

# 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 CENTENARY FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The great event, to which we have been so long looking forward, and for which we have been indulging in high hopes and expectations of an exceptionally brilliant result, is at length—to use a familiar expression—within “measurable distance” of being celebrated. On Friday next, the 10th instant, there will be held in the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, under the immediate auspices of his Royal Highness the PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W. Grand Master, and President, the one hundredth Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. For this anniversary a Board of Stewards has been organised, which already numbers some 3700 or 3800 members, and before the actual day arrives it is by no means improbable that the total number of ladies and brethren of which the Board is comprised will reach to fully 4000. Of the 450 or 460 lodges in the Metropolitan district, there are only about 40 or 50 who will be unrepresented, while the list of Unattached Stewards is as formidable in respect of numbers as that which would be forthcoming if the Boards of two ordinary Festivals were joined together. As regards the Provinces, there is not one of the 46, into which extra-Metropolitan Masonry is sub-divided, which has not sent up representatives, while many of the larger Provinces, such as the two Lancashires, West Yorkshire, Kent, Devonshire, Cheshire, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and Warwickshire, together with several of lesser strength, but actuated by the same goodwill towards our Institutions, such as Berks, Bucks, Essex, Gloucestershire, Hertfordshire, Lincolnshire, Middlesex, Staffordshire, Suffolk, Surrey, Sussex, send strong contingents of brethren, who will, assuredly, discharge the duties they have voluntarily undertaken with a zeal that knows no bounds, and, as we all hope, with a success that has been rarely, if ever, equalled. For the organisation of this wonderful Board, and the completeness of the other necessary arrangements, we are principally indebted to the marvellous energy exhibited by Bro. J. MORRISON MCLEOD, the Secretary of the Institution who must personally have visited nearly all the lodges in London and the country in his efforts to ensure a perfect representation of the English Craft; and that we are not unduly sanguine in anticipating such a result as we have hinted at will be gathered from the statement that has reached us, and which is fully authenticated, that the donations and subscriptions which have already been paid over to the Institution amount to a very formidable sum.

The object in view in making these preparations is not

merely to celebrate this particular anniversary and rejoice over the good fortune, which in the main, has attended this Institution since its foundation in 1798, but at the same time, as at all other Anniversary Festivals, to raise the necessary funds for the efficient maintenance of the School during the current year, and augment, as far as possible, the limited amount of invested capital at its disposal; and in addition, to raise the very large amount which is required for the erection of the new School buildings on the recently acquired property at Bushey, in the County of Hertford. It will, no doubt, be in the recollection of our readers that at the Festival in 1891—the first which was held under the new Management—the Earl of LATHOM, who presided as Chairman, suggested the desirability of moving the School from its present position at Wood Green to a more suitable locality, where the conditions of soil and climate would be more favourable, and where, above all things, there would be ample room for extended playgrounds, and more particularly for that enlarged accommodation which all competent authorities agree in declaring is necessary if the School is to carry out its purposes effectively, as well as at the same time to provide room for additional pupils in the nearer or more remote future. Lord LATHOM'S suggestion received due consideration, and ultimately the Board of Management, to which full powers were accorded to take such steps as it might deem necessary or expedient, entered into a provisional arrangement for the purchase of the Bushey Grove Estate, near Watford, the price agreed to be paid being £13,000. The Court of Governors and Subscribers confirmed the arrangement, and the freehold of the estate, which comprises some 67 acres, is now vested in the Institution. Since then a design for the erection of the new School buildings has been accepted, the estimated cost being set down at £99,000, exclusive of the chapel, towards the erection of which Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D., Patron and Treasurer of the Institution, has generously announced his intention of giving the sum of 5000 guineas. The site and buildings thereon at Wood Green will, in due course, be disposed of, and the proceeds of sale applied in reimbursement of a part of the expense of erecting the new premises. But even with the amount thus obtained under the most favourable conditions, there will still remain a very large sum to be raised, and hence, the present unexampled efforts that are being made, not with the idea of eclipsing the Girls' Centenary in 1888 and the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892—though, in the honourable rivalry among our three Institutions, that would be a perfectly legitimate object of ambition—but for the still more legitimate, and, at the same time practical, purpose of obtaining the funds required for the new buildings. That done and the School erected, there is no reason why the Institution should not carry on its beneficent work in the manner it has done for many years past, that is, by means of the voluntary contributions of the brethren—who will always give when they realise that their subscriptions are wisely and economically expended—and the interest on its invested capital. This, then, is the main object which we hope to see realised on Friday next under the presidency of his Royal Highness, the Grand Master, and present appearances and the knowledge we have of what has already been accomplished towards the attainment of this end fully justifies our being sanguine as to the result.

It remains for us to add that her Royal Highness the Princess of WALES has graciously consented to distribute the prizes to the successful pupils at a meeting of the Stewards and their friends, which will be held in the Royal Albert Hall on Tuesday, the 7th instant.

## ARS QUATUOR CORONATORUM.\*

In our article of the 14th May, in which we passed in review the proceedings of Lodge Quatuor Coronati, No. 2076, as recorded in Vol. XI. Part I. of their Transactions, we found it, to our great regret, impossible, having regard to the then demands upon our time, to offer such remarks as we were desirous of making on the very important paper which Bro. G. W. SPETH, P.A.G.D.C., read at the March meeting, on "The Two Degrees Theory," and which was intended by him as an answer to Bro. W. J. HUGHAN'S paper of June, 1897, entitled "The Three Degrees of Freemasonry, especially in relation to the oldest known Records of the Master Mason's Ceremony." Those of our readers who have studied or even contented themselves with a hasty consideration of the Question of Degrees are aware that there are two principal theories concerning them, of which one is in favour of there having been only one Degree prior to the Grand Lodge era; of this Bro. HUGHAN is far and away the leading exponent; while the other, which is held by Bros. R. F. GOULD, G. W. SPETH, and others favours the existence of more than one. In the course of the discussion which followed the reading of Bro. HUGHAN'S essay, Bro. SPETH remarked it would be impossible for him at short notice fairly to contest the arguments on which that brother relied for the demonstration of his theory, and, therefore, that he should take an early opportunity of marshalling his forces and then joining issue with him, "with some prospect of doing justice to both points of view." He has now done this in his paper on "The Two Degrees Theory," and in order that the reader may be in a position to judge between the rival theories, we content ourselves, for the present, with a recapitulation of the arguments set forth by Bro. HUGHAN, as described in our article on "The Question of Degrees" in the *Freemason* of the 23rd October, 1897, and then give the leading grounds on which Bro. SPETH rests his theory as to there having been two Degrees.

Briefly summarised Bro. HUGHAN'S arguments are as follows: (1) There is no evidence either in the "Old Charges" or in "any other MSS. or printed works, during the period specified"—that is, prior to the 18th century—"either connected with Lodges, or partaking of a historical character" that is "suggestive or indicative of a plurality of Degrees;" (2) as regards "the earliest extant minutes of initiation in England," and in similar records including the case of ELIAS ASHMOLE, he remarks "I think it might fairly be taken for granted that had two or more Degrees been then worked, some entries or allusions thereto would be discovered in these invaluable Records, *but there are none*, and a similar silence is observed in '*Plot's Staffordshire*' of 1686, AUBREY'S note of 1691 respecting Sir CHRISTOPHER WREN'S 'adoption,' and in all other books and documents of the 17th century; such uniform testimony being wholly confirmatory of the only single, simple esoteric ceremony of reception." (3) Lodge minutes of the earliest years of the 18th century point to the same conclusion as to there having been "but one form or ceremony;" the records specified being those of the "Company and Fellowship of Freemasons of a Lodge held at Alnwick," extending from 1703 to 1757, which, during the whole of that long period, furnish not "even a solitary reference to Masonic Degrees;" those of a "Private Lodge held at Scarbr. 10th July 1705," before "William Thompson, Esq., P'sident;" those of the old Lodge of York, which afterwards styled itself the "Grand Lodge of all England," and its Old Rules of 1725. Even those records, in which any references are made are of later date, and carry us no further back than 1724-5, his actual words being—"So far as *actual minutes* of Lodges are *Concerned*, of which we have any particulars, *separate Degrees* cannot be dated further back than 1724-5 or omitting the Records of the *Philo-Musica* organisation not earlier than 1725." So too, as regards Lodge Bye-Laws and Regulations and the Book of Constitutions, there is the same absence of mention in the former of the existence of a plurality of Degrees before 1729, while the latter show that they were known in 1725, but "the uniform silence as to the trio of an earlier date"

suggests "that the ceremonies were arranged subsequent to the inauguration of the premier Grand Lodge."

We believe the above may be taken to represent fairly the most important evidence which Bro. HUGHAN is able to adduce in support of his theory. On the other hand, Bro. SPETH, dividing the time he traverses into four periods, which he designates severally as the Purely Operative, the Mainly Operative, the Mainly Speculative, and the Purely Speculative, is of opinion that in each of these periods or stages, there is to be found direct or indirect evidence of the existence of two Degrees. During the Purely Operative Period, the first stage was that of the Apprentice, who on being entered was bound by an oath—administered either at the time of his being bound or shortly afterwards—"to obey the laws and preserve the secrets of the fraternity." On the completion of his apprenticeship, on giving proofs of his proficiency and presenting his masterpiece in evidence of his skill, he was passed into the ranks of masters of the Craft, became entitled to claim admission as a fellow, and if he desired and was favoured by fortune might rise to the position of Master Mason—corresponding with our Master of the lodge—between whom, however, and the master or fellow, "there was no difference except an accidental one, they were both masters and both fellows." Bro. SPETH argues that this passing from Apprentice into the ranks of Masters (and fellows) must have been attended by a ceremony of greater or less solemnity, and he adduces from our constitutional Rolls what he considers evidence of the existence of this second ceremony, that is, of a second degree. During the Mainly Operative Period when gentlemen were admitted by the Craft in order to secure their patronage and support, Bro. SPETH argues that these gentlemen were admitted at once to full membership or fellowship, it being in his opinion absurd to suppose that they were received as apprentices and required to serve as such for the usual period; and he strengthens this view by what he says in respect of the Mainly Speculative Period, referring in particular to the case of ASHMOLE who "was made a Freemason at Warrington" in 1646 and found himself the "oldest fellow" present at the memorable meeting he attended in London in 1682, when six gentlemen were received who are spoken of in the same entry in his Diary as "the new-accepted Masons," and who, he records, "about noon were admitted into the Fellowship." Here, then, he points out, we have the Apprentice Degree restricted to the Operative and the Fellow of Craft Degree, which was common to both Operatives and Speculatives, yet the only one taken by the latter, though it is part of Bro. SPETH'S argument that the secrets of the Apprentice were communicated to the Fellow. He also quotes from RANDLE HOLME, AUBREY, and PLOT, with a view to showing that there was a "plurality of modes of recognition, and therefore of degrees," and he strengthens this part of his contention by adducing passages from "The Prophecy of ROGER BACON" and "*The Flying Post*" in support of his opinion, while the spurious rituals of the 18th century are not entirely overlooked, it being, as he says, "a remarkable coincidence that, although they refer to three degrees, which, as all the world must have known by that time, was the practice of the Craft, they reveal at almost every line the former existence of two degrees only." Lastly, during the "Purely Speculative Period," which dates from 1717, Bro. SPETH, upon inquiring "what was the number of degrees after this transformation," declares "we shall find no break of continuity, they were the same two as before—no more, no less," and he gives numerous quotations from ANDERSON'S "Book of Constitutions" in support of this statement.

There is, of course, much else in Bro. SPETH'S paper to which we should like to call attention, but, as regards the present article, we must content ourselves with giving, as briefly as possible, the summary of his case as sketched by himself. Firstly, as he says, there was the Apprentice, who either at the time he was entered or bound or shortly afterwards, had conferred upon him the degree which "comprised the administration of an oath, the communications of the Craft legend, and the imparting of certain secrets, which are now divided between him and the Fellow-Craft." Seven years later he was "passed a Master after due examination," and if he desired to earn his living by Masonry, it became necessary for him to join the

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Fellowship, "and this entailed a ceremony conferring the secrets necessary for him to prove himself abroad a Fellow of the Craft and not a run-away apprentice. Moreover, this ceremony which was mystic and a real initiation, imparted, naturally in a much less ornate manner than now, the 'Masters part,' or, in other words, the essentials of our M.M. Degrees." In later times these two Degrees, when conferred upon a Speculative, were run into one, and as a consequence of this, the second came to be almost forgotten by the Operatives, and much confused by the Speculatives, till, in 1717, they were taken over bodily by Grand Lodge and restored to sense so far as "the limited knowledge of the members would permit. Finally, shortly after 1723, they were re-apportioned into three degrees."

We have now completed our task of placing before our readers the principal arguments which Bros. HUGHAN and SPETH have severally addressed in support of their rival theories concerning this "Question of Degrees," so that they may be in a position to judge between them. Later in the year, when the pressure of a Centenary Festival and other work leaves us sufficient leisure for the purpose, we shall revert to the question and set forth our own views as to the merits of the two theories.

### UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England was held on Wednesday, in the Temple, Freemasons' Hall, London. Earl Amherst, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, presided; Rear-Admiral Albert Hastings Markham, R.W. Past District Grand Master of Malta, acted as Deputy Grand Master; Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W., as S.G. Warden; and Bro. Robert Grey, P.G.W., as J.G.W. Altogether, more than 1000 brethren attended, and the Temple and gallery were crowded.

Among the brethren present were—

Bros. Sir. Reginald Hanson, M.P.; Alderman Vaughan Morgan, Thomas Fenn, P.G.W., acting as Grand Director of Ceremonies; John Strachan, Q.C., G. Reg.; R. Loveland Loveland, Q.C., President of the Board of General Purposes; Richard Eve, P.G.T.; S. Cochrane, P.G.T.; Col. Clifford Probyn, G.T.; Dr. Laurence, J. C. Parkinson, J. A. Farnfield, Charles Hammerton, R. Clay Sudlow, Henry Neville, Sir J. C. Dimsdale, W. Russell, A. C. Spaul, Maj. Woodall, P.G.T.; Dr. Clement Godson, E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; T. Hastings Miller, E. M. Money, W. Lake, Assistant G. Secretary; and W. J. Mason, Vice-President Board of General Purposes.

After Grand Lodge had been opened in due form, the Scrutineers of the ballot for membership of the Board of General Purposes were called up and obligated to make a true and faithful return of the matters committed to them; the balloting cards were collected, and the Scrutineers withdrew.

The minutes of the March Quarterly Communication and of the Grand Festival of April 27th were then read by the GRAND SECRETARY, put, and confirmed.

Bro. Earl AMHERST next called upon the Grand Secretary to read the message from the M.W.G.M. concerning the Grand Lodge of Peru, which appeared in the *Freemason* of last Saturday.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH having read the message and the proposed resolutions,

Earl AMHERST said: Brethren, you have heard the message of his Royal Highness the Grand Master duly read; in order that the sense of Grand Lodge may be taken thereon, I, as his Royal Highness's Deputy, have the honour to move the first resolution which I will ask the Grand Registrar to second and explain.

Bro. JOHN STRACHAN, Q.C., Grand Registrar: Most Worshipful Grand Master in the chair, it is very seldom indeed that a Grand Lodge is convened anywhere to consider such a message as his Royal Highness has sent to this Grand Lodge to-day for our consideration, but the circumstances are such, and the facts have been brought to the attention of the Most Worshipful Grand Master in such a way that they cannot, in the interests of true Masonry, be ignored; but on being laid before the brethren with the expression of the Grand Master's opinion upon them, they will doubtless cause the adoption of the suggested resolutions which will place this Grand Lodge of England among those Grand Lodges which have emphatically pronounced their condemnation of the acts and edicts of the Grand Lodge of Peru. As Masons, we know that admission to our Order is free to all, whatever their belief, so long as they believe in the Great Architect—(general cries of hear, hear)—but there is a further condition which cannot be ignored. (Hear, hear.) Our great light is the Volume of the Sacred Law (Hear, hear.) No man can be made a Mason except in a lodge, just, perfect and regular. The lodge is regular by its warrant of Constitution; it is perfect by being composed of seven or more members; and it is just when the volume of the sacred law is unfolded and with certain implements laid thereon—(hear, hear)—and unless those great lights are present no lodge can be held; that has been stated over and over again and has been resolved over and over again by this mother of Grand Lodges, and by Grand Lodges throughout the world representing true Masonry. Any body of men meeting, under whatever names they choose to call themselves, who have not these great lights are not a body of Masons. (Hear, hear.) We are bound—every Past Master here has taken the obligation—he

promised to respect genuine and true brethren and to discountenance impostors and all dissenters from the original plan of Freemasonry. Therefore if we find any body professing to be a Masonic body which departs from the original plan of Freemasonry we have sworn that we will discountenance those people—I will not call them brethren. We also admit that it is not in the power of any man or body of men to make innovations in the body of Masonry. We declare in our charges that let a man's religion or mode of worship be what it may he is not excluded from the Order, provided he believe in the glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth, and practice the sacred duties of morality. (Hear, hear.) We are also told that this Grand Lodge as a Grand Lodge can only legislate having regard to the ancient landmarks of the Order. That being the position of affairs with bodies professing to be Masonic, in seconding the motion proposed from the chair I have to state the facts we have on the best of evidence; because I have it from what has been laid before his Royal Highness the Grand Master under the seal of the Grand Lodge of Peru signed by its Grand Master and countersigned by its Grand Secretary, and I have also the original Spanish documents strictly verified. Therefore, we have before us the evidence of what has been done, which if it had been wanting, it would have been our duty to make enquiry of the Grand Lodge of Peru, if such a thing was possible as is charged against them. But we find it is, and therefore it is that our Grand Master puts it—"It having been made to appear to the satisfaction of M.W. Grand Master that the Grand Lodge of Peru has decreed" certain things. It would be right probably that the brethren should know the grounds on which he has proceeded. I do not want to weary Grand Lodge, giving all the statements which are given in the documents. (Cries of "No, no.") But I may say that the Grand Officers have gone through all the documents, and the circumstances of the case I can lay before you shortly as follows: About the year 1882 the Grand Lodge of Peru was formed, and there were in Peru, or one of the towns there, a number of brethren who had been formed under the Scottish Constitution by the name of the Cosmos Lodge, and they became part of the Grand Lodge of Peru. It is from them, the loyal brethren of that lodge, that we have received information, which has been verified in other quarters. The Grand Master in 1896—I do not know whether he became Grand Master then—of the name of Christian Dam, brought before Grand Lodge certain resolutions, which were unanimously adopted by that Grand Lodge, and those resolutions were—without reading the exact words of the resolutions—that the Volume of the Sacred Law, which they called the Bible, be removed from the altars of all lodges, and to substitute for it—a copy of the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Peru. The resolution went on to say that everywhere in their ritual for the name of the bible should be substituted "of the Grand Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Peru." The brethren of the Cosmos Lodge at once protested against this, and begged that the Grand Lodge of Peru would reconsider its edict and give it an opportunity of placing before the brethren the true position of Freemasonry. If I were to read to you their earnest appeal it would carry conviction to the mind of every brother, but I feel it is not necessary. Suffice it to say that they have argued their case well; they put it to their Grand Lodge to give them the opportunity of reconsidering the matter, and the Grand Lodge refused to reconsider it. They have, on the contrary, required all the lodges in their jurisdiction to carry out the edict. The brethren of the Cosmos Lodge took a course which, I venture to say, would commend itself to all true Masons; I may say the greater number of the members are English—it is an English-speaking lodge, and the members are English and Americans. When they found they could not be allowed to carry on their ritual under the conditions we have authorised, they took the step of returning their warrant to the Grand Lodge of Peru, and saying they would have nothing more to do with a body that acted in that way. Those brethren are there, they are loyal, they are 20 or 30 in number, and there are others in Peru who, with them, are determined to remain loyal to the Constitutions of ancient Freemasonry as it is known to them and to us. It is desirable that the executive should have a free hand, and that steps should be taken to secure these brethren the proper exercise of their Masonic duties. It may become a question by and bye whether we ought to abandon loyal brethren removed 2000 miles from any other lodge should they desire to visit other lodges or to practise the mysteries of our Order and to make Masons. We may have to consider whether at some time something may be done for them by this Grand Lodge of England, or the Grand Lodges of Scotland or Ireland, or some other jurisdiction. That being the position of affairs, they have represented the same to the M.W.G. Master who has asked you to express your opinion whether recognition can longer be given to the G. Lodge of Peru. Many of the G. Lodges of America, the G. Lodge of Victoria, I believe, and others have already passed resolutions and their G. Masters have declared against the action of the Grand Lodge of Peru—in some cases in language which I would not like this Grand Lodge to adopt, because no good comes of using hard names. All we can say is this, these Peruvian brethren have ceased to be Masons and cannot be received by us until they have returned to their duty to the Great Architect and to Masonry. It is not a question of a Bible being on the altar. It is the volume of the Sacred Law we recognise. Among Christians it is the Old and New Testaments combined; among Jews it is the Old Testament alone, among Mahomedans it is the Koran, which they believe to be the revelation of the will of the Great Architect, but whether it is Christians, Jews, Mahomedans, or Hindoos, it is the volume of the Sacred Law which must be on the Altar. (Hear, hear.) I do not wish to take up your time unnecessarily, but I should have liked to read one or two expressions used in the representations made by the late Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Peru. He is a Peruvian who stands loyally by the view of their duty he and other brethren of the Lodge of Cosmos hold. He sent it to the Grand Lodge of New York, of which he was the representative, with the request that it should be sent to every other Grand Lodge. I read it through yesterday, and if Grand Lodge would like I would read it to you. (Cries of "No, no.") Most Worshipful Grand Master in the chair, I do not know whether there is any other fact I ought to bring before Grand Lodge, but I second the

1st Resolution.—That this Grand Lodge views with profound regret the step taken by the Grand Lodge of Peru in ordering the removal of the Volume of the Sacred Law from the altar, and in prohibiting all mention of the Bible in the ceremonies of lodges under its jurisdiction.

Earl AMHERST asked whether any other brother desired to make a remark upon the resolution. (Several cries of "Agreed.") Was it the pleasure of the brethren that that resolution should be passed? (Loud cries of "All.") The M.W.G.M. in the Chair then declared the first resolution to be carried unanimously.

Earl AMHERST then moved, and Bro. STRACHAN seconded, successively the following resolutions, all of which were carried unanimously, with cries of "Agreed," as soon as they were read:

2nd Resolution.—That so long as the Grand Lodge of Peru, or the lodges holding thereunder, require or authorise the holding of lodge meetings from which the Volume of the Sacred Law is absent, or in the ceremonies of which no mention of the Bible is made, they cannot be recognised as true and lawful Masonic lodges or bodies.

3rd Resolution.—That this Grand Lodge requests that his Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master will be pleased to take such steps for giving effect to the foregoing resolutions, as he may consider consistent with the honour of this Grand Lodge; and to take such further steps, if any, as he may deem desirable for the recognition of those brethren in Peru who determine to abide by the ancient landmarks of the Order.

4th Resolution.—That this Grand Lodge hereby re-affirms and again places on record the resolution adopted by Grand Lodge, on the 6th day of March, 1878, as follows:

That in view of the foregoing resolutions, the Worshipful Masters of all lodges holding under the Grand Lodge of England be directed not to admit any foreign brother as a visitor unless—

1st.—He is duly vouched for, or unless his certificate shows that he has been initiated according to the ancient rites and ceremonies in a lodge professing belief in T.G.A.O.T.U., and

2ndly.—Not unless he himself shall acknowledge that this belief is an essential landmark of the Order.

5th Resolution.—That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be transmitted to the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland, to each Grand Lodge with which this Grand Lodge is in communication, and to the Worshipful Masters of all lodges holding under the Grand Lodge of England, each of whom is hereby instructed to cause these resolutions to be read at the first meeting of his lodge after the receipt thereof, and to direct that they shall be entered on the minutes.

Bro. Earl AMHERST then announced that there was a motion standing in the name of Sir John Monckton further down the paper of business, but as that brother was desirous of going away early, he (Earl Amherst) would, with the pleasure of the brethren, take it now.

Bro. Sir JOHN B. MONCKTON thereupon rose, and moved—

That the sum of 500 guineas be given from the funds at the disposal of Grand Lodge to the funds of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, on the occasion of the Centenary Festival, at which the M.W. Grand Master will preside, in June next.

He said he had first to acknowledge the indulgence of the Deputy Grand Master in allowing him to move the resolution then. There were only one or two points to be considered. One was that at the Jubilee of the Old People, six years ago—speaking from memory, he thought he moved the resolution, but whether he did or not, it was unanimously carried, to give 500 guineas to the Institution. It was also done at the Centenary of the Girls when the Grand Master had the motion in his name, but as his Royal Highness was not able to be present it was moved by the Deputy Grand Master. If it was done on those occasions *à fortiori* he ventured to think it should be done now. If 500 guineas were thought the proper amount when the Deputy Grand Master presided at the Old People's Jubilee, surely no less a sum should be given when H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was going to take the chair for the Centenary of the Boys' School. The occasion would be the most notable Masonic event of the year. Grand Lodge had plenty of funds. If any benevolently-disposed moneyed man desired to give a very large sum they would be happy to receive it. Grand Lodge ought to give out of its abundance.

Bro. RICHARD EVE, P.G.T., in seconding the motion, said Bro. Monckton had given precedents for the proposed motion, and as the Grand Master had honoured the Institution by taking the chair, no Mason, he was sure, would hold his hand from subscribing, as far as he could, to the great object they all had in view. They wished to have a record year under the presidency of the M.W.G.M., and he believed it would take something to beat in future years; at all events, they felt when the M.W.G.M. took the chair they should do all they could to make the sum a record, an honour to the Grand Master, and an honour to the Craft to which they belonged. He believed that the sense of Grand Lodge on that motion would make an impression on the minds of those who had not yet decided what amount they would give.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Bro. Sir J. B. Monckton then left the lodge, and his position as S.G.W. was taken by Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.

Bro. Richard Loveland Loveland, Q.C., having been again appointed by the Grand Master President of the Board of General Purposes, was re-invested by Earl Amherst.

Bro. John Smith was again elected Auditor of Grand Lodge accounts.

Earl AMHERST declared the following brethren duly elected members of the Committee of Management for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons: Bros. C. A. Cotterburne, P.M. 733, W. D. Child, P.M. 1719, Lieut.-Col. A. Durrant, P.M. 506, Constantine Doresa, P.M. 749, William H. Hubbert, P.M. 1625, John James Pakes, P.M. 871, Leonard Potts, P.M. 1716, John Robertson Keep, P.M. 1200, George Graveley, P.M. 898, and Robert Colsell, W.M. 1685.

The brethren adopted the Report of the Board of Benevolence for the months of March, April, and May, and confirmed recommendations for the following grants:

The widow of a brother of the Kilburn Lodge, No. 1608, London...	£50 0 0
A brother of the Fenwick Lodge, No. 1389, Sunderland	50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the York Lodge, No. 236, York	75 0 0
A brother of the Duke of Albany Lodge, No. 1963, London	50 0 0
A brother of the Cotteswold Lodge, No. 592, Cirencester	50 0 0
A brother of the Temperance-in-the-East Lodge, No. 898, London	50 0 0
A brother of the New Finsbury Park Lodge, No. 1695, London	50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Res'ormel Lodge, No. 879, Lostwithiel	75 0 0
A brother of the Southwark Lodge, No. 87, London	50 0 0
The five orphan children of a brother of the Faith Lodge, No. 141, London	50 0 0
A brother of the Eccleston Lodge, No. 1624, London	50 0 0

Bro. R. LOVELAND LOVELAND, Q.C., in moving the adoption of the report of the Board of General Purposes—already published in the *Free-*

*mason*—said that arising out of that the brethren would see that the Board had recently had under their consideration the purchase of extra ground near Freemasons' Hall on account of two very important matters. One was, as the brethren had seen that night, that there was not sufficient room in the Temple to seat all comfortably; and, secondly, that in the case of fire it was essential they should have a back entrance or a second entrance to get out of the building; but also next door the lessees were not willing when the lease fell in to renew it if it was contemplated as the County Council would not license it, there being no exit at the back. Therefore, on those grounds the Board had entered into a provisional agreement for the purchase of property at the rear of the building which had a frontage to Wild Court of about 170 feet with a depth of about 30 feet, making altogether 5200 feet super, the ground and premises being Block B and Block C, known as 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, and 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> in Wild Court, and Block A, known as 18 in that Court. It might be in the brethren's knowledge that the leases of the two houses next to the "Temple," Nos. 58 and 57 in Great Queen Street fell in in June next year, and, therefore, although Grand Lodge was purchasing these properties at the back now, because there was a talk about a road being cut between Holborn and the Strand, and another purchaser might step in, Grand Lodge did not want it until it got 58 and 57 when they would make a clean sweep for a library and offices and several other rooms to be built. The rental Grand Lodge would receive until they wanted the property would come to £212 10s., which would be 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> per cent. He then moved a resolution authorising the Board to carry out the purchase.

Bro. W. J. MASON, Vice-President of the Board, seconded the motion, which was carried *nem. con.*

Bro. JOHN ALBERT FARNFIELD, P.A.G.D.C. then moved:

That the sum of £70 be given from the Fund of General Purposes; that the money be placed in the hands of the Secretary of the "Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons," to supply the inmates of the Institution at Croydon with coals during the winter season.

The motion was seconded by Bro. T. HASTINGS MILLER, and carried unanimously.

The report of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, dated 20th May, 1898, was laid before Grand Lodge.

Bro. JOHN STRACHAN, Q.C., brought up the following appeal by Bro. Walter James, of the Tennant Lodge, No. 1992, against a decision of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master of South Wales (E.D.), that a candidate for initiation in the lodge, who had been declared duly elected, was not duly elected a member of the lodge. After going through the facts of the case, which he said required a great deal of care in elucidating them, Bro. Strachan advised that the appeal should be dismissed, holding, as he did, that under the circumstances it was frivolous and vexatious.

The motion having been seconded, and carried without further remark, Earl AMHERST announced that as the Scrutineers of the ballot for members for the Board of General Purposes had not yet completed the work, he would take the report in the Grand Master's room.

Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

#### GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS.

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge of Mark Masons of England, Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown was held on Tuesday evening at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street. In the absence through illness of the M.W. Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Euston, the throne was occupied by Viscount Dungarvan, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, and Bro. C. Letch Mason, R.W. Prov. Grand Master for West Yorkshire, acted as Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Thomas Fenn held the chair of S.G.W., and Bro. Sir Joseph C. Dimsdale the chair of J.G.W., Bro. Charles Belton acted as G.M.O., and Bro. Richard Eve as J.G.O.

Among numerous other brethren present were Bros. the Right Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., Prov. G.M. Cheshire; Frank Richardson, Richard Loveland Loveland, Q.C., C. F. Matier, G. Sec.; Col. A. B. Cook, Major C. W. Carrell, G.D.C.; Edward Letchworth, Major Woodall, Robert Berridge, F. Mead, Dr. Clement Godson, John Strachan, Q.C., Colonel Clifford Probyn, Henry Lovegrove, C. E. Keyser, T. H. Gardiner, Gordon Miller, W. M. Stiles, A. Fitzroy Tower, and W. F. Roberts. Bros. Kelso King, M.W.G.M. of New South Wales, E. C. Davies, M.W.G.M. (Craft) of Tasmania, and Walters, Grand Overseer New South Wales, were present as visitors.

Grand Lodge having been opened in due form, and the minutes of the last Quarterly Communication read and confirmed, Bro. Major C. W. CARRELL, G.D.C., announced that Bro. Kelso King, M.W.G.M. of New South Wales, was present, and he called upon the brethren to salute him with the honours due to the rank of Grand Master. This having been done Bro. Kelso King bowed his acknowledgments.

Bro. MATIER, G. Sec., read a letter he had received from the Earl of Euston, Pro G.M., asking him to very kindly tell the Deputy Grand Master how sorry he was that serious illness prevented his attendance at Grand Lodge that evening, and hoping that the brethren would enjoy themselves, ending with "Pray remember me to all."

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

On the motion of Bro. LOVELAND LOVELAND, seconded by Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, "That the report be adopted,"

Bro. MURE put the question raised in the correspondence above given between Bro. Lambert and the Grand Secretary, as to the confirmation of lodge minutes, and contended that the word "confirmation" in the note to Rule 126 of the Book of Constitutions was misleading. He submitted that in societies outside Masonry and in Joint Stock Companies, the vote of confirmation of minutes merely meant that the minutes were correctly recorded. He thought the Grand Secretary's letter did not answer Bro. Lambert's question, and the matter should be referred to the General Board.

Bro. JOHN STRACHAN, Q.C., said he had the opportunity of talking the matter over with the President of the General Board, and he would like to say that this very question of what was the meaning of the confirmation was being considered elsewhere, and it might be that action would be taken thereon, and the subject brought before Grand Lodge.

Bro. RICHARD EVE said it was on the recommendation of the General Board that Grand Secretary sent to Bro. Parsons the answer to his communication and it was brought before this Grand Lodge for acceptance. It was the only thing that could be done according to the letter of the Constitutions, although it did not meet the spirit. He thought the matter did require great consideration and he was glad to hear that it would be considered. The report might now be passed on that understanding. The word might be altered.

Bro. R. LOVELAND-LOVELAND quite agreed with Bro. Mure that the letter the Grand Secretary was instructed to write did not answer the question put to the Board. The question was not what is the meaning of the word "confirmation," but whether the Master was right in putting the minutes for confirmation or should he have put it that they were correctly recorded. The letter of the Grand Secretary was that they should always be put for "confirmation" which is the word used in the Book of Constitutions. If any brother or any province sent a request to the General Board the members of that Board would always feel it their duty to consider it.

Bro. VISCOUNT DUNGARVAN said the brethren had heard the remarks that had been made on that subject. He really did not think it mattered what went on elsewhere, but he was certain the General Board would take the matter into full consideration. It was a very important point, and therefore it would be better not to hurry it over at one meeting. It could be referred to the General Board.

Bro. MURE said he did not propose to trouble Grand Lodge further with the subject. He was glad to hear it was not to be lost sight of.

The report of the General Board was thereupon adopted.

Bro. Major C. W. CARRELL, G.D.C., next proclaimed his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales duly elected Most Worshipful Grand Mark Master Mason; and the Earl of Euston as re-appointed Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master.

Bro. Viscount Dungarvan was announced as re-appointed Dep. Grand Master, and was saluted accordingly.

The other Grand Officers were:

Bro. Lord Lilford	...	...	S.G.W.
" Sir Thomas D. Gibson Carmichael, Bart., M.P.	...	...	J.G.W.
" John Strachan, Q.C.	...	...	G.M.O.
" Thomas Cox	...	...	S.G.O.
" J. W. Monckman	...	...	J.G.O.
" Rev. F. Bethune N. Norman-Lee, Chaplain to the Forces	...	...	G. Chaps.
" Rev. Richard Peek	...	...	...
" W. M. Stiles	...	...	G. Treas.
" Frank Richardson, P.G.W.	...	...	G. Reg.
" Richard Loveland Loveland, Q.C., P.G.W.	...	...	Pres. Gen. Board.
" Charles FitzGerald Matier, P.G.W.	...	...	G. Sec.
" G. H. Hopkinson	...	...	...
" William Gillman	...	...	S.G.Ds.
" James John Lambert	...	...	...
" B. A. Smith	...	...	J.G.Ds.
" Rowland Plumbe, F.R.I.B.A.	...	...	G. Insp. of Wks.
" Maj. Charles William Carrell	...	...	G.D. of C.
" Capt. Geo. Hearn, So. Staff. Regt.	...	...	A.G.D. of Cs.
" Robert A. B. Preston	...	...	...
" Sir Simeon H. L. Stuart, Bart.	...	...	G.S.B.
" William Wright	...	...	...
" William James Johns	...	...	G. Std. Brs.
" Frank J. Sawyer, Mus. Doc.	...	...	G. Org.
" Felix Jones	...	...	G.I.G.
" George Ellard	...	...	A.G.P.G.
" Edward J. Mills	...	...	G. Tyler.

The following brethren were approved of by the Grand Master as Grand Stewards: Bros. Thomas Cohu, 1; Robert Shaw, 8; William Richard Lisle, 15; Thomas Paget, 19; Frederick James Godfray, 74; H. L. de Montmorency, 114; John Paynter Hamilton, 144; George Lancelot Eyles, 354; Thomas Grieves Mabane, 362; W. W. H. Jessop, 369; Harold Burke, 454; Arthur George Boswell, 458; Captain Claude de Montmorency Franklyn, R.E., 484; and Major Charles Woolmer Williams, 499.

Bro. MATIER announced that the Grand Master had appointed the following brethren to serve on the General Board: Bros. Abraham Woodi-wiss, Prov. G.M. Derby; Gordon Miller, P.G. Treas.; Charles Belton, P.G.O.; Richard Eve, P.G.O.; G. C. W. Fitzwilliam, Dep. Prov. G. Master Norths, Hunts, and Beds.; Rowland Plumbe, G.I. of W.; Richard Clowes, P.G.O.; Alfred F. Church, P.G.O.; A. Stewart Brown, P.G.D.; Frederick West, Dep. Prov. G.M. Surrey; and T. P. Dorman, P.G.I.G.

It was proposed by Bro. Lt.-Col. PROBYN, P.G. Treas., seconded by Bro. Sir J. C. DIMSDALE, P.G. Warden, and carried unanimously—"That this Grand Lodge do offer to the Most Worshipful Bro. the Earl of Euston, Pro Grand Master, their most sincere sympathy in his illness, and they humbly pray that it may please the Great Overseer of the Universe to speedily restore him to health."

Grand Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to Freemasons' Tavern to a choice banquet, Bro. Viscount Dungarvan presiding.

The usual toasts followed the banquet, and under the direction of Bro. Turle Lee, P.G. Org., some beautiful singing was performed by Bros. G. May, Edward Branscombe, and Robert Hilton.

After the toast of "The Queen and Mark Masonry" had been honoured,

Bro. VISCOUNT DUNGARVAN, in proposing "The M.W.G.M.," said they all hoped the Prince of Wales in a very short space of time would preside over one of the most successful meetings of Freemasons that had ever been seen in this country.

Viscount DUNGARVAN, in giving the toast of "The M.W. Pro G. Master and the Past G. Masters," said that all the brethren regretted missing the face of the Earl of Euston. His lordship had never been absent from one of these annual meetings. He hoped the brethren would allow him to say to the Earl of Euston when he saw him how much they wished him good health. No one would appreciate more than the Pro G. Master the kind motion of sympathy with him in his illness which was carried in Grand Lodge.

Bro. C. LETCH MASON in proposing "The Deputy Grand Master, and

the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," said Lord Dungarvan had done the Mark Degree very good services. He hoped his lordship would have many years of good health to preside as Deputy Grand Master.

Viscount DUNGARVAN, in replying, said he had returned from a country many thousands of miles away, and there was no place like home.

Bro. Col. A. B. COOK proposed "The Mark Benevolent Fund." All the brethren were much interested in that Fund, and all the chairmen of its festivals tried to get the most they could for it. When he was Chairman he was glad to get the largest amount for it, and when Bro. Alan de Tatton Egerton took the chair at the next festival he (Col. Cook) would be more pleased than anyone to help him to exceed that amount.

Bro. ALAN DE TATTON EGERTON, replying, said when he accepted the Chairmanship at the request of that great seducer of youth, Bro. Matier, he was almost afraid to do so; but it was the duty of every brother to accept such a burden, and, as an honest Mason, he felt, as no other brother took the position, he ought. He felt certain he would be well supported; but still there were influences which it was impossible to attempt to gauge, and undoubtedly this year, which was the Boys' Centenary, every penny produced by Masonic Charity was to be devoted to that Institution, and it was a difficult matter to make up the funds for the Mark Benevolent. But "Nothing venture, nothing gain," and although the Boys would have an immense receipt, he was sure he would have the support which all Masons could give to one another. He had a promise from his own province, and he had been told by the brethren there that if he had told them earlier they would have supported him better. He hoped he would have a bumper amount.

Bro. KELSO KING, G.M. of N.S.W., in replying to the toast of "The Visitors," said he could not, in the few remarks he had to make, as the order of the day was to be brief, sufficiently thank the brethren for the kindness shown to him, which had been an extension of the kindness which had been bestowed upon him since his arrival in their great country. He could assure the brethren that for an Australian to come to Great Britain was to come somewhat to wonderland. The British were so much in advance of everything that one saw and met with in the younger countries that it was really as they from Australia regarded it—an education to come to Britain. He had also to thank the brethren for the very graceful compliment—which he received as a compliment paid to his Grand Lodge of N.S. Wales—which they paid to him in Grand Lodge. He could assure them that the feelings of the Grand Lodge of N.S. Wales to the English Grand Lodge were those of affection and gratitude. They had heard out there from brethren who had visited Great Britain, and particularly a number of visitors during the Jubilee year, of the great kindness which had been extended to them. When he returned he would be able to tell the same tale. He was also glad of this opportunity to thank the Grand Master for having appointed him Grand Lodge's representative in the Grand Lodge of N.S. Wales, a position which he regarded as a privilege to be proud of. He had many offices, but he really regarded that as the highest he had attained to, and he wore the jewel, which had been forwarded by the energetic Grand Secretary, with feelings of pride and gratitude. The brethren would probably be very interested to know that Mark Masonry in N.S. Wales was making very good progress indeed. They had their Benevolent Fund, which in its humble way did much good. The beautiful degree of Mark Master was also recognised by the Craft Degree, and in the Constitutions the Degree was referred to as one which was recognised by the (Blue) Craft which was established some 10 or 12 years ago. They thought it was a great move forward, and a great help to Mark Masonry to have it recognised as it should be, and as he believed, as it would have been in this country had it not been for an unfortunate accident, overlooked at the time the Constitutions were brought forward. (Hear, hear.) After again thanking the brethren for their compliment, he said that in coming to England one might suppose he was coming to a strange land, but he was coming to a land where he was made to feel at home. It was home. Australians claimed that while Australian-born, they were Australian-born Englishmen. (Applause.)

Bro. E. C. DAVIES said he was only a modern Mark Mason, and he was pleased to visit Grand Mark Lodge. He should take back very pleasing reminiscences of it. Although Mark Masonry was not worked so energetically as it should be in Tasmania, he hoped his visit to the old country would give it an impetus out there. He had thoroughly enjoyed his visit.

On the proposition of Bro. Col. A. B. COOK, seconded by Bro. Major C. W. CARRELL, the members of the Grand Officers' mess voted 50 guineas out of its funds to the Mark Benevolent Fund at its next festival.

Bro. FITZROY TOWER responded to the toast of "The Grand Stewards," which was proposed by Bro. Major WOODALL, and the proceedings then terminated.

## Craft Masonry.

### Hiram Lodge, No. 2416.

A meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 25th ult. Bro. Walter West, W.M., presided, and was assisted by Bros. S. Jackson, S.W.; H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B., Sec.; G. Elkington, P.M.; H. T. Bonner, P.M.; F. A. Powell, P.M.; R. G. Young, F. W. Pearce, G. P. G. Hills, Major F. S. Leslie, G. Sachs, and many others. Visitors: Bros. W. Ridyard Massie, J.P., P.P.G.D. W. Yorkshire (Bro. H. Lovegrove's brother-in-law); D. Hatch, Maurice B. Adams, and others.

The lodge having been opened, Bro. Haskins was raised, and Mr. F. L. M. Walsh (who had been proposed at the previous meeting) was regularly admitted to the mysteries of the Craft.

The brethren afterwards dined at Freemasons' Tavern.

### Cordwainer Ward Lodge, No. 2241.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Cannon-street Hotel on the 16th ult. Bro. Alderman W. V. Morgan, P.G. Treas., presided, and in a most able manner installed Bro. J. J. Arnsby Soper as W.M. for the ensuing year. The officers were invested as follows: Bros. W. Bauer, S.W.; J. Dangerfield, nominated as J.W. (unavoidably absent); H. J. Adams, P.G.S.B., Treas.; H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B., Sec.; A. T. Walmisley, S.D.; Percy Braby, J.D.; Cyrus Braby, I.G.; J. R. Reep, P.M., D.C.; R. E. Terry, A.D.C.; W. T. Buck, P.M., R. A. Love, and C. Johnson, Stewards; and J. Rawles, Tyler. Bro. J. L. Cartwright, was passed. A very handsome jewel was presented to Bro. Alderman Morgan.

Members of the lodge not in office included Bros. F. West, P.G.D.; F. W. Potter, P.M.; and C. S. Buck, P.M. There were a number of visitors, including Bro. T. A. Bullock, P.G.S.B.

A choice banquet followed, with excellent music under the direction of Bro. J. F. Haskins.

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The Committee of the E.L. of I. have instructed me to give notice that there will be no meeting of this Lodge, on Friday, June 10th, this being the date fixed for the celebration of the Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

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**Masonic Notes.**

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1898.

Grand Lodge met in Quarterly Communication at  
Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, when, in the absence  
of his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master and  
the Earl of Lathom, Pro Grand Master, the throne was  
occupied by Earl Amherst, Deputy Grand Master.  
There was a full attendance of Grand Officers, Present  
and Past, as well as of the representatives of the  
private lodges, and the programme of business, as  
announced last week, was dealt with promptly and  
thoroughly. The most important item was that which  
related to the Grand Lodge of Peru, its banishment of  
the Volume of the Sacred Law from the altars of all  
the lodges under its jurisdiction, and its erasure of the  
word "Bible" from its ritual, and the brethren lost no  
time in adopting the series of resolutions recom-  
mended by the Grand Master, thereby declining to  
recognise the said Grand Lodge of Peru as a Masonic

body. The motion of Bro. Sir J. B. Monckton, Past  
G.W., to grant 500 guineas to the Royal Masonic Insti-  
tution for Boys, on the occasion of its Centenary Festi-  
val, at which the Prince of Wales will preside as  
Chairman, was agreed to unanimously, as likewise was  
Bro. Farnfield's for the annual gift of £70 to provide  
fuel during the winter months for the inmates of the  
Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at Croydon.

We are necessarily gratified by the determination  
Grand Lodge has shown to uphold Freemasonry in all  
its pristine purity and have nothing whatever to do  
with those so-called Grand Lodges which deliberately  
violate the most important of its fundamental  
principles. This was the course that was adopted in  
1878 towards the Grand Orient of France, and we  
trust that the same will be followed in respect of any  
body which may similarly set itself adrift from the  
fundamental bases of pure and ancient Masonry as  
defined in our Book of Constitutions.

The regular quarterly meeting of Mark Grand Lodge  
was held on Tuesday, the 31st ult., under the presi-  
dency of Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, Dep. G. Master,  
the Pro G. Master, Bro. the Earl of Euston, being still  
prevented by serious illness from taking an active  
part in Masonry. The only matter that gave rise to  
any discussion had reference to the correspondence  
between Bro. Lambert and the Grand Secretary as to  
the confirmation of lodge minutes. The Report of  
the General Board, in which the correspondence was  
included, was adopted, but from the tenour of the  
discussion which took place it would seem that there  
is every probability of the question being raised again  
at some future time. We may also mention that a  
resolution of sympathy with the Pro Grand Master in  
respect of his serious illness was unanimously adopted,  
while at the Festival that followed the kindly refer-  
ences to his lordship's unavoidable absence show how  
thoroughly he has established himself in the love and  
respect of the members of the Mark Degree. We  
trust it may not be long before Lord Euston is once  
again enabled to resume his many responsible duties  
in Masonry.

We note with pleasure that among the recipients of  
Mark Grand Lodge honours on this occasion is Bro.  
the Rev. Richard Peek, M.A., who was appointed and  
invested as one of the Grand Chaplains for the ensuing  
year. Our rev. brother is the same Rev. Richard  
Peek who recently so gallantly distinguished himself  
while returning from France to this country by jump-  
ing into the sea and rescuing a girl who had thrown  
herself overboard with the object of committing  
suicide. For this act of gallantry, Bro. Peek has been  
presented with the 1st class medal of the "Société  
Nationale de Sauvetage, France," as well as with that  
of the "Société des Hospitaliers Sauveteurs Bretons,"  
together with the bronze medal of our Royal Humane  
Society. Bro. Peek is a brother of eminence in the  
Mark and Allied Degrees and the Royal and Select  
Masters, and has entered every Order of Masonry in  
existence.

We have been requested to state that Thursday, the  
9th inst., is the latest day on which Petitions for the  
election into the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls  
in October next must reach the Offices of the Insti-  
tution, 5, Freemasons' Hall. At the same time it is  
desirable that they should be forwarded at the earliest  
possible opportunity.

It is not so very long since we were in a position to  
announce that Bro. Henry Sadler, Grand Tyler and  
Sub-Librarian of Grand Lodge, had in the press  
another work, the publication of which might be  
looked for at an early date. The promised work,  
however, which will be entitled "Masonic Reprints  
and Early Historical Revelations," is by no means  
in so forward a state as we had reason to anticipate.  
New and important matter has recently been intro-  
duced, which will have the effect not only of enhancing  
the value of the book by reason of the fresh light it  
will throw on the early history of the Craft in Ireland,  
but also of increasing the interest which the brethren  
generally have for several years past exhibited in Bro.  
Sadler's numerous and valuable contributions to  
Masonic literature. Conspicuous among the new  
matter referred to will be full particulars of a dis-  
covery quite recently made by one of our leading  
Masonic historians that Freemasonry was in exist-  
ence in Dublin about the very time towards the end of  
the 17th century that Elias Ashmole was present at  
the initiation of several gentlemen in a lodge in  
London.

It will be as well if we add that under these circum-  
stances the subscription list will remain open for some  
weeks longer and those who delight in studying the  
early evidences of Freemasonry will have the oppor-  
tunity of adding their names to the list, if they have  
not already done so.

The question whether the minutes of each regular  
meeting of a lodge should be confirmed or whether a  
vote should be taken as to whether or not they cor-  
rectly record the proceedings having been submitted  
for the decision of the General Board by Bro. J. J.  
Lambert, Past Prov. G. Registrar Lancashire, the  
Grand Secretary was instructed to reply that in the  
opinion of the said Board, lodge minutes should  
always be put for confirmation not only as regards the  
election of W. Master or as may otherwise be pro-  
vided for by the lodge By-Laws, but also in respect of  
grants of money and general business.

The annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of  
Louisiana was held in New Orleans on the 14th-16th  
February last, under the presidency of Bro. Albert G.  
Brice, M.W.G.M., who, in the course of his Address,  
referred to the financial condition and needs of the  
Grand Lodge and suggested a plan for increasing the  
funds and paying off the Hall debt. Grand Lodge  
most cordially responded by dispensing with the  
Report on Correspondence, reducing the salaries of  
the Grand Lecturer, Grand Chaplain, and Grand Tyler,  
and increasing the fees payable in taking each Degree  
from one to two dollars. Grand Chapter also behaved  
most generously by presenting bonds amounting to  
2700 dollars towards the same desirable object.

The District Grand Lodge of Natal held its 31st  
half-yearly communication in the Masonic Hall,  
Pietermaritzburg, on Tuesday, the 15th March last,  
under the presidency of Bro. Wesley Francis, P.G.  
S.B., District Grand Master, who, in the course of the  
proceedings, delivered an address, in which he reviewed  
the circumstances of the preceding half year, and in  
particular expressed his regret that the scheme for the  
relief of aged and indigent brethren had not met with  
a greater amount of encouragement and support. He,  
however, strenuously urged upon District Grand Lodge  
not to postpone the project—which, in his opinion,  
would be tantamount to abandoning it—and we are  
glad to see that this appeal was so far listened to, that  
the further consideration has been delayed only till  
the next meeting of District Grand Lodge, that is, for  
six months, instead of indefinitely, as originally pro-  
posed by the District Board of General Purposes.

We gather from the reports that were submitted and  
adopted that the financial position of the District G.  
Lodge is satisfactory. The District G. Treasurer's  
statement of account for the year 1897-8 which opened  
with balances on the General and Benevolent Funds,  
amounting together to £235, had closing balances on the  
same Funds which reached £369. The Receipts from  
all sources amounted to £384, and the expenditure  
including payments in relief, &c., by the Benevolent  
Fund (£65), and charges on the General Fund (£136)  
to £250. From the Lodge Returns it appears there  
are 18 lodges in the District with an aggregate mem-  
bership of 743 subscribing brethren, Skelmersdale, No.  
1729, with 84 members, and Prince Alfred, No. 956,  
and Addington, No. 1937, each with 80 members, being  
the strongest, while the weakest were lodges Umvoti,  
No. 1867, with 17, Etckwini, No. 2623, with 18, and  
Umzimkulu, No. 2113, with 19 members respectively.

The 50th annual convocation of the District Grand  
Chapter was held in the same hall on the same day,  
under the presidency of Comp. Francis Wesley, G.  
Superintendent. There appears to be some difficulty  
in connection with one of the chapters, which is  
apparently in abeyance, and the matter has been  
referred to G. Scribe E. for Grand Chapter to deal  
with. The three other chapters were represented.  
The Treasurer's Statement of Account showed a  
balance to the good of between £4 and £5, with  
liabilities amounting to between £10 and £11, and that  
officer is reported to have declared that "This condition  
of things was most unsatisfactory, and unless funds were  
forthcoming the chapter could not continue to carry  
on." Officers for the ensuing year were appointed,  
and shortly afterwards District Grand Chapter was  
closed. It is to be regretted that some part of the zeal  
and energy which are exhibited in connection with Craft  
Masonry does not find its way into the proceedings of  
the Royal Arch. In a District which musters 18 lodges  
and about 750 brethren, there ought certainly to be  
a greater proportion of Royal Arch chapters.

## Reviews.

"A Catalogue of valuable MSS., rare and interesting Books, and beautiful book-bindings offered for sale by J. and M. L. Tregaskis, at their house at the sign of the *Caxton Head*, in High Holborn, London, A.D. 1898."—This is a handsome quarto volume of nearly 100 pages, lavishly illustrated, and brimful of interesting information respecting the valuable lots offered. Every portion is in the best of taste, even to the cover, the title-page is a curious combination of ancient and modern faces, for if we mistake not, it includes not only *William Caxton* and an unknown monk, but also *James Tregaskis*, the Editor of this important publication. Of the illustrations, mention must be made of the reproduction in *gold and colours* of the cover to the *Commentarium Litigum* of Stephanus Doletus, of A.D. 1538. The oaken boards are covered with red Morocco, ornamented with black, blue and gilt scrolls, ornate borders, and panels, silver medallion of Henri II., &c., the facsimile being so perfect that it has the appearance of the top cover being laid on a sheet of paper, so complete is the reproduction. The Staircase at the Caxton Head, by Railton; the Shop Front, by Wheeler; and the portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Tregaskis (so long known as the *Lady Quaritch*), also deserve notice. The MSS. and Books are too numerous and important to be mentioned, so we can only recommend brethren who value such beautiful volumes to each send a P.O. for 5s. to the Firm and procure copies for themselves. This is the 400th Catalogue published by this eminent Firm, and the 8th of the large paper Edition, especially illustrated, and superbly printed. There are only 250 copies for sale.

"MONTREAL MASONIC DIRECTORY, 1898."—This handy little guide is edited by Bro. W. H. Whyte, the esteemed Grand Scribe E. of the Grand Chapter and Grand Chancellor of the Great Priory. Full information is supplied as to the several Grand Bodies working in Quebec, and of the 17 lodges that assemble in Montreal, as well as of the three lodges on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England that meet in the city, viz., Nos. 374, 449, and 640.

"MANNING'S MASONIC REGISTER FOR THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1898."—This welcome manual has no superior and few equals, because of the mass of information within its covers, enclosing some 350 pages, ably arranged and as carefully printed. Notwithstanding the enormous quantity of matter thus neatly bound, it may be carried in the vest pocket with ease. The paper, though necessarily thin, is wonderfully opaque, and the Register continues to be one of the typographical wonders and triumphs of the Masonic Publishing Company of Philadelphia, the office of the racy and always interesting "Keystone," so well known and appreciated in this country. In its pages are to be found particulars of some 430 lodges, 120 chapters, and other Masonic Bodies meeting in the State of Pennsylvania, including the names of the Past Masters and presiding officers of each subordinate lodge, as well as much useful information as to the several Grand Bodies. Beyond question it is "a little wonder." The membership of the State of actual subscribers considerably exceeds 50,000, so that the Grand Lodge is one of the largest and most important in America.

### PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF NORTH AND EAST YORKSHIRE.

A meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, Malton, on the invitation of the King Edwin Chapter, No. 660, on Thursday, the 12th ult. A large number of brethren were present.

Provincial Grand Chapter having been opened, the acting Grand Superintendent, the Prov. Grand H. and J., and the Past Grand Officers of England were saluted.

Letters of apology for absence were received from Comps. the Most Hon. the Marquess of Zetland, Grand Superintendent; Sir Chas. Legard, Bart., Past Prov. G.J.; Col. R. G. Smith, J. Sykes Rymer, P.P.G.H.; H. J. Morton, W. B. Richardson, P.P.G.J.; E. Corris, T. S. Brogden, P.P.G.N.; Geo. Potter-Kirby, P.G. Treas.; W. Lawton, J. T. Belk, F. Blackburn, P.P.G. Reg.; A. Buckle, J. Vernon Cooper, Col. H. F. Pudsey, J. T. Seller, J. G. Smithson, H. Longford, M.D., P.P.P.G.S.; A. Jones, P.A.G.S.; W. S. Meek, C. T. Ganderton, H. Watson, P.P.A.G.S.; J. R. Lane, P.P.G.S.B.; Joel Edgar, P.P.G. Std. Br.; W. J. Watson, A. W. Walker, P.P.G.D.C.; R. W. Williams, P.A.G.D.C.; G. Shepherdson, P.G.O.; and C. M. Forbes, P.Z. 236.

The minutes of the last Provincial Grand Chapter, held at York, on 10th May, 1897, were taken as read and confirmed.

The annual balance sheet, having been audited and found correct, was taken as read and unanimously adopted.

Comp. Wm. H. Rose, P.P.G.H., was then unanimously elected Prov. Grand Treasurer, upon the proposition of Comp. T. B. Whytehead, P.G. Std. Br. England, and seconded by Comp. W. H. Cowper, P.A.G.S. England.

Comps. T. B. Whytehead, P.G. St. Br. England, P.P.G.H., and T. Gerard Hodgson, P.P.G.D.C., were then re-elected Auditors, upon the proposition of Comp. T. B. Redfearn, P.A.G.S.E., seconded by Comp. Jas. Buckle, P.P.G. Std. Br.

The various chapters in the province then communicated.

The following Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year were then appointed and invested. The Prov. Grand J. being solemnly obligated: Comp. the Right Hon. Lord Bolton, 236, P.G.S.N.

England	...	...	Prov. G.H.
" T. Morrill, 57	...	...	Prov. G.J.
" Michael Charles Peck, 250, P.A.G.D. of C.	...	...	
England	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" H. L. Swift, 236	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" Wm. H. Rose, 660	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Geo. Bohn, 1010	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" F. Creaser, 734	...	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" J. T. Belt, 2134	...	...	Prov. G. 1st A.S.
" G. W. Tindall, 200	...	...	Prov. G. 2nd A.S.
" J. T. Oliver, 312	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" Jas. Barton, 1005	...	...	
" T. G. P. Barlow, 1011	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" J. G. Wallis, 1511	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" G. W. West, 513	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" W. J. Marshall, 660	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" T. B. Redfearn, 1511	...	...	Prov. A.G.S.E.
" C. Travess, 200	...	...	Prov. G. Janitor.

The M.E. Grand Superintendent's address was then read by the P.G. Scribe E. as follows: Once again, companions, after an interval of

six years, we meet together in this pleasant old town of Malton. The place is of rare antiquity, since it was the most ancient fortified towns of this part of Britain. Its early importance is indicated by the number of old roads which lead to it. The Romans established a colony here, and called the place *Camalodunum*. British and Roman urns, pottery, coins, and other relics have often been found here. In the Saxon era *King Edwin* ruled over the kingdom of Deira and the town of Malton, to which the name *Camalodunum* was then contracted. The great Earl Siward, who defeated Macbeth, was one of the lords of Malton; and after the Norman conquest the baronial family of Vesey built here a castle, of which some remains still exist. A fine lodge and gateway of a later mansion built by Lord Eure, and subsequently the property of Earl Fitzwilliam, was long the residence of the late Bro. Wm. C. Copperthwaite, one of the most respected members of this lodge and chapter. When the Masonic brethren determined to found a lodge here in 1856, they adopted the name of *Camalodunum* and in like manner when the Royal Arch chapter was established, the name of *King Edwin* was selected. Both lodge and chapter have led a quiet and tranquil existence, befitting their peaceful surroundings. They have added many esteemed and worthy names to the roll of the province, and creditably upheld the dignity and high character of the Craft. May this happy state of things long continue, and may the Malton brethren realise the great privileges which Masons enjoy in the pursuit and study of our noble Institution. I notice with satisfaction that the Britannia Chapter at Whitby (founded in 1783) will shortly receive a Centenary Warrant, and doubtless the important occasion will be suitably celebrated. There will not be another Royal Arch Centenary in this Province until 1903, may we all be there to witness it! I shall be glad to receive invitations from chapters who may desire to entertain Provincial Grand Chapter next year, which may be sent to the Prov. Grand Scribe E.

The ACTING G. SUPERINTENDENT expressed the regret which the M.E. Grand Superintendent felt that he was unable to attend the present meeting. His lordship was yachting in the Mediterranean, was last heard from at Malta, and was now supposed to be at Athens. Lord Zetland expected to return shortly, and would certainly, unless some unforeseen accident occurred, attend the annual meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge in July. Before Provincial Grand Chapter was closed he wished to move a cordial vote of thanks to the Principals and companions of the King Edwin Chapter for the most kind and courteous manner in which they had received them that day.

The motion was carried by acclamation.

Comp. J. HUDSON, M.E.Z. King Edwin Chapter, P.P.G.H., gracefully acknowledged the vote.

Provincial Grand Chapter having been closed, the companions adjourned to the annual banquet, which was held at the Talbot Hotel, when Comp. T. B. Whytehead, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., P.P.G.H., presided, and was supported by a large number of companions.

The dinner was served in excellent style and greatly enjoyed. The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and a very agreeable evening was spent.

## Craft Masonry.

### Phœnix Lodge, No. 173.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 21st ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Edward Gilbert, W.M., presiding. There were also present the following brethren: Bros. Alexander Ritchie, C.C., S.W., W.M. elect; J. Stephens, P.M., P.D.G.D.C., J.W.; F. Foxley, P.M., Treas.; A. E. Hubert, P.M., Sec.; F. Ritter, S.D.; John H. Finch, J.D.; G. Appleton, I.G.; William Bennison, Stwd.; N. R. Hart, I.P.M.; E. W. Allen, P.M.; T. H. B. Riddle, P.M.; H. W. Davie, P.M.; Alf. Irvine, P.M.; A. W. Herbert, P.M.; F. D. Vine, P.M.; Jas. Millier, P.M.; George Guterbock, P.M.; W. D. Dale, T. H. Griffiths, W. J. Lewis, J. F. Storey, W. C. Wise, C. B. Broad, W. G. Betts, Henry J. Hatfield, Ben. Carter, and H. J. Sordes. The visitors were Bros. Dr. D. M. Forbes, W.M. 2319; Alfred B. Bennett, P.M. 44; J. Tickle, C.C., P.M. 1196; W. S. Beaton, 2319; J. Macgregor, Stwd. 2319; Arthur A. Church, I.P.M. 1365; Charles Buckland, 2272; Daniel G. F. Simmonds, 1853; S. Brooks, 1681; J. Watson, 1839; Robert Manuel, P.M. 1196; F. A. Devereux, 1920; Robert C. Long, S.D. 784; Alfred W. Court, J.D. 784; R. Barrett, I.P.M. 172; Arthur W. Briggs, 1615; C. Oldridge, jun., I.P.M. 1638; H. W. Parker, P.M. 2048; C. Donaldson, P.M. 1963; Lewis Palmer, 859; J. Longhurst, W.M. 2157; W. Ogilvie, 56; H. T. Deech, 2048; J. Wilkinson-Pembury, P.M. 1907; W. M. Newton, P.G.S.; J. Young, 2664; H. Percy Monckton, J.W. 1827; Arthur Monckton, W.M. 1675; Charles Dearing, 795, P.G.S. of W. Berks; J. Harrison, 62; F. W. Powell, P.M. 457; T. Way, 2155; G. W. Thompson, 1418; Edwin Brooks, P.M. 705; John Whitehead, P.M. 2319, D.P.G.M. Aberdeen; Wm. Kirkland, P.M. 1949; C. Coram, S.W. 2552; Duncan F. Gellion, P.M. 2319; M. T. Tuck, P.M. 901, 1343, P.P.G. Std. Br. Essex; Colonel T. Davies Sewell, P.M. 21, 1827, P.G. Steward; W. Stacey, W.M. 19; J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; J. H. Gilbert, 669 (S.C.); James Thomson, P.M. 2319; Reginald Groom, 2190; H. Massey, P.M. 619, 1928; Wm. Woodward, P.M. 1920; W. Wallis, 172; W. J. Gore, 2550; G. H. Park, P.M. 175; John T. Bolding, P.M. 91, P.G. Steward; E. Bryceson, P.M. 913; W. MacLean, 2319; and Charles Long, P.M. 1920.

Bro. William Charles Wise was raised to the Third Degree, after which ceremony Bro. E. W. Allen, P.M., D.C., took the chair, and installed Bro. Alexander Ritchie, C.C., J.P., S.W., W.M. elect, as W.M. for the year ensuing. The following brethren were invested as officers: Bros. Edward Gilbert, I.P.M.; James Stephens, P.M., P.D.G.D.C., S.W.; C. B. Broad, J.W.; F. Foxley, P.M., Treas.; A. E. Hubert, P.M., Sec.; F. Ritter, S.D.; J. H. Finch, J.D.; G. Appleton, I.G.; E. W. Allen, P.M., D.C.; W. J. Bennison, H. J. Stokes, and W. J. Lewis, Stwds.; and J. Rawles, Tyler. James Stephens, P.D.G.D.C., throughout the evening admirably discharged the duties of D.C. The new W.M. undertook the office of Steward for the lodge at the Centenary Festival of the R.M.I.B., and the lodge voted 30 guineas to his list. The W.M. informed the brethren that he had received letters of apology for inability to attend from Bros. Sir J. B. Monckton and Sir Thomas Roe, M.P. Derby.

After transacting some other business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to Freemasons' Tavern to a choice banquet.

The usual toasts followed.

The evening's proceedings were enlivened by a grand musical entertainment under the direction of Bro. Arthur W. Briggs, in which Miss Edith Sexton, Miss Marian Blinkhorn, and Bros. Reginald Groom and G. Stubbs took part. Bro. R. B. Hopkins gave his celebrated performances on the silver bells.

The W.M., in proposing "The Queen and the Craft," said that if there was one quality for which her Majesty was more celebrated than another it was her sympathy, and at that moment when the greatest of statesmen was lying dead she had shown that sympathy which no one had more shown than Queen Victoria.

Bro. Col. Newton, P.G.D., Dep. Prov. G.M. Notts, responded to the toast of "The Pro Grand Master, Dep. Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

The I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," said all the brethren were delighted to see Bro. Ritchie installed in the chair of K.S. That he would make a good Master went without saying; he had started well. They wished him every success and happiness in his year of office. He could not help adding how glad they were to see

him once more among them restored to health. (Applause.) They were, during his temporary absence, anxious to know how he was getting on, and they were glad to receive a good report of him. They were also pleased that he took a voyage to South Africa. They trusted his restoration to health would be maintained, and that he would be with them many years and each year in increased health.

Bro. A. Ritchie, W.M., in the course of his reply, said he rose with a very great deal of feeling, such as, probably, no Master had ever risen with in that lodge before, because when he was initiated 11 years ago in that lodge, and sat close to where he now stood, he felt that in joining Masonry and having had the great and solemn obligations laid upon him, and having been told that from that great book, the Bible, a Mason was to take his cue throughout life, he could well imagine Colonel Newton saying Masons should be sure that candidates they proposed would make good Masons. That was a text they all thoroughly appreciated and worked upon. If that principle was always acted upon by some lodges Freemasons would be clear of the stigma which was sometimes cast upon them by the outer world. To act in the way Col. Newton had suggested he (Bro. Ritchie) had always felt it one of his solemn duties, and those gentlemen he had that evening proposed he was certain would take their stand in the Phoenix Lodge as Christians, straightforward, good men, and would work well for Charity. He hoped such were the men he should always introduce. When one's brethren placed him in the highest position in their power, and having been installed in such a dignified and solemn manner as he had been installed by Bro. Allen he was sure the brethren would take away with them the recollection of it. He had to express his thanks to Bro. James Stephens for making way for him. He was also thankful to the brethren for the sympathy they had shown in his illness. He recommended a voyage to the Cape to any one who was ill. Bro. Ritchie then gave some reminiscences of his experience of lodges in South Africa, where, he said, they carried out Masonry admirably both in the British and in the Dutch lodges. He was glad to be back; he could not see a lodge he loved more than the Phoenix. He thanked the brethren again very much for what they had done in his absence. He could assure them that when one was away he could not help thinking of his own land, the home of his children, the grave of his fathers.

Bro. James Stephens proposed "The Masonic Charities."

Bro. Ritchie, W.M., announced that by the kindness of the brethren his list was already £110.

Bro. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I. for Boys, responded to the toast.

The remaining toasts were "The I.P.M.," "The Installing Master," "The Visitors," "The Past Masters," "The Treasurer, the Secretary, and the Officers of the Lodge," and the Tyler's toast closed a most agreeable evening.

Crescent Lodge, No. 788.

The installation meeting of this flourishing Middlesex lodge was held at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, on Tuesday, the 26th ult. Present: Bros. J. P. Mears, W.M.; J. A. Cruickshank, S.W., W.M. elect; E. E. Vinen, J.W.; E. T. Edwards, P.M., Treas.; S. Larcomb, P.M., Sec.; W. S. Robinson, S.D.; C. B. Butcher, J.D.; J. J. Robinson, P.M.; F. W. Bate, P.M.; W. Dawson, P.M.; C. Murray, P.M.; G. Cordwell, P.M.; R. J. Beeton, P.M.; A. Hancock, R. H. Sleeman, R. Milczni, R. J. Bishop, Kowiski, and Geo. Harrison, Tyler. The visitors were Bros. J. Cooper, P.M. 1769; G. Procter, J.D. 1531; G. Samuel, P.M. 1708; A. J. Berry, P.M. 1095; J. E. Robertson, Stwd. 1735; H. W. Parker, 1320; G. Thompson, W.M. 1744; A. Perl, P.M. 513; C. T. Quicke, P.M. and Sec. 1531; J. Muir Smith, P.M. 788; A. Souhani, 188; C. Woodrow, P.M. 1708; W. Garrett, 1671; J. Latham, J.W. 1963; C. Dodd, W.M. 1194; and C. H. Stone, P.M. 507, J.W. 1641.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. R. Harry Sleeman was passed and Mr. R. J. Bishop initiated in a commendable manner by the W.M. Bro. J. J. Robinson, P.M., D. of C., presented Bro. J. A. Cruickshank, W.M. elect, to Bro. J. P. Mears, W.M., to receive from him the benefit of installation, which ceremony was most ably performed in a Board of 20 Installed Masters. The new W.M. invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. E. E. Vinen, Prov. G. Org., S.W.; W. S. Robinson, J.W.; E. T. Edwards, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., Treas.; S. Larcomb, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Sec.; C. B. Butcher, S.D.; A. Hancock, J.D.; R. P. Morris, I.G.; J. J. Robinson, P.P.A.G.D.C., D.C.; R. Kowiski, Steward; and G. Harrison, Tyler. The three addresses were most ably rendered by Bro. Mears, the Installing Master.

The report of the audit meeting was received and adopted, which showed the lodge to be in a sound financial position, after which the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards adjourned to an excellent banquet, supplied by the worthy host.

The banquet ended, the W.M. presented the loyal and Masonic toasts, which were loyally received.

"The Pro G.M., the Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," having been cordially received,

The W.M. proposed the toast of "The Prov. G.M., Bro. Lord George Hamilton, the D.P.G.M., and the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past." He said the Prov. G.M. had endeared himself to all, and was a most ardent worker, and the Prov. G. Officers were ever ready to do their utmost for the brethren. He coupled the names of Bros. Beeton and Robinson with the toast.

The toast was most cordially received.

In reply, Bro. Beeton, P.P.G. Std. Br., very heartily thanked the W.M. and brethren for so cordial a greeting, and congratulated the lodge upon the resuscitation and the influx of such worthy new members. He hoped to see the lodge one of the best in the province.

Bro. J. J. Robinson, P.P.A.G.D.C., also ably replied.

Bro. J. P. Mears, I.P.M., next proposed the toast of "The W.M.," who had succeeded to the chair of W.M. very quickly, nevertheless he had performed the duties to the satisfaction and appreciation of the brethren. Being so busy commercially it would be impossible to bestow much time in acquiring the ritual, however it was gratifying to know the business of the chair would be efficiently carried out to the entire satisfaction of the brethren.

Bro. J. A. Cruickshank, W.M., in reply, said he felt his inexperience already as he had no doubt most of the old Masters had done, but having felt the dip in the briny waters, he hoped in the future to be able to acquit himself more perfectly and feel much more at home.

The Worshipful Master proposed the toast of "The Installing Master," which was a most important duty, for he and Bro. Mears had been associated for 10 years and now he had finished the various duties in the lodge most perfectly, having acquitted himself in the chair in a manner which reflected the greatest possible credit considering the limited time at his disposal. It was a great pleasure to present the testimony of respect in which he was held by the brethren, and he hoped the Past Master's jewel would remind him of, and that he would never forget the donors, and it was their earnest wish that he might live many years to wear the same.

Bro. Mears, Installing Master, in reply, thanked the Master and brethren for their very kind reception of his humble services and remarked he had certainly carried out his duties to the best of his ability. He had many friends in the lodge, and had had their counsel and guidance, but if it had not been for the guidance of Bro. William Dawson, P.M., he could never have undertaken the duties of Master, and personally he most heartily thanked him for his excellent assistance. The W.M. had praised him for the work done but it had redounded greatly upon his able tutor. The splendid jewel would remind him of the good fellowship which existed in the lodge, which he hoped would long continue.

The toast of "The Initiate" was most cordially presented and received, to which Bro. Bishop most suitably replied with the quotation—"I'm bound, you have my promise."

The Worshipful Master next gave the toast of "The Visitors," most heartily welcoming them to the lodge and hoped they would visit again.

Bros. Cooper, Quicke, Parker, and Woodrow very cordially responded.

The toast of "The Past Masters and Officers" were duly honoured.

The Tyler's toast closed a very happy meeting.

An excellent programme of music was arranged and directed by Bro. Ernest E. Vinen, F.R.C.O., Prov. G. Org., ably assisted by Miss Maude Ballard, Mr. Robert Greir, and Bro. Harry Marriot, and Mr. W. W. Fletcher (reciter). Bro. Ernest E. Vinen ably presided at the piano.

The P.M.'s Jewel was manufactured by Bros. George Kenning & Son.

London Scottish Rifles Lodge, No. 2310.

The installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly-circus, W., on Thursday, the 19th ult., when Bro. James McKinlay was duly installed as W.M. for the ensuing year in the presence of a goodly gathering of members and of many visitors. Present: Bros. F. H. Neish, Adjutant of the Corps; G. G. Ferguson, Surgeon-Captain of the Corps; F. W. Danter, 1593; G. P. Channing, J.W. 1987; G. Smith, 233; and others.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Robert Grant, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Auditors' report having been received and adopted, Bro. Andrew Wilson, 57 (S.C.), was elected a joining member. A ballot was taken for Mr. Francis Hampton, which proved favourable, and he was initiated into Freemasonry. The installation ceremony was then proceeded with, Bro. J. A. Braik, P.M., acting as Installing Master. On the conclusion of this important ceremony, Bro. McKinlay proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows: Bro. Captain D. Whyte, S.W.; Graham Gordon, J.W.; E. J. Husey, Treas.; W. H. Pardoe, M.D., Secretary; W. Evans, S.D.; A. J. Keys, J.D.; Alexander Hampton, I.G.; E. A. H. Gordon, D.C.; W. T. Hay, A.D.C.; W. H. Hislop and W. W. Horsburgh, Stwds.; A. W. Buckingham, Org.; and J. Wightman, Tyler. The W.M. then presented the I.P.M., Bro. Robert Grant, with a Past Master's jewel in recognition of his services during the preceding year. Bro. Grant suitably acknowledged the honour, and said he should esteem it a very high token indeed of their regard, and thanked them for their kind attention towards him during his year of office. He felt perfectly certain that the newly installed W.M. would exceed the slight services he had been able to render the lodge. The proposals for initiation having been received, the lodge was closed.

At the subsequent proceedings of the festive board, the W.M. gave the customary loyal and Masonic toasts, which were duly honoured.

The toast of "The Worshipful Master" was proposed and drunk with great enthusiasm.

In response, Bro. McKinlay remarked that although Master of the lodge, and desirous of conducting its affairs with decorum and credit, he was still a servant of the Order, and would strive to see that the chair should not lose any of its lustre during his year of office. He was certain the co-operation of the Past Masters and members generally would result in the year being an unqualified success.

The usual toasts were honoured, and the proceedings brought to a close by singing the evening hymn—"Auld Lang Syne."

Mark Masonry.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 4.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held at Mark Masons' Hall, on Monday, the 23rd ult., the W.M., Bro. Sir Thomas Gibson Carmichael, Bart., presided, and in a most able way performed the whole of the ceremonies, except the addresses which were given by Bro. John Smith, P.G.S. There were also present Bro. A. Lowe, J.W., W.M. elect (the S.W., Bro. J. R. Reep, was absent through illness), Bros. H. Lovegrove, P.G.I. of W., Treas.; C. Pulman, P.G.I.G., Sec.; W. G. Brighton, P.G.I. of W.; F. A. Powell, P.M.; A. E. Mullens, J.C. J. Axford, P.M.; J. Read, P.G.O.; and others. Visitors: Bros. H. Thomson Lyon, Elsdon, and W. R. Massie, P.P.G.M.O. West Yorkshire. Bro. Major Larnar was advanced to the Degree of Mark Master. The officers were invested as follows by the newly-installed W.M., Bro. A. Love: Bros. J. R. Reep, W.M. 234, S.W.; J. Campbell Johnstone, J.W.; A. E. Mullins, M.O.; Nash, J.O.; J. Smith, S.D.; Major Larnar, I.G.; and Mills, Tyler. The Treasurer and the Secretary were re-appointed.

Noel Lodge, No. 505.

A regular meeting was held at the Jolly Sailors Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames, on Monday, the 16th ult., when there were present Bros. Captain T. Phillips, I.P.M., as W.M.; E. H. Lewis, S.W.; J. H. Summer, J.W.; E. J. Packington, M.O.; C. S. Rogers, S.O.; J. Wells, J.O.; A. M. Levy, Treas.; Dr. A. Oust, C. Yeatman, T. Pennington, and others.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Bro. T. White, 65 (Craft), which proving unanimous, he was advanced to the Degree of a M.M.M. in splendid style by the acting W.M. This being the meeting for the election of officers for the ensuing year, the choice of the brethren for W.M. fell upon Bro. Lewis, S.W. Bro. A. M. Levy was elected Treasurer, and Bro. G. Free re-elected Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. H. C. Croyin, Dist. G. Sec. North-East Africa, the retiring W.M.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren dined together, and the usual toasts were gone through.

THE ASH, VICTORIA HALL, Aldershot, erected to commemorate her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, was on Monday formally opened by Lady Pirbright, in the presence of a large and distinguished company. Lord Pirbright has undertaken to defray the expenses of heating the building, which is greatly needed in the neighbourhood.

THE OPENING RACES of the Royal Victoria Yacht Club were sailed on Thursday at Ryde in most variable weather, stormy showers alternating with fitful sunshine. In the 36-foot class Mr. Parker's Forella, for the first time this season, occupied the premier position, Mr. Gretton's Emerald being second. The race for 30-footers was won by Carol, the second prize going to Strathendrick. It is very evident that racing in the one-design class will be keen and interesting throughout the season. The same day Cresta, Polaris, and Wahia were the three first boats, and Speedwell won another flag in the 24-foot class.

MR. HENRY SOMERS SOMERSET, son of Lady Henry Somerset, and grandson of the Duke of Beaufort, met with a serious accident on Thursday evening while out riding with his wife, Lady Catherine Somerset, near Eastnor Castle, Herefordshire. His horse shied at something on the road, and threw him. Mr. Somerset fell on his head, receiving rather severe injuries. Assistance was promptly obtained, and the sufferer was carried in semi-insensible state to Eastnor Castle, where he and Lady Catherine Somerset are staying. Doctors were summoned from Malvern and Ledbury. Mr. Somerset has just been selected as the future Liberal candidate for South Herefordshire.

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## Masonic and General Tidings.

BRO. EARL AND COUNTESS CARRINGTON went to High Wycombe on Monday till the end of the week.

THE DATE fixed for holding the Prov. G. Lodge of Kent, at Margate, is Wednesday, the 15th inst.

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG arrived at Kissengen on Saturday evening last to take the waters.

BRO. JOHN EASTER, P.M. Tyrian Lodge, has been elected W.M. of the Anderida Lodge for the ensuing year.

BRO. THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE left town on Saturday night for Lismore Castle, County Waterford.

THE MARQUIS and Marchioness of Londonderry and Lady Helen Stewart left town on Monday for Wynyard Park, and return to-day (Friday).

T.R.H. THE DUKE and DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT and STRATHEARN honoured Bro. Lord and Lady Pirbright by their company at dinner on Saturday evening last.

ON TUESDAY Lady Pirbright distributed the prizes, including a magnificent silver cup (the gift of Bro. Lord Pirbright), at the sports of the Guildford Amateur Athletic Club.

BRO. LORD ROBERTS has promised to preside at the annual dinner of the Punjab Frontier Force, which is to take place on Wednesday, the 5th inst. General Sir Wm. Leckhart will be present.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR has conferred the Royal Prussian Order "Pour Le Mérite" upon Sir William H. Flower, K.C.B., Director of the National History Department of the British Museum.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR (Bro. the Earl of Halsbury) visited Farnborough on Tuesday for the purpose of opening a town hall that has been erected at North Farnborough by Major Holt, J.P., in commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee.

LADY DOREEN LONG and Miss Long have gone to Rood Ashton, Trowbridge, for the Whitsuntide recess. Bro. Long, who is now in command of the Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry, will pass the recess at Devizes, where his regiment assembled on Thursday, the 26th ult., for their annual training.

BRO. AUGUSTUS FREDERICK GODSON, M.P., was one of those on whom the honour of knighthood was conferred on the occasion of her Majesty's birthday. Bro. Sir A. F. Godson is a barrister of the Inner Temple, and married, in 1869, Jane Charlotte, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Edmund Boughton, of Stoke, near Coventry.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the Architectural Association was held at the Holborn Restaurant on the 26th ult., Mr. Hampden J. Pratt, President, in the chair. The company numbered about 90, and included Bros. Henry Lovegrove, P.G.S.B.; F. T. W. Goldsmith, G. Fellowes Prynne, E. O. Sachs, A. O. Collard, F. H. A. Hardcastle, W. Eckstein, and others.

AT THE FORTHCOMING commemoration on the 22nd inst., the Degree of Doctor of Civil Law, by diploma, will be conferred upon his Royal Highness the Duke of York, K.G. The same degree will be received by Bro. Sir E. J. Monson, her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris; Sir J. Kirk, Sir J. Scott, late Judicial Adviser to his Highness the Khedive of Egypt; Sir E. J. Poynter, P.R.A.; and Mr. F. C. Penrice, late Surveyor to the fabric of St. Paul's Cathedral.

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY, who was accompanied by Bro. Sir Robert Collins and Miss Helen Maxwell, arrived at Farnham on Monday morning, on a visit to the Bishop of Winchester and Mrs. Randall Davidson. Her Royal Highness had consented to open Farnham Commemorative Swimming Bath, and on arrival on the ground was received by Mr. W. T. Coleman, the Chairman, and other members of the Urban District Council, an address of welcome being presented to the Duchess by Sir Richard Mason, Clerk.

THE QUEEN, accompanied by Princess Leiningen and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, paid her first visit to Braemar on Saturday afternoon last. Her Majesty, who occupied an open carriage, drawn by roan horses, driven four-in-hand, and preceded by outriders, drove as far as the Fife Arms Hotel, and then turned homewards. The weather was bright and fine. The Very Rev. Dr. Donald Macleod, D.D., arrived at the Castle, and, with Bro. the Right Hon. A. Akers-Douglas, had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal Family.

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES the Prince and Princess of Wales, with their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York, have been spending Whitsun week at Sandringham. The Princess of Wales, with the Duke and Duchess of York, attended by Miss Knollys, General Sir Dighton Probyn, and Sir Charles Cust, arrived at Sandringham on Saturday evening last. Their Royal Highnesses attended Divine service at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene in the Park on Sunday last, when pathetic references were made to the loss of one who had been a frequent guest of their Royal Highnesses at Sandringham. The Prince of Wales travelled from London to Wolferton on Sunday morning, and arrived at Sandringham shortly after one o'clock.

AMONG later sums received by the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House for the memorial to the Princess Mary Adelaide, Duchess of Teck, which is to take the form of a Home of Rest for Poor Women from London, are—Madame de Falbe, £21; Mr. and Mrs. George Anderson, £5; Mr. Herbert Garratt (of Sidney), £5 5s.; the Dowager Marchioness of Ailsa, £10; Bro. Lord and Lady Addington, £10 10s.; the Dowager Lady Beaumont, £5; and Miss Boucherett (second contribution), £5. As by the munificence of a donor, who wishes to be anonymous, the building and furniture of a home at Bognor have been assured, all that is now required is a sum of £11,000, the annual interest of which will provide for the maintenance of the occupants. Of this, £9,000 has been promised, and it is hoped that the remainder will be forthcoming before the end of the present month, if those who have not yet subscribed will send in their contributions.

OAK-APPLE DAY was, as usual, observed at Chelsea Hospital, on Sunday, by covering the bronze statue of Charles II.—the work of Grinling Gibbons—which stands in the centre of the chief court, completely with laurel leaves, in remembrance of the time when the fugitive monarch escaped from the troopers of the Commonwealth by hiding in the bushy oak of Boscobel, on the borders of Shropshire, after the battle of Worcester. May 29th is also commemorative of the day when the restored monarch, at the age of 30, made his triumphal entry into London in 1660, and it is also the anniversary of his birthday. Accordingly, on this latter account, as is customary on such occasions, the Royal Standard was run up mast-high. There is usually a parade of the in-pensioners, but the ceremony took place on the 21st ult., before Field-Marshal Sir Donald Stewart, governor of the hospital, who, at the close, after calling for three cheers for the Queen, called, according to quaint custom, for three for King Charles II., which were given with a will. On Monday, the hospital veterans, in addition to a good dinner of roast beef and plum pudding, with an extra pint and a half of beer over and above their usual allowance, received a present of 2s. per man. This is supposed to come to them out of a special fund, and to have been left by order of the Merry Monarch.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY have made several arrangements, whereby the needs of the cyclist have been specially catered for. The Company are issuing cheap "C.T." tickets at inclusive fares for passenger and cycle from King's Cross and certain suburban stations to places on the main line and branches within a radius of about 40 miles of London, enabling cyclists practically to select their own routes, the tickets being available at alternative stations on the outward journey with liberty to return from any station within a certain zone. The cyclist is thus afforded the choice of a number of varied and interesting routes through the counties of Middlesex, Herts, and Cambs., with the double advantage of avoiding the roads through the suburbs, and enabling him to vary his direction to suit wind and weather. The company have also fitted a number of their brake vans with a novel apparatus for conveying bicycles, the invention of their locomotive engineer, Mr. Ivatt, which has been tested and approved by the Cyclists Touring Club. In addition, special accommodation for bicycles is provided in the Chalk Rooms at King's Cross, and other stations. "C.T." pamphlets containing full particulars of the various routes can be obtained at any Great Northern London Suburban stations, and of the Superintendent of the Line, King's Cross.

THE BANK RATE has been reduced to 3 per cent.

BRO. SIR JOHN AND LADY GWENDOLEN RAMSDEN have left town for Bulstrode Park, Gerrard's Cross, Bucks, for the rest of the summer.

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY will, it is understood, be present at the "Fourth of June" celebration at Eton College to-morrow (Saturday).

THE COMMITTEE of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will hold their regular meeting for the month at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, the 5th inst., at 4 p.m.

THE QUEEN has been pleased, by Letters Patent under the Great Seal, to declare that the children of the eldest son of any Prince of Wales shall have, and at all times hold and enjoy, the style, title, or attribute of "Royal Highness."

THE DOWAGER Countess De La Warr has been staying at Bexhill-on-Sea for Whitsun. On Monday her ladyship went for a short cruise off Eastbourne and Beachy Head in Earl De La Warr's steam yacht Firefly, which has been lying off Bexhill.

BRO. SIR HENRY IRVING has given the use of the Lyceum Theatre for a matinee on June 15th, in aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Miss Ellen Terry and the Hon. Mrs. Stephen Coleridge are arranging the program.

IT IS EXPECTED that the Queen will review the troops on Laffan's Plain at Aldershot this summer. There will, in all probability, be a large gathering of the Royal family on the occasion, as it will be the last review which her Majesty will hold during the Duke of Connaught's command.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF FIFE arrived at Broadstairs on Tuesday evening by the Granville express, accompanied by their children. They have taken up their residence at Holland House, Kingsgate, and it is stated that the Duchess will sojourn in the quiet little town during the early part of the season.

AS SHOWING the great and increasing popularity of the steamers of the new Palace Steamers, Limited, may be mentioned that during the Whitsuntide holidays, from Saturday to Whit Monday, their two steamers, Royal Sovereign and Koh-i-Noor carried 2500 more passengers than they carried during the same period last year.

BRO. VISCOUNT WOLSELEY will visit Scotland this month, and his lordship has consented to accept the freedom of the burgh of Dumfries on the occasion. His lordship will be the guest of Mr. Carthew, of Yorstoun, Convener, of the county of Dumfries, on the 13th instant, and will receive the freedom of the burgh on the following day.

ON TUESDAY afternoon the Lord Chancellor (Bro. the Earl of Halsbury) opened a public hall at Farnborough, Hants, given to the people, at a cost of several thousand pounds, by Major and Mrs. Holt, in commemoration of her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. His lordship said Queen Victoria had throughout her long life set her subjects a high example, and that hall would help to perpetuate her royal virtues.

PREPARATIONS ARE NOW almost completed for the visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to Reading on Saturday, the 11th inst., to open the new college there. The line of route is to be richly decorated, and the Corporation will present an address to his Royal Highness. Among those expected to attend the ceremony are the Duke of Wellington, the Earl and Countess Spencer, the Earl and Countess of Abingdon, Sir John Mowbray, M.P., and distinguished representatives of Oxford University.

ON THURSDAY the annual meeting of the Board of Delegates of the Hearts of Oak Benefit Society was commenced at the Society's Board room, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square. Mr. S. R. Whiting, Newport, Mon., was elected Chairman for the ensuing 12 months. Mr. T. Hoe, Stockport, moved the adoption of the annual report, which showed a great increase in the membership of the Society, numbering at the end of last year 220,000, and a total reserve fund of £1,876,701, the sum of £134,947 being added last year. The number of members admitted last year to various convalescent homes was 920.

THE ARRANGEMENTS in connection with the Masonic Commemoration service in Rochester Cathedral on the 25th inst. are, we learn, proceeding apace. The fund in connection with the service has already touched £250. Admission will be restricted to Masons, the Cathedral Clergy and Staff, the Mayor of Rochester with his mace bearers, and a limited number of ladies. A donation of at least 7s. 6d. to the Cathedral Restoration Fund—sent direct to the Dean of Rochester—will entitle to one lady's admission ticket.

TUESDAY, THE 14th inst., is the date fixed for the matinee at the Avenue Theatre of the play left by the late Sergius Stepniak. Mr. Edward G. Knoblauch has kindly lent the theatre, and the artists engaged have volunteered their services. They include Mr. Lawrence Irving, Mrs. Theodore Wright, Miss Edith Craig, Miss Margaret Halton, Mr. Tabor, Miss L. Roche, Mr. Herbert Swears, and Mr. James Welch. Mr. Charles Charrington has undertaken to direct the performance, and the proceeds of the matinee will be placed at the disposal of Mrs. Stepniak. Tickets for the performance can be obtained from the Libraries, the theatre box-office, and from any member of the Committee.

HER MAJESTY has graciously consented to become patron of the "Indian Heroes' Fund," and has subscribed 250 guineas thereto. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is also a subscriber. On Friday, the 10th instant, Bro. Lord Roberts, V.C., will address a public meeting in St. James's Hall on behalf of the fund. Among other subscribers are Bros. the Duke of Abercorn, the Duke of Bedford, and the Duke of Fife, the Duchess of Grafton, the Marquis of Ripon, the Earl of Denbigh, Bro. the Earl of Kintore, Lord Wenlock, and a number of distinguished military, naval, and civil officers, including the members of the Council of India. Between £2000 and £3000 has been already received.

RAYLEIGH'S NEW CHURCH BELLS.—Two new bells, completing the octave at Rayleigh Church, Essex, were on Thursday evening, the 26th ultimo, dedicated by the Archdeacon of Essex. The bells were provided by public subscription in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee, and the dedication was attended by the brethren of the Trinity Lodge, No. 1734, the W.M., Bro. W. H. Judd, superintending the ringing of the bells. The brethren attended in their clothing, and the Chaplain of the lodge, Bro. the Rev. R. C. M. Rouse, and other clergy, were present. Touches were rung during the afternoon, including treble bob, grandsire, and plain bob, the ringers present coming from Rayleigh, Prittlewell, Hanningfield, and Ipswich. A service was held in the church at seven o'clock, and Bro. Archdeacon Stevens, P.G.C. Eng., read the dedication prayers, after which the hymn, "Now at length our bells are mounted," was sung, and the local ringers rang the bells for a few minutes before the Archdeacon's address, which was of a most interesting character, his text being taken from Psalms lxxii., 18-19. The brethren representing Trinity Lodge included Bros. W. H. Judd, W.M.; J. Harvey, J.W.; W. Fox, S.D.; J. Findlay, J.D.; J. White, Sec.; and A. Webb, I.G., as well as Bro. C. E. Judd, I.P.M., who acted as Organist, and Bro. S. Smith, P.M., the choir-master, and Bro. G. R. Dawson, D.C. The Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers present included Bros. C. W. Barnard, F. Golding, E. Sparrow, and W. Carter Wood; there also being present Bros. J. Field, W. Harvey, G. Goodman, F. H. Gill, T. H. V. Alderton, Edmunds, Hockley, Horton, Playle, and others.

CALLANT RESCUE BY A CHAPLAIN.—As Bro. the Rev. R. Peek, who has just resigned the chaplaincy at Dinard, on being appointed to a living in England, was crossing with his family, on the 26th ult., on the little steamer that plies between Dinard and St. Malo, in order to catch the boat that leaves St. Malo for Southampton, he performed an act of courage that has gained him the admiration and respect of all the natives of the two towns, as well as of the English and American colony residing at Dinard. As the little steamer neared St. Malo, a young woman, sitting amongst the first-class passengers, was seen to throw herself overboard. Bro. Peek threw off his coat, and, jumping after the unfortunate girl, seized her and held her head above water till help could be obtained. The position was a serious one, as the steamer was going full speed, and was already 200 yards from the unfortunate couple before she could be stopped. There was then a difficulty in letting down the steamer's boat, owing, it is said, to the surf. Luckily, a boat was pushed off from a sloop lying in the bay, and the young woman and her brave preserver were hauled in and rowed to St. Malo. Bro. Peek proceeded to the Southampton boat to change his dripping garments, and the girl, who, it seems, is an inhabitant of St. Malo, was carried into the Salle d'Attente, near the quay, where Dr. Garrett, of Dinard, who happened to be on the quay at the time, attended to her. No reason is at present assigned for her rash attempt at suicide. Bro. Peek's brave act deserves the greatest praise, for he not certainly risked his life to save that of a total stranger. The current was running strong at the time, and but for the promptness of the boatmen from the sloop both he and the girl he was trying to save would in all probability have been drowned.