

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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AN ENGLISH VIEW OF FREEMASONRY IN AMERICA.

We have in many previous articles remarked upon some of the more salient features of American Freemasonry, features which render it, if not in essentials, at all events in its working details so different from our own Masonry as to be almost a system by itself. But we cannot call to mind that we have ever dealt with the peculiarities of American Masonry as a whole. We have written as we have read—that is to say, whenever we have come upon anything in American official Masonic literature which has struck us as being foreign to the true Masonic system, or what we believe to be such, we have made it the subject of friendly criticism. Thus the physical qualification theory, in which so many of the American Grand Lodges put the most absolute faith; the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction; the question of non-affiliation to lodges, these and many other matters of greater or less importance have claimed a part of our attention whenever we have met with any declaration of opinion as regards one or other of them in the Reports on Foreign Correspondence which are appended to the Proceedings of the different Grand Lodges at their Annual Communications. But, as we have said, we have never attempted to deal with them as a whole, and it seems to have been reserved for our worthy Bro. GEORGE W. SPETH, Secretary of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, to attempt this formidable task, as he has done in a letter addressed, by request, to Bro. WILLIAM H. UPTON, who has latterly discharged—and we have much pleasure in adding with exceptional ability—the duty of Reporter on Correspondence in behalf of the Grand Lodge of Washington. This letter has been published, with an Introduction by Bro. UPTON, and a series of “Notes by an American Mason” appended, and though we cannot hope to deal with all the points which Bro. SPETH has made the subject of friendly comment, we are glad of the opportunity of exhibiting his concurrence with most of the views we have already expressed in the pages of the *Freemason*.

Passing over that much of the letter which deals *seriatim* with a number of points laid down by Bro. UPTON in his Washington Correspondence Report for last year, we find ourselves confronted by sundry remarks on the almost universal practice adopted by American Grand Masters of recording in their

annual addresses the decisions they have arrived at in respect of questions which have been officially submitted to their notice. On this, Bro. SPETH, addressing himself at once to the main consideration, asks, not unnaturally, “What on earth does an American Grand Master want to be always giving decisions on some triviality for? Why cannot such trumpery questions as most of them are be left to the good sense and initiative of the Lodges or their Masters? Are they children that they cannot be allowed to act on their own judgment?” In England, he says, the Master does as seems best to him, after consultation with the P.Ms. of his lodge, and only in very rare cases does the matter go before the Board of General Purposes—and thence to Grand Lodge, but never to the Grand Master—and he adds—“Nine-tenths of the puerilities which are submitted to your Grand Masters would never be heard of beyond the walls of the particular lodge concerned. *We* are over legislated for enough in all conscience, but *you* do not seem to dare to call your souls your own without appealing to the Grand Master to corroborate the fact.” We are half inclined to follow Bro. SPETH’s example, and treat this question as he has done, jestingly, but we must not lose sight of the fact that years hence such of these decisions of the different Grand Masters as have been approved by their respective Grand Lodges will be regarded as having the sanction of the law in their favour, and then—well, Heaven help the man who shall undertake the task of attempting to reconcile the decisions of all the brethren who have presided as Grand Masters over the 50 Grand Lodges now in existence in the United States.

Upon the subject of Physical Qualifications Bro. SPETH delivers himself with equal boldness. “Fancy,” he says, “debaring a man from the purely intellectual and moral delights of Lodge life because he has had the misfortune to lose the top joint of his little toe or finger,” and he remarks that a “bald man” is quite as physically imperfect as some that have been rejected in sundry American jurisdictions; while as regards his query as to where the line between physical perfection and imperfection should be drawn, we suggest, as we did some years ago, that it should be drawn at wooden heads. A wooden-headed man is not likely to be able to appreciate either the intellectual or moral beauties of Freemasonry. Another point in American Masonry to which Bro. SPETH very justly takes exception is the largeness of many of the lodges. “What real comfort can there be,” he asks, “in a lodge of 200, 300, or 400 members? What possibility of each member knowing, as he should do, all the others? What sociability?” especially as in America, the brethren rarely sit down to refreshment after labour. As he very justly says, it is this after-refreshment—which is by no means costly—that gives the members “the opportunity which is lacking during lodge hours, of becoming well acquainted with each other,” so that “each lodge is a little family to itself, and the main object of the Craft, good fellowship, is promoted.”

Many other matters which are dealt with peculiarly by the Craft in America are touched upon, such as non-affiliation, residence qualification, perpetual jurisdiction, &c., &c., but our Article has already run to considerable length, and we must reserve such remarks as appear to us desirable on these further questions as well as on the criticisms set forth in the appended “Notes by an American Mason” for some more favourable opportunity, when the demands upon our space are not quite so overwhelming as they happen to be just now. In the

meantime we commend the pamphlet, which contains this letter by Bro. SPETH and the notes, and which is published by J. E. CATES, Tacoma, Washington, U.S.A., to the notice of our readers in the belief that they will find much to interest them in its pages.

TESTIMONIAL TO R.W. BRO. THE HON. SIR H. T. PRINSEP, PAST DISTRICT GRAND MASTER OF BENGAL.

WE have much pleasure in drawing attention to the testimonial which has been presented to Bro. Sir HENRY T. PRINSEP in recognition of his great services to Freemasonry in Bengal. Having ruled the District for upwards of 18 years, in June, 1896 he gave over charge to his successor, the late Bro. General YEATMAN-BIGGS, whose lamented death on the Indian Frontier was announced two months ago. The Past District Grand Master has been called upon to re-assume the government of this widely extended District, and the satisfaction felt by the brethren of the 46 lodges under his authority may be estimated from the singular advancement and prosperity which, as set forth in the Address, have marked his exertions during a period of rule unexampled in an Indian climate. We heartily congratulate the brethren in Bengal on the resumption by Bro. Sir H. T. PRINSEP of his position as their District Grand Master.

The testimonial will take the form of a service of plate. The subscriptions raised by the brethren throughout the District aggregated 8000 rupees, equivalent, at the current exchange, to somewhat over £500.

The presentation was made at Calcutta on Wednesday the 18th ultimo. The meeting was largely attended, and Bro. W. H. FITZE, P.G.D. and P.D.D.G.M., Bengal, spoke as follows:

Right Worshipful Sir and Brother,—We have met together this evening for the purpose of presenting to Right Worshipful Bro. Sir H. T. Prinsep a testimonial which has been subscribed to by the different Masonic bodies and by the Freemasons generally in this District of Bengal. The scheme for a testimonial was started by our late lamented Right Worshipful Bro. Major-General A. G. Yeatman-Biggs soon after his accession to office as District Grand Master, and the call for subscriptions has been responded to very liberally, and a sum of Rs. 8000 has been collected. When Sir Henry Prinsep resigned the office of District Grand Master in June, 1896, the announcement of his retirement was received with great regret throughout the District, although it was a source of satisfaction to the brethren that in Sir Henry Prinsep's successor they had a very distinguished and experienced Freemason in the person of our late lamented Bro. General Yeatman-Biggs. It was certainly never expected by any one that after his resignation and the installation of his successor, it could possibly happen that Sir Henry Prinsep should be again called upon to resume office. He did so temporarily, at the request of our late District Grand Master, during his absence, as his Deputy District Grand Master; but the fates have decreed that he should, by the untimely death of General Yeatman-Biggs, be called upon to re-assume the rule of the District as our District Grand Master, and thus continue to manage its affairs which had been entrusted to his care temporarily. While we regret much the sad circumstances which have occasioned this, the re-appointment of Sir Henry Prinsep as District Grand Master has been a source of great satisfaction to the brethren, who feel sure that the success which had marked his former rule of 18 years will be continued, and that further good progress will follow. For my own part, brethren, I am disposed to think that nothing could be more calculated to raise the enthusiasm of the brethren of this District Grand Lodge than the fact that Sir H. T. Prinsep has again out of pure love and devotion to the Craft consented to resume the reins of office. Brethren, I find it necessary to remind you that on a former occasion, on the 24th June, 1887, more than 10 years ago, I acted in the same capacity as now, when the portrait of our District Grand Master was presented to Grand Lodge. I refer you to my speech on that occasion; I do not propose to supplement what I then said by any lengthy remarks, but I may call attention to the interesting fact connected with the Bengal Masonic Association. I find that during the 10 years which have since elapsed the funds of the Association have been doubled, and the number of children now being educated has risen from 20 to 42. I take this opportunity of thanking Right Worshipful Bro. Sir H. T. Prinsep in the name of the Fraternity in the District of Bengal, for again assuming office; under his rule unity and harmony will reign supreme, and in the history of Freemasonry in India it will be recorded that, after a rule of 18 years, our District Grand Master, at the call of duty, again assumed office and ruled the District until he finally retired from India to enjoy a well-earned repose in his native land. It remains for me to say that the work connected with this testimonial has been mainly done by Worshipful Bro. H. M. Rustomjee; he has indeed worked well and truly, and our best thanks are justly due to him for his labours. I now call on Worshipful Bro. J. R. Maples to read the address.

The Address was read, as follows, by Bro. J. R. MAPLES, P.D.D.G.M.:

"The Right Worshipful Brother the Hon'ble. Sir Henry Thoby Prinsep, Kt., P.M. Nos. 109, 392, and 2476 (E.C.), Past District Grand Master of Bengal.

"Right Worshipful Sir and Brother,—

"When you resigned the office of District Grand Master of Free-Masons in Bengal, in June, 1896, after a rule of eighteen years, it was but a fitting recognition of your services in that capacity that there should

have been a spontaneous desire amongst the large number of Free-Masons in this District to express in some form their appreciation of your devotion to the Craft, and of the tact, ability, and strength with which you have ruled the District.

"It is for this purpose that we have gathered together to-day, and have asked you to meet us.

"To an earnest observer and student it cannot but be apparent that Freemasonry in Bengal, during your tenure of office, has made great and substantial progress, and that you have left it in a state of unparalleled prosperity.

"At the time you took charge of the District in 1878, there existed a desire amongst the distant Lodges to separate themselves from the Bengal District, but with characteristic tact and energy you faced the position, and in an incredibly short time succeeded in restoring peace and goodwill.

"So far back as 1880 the beneficial effects of your rule had made themselves strongly and permanently felt. At the March Communication of District Grand Lodge of that year, you made an exhaustive statement of all that you had done in the interests of the Order. We then find Wor. Bro. J. B. KNIGHT, C.I.E., P.D.D.G. Master, proposing a vote of thanks to you for your strenuous and successful efforts towards the good of Free-Masonry, and we here quote a portion of what that distinguished Brother said in his address on that occasion:

When Wor. Bro. PRINSEP was elected District Grand Master, we expected great things from his known ability and his known thoroughness; but we are more than gratified with the results of that appointment. We have seen Lodges heretofore in a state of disorder brought into order, and we have seen accounts hitherto neglected now kept in a satisfactory way. The account as to the state of Free-Masonry in Bengal, which has now been placed before you with respect to the present, is thorough and complete; and as to the past, as complete as the great industry of a man, occupied in many other ways, can make it. I think that we should not let such a statement as the one we have had placed before us this evening, pass without acknowledging in most cordial terms the gratification it has given us, and the indebtedness under which we stand to our Rt. Wor. Bro. PRINSEP for the work which he has done for Free-Masonry in this Province.

"As evidence of the progress of Free-Masonry in Bengal during your tenure of office of District Grand Master, the following facts are worthy of notice:

"When you became District Grand Master in 1878, the number of Lodges working in the District was 29; when you retired in June, 1896, there were 41 Lodges on the rolls of District Grand Lodge, all of them in sound work and in a healthy condition.

"The capital of our great Charitable Institution, the Bengal Masonic Association, was at that time Rs. 29,000. It stood in June, 1896, at Rs. 72,000.

"We are indebted to you for the establishment, in March, 1882, of the Masonic Hall Building Fund, to which the small grant of Rs. 2,000 was then first made out of surplus District Grand Lodge funds other than those of a charitable nature. This fund, under your fostering care, stood on the 30th June, 1896, at Rs. 54,000.

"Such a record is in itself sufficient to show the great interest you have taken in our Order, the characteristic determination and unflinching tact, and above all the keen judgment and clear business capacity, which you have brought to bear upon all subjects connected with Freemasonry in Bengal.

"Particularly would we mention the great readiness with which you have at all times been willing to sacrifice every personal consideration and convenience when the good of the Order has been at stake. Before your rule Mofussil lodges hardly knew what it was to see District Grand Lodge, or be visited by the District Grand Master. You inaugurated the system of periodically holding communications of District Grand Lodge at various up-country stations, while you have personally visited nearly all the Mofussil lodges, including even those at the greatest distance.

"Since you assumed the rule of the District, you have made it a practice to confer annually a liberal number of appointments in District Grand Lodge on brethren of the various Mofussil lodges.

"Both these systems, unknown before, have given great satisfaction to the brethren of the Mofussil lodges, evincing to them that their interests are not neglected.

"Another great feature of your administration is the interest you have taken in the Masonic welfare of native brethren; you have given them every possible encouragement and have impartially bestowed high Masonic offices upon them, thus promoting cordial and friendly feelings.

"These are some of the characteristic features of your administration, but we cannot pass unnoticed the uniform courtesy and forbearance you have invariably shown towards brethren who may have placed themselves at any time under your censure.

"We now ask you, Right Worshipful Sir, to accept the accompanying offering from the Masonic community of this District, to be applied as you may desire, and thus serve to remind you of the brethren of the District of Bengal, and of the affection and admiration which your labours amongst them have justly earned.

"We conclude with an earnest wish that T.G.A.O.T.U. may spare you for many years to enjoy long life, health, and all prosperity.

"On behalf of the Subscribers,

"W. H. Fitze, J. R. Maples, James W. Browne, T. B. G. Overend, and H. M. Rustomjee.

"Members of the Executive Committee.

"Freemasons' Hall,

"Calcutta, 16th February, 1898."

Right Worshipful Bro. Sir HENRY PRINSEP replied:

Worshipful Bro. Fitze and brethren of lodges in the District of Bengal: It is impossible for me to express myself adequately, either in response to the too flattering terms in which you have described my rule of this District for 18 years, or in acknowledging the most generous manner in which you have desired to put in a substantial form the satisfaction that I have given you as your District Grand Master. It is my intention to carry out your wishes by asking Worshipful Bro. Matthews, who is one of the oldest Past Masters of one of our Calcutta lodges, and a distinguished officer of Grand Lodge, in communication with Lady Prinsep, to select something, both serviceable and ornamental, for my English home, which may, I hope, for many years serve to recall the very pleasant and useful years that I have spent as a fellow-worker amongst you. I have also the great satisfaction in feeling that when absent at your meetings, I am represented in a picture which 11 years ago you did me the honour of placing on the walls of the Freemasons' Hall amongst my very distinguished predecessors. I am most justly proud at receiving

uch high testimonials of your approval of my administration as your ruler, and of your esteem and affection towards me as a brother Freemason. But while a retrospect of the 18 years which I have spent amongst you as District Grand Master, recalls the memories of very many happy days spent amongst you, when I look around me, I miss many old familiar faces of those to whom I owe any success that I may have obtained in that office. Many, alas! have been lost to us here on earth, while many have left us to return to their homes in England to enjoy the rest and happiness which a long absence in India so long delayed. But the hearts of our brethren in England are still warm in their affection towards us, and in the active interest that they invariably show in the progress of Freemasonry in Bengal. I refer especially to Right Worshipful Bro. H. D. Sandeman, one of my most distinguished predecessors, to Worshipful Bro. J. H. Matthews, a Grand Deacon of this District in 1867, and to Worshipful Bro. Thomas Jones, who first held office in District Grand Lodge in 1856, and was Deputy District Grand Master in 1884, and we all rejoice that these very distinguished brethren, as officers of Grand Lodge, fitly represent us at all its meetings. Few amongst those around me were members of the Craft when I became District Grand Master in 1878; perhaps I should congratulate myself that under the vicissitudes of life in this country there should be so many. Prominent amongst those here present, I welcome Worshipful Bro. Fitze, whose long services as District Grand Treasurer and as Deputy District Grand Master of 1885, entitle him to special mention, while the manner in which he has more recently filled the onerous and responsible office of Honorary Secretary to our excellent Charitable Institution, the Bengal Masonic Institution, has placed us under an obligation that I cannot sufficiently describe. Worshipful Bro. Rustomjee's high character and special qualifications attracted my notice in the earliest years of my rule. I consider myself fortunate to have secured his services as District Grand Secretary in 1880, and he has filled that office without interruption to the present day, to the satisfaction and admiration of all those with whom he has come into communication. His devotion to the Craft, his undeviating loyalty to me, his perfect business-habits, and his courteous and genial demeanour have given us a most important executive officer in the affairs of this District, who could not be surpassed, while his unruffled and admirable good temper has been the best retort to some who have ventured to depreciate and find fault with his work. The best testimony to his work will be found in the high estimation and affection with which he is justly held by the brethren of our distant lodges, to many of whom he is not personally known. I will not refer to other brethren to whom I am much indebted for their co-operation and assistance; I would, if time permitted, mention them. But I am specially indebted to Worshipful Bro. Fitze and Worshipful Bro. Rustomjee, who, respectively as Treasurer and Secretary, have been the executive officers on whom I have relied, and with whom I must share any expressions of success in my administration. But, while I express my acknowledgments to the older brethren who have invariably given me invaluable assistance in the performance of my duties as District Grand Master, let me also join with those brethren, the younger brethren, who have more recently joined our Order, and many of whom, by excellent work, have already risen to high office. The younger generation have admirable examples in their predecessors, and from what they have already done, they have shown that they are equal in zeal and devotion to the Craft, and they promise, after a riper experience, to carry on the duties and responsibilities which are falling on them. Foremost amongst them I would mention Worshipful Bro. Maples and Worshipful Bro. Sarbadhicary. So long as these qualities are maintained, Freemasonry in this District can never suffer. Still I must remind them that though under the admirable school established by Worshipful Bro. Thomas Jones—"The Calcutta Emulation Lodge of Improvement"—there has been more correct and regular work in our ceremonies, it is equally necessary that these brethren should make themselves thoroughly acquainted with our Constitutions and the principles on which they are founded, and also with the past history of the affairs and resources of District Grand Lodge; while, above all, they must not lose sight of the interests of our distant lodges, which rarely can be properly represented at our meetings, and, if neglected, will inevitably secede from us, as they have on more than one occasion threatened to do. You have referred to an attempt made in this direction in 1878, and to my success in repressing it in its commencement, and in restoring confidence so as to prevent its renewal. The origin of this movement was dissatisfaction caused by the neglect of the interests of distant lodges and their members by District Grand Lodge, and by the unseemly discussions which used to take place at our meetings in Calcutta. I have been so fortunate as to restore and secure the confidence of these brethren in both respects, and there is really no reason why that confidence should be disturbed in the future. There always must be some desire for a change amongst us; but inquiries that I have made have satisfied me that this restlessness is confined to one quarter only, and that a considerable majority of the members of our up-country lodges not only see no necessity for any secession, but realise that it would seriously affect our usefulness and progress, and would in all probability not give them the benefits which its advocates confidently declare will follow. Still this must always be a danger in the future, but it can be easily averted by care, forbearance, and the absence of anything which can be called selfishness or neglect of the interests of those distant brethren. I will not occupy your time much longer, though there is much that I feel inclined to say regarding our affairs in this District and the progress that you have described. In this respect let me warn you that, from circumstances peculiar to us in India, no one can say that this progress will continue, or even that our present position will be maintained. You will, for instance, I expect find that from the disturbance in our Masonic communities caused by the frontier wars, the strength of several of our lodges and the amount of work done in them during the past year have considerably suffered so as to cause a diminution in our income. There is no reason why we should not recover from this; but the process of recovery can never be instantaneous. It must necessarily be as gradual as our progress has been. One word more I must say of a somewhat personal character in explanation of my resignation of the office of District G. Master and of my re-appointment and approaching re-installation in that office. I wish to explain that it was from no desire to sever my connection with you, that I resigned my office in June, 1896. I did so at the personal request of our deeply lamented and deceased District Grand Master, Major-General Yeatman-Biggs, who desired to succeed me. I had every confidence in his ability, and I knew that his appointment would give satisfaction to all of you, so that by vacating in his favour I felt that I should be promoting the advancement of a most capable and deserving brother and that our affairs could safely be entrusted to his direction. Unhappily for us, his sudden death has prematurely

deprived us of a very competent ruler. I then was consulted as to the appointment of his successor, and I believe and I hope that I acted as you would desire by placing my services at the disposal of the Most Worshipful Grand Master. I have been much gratified in the interval at receiving from the Masters and Past Masters of many lodges, and nearly all of them distant lodges, resolutions expressing a wish that I should accept re-appointment if it was offered to me. I need hardly assure you that my services are always available to promote the interests of our Order, and this manifestation of kindly feeling and confidence in me has touched me as deeply as the events of this evening. Brethren, I thank you one and all from the bottom of my heart, and I sincerely trust that the cordial relations between us will never be seriously disturbed.

FREEMASONRY IN COUNTY DOWN.

We gather from a report, or pamphlet, which has been compiled by Bro. FRANCIS C. CROSSIE, Prov. G. Sec. of Down, and in which are recounted the principal events that have occurred during the 10 years—1888 to 1898—that he has been in office that the brethren have every reason to be gratified with the progress which Freemasonry has made during that period. We note, in the first place, that the number of lodges has increased from 48 in 1888 to 65 in 1898, while in various localities increased accommodation has been provided for the working of the Craft by the dedication of new halls for the use of sundry of the lodges. Of these the Gilford and Ballymacarrett Halls were dedicated by Bro. Maj. LESLIE THOMPSON, then Dep. Prov. G. Master in 1888. In 1891 the Donaghadee and Rathfriland Halls were consecrated for Masonic purposes, the ceremony being performed in the former case by the Dep. P.G.M., and in the latter, by Bro. HUNTER MOORE, Prov. J.G.W. In 1892, the Prov. G. Master—Bro. Lord ARTHUR W. HILL, M.P.—consecrated the Dromore Masonic Hall, and afterwards constituted the Star of West Down Lodge, No. 94, which occupies it, and is reported to be in a flourishing condition. In July, 1894, Bro. LESLIE THOMPSON, Dep. P.G.M., consecrated the Maze Masonic Hall, for the accommodation of the brethren of Lodge No. 356, which bears the same name, while in September, 1896, the Rosetta Hall, at Ballynaseigh, was inaugurated, the ceremony, in the unavoidable absence of the Prov. Grand Master, being performed by Bro. JAMES JACQUES, Prov. S.G.W. Two other halls—at Banbridge and Kilkeel—are also in course of being procured by the brethren in those towns, and there is, we are told, every reason to hope that before another year has passed they will be ready for the reception of the lodges. Thus, in the single Province of Down during the last 10 years, as many as 17 lodges have been constituted and seven Masonic halls established for Craft purposes, while two others are being got ready for occupation. But these are not the only evidences afforded us of the progress of Masonry in Down and the activity shown by its members. In 1892, when the Masonic Female Orphan School in Dublin celebrated the centenary of its foundation the lodges and brethren in the Province were invited to give the event all the support in their power towards the bazaar which formed so conspicuous a feature in the celebration, the result being that the Province was returned as contributing the sum of £253. Moreover, in February of the following year, steps were taken at the suggestion of Bro. THOMAS CROMIE, of Lodge No. 1009, for the formation of a Provincial Widows' Fund, and on the 13th February, 1894, the Committee which had been appointed to assist Bro. CROMIE in his benevolent task found themselves in a position to report that the Fund was established and ever since it has been doing good work in its own special field of labour. On the 10th August, 1897, it was further resolved that a collection for charitable purposes should be made at the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge so that in every respect our Down brethren have been discharging their duties in a manner which entitles them to commendation. There are only two or three other circumstances to be mentioned as having been included in this Report of Bro. CROSSIE'S. In May, 1888, it was resolved to make a complete revision of the Provincial By-laws, and on the following 13th November the Committee chosen to carry out the work, were able to report the conclusion of their labours, and the new code of laws now in force was approved. In February, 1896, Bro. Major LESLIE THOMPSON announced his intention of resigning, in consequence of failing health, the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, which he had held for

upwards of 20 years, so greatly to the advantage of Freemasonry and his own credit, and a year later Bro. Colonel THOMAS A. M'CAMMON, who had been installed as his successor some months previously, presented him with an address and silver salver, as "a trifling evidence of the gratitude, esteem, and brotherly love" of his Down brethren. We trust the next time it is our good fortune to read of the further doings of the Craft in this favoured Province, we shall find the evidences of its prosperity to the full as gratifying as are those disclosed in the report for 1888-98, which Bro. CROSSLE, as Provincial Grand Secretary, has taken such pains to compile.

CONSECRATION OF THE BRONDESBUURY LODGE, No. 2698.

The consecration of the above lodge took place on the 11th inst., at the Earl Derby Hotel, Kilburn. The latest addition to the ever-increasing number of Metropolitan lodges starts under excellent auspices, having a strong body of founders and an experienced first Master in Bro. R. J. Campbell, P.M.

The consecration ceremony was performed by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., assisted by Bros. Jas. Stephens, Dep. G.D.C., as S.W.; John J. Thomas, P.G.S.B., as J.W.; Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, as Chap.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; and Walter Martin, A.G.P., as I.G.

The following is a list of the founders of the new lodge: Bros. R. J. Campbell, P.M.; A. F. Hardymont, Charles Goodman, George Coxen, Edwin George, P.M.; Dr. George J. Morgan, P.M.; Albert H. Oldrey, Benjamin Stocker, C. W. Paine, J. M. Goodwin, F. Crook, T. Battrum, W. G. Coxen, G. P. H. Stringer, M. Symonds, J. Luxton, H. Coxen, and W. A. Unwin.

Amongst the visitors present were—

Bros. F. Pardoe, P.M. 1585; R. H. Huntley, P.M. 1489; Horace A. Huntley, W.M. 1489; W. Hancock, P.M. 2191; L. E. Wilson, P.M. 954; J. Scougall, P.M. 745; H. Wyatt, 1585; S. Pardoe, P.M. 1585; W. G. Dickenson, 2353; W. Gray, 1489; P. N. Goodman, 2485; Harry Willsmer, 1567; E. Symonds, 1366; B. R. Thomas, 511; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; F. E. George, T. F. Finn, G. T. Seal, P.M.; W. Lewis, 1366; G. May, H. J. Thomas, P.M. 753; W. Harris, 2535; W. Ginger, I.P.M. 2361; W. H. Brereton, P.P.G. Org. Surrey; J. Harper Kearton, I.P.M. 1920, Prov. G. Org.; J. T. Musgrave, 753; W. W. Lee, P.M.; and others.

Lodge having been formally opened, the CONSECRATING OFFICER, addressing the brethren, said they had assembled for the purpose of undertaking a very interesting ceremony—the consecration of a new lodge which had been founded for the convenience of brethren residing in that particular neighbourhood. He could only hope that the new lodge might have before it a career of great success and that it might accomplish all the objects the founders had in view.

The D.C. read the warrant for the new lodge, and the Chaplain, Bro. Rev. J. S. BROWNRIFF, delivered an interesting oration on the nature and principles of Freemasonry.

The Consecrating Officer then solemnly dedicated and constituted the Brondesbury Lodge.

The W.M. designate, Bro. R. J. Campbell, P.M., was next installed into the chair by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., and the following officers were invested: Bros. A. F. Hardymont, S.W.; Charles Goodman, J.W.; George Coxen, Treas.; Edwin George, P.M., Sec. (*pro tem.*); Dr. George J. Morgan, P.M., I.P.M. designate; Benjamin Stocker, S.D.; Albert H. Oldrey, J.D.; C. W. Paine, I.G.; J. M. Goodwin, D.C.; F. Crook and T. Battrum, Stwds.; and J. W. Smith, P.M., Tyler.

On the proposition of the W.M., the Consecrating Officers were accorded a hearty vote of thanks, and were elected hon. members.

The G. SECRETARY acknowledged the compliment, and expressed the pleasure it had afforded himself and colleagues to be present.

The letters of regret read included messages from Bros. Hastings Miller, J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B., and W. Lake.

Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a well-served banquet. The usual toasts followed.

The W.M. proposed "The Consecrating Officers," to whom they had previously accorded a vote of thanks, and whom they had elected honorary members. He (the W.M.) tendered his individual thanks for the splendid manner in which the ceremonies had been conducted, and also for the installation of himself into that honourable position. They were well aware that no consecration could be conducted without anxiety to some brethren, but they were indebted to the Grand Officers for their assistance and advice. He had seen the consecration ceremony some years ago, but did not think it could possibly have been done better than that night. The ceremony was doubtless more impressive in palatial buildings than in their humble home, but, taking the surroundings into consideration, he felt they had all been impressed.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, G. Sec., said that, in view of the very charming musical programme before them, they would not expect anything in the nature of a speech from him. His words, though few, would be sincere when he thanked them for the kind reception given the toast so ably proposed by the W.M. As he had often remarked on similar occasions, there was no duty the Grand Officers undertook which gave them greater pleasure than in assisting in starting into existence a new lodge, and, from what they had seen, they could not but believe that the Brondesbury Lodge had before it a very great future. Nothing could have been more admirable than the arrangements the founders had made. The W.M. had spoken of the lodge room as a modest home, but there were few lodge rooms more admirably adapted. All the arrangements had been complete, and with regard to the musical arrangements they would all agree that they could not have been done better. They wished the lodge every possible success. The great privilege devolved upon him of proposing "The Health of the W.M.," whom he had installed into the chair. He most heartily congratulated the members of that lodge on having as their first Worshipful

Master one so well fitted to preside during the first and most important year of the lodge's existence. The W.M. was a tried Mason, having been a member of the Craft for many years, and had already filled the chair of the Marquis of Ripon Lodge. Those who knew Bro. Campbell well could testify to the admirable manner in which he discharged his duties. In the chair of that new lodge Bro. Campbell would do his utmost to promote in every possible way its interests.

Bro. R. J. CAMPBELL, P.M., W.M., returned sincere thanks. He felt sure the lodge would be a success, for there was no doubt it had been required in that immediate district. He anticipated at the end of his year that the last Masonic baby would be a healthy child. It was a difficult task for a W.M. to return thanks on the night of his installation, when as a rule the W.M. was well known to the brethren, having worked up through the minor offices. Speaking for himself, three-fourths of the founders were not actually aware whether he was capable of ruling the lodge, having taken him upon trust, but he was sure their confidence would not be misplaced. It was not numbers they required in their lodge, but the integrity and uprightness of each individual member and this would bring success to the lodge. At the next installation meeting, if they responded as enthusiastically to the toast of the I.P.M. as they had to that of the W.M. that evening, it would show he had done his duty.

Bro. JAS. STEPHENS, Dep. G.D.C., acknowledged "The Masonic Charities," and Bros. W. GINGER, P.M.; W. HANCOCK, P.M.; and HARPER KEARTON (on behalf of the artistes) responded for "The Visitors."

"The Officers" and Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings. The musical arrangements, which were specially referred to as admirable by the principal brethren present, were in the hands of the Westminster Singers—Bros. Geo. May, Harper Kearton, C. Ackerman, and W. H. Brereton, assisted by Miss Emily Foxcroft and Miss Ethel Winn.

HIDDEN MYSTERY.—No. II.

By BRO. SYDNEY T. KLEIN, F.L.S., F.R.A.S., W.M. 2076.

"SYMPATHY WORKING WITHOUT CONTACT ON A HIGHER PLANE THAN THAT OF THE MATERIAL."

In the last demonstration we commenced the investigation of our third great subject—"Infinite Love"—by examining the mystery of physical work being accomplished by Sympathy on the Material plane. After seeing that a heavy inert mass of iron could be thrown into violent movement by a few slight sympathetic touches, we found that this mass, when vibrating, could influence another similar mass even when separated by long distances; but its power to do this rested solely on the fact that they had been brought into perfect harmony with each other, the smallest deviation rendering the power to influence inoperative. To-night I propose taking you a step further towards the appreciation of our subject.

First, let me point out to you that, although the former experiment was conducted, in the ordinary acceptance of the phrase, *without material contact*, the masses not being in contact themselves, nor having any tangible connection, still, we know that there was matter filling the intervening space, in the form of a mixture of two gases—nitrogen and oxygen—which compose the air we breathe; and it was by means of these subtle agencies that the heavy masses were able to influence each other; a closed door or wall would materially have curtailed the force of transmission, unless it were possible that the door or wall could also have been brought into perfect sympathy with them; but we now pass beyond even that help. The material plane is left behind, and once more we find, standing prominently in our path, the same great mystery—"Physical Work being accomplished by Sympathy and Sympathy alone."

On the material plane we used pulsations at the rate of 500 per second, which could be stopped by material obstructions; but the influences we are now to use are at the rate of 250 millions in a second, and are propagated by means of the ether, which being outside the material plane, and indeed outside our very cognisance of three dimensional space, passes through or by matter as though it did not exist; neither doors, nor walls, nor houses, nor even mountains have power to obstruct the forces we shall now call into play.

DEMONSTRATION.

Bro. KLEIN here described the lately discovered instrument by means of which messages can now be transmitted over long distances without the use of a wire; he explained that an electric current is passed through a specially arranged coil of over 15 miles of wire, and is transformed thereby into a current of enormous intensity, the discharge of which sets up pulsations in the ether having the almost inconceivable rate of frequencies of 250,000,000 per second. Quite lately a young Italian, Sen. Marconi, constructed a receiver by means of which these pulsations could be detected at long distances from their source provided it is made in perfect sympathy with that source, namely, that its own characteristic frequencies are synchronous with those produced by the generator; we have here exactly the same principle as that which we noticed in the influence between masses of iron, a very slight derangement of sympathy renders the power to influence absolutely inoperative. The distance effectively covered by these means has in the last few weeks been extended from under eight miles to over 17 miles, and it is now only a matter of time and experiment before the distance will be enormously increased, the only requisite being a better method for bringing the pair of instruments into perfect sympathy. The lecturer then continued: We are dealing here with a force which has many characteristics in common with brain-force, that mysterious agency by which we are able to move our limbs; even dead bodies are animated so far as movement is concerned and decomposition arrested by the strange force we are using here, but, though it apparently arrests the hand of death for a time, it is not *life*, there is a wonderful something wanting which no natural force known to us can supply. In the lower animals we have this *vitality* culminating in instinct, but, in the human, we have a higher power controlling the passions, giving moral responsibility, with aspirations and reasoning powers capable of almost infinite extension. What do we know of this controlling power? One of the earliest recollections I have, was being puzzled at the apparent inability of one's *innermost self* to receive any knowledge of the outside world except through the material senses, and this difficulty is intensified by the feeling of certainty that our innermost self is by far our bettermost self, and that, whereas the body or outer self is subject to decay and will in time be turned to dust, the inner self is immortal. Let me give you an example of what I mean. You are sitting say in a chair and are by some means deprived of your corporeal senses, namely, sight, smell, taste,

hearing and feeling, so that it may be seen what your innermost self is capable of appreciating by itself; it would seem now impossible for you to know that another inner self is sitting near you or to say whether, what I would call an allotropic form of life in the shape of a dog, cat, etc., or, if we press it still further, a still lower form namely plant life, were present; I say advisedly that this seems impossible because, at a later date, I shall not only show that it is possible but shall give examples of its action both in connection with animal and vegetable life. I must, however, content myself here in pointing out that, in the mystery I have brought before you to-night, we have a force which is analogous to what we call life and which can make itself felt to a similar force over enormous distances on a higher plane than that of the material, provided these two forces are in perfect sympathy. It has been proved experimentally that the human self when divested of its corporeal senses has apparently no appreciation of rotation. This was demonstrated a long time ago by Prof. Tyndal, the subject was placed in a chair which revolved on a stand, and this stand was also capable of rotation, the chair was set in motion from left to right and the person was then told to shut his eyes; after a short time the stand was also set in motion but in the opposite direction, and, as soon as the stand was revolving at the same rate as the chair, the person in the chair was obviously quite stationary compared with the room and its contents; the rate at which the stand was revolving was now increased until the chair began to move round from right to left, but the person in the chair was found to be absolutely unconscious of the fact that he had become at one time stationary, and was now turning round from right to left. A phenomenon similar to this is experienced when travelling by railway in a sleeping car. If you go to sleep with your head towards the engine, and the train, by going in and out of a terminus, is running in an opposite direction when you wake, although you may be travelling at a great pace, it is impossible for you to say in which direction you are travelling, and it is the more remarkable because you have all your senses at work, although, owing to the blinds being lowered, your sight is confined to the interior of the carriage. Any of you who have experienced this must also have felt on looking out of the window how difficult it was to realise that you were not going back home again—in fact, it takes a considerable effort of the mind, even with a compass before you, to force yourself to believe that you are going in the same direction as the one in which you started, and that you are not returning. There are several other ways in which we can show this apparently total unconsciousness of the inner self to its surroundings, but I must only mention one more, namely, the case of a person put under the influence of nitrous oxide gas. Those of you who have had this experience know that however much you concentrate your will on your identity, you have no cognisance of any time elapsing between the moment when your corporeal senses desert you and when they return, the beginning and the end coalesce, pointing to the fact that although the senses of the body are subject to time, time has no objective reality to our innermost self, and it is also probable that this is an explanation of the unconsciousness of the inner self respecting rotation, or motion in any direction. We saw in my installation address that, to the Spiritual, time and space had no existence, now motion is the combination of these two, namely, the time that a certain object takes to move over a certain space, and it would therefore naturally follow that the soul apart from the corporeal senses, could have no cognisance of matter; for the same reason that the material cannot perceive life by means of its corporeal senses. We have already seen in Mystery No. 1 that matter has power to influence other matter at a distance, with extraordinary energy under conditions of sympathetic action; we have now gone a step further and find the same wonderful power to influence at a distance, working on a plane far above that of the material; can it be that it is in this region that we are to look for the sympathetic action of soul force? We cannot, with our present knowledge, answer this question definitely, we only know that wherever we turn we find ourselves confronted by mysteries beyond our power to explain from a finite material stand-point; even in material vibrations we meet a mystery almost beyond our power to comprehend. Take for instance those small insects of the same family as the grasshoppers, which make the primeval woods in Central America give out a noise like the roaring of the sea; by means of a kind of rasp, one of these insects creates a sound which Darwin states can be heard to the distance of one mile, this insect weighs less than 100th part of an ounce, and the instrument by which the noise is made weighs much less than 1-10th of the total insect, it is less, therefore, than 1000th part of an ounce in weight, and yet it was found by calculation that this small, minute instrument is actually able to move and keep in motion for hours, from five to 10,000,000 tons of matter, and it does this so powerfully that every particle of that enormous bulk of matter gives out a sound audible to our ears; but even this is not its limit of action; for we know that these vibrations must go on until, in the end, every particle of matter connected with this earth has been affected by each of those vibrations. In the subject of my demonstration to-night we, however, have a force infinitely more far-reaching; we can at the present moment, as we have seen, appreciate its power to the distance of 17 miles, and there is every probability that in the far distant future we shall be able to appreciate it across any distance that we can have on this globe, but this is nothing compared with its field of action. In the material vibration the power of action was limited to the presence of matter, whereas this force that we are using now has no limit, its action being independent of matter, and its field of operation can only be coincident with limitless space. One mystery leads to another; what is the force we are using? It is derived from what is called chemical affinity, we are, indeed, bottling up and letting loose the passionate desires of those atoms of which matter is composed. This I propose taking up as the subject of my next Hidden Mystery, under the title—"The Loves of the Atoms."

DANCE AND CONVERSAZIONE OF ST. NICHOLAS LODGE, No. 1676.

On Tuesday, the 22nd ult., the 21st anniversary of the granting of the charter of the above lodge was celebrated by a dance and conversazione, and the brethren cordially seconded the efforts of the W.M., Bro. H. Forster, so that over 70 couples gathered together in the magnificent ball-room of the Central Masonic Hall, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle, all bent upon passing a happy evening.

Among those present were Bro. Forster, Mrs. Forster, and Miss Forster; Bro. R. H. Holme, P.M., and Mrs. Holme; Bro. T. Lewens, P.M., P.P.S.G.D. Mrs. and the Misses Lewens; Bro. Dr. G. Foster, P.M., P.P.G.W., Mrs. and Miss Foster; Bro. W. Anderson, P.M. 1342, P.P.G. Stwd., and Mrs. Anderson; Bro. F. W. Sykes, P.M. 1342, P.P.G. Stwd.; Misses Pickering; Bro. Dr. Don, P.M., W.M. 2520; Bro. W. Hudson, P.M. 541, Mrs. and Miss Hudson; Bro. Dr. De Lancey, P.M.; Bro. J. Graham, J.W., and Miss Graham; Bro. J. T. Dunn, Sec., and Mrs. Dunn; Bro. D. Dunn and Miss Dunn; Bro. D. Foster, S.D., and Mrs. Foster; Bro. P. Milner, Org., P.G.O.; Bro. R. Marley, I.G., and Mrs. Marley; Bro. J. Marley, Stwd., and Mrs. Marley; Bro. C. Kirk, Stwd.; and Mrs. Herbert; Bro. and Mrs. J. Porrett; Bro. and Mrs. Joel; Bro. and Mrs. Jobey; Bro. and Mrs. Dove; Bro. Hoffman; Bro. and Mrs. Bowles; Bro. and Mrs. Chip; Bro. and Mrs. Franklin; Bro. Wilson; and Mrs. Drew.

Owing to the serious indisposition of Bro. J. G. Cole, P.M., who was appointed M.C. along with Bro. R. H. Holme, the whole proceedings were under the control of Bros. Holme and Joseph Graham, J.W., who carried out the desires of the W.M. to the entire satisfaction of the brethren and their lady friends. Bro. Amer's celebrated band provided the music, and under their strains the dancing portion proved most enjoyable.

An innovation of the usual customs of a dance was made by alternating each dance with a song or glee, so that from the first moment until the last no flagging of the enjoyment took place. Miss Edith Cole and Bro. Philip Milner, P.G.O., presided over the piano, and Bros. J. Marshall and Tom Hoffman (who was several times encored) rendered several songs.

Of the ladies, Miss Forster (who is daughter of the W.M.) and Miss Belle Cole, who are both well known in Newcastle as excellent vocalists, contributed songs; and, in addition, the Tyne Quartette sang in unison, "On the Banks of Allan Water," "Robin Adare," and "Strike, strike the lyre." The names of the singers were Messrs. G. Charlton, E. Clarke, T. Smith, and J. Carmichael, and their contribution to the harmony was an undoubted attraction, no words being too strong in praise of their almost organ-like cadence; they were repeatedly encored.

During the evening a supper was served in the refreshment room, and to those responsible for this department—viz.: Bros. J. T. Dunn (Sec.), J. Marley, and R. Marley—the highest praise is due.

Halfway through the programme, the W.M. addressed the guests, telling them that that innovation of celebrating the coming of age of the lodge by holding a ball instead of a banquet was decided upon because the occasions when the brethren could enjoy the pleasure of the company of the ladies were few and far between, and he desired that not only the brethren themselves but their wives and families should each and all participate in so auspicious a celebration. He gave a short history of the lodge, and alluded to the premier position the St. Nicholas brethren had taken up in visiting other provinces, and in especial Scotland and Ireland. It might be remembered that it was this lodge which first journeyed to Dublin, and which afterwards received and entertained the Irish brethren in Newcastle, thereby inaugurating those fraternal visits between England, Ireland, and Scotland which were now so regularly paid. He concluded by thanking all who had so ably supported him on that festive occasion, especially signalling out his Secretary, Bro. J. T. Dunn, for his untiring efforts at the organisation of the entertainment, and Bro. Holme, P.M., for his guidance and conduct at the dance and conversazione.

Dancing was kept up till midnight with the greatest of enthusiasm, and the occasion will be long remembered as one of the most successful Masonic reunions in the City of Newcastle.

LADIES' NIGHT OF THE LODGE OF PERSEVERANCE, No. 1743.

This lodge's annual ladies' night was given on Saturday, the 12th inst., at *Anderton's Hotel, under the W. Mastership of Bro. Harry Watts. The lodge was first held, when the W.M. was supported by Bros. H. C. Lonsdale, I.P.M.; H. G. Park, S.W.; W. B. Cossham, J.W.; T. Lovell, P.M., Treas.; C. J. Tollett, Sec.; R. Perry, S.D.; J. Handley, J.D.; J. H. T. Bridgman, I.G.; J. Flexman, D.C.; W. Farrant, A.D.C.; J. Cunningham and J. T. Dormer, P.M. 1571, Stwds; and W. Lane, Tyler.

At the close of the lodge work, Bro. and Mrs. Watts held a reception, Bro. W. Farrant acting as the announcer of the guests most admirably.

The company included Bro. H. C. Lonsdale, I.P.M.; Bro. L. A. Lewis, P.M., P.Z., and Mrs. Lewis; Bro. F. Kearney, P.M., and Mrs. Kearney; Bro. John Stait, P.M.; Bro. T. J. O'Brien, P.M.; Bro. Roots, P.M., and Mrs. Roots; Bro. W. J. Wall, P.M.; Mr. Tearle, Mr. Swanson and Mrs. Swanson; Mr. and Mrs. Rogers; Mr. and Mrs. Taylor; Mrs. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. London; Bro. Lovell, P.M., Treas., and Mrs. Lovell; Mrs. Smith, Bro. Marcham and Mrs. Marcham, and Mr. Marcham, jun.; Mr. Terry, Mr. A. W. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Bromwich; Bro. H. G. Park, S.W., and Mrs. Park; Bro. W. B. Cossham, J.W., and Mrs. Cossham; Bro. C. J. Tollett, Sec., Mrs. and Miss Tollett; Bro. R. Perry, S.D., and Mrs. Perry; Bro. J. Handley, J.D., and Mrs. Handley; Bro. J. H. T. Bridgman, I.G., and Mrs. Bridgman; Bro. W. H. Butler, D.C. 1687, and Mrs. Butler; Bro. J. W. Flexman, I.G., and Miss Flexman; Bro. W. Farrant, A.D.C., and Mrs. Farrant; Bro. J. Cunningham, Steward, and Mrs. Cunningham; Bro. J. T. Dormer, P.M. 1571, Steward; Mr. Tyrell, Miss Winney, Miss Lovell, Miss Ewbank, Miss Carpenter, Mr. Smee, Mr. and Mrs. Huntley, Mr. Barton, Mr. J. Boyles, Mr. Millman, Miss Watts, Mr. Turner, Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins; Mr. and Mrs. White; Mr. and Mrs. Calver; Bro. J. E. Lyons, Mr. and Mrs. Hannan; Mr. and Mrs. Laurie; Bro. H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928, and Miss Massey; Mr. and Mrs. Headdey; Bro. Greves, P.P.G. Std. Br. Herts; Mr. and Mrs. Pearce; and Miss Young.

The company sat down to banquet at six o'clock, punctually to the time appointed, and each individual was presented with a pretty button-hole flower, and each lady having given to her, in addition, a bottle of scent, enclosed in a tasty box.

The dinner was followed by a short list of toasts and some nice singing by Miss May Davy, Mr. W. T. Spencer, Miss Flexman, and Miss Lillian Corner. Bro. R. B. Hopkins gave his beautiful performance on the silver bells.

Cryptic Masonry.

Grand Masters Council, No. 1.

The election meeting of this distinguished council was held on the 25th ult., at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C. Among those present were Comps. J. J. Pakes, T.I.M.; W. A. Scurrah, P.T.I.M., as D.M.; H. P. Hay, P.C.W.; Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., G. Chap., Chap.; G. Graveley, P.T.I.M., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.D.G.M., P.T.I.M., Recorder; Baron de Ferrieres, P.D.G.M., P.T.I.M.; G. Briggs, J. J. Thomas, W. H. Toye, John Smith, P. Dorman, and E. Mills, O.S.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. and Comp. Moulton, by request of the G.M., was obligated in the Four Degrees as a serving brother by the T.I.M. Comp. George Gregory, D.M., was unanimously elected Thrice Illustrious Master; Comp. G. Graveley, P.T.I.M., Treas.; Comps. G. Briggs and B. Stewart, Auditors; and Comp. E. Mills, O.S. A vote of thanks was passed, and ordered to be entered on the minutes, to Comp. J. J. Pakes for his services as T.I.M. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. G. Gregory, D.M.; Rev. C. E. Wright, M.A., P.G. Chap., Asst. Chap.; R. Loveland Loveland, J.P., Q.C., P.D.G.M., P.T.I.M.; E. Storr, P.T.I.M.; H. J. Lardner, P.T.I.M.; Rev. Dr. Lemon, P.G. Chap.; A. McDowall, P.T.I.M.; Basil Stewart, and many others. The council was closed in the Degree of Select Master.

The banquet was held at the Holborn Restaurant, and the usual toasts followed. Comp. Baron de Ferrieres responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers," Comp. G. Graveley for "The Past Masters," and Comps. Rev. R. C. Fillingham and W. H. Toye for "The Officers."

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**Masonic Notes.**

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1898.

To judge from the reports we have received, the Masonic excursion organised some time since, to Jerusalem, would appear to have been a great success, and though it is the first, so far as our knowledge goes, that has started from these shores, we trust it will not be the last. There is plenty of enthusiasm among English Craftsmen, who, moreover, like the rest of their fellow-countrymen, are eager and frequent travellers, and we should say that the enterprising conductors of the recent visit, Bros. Lunn and Perowne, will have no difficulty in arranging for future excursions of a similar character.

We have said the trip was a success. True, at the outset, some difficulty occurred as to the holding of a lodge in King Solomon's Quarries, the site of the venerable Temple erected by that monarch in the Holy City. A dispensation to hold such a meeting had not been obtained, and it was necessary that whatever was done should be done under the usual authority. However, the W.M., officers, and members of the Royal Solomon Mother Lodge, No. 293 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Canada (Province of Ontario), came to the rescue of the visitors, and held a regular lodge in the Quarries, on the 3rd February last, and gave them a most cordial welcome. The place in which the brethren met is described as having been "the very quarry where the ancient Craftsmen of King Solomon's days laboured, each in his little corner, illuminated by a little oil lamp, the resting place and soot of which has remained to this day, in order to hew silently, and unobserved (for good work is silent and unobtrusive), the great stones for that great edifice, which was one of the chief wonders of the world, the chief centre of true spiritual and intellectual light."

These old Masters, though it is long since they abandoned the spot, have left their marks behind them both there and in every nook and corner of the city. Underground, but still "intact and well preserved," are still to be seen "the ancient gates of the ancient Temple, whilst deep underground, buried from 80 to 110 feet below" the place on which they were met, "lie the ancient and massive blocks, which silently, without the sound of 'metal' being heard, our brethren piled up as an enduring monument of their knowledge and industry."

These statements found a place in the address delivered by Bro. Kayat, the W. Master of the entertaining lodge, and when the address was concluded, Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past G. Chaplain of England, returned thanks for himself and brother visitors for the cordial reception they had met with, while Bro. the Venerable Archdeacon Stevens, Past G. Chaplain, referred at length to the labours which had been carried on and the Pillars of the Temple which had been hewn. Others also spoke, among them being Bro. Lieut.-Col. Newton, acting Prov. G. Master of Nottinghamshire, who spoke of the universal interest to which their visit was certain to give rise. The brethren were subsequently photographed and when this process was over, adjourned to dinner at Howard's Hotel as the guests of Bro. Chevalier Alex. Howard. The brethren also visited the lodges in Cairo, and there likewise most hospitably entertained by the brethren.

According to the account to which we are indebted for these particulars, there appears to be a strong desire among the Masons in Jerusalem to establish a Royal Arch chapter, and Bro. R. R. G. Palmer, P.M. of the Royal Solomon mother lodge, is said to have expressed an opinion that it would be eminently desirable that such a chapter should be established under the English Constitution. But as these chapters are attached to lodges, it strikes us that the first duty of those brethren in Jerusalem who are anxious to be connected with the Grand Bodies of England is to obtain a warrant for the constitution of a lodge on our register, and then in time, perhaps, an English Royal Arch chapter might follow.

We have much pleasure in announcing that at an early date there will be published by the "Hamburgische Zirkel Correspondenz" a work in two volumes, which—to give the title in English—will be called "Illustrations of German and other Masonic Commemorative and Dedicatory Medals, with full descriptions and text explanatory of their historic and biographic interest." The volumes will include some 40 plates, containing about 600 illustrations, and will be issued bound and forwarded, carriage free, for 15s. The medals will be reproduced by means of photography, both obverse and reverse being presented the same size as the originals. Bro. G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C., has kindly undertaken to write an English introduction. Orders, accompanied by a remittance, to be addressed to Bro. J. Tiedtke, Logenhaus, Welckerstrasse, 8, Hamburg, or to Bro. Speth.

Some time since we announced, in accordance with the information we had received, that the Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys would be held under the presidency of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. and President of the Institution, in the Royal Albert Hall on Monday, the

20th June. We are now requested to state that in consequence of difficulties which have arisen in respect of the use of the Hall on that day, his Royal Highness has been graciously pleased to appoint Friday, the 10th June, for the celebration. In all other matters the arrangements remain unchanged and the chair will be occupied by the M.W.G.M.

Another of the lodges—the Italia, No. 2687—for the constitution of which his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to issue his warrant, was consecrated on Thursday, the 17th instant. The ceremony, which was held at the Hotel Cecil, was performed, as usual, by the Grand Secretary, and when the lodge had been formed, Bro. Francesco Gallizia was installed as the first W.M.; Bros. Cirillo Guffanti and Giovanni Mentasti, the S.W. and J.W. designated in the warrant, and the rest of the officers being subsequently invested. The new lodge starts under the most favourable auspices, with a roll of 21 charter members, and the promise of many initiates and joining members. We understand that the Italia Lodge, in the organisation of which our respected Bro. E. P. L. Valeriani has taken a leading part, will work in the Italian language. We shall give a full report of the proceedings in our next week's issue. In the meantime we trust the lodge may have before it a long and prosperous career.

Last week we had the honour of recording certain special honours that were paid to two brethren who are held generally in the very highest esteem throughout the Craft. In the one case Bro. S. Vallentine, Past G.P., celebrated his Masonic jubilee and in recognition of the invaluable services he has rendered the Albion Lodge, No. 9, during his unbroken 50 years of active subscribing membership was presented with an address of congratulation which will be supplemented a short time hence by a contribution to the Boys' School Centenary Festival under the title of the "Vallentine Jubilee Memorial." In the other case, Bro. W. H. Bailey, Past G. Treasurer of England and Past Prov. S.G.W. Staffordshire, was presented on the occasion of his 50th birthday by the members of the Lodge of Fellowship, No. 2535, of which he was the first W.M., with an exceedingly handsome set of solid silver toilet requisites and sundry elegant flower vases as a slight token of the respect in which he is held by the brethren of the lodge and in recognition of his great services in carrying it so successfully through the first and most critical year of its existence. It is hardly necessary for us to remark that the honours paid to those brethren were most richly deserved, and we congratulate both Bro. Vallentine and Bro. Bailey on receiving such unflinching testimony to the merit of the services they have rendered to Freemasonry in general and their respective lodges in particular.

We have been favoured by a correspondent, who signs himself "P.M., P. Prov. G.D.C.," on the loose habit which prevails in some lodges of recording in the minutes matters which ought, certainly, not be communicated to the general body of members. The letter is far too long for publication, at all events, at the present time, when we find it next to impossible to meet the numerous demands upon our space. We fully agree with him, however, as to the reticence enforced upon all newly-initiated brethren in respect of certain matters being very insufficiently observed. We are told to be cautious in all our communications as Masons, but the injunction is very laxly obeyed.

As regards the particular instance he mentions in his letter, in which the Secretary makes a practice of carefully recording all the minute details of the installation ceremony in the lodge minutes, and then of necessity reading them aloud before the whole body of members—of whom many, of course, are not installed Masters—we have no hesitation in condemning the course thus pursued. Firstly, it is not necessary that the proceedings in lodge should be recorded in full detail. Secondly, if any details are given, they must be such as may be justly and lawfully communicated to all the brethren present, when the minutes are read for confirmation, so that what passes in the Board of Installed Masters, or when the lodge is opened in the Third Degree, may not be improperly disclosed to those of inferior rank in the Order. The W.M. of the lodge, whose proceedings are thus entered in unnecessary and improper detail in the minutes, should lose no time in putting an end to the practice.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I desire to call the attention of all subscribers to, and others who are interested in, the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, to the case of a child (O'Neill by name) who is a candidate at the next election for admission.

The girl is an only child. Her mother is dead. Her father is alive and is now a Battery Quartermaster-Serjeant in the Royal Artillery. He is paid at the rate of 4s. 2d. a day, and, even if he retires at once, is entitled to a pension for life of over 2s. a day. In addition to his pay he receives his daily rations like other soldiers; is clothed free by the State; receives free medical attendance and accommodation in hospital; and a house, or quarters, rent and taxes free. The child is entitled to live with her father in married quarters, and further receives free medical attendance, and free education at the expense of the State.

Is this a fair case for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls? When the Petitions Committee passed it last year, the above facts were not before it. The only fact that was vouchsafed to it was that the girl's father had 4s. a day pay. I communicated the additional facts above mentioned to the General Committee at the end of last year, with the result that the Committee recommended that the name of the girl be removed from the list of candidates at the April election. This recommendation, however, was not accepted by the General Court, and the name, therefore, remains on the list.

If cases like this are considered proper ones to take up, I submit that we are only providing for those who are *already amply provided for*, and, in fact, paying twice over for them. It appears to me to be most unjust to ask for donations to an Institution to support such cases, and to thereby directly deprive some other child of help, who is in dire need, and who has no bread-winner.—Believe me, yours faithfully and fraternally,

J. H. LESLIE, P.M. 1960, E.C.

Hathersage, Sheffield,
March 9th.

FRIENDLY LODGE, No. 239.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Having special interest in anything pertaining to our old lodges, I have perused a copy of the "History of No. 239," kindly sent me by Bro. Emil X. Leon, with some satisfaction, and congratulate this foreign lodge on its having been able to obtain a centenary warrant.

If, however, the reprint of the warrant is correct, I feel that it is much to be deplored that one of the newest of these documents should contain a most inaccurate recital. The Grand Lodge warrant, No. 342—reprinted in the History—was not issued until 31st January, 1809 (the lodge having been previously working under a provincial warrant, No. 8, Jamaica, which was never returned for registration to Grand Lodge), yet the centenary warrant distinctly states that in 1797 a Warrant of Constitution was granted, which was *then* registered in the books of the Grand Lodge as No. 342—i.e., 11 years prior to its appearance on the Grand Lodge records.

I have, unfortunately, had very painful experience of the mischief which these inaccurate recitals produce, and in this instance it is quite reasonable to infer that in years to come the centenary warrant will be treated as a document of record, and its contents not to be questioned.—Yours fraternally,

JNO. LANE.

Torquay, March 14th.

Reviews.

"PROCEEDINGS OF THE MASONIC VETERAN ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA."—The present part is in continuation of the volume of transactions of this real live Masonic organisation, having our zealous Bro. Dr. George R. Metcalf as President, and the courteous Bro. G. W. Merrill as Secretary. The Society was started in 1892, and the sixth annual re-union was held at St. Paul in January last. Some of the papers read to the members are of special interest, and they wisely refer to the origin and progress of the Craft in that Grand Lodge as their chief object, though, of course, not exclusively. Bro. G. W. Speth, the Secretary of the celebrated "Quatuor Coronati" Lodge, by desire of the President, secured enough wood from the old house of the *Goose and Gridiron*, London, to make a gavel, which he gracefully presented to the Association; a *veritable Masonic curio*. Bro. Speth was elected one of the honorary members in 1893, and at the last meeting a similar compliment was paid Bro. W. J. Hughan (one of the founders of that lodge) in recognition of his valuable services to the Fraternity as a "Masonic Historian and Archaeologist." Twenty-eight honorary members have been elected since 1892, the only brethren from Great Britain being the two noted, and 270 active members have likewise been received in connection with the same Association, of whom there are now 22 and 257 respectively. In the former class there are several well known and esteemed Craftsmen in the United States, including Past Grand Masters J. H. Drummond, T. S. Parvin, General J. C. Smith, and other distinguished brethren. There are several illustrations, and the pamphlet is neatly got up and a credit to the editor.

"FREEMASONS' CALENDAR FOR THE PROVINCE OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, 1898," (*Derry and Sons, Ltd.*, Nottingham).—This excellent Annual, compact and exhaustive, cannot fail to prove a great boon to the province, and is ably edited by the respected Prov. G. Sec., Bro. Arthur Stubbs. The information is of an extensive character, embracing as it does lists of the members of each of the lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies, and a roll of all the Present and Past Officers of the Prov. G. Lodge, as well as of the Voters in connection with the Royal Masonic Institutions. There are 1436 votes held in the province by the 853 members of the 18 lodges. The chapters number eight, with 262 companions, and there are four Mark lodges with 155 Mark Masters. There is one preceptory of the K.T., and there are two Rose Croix chapters. The particulars afforded of the adjoining provinces are most useful, and add much to the interest and value of this handy Guide, which is published so early in the year.

"HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS IN DEVON AND CORNWALL" (*London: Macmillan and Co. Ltd.*), 1898.—A new book on the West-country is not an every-day occurrence now, for so many have rapturously dilated on its entrancing beauties and wild grandeur, that few would care to try their hand at such a work, particularly amid so many candidates already in the field. Mr. Arthur H. Norway has the courage of his convictions and has not only written a work "which proposes as its object to gather up some of the chief aspects of those counties," but *has succeeded most admirably*. "Devon contains scenery of a beauty which is not surpassed, and of a variety which is nowhere equalled in all England." It is rather amusing to read that the author, though bent on doing justice to the most westerly county, as never before, found that Devonshire "had

already spread itself into almost half the book," before Cornwall nominally came on the scene. So, however, would it have been with Devonshire had Cornwall first been considered, for their claims are each so strong that a friendly rivalry is almost unavoidable. The susceptibilities of Cornishmen are relieved by the admission that "we may cherish a conviction that the relation of Devonshire to Cornwall is that of the ante-room to the presence chamber, or the *hors d'oeuvres* to the banquet." One of the burning questions asked is, Was it neighbourly to steal her cream and call it "Devonshire"? "Not even the Devonshire Association has ventured to claim that the ships of Tyne or Sidon brought their scald cans up the Tamar or Dart." But it will not do to enter into particulars when the tasty volume can be had for the small sum of *six shillings*, though it extends to nearly 400 pages and is abundantly illustrated by Joseph Pennell and Hugh Thomson.

"HISTORY OF THE POST OFFICE PACKET SERVICE BETWEEN THE YEARS 1793-1815, by Arthur H. Norway.—(*London: Macmillan and Co.*)—This is a most entertaining volume on a subject but little known, and is as interesting as a novel. There is not a dull page in all the 300, and the engravings are very spirited and valuable, because the originals are both rare and curious. "No Nation can afford to forget its past history, and England, of all others, whose power is so deeply rooted in sea-fights, should not be careless of her naval records." As respects the great sea-battles, justice has been done our naval heroes, but one service has been quite overlooked, and its history has remained untold until now, viz., that of the "Post Office Packet," with which Falmouth (Cornwall), was associated for over a century and a half. This town was selected by the Postal Authorities, in 1688, as the point of embarkation and departure for the Spanish Mail Boats, then recently arranged. In all of the marvellous tales of the eventful past, in which several of the old Cornish towns played such a conspicuous part, such as Fowey, Looe, and Penryn, Falmouth took no share, for that town was then "bare hillsides, when the Fowey men vindicated their claim to rank among the Cinque Ports." Early in the 17th century, however, the prettily situated town at the entrance to the *Fal* had blossomed into activity, prosperity, and importance, and was a busy, thriving seaport. The news for which all England was anxiously waiting reached Falmouth first of all, and became common property in the county, long before it travelled to the Metropolis. Mr. Norway recounts all the stirring events of the period in a most sympathetic manner, and the extraordinary engagements and hairbreadth escapes unite in making one of the most readable and unusual works published during the present decade. The chapters on the *North Sea Packets*, the Second French War, and the *American War*, must be read to be rightly valued, and cover a most important period in which the Post Office Packet Service took a prominent and most praiseworthy part. The exciting details are too numerous to be even slightly referred to, so we recommend the purchase of the volume at 5s. 6d. net, from any bookseller.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Mark Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Thursday, the 3rd inst. Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, Pro G.M., Prov. G.M., presided, supported by Bros. J. W. Woodall, P.P.G.M. North and East Yorkshire; W. J. Freer, Deputy Prov. G.M.; and other Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened, the P.G.M., Dep. P. G.M., and G. Officers were saluted.

On the roll of lodges being called, each lodge was found to be represented.

Reports from the W.M. of each lodge were read, as also the report of the Committee of General Purposes, all exhibiting Mark Masonry in the province as in a flourishing and healthful condition.

The PROV. G. TREASURER read a statement of accounts for the past year, showing a balance in hand of £39 19s. 9d.

The thanks of the Provincial Grand Lodge were given to Bro. J. H. Thompson for his services, and he was again unanimously re-elected Prov. G. Treasurer.

The PROV. G. SECRETARY, after reading an appeal from the Secretary of the Boys' School asking for support at its Centenary Festival, proposed that the sum of 10 guineas be taken from Provincial Grand Lodge funds, and placed upon the list of Bro. B. A. Smith, P.P.G.W., who has undertaken to represent the province as Steward on the occasion.

This being seconded by Bro. W. VIAL, was agreed to.

The Prov. Grand Master then appointed and invested the Prov. Grand Officers as follows:

Bro. Wm. Jesse Freer, P.M.	...	...	Dep. Prov. G.M.
" Wm. Vial, P.M.	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" William A. Musson, W.M.	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" T. G. Charlesworth, P.M.	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" H. Goedacre Marriott, P.M.	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" Geo. Carter Oliver	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. R. Wharton Lancaster	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" J. H. Thompson, P.M., P.G. Stwd.	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" John Joseph Sharp	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Rev. H. J. Mason, P.M., G.C.	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Wm. Finn, W.M.	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" Walter Sheen, W.M.	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" John Wm. Barker	...	...	Prov. G.I. of Wks.
" H. Howe	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" John Wigg	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" Frank Birch	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" W. Hurst	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. H. Wootton	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" R. L. Adkinson	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" G. B. Chalcraft	...	...	
" William Walters	...	...	
" William H. Quarrell	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" R. W. Maries	...	...	

Prov. Grand Mark Lodge was then closed, after which the brethren adjourned to the banqueting hall, at which the Prov. G.M. presided, and the usual Masonic toasts were honoured.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT has, in the district orders, arranged for a staff tour from the 21st until the 25th inst. His Royal Highness, who will be accompanied by an Aide-de-Camp, will direct the operations with a staff consisting of Major-General Hildyard, C.B., Colonel Talbot Coke, A.A.G., and Lieut.-Colonel Douglas, D.A.A.G. The assistant-directors of operations will be Lieut.-Colonel Henderson (York and Lancaster Regiment), with the "Red" force and Lieut.-Colonel Walker, R.A., with the "Blue"

ANNUAL SUPPER OF THE ROSE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1622.

The annual supper of this old established and successful South London lodge took place on Saturday, the 5th inst., at the Ship Restaurant, Charing Cross, S.W., and Bros. Bonoldi and Beltramo, proprietors, are to be congratulated upon providing so excellent a repast. The chair was taken by Bro. William Dawson, P.M. 788, the esteemed W.M. of the parent lodge, supported by Bros. J. Loader, P.M.; S. Ballard, P.M.; S. J. Derham, P.M.; T. Grummant, P.M.; David Rose, P.M.; Wavell, P.M.; St. Cedd, Ryan, Smith, Wright, Choveaux, Parr, T. R. Cass, P.M.; Andy, Taylor, Frank Swinford, Hy. Turner, P.M.; Rice, W.M. 1320; G. Thompson, W.M. 1744; Hesekeil, Reep, Harris, H. Hardman, Goddard Clarke, L.C.C., Richardson, Potter, Crisp, Harry Wood, P.M.; Sowton, W.M. 1679; Gomm, C. Mayo, Frampton, Wai. Jeffery, Hayes, W.M. 1475; Snelling, P.M.; Brambleby, Windsor, P.M.; and C. H. Stone, P.M.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were loyally presented and received, as also that of "The Grand Officers," which the PRESIDENT said was always most cordially received, as it deserved, as they bestowed much labour and time in advancing the good of Freemasonry.

Bro. BALLARD, I.P.M., presented that of "The Worthy President." All knew his capabilities and the hearty feeling he always showed in everything appertaining to Freemasonry. The large gathering present showed the appreciation he was held in, by not only the brethren of the Rose Lodge, of which he was W.M., but by many others of the Blackheath Lodge of Instruction, of which he was the Preceptor, in which capacity his work was most earnest and thorough, and he had endeared himself to all with whom he came in contact.

Bro. WM. DAWSON, in reply, thanked the I.P.M. for his very kind remarks and he certainly was very proud in occupying the position of President of the meeting, held under the auspices of his mother Lodge, the Rose. He saw so many brethren present of various lodges supporting the meeting which marked their appreciation of the work performed in the lodge of instruction that it spoke well for its future welfare. He hoped that at the recurrence many more brethren would be present and the lodge go on and prosper.

Bro. W. DAWSON next presented the toast of the evening—"Success to the Rose Lodge of Instruction"—coupling with it the name of Bro. David Rose, P.M., the worthy Preceptor. All knew with what heartiness he was ever ready to impart to any brother who might present himself to learn the ritual, and his thorough capabilities. He should like to address many young brethren of the Rose Lodge present, and ask them to attend and place themselves under the able Preceptorship of Bro. Rose, and he was confident they would be able more efficiently to carry out their various duties. Personally, he (the President) owed Bro. Rose a debt of gratitude for his able instruction, which had enabled him to occupy the position of W.M. Invariably Bro. Rose was present, and he was always ready and willing to impart with great care and ability.

In reply, Bro. D. ROSE, who was received most cordially, thanked the President for his kind words. He was proud to think he had acted as preceptor for 25 years, 22 of which were under the warrant of the parent lodge, and during that time many distinguished Masters had passed through the lodge of instruction. The numbers latterly had not been so large as before, but it could hardly be expected, when there were three other lodges meeting in the near vicinity on succeeding nights. It was indeed gratifying to receive such kindness at their hands, and so long as he was privileged to remain the Preceptor, it should be his aim that the lodge stood second to none in the Craft. Whenever he saw a younger brother not able to discharge his duties as efficiently as he might, it was his endeavour to take that brother by the hand and repeat the ceremony, so that he might gain greater confidence and carry out the duties with greater ease. He thanked Bro. Dawson, the President, who was ever ready to attend and assist at the lodge of instruction at any time he was absent. His age was increasing, and he would not expect to remain among them in such an office many years longer; but it certainly was a great pleasure to him to be present, and so long as he had health and strength so long would he bestow that in the Rose Lodge of Instruction.

The toast of "The Visitors" was ably proposed, and replied to by Bro. WINTER, P.M.

Bro. T. GRUMMANT, P.M., former Secretary of the lodge for 16 years, also highly complimented the President on such a happy meeting, and wished the lodge every success.

Bro. DAWSON next gave the toast of "The Treasurer, Bro. Isaac Dunn, P.M.; the Secretary, Bro. C. H. Stone, P.M.; and the Asst. Secretary, Bro. C. Sowton."

The toast was replied to by Bro. STONE, who gave the statistics of the lodge, and specially the Charitable Associations, which had sent up over £1200 to the various Masonic Charities.

Bro. C. SOWTON also ably responded.

A capital programme of music was arranged under Bro. F. Choveaux, Org. 1622, ably assisted by Bros. Frank Swinford, Taylor, Burr (vocalists), Derham, P.M. (flautist), and Frampton, Ryan, and Grummant (reciter). Bro. F. Choveaux presided at the piano.

THE RECENT FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The following new lists, and additions to lists, have been received since last week, namely:

Lodge	LONDON.	£	s.	d.
14 Bro. A. E. Remington, new Steward	...	10	10	0
1693 " S. Robson, new list	...	52	10	0
Unattached				
Bro. W. M. Stiles, additional	...	5	5	0
(raising his list to £21)				
THE PROVINCES.				
Unattached				
Bro. G. W. King, additional	...	10	10	0
(raising his list to £54 10s.)				
HERTFORDSHIRE.				
1385 Bro. F. G. Mason, additional	...	3	3	6
(raising his list to £32 11s.)				

LADY PIRBRIGHT has issued invitations for a small evening party at 42, Grosvenor-place, on Tuesday, the 22nd inst.

Craft Masonry.

Harmony and Industry Lodge, No. 381.

The installation meeting took place in the Masonic Hall, Darwen, on the 10th ult., when Bro. Ralph Shorrock, W.M. elect, was installed by Bro. Franklin Thomas, P.M. 345, P.P.S.G.W., P.P.G.R. Oxon. Bro. Shorrock is the 37th successive W.M. of this lodge installed by Bro. Thomas, who is now 80 years of age, which is, we think, a unique record. After the installation, Bro. Wardley, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., invested the following officers in his usual happy manner: Bros. B. Horrocks, I.P.M.; J. H. Bury, S.W.; J. Cocker, J.W.; J. Wardley, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., D.C.; J. Anden, P.M., Charity Representative; Dr. Steele, Sec.; Rev. W. G. Procter, B.A., P.P.G.C., Chap.; R. T. Lomax, S.D.; J. H. Ellison, J.D.; J. Lightbown, I.G.; G. G. Sames, Org.; A. Beswick and Jesse Lowe, Stewards; and W. Kershaw, Tyler.

Bro. Wardley is one of the most able and esteemed members of the lodge, and is looked upon as the "father," for he has initiated, passed, and raised about 200 of its members, and has invested the officers of this and other lodges since 1875, when he was W.M. of his mother lodge.

After investiture, the brethren celebrated the Festival of St. John the Evangelist in their handsome and spacious Masonic Hall, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given with their appropriate accompaniments.

During the evening a handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to the I.P.M., Bro. B. Horrocks, for his usual services to the lodge, both as W.M. and in the offices he has so successfully held.

A special toast was given by the D.C.—"Our Absent Brethren"—and allusion was made to Bro. S. H. Shorrock, P.M., P.P.G. Treas., who has, within the last few months of the old year, left England for China, and whose absence the lodge very much deplores, he having been a most active, useful, and intelligent member of the Craft and of the province, as was evinced by his overwhelming election as Prov. G. Treas. of the important Province of East Lancashire, special complimentary allusions being made by the Prov. G.M., Bro. Starkie, at the close of his year of office.

During the evening Bro. Muirhead made himself exceedingly useful in the musical portion of the programme, as well as other brethren of 381.

The banquet was supplied by Bro. Parkinson, of the Devonshire Hotel, Blackburn.

La Cesaree Lodge, No. 590.

The installation meeting of this lodge, which works entirely in the French language, was held at the Masonic Temple, Jersey, on the 24th ult. Bro. A. Viel, W.M., presided, being supported by about 40 brethren, amongst whom were Bros. Col. E. C. Malet de Carteret, P.G.M. Jersey; Dr. J. Le Cronier, D.P.G.M. Jersey; Dr. A. C. Godfray, Prov. G. Sec.; P. Bois, Prov. S.G.W.; Dr. M. Le Cronier, Prov. J.G.W.; T. Le Seelleur, P.M.; Major F. J. Godfray, P.M.; F. E. Remfry, P.P.S.G.W. South Wales West; C. E. Malet de Carteret, P.M. 877; E. Brée, P.M.; C. Marett, P.M.; H. Becker, P.M.; J. C. Barrett, P.M. 245; A. Anslow, W.M. 244; S. Picot, W.M. 491; J. J. d'Authreau, W.M. 245; C. H. Wilson, W.M. 877; H. W. Hinds, W.M. 1003; E. Oldridge, P.M. 1003; E. Dodman, P.M. 1003; Capt. U. F. Lapham, P.M.; and many others.

The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read, Mr. Edmund Le Feuvre was initiated on emergency by the W.M. in a most impressive manner. The report of the "Conseil d'Administration" was received and adopted. The W.M. then vacated the chair in favour of Bro. M. Le Cronier, who installed Bro. A. W. Godfray as W.M. for the ensuing year in a manner such as to call forth the admiration of all present. The new W.M. appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers, viz.: Bros. A. Viel, I.P.M.; M. Le Cronier, S.W.; C. E. Malet de Carteret, J.W.; E. Brée, Sec.; G. C. Chauchoin, S.D.; D. P. Vincent, J.D.; C. Marett, P.M., D.C.; H. Becker, P.M., Org.; E. Mony, I.G.; and G. H. Rogers, Tyler. Bro. P. Baudains, the elected Treasurer, was absent through illness, and his investiture was therefore postponed. The customary addresses by the Installing Officer ended the ceremony.

The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet which was followed by the usual toasts.

In responding to the toast of "The Provincial Grand Lodge," the P.G.M. said that he intended to represent the province at the festival of the Boys' School in June, and hoped that the province would do its utmost to support him liberally. He was aware that the province was a small one and by no means rich, and had already sent up this year a Steward to the Benevolent Institution, but he thought that they would do their utmost to be represented in a worthy manner at such an important festival as that over which his Royal Highness had promised to preside.

The other toasts having been suitably proposed and responded to, the Tyler's toast ended a most enjoyable evening.

The intervals were enlivened by some capital recitations and songs by Bros. C. H. Wilson, E. Brée, M. Le Cronier, C. J. Le Feuvre, D. P. Vincent, H. W. Hinds, U. F. Lapham, and A. W. Godfray.

Kennington Lodge, No. 1381.

The last meeting for the season of this popular and prosperous transpentine lodge was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, on the 1st inst., when there were present among others Bros. Colin Chisholm, W.M.; P. Davies, S.W.; W. H. Wolsey, J.W.; R. C. F. La Feuillade, P.M., Treas.; J. N. Hearn, P.M., Sec.; R. C. Hopkins, S.D.; A. Harris, I.G.; H. C. Linwood, Org.; R. W. Brading, A.D.C.; G. Reddish and J. Court, Stwds.; H. Higgins, P.M.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S., P.G. Std. Br.; C. H. Kohler, P.M.; H. F. Foale, P.M.; A. Lundie, P.M.; Dr. G. Millsom, P.M.; J. Barry, I.P.M.; and L. G. Reinhardt, Tyler.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken as a joining member on behalf of Bro. J. A. Dawes, M.A., B.C.L., J.P., P.M. 2022, and also for Messrs. Henry Hawkins and Robert Fairtross as initiates, and it proved to be unanimous. Bro. W. E. Crichton was raised to the Third Degree by the W.M., who also initiated the candidates. The resignation of Bro. J. Cockburn, P.M., was read, but it was suggested that he might like to remain as a country member, and the Secretary was directed to write him on the matter.

The lodge was closed. Refreshment followed labour.

In proposing the toast of "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. made several kind allusions to Bro. George Everett, P.M., Treas., whose continued ill-health was a matter of considerable concern to his numerous friends and brethren. He hoped, and he was sure, that all the brethren of the Kennington Lodge shared the hope that he would speedily be restored to health.

The I.P.M. gave "The Health of the W.M.," who had that afternoon proved that he was capable of doing any work he might be called upon to perform. It was his first effort, and very praiseworthy was the result.

The W.M., in reply, briefly expressed his acknowledgments. He said that performing the ceremonies in a lodge of instruction was very different to carrying them out satisfactorily in a regular lodge before a number of old Masons. However, it was his first attempt, and he hoped to improve as the months rolled on.

The toast of "The Initiates" followed.

In reply, Bros. H. Hawkins and R. Fairtross respectively made interesting speeches, far above the average.

The toast of "The Masonic Charities" drew from Bro. Dr. Millsom, in response, a very stirring appeal. He regretted that the recent Festival result of the R.M.B.I. had fallen below £10,000, but it was only to be expected that the forthcoming Centenary Festival of the R.M.I. for Boys would interfere with the other Institutions. The W.M. was representing No. 1381 at the Centenary, and he trusted that his list would be worthy of the lodge. All the Charities were deserving of the greatest support, and the Masons of England were proud of their haven of rest for the aged and infirm and the schools for the orphans and children of those who had fallen by the way.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was responded to by Bros. Barry and Kohler, "The Treasurer and Secretary" by Bros. La Feuillade and Hearn, and "The Officers" by Bros. Davies, Wolsey, Harris, and Brading.

During the evening Bros. A. C. Hawkins, A. Lundie, Tom Davies, and R. W. Brading instrumentally and vocally entertained the brethren.

Islington Lodge, No. 1471.

A regular meeting was held on Thursday, the 10th instant, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, which was attended by a considerable number of members and visitors. There were present Bros. E. J. Harrison, W.M.; C. Isler, S.W.; C. Horst, J.W.; S. Napper, P.M., Treas.; E. Blinkhorn, P.M., Sec.; G. E. Walker, as S.D.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, D.C.; E. H. Bury, as I.G.; T. E. Newman, Steward; E. J. Bury, Org.; G. Couchman, Tyler; A. Cox, P.M.; H. B. Harding, P.M.; D. C. Ritchie, P.M.; J. F. Wahlers, G. A. Hopkins, W. Pannell, W. F. Roberts, W. E. Peckover, E. A. Wagstaff, D. C. Attwater, J. Johnson, T. Burrell, J. Jauncey, G. Fullbrook, L. Danielsson, W. Goring, C. Weber, G. Yexley, W. J. Barnes, J. R. White, J. H. Thurman, E. H. Yexley, and T. E. Spotswood. The visitors present were Bros. C. Nicole, 2278; G. T. Edwards, 766; A. Oliver, P.M. 820; J. Clark, W.M. 2472; C. H. Collett, Org. 1326; R. Eddie, S.W. 742; R. W. Nicole, P.M. 2278; F. Page, P.M. 1613; J. Duncan, P.M. 59; and R. P. Upton, P.M. 1328.

The minutes of the installation meeting in February having been read and confirmed, Bro. W. E. Peckover was passed to the Second Degree, and Bro. T. Burrell was elected a joining member. A lengthy discussion terminated in the appointment of a Committee, and a brother having been proposed as a re-joining member, the lodge was closed.

The brethren then adjourned to refreshment, after which the usual list of toasts was gone through.

Bros. Page, P.M., and Oliver, P.M., replied for "The Visitors."

In the course of the evening the musical brethren contributed several songs for the general entertainment.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Hemming Lodge, No. 1512.

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on the 24th ult. Among those present were Bros. P. Cronin, W.M.; C. Wheatley, S.W.; H. Gale, J.W.; J. C. Jessett, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; C. F. Davis, S.D.; H. Webster, J.D.; W. Hill, I.G.; G. Ransford, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., D.C.; H. Wheatley, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; A. Macchi, P.M. 1503, and A. Z. Schultz, Stewards; W. Spearing, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; W. Fisher, P.M., P.P.G. Treas.; W. Hopkins, I.P.M.; and J. Gilbert, Tyler.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. Massey, Wells, and Beltramo were impressively raised to the Third Degree by the W.M. A sum of 10 guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, per Bro. G. J. Tagg, P.M., as Steward, Centenary Festival. A petition to the Charity Committee of the province on behalf of a distressed member of the lodge, was recommended and signed. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. E. A. Trotter, P.M.; G. J. Tagg, P.M.; S. P. Clark, and others.

The lodge having been closed, refreshment followed labour, and upon the removal of the cloth, the usual toasts received full justice.

Bro. G. Ransford, P.P.G.S.B., responded on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers."

The I.P.M., in submitting the toast of "The W.M.," congratulated the lodge upon having so good a worker at its head as Bro. Cronin. The members who were present at the last meeting would recollect that he (the I.P.M.) had spoken of the exceptional manner in which the W.M. had invested his officers, and also of the self-possession way he had proposed the numerous toasts at the installation banquet. He was pleased to see that the W.M. had sustained his reputation by carrying out the duties of the lodge that evening in a manner that left nothing to be desired.

The W.M. having briefly replied, gave "The Visitors." He said that the Hemming Lodge was always glad to welcome visitors, and, thanks to the manner in which the funds of the lodge were dispensed by their genial Treasurer (Bro. Jessett), and the attention given to the wants of the visitors by their popular Wine Steward (Bro. Wheatley), no visitor could be otherwise than pleased with the result.

This toast having been acknowledged, "The Health of the Past Masters," coupled with the names of Bros. H. Wheatley, P.M., and W. Hopkins, I.P.M., followed.

"The Treasurer and the Officers"—acknowledged by Bros. Jessett, C. Wheatley, and H. Gale—brought the proceedings to a conclusion.

University of London Lodge, No. 2033.

This lodge met at Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, the 10th inst. The members of this lodge are confined exclusively to graduates or matriculated students of the University of London. There were present Bros. Peter Horrocks, M.D., F.R.C.P., I.P.M.; R. A. Germaine, M.A., S.W.; R. Bryant, B.A., D. Sc., J.W.; F. E. Lemon, M.A., LL.B., Treas.; W. J. Spratling, B. Sc., Sec.; H. W. Kiallmark, S.D.; Sam. Hayne, B.A., LL.B., J.D.; A. W. Burrell, M.D., I.G.; J. H. Hall, B.A., Stwd.; H. J. Macavoy, M.D., B. Sc.; R. Kingdon Ellis, M.A., M.B.; C. H. Langford, M.B.; T. D. Savill, M.D.; R. H. Cole, M.D.; A. H. Upjohn, LL.B.; R. E. Cranfield, Int. LL.B.; T. F. G. Dexter, B.A., B. Sc.; and Scanes Spicer, M.D., B. Sc. Visitors: Bros. C. A. Cuthbert Keason, W.M. 822; Prof. F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M. 45; and J. W. Freeman, Tyler.

In the absence of the W.M., Bro. R. D. Littler, B.A., O.C., C.B., Past Deputy G. Reg., through illness, the lodge was opened by Bro. Kiallmark in whom the authority was vested. The minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. Mr. W. E. Cranfield was balloted for initiation; the votes of the brethren were in his favour. The by-laws of the lodge were taken as read. The election for Treasurer took place, Bro. F. B. Lemon was unanimously elected. Bro. Freeman was elected Tyler by show of hands. The candidate for initiation was admitted to the mysteries of Freemasonry by the acting W.M. The ballot for W.M. resulted in the election of Bro. R. A. Germaine, S.W. It was proposed that a Past Master's jewel should be presented at the next meeting to Bro. Littler, W.M., which was carried unanimously. The Secretary read the correspondence. The lodge was then closed.

Bro. Horrocks, I.P.M., presided at the banquet at Freemasons' Tavern, when the usual toasts were given. "The Queen and the Craft;" "The M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales, the Pro Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Bro. Horrocks, I.P.M., and Bro. Kiallmark responded.

The toast of "The Initiates" followed.

Bro. Cranfield replied.

"The Visitors, their names coupled with the sister Universities," responded to by Bros. C. A. Cuthbert Keason and Professor F. W. Driver, for Oxford and Cambridge respectively.

The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" was answered only by the Secretary, the Treasurer having previously left.

"The Officers of the Lodge" having been given, Bro. S. Hayne responded on their behalf.

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

Barnet Lodge, No. 2509.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 10th inst., at the Assembly Rooms, New Barnet, when there were present Bros. T. Falconer, W.M.; F. Witthaus, as S.W.; W. Baddeley, J.W.; Rev. G. E. Gardner, Chap.; R. Cranston, P.M., Treas.; F. T. Plowright, P.M., Sec.; W. Fitch, J.D.; H. Imray, D.C.; F. Attree, I.G.; T. M. Rainsford, Stwd.; Goddard, Tyler; W. A. Witthaus, P.M.; W. Wood, W. Cannon, A. W. Letts, F. W. Harvey, S. Turnbull, W. Gabell, Dr. Rowton, J. Marchand, and T. Winn. Visitors: Bros. J. Kearsey, P.M. 15; J. D. Huzler, 773, Cape Coast Castle; C. W. Warde, 1259; Donald King, and J. Morgan. Lodge having been opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, Bros. Harvey and Turnbull were raised, and Bro. Gabell passed to the Degree of F.C., while Mr. W. H. Cross having been balloted for and elected, was duly initiated into Freemasonry, the Three Degrees being ably worked by the W.M.

The brethren then adjourned to refreshment, and after dinner some very interesting speeches were made by the visitors, descriptive of Masonic working in Africa and Burmah. There was some capital singing in the intervals.

Marcians Lodge, No. 2648.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. J. R. CLEAVE, P.M.

At the first installation meeting of this lodge, held at the Trocadero Restaurant, W., on the 25th ultimo, ample evidence was forthcoming that a very satisfactory year's work had been done and that the new lodge had more than justified its existence. The members, recognising that this success was in a large measure due to the indefatigable exertions, Masonic zeal, and general popularity of the first Master, Bro. J. R. Cleave, P.P.G.D. Surrey, presented him with a miniature gold Past Master's jewel, together with a handsome set of fruit dishes for Mrs. Cleave.

The members present included Bros. J. R. Cleave, P.P.G.D. Surrey, W.M.; the Rev. C. J. Smith, S.W., W.M. elect; T. Simpson, J.W.; J. W. Jarvis, Treas.; A. H. Waller, Sec.; T. Gunning, S.D.; R. M. Gatliff, J.D.; A. Saunders, P.M., D.C.; F. Muntzer, I.G.; the Rev. J. R. W. Thomas, Org.; J. D. Langton, P.D. G.D.C.; and many others. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Dr. Lawrence, P.G.S.B.; C. J. March, W. S. Hooper, Imre Kiralfy, R. Newton Crane, W. Beard, W. Dennis, P.M.; E. L. Berry, P.P.G.D. Surrey; W. O. Welsford, H. J. Keen, J. J. Runtz, W. A. Colyer, J. A. Harrison, H. T. Brickwell, J. H. Hawkins, Prov. G.D.C. Surrey; W. Sergeant Lee, E. Lane Campbell, C. J. Sherwood, and many others.

Lodge was opened at an early hour owing to the heavy programme of work, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. C. Cary, P. B. Evans, A. C. Busby, C. Busby, and G. W. Mann were raised to the Third Degree, and Bros. A. J. Heal, G. F. Muntzer, and J. F. Pollard were passed to the Second Degree. Bro. Easterbrook, acting I.P.M., then relieved the W.M. by initiating Mr. R. A. Pollard. The lodge was then called off for well-earned light refreshment, and on resumption of business, Bro. the Rev. C. J. Smith was installed as W.M. by Bro. J. R. Cleave, who completed a good evening's work by a capital rendering of the ceremony. The following officers were invested: Bros. T. Simpson, S.W.; T. Gunning, J.W.; J. W. Jarvis, Treas.; A. H. Waller, Sec.; R. M. Gatliff, P.M., S.D.; F. Muntzer, J.D.; A. Saunders, P.M., D.C.; J. A. Perret, I.G.; the Rev. J. R. Thomas, Org.; C. E. Betts and E. G. Lynex, Stwds.; and J. Whiteman, Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. J. R. Cleave, I.P.M., by the W.M., who referred in eloquent terms to the invaluable services rendered by the I.P.M. in the formation of the lodge, and for which the jewel was a very inadequate recognition. The gift was briefly acknowledged, and the lodge was closed.

After dinner the customary toasts were given.

Bro. J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C., acknowledged "The Grand Officers," and expressed his pride at being able to do so. He felt sure all the Grand Officers did their best to assist Masonry in the rapid progress they were making. As one of the Consecrating Officers of the lodge, he was delighted to see the great progress made under the able rule of the first Master, Bro. Cleave. As a friend of Bro. Cleave's for some years, he knew that whatever that brother did he did thoroughly, and, therefore, when he saw him installed he knew the first year would be a success. That success seemed of such a substantial nature that it would last for many years. Mention had been made of a matter very dear to his (Bro. Langton's) heart—the Centenary of the Boys' School. He understood the W.M. would represent the lodge on that occasion, and he sincerely hoped the lodge would do its best to send up a good list.

Bro. Dr. Lawrence, P.G.S.B., also replied.

"The Health of the W.M." was given by Bro. Cleave, I.P.M., who said he felt it was impossible for him to do justice to the toast after the eloquent speeches with which the W.M. had commenced his year. The more they knew of Bro. Rev. C. J. Smith, the W.M., the more they loved him. The splendid start made by the W.M. that evening was only a beginning of the admirable way in which he would preside over them. It was quite unnecessary to say anything in the W.M.'s favour, which would be but painting the lily or gilding refined gold.

The W.M. said he appeared before them in a new character—he never thought he should appear as a lily. He saw around him many old colleagues in the hard struggle against ignorance. He saw old pupils with whom the struggle was often harder, and it gave him the greatest pleasure to preside over a gathering containing not only those who looked upon them from an independent standpoint, but also those who were old colleagues and to meet again in those pleasant relations, many old pupils. Nothing should be wanting on his part to make the lodge flourish and to continue to carry out those great traditions which had only lasted one year.

The W.M. next proposed "The I.P.M. and Installing Master." They owed Bro. Cleave a debt of gratitude which they could never repay, but there was no member who was not anxious, as far as lay in him, to repay that debt. They were delighted to congratulate the I.P.M. on his triumphant success and the founders thought they ought to mark, in some measure, their sense of gratitude towards him. They had been privileged to partake of Bro. Cleave's hospitality, in which Mrs. Cleave had assisted, and they thought that nothing could be more pleasing than to make some present to Mrs. Cleave. There was no question that wives were somewhat neglected in some lodges, and they thought that if they gave Bro. Cleave the ordinary Past Master's jewel they should also give him something for Mrs. Cleave. He hoped the brethren would agree that the fruit dishes, which he asked Bro. Cleave to accept on behalf of his wife, were well chosen, the design being some 120 years old. He also asked them to combine in the toast the name of Bro. Easterbrook, P.M., who had acted as I.P.M. during the past year.

Bro. J. R. Cleave, P.P.G.D. Surrey, I.P.M., said he was overwhelmed by their reception. Whatever he had done had been possibly from fairly selfish motives—from the interest he took in Masonry and the desire to make that lodge a success. Any work in that direction was a labour of love. He was surprised at the magnificent present made to his wife, and on her behalf he could say she would be equally surprised, and he only wished she were present. He yielded to none in his rendering of the Masonic ritual, for although he was not always perfect, he did the best he could, for if a man undertook the work, it should be done in a dignified and appropriate manner, and to the best of his ability; he had endeavoured to do so. As that was the last time he should have the privilege of addressing them, he wished to emphasise what Bro. Langton had said in drawing attention to the W.M.'s list for the Boys' School. In connection with the lodge there was a Benevolent Association, which was the means of sending him up for the Girls' School with the fourth highest list. On behalf of his wife he thanked them for the handsome present given her, which was a complete surprise.

Bro. Easterbrook, P.M., having also replied,

"The Initiates" was given, followed by "The Visitors."

Bros. W. Dennis, P.M.; W. S. Hooper, P.M.; Rev. J. H. Smith; E. L. Berry, P.P.G.D. Surrey; and Newton Crane, S.W. 2397, responded.

Other toasts were given before the proceedings terminated.

In the musical programme Bros. R. A. Pollard, E. J. Sainsbury, and A. C. Busby contributed, and Messrs. F. Upton and Walter Banks also assisted.

Royal Arch.

Fidelity Chapter, No. 3.

This chapter met at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 4th inst., when there were present among others Comps. J. Mapleton, M.E.Z.; H. J. Lardner, P.Z. 1745, P.P.G.S.B., H.; Lieut.-Col. W. Hart, J.; W. J. Collins, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N., S.E.; J. Hemming, P.Z., Treas.; W. Weekes, P.S.; W. Ratcliffe, P.Z.; Major T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C.; and J. Cooper Goddard, Janitor.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. Communications regretting inability to attend were received from Comp. F. Graves, P.Z.; F. McDougall, P.Z.; H. Birch, P.Z.; Stevens, P.Z.; Larcombe, P.S.; Nash, S.N.; Spawforth, Campbell, and others.

The chapter was then closed.

The banquet was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, and gave unqualified satisfaction.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the customary toasts received ample justice.

"The Health of the M.E.Z." was proposed. The proposer of the toast regretted that the First Principal had not had the pleasure of exalting a candidate that evening. In the other chairs and minor positions he had shown great aptitude for Royal Arch work, and it was to be hoped that ere long he would have an opportunity of giving the chapter "a taste of his quality" in the *rite* of M.E.Z.

The First Principal having replied, gave "The S.E. and Treasurer." In submitting this toast he said that it would be the last that evening, as with so small a company

present it must be tiring to have to listen to so many speeches. Their S.E. was a most invaluable officer, ready to do anything and to assist everyone. The Treasurer had been absent some time in consequence of illness, but he was now quite recovered. No chapter could possibly possess two better companions and officers, and might they be spared for many years to respectively hold those important positions of S.E. and Treasurer.

To this toast Comp. Hemming briefly responded.
The proceedings then terminated.

St. Magdalen Chapter, No. 242.

The installation meeting of this chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Nether Hall-road, Doncaster, on Friday, the 11th inst., when there were present Comps. C. Goldthorpe, M.E.Z.; A. W. Fretwell, H.; J. Fitzgerald, J.; F. J. Forth, Treas.; J. Constable, S.E.; H. Foster, S.N.; H. A. Fenton, P.S.; R. Brew, 1st A.S.; C. Richardson and J. Mason, Janitors; F. Rand, P.Z.; J. H. Pawson, F. Buckland, C. E. Boomer, J. W. Chapman, and A. L. Peace. Visitors: Comps. Ensor Drury, P.Z., P.P.G.H., P.G.P.S. England; T. B. Whytehead, P.Z., P.P.G.H. N. and E. Yorks, P.G.S.N. England; R. Ruff, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C.; and W. Gratton, P.P.A.G.S.

Comp. Ensor Drury performed the installation ceremony for the three Principals in an excellent and impressive manner. The companions were admitted and the officers invested. The officers now are as follows: Comps. A. W. Fretwell, M.E.Z.; J. Fitzgerald, H.; H. A. Fenton, J.; F. J. Forth, Treas.; J. Constable, P.P.G.O., S.E.; A. L. Peace, S.N.; R. Brew, P.S.; C. E. Boomer, 1st A.S.; J. W. Chapman, 2nd A.S.; and J. Mason and C. Richardson, Janitors. Bro. Langbridge, 2078, was proposed and seconded as a joining companion.

After "Hearty good wishes" and congratulations from the visiting companions, a unique banquet was partaken of in the ante-room, when the usual Royal Arch toasts were given.

The visitors, Comps. Ensor Drury and T. B. Whytehead, having a warm reception—music and compliment—made a very happy and enjoyable evening.

Kennington Chapter, No. 1381.

The election meeting of this chapter was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, on the 10th ultimo, when there were present, amongst others, Comps. Buxton, M.E.Z.; H. J. Lardner, P.Z., P.P.G. Std. Br., as H.; J. Smith, J.; H. Higgins, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C., S.E.; Whitney, S.N.; Wolsey, P.S.; Clay, A.S.; Hopkins, Org.; Major T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C.; C. H. Kohler, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B.; H. Salter, P.Z.; Lingley, P.Z.; and Patrick, P.Z. 1623, Janitor.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, Comp. Major Walls, P.Z., moved, and Comp. H. J. Lardner, P.Z., seconded, "That the sum of 10 guineas be voted to the R.M.I. for Boys, per Comp. C. H. Kohler, P.Z., as Steward at the Centenary Festival," which resolution was carried unanimously. The election of Principals and officers then took place with the following results: Comps. A. Lundie, M.E.Z.; J. Smith, H.; Whitney, J.; H. Higgins, P.Z., S.E.; Wolsey, S.N.; George Everett, P.Z., P.G. Treas.; Clay, P.S.; and Patrick, P.Z. 1623, Janitor. A Past Principal's jewel was voted to Comp. Buxton. A vote of sympathy was passed to Comp. G. Everett, P.Z., P.G. Treas., who is still confined to the house, and the S.E. was directed to forward the same to him. The Audit Committee having been elected was appointed to audit the accounts on the second Thursday in May next. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. A. Lundie, H.; G. Everett, P.Z., Treas.; W. P. Webb, P.Z.; E. Ayling, P.Z.; W. W. Westley, P.Z.; C. Sims, P.Z.; and others.

The chapter was then closed. Refreshment followed labour.
Upon the removal of the cloth, the usual toasts followed.

Farringdon Without Chapter, No. 1745.

A meeting of this chapter was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 28th ult. Among those present were Comps. T. Simpson, M.E.Z.; T. S. Plummer, P.Z., as H.; J. Young, P.Z., as J.; Major T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C., S.E.; H. J. Lardner, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; and Dr. E. M. Lott, P.Z., P.G. Org. England, Organist. Comp. Dr. J. W. Hinton, M.A., P.Z. S4, P.P.G. Org. Middlesex, was a visitor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. H. B. Marshall, M.A., C.C., J.P., 1st A.S.; the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., 2nd A.S.; G. Herbert, P.Z.; and others.

The chapter was then closed. A banquet followed.

"The Health of the Grand Officers" was coupled with the name of Comp. Dr. E. M. Lott, P.G. Org., who duly responded.

The I.P.Z. proposed the toast of "The M.E.Z." In submitting the toast, he said that Comp. Simpson had held the position of First Principal some years ago; but he (the speaker) was not then a member. However, a more genial and pleasant companion was not to be found, and the chapter was to be congratulated in having him for the second time at the head of affairs.

The M.E.Z., in reply, said that it had afforded him the greatest pleasure to accede to the wishes of the chapter. He was sorry that the state of health of Comp. H. Herbert had prevented him from occupying the position of First Principal. The companions might rely on his discharging the duties to the best of his ability.

Comps. Plummer and J. Young acknowledged the toast of "The Past Principals;" Comp. Dr. Hinton responded on behalf of "The Visitors;" and Comps. Walls and Lardner for "The S.E. and Treasurer."

A very pleasant evening was spent, thanks to the musical abilities of Comps. Dr. Lott, Dr. Hinton, J. Young, and T. S. Plummer.

Mark Masonry.

Sir Francis Burdett Lodge, No. 181.

The election meeting of this lodge was held on the 23rd ult. at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham. Among those in attendance were Bros. R. W. Forge, P.J.G.D., W.M.; J. Hill, S.W.; E. W. Davis, P.M., P.P.G.O., as J.W.; W. Fisher, P.M., P.G.S., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G.S.B., Sec.; F. F. Bonney, I.P.M.; J. T. Briggs, P.M., P.G. Std. Br.; H. Higgins, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; C. H. Kohler, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; and G. Harrison, Tyler.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. James Hill, S.W., was unanimously elected Master, subject to a dispensation being granted, and for which a petition to the M.W.G.M. was signed by the brethren. Bro. W. Fisher, P.M., was duly elected Treasurer, and Bro. G. Harrison Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. R. W. Forge, W.M. The name of a candidate for advancement at the next meeting was handed in. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. W. J. Porter, P.M.; G. Everett, P.M., P.S.G.D.; and others. The names of two brethren in arrear were excluded from the list of members, and the family of another relieved with a donation from the A.M.s' Fund. The lodge was then closed.

Host Green provided, as usual, an excellent banquet, over which the W.M. genially presided.

Prince Leopold Lodge, No. 238.

A meeting of this lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 22nd ult. Among those present were Bros. the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., W.M.; T. B. Dodson, S.W.; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M. 176, P.G.S., as J.W.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec.; and A. Clew, P.M. Bro. F. F. Bonney, P.M. 181, was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken on behalf of a candidate for advancement, but he was prevented from attending. The ballot was also taken as a joining member for Bro. F. F. Bonney, P.M. 181, and it proved to be unanimous. It being election night, Bros. T. B. Dodson was unanimously elected W.M.; the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., P.M., Treasurer; and Goddard,

Tyler. A bar was voted to the W.M. in recognition of his second year of office, and apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. R. Burleton, J.W.; L. W. Harvey, P.M.; W. H. Holroyd, P.M.; A. Tisley, P.M., P.A.G.D.C.; and others.

The lodge was then closed. A banquet followed.

Bro. F. W. Driver, M.A., P.G. Std., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers."

"The Health of the W.M." was duly honoured. The proposer of the toast, in the course of his remarks, mentioned that the W.M. was on the eve of departing for a long journey, namely, to Japan. The numerous friends and brethren of Bro. Fillingham would wish him *bon voyage* and a happy return to England. The W.M. had filled the chair of No. 238 for two years, and in that position had won golden opinions by his affability and geniality.

The Worshipful Master having suitably replied, gave the toast of "The Master Elect." He said that he congratulated Bro. Dodson upon his unanimous election that evening, and he (the speaker) regretted that in consequence of absence from England he would not be able to install him. However, he had no doubt that the ceremony would be carried out impressively, as became a lodge bearing so distinguished a name, and that the W.M. would have a most successful year of office.

This pledge having been received with acclamation, the Master elect responded at length. In the course of his reply he said that he had a warm regard for the Prince Leopold Lodge, because his deceased elder brother was a shining light in it. He had heard that his Bro. J. H. Dodson had acquitted himself well as W.M. and subsequently as Treasurer. It would be his pride to enhance the lodge in every way. He belonged to the Dalhousie (Craft) Lodge, and from its ranks he had brought several members and he hoped to bring others during his year of office.

Bro. F. F. Bonney's health was drunk as the "Joining Member," and the proceedings terminated.

During the evening wit and pathos reigned, thanks to the versatile exertions of Bros. Fillingham, Dodson, Driver, and others.

Royal Ark Mariners.

Prince Leopold Lodge, No. 238.

A meeting of this lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 22nd ultimo, when there were present, amongst others, the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., W.C.N.; F. F. Bonney, J.; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.W.C.N., as S.; Major T. C. Walls, P.G.C., P.W.C.N., S.; and Goddard, Warder.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. F. F. Bonney was unanimously elected W.C.N.; the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., Treas.; and R. Goddard, Warder. A vote of thanks was passed to the W.C.N. for his services during the past year, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes. The W.C.N. having returned thanks, communications regretting inability to attend were received from Bros. A. Tisley, P.W.C.N., S.; L. W. Harvey, P.W.C.N.; W. H. Holroyd, P.W.C.N.; F. Graves, P.W.C.N.; and others. The council was then closed.

The members dined with the brethren of the Mark lodge under the presidency of Bro. the Rev. R. C. Fillingham in his dual capacity of W.M. and W.C.N.

During the evening "The Health of the C.N. elect" was duly honoured.

Bro. F. F. Bonney acknowledged the compliment.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Mount Calvary Chapter, No. 3.

A meeting of this prosperous and influential chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Golden-square, on the 11th ult. Among those assembled were Bros. Dr. Victor Jagielski, M.W.S.; Biddlecombe, 1st General; H. J. Lardner, 30°, P.M.W.S., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M.W.S., Recorder; H. J. Adams, 30°, R.; Dr. J. W. Hinton, M.A., C. of G.; Harris Hills, J.P. 30°, Herald; C. Roberts, Asst. Org.; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M.W.S.; S. Graveley, 30°, P.M.W.S.; Lieut.-Col. F. J. Stohwasser, 30°, P.M.W.S.; L. Steele, 30°, I.P.M.W.S.; Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., and Capt. G. Carpenter.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bro. Aubrey Troughton, 569, and it being unanimous he was perfected in a highly impressive manner by Ill. Bro. L. Steele, I.P.M.W.S. It was proposed by Ill. Bro. H. J. Lardner, seconded by Ill. Bro. L. Steele, and carried unanimously, that the sum of five guineas be voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, per Bro. Major T. C. Walls, P.M.W.S., and Recorder, as Steward to the Centenary Festival. It having been pointed out that the next meeting would fall on Good Friday, it was resolved to apply to the Supreme Council for permission to meet on some other Friday, if possible. Communications regretting inability to attend were received from Bros. Capt. Dadson, 33°; J. Speller, Prelate; Humphreys, 2nd General; Dr. E. M. Lott, 31°, Org.; Major J. E. Anderson, 31°, P.M.W.S.; Carrick, W. Maple, Hayworth, Bonney, and others. The chapter was then closed.

The banquet was held at the Café Royal, Regent-street. The M.W.S. presided most ably, his utterances being particularly eloquent and pertinent.

Secret Monitor.

Premier Conclave, No. 1.

A meeting of the above conclave was held on Thursday, the 3rd inst., at the Holborn Restaurant, W.C., when there were present Bros. J. Tickle, C.C., P.G.T., S.R.; J. M. Bastone, P.G.G., C.; C. L. Nelson, P.G.G., G.; W. J. Spratling, G.R., Sec.; Chas. Lee and J. Kay, V.D.s.; F. W. Kendall, D.C.; N. Brkenshire, Guarder; and J. Freeman, Sentinel.

The day being that of the County Council elections very few brethren were able to be present. The Secretary read letters from Bros. Dr. Kempster, Magnus Ohren, and J. Robertson Reep, who were all too ill to leave their room on such an inclement afternoon.

Bro. Dr. H. W. Roberts was elected as S. Ruler for the ensuing year, and a P.S.R. jewel was unanimously voted to Bro. J. Tickle who has held the office of S.R. for two years in succession and has infused new life into its work. The conclave now consists of 46 members and three new members were proposed for election on the next occasion.

The brethren spent a pleasant evening together after the close of the conclave.

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Masonic and General Tidings.

THE HEALTH of the Marquis of Salisbury continues to improve, although he has not yet been out of doors.

A CONFERENCE of local authorities in London was held at the Guildhall on Tuesday to consider questions in connection with the telephone service.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE will preside at the 160th anniversary of the Royal Society of Musicians of Great Britain, at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, on April 23rd.

BRO. ALDERMAN TRUSCOTT will preside at the annual dinner of the Royal Hospital for Incurables, West Hill, Putney Heath, on Tuesday, June 7th, at the Hôtel Métropole, Whitehall Rooms.

IT WAS ANNOUNCED at Maidstone on Tuesday that Bro. Sir Frederick Seager Hunt had, on the ground of ill-health, tendered his resignation as the Parliamentary representative of the borough.

LADY LUCY HICKS-BEACH will give a reception at the official residence of the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Bro. Sir M. Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P.), in Downing-street, on Wednesday, the 30th inst.

BRO. HENRY LOVEGROVE, in addition to his many Masonic duties and active membership of several societies, finds time to take prizes with his black Italian fowls, he having won the first prize of both clubs for four consecutive years.

BRO. FIELD-MARSHAL VISCOUNT WOLSELEY has fixed July 14th as the date on which he will visit Dumfries for the purpose of having the freedom of the burgh conferred upon him, and also to open the bazaar in aid of the Dumfriesshire Volunteers.

THE ANNUAL SUPPER of The Great City Lodge of Instruction, No. 1426, will take place at the Red Cross Hotel, Paternoster-square, E.C., on Thursday, the 24th inst., at 6.45 for 7 p.m., precisely. Bro. G. Mackenzie Fraser, W.M. of the mother lodge, will preside, and a large gathering is anticipated.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT has arranged for the Queen's Westminster Volunteers to be quartered in Tournay Barracks at Aldershot during Easter, the London Scottish in Blenheim and Malplaquet Barracks, the Civil Service Rifles in Albuhera Barracks, the South Middlesex in Barossa and Corunna Barracks, and the West London in Inkermann Barracks.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES, attended by Miss Knollys and General Sir Dighton Probyn, left Marlborough House on Saturday afternoon last for Sandringham. Her Royal Highness previously received Comte de Casa Valencia (late Spanish Ambassador at the Court of St. James's), Comtesse de Casa Valencia, and the Mesdemoiselles de Alcala Galiano.

BRO. J. L. TOOLE's birthday on Saturday last was made exceptionally happy to him by the receipt of numerous telegrams and letters of congratulation from friends in every part of the kingdom, many of them accompanied by pleasant gifts, testifying to the esteem and affectionate regard in which he is held in his enforced retirement from the work he loves so well, and in the exercise of which he has for many years given delight to the public.

THE LORD MAYOR (Bro. Alderman Davies, M.P.) at a meeting of the Court of Aldermen at the Guildhall on Tuesday, nominated Bro. Lieut.-Col. Probyn, "Citizen and Pattenmaker," as a candidate for the Shrievalty on Midsummer Day next. Bro. Alderman Vaughan Morgan, who is the next Alderman in rotation, explained that in consequence of continued ill-health he had felt it impossible to undertake the duties of Sheriff for the year ensuing, and announced that Bro. Alderman Alliston was prepared to take his place, and would accordingly offer himself to the Livery on Midsummer Day. He felt that the citizens would be well served by Bros. Alderman Alliston and Lieut.-Col. Probyn as Sheriffs for the year ensuing. No opposition to the two gentlemen named is apprehended. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Probyn has appointed Bro. Clarence Halse his Under-Sheriff.

AMONG THE many exhibitions of pictures this season, that of the artist, David Lee, at the Modern Gallery, 175, Bond-street, W., is well worth a visit. He exhibits 16 large oil paintings portraying passages from the New Testament. Mr. Lee visited the East some years ago for the express purpose, during a long stay, to become acquainted with the inner life of the people among whom he sojourned. The result of his careful observation is seen in the correctness of the minute details relative to costume, &c., which are found in the treatment of his sacred subjects. The harmony of colour shown in his conscientious work, the absence of anything like sensation cannot fail to arrest the attention and forcibly impress the most careless spectator. We heartily commend the exhibition to the public.

THE LORD-LIEUTENANT AND COUNTESS CADOGAN have been entertaining the following guests at Dublin Castle during the present week in connection with the investiture of Bro. the Earl of Arran as a Knight of St. Patrick, and for the festivities in connection with St. Patrick's Day: The Duchess of Manchester and Lady Alice Montagu, the Earl of Listowel, K.P., Countess of Listowel, and Lady Beatrice Hare, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Arran, the Earl of Carysfort, K.P., the Earl of Erne, K.P., Bro. the Earl of Kilmorey, K.P., the Countess of Rosse and Lady Muriel Parsons, the Countess of Ancaster and Lady Alice Willoughby, Bro. Viscount Powerscourt, K.P., Lord Inchiquin, K.P., and Hon. Eileen and Hon. Maud O'Brien, Hon. Norah Downey, Miss Marjorie Van de Weyer, Mr. and Mrs. Farquharson, Col. Swaine, and Capt. Orr-Ewing.

EARL AND COUNTESS STANHOPE entertained a party at dinner at their residence in Grosvenor-place on Saturday evening last, after which Lady Stanhope held a reception. Those present included the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, the Danish Minister and Madame de Bille, the Swedish Minister and Countess Löwenhaupt, the Netherlands Minister and Baroness Goltstein, the United States Chargé d'Affaires, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Dartrey, the Earl and Countess of Romney, Earl Bathurst, the Countess of Albemarle and Ladies Keppel, Bro. Viscount Doneraile, Viscountess Knutsford, Lord and Lady Eustace Cecil, Bro. Lord and Lady Balfour of Burleigh and Hon. Miss Bruce, Lord and Lady Plunket, Lord Welby, Lord Greville, Hon. Sydney and Lady Mary Holland, Hon. Sir William Colville, Hon. Benjamin Bathurst, M.P., Col. and Lady Emma Crichton, Right Hon. St. John Brodrick, M.P., and Lady Hilda Brodrick, Bro. the Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, M.P., and Lady Lucy Hicks-Beach, Sir Francis and Lady Jeune, Sir Howard Vincent, M.P., and Lady Vincent, Sir George Baden Powell, M.P., and Lady Powell, Col. Blundell, M.P., Bro. Lees Knowles, M.P., Bro. R. B. Martin, M.P., and Mrs. Martin, and many others.

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THE MARCHIONESS OF SALISBURY arrived at Nice on Wednesday afternoon, and drove to Beaulieu.

BRO. EARL EGERTON and the Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos have arrived at 7, St. James's-square from Cheshire.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF FIFE were present at Terry's Theatre on Wednesday evening, and witnessed the performance of "The White Knight."

THE RIGHT HON. CECIL RHODES is expected to arrive in town early in April, in good time for the general meeting of the Chartered Company, which is fixed for the 21st prox.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF DERBY being away in Egypt, Bro. Lord Stanley and Lady Alice Stanley will entertain the house party next week at Knowsley for Liverpool races.

BRO. THE EARL OF ONSLOW, has for some time been suffering from a laryngeal attack, and having been ordered to spend some weeks in the South of France, left London on Thursday morning, with the Countess of Onslow, for Cannes, till after Easter.

THE DEPARTMENT of Science and Art has received information, through the Foreign Office, of an Art Exhibition, to be held in Vienna this year, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Emperor of Austria's accession. The exhibition will be opened about the middle of April and closed at the end of June.

A FANCY and evening dress Cinderella will be held on Friday next at the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, proceeds of which will be devoted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Dancing will commence at 7 o'clock to the strains of Bro. F. R. Pritchard's band. By special dispensation, brethren may appear in Craft and Royal Arch clothing. Tickets to be had from Bro. H. Kemp, 7, Thavies Inn, Holborn.

THE QUEEN went out on Wednesday morning at Cimiez, attended by the Countess of Antrim, and her Majesty drove in the afternoon accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein and attended by the Countess of Antrim. Their Royal Highnesses the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz and the Duchess of York visited the Queen. Mr. F. Dugdale was in attendance.

THE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT arrived at Lansdowne House, Berkeley-square, at three o'clock on Thursday afternoon for the purpose of opening the annual exhibition and sale of the Irish Industries Association. At Lady Arthur Hill's concert on the occasion the following artists performed: The Marchioness of Waterford, Lady Maud Warrender, Madame Kate Lee, Miss Eldina Bligh, Miss Devine, Mr. Denis O'Sullivan, and Mr. Thomas Meux.

BRO. DR. HASKINS's Grand Evening Benefit Concert will take place in the great hall of the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Tuesday next, the 22nd instant. A very full programme of vocal and instrumental music has been arranged for the occasion, and, considering the services which our worthy and respected brother has rendered to Freemasonry as a musician, and the infinite pleasure he has assisted in affording them during our after-dinner proceedings, we sincerely hope that his friends and his friends' friends will rally around him on Tuesday next, so that his Benefit Concert may prove a bumper.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY have just issued, in vastly improved form, their handy pocket list of Dog and Poultry Shows, Cattle and Horse Fairs, Racing Fixtures, &c., for 1898. Copies can be obtained gratis of the Company's Agents or by enclosing stamp for postage to the Superintendent of the Line, King's Cross Station, London, N. The Great Northern Railway card list of Agricultural Shows for 1898 has also just been issued, and copies may be had by enclosing stamp for postage to Mr. L. Brightman, Chief Goods Manager's Office, King's Cross Station.

A TRIBUTE was paid to the memory of the late Duchess of Teck on Wednesday, when a fund was inaugurated at the Mansion House for the endowment of a bed at the Great Northern Central Hospital as a memorial of her work in connection with that institution. With the Baroness Burdett-Coutts at their head, a Ladies' Association has brought the claims of the hospital so strongly before the public, that no less a sum than £18,000 has been the direct outcome of their efforts. The late Duchess closely identified herself with the objects of the Association, and was one of its warmest supporters, while her interest was cordially seconded by the Duchess of York, after whom one of the largest wards is named—the Victoria Mary Ward—and in which the bed will be placed. Bro. the Lord Mayor, Colonel Sanderson, M.P., Sir A. Arnold, Bro. the Archdeacon of London, Bro. Burdett-Coutts, M.P., and many others bore testimony to the unceasing interest and sympathy with which she engaged in the hospital work. Upwards of £600 was promised.

PROFESSOR ALLESON, of the Berlin Geographical Society, has described to a representative of the *Newcastle Leader* his remarkable discoveries in "Dawson's Island," a lone island in the Pacific. It is, he says, one of the most wonderful places ever visited by man. Stretched out before us was a broad tableland, probably three miles in extent, and utterly devoid of vegetation. For the most part it was smooth and flat as if levelled by the hand of man, and upon it were strewn masses of wonderful ruins in all stages of decay. Here were the remains of buildings that had probably once been well-formed structures, and the last crumbling remains of walls, of which only a few feet remained standing. Far in the distance rose a huge pile that crowned the extreme edge of the plateau, and looked majestically out over a deep volcanic ravine that extended for hundreds of feet below. Around this, on all sides, could be seen the ruins of structures in the last crumbling stages of decay. The natives took us around to the side of a mountain, where they said the workshops of this long dead people had been located. This side of the mountain was of hard volcanic rock, which rose to a series of ledges of from 10 to 15 yards each to a peak several thousand feet high. Upon each ledge was a number of gigantic stone heads. Some were cut off at the neck, while in others the whole bust was shown. They ranged in size from 10 to 30 feet high, and were hewn out of solid volcanic rock. Some of the images were standing erect; others thrown down upon curious platforms, that looked as if they had been specially constructed to hold them, and upon which they probably had once stood. Others again were broken, and some had tottered so far over that they seemed ready to crash down upon those below. All the faces bore a striking resemblance, and the expression was most sinister. In each case the head was long, with protruding chin, and expanded nostrils, and all of them appeared to be the faces of men. The whole place is full of the most remarkable archaeological remains.

THE NEW ELECTRIC RAILWAY at the Alexandra Palace, arrangements for which have been progressing during the past three months, is now taking a practical form under the supervision of the consulting engineers, Messrs. Taylor and Field. The work is being carried out by the Imperial Electric and Power Company, who are working in conjunction with Messrs. Wandruszka and Co., of Berlin. The estimate of this which was originally to be £6000 has had to be materially increased to have a double line of rail and the cost now will reach nearly £10,000. It is intended to run the electric cars with the overhead trolley system. Each car will seat 60 people and will be about 40 feet long. They are facsimiles of the American Pavillion Car, and will be fitted with 70 horse-power motors. The arrangements for admitting the public will be by four automatic turnstiles, and the fare will be 1d., either up or down the hill. This will be a great convenience to all visitors to the Palace travelling by the Great Northern Railway, the North London Railway, the South Eastern Railway, and the London, Chatham and Dover Railway, to Wood Green Station, as well as to visitors going to the Palace Gate's Station on the Great Eastern, and in fact the whole of that enormous district including Hornsey, Wood Green, and Tottenham. The contractors undertake definitely to have the whole line in working order by the opening day, April 8th. This will, undoubtedly, afford an additional attraction of great interest, as nowhere in or around London is there an Electric Railway of this class, and the management may rely on the public appreciating this novelty, and taking a ride about the grounds for the small sum of 1d., as an additional amusement. Some hundreds of workmen are now busy in various parts of the Palace and grounds, and everything looks most promising for the opening at Easter.

DEATH.

MEAD.—On the 1st March, at Ascent Villa, Red Hill, John Alexander Richmond Mead, late Colonel R.A. Aged 72.