

# THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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### FREEMASONRY AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

A correspondent has kindly favoured us with a copy of a Dover paper of the 10th inst., containing the first of what is intended to be a series of articles on "Freemasonry and the Catholic Church" by a contributor named HENRY. The writer of the article in question is offering his reasons to the "Dover young man—not a Catholic—whose mind and will of his own are sane and healthy enough and in whose honesty and sincerity I have faith," why he is not a Freemason, and the reason may be summed up conveniently in a single sentence, "because he is a Catholic." "I am a Catholic" says he: "the Catholic Church condemns Freemasonry, I will not be or do what the Catholic Church prohibits me to do or forbids me to be." There is no argument in this. The statement is characterised by extreme simplicity. There is no beating about the bush for an excuse for not being a Freemason, and on the other hand there is no attempt to lay a formidable indictment against the Craft. The writer states that he is not a Freemason because he is a Catholic and the Catholic Church has condemned Freemasonry. He does not trouble to inquire whether the condemnation is justified by anything which Freemasonry has done in the past or may be doing in the present. His declaration at the outset is without qualification of any kind—he is not a Freemason because he is a Catholic. Subsequently he modifies this declaration considerably, affirming that "not even the POPE would think of condemning English Freemasons, if they are in their secret deeds all that they are represented in their public performances." As for himself, he goes on to state that "were all Freemasons men as liberal, beneficent, brotherly as yourself and others, the Good Samaritans and true Christians whom I happen to know in Dover and elsewhere, my own attitude would have long ago been the one of a real and undivided adhesion, such as I have assumed towards the Oddfellows' Unity, of which I have had the honour of accepting the membership conferred upon me." In the paragraph that follows this, he is even more complimentary still to English Freemasons, telling us that "Catholics do not misunderstand and misinterpret the Freemasonry of England as a malevolent society." The reason he assigns for the condemnation of Freemasonry by the Catholic Church is "the bad and malevolent expedients and artifices in matters religious and political of CONTINENTAL Freemasons of the type as represented by

French, Belgian, Italian, and other unholy Socialistic Agencies of Revolution." Thus the original unqualified statement of this Mr. HENRY, which is contained in the earlier part of his article, must now, as we have said, be modified by the light of his explanations in the latter part. Catholics do not "misunderstand and misinterpret" English Freemasonry "as a malevolent society," but the Catholic Church has condemned "Continental Freemasonry" on the ground of its "bad and malevolent expedients and artifices in matters religious and political," and hence he, as a Catholic, has no alternative but to condemn English Freemasonry as well, though almost in the same breath he tells us it is not worthy of condemnation "as a malevolent Society." We are afraid this Mr. HENRY in his blind obedience to an unjust condemnation of Freemasonry as a whole for the sins of a part does not realise that the same process of reasoning may be applied to the church of which he proclaims himself a member. Thus if Freemasonry, which originated in this country in its present form in the early years of the 18th century and is still governed by the same fundamental principles, is to be condemned because certain French, Belgian, Italian, and other Freemasons have in the latter half of the 19th century violated those fundamental principles, then what this writer calls the Catholic, that is, the Roman Catholic, Church, must be condemned likewise and on precisely similar grounds, that is to say, because certain sections—to wit, the Anglican, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Calvinistic, and other Churches—have revolted from the Catholic Church. These various sects, according to him, are to be condemned for "the bad and malevolent expedients and artifices" they have had recourse to, and therefore the original Catholic Church, which once contained them all, must be tarred with the same brush. We admire the candour and courtesy of this contributor to our Dover contemporary, but we may be forgiven if we do not set a very high value on his arguments.

### GRAND LODGE DECISIONS.\*

It is an excellent idea to which our Rev. Bro. LAWRENCE has given effect in the pages of this pamphlet. As he very justly remarks in his brief preface, it is most desirable that there should exist "some manual suitable for ready reference by the Masters of lodges and others who have to interpret the Constitutions," and this want our brother has done his best to supply. Of course, when any doubt exists in the minds of private lodge authorities as to the course they ought to pursue in certain circumstances, the proper persons to apply to are, in the case of Provincial lodges, the Provincial authorities; in Districts, the District authorities; and in all other cases the Grand Secretary, and it is undoubtedly to the great credit of our readers that in the course of the last 25 years Grand Lodge should not have been called upon to deal with less than 150 appeals. It shows that our Prov. and District G. Masters, their Deputies, Registrars, and Secretaries, are, as a rule, not only conversant with our laws but at the same time, competent interpreters of the more or less knotty questions which they are from time to time called upon to decide, it is no doubt true that the justice of the decisions given

\* "Grand Lodge Decisions." Extracted from the authorised reports of the Grand Lodge of England during the past twenty-four years. Edited, arranged, and annotated by Wor. Bro. the Rev. J. T. Lawrence, M.A., P.M. 273, M.E.Z. 1193, P.M. 160, M.M.M., D.J.G.W. Madras (Craft and Mark). D.G.A.S. (Royal Arch), and Dedicated by the District Grand Master of Madras, Right Wor. Bro. Col. G. M. J. Moore, R.A., C.I.S. Madras: Addison and Co., 1897.

during the last quarter of a century or more is due to the Book of Constitutions having, under the operation of successive revisions, become less and less ambiguous, and we quite agree with Bro. LAWRENCE that it is difficult "to find ambiguity now," but we are inclined to think that he has hardly attached sufficient weight to the greater interest that is now taken in the study of our laws. Just as nowadays the majority of those who are elected Worshipful Masters of lodges are competent to discharge the duties of the chair as regards the ritual of the several Degrees and the ceremony of installation, so happily have they for the most part taken counsel with themselves and their more experienced fellow members as to the rule and practice that must be followed under the varying sets of conditions which are likely to arise in certain eventualities. Thus by the greater knowledge which the rulers of our private lodges possess or are able to obtain, the opportunities for invoking the assistance of the higher authorities are fewer, while the latter are themselves more competent to decide questions of moment. Thus our brother's pamphlet of between 80 and 90 pages is, in fact, a sort of manual of Masonic law, and should enable Masters to decide at once the majority of the questions that are likely to arise, and thereby avoid the necessity for consulting the Provincial, District, or Grand Lodge authorities, a process which naturally involves a considerable amount of delay. With chapter and verse from the authorised reports of Grand Lodge to guide him, a Master, with the assistance of this manual, is likely to find the adjustment of any little difficulties in the law and practice of Masonry that may arise during his occupancy of the office comparatively plain sailing.

We do not quite agree with the author that "for convenience the decisions and proceedings have not only been carefully indexed, but have been arranged under their heads or chapters." We allow the indexing so far as the side-note indicating the subject of each successive decision is concerned, but not that form of index which enables the reader to find at once the particular decision he is in search of. Thus to make our meaning more obvious—as regards "a Warden's eligibility for the chair," there is no index which will enable the reader to discover off-hand the page or pages containing the decisions on this very important question. Had the decisions affecting this question been "carefully indexed," we should have known that they were to be found at p. 29. Again, as regards their arrangement "under three heads or chapters," there is nothing to indicate where one chapter ends and the next begins. Each "decision" has its own proper side-head, and the whole series of decisions is continued right away from the beginning to the end without being numbered consecutively or in consecutive groups of one or more decisions. Thus in the case we have already quoted—"a Warden's eligibility for the chair"—the decisions are given; but as they deal with the one subject they form a group, and as such should be distinguished by a number.

We take no exception to the "heads or chapters" into which the book is said to be divided and the note at top of p. 3 is a guide as to the method of classification adopted, which is as follows: "Pages 1 to 31 contain questions affecting the constitution or prerogative of Grand Lodge; Pages 32 to 56 deal with resignations, erasures, and exclusions; Pages 57 to the end contain miscellaneous decisions which cannot be classified conveniently chiefly concerning offences against Masonic discipline." But though this note is a help it only removes the difficulty we have referred to to this extent that it tells you that what appears on pp. 1 to 31 constitutes the first head or chapter, and so on; it does not help the reader to find the particular decision he may be in search of under one of these heads.

It is unfortunate that our Rev. brother should have allowed himself to commit three serious errors in page 3. If any of his readers take these as illustrating the value of his compilation—which is, indeed, in its main features and as regards its general accuracy in the matter of "decisions," a most meritorious one—they may be inclined to treat his pamphlet unjustly. But nothing is to be gained by allowing these errors to pass unnoticed, more especially as we have much pleasure in adding that they are not to be regarded as a sample of the really beneficial work contained in his book. The first of these very obvious mistakes

is that the rank of P.G.M. was conferred on H.R.H. the Prince of WALES in "September, 1865." His Royal Highness was not initiated till towards the close of 1868, during a visit he was paying to the late King of SWEDEN, and it was not till 1869 that, on the motion of the Earl of ZETLAND, he had the rank of Past Grand Master conferred upon him. Again, it was not in December, 1869, that the Prince accepted the office of M.W. Grand Master, and appointed the Earl of CARNARVON Pro Grand Master. It was on this occasion that the late Earl of ZETLAND expressed a wish that he should not be again nominated G.M., and the Marquis of RIPON was nominated and elected to succeed him, and remained in office till the autumn of 1874. Then the Prince was approached on the subject of becoming Grand Master, and expressed his willingness to accept the office if elected. Lastly, as regards the meeting in the Royal Albert Hall, at which his Royal Highness was installed M.W.G.M., there is no doubt as to the meeting having been of a remarkable character, but it was a Grand Lodge meeting and consequently there was no guinea paid for admission by those present, and those entitled to be present wore "the purple of Grand rank" if they were Grand Officers, Present or Past, while those who were not Grand Officers wore their light blue collars, as Masters, Wardens, or Past Masters, or the simpler insignia of Master Masons if not entitled to wear collars; the only difference between this and ordinary Grand Festival meetings being that each lodge was allowed to be represented by one Master Mason in addition to its Master, Wardens, and Past Masters.

What further remarks we purpose offering upon the body of the work we reserve for a future article.

#### PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTERS AND THE REGULATIONS.

I am glad that "*Lex Scripta*" has drawn attention to the interpretation of the Regulations of Grand Chapter by the esteemed Deputy Grand Registrar, and confirmed by his Honour Judge Philbrick, Grand Registrar, at the Convocation, held on 5th May last. The official report is now before me, and clearly states the ruling of the D.G. Registrar to be, that the Prov. Grand Registrar of the Craft, if a R.A. Mason, must be Prov. G. Reg. of the Prov. Grand Chapter for the same county, &c., and whether so appointed, or not, is entitled to rank as P. Prov. G. Reg. of such a Prov. G. Chapter accordingly. This is a remarkable decision, and it surprises me, that so far, it has not led to any discussion or remarks from Prov. Grand Scribes, or other officers in Prov. Grand Chapters. As "*Lex Scripta*" points out, it has long been the custom to look upon the office of Prov. G. Registrar to be as much in the gift of the Grand Superintendent as any of the other offices, and presuming that the Dep. G. Reg. is correct in his ruling there are very many companions entitled to rank as Past Prov. Grand Registrars, who have not been appointed, and there are also as many who have been appointed and served as such, who are not entitled to past rank. Yet, in Rule 36, the Grand Superintendent is empowered "to appoint" the Prov. Grand Registrar, but not the Prov. G. Treasurer; though according to the Dep. G. Reg., whether so appointed, or not, the Prov. G. Reg. of that Province in the Craft, is also Prov. G. Reg. in the Arch, if a R.A. Mason.

If Rule 43 applies to Prov. G. Chapters, as so stated by the D.G. Registrar, then the D. Prov. G.M. of Prov. Grand Lodge must be, if otherwise qualified, the Prov. Second Grand Principal, and in like manner, the Prov. Grand Secretary, is entitled to be the Prov. Grand Scribe E., and in fact is, whether so appointed or not, and entitled to past rank, notwithstanding the offices have not been served, the decision being retrospective in character. This lack of precision in respect to the Regulations has much to answer for, if the Ruling be correct, as it appears G. Superintendants have not the power to appoint Prov. Grand Hs., Scribes E., and Registrars unconditionally, as with the other Officers, but only if these three offices cannot be filled by reason of such brethren not being qualified as R.A. Masons.

According to my experience, it has never been the custom in Prov. G. Chapter to look upon these three offices, or either of them, as not within the province of the G. Superintendent to unconditionally appoint, as with the others enumerated in Rule 36. The Grand Lodge Calendar, if consulted, will prove that as respects the Prov. S.Es., the Rule in question has not been interpreted in several instances, as now for the first time promulgated, and Provincial Calendars will equally illustrate a similar state of matters regarding the appointments of Provincial 2nd Grand Principals and Registrars. Of course, if the decision be accepted, we must alter in the Provinces and Districts, but one would like a little more consideration by the Grand Chapter before the Ruling is considered to be obligatory.

W. J. HUGHAN.

THE GRAND DUKE AND GRAND DUCHESS OF MECKLENBURGH-STRELITZ, the Duke and Duchess of York, Princess Mary Adelaide, Duchess of Teck, and the Duke of Teck, Prince Francis and Alexander of Teck, and the Princess Adolphus of Teck, lunched with T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, at Marlborough House, on Monday, in celebration of the birthday of the Grand Duchess.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF ESSEX.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Colchester on Tuesday, the 13th inst., and passed off most successfully. The arrangements were in the charge of a Committee of the two lodges at Colchester, those for the Angel Lodge, No. 51, being Bros. C. E. Egerton-Green, W.M. (Chairman); Past Masters—Chas. Cobb, T. J. Ralling, E. Hennemeyer, J. J. C. Turner, C. Osmond, R. Haward Ives, J. Grimes, A. S. B. Sparling, S. D. C. Ablitt, Harold Francis, G. F. Wright, and Harry Becker; H. H. G. Elliott, Alfred Hartley, Willoughby J. Bean, and J. E. Cheese.

The representatives of the United Lodge, No. 697, were Bros. Harry E. Baker, W.M.; Past Masters—A. Gosling, G. A. Eustace, J. T. Bailey, H. J. Skingley, J. G. Renshaw, John Howe, G. J. Booth, and F. J. Motum; Robert Emson, R. A. Mann, J. P. Smith, and F. R. Bean.

This Committee were fortunate in obtaining permission from Bro. Claude Egerton-Green for the entire use of the charming grounds of East Hill House, and the weather being fine, the attendance was unusually large, and both before and after the business meeting the brethren wandered amongst the shady walks or reclined under the trees.

The Prov. Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Warwick, accompanied by Bro. Robert Woodhouse, travelled by rail from London to Colchester, and drove direct to East Hill House, where his lordship was received by Bros. Egerton-Green, W.M. 51; H. E. Baker, W.M. 697; T. J. Ralling, Prov. G. Sec.; A. Lucking, Prov. G.D.C.; Richard Clowes, P.G. D.C.; and J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B.

The party having been entertained to luncheon by Bro. and Mrs. Egerton-Green, an adjournment was made to the grounds.

The Masonic proceedings took place in a large marquee erected in the paddock, some 250 brethren being present, and when the Earl of Warwick entered, accompanied by his officers, he received quite an ovation. The Provincial Grand Officers present were:

Bros. F. H. Bright, P.M. 1024, S.G.W.; Arthur R. Meggy, P.M. 214, J.G.W.; Edmund Gowers, G. Treas.; Charles E. Garrard, G. Reg.; Thomas J. Ralling, P.A.G.D.C., G. Sec.; Robert Cook, P.M. 276, S.G.D.; Edward Hobbs, P.M. 453, and Charles Lewis, P.M. 2508, J.G.Ds.; F. J. Eedle, G. Supt. of Works; A. Lucking, P.G.P., G.D.C.; A. G. Shenstone, P.M. 2077, D.G.D.C.; C. Westwood, P.M. 1343, A.G.D.C.; C. W. Barnard, P.M. 1000, G.S.B.; W. D. Child, P.M. 1437, and Turner B. Ennew, P.M. 2477, G. Std. Brs.; Val. Mason, G. Org.; G. J. Booth, P.M. 697, G.P.; F. Gooderham, P.M. 1817, A.G.P.; A. W. Martin, G. Tyler; J. G. Bryan, P.M. 697; W. Howard-Flanders, W.M. 1024, and T. J. Grant, W.M. 1977, Stwds.

In the absence of Bro. His Honour Judge Philbrick, the chair of Dep. Provincial Grand Master was occupied by Bro. Richard Clowes, P.G. Std. Br.

The minutes of the last annual Prov. Grand Lodge (at Maldon) having been read and confirmed,

The PROV. G. SEC. said that letters expressing regret at their inability to attend had been received from Bros. Earl Amherst, Dep. G.M.; Lord Henniker, P.G.M. Suffolk; Lord George Hamilton, P.G.M. Middlesex; Rev. Charles John Martyn, D.P.G.M. Suffolk; Matthew Clark, Essex; Hamon Le Strange, D.P.G.M. Norfolk; James Eastes, D.P.G.M. Kent; Raymond R. Thrupp, D.P.G.M. Middlesex; Major Le Feuvre, D.P.G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight; Ven. Archdeacon Stevens, P.G. Chap.; Colonel Lockwood, M.P., P.G.D.; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; N. Tracy, Prov. G. Sec. Suffolk; G. W. G. Barnard, Prov. G. Sec. Norfolk; Howard H. Room, Prov. G. Sec. Middlesex; Alfred Spencer, Prov. G. Sec. Kent; Col. Lambert, P.G.S.B.; Sir Francis Boileau, Bart., Sir Weetman Pearson, Bart., M.P. for Colchester, Rev. D. Gotto, Prov. G. Chap.; R. Loveland Loveland, Pres. Board of Gen. Pur.; James Terry, Sec. R.M.B.I.; and F. R. Hedges, Sec. R.M.I.G.

The roll of lodges was then called over and all were found to be represented.

The Earl of WARWICK said before the recommendations of the Board of General Purposes for certain grants were put he had a suggestion to make. They were all aware that a fund was being raised in the county and by the Lord Mayor with a view to assist the sufferers by the dreadful hailstorm that visited that county a week or two ago. That was a matter that he thought would appeal to them as Essex men, but particularly as Essex Masons. Whilst liberally supporting the Charities of their Order, his experience of Masons was that they were as ready to open their hearts to a cry of distress outside the Craft. Coming down in the train Bro. Woodhouse had kindly volunteered to give £26 5s.—(applause)—he himself would give £31 10s.—(renewed applause)—and he should like to propose that they vote the sum of £21 from the Prov. G. Lodge funds, and take a voluntary collection in the room.

Bro. GEORGE CORBLE, P.M. 453, P.P.J.G.W., said he had been looking at the balance-sheet, and he really thought for such an exceptional occasion as that they might afford 50 guineas. (Applause.) He would venture to suggest that if his lordship would amend his motion to that amount it would be heartily endorsed by the Prov. Grand Lodge. (Hear, hear.)

The Earl of WARWICK said he should be delighted to fall in with Bro. Corble's suggestion if the funds of Provincial Grand Lodge would allow. (Applause.) His lordship then put the amended proposition, and it was carried amidst great applause.

A collection was then taken in the Provincial Grand Lodge, and when counted up was found to amount to £33 8s. This was afterwards supplemented by the following donations: Bros. Claude E. Egerton-Green, £20; Matthew Clark, £5 5s.; C. J. Smith, £5 5s.; John Ramsey, £3 3s.; J. Boulton, £2 2s.; Angel Lodge, No. 51, £5 5s.; Lodge of Good Fellowship, No. 276, £2 2s.; Chigwell Lodge, No. 453, £5 5s.; United Lodge, No. 697, £5 5s.; Liberty of Havering Lodge, No. 1437, £5 5s.; Brooke Lodge, No. 2005, £5 5s.; Tilbury Lodge, No. 2006, £5 5s.; Shurmur Lodge, No. 2374, £10 10s.; Colne Lodge, No. 2447, £3 3s.; and Ixion Lodge, No. 2501, £5 5s.; making a grand total of £230 0s.

The next business on the agenda was the Board of General Purposes report, a copy of which having been sent to each member of Provincial Grand Lodge, was taken as read. The report stated that the accounts for the year had been audited, and that after payment of all expenses there was a balance in hand on the general account of £100 12s. 5d., and on

the Charity account of £32 12s. 5d. The returns from the lodges showed the strength of the province to be 2001 against 1939 last year. The Board recommended the payment of the following grants: From the General Fund—A donation of 100 guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; £10 10s. to the Essex and Colchester Hospital; and £10 10s. to the Eastern Counties Asylum for Idiots; and from the Charity Fund £10 10s. to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and a like sum to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The Board recommended that the portrait in next year's calendar be that of Bro. Andrew Durrant, P.M. 276, P.P. S.G.W., P.P.G. Treas., one of the oldest Masons in the province. One paragraph of the report will be specially interesting to Colchester people. It was as follows: "The Board learn with satisfaction, which they are sure will be shared by the whole province, that the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys have resolved to retain for the purposes of Higher Education, William Barron George Brightwell (a Colchester boy), elected to the School in 1891, and whose ordinary term would expire at the end of the present month. The Secretary of the School, in his official intimation, writes: 'He has shown such ability and good conduct as to entitle him to this special mark of favour at the hands of my Board.'"

The report was adopted, as was also that of the Charity Committee, which stated that at the Girls' election the Committee received 336 votes, exchanging 319 for 79 boys, and lent 519. The election was very flat, and there was no demand for votes at all. At the Boys' election they received 788 votes from the province, and 79 in exchange for girls' votes, enabling them to poll 277 for Oldham, raising his number of votes to 1217. This election was a very exciting one, and the demand for votes was almost without precedent. A division of votes acted disastrously, neither of the candidates being successful.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, on rising to address the brethren, was heartily received. He said it was a great gratification to him to find himself once more in the good old town of Colchester, with which he had so many pleasant memories. It was in Colchester that he was first installed as Provincial Grand Master, and for some years he had the pleasure to be connected with the town as its member—(hear, hear)—during which time he made many and, he trusted they would be lasting, friendships. As to their meeting that day, he felt they might congratulate themselves on their charming surroundings, and they were much indebted to Bro. Claude Egerton-Green, for placing his beautiful grounds at the disposal of the brethren. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Referring to the recent national celebration of the 60th anniversary of the reign of their Gracious Queen, his lordship said they, as Freemasons, might well be proud of the part they had taken in the celebration. All those who were present at that wonderful meeting at the Albert Hall must have been greatly impressed with it, whilst it must be a satisfaction to every brother that as a result of that meeting more than £7000 had been distributed in Charity. This had been supplemented by a grant of £8000 from the funds of Grand Lodge, so that the total sum presented by the Freemasons of England in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee amounted to a little over £15,000. (Hear, hear.) His lordship congratulated Bros. William Shurmur and W. J. Crump on the honour conferred upon them by his Royal Highness the Grand Master at the Albert Hall, and, although these two brethren appeared to have been grouped with London brethren, the work they had done in Essex entitled them to the congratulations of the province. (Hear, hear.) Masonry continued to prosper in a wonderful way in Essex. When he commenced his career as Provincial Grand Master their membership was 900, now they would see by the report of their Board of General Purposes it had reached 2000—(applause)—whilst, as regards Charity, the brethren were always most liberal, and what had been done that afternoon for the hailstorm fund would be a proof to outsiders, as he had already said, that they were equally open-handed in relieving distress outside their ranks. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

For the election of the Board of General Purposes there were only the requisite number nominated, and his lordship declared them duly elected as follows: Bros. F. H. Bright, P.M. 1024, P.P.S.G.W.; W. D. Merritt, P.M. 1000, P.P.S.G.W.; J. H. Salter, P.M. 2342, P.P.J.G.W.; and J. C. Turner, P.M. 51, P.P.S.G.W.

On the motion of Bro. WILLIAM SHURMUR, P.G. Std. Br., Bro. Wm. Gower, W.M. 2501, was unanimously elected Prov. G. Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Bro. the Earl of WARWICK said he had an announcement to make which he was sure would be received with great regret. He had received within the last few hours a letter from his excellent Deputy, Bro. Philbrick, regretting that his judicial duties prevented his coming amongst them that day, and adding his feeling that this only too clearly showed that as he was always liable to these mischances, he ought no longer to hold the office of Deputy. His interest was as fully as ever with Freemasonry in the province, but he felt that they were entitled to more than that, viz., his bodily presence. This letter Lord Warwick continued, had come to him, as to all of them, as a great surprise, and he had therefore not had time to consider what was best to be done. He should write to Bro. Philbrick, and if he decided to resign, he (Lord Warwick) thought he should be able to nominate a brother for the post who would be acceptable to the whole province.

The Prov. Grand Master then appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as under:

Bro. Claude E. Egerton-Green, W.M. 51	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Alfred Wallis, P.M. 2005	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. Henry L. Norden, W.M. 650	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. C. Cuthbert Naters, Chap. 51	...	
" Jas. G. Bryan, I.P.M. 697	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Thos. J. Ralling, P.M. and Sec. 51 (21st year),	...	Prov. G. Sec.
P.A.G.D.C. Eng.	...	
" Francis H. Crittall, W.M. 1312	...	Prov. S.G.Ds.
" Richard Galpin, W.M. 2342	...	
" J. M. Knight, I.P.M. 2154	...	Prov. J.G.Ds.
" William White, W.M. 1457	...	
" J. S. Hammond, W.M. 1437	...	Prov. S.G. of W.
" A. Lucking, P.M. 1000 (24th year), P.G.P. Eng.	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" Frederick Clark, I.P.M. 2036	...	Prov. D.G.D. of C.
" R. J. Stebbings, W.M. 2063	...	Prov. A.G.D. of C.
" William Chapman, I.P.M. 1543	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" W. H. Ham, W.M. 2477	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" Wm. Rudrum, P.M. 1977	...	
" F. J. Motum, P.M. 697	...	Prov. G. Org.
" H. J. Drane, I.P.M. 2318	...	Prov. A.G. S.c.
" C. H. Bestow, W.M. 2374	...	Prov. G. Purst.

Bro. W. Beecroft, I.P.M. 2442	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" G. M. Watson, I.P.M. 1734	...	...	
" William Wright, I.P.M. 1799	...	...	
" Jarratt Leaney, I.P.M. 1817	...	...	
" O. Bendall, W.M. 2339	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" H. G. H. Elliott, W.M. elect 51	...	...	
" Percy Beard, J.W. 1817	...	...	
" A. W. Martin	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

On the motion of Bro. F. H. BRIGHT, P.P.S.G.W., seconded by Bro. F. A. WHITE P.P.G.R., Bro. Claude Egerton-Green, Prov. S.G.W., was elected a member of the Charity Committee in the place of Bro. Hoddinott, who retired by rotation.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the brethren of the Colchester lodges for the excellent arrangements they had made for the meeting; and the PROV. GRAND MASTER having announced that he had decided to hold next year's meeting at Brentwood, the Prov. Grand Lodge was closed.

A banquet followed.

### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

The above Provincial Grand Lodge assembled at the Southsea Esplanade Assembly Rooms, Portsmouth, on Thursday, the 15th inst., under the presidency of the P.G.M., Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., who was supported by Bros. J. E. Le Feuvre, J.P., P.G.D. England, as D.P.G.M.; Sir A. F. Webster, Bart., P.S.G.W.; T. W. Haydon, P.J.G.W.; and a large number of Provincial Grand Officers and members of lodges in the province.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge were read by the P.G. Secretary, Bro. EDGAR GOBLE, P.P.G. Reg., P.G.S.B. England, and confirmed.

The accounts of the Prov. G. Treasurer, Bro. J. W. GIEVE, J.P., were submitted, and showed a balance in hand on the current account of £527, being £200 in excess of the amount in hand at the opening of the year. The total assets, including invested funds, were £1742, and the liabilities nil.

The accounts were passed, and Bro. Gieve was unanimously re-elected P.G. Treasurer, on the proposition of Bro. W. MILLER, seconded by Bro. J. HOWARTH.

The D.P.G.M. moved a vote of condolence with the family of the late Bro. William Edmonds, P.P.G. Reg., who was held in high esteem by members of the Craft throughout the province.

Bro. T. R. WILLIAMS, P.P.S.G.W., seconded the proposition, which was passed in silence.

A motion was then brought forward by Bro. EYE, P.G. Treas. England, for purchasing a perpetual presentation to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, but it was not considered that the Provincial Grand Lodge funds could contribute the large amount necessary for the purpose.

On the motion of Bro. E. S. MAIN, seconded by Bro. T. FRANCIS, the sum of 250 guineas was voted to the School, as a special donation in connection with the approaching centenary festival over which H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master, will preside.

A sum of 20 guineas was voted to the funds of the Masonic Festival in aid of the Mayor of Portsmouth's Hospital Fund, on the motion of Bro. PITHER, seconded by Bro. Capt. GILES, R.N.

The Prov. Grand Master then appointed and invested the following brethren as the Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. Col. John Davis, A.D.C. 1971, P.D.G.D.C. Eng.	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Dr. R. G. Cross, 928	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. F. B. Norman Lee, 1971	...	...	
" Rev. P. H. Good, 1069	...	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" J. W. Gieve, 309	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" A. Paris, 785	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" E. Goble, 309	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" J. D. Morant, 1069	...	...	
" J. Fewings, 130	...	...	Prov. S.G.Ds.
" W. H. Long, 175	...	...	
" H. E. Hawker, 2208	...	...	Prov. J.G.Ds.
" J. Hewitson, 342	...	...	
" W. Watts, 698	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" C. F. Brown, 487	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" F. A. Dunsford, 394	...	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" R. E. Jackman, 319	...	...	
" G. W. S. Withers, 1869	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.Cs.
" F. Hazzard, 903	...	...	
" E. T. Wise, 1401	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" G. Boyce, 2068	...	...	
" T. Cox, 2016	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" H. G. Fryer, 487	...	...	
" G. Felton Lancaster, 903, P.P.G. Reg.	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" E. Boorman, 2074	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" J. Berrow, 1958	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" J. Carswell, 2203	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" S. Frampton, 1883	...	...	
" E. G. A. Nash, 2153	...	...	
" W. G. Shaw, 2475	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" C. Martin, 1428	...	...	
" H. E. Windsor, 1776	...	...	
" J. Exell, 487	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

After the closing of Prov. Grand Lodge, a banquet was served in the hotel dining room, at which the Prov. Grand Master presided, there being an unusually large attendance.

BROS. THE RIGHT HON. SIR W. V. WHITEWAY, Premier of Newfoundland, and the Right Hon. S. J. Way, Chief Justice of South Australia, were entertained at a complimentary dinner by the members of the London Devonian Club at the Holborn Restaurant on Monday evening. Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., occupied the chair, and was loyally supported by a large muster of Devonians in London.

### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MIDDLESEX.

The annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Middlesex, was held at the Public Hall, Harrow-on-the-Hill, on the 17th inst., under the presidency of the Prov. G. Master, Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., P.G.W., her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, when there was a numerous attendance. The brethren present included:

Bros. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., Prov. G.M.; R. H. Thrupp, Dep. Prov. G.M.; Guy Repton, Prov. S.G.W.; Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, P.P.G. Chap.; A. Blenkarn, Prov. G. Treas.; T. E. Bowen, P.A.G.D.C.; T. Jacob, P.P.D.G.D.C. Surrey; R. Loveland Loveland, Pres. B.G.P.; T. Ralling, P.D.G.D.C.; R. D. M. Littler, Q.C.; E. Swain, Prov. G. Reg.; H. H. Room, P.G.S.B., Prov. G. Sec. C. J. Davison, Prov. G.D.; W. H. Lee, P.P.G.D.; G. Thomas, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; R. J. Beston, P.P.G.S.B.; C. T. Lynn, P.P.G.P.; A. G. Fleming, P.P.D.G.D.C.; A. G. Fidler, P.P.G.D.; W. R. Shutt, P.P.G.D.C.; F. W. Levander, P.P.G.D.; W. H. Glynn-Smith, P.P.G. Reg.; J. H. Gaskin, P.P.D.G.D.C.; C. W. Pridmore, P.P.G.S.B.; J. M. Stedwell, P.P.G.W.; P. Monson, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; F. Seyton Scott, P.P.G.D.; G. L. Wingate, P.P.G.D.; W. Vincent, P.G.S.B.; A. A. Walter, J. Beresford Ryley, P.P.G.D.; J. Davies, P.P.G.D.; George R. Langley, P.P.G.D.; T. W. Ockenden, P.P.G.D.; W. M. Surridge, P.P.G.P.; F. Swinford Smith, Prov. G. Org.; R. W. Forge, P.P.G.D.C.; G. Gregory, P.P.G.D.; J. F. Garson, P.P.G.W.; W. W. Lee, Prov. G.D.; and many others.

The Grand Officers and Prov. Grand Officers entered the hall in procession, and the Prov. G.M. having been saluted, the minutes were confirmed.

The Prov. G. Treasurer's accounts, which were adopted, showed a balance in hand of £222 as against £171 last year. The province also owns stock valued at £411, making the nominal assets total £633.

The Dep. Prov. G.M. proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Prov. G. Treas., Bro. Blenkarn, which was seconded by Bro. GARSON, P.P.G.W., and carried unanimously.

Bro. A. BLENKARN, Prov. G. Treas., thanked the Prov. G. Lodge exceedingly and was pleased his efforts had met with their approval.

The report of the Charity Committee, which was adopted, showed that two cases had been relieved and that another was recommended to Prov. G. Lodge for a grant of £40. With regard to the elections, two girls were elected in October, and 1032 votes credited to a boy's case. In April, one girl was elected and the votes increased in the boy's case to 1168, although it was hardly one for the Committee.

The Committee sincerely regretted the resignation of Bro. George R. Langley, P.P.G.D., the special Secretary for elections, to whom the success of the Middlesex cases since the formation of the Committee was mainly due. Bro. G. J. Thomas, P.P.G.S. Wks., had kindly consented to fill the vacancy, and the Committee hoped he would receive the support of the brethren.

The DEP. PROV. G. MASTER proposed a most cordial vote of thanks to Bro. Geo. R. Langley, P.P.G.D., for his exertions as Secretary of the Charity Committee. Only the members of that Committee knew the work done by Bro. Langley in promoting the election of the Middlesex candidates. They regretted losing Bro. Langley, who had the work thoroughly at heart, and it would be difficult for a successor to follow him.

Bro. G. R. LANGLEY, P.P.G.D., expressed his thanks, and trusted the representatives from lodges would support his successor, and that the brethren generally would send their votes to Bro. Thomas. Any little labour he had undergone had been a great pleasure to him in consequence of the success of the cases.

On the proposition of the DEP. PROV. G. MASTER, Bros. Guy Repton, Bartley Dennis, and A. Blenkarn were elected members of the Audit Committee.

Bro. G. R. LANGLEY, P.P.G.D., nominated for the office of Prov. G. Treas. Bro. H. Hooper, who was initiated into Freemasonry in 1869, joined the Brixton Lodge in 1883, and became a founder and afterwards Past Master of the Honor Oak Lodge; member and Past Master of Lodge of Unity, No. 183; founder and P.M. of Bushey Park Lodge, No. 2381; Scribe E. and P.Z. of Chapter No. 1326 and a Grand Officer of Provincial Grand Chapter, served three Stewardships for the Charities including a list of 300 guineas for the Benevolent Institution when the Prov. Grand Master presided, and also Secretary of the Brixton Benevolent Association, from which £2500 had been subscribed to the Charities. Bro. Hooper had been for over 25 years connected with one of the largest financial institutions in the City where he held a responsible position.

Bro. OCKENDEN, P.P.G.D., seconded the nomination, which was carried unanimously.

The PROV. G. MASTER in re-appointing his Deputy, Bro. R. H. Thrupp, P.A.G.D.C., said Bro. Thrupp had been for many years the mainstay of the province and a pillar of strength. It was the earnest wish of all the brethren that Bro. Thrupp might remain the Deputy for many years to give them the benefit of his advice and assistance.

The Prov. Grand Master appointed and invested the following Prov. Grand Officers:

Bro. Ralph D. M. Littler, C.B., Q.C., 2548	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Col. E. Z. Thornton, 708	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. C. V. P. Keene, 2183 (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" Herbert Hooper, 2381	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" H. W. Chatterton, 1494	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" H. H. Room, P.G. Std. Br. (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" E. Hislop, 2087	...	...	
" T. Sheppard, 1702	...	...	Prov. S.G.Ds.
" H. W. Smyth, 1238	...	...	
" W. Hicklin, 1415	...	...	Prov. J.G.Ds.
" J. Hicks, 1237	...	...	
" G. Harper, 2163	...	...	Prov. G.S. of Wks.
" J. S. Holliday, 1777	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" W. J. Gardener, 2528	...	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" A. Robertson, 1326	...	...	
" G. R. Nichols, 1567	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.Cs.
" C. S. Stevens, 2105	...	...	
" T. Grant, 1056	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" W. F. Cathrow, 1733	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.

Bro. E. E. Vinen, 788	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. H. Lee, 1897, P.P.G.D.	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" J. W. Clarke, 1512	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" E. H. Trotter, 1512	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" Douglas H. Gordon, J.P., 1691	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" G. Salusbury Williams, 1494	...	...	
" V. Orchard, 1293	...	...	
" H. P. Hay, 1460	...	...	
" F. R. G. H. Robinson, 946	...	...	
" C. Murray, 788	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" J. Gilbert	...	...	

On the motion of the PROV. G. MASTER a sum of 15 guineas was voted to each of the three Masonic Institutions.

The roll of lodges was called and a hearty vote of thanks given to the Herga Lodge for use of furniture, and especially to Bros. E. and A. Fisher for their services in connection with the arrangements for the day.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was closed and a banquet was subsequently held at the King's Head Hotel, at which the Prov Grand Master presided.

The first toasts afterwards given by the P.G.M. in eulogistic terms were "The Queen and the Craft" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M."

In giving "The Grand Officers," the P.G.M. said that if the Craft had become a great effective society it was due to the central organisation. None could have taken part in Grand Lodge without being struck with the singular aptitude with which the Pro Grand Master performed his duties, and also the mastery of detail with which the Deputy Grand Master conducted the business allotted to him. Proud as they were of the Institution, it was only fair they should give some significance to that pride by welcoming any who participated in the central organisation. They had that night a distinguished brother—Loveland—who was the President of the Board of General Purposes.

Bro. LOVELAND LOVELAND, Pres. B. of G.P., thanked the Provincial Grand Master for the privilege afforded him of being present to meet such a very large assembly of Masons of Middlesex, and the brethren for so kindly drinking the toast. The Provincial Grand Master had kindly told them that Lord Lathom was the distinguished Pro Grand Master of the Order, because the M.W.G.M., owing to his heavy engagements, could not be present in Grand Lodge and lead them. He could go further and say that Lord Lathom very often took the chair at the Committee meetings which were held for the purpose of telling the M.W.G.M. what was going on, and of asking his wishes with regard to certain matters. The Deputy Grand Master was a business man, and always did his work admirably, quickly, and to the point. With regard to the other Grand Officers, he could only say they were always willing to assist the lodges and individual brethren whenever they could. He saw some present Grand Officers at the table, and they would endorse that sentiment. The members of the Board of General Purposes took particular care and trouble over the various matters. They had assistance from the Grand Registrar and Deputy Grand Registrar, and so long as Bro. Fenn was within hail, they could get his opinion, and then could not go far wrong. With such members of Grand Lodge, they would, as far as they could, through the representatives of the brethren, do all they could to bring recommendations before Grand Lodge for their acceptance, which were proper for the well-being of the Craft in general.

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER said they had arrived at the toast of the evening, which it was his privilege and pleasure to propose. It was "The Health of their R.W. Provincial Grand Master." In proposing the M.W.G.M., the Prov. G.M. said they were proud of his Royal Highness, and he (Bro. Thrupp) was sure the brethren of Middlesex were proud of their Prov. G.M. They were proud to have as their reigning Master a Statesman who had done so much for the good of the country, and especially as Secretary of State for India. The year 1897 would, he was sure, long be remembered by the Prov. G.M., for, first, there was famine in India, then plague, fire, and riots. This would have worn out most men, but Bro. Lord George Hamilton had risen to the occasion, and every man in England was proud of the way in which he had endeavoured to overcome all those difficulties. With regard to the province, he (the Deputy) was only echoing the sentiments of the lodges that they should be very glad to see him more often amongst them, but after what he had told them with regard to India, none could expect him to go out of his way to visit their lodges. The Prov. G.M. had a superior duty to perform, and had performed it to the satisfaction of Englishmen. The Prov. G.M. always attended their Prov. Grand Lodge, and was always most kindly and friendly in his manner, and they would therefore drink his health and wish him long life to preside over the Province of Middlesex.

The PROV. G. MASTER, who met with an enthusiastic reception, said he thanked them most heartily for the manner in which they had received the toast. He was appointed somewhat unexpectedly some three years ago to the post he now occupied. He was then—in the language of a distinguished man—in a position of greater freedom and less responsibility than was attached to official life, and if he had thought he was likely to be immediately brought into the thick of political controversy he should have hesitated in accepting the office of Prov. Grand Master, because he had a strong conviction that no man ought to accept any duties which he had not adequate time to perform. One of the first duties of a Provincial Grand Master was to visit *seriatim* every one of the lodges, in order to make himself acquainted with the manner and method by which they were carrying on their work. Almost from the date of his appointment he had other duties which he could not forego, and he hoped they would accept his apology that it was not a sense of indifference or desire to ignore individual lodges that he had not been able to pay that attention he should have done. He was now getting towards the termination of a public career, and the conclusion he had arrived at was that it was physically impossible to be in two places at once, and that it was morally and intellectually wrong to try and undertake the work of different duties at the same time. He believed that one of the essentials of Freemasonry was that all the ceremonials and functions should be performed in a dignified manner, and that truth was coming home to the public, not only in connection with Masonic, but public, ceremonies, and he had always been reluctant to rush in to see a lodge and rush away, thus disturbing the ordinary sequence by intruding for a few minutes. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master had said that 1897 would not be forgotten by him, and he did not think it would. He was told that not for 10 years had there been such a succession of difficult questions upon which a prompt

decision had to be given. Therefore they would accept his apology for not attending those lodges where he had been so generously invited. There were two great principles laid down in the Craft. The first was the conditional acceptance of office. Nobody should accept any duty which they could not perform, and the second obligation was compulsory that whatever duties were undertaken should be performed to the best of their power. In accordance with these two ideas he had endeavoured to conduct himself. He had not been able to give the time and he could only hope—he would not say that a certain Institution to which he belonged should be broken up—but on the contrary he hoped that Institution would so far prosper that his duties would become lighter when he would utilise every opportunity of making himself personally acquainted with each individual lodge and of witnessing the fraternal reception of his name which had always been accepted whenever presented in a Freemason's lodge.

In giving "The Visitors," the PROV. G. MASTER gladly welcomed the representatives of Bucks and Essex in the persons of the Prov. G. Secretaries, viz.: Bros. J. E. Bowen, P.A.G.D.C., and T. Ralling, P.A.G.D.C., the latter of whom he asked to respond.

Bro. T. RALLING, P.A.G.D.C., Prov. G. Sec. Essex, having briefly returned thanks,

The PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER proposed "The Deputy Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Grand Officers," and said the brethren knew better than he the merits of Bro. Thrupp, Dep. Prov. G.M., as a Freemason. He thought a great deal of the public life in this country and of the superlative merits attached to it, but there were a large number of men of ability who gave up their best intellect and a great portion of their time to the advancement and development of certain institutions and principles. Bro. Thrupp had done this for many years past in connection with Masonry, and there was no higher authority upon questions of the ceremonials and Orders of the Craft. Bro. Thrupp was of a kindly disposition, but having a high ideal, he endeavoured to impress upon all the same high standard, and was singularly successful. They were glad to see the Deputy in such good health and spirits, and they hoped the cordiality of his greeting that day and the knowledge of the value of his services would infuse into him for many years the same good health and spirits. There was another brother he wished to associate with the toast, Bro. Littler, J.C., a distinguished man in many capacities, being the head of a great administrative body, discharging judicial duties, and was the head of the Parliamentary Bar.

Bro. R. H. THRUPP, Dep. Prov. G.M., in reply, said he was pleased that at the recent Boys' School Festival Middlesex made a good third, and was sure that when the M.W.G.M. took the chair next year the province would be again well represented.

Bro. R. D. M. LITTLER, J.C., Prov. S.G.W., said he was proud to be an officer of Grand Lodge and more proud to be an officer of Middlesex. He was sure that such gatherings as the present must add greatly to their strength in the province, and he could only trust that those invested would feel thoroughly imbued with the principles of the Craft and with the principles laid down by the Provincial Grand Master in carrying on their work.

The PROV. G. TYLER then gave the concluding toast.

Bro. F. Swinford Smith, P.P.G. Organist, directed a capital musical programme, and was ably supported by Bros. H. Schartau, P.P.G. Org.; Wm. Fell, and Wingrove Ives.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. James Henry Matthews, President of the Board, occupied the President's chair; Bro. D. D. Mercer, Senior Vice-President, and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Junior Vice-President, were in their usual places. The other brethren who attended were Bros. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., W. Dodd, G. S. Recknell, and Henry Sadler, Grand Tyler, representing the Grand Secretary's department; and Bros. T. W. Whitmarsh, Henry Garrod, James Boulton, George Graveley, William Vincent, Geo. B. Chapman, W. Fisher, S. Vallentine, Charles J. R. Tijou, S. H. Goldschmidt, E. W. Nightingale, W. Kipps, Walter Martin, James Bunker, Robert A. Gowan, George R. Langley, J. Harrison, Geo. Powell, Henry Baldwin, H. Massey, J. Barry, John Hampson, John Hills, J. J. Howes, W. Mansfield, William Smith, Edwin Francis, Charles Garton, and T. Goodman.

The Board first confirmed the amounts which the Grand Master had approved on the recommendation of the Board's last meeting in June, to the extent of £410. The new list contained the names of 20 petitioners, whose qualifications were through lodges in the London district, and at Fowey, St. John's (Antigua), Smyrna, Whitehaven, Great Torrington, Scunthorpe, Torquay, Cape Coast Castle, Exeter, and Jullundur. The total amount voted was £465, which was composed of one recommendation to Grand Lodge for £60, four to the Grand Master of £40 each, four of £30 each, and one of £25, and two immediate grants of £20 each, two of £15 each, and three of £10 each. Three cases were deferred.

'Royal Arch.

Aldersgate Chapter, No. 1657.

The installation meeting was held on Monday, the 19th inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Present: Comps. Geo. Rawlison, M.E.Z.; Jas. Shotter, H.; C. Garton, P.S.; R. Smyth, 1st A.S.; G. Couchman, Janitor; Arthur B. Hudson, P.Z.; and W. S. Whitaker, P.Z. 1471, 1572, 2147, P.P.G. Reg. Kent. Visitors: Comps. Henry Lovegrove, P.G. Std. Br., and Dr. Myers.

The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. Comp. W. S. Whitaker installed Comp. James Shotter into the chair of M.E.Z.; Comp. A. B. Hudson, P.Z., was inducted into the chair of H.; and Comp. Charles Garton installed into the chair of J.

The companions dined together under the gavel of Comp. James Shotter, M.E.Z. A programme of music was performed by the following students of the Guildhall School of Music: Miss Jessie Bradford, A.G.S.M.; Miss Maud Elliott, Mr. Charles Hinchliff, Bro. George H. Dawson, and Miss Augusta J. Foster, A.G.S.M. (Pianist).

THE KING OF SIAM, with a suite of about 30 persons, will arrive at Taplow Court on a visit to Bro. W. H. Grenfell, Mayor of Maidenhead, on Monday, the 20th inst.

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QUICKEST AND BEST ROUTE.

SHORTEST SEA PASSAGE.

TWO EXPRESS SERVICES DAILY.

WEYMOUTH to GUERNSEY in about 3½ hours.  
GUERNSEY to JERSEY " 1½ "

JULY, AUGUST, and SEPTEMBER SERVICE.

DAY SERVICE (Sundays excepted), PADDINGTON, depart 8.50 a.m., WEYMOUTH, depart 1.30 p.m., reaching GUERNSEY about 5 p.m., and JERSEY about 7 p.m.; and returning from JERSEY at 8.30 a.m., and GUERNSEY at 10 a.m., reaching PADDINGTON by Special Boat Train about 7.15 p.m.

NIGHT SERVICE (Sundays excepted), PADDINGTON, depart 9.45 p.m., WEYMOUTH, depart 2.15 a.m., reaching GUERNSEY about 6.45 a.m., and JERSEY about 9 a.m. There is no Night Service from the Islands.

EXCURSIONS will leave PADDINGTON STATION as under:

EVERY SATURDAY, 8.50 a.m. (Special Day Service Express), and 9.45 p.m. (Night Boat Express), for GUERNSEY and JERSEY for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days. RETURN FARE, THIRD-CLASS and AFTER CABIN, 24s. 6d. Passengers pass direct between the Trains and Steamers at Weymouth.

Steamers lighted by electricity.

During JULY, AUGUST, and SEPTEMBER, SPECIAL FAST EXCURSIONS will leave PADDINGTON STATION as under:

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT, 10.10 p.m.—For EXETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, PLYMOUTH, Devonport, Bodmin, Wadebridge, NEWQUAY, Truro, FALMOUTH, St. Ives, PENZANCE, Scilly Islands, &amp;c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days. 12.25 Midnight.—For Chertswold, Newport, CARDIFF; SWANSEA, Llanelly, CARMARTHEN, Pembroke Dock, Tenby, Cardigan, New and Old Milford, &amp;c., for 7 or 14 days.

EVERY SATURDAY, 7.55 a.m.—For MINEHEAD, LYNTON, LYNMOUTH, Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE, Plymouth, Tavistock, Launceston, Devonport, NEWQUAY, Truro, FALMOUTH, St. Ives, PENZANCE, &amp;c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

8.10 a.m.—For Wellington, SHREWSBURY, Church Stretton, Leominster, HEREFORD, Oswestry, Welshpool, ABERYSTWYTH, Llangollen, Corwen, BALA, Blaenau Ffestiniog, DOLGELLY, BARMOUTH, Harlech, Criccieth, CHESTER, Birkenhead, LIVERPOOL, Rhyll, LLANDUDNO, BETTWS-Y-COED, Bangor, CARNARVON, Llanberis (for Snowdon), &amp;c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days. 8.35 a.m.—For FROME, Shepton Mallett, Wells, YEovil, Bridport, Dorchester, WEYMOUTH (for the Channel Islands), Portland, &amp;c., for 3, 10, or 17 days. 9.30 a.m. and 4.45 p.m.—For DOUGLAS (ISLE OF MAN), for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

11.5 a.m.—For WESTON-SUPER-MARE, EXETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, TORQUAY, Dartmouth, &amp;c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

12.5 noon.—For Newbury, Savernake, Marlborough, Devizes, Trowbridge, Warminster, &amp;c., for 3, 10, or 17 days.

12.40 noon.—For CLEVEDON, WESTON-SUPER-MARE, Bridgwater, TAUNTON, MINEHEAD (for LYNTON and LYNMOUTH), Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE, Wellington (Som.) Tiverton, &amp;c., for 3, 10, or 17 days.

4 p.m.—For Swindon, Stroud, Cirencester, GLOUCESTER, Cheltenham, HEREFORD, &amp;c., for 3, 10, or 17 days.

6.15 p.m.—For Chippenham, BATH and BRISTOL, for 3, 10, or 17 days.

10.10 p.m.—For WESTON-SUPER-MARE, EXETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, TORQUAY, Kingswear, PLYMOUTH, Truro, FALMOUTH, PENZANCE, &amp;c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

SATURDAY, JULY 31st, 8.10 a.m.—To Wellington, HEREFORD, CHESTER, BIRKENHEAD, LIVERPOOL, &amp;c., for 3 or 6 days.

8.15 a.m.—To Chipping Norton, CHELTENHAM, Moreton, Evesham, WORCESTER, Malvern, &amp;c., for 5 days.

9.55 a.m.—To Market Drayton, Nantwich, Crewe, STOKPORT, Warrington, and MANCHESTER, for 3 or 6 days.

6.50 p.m.—To STRATFORD-ON-AVON and DUDLEY, for 3 or 6 days.

7.5 p.m.—To OXFORD, Banbury, Leamington, WARWICK, BIRMINGHAM, WOLVERHAMPTON, &amp;c., for 3 or 6 days.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1st, 8.15 a.m.—For CIRENCESTER, Stroud, GLOUCESTER, CHELTENHAM, &amp;c., for 1, 2, or 9 days.

SUNDAY Midnight, 12.15 midnight—For Oxford, Leamington, BIRMINGHAM, Wolverhampton, &amp;c., for 1 of 4 days.

BANK HOLIDAY, MONDAY, AUGUST 2nd, 6.5 a.m.—For SWINDON, Chippenham, BATH and BRISTOL, for 1, 2, 8, or 15 days.

6.10 a.m.—For STROUD, Stonehouse, CHELTENHAM, GLOUCESTER, &amp;c., for 1 or 8 days.

7.10 a.m.—DAY TRIP to READING, Pangbourne, GORING, Wallingford, Swindon, &amp;c.

A FORTNIGHT IN IRELAND.

THURSDAYS, JULY 29, AUGUST 12, 26, SEPTEMBER 9 and 23—3.35 p.m.—For CORK and KILLARNEY.

FRIDAYS, JULY 30, AUGUST 13, 27, SEPTEMBER 10 and 24—6.10 p.m.—For WATERFORD, Dungarvan, Lismore, Clonmel, Tipperary, Kilkenny, KILLARNEY, &amp;c.

4.45 p.m.—For BELFAST, Armagh, Enniskillen, Larne, GIANT'S CAUSEWAY, &amp;c.

CHEAP THIRD CLASS RETURN TICKETS are issued DAILY by certain trains to WINDSOR, 2s. 6d.; BURHAM BRICHES, 3s.; Maidenhead, 3s.; HENLEY, 3s. 6d.; Goring, 6s.; &amp;c.

Lists of Lodgings, Tickets, and full particulars can be obtained at the Company's Stations, and at the usual Receiving Offices.

J. L. WILKINSON, General Manager.

**MIDLAND RAILWAY.**

BANK HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS, &amp;c.

On Monday, August 2nd, certain booked trains will be DISCONTINUED, of which due notice will be given by Special Bills at the Stations.

BANK HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS

From ST. PANCRAS and CITY STATIONS.

ALL PARTS OF SCOTLAND.

FRIDAY, JULY 30th, leave St. Pancras, at 9.15 p.m., 4 or 9 days to Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Arbroath, Forfar, Brechin, Montrose, Stonehaven, ABERDEEN, and INVERNESS.

To EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, and N. B. STATIONS for 8 days from St. Pancras at 9.15 p.m., and Kentish Town at 9.19 p.m.; and to Carlisle, GLASGOW, AYR, and G. &amp; S.W. STATIONS from St. Pancras at 10 p.m., Kentish Town, 9.19 p.m., and City Stations at corresponding times. THIRD-CLASS RETURN TICKETS will be issued at a SINGLE FARE for the DOUBLE JOURNEY available for SIXTEEN DAYS.

PRINCIPAL TOWNS AND SEASIDE.

SATURDAY, JULY 31st, to LEICESTER, BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, DERBY, Newark, Lincoln, Burton, Staffordshire Potteries, MATLOCK, BUXTON, MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL, Preston, Wigan, Blackpool, BLACKBURN, Bury, ROCHDALE, Oldham, SHEFFIELD, Barnsley, Wakefield, LEEDS, BRADFORD, YORK, HULL, SCARBORO', Darlington, Durham, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, Lancaster, MORECAMBE, LAKE DISTRICT, and Carlisle, returning August 2nd or 5th. See bills for times, &amp;c.

MONDAY, AUGUST 2nd, to MANCHESTER for Two Days, at 12.5 Sunday midnight.

To BIRMINGHAM, for One or Four Days, and KETTERING for One Day, at 6.35 a.m.

To LEICESTER, for One Day, at 5.40 a.m.

To ST. ALBANS (Day and Half-Day), 8.15 and 10.40 a.m., and 1 p.m.

To HARPENDEN and LUTON, for One Day, at 8.15 and 10.40 a.m.

To BEDFORD (Day Trip), leaving St. Pancras at 8.15 a.m.

BANK HOLIDAY AT SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

CHEAP DAY AND WEEK-END EXCURSION TICKETS will be issued to SOUTHEND-ON-SEA during the Holidays, as announced in special bills.

A FORTNIGHT IN IRELAND.

EVERY FRIDAY until September 24th inclusive, to DUBLIN, Ballina, Sligo, and SOUTH of IRELAND; and EVERY SATURDAY until September 25th inclusive, to LONDONDERRY. Also FORTNIGHTLY EXCURSIONS to BELFAST, LONDONDERRY, PORTURUSH, &amp;c., on ALTERNATE FRIDAYS, from July 30th to September 24th inclusive. CHEAP WEEKLY EXCURSION TOURS to the NORTH of IRELAND, for 16 days, EVERY FRIDAY during July, August, and September. See bills for times, fares, routes, &amp;c.

NEW CHEAP WEEKLY EXCURSIONS.

EVERY FRIDAY at MIDNIGHT and EVERY SATURDAY at 5.15 a.m. and 10.5 a.m., until September 24th and 25th inclusive; also EVERY SATURDAY until September 24th, at 9 a.m., to DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN, for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

Also EVERY SATURDAY until September 25th inclusive, to ENGLISH LAKE DISTRICT, MORECAMBE, LANCASTER, LIVERPOOL, SOUTHPORT, BLACKPOOL, MATLOCK, BUXTON, &amp;c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days. See bills for times.

FORTNIGHTLY EXCURSIONS TO NORTH OF ENGLAND.

Also FORTNIGHTLY EXCURSIONS to NORTH-ALLERTON, Richmond, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle, Berwick, &amp;c., for 11 or 16 days (on July 30th for 8 or 16 days), from FRIDAY, July 30th, to September 24th inclusive, from St. Pancras, at 8.30 p.m.

CHEAP WEEK-END TICKETS

are now issued every Friday and Saturday from LONDON (St. Pancras) and other principal Midland Stations to the CHIEF HOLIDAY and PLEASURE RESORTS in the Peak District of Derbyshire, Yorkshire, the North East Coast, and other parts, available for return on the following Sunday (where train service permits), Monday, or Tuesday.

TICKETS, WEEK-END EXCURSION PROGRAMMES, LODGING LISTS, BILLS, &amp;c., may be had at the MIDLAND STATIONS and CITY BOOKING OFFICES, and from THOS. COOK and SON, Ludgate-circus, and Branch Offices.

GEO. H. TURNER,

Derby, July, 1897.

General Manager.

**CHARLES JOSEPHS & Co.,**

MANUFACTURE &amp; SUPPLY AT LOW PRICES.

SHOP FITTINGS, SHOW CASES, of every description.

MINIATURE CASES, &amp;c., for all Trades.

Estimates free.

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**G**REAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.  
HOLIDAYS.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS FROM LONDON  
(Woolwich (Arsenal and Dockyard), Victoria (L.C. & D.),  
Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon,  
King's Cross (G.N.), &c.)

FRIDAY NIGHT, JULY 30th, for 9 or 16 days, to  
Northallerton, Darlington, Richmond, Durham, Newcastle,  
Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and for 4, 9, or 16 days to  
Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Oban, Aberdeen, Inverness, and  
other stations in Scotland.

SATURDAY, JULY 31st, for 3 or 6 days, to the principal  
towns in Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire,  
Lancashire, Yorkshire, North Eastern District, &c. Re-  
turning August 2nd and 5th.

SATURDAY, JULY 31st, and each succeeding Saturday,  
for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days, from Moorgate, King's Cross  
(G.N.), &c., to BRIDLINGTON, FILEY, SCARBORO',  
ROBIN HOOD'S BAY, WHITBY, SALT BURN, RED-  
CAR, SEATON CAREW, TYNEMOUTH, WHITLEY,  
CULLERCOATS, LIVERPOOL, SOUTHPORT, and  
ISLE OF MAN. Returning following Monday, Saturday,  
Monday week, Saturday week, or Monday fortnight.

Tickets for above excursions are issued at Holloway,  
Finsbury Park, the High Barnet and Edgware branch  
stations, Harringay, Hornsey, Wood Green, the Enfield  
branch stations, New Southgate, Oakleigh Park, and New  
Barnet, at the King's Cross fares, and passengers booking  
at these stations may, without extra payment, travel by  
ordinary train to either Finsbury Park or King's Cross, as  
may be necessary, in order to join the excursion trains.

SATURDAY, JULY 31st, for 1, 3, and 4 days, and  
MONDAY, 2nd, for one day, to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea,  
and Mablethorpe, from Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon,  
King's Cross, &c.

AUGUST 2nd, for one day to St. Albans, Hertford,  
Wheatthampstead, Harpenden, Luton, Dunstable, Hitchin,  
Royston, Cambridge, Biggleswade, Sandy, Tempsford, St.  
Neots, Huntingdon, Peterboro', Ollerton, Edwinstowe,  
Bolsover, Chesterfield, from Moorgate, Aldersgate, Far-  
ringdon, King's Cross, &c.

SUNDAY NIGHT, AUGUST 1st, from Moorgate, King's  
Cross (G.N.), &c., for two days, to Manchester, returning  
August 3rd.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3rd, for one day, to Skegness, from  
Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross, &c.

For full particulars see bills, to be obtained at Company's  
stations and town offices.

CHEAP WEEK END TICKETS

available by any train will be issued on Friday, July 30th,  
and Saturday, July 31st, from London (Moorgate, King's  
Cross, Finsbury Park and Suburban stations) to the prin-  
cipal holiday resorts in Norfolk, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire,  
and the North-East Coast. Available for return on Sunday,  
August 1st (if train service admits), Monday, August 2nd,  
Tuesday, August 3rd, and Wednesday, August 4th.

HENRY OAKLEY,  
General Manager

**WANTED.—ARS QUATUOR**  
CORONATORUM (Vols. 1 to 9). Any or all  
Volum's. Send lowest price, stating conditions, &c.—  
COLLINS, 21, Manhattan Mansions, Holloway, N.

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COAL MERCHANTS TO THE QUEEN  
AND THE PRINCE OF WALES.

Cockerell's Best Coals, viz.: Best Wallsend, 22s.; or  
Best Inland, 22s.; Cockerell's Silkstone, 21s.; Derby  
Brights, 20s.; Cockerell's Best Kitchen, 19s.; Nuts, 18s.;  
Kitchen Cobbles (Bright or Hard), 17s.; Coke, per  
chaldron, 10s.

GEO. J. COCKERELL & Co. Established 1833.  
Incorporated with WM. CORY & SON, Ltd.,  
of 52, Mark Lane, 1896; 13, Cornhill, E.C.; Eaton and  
New Wharves, Pimlico; 100, Westbourne-grove; Wands-  
worth; Peckham; also at Crystal Palace; Chislehurst,  
Wimbledon; Brighton; and Croydon; at local prices.

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Masonic Banquets, Private Parties, and Dinners.  
ASSEMBLY ROOMS FOR COMPANIES, &c.

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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.

**FOR ECONOMICAL AND**  
RESPECTABLE FUNERALS at stated charge.

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HOTEL,

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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.

**G**AIETY 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.



SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1897.

Masonic Notes.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of  
Hertfordshire was held, as announced in our last week's  
issue, at the Red Lion Hotel, High Barnet, at the in-  
vitation of the Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385, on  
Tuesday, the 20th inst. There was a larger attendance  
than usual, and the proceedings passed off most satis-  
factorily. A sum of 50 guineas was voted to the Royal  
Masonic Benevolent Institution, and Bro. C. E. Keyser,  
P.G.D., P. Prov. G.W., announced his intention of  
moving, when the time came round, that a grant of  
100 guineas be made towards the approaching Cente-  
nary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for  
Boys. There was a smaller attendance at the banquet  
which followed, but there also everything went well,  
and the Gladsmuir Lodge—whose W. Master, Bro.  
F. G. Mason, was worthily honoured with the collar of  
Prov. J.G. Warden—has good reason to be satisfied  
with the success of its efforts at entertaining the Prov.  
G. Master and his officers.

With its June number, the *Canadian Craftsman*  
completed the 31st year of its existence, and we gladly  
take the opportunity of congratulating our able and  
respected contemporary on the position it has acquired  
for itself among Masonic periodicals. We have on  
several occasions borne willing testimony to the cour-

tesy and ability with which it is conducted, and the  
admirable manner in which it endeavours, with almost  
invariable success, to maintain and promote the inter-  
ests of the Craft. For many years it has been the  
leading exponent of Canadian Masonic views, and we  
confess to having gleaned from its pages much valuable  
information as to the proceedings of the several Grand  
Lodges in the Dominion, which might not otherwise have  
reached us, or at all events might not have reached us  
so quickly, and with such fulness of explanation.  
We sincerely hope that our worthy contemporary may  
have before it many years of even greater usefulness  
than during its past career.

We gather from its pages that the Grand Lodge of  
Manitoba held its 22nd annual communication on the  
9th June, under the presidency of Bro. Judge Locke,  
M.W.G.M. There was a large attendance of Grand  
Officers and the representatives of private lodges, and  
the proceedings passed off amidst great enthusiasm.  
In the course of his address the Grand Master referred  
to the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee  
and on announcing that an address would be forwarded  
to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G. Master of  
England, for presentation to her Majesty, the whole of  
the brethren rose and sang the National Anthem, and  
gave three cheers for the Queen. The Grand Master  
announced that a sum of 750 dollars (£156) had been  
raised towards the Indian Famine Relief Fund. The  
Grand Master for the ensuing year, Bro. Thomas  
Robinson, was elected and installed in office, and Bro.  
W. G. Scott was re-elected to his position of Grand  
Secretary.

M.W. Bro. Judge Locke, Grand Master of Manitoba,  
at the recent annual communication of his Grand  
Lodge, offered sundry suggestions in his address which  
are well worth the kindly consideration of our Mani-  
toba brethren. One was that the present "*per capita*  
tax" should be increased, with a view to creating a  
fund "for building and maintaining a Masonic Home."  
A better mode of celebrating the Queen's Diamond  
Jubilee could not be desired. Her Majesty has never  
failed to make known her sympathy with the afflicted,  
whether young or aged, and a Home that would pro-  
vide education for the children of deceased and indi-  
gent Masons, and support during their declining years  
the aged brother and his widow, would be just the kind  
of institution to found in honour of the 60th year of  
her Gracious Majesty's reign. Nor, though the Grand  
Lodge of Manitoba cannot as yet boast of a very pro-  
longed existence, do we imagine that once the pro-  
posal has been seriously taken in hand, there will be  
any difficulty in raising the necessary funds. The  
jurisdiction is not at present a large one, and the  
Home need not be at the outset on a very large scale.

We are afraid that another of Bro. Locke's proposals  
—that there should be "a federation" of the seven  
Provincial Grand Lodges under the title of the United  
Grand Lodge of Canada—will not meet with the same  
favourable reception. In the first place there is a very  
natural antipathy on the part of corporate bodies to  
being snuffed out. In the next, British North America  
is so large a territory that we question if it would be  
desirable to place it as a whole under the supreme  
authority of a single Grand Lodge. What Bro. Locke  
calls "Provincial Grand Lodges" are not the Pro-  
vincial Grand Lodges into which extra-metropolitan  
Freemasonry in England is sub-divided and with which  
we are familiar, but veritable Grand Lodges presiding  
each of them over one of the separate and district  
Provinces of the Dominion. The proposal would thus  
involve the degradation of the present Grand Lodges,  
which are now sovereign and independent, into bodies  
very closely resembling our English Provincial Grand  
Lodges; while we question very much if the creation  
of one United Grand Lodge over so enormous an area  
would work well. A somewhat similar proposition was  
made in the United States towards the close of last  
century, but the United States American Masons would  
have nothing to do with it. We doubt if the present  
generation of British North American Masons are one  
whit more in favour of such a general Grand Lodge  
than were the United States brethren 100 years ago.

As for the idea that the Grand Orient of France  
should be approached for the purpose of inviting  
them "to replace in their Constitution the acknow-  
ledgment of a Supreme Being as a qualification of  
membership;" if it be true that "the minds of the  
men of France are rapidly coming round to the old  
standard"—our advice is to let the minds go on  
"coming round" until they have re-attained "the old  
standard." In other words, let the change of opinion  
which, according to Bro. Locke, is in progress, work  
its way unaided, and we may live to see the day when  
the Constitutions of the Grand Orient are what they  
used to be 20 years ago. Any attempt to interfere  
with the natural progress of this change may have an  
effect which is diametrically opposed to what Bro.  
Locke is so anxious for.

CONSECRATION OF THE HYGEIA LODGE,  
No 2664.

This lodge was consecrated at the Holborn Restaurant on the 14th inst., by the Grand Secretary, Bro. E. Letchworth, P.G.D., assisted by Bros. T. H. Gardiner, P.A.G.D.C., as S.W.; R. Clay Sudlow, P.G.S.B., as J.W.; Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., as Chap.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; and H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B., as I.G.

The founders and visitors present were:

Bros. C. W. Raymond, W. H. Watson, T. F. Strutt, W. Boyce, E. Tidman, W. E. Groom, H. Alexander, W. W. West, J. Young, J. W. Metcalf, A. Taylor, C. T. Gardner, W. G. Lacy, J. M. Jones, F. J. Allan, C. J. R. Tjhou, P.A.G.P.; Dr. W. H. Kempster, P.G. Stwd.; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; T. J. Mountain, I.G. 2030; W. J. Wrightson, W.M. 2416; C. Garton, W.M. 192; T. G. Dee, 370 (S.C.); Evan Ortner, 1044; W. Devin, 1679; C. D. Collins, 1963; W. Wiltshire, I.G. 1602; J. C. Carpenter, W.M. 1716; Snowden Kirk, P.M. 1716; H. Junghlut, 1716; J. H. Catten, 1687; A. O. Side, 183; J. Herrin, 1310; G. E. Warn, P.M. 1805 and 299; J. Sulley, S.W. 1804; A. Dove, 2308; J. C. Jackson, P.M. 2512; E. Atkins, 1107; F. L. Schneider, 2512; G. J. Anderson, 787; W. W. Lee, P.M.; and others.

The lodge was opened, and the CONSECRATING OFFICER addressing the brethren, said it would be unnecessary that he should occupy their time for many moments with any words of his own on this occasion. They had met for a purpose which could not fail to enlist the sympathy and evoke the good wishes of all interested in the welfare of the Order. They were there for the purpose of constituting a new lodge which would be dedicated to the service of the Almighty. The lodge would bear the name of the Goddess of Health and would be confined to a great extent to the brethren who discharged very important municipal duties, to whom this country was indebted in a great measure for the high standard of health which it enjoys. He hoped this lodge would have before it a very successful career, worthy of the name it bore and of those associated in its foundation.

An oration was delivered by Bro. the Rev. J. S. BROWNRIFF, Dep. P. G.M. Bucks, and the lodge was afterwards constituted and dedicated in the usual form.

The Grand Secretary then installed Bro. C. W. Raymond as the first W.M., and the following officers were afterwards invested: Bros. W. Boyce, I.P.M. and Treas.; W. H. Watson, S.W.; T. F. Strutt, J.W.; E. Tidman, Sec.; J. M. Jones, S.D.; W. E. Groom, J.D.; W. W. West, I.G.; and Williams, Tyler.

The principal officers were elected a Committee to frame the by-laws, and a long list of candidates was read for initiation and joining.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Consecrating Officers, and they were asked to accept the honorary membership of the lodge.

The GRAND SECRETARY returned thanks, and expressed his pleasure, and that of his colleagues, in being present that day.

The lodge was closed, and, after a sumptuous banquet, the usual toasts received hearty recognition.

In giving "The Queen and Craft," the W.M. said it was not his intention to make long speeches, and he hoped others would follow his example. So much had been said of her Majesty in recent times, that he could say nothing except that as Freemasons they gave way to none in their allegiance to the Queen.

"H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," was proposed by the W.M., who said that those who attended the meeting at the Albert Hall under the M.W.G.M. must have been impressed with the greatness of Masonry.

The W.M. said the next toast was "The Grand Officers," and the Grand Secretary having left, he was told he could also include the next toast—"The Consecrating Officers." He would therefore ask them to drink these combined toasts, coupling the name of Bro. Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap.

Bro. Rev. J. S. BROWNRIFF, P.G. Chap., first apologised for the Grand Secretary, who was extremely sorry he had been obliged to leave. The Grand Secretary was suffering from a slight sunstroke, and his doctor did not wish him to partake of their bountiful hospitality. The Grand Officers were extremely glad to be present, and assist in starting a new lodge, especially where the first W. Master, in his first speech, asked for brevity in their remarks. He had never heard a W.M. make such an excellent speech, and he only hoped it would be well carried out in the execution.

Bro. H. LOVEGROVE, P.G.S.B., proposed "The Worshipful Master," and said he was qualified to do so, being connected with the profession to which the W.M. and members belonged, and he thought the sanitary inspectors deserved the full thanks of the people of London. A year or so ago the founders thought their first W.M. would be Sir Benj. Richardson, who carried the sanitary science through many difficulties. They then went from the sublime to the ridiculous by asking him (Bro. Lovegrove) to be their W.M., but owing to his many engagements he could not accept. They had now a worthy brother as their first W.M., who had been for many years a member, and was now the Treasurer of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association. Their W.M. was not a novice, for it would be a great misfortune to start a new lodge with a novice as the first W.M. Bro. Raymond was initiated in the All Saints' Lodge, and they would not regret having placed him in the chair of this lodge. The new lodge had started well, and he hoped it would go on well and prosper.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in reply, returned thanks, and said he would endeavour to deserve all that had been said of him. They all knew that a short time ago the lines were quite different, but, unfortunately, they lost their President, Sir Benj. Ward Richardson, with the result that the brother who was to have been S.W. was now their W.M. He had attempted to do the work as far as he could, and asked their forgiveness for any mistake. He would do all he could to carry out his duties in that lodge and in the interests of Freemasonry in general. He thanked them most sincerely.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER next gave "The Visitors," who, he said, were in a majority that evening, but in a couple of years he had no doubt it would be otherwise. They would always welcome visitors, and especially the Grand Officers. He coupled with the toast the names of Bros. Tjhou, P.A.G.P., and Garton, W.M. 192.

Bro. C. J. R. TIJOU, P.A.G.P., said they had thoroughly enjoyed the eloquent consecration and the profuse hospitality. Circumstances combined to make it a record night which they must remember for many years. The W.M. and he had gone side by side in neighbouring lodges—the Cochrane and the All Saints. The W.M. had not sacrificed his official position for his Masonic work and possibly might want their sympathy during his year. It was very difficult for the W.M. in the first year of a lodge and he would suggest that the officers have one or two rehearsals under the direction of their W.M. before their first meeting.

Bro. GARTON, W.M. 192, also replied, remarking that the lodge had started under healthy conditions, and he hoped would continue so until time should be no more.

"The Officers," was next given, and was responded to by Bros. WATSON, S.W., and TIDMAN, Sec.

Bro. WATSON, S.W., said he was not an old Mason, but was a lover of Masonry. He would make himself as perfect as possible. He claimed this lodge as his baby, because some five years ago he suggested the idea.

Bro. TIDMAN, Sec., said that if he hatched the egg he was proud of it. He was a Mason of 32 years' standing, but had had no time for Masonry. He thanked them and expressed his pride in their lodge.

The Tyler's toast was then given by Bro. WILLIAMS, Tyler, and the pleasant proceedings terminated.

The musical arrangements were conducted by Bro. F. L. Schneider, assisted by Madame L. Harrison, Miss Madeleine Galton, and Bros. Kelson Trueman, and J. W. Josey.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF  
BERKS AND OXON.

VISIT TO ALDERMASTON COURT.

Among the notable events which have signalled this notable year must be included the above annual Provincial Grand Mark Lodge, held with unqualified success on Wednesday, the 14th inst., under the banner of the Porchester Lodge, No. 27, Newbury, the oldest in the province, the W.M. for the current year being Bro. E. Hill, who, with the officers and brethren, was most energetic and painstaking in carrying out the local arrangements. Since the resignation of the Earl of Jersey, some years ago, when his lordship left England to fill a Colonial Governorship, this province has been presided over by Viscount Valentia, M.P., who is extremely popular in the Masonic world, as elsewhere, and it was a source of great pleasure and satisfaction to the brethren on Wednesday to be favoured with the presence of their distinguished chief.

The province comprises six lodges, and it is the usual practice to visit each lodge in succession, and a pleasing feature in connection with the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge is that ladies are enabled to join the brethren in their festivities after the transaction of the ordinary business. In fact, there is a growing tendency towards making Masonry attractive to the gentler sex, who are not only admitted to the festivals occasionally held in behalf of the funds of the great Charitable Institutions of the Order, but also to lodge gatherings known as "ladies' nights." Hitherto river trips have been generally associated with the Provincial Grand Lodge meetings, but on the present occasion a lovely drive through a picturesque tract of country formed an attractive item in the programme, Bro. Charles E. Keyser, P.M. 27, having generously invited the brethren and their lady friends to pass the after part of the day in the charming grounds of Aldermaston Court.

The brethren from different parts of the province began to arrive in Newbury between 10 and 11 o'clock, and the preliminary committees were held at the Municipal Buildings, which had been placed at the service of the brethren, the Town Hall having been fitted up as a lodge room by Bro. J. B. Ingram, and the Council Chamber being appropriated to the use of the P.G. Officers. The bulk of the brethren and ladies, however, reached Newbury by the midday train, and while the official business was being disposed of the lady visitors, who were received at the Municipal Building by Mrs. Hill, wife of the Worshipful Master, were conducted by Bro. Stephen Knight, jun., over the Parish Church and other buildings of interest, with which they appeared much pleased. The Porchester Lodge met at 12 o'clock, and appointed Past Masters Keyser, Cosburn, Head, Harrold, and Bolcher, to receive Lord Valentia and the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, who walked in procession to the Town Hall, and were accorded the usual honours.

Viscount Valentia having opened the lodge in due form, the anthem "Hail, Eternal, by Whose aid all created things were made" was sung.

Bro. W. RAVENSCROFT, of Reading, the indefatigable Prov. Grand Secretary, read the roll of P.G.L. Officers who severally responded, after which the roll of individual lodges was called.

The minutes of the Prov. G. Lodge, held under the banner of the Jersey Lodge at Maidenhead last year, having been read and confirmed, the Prov. G. Secretary presented his report of the various lodges, which was of a very satisfactory character, showing an increased number of advancements.

The report was unanimously adopted, as also was that of the Prov. G. Treasurer, Bro. E. Margrett, the financial position of the Province exhibiting a decided improvement.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, in complimentary terms, proposed the reelection of Bro. Margrett as Prov. Grand Treasurer, which was seconded by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. J. TOMKINS, and unanimously adopted.

The PROV. GRAND SECRETARY read letters of apology for non-attendance from Bros. the Earl of Jersey, C. F. Matier, G. Sec.; Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, Rev. J. H. Jukes, E. Letchworth, W. H. Gardener, and others, who had prior engagements.

Bro. W. B. REED, W.M. of the Leopold Lodge at Reading, invited the Provincial Grand Lodge to assemble in that town next year.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER thanked Bro. Reed, and said he felt quite sure that, on behalf of the Provincial Grand Lodge and the brethren generally, he might safely accept the kind invitation just given. They had a pleasant recollection of the cordial reception they had always met with at Reading, and they would be only too pleased to visit the town next summer.

The PROV. GRAND SECRETARY moved a vote of thanks to the W.M., officers, and brethren of the Porchester Lodge for the kind and hospitable manner in which they had received the Provincial Grand Lodge on that occasion, which was only another instance of the good feeling and fellowship which the Newbury Masons always extended to visiting brethren.

The PROV. GRAND TREASURER said that the arrangements for the reception of the Provincial Grand Lodge had undoubtedly involved the expenditure of much time and trouble, and it afforded him much pleasure to second the motion.

Lord VALENTIA said he most cordially supported the resolution, and he felt sure that all the brethren were grateful for the kind reception given.

The proposal was then carried by acclamation, and

Bro. HILL, the W.M., in reply, assured Lord Valentia and the Provincial Grand Lodge that it had given him and the brethren of the Porchester Lodge great pleasure to receive them, and he hoped to be honoured with another visit from the Provincial Grand Lodge in due course. (Applause.)

The P.G. Officers for the ensuing year were then appointed and invested by the P.G.M. as follows:

Bro. John Tomkins, Abbey Lodge	...	Dep. P.G.M.
" C. E. Keyser, Porchester Lodge	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" C. Bating, Jersey Lodge	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" E. Margrett, Leopold Lodge	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" A. E. Preston, Abbey Lodge	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" W. R. Nicholas, Leopold Lodge	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" G. H. Annetts, Alfred Lodge	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. A. T. Morland, Abbey Lodge	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" J. N. Day, Porchester Lodge	...	Prov. G. R. of Mks.
" W. Ravenscroft, Leopold Lodge	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Isaac Fowler, Porchester Lodge	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" W. B. Biddles, Leopold Lodge	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" R. C. Davey, Jersey Lodge	...	Prov. G.I. Wks.
" F. A. Sargeant, Leopold Lodge	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" W. A. C. Slay, Alfred Lodge	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" E. R. Bourne, University Lodge	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" C. H. Dodd, Leopold Lodge	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" A. M. Shepherd, Abbey Lodge	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. C. Long, Leopold Lodge	...	Prov. A. G. Sec.
" A. H. Bull, Leopold Lodge	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" R. C. Parr, University Lodge	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" J. Moore, Jersey Lodge	...	
" W. Hemmings, Leopold Lodge	...	} Prov. G. Tylers.
" G. Norwood, University Lodge	...	

The names of brethren willing to represent the Province at the next festival, in aid of the Mark Benevolent Fund, having been received, the concluding anthem, "Supreme Grand Master, God of Power, be with us in this solemn hour," was sung, after which the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge was closed.

Through the liberality of the W.M., Bro. Hill, light refreshments were served to the brethren and their lady friends by Mr. John Staples, of Northbrook-street.

Shortly before three o'clock the party, numbering nearly 100, took their seats in several roomy brakes, and drove, *via* Pyle Hill, Greenham, and Crookham Commons, Brimpton, and Wasing, through the village of Aldermaston to Aldermaston Court, the stately seat of Bro. Keyser, overlooking the pretty valley of the Kennet, through a scene of fresh mown meads and waving corn-fields, now rapidly assuming a golden hue under the influence of the powerful rays of the sun. The number of the visitors was materially increased by arrivals of brethren and ladies who had been unable to proceed *via* Newbury, and it is almost needless to mention that the whole received a most cordial greeting from Bro. and Mrs. Keyser.

The guests included, in addition to those already mentioned:

Bros. the Rev. A. T. Morland, Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, J. W. Martin, F. J. Ferguson, W. Fenton, G. T. Phillips (Mayor of Wokingham), J. Stradling, E. Farrer, J. Kick, D. N. Heron, E. Turner, A. J. Rowley, Stephen Knight, J. Legg, Captain G. H. Morland, E. L. Shepherd, A. H. Simpson, W. G. Millar, W. J. T. Stapley, Theodore H. White, F. W. Ansell, J. Johncock, J. Bliss, D. Wilton, R. Nicholson, W. E. Beal, A. C. Hewitt, H. Arrowsmith, J. J. Simcox, C. E. Willing, W. Hickie, C. Slaughter, W. W. Ridley, E. W. Ridley, Rutland, T. Sawyer, Major Ricardo, T. S. Cambridge, J. Wright, C. M. Taphouse, Tunbridge, G. Boyer, H. G. M. Williams, Stevens, Butler, and others.

Among the ladies were:

Mrs. W. W. Ridley, Miss Ravenscroft, Mrs. Hill, Miss Cooper, Mrs. Dodd, Miss Symons, Miss Eeles, Mrs. Boyer, Mrs. Cosburn, Mrs. Hickie, Mrs. J. Stradling, Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Bull, Mrs. and Miss Stapley, Mrs. Slaughter, Mrs. Fenton, Mrs. Bliss, Mrs. Johncock, Mrs. Simcox, Miss Butler, Mrs. Heron, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Tomkins, Mrs. Rowley, Miss Rowley, Mrs. Bating, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Blowfield, Miss Hewitt, Mrs. Beal, Mrs. Biddles, Mrs. Sawyer, and others.

The weather was splendid, and one and all expressed their appreciation of the natural beauties of this well-wooded estate, the ancient oaks attracting special attention. Some of the visitors repaired to the lake and enjoyed a little boating, while others strolled about the park and grounds, which together with the mansion and its many art treasures were thrown open to inspection. Bro. Keyser conducted a numerous party to the Parish Church, which the squire is restoring in a very perfect manner at his own cost. The interesting features of the sacred edifice were described, after which Bro. Keyser led the way through the shady yew tree walks and other attractive spots in the immediate neighbourhood of the house. Towards five o'clock the whole party congregated on the south lawn and terrace, where they were photographed by Mr. Walton Adams, after which there was an adjournment to a spacious marquee, beneath which the visitors partook of a *recherche* banquet, on the kind invitation of Bro. Keyser, who presided.

Grace was sung by Bros. Percy Coward, Malcolm Boyle, Wilfrid Kearton, and Bertram Mills, of St. George's Chapel, Windsor, who also contributed greatly to the pleasure of the company by their performances during the remainder of the afternoon, the accompanist being Bro. W. B. Chapshaw, P.P.G. Org. Bucks.

A formulated toast list was dispensed with, and, owing to the shortness of time, the speeches were curtailed.

Bro. KEYSER, in eloquent and befitting language, dwelt upon the blessings which had been enjoyed during the long reign of her Majesty, and proposed the toast of "The Queen and Mark Masonry," which was drunk with enthusiasm, and the National Anthem was sung.

The CHAIRMAN next proposed "The Health of the Grand Mark Master, the Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family."

Bro. MARTIN proposed, as a two-fold toast, "The Health of the Grand Mark Officers and that of the Prov. Grand Master, Viscount Valentia." Whatever his lordship took in hand he did most thoroughly. As P.G.M. he discharged his duties most satisfactorily, and they all felt proud to be honoured with his presence on that occasion. (Cheers.)

Viscount VALENTIA, in responding, expressed his gratitude for the kind reception accorded to him. He regretted that his numerous engagements had prevented him visiting the various lodges in the province as often as he could have wished, and he assured them it was through no lack of interest that he had not been amongst them more frequently. If, however, he gave them satisfaction, it would give him great pleasure to continue to hold the high office to which some years ago the Grand Master did him the honour of appointing him. His lordship proceeded to propose "The Health of the Deputy P.G.M., Bro. Tomkins, and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Bro. TOMKINS having made a suitable response,

Viscount VALENTIA proposed "The Health of the Host and Hostess, Bro. and Mrs. Keyser." (Cheers.) His lordship observed that Bro. Keyser had not only shown himself to be an expert and indefatigable Mason by the excellent work he had done in that province, but he had also been most kind and hospitable, and they all thoroughly appreciated the generous entertainment of that day, and the privilege of enjoying a visit to that beautiful spot. Bro. Keyser's lines had evidently fallen in pleasant places, and they all hoped that he and Mrs. Keyser and family would long be spared in health and happiness. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. KEYSER, in reply, said that Mrs. Keyser and himself were only too delighted to receive and entertain their Masonic and lady friends, and they hoped the visitors had enjoyed their short stay at what he believed was one of the prettiest places in that part of England. He hoped they would all return home with pleasant recollections of their visit to Aldermaston. (Cheers.)

The toast of "The Mark Benevolent Fund" was then honoured, and a sum of upwards of £8 was collected at the tables for the same.

"The Health of the W.M. and Brethren of the Porchester Lodge" was also drunk, thanks being tendered to them for their admirable arrangements for the reception of the P.G. Lodge.

The Tyler's toast was also given, after which the company rose.

The repast was served in a manner which reflected much credit upon the butler and domestic staff of Aldermaston Court.

After a short interval the brakes were drawn up in the courtyard, and the visitors took leave of the host and hostess, who were vociferously cheered.

### MASONIC SERVICE AT KENSINGTON.

Freemason Sunday at Kensington on Sunday, the 11th inst., was a success in every sense of the word. The weather was fine, the congregation was large, the sermon was an excellent one, and the collection for the Kensington Dispensary a good one; in fact, Dame Fortune seemed to smile on the whole undertaking.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, had granted a dispensation to hold the service at St. Mary Abbot's Church, Kensington, and the publicity given to the meeting attracted both a large congregation at the church and a large assembly of sight seers. Brethren not only attended from the immediate neighbourhood, but the Provincial lodges were well represented, whilst the wide-spreading influence of Masonry was evident by representatives, not only from Australia and Nova Scotia, but from the wilds of South Africa and tropical India.

Nearly 600 members of the Craft assembled in the Council Chamber of the Kensington Town Hall, and having donned the various regalia, jewels, &c., of their offices, marched bare-headed to the church in the following order: Bros. James Stephens, Dep. Grand Director of Ceremonies; G. Read, P.G. Std. Br., Eng.; W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas. Eng.; and E. Warden Dennis, P.M., M.E.Z. 2108. Then came the full choir chanting the processional hymn "Through the night of doubt and sorrow;" the churchwardens; Bros. the Rev. Canon Somerset Pennefather, P.M. 685, Past Prov. Grand Chap. of Northumberland, Vicar of Kensington; the Rev. H. V. Tyrrel, A.K.C.; the Rev. C. Darby Reade, M.A.; and the Rev. W. Smale, M.A.; the Worshipful Master of the Kensington Lodge, Bro. A. J. Turner; the Grand Officers; Bros. C. J. Hatt, F. L. Chandler, E. Clare, S. W. Keene, C. A. Walters, and R. H. Williams; Prov. Grand Officers the Royal Arch Masons, Masters of lodges, Past Masters of lodges, Wardens, officers of lodges, Master Masons, and others.

After the brethren had taken the places allotted to them in the centre of the church, the usual evening service was intoned.

The sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. Canon PENNEFATHER, who, selecting for his texts Galatians chap. 6, verses 5 and 2—"For every man shall bear his own burden" and "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ"—remarked that there appeared to be some difference between the two texts. They were told not only to bear their own burdens, but they must help bear one another's burdens. Although this appeared somewhat contradictory, yet it was perfectly true. Every one had his own burden, one which was particularly his own, and which no one else could bear for him. These were more particularly felt when friend sympathised with friend, and at times when they stole away from busy scenes, and were alone with God. Even when walking through the most crowded thoroughfares they realised they were alone, bearing their own responsibilities. They might see a man or woman at dinner with a careworn look on their face; the sign of sorrow could be read there. What was the meaning? It was that the individual was realising his own individuality in Christ when the sorrows of life were pressing on them. The sorrows might have entered their home, and friends speak kindly and write letters of sympathy; but still there was that aching in the heart when they realised they were alone, comparatively speaking, with God, and bearing their own burden. But they must remember that it was the burden God had made for them. It might be with respect to the responsibilities of life. He hoped they realised the meaning of such responsibilities. Why had God sent them into the world and endowed them with such powers as they had? Was it that they should live for their own interest; simply to acquire wealth and get on in the world as some had done so well? If they did so they did not understand God had sent them not to live a selfish life, but to live for others, to spend their time in the Master's service. Did they realise that the most blessed days in life were those in which they carried out the will of the Father—doing good to others? Did they understand the responsibility—that one day they would have to give an account of their work? Every man bore his own burden when he realised his individuality. The memory of sin which fell on every one seemed to

come as a black hideous spectre in the night. They tried, but could not banish them, but a voice said unto them—"Cast your burden on the Lord." That was the only way; He loved them as brothers loved, and died on Calvary's Cross to take away their sins. They had also to endeavour to live for others and to bear, as far as God gave them strength to bear, one another's burdens. "All ye that are weary and heavy laden draw near unto God," said the apostle. They had to help those who were striving to fight the good fight of faith. Some at times felt weary and wished to give up the struggle; but as even one of the principles even of their great and noble Society was to help one another, so they must hold out the hand of sympathy to those in sorrow, and if they grasped each other's hands, and went forward shoulder to shoulder helping each other, then, by the grace of God, they would conquer. Kind words of sympathy helped to shake off the dark shadow of sorrow in the same manner as brethren of their Craft they held out a helping hand to those who in the struggle and battle of life were almost giving way, and to help remove the grinding crush of poverty. That was one of the ways in which they fulfilled the laws of Christ and helped bear another's burdens. He considered it a great privilege to welcome them in the church. What a magnificent power they would be if only they were true to their own Craft, and in their daily life remembered the principles on which the Craft was founded, and the high standard of Christian love and Charity to follow. The world would be much better for their lives, and they would be much happier themselves if they only tried to make the lives of others happier. Let them be good Masons and strive to do their duty to their brethren, and the higher view they took of their Craft, and the more they remembered its principles, the better and more useful men they would be—prepared to go forward and build up the Church of Christ. He was asking that day on behalf of the Kensington Dispensary. They had particularly requested it should not be for a Masonic Charity, but for the dispensary which was doing such noble and good work in the Parish of Kensington, and as bearing the burden of others was fulfilling the law of Christ, he knew they would make an offering worthy of themselves, worthy of their Craft, and worthy of the cause for which he pleaded.

A collection having been made, amounting to over £40, the brethren returned to the Town Hall and disrobed.

Not a single fault could be found with the whole of the arrangements, and the greatest credit and thanks are due to the Committee, and especially to Bro. C. E. Betts, S.W. 865, the Honorary Secretary—on whom most of the work devolved—for the praiseworthy and indefatigable manner in which they worked to make the service so successful.

Amongst the members of the Craft present were the following:

Bros. W. Anderson, 865; R. Goff, S.D. 1793; W. H. Handover, J.D. 1642; Chas. H. Brady, P.M. 712, P.P.G.S. of W.; Ernest W. Beard, 1642; Reginald Duffield, J.W. 1974; J. J. Cattle, P.M., P.Z., &c., 1791; F. F. Poole, 2400; T. Pennington, 2400; E. W. Hiscocks, Steward 2012; H. Stevens, 2012; W. J. Sweet, P.M. 847; H. Clark, P.M. 2012; M. Rhodes, I.G. 2012; W. R. Carpenter, S.D. 2150; G. R. Lloyd, 1974; John Elliott, S.W. 2090; James Chapman, P.M. 194; James Stephens, 1425, Dep. G.D.C.; H. P. Squire, P.M. 155, P.Z. 101; S. Neale Lavington, Stwd. 1897; H. Foskett, W.M. 1642; T. W. Heath, P.M. 1642, P.Z. 19; Albert E. Furness, D.C. 2400; Lewis H. Isaacs, P.M. 1974; W. Gibbons, jun., 1642; W. T. Angel, P.M., Treas. 1871; T. W. Mogford, W.M. 2362; C. Halston, 733; E. E. Milner, 2362; W. J. Millington, P.M. 2246; H. T. Allen, 1623; Spicer, 1623; R. M. Sharpin, 1585; F. G. Waters, 865; J. Harrison Walee, 62 Co. Kerry; Percy Wells, P.S.G.W. South Australia; Barton Jones, W.M. 452; G. W. Howes, 1791; H. Y. Stickland, P.M., D.M. 177 (S.C.); James Allen, 177 (S.C.); T. Brooks, 1536; H. J. Seal, S.D. 933; R. Ardagh, 92; J. S. Adkins, 1642; W. Hinds, W.M. 185; C. Darby Reade, P.M., Chaplain 1974; Walter Ellis, J.W. 820; William Essex, W.M. 1860; E. A. Dutton, P.M. 167; C. B. Broad, 170; C. Packer, P.M. 860; Walter Bowles, 144; E. Rogers, P.M. 60, P.G.S.; G. A. Keen, 1599; George Callingham, 2012; Fredk. F. Bonney, J.W. 957; J. W. Barker, P.M., Treas. 1767, 511; W. E. Scott, 1767; J. M. Silletoe, 2353; W. S. Langford, 1767; T. C. Dyer, S.D. 860; W. T. Key, 2108; T. T. and A. W. Larkman, 780; J. Cox, P.M. 860; A. B. Booty, P.M. 1001; J. H. Neville, I.P.M. 1767; W. Rignal, 1980; A. Mergan, 1949; J. W. Slack, 1926; G. L. Wingate, P.M. 1423, P.P.G.R. Middx.; E. M. Lander, P.M. 1642, P.Z.; Reuben C. Green, P.M. 1642 and 1974, P.Z., Sec.; Norman Rodd, W.M. 865; R. Liddiard, I.G. 933; W. Nelder, 1767; A. Westbury, 1767; G. J. Copley, 211; H. Delaway, 1642; A. Ginger, 901; H. Clinton Baddeley and W. M. Victory, 700; J. Chandler, S.D. 1612; A. W. Reed, 2157; Alfred E. Lean, F.R.G.S., P.M. 1564, P.P.G.P.; H. Vyvian Tyrrel, Chap., I.G. 2369; Henry F. Foale, P.M. 1767; W. W. Mangles, 811; Henry Sellick, Stwd. 860; G. A. Sturgepp, J.D. 538; Alfred Bradley, I.G. 1507; Frederick Jackson, 2157 and 2648; J. W. Davy, 2021; R. M. Gattiff, P.M., J.D. 1922 and 2648; E. Edward Gellowski, P.M. 534; Edward Fitzgerald, P.Z. 81, P.P.G.S.B. Suffolk; J. Dinnis, W.M. 2400; W. Langdon, S.W. 2523; J. Ward, 959; J. Clements, 2400; W. Stidolph, 2400; W. H. Dresden, P.M., Sec. 1602; G. M. Pettit, 1767; J. May, 1767; E. J. Hiscock, 1602; G. Nelson Watts, P.M. 194; W. B. Pugh, I.P.M. 1624; Herbert Jones, 1642; Edward Clare, P.M. and Treas. 865, P.P.A.G.D.C. Middx.; Thomas Greet, 1512; T. H. McNaughton, 1585; C. J. Grove, P.M., Sec. 742; W. J. Mason, 1528, P.P.G.D. Surrey, Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes; Geo. Davis, P.M. 167 and 1642; W. Inman, Org. 2246; William Middleweek, P.M. 1793, P.A.G.D.C. Middx.; G. H. Grant, 834; David Rawlings, J.D. 2012; H. W. White, 420, P.P.J.G.W.; C. E. Betts, S.W. 865 (hon. Sec. for service); Geo. English, W.M. 901; Robt. Clinch, 901; W. C. Dicker, P.M. 2012; W. Press, 2012; H. G. Hall, P.M., P.Z. 1538 and 1627; H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B.; R. W. Allison, 865; E. J. Bamber, P.M., P.Z. 901 1615, P.G. Sec. Glasgow; Leonard Westwood, W.M. 2246; J. H. Rutherglen, P.M. 1642, and I.P.M. 193; W. S. Whiteley, W.M. 2012; R. T. Randall, 1641; G. W. Farrington, P.M. 1271, P.P.G.S. of Wks. Wiltshire; J. J. Paterson, Fox, Prince, and Mason, all of 25; C. J. Hill, 1373; W. Hughes, 1373; Ed. J. Green, J.W. 865; Robert Kew, 865; A. Dupree, 144; Percy Callingham, 1599; S. Sidders, I.P.M. 865; A. W. Cox, 1986; H. W. Blake, P.M., J.W. Mayo Lodge, Hyderabad, India; Percy S. Cooper, I.G. 1694; S. Manne, 733; C. Spencer, 2593; Samuel Cresswell, and James Bailey, 1641; G. Francis, 857; G. D. Mogford, P.M. 2362; R. A. Kemp, P.M. 1766; W. A. Allen, 1623; W. Edwards, P.M.; E. A. Knight, 1637; Charles Canal, 1974, P.P.J.G.W. Middlesex; T. W. Allen, P.M. 733; F. J. Greenwood, Chap. 2593; E. Warden Dennis, P.M., M.E.Z. 2108; W. C. Carter; F. Roper, 780; T. E. P. Bell, J.D. 865; H. A. Otto Scherf, 1642; G. W. Crow, Sec. 2362; J. Williams, 1310; P. R. Bisher, 1614; R. T. Godfrey, P.M., P.Z. 141; Henty J. Ollive, I.P.M. 1420; F. Maskery, 1489; S. Keene, P.M. 860, P.P.G.P.; C. A. Walter, P.M. 860, P.S.G.D. Middlesex; J. L. Apsey, P.M. 534; John O'Connell, P.M. 2422, P.P.J.G.D.; G. Wright, P.M.; C. M. Malony, S.W. 1974; F. S. Priest, W.M., and H. A. Moore, 1637; A. Ellenden, Steward 1623; H. W. Crook, 771; T. Hay Smellie, 75; J. Sealy Lawrence, 476; J. H. King, 834; Edwin Faux; A. H. Waller; Justin Allen, J.W. 780; Evan Orbnr, 1044; Alfred England, J.W. 1216; J. W. Jarvis; W. J. Stratton, 2150; D. D. Heath, 2012; W. Berry, P.M. 1159; F. M. Coughlan, 1623; W. T. Berry, 1963; T. Hawksley, P.M. 1196; J. J. Ponting, S.D. 2032; R. H. Williams, P.M. 865, P.P.G.D. Middlesex; S. A. Murrell, 901; G. B. Hoskings, 1069; John B. Pinchbeck, 2202; J. Edward Elin, P.M. 2094; Hy. Stephen Woodcock, S. Verlander Brooks, and Geo. Stevens, 2417; M. Spring, 865; C. C. Barber, S.D. 1585; J. J. Chapman, S.W. 1293; C. G. Hall, P.M. and Sec. 865, P.Z., P.G.D.C. Middlesex; W. H. Buller, 1687; Titney

Rising, 1642; A. B. Butt, J.D. 753; J. Farndell, 1772; J. Braddick, S.W. 1694; C. R. Shend, 1891; J. J. Thomas, 753 P.G.Std.Br.; F. H. Parr and W. Lloyd, of 192; C. Stuart Barker, P.M. 1632; David Shopland, Geo. May, S.D., Stephen J. Parker, E. Geo. Easton, of 2512; Arthur Williams, P.M. 2090, B.G.P.; Geo. H. Poulton, 2157; Hy. Matthews, P.M. 34; R. H. Catling, P.M. 2157; M. V. Cassel, J.D., 1415; H. A. Paxton, 683; Geo. W. Hoode and H. F. E. Harrison, of 1791; W. H. Latham, J.D. 1962; W. B. Snowden, 1541; S. Vincent Watson, 2094; Leslie Standing, Samuel H. Parkhouse, P.M., Treas., John French, S.W., and John M. Huish, I.P.M., of 1642; John Oates, P.J.D., 1489; Thomas Leece, 901 and 1767; Charles Jacob, S.W. 2271; Cuthbert Stapleton, Sir William Wallace; John Wilson and G. Swann, P.M., of 865; Edward Fox, P.M. 1275; James J. Rumbal, S.W., Jas. J. Mackay, P.M., A. J. Turner, W.M., and W. G. Vassie, of 1767; J. Wakeham, 1642 and 1767; A. H. M. Hart, P.M. 1358, P.P.G. Chap.; Walter J. J. Knight, I.G. 1828; W. H. Hubert, P.M., M.E.Z., and A. E. Hubert, P.M. and H. of 173; E. C. Britton, P.M. Jersey Lodge; Alexander Gilchrist, Golden Thistle, Coolgardie, West Australia; Charles W. C. Hutton, J.P., P.G.D.; S. Abell, P.M., and Henry E. Hornby, 1011; J. F. Shiers, 1687; F. W. Bacon, P.M. 398; W. D. Watford, S.W. 2054; J. Elmslie, 1420; Harry Hatton, 2246; J. Lamb, 2246 and 2593; Wm. Smith, W.M. 917; J. T. Haly, P.M. 1637; G. Trapp, 1839; Henry P. Gilbert, 834; F. S. Pritchard, A. J. Pritchard, P.M., and Robert Scott, 1974; J. H. Richardson; J. Cruttenden, 779; James A. Clarkson, P.M., P.P.G. Org. Essex; Bagshaw, 1457; A. Davidson Kemp, W.M. 2108; H. C. Anderson, 918; H. Stokes, I.G., and G. E. White, Steward, 834; F. Muntzen, I.G., T. Pollard, and W. W. F. Scott, 2648; C. B. Leatherby, 1681; W. Vivian Hatch, 1201; Edgar Barnes, 1362; S. Webb, P.M., Treas. 1287; C. L. Raven, 256; J. Hill, 275; T. J. Reeves, P.M. 2033; Ernest W. Tucker, 1585; J. Campbell Johnstone, S.W. 1791; T. H. Watts, P.S.W. 1424; Joseph Rosenthal, 30; Henry Parkinson, S.D. 1328; George Cockrill, P.M. 211; F. H. Harman 144; G. A. Knight, P.M. 1585; Patrick Cronin, S.W. 1512; T. Anderson Marks, 1681; R. L. Hancock, P.M. and J.W. 14; Henry Holmes, P.M., P.Z. 2246, P.P.G.D.; George White, W.M., George H. White, J., and William Hill, 2030; J. J. Orr, 1694; John Walkey, 156; Richard Dare, 2090; Walter C. Elms, 1642; George Read P.M. 1767, P.G. Std. Br.; Henry J. Foan, Org. 2473; George Aggitt, 865; J. W. Blaydis, 2012; John S. Crow, 2098; J. R. Burley; James Snooks, 1269; E. Bemis, 1623; Albert Sword, 2094; J. Alford, 2543; S. Woodward Blott, P.M. 742; L. H. Choqueel, 1632; G. M. Fraser, S.W. 1426; E. W. Reeves, P.M. 1731; Lieut.-Col. Blunt, 2094, P.P.S. G.W. Middx.

### LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE NEW VICTORIA JUBILEE SCHOOLS AT BERKHAMSTEAD BY THE PROV. G.M. OF HERTS, BRO. T. F. HALSEY, M.P.

The Jubilee festivities are dying hard, and not the least important of those of recent occurrence was held at Berkhamstead, Herts, on the 13th instant. It was decided to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of her Majesty by the erection of new schools, and out of the estimated expenditure of £2000, about £1400 has been subscribed or promised. The rector, Bro. Rev. A. Johnson, M.A., holding the position of P.P.G.C., it was naturally to be expected that the Prov. Grand Master should be asked to lay the foundation-stone with Masonic ceremonial, in which he readily acquiesced. The Masonic portion of the day's work started early in the afternoon, when a meeting of the Berkhamstead Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, under the presidency of Bro. G. A. Sims, P.P.G.S. of W., W.M., supported by Bros. J. Stephens, D.G.D.C.; J. Bunker, Prov. G. Stwd., I.P.M.; F. J. Pearson, S.W.; A. F. Marsh, J.W.; F. Q. Lane, P.M., Treas.; C. Bullock, P.G. Sec.; Sec.; W. Wilson, P.G.P., S.D.; E. H. Wagstaff, J.D.; F. Whatmore, Mus. Bac., Org.; and many others.

A brother was passed to the Second Degree by the W.M., after which Bro. Lowndes, P.P.G.W., raised three candidates to the Degree of M.M.

A procession was then formed, headed by the Prov. G. Tyler, with the banner of Prov. G. Lodge, and including Bros. T. F. Halsey, M.P., P.G.M.; G. E. Lake, D.P.G.M.; J. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., Prov. G.D.C.; F. Sumner Knyvett, P.G.D., Prov. C. Treas.; Dr. G. Mickley, P.A.G.D.C.; H. Trask, P.G.S. of W.; R. E. F. Lander, P.P.G.D.; G. B. Woods, P.A.G.P.; C. T. Everett, Prov. G. Stwd.; H. L. Barrett, P.P.G.D.; T. S. Carter, P.P.G.W.; Rev. O. C. Cockrem, P.P.G.W.; A. Spicer, Prov. G. Steward; Rev. Clark, Prov. G. Chap.; and a large number of other Prov. G. Officers and members of lodges.

The site of the new schools being adjacent, was soon reached, under the direction of Bro. J. Terry, P.G.D.C., and the interesting proceedings at once commenced with prayer by the P.G.C.

The Rector then addressed the Prov. Grand Master, asking him, on behalf of the trustees, to lay the foundation stone with the usual ceremonial.

The Prov. G. MASTER said he had great pleasure in responding to the request made by their esteemed and well known rector. He thought it would be hereafter a great satisfaction to the people of Berkhamstead to reflect that the Diamond Jubilee of her Majesty, over which those present had been rejoicing for such a long time, should be commemorated in such a fitting and appropriate manner as proposed on the present occasion. He could not conceive any more fitting or more lasting memorial. The 60 years during which her Majesty had reigned had been years of progress, and speaking locally the Berkhamstead people and neighbourhood could congratulate themselves on the great progress made. He rejoiced that Berkhamstead men had taken no insignificant part in the spread of knowledge by the English-speaking race throughout the world. He had a striking proof of this in the receipt of a Texas newspaper, giving particulars of a celebration held in the chief town in honour of the Diamond Jubilee, and one of the most eloquent after-dinner speeches on that occasion was made by a former resident of Berkhamstead. They hoped the children educated in the new schools would prove God-fearing men and women and good citizens, who would continue to carry the good name of Englishmen and particularly of that part all over the world.

The PROV. G. SECRETARY read the inscription on the stone and the Prov. G. Treasurer deposited a phial containing coins in the cavity. The Prov. G. Master adjusted the cement with a handsome trowel presented by the managers, and the stone was slowly lowered into position. The plumb rule, level, and square proved its position and form, and the Prov. Grand Master declared the stone well and truly laid. Corn, wine, and oil were then used with the usual ceremonies, and the Architect having handed the plans of the intended building to the Prov. Grand Master was instructed to proceed to the completion of the work. The National Anthem was heartily sung by the brethren and assembled spectators and the PROV. G.D.C. called for three cheers for the Prov. G. Master, which were cordially given. The procession was then re-formed in inverse order and returned to the Masonic Hall.

A large number of the inhabitants accepted invitations to a garden party at the Rectory, and the brethren who had taken part in the proceedings banqueted together at the King's Arms Hotel, when Bro. Sims, W.M. 504, took the chair.

The banquet was admirably served under the personal supervision of the worthy host, the tables being tastefully decorated with flowers.

The usual toasts afterwards received due attention.

In proposing "The Queen and the Craft," the W.M. said the toast always commended itself to Englishmen, and especially to Masons. He would not detain them with long speeches as they had a charming musical programme, and he hoped others would follow his example.

The W.M. next gave "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and said his Royal Highness distinguished himself greatly at the Albert Hall. They were all indebted to his Royal Highness for taking such an extraordinary interest in their Craft and would drink his health with all the enthusiasm it deserved.

"The Grand Officers," was heartily proposed, the W.M. remarking that he was proud there were so many distinguished brethren present. Their presence added a certain amount of lustre to the lodge and the members were always delighted to see them.

Bro. F. SUMNER KNYVETT, P.G.D., responded with pleasure, and thanked the W.M. for the compliment paid the Grand Officers. The connection of the Grand Officers was not limited to this Province, but to London and elsewhere where they worked for the benefit of Freemasonry.

Bro. J. STEPHENS, D.G.D.C., also responded, and said the Grand Officers appreciated the high compliment paid them and would hope to be more deserving of it in the future.

Bro. Rev. A. JOHNSON, P.P.G. Chap., said the W.M. had done him the honour to ask him to propose the next toast and he was grateful, because, although all the brethren were glad to welcome the Prov. G.M., still he might claim on this occasion to be especially grateful to him. He (Bro. Johnson) had been the innocent cause of their meeting that day. They could not forget that their Prov. G.M. was bound to them by many years of service in another capacity to which he would now allude, and they knew he was equally good and genial in his love of Masonry. They were conscious that if their Prov. G.M. could be present that day the ceremony would not suffer in his hands. He begged, therefore, on behalf of all present, for his own sake and the cause he represented, to tender respectful and grateful thanks to the Prov. G.M. for his presence. He also wished to take this opportunity of thanking his own lodge for supporting this movement, and also the brethren who had come from a considerable distance. He thanked the Prov. G. Sec. upon whom had fallen the organisation of the meeting, and was sure Bro. Bullock was already rewarded by the success which had attended his efforts. The object was one to which all could give their support, and he hoped that in years to come they would train in the schools many who would prove worthy Masons. He wished to emphasise their thanks, especially to Bro. Terry, whose presence and assistance on such an occasion was absolutely indispensable. He gave them "The Health of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master."

Bro. T. F. HALSEY, M.P., Prov. G.M., thanked them for the kind reception given him. He would place as few moments as possible between the brethren and that musical treat with which they were favoured, but he should be ungrateful if he did not say a few words of thanks for the reception given him. With regard to the object of their meeting, it gave him great pleasure to be able to respond to the request to lay the foundation-stone of these schools. He would cordially echo all the wishes expressed, that when their successors were carrying on this lodge, the schools would provide many recruits for Masonry. They would have no easy task, for it would be impossible to improve upon the useful work done by this lodge, and that it had been the case for 50 years. His last visit to the Berkhamstead Lodge was on the celebration of its Jubilee, and it was therefore pleasant to be with them again when they were celebrating the Diamond Jubilee of their Queen. He trusted that all present would take back as pleasant memories as he should, and he took this opportunity of thanking those friends for the material memento he should take back in the trowel presented to him. He hoped that for many years they would work together to further the cause they had at heart—that of Freemasonry in Herts and in that town.

Bro. G. E. LAKE, Dep. Prov. G.M., replying to the toast of "The Provincial Grand Officers," said they were a body of Masons very distinguished in their way. On their behalf, he begged to express thanks, and also the pleasure it had given them to be present.

Bro. C. BULLOCK, Prov. G. Sec., said he had been entrusted with an important toast. There was a humble lodge, but there were three points on which they were properly proud. One was that they never made a mistake in the Masonic ritual; another was, that they claimed to be second to none in the province in their devotion to the M.W.G.M. and the Craft generally and their affection to the Prov. G.M.; and the third point, not the least important, was that they would yield to none in their hospitality to the visitors, who honoured them with their presence. He would include with the toast of "The Visitors" that of "The Masonic Charities," and ask Bro. Terry to respond.

Bros. COCKREM, W.M. 404; SNEATHMAN, W.M. 990; and J. TERRY, P.G. S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., replied, and the proceedings shortly afterwards were brought to a close.

The excellence of the musical programme given under the direction of Miss Emily Foxcroft deserved all the praise bestowed upon it by the brethren present. Miss Foxcroft was ably supported by Miss Ethel Winn and Bro. A. Strugnell, Herbert Emlyn, and G. T. Miles.

## Craft Masonry.

### Lebanon Lodge, No. 1326.

This excellent lodge held its installation meeting on Saturday last, at the Railway Hotel, Feltham, which possesses a beautiful and convenient hall for such meetings. Unfortunately, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex was being held on the same day at Harrow, which caused the absence of the Provincial and Deputy Provincial Grand Masters, and many Provincial Grand Officers, but the proceedings were none the less agreeable, and every effort was made by the Master, Past Masters, and other officers of the lodge to make a very goodly show of visitors thoroughly happy at having accepted invitations to be present. The brethren who attended were Bros., D. Moss, W.M.; George J. Bailey, S.W.; H. Russell, J.W.; J. C. Goslin, P.M.; P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; F. Dunstan, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; Gordon Larner, S.D.; William J. Burton, J.D.; W. C. Brooke, D.C.; Thomas W. Alderman, Org.; J. Lawrence, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; W. Kite, P.M.; Charles H. Collett, George Brown, R. T. Adams, James M. Little, H. P. Harris, Charles Burridge, W. Nash, George Tredder, Thomas Thompson, Joseph Coulthard, Arthur B. Bailey, Thomas W. Kingston, and F. Goslin. Visitors: Bros. Thomas F. Noakes, Org. 861; John W. Simions, S.D. 193; Frank White, 153; Charles Winterbon, Org. 2333; A. P. Bebrooth, S.W. 781; H. Hudson, Stwd. 141; W. P. Clark, 1512; Walter Tyler, I.P.M. 1707; Frederick Stephens, P.M. 1348; A. W. Lecren, P.M. 1320; D. S. Ross, 548; Harry Fear, 2202; Louis Breeze, 1679; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; William Roots, W.M. 2589; and E. H. Dove, P.M. 45. Bro. J. Lawrence, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., initiated Mr. Arthur Bertram Bailey, after which Bro. D. Moss, W.M. installed Bro. G. T. Bailey as W.M. for the ensuing 12 months. Bro. D. Moss received the collar of I.P.M., Bros. A. Russell was appointed S.W.; Gordon Larner,

J.W.; J. C. Goslin, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treasurer; F. Dunstan, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; W. J. Burton, S.D.; A. J. Holland, J.D.; L. C. Brooke, I.G.; T. W. Alderman, D.C.; C. Collett, Org.; J. Parry, G. Tredder, and J. Coulthard, Stwds.; and John Gilbert, Prov. G. Tyler, Tyler. The last brother being in attendance at the Prov. Grand Lodge, Bro. Rawles acted for him. A handsome Past Master's jewel and collar were presented to Bro. Moss.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies a delightful banquet was provided for the brethren, and the tables were most tastefully arranged.

The evening derived additional success from the introduction of the electric light in illumination lamps in the roof of the hall, and in imitation candles on the tables.

During the day a photo of the brethren attending was taken, and afterwards a photo of the dining-hall with the tables dressed for dinner.

When banquet was concluded, the toasts were proposed, and Miss Ada Hunt Smith, Miss Miriam Becket, Bros. Louis Breeze and Fred. W. Stephens entertained the company with singing, and Mr. G. Melita gave an excellent performance on the cello. The music was under the direction of Bro. T. F. Noakes.

Bro. Bailey, W.M., in proposing "The Prov. G.M., the Dep. Prov. G.M., and the rest of the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past," said if Lord Geo. Hamilton, and Bro. Raymond Thrupp had been present the lodge would have been very pleased to see them, and even in their absence he would like to have said something of their merits and their usefulness to the Craft generally, and to the Province of Middlesex in particular but time was on the wing, and the brethren had to catch trains.

Bro. J. Lawrence, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., said in the absence of the Prov. and Dep. Prov. G. Masters Lord George Hamilton had a large amount of duty to perform for the benefit of the State in general, and therefore, when he got a Saturday off he liked to take his ease. That day was one of his days off, and he had a day on at Harrow with the Prov. Grand Lodge. To that was to be attributed the absence of the Grand Officers, who would have acknowledged this toast. On very few occasions were the Prov. G. Officers absent from the installation meetings of the Lebanon Lodge. To-day the reason was a good one. No doubt those who were absent were hard at work for the benefit of all the lodges. The brethren could do something for them. They had a Provincial Charity Committee with which he (Bro. Lawrence) had been connected a considerable time, but last year he had to resign. It might be a labour of love, but there was a certain amount of hard labour attached to it, and without the assistance of the Grand Officers it could not be carried on. He was speaking now to junior members. The seniors were able to take care of themselves. He returned thanks for the Prov. G. Officers. When those brethren had been here they had expressed their appreciation of the working of the lodge, and if they had been present that evening an encomium would have been passed upon the Immediate Past Master for the excellence of his performance in installing his successor.

Bro. D. Moss, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M." The brethren would agree with him that they had seen sufficient of the W.M.'s work to justify them in the belief that they had a worker in the chair. Bro. Bailey had shown by what little he had had to do that day that he was a Master in working, and, after all, that was the chief thing in Masonry. During his year of office the brethren would have excellent working of the lodge; they hoped he would have plenty to do, because they knew he would then be happy. According to the arrangements made by the W.M., it looked as if the brethren would have a very good time in the Fourth Degree, for he knew something about it. Let them wish he might have a prosperous year of office, good health to enjoy it, and to do his work as well as it invariably always was done in the Lebanon Lodge. He knew the W.M. would have the support of his officers.

Bro. Bailey, W.M., who on rising to acknowledge the toast was received with loud applause, said he scarcely knew how or in what way to commence thanking Bro. Moss for the terms in which he had proposed the toast, or the brethren for the enthusiasm with which they had accepted the remarks. He, however, thanked the brethren very heartily for placing him in the distinguished position of W.M. He could not say he had coveted it in any way. Some had got to it step by step and he fully realised the responsibilities he had taken upon himself in accepting the chair. The only hope he had was that the brethren would be satisfied with such work as he was able to do; he would do it to the best of his ability. He was of a nervous disposition and he generally failed; but still he would strive not to fail.

Bro. T. Lawrence, P.M., next said the W.M. thought that as he (Bro. Lawrence) performed the initiation ceremony that day it was in the fitness of things that he should propose "The Initiate." Although brethren were always pleased to see visitors nothing pleased him better than to see initiates, provided they were good men and true. They hoped whenever they admitted any individual to their mysteries, and allowed him to take with them the name of brother that he would prove himself to be a brother in act and deed. Their brother who had been that evening initiated had had the opportunity of finding how nicely they operated in the Fourth Degree. But there was something more than a Fourth Degree in Masonry to be considered. Without bricks they could not repair a decaying edifice, and all things in life were decaying. When he first joined that lodge as an initiate he thought there were some 120 members in it. His name naturally did not appear. He thought now he was No. 7. Therefore, the initiate had a better chance of getting into the chair than he (Bro. Lawrence) had when he was initiated. He (Bro. Lawrence) might have gone the way of all flesh when that happened, but he hoped the initiate would not forget his initiation, and not be called upon by any one to buck up. Masonry did not consist principally in performing the ritual, and he would find that out. The brethren offered him that evening a hearty welcome, and they would live in hopes that he would prove a good and true brother. He felt certain they would not be disappointed in their choice. They wished him health and happiness, and that he would get into the chair, and show them what he could do.

Bro. A. B. Bailey, replying, said he hoped as years went on he would prove a brother and a friend, and also a brother and a friend who could buck up.

Bro. Bailey, W.M., in proposing "The I.P.M.," said Bro. Moss was a jolly good fellow, and they had seen how he had done his work that evening and how he could fulfil the work of Installing Master. He did it in a way most creditable to him, and it was a most impressive ceremony throughout. Considering the onerousness of his other duties and how little time he had to give to Masonic ritual, it was astonishing how well he did the work.

Bro. David Moss, I.P.M., in reply, said he felt deeply indebted to the brethren for the kind way in which they had accepted that toast, and to the W.M. for the very courteous manner in which he had spoken of him. Those flattering words were scarcely true. He certainly had done his best, and he told the brethren when he went into the chair that he would do so; he could do no more, and what he had done had met with the brethren's appreciation. He had also to thank the brethren for the very handsome jewel they had presented him as well as for the collar and jewel. He said when it was presented that that was not the ordinary course. He had, unfortunately, seen in some lodges, and he had seen it in this lodge, that the Past Master's jewel seemed to indicate that the brother could leave the lodge. That was a rather hard and distressing way of putting it. He hoped that was not his order, for he should always endeavour to be among the brethren, and when he was among them and saw the good working and the genial way everything was conducted, as it had been lately, he should always feel it a pleasure to be with them. He hoped the W.M. would receive the same support from the officers as he had, and as good work. He took that opportunity of thanking his officers for their support; he felt greatly satisfied with the way in which he had been supported.

Bro. Bailey, W.M., in proposing "The Visitors," took the opportunity of thanking Bro. Roots for instructing him in Masonic ritual. Even last night he neglected business to give him a rehearsal of the ritual observed in the investiture of officers.

Bros. Roots and Fred Stephens replied, the former observing that it was a great pleasure to him to give instruction, and he hoped the W.M. would place himself under him until he had gone through the chair.

Bros. F. Dunstan, Sec., and A. Russell, S.W., responded to the toast of "The Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers of the Lodge," after which a special toast was given for the musical professionals, and the Tyler's toast having been honoured, the brethren departed for their respective destinations.

ON THE 11TH INST., the members of the Prince Edwin Lodge, Bury Bridge, had their annual outing, the place selected being Skipton for Gargrave. The party numbered 23, and were under the conductorship of the W.M. of the lodge, Bro. Mitchell. They left by the 5.58 a.m. train, and arrived in Bury in the evening about half-past 10 o'clock, after spending a very enjoyable day. They drove to Gisburn, where they sang the National Anthem in the churchyard. The catering was done in a very satisfactory manner by Mr. Cope, landlord of the Swan Hotel, Gargrave.

## Masonic and General Tidings.

**ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.**—The recently established Civil Service Class in this ever progressive Institution has already borne excellent fruit. Mabel Bohl (last year's gold medallist), has passed the examination for girl-clerks as high as 5th out of 380 candidates for 40 clerkships, and is thus certain of a good appointment in the Civil Service.

WE ARE, unfortunately, compelled to hold over till next week several interesting reports of Masonic doings abroad in connection with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee; a list of additional amounts received since last week in respect of the recent Boys' School Festival; and other matter.

THE QUEEN has been graciously pleased to forward a message to the Lord Chamberlain, Bro. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., expressive of her thanks to his lordship and the officers of his department for the "untiring labours and constant attention" they have shown during the recent Jubilee celebrations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS have been made of the discovery of gold in Trinity County, California, and in British Columbia. In the latter country there has been an enormous influx of people, all actuated by the *auri sacra fames* and all bent on the accumulation of as much of the precious metal as they can lay their hands on.

BRO. LORD GEORGE HAMILTON, M.P., as Secretary of State for India, has received a telegram from the Viceroy to the effect that during last week good rain had fallen in Bengal, the North-West Provinces, and Oudh, and some parts of the Punjab. In Central India there had also been rain varying in quantity, and in Bombay and the Deccan some showers, but more is needed.

GENERAL REGRET will be felt at the news received early in the week from Paris to the effect that Bro. the Hon. Sir E. Monson, the British Ambassador in the French capital, and his family have been taken suddenly ill after partaking of shell fish. His Excellency and Lady Monson are in a fair way to recover, but they have been obliged to cancel all their engagements. Lady Monson's sister and the Ambassador's nephew were more serious sufferers.

AMONG THOSE who called or sent on Monday to inquire as to the condition of Mr. Mundella—who, we regret to say, has since died—were the Duke and Duchess of York, Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Bro. Sir Henry Irving, Bro. Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, Bart., the Marquis of Ripon, the Earl of Kimberley, Viscount Knutsford, Lord Edmund Talbot, Mr. John Morley, Bros. Sir S. B. Bancroft and Lord Loch, Sir H. H. Fowler, Sir Mountstuart Grant-Duff, Bro. Sir T. Sutherland, and Mr. Justin McCarthy.

THE FOLLOWING BRETHREN have been elected Worshipful Masters of the respective Masonic lodges against which their names appear: Lodge of Friendship, City, Bro. G. F. Michell; Adelaide Lodge, Port Adelaide, Bro. R. N. S. Baker (re-elected); Lodge of Unity, Port Adelaide, Bro. H. F. Hearle; Semaphore Lodge, Bro. E. B. Hancock; Lodge of St. John, Strathalbyn, Bro. W. M. Rankine; Duke of Edinburgh Lodge, Moonta, Bro. F. Bourne; and Wooroora Lodge, Riverton, Bro. Henry Bushell.—*South Australian Register.*

A COMMITTEE consisting of Sir Courtenay Boyle, K.C.B., Bro. the Hon. Sir H. Stafford Northcote, Bart., M.P., Sir Henry Bergne, K.C.M.G., Mr. S. F. Spring Rice, C.B., and Mr. A. E. Bateman, C.M.G., has been appointed by the Board of Trade for the purpose of inquiring into the best means of bringing to the knowledge of the home trade the commercial information furnished by British officials in the Colonies and in India, and also as to the desirability of samples of goods in demand in Colonial markets being sent over by Consuls and agents with a view to their future exhibition in this country.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES was admitted at Marlborough House on Monday to the Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians of London, to which he was recently elected. In the afternoon, in company with H.R.H. the Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of York, his Royal Highness honoured the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Temple with his company at their garden party in the grounds of Lambeth Palace. Nearly the whole of the episcopal bench of Anglican Bishops, both at home and abroad, were present on the occasion, together with a numerous body of lay guests and members of the Diplomatic Corps.

THE DISABLED CUNARDER *Cephalonia*, with 530 souls on board, was fallen in with in the North Atlantic on the 4th instant, and safely towed into Queenstown on the 7th instant by the West India and Pacific liner *Floridian*, under the command of Bro. Capt. W. H. Bullock, R.N.R. Bro. Bullock, who is a lieutenant in the Royal Naval Reserve and the holder of three medals and a clasp for personal bravery in saving life at different times under circumstances involving grave peril to himself, is a member and first initiate of the United Northern Counties Lodge, No. 2128, of which lodge his father is a P.M. and Sec. For the services rendered to the *Cephalonia* the Admiralty Court have just awarded £3050 to the *Floridian*, viz., £2250 to the owners, £300 to the captain, and £500 to be divided among the officers and crew according to their rating.

THE BRETHREN connected with Bank Terrace Lodge, No. 462, on Wednesday, the 14th inst., had a most successful outing to Eaton Hall. The members of the lodge were accompanied by their wives, and the party numbered 52. Two saloons were attached to the S.20 train to Manchester for their accommodation and at Manchester the carriages were attached to the Chester express, Chester being reached about 11 o'clock. Breakfast was in readiness at the Westminster Hotel, and afterwards the party boarded a specially-chartered river steamer and sailed down the river to Eaton Hall. The beautiful river scenery was thoroughly appreciated, and a walk through the fine grounds of Eaton Hall and a tour of some of the splendid suites of rooms was much enjoyed. Returning to Chester, a splendid dinner was served at the Westminster Hotel, Bro. J. Bridge, W.M., presiding. The usual loyal toasts were honoured. The return journey was commenced at 7.35, and completed about 11 o'clock. The arrangements were efficiently carried out by Bros. J. Bridge, W.M., Hiram Waddington, and R. L. James.

UNITED FOUNDERS' ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.—The prospectus of this Association lies before us, and we are free to remark that the perusal of that document has made such a distinctly favourable impression upon our minds. There are none of the (too usual) inflated promises to make the fortune of the public for nothing; on the contrary, the Association states its objects and justifies its existence in a manner which will appeal to men of business and common sense. The Association has a fault which will be inevitably mended in time, it is young, but starts life with a solid capital of £10,000, and already has at its command an army of agents and correspondents throughout the kingdom. Incorporated under Act of Parliament, it offers its advantages not only to the man of thousands, but to the man of hundreds and to the man of tens. A deservedly popular feature will be the distribution *gratis* to all applicants, of a list of selected investments in well-known and sound industrial undertakings, likely to increase in capital value, and at the present time paying satisfactory and substantial dividends, and shares in which may be either (1) for cash down, or (2) on terms, *i.e.* on the Association's system of mortgaged investments, by which, say, five hundred pounds worth of shares and the income accruing upon the same may be secured by an actual outlay on the part of the investor of 25 per cent. only of the amount of the purchase money, the balance being advanced by the Association at 4 per cent. interest per annum for as long a term as may be desired. The Association also proposes to negotiate for its clients all descriptions of financial business, to advance money on approved securities promptly and at reasonable rates, to collect dividends and coupons, as well as to transact Exchange business both speculative and investment, and to act as agents generally in this country for residents abroad. In addition to ordinary banking business the Association will act as brokers, buying and selling Stock Exchange securities according to the instructions they may receive from their clients, and charging a brokerage of one-eighth. Space does not allow us to enter into any further details, so let it be sufficient to say that deposit accounts may be opened for so low a sum as £10, and that 4 per cent. per annum is offered on sums withdrawable on demand, 6 per cent. with three months' notice, and 8 per cent. at six months' notice, and that the convenience of clients will be liberally met with regard to the periods at which they desire payment of their interest. Thus, it is clear that the United Founders' Association, Limited, offer a much higher rate of interest than can be obtained from the existing banks, and there can be little doubt that the facilities tendered by the Association to business men and others will meet with the ready appreciation of those whose interests will be advanced by embracing the financial opportunities offered. The registered office of the United Founders' Association is at No. 15, Craven-street, Charing-cross, W.C.

A DEPUTATION of the Society of Architects (St. James' Hall, Piccadilly), attended at St. James' Palace on Wednesday last, to present an address to her Majesty the Queen, on completing 60 years of her reign. The deputation consisted of Bro. Robert Walker, of Cork, President, Bro. Henry Lovegrove, P.G.S.B., and Bro. Walter Emden, P.G. Stwd., Vice-Presidents; Bro. Major F. S. Leslie, and Messrs. Farman and Marsland. They were received by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who handed them her Majesty's gracious answer.

THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY issue ordinary as well as excursion tickets at their principal City and West-end Offices. The booking offices at Paddington station will be open for the issue of tickets all day on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, July 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, and the tickets issued (except those for specified excursion trains) will be available for use on any of those days. To meet the expected additional traffic by the ordinary trains on Saturday, July 31st, the Company will run in duplicate the 11.45 a.m. and 3.0, 6.0, and 9.0 p.m. trains to the West of England, the 1.30, 4.45, and 6.50 p.m. trains to the North, and the 12.0 noon train to South Wales. The first portion of the 3.0 and 9.0 p.m. trains will leave Paddington at 2.55 p.m. and 8.55 p.m. respectively, but the first portions of the other trains will leave at the advertised times, and the second a few minutes afterwards, the long distance passengers being as far as possible taken in the first portion, but with a few exceptions both trains will stop at the advertised stations to take up and set down passengers. On Thursday, July 29th, excursion passengers will be booked to Cork and Killarney at 3.35 p.m., and on Friday, July 30th, at 4.45 p.m., to Belfast, Armagh, Giant's Causeway, &c., and at 6.10 p.m. to Limerick, Killarney and other places in the South of Ireland. Fast excursion trains for the West of England will leave Paddington at 10.10 p.m., and for South Wales at 12.25 midnight, on Friday, July 30th, and at 7.55 a.m., 11.5 a.m., 12.40 noon, and 10.10 p.m., on Saturday, July 31st, for the West of England. Excursions will also be run on Saturday, July 31st, to Bath, Bristol, Dorchester, Weymouth, Marlborough, Devizes, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Worcester, Malvern, Hereford, Stratford-on-Avon, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Oswestry, Chester, Liverpool, Manchester, Isle of Man, and other places served by the Great Western System. In addition to the weekly excursion trains to the West of England and Weymouth districts, an excursion train leaves Paddington at 8.10 a.m. every Saturday during July, August, and September, for Shrewsbury, Llanidloes, Aberystwyth, Barmouth, Harlech, Rhyl, Colwyn Bay, Llandudno, Bettws-y-coed, Bangor, Carnarvon, and other stations in North Wales, for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days. Passengers are also booked every Saturday to Guernsey and Jersey, *via* Weymouth, and the short sea passage to the Islands by the trains leaving Paddington at 8.50 a.m. and 9.45 p.m. Third-class return tickets, available for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days are issued at a fare of 2s. 6d. There is now a daily Daylight Service from Weymouth to Guernsey and Jersey in addition to the night boats. On Sunday, August 1st, excursions will be run to Cirencester, Stroud, Gloucester, Cheltenham, &c., and at 12.15 midnight an excursion for one or four days will leave Paddington for Oxford, Leamington, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, &c. On Monday, August 2nd, cheap trains will be run to Reading, Pangbourne, Goring, Wallingford, Bath, Bristol, Stroud, Gloucester, Cheltenham, &c. Cheap third-class excursion tickets are issued daily by specified trains from Paddington, Kensington (Addison-road), Hammersmith, and certain stations on the Metropolitan, Metropolitan District and North London Railways, to Staines, Windsor, Taplow, Maidenhead, Henley, and other popular riverside resorts.

MIDLAND RAILWAY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY.—On Monday, August 2nd, certain booked trains will be discontinued, of which due notice will be given by special bills at the stations. For the convenience of the public, the Midland Railway Company have arranged that the booking offices at St. Pancras and Moorgate-street Stations shall be opened for the issue of tickets all day on Friday and Saturday, July 30th and 31st. Tickets to all principal stations on the Midland Railway will also be obtainable beforehand at the company's offices. Cheap Excursion Trains from London.—Cheap excursions will be run from London on Friday night, July 30th, to Stirling, Perth, Aberdeen, Inverness, &c., for four or nine days, and to Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dumfries, Castle Douglas, Ayr, &c., for eight days, by which trains third class return tickets will be issued at a single fare for the double journey, available for 16 days. Cheap excursion tickets will be issued from London (St. Pancras) to Dublin, Belfast, Londonderry, &c., and excursion tour tickets to the North of Ireland on Friday, July 30th. (See bills for times, fares, routes, &c.) On Saturday, July 31st, cheap excursion trains will be run to Leicester, Nottingham, Melton, Birmingham, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Burton, Derby, Manchester, Liverpool, Blackburn, Bolton, Preston, Wigan, Blackpool, Rochdale, Oldham, Bury, the Furness District, Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, Barnsley, Keighley, York, Hull, Scarborough, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle, Carlisle, &c., returning the following Monday or Thursday. On Monday, August 2nd, day trips will be run from London (St. Pancras) to Southend-on-Sea, St. Albans, Harpenden, Luton, Bedford, Kettering, and Leicester; a one or four days' trip to Birmingham, and a two days' excursion to Manchester. Tickets for these trains for starting from St. Pancras Station can be obtained on the two days previous to the running of the trains at the company's offices. Southend-on-Sea.—Cheap daily and weekend excursion tickets are issued from St. Pancras and other Midland stations to Southend-on-Sea by the new and shorter route, *via* the Tottenham and Forest Gate line. For holiday companions, travellers cannot do better than secure copies of the new publications which have just been issued by the Midland Railway Company, including "Pocket Guide to the Midland Railway," "Pocket Diary and Guide to the Isle of Man and English Lake District," "Illustrated Guide and List of Furnished Lodgings in Farmhouses, Country Villages," &c., "The Peak of Derbyshire," "Scotch Tourists' Programme," &c. The books may be obtained at any Midland station or agency.

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.—The Great Northern Railway Company announce that on the night of Friday, July 30th, a cheap excursion will leave London (Woolwich Arsenal, Woolwich Dockyard, Victoria (L.C. and D.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross, &c.), for Northalerton, Darlington, Richmond, Durham, Newcastle, Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Helensburgh, for 9 or 16 days, and to Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Oban, Fort William, Montrose, Aberdeen, Keith, Buckie, Fraserburgh, Ballater, Inverness, and other stations in Scotland for 4, 9, and 16 days. On Saturday, July 31st, cheap excursions will also be run for three and six days from London (Woolwich, Victoria, Moorgate, King's Cross, &c.) to York, Bradford, Keighley, Halifax, Leeds, Wakefield, Doncaster, Liverpool, Southampton, Manchester, Sheffield, Leicester, Derby, Nottingham, Hull, Grimsby, Lincoln, Ollerton, Edwinstowe, Chesterfield, Gainsborough, Lynn, Yarmouth, Norwich, Spalding, Wisbech, Cambridge, St. Ives, Ramsey, &c. On Saturday, July 31st, and each succeeding Saturday during August and September, cheap excursions for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days, will be run from Moorgate, King's Cross (G.N.), &c., to Bridlington, Filey, Scarborough, Robin Hood's Bay, Whitby, Saltburn, Redcar, Seaton Carew, Tynemouth, Whitley, Cullercoats, Liverpool, Southampton, and Douglas. In connection with the above excursions to the provinces and Scotland, tickets will be issued at Holloway, Finsbury Park, the High Barnet and Edgware branch stations, Muswell Hill, Harringay, Hornsey, Wood Green, the Enfield branch stations, New Southgate, Oakleigh Park, and New Barnet at the King's Cross fares, and passengers booking at these stations may, without extra payment, travel by ordinary train to either Finsbury Park or King's Cross, as may be necessary in order to join the excursion trains. On Saturday, July 31st, cheap excursions for six days to London (King's Cross) will be run from Keighley, Halifax, Bradford, Leeds, Yorks, Wakefield, Doncaster, Retford, Newark, Manchester, Wigan, Rochdale, Barnsley, Sheffield, Worksop, Grimsby, Gainsboro', Derby, Nottingham, Grantham, Peterboro', &c. Saturday, 31st July, cheap one, two, and three days' excursion will be run to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, Mablethorpe, from Moorgate, King's Cross, &c. Monday, 2nd August, cheap day excursions will be run from Victoria (L.C. and D.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, King's Cross, Finsbury Park, &c., to St. Albans, Hertford, Wheathampstead, Harpenden, Luton, Dunstable, Hitchin, Royston, and Cambridge. A cheap day excursion will also be run from Moorgate, King's Cross, Finsbury Park, &c., to Biggleswade, Sandy, Tempsford, St. Neots, Huntingdon, Peterboro', Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, Mablethorpe, Ollerton, Edwinstowe, Bolsover, and Chesterfield. Cheap day excursions to London will be run from Keighley, Halifax, Bradford, Shipley, Leeds, Morley, Castleford, Batley, Dewsbury, Brighouse, Horbury, Wakefield, York, Doncaster, Retford, Newark, Derby, Nottingham, Lincoln, Stamford, Peterboro', Huntingdon, St. Neots, Sandy, Biggleswade, Cambridge, Hitchin, Luton, Dunstable, Hertford, St. Albans, &c. Tuesday, 3rd August, a cheap day excursion will be run to Skegness from Moorgate, King's Cross, &c. To prevent inconvenience from crowding at the Company's principal terminal station, King's Cross, tickets, dated in advance, will be issued at King's Cross (G.N.R.), Victoria (L.C. and D.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, and suburban stations, and at all the Company's ticket offices.