

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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THE RECENT SCHOOL ELECTIONS.

It does not frequently happen that the Spring Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys precedes that of the sister School, but this year the Easter holidays fell inconveniently for these important meetings, and the Boys' School Court was postponed for a week while the other was held the day following instead of the day preceding. Thus it came about that the half-yearly election of children into

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took place at the Quarterly General Court held at Freemasons' Tavern on Friday, the 15th inst., when, after the regular business had been disposed of, a poll was opened, and 27 boys were elected out of an approved list of 49 candidates—a Devonshire lad having been withdrawn from nomination under a Perpetual Presentation after the voting papers had been issued. Full particulars of the proceedings, as well as lists of the successful and unsuccessful candidates were published last week in a special edition of this journal, and will be found reproduced elsewhere. We therefore give our usual analysis of the result with a view to showing how success has been distributed between town and country. The place of honour at the head of the poll was taken by one of three boys having claims for support on London and the Province of Middlesex, who was new to the ordeal, and for whom, as it was his only chance of being admitted, his friends and supporters succeeded in obtaining 4801 votes. The second place fell to a lad from London and Surrey, who was also a candidate for the first time, and had 4111 votes give to him, while a third new candidate, with claims on London and the Province of North and East Yorkshire, stood next, with 3751 votes. A London boy, who obtained 1268 votes at the election in October, 1897, raised his total to 3625 votes, and thereby secured fourth place, a Staffordshire lad, who had only 13 votes at the two elections last year, being close up with 3608 votes. A second London and Middlesex candidate secured the sixth vacancy with 3579 votes, all polled on this occasion, the next in order being a new applicant from Lincolnshire, who scored 3572 votes, and a second London boy, who totalled 3545 votes right away. The Guernsey and Alderney lad, who started with 1316 votes to the good from three previous ballots, was placed ninth with 3507 votes, and then a new boy—from Hertfordshire—for whom 3482 votes were found. No. 11 was one of

two lads hailing from Buckinghamshire who added 1841 to the 1569 votes brought forward, making his total 3410, the Northants and Hunts boy, who started with 478 votes from three elections being close at his heels with 3408. No. 13 had been before the electors on five previous occasions and this being his last chance, his friends put their shoulders to the wheel and carried him in with a total of 3342 votes, of which 1547 stood already to his credit. He was one of three candidates from Essex, the boy from South Wales (E.D.) who scored 687 votes at last year's elections, being next in order with 3313 votes, this, likewise, being the only chance left to the candidate of being admitted into the School. A new applicant from the Province of Middlesex was placed 15th on the list with 3313 votes, while No. 16 from Devonshire, and No. 17 from London had already been before the voters, the former, who brought forward 885 votes from October last, finishing up with 3297, while the latter had had two previous trials, from which he brought forward 1842 votes, and finished up the day with 3266. No. 18 was one of four boys hailing from Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, had had no previous experience, and scored at this election 3259 votes. Nos. 19 and 20 were both London boys, the former a new candidate, who polled 3090, and the latter, one of four-ballot standing, who increased his credit of 623 votes to 3053, and thereby obtained the 20th vacancy. No. 21 was an applicant from Essex, which had the pleasure of carrying two out of its three cases. In this instance, the boy who had no further chance of getting elected, polled only 144 votes last October, but the case was well worked, and when the poll closed it was found that he totalled up 3024 votes. A new candidate from West Yorkshire was only a few votes behind, his total being 3001, while a London boy, who started with 977 votes from the four preceding elections, augmented that figure to 2794. No. 24, a boy from Warwickshire, scored 2782 votes at his first and only attempt, and the same good fortune attended the efforts in behalf of the lad with claims on Dorsetshire and Kent who secured 2747 votes. The boy from Oxfordshire who had 1084 votes at starting, finished up with 2624, while the last of the successful was a new case from London who had the good fortune to win the 27th vacancy with the very modest total of 1998 votes; a Hampshire and Isle of Wight boy, who polled 93 in October last, raising his total to 1976, and being thus defeated by but few more than a score of votes. The third Essex candidate finished up with 1748 votes, and a London youth, who was before the voters at both of last year's elections, with 1643, being followed, but at a somewhat long interval, by another London candidate who polled 1208 votes at his first attempt, and by yet another from the same section of the Craft, who only succeeded in increasing his total of 488 votes last October to 824. The other unsuccessful candidates ranged from 797 to as low as 2 votes for the fourth Hampshire and Isle of Wight boy, but there is only one of the 22 who failed who will have his name removed from the list between now and next October, and he hails from London and polled in all 1208 votes. To sum up the results as between London and the Provinces and Abroad, London sent up 17 candidates and carried the election of seven, while in four out of the five cases in which it had a joint interest with one or more Provinces it was also successful. The Provinces and Abroad furnished 27 candidates, of whom 16 were successful and 11 unsuccessful. As for the votes brought forward or added under Law 33, they amounted together to 14,167, while

the number issued for this election was 95,279 votes, making a total available of 109,448. The poll mustered altogether 101,423 votes, so that, omitting those brought forward, there were 8023 votes unused or spoiled. We are glad to note in conclusion that our urgent appeals on behalf of the six boys, who if they failed on this occasion would have their names removed from the list, were so far successful that five succeeded in winning places, while only one failed. We should have gladly seen the whole of them included among the winners of vacancies, but even the incomplete success which has been achieved amounts to a result with which we have every reason to be gratified.

The election of children into

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took place on Saturday last, the poll closing precisely at 3 p.m. There were in all 26 candidates, of whom one-half had stood one or more ballots and the other half were new applicants, and 15 vacancies, London furnishing six of the former, and having a part interest in the success of three others, while the Provinces and Abroad contributed the remaining 17. The girl who headed the poll with 5247 votes, all obtained on this occasion, hailed, in the first instance, from Kent, but had, likewise, claims upon Malta, London, and Hants and the Isle of Wight, while the second in order, who was also fresh to the experiences of the ballot, was wholly Provincial, but with claims on the two Provinces of Dorsetshire, and Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. She was a long way behind No. 1, but her votes reached the high figure of 4643. One of the two applicants from Essex took the third place, with 4641 votes polled at this meeting, and was followed by one of the six London girls, who brought forward 2551 votes from the elections in 1897, and increased that total to 4590. The next on the list hailed from the District of Bengal. She was a candidate at both elections last year, obtaining 2522 votes, her ultimate total being 4535; had she failed, her name would have been removed from the list. The sixth in order, who came from North and East Yorkshire, made her first attempt on Saturday last, and as she polled 4519 votes, her name will be transferred from the list of candidates to the list of pupils. The winner of the seventh vacancy had the large number of 2873 votes in hand from three previous elections, and, as she had only this chance remaining, the brethren from North Wales and the Western Division of South Wales—who had charge of her interests—raised a further 165, and augmented her total to 4508. The girl who stood eighth hailed from Shropshire, and had the good fortune to succeed at her first attempt with 4206 votes, the Suffolk girl immediately following, who brought forward 878 votes, polling in all 4149. A new London candidate was close up with 4114 votes, and was followed by the girl whose case has recently formed the subject of sundry letters in our correspondence columns. She had claims on brethren in Bengal, Kent, Northumberland, London, and Essex, and, as this was her last chance, her friends worked with so hearty a goodwill, that the 808 votes standing to her credit at the opening of the proceedings, were altered to 4107 by the time the voting was over. Nos. 12 and 13, both new candidates and both from the Provinces, polled respectively 4064 votes and 4005 votes, the former hailing from Leicestershire and Rutland, and the latter from South Wales (E.D.) No. 14, from the Western Division of South Wales, brought forward 877 votes from the two elections of last year, and finished up the day with 3770 votes, while the last to secure a vacancy was a London applicant, who started with 1080 votes in hand, and finished with 3609 votes. Another London girl who had 1555 already to her credit when the poll was opened was very close up and heads the list of unsuccessful children with 3349 votes, there being three girls from Northumberland and Durham, Essex, and Kent and London, who polled upwards of 2000 votes, while four polled under 2000 but over 1000, and the remaining three 989, 726, and 494 votes, respectively. Thus three out of the six London girls and two out of the three in which she had a part interest have secured vacancies, the remaining 10 who succeeded being all of them from the Provinces and Abroad. As regards the *last* cases they were four in number and we rejoice that all will be received into the

School in due course. Our appeal, therefore, was not in vain. As for the votes, there were 14,247 brought forward from October last and 75,892 issued for the election, making a total of 90,139 available, but only 68,912 of the votes issued passed the scrutineers, the remaining 6980 being unused or spoiled.

PERPETUAL AND LIFE PRESENTATIONS.

It is satisfactory to know that the question of Perpetual and Life Presentations has been virtually settled. It had long been felt that the prices originally fixed for these two classes of Presentations were no longer a fair equivalent for the privileges secured. In 1870, when Perpetual Presentations were sanctioned, 1000 guineas was not an unreasonable sum to pay for the privilege of having perpetually one duly qualified boy or girl maintained, clothed, and educated in the Girls' or Boys' Institution. The rate of interest was higher and the advantages secured not as costly as they are now. A few years since, the Boys' School raised the amount payable to 1200 guineas, and quite recently the Girls' School followed suit and were prepared to accept 1300 guineas. In 1887 Perpetual Presentations were instituted in connection with the Widows' Fund of the Benevolent Institution, the amount accepted for an annuity of £32 in perpetuity to one duly qualified widow being 1000 guineas, while a few years later a similar privilege in connection with the Male Fund was secured on payment of 1200 guineas. It was, however, generally felt that these amounts were insufficient, while at the same time it was recognised as most undesirable that anything in the nature of a competition among our Institutions for these perpetual or life privileges should be allowed. When, therefore, a short while since an offer of 1100 guineas was made to the Girls' School for a Perpetual Presentation, it was wisely determined to refer the subject of Presentations to a Special Committee, to which the other two Institutions were invited to send representatives. The Report of this Committee was not deemed satisfactory, and the whole question was referred back to them for further consideration and report, the terms of reference being in this case enlarged so as to include Life Presentations as well. The result of their further deliberations was laid before the Quarterly General Court of the Boys' School on Friday, the 15th instant, and on motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously agreed that for the future, "until further resolved, the amount to be accepted by either of the Institutions for a Perpetual Presentation should be 1550 guineas, and for a Life Presentation 900 guineas, and that in the latter case it should not be granted upon a Life under 21 years of age." A similar resolution was unanimously adopted at the Quarterly General Court of the Girls' School on Saturday last, while at the meeting of the Committee of Management of the Benevolent Institution on Wednesday, the 13th inst., the recommendations of the Special Joint Committee were accepted unanimously, but subject to the condition that the other two Institutions accept them likewise. Thus as each of the three Institutions is prepared to adopt the Committee's recommendations, we may reasonably look upon the question as being within measurable distance of being settled.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The Quarterly meeting of the Subscribers to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was held on Friday, the 15th inst., at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street. Bro. Richard Eve, P.G. Treas., Patron and Trustee, was elected to the chair, and supporting him the following brethren had seats on the dais: Bros. J. E. Le Feuvre, Major Woodall, C. Hudson, Stanley J. Attenborough, Henry Smith, J. Strachan, Q.C., E. Margrett, Major Oliver Papworth, C. E. Keyser, Harry Bevin, Prov. G. Sec. Wilts; A. C. Spaul, J. W. Burgess, W. Russell, Prov. G. Treas. Kent; and James Willing.

The meeting was very numerously attended.

Bro. J. M. McLEOD, Secretary, having read the advertisement convening the meeting, the minutes of the January Quarterly Meeting were also read by him, and confirmed by the brethren. The minutes of Council meetings of June 28th, February 25th, and March 25th were then read by Bro. McLeod for the information of the brethren.

Bro. McLEOD announced, before Bro. Russell proceeded with his motion, that it would be as well to inform the meeting that he had received another letter from Bro. Hedges than the one he had already read, under date, April 14th, to the effect that he had just received from Bro. James Terry copy of a resolution arrived

at by the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution that they would adopt the figures for perpetual and life presentations named in Bro. Russell's motion if the Boys' Institution and the Girls' Institution did the same.

Bro. RICHARD EVE said he was going to make that statement to the meeting, as he happened to be present at the Committee of the Benevolent Institution when this resolution was come to. It seemed to be the unanimous feeling of the Committees of the three Institutions. Therefore, so far as the Girls' School and the Benevolent Institution was concerned, there was no opposition. (Hear, hear).

Bro. WILLIAM RUSSELL, A.G.D.C., Vice-Patron, then rose to move—"That this Court approves of the recommendations contained in the subjoined report of the Joint Committee as to the purchase money to be charged for Life and Perpetual Presentations, and recommends its adoption, provided it be also accepted by the R.M.I. for Girls and the R.M. Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons."

MEM.—The report of the Joint Committee above referred to is as follows: "That this Committee is of opinion that until further resolved, the amount to be accepted, by either of the Institutions, for a Perpetual Presentation should be 1550 guineas, and for a Life Presentation 900 guineas, and that in the latter case, it should not be granted upon a Life under 21 years of age."

He said that the above resolution he was going to put before the meeting would he believed, have the unanimous support, or at least the support of the vast majority of those who felt an interest in the welfare of the three Institutions. He took it that all their supporters were animated by one motive in the aid they gave to the Institutions, viz., to treat them in a charitable and friendly way and would not ask any one of them to accept every burden without first taking care they had sufficient remuneration for such burden; as Bro. Peter Brown put in a letter which was read at the quarterly meeting in October last, they would put it in a charitable way and not in a hard business-like way.—(Hear, hear.) When the discussion on this subject of presentations and the price to be paid for them first began, the Girls' School meeting took place the day before the meeting of the Boys; but owing to the incident of Easter this year the position of the meetings was now reversed, and the Boys' Board of Management had to take the first step in getting confirmation of the recommendations of the Committee. The brethren were all aware how the first recommendation of the Board was not sufficiently wide in its scope to please the supporters of the Charities, and at the last Quarterly Court it was referred back. The Committee met again, and now they had given the Subscribers a larger recommendation, and this was what he asked them that day to accept. He met Bro. J. A. Farnfield, the Treasurer of the Benevolent Institution, yesterday in the City, and as unfortunately the meeting which was last held, the Benevolent Institution was not represented, he immediately stopped Bro. Farnfield, and asked him what the views of that Institution were, and he said views of unqualified support. It was very gratifying to him (Bro. Russell) now to say that those brethren who had been in the habit of supporting the Institutions not only with their money, but with their brains and with their time, were now practically united in the course of action which he was going to ask the meeting to approve and adopt. He did not think it necessary that he should make any long speech on the matter, for this reason—that it had been before the brethren three times, and he thought they were thoroughly acquainted with the subject; but he would read a few figures to support his view. The 900 guineas for a life presentation was based on this calculation. The Committee informed themselves that the Government estimate of the life of a person of 21 was 42 years. Other Associations undercut the Government; and, therefore, on making the calculation the Committee adopted 900 guineas, because they understood that £945 invested in Two-and-Three-quarter per Cents. would allow of £40 per annum being drawn from it for 38 years. Consequently it seemed a fair and reasonable sum to adopt, and the Institution would not lose much; they might lose something; but it was open to discussion, and therefore they adopted the figure of 900 guineas. The sum of 1550 guineas was adopted as the figure for perpetual presentations, because it was felt that they were asking the Institutions to undertake a very serious burden, a vastly more heavy burden than that provided for by a life presentation, and that if they undertook extra risk and extra burden, dealing with these children until time should be no more, it was right it should be properly paid for. Therefore, they compromised the sum of 1600 guineas by making the sum £1550 and this was unanimously adopted. He would tell the brethren that that sum invested at 2½ would provide £44 15s. per annum; but they must remember that was in perpetuity as regarded the liability undertaken by the Institution. Whether the Institution would be able to go on getting that rate would only be known in the future. His opinion was, it was exceedingly doubtful, for, reading the history of the world, they would find that the inclination was gradually moving to getting less. He concluded by moving his resolution.

Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D., in seconding the adoption of the motion, said: As one of the representatives of the Boys' School on the Committee, he was glad to find that the sums suggested were going to bind the other Institutions. They were very careful to find whether it would cost more for the Girls, the Boys, or the Old People, but he thought the sum was sufficient for the most extensive endowment of the three Institutions. Last Wednesday he was present at the monthly meeting of the Committee of the Benevolent Institution, and he found it was by some misunderstanding that the representative of that Institution was not invited to the meeting of the Joint Committee. But Bro. Farnfield said he should have attended, even though he had not been invited, if he had known of the meeting. Therefore he (Bro. Keyser) moved the resolution that the Benevolent Institution would accept the report if the other two Institutions also accepted it. It was a very large Committee, there being as many as 30 present, and that resolution was carried unanimously. The object of the resolution was to prevent competition between the three Institutions. There was a very great temptation, they would all feel personally if they were to see 1400 guineas put down before them and were asked to provide a perpetual endowment for members of their families; they would be tempted to take it; and it was to provide against such temptation and this subject had been specially considered. He hoped that the resolution of the Benevolent Institution would be binding on that Institution and also on the Girls' School. It was brought up on the reference of Bro. Hedges on the regular Agenda of the meeting and it was binding on them. It would be on the Benevolent provided the Girls' Institution at their meeting on Saturday adopted the resolution.

Bro. RICHARD EVE said it was not necessary for him to make any observation on it as there seemed to be no opposition whatever. He therefore put the motion.

Carried unanimously.

Bro. STANLEY J. ATTENBOROUGH, P.A.G.D.C., Patron and Honorary Solicitor of the Institution, next moved—"That, in order to celebrate the Centenary year of this Institution, this Court resolves that an allowance at the rate of £20 per annum be made to each of the unsuccessful candidates at this year's elections, towards their education and maintenance, provided that such candidates be educated at a school to be approved by the Board of Management, and be subject to the rules applicable to boys maintained and educated out of the Institution; that

such allowance commence from the date upon which such candidates would, if elected, have been admitted into the School, and be continued until the date of their admission into the School, or the date upon which they become ineligible for admission by reason of age." He said the short effect of the motion was to put on the books of the Institution the whole unsuccessful candidates at the present and the October election until they were elected in the ordinary way or until they attained the age when they would be excluded under Law 7. There were two objections at first raised to the proposition; one was that it would disturb the voting power and that the votes would be useless. He thought, however, that that would be at once done away with when a candidate was deprived of the allowance when he attained the allotted age of 11 if he had not been previously successful in being elected. The next objection was on the question of expense. The Chairman of the Finance Committee had gone into that question, and he had found that the total expense of making the proposed allowance to the unsuccessful boys would come to about £1000 altogether. Two or three brethren suggested that the allowance of £20 proposed for this time should be extended to the unsuccessful candidates until the age of 15, but he could not put that proposition because it would have the effect of destroying the voting power at this and the October election. The reason of the present proposition was that at present they had no Institution capable of taking every one of the candidates at the April and October elections. It had been reported by the Board of Management that the next best thing to do was to have out boys in this Centenary year. He did not think he was called upon to say anything more in support of his proposition, but he was willing to answer any question the brethren might feel disposed to ask.

Bro. WILLIAM RUSSELL seconded. It seemed to him that Bro. Attenborough was proposing to pursue a middle course, and he did not think the Board of Management should be accused of being parsimonious probably and not properly recognising their own boys or those who are likely to be our boys in this happy year of the Institution's Centenary. If, on the other hand, they made efforts to do what the Girls' Institution did at its centenary, take in all the candidates they might be diminishing interest in it, and when human nature found that it could not get valuable pieces of paper for money subscribed, that was the real bottom of it, they ceased to be interested, and the Board had taken warning by that, and did not propose to do anything that might be detrimental to the Institution. They felt that when £1000 would help the boys they would be just in what they proposed, and they appealed, consequently, to the brethren to adopt this resolution, so that those boys who might be, unfortunately, not successful, might not be debarred from some benefits of the Institution until they were properly elected. The laudable example set by the Girls' School they admitted, and they felt that they could not do better than what they proposed. They could not admit more boys because the School was crammed full already, but they were doing the next best thing by paying for those outside. As it would not cost a great deal of money, from beginning to end, under £1000, he had great pleasure in seconding the proposition.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Bro. RICHARD EVE said the next matter upon the agenda was to receive a statement from the Board of Management respecting the progress and development of the Bushey site for the new School. After the elaborate statement made at the last Quarterly Court, he might tell the brethren at once that the Board had very little to add. They knew the plans and the prices had been settled, and that the plans of Messrs. Gordon, Lowther, and Co. had been accepted. Those gentlemen were excellent architects, and the Board had selected those gentlemen to take out the quantities. This was a matter most essential, and they had drawn out smaller plans, which were requisite, to give effect to what the brethren had seen. Since the last meeting of the Board of Management, they had a special meeting to visit the site at Bushey, and they had fixed on the exact site of the Schools that were to be in the future. The representations of the Schools which the brethren had seen and the plans which had been shown to them were quite sufficient; and what had he to say? Until the next step had been accomplished—the receiving of the quantities and the consideration of the ways and means—nothing could be done; but the Board were willing to give any information. He had only to report that all was going on as quickly and as favourably as could be wished. He congratulated the brethren and all the Institution that her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales had most kindly and graciously fixed June 7th to present the prizes in the Albert Hall. It would be a great meeting—(cheers)—and on June 10th his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master, would preside at the Festival. He hoped they would have on those occasions two great meetings, and that the result would be to the benefit of the Institution in the present and for many, many years. (Applause.) (After a pause). It had been intimated to him that so far as the Albert Hall and the presentation of prizes on June 7th by the Princess of Wales, the Stewards had tickets for distribution among their friends and all those desirous of being present, but after the Stewards, they would be only too happy to give tickets to those who were subscribers to the Institution in order that they might have an opportunity, as far as possible, of seeing the boys receiving from the hands of her Royal Highness the prizes they had so well earned. (Cheers).

Bro. C. E. KEYSER was declared re-elected Treasurer of the Institution.

Bro. C. E. KEYSER, in acknowledging the compliment, said he could only thank the brethren very much for that kind mark of their confidence. He had conceived that considering the importance of this year it would be better, as he suggested to several brethren that they should appoint some one of higher rank than himself for this honour. Therefore, he might say, and he said, he accepted the honour with greater pleasure than he did before. It was a very high position to hold, and he thanked the brethren for their confidence in him. (Cheers.)

On the motion of Bro. JAMES WILLING, Jun., seconded by Bro. C. PULMAN, the following brethren were elected as members of the Council, representing the life and annual subscribers: Bros. Thomas Evans, A. Flatman, George Glover, John Harris, E. Hewett, D. Jacobs, F. Kite, F. W. Levander, G. W. Hunt, Hugo Hempel, W. J. Rowe, and A. Woolf.

The election of 10 Life Governors from a list of 13 candidates for the Board of Management was then proceeded with. At the declaration of the poll the following brethren were found to have been elected: London Brethren—Bros. Robert D. Cummings, Charles W. Hudson, Joseph D. Langton, W. H. Kempster, and John J. Thomas. Provincial Brethren—Bros. Charles K. Benson, George Corble, Harry Manfield, Edward Margrett, Major Oliver Papworth, and Francis B. Westlake.

Bro. W. C. LUPTON, before the election of boys commenced desired to be informed whether at the forthcoming festival the Lady Stewards who had been invited to become Stewards on payment of two guineas' fee and five guineas personal subscription were to receive differential treatment from those who were invited to become Stewards at 10 guineas each. A letter had been received by the Prov. Grand Secretary of West Yorkshire saying the donation must be 10 guineas. Were the larger subscribers to have a differential treatment to the smaller? If they were he did not think it was fair to those ladies who were originally invited to become Stewards.

Bro. RICHARD EVE said this did not concern the Quarterly Court. Bro. Lupton's observations had been duly considered, and he would ask him to attend the Board of Management at their next meeting.

Bro. J. M. McLEOD, Sec., added that Bro. Lupton was quite in error in saying that ladies were invited to become Stewards on a personal subscription of five guineas. Ladies had been invited to become Stewards, but no sum was mentioned. He wrote to Bro. Herbert Green, Provincial Grand Secretary West

Yorkshire, when it was discovered that 200 ladies could dine in the Albert Hall. The limit that was fixed was fixed by himself (Bro. McLeod). He was happy to tell the brethren that the Executive Committee yesterday unanimously approved of the course he had taken as being in the best interests of the Institution.

Bro. RICHARD EVE: The matter of that incident is now ended. It is no part of the business of the Court.

The brethren then proceeded to elect 27 boys from an approved list of 49 candidates.

The following are the unsuccessful:

Name.	Votes.	Name.	Votes.
Johnson, Albert Edward ...	2	Downing, Lewis Wilfrid ...	376
Broben, Gerald Grant ...	5	Lomer, Heinrich John ...	431
McLeod, Lewis Arthur Alexander...	16	Edridge, William Herbert ...	555
Price, Edmund Roy ...	18	Hatchwell, Leonard Douglas ...	589
Hartley, Bernard ...	25	Chapman, Harry Frank ...	731
Dale, Wellington Trevelyan ...	38	Cay, Elliot ...	794
Stiles, Malcolm Chester ...	122	Moir, Sydney Herbert ...	824
Sherman, Harold Mackenzie ...	134	Birt, Albert Victor ...	1208
Nichols, Herbert Wilfrid ...	225	Delahaye, William Arthur ...	1643
Dorrell, Gilbert Frederick ...	304	Hardy, Harold Richard ...	1748
Taylor, Ben Harold Yabsley ...	315	Bascombe, Edgar Hardy ...	1976

The successful candidates will be found in our advertisement columns.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The April Quarterly General Court of Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held last Saturday in the large hall of Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, W.C. Bro. Henry Smith, Past D.P.G.M. for West Yorkshire, P.G.D., Past Treasurer of the Institution, and Patron, presided, and the brethren who supported him were Bros. C. E. Keyser, P.G.D.; William Russell, A.G.D.C.; Major Woodall, P.G. Treas.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; A. C. Spaul, P.G. Std. Br.; Peter de L. Long, P.G.D.; Herbert Green; W. C. Lupton; W. G. Kentish, P.G. Std. Br.; and W. F. Smithson, P.G.D. Among the other brethren present were Bros. W. H. Spaul, C. H. Webb, G. W. Verry, E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; W. Lake, A.G. Sec.; Neville Green; James Stephens, Dep. G.D.C.; Benjamin Stocker, H. E. Dehane, and A. Tisley.

Bro. HEDGES (Secretary) having read the advertisement calling the meeting and the minutes of the January Quarterly Court, informed the brethren that Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, M.P., LL.D., P.G.W., Patron, would preside at the forthcoming 110th Anniversary Festival of the Girls' School, but that the list of Stewards for the occasion was not equal in numbers to the usual list of Stewards for the Festival of the Girls' School. He, therefore, hoped the brethren would enrol themselves as Stewards to support the Chairman, and that the Festival would be a great success. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN having put the minutes for confirmation, and echoed the appeal and hope of Bro. Hedges,

Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON rose to move that that portion of the minutes that referred to the acceptance by the Institution of 1300 guineas given by the late George Heaton, of Heckmondwike, for the perpetual presentation of a girl to the School, be not confirmed. He said he thought it was absolutely necessary to non-confirm that portion of the minutes, and that resolution he should move. He was quite satisfied in his own mind that that resolution ought not to have been put at the last meeting; it was *ultra vires*, because no notice of motion of it had been given, and it was impossible for one brother to take up another brother's motion without his permission and alter the tenor of it. It was also to his mind necessary to non-confirm this portion of the minutes, because the brethren were in this position—that a Special Committee of the three Institutions had met, and had unanimously decided that 1550 guineas was the proper sum to be paid for a perpetual presentation. That resolution had been approved by the Benevolent Institution and by the Boys' School, and it would be submitted to the brethren of the Girls' School that day for their acceptance or rejection. Now, if they confirmed the minutes as a whole and accepted the 1300 guineas they would be in a very curious position if they afterwards passed a resolution that 1550 guineas was the proper amount, and, therefore, he felt bound to move the non-confirmation of that portion of the minutes. It would be open to anybody when the resolution was put forward for the adoption of the recommendation of the Special Committee that 1550 guineas be the price, to bring forward another resolution as an amendment.

Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D., in seconding the motion, said it appeared to him to be the logical outcome of the labours of the Special Committee. The members of that Committee had a good deal of discussion on the subject of perpetual presentations, and a great amount of argument was put forward to show that the smaller sum could be accepted by the Institution. But there was a strong feeling at the meetings against any perpetual presentations at all. They went into all the figures and duly considered whether there was anything to induce the Institution to take a smaller sum than that which the report of the Special Committee recommended. They looked upon it in a purely commercial point of view as to what capital sum would be required. They had taken all three Institutions into consideration, and a compromise was effected. They were not in time for the monthly meeting of the Benevolent Institution, but at the Quarterly Court of the Boys' School on Friday they decided that 1550 guineas was the proper sum for a perpetual presentation, and 900 guineas for a life presentation to any of the three Masonic Institutions. That was what they were asked to do by a resolution which was to be brought forward later on to-day; and it would appear to be stultifying themselves if they confirmed the minutes now which accepted 1300 guineas, and later to decide that the sum was to be 1550 guineas. They were all anxious to promote generosity and to do all they could to support such a Province as West Yorkshire which had done so much for the Masonic Charities; but they felt they ought to be consistent, and not to confirm this part of the minutes. If the brethren did not agree to the 1550 guineas they would open the whole matter again. They were desirous to prevent competition among the Institutions.

Bro. W. F. SMITHSON, P.G.D., opposed the non-confirmation. The subject had been in the minds of brethren for some months. Bro. Keyser had just mentioned West Yorkshire, but it was not the province of West Yorkshire which presented 1300 guineas for the Girls' School. The sum was given by an individual brother of that province. The Province of West Yorkshire would ultimately become the presenter, but it was not a donation of the province. The presentation was to enhance the position of some good brother who had done good work in his province. It had not stopped one farthing from the Province of West Yorkshire. This generous gift at first was 1000 guineas, but the brother on being told it would cost more than that said he would give more. It was raised again when it was objected to by some persons, but ultimately it was accepted by one in authority of the Girls' Institution, Sir John Monckton, who was perfectly satisfied that 1100 was sufficient. Afterwards the question was raised between the Institutions, and a Special Committee was formed to consider the subject. The Committee met in time to report to the January Quarterly Court. In the meantime Bro. George

Heaton, of Heckmondwike, who was the donor, but who, unfortunately, was now dead, raised it to 1300 guineas, and that sum was now in his (Bro. Smithson's) bank waiting to be handed over. The amount was to his mind sufficient, and it was carried at the January meeting that 1300 guineas should be accepted. Since that time they refused 1300 guineas and said it should be 1550 in the future. He was perfectly consistent in his support of the Institutions but he did think it was wrong to refuse this sum because it stopped the flow of Charity. It was given by one individual. If a brother said he would give 1500 guineas could the Institutions afford to refuse the gift. They could not. It was no extra expense to the Institutions; they did not have to increase their staff or to add to their expense one iota. There was room in the School to take them in, and it cost about £20 or £25 a year. They only had to maintain and clothe the girl. They would not be increasing any cost, but actually would be lowering the cost per head. He had had that matter now in hand for 12 months. Bro. George Heaton had died, and he (Bro. Smithson) had their money in his hands. And now, if the brethren non-confirmed those minutes, the money must be returned. He submitted that that was the way to stop the flow of Charity.

Bro. WILLIAM RUSSELL, A.G.D.C., said he intended to support the non-confirmation of the minutes, because he was of opinion that the part of the proceedings of last Quarterly Court which it was now sought to set aside was out of order, and that it was an error of judgment. The subject was brought forward in October, 1897, and it was manifestly against the wishes of the subscribers that the sum of 1100 guineas should be accepted. It was then resolved to discuss the whole question, and a Special Committee was appointed. The Committee reported, but the report was not accepted; it was not declined, but it was referred back for a more elaborate and enlarged report. It was entirely out of order for anyone to step forward and deal with Sir John Monckton's motion in another way and alter the method when the first figure had not been dealt with. That was the real reason why they must refuse to confirm those minutes. There were minor reasons. That offer was made at the tail end of the meeting, when there were only 21 present in the room. It was a very small meeting, and a great number of brethren had left. It was not before those who were in the room at the beginning. It was highly necessary that the interests of the Institutions should be safeguarded, and all should bear in mind that those who wished to be charitable must be charitable in a broad sense, and not in a narrow businesslike way, because it would detract from the character of Charity if they dealt with it so. If they wished the Institution to take a burden that was permanent it must be rewarded in a manner that would make it certain that the Institution should not be a sufferer by reason of the lengthened obligation it had undertaken.

Bro. ROBERT MANUEL, P.M. 1196, wished to ask the Chairman whether the ruling of the Chair at the Quarterly Court was not final, or whether there was any machinery by which the ruling of the Chairman could be revised.

Bro. HENRY SMITH (Chairman), replied that on the motion that the minutes be confirmed a motion could be made to non-confirm them, and this meeting had power to reject any portion of the minutes which referred to the matter in question.

Bro. ROBERT MANUEL said but he had heard that what was done at the January meeting was out of order. His point was that if the Chairman allowed the question to be put and it was then carried had the present meeting power to alter that?

Bro. HENRY SMITH: I do not see how you can alter the fact that such a thing took place.

Bro. ROBERT MANUEL: As a point of order, I put it.

Bro. HENRY SMITH: I looked on it as in order at the time.

Bro. ROBERT MANUEL: Then has the present meeting power to alter it?

Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D.: The minutes are put for non-confirmation; that means that we can undo at one meeting what was done at the previous meeting.

Bro. ROBERT MANUEL: If there is authority to do that, I am in favour of what has been advanced by Bro. Smithson. I was at the meeting. I knew nothing of what was coming before the brethren, and my recollection is, that right throughout, as Bro. Russell has said, it was a small meeting that decided it; at no time was it a numerous meeting. There was an animated discussion on the point. Bro. Smithson was very warm on it, and was anxious some settlement should be come to. I thought it was a fair compromise with Bro. Smithson on that occasion. He told us he was authorised to submit 1200 guineas, and finally, he submitted 1300 guineas. I only hope this meeting will not refuse it. It would be particularly ungracious to this generous brother to vary it. As to the figures suggested in the future, 1550 guineas, I have no objection, but I do submit to this meeting that it would be extremely ungracious of us to vary it.

Bro. S. H. PARKHOUSE, P.M. 1642: I would respectfully submit that we should accept Bro. Smithson's offer as it was made; but I would suggest that on this question of confirmation we should allow it to pass, and then vote on the other resolution.

Bro. W. F. SMITHSON: I would like to say that when the motion was brought forward by Bro. Russell they could not agree on the amount to be fixed for a perpetual presentation in the future. That was vetoed at once, and they accepted Bro. Monckton's proposition up to 1300 guineas, and it was carried. Bro. Russell had said it was a very small meeting. I know it was. But there were earnest supporters at that meeting. I sympathised with it. I have the money, and I want to get rid of it. I do not want to hand it back. The meeting was a small one; but five or six members were out in the lobby. The motion was carried by 11 against 10. I had eight supporters of my motion out in the lobby.

Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON: All I have to say in reply is this—we are bound to do what is right and fair for the Institution; but we must not look at the private individual. Whatever is fair we must take. If the Committee have settled what is fair we must bow to it. One remark of Bro. Smithson's I was sorry to hear, because I thought it was an improper one. He said that this sum was agreed to by one member of the Committee—Sir John Monckton. Now, Sir John Monckton is one of my oldest friends, and a brother that I have got the very highest respect for, because if I was in a difficulty and wanted advice I should go to him for it; but I object to one member dictating to the whole body what they should accept and what reject. Sir John Monckton has no more power than I have, or any other subscriber has, and therefore if you say because Bro. Monckton has agreed to take that sum—if you are carried away by the idea that that is lawful I tell you it is not.

The brethren then voted and carried the non-confirmation of the minutes as far as regarded the acceptance of Bro. George Heaton's gift of 1300 guineas for a perpetual presentation by 33 against 18 votes; and the other portion of the minutes were afterwards put and confirmed.

Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson was re-elected Treasurer.

Bro. HEDGES read the Report of the Special Committee on Life and Perpetual Presentations, and the letter from Bro. Terry, announcing the acceptance of it by the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution if the Boys' Institution and the Girls' Institution adopted it. He also announced that the Quarterly Court of the Boys' Institution adopted it on Friday.

Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, as one of the Sub-Committee, moved to receive and adopt the report of the Special Committee. They had had a very long meeting and carefully considered the question. They worked out the figures—what would be the expenses to pay for a child in the Schools, or for an aged Mason or his widow, and they came to the decision that 1550 guineas was a fair sum for a perpetual, and 900 guineas for a life presentation. It had been accepted

by the Boys, and accepted by the Benevolent if the Boys' and Girls' Institutions adopted it.

Bro. T. H. GARDINER, P.A.G.D.C., and another member of the Committee seconded. There was no difficulty at all among the members of the Committee in arriving at the conclusion now before this meeting. They had no doubt whatever that the figures were the right ones; there was no division of opinion.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The election of 15 girls out of a list of 26 was next proceeded with.

The following are the unsuccessful candidates:

Name.	Votes.	Name.	Votes.
Pate, Gladys Leonora	33.49	Ellis, Florence	120.4
Moore, Jane	27.88	Smith, Ida Angela	110.9
Tremlett, Violet Louise	2.439	Jacobs, Josephine Charlotte	9.89
Knott, Marguerite	2009	Cross, Alice Elizabeth	7.26
Downes, May	1716	Gilkins, Mabel	4.94
Clayton, Muriel	1539		

The successful will be found in our advertisement columns. The customary votes of thanks followed.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF CORNWALL.

INSTALLATION OF THE EARL OF HALSBURY AS PROV. GRAND MASTER.

A meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Concert Hall, Truro, on Wednesday, the 13th inst., under the auspices of the Fortitude Lodge, No. 78. There was a large attendance of brethren.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened by Bro. P. COLVILLE SMITH, Deputy Prov. Grand Master in charge of the Province, Past Grand Deacon of England, who expressed great pleasure at seeing the various lodges in the province so well represented. He deeply regretted that, owing to a very severe illness, the R.W. Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston was unable to be present, but in his absence he was pleased to say the installation would be performed by R.W. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, Past Grand Warden of England.

The other acting officers were Bros. C. F. Matier, P.G.W., Grand Sec.; C. Belton, P.G.M.O., as S.W.; John Strachan, O.C., P.G.D., as J.W.; Major Carrell, G.D.C.; and Nicholas West, P.G.O., as I.G.

Bro. Lord SKELMERSDALE, addressing Earl Halsbury, said: In the regretted absence of the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Euston, an absence that we must all deplore on account of its cause, I have been deputed to install you as Prov. Grand Master of this province. For many years the province has been ruled by Sir Charles Graves Sawle, and under his care the Mark Degree has increased and prospered. You, R.W. Prov. Grand Master designate, have now been appointed by H.R.H. the Duke of Cornwall to undertake this important charge, and I feel well assured that, under your auspices, this beautiful Degree will maintain its success and prosperity, and that the growing prosperity of the Province of Cornwall most amply justifies the selection that the Grand Master has made. (Loud applause.)

Bro. Earl HALSBURY briefly returned thanks for the honour done him, and said: I have the pleasure and honour of appointing Bro. P. Colville Smith as Deputy Provincial Grand Master. (Loud applause.)

The Prov. Grand Master appointed and invested his Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Bro. John Tonkin	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Percy T. Chirgwin	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" John M. Richards	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" Henry Shapcott	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" Henry Opie	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. Townsend	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" S. Trehane	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" E. M. Milford	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" W. J. Johns	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" A. O. Michell	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" J. O. Eva	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" W. J. Collins	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" R. P. Couch	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" W. Wales	...	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" Major Shanks	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" T. A. Taylor	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" J. H. Bunt	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" E. Benney	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" R. Pease	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" B. Gregg	...	...
" E. W. Newton	...	...
" J. Paull	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" W. L. Chegidden	...	...	Prov. G. Auditor.

Bro. E. M. MILFORD, P.G. Treas., stated that the number of members was 379, as against 342 at their last meeting, an increase of nearly 40. (Applause.) They had a balance in hand of £19.

Bro. P. COLVILLE SMITH said they all deeply regretted the absence of Bro. Sir Charles Graves Sawle, who would have been present had it been possible. In their behalf, he had to present the following address to him:

To the Right Worshipful Sir Charles Graves Sawle, Bart., P.P.G.M.M.M. of Cornwall, &c.

We, in the name of the Mark Master Masons of Cornwall, desire to tender to you, on behalf of the province, an expression of the sincere gratitude felt towards you, their beloved P.G. Master, for many and great services rendered to Mark Masonry in Cornwall during the 15 years you have so ably presided over them, and their appreciation of the unvarying kindness and courtesy you have ever shown to one and all of the brethren.

It is with heartfelt regret that they realise that, through advancing years and failing health, you have been compelled to relinquish the high position which you have so long held with honour and for the welfare of Mark Masonry. And they devoutly hope and pray that the G.O.O.T.U. may make the sunset of life bright and peaceful to you; and that when his labours of this life are ended, the reward of those who have marked well His Holy Commandments may be yours.

Signed on behalf of the Provincial Grand Lodge M.M.M., Cornwall—P. Colville Smith, D.P.G.M.; Richd. Rowe, P.S.W.; E. W. Carus-Wilson, P.J.W.; W. J. Johns, P.G. Sec.; E. M. Milford, P.G. Treas.

The address, which is on vellum, is most artistically and beautifully illuminated. At the head is the Prov. Grand Master's jewel of the Province of Cornwall, and on either side the coat-of-arms and crest of Sir Charles Graves Sawle. At the bottom are the county arms, and in the four corners emblems of the Order.

Bros. P. C. Smith and W. J. Johns were appointed to wait upon Sir Charles Sawle and make the presentation.

Bro. R. P. COUCH, in behalf of "St. John the Baptist," Penzance, invited the brethren to hold their annual gathering next year at Penzance, and the PROV. G. MASTER thanked Bro. Dr. Couch for the invitation, and said it would be considered.

Subsequently the brethren dined together at the Red Lion Hotel, the catering by Miss Carlyon (manageress) giving every satisfaction.

Craft Masonry.

Zetland Lodge, No. 1311.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds, on Friday, the 15th inst., and was very numerously attended. In the unfortunate absence through influenza of Bro. W. H. Jarvis, the Worshipful Master's chair was occupied by the I.P.M., Bro. J. Smailes. Dinner which usually precedes business in Zetland Lodge was served at half-past six, and at half-past seven the lodge was opened. The chairs were filled as follows: Bros. Dr. Smailes, as W.M.; E. Lillie Frazer, S.W.; H. M. Forbes, J.W.; J. W. Smith, Sec.; Kiaer, S.D.; Marchant, J.D.; Littlewood, I.G.; and J. H. Newton, Tyler. There were also present Bros. A. Godwin, J.P., P.M., P.P.G.W.; W. W. Clayton, P.M., Prov. G.D.; G. H. Clemons, P.M.; Blackburn, P.M.; M. A. Brigg, P.M.; Whitehead, P.M.; W. Postlethwaite, P.M.; Anderson, P.M.; C. W. O. Smith, P.M.; F. Long, Org.; Stewart and Hall, Stwds.; Broadhead, Roper, Wylar, A. J. Clayton, and J. Everitt Clayton. The visitors comprised Bros. J. C. Malcolm, P.G.D., Dep. Prov. G.M. W. Yorks; Richard Wilson, P.M. 289, P.P.G.W., G.D.; Joseph Matthewman, P.M. 1019, P. Prov. Asst. G. Sec.; also from Fidelity Lodge, No. 289, Leeds, Bros. J. W. Foster, P.M., J. W. Hawten, A. Holmes, Dobson, and Frobisher; from Philanthropic, 304, A. E. Nicholls; Alfred Lodge, No. 306, was represented by its W.M., Bro. J. A. Compston; from Excelsior, 1042, were the W.M., Bro. G. Tooley, and R. J. Smith, P.M.; from Goderich, 1211, Bro. Dr. A. Bacon, I.P.M.; from Defence, 1221, Bros. J. E. Cawthorne, W.M., H. Marsh, P.M., and W. H. Smith; from Prudence, 2069, were Bros. A. Butterworth, P.M., and Tom Atkinson, P.M.; whilst from lodges outside Leeds there were Bros. R. T. Heselton, W.M.; J. E. Fawcett, and G. F. Lockwood, Pentalpha, 974, Bradford; G. H. Mason, 559; J. H. Clarke, P.M. 253, P.P.G.D.C.; G. F. Naylor, 1040; Capt. Mayes, 1449; A. B. Balfour, P.M. 1522; and Kershaw, 2330.

The lodge business comprised a raising and an initiation. The raising of Bro. J. Everitt Clayton was most impressively conducted by the acting W.M. in the chair, Bro. Dr. Smailes; the introduction of occasional music adding greatly to the effect. Bro. C. W. O. Smith, P.M., sang Mendelssohn's beautiful air from St. Paul, "Be thou faithful," being ably accompanied by the Organist, Bro. F. Long. The traditional history and the working tools in the Third Degree were given to Bro. J. Everitt Clayton by Past Master W. W. Clayton, Prov. G. Deacon, his own brother. The lodge having been lowered to the First Degree, an initiation was taken. The candidate was Mr. Berkeley George Andrew Moynihan, whose reputation as an operative surgeon is well established, not in Leeds only, but very extensively elsewhere. The ceremony was conducted by Bro. Whitehead, the oldest Past Master and one of the founders of the Zetland Lodge. When we recall the fact that Zetland Lodge originated in 1870, sufficient will have been said to prove the long connection which has existed between it and Bro. Whitehead. The brethren were much pleased to see not only how ably—for that went without saying—but with what relish Bro. Whitehead took up the work, and we can well understand what a pillar of strength during the past 28 years Bro. Whitehead has been to the brethren of Zetland Lodge. Friend, counsellor, instructor—he has been all these, and judging by the vigour he displayed and the facility he showed, there is every reason to hope—in which we cordially share—that Bro. Whitehead will for many years be spared to give the benefit of his valuable advice and assistance whenever either may be needed in his lodge. The evening being advanced, the delivery of the ancient charge and the presentation of the working tools to Bro. Moynihan were deferred, and after "Hearty good wishes" all round, the lodge was closed.

The brethren and visitors subsequently assembled in the dining room, where the toasts usual to these occasions were given.

After "The Queen," the combined toast of "The M.W.G. Master and Grand Lodge and the R.W. Prov. G. Master and the Officers of Prov. G. Lodge" was given from the chair.

The response was entrusted to Bro. W. W. Clayton, P.M., who only so lately as the 6th instant received at the hands of the Provincial Grand Master the collar of Prov. G. Deacon.

Bro. Clayton, whose natural good sense, sturdy independence, and thorough disinterestedness have made him very popular, replied in his characteristic style, and took occasion to reiterate the strong opinion he holds relative to the London Masonic Educational Institutions. His remarks, it may be noted, were thoroughly appreciated.

Bro. W. Postlethwaite, P.M., proposed "The Visiting Brethren of Pentalpha Lodge, No. 974, Bradford."

Bro. Heselton, W.M., replied. The acting W.M. then gave the toast of "The Initiate, Bro. Moynihan." He spoke of his reputation in, and association with, the medical profession, and prophesied that he would one day rival in fame the many eminent surgeons for which Leeds had long been distinguished.

Bro. Moynihan, in replying, said he felt proud that the W.M. should associate his name with the famous operative surgeons his predecessors, and would do his best to sustain the reputation which Leeds had so long and so deservedly held in that branch of the profession. He thanked the brethren for admitting him into their ancient society, and would endeavour to be worthy of it.

"The Visitors" was given from the chair. Bros. J. Matthewman, P.M. 1019; H. Marsh, P.M. 1221; and Tom Atkinson, P.M. 2069, replied.

The time-honoured Tyler's toast closed the proceedings, which throughout had been of a delightfully sociable character, the musical brethren, and notably Bro. Long, having largely contributed to its thorough success.

St. Nicholas Lodge, No. 2259.

The monthly meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Thorne, on Wednesday, the 13th inst. Present: Bros. H. A. Fenton, W.M.; Theo. Barber, I.P.M.; G. Elford, S.W.; E. Ilirst, J.W.; B. Maskill, Treas.; J. Constable, P.M., Sec.; W. Hallgarth, Almoner; W. P. Robotham, Org.; J. Dugdale, S.B.; R. Brew, I.G.; T. Tomlinson and T. R. R. Marsdin, Stewards; F. Pine, Tyler; A. L. Peace, P.M.; S. H. C. Ashlin, P.M.; E. Donkin, J. Acaster, and C. F. Budds. Visitors: Bros. W. Smith, W.M. 1573; and F. H. Buckland, W.M., and T. Turner, J.W., of 242.

The lodge was opened, and Mr. C. R. Maplestone was initiated by the W.M., Bro. Ashlin delivering the charge in a very effective manner. The sum of 10 guineas was subscribed for the Boys' School, and Bro. J. Constable was appointed Steward. The name of a candidate for initiation and a brother for joining were proposed, and the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards partook of supper in the club room.

BRO. THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE arrived in town on Monday from Newmarket.

THE EMPRESS EUGENIE is steadily improving, and will probably be able to receive a visit from the Queen before her Majesty's departure from Nice.

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GRAND LODGE DECISIONS

Extracted from the Authorised Reports of the
Grand Lodge of England, during the past 25 years.

EDITED, ARRANGED, AND ANNOTATED BY

WOR. BRO. REV. J. T. LAWRENCE, M.A.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS,

WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

OFFICE, 6, FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C.

GRAND PATRON:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT:
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES,
K.G., M.W.G.M.

At a QUARTERLY COURT of the Governors and
Subscribers held at FREEMASONS' TAVERN, Great Queen-
street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London, on FRIDAY, the 15th
day of April, 1898, V.W. Bro. RICHARD EVE, Patron and
Trustee (P.G. Treas.), in the chair, a Ballot took place for
the Election of 27 Boys from an approved list of 49 Candi-
dates, the following being declared

SUCCESSFUL:

No. on Poll.	Name	Votes.
1	Duke, Percy Augustus	4801
2	Fromholz, Frank Richard	4111
3	Smyth, Robert	3751
4	Potter, Charles George	3625
5	Glover, Geoffrey Ravenhill	3608
6	Cheek, Cyril Cliff	3579
7	Peace, Alfred William	3572
8	Johns, Colville Williams	3545
9	Burnett, James Murdoch	3597
10	Holdsworth, Walter	3482
11	Roach, Lewis	3410
12	Moulton, Ronald Verlow	3498
13	Oldham, George Harold	3342
14	Blake, Wm. Worthy Atkinson	3313
15	Adams, Stanley Edgar	3313
16	Colman, Ernest Charles	3297
17	Calf, Reginald Frank	3266
18	Hill, Victor Rowland	3159
19	Petley, Walton, Horace John	3090
20	Wright, Charles Philip	3053
21	Pallot, Thomas Turner	3024
22	Woodhead, Arthur	3004
23	Brinjes, Frederick Edgar	2704
24	Sheasby, Sidney Frederick	2782
25	Thomas, Douglas Theodore	2747
26	Osmond, Frederic William	2624
27	Cooper, Ralph Herbert	1998

Full particulars of the poll may be had on application at
the office.

J. MORRISON McLEOD,

Secretary.

** The CENTENARY FESTIVAL will be held at
the Royal Albert Hall, on 10th June, 1898, H.R.H. THE
PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W.G.M., President of
the Institution, in the Chair. The services of Brethren as
Stewards on this all-important occasion are earnestly
solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged. *Special
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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

MRS. BURNETT begs to express her most grateful
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her son, JAMES MURDOCH BURNETT, was elected into the
above Institution.

Alderney,
April 16th, 1898.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS,

ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

At a GENERAL COURT of this Institution, held at
FREEMASONS' TAVERN, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London,
W.C., on SATURDAY, APRIL, 16th 1898, after the General
Business was disposed of, the Governors and Subscribers
proceeded to the election by ballot of 15 Girls into the
Institution, from a list of 26 approved candidates, when
the following were declared duly

No. on Poll.	No. on List.	Name	Votes.
1	20	Anslie, Dorothy Phoebe	5247
2	13	Sydenham, Ethel May (last)	4643
3	19	Sackett, Dorothy Grace	4641
4	4	Brown, Annie Mabel	4590
5	3	Orr, Ethel May (last)	4535
6	11	Whiting, Maud Wallis	4519
7	1	Stephenson, Victoria Florence (last)	4508
8	17	Pearson, Emma Westbury	4206
9	8	Fisk, Lucy Cana	4149
10	22	Lane, Florence May	4114
11	10	O'Neill, Elizabeth (last)	4107
12	26	Shardlow, Edith	4064
13	12	Wessendorff, Gwendoline Mary	4005
14	2	Stickland, Gwynedd Mary	3770
15	9	Dean, Frances Clara	3609

The number of votes recorded to unsuccessful candidates
can be obtained on application to the Secretary's office,
and will be duly carried forward at the next election, if
eligible.

F. R. W. HEDGES,
Secretary.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

THE

110TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL, WEDNESDAY, the 18th MAY, 1898.

R.W. BRO. SIR REGINALD HANSON,
Bart., M.P., LL.D.,

P.G.W., Patron and Treasurer of the Institution,
IN THE CHAIR.

Brethren willing to act as Stewards are earnestly solicited
to send in their names to the Secretary as early as con-
venient. Stewards are much needed, and their services
will be gratefully received.

F. R. W. HEDGES,

Office—5, Freemasons' Hall,
London, W.C. Secretary.

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Hampton Court,
March, 1898.

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Masonic Notes.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1898.

United Grand Lodge will hold its Grand Festival on Wednesday, the 27th inst., when the brethren whom his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to appoint Grand Officers for the ensuing year and the Grand Treasurer elect, will be invested with their several collars and jewels of office. There will, of course, be the usual number of disappointments among those who have done good service and are not, at present, numbered among the recipients of the purple; but we are convinced that next week when our readers look through the list of brethren appointed and read the records of their services they will be satisfied that, taken as a whole, no better body of men could have been selected, and that the prestige of Grand Lodge will not suffer at their hands.

It is with the greatest pleasure that we call attention to the announcement made by Bro. Richard Eve at the Quarterly General Court of the Boys' School, on the 15th inst., to the effect that her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales has graciously consented to present the prizes to the successful pupils, at the Royal Albert Hall, on Tuesday, the 7th June. Bro. Eve further

intimated that the Centenary Festival Stewards would receive tickets for distribution among their friends and others desirous of witnessing the presentation, and when the claims of the Stewards had been satisfied that tickets would be forthcoming as far as possible for those who were subscribers to the Institutions. Thus, all who are interested in the School may have an opportunity of attending this very graceful function.

The information which Bro. Eve, as Chairman of the Board of Management, was in a position to lay before the Court of Governors and Subscribers on the same occasion as to the progress and development of the Bushey site for the new School was necessarily meagre. The Board had held a special meeting for the purpose of visiting Bushey, and had fixed the exact site on which the new Schools would be erected. Smaller plans had also been drawn out in order to give effect to what the brethren had seen, but nothing further could be done until the quantities had been taken out and they had had the opportunity of considering the very important question of ways and means. The plans for the new buildings had been accepted, the prices were settled, and the quantities were being taken out, but until this necessary process had been completed, no further information could be given.

In addition to the resolution respecting Perpetual and Life Presentations, to which we have referred at some length in our leading article, a motion was brought forward by Bro. Stanley J. Attenborough, and we are glad to say unanimously accepted by the General Court, to the effect that by way of celebrating the Centenary year, an allowance should be made to all the unsuccessful candidates at this year's election, commencing from the date on which, if elected, they would be admitted into the School, and to be continued until they should be received into the School, or become ineligible, on the score of age, for admission. The allowance, which will be at the rate of £20 per annum, will go towards the maintenance and education of those children but the schools to which they are sent must be approved by the Board of Management, and the boys will be subject to the rules and regulations applicable to those children who are maintained and educated out of the Institution.

In submitting his motion Bro Attenborough was careful to point out that the names of these unsuccessful candidates would be retained on the lists until such time as they were regularly elected by ballot or became ineligible for admission in respect of age. All Governors and Subscribers would thus have the usual opportunities for exercising their privileges as voters. He added that the cost which his proposal would involve had been carefully reckoned and that it had been found that from first to last it would come to about £1000. It was further stated that it would be impossible to admit any additional boys, as the premises were already as fully occupied as they could be.

There is just one remark we purpose offering, and it has reference to the unfortunate lad who, at the recent election, had that one and only chance allowed him of gaining admission into the School and failed. He will be 11 years old early in May and consequently his name will disappear from the list under the provision of Law 70. Can nothing be done during this year of the School Centenary for this boy, who is the only one out of the 49 boys on last week's list, who will derive no benefit from the very generous proposal brought forward by Bro. Attenborough and unanimously adopted by the General Court? We know nothing whatever of the circumstances of his case beyond the particulars furnished against his name in the list of candidates. We only know that 27 out of the said 49 candidates have been elected into the School and will be maintained, clothed, and educated, until they severally attain the age of 15 years. We know further, that of the 22 boys who were not elected 21 are still eligible and will, in due course, share in the benefits about to be conferred on the unsuccessful under Bro. Attenborough's resolution. But this unhappy youth has no further chance of election and no share in the centenary benefits. This one boy out of the 49, must he be left out in the cold altogether? Can nothing be done to lessen his disappointment and make brighter the remaining years of his boyhood?

Universal regret will be felt at the news that Bro. W. H. Lee, P.M., P.Z., who, a year or two since, retired on a pension from the post he had so ably filled for many years in the Grand Secretary's office,

died suddenly on Sunday last. He was well known in the Craft, but more especially in the Province of Middlesex, which he had loyally served during the greater part of his Masonic career, and by all who knew him, he was greatly and deservedly respected. The funeral took place on Thursday, and a brief record of his services will be found in another column; but we cannot allow the sad event to pass without tendering our most respectful sympathy to the members of his family.

It is clear, from the report we have received of the District Board of General Purposes for the Western Division of South Africa for the year 1897, that very great progress was made, and that Freemasonry is now on a far more substantial footing than it was 12 months ago. Much of this is due to the great activity shown in connection with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee; but the good work done appears to be as promising for the future as it is substantial. There are now 14 lodges on the roll of the District Grand Lodge, one having been transferred from the Eastern Division, while one entirely new lodge—the Lodge of Israel, No. 2691, Cape Town—was consecrated by the District Grand Master on the 4th August last, and the Board remarks that "from the number of founders and also of the initiates who have been made in it, it is evident that it supplies a much-needed want." There have also been the usual private lodge visitations, while, in addition to the annual and half-yearly meetings of the District Grand Lodge, the District Grand Master and his officers were present when the foundation-stone of the new wing of the New Somerset Hospital, intended to be a permanent memorial in Cape Colony of the Diamond Jubilee, was laid by the Governor (Sir Alfred Milner, K.C.B.) with Masonic honours, under the District Grand Master's direction. There was also a special meeting in the Hall of British Lodge, No. 334, and Divine service in St. George's Cathedral in honour of the same event on St. John's Day, at both of which the District Grand Master and his officers were present, as well as a number of distinguished members of the Scottish and Dutch Constitutions.

But the activity of the lodges and brethren was not confined to this class of work or meeting. We learn that in August of last year, when the Management of the Masonic Educational Fund issued its report, there were as many as 45 children being educated under its auspices. The main source of income of this Fund is the subscriptions paid by the lodges, but it has been materially assisted by the collections made at the installation of new Worshipful Masters of lodges. As the calls upon the resources of the Fund have been exceptionally numerous, the amount thus received has been most welcome. As for the District Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund, there can be little doubt as to its position being fully assured. It commenced the year 1897 with a balance in hand of close upon £1000—the precise sum being £998 11s. 2d. It received during the year in Subscriptions £88 13s. and in Interest £33 7s. 2d., or together £122 0s. 2d., while it disbursed in aid, for individual relief, and for other purposes £103 5s. 6d., the balance remaining at the close of the year being £1017 5s. 10d.

But the principal result of the year's labour is the establishment of a Masonic Pension Fund. It was resolved at the annual meeting of Dist. G. Lodge that the memorial of the Diamond Jubilee year of her Majesty's reign should take this particular form, and at the half-yearly meeting in September, it was unanimously agreed that £500 should be transferred from the District Benevolent fund to the Pension Fund, and at the same time subscriptions were invited from lodges and individual brethren. So far as time had allowed of a response being made to this invitation there had been received from lodges and brethren and in other ways a sum of £208 6s. 7d., making with the D.G. Lodge's contribution before mentioned £708 6s. 7d. Of this only £1 13s. 3d. had been expended, so that there remained in hand towards the object of the Fund upwards of £706. It seems, however, that several of the larger lodges had not completed their lists of subscriptions in time for the publication of the Account, but the Board expresses a hope that the result of the first year's organisation of the Fund will be a total receipt from all sources amounting to about £1000. Such a result as this cannot do otherwise than reflect the greatest honour upon the lodges and brethren in this Western Division, and we have no doubt that when the Fund has been thoroughly well-established it will be liberally maintained and thereby enabled to confer its benefits upon all who apply to it for help in their time of need.

Reviews.

"BELL'S CATHEDRAL SERIES" is rapidly increasing as respects the number of these handy and tasty volumes, the latest issue being "The Cathedral Church of Hereford," by Mr. A. Hugh Fisher. The description of the fabric, and brief history of the Episcopal See are all that can be desired or looked for in such a publication; the information, so interestingly written, being rigidly condensed, the result being a wonderful collection of facts concerning the different periods of its varied experience during the building of the massive pile, its misfortunes as to the collapse of portions of the venerable building, and its unkind and unskillful treatment by foes and so-called friends during the Great Rebellion and subsequent Restoration, respectively. The particulars as to the important changes and necessary repairs during this century are appreciatively narrated, and it is but bare justice to state that Mr. Fisher has done his work most lovingly and admirably. The numerous illustrations are welcome additions to this beautifully got up brochure, and indeed, are special features of the artistic series.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. James Henry Matthews, President of the Board, occupied the President's chair; Bro. D. D. Mercer, Senior Vice-President, took the seat allotted to the holder of that office; and Bro. C. J. R. Tijou was assigned the seat of Junior Vice-President, in the absence of Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Junior Vice-President; Bro. E. Letchworth, Grand Secretary; Bro. William Lake, Asst. Grand Sec.; Bros. William Dodd, G. S. Recknell, and Henry Sadler, Grand Tyler; represented the department of the Grand Secretary, and there were also present Bros. James Boulton, James Bunker, G. B. Chapman, W. Fisher, W. H. Caton, George Graveley, W. Kipps, Henry Garrod, S. H. Goldschmidt, Edward Terry, P.G.T.; Thomas Jones, E. W. Nightingale, E. C. Mulvey, C. Pulman, Charles Henry Stone, George Ellinger, Walter Martin, Thos. Minstrell, P.G.P.; W. Wills, William Henry Hall, W. J. Light, W. D. Church, J. Prentice, H. Massey, A. Sandford, Harry Groome, G. Ransford, Henry A. Tobias, George Lichtenfeld, E. Parry, D. H. Chandler, Benjamin Stocker, J. C. Osterstock, J. F. Higham, Samuel H. Parkhouse, A. Genninger, J. William Stevens, J. T. Kiniple, George R. Langley, J. H. Moggridge, and J. S. Eidman.

The brethren first confirmed the gift of £675 in sums between £40 and £25, which at the last meeting were recommended to the Grand Master for his approval as grants to 20 cases. The new list contained the names of 31 petitioners, who were qualified through lodges in the London District, and at Portsmouth, Barbados, Maryport, Keighley, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Cirencester, Kingsbridge, Dartford, Swansea, Aldeburgh, Spanish Town, Stamford, Guildford, Hertford, Frome, and Hokitika. Of these, two petitions were deferred and one was dismissed. The remainder were relieved with a total of £715. One petitioner was recommended to Grand Lodge for £50; three were recommended to the Grand Master for £40 each and 11 for £30 each; nine cases received £20 each, three £10 each, and one £5.

Before the Board was closed, Bro. GARROD, for the information of the brethren who might not be aware of the fact, said that Bro. W. H. Lee, formerly in the Grand Secretary's office, who regularly used to attend the Board of Benevolence, died at Brighton on Sunday last.

Craft Masonry.

Lodge of Honour and Generosity, No. 165.

The election meeting of this very old established and distinguished lodge was held at the Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn Fields, on the 22nd ult., when there were present Bros. Frank E. Rosher, W.M.; A. P. Crabb, S.W.; J. Howard Rosher, J.W.; J. W. H. Thompson, P.M., Treas.; J. Woonhouse, J.D.; Godfrey Sykes, I.G.; H. Times, P.M.; J. R. Drake, P.M.; Richard Eve, P.M., P.G.T.; Harry Bearman, H. W. Clarkson, A. Ellam, C. Olden, and R. H. Goddard, Tyler. The visitors were Bros. G. Pitt-Lewis, Q.C., P.G.S.; Alex. Bowie, M.D.; S. L. Webb, Fred Livingstone, F. Franklin Clive, Reginald Groome, 1929; Alfred Love, Wilfred P. Schreiner, 859; G. Callingham, 1765; O. B. Cuvilge, 1; J. H. Milton, P.M. 2511; J. H. Ford, 2032; F. H. Callingham, 1769; and R. T. West, 1744.

After the customary opening formalities, and the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, the W.M., Bro. Frank E. Rosher, raised Bros. H. Clarkson and L. Norman to the Third Degree, and afterwards passed Bro. J. W. Ellis to the Second Degree, and later in the evening initiated Mr. Charles Olden, F.G.S. (of Coolgardie). The W.M.'s working of the ritual was carried out in a manner that stamped him as a Master of the art. Bro. A. P. Crabb, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M.; Bro. J. W. H. Thompson, P.M., was re-elected Treasurer; and Bro. R. H. Goddard, again appointed Tyler. Bro. A. P. Crabb, in a few well chosen words, expressed his appreciation and gratitude to the members for the great honour they had conferred upon him in electing him W.M., and that he would do his utmost to carry out the duties of his office to their satisfaction. Bro. J. W. H. Thompson, P.M., stated it was a great pleasure to him to have been re-elected as Treasurer. On the motion of Bro. Richard Eve, P.G.T., the sum of 10 guineas was voted from the lodge funds for the Boys' Institution. The W.M. read a letter from Bro. G. E. Wainwright, who was abroad, stating that he was reluctantly compelled to resign his office as Secretary. This was received with much regret, and it was unanimously resolved that a letter be written to him regretting his resignation, and thanking him for his great services to the lodge, which would ever be remembered. It was proposed that a sum be taken from the lodge funds for the purchase of a Past Master's jewel to be presented to the W.M., Bro. Frank E. Rosher, as a small token in recognition of his eminent services and of his excellent working of the ritual. This was seconded by Bro. Richard Eve, P.G.T., who remarked that a jewel could not be bestowed on anyone better, as the W.M. had done great things for the lodge. The W.M. appointed and invested Bro. H. Times, P.M., as Secretary.

A gentleman was proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and other business followed, after which the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet.

The customary loyal toasts were given by the W.M. in very brief terms, and were duly honoured.

The toast of "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," received the eulogium it deserved from the W.M., who also observed that they were proud to have Bro. Richard Eve, Past Grand Treasurer, as a member, and there was no one more respected in the Craft.

The toast was enthusiastically received, as was Bro. Richard Eve, P.G. Treasurer, on rising to respond.

Bro. Richard Eve, P.G.T., said that he had often responded to the toast on previous occasions in the lodge, but he had always had a Grand Officer to stand up with him, but that evening he was alone. He mentioned the names of many Grand Officers who had been connected with the Lodge of Honour and Generosity, and observed that all the Grand Officers were desirous of upholding the great prestige of the Grand Lodge of England.

Bro. J. R. Drake, P.M., submitted the toast of "The W.M., Bro. Frank E. Rosher," and said that Bro. Richard Eve, P.G.T., in supporting the motion to purchase a jewel for the W.M., was roused to enthusiasm when he spoke of the W.M. as

one of the hardest and best workers the lodge had ever had, and no one more fully deserved the token, and he (Bro. Drake) felt certain that all the members endorsed everything that Bro. Eve had said. Some of the Past Masters must have looked with admiration on the efficient way the W.M. had carried out his onerous duties, and they all admitted that it would have been impossible to have found a better W.M.

Bro. Frank E. Rosher, W.M., on rising to respond, was received with much warmth. He said that if he could reply in adequate terms he would be more than human. Bro. Drake proposed the toast in such glowing terms, which he felt he did not deserve, but if he had given them satisfaction, he was more than satisfied. That was a proud evening for him to have done the three Degrees, and he had to thank the S.W. who had been his very able Preceptor. That was the last occasion he would preside at the banquet table, and as he promised them when he was installed that he would during his term of office provide a good musical entertainment, he hoped they considered he had carried out his promise and that they were satisfied with him as far as the musical entertainment was concerned.

In giving "The Past Masters," the W.M. stated that they were always received in the lodge with enthusiasm and very shortly he would be proud to join their ranks. Their great abilities and what they had done for the lodge were so well known that it was needless for him to dwell upon them, and he would content himself by associating with the toast the name of Bro. J. R. Drake, P.M.

Bro. J. R. Drake, P.M., said that he was somewhat surprised that the W.M. had singled him out to acknowledge the toast of "The Past Masters," who were, he might say, an important body. They had with them that night as a visitor Bro. G. Pitt-Lewis, Q.C., one of the oldest Past Masters of the lodge and he was a link with the past, or in other words one of those connected with the old Western Circuit, and he was glad that he had honoured them with his presence.

In proposing "The Visitors" the W.M. stated that they had received letters regretting their inability to attend from Bros. E. Terry, P.G.T.; Sir Joseph Dimsdale, P.G.T.; Fred. West, P.G.D.; J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; Pryce Jones, M.P., J. Stephens, H. Pritchard, H. Holt, Locke, Dighton, and Angus. He read out a list of those who had honoured the lodge with their presence and said he hoped they would come again, and he joined with the toast the names of Bros. G. Pitt Lewis, Q.C., and J. H. Ford.

Bro. Pitt Lewis, Q.C., responded. He confessed that that night was one of surprises and he was called the missing link. He was agreeably surprised with the excellence of the work, which was much better than when he was a member of the lodge, and the excellent banquet was also an agreeable surprise. He had enjoyed himself very much, so he thought had all the guests. The entertainment was grand and their hospitality lavish. He felt quite at home and if given the opportunity he would gladly come again.

Bro. J. H. Ford also acknowledged the toast in happy terms. At the request of the W.M., Bro. J. W. H. Thompson, P.M., gave the toast of "The Initiate."

Bro. Charles Olden responded, and said that he was unable to adequately acknowledge the toast. If he lived to be very old he should never forget the ceremony of that evening, and it would be with him until he parted with this world. He was gratified to have been initiated in the mother country, and he would do all he could in his power to add to the prestige of the lodge if possible, and the Craft in general, and he thanked them from his heart for the kind and hearty manner they had received the toast of the initiate.

In presenting the toast of "The Officers," the W.M. stated that he was deeply indebted to them for their great assistance during his term of office, and if they were not always able to be present, he had had excellent substitutes. They had seen how they did their work that night, and he thought all would agree that he could not have had a better staff, and he joined with the toast the names of Bros. A. P. Crabb, S.W., W.M. elect, and J. Howard Rosher, J.W., who both responded in very appropriate terms.

The Tyler's toast brought to a close a very enjoyable and instructive meeting. The usual entertainment, which was provided by the W.M., under the able direction of Bro. Reginald Groome, from the commencement to the finish, was one unbroken success, for which the following well-known artistes were responsible: Miss Ethel Bevans, Miss Nellie Groome, Bro. Franklin Clive, Mr. Frederick Upton, and Bro. Reginald Groome.

Bank of England Lodge, No. 263.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. H. PRITCHARD, P.M. 263.

At a meeting of the above lodge, held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on Thursday, the 14th inst., a presentation was made to Bro. Henry Pritchard, P.M., P.P. G. Treas. Middx., in appreciation of his great services to the lodge during the 10 years he has acted as its Secretary. The testimonial took the form of a handsome silver bowl, subscribed for by all the members of the lodge.

The W.M., Bro. C. A. Rhodes, in making the presentation at the conclusion of the banquet, referred to the valuable services of Bro. Pritchard and to the high esteem in which he is held by all the brethren, and in asking Bro. Pritchard's acceptance of the gift expressed the hope that it might constantly remind him of 10 very pleasant years of Masonic work.

Bro. Pritchard (to whom the testimonial came as a complete surprise) said that he was entirely unable to adequately express his appreciation of the kindly feeling which had dictated the gift, and that his duties as Secretary had always been much lightened by the cordial assistance and support he had received from the brethren.

"The Health of Bro. Pritchard" was then drunk with great enthusiasm, and a most pleasing little episode terminated.

Islington Lodge, No. 1471.

The last regular meeting of the season was held on Thursday, the 14th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, the attendance including Bros. E. J. Harrison, W.M.; H. Cox, P.M., P.P.S.G.W. Herts, as S.W.; C. Horst, J.W.; S. Napper, P.M., Treas.; E. Blinkhorn, P.M., Sec.; F. White, J.D.; G. E. Walker, I.G.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, D.C.; E. J. Bury, Org.; G. Couchman, Tyler; R. Loomes, P.M.; D. C. Ritchie, P.M.; A. Cox, P.M.; W. F. Roberts, W. E. Peckover, A. Jennings, W. Pannell, W. Taylor, G. A. Hopkins, L. Danielsson, W. Goring, E. H. Yexley, T. Burrell, J. Johnson, D. C. Attwater, J. H. Thurman, J. R. White, T. Spotswood, and E. A. Beer. Visitors: Bros. C. H. Collett, 1526; W. Hancock, P.M. 2191; J. W. Clarke, P.M. 1512, Prov. G.P. Middx.; C. C. Renaud, J.W. 2278; H. R. Bower, J.D. 2278; and F. H. Johnson, 2278.

After the minutes had been read, Bro. W. E. Peckover was raised to the Degree of M.M., and Bro. E. A. Beer was balloted for as a re-joining member, and unanimously elected.

This terminated the business of the meeting, and the lodge was closed. After partaking of supper, the toast list was gone through, the W.M. being complimented upon the admirable manner in which he had performed his duties in the lodge.

Bros. F. H. Johnson, Attwater, Roberts, Goring, and Bower rendered some excellent songs, and were ably accompanied by Bro. E. H. Bury.

The Tyler's toast and "Auld Lang Syne" closed the proceedings.

Galen Lodge, No. 2394.

A very successful installation meeting was held in connection with this lodge at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Monday, the 11th instant, when Bro. P. C. Maitland was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The members present included Bros. M. Carteighe, W.M.; P. C. Maitland, P.M., W.M. elect; J. B. S. Lancaster, P.M., Sec.; F. Bascombe, J.W.; C. Butler, P.M., S.D.; H. W. Roach, P.M.; J. Hodgkin, P.M.; W. J. Rogerson, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; H. Paul, P.M., P.G. Stwd.; J. W. H. Littleboy, J.D.; A. W. Gerrard, P.M.; E. J. Eastes, Org.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. Lennox Browne, P.D.G.D.C.; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; J. J. Mott, 188; S. F. Watson, P.M. 194; J. Holding; T. C. Doughty, W.M. 1287; C. Hunt, P.M. 194; E. V. Howes, S.D. 2200; G. N. Watts, P.M. 194; A. P. Luff, P.M. 410; J. P. Parkes, P.M. 1538; W. Floyer, J.D. 246; W. Thomas, W.M. 2535; W. J. Walsham, W.M. 2546; Alderman Felix Strong, J.P., S.W. 1535; W. W. Lee, P.M.; and others.

Lodge was opened, the minutes confirmed, and a brother passed to the Second Degree. Bro. Pelham C. Maitland, P.M. 1538, was next presented as W.M. elect, and was duly installed into the chair. The following officers were appointed and invested: Bros. F. Rascombe, S.W.; C. Butler, P.M. 1106, J.W.; J. B. S. Lancaster, P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; J. W. H. Littleboy, S.D.; A. W. Gerrard, P.M. 1415, J.D.; T. H. W. Idris, D.C.; C. J. Strother, I.G.; E. J. Eastes, Organist; E. Kent and J. J. Arrow, Stwds.; and G. Harrison, Tyler. A handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Carteighe, I.P.M., in recognition of his valuable services, and the gift was duly acknowledged. The Secretary announced with deep regret the death of the Treasurer of the lodge, Bro. J. B. Mackley, and the members expressed their sympathy with his relatives in their great loss.

Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet at Freemasons' Tavern, when the usual toasts were honoured.

Bro. Lennox Browne, P.D.G.D.C., replying for "The Grand Officers," said this was his third or fourth visit to the lodge and he had enjoyed himself very much. He heard the M.W.G.M., when installing his brother as Prov. G.M. of Sussex, say that the watchwords of Masonry should be loyalty and benevolence. A man need not be a Mason to be loyal, but being a Mason made him none the less loyal. Nobody knew better than their profession—because Esculapius and Galen must be more than cousins, they must be brothers—what the Grand Master had done for benevolence, for by his initiation they would see a great problem solved in a few years. He (Bro. Browne) congratulated the W.M., whom he had known for several years, in attaining the chair of this lodge.

Bro. H. Sadler, G. Tyler, also briefly replied.

Bro. M. Carteighe, I.P.M., said that as this was guest night they would not say much about themselves, but he asked them to drink "The Health of the W. Master" with enthusiasm. He had no doubt the W.M. would be more effective than his predecessors and would astonish the whole of the brethren by the zeal with which he would conduct the duties, and he (the I.P.M.) was present as I.P.M. to see that he did it.

The W.M., in response, said he had to rise, as Mark Twain put it, "to smash in emergency's head." He thanked them for the kindly reception given the toast, and as this was a personal toast he had to be egotistical. This was a very proud night for him, as it should be for all Masons when they reached their apogee in Masonry—the Master's chair. His apogee in this lodge ran concurrently with his medical career for it was soon after the establishment of this lodge that he entered on his medical career. He hoped to study their interests in the lodge and do all he could to keep up the dignity of the high position to which the Galen Lodge had been brought.

"The Visitors" were next given by the W.M., and responded to by Bro. Walsham, W.M. 2456, and a very distinguished member of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; and Bros. McNaughton Jones and Luff.

Bro. Alderman Vesey Strong also replied, and said that if he had no other claim to their indulgence, he came from the W.M.'s mother lodge—the St. Martin's-le-Grand. In that lodge they had many small members, but also many distinguished members, and that fact was borne out by the circumstances that from their superabundance they had allowed the Galen Lodge to draw one of their number to preside over them.

"The I.P.M. and Installing Master" was proposed by the W.M., who said he felt highly honoured at having such an I.P.M.

Bro. M. Carteighe, I.P.M., returned thanks, and said it would be ungracious to encroach upon their time. He was grateful to the lodge for having allowed him to be its first initiate, and for making facilities for him to be one of its Masters. One of the greatest honours conferred upon him during his life was the fraternal way in which they had placed him in the position of W.M., and now as I.P.M. He could only repay their kindness by helping to make the lodge a continued success, and typical of that brotherly love and affection which should be symbolical of their lodge.

Other toasts were given, and the proceedings terminated.

The musical programme included items by the Mavis Glee Singers, who sang several quartettes in a pleasing and finished style that was much appreciated. Bro. J. Proctor also contributed an amusing recitation.

Era Lodge, No. 1423.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, on Saturday, the 16th inst., being presided over by the W.M., Bro. J. Wheatley, who was supported by the following officers and brethren: Bros. J. H. Anderson, S.W.; T. J. Peckham, J.W.; J. Beresford Ryley, M.D., P.M., P.P.G.D., Treas.; G. L. Wingate, P.M., P.P.G.P., Sec.; W. Beaton, S.D.; D. Hart-Davies, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., J.D.; H. Saunton, D.C.; E. C. St. Aubyn, I.G.; F. W. Tallack, P.M.; H. J. Tallack, P.M.; A. D. Pennellier, Stwd.; James Henry Shipman, and Dr. Herbert Davies. Visitors: Bros. W. Martin, A.G. Purst.; D. Hadon, P.M. 65; R. W. Barber, W.M. 198; Louis Verdier, P.M. 590, P.P.G.S. Jersey; W. Beecroft, P.M. 1351; J. Brown, W.M. 1446; F. Langford, W.M., and D. Morgan, P.M., both of 1571; S. Bartlett, W.M., H. Monduhare, S.W., and J. Oppenheim, P.M., all of 2060; K. Rogers, 2398; and J. Almond, 2500.

The report of the Audit Committee showing a balance in favour of the lodge of nearly £70 was read and adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Bro. James Henry Shipman, 1305, was unanimously elected a joining member. The ballot having proved unanimous for the initiation of Dr. Herbert Davies he was duly admitted into the mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry. Bro. H. Saunton having assumed the chair Bro. Auguste Desire Pennellier was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. Bro. John Hy. Anderson, S.W., W.M. elect, having been presented and a Board of Installed Masters constituted he was duly installed into the chair of K.S. in an impressive manner, and was greeted by the numerous array of Masters then present with the usual formalities. The Worshipful Master then appointed and invested his officers, viz.: Bros. T. J. Peckham, as S.W.; Beaton, J.W.; D. Hart-Davies, P.M., S.D.; E. C. St. Aubyn, J.D.; J. Beresford Ryley, P.M., Treas.; G. L. Wingate, P.M., Sec.; A. D. Pennellier, I.G.; H. Saunton, P.M., D.C.; J. H. Shipman, Stwd.; and F. G. Mitchell, Tyler. On the motion of the Treasurer, seconded by Bro. Saunton, P.M., a Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. J. Wheatley, the retiring Master for the able manner in which he had conducted the duties of office during the past year. Communications were then read from the P.P.G. Sec., Bro. H. Howard Room, P.G.D.C., announcing his resignation owing to failing health, and from Bro. J. M. Small, of 17, Victoria-street, S.W., that the R.W.P.G. Master had appointed him to the office of Provincial Grand Secretary. The Secretary reported that Bro. F. Tallack, P.M., having died since the last meeting a letter of condolence had been addressed to Mrs. Tallack and her family, which had been acknowledged in feeling terms, and the communication was ordered to be entered on the minutes. A resolution of sympathy was also accorded to Bros. Pennellier and C. H. Wheatley, P.M., on the family bereavements sustained by them. The Secretary having reported the resignation of a brother, he was requested to invite the brother to re-consider the matter, and to report the result at the next lodge.

At the banquet which followed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and acknowledged.

It being mentioned that Bro. J. Beresford Ryley, P.M., would be nominated for a seat on the Board of General Purposes, it was agreed to give him every support at the ensuing election.

The I.P.M., Bro. J. Wheatley, was presented with the handsome jewel of the lodge, and returned thanks in felicitous terms.

Bro. W. Martin, Asst. G. Purst., in proposing the toast of "Success to the Era Lodge," eulogised the working of the W.M. and officers, stating the pleasure it gave him to express his satisfaction in every way, an instructive afternoon being thus followed by an enjoyable evening.

Chaloner Lodge, No. 2644.

The annual installation meeting was held on Friday, the 15th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Melksham. There was a large attendance of members and visitors, some of whom came a considerable distance as a compliment to the W.M., Bro. Capt. R. G. W. Chaloner, M.P., who had been re-elected. The whole of the interesting ceremony was performed by the Right Hon. the Earl of Radnor. The lodge was founded by 10 brethren on 27th February, 1897, and now numbers 42. During the past year a Masonic Hall, Tyler's room, cloak room, and offices have been built; 19 candidates went through the Three Degrees, and 20 lodge meetings were held.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the brethren adjourned to the Town Hall where a banquet was served, the following brethren were present: Bros. Ralph Pearce, I.P.M.; Charles Audry, S.W.; Edward Lowther, J.W.; Edwin George Wylde, M.A., Chap.; Charles Lawtell, Treas.; John Parker, Sec.; Henry Lawtell, S.D.;

Robert J. Parker, J.D.; F. W. Bascomb, I.G.; Charles Saxty, D.C.; G. Childe, Org.; J. E. Bush, and H. J. White, Stwds.; A. J. Coombe, Asst. Sec.; and A. A. Angel, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. G. W. Wiltshire, 973, P.P.J.G.W. Somerset; W. R. Brown, 973, S.W.; G. H. Bartlett, 41, P.P.S.G.W. Somerset; Lawson Howes, 906, P.P.G.D. of C. Somerset; A. F. Collis, W.M. 996; T. Baggs, J.W. 906; James Sparkes, 1271, P.P.G.S.W. Wilts; Albert Beaven, 1271, P.P.S.G.D. Wilts; William E. Taylor, P.M. 1271; T. L. Hill, 632, P.P.G.R. Wilts; F. M. Garlick, P.M. 632; L. Theodore Wood, I.P.M. 632; A. J. G. Stancomb, J.W. 632; R. H. Gowing, S.W. 632; J. A. Randell, 663, P.P.S.G.W. Wilts; A. J. Randell, 663; F. W. C. Barnard, P.M. 686; W. P. Hadley, 270, P.P.G.P.; H. A. Wall, W.M. 103; A. H. Lapham, 626, P.P.G. Std. Br.; and J. W. Dunlap, W.M. 335, P.P.G.C.

The usual toasts, loyal, Masonic, and personal, followed, interspersed with songs and recitations.

Brondesbury Lodge, No. 2689.

The first regular meeting of this lodge since the consecration by Bro. Edward Letchworth, G. Sec., on the 11th ult., was held at the Earl Derby, High-road, Kilburn, on Wednesday, the 12th inst., under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. R. J. Campbell, P.M., supported by the following: Bros. Dr. G. J. Morgan, I.P.M.; A. F. Hardyment, S.W.; Fhritton, W.M. 754, acting J.W.; G. Coxen, Treas.; E. George, Sec.; Stocker, S.D.; Oldrey, J.D.; Goodwin, D.C.; C. W. Paine, I.G.; J. Crook and Battrum, Stewards; W. G. Coxen, H. Coxen, Symonds, J. Crook, Wheeler, Greaves, Pearce, Crocker, J. H. Crook-Lines, and others. Visitors: Bros. Fhritton, W.M. 754; Sexton, Org. 2361; Walker, 177; Liddall, P.M. 45; Harry Willmer, 1567; and others.

The lodge having been opened, five candidates were initiated—Messrs. J. H. Crook, W. H. Pearce, E. G. Lines, A. R. Greaves, and Frank Crocker—the W.M. afterwards delivering the ancient charge in a very impressive manner. The following brethren were accepted as joining members: Bros. G. Wheeler, 1771; A. Hawes, 2535; and F. Pim, 860. The by-laws were received and adopted, and five propositions were received for initiation at the next meeting.

The permission of the lodge was given to the W.M., Bro. R. J. Campbell, on proposition by Bro. Hardyment, S.W., seconded by Bro. Oldrey, S.D., to form a lodge of instruction, to be held at the Earl Derby, and to work under their title. A preliminary meeting will be called very shortly for the purpose of appointing Preceptor, Treasurer, and Secretary, and making general arrangements. We understand the following brethren will be proposed to occupy their respective offices: Bro. A. F. Hardyment, S.W. 2608, Preceptor; Bro. R. J. Campbell, W.M. 2608, P.M. 1489, Treasurer; and Harry Willsmer, 1567, Hon. Sec. Citadel Lodge of Instruction, 1897, Secretary. The lodge was then closed.

Mark Masonry.

Florence Nightingale Lodge, No. 44.

The installation meeting of this excellent little lodge took place on the 12th inst., at the Royal Mortar Hotel, Beresford-square, Woolwich, when Bro. Dr. E. Bryceson, M.D., S.W. and W.M. elect, was installed as W.M. for the ensuing 12 months. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. G. W. Mitchell, P.S.G.D., and the usual business having been transacted, Bro. F. G. Nichols, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., by special request, assumed the chair as Installing Officer, and in his own inimitable manner placed the W.M. elect in the chair of A., where he was saluted, primarily by a Board of Installed Officers, and then by the brethren of the lodge. He installed his officers as follows: Bros. G. W. Mitchell, I.P.M.; J. O. Cook, S.W.; G. R. Nichols, J.W.; S. Horton, M.O.; J. Clarke, S.O.; J. Christian, J.O.; Rev. C. A. Solbe, B.A., Chap.; W. C. Taylor, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., Treas.; A. W. Orwin, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., R. of M.; F. G. Nichols, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Sec.; C. W. Moore Keys, M.D., S.D.; B. Hammond, J.D.; Right Hon. Lord Pirbright, D.C.; and H. Mason, P.M., P.P.J.G.O., Stwd. The addresses were most impressively rendered by the Installing Officer. A Past Master's jewel was then presented to Bro. Mitchell, suitably inscribed, and a cordial vote of thanks to Bro. Nichols for his services as Installing Officer was carried, and ordered to be entered on the minutes of the lodge. Several letters of regret at not being able to attend were read, and then the lodge was closed.

The banquet was served in the handsome Assembly Room of the establishment, under the immediate supervision of Bro. Hall, who was congratulated on all sides for his splendid catering and the elegance of his table.

The usual loyal and Mark toasts having been honoured, Bro. Mitchell responded to a cordial and hearty reception of the toast of "The Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past," and then proceeded to propose the toast of "The W.M. of the Florence Nightingale Mark Lodge." He said he felt sure they were all pleased to see their esteemed Bro. Dr. Bryceson reigning over them as their W.M., and if there was one regret that he felt more than another at that moment it was that he had not had the honour and pleasure of installing Bro. Bryceson into the chair that evening. He need hardly apologise for that, for they all knew that he had had a severe indisposition, that had utterly prevented him from the accomplishment of his ambition to instal his successor. He hoped and trusted that their W.M. would, during his year of office, have plenty of work, which work, he felt sure, would not only be encouraging to their W.M., but also to every member of the lodge. He trusted their W.M. would have health and strength, and then he would be enabled to discharge his duties to his own and the satisfaction of every brother of the lodge.

The W.M., in response, said he could only say that he was deeply sensible of the honour conferred upon him, and also of the responsibility that had been imposed on him for a faithful discharge of the duties annexed to the appointment. He reiterated the wish of Bro. Mitchell, and trusted he should have plenty of work, and if he had they might depend upon it that nothing should be wanting on his part to prove himself worthy of the position to which they had called him.

Bro. C. Jolly, P.M. 226, P.P.J.G.O., in responding for "The Visitors," referred to the consecration, or rather the rejuvenation, of the Florence Nightingale Lodge, some 18 years ago, at which he had the pleasure of being present. Their grand old lodge had been in existence many years before that, but under, he believed, the Scotch Constitution; however, it had gone on since its resurrection, and was, he was proud to say, one of the soundest, if not the strongest, lodges in the Province of Kent. As to his mother lodge—the Excelsior—he was one of some 38 candidates advanced at its consecration in 1878. There was an excellent and truly Masonic feeling existing between the two lodges, and he trusted it might long continue. For their hearty welcome and hospitable reception of the visitors he heartily thanked them.

Bro. J. Wheatley, J.O. 226, also returned thanks.

"The Health of the Installing Officer" was heartily received.

Bro. Nichols, in returning thanks, assured the brethren of his constant desire to perform any office that the exigencies of the lodge might call upon him to fill.

The toasts of "The Past Masters" and "The Officers" concluded the toast list, and a most pleasant evening was brought to a close by the Tyler's toast.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Invicta Chapter, No. 10.

A meeting of this chapter was held at 33, Golden-square, on the 15th inst., Ill. Bro. J. Graham Reynolds, 30, M.W.S., presided, and in attendance were Ill. Bros. W. M. Bywater, 32, Treas.; G. Mickle, 32; H. Lovegrove, 31; J. Reed, 30; G. Powell, 30, Sec.; H. C. Heard, 30; J. A. Robinson, 32; and Rev. W. H. Frazer, D.D. 30; E. and P. Bros. J. J. Pakes, F. A. Manning, and W. J. Songhurst.

The business, which was of an ordinary character, being completed, the members dined at the Criterion Restaurant.

Shadwell Clerke Chapter, No. 107.

A meeting of this chapter was held at 33, Golden-square, W., on the 12th inst. In consequence of the holidays, a very small number of members attended to support the M.W.S., Bro. A. H. Scurrah. There were present Ill. Bros. H. Lovegrove, 31°, Treas.; W. A. Scurrah, 30°; J. Read, 30°, Recorder; G. W. Capel, 30; T. Parker, C. H. Fry, T. M. Bider, J. W. Stevens, J. W. Marsh, J. Perrott, and others. A banquet at the Criterion followed.

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

BLACKHEATH LODGE, No. 1320.

The weekly meeting of the above lodge was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, on Monday, the 18th inst., when there were present Bros. T. R. Cass, W.M.; T. Hobley, S.W.; Trotter, J.W.; Wm. Dawson, P.M., Preceptor; J. R. Cass, P.M., Treas.; C. H. Stone, P.M., Sec.; Rice, Asst. Sec.; H. Cornford, S.D.; Sobel, J.D.; Lord, I.G.; Hill, P.M.; Tyler; Hardman, P.M.; Richards, Harman, Audy, Hurley, Stunt, and Plant.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Richards being the candidate. Bro. Cass vacated the chair in favour of Bro. E. A. Rice, W.M. 1320, who rehearsed the ceremonies of passing and raising, Bros. Harman and Hurley respectively personating the candidates. Bro. T. Hobley was elected W.M. for the first Monday in May. The lodge was then closed.

The Fifteen Sections will be rehearsed on Monday next, under the presidency of Bro. Wm. Dawson, Preceptor, assisted by Bros. H. Cornford, 1722, as S.W., and F. W. Trotter, as J.W.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 19th inst, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. S. Cload, W.M.; W. F. Roberts, S.W.; C. T. Rayner, J.W.; J. W. Clarke, P.M., P.P.G.P. Middx., Asst. Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; W. Rapley, S.D.; A. F. Hardymont, J.D.; A. E. Hubsch, I.G.; A. L. Langton, F. J. Dickens, F. H. Johnson, H. R. Bower, and W. Fowler.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Langton being the candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Rapley, who rehearsed the ceremony of passing, Bro. Bower being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and closed in the Third and Second Degrees. Bro. Roberts was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

A meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E., on Friday, the 15th inst. Present: Comps. W. R. Barr, M.E.Z.; S. J. Derham, H.; Cureton, J.; Thos. Grummant, P.Z., Preceptor; J. Loader, P.Z., Scribe E.; Lewis, Scribe N.; Wm. Dawson, P.S.; T. Cass, 1st A.S.; and Latham.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Latham personating the candidate. Comp. Derham, H., was elected M.E.Z. for to-day (Friday). The chapter was closed.

The annual supper will take place at the Ship Restaurant, Charing Cross, S.W., at 7 p.m. on Saturday, the 30th inst. Comp. W. R. Barr, M.E.Z. 1275, will preside.

Royal Arch.

Wanderers Chapter, No. 1604.

The installation meeting of the above chapter was held on the 19th instant at Freemasons' Hall. Present: Comps. Horace White, M.E.Z.; R. O. Moody, P.Z., as H.; H. L. Davis, J.; W. Vincent, P.Z., P.A.G.D.C., Scribe E.; G. Boulton, P.Z., Treas.; W. F. Cheesman, P.Z.; F. W. Ogg, P.Z.; J. Smith, Scribe N.; T. J. Mountain, P.S.; J. Squires, 1st A.S.; E. A. Hubbard, and F. J. Middleditch. Visitors: Comps. S. Morby, M.E.Z. 1624; A. Piper, M.E.Z. 177; A. Wilson, P.Z. 918; and H. J. Ollive, 177.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the report of the Audit Committee was received, which showed the chapter to be in a prosperous state, the sum of £44 being in hand. Comp. R. O. Moody was installed as M.E.Z. by Comp. White, Comp. H. L. Davis was installed as H. by Comp. Moody, and Comp. J. Smith was installed as J. by Comp. Vincent. The other companions invested in the remaining offices were Comps. W. Vincent, P.A.G.D.C., Scribe E.; J. Squires, Scribe N.; G. Boulton, P.Z., Treas.; T. J. Mountain, P.S.; F. J. Middleditch, 2nd A. Soj.; and J. Lackland, Janitor. Two sums of five guineas each were voted to the lists of the M.E.Z. and Scribe E. for the approaching Boys' Festival.

The chapter was then closed, and the usual banquet was held, when a very pleasant evening was spent.

Comp. Horace White was presented with a P.Z.'s jewel and collar for the excellent manner in which he had discharged the duties of the chair during his year of office.

Comp. Moody is to be congratulated on being so soon installed M.E.Z. of the chapter, as he only became a joining member of it in September, 1896, 18 months ago.

The Craft Abroad.

CONSECRATION OF THE BLUEFIELDS LODGE.

At the Masonic Temple in Bluefields, Nicaragua, on Thursday evening, the 17th ult., the above lodge, under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, was consecrated and erected by dispensation, under the auspices of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Nicaragua, Bro. Samuel Weil, R.W. Prov. G. Master, presiding.

The following is a list of the officers installed: Bros. M. J. Clancy, R.W. Master; W. J. Malone, S.W.; J. N. Sewell, J.W.; L. L. Marx, Sec.; W. P. Brown, S.D.; and J. Thompson, Tyler.

The following are his charter members: Bros. W.P. Brown, Michael J. Clancy, William J. Malone, Ludwig L. Marx, Jacob A. Peterson, John N. Sewell, John Thompson, Samuel Weil, P.G.M.; and George B. Wiltbanks.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was assisted in the erection of Bluefields Lodge by the members of the Eureka Lodge, No. 673, of Bluefields. After the installation of the officers the by-laws were adopted, which were subsequently approved by the Prov. Grand Master. The regular communications will be held on the first Thursday of each month.

After the closing of the lodge the members and visitors partook of refreshments, during which short and appropriate addresses were made, all for the good of the Order.

Obituary.

BRO. W. H. LEE, P.P.G.D. MIDDX.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Bro. W. H. Lee, P.P. G.D. Middx., which occurred suddenly on the 17th inst., at Brighton. His loss will be regretted and his memory treasured by a large circle of Masonic friends, who knew and respected him during a long and active Masonic career, more especially in connection with the Grand Secretary's office, where he was a valued member of the staff for many years. Bro. Lee retired from active work but a year or two ago on account of failing health. His knowledge of Masonic procedure was well-known and the advice so frequently sought was given with a cheerfulness and geniality which made the information doubly welcome. An excellent worker of the ritual he took a deep interest in the proper working of the ceremonial, and during his earlier career was Preceptor of three lodges of instruction. His zeal for the Masonic Charities was evinced by the steady support given to them, as he was a Life Governor of the three principal Institutions, to which he served several Stewardships. Although too feeble in health to hope to attend the forthcoming Centenary of the Boys' School, he had, however, entered his name as a Steward for the occasion. Bro. Lee was initiated in the Rose of Denmark Lodge, No. 975, to which he was introduced by the late Bro. Wentworth Little, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls—where he passed the chair and acted for many years as Secretary. He was a founder and the first W.M. of the Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1524, where he also acted as Secretary for many years and was presented with a handsome testimonial on retirement. This lodge, which started in an unpretentious manner at Dalston, is now one of the strongest and most flourishing lodges in the City of London. Bro. Lee was also founder, P.M., and for some time Secretary of the Citadel Lodge, No. 1897, and afterwards became first W.M. of the Bushey Park Lodge, No. 2381. Exalted in Royal Arch Masonry in the Rose of Denmark Chapter, No. 975, he became afterwards the M.E.Z. He was the first M.E.Z., and for many years the Scribe E. of the Duke of Connaught Chapter, No. 1524, afterwards joining the Era Chapter, No. 1423, of which he was a P.Z. For a considerable time Bro. Lee had done active and useful work in connection with the organisation of the Province of Middlesex. He was first appointed as Prov. Asst. Grand Secretary in 1884 by the late Bro. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, the rank of P.P.G.D. being conferred upon him in 1887, and he became Prov. Grand Scribe E. in the Royal Arch in 1889. Both these offices were held by him and the work carefully and conscientiously carried out until a few months ago. The affection and esteem which Bro. Lee had well earned for himself during his long and useful Masonic career was amply evinced by the attendance of brethren at the funeral, which took place at Norwood Cemetery on Thursday, the 21st inst. The brethren present included Bro. W. W. Lee, P.P.G.D. Middx. (son), Bro. H. T. Browne, 1897, and Messrs. W. M. Smith, E. Chapman, and A. Morgan (sons-in-law), Mr. Walter Lee (brother.) Bro. W. Lake, Asst. G. Sec., represented the Grand Secretary, whilst Bros. W. Dodd, P.P.G.D. Middx., and H. Sadler, G. Tyler, represented the staff. There was also a large attendance of the various lodges and chapters and many floral remembrances from others unable to attend.

THE LATE BRO. JAMES MARSON, OF STAFFORD.

Bro. James Marson was born on the 14th of August, 1810. He was the youngest son of James Marson, of Acton Trussell. Bro. Marson from his earliest youth was designed for the profession of a chemist. He was educated at the private school of Mr. Daniel T. Sheridan (a relative of the dramatist), and at Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall. Bro. Marson served his apprenticeship with the late Mr. Charles Dawson, of Stafford, and at that time one of the leading chemists of the Midland counties. In 1832, Bro. Marson commenced business in Greengate-street. He married, 1838, Eliza, second daughter of Mr. John Yates, of Colton, in this county, who survives him, by whom he had a family of 14 children—eight sons and six daughters—11 of whom survive. If Bro. Marson's life had been prolonged until the 24th of May he would have kept his "Diamond Wedding." Bro. Marson's illness was brief, with which his advanced years left him not sufficient strength to contend. He died placidly surrounded by his affectionate family, who deplore his loss, and will long cherish his memory. In early life Bro. James Marson was an enthusiastic and prominent Freemason, and took an active part in the work of the Craft for some years. We find in "The History of Freemasonry in Stafford" (T. W. Chalmers) that Bro. Marson was initiated in the Royal Chartley Lodge of Fortitude, No. 427, in the year 1833, subsequently being installed W.M. of his mother lodge in 1836, and receiving the Prov. Grand Rank of Director of Ceremonies in 1837. He was also a founder of the first Staffordshire Knot Lodge, and at the first meeting held July, 1834, was appointed to the office of J.D. by the W.M., Bro. John Mee Mathew, Deputy P.G.M. In Royal Arch Masonry, Bro. James Marson was exalted at the second meeting of the Chapter of Fortitude, No. 427, on April 11th, 1834, and held the office of Scribe E. in that chapter many years. He was undoubtedly the oldest Freemason in the province, and probably in England. He was the last survivor of the principal inhabitants of the town, who in 1837 signed the oath of Allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

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Masonic and General Tidings.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF RUTLAND left Cap Martin on Tuesday, proceeding to England by easy stages.

THE DUCHESS OF ABERCORN and the Ladies Hamilton, who are at present staying in Paris, return to London this week.

THE DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA is likely to remain at Nice till the end of the month, when he will leave for Coburg.

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY, who is at present at Cannes, will return to Claremont Palace, Esher, to-morrow (Saturday).

A STAINED-GLASS window has been placed on the west-end of the south wall of Holy Trinity Church, Margate, as a memorial of Mrs. Crawford, the wife of Mr. J. Crawford, J.P., and the mother of Bro. H. Homewood Crawford, the City Solicitor.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has graciously consented to open the International Photographic Exhibition, on Monday, the 25th inst. The exhibition is organised by the Royal Photographic Society, and will remain open from Monday, the 25th inst., to Saturday, the 14th prox.

AT THE MART, Tokenhouse-yard, Messrs. Lumley offered for sale the residence of the late Bro. Sir F. Lockwood, Q.C., M.P., "Cobir Hill," Cloughton, about five miles from Scarborough. It was erected in 1890 by the late barrister for his own occupation. Commencing at £8000, the biddings advanced to £8900, and the auctioneers then withdrew the property at £10,500.

A NOTICE issued by the Post Office with regard to the registration and compensation for loss or damage of inland postal packets states that on and after the 1st prox. the fees payable for registering inland packets, including parcels, will vary from 2d. with a limit of compensation of £5, to 1s. 2d. with a compensation limit of £120. In other respects the rules will remain unchanged.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK, with Prince Edward of York, who spent the greater portion of the week at Cromer on a visit to Princess Victoria of Wales, awaited the arrival of H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, Princess Victoria of Wales, and Princess Charles of Denmark at Sandringham, on Saturday afternoon, afterwards visiting at Sandringham House, and joining the other members of the Royal party at Sandringham Church on Sunday last.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT were present on Saturday last at the Royal Artillery Steeplechases. The weather was delightful, and a brilliant company gathered in the enclosures, including Maj.-Gen. and the Hon. Mrs. Reginald Talbot; Major-General and Mrs. Marshall; Col. and Mrs. and Miss Talbot-Coke; Colonel Sir Arthur Mackworth; Mrs. and Miss Fitzroy; Col. and Mrs. Nugent; Col. and Mrs. Pitt; Col. and Mrs. Eustace; Col. and Mrs. Hunt; and Col. and Mrs. Plumer.

THE STATE CHILDREN'S AID ASSOCIATION, of which Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Herschell is chairman, has just issued its first annual report. The main object of the Association is "to obtain individual treatment for children under the guardianship of the State," and in the propagation of its theories no less than 17 leaflets and pamphlets have been issued and 20 public meetings organised or addressed during the past year. The Association congratulates itself that its main ideas and principles are steadily gaining ground and being accepted.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES reached London on Monday evening on the conclusion of his visit to the Riviera, succeeded by a short stay in Paris. His Royal Highness was due at Charing Cross at 6.10, but his boat was early at Dover, and, as all the arrangements for the special train to town had been completed, with a good margin of time to spare, it was found possible to reach the South-Eastern terminus a quarter of an hour before time. His Royal Highness, who was attended by Commander the Hon. Seymour Fortescue, drove to Marlborough House. The Prince will leave Marlborough House to-morrow (Saturday) for Sandringham, and will be present at the Newmarket races next week.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES, accompanied by Princess Charles of Denmark, and attended by Miss Knollys and General Sir Dighton Probyn, left Marlborough House on Saturday last for Sandringham. Princess Victoria of Wales, who has been staying for some weeks past at Cromer, also arrived at Sandringham. Their Royal Highnesses the Princess of Wales, Princess Victoria, and Princess Charles of Denmark, attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the household, were present at Divine Service at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, in the Park, on Sunday morning last, the Rev. Mr. de Putron officiating and preaching.

FLORENCE WAS *en fête* on Sunday in honour of the fifth centenary of Paolo Toscanelli and Amerigo Vespucci, who were both natives of the city. The opening ceremony was held in the magnificent hall at the Palazzo Vecchio. The festivities will last until the end of the month. The programme comprises a geographical congress, the inauguration of several monuments, the revival of the old game of football as played in the 15th century, a costume ball in the Palazzo Vecchio, and a series of races and regattas. King Humbert and Queen Margherita are expected for a two days' stay. H.M. battleship *Revenge* was to arrive at Leghorn on Thursday, after which Rear-Admiral Noel and the officers of the vessel will attend the festivities, and will be entertained at dinner.

AMONG later donations to the Lord Mayor's Fund for providing a memorial to the Princess Mary Adelaide, Duchess of Teck, in the form of a Home of Rest for Poor Women from London, are the following: The Marquis of Salisbury, £20; the Marchioness of Salisbury, £10; St. Augustine's Church, Highbury New Park, £15; the Countess Somers, £10; Mrs. Webster, £5 5s.; Lady Pearson, £5 5s.; Mrs. Maidstone Smyth, £5 5s.; Messrs. Warner and Sons, £10 10s.; the community of the Dutch Church, Austin Friars, £10; Lady Elizabeth Biddulph, £10 10s.; the Duke of Wellington, £10; Mr. Deputy Creasey, £5 5s.; Mr. Warner, M.P., £5; Bro. J. L. Toole, £1 1s.; Adeline, Duchess of Bedford, £10; Sir Edward Durning-Lawrence, M.P., £10 10s.; Bro. Biddulph, M.P., £10 10s.; and the Cordwainers' Company, £21. The fund amounts to about £8200.

AT A BALL given by General Gebhart, Military Governor of Nice, at the Cercle de la Méditerranée, on Saturday night last, Princess Christian was accompanied by Countess Erbach, and attended by Miss Cochrane, the Hon. Lady Ponsonby, the Hon. Harriet Phipps, and Col. Carrington. The Princess was met at half-past 10 by General and Madame Gebhart and conducted by them to the top of the ball-room, which was beautifully decorated with garlands and wreaths of flowers. Chairs had been reserved for the distinguished party. The room, which is large, was well filled, but not inconveniently crowded. The music was performed by a full-string orchestra, and the sight was very brilliant, among the uniforms being those of the British officers from her Majesty's ship *Surprise*, and of several French naval and military officers. Among the other distinguished guests were the Crown Prince of Roumania, the Duke de Rivoli (President of the club) and the Duchess de Rivoli, M. Leroux (Prefect of the Alpes Maritimes) and Madame Leroux, and M. Sauvan (Mayor of Nice). Princess Christian, who did not dance, retired at a quarter to 12, when rain was falling in torrents.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—Now that the extreme pressure of the Easter holidays is over, the management of the Alexandra Palace are devoting all their energies to put the grounds, and lighting of same, in proper order, the latter involving enormous labour, owing to the fact that the whole of the gas pipes have had to be renewed, as, on examination, it was found that these had rusted right away. Arrangements have also been completed for a popular series of Saturday afternoon concerts, at which many well known artists will appear, and each Saturday evening, at the military promenade concert, a series of national and patriotic programmes will be carried out, introducing many novel features, which will undoubtedly arouse the patriotic feeling of the visitors. Special attractions are being arranged for each Thursday and Saturday throughout the season, commencing to-morrow (Saturday), including balloon ascents, parachute descents, and fireworks displays. The management have decided to make the Alexandra Palace popular to all comers, and have, therefore, arranged for the public to have free admission to all entertainments and dioramic views. The next performance of the Choral Society will be on Saturday afternoon, the 30th instant, when Sterndale Bennett's "May Queen" will be rendered by a full choir and orchestra of 1000 voices, under the direction of Mr. Henry J. Baker.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL meeting of the Bar will be held in the old dining hall, Lincoln's Inn, on Tuesday next, at 4.15.

BRO. THE EARL OF HALSBURY, Lord High Chancellor, will be the principal guest at the anniversary dinner of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

THE NELLIE FARREN FUND is now closed, the total sum realised being £7260 15s. 6d.; among the latest contributions is £25 from H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, who arrived at Gloucester House, Park-lane, is expected at Newmarket for the races next week, and will occupy his suite of apartments at the Jockey Club Rooms.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF DERBY and Lady Isobel Stanley, who have been spending the winter in Egypt, have returned to England, and have gone to Knowsley for a few days.

BRO. THE EARL OF LATHOM and the Ladies Wilbraham have left Madeira, and are expected to reach England at the end of the week. The Lord Chamberlain has benefited greatly by his stay abroad.

BRO. LORD GLENESK will leave town shortly for Cirencester House on a visit to his daughter, the Countess Bathurst. His lordship will probably spend the summer at Glen Muick, which he has taken from Sir Allan Mackenzie.

BRO. THE DUKE OF ABERCORN has arrived at Hampden House, Green-street, from Ireland, and was present at the General Meeting of the South Africa Company, which was held at noon in the Cannon-street Hotel on Thursday.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES will go to Sandringham to-morrow (Saturday), and will attend the Newmarket Meeting next week, at the end of which he will return to town for the season. Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein visited his Royal Highness on Wednesday.

ACCORDING to the latest arrangement officially notified the Queen will arrive in England from the South of France on the 30th inst. The children of Princess Henry of Battenberg will, as usual, travel in advance of her Majesty, and are due in London on the evening of the 29th inst.

THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE has returned to Lansdowne House from Holker Hall, Lancashire, where he had been on a visit to Bro. Victor and Lady Evelyn Cavendish. The Marchioness of Lansdowne is making good progress towards recovery, and is able to take carriage exercise.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES has signified his intention of being present at the next smoking concert of the Royal Amateur Orchestral Society, fixed to take place on Friday, the 29th inst., at the Queen's Hall, on which occasion Miss Mabel Berrey, Mr. Norman Salmond, and Mr. Henry Such will assist.

ON TUESDAY, the 12th inst., the hall in Ashley-lane, Lymington, which has been converted into a Masonic Temple, was used for the first time by the brethren of the New Forest Lodge, No. 319, Bro. Catt presided, and the Vicar and Rural Dean (Rev. B. Martin) was present and said a few words of congratulation to the brethren.

THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH is from "The British Weekly" (Scotch Edition) of 31st March last: "The oldest inhabitant of Thurso is Mr. George Swanson, who was born in 1804—a mason by trade, and one of the very oldest of Scotland's Freemasons. He was initiated in February, 1823." He is thus both an old operative and an old speculative Mason. This is surely a record in ages.—W. D. K.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT presided at a meeting of the Aldershot District of the Army Temperance Association, held at the Officers' Club, on Wednesday afternoon, his Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught, attended by Madame De Morenzi, being also present. The Duke, as President of the Association, addressed the meeting, highly complimenting it on the good work it had achieved. When in India he had seen a great deal of its working, and could testify to the good results.

ON MONDAY afternoon H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, accompanied by Miss Knollys and Princess Charles of Denmark, returned to Cromer, with Princess Victoria of Wales, who has, during the past few weeks, been staying at Carrington Villas, Bro. Lord Suffield's seaside residence, for the benefit of her health. The Princess of Wales returned to Sandringham later in the day, but Princess Charles proposes to spend a few days with the Princess Victoria, whose stay is for an indefinite period.

THE ANNUAL festival of the Metropolitan Hospital was held on Monday last, at the Hôtel Métropole. The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Bro. Alderman Davies, presided, and he was supported by Bros. Alderman F. Green, P.G.D.; Sheriff Dewar, C. J. Thomas, P.M. (the Chairman of the Hospital), J. H. Lile, C.C., and H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B. (Honorary Surgeon to the Hospital), Messrs. J. Lowles, M.P., and J. R. Pike, Lieut.-Colonel Montefiore, and many others, about 150 in all. The lists amounted to £2140.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK arrived at Portsmouth Harbour Station on Wednesday afternoon by South Western train from Waterloo. Their Royal Highnesses, who were received by Admiral Sir Michael Culme-Seymour, proceeded to Admiralty House, where they are the guests for a few days of the Naval Commander-in-Chief and Lady Culme-Seymour. It is believed that his Royal Highness will hoist the pennant on board the first-class cruiser *the Crescent* for the naval manoeuvres, which will take place in the summer.

PRINCE CHRISTIAN, who will be the Queen's special representative at the celebrations in connection with the Jubilee of the King of Saxony, came to town from Windsor on Wednesday and proceeded to Buckingham Palace, whence he started the following morning for Dresden, accompanied by Colonel Eliot and Sir Charles du Plat. Princess Christian, who has been staying with the Queen at Cimiez, arrived in London on Wednesday evening in order to see the Prince before his departure. Her Royal Highness reached Victoria by the boat train, and drove with her suite to Buckingham Palace, where she is expected to remain for some days.

THE MARRIAGE of the first recipient of the Marquis of Bute's dowry—Miss Alice Green—took place at Cardiff, on Thursday, the bridegroom being Mr. William Tanner. At the conclusion of the ceremony, which was witnessed by a large congregation, the wedding party proceeded to the Town Hall, where they were received by the Mayor and the Town Clerk in the Mayor's parlour. His worship, as directed by the deed of gift, read the first 12 verses of the second chapter of St. John's Gospel, and then handed to the young lady an envelope containing the dowry—interest on £1000. His worship also, on behalf of the Mayoress, presented Mrs. Tanner with a Bible.

THE NEW WEST-END Synagogue, Bayswater, of which building the late Bro. Barney Barnato was a member, will shortly be enriched by a present from Messrs. Barnato Brothers of a handsome Sepher Torah, or Scrole of the Law. The mantle is of dark green velvet, and is richly embroidered with gold. In the centre is a handsomely worked raised crown, under which are a shield of David and the initial words of the Ten Commandments. In lieu of the bells there is a massive crown silvered. On the plate is an inscription, "Presented by Messrs. Barnato Bros., in loving memory of Barnett Isaacs Barnato, who departed this life 14th June, 1897.—Sivan, 14th, 5657." A similar present has been made to the Johannesburg New Synagogue.

THE FIRST LORD OF THE TREASURY and Miss Balfour entertained at dinner on Wednesday evening, at Mr. Balfour's official residence in Downing-street, the Duke of Norfolk, Earl Cadogan, the Earl of Hardwicke, Earl Grey, Lord and Lady Wolverton, Lady Edward Cecil, the Hon. F. and Lady Esher Smith, Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, M.P., and Lady Northcote, Lady Rayleigh, Bro. and Mrs. W. H. Grenfell, and Mr. and Mrs. Sandars. Subsequently, Miss Balfour held a reception, at which were present the Russian Ambassador, the Austrian Ambassador, the Chinese Ambassador, the Belgian Minister, the Danish Minister and Madame de Bille, the Brazilian Minister, the Portuguese Chargé d' Affaires, the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Temple, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Marchioness of Headfort and Lady Beatrix Taylour, the Marquis of Headfort, Bro. the Earl of Halsbury (Lord Chancellor) and Countess Halsbury and Lady Evelyn Giffard, Bro. the Earl of Arran, Viscount Cross and the Hon. Mary and Hon. Margaret Cross, Bro. Lord and Lady Loch, the Hon. Lady Ridley, Bro. Lord Arthur Hill, M.P., and Lady and Miss Hill, Bro. Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, M.P.; Lady Randolph Churchill, Bro. the Right Hon. Walter Long, M.P., and Lady Doreen Long, Bro. the Right Hon. W. L. Jackson, and Mrs. and Miss Jackson, Bro. Sir Mark Stewart, M.P., Sir Elliott Lees, M.P., and Lady Lees, Bro. Sir Blundell Maple, M.P., Lady Maple, and Miss Merryweather, and many other members of Parliament.

MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, April 30th, 1898.

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

MONDAY, APRIL 25.**CRAFT LODGES.**

4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall.
26, Castle Lodge of Harmony, Savoy Hotel.
28, Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Hall.
706, Florence Nightingale, Royal Mortar Hotel, Woolwich.
1615, Bayard, 33, Golden-square.
1744, Royal Savoy, Criterion.
2350, Bishopsgate, Great Eastern Hotel.
2397, Columbia, Hotel Cecil.
2614, Household Brigade, Prince's Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

12, Prudence, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
820, Lily Chapter of Richmond, Greyhound Hotel.
1319, Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.
1694, Imperial, Coot's Restaurant.
1745, Farringdon (Without), Anderton's Hotel.

MARK LODGE.

222, Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.

TUESDAY, APRIL 26.**CRAFT LODGES.**

92, Moira, Albion Tavern.
141, Faith, Anderton's Hotel.
145, Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.
186, Industry, Freemasons' Hall.
205, Israel, Cannon-street Hotel.
229, Prince of Wales's, Hotel Metropole.
1348, Ebury, Criterion.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

7, Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall.
548, Wellington, Bridge House Hotel.
890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hotel.
1275, Star, Guildhall Tavern.
1365, Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel.
2021, Queen's Westminster, Holborn Restaurant.

MARK LODGE.

3, Keystone, Ship and Turtle Tavern.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27.**GRAND FESTIVAL.****CRAFT LODGES.**

201, Jordan, Freemasons' Hall.
212, Euphrates, Holborn Restaurant.
898, Temperance-in-the-East, Assembly Rooms, Poplar.
1017, Montefiore, Trocadero Restaurant.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

13, Union Waterloo, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.
753, Prince Frederick William, Frascati Restaurant.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28.

General Committee Girl's School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 5.

CRAFT LODGES.

66, Grenadiers, Freemasons' Hall.
99, Shakespeare, Albion Tavern.
507, United Pilgrims, Bridge House Hotel.
848, South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Walham-green.
801, Finsbury, Great Eastern Hotel.
871, Royal Oak, Trafalgar Hotel, Greenwich.
1056, Victoria, Guildhall Tavern.
1563, City of Westminster, Cafe Royal.
1601, Ravensbourne, Board of Works Offices, Catford-bridge.
1974, St. Mary Abbots, Bailey's Hotel, Kensington.
2319, Scots, Holborn Restaurant.
2621, Military, Mark Masons' Hall.
2625, Guardian, Ship and Turtle Tavern.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

535, Polish National, Freemasons' Hall.
535, Vane, Holborn Restaurant.
1002, Sir Hugh Myddelton, Agricultural Hall.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29.

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

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle Tavern.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30.**CRAFT LODGES.**

1706, Orpheus, Holborn Restaurant.
2647, Alley, Half Moon Hotel, Dulwich.

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