason assigned is an impertinence, which, with all their respect for lodge discipline, 99 out of every 100 reasonable Masons would justly feel called upon to resent. Most of the other decisions are of little or no importance, but, as usual, the "non-affiliate" has a place assigned him in these *dicta*, and in No. 26 Grand Master MATLOCK lays it down that "non-affiliates are subject to the rules of the Fraternity, and may be disciplined by the lodge within whose jurisdiction they reside." In other words, a man who has withdrawn from the Fraternity is subject to its laws, and may be tried for anything he may do, which, in the opinion of the lodge which is nearest his place of abode, and with which he has legally nothing whatever to do, is in any way objectionable. How is it that American brethren are so blind as not to realise that the best way to treat the non-affiliate is to abstain from saying or doing anything that shall cause him annoyance. If they are desirous he should re-enter their ranks, they must treat him with the consideration to which he is entitled. He has left, as he joined, the Fraternity, freely and voluntarily, and there his connection with it ceases.

We cannot close these few remarks without congratulating our brethren in Tennessee on the strength and prosperous condition of their lodges, of which there are 425 on the roll with nearly 18,000 subscribing members. Moreover, they have a Masonic Home, in which nearly 100 widows and orphans are taken care of, and which, besides being unencumbered with debt, is liberally supported by the Craft in the State. Such an Institution does them the greatest credit, and as the strength of the Masonic body increases in Tennessee, so, no doubt, will the Home be enlarged and still more liberally supported, so as to allow of the ever-increasing claims upon its resources being adequately met.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England was held on Wednesday night at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. The Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M., presided; Earl Amherst, Deputy G.M., sat on his right; and Bro. W. W. B. Beach M.P., Prov. G.M. of Hants and the Isle of Wight, on his left, as Past G.M.; Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W., acted as S.G.W.; and Bro. Robert Grey, P.G.W., as J.G.W.

Among the other brethren present were Bros. Gen. Laurie, Prov. G.M. of South Wales (Western Division); Dr. Balfour Cockburn, Prov. G.M. of Guernsey and Alderney; Thomas Fenn, P.G.W.; the Marquis of Hertford, P.G.W.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; C. W. C. Hutton, P.G.D.; W. E. M. Tomlinson, M.P., P.G.D.; Sir J. C. Dimsdale, Richard Eve, Samuel Cochrane, George Everett, and W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treasurers; W. Heap Bailey, G. Treasurer; J. C. Malcolm, G.D.; F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg.; Richard Horton Smith, Q.C., Deputy G. Reg.; R. Loveland Loveland, President of the Board of General Purposes; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Wm. Lake, Asst. G. Sec.; W. F. Smithson, P.G.D.; Lennox Browne, P.D.G.D.C.; H. Lovegrove, G.S.B.; R. Clay Sudlow, P.G. Std. Br.; Rev. C. J. Martyn and Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Chaplains; J. E. Le Feuvre; C. J. R. Tijou; W. M. Bywater; W. A. Scurrah; J. J. Thomas; J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B.; J. A. Farnfield; Major Woodall, P.G. Treas.; Wilhelm Ganz, P.G. Organist; Major T. C. Walls; A. Lucking, P.G.P.; T. J. Ralling, Prov. G. Sec. Essex; S. V. Abraham; and T. Hastings Miller.

Some 600 brethren were present.

Grand Lodge having been opened in ample form, the minutes of December 2nd, 1896, were read and confirmed.

The Earl of LATHOM then rose and said: Brethren, it is now my duty to make a motion which stands in the name of the Most Worshipful Grand Master. The motion needs no words from me. We all know the appalling disasters which have happened in the past and are happening in India at the present time. We all know that throughout England and the Colonies, and in every English-speaking nation, the people are coming forward to relieve the distress caused by those disasters, and I think it behoves us Freemasons to do our part. I therefore, without any further words, beg to move "That the sum of One Thousand Guineas be voted to the Indian Famine Relief Fund." (Applause.)

Earl AMHERST, D.G.M.: Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master, I beg to second the motion.

The motion was carried unanimously amidst loud and general applause.

Bro. WILLIAM HEAP BAILEY, Grand Treasurer: Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master, I shall have the greatest pleasure in paying the amount at once, and not wait for the confirmation of the grant at the next Grand Lodge in June. (Renewed cheering.)

Bro. GEORGE LANCELOT EYLES, P.G.S.: Most Worshipful Grand Master in the Chair, to me has fallen, this evening, the honourable duty of proposing the re-election of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, as Grand Master of our Order. Twenty-two years ago, his Royal Highness was first elected to fill that office, and we have only to compare the place Masonry then held with its position now, to realise what an advantage that has been to the Craft. Our numbers have increased by leaps and bounds, and we now count within our ranks many of the most distinguished in the land, amongst them being some of the greatest ornaments of the Church and the Judicial Bench, some of the most gallant and distinguished members of the Naval and Military Services, and several of those who have been selected by the Queen to assist her Majesty in the government of this great Empire—thus helping to bring all classes of our land into the common Brotherhood. There is one thing dear to every Masonic heart, and that is Charity, and we may well point with pride to the magnificent advance which has been made in our noble Charities under our Grand Master. Fortunately, in this favoured land loyalty to the gracious Sovereign who has reigned over us longer than any ruler in the long history of our race is a feeling shared by all, and we Masons yield to none in our loyalty to the Throne. It is therefore a double-prized honour that the heir to that Throne should have been graciously pleased for long years now to rule over our ancient and beloved Craft. I formally propose the election of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. (Applause.)

Bro. MALCOLM ALEXANDER MORRIS, P.G. Steward: M.W. Pro G. Master, Grand Wardens, and Brethren,—It falls to me to have the honour to second this motion which has been so ably proposed by my brother on my left. It is not necessary for any words from me to any Mason in this room in order that it should be carried unanimously. We have for years past conferred the highest honour of the Order on his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, but he has conferred the greater honour upon the Craft in accepting the office. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has by his personality spread Freemasonry into every part of the British Dominions, and has caused Freemasonry to do more than politics can do, and has brought together the Colonies nearer to the Mother Country, and has carried out an international federation it would have been impossible to carry out in any other way. M.W. Pro G. Master and Brethren,—Without any further words, I second the motion that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales be again elected as the Grand Master of our Order. (Applause.)

The Earl of LATHOM put the motion, and it was agreed to unanimously amidst general cheering.

Bro. J. D. LANGTON, D.G.D.C., then proclaimed the Prince of Wales as duly elected.

Bro. JAMES STEPHENS, P.M. 2308, proposed the election of Bro. Alderman Vaughan Morgan, P.M. 96, as Grand Treasurer. He said that at the last Quarterly Communication he had the honour of nominating that worthy brother to the high position, and at that time there being a certain opposition, it was necessary he should go at greater length into the qualifications of that good brother than was necessary at the present moment, because the brethren would be delighted to hear that that opposition had been withdrawn. He must, however, say that Alderman Vaughan Morgan was initiated into Freemasonry 30 years ago in the Burlington Lodge, No. 96. He had been held in such affectionate and high regard and esteem in that lodge, that on no less than three occasions he had been chosen as W.M.

He had also filled the chair in the Prince of Wales's Chapter. In the City of London he was associated with all the great Charitable Institutions. He was Treasurer of Christ's Hospital, and he was installed the other day as the first Master of the Christ's Hospital Lodge in that building, at which ceremony he (Bro. James Stephens) had the pleasure of being present. The Alderman was Vice-Patron of the three Masonic Institutions. He hoped the brethren would accept him, as he would do honour to the Craft, and perform his duties with credit to himself.

Bro. J. GORDON LANGTON, P.M. 96, said he had much pleasure in seconding the motion of Bro. James Stephens, who had spoken of the qualifications of Bro. Vaughan Morgan. He was certain there was no brother among the Craft they would more desire to honour. There was no other brother who more displayed the true principles of Freemasonry, for whilst his hand was guided by justice his heart was expanded by benevolence.

Bro. WILLIAM WOODWARD, P.M. 1929, said, as the brother who had the pleasure to nominate his friend and Brother, Major Clifford Probyn, he had equal pleasure in stating that notwithstanding the excellence of the Major's Masonic work and his just claims to the post, he had not been able to resist the conclusion at which his friends had arrived that it would be exceedingly unfortunate if any competition should arise. Therefore, with true Masonic feeling he had withdrawn his candidature, and he (Bro. Woodward) felt that next year Major Probyn would appeal for and receive that support from his Masonic brethren which he so well deserved.

The Earl of LATHOM declared Bro. Alderman Vaughan Morgan duly elected Grand Treasurer.

The Report of the Board of Benevolence was adopted, and the following recommendations of grants confirmed, on the motion of Bro. JAMES HENRY MATTHEWS, President of the Board, seconded by Bro. C. J. R. TILLOU, P.A.G.P.:

A brother of the Love and Honour Lodge, No. 283, Shepton Mallet	£50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Zetland Lodge, No. 537, Birkenhead	75 0 0
A brother of the Gallery Lodge, No. 1928, London	50 0 0
A brother of the Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1923, London	60 0 0
A brother of the Lodge of Rectitude, No. 502, Rugby	50 0 0

On the motion of Bro. LOVELAND LOVELAND, President of the Board of General Purposes, seconded by Bro. JOHN JAMES THOMAS, V.P., the report of the Board of General Purposes, as published in the *Freemason* last week, was taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

Bro. LOVELAND LOVELAND then said: the Board had to report that their attention had been directed to the fact that the Book of Constitutions contained no provision requiring a brother joining an English lodge from one under another Constitution, to enter into any obligation, or make any declaration of allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England. This had been brought to their notice on one occasion. A brother was initiated, passed, and raised, under the Scottish jurisdiction, and it was held by the Grand Registrar that the Grand Lodge of England had no power to call him before the Board of General Purposes, as it had no jurisdiction over him. The Board therefore recommended that there should be inserted the following addition to Rule 189 of the Book of Constitutions:

Every brother who has been initiated into Masonry in a Regular Lodge not under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England shall, previously to his becoming a member of any lodge, declare in open lodge his adhesion to the Book of Constitutions, and promise due obedience to the Grand Master and the Rules and Regulations of Grand Lodge, and the fact shall be recorded on the lodge minutes.

The motion was seconded by Bro. J. J. THOMAS, and carried.

On motion duly made and seconded by Bros. LOVELAND LOVELAND and J. J. THOMAS, the report of Bro. John Smith, the Auditor of Grand Lodge accounts for 1896, was taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

Bro. F. A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., Grand Registrar, then rose to propose his new suggestions for adding to and altering the Book of Constitutions, so as to provide for lodges in the Colonies under the English Constitution establishing themselves into independent sovereign Grand Lodges. He said one set of resolutions was different from the other, and he, therefore, proposed to take them separately. Taking the first section, he said it could not be unknown to every member of Grand Lodge that for a considerable time past questions had arisen as to proceedings in different Colonies and parts where there were lodges under the English jurisdiction owing allegiance to us, where a new Grand Lodge had been started as a sovereign lodge in the Colony, and had received the recognition of the Grand Lodge of England, and become a regular Masonic body. Until that event of recognition had taken place, the new body was an irregular body, and brother Masons who owed allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England were by that very bond of allegiance prevented from Masonic communication with the members of the new body. They had heard recently, in the case of New Zealand, from some brethren of the Colonies who were experienced in the matter, that friction existed when the new Grand Lodge was in process of formation, and which afterwards existed until it was recognised. When it was recognised, matters were put on a legal footing, and the object for which the Grand Lodge was recognised by Grand Lodge of England, viz., a healing, took place; and it took place now between the different Masonic bodies prevailing in the Colonies, before they united under the common shield. All the difficulties which had existed ceased to exist. It had always been said—he thought he might quote the old lines of Hudibras—

"Treason ne'er prospers; whence the reason?"

If treason prospers, who dare call it treason?"

Of course, for lodges under the English Constitution it was treason for them to go over to a body we did not recognise, or to attempt to form a body which we could not recognise; it was a breach of their allegiance; he did not like to use the stronger word; it was a Masonic offence. If recognised afterwards it was successful; it was no longer treason. But in the meantime, until that event had happened the condition was an irregular one, and brethren who remained faithful to Grand Lodge of England were exposed to a great deal of what was uncomfortable to Masons in the Colonies. The position was highly undesirable in a Masonic point of view. (Hear, hear.) He did not think anyone could have read the resolution that had been put down in his name without seeing he wished to promote the interests of the Order; he was sure Grand Lodge would have been the first to attempt it, simply with a view to the advantage of the best interests of Freemasonry, and in his task he had had the assistance of Bro. Thomas Fenn with regard to a great number of technicalities, to

ring them into accord with the Book of Constitutions. For himself (Bro. Philbrick), only submitting them to Grand Lodge as an attempt, not without the best consideration that could be made, they were offered to Grand Lodge as they were; but to them as they stood he was open to any suggestion which it occurred to any one would be an improvement. It was only with the honest desire to bring about a remedy for things as they existed at the present time that he was influenced in presenting them. The first of these propositions was one which would apply with regard to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, which had just been recognised. It was to follow Rule 218—

218 A. In a colony or foreign part in which a District Grand Lodge exists, if the District Grand Master shall think proper to grant a dispensation for that purpose, it shall be lawful for any lodge to hold a special meeting, or meetings, to discuss and resolve on the question of the formation of a Sovereign Grand Lodge for or including the district or part thereof, or any neighbouring district or part thereof, or any lodges not in a district.

That was just the beginning of it; it enabled them to meet and discuss the question whether the lodges thought of setting up housekeeping for themselves—whether they were in a condition to use another simile—to have a Masonic centre at home not subordinate to the Grand Lodge of England. It was desirable that such meetings, instead of being held irregularly should be held regularly. If they were not regular they were not lodge meetings, they were private meetings, and were subject, perhaps, to influences more easily imagined than described. The object of this part of the proposed law was that it should be lawful, if the District Grand Master approved, to meet and talk openly with the knowledge of the Grand Master as to what they thought best for Masonry in the Colony or District. The clause proceeded:

Such dispensation may be granted subject to any conditions that the District Grand Master may deem proper, and also to provisions enabling two or more lodges to unite in the special meeting; and if the District Grand Master or Masters should refuse to grant a dispensation an appeal may be made to the Grand Master.

He should wait and hear whether any brother had objections to make. The next clause dealt with such cases as the case of New Zealand:

218 B. Whenever Grand Lodge shall, with the assent of the Grand Master, recognise a Grand Lodge as a regular and independent Sovereign Body, having jurisdiction in any colony or foreign part where a District Grand Lodge or Lodges not in a district exist, and the Grand Master shall signify it is not his intention to grant for the future any warrant for a new lodge in that jurisdiction the following rules shall apply:

1. Within six months after recognition the Master of every lodge in such jurisdiction shall convene a special meeting of the lodge on not less than 21 days' notice to every member; failing the Master, the District Grand Master or the acting Deputy shall convene such meeting, and preside thereat.

So that there must be a lodge.

2. The brethren present at such meeting shall decide whether they desire that the lodge shall continue under the existing warrant or not.

That is whether they would remain, or whether they would have a new lodge. If the decision be in the negative, the brethren shall at the same meeting decide in whom the property and effects of the lodge shall be vested.

A lodge, of course, always had power under the Constitutions to decide in whom the property and effects of the lodge should be vested, and when any new jurisdiction was started it was necessary for the protection of the property and the lodge that they should decide. Then it goes on—And the warrant shall be forthwith returned to the Grand Secretary to be delivered up to the Grand Master.

Then in order to prevent what might be supposed to be a mere majority, the rule said: "A majority of two-thirds of those present shall be required to carry any resolution." He believed some had thought another proportion might do as well, but there was nothing magical in two-thirds, or three-fourths, or any other fraction; but whatever was thought by Grand Lodge, the mover of the resolution was most ready and agreeable to accept. He had wished to provide that a bare majority should not be allowed to do it. No 3 was: "No question shall be discussed or put at such meeting, other than those above described." That was in order that the meeting should not degenerate into an irregular meeting, but should be limited to the objects of the meeting.

3. No questions shall be discussed or put at such meeting other than those above prescribed.

4. Immediately after such meeting, a full copy of the minutes and a list from the signature book of all members attending, together with the numbers voting for and against, shall be sent to the Grand Secretary, verified under the hand of the presiding Master, and countersigned by the Secretary of the lodge.

5. No second meeting shall be called to discuss the above questions without the special leave of the Grand Master.

Therefore, they were to decide upon the question whether they would leave the English Constitution or to continue; that was to be continually kept before the meeting. It would never be refused in a proper case. He would stop there for the present moment. He thought resolutions taken all together would do good, but he felt if anyone could suggest an amendment which would carry his object out better he should be glad to accept it.

Bro. THOMAS FENN, P.G.W., seconded.

Bro. RICHARD EVE, P.G.T., said he would move an amendment. It was usual in Masonry for recommendations for an alteration of the Constitutions of Grand Lodge that they should come from the Board of General Purposes. He was a member of that Board, and he had heard none of these propositions made by Bro. Philbrick. The list of additions was long, and a numerous body like Grand Lodge was not always capable of laying hold of all the points that were laid before it in a long roll like that. He suggested, as was the usual custom in Grand Lodge, that they should not assent to any alteration in, or addition to their Constitutions, which they valued so much, and had an opportunity of showing why they valued them. But he did not wish to enter into a disquisition upon those points if the matter could all be quietly and easily done, as it ought to be done in Grand Lodge. Bro. Philbrick had presented the matter before the brethren quietly, and had given his reasons, and his motion had been seconded by a very worthy brother in whom they all had the greatest confidence in matters of that kind, but he thought they ought to refer to Rule 266 of the Constitutions, and let the Board of General Purposes have it in their power to recommend the resolution if they thought fit. He

did not like repealing some of the Old Constitutions; they had worked well in the past; probably they would work well in the future. There was no hurry, and he thought it might be sent to the Board of General Purposes to be discussed calmly and coolly. He moved that those proposed additions be referred to the Board of General Purposes. New Zealand had been referred to, but, to his mind, it showed how difficult it was to legislate for them. New Zealand had five District Grand Lodges. New Zealand was 700 miles from top to bottom, and it was not easy for these lodges to coalesce and consider the subjects.

Bro. PHILBRICK said New Zealand had been recognised.
Bro. RICHARD EVE said with all deference he said distinctly it had not been. He had the report of Grand Lodge and the whole of the resolutions passed on that occasion.

The EARL OF LATHOM here said he was extremely sorry to be obliged to leave but he had to do so, and the Deputy Grand Master would take his place.

The Earl of Lathom was then conducted out of the Temple amidst cheers. Earl Amherst took the chair; Bros. W. Beach, M.P., acted as Deputy G. Master, and Dr. Balfour Cockburn as Past Grand Master.

Bro. RICHARD EVE, P.G. Treas., continuing, said it was a small lodge meeting last July, most of the brethren being out of London. The resolution then passed was, on an application by a body calling itself the Grand Lodge of New Zealand asking to be recognised as a separate Masonic Sovereign authority. "That taking into consideration the message from the M.W.G.M. Grand Lodge requests that his Royal Highness will be pleased to take such steps for the recognition of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand." That was not recognition; it was only taking steps for recognition. Recognition could only be done by this Grand Lodge.

Bro. JOHN GLASS, P.M. 453, seconded the amendment.

Bro. General LAURIE, Prov. Grand Master for South Wales (Western Division) supported the proposal as one who had had experience of Colonial Masonry.

Bro. PHILBRICK having replied,

The amendment was lost by 248 votes against 148.

Bro. Rev. R. J. SIMPSON, P.G.C., acting Grand Chaplain, said: R.W. Dep. G. Master in the chair,—I rise to propose an amendment which I would respectfully submit to Grand Lodge, and especially to our brother the Grand Registrar, in the hope that he may see his way to second it and commend it to the brethren of Grand Lodge. We all, I am sure, have full confidence in the judgment and legal ability of our Brother Philbrick—but as many brethren desire further consideration of the important subject he has brought before us (and I confess I am one of them), I would propose that "the Grand Registrar call into consultation with him the Colonial Committee, Bro. Laurie (whose excellent speech has much impressed us all, as inspired by his long Colonial experience), Bro. Fenn (whose authority in Masonry is paramount), and also Bro. Eve (who takes a deep interest in this question), and that the Grand Registrar be requested to bring up his report and resolutions at the next Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, in June." By such an arrangement, we shall have further time for consideration, shall have a special combination of legal and Colonial experience, and, I trust, be enabled to send out to the Colonies, not merely the decision of a majority, however large, but the united voice of this United and unanimous Grand Lodge upon this important subject.

Bro. PHILBRICK agreed, and the Committee was thereupon named. It consisted of Bros. Philbrick, Gen. Laurie, Fenn, and Richard Eve, and the Colonial Committee of the Board of General Purposes. The Committee to report to Grand Lodge in June.

Bro. PHILBRICK brought up an appeal—

By Bro. Robert W. Bourne, P.M. of St. George's Lodge of Harmony, No. 32, Liverpool, against a sentence of suspension from all Masonic privileges, passed on him by the Provincial Grand Master, for un-Masonic conduct and contumacy in not complying with a peremptory summons.

Bro. Bourne himself did not put in an appearance.

Bro. PHILBRICK stated the case, from which it appeared that the appellant first made serious charges against the founders of the Lancastrian Lodge in London, and when he was called upon to substantiate them, or apologise, he neglected to do so. Whereupon the Earl of Lathom, Bro. Bourne being a subscribing member of the Liverpool Lodge, appointed a Committee to enquire into the case, and Bro. Bourne was summoned to attend at Liverpool for the purpose. He did not do so, but made an excuse that he was in London. The Earl of Lathom then appointed the Committee to meet in London, which it did last April, and Bro. Bourne was again summoned. The enquiry was held at the Inns of Court Hotel, in his absence, and the Committee reported to the Provincial Grand Master. Still neglecting to attend or apologise, Lord Lathom passed a sentence of suspension on Bro. Bourne until he should apologise. From this sentence he appealed and contended that the Prov. G.M., had no jurisdiction over him as he was a London brother. Bro. Philbrick, however, said Bro. Bourne was still a subscribing member of a Liverpool lodge, and, therefore, was within Lord Lathom's jurisdiction. He moved the dismissal of the appeal.

Bro. R. HORTON SMITH, Q.C., Dep. G. Reg., who seconded the motion, thought Bro. Bourne had been dealt with very leniently in being suspended only until he apologised; he might have been deprived altogether. The appeal was dismissed.

Bro. JOHN A. FARNFIELD brought up a report of a special general meeting of Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, dated February 10th, 1897, will be laid before Grand Lodge, in which the following alteration of Rule I., then agreed to, will be submitted for approval:

"No widow shall be eligible under the age of 60 years, nor unless her last husband had been a subscribing member for 15 years to a lodge," by substituting the word "ten" for "fifteen."

The alteration was come to for the purpose of reducing the time for the eligibility of a widow. As the law stood before, if a brother had been incapacitated by blindness, paralysis, or anything, his widow was not qualified for election to the annuity unless he had subscribed 15 years. This was looked upon as a little too long a time, and the special general meeting reduced the time to 10 years.

Bro. GEORGE FAIRCCHILD seconded the motion, which was then unanimously agreed to.

Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

CONSECRATION OF THE CHRIST'S HOSPITAL LODGE, No. 2650.

An interesting function was held at Christ's Hospital, Newgate-street, E.C., on Thursday, the 25th ult., when the Court Room of the ancient building was well filled with brethren—including a large proportion of Grand Officers—to witness the consecration of the Christ's Hospital Lodge, No. 2650. The ceremony was performed by Bro. E. Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Secretary, assisted by Bros. Thos. Fenn, P.G.W., as S.W.; Robt. Grey, P.G.W., as J.W.; Rev. Archdeacon Stevens, G. Chap., as Chap.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C., and J. D. Langton, D.G.D.C., as I.G.

The founders of the new lodge are Bros. Alderman W. Vaughan Morgan, P.M. 96, W.M. designate; Lieut.-Col. Edward J. Gardiner, P.M. 905; Richard Lee Franks, J.W. 96; Ernest Sidney Standing, J.W. 2599; Rev. Ernest Harold Pearce, 181; Thomas Webb Whitmarsh, P.G.P.; Henry Bué, P.G. Std. Br.; Thomas Moysey, Stwd. 2128; John Farquharson Roberts, 76; James Martin, 63; Arthur R. King-Farlow, P.M. 1150; Alderman Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., P.G.D.; Alderman Sir Joseph C. Dimsdale, P.G.T.; John Henry Clutton, P.M. 1537; Joseph Rock, P.M. 1; R. Melvill Beachcroft, P.M. 631; Septimus Croft, P.M. 1657; Elphège Janau, P.M. 1641; William Newman, J.W. 2396; Frederick John Smith, M.D., 171; and William Henry Cross, 2546.

The visitors present included:

Bros. Sir J. B. Monckton, P.G.W.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; H. Maudslay, P.G.D.; T. H. Gardiner, P.A.G.D.C.; P. de Lande Long, P.G.D.; R. St. J. Roumieu, P.G.S. of Wks.; H. Tipper, P.G.P.; F. Gordon Brown, A.G.D.C.; F. Coles, P.G.S.B.; C. Godson, P.G.D.; H. A. Hunt, P.G.S. of Wks.; H. Mackintosh, P.A.G.D.C.; Lennox Browne, P.D.G.D.C.; P. Nairne, P.G.D.; W. Ganz, P.G. Org.; C. F. Matier, P.G.S.B.; R. Eve, P.G. Treas.; H. Lovegrove, G.S.B.; E. St. Clair, A.G.D.C.; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; J. Stephens, P.G.W. Bucks; C. Wilkinson-Pimbury, I.P.M. 2241; Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, P.P.G. Chap. Middx.; C. Upton, I.P.M. 63; O. W. Chant, I.G. 2128; E. Vaughan Morgan, P.M. 39; W. Nicholson Haydon, J.D. 2128; F. L. Perken, P.M. 65; S. J. Notley, P.M. 1150; C. Lewis, P.P. G.D. Essex; J. Gordon Langton, P.M. 96; E. K. Bartley Denniss, Prov. J.G.W. Middx.; F. Bevan, P.M. 1706; J. Maurice Franks, P.M. 376; G. F. Marshall, P.M. 69; H. Haynes, P.M. 162; H. G. Cubitt, P.M.; J. H. Dimsdale, J.W. 2581; H. W. Schartau, P.P.G. Org.; A. Eade, P.M. 1580; and W. W. Lee, Prov. G.D. Middx.

The Grand Officers entered the court-room in procession, and the lodge having been opened, the opening hymn was sung.

The CONSECRATING OFFICER then addressed the brethren and said: We are met together this afternoon for the purpose of undertaking a ceremony which has never before been performed within these ancient walls—the constitution of a new lodge and its dedication to God's service. The new lodge we are about to start into existence will hereafter be known as the Christ's Hospital Lodge, and I can only express a hope that that same spirit of brotherly love and Charity which inspired the royal and pious founder to establish this interesting Institution may influence all those who in years to come are connected with this lodge.

The ceremony was then proceeded with, and an eloquent oration having been delivered by Bro. Rev. Archdeacon STEVENS, the new lodge was formally dedicated and constituted.

Bro. Alderman W. Vaughan Morgan, P.M., W.M. designate, was then installed by the Grand Secretary, and the following officers were appointed and invested: Bros. Lieut.-Col. E. J. Gardiner, P.M., acting I.P.M.; Rev. E. L. Franks, J.W. 96, S.W.; E. S. Standing, J.W. 2599, J.W.; Rev. E. H. Pearce, Chap.; J. W. Whitmarsh, P.G.P., Treas.; H. Bué P.G.S.B., Sec.; T. Moysey, S.D.; J. F. Roberts, J.D.; J. Martin, I.G.; A. R. King Farlow, P.M., D.C.; and P. F. Madden, Tyler.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER expressed grateful thanks to the Consecrating Officers for their services. He said that many a good work had been done in that building in times past, and he hoped the good work of that day would leave a lasting impression. He also invited the Consecrating Officers to become honorary members, and presented the Grand Secretary with a founder's jewel as a souvenir of the occasion.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, G. Sec., tendered thanks for himself and colleagues.

Several candidates were proposed for initiation and joining, all of whom were educated at Christ's Hospital, or are now connected with it. Letters of regret were read from many distinguished brethren, and the lodge was closed.

A banquet was subsequently held at the Cannon-street Hotel, under the presidency of the W.M., when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts received hearty recognition.

In giving "The Queen and the Craft," the W.M. said that that year would go down in the record of ages as the one in which her Majesty completed her 60 years' reign, and he hoped that amongst the most pleasing events would be the consecration of the Christ's Hospital Lodge. The Duke of Cambridge had been for 43 years President of Christ's Hospital—the longest presidency on record. Although his Royal Highness, unfortunately, was not a Freemason, he was represented at the meeting by an admirable portrait which he had lately presented to the Governors, and which was hung on the walls of the court room just in time for the consecration of the lodge.

"The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," having been honoured,

The W.M. proposed "The Grand Officers," and said it was a great honour to see so many Grand Officers present, most of whom had obtained their rank by good services to the Craft in various capacities. The Pro Grand Master had done good work for many years, and he (the W.M.) was present when he assisted at the consecration of the Rahere Lodge. He would couple with the toast the name of Bro. J. C. Parkinson, whom he was pleased to see back again in time to attend the consecration of that lodge.

Bro. J. C. PARKINSON, P.G.D., tendered the thanks and warm congratulations of the Grand Officers upon the successful inauguration of what, he was sure, was destined to be a most prosperous lodge. The W.M. had alluded to the happy year in which that lodge was consecrated, and expressed the hope that its record would be illumined by the consecration of Christ's Hospital Lodge. He was expressing the feelings not only of the Grand Officers, but of the Craft at large, when he hoped that that would be a record year for the W.M., inasmuch as it would be the last year in which by any possibility he would propose that toast. Having just come from

abroad, it might interest them to hear, in such an assembly and under such circumstances, that two most popular young fellows he met in Bombay were Old Blues. One was second in command of a P. and O. boat, and the other the Secretary of the Bombay and Baroda Railway. He went to the house of the latter and saw the hounds fed, and it was gratifying to find English sport so well cared for by an old school boy of Christ's Hospital. Although the hounds were hunted on a Sunday, he saw his young friend in his surplice, leading the choir in the evening. On behalf of the Grand Officers, he returned thanks, and looked forward to a long and prosperous career for that lodge.

The W.M. next gave "The Consecrating Officers," and said that in the lodge—that beautiful room in which the lodge was consecrated—he had the opportunity of expressing their gratitude and approval at the way in which the consecration and installation were performed. To him, it was exceedingly pleasant to find the three principal Consecrating Officers were three old friends. He had had the pleasure of enjoying Bro. Fenn's friendship for more years than he cared to remember, and it was also pleasing that Bro. Grey should be present. The Grand Secretary they all knew so well that it would be unnecessary to say much of him. Bro. Richardson had also been a good friend, and also Bro. Langton. He would not overlook Bro. Sadler, the G. Tyler, whom he had known for a great number of years. Their lodge had been exceptionally honoured by the services so admirably performed by the Consecrating Officers, and the ceremony must have made a deep impression upon all present, especially those who had not seen the ceremony before.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, G. Secretary, in reply, said he often wished on occasions such as this, that the Consecrating Officer who was privileged to take a leading part in the ceremony might be permitted to afterwards occupy a back seat and allow someone more competent to take the position he unworthily occupied. He was not insensible of the high compliment paid him in associating his name with the toast. The Consecrating Officers, as they all knew, were busy men and all of them had much to do, but he knew he was expressing their feelings when he said there was no duty they were called upon to perform which gave them greater pleasure than assisting as they had been privileged to do in starting a lodge which they felt sure had before it a career of the greatest possible success. It had been a peculiar pleasure to them to take part in the ceremony for everything had been in their favour, the Court Room was in every way adapted for such a function, they had the advantage of a most admirable address from the Rev. G. Chaplain whose absence they all regretted at that moment; and they had had the most charming music beautifully rendered, and moreover they had had the great advantage of a kind and sympathetic audience. On behalf of the Consecration Officers he tendered his warmest thanks for the toast just drunk. Next, might he be permitted to propose the toast of the evening—"Success to Christ's Hospital Lodge," and with that toast associate that of "The Worshipful Master," whom he had had the great pleasure of installing into the chair. In addressing those he saw around him, he felt it unnecessary to dilate upon the merits of the W.M., who was well known in the Craft, and he hoped that in a very few days they would have the great pleasure of hearing him proclaimed as Grand Treasurer of England. The W.M. was no novice in Masonry, and for years had been the leading member of the Burlington Lodge—a lodge in which he had filled the chair on three occasions. Their W.M. was also W.M. of another lodge—the Cordwainer. They all wished that new lodge a great success—a success worthy in every respect of the traditions which the noble Institution inherited. He gave them "Success to Christ's Hospital Lodge," and associated with it the name of the W.M.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER thanked the Grand Secretary for the kind way in which he had proposed the toast. That that lodge would be a success he had no doubt, for Old Blues, whenever they put their hand to the plough, managed to make a success, and that new lodge would live and flourish for many years. It had been consecrated under very good auspices. He had the honour of being elected W.M. of his mother lodge in the same year that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was elected Grand Master. He had made many valuable friends, and altogether it had been a very pleasing time for him, although he could not look forward to another 23 years of Masonry. The Consecrating Officer had been good enough to refer to an honour which he (the W.M.) hoped to be spared to enjoy next week, and he would then be the Grand Treasurer in the same year that he was installed as W.M. of that lodge. That lodge had been started for the purpose of bringing together old Blues and old Masters and Officers of the Institution and as far as possible nobody would be elected but those connected with the Hospital. He had to delicately hint to one brother that before the question of a joining fee could be discussed with him, that brother must give a donation of £500 and become a Governor of the Hospital before he could qualify for membership of their lodge. There was a good custom in connection with Christ's Hospital—an admirable toast, which included everybody, and he would therefore conclude by asking them to drink "The Religions, Royal and Ancient Foundation of Christ's Hospital, may those prosper who love it, and may God increase their number!"

"The Visitors" was next given by the W.M., who included with it the names of Bro. Passmore Edwards—a distinguished man, who might well be termed an operative Mason, having helped to build many good buildings—Bro. Bartley Dennis, Prov. G.W. Middx.—who would not have the opportunity of replying again for the visitors, having been proposed as a joining member—and Bro. Rev. S. T. H. Saunders.

Bro. PASSMORE EDWARDS expressed his delight at the proceedings, which would be amongst the happiest remembrances of his life.

Bro. BARTLEY DENNIS, Prov. G.W. Middx., replied, and said he was reminded of 35 years ago, when, as a little boy of seven, he went through the examination in Christ's Hospital. It would give him great pleasure to join that lodge, for the brotherhood which was characteristic of all old Blues would be carried out in any society of which they were members.

Bro. the Rev. S. T. H. SAUNDERS, P.P.G. Chap. Middlesex, also replied.

"The Officers" having been honoured,

Bro. R. L. FRANKS, S.W., in replying, expressed on behalf of the founders their gratitude to the W.M. for the great interest he had shown in the formation of the lodge, and for the generosity with which he had undertaken to defray the cost of the lodge furniture; and asked his acceptance of a founder's jewel as a slight token of their appreciation of his kindness.

The W.M. thanked the founders for the compliment they had paid him; and a most successful evening was brought to a close by the Tyler's toast.

The musical arrangements, which were all that could be desired, were under the direction of Bro. Herbert Schartau, P.P.G. Org. Middx., assisted by Bros. F. Tebbutt, Sidney Tower, F. Bevan, P.M.; J. Kift, and H. Tipper, P.M.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.

The annual festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was held on the evening of the 26th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. R. Clay Sudlow, P.G. Std. Br., acting as W.M. in the lodge, and Bro. F. T. Rushton, as P.M. The number of brethren who attended to witness the working in the lodge, as well as participate in the supper with which this festival always closes, was far in excess of the number in past years' experiences, much as that number has increased at each succeeding festival. Between 500 and 600 brethren were in attendance and the Temple in which the lodge was held was filled. Bro. Lieut.-Gen. J. Wimburn Laurie, P.G.W., Past Grand Master of Nova Scotia, Provincial Grand Master for South Wales (Western Division), had kindly consented to preside at the supper, and he entered the lodge at an early hour of the evening. The brethren began to assemble as early as half-past five. Bro. Edward Cutler, Q.C., P.G. Org., who for several years past has not omitted one occasion to enhance the enjoyment of the evening by accompanying the visit of the brethren by performing some exquisite musical selections on the organ, was again in his usual place, and played the following beautiful programme with extreme taste and feeling: 1. Overture to "Samson" (Handel); 2. Offertory (Wely); 3. March from "Tannhauser" (Wagner); 4. Intermezzo "Colombe" (Gounod); (a) Consecration March (dedicated to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales), (b) Minuet, (c) Gavotte (E. Cutler). The performance appeared to be highly appreciated, many brethren making it the subject of observation. The appreciation was further manifested by the close attention of the large gathering during the whole period of the performance.

The list of Stewards of the festival comprised the names of Bros. Edward Letchworth, F.S.A., G. Sec., Treasurer; Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W.; Thomas Fenn, P.G.W.; Robert Grey, P.G.W.; Richard Eve, P.G. Treas.; Judge Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg.; James Henry Matthews, President Board of Benevolence; Henry J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; R. Clutton, P.G.D.; J. E. Le Feuvre, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight; James S. Eastes, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Kent; 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.S.B., D.P.G.M. Warwickshire; W. M. Bywater, P.G.S.B.; Frederick Mead, P.G.S.B.; 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.P.; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; C. J. Andrews, 165; Thos. Wm. Allsop, W.M. 2492; F. A. Abraham, 742; Major R. L. S. Badham, 21; A. Stewart Brown, 4, P.P.G.W. Middlesex, G. Steward; J. S. E. Berryman, 548; 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. Cassal, 1415; E. P. Debenham, P.M. 1479, P.P.G. Reg. Herts; James Duffy, 2346; J. W. Drysdale, P.M. 263; M. B. Evans, S.W. 8, G. Stwd.; J. V. Vesey Fitzgerald, Q.C., P.M. 502, P.S.G.W. Warwickshire; J. W. Freeman, P.M. 147; W. P. Fuller, I.P.M. 8, P.G. Steward; F. Baden Fuller, 1494; James D. Graham, P.M. 1559; F. A. Hazzledine, P.M. 88; George B. Hemming, P.M. and Sec. 256; W. G. Kentish, P.M. and Sec. 1293, P.P.G.D. Middx.; R. G. Fenn Kidson, 1820; Fredk. Keble, S.W. 1662; J. Lancaster, P.M. and Sec. 534; Chas. Lewis, P.M. 1706, P.J.G.D. Essex; R. E. F. Lander, I.P.M. 2086, P.S.G.D. Herts; Chas. I. Marrian, S.W. 2189; Percy G. Mallory, 2319; C. M. Mapleton, P.M. 256; Thos. Wm. Ockenden, P.M. 1512, P.P.G.D. Middx.; Henry Pritchard, P.M. 1415, P.M. and Sec. 263, P.P.G. Treas. Middlesex; Geo. Powell, P.M. and Sec. 142; F. T. Rushton, P.M. 8, P.G. Steward; Joseph Russell, P.M. 8, P.G. Steward; Geo. W. Rankin, 1641; M. Spiegel, P.M. 1981; E. H. Simmons, Sec. 2043; Percy Sloper, 8; T. Y. Strachan, W.M. 8, P.G. Steward; Rev. C. W. Servanté, 1768; Edmund V. Salaman, 1987; F. A. Sargeant; Geo. R. Scott, W.M. elect 889; Henry A. Tobias, P.M. 1502, P.P.G.S. of W. West Lancashire; James E. Terry, P.M. and Sec. 1964; C. F. Van Duzer, 2397; H. S. Wellcome, P.M. 3, 2397; C. I. Weller, 2128; and D. D. West, P.M. 108.

Amongst other brethren present were Bros. H. Richards, District Grand Master of the Transvaal; Ernest St. Clair, A.G.D.C.; James Boulton, G.P.; George Everett, P.G. Treasurer; Archdeacon Stevens, G. Chaplain; Rear-Admiral A. Hastings Markham, P.D.G.M. Malta; Dr. Mickley, P.A.G.D.C.; George Read, P.G.D.; T. H. Gardiner, P.A.G.D.C.; D. D. Mercer, P.G.P.; W. A. Scurrah, G. Std. Br.; J. A. Farnfield, P.A.G.D.C.; P. A. Nairne, P.G.D.; W. P. J. Brown; J. D. Langton, D.G.D.C.; Horton Smith, Q.C., D.G. Reg.; and the Rev. J. H. Rose.

The First Lecture was worked as follows: 1st Section by Bro. the Rev. C. W. Servanté, 1768; 2nd by Bro. D. D. West, P.M. 108; 3rd by Bro. G. R. H. Clark, 1965; 4th by Bro. Wm. R. Bennett, W.M. 1965; 5th by Bro. Chas. Lewis, P.M. 1706; 6th by Bro. A. M. Barnard, W.M. 1964; and 7th by Bro. F. Baden Fuller, 1494, Bro. R. Clay Sudlow putting the questions. The whole of the work was beautifully performed, and all the brethren paid marked attention to it.

At the conclusion of the labours, a vote of thanks to the workers was proposed by Bro. Gen. LAURIE, who remarked that ceremonies were of little use unless they were effective, and that in institutions like Freemasonry that was the more apparent. On the effectiveness of the work that evening it was scarcely necessary to say much, as all the brethren had seen, admired, and wondered at it. The usefulness of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was indisputable, the work learned in it being spread all over the metropolis and the kingdom and handed round to the brethren of other lodges of instruction, and through them to regular lodges. He could not speak too highly of it, and the influence of the lodge was felt everywhere. The vote he was proposing was no perfunctory one; it was a vote proposed as the result of splendid working. The marked attention the brethren had paid to the ceremonies showed they thoroughly appreciated the performance. It had been his lot to be thrown among large audiences, but he did not think he was ever in an assembly where such close attention was paid to what went on. He believed he was interpreting what all the brethren desired to express when he proposed a vote of thanks to those who had done them such good service that night—Bros. Sudlow, Servanté, West, Clark, Bennett, Lewis, Barnard, and Baden Fuller.

Bro. THOMAS FENN, in seconding the vote, said he had had some experience of those things, and he felt exceedingly gratified at the manner in which the Sections of the First Lecture had been delivered. He was sure that everyone had been as delighted as himself with it.

Bro. R. CLAY SUDLOW, the vote having been unanimously adopted, in acknowledging the compliment, said: Following precedent in this lodge, he, although not himself a working officer, had the duty of returning thanks for the seven brethren who had given the various sections of the Lecture for the vote that had been passed with so much cordiality. He knew that each of those seven brethren had been extremely anxious to sustain the prestige of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. He felt sure also that in the vote, and the kind words that had been said about the working, those brethren found a full reward. The pleasure with which those brethren received the vote would be enhanced by its having been seconded by the late old W.M. of the lodge, Bro. Thomas Fenn. Passing on to another subject he believed the predominant wish in the heart of nearly every brother present who was not already a member of the

lodge, was at once and immediately to become one. The Committee had made provision for meeting that wish by having cards distributed in the room which the brethren would fill up, pay half-a-crown, and be balloted for election next Friday evening. The subscription was 5s. a year. A shilling had to be paid every night when a member attended, and after all the expenses of the lodge had been defrayed, these dues all went to Masonic Charity.

The lodge was shortly afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to supper, but the number of brethren was so great that in addition to the main repast in the large hall of Freemasons' Tavern, two overflow suppers had to be given in other rooms. Lieut.-Gen. J. Wimburn Laurie presided, and at the conclusion of the repast proceeded with the toasts.

Bro. Gen. LAURIE, in giving the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," said that effusiveness of language was not always a proof of the depth of feeling, and he should not weary the brethren with a lengthy speech. The first thing the brethren looked for, and expected, and had a right to expect, was loyalty, and if Masons had a strong feeling it was for two subjects—the Queen and the Craft. It had been his fortune going round the world among the subjects of the Queen to have that toast in Masonic gatherings given as warmly as it could be given in the old country. The most cordial feelings of Masons wherever they might be found throughout the world under the Grand Lodge of England was for the Queen and the Craft, and they all felt that their lodges were daughters of the Grand Lodge of England.

Bro. Gen. LAURIE, in giving "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," recounted an event which occurred to him about 35 years ago, when he represented the Grand Lodge of England at the Grand Lodge of New York. There were 25,000 brethren present, and the Chief of the Police gave up the whole of the big streets to the Masons. Later on—22 years ago—although he was Grand Master of Nova Scotia, he was a Masonic subject of the Prince of Wales, who had just then been installed, and filled the gap created by Lord Ripon's resignation. All over the world he was then well thought of, notwithstanding he was untried as a Grand Master. He put it to the brethren, what must the Prince of Wales be thought of now that he was a tried Grand Master? Masons all owed him a debt of gratitude, and were bound to support him on every occasion especially as he showed the deep interest in the Craft that he now evinced.

Bro. RUSHTON proposed "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," introducing the names of Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., Treasurer of the Emulation Lodge, and Bro. Thomas Fenn, P.G.W. Bro. Fenn had been congratulated on the honour conferred on him by the Grand Master at the last meeting of Grand Lodge. The brethren of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement felt great encouragement as working Masons from the presence of the Grand Officers on these annual occasions, and the brethren who worked the Sections must have felt encouraged by what fell from that Past Master in the Craft, Bro. Fenn, when he gave them words of praise for the way in which they did their work that evening. The support given to the lodges by the Grand Officers gave it a status among lodges of this class, and the Grand Officers' presence at these annual meetings was a proof that, notwithstanding their high rank, they still took a deep interest in its welfare and progress.

Bro. H. RICHARDS, Dist. G.M., Transvaal, in responding, said he must ask the brethren to bear with him for a very few minutes while he endeavoured to respond for the toast which had been so eloquently given and cordially received. He laboured under two disadvantages; he had a cold, and he was in the unhappy position of having to make a speech. Why the toast had been placed in his hands he could not say; possibly it was because he came from a district of which very little was known and very little had been heard. (Laughter.) If it had been not known to the brethren and not heard, it would not be long before it was known and heard—the district of the Transvaal. (Hear, hear.) As far as Masonry was concerned it had been advancing by leaps and bounds. When he went there in 1889 there were two lodges there; now there were 15 under the English Constitution alone. The Dutch had their lodges, the Scotch had theirs, the Irish had theirs; but English, Dutch, Scotch, and Irish, worked together with perfect harmony and cordiality, and he looked to Masonry in the Transvaal as a great thing in the future, because he believed that where Masons had been made there was good government. The Transvaal Lodge in Pretoria was one which used to do its work amidst the roars of guns in the fight between Boers and British. He had now only to say how much he appreciated the Emulation work. It had been a revelation to him; he had come to the Emulation Lodge of Improvement; he had seen its work, and he was lost in admiration of it, of the perfect harmony that ran throughout the whole of it; it was a great credit to the brethren. If during the remainder of his stay in this country he saw no more Masonic working, he should feel himself well repaid for a 6000 miles journey by the working he had seen in the Emulation Lodge of Improvement that night.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, G. Sec., Treasurer of the lodge, then rose, and said he gladly availed himself of the position he had the honour to hold as Treasurer of that lodge, to submit to the brethren the next toast; it was a very important one and one that he felt sure would receive at the hands of the brethren a most cordial and hearty welcome; it was the health of the distinguished brother, and he might say his old friend, who had, with such ability and geniality, presided over their festival that night; and on behalf of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement he begged to tender him their warmest thanks for the honour he had paid them. The name of Gen. Wimburn Laurie was respected no less on the other side of the Atlantic than it was on this side. For many years—he did not know how many—General Laurie presided over the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, and at the present moment he was representative in the Grand Lodge of England not only of the Grand Lodge of New York, but of the Grand Lodges of other States of America. Last year the Grand Master was pleased to grant him the rank of Past Grand Warden of England, and he (Bro. Letchworth) had now the great pleasure to communicate a fact known to only two in that hall—that within the last few hours the Grand Master had appointed General Laurie to the office of Provincial Grand Master of South Wales (Western Division). The lodge most heartily congratulated him on the great and high honour conferred upon him, and they wished him long life, health, and prosperity in the position which he would so ably fill.

The toast was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm.

Bro. General LAURIE, in replying, said he had entered his name that evening for election as a member of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, but he did not know whether they would accept him or not next Friday night. However, he would assume they would not blackball him. He desired, in the first place, to thank the brethren most cordially for the kind reception given to him personally, and also for the reception they had given the announcement of the honour conferred upon him by the M.W. Grand Master—an honour which he had only heard of that evening. Naturally, as regarded personal work, he had presided over lodges elsewhere, and had seen a great deal of all sorts of Masonic work; and he felt sure that in the jurisdiction to which the Prince of Wales had appointed him he should see nothing superior to what he had just seen. No doubt they had all heard the story of the man who was dying, and who was told he must forgive his enemies; and he replied that he had none, for he had killed them all. (Laughter.) He was sure they would have nothing but good work in South Wales. However, "Tis not in mortals to command success," all they could do was to deserve it. He would try to deserve it. So much for the toast so kindly proposed and so heartily received. His duty was now to propose a toast about which he felt a little difficulty—"Success to the Emulation Lodge

of Improvement." He need not ask the members of the lodge to drink success to the lodge, or to wish success to the lodge; he saw they were determined the lodge should succeed if all the members were influenced by the same spirit as that which influenced those who had worked that night and the brethren who listened that night. Could there be any doubt the Emulation would succeed? They knew it had succeeded. It was one of the great factors in the progress of English Masonry, which was seen by the work done, he would not say in the Emulation Lodge alone, but which had been done very largely by the Emulation Lodge. If he had had a feeling in the past, it was that he never wanted to hear work done parrot-like; he never wanted to hear word-for-word repetition. He had never seen it in the Emulation Lodge until that night, but as soon as he had seen the work of that lodge and other lodges, he saw there was a great deal in teaching the work word-for-word, because there was no question about it. He would take the 80 odd lodges in the jurisdiction he had presided over. There he advised them not to restrict themselves to one single use of words, but to express what they meant. It was all very well; the Master and Wardens first did it correctly, but the next lot took up what they thought their predecessors meant, and so on; others took up the same line, and in 15 years he found it was hard to keep them to the point; they wandered away from it. (Laughter.) There was a great deal in the Emulation system, and he thought they were on the right track in being so rigidly particular in the precise use of words as they were. Following out that idea, he only hoped they would continue to show the same intense interest in the lodge, in the first place as a pattern lodge to the whole jurisdiction, and that they would continue to influence the whole of the lodges as they were largely interested in influencing them that day. He could not go into the history of the lodge, but he knew a good deal, and he tried to educate himself; but what he had got up to they knew, which was much more important, and he was not going to travel over it again; he was dealing, not with their history, not with what they had done in the past, but with what they were doing in the present and what they would do in the future, that is to say, that they would be a great factor in the prosperity of the lodges on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England.

The toast was honoured with a most hearty reception.

Bro. R. CLAY SUDLOW, P.G. Std. Br., acknowledging the toast, said: R.W. Bro. in the Chair and Brethren,—That my name has been coupled with this toast instead of the name of our Treasurer, Bro. Letchworth, is due entirely to his courtesy in desiring that I should enjoy that privilege as the oldest member now on the Committee. It therefore devolves upon me to give expression to our thanks for the cordiality with which you have received the toast of "The Emulation Lodge of Improvement." I am not able to say for how many consecutive years these festivals have been held, but I believe that they date back for a very considerable period; and yet their popularity seems rather to increase than to diminish as the years go by. When you remember that in the very nature of things it is impossible for us to bring out of our treasury anything in the way of novelty, that our work alternates year by year between the First and Second Lectures, the question very naturally arises,—Why is it that the interest in these functions is so fully maintained? It is true that we always have a very distinguished Mason to preside over us, and we are particularly fortunate in our chairman this evening. It is also true that we are usually favoured with the presence of a large number of Grand Officers, and very highly we appreciate their continued encouragement and support. But we must look further for an explanation of these splendid gatherings, and I venture to think that it is found in the fascination that Masonry possesses for those who have given any thought at all to its grand principles and teachings, and in the exceptional opportunities which these festivals afford of listening to the enunciation of those principles in the beautiful language of our lectures. And, brethren, if our festivals are successful, the same remark certainly applies to our weekly meetings. It is becoming more and more widely recognised, the immense advantage there is in first of all becoming qualified for the work, then passing through the various offices in this lodge. I really do not know of anything so useful to a Masonic student who has thoroughly studied the ritual in one or other of the lodges of instruction teaching our system, than to go through a finishing course at the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. A Mason who has done that successfully may with every confidence undertake the duties of any office which he may be called upon to perform in his lodge. Brethren, in my student days Bro. Fenn invariably occupied the Past Master's chair, and it was nothing short of an ordeal to essay any work under the keen eye and ear of that great master; and although the pupil has been the Past Master for now 14 years, I am not sure that he has altogether lost the feeling of awe inspired by that distinguished brother whom we are so very glad to welcome among us to-night. I am told, brethren, that this ordeal is not less severe in the present day, and I am very glad if such be the case, because, on the one hand, the examination, so to speak, would be of no real benefit unless it be a very stiff one, and, on the other hand, if laxity were to creep in, the present Committee would not be worthily fulfilling the very responsible trust that has been committed to them—a trust, brethren, that they hope to preserve absolutely intact until the time comes when they must hand that trust over to their successors. (Cheers.)

Bro. THOMAS FENN next said: R.W. Brother in the Chair and Brethren,—The toast that has been entrusted to me is that of "The Lodge of Unions," under which this Emulation Lodge of Improvement has now worked for 67 years, and during the whole of that time this toast has never been omitted, except on one occasion, and that was the first year of my Secretaryship. (Laughter.) I was new to my duty, and did not understand supplying the Chairman with the toasts of the evening. I thought Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, who sat next to me, would look after that duty, but, strange to say, it was not looked after, and that toast was omitted for the first time. I recollect I had to write a very abject apology to the Lodge of Unions for that omission. I took upon myself the responsibility of that omission, and prayed for forgiveness. I am happy to say the apology was accepted and ordered to be entered on the minutes. I think I ought to tell you we are not a child of the Lodge of Unions, but we are the adopted child, for, before the Lodge of Unions adopted us we were under No. 7—a lodge which was then called the Lodge of Hope. But about 1830, the Lodge of Hope seemed to have fallen into some difficulties, and they transferred their warrant to the York Lodge of Perseverance which is now No. 7. I have no doubt the Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, although very glad to accept the high number in the calendar, were a little averse to undertake the responsibility of fathering or mothering this Emulation Lodge of Improvement; but I have reason to think they have many times regretted their refusal to take that duty. On the other hand I venture to think that the Lodge of Unions are proud of their adopted child, and if they are not proud of it they ought to be. Well, brethren, we have worked together very amicably without any friction whatever now for 67 years, and I hope and trust we shall be united in the same harmony until time shall be no more. (Hear, hear.) It is usual to couple the name of the Master of the Lodge of Unions with this toast, but, with his permission I shall couple the name of Bro. Farnfield with it, because, at the present day he is the worthy son of a worthy father who was initiated in the Lodge of Unions, and who was a member of it for over 50 years, and Secretary of it, I believe, for more than 40, and who during that time was an honoured worker of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. I have in my papers some notes in the handwriting of Bro. Farnfield referring to the lectures of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement sufficient to prove that he

was a very earnest worker, and for many years; and, therefore, I feel it a great pleasure in connecting Bro. Farnfield with that toast, and I hope you will drink it with cordiality. I give you "The Lodge of Unions," under the sanction of which this lodge works.

Bro. J. A. FARNFIELD replied, and said: I express my deep obligation to our W.M. for standing aside and allowing me to respond to the toast presented to you by Bro. Fenn. In acknowledging the pride with which the Lodge of Unions think of their adopted child, I can hardly express words to describe it to you. The child has grown, and so long as it is proud of its parent so long shall we be proud of our adopted child. With regard to the kind words of Bro. Fenn with respect to me, I find it is 36 years since I was initiated in the Lodge of Unions, and in the first year I was made a member of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. I do not think during that time I have missed more than four or five of these annual festivals. I was glad to hear Bro. Fenn say why the allegiance of this lodge was transferred to the Lodge of Unions. It is not many years; looking up the books for the history of the lodge we come upon the fact that the lodge worked first under the sanction of the Perseverance. I came to the lodge and presented it to the Lodge of Improvement, as we thought they were getting hold of that. I assured the Treasurer we were able to prove it had an uninterrupted existence of 100 years. I only hope when another 100 years have passed we may have the Emulation Lodge of Improvement attached to us, and that it may do as much good as it has done up to the present time.

Bro. Archdeacon STEVENS, G. Chap., proposed "The Masonic Charities," to which Bro. J. M. McLEOD, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B., responded.

Bro. Col. BINDLEY proposed "The Officers," which was replied to by Bro. RUSSELL, Sec.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS.

The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown was held on Tuesday evening last at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C. The Earl of Euston, M.W. Pro Grand Master, presided, and he was supported by Bros. Viscount Dungarvan, Deputy G. Master; the Earl of Portarlington, S.G.W.; Thomas Fenn, as J.G.W.; the Marquess of Hertford, P.G.M.; Col. A. B. Cook; Charles Belton, as G.M.O.; Richard Eve, as S.G.O.; R. Clowes, as J.G.O.; Richard Loveland Loveland; Major Clifford Probyn, G.T.; E. Letchworth, Geo. Everett, Major Woodall, James Boulton, Ernest St. Clair, Dr. Balfour Cockburn, G.D.C.; E. Letch Mason, C. F. Hogard, W. Lake, Dr. Clement Godson, W. Vincent, H. Sadler, Chas. F. Matier (G. Sec.), and several other brethren.

After the Grand Lodge had been opened and the minutes of the meeting in December, 1896, had been read and confirmed,

The PRO GRAND MASTER announced that the next business was the election of the Most Worshipful Grand Master for the ensuing year.

Bro. Dr. ORVIN, P.M. 44, P.P.G.D. Kent, then rose and said: M.W. Pro Grand Master and Brethren,—At the last meeting of this Grand Lodge I had the honour of nominating his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as our Grand Master for the ensuing year, and I beg now to move that he be elected as our Grand Master.

Bro. J. J. THOMAS: M.W. Pro Grand Master,—And I beg to second it.

The Earl of EUSTON: Brethren,—I have to put the motion, and I am quite certain that it is hardly necessary for me to put it to you, because you will receive it with acclamation, and with thanks that his Royal Highness accepts the position.

The motion was carried unanimously and with loud applause, and Bro. Dr. BALFOUR COCKBURN, G.D.C., proclaimed his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales duly elected as M.W.G.M. of Mark Masons for the ensuing year.

Bro. Major CLIFFORD PROBYN, G. Treas., then moved that Bro. Geo. Henry Parke, P.P.G.W. of West Yorkshire, P.G.S., P.S.G.W. Derbyshire, be elected as Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Bro. LEACH BARRETT, S.W. 405, seconded the motion.

The Earl of EUSTON: Brethren, we have been spared the trouble of an election. I always consider that when there is an election it does not show that good feeling of fellowship that there should be in Masonry. I declare Bro. Parke duly elected Grand Treasurer for the ensuing 12 months, and I congratulate him on his position. (Cheers.)

Bro. G. H. PARKE: M.W. Pro Grand Master,—Permit me to express my deep thanks, in the first place, to you for your congratulations, and then to the brethren for the great honour they have conferred upon my provinces as well as upon myself. All I can now say is that as you have placed the office in my hands nothing shall be wanting on my part to add lustre to it. (Cheers.)

The report of the General Board was then, on the motion of Bro. RICHARD LOVELAND LOVELAND, President, seconded by Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, G.R., taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

The recommendations in the report were, on motion by Bro. LOVELAND LOVELAND, seconded by Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, then carried, and the report moved and seconded by the same brethren was adopted, and Grand Lodge closed in ample form.

ANNUAL SUPPER OF THE CITADEL LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1895.

The third annual supper of the above lodge of instruction was held on Friday last, in the Caledonian Salon of the Holborn Restaurant. Upwards of 90 ladies and members attended, Bro. F. Dunstan, P.M., &c, presiding. Bros. Feistel, Jeanes, Bishop, Jones, and W. S. Clark, officiated as Stewards.

Misses Wilnot Briggs, Violet Millin, Gertrude Feistel, and F. K. Schwartz Mrs. F. Clark, and Bros. Jones, Feistel, Howard, A. Bishop, F. W. Bishop, Jeanes, and Charles E. Johnson, contributed to the musical part of the programme.

The arrangements generally were carried out by the Hon. Sec., Bro. Harry Willmsler.

THE RECENT FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The following lists and additions to lists have been received since the report of the recent Festival appeared, namely:

LONDON.			
Lodge		£	s. d.
157	Bro. L. A. Richardson, additional	...	1 1 0
	(raising his list to £51 8s.)		
176	Bro. B. Matveieff, additional	...	6 3 0
	(raising his list to £45 3s.)		
181	Bro. Donald Andrew, new list	...	31 10 0
1366	Bro. James Culverwell, additional	...	36 15 0
	(raising his list to £51 15s.)		
2108 } 2545 }	Bro. Lennox Browne, additional	...	2 2 0
	(raising his list to £165 11s. 6d.)		
2632	Bro. James Boulton, additional	...	2 2 0
	(raising his list to £57 3s. 6d.)		
Unattached	Bro. E. Cockerell, new list	...	10 10 0
"	Bro. David M. Murrow, new list	...	21 0 0
"	Bro. F. Terrell, new list	...	5 5 0
PROVINCES.			
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.			
1410	Bro. Thomas Taylor, additional	...	5 5 0
	(raising his list to £21.)		
CHESHIRE.			
321	Bro. W. J. Nash, new list	...	10 10 0
326	Bro. William Hardy, new list	...	10 10 0
Unattached	Mrs. Sinclair, new list	...	5 5 0
CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.			
"	Bro. T. H. Hogg, new list	...	10 10 0
DEVONSHIRE.			
70	Bro. F. B. Westlake, additional	...	59 17 0
	(raising his list to £70 7s.)		
HERTFORDSHIRE.			
2054	Bro. H. G. Holland, additional	...	5 5 0
	(raising his list to £179 11s.)		
LANCASHIRE (W.D.)			
32	Bro. I. B. Newton, new list	...	10 10 0
MIDDLESEX.			
865	Bro. J. Cox, additional	...	5 5 0
	(raising his list to £57 15s.)		
SUSSEX.			
	The Province Bro. J. M. Reed, additional	...	10 10 0
	(raising his list to £126)		
WARWICKSHIRE.			
Lodge	2434 Bro. G. A. Skinner, new list	...	10 10 0
Lodge	1021 Bro. J. J. Kendall, new list	...	5 5 0
FOREIGN STATIONS.			
MELBOURNE.			
	Unattached Bro. Henri Amelot, new list	...	10 10 0

N.B.—Several new Stewards, principally in West Yorkshire, have been added to the Board since the Festival, and two important alterations must be made in the Returns as published in our last week's issue. (1) It was Bro. W. Austin, S.W. 168, not Bro. Thos. Pengelley, who acted as Steward for the Province of Guernsey and Alderney, and returned a total of £115 10s. (2) Bro. V. P. Freeman, Prov. G. Sec. Sussex, whose list amounted to £105, was Unattached, and did not, therefore, act as the representative of the Royal Brunswick Lodge, No. 732, Brighton.

Secret Monitor.

Zacharie Conclave, No. 9.

A meeting was held on Friday, the 19th ult., at the Holborn Restaurant. Present: Bros. H. Gadd, P.G.S., S.R.; Col. Molyneux, C.; Frank E. Lemon, M.A., G.; D. H. W. Kiallmark, Treas.; Dr. A. M. Jessop, Sec.; W. Canton, V.D.; W. Amor, Sentinel; and others. Bro. W. J. Spratling, G.R., was a visitor. Letters of regret were read from Bros. Dr. Danford Thomas, P.S.R.; Sir Thomas Wright, P.S.R.; H. Lewis, P.S.R.; and others.

After the reading of the minutes, a ballot was taken for Bro. F. C. Van Duzer, W.M. 2397. Bro. Van Duzer was inducted by Bro. Kiallmark, who assumed the chair at the request of the S.R. Bro. Col. Molyneux was then elected as Grand Steward to represent the conclave at Grand Festival in June next, and afterwards as Supreme Ruler of the conclave. The S.R. and Bro. Van Duzer were elected Auditors, and, on the motion of the Secretary, five guineas were voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The Treasurer pointed out that that was the fourth like contribution the conclave had made to the Charities, and that the funds would warrant the following notice of motion for the next meeting: "That no subscription be asked for during the year 1897-8." Bro. Kiallmark explained that by a wholesome by-law, one-third of the balance in hand at each audit is voted to the Charity Fund, which keeps it well supplied. Meanwhile the brethren would recollect that some years ago the Committee was able to recommend one year's intermission of subscription, and now they hoped to repeat it. He knew this was a very unusual proceeding in a lodge, but thought its infrequency would add to it "a kind of charm" which seemed to hang about the proposal, if he might interpret the reception it had received among the brethren.

The brethren afterwards dined together under the genial presidency of Bro. H. Gadd, P.G. Stwd., S.R., who spoke of overtures that had been made to him concerning the establishment of a conclave in the Masonic province in which he was a Prov. Grand Officer, and which already boasted among its Masonic leaders a name so distinguished as that of the Baron de Ferrieres.

Damon and Pythias Conclave, No. 14.

A regular meeting of the above conclave was held at the Masonic Hall, Vepery, Madras, on Thursday, the 14th January, there being present Bros. W. T. Newitt, as S.R.; James Stiven, Counsellor; the Rev. A. Westcott, M.A., Guide; W. T. Sumner, Sec.; A. J. Cooper-Oakley, S.V.D.; C. J. Higgs, as J.V.D.; B. E. Smith, Guard; F. W. Jordan, Sentinel; W. E. Bishop, and J. H. M. Ryan.

The conclave was opened, and the summons convening the meeting read, followed by the minutes of the last regular meeting, which were confirmed. Ballots were then taken for the election of a Supreme Ruler and a Treasurer for the ensuing year, and resulted unanimously in favour of Bro. the Rev. Arthur Westcott, M.A., and Bro. W. T. Newitt, respectively. Bro. F. W. Jordan was re-chosen Sentinel for the same period. Bro. the Rev. J. T. Lawrence, M.A., was unanimously elected for nomination as Grand Steward for 1897-98. Letters were read, resigning membership, from Bros. G. F. Travers-Drapes, P.G. Steward, and J. Copley Moyle. The Charity collections realised Rs. 9. Nothing further offering for the good of the Order in general or for this conclave in particular, it was closed.

NOVELTY THEATRE,
GREAT QUEEN ST., HOLBORN.
Open all the year round.
Miss V. St. LAWRENCE AND POWERFUL
COMPANY.

On MONDAY, MARCH 8, at 7.30 o'clock, and during the
week, will be produced an entirely new and original five act
drama, "TAKEN BY FORCE," by WILFRED RODGERS.
PRICES 3d. TO A GUINEA.
Manager, Mr. WALTER TYRRELL.

BEFORE YOU BUY YOUR
Machine for 1897
Inspect the "HOLBORN"
Guaranteed to be a First Class Machine at a Moderate
Price.
THE HOLBORN CYCLE COMPANY,
39, GREAT QUEEN STREET, HOLBORN.
(Nearly opposite the Freemasons' Hall)

ANDERTON'S HOTEL & TAVERN
FLEET STREET, LONDON.
F. H. CLEMOW, Proprietor.

In connection with the Peacock Hotel, and Royal Hotel,
Boston, Lincolnshire.

The central position of Anderton's is unequalled for
Masonic Banquets, Public Dinners, Wedding Breakfasts,
Meetings of Creditors, Arbitrations, &c.

The RESTAURANT on Eastern Side of Hotel Entrance
is open to the public from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for Breakfasts,
Luncheons, Teas, and Dinners.

The 2s. Hot Luncheon, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., in Coffee
Room, unequalled.

Registered Address for Telegrams:—
CLEMOW, LONDON.

T. H. STEVENS'S
GAME, POULTRY, AND PROVISION
STORES,
65, HAYMARKET, LONDON, S.W.

SURREY FOWLS, YORK HAMS, AND CHOICE
OLD CHEDDAR CHEESE.

Clubs, Restaurants and Hotels supplied on the most
advantageous terms.

Prompt attention given to Country orders.
Telephone No. 35,299.

THE SHIP AND TURTLE.
Proprietor, Bro. C. J. PAINTER.

Best and oldest house in London for recherché
Masonic Banquets, Private Parties, and Dinners.
ASSEMBLY ROOMS FOR COMPANIES, &c.

OUR TURTLE "THE ELIXIR OF LIFE,"
Vide faculty.

Purveyors to H.R.H. Prince of Wales, H.I.M. Emperor
of Russia, Dukes of Saxe Gotha, Connaught, Cambridge,
and most of Crowned Heads of Europe.
Manager, Bro. E. ASHBY.

CANNON STREET HOTEL,
CANNON STREET, E.C.

RITTER & PUZEY, PROPRIETORS.

SPACIOUS AND COMMODIOUS ROOMS
FOR LARGE OR SMALL
MASONIC LODGES,

AND
BANQUETS,

MEETINGS, AUCTIONS, BALLS, CONCERTS, ARBITRA-
TIONS, CINDERELLAS, ETC.

W. G. FENELEY, MANAGER.

EDUCATION AT THE SEASIDE.

THE COLLEGIATE SCHOOL,
LYTHAM, LANCS.

Principal—Rev. W. H. JOHNSON, B.A.

Select Boarding School for Boys.
Beautiful and Refined Home.

SCHOOL AND RECREATION GROUND FACE THE SEA.
Healthy and salubrious climate; south aspect.

English, Science and Art, Languages, Divinity, Music,
Shorthand, &c.

Thorough Commercial Education. Preparation for the
Universities. Sea Bathing. Liberal Board.

Special advantages for delicate Boys.

TERMS FROM 36 GUINEAS PER ANNUM.

VOICE PRODUCTION AND
SINGING.

NEW AND IMPORTANT WORK,

Based on the true Italian method,

By Prof. CELLIER,

Showing How to Breathe, Produce and Preserve the Voice;
also How to Phrase and Sing with Ease, Good Taste, and
Effect.

Absolutely invaluable to all vocalists. Highly recom-
mended by eminent authorities.

Post free, 1s., from

THE TEMPLE PUBLISHING COMPANY,

"C," Selbourne Chambers, Bell-yard, Fleet-st., London,
W.C.

FOR ECONOMICAL AND
RESPECTABLE FUNERALS at stated charges.

To cover all expenses, exclusive of cemetery fees.

BRO. C. G. HATT,

UNDERTAKER,

82, HIGH STREET, KENSINGTON, W
CREMATION AND EMBALMING.

Distance no object.

Orders by post or telegrams promptly attended to.

Price Lists free on application.

MAYO'S CASTLE HOTEL,
EAST MOLESEY, HAMPTON COURT STATION.

BRO. JOHN MAYO MASONIC TEMPLE.

Accommodation in the new wing for Banquets for any
number up to 120. Every convenience for Ladies' Gather-
ings. Spacious landing to river, whence Steam Launches
can start. Five Lodges meet here, and reference may
be made to the respective Masters as to the catering, &c.

Telephone No. 6379.

Established 1808.

MATTHEWS, DREW, & CO.,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
STATIONERS, PRINTERS, LITHOGRAPHERS,
ACCOUNT BOOK MAKERS.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED.

"THE PROFESSIONAL NOTE,"
A High-class Vellum Paper, with Rough or Satin Surface.
SAMPLES ON APPLICATION.

Send for Illustrated Price List Free.

MATTHEWS, DREW, & COMPANY,
37 & 38, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.
(Opposite Chancery Lane).

Law Writing Department—10, GRAY'S INN PLACE, W.C.

WANTED.—Complete Set of Lodge
Furniture, second-hand. Must be in thoroughly
good order. Apply, "S.," care of Editor, *Freemason*.

HIGH SCHOOL, Winslow, Bucks.
(50 miles from London).

Head Master—F. R. KITTO, T.C.D., M.C.P., &c.

High-class School for Boys. Thorough Classical, Mathe-
matical, English, and Commercial training. Refined
Home; kind treatment. No corporal punishment.

NEW MASONIC WORK.

AN EXACT REPRODUCTION

OF THE

MACNAB MASONIC MS.
OF A.D. 1722,
EDITED BY

BRO. WILLIAM WATSON (of Leeds),
WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
BRO. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN

ALSO

Reduced Facsimile of portions of the MS.

The "New Articles" given in the Roll and all else of a
peculiar character are duly explained in Bro. Hughan's
Introduction.

Only 250 copies at 2s. 6d. each, post free.

LONDON:

GEORGE KENNING, 16, GREAT QUEEN STREET, W.C.

COALS. COALS. COALS.
COCKERELL'S (LIMITED),

13, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.

For Prices, see Daily Papers.

Trucks direct from the Colliery to every Railway Station.

BREE'S ROYAL HOTEL, JERSEY
Healthiest situation in St. Helier.
20 degrees cooler than the sea front.

BED AND BREAKFAST 5/6 AND 6/-.

FULL BOARD, ROOMS & SERVICE, 8/6 & 9/- per day.

Telegraphic Address—"BREES, JERSEY."

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT
INSTITUTION

FOR

AGED FREEMASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

MAY ELECTION, 1897.

The favour of your Votes and Interest is earnestly
solicited on behalf of

MARY ANN BURFIELD,

Widow of the late EBENEZER BURFIELD, 21 years
member of the Leamington, 395, Warwick, 567, Lodges,
P.P.G.J.D. Warwickshire, and Life Governor of the Aged
Masons' Institution.

Mrs. Burfield at the present time is existing on a grant
from the Board of Benevolence.

Votes for either of the Institutions will be thankfully
received by Bro. W. HOPKIN, P.G.P., P.Z., Crystal
Palace, Upper Norwood.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION
FOR BOYS.

Re ARNOLD BEVERLY MINERS.

Bro. W. C. PARSONS, P.M. and Sec. 180, takes the
earliest opportunity of informing the Life Governors and
Subscribers, who so kindly supported the above case at the
last two elections, that, owing to an extraordinary vacancy
having occurred since the October election, the Board of
Management has been good enough to exercise their power,
by admitting young MINERS into the Institution, without
further voting, he being the highest unsuccessful candidate
at the last election. Bro. PARSONS takes this opportunity
of expressing his very sincere thanks to all his Masonic
friends who so kindly assisted him at the last two elections.

4, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square,
February 22nd, 1897.

GOULD'S HISTORY OF FREE-
MASONRY, in three volumes; new; what offers?
—Address, J. A. BESWARICK, Lostwithiel.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION
FOR GIRLS,

APRIL ELECTION.

Will brethren having interest in the Charities notice case
of

RUTH SEWART,

one of the 10 children left dependent on the widow of our
late W. Bro. Dr. JOHN HUNTER SEWART.

Mrs. SEWART has opened a Typewriting Office at River-
side, Lostwithiel, thereby endeavouring to keep the wolf
from the door.

Votes for either of the Charities (thankfully received by
W. Bro. T. W. PERRY, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., Lostwithiel.
All offers of assistance gladly accepted.

NEXT ELECTION.

INFANT ORPHAN ASYLUM,
WANSTEAD.

Your votes and interest are earnestly solicited on behalf
of

HILDA FLORENCE GRANT,

Aged 4 years,

Whose father, an Electrical Engineer of George-street,
Mansion House, died in January, 1895, at the age of 33,
leaving a widow and seven young children very inade-
quately provided for.

The case is strongly recommended by—

Bro. the Rev. J. H. ROSE, M.A., Vicar of Clerkenwell.

Bro. J. H. MATTHEWS, 55, Parliament-street, S.W.

Bro. H. CARMAN, B.unswick, South-road, Forest Hill, S.E.

Bro. GEORGE KENNING, Upper Sydenham, S.E.

W. T. ANSELL, Eastern Telegraph Co., Ltd., 50, Old
Broad-street.

J. T. HOARE, Esq., Talbot House, 393, Holloway-Rd., N.
J. R. DUFF, Esq., 14, Burlington-road, Tottenham, N.

Proxies will be thankfully received by the above gentle-
men, and also by the widow, Mrs. GRANT, 355, Green
Lanes, Harringay, N.

For

Masonic Festivals, Banquets, Concerts, at Homes, &c.

THE

MEISTERIN MANDOLINE TRIO
MISS BLANCHIE WALKER,
MISS JEANNETTE MOLENKAMP,

and MISS IDA DUFF.

Or with the addition of Guitarists, Popular Vocalists,
and Humorist (large and select list). Full particulars of
T. LAWLER, MEISTERIN STUDIO, 19, MORTIMER ST.,
REGENT STREET, W.

Ladies' Mandoline and Guitar Circle and Private
Lessons as usual.

MONEY PROMPTLY ADVANCED
ON BILLS OF SALE,

And other Securities, at moderate Interest, repayable by
instalments or otherwise.

Office Established 1856.

G. J. SHIPWAY,
3, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND.

ARMFIELD'S SOUTH PLACE HOTEL,
 FINSBURY, LONDON, E.C.,
 This new and handsomely-furnished Hotel is now FULLY LICENCED. Its position is central, and charges are moderate; the sanitation is perfect. Passenger lift to each floor.
 SPECIAL CONVENIENCE FOR MASONIC LODGES, DINNERS AND CINDERELLAS.

GAIETY RESTAURANT, STRAND.

LUNCHEONS (HOT AND COLD)
 At Popular Prices, in BUFFET and RESTAURANT (on First Floor),
 also
 Chops, Steaks, Joints, Entrées, &c., in the GRILL ROOM.

AFTERNOON TEA,
 Consisting of Tea or Coffee, Cut Bread and Butter, Jam, Cake, Pastry, *ad lib.*, at 1s. per head,
 served from 4 till 6 in RESTAURANT (First Floor).

DINNERS IN RESTAURANT,
 From 5.30 till 9, at fixed prices (3s. 6d. and 5s.) and à la Carte.

In this room
THE VIENNESE BAND
 performs from 6 till 8.
 Smoking after 7.45.

AMERICAN BAR.

THE GRILL ROOM
 is open till 12.30.

PRIVATE DINING ROOMS for large and small Parties.

SPIERS & POND, Ltd., PROPRIETORS.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.
 Established 1836.

LONDON: 1, MOORGATE STREET, E.C.
 ABERDEEN: 1, UNION TERRACE.

INCOME AND FUNDS (1895).

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



SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1897.

Masonic Notes.

The Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 3rd instant, in the first instance, under the presidency of Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Pro Grand Master, and on his retirement from the Hall, under that of Bro. Earl Amherst, D.G.M. The earlier portion of the business on the Agenda, including the proposal requiring that a brother joining a lodge under the English Constitution from another Constitution should make a declaration of allegiance to our Grand Lodge, was quickly dispatched. But the proposed additions to the Book of Constitutions, of which notice had been given by the Grand Registrar, led to a long discussion, with the result that, after an amendment by

Bro. Past Grand Treasurer Eve, referring the proposals to the Board of General Purposes, had been defeated by a substantial majority, a suggestion by Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., acting Grand Chaplain, to the effect that they should be considered by a Committee and reported upon at the Grand Lodge in June, was, with the G. Registrar's acquiescence, adopted *nem con.*

The Committee, to whom this reference has been made, consists of the Grand Registrar (Bro. Philbrick), Bros. Lieut.-General J. W. Laurie, P.G.W. England, Past G. Master Nova Scotia, Prov. Grand Master nominate for South Wales (Western Division); Thomas Fenn, P.G.W., Past President Board of General Purposes; and Richard Eve, Past G. Treas.; and the Colonial Committee of the Board of General Purposes.

The only other matter of comment was the appeal of Bro. R. W. Bourne, P.M. No. 32, against the sentence of suspension from his Masonic privileges passed upon him by the Prov. G. Master of West Lancashire (the Earl of Lathom); but as that brother did not put in an appearance, it was, on the proposal of the Grand Registrar, seconded by the Dep. G. Registrar, dismissed.

A very short space of time sufficed to dispose of the business on the Agenda paper at the Communication of Mark Grand Lodge on Tuesday. Bro. George S. Parke was elected Grand Treasurer without a contest, and Bro. the Earl of Euston, Pro Grand Master, who presided, congratulated Grand Lodge on the happy avoidance of a competition for the office. The Report of the General Board was adopted and ordered to be entered on the minutes, and Grand Lodge was then closed.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master and Grand Z. of Supreme Grand Chapter, has been pleased to appoint Bro. Major-General Fletcher Owen, R.A., to be District Grand Master and Grand Superintendent of Malta, in succession to Bro. Rear-Admiral A. H. Markham, who has resigned those offices.

It will be seen, from our report of the Annual Festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, that, in the course of the proceedings, the Grand Secretary mentioned that Bro. Lieut.-Gen. J. Wimburn Laurie, M.P., P.G.W. of England, Past Grand Master of Nova Scotia, and the Representative at our United Grand Lodge of the Grand Lodges of Nova Scotia, Maryland, and New York, has been appointed by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., M.W.G. Master, to succeed the late lamented Bro. Lord Kensington as Prov. Grand Master for South Wales (Western Division). We congratulate both Bro. Laurie—who is a Mason of long standing and large experience—and the Province over which he has been thus chosen to preside, and we trust the association of the two may continue for many years.

A new lodge under the style and title of the Alleyn, No. 2647, and so named after John Alleyn, founder of Dulwich College, was consecrated at the Half-Moon Tavern, Herne-hill, on Saturday last. The ceremony was performed by the Grand Secretary, who was assisted by Bro. J. H. Matthews, President Board of Benevolence, as S.W.; Bro. Henry Lovegrove, G.S.B.; Bro. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., as Chaplain; Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; and Bro. W. Lake, A.G. Sec., as I.G. The function passed off excellently well, and when the lodge was constituted, Bro. Chas. Hles Axford, W.M. designate, was installed in the chair of K.S., and afterwards invested the Wardens designate, namely, Bros. G. W. Capel, S.W., and J. Joel, J.W., while Bro. John Read, who is Past Grand Organist of Supreme Grand Chapter, was appointed to the onerous post of Secretary. Among the principal guests was Bro. A. F. Godson, M.P., Prov. Grand Master of Worcestershire. We heartily wish the new lodge a long and successful career.

We feel sure we are only correctly interpreting the feelings of our readers when we say that they, as well as we, most sincerely sympathise with our respected Bro. Edward Terry, Past G. Treasurer, in the severe family bereavement which has recently overtaken him. Mrs. Terry died suddenly at Priory Lodge, Barnes—our brother's residence—on Friday, the 26th ult., after a very short illness. In consequence, the arrangements

which Bro. Terry had made for the performance of "The Holly Tree Inn" and "Love in Idleness," at a matinee at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on Thursday, the 4th inst., were cancelled. The funeral took place at West Brompton Cemetery, on Tuesday afternoon, there being a large gathering of friends and relatives present to pay their last tribute of respect to the deceased lady.

At the Quarterly communication of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria which was held in Freemasons' Hall, Melbourne, on Monday, the 21st December last, under the presidency of his Excellency Bro. Lord Brassey, M.W.G.M., his lordship was nominated by the Pro G. Master, Bro. Sir W. J. Clarke, Bart., for the G. Mastership for the ensuing year, and as there was no other candidate proposed for the office, Bro. Sir W. Clarke expressed the pleasure it gave him to declare his Excellency elected, as in his opinion it was of great advantage to the Craft to have the Governor of the Colony for its presiding officer. His lordship, in returning thanks to the brethren for the continuance of their confidence, expressed regret at his unavoidable absence from the previous Quarterly Communication, and promised that he would do his utmost to so regulate his engagements as to allow of his being present at the meetings of Grand Lodge.

At the same meeting of the same Grand Lodge a resolution was adopted, by which it is provided that the Board of General Purposes be requested to revise the Book of Constitutions, but our contemporary, the *Australasian Keystone* points out that this must not be taken to indicate a desire on the part of members of G. Lodge for "any violent change in the Constitution." What they desire is that "the slight alterations which have been made since the adoption of the Book of Constitutions" shall be "properly engrafted," and that "any errors or anomalies which may exist" shall be rectified.

The *Voice of Masonry* for last month contains a review of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, which held its 97th annual communication in Louisville on the 20th to 22nd October last, under the presidency of Bro. F. C. Gerard, M.W. Grand Master, and which is evidently in a very prosperous condition. There are 469 lodges on the roll, and the subscribing members number 18,367. The General Fund, including the balance from previous year, was 26,383 dollars, and the expenditure 18,240 dollars. According to our contemporary, the Report on Correspondence by Bro. W. M. Clarke, which is appended to the Report of Proceedings, is "an excellent compilation of the sayings and doings in other Grand jurisdictions, with fraternal criticisms."

Certainly, Bro. Clarke's observations relating to non-affiliates are more reasonable than the majority of those we are accustomed to meet with in American addresses and reviews. He remarks, "Doubtless a Grand Lodge may decree that an unaffiliated Mason shall not appear in a Masonic procession, or visit a Masonic lodge more than three times, or not at all; but, this being true, we are constrained to urge that it is not only not good Masonry, but is contrary to ancient usage. We remember that the time is not very greatly in the past, when there were no chartered lodges, and when the neophyte was made a Mason, he was made such, not for a particular place or time, but for all places and all time. One difficulty that modern Masonry is labouring under, is that there is too much legislation, and much of its legislation swings clear of the ancient customs of the Craft, and before a great while, the Order will be ancient only in name, certainly not in practice."

We trust our Bro. W. M. Clarke may not be a true prophet, while as regards his objections to Grand Lodges ruling that a non-affiliate should not visit a lodge more than a certain number of times, we must point out that if the non-affiliate were allowed to visit lodges whenever he pleased, the affiliate who contributes his share towards the cost of maintaining the lodge would be at a decided disadvantage; indeed, would in time cease to be affiliated, and there would be no lodges if the non-affiliate were allowed to enjoy all the rights and privileges of Masonry without contributing a stiver towards the expenses. What we object to is that the American Grand Lodges seem unwilling to leave the non-affiliate alone; that they fail to perceive that as he was free to join their ranks, so is he free to quit them. However, it is something to find an American Compiler of Correspondence acknowledging that what Masonry in the States suffers from chiefly is "too much legislation." This is precisely what we have been saying for a long time past.

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.

LONDON LODGES AND THE VICTORIAN COMMEMORATION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

"W. W.," in your issue of last Saturday, invites discussion upon a subject which cannot but be of great interest to London Freemasons. He suggests that a Province of London, or London District Grand Lodges—corresponding to Provincial Grand Lodges—should this year be formed.

To make all London into a separate district in this way would be quite impracticable, because of its immensity; but the 439 lodges it contains might very well be divided into, say, eight districts, the 55 lodges in each of which might be united, and thus might form eight Metropolitan Grand Lodges. In each case a Metropolitan Grand Master—ranking precisely as a Provincial Grand Master—a Deputy, and the usual officers would be required. The collars, jewels, &c., might be identical ("Metropolitan" taking the place of "Provincial"), and there would then be between 30 and 40 collars to bestow each year in each of the eight Metropolitan Grand Lodges.

By this means deserving London brethren might obtain recognition which under present circumstances they cannot even hope for, and—which is perhaps more important—each Metropolitan Grand Lodge might have its Metropolitan Charity Committee by means of elected representatives from each lodge, as is done in the provinces.

This would have a three-fold advantage—(1) It would materially increase the amount contributed to the Charities; (2) It would do away with the present expensive collecting system; and (3) And, most important of all, it would enable London lodges to combine and bring the full force of their voting power to bear in support of their candidates at the elections.

That such a scheme as I have roughly sketched has not been carried out long ago has been a matter of wonder to many besides.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

DISINTERESTED.

March 3rd, 1897.

P.S.—The province which contains 70 to 100 lodges finds, I am told, the distribution of honours difficult; hence the suggestion that London should be divided into eight Metropolitan Grand Lodges. The names to be assigned to them and their respective boundaries would be matters of detail.

THE LODGE WARRANT AND CONFERRING DEGREES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

"Ex-Secretary, P.M.'s" letter, if answered by the present Book of Constitutions alone, is exceedingly simple as to his first question. Law 125 says: "No lodge . . . can meet without a warrant . . . which is to be specially intrusted to the Master for the time being at his installation, who is responsible for its safe custody, and shall produce it at every meeting of the lodge." The italics, of course, are mine. The meeting described was undoubtedly "an irregularity." The lodge being "irregular," no countenance ought to be given "to any person initiated therein."—See No. 13 of the Ancient Regulations agreed to by the W.M. at his installation, prefixed to the Book of Constitutions.

In fairness to the newly-initiated brethren, the W.M. should state the circumstances to the Board of General Purposes, confess his error, submit to their punishment—which, if he is serving his first Mastership, will probably be light—and ask what they require as to the candidates. As they are innocent, probably re-obligation will be sufficient.—Yours fraternally,

LEX SCRIPTA.

Feb. 24th, 1897.

THE ENDOWMENT OF GUY'S HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I feel confident that you will be kind enough to favour me, to insert the copy of the enclosed letter from his Royal Highness our M.W. Grand Master, to the authorities of Guy's Hospital, together with this from your humble servant, in your next publication. Perhaps this might be the means to induce the various lodges to send a small subscription of a guinea, or even half-a-guinea, towards the endowment of a bed at Guy's Hospital in the name of the "Freemason," only about £125 more is required to complete the £1000 necessary.

The brethren will remember that Grand Lodge has granted the sum of £500—and Grand Chapter £125—for that purpose, and with other subscriptions already received—amongst those of Bro. C. E. Keyser, P.G.D., £100, and Bro. Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Sec., £25—the sum subscribed is about £870. It would be a great pity if for the few pounds the object of the endowment should fail.

It seems from the experience I had by visiting several lodges, that there is an impression amongst the brethren, that the appeal just now before the public for the General Hospital Fund is for the same purpose, therefore I trouble you with this letter that the brethren might know that the endowment of one bed at Guy's Hospital in the name of the "Freemason," is quite a distinct appeal from the other. Subscriptions for the endowment will be thankfully received by Bro. C. E. Keyser, P.G.D., of Aldermaston Court, Reading, or by Bro. Sir Joseph Dimsdale, P.G.T., of the firm Messrs. Prescott, Dimsdale, & Co., Bankers, of 50, Cornhill, which will be acknowledged in due time in the *Freemason*. Thanking you in anticipation for publishing this statement,—I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

MAURICE SPIEGEL, P.M., P.Z., &c.

London, Feb. 26th, 1897.

The Governors of Guy's Hospital have just issued an interim report relating to the appeal for funds made on behalf of that Institution, and the response thereto up to the 30th September last. From this it appears that the £500,000 for which the appeal was made only about one-third has been forthcoming, and that 150 beds remain closed to the sick poor. To the report is appended the following letter, which has been received by the Treasurer:

"Marlborough House, Pall Mall, S.W.,
December, 1896.

"Dear Mr. Cosmo Bonsor,

"The generous response by all sections of the public to the appeal which has been made on behalf of the re-endowment and sustentation funds of Guy's Hospital has naturally been a source of great pleasure to the Prince of Wales, and he would be glad if you would add to the official interim report, which

you are about to issue, a paragraph expressing his sincere personal thanks to each donor and subscriber.

"His Royal Highness, as President of the Hospital, cannot, however, but entertain much anxiety concerning its future prospects, and he desires me to remind you that even the considerable measure of financial success which has already been achieved will not, unless further efforts are still made, prove adequate fully to meet the exigencies of the situation.

"Believe me, yours truly,

"FRANCIS KNOLLYS.

"H. Cosmo Bonsor, Esq., M.P., Treasurer,
"Guy's Hospital, S.E."

MASONIC RECORDS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I was quite delighted to see you were publishing records of Masonic attendances. I should like to add one of a member of the lodge to which I belong. I allude to Bro. John Constable, who for upwards of 10 years in his mother lodge—Isle of Axholme, No. 1482—never missed a lodge, making a total of about 115; besides attending all lodges of emergency, &c. It should also be known that his residence is eight miles from the lodge, to which he could only go by train, returning home by road. He is also one of the founders of the lodge to which I belong, which made its 106th meeting last month, at which he has always been present, as well as every lodge of instruction, emergency, &c. I saw a paper the other day, in which it showed that up to 1894 he had travelled nearly 10,000 miles in Masonry, and had visited 47 lodges.

I think this, Sir, will be admitted is truly a "record."—Yours fraternally,
2259, W. Yorks.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

As I understand you are making a collection of records of Masons, I have pleasure in bringing before your notice W. Bro. and E. Comp. E. Billington, who was initiated in Lodge Wharnccliffe, No. 1462, in 1881, and has never missed a lodge or chapter meeting yet. The lodge meets 11 times a year, and this will make his attendances equal to 176 at least, in addition to an attendance at every lodge of instruction.—Yours fraternally,

J. CONSTABLE, P.P.G.S.B. W. Yorks.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

1096]

It seems that "An Old Past Master" is right; Masonic clothing is certainly not underclothing, and, as St. Paul says, we ought to be "clothed upon."

C. H. W.

1097]

"Lex Scripta" will probably inform "Ex-Sec. P.M." that the custody of the warrant is in the W.M., who is bound to produce it at every meeting of his lodge. I suppose that the Degrees conferred were invalid, and probably Grand Lodge will order the candidates to be again obligated.

C. H. W.

Reviews.

"THE BERKSHIRE MASONIC REGISTER AND CALENDAR FOR 1897."—This excellent Annual is printed and published by Bro. G. J. Cosburn, M.J.I., of the Caxton Printing Works, Newbury, and the typography is in the best style. The Editor is the esteemed Deputy Prov. G.M. (in charge of the province), Bro. John Thornhill Morland, P.G.D. of England, who has done his utmost to make the Calendar one of the best in this Country, which it certainly is. There are 15 lodges in the province, five Royal Arch chapters, four Mark lodges (two others being in Oxfordshire), one lodge of Royal Ark Mariners, and one Rose Croix chapter. At page 5 there is a table devoted to the "Distribution of Masonic Bodies in Berkshire," but it is incomplete, not having the total members subscribing under each Class. It would be better to add at foot, total membership, 635, 130, 143, &c., so as to give that important detail. It is remarkable that there are more Mark Masons (143) in Berkshire than Royal Arch Masons (130). Under each lodge and each chapter and other Masonic bodies not only are the names of all the members given, but also lists of the Presiding Officers from the commencement and the rolls of the present officers. The information also respecting the Prov. Grand Lodge, Prov. Grand Chapter, &c., &c., is very full and complete, and the Central Masonic Charities, including the Mark Benevolent, are done ample justice to. Then, as if these items were not enough, though they entailed great labour, there is a Register of all the members, with the numbers of their lodges, chapters, and Mark lodges, and stars and daggers to denote P.M., &c., and Rose Croix Masons. It is a marvellous compendium of facts, most carefully arranged and detailed, and makes the province a considerable debtor to the Deputy Prov. G.M. for his arduous labours. According to the Grand Lodge Calendar, the first Prov. G.M. (Colonel Deakin) was appointed in 1773, not 1791, and the R.W. Bro. Arthur Stanhope in 1795, Sir John Throckmorton, Bart., following in 1817 (also Prov. G.M. Bucks from 1796), Bro. John Ramsbottom, M.P., dating from 1833. Possibly Bro. Morland has overlooked these dates owing to the Prov. G. Lodge Records not being preserved prior to the Union, or, at all events, not so far back as 1773. The frontispiece for this year's issue is devoted to a capital portrait of the R.W. Bro. Viscount Valentia, Provincial Grand Mark Master of Berks and Oxford, who is an enthusiastic Craftsman.

H.

LADIES' NIGHT OF THE GALLERY LODGE, No. 1928.

The annual night given by this Press lodge to the ladies and friends of the members was held this year on the 27th ultimo, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. George Tarran, of the lodge's first batch of five initiates. Bro. Tarran was supported by Bros. Percy W. Husk, I.P.M.; W. M. Duckworth, P.M., Treasurer; Samuel James, S.D.; E. A. Peachey, J.W.; F. W. Brodie, S.D.; Lionel F. Gowing, J.D.; George H. Ribbons, I.G.; Charles Lock, P.M.; Rev. J. Stephen Barrass, Chaplain; Henry E. Peacock, Organist; John Hurdell, P.M. 1348, D.C.; H. L. Bell, A.D.C., Asst. Secretary; J. D. Irvine, A.D.C.; Alfred F. Robbins, Treasurer Benevolent Fund; W. G. Kirby, A. E. Baines, R. G. Emery, and John Martin, Stewards; John Bune, J. E. C. Lane, W. A. Lawton, G. A. Jones, and W. T. Perkins, P.M., Secretary.

The company also comprised the names of Mrs. Tarran, Bros. Lord Glenesk, W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Pro v. G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight; Bro. Richard Eve, P.G. Treasurer, and Miss Norman; Bros. Canon Ingram, Henniker Heaton, M.P., W. Scott Gibson, J. A. Arnold, Bro. Recknell and Mrs. Recknell; Mrs. Husk, Mrs. Duckworth, Mrs. Perkins, Mrs. James, Mrs. Peachey, Mrs. Lock, Bro. Henry Massey, P.M.; Mrs. Hurdell, Bro. E. E. Peacock, P.M., and Miss Peacock; Bro. C. E. Saunders, P.M., and Mrs. Saunders; Mrs. Ribbons, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Irvine, Mrs. Robbins, Miss Pitt, Mrs. Kirby, Mrs. Emery, Mrs. Bune, Bro. Bettany and Mrs. Bettany; Bro. Ashenden, Miss Williams, and Miss Ashenden; Bro. M. Henry and Mrs. Henry; Bro. Cornwallis Smith; Bro. Vernon Taylor and Mrs. Taylor; Bro. Cheeswright, Bro. Templar Saxe; Bro. H. Archer and Miss Ada Kempton; Bro. John Proctor; Bro. R. B. Hopkins and Mrs. Hopkins; Bro. Fred Russell and Mrs. Russell; Bro. J. A. Collings; and Bro. G. A. Ball, Tyler.

The banquet was served under the personal superintendence of Bro. W. A. Wallace, the manager of the hotel, who in the course of the evening was publicly thanked on behalf of the lodge for the completeness of all his arrangements.

The proceedings of the evening commenced with a reception by the W.M. and Mrs. Tarran, and the reception committee, and the first 23 brethren above named. The whole party afterwards went to the Masonic Hall and partook of a choice banquet. Mrs. Tarran occupied a seat on the W.M.'s left, and Lord Glenesk, Bro. W. Beach, and Bro. Richard Eve, respectively on his right. The dinner was admirably served and was much enjoyed, and when it had been disposed of, a grand vocal, musical, and ventriloquial entertainment was given before the toasts, which were as printed on the menu—only four in number, but an additional one was thrown in at the suggestion of Bro. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P., who proposed as a separate toast "The W.M.," who had been previously joined in Bro. Eve's toast "The W.M. and Gallery Lodge."

Bro. GEORGE TARRAN, W.M., in introducing the first toast—"The Queen and the Craft"—said: As brevity in speech-making is the order of the evening on these occasions, and I should be the last to break through that excellent rule, had it been an ordinary year I should have contented myself with merely submitting the toast for your acceptance. But this is not an ordinary year. I need, however, only just remind you of the great event in our national history which will within the next four months afford a theme for the noblest thoughts and utterances in verse and prose. On an occasion like this, when we are honoured with the presence of so many ladies, I would suggest that the toast should be received, if possible, with all the greater heartiness, because the Queen's long reign, remarkable as it is from so many points of view, is not the least noteworthy for its splendid vindication of the intellectual power and the administrative capacity of woman, as well as for so much that is best and noblest in a wife, a mother, and, I may add also, a widow. I will conclude with the fervent hope, in which I know you will all join, that the Queen may be preserved in health and strength to celebrate the 60th anniversary of her accession to the throne.

Bro. RICHARD EVE, P.G.T., at the request of the W.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master and the Gallery Lodge." He said that in the Masonic world the W.M. could do no wrong, but he thought Bro. Tarran had made a mistake in calling on him to propose that toast, because he was in the presence of a distinguished brother in the Craft, the Prov. G.M. of Hants and the Isle of Wight. He could only suppose Bro. Tarran had called upon him because he had been for so many years at the meetings of their lodge. In that particular he agreed with the W.M.; both at ladies' nights and installations he had been there, and he was going to present himself whenever he was asked. The brethren always treated him to a cordial reception, and it was astonishing how visitors liked it. The toast he had to present meant a lot, but he did it with the greatest amount of pleasure. The Gallery Lodge was not the oldest lodge in England; it was not the youngest; but when it was started it was launched by men who understood what Masonry was, and who were looked up to by their brethren and fellows. They had upheld the Order, and there was no lodge held higher position in the Craft than that lodge. He saw his young friends Massey, and Peacock, who was looked upon as a young man. The brethren knew what these brethren were capable of doing; they knew the lodge would never need the assistance of a Past Master when such veterans as these were in it. But he found the Gallery Lodge could depend on the Worshipful Master and his Wardens. The Worshipful Master was a specimen of good work. He was present at the Worshipful Master's installation, and at that of his predecessor, and at the installation of nearly all the Worshipful Masters of that lodge. They were brethren who would do credit to any lodge, and did credit to the Craft to which they belonged. He was not going to trouble the ladies with the qualifications of a W.M.; they did not know what it meant; but they knew what a good man was; and the fact that the W.M.s of this year and of past years were all equal to the discharge of their duties, and emulated each other in a desire to promote the best interests of the Craft, and show the ladies when they came to one of its festivals of what the Craft was made. Only last Wednesday night they saw at Freemasons' Hall a large meeting under the presidency of the Duke of Connaught. The work the brethren did on that occasion was shown by their getting together £18,198 for the Institution for Aged Freemasons and for the Widows of Freemasons, and that was only one of the Institutions they were very proud of in the Craft. Many of the ladies had been present at these various festivals—they had told him so, and he would be able to express their feelings with respect to Freemasonry. They would give almost any latitude to their husbands, fathers, brothers, or sweethearts when they went to lodges, who need not present themselves too early that night, because they got absolute for everything. As far as ladies were concerned they endeavoured to vie with the brethren in promoting the best interests of the Order, and they had always been ready to be admitted to Freemasonry, especially in this parliament. (Laughter.) He could not too fully express the feelings he had in being present in such a distinguished company. There were members of both Houses of Parliament present, and he wished to give this toast with all sincerity. They all desired that the lodge might uphold the position it had in the Craft, that it might excel in all good works, and that it might always be governed by such men as the W.M. and his predecessors. The Benevolent box, which had been sent round, yielded £3 12s.

Bro. GEORGE TARRAN, W.M., said they had maintained the motto *Nulli secundus*. He thanked Bro. Eve for the kind things he had said of the lodge. He did not think, however, that Bro. Eve should have said that he (Bro. Tarran) had made a mistake. They treated "The Ladies" as the toast of the evening, and presently he should ask Lord Glenesk and Bro. Beach to propose and respond to it. He hoped also to have a speech from Bro. Henniker Heaton, M.P., whose presence he regarded as a great compliment. Bro. Henniker Heaton represented in Parliament his (Bro. Tarran's) native city. Apart from politics, a more popular member had never sat for a city. Bro. Tarran then proceeded: I am sure all the brethren of this lodge regard the ladies' night as the most enjoyable of our gatherings during the year. We of the Gallery Lodge cannot be accused of wishing to keep all our festivities to ourselves. I look upon these meetings as a useful and valuable adjunct to our lodge. We live many of us miles apart, and in practically different townships, and consequently seldom meet in large numbers for social enjoyment. Long may these gatherings continue, and may the year never come when, from any cause, there may be a break in their continuity! (Hear, hear.) One of the most pleasing duties of the Mastership during his year of office is to present to the wife of the I.P.M. a memento of her husband's year of office. Mrs. Husk, on behalf of the Gallery Lodge, I have much pleasure in presenting you with this bracelet as a souvenir of your husband's year of office as Worshipful Master of this lodge.

We know how thoroughly you entered into his successful labours on behalf of the lodge, how you assisted him in promoting the success of the ladies' night and the picnic, as well as those meetings at which ladies are not present. We know, many of us, how that cheerful temperament which it is your happiness to possess has never failed you, and how it has cheered and supported him—in fact, I have always looked upon you as a striking illustration of the fact that the cheerful optimism of the Mark Tapley order is not confined to the male sex. Your husband and I have been friends for many years, and I can say of him, as I know you can, too, "Always the same." I need not tell you, the jewel he wears and the bracelet which you wear testify to the fact that he occupied the chair of this lodge worthily and well. I will only add, on behalf of the lodge, our best thanks to you for what you have done for the lodge and for the support which you so cheerfully rendered to your husband. It is only those who have occupied or who occupy the chair who can thoroughly realise the calls it makes upon the Master's time, and the value of the co-operation which a wife can render to her husband during his year of Mastership—Long may you live in health and happiness to wear this memento and to be a worthy help-met to him alike in days of cloud and days of sunshine. (Hear, hear.)

Mrs. HUSK, replying in person, said: Ladies, W.M., and Brethren,—I beg to thank you most heartily for the handsome present you have thought fit to give me. Whenever I wear this band of gold it will remind me that my husband has presided over the Gallery Lodge and of the many happy hours I have spent with him. (Cheers.)

Bro. GEORGE TARRAN, W.M., said: Brethren, I make no apology for bringing before your notice the effort we are making to get the son of our late Bro. H. J. Sanderson, into the Boys' School. I can say without revealing any secrets that one of the noblest principles of Masonry is that in the midst of our pleasures we do not forget the sad and the bereaved. I am standing here to-night in the place of our late Bro. Sanderson, and, therefore, I make a most earnest appeal to every lady, as well as every visiting brother, to help us in securing the success of this case. In order to accomplish this we must increase the votes we procured last year tenfold. This cannot be done without hard work and we need all the help we can get. I will ask our Bro. Robbins, the Treasurer of the Benevolent Fund, to say a few words in support of my appeal. It has been my pleasure to invest Bro. Robbins with a collar as a recognition of his office. It is only right that I should repeat in the presence of so many visitors what I have said before to the members of the lodge. Bro. Robbins has rendered this lodge immense services in the cause of charity and in the self-sacrifice which has led him to forego his claims for higher office in order that he may carry out his useful work. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) He is working on behalf of this case with his accustomed energy, and I am sure you would like to hear a few words from him. Bro. Robbins is a practised and eloquent speaker. (Cheers.)

Bro. ALFRED F. ROBBINS, Treasurer of the Benevolent Fund, in response to the W.M.'s call, said it would ill become him to dispute for a moment the ruling of the W.M. of the lodge in summoning him to say a few words on that occasion on behalf of the son of a late member of the lodge. Everyone who knew Bro. Sanderson took to heart what had been said; but it was desirable that the visiting brethren and the ladies and the members of the Gallery Lodge should know how it stood with regard to the case, in the hope that when they realised it, as the Committee realised it, they would endeavour to give it success. The case they were presenting was the case of Sanderson, an orphan, and he presented it with the more pleasure that night because one of the hardest workers for the Boys' School was present in the person of Bro. Eve, who perhaps more than any man had sustained the reputation of, and worked hard for, the Institution. There were many of those present who knew Bro. Sanderson and how he worked; there were many who knew and admired Mrs. Sanderson, his wife, now his widow, and whose admiration had been stimulated and strengthened by the calm courage with which she faced the irretrievable loss which bereaved her of her husband. It was for that case he pleaded—for the boy; for Mrs. Sanderson herself he had no need to plead, she had passed through her bereavement with courage. But they, who were in a precarious profession, who did not know from day to day what the whim of an editor or proprietor might desire, had to look elsewhere for help, and they recognised the aid they were not able to obtain. In the case of Sanderson, the father, he was only 35 years of age; he was stricken with mortal illness which took him from the brethren when he was on the high road to distinction in that lodge—not by his own fault was it, but by the fact that he worked for the public, and in his case he was stimulated by the desire to do the best he could for those around him. They had a claim upon the consideration of their brethren in Masonry, for they in the Gallery Lodge were adopting the principle, and would continue to act upon the principle, that heaven helped those who helped themselves. They who had helped for years the great Masonic Institutions were continuing to do so, because the W.M. would be Steward this year for the Girls, and therefore they appealed as much as they could for assistance in that deserving case. He might be asked whether it was necessary, or even desirable, to bring a sad subject before a gathering of that kind, but he thought they were entitled to do so to show their lady friends that great essential secret of Masons which bound together men of the world to practise works of Benevolence. There was not one among them who knew upon whom the stroke might fall next, for, as the W.M. had reminded them, he sat that night in the chair that Bro. Sanderson would have sat in, and another who would have followed him if he also had not succumbed to a disaster more irretrievable, if possible, than death. When they saw those cases around them, when they did appeal to ladies and visitors to assist them in the work of getting the votes of the brethren, they did it to show that Masonry was not a matter of feasting and gaiety, not only a meeting for good fellowship, but to bind the brethren together, a Society which succoured the helpless, which assisted the indigent, which sustained the widow and the fatherless, and which, without those great principles of benevolence and mercy, would well deserve to die out of the world which maintained it.

Bro. GEORGE TARRAN, W.M., said he would now ask Bro. Lord Glenesk to propose the toast of "The Ladies," and Bro. Beach to reply on their behalf. Lord Glenesk had early that day presided at the annual meeting of the Newspaper Press Fund, and they knew he was always doing much good in rendering assistance to those who were in distress, and next Saturday he would take the chair at a dinner of the Society for Correctors of the Press. He was sure he could not place the toast in abler hands than Bro. Beach's to respond. Bro. Beach had for nearly 40 years represented the same constituency in the House of Commons, and next to Mr. Villiers, was, he believed, the father of the house.

Bro. LORD GLENESK, in proposing "The Ladies," said it was now the turn for the gentlemen. He did not know whether the room was tyled, or whether they had furious guardians with lethal weapons inside or outside the door, such as had been described to them. He believed there were more charitable ones now. The ladies now knew something of the secrets of Freemasonry; they learned that when distinguished men like the W.M. occupied the chair of King Solomon, the very first thing he did was to keep all the ladies to himself; he drank with them, and did not give the others a chance. People were always saying their toast was the most important of the evening; he said more than that—that it was the most important in the country. The ladies had won their victory in the House of Commons by 71 majority in favour of themselves, and on Monday they would come up to the House of Lords. He hoped they would do as well there. But it was a formidable thing where the ladies were marching on now; they would have them invading the secrets of Masonry. If they were invited and came forward, there was nothing they would not do before the end of this century. He should say that in order to please the ladies, he should like to be full of revelation. That was not quite so easy, and so he was afraid that however great his desire was

to gratify their wild curiosity, he still retained in his heart, and the hearts of those about him, the secrets of Freemasonry. He would only tell them one thing, which was that Freemasonry was based upon truth, and that as man was a working animal, it had permitted to him to take to Masonry, and to build his castles and his cathedrals, which he could not build otherwise than upon principles of mathematical exactitude. Hitherto in the history of the world—it was a very old history—there had never been cathedrals or castles raised by the hands of women, but from that they might learn how great a power she was, because, although the work of the world had been properly left to man, all the decoration had been left to the ladies. It was they who had cultivated all the fine orders of embroidery, and all that had been the work of ladies. They had done more than that. As man, with his stern principles, had endeavoured to act according to the principles that Masons had laid down, the woman had a more generous heart, and was an example to man of all that was meant by heavenly love. It had been a great boon to the brethren to meet the ladies that evening, and he hoped on many future occasions, Masonic and otherwise, they might always be graced with their presence. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) If Lady Glenesk had not been away she would have been present to help him on. On some future occasion he might be there not only as a brother, but his wife would come as a sister, and join with the brethren in those interesting delightful gatherings which shed so much honour on the Gallery Lodge.

Bro. BEACH, replying, said he rose with somewhat of trepidation, because he had had no opportunity of being instructed by his fair clients in the sentiments they would wish him to express; therefore, he had to make the somewhat gratuitous assumption of saying something in harmony with their feelings. The ladies did not know much of Freemasonry; they had been told one thing—that Masons were loyal because they began by drinking the health of her Majesty the Queen, and they must be convinced Masonry could not be a disloyal institution, otherwise the Heir to the Throne would not be at their head. It could not be an irreligious society, because so many dignitaries of the Church were members of it. It had other advantages they were not acquainted with; but they had been told of excellent Charitable Institutions which shed such lustre on the Craft. As Charity was one of the first principles of the Order it was fully acted up to by the brethren, by their money well contributed, as Bro. Eve had alluded to. Therefore the ladies were persuaded that Freemasonry was a Charitable Institution. But it had something more than the Charities it contributed to; it had that kindly and genial feeling which drew men together, and made them take the kindest possible view of those falling out in the walk of life. That was the true Masonic principle which acted beneficially for the welfare of the Craft. No doubt ladies believed they had a right to participate to some extent in the hidden mysteries of the Craft; something must remain, he believed, hidden from their view; they had no opportunities to make themselves acquainted with a part of the duty; they did not think it wrong that should be the case; but he should say a small bird had whispered in their ears that Masons were not insensible to the charms of the ladies, and they had heard some old Masonic lines to the effect—

"No mortal can more
The ladies adore

Than a Free and an Accepted Mason."

He tendered the sincere thanks of the ladies, and he could echo the words which had already been uttered, that gatherings like that made them take a kinder and a freer view of the benefit Masonry afforded to its brethren.

Bro. J. HENNIKER HEATON, M.P., said he should go away much dissatisfied if he did not propose the toast of "The Worshipful Master." Representing as he did the ecclesiastical capital of the British Empire, and also—he said with some timidity—a former constituency, as the W.M. was a native of the city of Canterbury, he desired to propose the toast. The Kentish people were often called the Kentish gang, as they stuck together, and he was delighted Bro. Tarran filled the position he now occupied, and filled it with such modesty and efficiency. He had also pleasure in testifying to the fact that his people were widely known and much respected in Kent, that the W.M. was known in Canterbury as a model boy, a good son, and, he had learned from his wife, a good husband.

Bro. GEORGE TARRAN, W.M., replying, said he thanked the brethren very much for the kind way they had received the toast, and also Bro. Henniker Heaton for the way he had proposed it. He could only say he thanked them for coming to the lodge that evening as a personal honour to himself, and if in the world beyond this, any pleasure was given to those there in knowing what was going on, it would be a pleasure to him that his health had been proposed by one who represented the see of Canterbury. He thanked them all for their presence, and only regretted that owing to a cold he had not performed his duties so efficiently as he could have wished.

Bro. PERKINS, P.M., Sec., in proposing the toast of "Our Entertainers," said: W.M., my lord, ladies, and brethren, I have the honour to propose the next toast, and being that of "Our Entertainers," I am satisfied that it will be received with positive pleasure by all present. (Applause.) But, before discharging that agreeable duty, I desire to mention that we have received letters expressing sincere regret at inability to attend from the Pro Grand Master Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl and Countess of Lathom; Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Methuen, Senior Grand Warden; Bro. W. H. Bailey, Grand Treasurer; Bro. the Right Hon. the Speaker of the House of Commons, Past Junior Grand Warden, and Mrs. Gully; Bro. Sir Frank Lockwood, M.P., and Lady Lockwood; Bro. the Right Hon. Sir Reginald Hanson, M.P., and Lady Hanson; Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W.; Bro. Edward Letchworth, G. Sec.; Bro. Sir J. Robinson; Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall and Mrs. Marshall; Bro. W. Goodacre, Prov. G. Secretary West Lancashire; Bro. T. Newton, Prov. G. Secretary East Lancashire; Bro. Dalgety and Mrs. Henderson had telegraphed from the Riviera "Kind remembrance and prosperity to Gallery Lodge." (Hear, hear.) I am sure that I may, Worshipful Master, on behalf of the company present, warmly congratulate you on the success which has attended your ladies' night. (Applause.) These gatherings have always been enjoyable, and none has been more conspicuous in this respect than the present. (Hear, hear.) Among our entertainers we welcome two new faces—Bro. R. B. Hopkins, whose marvellous manipulation of the silver bells will not soon be forgotten by those who have had the privilege of hearing him—(Applause)—and Mr. Archer, who comes to us for the first, but not, we hope, the last time. (Hear, hear.) We have, as old friends, Miss Ada Kempton, Bro. Templar Saxe, Bro. Fred Russell, the famous ventriloquist—(Hear, hear)—Bro. Vernon Taylor, of St. Paul's Cathedral; the Stavordale Banjo Quartette; Bro. John Proctor, Bro. J. A. Collings, our accompanist, and last, but not least, Bro. Harry Peacock, our active Organist, who has so well arranged our musical programme. (Applause.) To all these entertainers I beg, in the name of the lodge, to tender our sincere thanks. They come to us as our friends, and the members of the Gallery Lodge know how to reciprocate their support, and I ask you to join with me in drinking their good health. (Applause.) I have pleasure in coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Hopkins. (Applause.)

Bro. R. B. HOPKINS responded, and said that he esteemed it a great privilege to be invited to give his entertainment before such a distinguished lodge as the Gallery. He hoped he might again have the pleasure of being present at a similarly pleasant gathering. (Applause.)

The proceedings of the evening, which had throughout been marked by unqualified success, terminated with the singing by the whole company of "Auld Lang Syne," the solo being taken by Bro. J. D. Irvine, A.D.C.

A BALL OF THE ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 1343.

A ball in connection with the above lodge was held at Grays on Wednesday, the 17th ult., when a large and fashionable company assembled at the Masonic Hall, King's Arms Hotel. The general arrangements were carried out by Bro. H. C. Borradaile, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., and refreshments served by Bro. G. Cunningham, while Mr. Knight Smith ably discharged the duties of M.C.

Among those present were Bros. F. W. Pelling, W.M., Mrs. Pelling; Bro. W. B. Heagerty, P.M., Mrs. Heagerty; Bro. E. Ayres, S.W., Mrs. Ayres; Bro. H. C. Borradaile, P.M., Sec., P.P.G. Std. Br., Mrs. Borradaile, Bro. B. D. Borradaile, Mrs. M. A. Borradaile, Miss Borradaile, Miss G. Borradaile; Miss Dorothy Blythman, Miss Moulding, Bro. G. H. Silverwood, S.D., Mrs. Silverwood; Bro. R. Matthews, Mr. W. Matthews, Miss Matthews; Bro. J. Weymouth, J.W.; Bro. C. Asplin, J.D.; F. Dorman, Miss Dorman, Miss L. Dorman; Bro. F. W. Robertson, Mrs. Robertson, Miss Teasdel; Bro. G. Westwood, I.P.M., P.A.G.D.C.; Miss Westwood; Bro. T. A. Capron, Bro. J. F. Horncastle, Mr. A. Horncastle, Mr. T. Horncastle, Miss Horncastle, Miss Sackett, Miss E. Sackett, Mr. Parker, Mr. H. Fletcher, Mr. Binks, Miss Baldock, Mr. White, Mr. W. Goldsmith, Mr. Gregson, Bro. White, Miss Cunningham, Miss Brellock, Mr. R. E. W. Biddell, and Mr. Evans.

Craft Masonry.

Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25.

The last meeting of the season was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Monday, the 1st instant. Bro. H. Lewis Davis, W.M., occupied the chair, and among those present were Bros. W. Baddeley, S.W.; John Jacobs, J.W.; J. T. Elliott, P.M., Treas.; J. Whittle Harvey, P.M., Sec.; J. B. Fullwood, I.P.M.; T. Robins, P.M.; W. C. Maynard, P.M.; A. Pinnington, Romilly, J.D.; T. Hawkins, P.M., D.C.; Watts, I.G.; C. Lee, Organist; W. Harding, Tyler; Elsdon, Watts, Webster, R. Eddie, Sydney Davis, F. Holden, Hunt, and Eisler. Visitors: Bros. Engel, Org. 1604; F. Herbert, 2206; G. Blizard Abbott, P.M. 1385, P.P.S.G.D. Herts.; Horne, P.M. 227; Davey, 157; Simmons, 1604; Norris, 1012; Abraham, 1017; Barron, 188; and Fardell, 1538.

The minutes of the January lodge having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Mr. T. J. Carter, who was declared to be unanimously elected. Bros. Eisler and Holden were then raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., and Mr. Carter initiated, both ceremonies being very correctly and impressively rendered by the W.M., who was ably assisted by his officers.

Lodge was afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Tavern hard by, where they dined together and did honour to the customary loyal and other toasts, those of "The Worshipful Master," "The Initiate," and "The Visitors" being well received.

In the course of the after-dinner proceedings an excellent programme of music was performed under the direction of Bro. A. Pinnington, the most successful numbers being those sung by Bro. Pinnington himself, Miss Louise Burns, and Miss Rose Williams, who together gave a most delightful rendering of the well-known trio, "Memory," by the late Henry Leslie, while Miss Burns, who, by the way, is silver medallist R.A.M., was equally successful in "Il Bacio."

Westbourne Lodge, No. 733.

The installation meeting of this prosperous lodge was held at the Holborn Restaurant, Holborn, on the 18th ult., when there were present Bros. W. Morton Roberts, W.M.; W. H. Faircloth, I.P.M.; C. T. Brown, S.W., W.M. elect; F. Wortham, J.W.; J. Welford, P.M., Treas.; S. R. Walker, P.M., Sec.; G. Weaver, S.D.; C. E. Lilly, J.D.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.M., P.G.P., D.C.; C. Williams, I.G.; E. T. Delevanti, Org.; W. Busby and G. Walker, Stewards; T. W. Allen, P.M.; W. Drew, P.M.; R. J. Rogers, P.M.; J. W. Curtis, P.M.; Geo. Wall, A. Clare, J. Shapcott, T. Diamond, E. Thomas, W. Kilvert, E. Stevens, G. C. Butcher, T. Ison, H. H. Bagnall, N. Rolles, H. C. Carter, C. Halston, S. Manne, P. Wheeler, G. Goddard, J. Smith, J. D. Rees, R. Armstrong, J. Thompson, F. Quick, T. Gale, J. J. White, J. Oates, J. Martin, F. Beesley, T. Stroud, S. Ellis, P.M., Tyler, and others. Visitors: Bros. W. Sprachett, 1141; A. Alsop, 1425; H. Wells, 1507; R. Stubbings; G. Streben, 1602; J. Cumming, 538; G. Cove, 2362; A. Ellender, 1623; R. C. Blow, 1306; B. R. Thomas, 511; J. L. Miller, S.W. 2362; J. A. Brown, 2309; J. Hearsom, P.M. 167; G. T. Barham, P.M. 256; J. Banett, 2021; W. Unwin, 1614; E. J. Read, J.W. 2021; G. D. Mogford, P.M. 2362; J. W. Mogford, W.M. 2362; T. Sandlands, 2318; Col. E. J. Birch, 442; G. H. Irish, 340; L. Hill, 1441; G. Spragg, 749; A. W. Norris, 1437; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543; J. Pocock, P.M. 632; H. J. Thomas, P.M. 753; W. Middleweek, P.A.G.D.C. Middx.; and R. T. West, 1744.

After the formal opening of the lodge, and the confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting, Bros. George Boughton, 1602, and Percy Wheeler, 1107, were unanimously elected as joining members. The outgoing Master, Bro. W. Morton Roberts, then installed Bro. C. T. Brown, S.W. and W.M. elect, as Worshipful Master of the lodge, in a most impressive and perfect manner. The new W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. F. Wortham, S.W.; G. Weaver, J.W.; J. Welford, P.M., Treas.; S. R. Walker, P.M., Sec.; C. E. Lilly, S.D.; J. Busby, J.D.; C. Williams, I.G.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., P.M., D.C.; E. T. Delevanti, Org.; H. H. Bagnall, E. Thomas, and F. Beesley, Stewards; and S. Ellis, P.M., Tyler. The delivery of the customary addresses was most ably rendered by Bro. W. H. Faircloth, P.M. The W.M. then rose and stated that he had a most important and pleasant duty to perform, and, addressing Bro. W. Morton Roberts, I.P.M., he presented him with a Past Master's jewel, remarking that no brother had more worthily earned it by his distinguished services, and that it was given as a small token of the great esteem in which he was held by the members, and he earnestly hoped he would be with them for many years. Bro. W. Morton Roberts, I.P.M., in brief but eloquent terms, tendered his heartfelt thanks for the kind appreciation of his feeble efforts as Master of the Westbourne Lodge. The sum of 10 guineas was voted to each of the three Institutions, to be placed on the list of Bro. J. Welford, P.M., as Steward for each of the three festivals. Bro. J. Welford, P.M., in appropriate terms acknowledged the 30 guineas voted.

After other business was transacted the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet which was well served under the personal superintendence of Bro. Hamp.

"The Queen and the Craft" having been duly honoured, the W.M. gave "The M.W.G.M., his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," and suggested that the hat should go round for H.R.H.'s Hospital fund.

In giving "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. made special reference to Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., of whom he spoke in eulogistic terms.

In response, Bro. Cottebrune, P.G.P., stated that again he had to thank them for the great honour of coupling his name with the toast, and for the kind way the toast was always received in the lodge, and he need hardly add that the Grand Officers were always anxious to do everything for the benefit of the Craft. That night was the 39th installation at which he had assisted, and he had not missed attending one installation meeting during the whole of that period, and he hoped The Great Architect would spare him a few more years and give him strength to be present at other installation meetings of the lodge.

Bro. Cottebrune's remarks were received with acclamation, and he was accorded musical honours.

The I.P.M., Bro. W. Morton Roberts, proposed "The Worshipful Master," and said it was a very important toast, and certainly the one of the evening, and the only one it was his privilege and pleasure to submit. Everyone in the lodge was exceedingly glad to see Bro. Brown installed W.M., and after his seven years hard work, he

deserved his high honour, and it went without saying that he would be a credit to the lodge and no one would ever regret having elected him. The W.M. was a very old and dear friend of his—it being through him he joined Masonry—and he was honoured to have installed him. He was an ardent supporter of the Charities and he hoped that when he went up as Steward for the centenary festival of the Boys, he would have a bumper in amount. He was a Mason and a man and one they could hold up as an example, both Masonically and otherwise.

Bro. C. T. Brown, W.M., on rising to respond, was enthusiastically received. He said he had to thank Bro. W. Morton Roberts, but he had been too flattering in the way he had proposed the toast, as he did not deserve anything like half the good things said of him. From the moment of his initiation his ambition was to go into the chair, and now he was there he was a proud man. His idea was that they did not do enough for the three Institutions, but he was glad they had that evening made a move in the right direction. In conclusion, he thanked them most heartily for the way they had received the toast and the honour they had conferred upon him by electing him Master of the Westbourne Lodge.

In submitting the toast of "The I.P.M. and Installing Master," the W.M. stated that Bro. W. Morton Roberts had performed the installation ceremony exceedingly well, for which he had their earnest thanks. He had helped him (the W.M.) in the Masonic working and he hoped he would not fall short. Their best thanks were also due to Bro. Faircloth for giving the usual addresses so beautifully, and he coupled his name and that of the I.P.M. with the toast.

At this point the W.M. announced that the sum subscribed that evening for the Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund amounted to £4, which he should send to the *Daily Telegraph*.

Bro. W. Morton Roberts, I.P.M., responded, and said that his year of office had been one of the pleasantest of his life. He gave all the time he could, and did the work to the best of his ability, but it was out of no disrespect to the lodge that he did not give the three addresses, and he was glad that Bro. Faircloth had performed that task, because he had done it much better than he could. He was then at the end of the list of the Past Masters, who were often dubbed "old fossils," but that could not be so as stone was dormant. He had received every assistance from the Past Masters and his officers, and he hoped that any shortcomings on his part during his term of office would be forgiven, as they were not intentional.

Bro. Faircloth, P.M., also acknowledged the toast, observing that it was not necessary to have called upon him, and if he had given the addresses to their satisfaction he was gratified.

The W.M., in presenting the toast of "The Visitors," said it was one which the brethren of the Westbourne Lodge always gave with great cordiality. They were honoured that evening with 30—a goodly array—and he hoped they all felt at home and were enjoying themselves and would come again pretty often. He associated with the toast the names of Bros. T. W. Mogford, W.M.; H. Dehane, P.M.; W. Middleweek, and Col. E. J. Birch.



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

Bro. T. W. Mogford responded. He stated that he had visited the lodge so many times that he sometimes thought he was a member. He had so many friends there that it was like coming to a family circle. He had worked with the W.M. in lodges of instruction for several years, and he earnestly hoped that he would have a very prosperous and happy year of office.

Bro. H. Dehane said he felt sure that all the visitors agreed with him that the I.P.M. and Bro. Faircloth, P.M., had done the work that evening in a splendid manner, thanks to the Westbourne Lodge of Instruction, and might he mention that the annual dinner would take place on the 23rd March, at which Bro. Brown, the W.M., would preside, and he hoped all the members would attend on that occasion and support their genial W.M.

Bro. W. Middleweek said that as a Grand Officer of the Province of Middlesex he was proud to be present at the installation of the W.M. He had attended the lodge on many occasions, and he was always glad when he was invited.

Bro. Col. E. J. Birch stated that he was a stranger amongst them, as he had been in the East for 30 years, and in India he had had a lot of Masonic work. That was the first time he had ever attended an English lodge, and he was delighted to see their good working, and he thanked them for their great hospitality to the visitors.

The W.M. gave "The Past Masters," and stated that they had a goodly array that evening, and they were of quality. They were the mainstay of the lodge, and their great services were fully appreciated in every way.

Bro. T. W. Allen, P.M., having responded, Bro. J. Welford, P.M., said that the kind words of the W.M. were most gratifying to the Past Masters, who were ever willing to do everything to promote the interests of the lodge.

Bro. W. Drew, P.M., also responded, congratulating the lodge on its great prosperity and the Worshipful Master, who was well favoured with an excellent staff of officers.

Bro. J. W. Curtis, P.M., acknowledged the toast, and said that when her Majesty the Queen reached her Jubilee the lodge gave 50 guineas to the Charities, and now in the diamond year of her reign they had only voted 30 guineas. If it was not too late he would strongly urge that that amount should be increased to 60 guineas, as the lodge could well afford it.

Bro. R. J. Rogers, P.M., also responded, and expressed a wish that the members would attend the annual dinner of the lodge of instruction connected with the lodge.

Bro. W. H. Faircloth, P.M., stated that if the other Past Masters were agreeable, he and they would make up the amount voted that evening for the three Institutions to 60 guineas.

In eloquent terms, the W.M. gave the next toast—"The Treasurer and Secretary"—and said that he had known Bro. J. Welford, P.M., for many years, and it would be difficult to find a better Treasurer. The Secretary, Bro. S. R. Walker, P.M., was a very zealous officer and did his utmost, in a very nice way, to get in the dues, and they both deserved the best thanks of the members for their able services.

In response, Bro. J. Welford, P.M., Treas., said that all the money that came to his hands, he would take care of. He hoped the lodge would adopt Bro. Curtis' suggestion, and make the 30 guineas voted to the Charities into 60 guineas. He himself would give 60 guineas to his list for the Old People (loud applause). He felt that the lodge had not done enough for the three Institutions during the last seven years, but he hoped that would be remedied in the future.

Bro. S. R. Walker, P.M., Sec., stated he would be wanting in gratitude if he did not thank them for the hearty way they had received the toast. In referring to the Charities, he said that with the exception of two or three years they had always given, and if other lodges had done the same as they had, the Institutions would have been much richer. As something had been said that evening about "old fossils," he would ask them to look at the grand array of Past Masters. Did they look anything like old stone?

The next toast was "The Officers," the W.M. stating they were all good and going forward, and he looked to them for every assistance, which he felt sure they would give him, to enable him to carry out the business of the lodge, and he coupled with the toast the names of Bros. F. Wortham, S.W., and G. Weaver, J.W., who both responded in suitable terms.

The Tyler's toast ended a very happy gathering, which was everything that could be desired.

Bros. G. Goddard and E. T. Delavanti had arranged a capital programme, assisted by Madame H. Coleman, Miss Winifred Grant, Mr. J. Avon, Mr. L. McKenzie, and Bro. W. Walsh, from Australia, to whom a word of praise is due, and to Mr. McKenzie for their efforts.

The W.M., Bro. Charles T. Brown, is a member of the old established firm of Brown's Dairy, which was founded by his grandfather in 1790, and is one of the largest and best-known businesses in the North West of London. Our brother was initiated in the Westbourne Lodge in 1889, during the Mastership of Bro. W. Drew, P.M. He is young, very enthusiastic in Freemasonry, and has taken a deep interest in the Craft. He is very popular among the brethren of his lodge, who look forward to a very successful year of office under his reign, and there is not the slightest doubt that they will ever regret electing him W.M. of the Westbourne Lodge.

Ranelagh Lodge, No. 834.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. HANS SCHARIEN, W.M.

The election meeting of this well-known and ever-growing lodge took place at the Criterion, Piccadilly-circus, on the 9th ultimo, under the presidency of Bro. Hans Scharien, W.M., supported by Bros. E. Newland, I.P.M.; R. Phillips, S.W.; J. Banks, J.W.; W. J. Coplestone, P.M., Sec.; J. Worth, S.D.; E. D. Richards, J.D.; E. Lucas, I.G.; H. Stokes, D.C.; H. J. Inderwick and G. E. White, Stewards; A. Williams, P.M.; F. Craggs, P.M.; C. Barker, P.M.; J. Doncaster, P.M.; W. W. Williams, P.M.; H. Purdue, P.M.; F. J. Oliver, P.M.; W. J. Bennett, Dalton, King, Crier, Edwards, P.M.; Roberts, C. H. Lloyd, Webb, G. F. Palmer, C. Hucker, W. P. Williams, F. Newman, W. Iredale, E. H. Grant, Secker, M. F. Wilkins, Leys, Stainger, R. Collins, H. S. May, and E. Mallett, P.M., Tyler. Visitors: Bros. J. Cox, W.M. 1585; J. Dobbin, 1310; W. Hide, W.M. 1275; C. A. Gethen, 145; B. Fielding, S.W. 5 (I.C.); W. Lightfoot, 158; F. W. Gibbs, 2512; A. Clayton, 805; J. R. Whittle, 2103; H. Cammell, P.M. 1996; H. Sellick, 865; H. Monson, 2353; T. Jacobs, 1612; J. Nielson, P.M. 1791; and R. T. West, 1744.

The lodge having been opened, and the minutes read, the W.M., Bro. Hans Scharien, raised Bros. P. M. Roberts and C. H. Lloyd to the Third Degree, and afterwards passed Bros. C. Hucker and W. P. Williams to the Second Degree. The W.M. then initiated Messrs. G. N. Scott A. King, J. G. Cantrill, F. J. Green, and W. G. Brown. Bro. R. Phillips, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M.; Bro. G. F. Butt, P.M., re-elected Treas.; and Bro. E. Mallett, P.M., was again appointed Tyler. Two gentlemen having been proposed for initiation at the next meeting, other business followed, after which the lodge was closed.

The brethren partook of a substantial dinner, for which the manager of the establishment, Bro. Mantell, was responsible.

In giving "The Queen and the Craft," the W.M. took for his text "The Diamond Jubilee" of her Majesty.

The W.M. gave "The M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales," and remarked that the Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund was a grand scheme, which was bound to be a success, and it should be well supported by all Masons.

"The Grand Officers, Present and Past," having been honoured,

Bro. E. Newland, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Hans Scharien," and said he had the great honour and pleasure, on behalf of the members, to present him with a silver waiter on the happy occasion of his marriage, which took place in December last.

The piece of plate was of magnificent design and bore the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. Hans Scharien, W.M., as a token of regard and esteem, by the brethren of the Ranelagh Lodge, No. 834, on the occasion of his marriage, 22nd Decr., 1896."

The toast was enthusiastically received, as was Bro. Hans Scharien, W.M., on rising to respond.

In thanking Bro. Newland for his kind remarks and the brethren for their very hearty reception of the toast, Bro. Hans Scharien said that the wind had been entirely taken out of his sails, as he never dreamt of receiving such a valuable present, which was a very agreeable surprise, and he hardly knew how to express his sincere thanks. He greatly valued their regard, and in that he had no doubt his wife would share.

In giving "The Initiates," the W.M. stated that he had been honoured with five that evening, which made 14 in all during his happy year of office, and, if he might say so, he had broken the record in the lodge. He was proud to have had such a large number, and he not only claimed "quantity" but "quality," as he felt positive that all his initiates would prove worthy Masons and be a credit to the lodge and the Craft.

The initiates responded. The other toasts were "The Visitors," "The Treasurer and Secretary," "The Past Masters," and "The Officers."

The Tyler's toast ended a very pleasant evening.

Lorne Lodge, No. 1347.

A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Sutton Public Hall on Saturday, the 13th ult. The W.M., Bro. Hugh Taylor, occupied the chair, and was supported by Bros. T. S. Cookes, S.W.; H. Griffiths, J.W.; Rev. H. W. Turner, P.M., P.P.G.C., Treas. and Chap.; C. A. Hardwick, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; J. H. Asman, S.D.; E. D. Frost, P.P.J.G.D., D.C.; J. W. Imray, I.G.; T. R. Porter, Stwd.; Dixon, P.M.; Stribling, P.M.; Gibbs, P.M.; Butry, P.M.; Ward, P.M., P.G. Treas.; Spencer, Price, Leigh, Bower, Dyke, Forrester, R. R. Ward, Smyth, Banks, M. H. Cotton, Greenwood, Dennett, Gibson, jun., Hayes, N. B. Payne, Serving Brother; and L. G. Reinhardt, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. G. R. Blades, 1; Monkley, 1915; Antill, W.M. 1981; F. Partington, P.M.; Jeffery, P.M. 1622; J. O'Connell, P.M. 2922, P.P.J.G.D.; and J. Husbands, 30.

Bro. F. Syke was passed to the Degree of F.C., the musical portion of the ceremony being ably rendered, and adding materially to the beauty of the ritual. Bro. W. J. Baker, W.M. 1892, was unanimously elected a joining member. Bro. E. J. Lowther was also unanimously elected as a re-joining member. The W.M., Bro. Hugh Taylor, at the previous meeting offered for the acceptance of the lodge a very beautiful banner. The banner is of rich sky-blue silk, three feet high by two feet wide, and is embroidered in silks. In the centre is a bold and ornamental device, bearing, within an oval, a galley upon the sea in proper colours. This is the adopted badge of the lodge; it is surrounded by the laurel wreath, and bears a tablet at the bottom showing the lodge number—1347. At the top of banner are two ornamental scrolls containing the words Lorne Lodge, and between these is seen the five-pointed star. On a small ribbon at base appears the inscription: "Presented by Bro. Hugh Taylor, W.M. 1896." Bro. T. S. Cookes, S.W., proposed, and Bro. A. Stribling seconded, that a very hearty vote of thanks be accorded to the W.M. for his magnificent gift.

The brethren adjourned to the Greyhound Hotel, where Host Joseph Allen had prepared an admirable supper, which the brethren appreciated, and a most enjoyable evening was spent, the musical entertainment being fully up to the high standard for which this lodge is noted.

The contents of the Charity-box realised £5 6s. 6d., and it was decided that it should be sent to the Mansion House Fund for the relief of the Indian Famine.

Kennington Lodge, No. 1381.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, on the 9th ultimo. Among those present were Bros. Charles Colwell, W.M.; J. Barry, S.W., W.M. elect; C. Chisholm, J.W.; R. C. F. La Feuillade, P.M., Treas.; J. N. Hearn, P.M., Sec.; W. H. Wolsey, J.D.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S., P.G. Std. Br., D.C.; R. B. Hopkins, Org.; H. Pohl, Stwd.; Geo. Everett, P.M., P.G. Treas.; H. Higgins, P.M.; C. Cockburn, P.M.; W. W. Westley, P.M.; R. Lingley, P.M.; J. La Feuillade, P.M.; H. Fonalé, P.M.; and Dr. Milson, I.P.M. Among the visitors were Bros. J. Hattersley, P.P.G.D. Bucks; W. Smith, W.M. 72; R. Woodcock, J. Stonor, and E. Odee.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. J. W. Monk was raised to the Third Degree, Bro. G. H. Millett passed to the Second Degree, and Mr. W. C. Fowler initiated into Craft mysteries, the three ceremonies being ably performed. At the request of the W.M., Bro. George Everett took the chair and effectively installed Bro. James Barry as W.M., with the assistance of Bro. Dr. Milson. The officers appointed and invested were Bros. C. Chisholm, S.W.; T. Davies, J.W.; R. C. F. La Feuillade, P.M., Treas.; J. N. Hearn, P.M., Sec.; W. H. Wolsey, S.D.; W. H. Sharpton, J.D.; H. Pohl, I.G.; W. W. Westley, P.M., D.C.; H. J. Waller, A.D.C.; R. B. Hopkins, Org.; A. Harris and V. O. Clowes, Stewards; and L. G. Reinard, Tyler. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. A vote of thanks was then passed to the Installing Officer. The I.P.M. was presented with a Past Master's jewel. The sum of 15 guineas was presented to the R.M.I. for Girls, per Bro. James Barry as Steward to the forthcoming Festival.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. Hedges, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.G.; H. Dennis, P.M.; C. H. Kohler, P.M.; and others. The lodge was then closed.

The banquet was held in one of the large rooms of the establishment, and gave every satisfaction.

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

Bro. George Everett, P.G. Treas., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers." In the course of his remarks, he said that it was extremely difficult to find something fresh to say with regard to the toast with which his name had been associated. The officers comprising the Grand Lodge of England, from the highest to the lowest grade, were always willing to do their best for the Craft and the Charities.

Other toasts and responses followed, but as the time was advancing they were but briefly proposed and responded to.

The proceedings were, however, relieved from the tediousness of monotony by an excellent programme of music, in which Mesdames Jessie Hotine and Emily Foxcroft, and Bros. W. M. George, H. Linwood, and R. B. Hopkins distinguished themselves. The latter brother's selections on the "silver bells" fairly brought down the house by the grace and beauty of their rendering.

Gatwick Lodge, No. 2502.

The fourth installation meeting of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 17th ult., at the Chequers Hotel, Horley, when Bro. Richard William Stegges, so well known in the Strand and Holborn districts, was installed W.M. of the flourishing lodge he helped to found three years ago. The whole of the ceremony was ably performed by his predecessor, Bro. Abraham Meier. Bro. Stegges will have the following as his officers: Bro. A. Meier, I.P.M.; R. A. Thompson, S.W.; Rev. P. R. Mahony, Prov. G. Chap. Surrey, J.W.; H. T. Lewis, Chap.; W. J. Huntley, Treas.; H. T. Byard, Deputy P.G.D.C. Surrey, Sec.; J. A. Foster, S.D.; R. C. Blundell, J.D.; W. Dawson, I.G.; E. W. Jenkins, D.C.; W. Holdaway and H. Potter, Stwds.; and A. Room, Tyler. The whole of these were invested with the exception of the J.W., who was unfortunately absent through sickness, and to whom the lodge sent a letter of sympathy.

The banquet was held in the Constitutional Hall, and was served by Bro. A. Brandt, the popular proprietor of the famous old coaching house. About 60 brethren sat down.

The musical part of the programme was in the hands of The Bohian Glee Party and Miss Edith Welling, and a real treat they provided.

The Worshipful Master paid a well-deserved tribute to the impressive efficiency of the Installing Master, who, on rising to respond, must have been gratified with the enthusiastic reception he received.

Bro. Abraham Meier, I.P.M., thanked the officers and brethren for their general support during his year of office, but especially for the honour they did him in sending him as a Steward to the Boys' Festival with the highest list of all the Surrey lodges.

In the course of the evening the W.M. took the opportunity of expressing his gratification in being able to invest his old official friend, Bro. W. J. Huntley, as Treasurer of the lodge.

Bro. Stegges must have been pleased with his first night in the chair, and as the lodge is in a thoroughly good financial position, and is young and vigorous, he should be in a good way to enjoy the prosperous year his numerous friends so enthusiastically wished him.

During the evening a subscription was commenced by Bro. T. H. Roberts, P.M., in aid of the Daily Telegraph Shilling Branch for the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund for London, and resulted in the handsome total of 1050 shillings being obtained.

We congratulate the W.M., Bro. Stegges, and the lodge on so auspicious a commencement of their fourth year.

Herga Lodge, No. 2548.

The installation meeting of this lodge took place on the 20th ult., at the Board Schools, St. Anne's-road, Harrow, when there were a good attendance. The lodge was consecrated two years ago and has made great progress under the Mastership of Bro. E. R. Bartley Dennis, the first W.M., who installed Bro. R. D. M. Littler, C.B., Q.C., P.D.G.R., as his successor at the meeting under notice. The brethren present included Bros. E. R. Bartley Dennis, Prov. J.G.W. Middx., W.M.; R. D. M. Littler, C.B., Q.C., P.D.G.R., W.M. elect; R. F. H. Fisher, J.W.; W. J. Overhead, Treas.; A. C. Fisher, Sec.; F. S. Winkley, J.D.; F. W. Provost, I.G.; E. Winterbottom, S.D.; S. W. Hunt, Stwd.; A. Gurney, Org.; C. J. Wharton, J. F. Childs, S.W.; Rev. P. H. Aitken, Prov. G. Chap.; Raymond H. Thrupp, Dep. Prov. G.M.; Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, P.P.G. Chap.; R. Loveland Loveland, Pres. Bd. of Gen. Pur.; and many other members. Visitors: Bros. Montagu Sharp, Vice-Chairman C.C.; and Dennis, P.M. 2108.

Lodge was opened, and Bro. W. A. Collard was raised to the Degree of Master Mason. Bro. Thrupp, Dep. Prov. G.M., then assumed the chair and impressively installed Bro. R. D. M. Littler, C.B., Q.C., as W.M. The following officers were appointed, viz.: Bros. E. R. Bartley Dennis, Prov. J.G.W. Middx., I.P.M.; R. E. H. Fisher, S.W.; C. J. Wharton, J.W.; W. J. Overhead, Treas.; A. C. Fisher, Sec.; F. S. Winkley, S.D.; F. W. Provost, J.D.; W. T. Ball, D.C.; E. Winterbottom, A.D.C.; S. W. Hunt, I.G.; Rev. J. E. C. Wellton, Chap.; A. Gurney, Org.; J. L. Winkley and R. T. Wreathall, Stwds.; and Isaac Whiteway, Tyler.

Lodge was closed, and after dinner the customary toasts received hearty recognition. After "The Queen and Craft" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" had been toasted, the W.M. proposed "The Grand Officers."

Bro. R. Loveland Loveland, President of the Board of General Purposes, in reply, said, he wished more Grand Officers had been present to have been delighted with the way in which the I.P.M. did his work. He had been pleased to see the Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. Thrupp, because they did not see him in London as often as they wished, as illness had prevented him from coming amongst them. Personally, he was exceedingly obliged for the invitation to be present because the I.P.M. was an old friend of his at the Bar, and the present W.M. was one under whom he served for seven years, during which time he did not think they had a wry word. He had known the W.M. for 31 years, and had seen him in and out of Masonry, and could assure them that they were exceedingly fortunate in having such a W.M. There were few lodges with a Grand Officer at the head, and with such a genial, good friend as W.M., he could only say he wished prosperity to the lodge.

Bro. W. Ganz, P.G. Org., also replied, and said he was appointed G. Organist 1871, when musical brethren were not so numerous, and such musical lodges as the Orpheus and Sterndale Bennett had not been established.

"The Provincial Grand Master, Lord Geo. Hamilton, M.P., and the Provincial Grand Officers" was next given by the W.M. He said they owed a debt of gratitude to Bro. Thrupp, the Deputy Prov. G.M., for coming from the other end of the county to help the lodge and honour him by installing him. To have the ceremony performed in such a perfect manner was a double honour, especially when it was rendered by one with whom he was associated nearly 40 years ago. Wherever Bro. Thrupp went in the province he was heartily welcomed, and a sincere desire was expressed to see him again.

Bro. Raymond H. Thrupp, Deputy Prov. G.M., thanked the W.M. for calling to remembrance their old friendship. It was always a great pleasure to go about visiting lodges in the province over which he had been Deputy for 15 years, for he always received a hearty and sincere welcome, which made him feel that it was not only the Deputy they welcomed, but also Bro. Thrupp, as a friend. He remonstrated with Bro. Dennis, I.P.M., who, however, insisted that he should perform the installation, and as they were taught obedience, he had come down and had the honour of installing the W.M. He thought that lodge had done a great deed for itself in having such a W.M. The Herga Lodge had already made a name in the province, and he felt sure that under the presidency of the W.M. it would increase its prestige. He always impressed upon the brethren that one man, however good, could not make a lodge, for, although he might do a great deal, unless assisted by every brother he could do little. He relied upon the members to assist in making that one of the most prosperous years the lodge had had.

"The Health of the Worshipful Master" was proposed by Bro. Bartley Dennis, I.P.M., who said it was a happy inspiration which prompted him to ask their present W.M., as an old Mason and one well known in the county, to help them in the formation of the lodge. Bro. Littler immediately consented with great pleasure, and acted as I.P.M. for the first year. Their W.M. was the Chairman of the County Council, and in that sphere of duty distinguished himself in a manner few could follow. Sometimes he was in a different capacity as judge in the Middlesex Quarter Sessions. Bro. Littler was a founder and the first W.M. of the Chancery Bar Lodge, where he had doubtless initiated many Lord Chancellors. He was also a Past Master of the Bank of England Lodge, and was the first to receive the appointment of Deputy Grand Registrar. Her Majesty had recognised his services by conferring the honour of C.B., and he (the I.P.M.) had a sort of presentiment that it was possible in this great record year of her Majesty's reign that the further honour of K.C.B. would be added.

Bro. R. D. M. Littler, C.B., Q.C., P.D.G.R., W.M., in response, said that when he was asked by the I.P.M. to become one of the founders of their lodge he did not think he should have so remarkable a reception as he had received. It was quite true that he had had a great deal to do in the county, but it had been a pleasure. He was more than delighted to have been made second Master of the lodge, which, he was sure, would become one of the most distinguished in the province. It would be his own fault if he did not make many good friends during his Mastership. He trusted that when he left the chair he would receive as hearty a reception as they had given to the Immediate Past Master.

The W.M. then proposed "The I.P.M.," and said Bro. Bartley Dennis had been the life and soul of the lodge. The I.P.M. had been a distinguished Master and whatever names might be carved on the desks of the Herga Schools there would be no name go down with greater gratification than the name of the first W.M. He had great pleasure in asking Bro. Dennis to accept a Past Master's jewel—a very handsome one—presented as a hearty expression of their gratitude, at the way in which he had done his work.

Bro. Bartley Dennis, I.P.M., returned thanks, and said it mattered not to whom the credit of the lodge's success was due, so long as their friendship was cemented. He was proud of the lodge and of his children in it. He had had an enormous amount of work to do and a great amount of organisation to carry out, but it had been a labour of love. He thanked them for the jewel and for the many kind things said of him.

On behalf of "The Visitors," Bros. Montagu Sharp and Dennis, P.M., replied, and the remaining toasts were "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast.

Bros. Fell and Walter George contributed several excellent songs.

Royal Arch.

Affability Chapter, No. 317.

The installation meeting of this chapter was held on Thursday, the 18th ultimo, at the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, when there were present Comps. Thomas Bushell, M.E.Z.; J. Hardwicke-Marsh, H.; Thos. Kay, J.; J. S. Whitehead, S.E.; E. G. Chesworth, S.N.; A. Allen, P.S.; A. C. K. Smith, 2nd A.S.; H. Walmsley, Treas.; Col. H. L. Rocca, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N., D.C.; G. H. Neild, Org.; A. Findlow, Stwd.; E. H. Flower, Janitor; J. Dawson, P.Z., P.P.G. 1st A.S.; J. W. Almond, P.Z.; J. W. Garside, P.Z., P.P.G. Std. Br.; S. Statham, P.Z.; S. Staton, P.Z.; F. Spencer, W. Charlton, A. G. Lunn, W. H. Edge, A. Rottmayer, H. Grimshaw, E. P. Collett, W. Brocklehurst, and the following visitors: Comps. H. Nall, P.Z., P.P.G. Treas.; Stewart, P.Z.; G. R. Lloyd, H. 1730; J. Ormrod, P.S. 1730; H. Clulow, P.S. 993; and W. H. Boyer.

The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed and the report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. Comp. T. Bushell, M.E.Z., installed Comp. J. Hardwicke-Marsh, H., as M.E.Z.; Comp. J. Dawson, P.Z., P.P.G. 1st A.S., installed Comps. Thos. Kay as H. and E. G. Chesworth as J. The following officers were invested by the M.E.Z.: Comps. A. C. K. Smith, S.C.; J. S. Whitehead, S.N.; H. Walmsley, Treas.; A. Allen, P.S.; A. Findlow, 1st A.S.; Col. H. L. Rocca, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N., D.C.; G. H. Neild, Org.; and E. H. Flower, Janitor. Comp. Dawson, P.Z., P.P.G. 1st A.S., explained the duties to each of the officers and also gave the address to the Three Principals, the officers generally, and the chapter at large. Comp. J. Hardwicke-Marsh, M.E.Z., presented to the chapter, on behalf of the Three Principals, three new robes, specially made for their use, also a japanned tin box for same with the following inscription: "Presented to the Affability Chapter, No. 317, by E. Comp. J. Hardwicke-Marsh, Z.; E. Comp. Thos. Kay, H.; E. Comp. E. G. Chesworth, J. Feb. 18th, 1897." Comp. Thos. Bushell, P.Z., proposed a vote of thanks to the three Principals for their kind and handsome present, which, being put to the chapter, was carried with acclamation.

The chapter was closed and the companions afterwards adjourned to the banquet under the presidency of Comp. J. Hardwicke-Marsh, M.E.Z., supported by Comps. T. Kay, H., and E. G. Chesworth, J.

The usual toasts were duly honoured. Comps. H. Nall, H. Walmsley, and J. S. Whitehead gave some excellent vocal music, and Comp. G. H. Neild acted as accompanist. A pleasant evening closed by the companions singing "God save the Queen."

Emblematic Chapter, No. 1321.

A regular meeting of this chapter—which is one of the strongest and most successful in the Metropolis—was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly-circus, on Thursday, the 11th ult. There was a numerous attendance of members, including Comps. C. O. Burgess, M.E.Z.; W. O. Welsford, H.; E. L. Berry, J.; J. H. Price, P.Z., Treas.; J. S. Hinton, S.E.; W. B. Fendick, as P.S.; W. Cleghorn, P.Z.; F. W. Buxton, P.Z.; W. J. Harris, I.P.Z.; F. Haslett, P.Z.; C. Stuart Walker, Org.; and many others. Visitors: Comps. G. H. Foon, P.Z. 1614; D. C. McArthur, 1125; W. Hicks, P.S. 1694; W. R. Jaffray, 1364; and W. W. Lee, P.Z. 1524.

Chapter was duly opened, and the minutes were confirmed. The following candidates having been approved by ballot, were exalted into R.A. Masonry: Bros. W. Rudermacher, 1496; J. Rudermacher, 1614; S. F. Atkins, 2432; and W. Pearson, 2432. The rendering of the ceremony reflected the highest credit on all concerned, the lectures delivered by the M.E.Z., H. and J. being exceptionally well done. Comp. J. W. Dixon, 975, was elected a joining member and welcomed in the chapter. Comp. T. Whicher was invested as Steward.

Chapter was closed, and an excellent banquet followed.

The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were subsequently heartily honoured.

Comp. W. J. Harris, I.P.Z., in proposing "The M.E.Z.," said the toast was always received with warmth in the chapter, but they all felt very proud to have such a

companion as Comp. Burgess in the chair. The M.E.Z. not only filled the chair with dignity and courtesy, but as far as his work was concerned they were satisfied he could not be surpassed, and he would, in fact, set an example during his year of office that would render it difficult for a successor to follow.

Comp. C. O. Burgess, M.E.Z., returned sincere thanks. The I.P.Z. had spoken of what he was pleased to call the dignity with which he occupied the chair, but there was some dignity in filling the office of First Principal in that chapter on account of the large amount of vitality in it. That was the best augury for its prosperity in the future. Five new members had been added to the chapter that evening, which was a pleasing reminder that 19 were added on the first night after the consecration. They should give honour to whom honour was due, and a great measure of the success was due to the Treasurer, Comp. J. H. Price. The prospect of future work was very bright to those fond of work, and the other two Principals were thirsting for more work.

"The H. and J." was next given by the M.E.Z., who congratulated the chapter on having two very worthy companions to fill those important posts. Comp. Welsford, H., was a rigid martinet in carrying out all connected with Masonry, and his advice could be followed with confidence. In the beaten paths of friendship they could find no better friend than Comp. Welsford, who filled all the offices he held with dignity and credit. In the J., they were equally fortunate, Comp. E. L. Berry being an excellent Mason and a humorist of the first water, who always made them feel happy and contented by his sunny manner.

Comp. W. O. Welsford, H., expressed his thanks and his pride in filling the office of Second Principal. He had been proud to assist in exalting four candidates into the chapter, which he was convinced would go on and prosper.

Comp. E. L. Berry, J., also responded.

"The Exaltees," was submitted by the M.E.Z., who said they included two personal friends of his own—Comps. W. and J. Rudermacher, the latter of whom he initiated into Masonry. The Royal Arch was not only distinguished for its beautiful ritual, but because it was a more select circle, if possible, than the Craft.

Comp. W. Rudermacher in his response, said when he entered Masonry he found there a creed and religion, he had previously had his own mind as to the proper course to be pursued. As he went on in Masonry he found it more consonant with what should be done. It had been his privilege to enjoy the friendship of the M.E.Z., whom he found an excellent exemplar of Masonry, and when he had said so much for Masonry he could not say more for the man.

Comps. J. Rudermacher, Atkins, and Pearson, also replied, after which, "The Joining Member," was given and replied to by Comp. Dixon.

"The Visitors," was cordially given by the M.E.Z., who referred in kindly and complimentary terms to each visiting companion present, and a suitable response having been made, "The Officers," and Janitor's toast closed the proceedings.

Comp. Stuart Walker was assisted in the musical arrangements by Miss Susetta Fenn, Bro. Goodwins, and Mr. Albert Day.

Kennington Chapter, No. 1381.

A meeting of this very prosperous and harmonious chapter was held at the well-known and ancient hostel, the Horns Tavern, Kennington, on the 11th ult., when there were present, among others, Comps. R. Lingley, M.E.Z.; Buxton, H.; A. Lundie, J.; H. Higgins, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C., S.E.; C. Colwell, S.N.; George Everett, P.Z., P.G. Treas.; W. Smith, P.S.; Major T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C.; C. H. Kohler, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B.; W. W. Westley, P.Z.; H. J. Lardner, P.Z., P.P.G. Std. Br.; E. Ayling, P.Z.; H. Dennis, P.Z.; and H. Salter, P.Z.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, Comps. Buxton, Lundie, and Colwell were elected to fill the respective positions of First, Second, and Third Principals. Among the officers elected were Comps. H. Higgins, P.Z., S.E.; W. Smith, S.N.; G. Everett, P.Z., Treas.; Whitney, P.S.; and Patrick, P.Z. 1623, Janitor. The Auditors having been elected, were directed to audit the accounts for the year one hour previous to the installation meeting in May next. A Past Principal's jewel was voted to the outgoing First Principal. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. Sims, P.Z.; W. P. Webb, P.Z.; Whitney, P.S.; and R. B. Hopkins.

The chapter was then closed. A dinner followed.

Comp. G. Everett, P.G. Treas., responded in fluent terms on behalf of "The Grand Officers."

Comp. Dennis proposed "The Health of the M.E.Z." He said that the members were all sorry that there had been no exaltation during Comp. Lingley's year of office. The majority present had seen his excellent working in the Craft chair, and he (the speaker) felt confident that his efforts in the Royal Arch Degree would have been equally as successful. However, he had presided both in the chapter-room and at the banquet table most genially, and he trusted that Comp. Lingley would live many years to rank as a Past Principal of the chapter, and wear the beautiful jewel which the members had voted to him.

The M.E.Z. having responded, then gave "The Second and Third Principals." He said that the first-named, Comp. Buxton, for many years had been their genial host. However, although he had left the Horns Tavern, he had not severed his connection with the chapter. He hoped that as first Principal he would receive every support of the members. Comp. Lundie was a Past Master of the Kennington Lodge, in which he had done good suit and service, and no doubt, as Second Principal, would perform his work well.

This toast having been well-received, was duly acknowledged.

The toast of "The Past Principals" was coupled with the names of Comps. E. Ayling and H. J. Lardner, whose respective merits and work in the Degree were second to none.

The toast of "The S.E. and Treasurer" was replied to by Comps. H. Higgins and G. Everett; and "The Officers" by Comps. Colwell and Smith.

During the evening the companions were vocally entertained by Comps. Buxton, Lundie, Everett, and others.

Gladsmuir Chapter, No. 1385.

The installation meeting was held at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, on Friday, the 10th ult. Comp. J. G. Cobb, M.E.Z., was detained in town till towards the close of the proceedings, and in his absence Comp. J. Brittain, P.Z., Treas., P. Prov. Asst. G. Soj., occupied the chair of Z., with Comp. E. P. Debenham, P.Z., as H., and Comp. C. Woodrow, J. The others present were Comps. W. Lewis, P.Z., P. Prov. A.G. Soj., Scribe E.; S. M. Banker, P.Z., P. Prov. G. Std. Br.; W. Baddeley, Princ. Soj.; R. Cranston, 2nd Asst. Soj.; W. J. Boyce, G. Blizard Abbott, H. Overed, S. H. Graddage, W. J. James, W. J. Batho, and R. H. Goddard, Janitor. Visitors: Comps. Walter George, 101; G. Chamberlain, 1471; S. W. Dumville, J. 1479; A. E. Ekins, H. 1479; R. G. Young, 2416; H. Godwin, 1260; H. Plowright, 73; and A. Shilling, 1321.

The minutes of the November convocation having been read and confirmed, Comp. Lewis, P.Z., took the chair and inducted Comp. C. Woodrow into the chair of M.E.Z., and afterwards installed Comp. R. Cranston as H.; the J. elect—Comp. G. B. Abbott—being installed as J., by Comp. Woodrow. The following were invested as the officers for the ensuing year, namely, Comps. W. Lewis, P.Z., Scribe E.; W. Baddeley, Scribe N.; J. Brittain, P.Z., Treas.; H. Overed, Princ. Soj.; Graddage, 1st Asst. Soj.; W. J. James, 2nd Asst. Soj.; W. J. Bryce, Stwd.; and R. H. Goddard, Janitor. A P.Z.'s jewel was presented to Comp. J. G. Cobb, I.P.Z., in recognition of his services during the past year, and as a mark of respect and esteem from the companions, and a vote of sympathy was passed with Comp. W. J. Crutch, P.Z., P. Prov. G.S.N., on the death of his daughter-in-law, and of thanks for having occupied the chair of H. during the past year.

Chapter was closed, and the companions dined together and spent an extremely pleasant evening.

Comps. Walter George, James, and others, enlivened the proceedings with several capital songs.

In one of the intervals between the speeches, Comp. Woodrow, M.E.Z., suggested a shilling whip round in behalf of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund for London, which resulted in a collection of £1 6s. for that praiseworthy fund.

CONSECRATION OF NEW MASONIC CHAMBERS AT GLASGOW.

The brethren within the Province of Glasgow city have long had a desire to have some central home of the Craft within their province, and with this end in view, a Limited Liability Company was promoted some two years ago, under the Chairmanship of the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. John Graham, C.A., of Broadstone. The result of the labours of the directors of the company has been the erection of a very handsome pile of buildings in West Regent-street, consisting of two large lodge rooms and a grand hall, measuring about 64 by 38 feet, and capable of seating about 400 people, with ample kitchen and retiring accommodation.

On Friday, the 26th ult., a special meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge was held within the new Masonic chambers for the purpose of receiving a deputation from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, headed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Bro. Lord Saltoun, who was accompanied by Bros. the Earl of Rosslyn, S.G.W.; Maj. F. W. Allan, J.G.W.; D. Murray Lyon, G. Sec.; David Reid, G. Treas.; Robert Sorley, G. Jeweller; W. Munro Denholm, G. Bible Bearer; J. Carruthers, G. Marshal; and a large number of Grand Stewards, under the charge of Bro. R. N. Johnstone, Vice-President of Stewards.

On ascending the dais, the GRAND MASTER thanked the brethren assembled for their cordial reception, and stated that owing to the limited time at their disposal, the deputation had not had time to go minutely over the books of Provincial Grand Lodge, but so far as they had inspected them, they had found everything in a satisfactory condition, and he would instruct the Grand Secretary to take an early opportunity of completing the inspection and report the result to him.

The second, and most important part of the programme was then proceeded with by Bro. JOHN GRAHAM asking the M.W. Grand Master to superintend the consecration of the chambers in which they were then met.

In this ceremony the Grand Master was ably assisted by Bros. John Graham, P.G.M.; ex-Baillie Michael Simons, P.G.S.M.; Revs. Dr. Tulloch and Dr. Watt, P.G. Chaplains; Wm. Phillips, P.G.S.W.; A. M. Smith, P.G.J.W.; John Mackenzie, P.G. Marshal; and Gideon Duncan, Prov. Grand Director of Music.

The oration was delivered by Bro. Rev. Dr. TULLOCH, who took for his text the associations and feelings of "home" life.

After the conclusion of the consecration ceremony, the company adjourned to the Grand Hall, where they were entertained to a cake and wine banquet; Bro. John Graham in the chair.

The toast of "The Queen and the Craft" was proposed by the CHAIRMAN.

"The Three Grand Lodges" was proposed by Bro. ex-Baillie SIMONS, and replied to by Lord SALTOUN.

"The Provincial Grand Lodge," proposed by the GRAND MASTER, was replied to by Bro. JOHN GRAHAM.

Bro. W. MUNRO DENHOLM proposed "Success to the Glasgow Masonic Hall Company, Limited," and paid a tribute to the architect of the building—Bro. J. L. Cowan, I.A.—for the handsome halls he had designed for the use of the brethren.

During the banquet Bro. Robert Buchanan, jun., gave a selection of music on the grand organ.

Rosicrucian Society.

York College.

The annual obligatory meeting of this college was held in Freemasons' Hill, St. Saviourgate, York, on Saturday last. There was a large attendance of members, including the Chief Adept of the Province, Fra. T. B. Whythead; the Suffragan, Fra. J. L. Atherton; the Prov. Treas., Fra. W. Flockton; the Prov. Sec., F. J. Blenkin; and the Magister Templi, Fra. W. W. Cheesman. With one exception the whole of the officers of the college were present, and 33 other fratres, the whole gathering numbering 51.

A ballot was taken for 10 candidates, six of whom being present were received into the 1st Grade, the ceremonies being performed by the Celebrant, assisted by Fratres C. D. Hill Drury and W. H. Cowper, Past Celebrants. The Celebrant elect, Fra. J. Robinson, was then presented by the four Ancients and inducted into the chair of C.R. by the Chief Adept, and at once nominated his officers. Fratres Atherton and J. J. Wilkes were elected as High Council Representatives. The Treasurer's report showed the finances to be in an excellent condition. The Chief Adept gave an address on "The Mason's Oath," which seemed to afford considerable interest. He also congratulated the college on its remarkable success both in strength and quality.

After the dissolution of the college, the fratres adjourned to the dining room, where an excellent dinner was served, which was followed by a number of speeches.

The following were present: Frs. T. B. Whythead, C. L. Mason, J. M. Meek, J. J. Wilkes, C. S. Lane, J. L. Atherton, C. Palliser, C. D. Hill Drury, W. F. Tomlinson, W. H. Cowper, W. Flockton, J. Blenkin, T. Mvers, W. N. Cheesman, E. Lord, Tom Tomlinson, F. W. Halliwell, J. T. Sellar, J. K. Wilkes, W. Swales, J. Robinson, J. Smith, E. Micklethwait, B. S. Bailey, G. H. Parke, R. J. Smith, R. H. Walters, A. J. Bodman, G. Thompson, W. H. Turner, G. J. Robinson, T. Linsell, E. Billington, J. H. Gratton, W. T. Marshall, G. Musgrove, G. Ward nan, J. V. Cooper, J. A. Jones, T. Wood, H. Dittmar, E. Richards, A. J. Spinks, W. Bittle, R. Hudson, G. W. Hudson, T. Waller, R. Tindall, E. A. Hirst, W. T. Stead, and P. Pearson.

What is the British Workman's?

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

What its Business?

Life Assurance—Ordinary and Industrial.

What the Secret of its Wonderful Success?

The Equity and Liberality of its Terms.

What has it done?

It has Popularised and Perfected Life Assurance.

What its Annual Income?

It is rapidly approximating to Half-a-Million Sterling.

What its Rank?

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

Masonic and General Tidings.

DOWN TO Thursday night the Lord Mayor's Fund at the Mansion House for the relief of the sufferers in the Indian Famine amounted to £388,000. The contributions include the United Grand Lodge, £1050; Staffordshire (second instalment), £500; Margate (additional), £439 13s. 9d.; Banbury, £286 13s. 11d.; Newcastle-under-Lyme (additional), £270, &c., &c.

THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will hold their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at 4 p.m.

THE WORSHIPFUL Company of Mercers have granted a further donation of 10 guineas to the funds of the National Truss Society.

BRO. W. H. BAILEY, the manager of Bass and Co., was presented last week with a handsome set of three silver centre pieces by his staff on the occasion of attaining his fiftieth birthday.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF AIRLIE have arrived in town, and so have Bro. the Earl and Countess Cowper, who have left Panshanger, Hertfordshire, for their residence at 4, St. James's-square.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES has consented to become Patron of the Queen's Commemoration Fund in aid of the Queen's Jubilee Institute for Nurses. The fund at present amounts to £28,534.

MR. C. J. AXFORD, a Past Provincial Grand Officer for Middlesex, was on Saturday installed Worshipful Master of a new Masonic lodge, named the Allyn Lodge, after the founder of Dulwich College.—*Daily Mail*.

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL LENTEN SUPPERS.—The first of the Lenten Suppers in connection with Christ's Hospital is fixed to take place on Thursday, the 18th inst. Suppers will also be held on the three following Thursdays.

BRO. LORD GLENESK presided at the annual general meeting of the Newspaper Press Fund on Saturday, when it was shown that £1208 had been granted in relief during the first year and that the investments amounted to £25,755.

THE PRINCESS CHRISTIAN OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN has become a Patron of the Afternoon Concert which will be held at the Queen's Hall, on the 1st June, in aid of the North-Eastern Hospital for Children, Hackney-road, Shoreditch.

THE ALDERSGATE LITERARY SOCIETY.—This society met last week. The president of the society, Bro. the Rev. T. Selby Henrey, opened a discussion on Mr. Darwin's work, "The Principles of Wealth Distribution," and a spirited debate followed.

THE ROYAL ALFRED LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 780 (Bro. R. H. Williams, P.M., P.P.J.G.D. Middlesex, Preceptor), held at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, has now resumed its meetings, and will continue to be held every Thursday throughout the year.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—The Sixth Annual Great Fisheries Exhibition will remain open at the Royal Aquarium from the 9th inst. to the 13th of April. Nearly all the leading manufacturers of tackle and fishing appurtenances are exhibitors, and every inch of space is occupied. The show is the largest of the kind that has yet been held.

BRO. A. AKER-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 Saturday last.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES, accompanied by Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Fife, the Princess Victoria of Wales, and the Duke and Duchess of York, visited the London Hackney Show, at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Tuesday afternoon. The number of entries was on a larger scale than in any former year, and the standard of merit was well maintained.

THE WILL of Bro. Major Hymen Aron Joseph, C.C., of 45, Aberdeen-park, Highbury, who died on January 16th, was proved by Mr. Isaac Aron Joseph, of Buscot Lodge, Warwick-road, Maida Vale, the brother; and Bro. John Gordon-Langton, of 6A, Austin-friars, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to £7984 1s. 3d. gross, and £2551 8s. 4d. net.

WE HAVE received, at the moment of going to press, particulars of the results of the Cambridge Local Examinations—Senior and Junior—in December, 1896, as regards the Boys' School, and purpose giving fuller details next week. In the meantime we have much pleasure in stating that of 14 entered for the Seniors, one took Third Class Honours and 10 passed; while of 30 entered for the Juniors, one took Second Class Honours, one Third Class, and 22 passed. We have also much pleasure in stating that the Boys, with the assistance of the Staff, contributed £5 10s. to the Indian Famine Relief Fund.

THE FIRST ANNUAL BALL of the Volunteer Forces Benevolent Association was held in St. James's Great Hall, Piccadilly, on Tuesday evening. Among those present were the Duke of Teck, the Marquis and Marchioness of Lansdowne; the Earl and Countess of Denbigh; Bro. Gen. Sir Redvers and Lady Audrey Buller; and Bro. Lieut.-Col. Defries. About 300 guests in all were present, the ball being intended to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Queen's reign, as well as to benefit the funds of the association.

THE DUKE OF TECK presided at the 29th annual meeting of the Richmond Royal Hospital on Saturday last, when the report for the year 1896 showed that it had been a very eventful year, and that the cots in the "Princess May's Ward" had been constantly filled. His Highness wished the institution every success, and trusted that the hospital would go on prospering during the present year. It is in contemplation to permanently endow the hospital, the sum of £2000 having been already obtained, and it is hoped that between now and the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee £10,000 will be raised.

THE MARRIAGE of Lord Charles Cavendish Bentinck, brother of Bro. the Duke of Portland, with Miss Cicely Grenfell, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Grenfell, of Elibank, Taplow, was solemnised in St. Nicholas Church, Taplow, on Saturday last, and among those present at the ceremony or at the wedding party subsequently held, by permission of Bro. and Mrs. Grenfell at Taplow Court, were Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Portland, Bro. Lord and Lady Henry Cavendish Bentinck, Bro. and Mrs. Grenfell, Bro. Lord and Lady Muncaster, and other friends and relatives of the two families. Lord and Lady Charles Cavendish Bentinck left in the course of the afternoon for Welbeck Abbey.

A NEW THROAT INSTRUMENT.—Bro. Dr. Frederick Spicer has considerably improved the old-fashioned tonsil guillotine. His new instrument does away with the necessity of an assistant to push up the tonsils. It works by a spring. Before use the blade is drawn back until retained by the catch, and the small pin inserted into the hole in the shaft. The instrument is introduced into the mouth horizontally until nearly in position, and then turned sideways over the tonsil, whilst the operator pushes it up with the thumb of the other hand. During the last movement the pin falls out, and on pulling the trigger the tonsil is removed instantaneously, painlessly, and with great precision. A specially devised guard is added to prevent the tonsil falling down the patient's throat. Messrs. Mayer and Meltzer of 71, Great Portland-street, W., are the makers.

AMONG the more distinguished guests present at the farewell banquet given at the Mansion House, on Tuesday evening, by the Lord Mayor of London, to the American Ambassador (Mr. T. F. Bayard), prior to his return home, were the Marquis of Salisbury, Bro. Lord Halsbury (Lord Chancellor), Bro. Lord Ashbourne (Lord Chancellor of Ireland), Bro. the Duke of Fife, the Duke of Marlborough, the Marquis of Lorne, the Serbian, Japanese, Danish, Belgian, Swedish and Norwegian, and Swiss Ministers, representatives of the German and Austro-Hungarian Embassies, the Earl of Kimberley, Bros. the Marquis of Tweeddale and the Earl of Lathom, Earl Spencer, Bro. the Earl of Cork, Viscount Peel, Bro. the Earl of Onslow and Earl Carrington, Lord Reay, Bros. Lord Herschell, Lord Roberts, and Lord Glenesk, Sir H. Campbell Bannerman, Bros. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, G. J. Shaw-Lefevre, and Sir W. Hart Dyke, Sir Francis Jeune, Bros. Sir Edward Lawson, Sir Frank Lockwood, Sir Walter Besant, the Hon. Schomberg McDonnell, Sir Douglas Straight, Sir T. Sutherland, and Sir E. Clarke, Sir Richard Webster, Bros. Sir F. Perkins and Abel Smith, M.P., Mr. R. Sant, R.A., and Bros. Aldermen Sir J. W. Ellis, Bart, Sir Henry Knight, Sir J. Savory, Bart., Sir J. Renals, Sir J. Moore, Green, Sir J. C. Dimsdale, W. Vaughan-Morgan, Allston, Sheriff Rogers, Sir John B. Monckton, Sir J. Puleston, and others.

LICENSED VICTUALLERS' SCHOOL.—The 91st anniversary festival of this institution, of which her Majesty has been patron since August, 1837, is to be presided over by Mr. Gerald Buxton, J.P., in July next.

THE COUNTESS OF WARWICK has arrived at Warwick Castle from Brighton, and on Wednesday evening distributed the prizes at the Warwick School of Art. Bro. the Earl of Warwick is now in Ireland on a fishing excursion.

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK has consented to open the Exhibition of Irish Industries, which will be held, by permission of Earl Cadogan (Lord Lieutenant of Ireland) and Countess Cadogan, at Chelsea House, on St. Patrick's Day (the 17th inst.).

BRO. LORD AND LADY GEORGE HAMILTON, and Bro. Sir Redvers and Lady Audrey Buller, arrived at Windsor Castle, on Saturday last, and had the honour of dining with their Majesties the Queen and Empress Frederick and the Royal Family.

WE ARE GLAD to announce that the Volunteer Long Service Medal has been awarded to Sergeant T. Morris, No. 852, of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion Royal Fusiliers. This shows well for his loyalty to his Queen and country. Army order dated 1st January, 1897.

THE 13TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the Home Arts and Industries Association will be held in the Royal Albert Hall, from the 20th to the 24th May. H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, whose classes at Sandringham will be represented, has signified her intention of being present.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, who has been making a brief stay in Paris on his way to the Riviera, was entertained at luncheon at the British Embassy on Thursday, chief among the guests to do honour to the occasion being M. Hanotaux, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

IMPERIAL POLICE FOR MASHONALAND.—In answer to an advertisement for candidates for the Mashonaland Police the Colonial Office has been overwhelmed with applications. One thousand forms were sent out to suitable applicants, although only 100 men are required from this country.

BRO. W. S. PENLEY, of the Globe Theatre, having resolved in presenting the proceeds of the first four performances of "The Macfaggis," to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund for London, and finding that the sum realised was £351 1s., has generously handed over the sum of £500.

THE QUEEN'S VISITORS at Windsor Castle on Thursday, included the Duchess of Albany and Princess Alice of Albany, the United States Ambassador and Mrs. Bayard, the French Ambassador and Baroness de Courcel, and the Lord Steward. Her Majesty's guests remained at the Palace.

WE HAVE MUCH PLEASURE in recording that at the monthly meeting of the Old Concord Lodge, No. 172, it was unanimously resolved—"That the sum of 50 guineas be voted as a free gift to each of the Benevolent, Boys', and Girls' Institutions, in commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee of her Majesty the Queen."

THE GENERAL MANAGER of the Crystal Palace has selected the 24th May (her Majesty's birthday) for the purpose of holding a grand fête in aid of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund for London, and already arrangements are being made on a most extensive scale in order to render the fête worthy of the occasion and the purpose for which it will be held.

THE LORD MAYOR presided at the annual meeting, in the Council Chamber of the Guildhall, on Saturday last, of the Association of Municipal Corporations, and in the evening the members of the Association dined together at the Holborn Restaurant, under the presidency of his lordship, who was supported by Bros. Lord Balfour, Sir J. Blundell Maple, M.P., and Sir J. B. Monckton.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY have again issued a very handy book containing lists of the principal dog and poultry shows, cattle and horse fairs, racing fixtures, and agricultural shows for 1897. The list is produced in convenient pocket form, and copies may be obtained gratis on application to the Superintendent of the line, King's Cross Station, G.N.R., or to the Company's Provincial Agents.

BRO. SIR HENRY IRVING, who has completely recovered from the accident which befel him the morning after his production of "Richard the Third," at the Lyceum Theatre, made his second appearance as Richard on Saturday evening last, when the theatre was crowded from floor to ceiling, and the distinguished actor received a most enthusiastic welcome, which he acknowledged, when the performance was over, in a brief but telling speech.

A SPECIAL CINDERELLA (fancy and evening dress), will take place at the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, on Friday, the 26th inst., in aid of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. A strong body of brethren constitutes the Committee of Stewards, of whom tickets, 2s. 6d. each, can be had, or of Bro. H. Kemp, 7 and 8, Thavie's Inn, Holborn Circus, E.C. A dispensation has been obtained to wear Craft and Royal Arch clothing on the occasion.

WE HAVE much pleasure in announcing that the City of Westminster Lodge, No. 1563, at its recent meeting on the 25th ultimo, voted 200 shillings from its funds towards the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund for London, and that the brethren at the time of refreshment subscribed amongst themselves a further 200 shillings towards the same beneficent object. The Treasurer has since remitted the £20 to the "Daily Telegraph Shilling Branch," which is being raised by our contemporary.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the Commercial Travellers' Benevolent Institution will this year take place at the Hotel Cecil on the 19th inst., under the chairmanship of Mr. Thomas Webber Jerrard, of the firm of Jerrard, Darby, and Clegg, of Wood-street. The income accruing to the Institution from funds invested being but slightly more than £1500, it is largely dependent on the subscriptions and donations of its supporters. Last year out of 35 candidates it was found impossible to relieve more than seven, although all proved on inquiry to be in need of help.

IT WAS MENTIONED at the meeting of the Oxford City Council, on Wednesday, that they had learned, through Bro. the Earl of Jersey, the High Sheriff, that his lordship had received an intimation from Windsor Castle, signed by Sir Arthur Bigge, to the effect that the Queen, to her great regret, would be unable, owing to her other engagements and the fatigues which will attend her in connection with the celebrations of the year, to visit Oxford and open the new municipal buildings, but that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales would perform the necessary function on Wednesday, the 12th May next.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES left Charing Cross station for Folkestone, en route for the Riviera, shortly before 10 a.m. on Monday morning. The Duke of York accompanied him to the station, where he was received by Sir George Russell, Chairman of the London and South-Eastern Railway Company; Mr. Cosmo Bonsor, the Deputy Chairman; Mr. Willis, Manager; and Bro. George Abbott, Superintendent of the station. The Prince crossed the Channel on board a special steamer, and was received with more than ordinary enthusiasm by the good people of Boulogne. After lunch he witnessed the procession of the "Mardi-Gras," and then continued his journey as far as Paris.

WE ARE INFORMED that a "Whitaker's Directory of Titled Persons," for the current year has been, or is on the eve of being, issued at the very low price of half-a-crown. The contents will be arranged "under a single alphabet," preceded by an extended list of the Royal Family, supplemented by a mass of "descriptive explanatory matter never before given in any similar work." There will also be an alphabetical list of country seats, so that the publication will assume the character of "a handy and concise Court Guide." This new Directory, which if the promises of the publishers are carried out, will prove a valuable, as well as an inexpensive, work of reference of its kind, will be a companion to "Whitaker's Almanack," and will doubtless become as indispensable as the latter publication.

THE 27TH annual ball in aid of the funds of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage will be held at the Cannon-street Hotel, E.C., on Thursday, the 29th prox., under the distinguished patronage of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs and Under-Sheriffs of the City of London. The Orphanage accommodates 200 children, and to those children for whom accommodation cannot be found a compassionate allowance of half-a-crown per week up to 13 years of age is made, the number of children thus assisted during the past year being 850 and the amount disbursed amongst them £5691. The principal Stewards are Major Wodehouse, Bro. F. Gordon Brown, M.R.C.S.E., and A. L. Foster, late Chief Inspector, while the Hon. Sec. is Superintendent O. Mackenzie, 26, Old Jewry, E.C., by whom all necessary information will be most courteously furnished.