

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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CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

The more carefully we examine into this question, the more convinced are we that our contention is right—that the confirmation of minutes is something more than a mere verification of proceedings as recorded by the Secretary and we are confirmed in this opinion by the views we published last week from two brethren, of whom one was Bro. W. J. HUGHAN, P.G.D., who has been for many years a member of our Society, and is, therefore, well qualified to give advice on the subject of lodge procedure. Bro. HUGHAN'S argument is to the effect that as "the Grand Lodge of England has *non*-confirmed a portion of the minutes of a previous meeting . . . the members of lodges may also do the same, even if the record be correct as such," and we added—"Confirmation, Masonically, would seem to mean agreement with the business transacted at the previous meeting as well as approval of the accuracy of the minutes." "C. H. W." expressed himself to a somewhat similar effect. "The confirmation of the minutes," said he, "is necessary, and the mere statement that they are a correct record of what took place is not sufficient," the reason given being that "the minutes may contain matter improper to be written, and the business not transacted may be contrary to the Constitution and in nowise agreeable to the general opinion of the members of the Lodge." In our article of the 11th instant on the subject, we took occasion to point out, firstly as regards, Bro. J. J. LAMBERT'S assertion that the "N.B." in Article 126 of the Mark Book of Constitutions was "irregular and misleading" that note to the said article—"N.B.—Minutes can be confirmed only at the next *regular* meeting of the lodge"—means neither more nor less than what it says, namely, that lodge minutes must be confirmed at *regular* lodge meetings, the proceedings at a special meeting or meeting of emergency being restricted to the transaction of the special or emergent business for which it was convened. We further pointed out, as regards Article 99 of the Mark Book of Constitutions, that as the law provides that a Worshipful Master shall be annually elected at one regular meeting, and installed at the next ensuing regular meeting, and, as it further provides that he shall not be so installed in office until that portion of the minutes relating to his election at the previous meeting has been confirmed, it is absolutely necessary that the confirmation should take place then and there as prescribed. The main body of the minutes, so to speak, may be confirmed or non-confirmed; but that particular portion relating to the election of Master *must* be so dealt with or the prescriptions of

the law as to installation at a regular period cannot be complied with. Our interpretation of the law is as follows: All minutes of lodge proceedings must be put for confirmation—that is, for ratification, not for mere verification as records—at regular lodge meetings but it is not necessary that they should be confirmed or non-confirmed *en bloc*. That portion of them which relates to the election of Master must be put for confirmation at the *next* regular meeting and confirmed or non-confirmed, as the members of the lodge may be pleased to determine; otherwise the election becomes, *ipso facto*, void and of none effect. If the said portion is confirmed, then and then only is the brother upon whom the choice of the members has fallen deemed to be duly elected and his installation follows. If the said portion is non-confirmed, then the whole thing must be gone through again as provided for in the aforesaid Article 99. There is, as we know, nothing in the Mark—or Craft—Constitutions declaratory of the precise meaning to be attached to the word "Confirmation" as applied to minutes of lodge proceedings; there is certainly nothing to be found in them which in any way justifies the assumption that the word is to be interpreted as meaning nothing more than the verification of the correctness of the record of proceedings. Nor, in our opinion, does it matter what is the practice adopted by other Societies or Companies. What concerns us is the meaning which applies Masonically to the word "confirmation," and we say that meaning is "ratification."

We shall conclude these few remarks with the following quotation from a writer who may not stand high in the general estimation as an accurate compiler of Masonic history, but who was undoubtedly conversant with the law as to lodge procedure. The late Bro. Dr. OLIVER, in his "Masonic Jurisprudence," has the following on the subject of "Confirmation of Minutes:" "no resolution of a lodge or any other business, how unanimously soever it may have been agreed to in the first instance, becomes binding, and no action can be taken upon it, till it has been confirmed by open voting at a subsequent regular meeting, with at least five Master Masons and members of the lodge present; for as no business can be transacted at a lodge of emergency, except what is named in the summons, it would be improper at such a casual meeting of the brethren to read any minutes except those which distinctly refer to the matter for which the special lodge has been convened. So stands the law—and a very judicious law it is—for it prevents all factions intriguing, which could scarcely fail to be occasionally successful if a resolution or law established by a majority of votes at one lodge were irreversible at another."

THE DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF BENGAL.

It rarely happens that so interesting and important a meeting is held as that of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal which took place at Freemasons' Hall, Calcutta, on the 21st March last. The presiding officer was that distinguished brother the Hon. Sir H. THOBY PRINSEP, who resigned the office of Dist. G. Master as recently as June, 1896, after having held that position for 18 years, and who, on this occasion, occupied the chair of Dist. G.M. in his capacity of Dep. Dist. G. Master in charge. The chief business of the meeting was the installation of that same brother on his re-appointment in succession to the late Bro. Major-General YEATMAN-BIGGS, C.B., who died earlier in the year

from illness contracted while in command of one of the brigades under Sir W. LOCKHART in the late severe campaign against the Afridis on the north-west frontier of India, and who even during the short period of his tenure of office of Dist. G. Master had shown himself a most zealous and capable ruler. The ceremony was performed by Bro. W. D. CRUIKSHANK, Past D.D. G. Master, and when it was concluded and Bro. Sir H. PRINSEP once again found himself the head of the Dist. G. Lodge, the salutations he received were of the most cordial character. Nothing indeed could have well surpassed the enthusiasm exhibited by the large concourse of brethren present at the meeting, and the inference we draw from this enthusiasm is that our Bengal brethren are satisfied that no other appointment was likely to do more towards strengthening the position of Freemasonry in the District. In the brief address which the newly-installed District Grand Master delivered, there was but one point upon which he conceived it to be his duty to lay any great stress, and that was—that, of necessity, the fullest confidence must at all times exist between him and the lodges and brethren under his charge, but more particularly must this be the case between him and his District Officers. In the annual report he subsequently delivered of the condition of Freemasonry in the District, Bro. PRINSEP having, in the first place, expressed the regret which all felt at the death of Bro. YEATMAN-BIGGS, proceeded to state his satisfaction at learning that all the lodges had made their returns, and that all the dues had been paid with the exception of a small amount from one of the lodges. The returns, however, showed that, though there was an increase of one in the number of lodges, there was a decrease in that of subscribing members, this being due, no doubt, to the frontier campaign against the Afridis. But, on the other hand, the finances of the District were in a satisfactory state, the Fund of General Purposes being in such a position that it was found possible for it to recommend a substantial donation to the Building Fund, while the Committee of the Fund of Benevolence had felt themselves justified in recommending a donation to the Bengal Masonic Association. As regards the Building Fund, it is unnecessary to say more than this—that, while in the opinion of the District Grand Master a wrong course had been followed in the past, with the result that too high a sum would ultimately be paid for the site which it had been agreed to purchase, the right thing would be done if District Grand Lodge adopted the resolutions which would be submitted for their acceptance at the meeting. When this report had been concluded, District Grand Lodge had submitted to it the report of the Board of General Purposes, in which it was recommended that a donation composed of 1500 rupees from the General Fund and 2500 rupees from the Freemasons' Hall Fund should be made to the Building Fund. This report having been adopted, the report of the General Committee for erection of a Masonic Temple was submitted, and this too was accepted *nem. con.*, so that as soon as the site has been fully paid for and a sum of 15,000 rupees accumulated, the work of erecting a portion of the premises will be commenced. Other resolutions were submitted and adopted, among them being one recommending a donation of £25 to the Boys' Centenary Festival, and lastly one of sincere regret at the untimely death of Bro. Major-General YEATMAN-BIGGS, C.B., Dist. G.M., which was carried in solemn silence. Shortly afterwards the proceedings were concluded, and the District of Bengal makes a fresh start in its career, but under the guidance of one to whom it is particularly indebted for much of its present prosperity. May that prosperity be still further advanced by their distinguished and experienced ruler!

THE GRAND LODGE OF HUNGARY.

(COMMUNICATED).

The recent article on this Grand Lodge will have been read with much regret by its many friends amongst our English brethren, and it is, therefore, with much pleasure that we give publicity to the following authoritative particulars gained from a trustworthy source. The M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Hungary has been interviewed on the subject, and

expressed his great concern at the statements made in the *Freemason*, and assures our correspondent that the editor has been misinformed. He entirely denies that the invocation of T.G.A.O.T.U. is a mere formula, and asserts he and his brethren all hold it as solemn a prayer as if used in a place of worship, and, as he very justly remarks, "If the Grand Lodge did not believe in the Great Architect, where would be the sense of invoking Him?" He admits that the volume of the Sacred Law is not now used as it was by the former St. John's Grand Lodge, but says that the Hungarian brethren have never sufficiently realised the importance of symbolism generally. The Grand Master himself is strongly in favour of the replacement of the volume of the Sacred Law on all altars; indeed, he says "I hold more of this symbol than any other, and *will strongly work that it may be replaced.*" Our M.W. Brother is most anxious that the brethren in England should not class the Grand Lodge of Hungary with the Grand Lodges of France and Italy as being political and atheistic, as this is a great injustice to his Grand Lodge, and in his own opinion their lodges are really more in sympathy with English Masonry than many of the German lodges, as the latter are sectarian and anti-semitic, whilst Hungarian lodges throw open their doors to candidates of all faiths. We shall await with interest the result of our M.W. Brother's promised action, and shall rejoice to find the Grand Lodge of Hungary again holding the honoured place in our Masonic esteem, which it has hitherto occupied.

MITHRAIC WORSHIP.

AN ATTEMPT TO SHOW THE POINTS OF RESEMBLANCE BETWEEN THE SYMBOLISM OF THE ANCIENT PERSIANS AND THE CEREMONIES AND RITUAL OF FREE-MASONRY.

CHAPTER I.

In its very essence, the worship of nature claims to be the oldest form of human worship, dating even from the Creation—from the time when the first man and the first woman appeared upon the earth, when their very existence must have been a marvel to themselves. As soon as they began to realise that there was a first cause—an omnipotent power, a supreme being who had created them—they sought to exemplify this in an objective form by the worship of the reproductive principle pervading all nature. The vivifying heat of the sun, making the fruits of the earth to germinate, caused that luminary to be regarded as a deity. The further expansion of this sentiment resulted in fire worship, and in process of time arose the study of the heavenly bodies; the moon was regarded as the consort of the sun, and the stars as his attendants; the zodiacal signs were given to the sun in his various motions, under the names of the bull, the water carrier, the twins, &c. Such occult studies were confined to the few, whose chief aim it was, by severe corporeal and spiritual purification combined with dogmatic, ritualistic, and moral teachings, to prepare the minds of their neophytes to understand and receive their esoteric doctrines. In ancient Persia the worship of Mithra as a sun god was intimately connected with the doctrines taught by Zoroaster; Mithra was regarded as the mediator, the protector, the powerful, the invincible and victorious one, the genius of love and truth; Nature's regenerator, a Demiurgus, not the supreme god who had created them, but a god of real and tangible power, who could give and withdraw his favours; therefore, he might be propitiated; as a natural outcome of this idea, human and other sacrifices were made—man's instinctive desire being to offer of his best.

The Vedas,—the sacred writings of the Hindus, enjoin on certain occasions the sacrifice of a horse, of a man, or of a bull, under the names of *Parshamedha*, or sacrifice of a man, *Aswarmedha*, that of a horse, and *Gomedha*, of a bull. To this day, in the East, the bull is the universal emblem of creative power. It is one of the signs of the Zodiac, in this, very probably, their choice being influenced by the circumstance that the sun enters into the sign of *Taurus*, or the bull at the Vernal Equinox, when all nature is reviving, and for a similar reason, the Scorpion, into which the Sun enters at the Autumnal Equinox was the chosen instrument of the death of the bull—or the decline of the Solar power. According to Herodotus, the Persians sacrificed human victims, and Plutarch confirms this fact, but for this they would seem too have substituted the bull.

In the writer's possession is a beautiful little intaglio of red cornelian, on which is engraved a bull. At the close of the last war, this little gem was brought from Afghanistan by a young officer. Its Mithraic signification seems very apparent. The subject may be held to typify the Autumnal Equinox. Attached to the tail of the animal are several wheat-ears—a scorpion is in the act of stinging the hind quarters of the animal, thus shewing its death, and the death of Nature. On certain Roman sculptures this idea is even more strongly emphasised. In the *Aswarmedha*, or Horse Sacrifice, as performed by the Persians, the animal was required to be of a coal black colour—one great feature in their sacrificial procession was a radiant car, glittering with gold and diamonds, and drawn by white horses. The Hindus considered that this sacrifice was only properly carried out when the animal was white, with a black ear. The Massagetæ, who, according to

Strabo, were a warlike race (a people living in tents and having their wives in common, to whom a Scythian origin has been given) also worshipped the Sun and offered horses in sacrifice on account of their swiftness. (1)

The Persians venerated all the elements of nature, they are said to have paid a kind of religious homage to water.

From its connection with the heavenly bodies, the sacrifice of the bull came to be considered the chief feature in the worship of Mithra, whom they adored for the favours which they believed he could obtain for them by his intercession with the Sun, whose satellite they considered him. With Mithra they associated the all-seeing eye of Varuna who was to the Greeks the Ouranos or god of the heavenly regions—of the celestial sea, and the heavens above it. To the Persians, Mithra was the god of daylight, he and Varuna were fabled to sit together on a golden throne, and journey at evening in a brazen car.

Baba Nanati, the 1st Gura or teacher of the Sikhs, was born in 1469 A.D. He was the founder of that sect which arose in India as a protest against Hinduism, but like the Hindus they reverence the cow and will not eat beef, differing from them, however, in that they are flesh eaters. It is worthy of remark that the Sikhs, when repeating their so-called *Japji Sahib* or morning prayer, recite the following strophe: "The bull, that is the real stay and support of this world is righteousness—the offspring of Mercy. It is the foundation of all contentment and peace. The popular myth of the earth, supporting bull only those can see who are intelligent. What load must this bull have to bear? There are earths many and many in number far away from our own. Who props them up if the bull supports ours?"

A not uncommon device on the coins of the Mogul Emperors of India, is Taurus gestans Solem—that is, of the sun rising on the back of the bull" (as stated by Hyde).

In ancient times the Hindus celebrated the Gomedha Jug or sacrifice of the Bull in honour of the Sun, they credited him with breaking the mundane egg with his horn. The Bull Apis of Egypt was also an emblem of the Sun in his creative and his vernal power.

In Druidical sacrifices its cult had both a Mythological and an astronomical origin. In our May-pole sports and dances we unknowingly celebrate the Phallic festivals of India and Egypt, of which the pole is a symbol. At this season took place the chief and most celebrated of the four Druidical festivals in Ancient Britain, these were accompanied by grand solemnities or sacrifices, at which the Arch Druid, a rayed in virgin white, with the sacred Druid egg enclosed in gold and suspended round his neck, bearing in one hand the mystical staff and in the other the golden sickle, cut the sacred all-healing mistletoe. It was also customary at this ceremony to immolate two white bulls which had never known the yoke. On this day also the Druids were in the practice of lighting fires on the eminences along the whole coast near which they resided, the fires being so placed as to be within sight of each other; they were lit in honour of Beal or Bealan (the Irish or Celtic word for the Sun).

Such fires are still lighted on May-day by the Highlanders of Scotland—on the coast of Brittany—and in parts of Scandinavia.

Sun worship still prevails in Hindostan; it also had formerly a special existence in Phœnicia, Chaldea, Egypt, Mexico, and Peru.

The two most important and ancient races in India were denominated Surya-vainsi and Chandra vainsi, or children of the Sun and Moon.

A verse in the Vedas, called Gayatri, which is deemed by the ancient Hindus to be the most sacred of all, is addressed to the Sun. An abridged translation of this as given by Prof. H. H. Wilson runs thus—"Let us meditate on the sacred light of the divine Sun, that it may illuminate our minds."

At Benares is a temple called the *Nangrah*, or the seven planets, in which Hindus of the Saiva caste worship daily. We can trace the worship of the Mithra through three distinct periods, viz.—1st, as it was practised under the ancient Persian monarchy; secondly, the modifications it received through India in transit from its Northern Asiatic home; thirdly, its developments in Italy, where it flourished in Roman times and down to the first four centuries of the Christian era, when it became mixed with other religious systems.

As asserted by Porphyry, the Persians always worshipped their sun god Mithra in groves, caves, or gloomy mountain recesses, or in caverns hewn out in the solid rock, such as those at Salsette and Elephanta, near Bombay. That writer, describing the cave of Mithra in the Median mountains, says: "It resembled the world fabricated by Mithra, a cave, in the lofty roof of which the signs of the Zodiac were sculptured in golden characters, while through its spacious dome, represented by orbs of different metals, symbolical of their power and influence, the Sun and Planets performed their ceaseless and undeviating revolutions."

In a passage from Celsus, an Epicurean philosopher of the second century A.D., as quoted by Origen (185-254 A.D.), one of the most learned of ecclesiastical writers, it is stated that in the rites of Mithra the Persians represented the two-fold motion of the stars, fixed and planetary, and that to illustrate this they erected in their caves a high ladder; on its ascent were seven different gates, according to the number of the planets—the first was of lead, to indicate the slow motion of the planet Saturn; the second of tin, to symbolise the brilliancy and softness of Venus; the third, of brass, was emblematic of Jupiter; the fourth was made of iron, because Mercury was suited to all kinds of labour; the fifth gate was of a mixed mass, as typifying Mars; the sixth of silver, for the Moon, the Queen of Night; the seventh of gold, a fit emblem for the Sun, as being the King of Metals, and the Sun, the Sovereign of the Sky." It seems strange that the religious rites of the god of daylight should have been performed under the above mentioned conditions; its votaries were probably not sufficiently skilled to erect temples; secrecy was an essential necessity in their worship, and, in addition to this, the solemn silence of the grove or cavern would be aids to meditation on the higher mysteries.

As the worshippers of Mithra increased in numbers, many of the natural caves would be found too small for their requirements. The next step would be to enlarge them by hewing out various rock chambers in connection with the original one. Whether this were natural or artificial, examples of this may be seen in the rock-hewn caves on the islands of Salsette and Elephanta near Bombay; it has been held by some that these were used in Mithraic worship after that cult had penetrated to India, which it is supposed to have done after the return of Pompey the Great from his victories in Asia, when it also made its way to Greece and to Italy, and, we shall see later on, even as far north as Great Britain. In its Indian modifications, Mithraic worship would appear to have incorporated into its system the Hindu doctrine of

Metempsychosis, viz., that the soul of man needs regeneration—a process which they saw the earth received by Solar action. The Hindus taught that this could be attained by man through a typical new birth; by means of a ceremony still performed by them of passing their bodies through a holed-stone, a cleft in a rock, or the golden image of a cow.

Such a holed-stone exists on a promontory near Bombay called Malabar point; it is said to be frequented by many Hindu pilgrims, since all who can contrive to pass through a certain narrow and tortuous fissure in this rock are thenceforward regenerated and absolved from their former sins. This same notion still survives in Europe. In some parts of England and also in Denmark, within the writer's knowledge, a holed-stone, a cleft tree, and a bramble rooted at both ends are believed to be sovereign remedies for children suffering from certain diseases, if passed through them. The European idea is the healing of bodily infirmities. Life through death runs through the ancient Persian and Hindu symbolism.

(To be continued).

CONSECRATION OF THE JUBILEE MASTERS' LODGE, No. 2712.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. J. D. LANGTON, P.D.G.D.C.

The consecration of the Jubilee Masters' Lodge, No. 2712—which has for some time been eagerly anticipated in Metropolitan circles—took place at the Hotel Cecil on the 20th instant, and certainly proved one of the most remarkable gatherings ever attracted by a similar function. The brethren present numbered about 230, and, with a single exception, all were Installed Masters.

The new lodge, which numbers 75 founders, is the outcome of the meeting held at the Albert Hall last year to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of her Majesty, when the Masters of London lodges afterwards dined together under the presidency of Bro. the Earl of Euston, and decided to apply for a warrant to form themselves into a lodge. After some difficulty, the lodge has now become an established fact, and will doubtless justify its existence in the future.

The consecration ceremony was performed by Bro. E Letchworth, the Grand Secretary, assisted by Bros. Sir John Monckton, P.G.W., as S.W.; Thomas Fenn, P.G.W., as J.W.; the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., as Chaplain; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C., and Gordon Smith, P.G.S.B., as A.D.Cs.; and R. Clay Sudlow, P.G.S.B., as I.G.

Bro. Alderman W. V. Morgan, P.G. Treas., was the W.M. designate, and Bros. J. R. Cleave, P.P.G.D. Surrey, and W. S. Hooper, P.M. 1987, the Senior and Junior Wardens designate.

After the formal opening of the lodge, the CONSECRATING OFFICER, addressing the brethren, said: It will not be necessary for me to occupy your time for many moments with any words of my own. We are met together on an occasion of peculiar interest, for the purpose of starting into existence a new lodge—a lodge which was formed to commemorate the celebration of that auspicious event which we celebrated last year—her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. I sincerely trust that this new lodge, started under such favourable auspices, may be the means of advancing the best interests of our Order, and that it may accomplish all those special objects the founders have more particularly in view.

The founders signified their approval of the officers named in the warrant, after which an oration was delivered by Bro. Rev. J. STUDHOLME BROWNRIFF, P.G. Chap. He said the Jubilee year was fast leaving behind many pleasant recollections which would be cherished by their grandchildren. Those recollections would have an effect on the future dynasty of their Empire which it was impossible to exaggerate. The loyalty and devotion which that year called forth were monuments bearing the knowledge which exists amongst nations that she was worthy of the honour and devotion bestowed upon her. But now that the year had passed the brethren as Masons had fitly commenced the new year by the consecration of a new Masonic lodge which would remind them that they were to live, not for time past but for time present and time future. Why had they consecrated their lodge that day and what did they mean to do? Those were practical questions which it might be difficult to answer but which they could answer for themselves. This lodge was different from other lodges and had to justify its existence. With all respect he would suggest two courses—two practical things by which they might be of advantage to themselves and their country. First to be loyal Masons and then this lodge could not fail to be a power. Its presence and its existence ought to make itself felt. Would they be a power for loyalty? Supporting Grand Lodge and constituted authority. It was right they should retain their individual opinion, but they could not shut their eyes to the fact that the time was upon them when it was easy to find fault, and the result was to impede the course of business by injudicious obstruction. This lodge would serve a useful end by being loyal to constituted authority and the Grand Master, not unreasonably opposing, but supporting where possible. It was silly to live in a fool's paradise, and it was not difficult to see that, notwithstanding the personal popularity of their gracious lady, there were not wanting signs that at the end of this century, there were forces at work which did not militate for good order and loyalty, grave social problems remained to be solved and could not be shirked. They could be solved by religious men by honest hard work. In their lives and in their surroundings, whatever they might be, the difficulties must not be shirked, keeping before them the fear of God and the love of their country and their Queen.

The lodge was then solemnly consecrated with the usual formalities.

Bro. Alderman W. Vaughan Morgan, P.G. Treas., was then presented as W.M. designate, and duly installed as W.M. in the presence of what most probably constitute a record number of Installed Masters in a private lodge.

The following officers were invested: Bros. J. Boulton, P.G.P., acting I.P.M.; J. R. Cleave, W.M. 2648, P.P.G.D., S.W.; W. S. Hooper, W.M. 1987, J.W.; C. O. Burgess, W.M. 2398, P.P.G.D., Treas.; J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C., Sec.; Imre Kiralfy, W.M. 2581, S.D.; J. A. Harrison, W.M. 2488, J.D.; H. G. Neville, W.M. 2127, D.C.; H. J. Brickwell, W.M. 2455, I.G.; F. A. Jewson, W.M. 1818, Org.; F. C. Van Duzer, W.M. 2397, Mostyn T. Pigott, W.M. 197, P.G. Stwd., J. H.

(1) Some have fixed their place of residence on the Caspian Sea, others, to the North of the Danube.

Stark, W.M. 29, P.G. Stwd., and W. Denniston, W.M. 9, Stwds.; and Potter and Lane, Tylers.

The W.M., on behalf of the lodge, thanked the Consecrating Officers for their valuable services. They were also elected honorary members, and each presented with a gold pen as a souvenir of the occasion.

Bros. LETCHWORTH and FENN returned thanks for the compliment.

Several brethren were proposed as joining members, including Bro. Alfred Bevan, whom it is proposed to nominate for election to the office of Grand Treasurer.

Lodge was closed, and a banquet was afterwards held in the Grand Hall.

In proposing "The Queen and the Craft," the WORSHIPFUL MASTER said he hoped that lodge would be more loyal to the Queen and the Craft than any other lodge, and support them in every good work. He hoped that when the Diamond Jubilee of that lodge was celebrated some of the younger members would be present and remember that successful gathering.

"H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," was then given by the WORSHIPFUL MASTER, who remarked that his Royal Highness's presence at the Albert Hall the previous week was the fifth occasion on which he had presided over an enormous gathering in that hall. He (the W.M.) was present when the M.W.G.M. was installed in 1875 which was a sight never to be forgotten. In 1887 his Royal Highness presided at the Jubilee meeting; in 1888 at the Centenary of the Girls' School; in 1897 at the Diamond Jubilee Celebration; and last week at the Centenary of the Boys' School.

Bro. the Very Rev. Dean HOLE, P.G. Chap., acknowledged the toast of "The Grand Officers" in a humorous speech. He said it was very hard to state that which was perfectly true and not to be believed. Nevertheless, it was a fact that he rose unprepared to speak. He felt something like a scholar who tried to excuse himself to the French master for not doing his exercise. The French master said: "Mr. ———, I shall not call you a liar, but I do not believe one word of what you say." No Mason was unprepared in the eyes of his brethren, and "from the fulness of the heart the mouth speaketh." Masonry was an instinct, for there was no brother who did not remember his first box of bricks. If he wanted to describe a man he liked, he called him a "brick," and if he were to speak in private to the Grand Master he should not hesitate to tell him he was "a regular brick." Then came the climax of their Masonic life, and they entered into the Brotherhood. He entered in February, 1842. Since that time he had been a Free and Accepted Mason, and it had agreed with him very nicely. A good Freemason was regularly home at meal times, but was not free, because he had been accepted. A gentleman came to a lady and said—"I have not congratulated you on your daughter's engagement." The lady replied—"Jenny hates the man, but there is always a something." Masons were free and accepted because they could stand before their fellows and say they were free in their liberty, and accepted because of their Charity to others. A powerful preacher once said—"I love everybody; but if the Lord has a thunderbolt to spare, it would be well bestowed upon the head of Brother B——." Before he sat down he wished to ask them to assist in the scheme of work for Rochester Cathedral. There was a very ugly tower, built early in the 19th century, which disfigured the whole Cathedral, and he hoped next Saturday to lay the foundation for placing something there more in harmony with the rest of the work. He hoped that tower would be called the Freemasons' Tower. He thanked them for the kind patience with which they had listened to his remarks.

"The Consecrating Officers" was briefly proposed by the W.M.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, Grand Sec., in response, said that after the very commendable patience with which they had listened to his voice, he would not requite their kindness by attempting to inflict anything in the nature of a speech. He wished in the fewest possible words to tender the warmest thanks to those who had been privileged to take part in the ceremony for the more than kind manner in which those services had been referred to in lodge by the W.M. It had given them all the greatest possible pleasure to assist in starting this lodge. Constituted as this lodge was, it would doubtless possess very great power, but they did not doubt that those powers would be exercised wisely and discreetly and for the benefit of the Order they all so deeply loved.

Bro. T. FENN, P.G.W., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," whom he said he had known for a great number of years—too many in fact to mention. He knew the W.M. when Master of the Burlington Lodge—known as the Hurly Burly Lodge, as they were a set of such jolly good fellows. It was in those days when he (Bro. Fenn) was connected with Emulation Lodge of Improvement, and was a pretty good judge of work. The W.M. had since been Master of several lodges, and on the present occasion they had seen his work. They could not, therefore, have a better Master, and the way in which he would do his work would surprise the members.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER said he rose at once to tender his warmest thanks for the honourable position in which he was placed. He had promised in the name of the members that that lodge should be in every good work and be proud to help Grand Lodge and the Craft in general. He was sure he made no rash promise, for they were the cream of the London lodges, and their lodge would reflect credit, not only on the Consecrating Officer, but upon the Craft. He was sure he would receive every countenance and support from the members, and when it came to his turn to give way for a better man, he should do so without compunction, for his successor would follow in the good line of the lodge.

"The Visitors" was next submitted by the W. MASTER, and heartily received.

Bro. the Hon. C. E. DAVIS, Grand Master of Tasmania, responded, and said the ceremony he witnessed was admirably conducted by the energetic and esteemed Grand Secretary, and was most gratifying. He had witnessed Freemasonry in London in different branches, but seldom had he witnessed a ceremony that gave him greater pleasure. The gratifying reception given the W.M. was a happy augury for the future success of the lodge. He hoped they would accept the best wishes of the Grand Lodge of Tasmania. That night 12 months ago the Town Hall at Hobart was crowded with many thousands that they might join with the English-speaking empire in singing with one spontaneous voice "God Save the Queen." He had never witnessed more enthusiasm than was displayed at the Albert Hall, and he was proud he belonged to an Order that achieved so wonderful a result.

Bros. KELSO KING, N.S. Wales, and ARTHUR GRAY, D.G. Reg. Purjaub, also replied.

In giving "The Officers," the W.M. said they were particularly indebted to the Secretary who had been indefatigable in his labours, and it was to a great extent to Bro. Langton that they owed the success of the evening and of the lodge. The Secretary had been at their beck and call day and night, and some had wondered what sort of a reception he met with at home from his better half for sacrificing so much of his and her time. They hoped Bro. Langton would be able to make his peace, and they had prepared a little bribe for Mrs. Langton which they hoped he would convey to her with every feeling of respect and gratitude. They hoped Mrs. Langton would live for many years to remember the accession of this lodge—and being Accession Day also.

The present consisted of a handsome diamond ring and silver loving cup.

Bro. J. D. LANGTON, P.D.G.D.C., Sec., said he did not know how to thank them for the kindness shown him. He had had some little duties to perform which he had done with the utmost pleasure and was well repaid by the successful meeting. Mrs. Langton would receive their present with much pleasure and as a token that her husband had done something to merit the esteem of the brethren.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Bro. H. Schartau, P.P.G. Org., was assisted in the musical arrangements by Bros. W. Fell, C. Ellison, P.M.; and J. Josey, Madame Boobi, and Mr. Fred Upton.

CONSECRATION OF THE TEMPERANCE LODGE, No. 2714, AT LIVERPOOL.

On the 20th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Bro. R. Wylie, P.G.D., Deputy Prov. G.M. of West Lancashire, officiated at the consecration of the above lodge, assisted by several Grand and Provincial Grand Officers. The various positions in connection with the impressive consecrating service were occupied by Bros. G. A. Harradon, P.P.G. Treas., acting S.W.; H. Peers, P.P.G.P., acting J.W.; the Rev. J. W. Willink, P.G. Chap.; W. C. Briggs, P.P.G.D.C., acting D.C.; W. Goodacre, P.G. S.B., Prov. G. Sec., acting Secretary; John Scott, P.P.G.S. of W., acting S.D.; and J. Hocken, P.P.A.G.D.C., acting J.D.

There was an attendance of about 80 brethren, amongst these being—

Bros. S. L. Fraser, P.P.G.G.S. of W.; J. C. Robinson, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. Edwards, P.G.S.; J. H. Marsh, P.G.S.; J. M. Smythe, P.P.A.G.D.C.; C. Fothergill, P.P.G.D.; H. J. Isaac, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. R. Bottomley, P.P.G.D.C.; E. R. Latham, P.M. 594; W. Jennings, W.M. 241; W. D. Skinner, W.M. 1675; H. D. Jay, W.M. 1264; W. Cooke, W.M. 155; W. Briscoe, W.M. 724; H. Pennington, W.M. 1473; J. Sharples, P.M. 724; J. Phelan, P.M. 594; J. Hughes, W.M. 1755; J. E. Williams, W.M. 2601; J. Edgar, W.M. 673; G. Jones, P.M. 1299; E. Baxter, S.W. 1609; and G. F. Finger, S.W. 1502.

The founders of the lodge were Bros. John Clayton, P.M. 1570; R. Owen, P.M. 2114; F. Wilkinson, P.M. 594; John Armstrong, Prov. J.G.W. Cheshire; W. Roberts, C.C.; W. Merrick, J. Brookes, W. Kendrick, F. R. Dorsman, A. Adams, J. Wilkinson, C. Cottrell, J. Donaghy, F. Richardson, T. Harper, W. J. Shaw, and J. Chipchase.

In the course of the consecration ceremony an oration bearing upon the nature of the principles of Masonry was delivered by the Prov. G. Chap., Bro. the Rev. J. W. WILLINK, who referred to the munificent gift of £134,000 to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, at the Festival recently held at the Albert Hall, under the presidency of the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.

Music in connection with the ceremony was rendered by Bros. D. J. Davies, F. Tuson, B. Roberts, and N. F. Burt, with Bros. J. R. Cave, and F. Lott as Organists.

At the close of the consecration ceremony, Bro. John Clayton was installed the first Master of the lodge, and the other officers invested were Bros. R. Owen, P.M. 2114, S.W.; F. Wilkinson, P.M. 594, J.W.; J. Armstrong, P.M. 1250, Prov. J.G.W. Cheshire, D.C.; W. Roberts, Treas.; J. Brookes, Sec.; W. Kendrick, S.D.; F. Dorsman, J.D.; J. Donaghy, I.G.; J. Wilkinson, A. Adams, and W. J. Shaw, Stewards; and J. Wiatt, Tyler.

At the conclusion of the ceremonial proceedings, an excellent banquet was supplied by Bro. J. Casey.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and honoured, and a musical programme was given by the brethren who gave valuable help at the business portion of the proceedings.

CONSECRATION OF THE ST. SAMPSON'S CHAPTER No. 2598.

On the 13th instant, a ceremony, the like of which has not been performed in Guernsey for over 70 years, took place at the Masonic Temple, Le Marchant-street. This ceremony was no less than the consecration of the Royal Arch chapter in connection with the St. Sampson's Lodge, No 2598, which entered its third year on May 22nd last.

The event naturally aroused a good deal of enthusiasm amongst those who were entitled to witness a ceremony of this kind, consequently there was a large attendance in the spacious lodge-room at six o'clock, when the consecration was timed to commence.

The most imposing and impressive ceremony was performed by Comp. J. Balfour Cockburn, Prov. G.M., assisted by Comps. E. C. Ozanne, Dep. Prov. G.M.; H. W. Stickland, P.Z.; T. M. Bichard, P.Z.; H. Wilkins, P.Z., who acted as D.C.; and A. C. Quick, acting S.E. The musical portion of the ceremony was under the direction of Comp. J. B. Nickolls, Prov. G. Sec.

Amongst the many distinguished companions present was Comp. M. I. e Cronier, of the Province of Jersey.

In his opening address, the Prov. G.M., Bro. J. BALFOUR COCKBURN, congratulated St. Sampson's Lodge on the progress it had made since its foundation only two years ago, and complimented the founders on their zeal

in founding a Royal Arch Chapter in connection with their lodge. It also gave him a very great deal of pleasure to see the strides that Freemasonry had made in Guernsey of late, and to notice the extreme interest which was taken in it by the members.

The ceremony of consecration then took place with full Masonic ritual and observances.

When the consecration was concluded, the installation of the Principals was proceeded with, the following were installed: Comps. A. H. Terry, M.E.Z.; T. R. Ogier, H.; and J. J. Stranger, P.Z., J. The other officers are as follows: Comps. G. A. Eastland, P.S.; T. M. Bichard, A.S.; and W. Stranger, Scribe E.

Hearty votes of thanks were then proposed and unanimously carried to the Consecrating Officers.

This concluding the business, the companions proceeded downstairs to partake of a banquet which had been specially prepared for the occasion.

During the course of the evening the PROV. GRAND MASTER stated that he had had the honour of being appointed by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, G.M., G. Supt. of Guernsey and Alderney.

The announcement was received with long continued applause.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured during the evening.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF KENT.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent was held on Wednesday, the 15th inst., under the auspices of Union Lodge, No. 127, Margate. There was a large attendance of the brethren from all parts of the county and with the recollection of what the province had accomplished only a few days previously at the Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys still fresh in their memories, it is no more than natural that the greatest enthusiasm should have prevailed. The ever popular Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Earl Amherst, Dep. G. Master, presided, and was supported by Bros. James S. Eastes, P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M.; W. Russell, P.A.G.D.C., Prov. G. Treas.; Alfred Spencer, P.G.S.B., Prov. G. Sec.; and a large number of other Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past, as well as of the representatives of private lodges.

Prov. Grand Lodge was opened in the Victoria Hall, punctually at the appointed hour of 1 p.m., and the minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Treasurer's statement of accounts was presented, adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Sundry grants having been made from the Prov. Grand Lodge Charity Fund, the DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER moved that the balances on the Prov. Grand Lodge and Prov. Grand Lodge Charity Funds, amounting together to upwards of £656, should be amalgamated, and that the sum of 600 guineas (£630), be placed on the list of the Prov. Grand Master at the recent Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, £420 of this sum being in the name of the Prov. Grand Master, and £210 in that of the Prov. Grand Treasurer.

The proposition having been seconded, was carried unanimously, amidst loud applause.

On the motion of Bro. JOHN LOVETT, P. Prov. G.W., Bro. W. Russell was unanimously re-elected Prov. G. Treasurer.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then announced that under the sanction of Grand Lodge he had the pleasure of conferring Past rank in commemoration of the 60th year of her Majesty's reign on the following brethren, namely, Bros. J. G. Podevin, P.M. 199, Wm. Dawes, P.M. 1854, P.P.S.G.W. Sussex, and George Page, P.M. 1209, P.P.G.D., Past Prov. S.G.Ws.; Felix Kite, P.M. 503, P.P.G.D.C., and George F. Busbridge, P.M. 1063, P.P.A.G. Sec., Past Prov. J.G.Ws.; William Pannell, P.M. 1089, P.P.G. Supt. of Works, and Thomas Ayling, P.M. 1096, P.P.G.D.C., Past Prov. G. Regs.; and Edward James Dodd, P.M. 1223, P.P.G. Org., Past Prov. S.G.D.

The following brethren were appointed Prov. G. Officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. Sir Robert Hargreaves Rogers, P.M. 2499	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" John Brighurst, P.M. 127	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. R. A. Fawssett, M.A., P.M. 2448	...	Prov. S.G. Chap.
" Rev. W. H. Robins, D.D., P.M. 1174	...	Prov. J.G. Chap.
" W. Russell, P.M. 77, 1463, P.A.G.D.C. Eng.	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Alfred Spencer, P.M. 1063, P.G.S.B. Eng.	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Edward Blanks, P.M. 2530	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Joseph Barker, P.M. 503	...	Prov. S.G.Ds.
" Dr. H. T. Sells, P.M. P.M. 1464	...	
" Dr. H. M. F. Pope, P.M. 1063	...	Prov. J.G.Ds.
" Richard Preston, P.M. 1678	...	
" A. A. Frigout, P.M. 2046	...	Prov. G. S. of Wks.
" Tom Ryder, P.M. 2200	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" William P. Dickinson, P.M. 2046	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" Alfred S. Baskett, P.M. 158	...	Prov. A.G.D.Cs.
" Edmund G. Walthew, P.M. 1915	...	
" George H. Russell, P.M. 1050	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" Quartermaster-Sergt. Joseph Lloyd, P.M. 125	...	
" Thomas B. Rosseter, P.M. 972	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" George Pope, P.M. 1449	...	
" Rev. P. O. Potter, P.M. 1208	...	Prov. G. Org.
" James Tower, P.M. 1089	...	Prov. Asst. G. Sec.
" J. S. White, P.M. 2099	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" Henry Chalfont, P.M. 1424	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" Frederick Francis, P.M. 558	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" Charles W. Blaxland, P.M. 709	...	
" Albert H. Hale, P.M. 1209	...	
" Alfred Laurie, P.M. 1414	...	
" Charles Francis Quicke, P.M. 1531	...	
" Martin Jesse Dickins, P.M. 1692	...	

The brethren afterwards went in procession to the parish church of St. John's, where Divine service was held, and a sermon preached appropriate to the occasion; the offertory, amounting to £11 6s., being apportioned in equal parts between a local Charity and the Charity Fund of the Union Lodge.

The procession then returned to Victoria Hall, when Provincial Grand

Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to Foresters' Hall, Union-crescent, where an excellent banquet was served, the Prov. G.M. occupying the chair.

Among the numerous visitors were Bros. James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., and JAMES M. MCLEOD, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B., the latter of whom replied to the toast of "The Masonic Charities" in an eloquent speech, in the course of which he thanked and congratulated the brethren for the magnificent contribution they had made towards the funds of the Boys' School on the previous Friday.

The other toasts were duly honoured, that of "The Prov. G. Master" being, as usual, received with special favour.

The arrangements made by the entertaining lodge were admirable and well carried out, reflecting the greatest credit on the committee in charge, but more especially on Bro. F. Stanley, P.M., Sec., Past Prov. G. Supt. of Wks.

The musical arrangements under Bro. C. M. Poole, Org. 127, gave every satisfaction.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. James Henry Matthews, President of the Board, took the President's chair, and Bro. D. D. Mercer, Senior Vice-President, and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Junior Vice-President, occupied their respective positions. The Grand Secretary's Department was represented by Bros. Wm. Lake, A.G. Sec.; W. Dodd, G. S. Recknell, and Henry Sadler, G. Tyler. Among the other brethren present were Bros. Dr. Geo. Mickley, William Fisher, Charles J. R. Tijou, J. Mason, S. H. Goldschmidt, Henry Garrod, George Graveley, W. H. Caton, W. Kipps, Lieut.-Col. Clifford Probyn, G.T., Henry W. Kiallmark, E. W. Nightingale, Charles Henry Stone, C. Pulman, John Ellinger, James Bunker, W. Wills, S. Vallentine, J. Holms Pilkington, J. Procter, Edw. Collens, W. H. Bale, A. W. Duret, Frank V. Catt, Arthur Greys, G. W. Pinnock, F. G. Nichols, Alfred Laker, J. S. Eidmans, W. H. Bullock, V. B. M. Zanchi, H. Massey, G. W. Capel, Alfred J. Potter, G. H. G. Morgan, Burcham Cooper, E. W. Edmonds, John R. Smith, G. Lichtenfeld, W. R. Witt, H. Nash, B. G. Elliott, H. A. Tobias, J. J. Pakes, H. F. Linnett, and H. Thomson Lyon.

The brethren first confirmed recommendations to the Grand Master made at the May meeting for grants to the total amount of £540. The new list contained the names of 39 petitioners, 17 of whom were widows. These were qualified through lodges in the Metropolitan area, and at Lancaster, Nelson, N.Z., Middlesbrough, Cheshunt Park, Mirfield, Frome, Winchester, Chislehurst, Aldershot, Altrincham, Grand Lodge of New South Wales, Bermuda, Colchester, Byculla, Framlingham, Fowey, Stourport, Feltham, Pembroke Dock, Fareham, Rosario de Santa Fé, Stretford (2), Liverpool, Lymington, and Nagpore. Four of these were dismissed and six deferred. The remainder absorbed £775. One case was recommended to Grand Lodge for £100, one for £75, and two for £50 each. Two were recommended to the Grand Master for £40 each and six for £30 each. Eight grants were made of £20 each, four of £10 each, and four of £5 each.

The Craft Abroad.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC, SOUTH AMERICA.

The centenary meeting of the above District Grand Lodge was held on the 25th April, in the lodge room, Prince George's Hall, No. 1230, Calle Cuyo, Buenos Ayres, at which the following were present:

Bros. Charles Trevor Mold, P.M., P.Z. 617, P.D.G.H., D.G.M., occupying the chair; H. S. Chappell, D.D.G.M.; F. R. Hancock, D.S.G.W.; E. J. Klix, D.J.G.W.; Hy. Joseph, P.D.D.G.M., as D.G. Chap.; W. J. Hodge, P.D.G.W., as D.G. Treas.; F. Coulon, D.G. Reg.; C. M. Stetson, Pres. D.B.G.P.; J. Colpas Clark, D.G. Sec.; A. R. Leighton, D.S.G.D.; Geo. Nelson, P. Pres. D.B.G.P. as D.J.G.D.; R. Marshall, D.G.S. of W.; C. W. S. Hopson, D.G.D.C.; A. E. Rugeroni, P.D.G.D.C., as D.A.G.D.C.; R. Mold, P.D.G. Sec., as D.G.S.B.; W. J. Corrales, P.D.G.W., as D.G. Std. Br.; E. M. Simpson, D.G. Stwd., as as D.G. Std. Br.; T. Troughton, D.G. Org.; E. E. Cordner, as D.A.G. Sec.; C. A. Lowe, D.G. Purst.; A. Cozens, as D.A.G. Purst.; John Miller, W. P. Pell, D. Hassan, N. Davis, P. W. Cook, and E. Danvers, as D.G. Stwds.; E. S. S. Conturier, D.G. Tyler; F. J. Morphy, P.D.D.G.M.; J. M. Drysdale, W.M. 617; E. P. G. Pope, S.W. 617; G. Millichamp, W.M. 1025; G. Hicks, S.W. 1025; R. H. Lomax, J.W. 1025; F. C. Marty, W.M. 1553; A. G. Thornton, W.M. 2329; M. Saunders, W.M. 2459; Wm. Pott, J.W. 2459; W. Cairns, W.M. 2517; P. Cowper, S.W. 2517; and P. Grant, J.W. 2517.

A large number of visitors, numbering 100, were present.

After the District Grand Lodge was opened, the minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed, and other general business was transacted.

The amended by-laws of the District Grand Lodge were promulgated, and printed copies handed to the members present.

The DISTRICT GRAND MASTER reported on the disposal made by him of the votes to the Royal Masonic Institutions for Girls and Boys belonging to the District Grand Lodge. He also reported that he and his Deputy had revised the books of the private lodges in the District. The District Grand Master then drew the attention of the brethren to the fact that that was the centenary meeting of the District Grand Lodge in the Argentine Republic, the first meeting having been held on the 11th December, 1861. He said that none of those then present were now alive, but he trusted that some of the brethren present that evening would assist at the 200th regular meeting.

After the visitors had been cordially welcomed and the usual formalities complied with, the District Grand Lodge was closed.

The brethren then adjourned to the banqueting-hall in the lodge room premises, where a specially-appointed Committee had provided an excellent supper.

The usual toasts were duly honoured.

Speeches and songs enlivened the evening, and a most fraternal, sociable, and agreeable meeting was brought to a close before midnight.

It was unanimously voted the most successful Masonic gathering ever held by York Masons in the Argentine Republic.

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GRAND LODGE DECISIONS

Extracted from the Authorized reports of the Grand Lodge of England, during the past 25 years.

EDITED, ARRANGED, AND ANNOTATED BY

Wor. Bro. Rev. J. T. LAWRENCE, M.A.

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Bridgwater, TAUNTON, Minehead, Wellington, Tiverton,
&c., for a week, a fortnight, &c.; and to SHREWSBURY,
Welshpool, ABERYSTWYTH, Llangollen, Corwen, Bala,
Pestiniog, DOLGELLY, BARMOUTH, Rhyl, Llandudno,
Bettws-y-coed, Carnarvon, Llanberis (for Snowdon), &c.,
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AND NEW MILFORD, &c., for 8 or 15 days.

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Marlborough, Devizes, Trobridge, Warminster, &c.,
for a week, a fortnight, &c.

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SATURDAY.—To EXETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, PLY-
MOUTH, Bodmin, Wadebridge, Fowey, Truro, Falmouth,
St. Ives, PENZANCE, &c., for a week, a fortnight, &c.

EVERY THURSDAY AND SATURDAY.—To Mine-
head, Lynton, Lynmouth, Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE,
Yealinton, Tavistock, Launceston, Torquay, Dartmouth,
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Masonic Notes.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1898.

To-day (Friday), the popular sea-side resort of Weston-super-Mare will be the scene of an interesting Masonic function, which will, no doubt, prove a great attraction to the inhabitants and to the worthy people of Somersetshire, who, if the weather is at all like what we have been enjoying during the last few days, will flock thither in order to see what one of our ceremonials is like, and in the case of the fair sex, that they also may themselves be seen. The brethren will in the first instance assemble in the Masonic Hall, where an especial Prov. Grand Lodge is appointed to be held under the auspices of the St. Kew Lodge, No. 1222, the hour fixed for the gathering being 11.30 in the forenoon, and here Prov. Grand Lodge will be opened in accordance with the rites and ceremonies of the Order.

This over, a procession of the brethren will be formed and march to the Parish Church, where a short service will take place. The procession will then be reformed and make its way to the site of the proposed new building—All Saints' Church—and the foundation stone will be laid with full Masonic ceremonial by Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, Prov. G. Master, who will be assisted by his principal officers. When the stone has been laid, the brethren will return in procession to the Masonic Hall, and Prov. G. Lodge will be closed. The proceedings of the day will end with a luncheon in the Victoria Hall, to which ladies and non-Masons will be admitted. We trust everything will be found to have passed off satisfactorily and that next week it will be our privilege to publish a full account of the meeting.

To-morrow (Saturday) another and equally interesting gathering of the Craft will take place, the City of Rochester being the scene of the meeting and the purpose a two-fold one—to commemorate the appointment of the Very Rev. Dean Hole as Grand Chaplain of England for 1897—8 and his 56th year of membership of our Society and to help forward the work of restoring Rochester Cathedral, a work which our readers will readily understand our Very Rev. and Very Worshipful brother has set his heart upon accomplishing. We sincerely hope that the result will be found in all respects satisfactory.

Every effort would appear to have been made in order to ensure the success of the meeting. The services of the string bands of the Royal Engineers and Royal Marines (Chatham division) have been secured, so that, while the service itself will be short, there will be plenty of orchestral music to delight those who are present in the Cathedral. Earl Amherst, D.G.M., and Provincial Grand Master of Kent, will be present, and the ceremonial arrangements have been placed in charge of our experienced Bro. Thomas Fenn, Acting Grand Director of Ceremonies. There is, therefore, every likelihood of a large attendance. We understand that the Corn Exchange has been engaged as a general rendezvous, and a local caterer has undertaken to supply refreshments.

The summer outing of Lodge Quatuor Coronati, No. 2076, will be spent in the ancient city of York, which, as the traditional birthplace of the Craft, is dear to the heart of every English Freemason, to say nothing of its having been for a considerable part of the 18th century the home of "the Grand Lodge of All England," which adopted this title in order to distinguish it from the Grand Lodge of England, which met in London, and from which our United Grand Lodge is lineally descended. The outing will commence on Thursday, the 30th instant, when the members who propose taking part in it will assemble at King's Cross Station (G.N.R.), and leave by train at 3.20 p.m., arriving at York at 7.40. The North Eastern Hotel, within a few minutes' walk of the station, has been chosen for the head-quarters, and there, at 8.30, dinner will be served. Friday will be devoted to a tour of the city under the guidance of Bro. T. B. Whytehead, while the brethren will be conducted over the Minster by the Very Rev. the Dean of York, Bro. Purey-Cust, D.D., Past Grand Chaplain. After a cold collation at the Masonic Hall, St. Saviour, to which the visitors have been invited by the members of Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611, the party will make a move to the Merchants' Hall, where the Grand Lodge used to meet, and thence to the Guildhall. In the evening there will be a reception at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe-place, by the York Lodge, No. 236. Saturday will be devoted to visiting such places of interest in the neighbourhood of the city, as Byland Abbey, Helmsley Castle, Rievaulx Abbey, &c., and on Sunday afternoon the brethren return to town. Particulars as to charges for the whole or part of the excursion of Bro. G. W. Speth, La Tuya, Bromley, Kent.

We beg to remind our readers that the Boys' School Athletic Sports will be held in the grounds of the Institution, Wood Green, to-morrow (Saturday) at 2.30 p.m.

We refer elsewhere to the re-appointment and re-installation of Bro. the Hon. Sir H. Thoby Prinsep as District Grand Master of Bengal. Some few weeks prior to that event, however, a very influential meeting of the brethren was held at Freemasons' Hall, Calcutta, at which Bro. W. H. Fitze, P.G.D. Eng., Past

Deputy District Grand Master, presided, the object being to present Bro. Prinsep with an address and testimonial, in recognition of the very valuable services he had rendered to Freemasonry in the Presidency of Bengal during his previous tenure of the office of District Grand Master from 1878 to 1896. The proceedings were of an exceptionally interesting character, and, if the gathering was not a numerous one, it comprised all, or nearly all, the most eminent members of the Craft in Bengal.

In the course of his remarks Bro. Fitze referred to the fact of his having presided at a similar meeting on the 24th June, 1887, when a portrait of the District Grand Master was presented to District Grand Lodge, and took occasion to point out that in the 10 years that had since elapsed, the funds of the Bengal Masonic Association had been doubled and the number of children which it was educating augmented from 20 to 42. He also referred to the principal circumstances which had led to Bro. Sir H. Prinsep's re-assumption of the office and expressed the thanks of the whole Masonic community in Bengal to him for having consented once again to undertake the duties and responsibilities of office.

The address, which was read by Bro. J. B. Maples, Past Dep. Dist. G. Master, contained a short *resumé* of the brilliant services which the lodge and brethren were so eager to recognise. From this statement it appears that when Bro. Sir H. Prinsep became Dist. G. Master, in 1878, there were 29 lodges on the roll; in 1896 when he resigned there were 41. In 1878, there was a strong desire among the distant lodges to separate themselves from the District of Bengal, but owing to "the tact, ability, and strength," with which the D.G.M. had fulfilled his duties, that desire had gradually disappeared, and in 1896, complete harmony prevailed among all the lodges, the course adopted by him in visiting the up-country lodges, holding occasional Dist. G. Lodge communications at country stations, and appointing brethren from those stations to Dist. G. Office having given the greatest satisfaction.

Two other facts were likewise referred to specifically in the document:—(1) that the invested capital of the Bengal Masonic Association had increased from 29,000 rupees to 1,20,000 rupees; and (2) that it was under Bro. Sir H. Prinsep's guidance that in March, 1882, the Masonic Hall Building Fund was established, a grant of 2000 rupees having been then made from the surplus District Grand Lodge funds other than those of a Charitable nature. On the 30th June, 1896, this fund stood at 54,000 rupees.

Such evidences as those we have quoted from the address demonstrate clearly how great must have been the energy, ability, and tact with which Bro. Sir H. Prinsep administered his office, and fully justify the act of our Bengal brethren in paying honour to one to whom it is so deservedly due. The District Grand Master nominate—as he was at the time of the presentation—briefly, but feelingly, acknowledged the address and the gift of 8000 rupees which accompanied it, and the proceedings thereupon terminated with a vote of thanks to Bro. Fitze for his kindness and courtesy in presiding on the occasion.

We have been requested to state that owing to the illness of the Provincial Grand Secretary, the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Middlesex will not be held until October.

There is a charming simplicity about Bro. Richard Eve, when acknowledging a *lapsus memoria*, which it is difficult to commend sufficiently. A fortnight since we took the liberty of pointing out, in reference to certain statements of his at the Boys' School Distribution of Prizes on the 7th instant (1) that the foundation-stone of the School buildings at Wood Green was laid in 1863, not, as he suggested, in 1862; and (2) that the Prince of Wales made use of the expression about Loyalty and Charity being the watchwords of Freemasonry, not when he presided at the Boys' School Festival in 1870, but on the occasion of his installation as Grand Master in 1875. We publish to-day a letter from him, in which he very naturally refrains from complimenting the writer of our "Notes" on his correctness as regards the former lapse, as to which, however, he adds—"If I said 1862, I meant 1863." As regards the occasion on which the Prince made use of the memorable expression, he is content with pointing out that whenever his Royal Highness did make use of it, he (Bro. Eve) was present. This fixes the date beyond question.

Correspondence.

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

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

As your valuable paper is extensively read in Ireland, it is advisable, for the guidance of lodges of the Irish Constitution, to point out that the theory and practice of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, with respect to the confirmation of minutes, differ radically from those of the Grand Lodge of England, as stated in your columns.

Under the Grand Lodge of Ireland the confirmation of minutes simply implies that they are accepted as the accurate and authoritative records of the transactions of the previous communication. If otherwise, those transactions would be without legal or accredited record.

The Grand Lodge of Ireland holds that a legal enactment can only be undone by a similarly legal enactment. That is—that when an enactment has been passed in accordance with the conditions precedent laid down in the *Book of Constitutions* it cannot be repealed till the same conditions have been complied with as had been required in the preceding case.

This course seems to be justified by the rules of legal construction, recommended by the dictates of common sense, and consistent with the dignity of a legislative body.—Fraternally yours,

W. J. CHETWODE CRAWLEY.

18th June.

"HONORARY" SECRETARIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

"P.M. and Secretary" has very appropriately directed attention to a practice that prevails here and there—the London district included—viz., of Secretaries of private lodges appending the word "honorary" to their official title.

Many years ago, when I was in Australia, the Grand Secretary of the day issued an official circular, pointing out the irregularity, and I should suppose that said circular would be distributed in England also.

I may add that Lodge No. 1 is not the only offender in London.—Fraternally yours,

W. F. LAMONBY.

June 20th.

BRO. EVE IN REPLY TO HIS CRITIC.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Some person sent me yesterday a copy of your paper of the 11th June inst. The writer of your "Masonic Notes" of that day cannot be complimented on his own correctness, whatever may be his desire for chronological truth. He states I am reported to have said, before the distribution of prizes at the Albert Hall on the 7th inst., that the foundation-stone of the School buildings at Wood Green was laid by Baroness (then Miss) Burdett-Coutts in 1862. Allow me to say I said nothing of the kind. If he and your readers will kindly refer to the report of my speech in the previous columns of the same copy of your paper, it will be seen that I said the stone was laid "by Past Grand Warden the late Brother Algernon Perkins, who was accompanied by that benevolent lady, now Baroness Burdett-Coutts." I was present and saw the stone laid on the 8th August, 1863, and if I said 1862, I meant 1863, having the date in my own diary of that year.

Whenever H.R.H. the Prince of Wales first said that "the watchwords of Freemasonry are Loyalty and Charity" I was present, and heard the words, and can only regret if I have misled anyone or disturbed the mind of the writer of your "Masonic Notes" by suggesting that the words were uttered in 1870.—Yours fraternally,

RICHARD EVE.

Aldershot,
15th June.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

1123.]

The writer will feel greatly obliged for any information respecting the following lines. Whence are they taken if quoted by any author?

Quae sunt in Superis
Haec inferioribus insunt
Quod monstrat coelum
Id terra frequenter habet
Ignis - aquae fluitans—
Duo sunt contraria,—felix
Talia si jungis
Sic tibi scire satis.

They are to be found in Mich-Maier
Tripus Aureus, seuve Museum
Hermeticum Reformatum
in the 1749 Edition.

The first edition was published in 1618.

AGNOSTUS.

Craft Masonry.

Farringdon Without Lodge, No. 1745.

The last meeting of the season of this prosperous lodge was held at the Viaduct Hotel, on the 31st ult. Among those present were Bros. J. Evans, W.M.; W. R. Witt, S.W., W.M. elect; W. Wellsman, C.C., P.M. 1589, as J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., P.G.S., Treas.; W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; J. D. Webb, S.D.; E. M. Lott, Mus. Doc., P.M., P.G.O. England, Org.; J. W. Hinton, M.A., Mus. Doc., P.M., P.P.G.O., Asst. Org.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S., P.G. Std. Br.; J. Young, P.M.; T. Simpson, P.M.; G. Herbert, P.M.; E. Schultz, P.M.; C. Bachoffner, P.M.; N. P. Lardner, P.M.; J. W. Gaze, C.C., P.M.; F. P. Weinel, P.M.; F. W. Ramsey, P.M.; and J. H. Lile, C.C. Bro. E. S. Lardner, P.M., P.G.S., was amongst the visitors.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a brother

was passed to the Second Degree. Bro. Witt, S.W., W.M. elect, having been presented, was duly installed as W.M. by the W.M., the ceremony being well performed. Among the officers invested were Bros. J. D. Webb, S.W.; W. Wellsman, P.M., J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., Treas.; W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; A. E. Cook, S.D.; F. P. Weinel, P.M., J.D.; H. Harding, D.C.; J. H. Lile, C.C., A.D.C.; T. Shapcott, I.G.; Dr. Lott, P.M., Org.; Dr. Hinton, P.M., Asst. Org.; W. T. Collyer, J. W. Fuller, O. Spelling, and C. Pullen, Stewards; and E. Mallett, P.M. 141, Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was presented to the I.P.M. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. It was unanimously resolved that a summer outing take place on the 20th prox., and that the lodge contribute a handsome sum towards such entertainment. It having been reported that a member of the lodge had become totally blind, the sum of 20 guineas was voted to the fund now being raised on his behalf and that of his family.

Bros. Alderman W. P. Treloar, P.M.; T. A. Woodbridge, P.M., C.C., and others sent apologies for non-attendance.

The lodge having been closed, an excellent dinner was partaken of.

Bro. Dr. Lott responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers," and Bro. J. Evans for "The Installing Officer."

Bro. E. S. Lardner, P.G.S., eloquently responded on behalf of "The Visitors," and Bros. T. Simpson and G. Herbert for "The Past Masters."

Bros. H. J. Lardner, P.M., and W. H. Jackson, P.M., replied for "The Treasurer and Secretary."

Bro. J. D. Webb and W. Wellsman responded for "The Officers."

An interesting and amusing programme of music was furnished by Bros. J. L. Haddon, C. E. Nott, E. R. Clemmins, J. Young, P.M.; and G. Herbert, P.M. Bros. Dr. Lott and Dr. Hinton alternately kindly and effectively presided at the pianoforte. The whole proceedings were an unqualified success.

Kingswood Lodge, No. 2278.

The installation meeting was held on Saturday, the 11th inst., and was attended by Bros. J. Gravatt, W.M.; E. Blinkhorn, P.M., I.P.M.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P. G.D.; J. G. Cobb, P.M., P.P.S.G.B.; R. W. Nicole, P.M.; A. C. Little, A. D. King, A. Palmer-Palmer, R. E. Noble, G. H. Redding, F. H. Johnson, J. E. Little, S. Butler, M. Weiss, H. H. Broughton, and others. The visitors were Bros. G. Gibson, 1613; C. Dixon, 1613; D. Carter, 236; H. R. Grice, 534; W. Ball, P.M. 45 and 1385, Prov. G.D.; G. Harlow, P.M. 1613, 2647, Prov. G. Std. Br. Kent; W. H. Hood, 1056; T. Slater, I.G. 795; J. Palmer, 1472; Sydney Ford, P.M. 1729 (Natal); E. Monday, 1641; E. Lloyd, P.M. 795; G. Redding, P.M. 917; and M. Siegenberg, P.M. 2455.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Bro. Michael Weiss as a joining member. Bro. Sydney Butler was then passed to the Degree of F.C. The Treasurer's account was submitted, and proved to be most satisfactory. After all accounts had been paid, the balance in hand was in excess of the previous year, and the Benevolent Fund had also been considerably increased. Needless to say, it was unanimously approved. The next business was the installation of Bro. A. Ingram, W.M. elect, which ceremony had been undertaken by Bro. J. G. Cobb, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., by desire, and with the consent of the W.M. As might be expected from so experienced a brother, it was carried out in a very able and impressive manner, before a Board of Installed Masters numbering 17. The officers were invested as follows: Bros. C. C. Renaud, S.W.; E. N. Benningfield, J.W.; J. Petch, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; J. F. Bell, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; H. R. Bower, S.D.; F. Page, P.M., J.D.; C. Nicole, I.G.; A. A. Kelly, Org.; E. H. Moore, P.M., Prov. G. Stwd., D.C.; H. Rackham, Steward; and T. Williams, Tyler. The addresses were admirably given. A Past Master's jewel having been voted to Bro. J. Gravatt, it was then presented to him, and he took the opportunity of thanking the brethren for the support they had given him during his year of office. The son of a late much respected member of the lodge was proposed as a joining member, and a candidate was also proposed for initiation. For the first time music was introduced into the ceremonies with excellent effect.

After an interval, the brethren reassembled, and grace having been sung, they sat down to a most enjoyable banquet, following which the usual toasts were proposed.

Bro. W. Ball, Prov. G.D., replied to that of "The Prov. Grand Officers" in a speech that was well delivered and well received, the older members of the lodge having a lively recollection of the services rendered by Bro. Ball as its first Secretary.

Bro. Gravatt, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," referred to him as an initiate of the lodge who had gone through the various offices.

The W.M., in reply, referred to his Stewardship at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and expressed his gratification that so respectable a sum had been collected for his list at such a short notice.

The I.P.M., Bro. Gravatt, in replying to the toast of his health, expressed the obligation he was under to Bro. Blinkhorn, P.M., for the assistance he had rendered him during the past year.

Bros. G. Harlow, P.G. Std. Br. Kent; D. Carter, 236; and M. Siegenberg, 2455, replied to the toast of "The Visitors."

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

A more than usually attractive programme had been arranged by Bro. Nicole, P.M., the musical director, but it, unfortunately, had to be hurried that the train for London should not be missed. All the items were contributed by members of the lodge, ably accompanied by Bro. Kelly, Org.

Molesey Lodge, No. 2473.

The installation meeting of this lodge held at the Castle Hotel, East Molesey, on the 4th inst., was numerously attended, the members and visitors numbering about 70. During the past year the lodge has continued to progress and maintains its standard of work and general excellence. Bro. Walter Dennis, the retiring Master, once more showed his ability to render the ritual in an able and impressive manner by installing as his successor Bro. C. G. Sherwood. The members present included Bros. Walter Dennis, W.M.; E. L. Berry, I.P.M.; C. G. Sherwood, S.W.; H. J. Keen, J.W.; F. W. Buxton, P.M., Treas.; E. L. Berry, P.M., Sec.; Stuart Walker, S.D.; C. Morrell, J.D.; H. G. Walker, D.C.; W. J. Harvey, I.G.; H. J. Foan, Org.; S. Hewett, P.M.; C. O. Burgess, P.M.; J. D. Langton, P.M., P.D.G.D.C.; H. Woods, P.M.; and others. There was also a large attendance of visitors.

Lodge was opened, the minutes confirmed, and Bro. H. R. Carter was raised to the Third Degree. Other business having been transacted, Bro. C. G. Sherwood was presented as W.M. elect, and was duly installed by Bro. Walter Dennis, I.P.M., Bro. C. O. Burgess, P.M., acting as D.C. The following officers were invested: Bros. H. J. Keen, S.W.; C. Stuart Walker, J.W.; F. W. Buxton, P.M., Treas.; C. E. Gilbert, Sec.; C. Morrell, S.D.; A. W. Bray, J.D.; H. G. Walker, I.G.; G. Britton, P.M., D.C.; W. J. Harvey, A.D.C.; H. J. Foan, Org.; E. Parsons and T. A. Mitchell, Stwds.; and W. Lane, Tyler.

The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet room.

The usual toasts followed, and selections were given from a musical programme under the direction of Bro. H. J. Foan, in which the following artistes gave able assistance: Miss Agnes Matthews, Misses Norah, Edith, and Annie Callaghan, Bros. Albon Nash, Stuart Walker, A. H. Botwright, G. Miles, E. L. Berry, and Mr. Fred Upton.

Bro. W. Brown, P.G.P., replied for "The Grand Officers," and expressed his pleasure at visiting the lodge again, having been present at its consecration.

Bro. F. West, P.G.D., Dep. Prov. G.M., replying for the toast of "The Prov. G. Master, Deputy P.G.M., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," said they all appreciated being present at the installation of a Master of such a lodge as this. He looked upon it as a duty to visit the lodges in Surrey from time to time to see they were keeping up the reputation which entitled them to rank amongst the best lodges. It was refreshing to pay either invited or surprise visits and find how Masonic matters were being carried on. On this occasion they had a lodge which was worthy of the province. All eyes were turned to the coming Boys' School Centenary, when he was sure Surrey would not be at the bottom of the list, and as they had done all they could for the last of the Institutions to make a special effort he hoped the brethren would do their best to keep them up. The annual gathering of the lodges would be held at Sutton when he trusted this and other lodges would be properly represented. There was one member of this lodge—Bro. J. D. Langton—who did more than any other brother in the province, next to the Secretary, as he undertook the work of the Charity elections—when the best cases were taken up and carried through. He wished the

W.M. a happy year of office, and if he followed in the footsteps of those before him in the lodge he would feel satisfied that he had performed his duties.

Bro. Walter Dennis, I.P.M., proposed "The W. Master." This was the installation night when the W.M. entered upon his duties and the brethren turned over in their minds the question as to what sort of a Master they were to have. Those who had seen and watched Bro. Sherwood in the lodge would agree that he was one to whom they looked forward for a successful year of office which would reflect great credit upon himself.

Bro. C. G. Sherwood, W.M., returned thanks and said he felt it very difficult to undertake the office of W.M. when he looked back upon the brilliant array of Past Masters—those who had carried out the ritual in a most creditable manner. He, therefore, felt great diffidence, and if he could only equal them he should deserve some credit. The prosperity of the lodge was due to the way in which it had been conducted. One of their members—Bro. Langton—had done yeoman service and others had obtained Provincial rank, and richly deserved the honour. He would endeavour to carry out his duties as far as he possibly could and thanked them for the kind manner in which they had received the toast.

The W.M. then proposed "The Installing Master," and said it was hardly possible for any brother to do the work in a more excellent manner than Bro. Dennis, I.P.M., and it would be impossible to say too much in his favour. He hoped they would have other officers who would do their work as excellently. In presenting Bro. Dennis, I.P.M., with a Past Master's jewel, he expressed the hope that the I.P.M. would live long to wear it and value it.

Bro. Walter Dennis, I.P.M., acknowledged the toast and the gift. Like the present W.M., he recognised the ability shown by his predecessors, which had been a great incentive to put his shoulder to the wheel and do his best to maintain the reputation and credit of the lodge. If he had pleased the brethren and they were satisfied, that was all the reward he required, as it was a reward of which any W.M. could justly be proud. He should always wear with pride the jewel presented to him as a reminder of a year of office which he hoped had been successful.

For "The Visitors" Bros. J. Wortley, W.M.; H. J. Brook, W.M.; and T. Cooks, W.M., responded.

"The Treasurer, Secretary, and Past Masters," and "The Officers" were also heartily honoured before the pleasant proceedings terminated.

Rahere Lodge, No. 2546.

A large number of distinguished brethren assembled in the Great Hall of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C., on the 14th inst., on the occasion of the installation meeting of this prosperous lodge. Amongst the members present were Bros. W. J. Walsham, W.M.; T. G. A. Burns, P.P.G.D. Surrey, S.W., W.M. elect; Rev. Sir Borradaile Savory, Bart., Chap.; Clement Godson, P.G.D.; D'Arcy Power, Sec.; Alfred Cooper, P.M., P.G.D.; Dr. F. Lawrence, P.A.G.D.C.; T. Trollope, P.M.; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; H. Mackintosh, P.A.G.D.C.; Walter Gripper, Treas.; Dr. R. J. Reece, J.W.; P. S. Abraham, S.D.; G. H. R. Holden, J.D.; Ernest Clarke, I.G.; F. Swinford Edwards, D.C.; J. H. Gilbertson, C. P. White, J. H. Robinson, Org.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. Sir J. Monckton, P.G.W.; Capt. E. M. Money, P.A.G.D.C.; Colonel N. G. Dundas, P.G.D.; A. Tupman, P.P.G.W. West Yorks; H. J. Skelding, P.G. Stwd.; H. Gordon Brown, P.A.G.D.C.; H. Bott, P.P.S.G.W.; F. Mead, P.G.S.B.; J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C.; H. Pretty, S.W. 680; A. Rudd, 2266; F. J. Smith, J.W. 171; W. E. Montgomery, W.M. 270; J. H. Ward, P.M. 916; N. Stanhope Scott, J.W. 4; C. Beaumont, W.M. 2486; H. C. S. Dumas, P.M. 410; J. G. Hallett, J.D. 2233; Rickard W. Lloyd, 2630; F. J. McCann, 2420; E. Livingstone Oakley, P.M.; W. W. Lee, P.M.; and others.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed, and Bro. C. Christopherson, M.R.C.S., W.M. 1842; P. V. Dodd, M.R.C.S., Radnor Lodge; and H. Hind, F.R.C.S., Tees Lodge, were elected joining members. Messrs. J. C. Keats, M.R.C.S.; E. W. Brewerton, M.R.C.S.; and H. Burrows were next initiated. Bro. T. G. A. Burns was presented as W.M. elect, and was installed into the chair, the ritual receiving ample justice at the hands of Bro. W. J. Walsham, I.P.M. The officers invested were Bros. R. J. Reece, S.W.; Walter Gripper, J.W.; Rev. Sir Borradaile Savory, Bart., Chap.; Clement Godson, P.G.D., Treas.; D'Arcy Power, Sec.; P. S. Abraham, S.D.; G. H. R. Holden, J.D.; E. Clarke, I.G.; F. Swinford Edwards, D.C.; J. H. Gilbertson and C. P. White, Stewards; G. H. Robinson, Org.; and P. F. Madden, Tyler. The ancient charge was impressively delivered to the initiates by the newly-installed W.M. Bro. Walsham, I.P.M., was presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel in recognition of his eminent services, and the gift was suitably acknowledged. The Audit Committee's report, showing an excellent balance, was adopted, and other business having been transacted, the lodge was closed.

A banquet was afterwards held at the Trocadero Restaurant, when the usual toasts received hearty recognition.

Bro. Sir John Monckton, P.G.W., replying for "The Grand Officers," said it gave the Craft intense satisfaction to know that the Pro G.M. had emerged from his retirement and was present at the prize distribution of the Boys' School. The Dep. G.M. was one of the most capable of Provincial Grand Masters and was always ready to do his duty in Grand Lodge. The great Masonic event of the previous week, and of all time had produced an astounding result in the announcement of a total which had been almost miraculously obtained. The outside world could not understand where the money came from and why it was given. He had been asked and had replied that it was Masonry. The next thing to do was to look after the Girls' School. He did not know any profession that had so much to do with the girls as the medical profession in their early days and afterwards, and he was, therefore, sure the W.M. of the Rahere Lodge would go up as Steward for the Girls' School and would take a good list from the members.

Bro. W. J. Walsham, I.P.M., then proposed "The W.M.," which toast, he said, must be the toast of the evening. He was not going to dilate upon the good qualities and virtues of the W.M., for Bro. Burns was well known to them all. They had been told that the W.M. was of good report, true and trusty, and held in high esteem—and all these things could be said of him and more. It gave him (the I.P.M.) very great pleasure to install the W.M., having known Bro. Burr during the whole of his hospital career as one of the best students at Bartholomew's School, as a capable house surgeon, and, at the present time, as an anaesthetist that could not be surpassed in London or the whole world. They had an excellent Worshipful Master, who had set an example of brevity, and he would therefore call upon the brethren to drink the toast.

Bro. T. G. A. Burns, P.P.G.D. Surrey, W.M., thanked the I.P.M. for the professional and Masonic eulogy he had been good enough to pass upon him. He was proud of the Rahere Lodge. He had some prominent part in its foundation, and it must be a proud moment in any man's life to be installed in the chair of a lodge which drew upon such an important class from all over the country. On looking round their magnificent meeting, he would be less than human if he did not feel very proud indeed.

The W.M. next gave "The Installing Master," and said they had all seen the work done by Bro. Walsham during his membership, and knew that during his Master-ship he was perfect. The I.P.M. had practised courtesy and good feeling, and the members would be enthusiastic in wishing him long life to continue with them.

Bro. W. J. Walsham, I.P.M., responded, and endorsed the remarks previously made by Bro. Sir J. B. Monckton as to the necessity of supporting the W.M. in his Stewardship for the Girls' School.

"The Initiates" was duly honoured, after which Bros. E. Owen, W.M. Sancta Maria Lodge—which recently elected the W.M. of the Rahere Lodge an honorary member—Beaumont, W.M. 2486; and Montgomery, W.M. 270, replied for "The Visitors."

Bro. R. J. Reece, S.W., replied for "The Officers," pledging them to loyalty to their W.M.

The Tyler's toast then closed the proceedings. Bro. G. H. Robinson, Org., presided at the pianoforte, and was kindly assisted by Bros. West, Ernest Clarke, Holden, and Cripps.

PRINCESS HENRY OF PRUSSIA left Buckingham Palace on Monday evening, with her children and suite, for Germany. Bro. Col. the Earl of Strafford, Equerry to the Queen, was in attendance. Her Royal Highness proceeded by the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway from Victoria, and travelled *via* Queenborough and Flushing.

Royal Arch.

Royal Alfred Chapter, No. 777.

The installation meeting of this young, but flourishing chapter was held on Wednesday, the 15th inst., at the Angel Hotel, Guildford, when there were present Comps. C. T. Tyler, Prov. G. Scribe E., as M.E.Z.; F. Dowse, H.; E. Miles, J.; J. B. S. Lancaster, P.Z.; Scribe E., P.P.G.S.B.; Rev. J. Arnan Tait, S.N.; Alfred Gibbs, P.S.; E. H. Gale Crowdy, P.Z.; W. Macklin, and T. P. Whateley. Visitors: Comps. R. F. Gould, P.A.G.S.; C. Pulman, A.G.D.C.; and W. A. Shaw, 2317.

Chapter having been duly opened, the minutes were read and confirmed. The balance-sheet and report of the Audit Committee were read, received, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Ballots were taken for Bros. Harvey George Herbert, W.M. 2101, and G. J. Hoare, Tyler 777, the latter as a serving brother (by dispensation), which proving satisfactory, they were admitted and exalted. Comps. F. Dowse, E. Miles, and Alfred Gibbs were then installed in the chairs of M.E.Z., H., and J. respectively, by Comp. C. T. Tyler, who had also previously acted as M.E.Z. during the ceremony of exaltation. Comp. Alfred Gibbs was elected Charity Representative in the place of Comp. T. Aitken, who had resigned. The following companions were then invested with the insignia of office: Comps. J. B. S. Lancaster, P.Z., S.E.; Rev. J. Arnan Tait, S.N.; E. H. Gale Crowdy, Treas.; T. P. Whateley, P.S.; W. Macklin, 1st A.S.; and G. J. Hoare, Janitor. The absence of the I.P.Z., Comp. M. Dodge, through illness, was much deplored, and Comp. C. T. Tyler was warmly thanked for performing the duties that would have devolved in the natural course upon the retiring M.E.Z. Letters of regret at inability to attend were read from the G. Supt., Comp. the Earl of Onslow; Comps. H. J. Strong, A. H. Bowles, and others.

The companions afterwards dined together, and the usual toasts followed, that of "The Grand Officers" being replied to by Comps. Gould and Pulman, and "The Provincial Grand Officers" by Comp. Tyler.

Duke of Connaught Chapter, No. 1524.

The installation meeting of this chapter took place at Anderton's Hotel, on Wednesday, the 8th inst., when there were present Comps. Van Oss, M.E.Z.; E. J. Turnbull, H.; Cotterill, J.; Hodges, Green, Linnett, Potts, Stowe, May, Baxter, Harper, Hollingshurst, Milton, Burgess, Willis, Puck, Trapps, and Williams, Janitor.

The chapter was opened, and Comp. E. J. Turnbull was installed M.E.Z., Comp. Cotterill, H., and Comp. Linnett, J., by Comp. Hodges, P.Z., assisted by Comp. Milton, P.Z. The M.E.Z. invested the officers as follows: N. Green, S.E.; T. G. Hodges, Treas.; W. T. Potts, S.N.; J. Harper, P.S.; H. Hollingshurst, 1st A.S.; H. B. Burgess, 2nd A.S.; and T. Williams, Janitor. Comp. E. J. Turnbull then exalted Bro. Willis, of the Duke of Connaught Lodge, into Royal Arch Masonry in a very impressive manner and afterwards addressed the chapter upon the great loss they had sustained in the death of their father and founder, the late Comp. W. H. Lee, expressing his personal experience of his great kindness during his Masonic career and the many kindly acts and assistance whereby he had been enabled in some measure to obtain the proud position he occupied that night. The M.E.Z. proposed that a letter of condolence be sent to his widow and family from the chapter as a mark of respect and sympathy. This was strongly supported by Comp. Hodges and carried unanimously.

The chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to banquet, which was followed by the customary toasts.

Comp. Van Oss proposed "The Health of the M.E.Z., Comp. Turnbull," who, he said, by the masterful manner he had exalted the candidate that evening and the very impressive delivery of the ritual, had proved himself to be heart and soul devoted to Freemasonry. The chapter could indeed look forward to a most successful year under his control, for he had done much to bring the chapter to its present most prosperous condition, and he trusted that the M.E.Z. might be blessed with health and strength to carry out the duties of the exalted position to which he had that night been installed. He considered that it was quite impossible for the duties of the M.E.Z. to be better performed than they had been that evening by Comp. Turnbull, who was a credit to R.A. Masonry.

Comp. Turnbull, in reply, thanked the members of the chapter for the very flattering reception given to him, and could assure them that he would do his level best to carry out the important duties of his high office, he trusted, with satisfaction to himself and credit to the chapter. It had always been his motto to try and do "everything well," and if he had succeeded in doing so in the various offices which he had already filled, they might rely upon him doing so now that he occupied the proud position of their M.E.Z. He was afraid that he could not claim credit for all the good things that had been said of his Masonic working; but he would certainly try and deserve them. In conclusion, he thanked them for their cordial co-operation and support, which he felt sure would be continued during his year of office, and assured them that the brilliant record of the Duke of Connaught Chapter should not be tarnished by any neglect of duty upon his part, and he trusted that every companion of the chapter might be blessed with health, wealth, and prosperity during the coming year.

Comp. Hodges replied to the toast of "The Treasurer and S.E."

The M.E.Z. proposed "The H. and J.," to which Comps. Cotterell and Linnett replied.

Comps. Harper, Hollingshurst, and Burgess responded to the toast of "The Officers."

The Janitor's toast terminated a most pleasant and successful evening.

Mozart Chapter, No. 1929.

The election meeting of this chapter was held on the 23rd ult., at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon. Among those present were Comps. Dr. Russell Beardmore, M.E.Z.; Major T. W. Richardson, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B., H.; H. J. Lardner, R.Z., P.P.G. Std. Br., as J.; and Major T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C., S.E.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bro. J. P. Wade, of the St. John's Lodge, No. 495, and it being unanimous he was duly exalted to the Degree of Royal Arch Masonry, the ceremony being admirably performed. Comp. Myer's resignation was received with regret. Comp. Dr. R. Beardmore was unanimously re-elected as M.E.Z.; Comps. Major T. W. Richardson, H.; H. F. Cain, J.; Major T. C. Walls, P.Z., S.E.; Dow White, S.N.; R. A. Gowan, P.Z., Treas.; and W. Lane, Janitor. A Past Principal's jewel was voted to the M.E.Z. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. R. A. Gowan, P.Z., Treas.; Lieut.-Col. T. Tully, P.Z.; J. Boulton, P.Z., P.A.G.D.C.; H. F. Cain, and others. The chapter was then closed.

A banquet followed, and over which the M.E.Z. presided most genially. The only toasts were "The Queen and Royal Arch Masonry," "The Grand Z.," "The M.E.Z.," "The Exalte," and "The Visitors."

The proceedings terminated at an early hour.

Abbey Chapter, No. 2030.

The first installation meeting of this chapter was held at the Westminster Town Hall, on the 6th inst., when the founders and members were congratulated on the progress made. Those present included Comps. J. R. Cleave, H.; E. Newland, J.; J. Gibson, Treas.; E. J. Turnbull, S.E.; W. T. Potts, S.N.; F. Todman; J. D. Langton, P.A.G.D.C.; H. E. Herman, P.Z., D.C.; and many others. Visitors: Comps. W. Vincent, P.A.G.D.C.; W. B. Fendick, P.G.S.B.; E. L. Berry, H. 1321; T. H. Hobbs, P.P.G.D.C.; W. F. Cheesman, P.Z. 1604; A. Saunders, S.N.; G. H. Foan, P.Z. 1614; W. Cleghorn, P.Z. 185; W. A. Wetton, P.Z.; G. J. North, 2272; W. S. Hooper, H. 157; W. V. K. Burton, 1572; H. Purdon, P.Z. 834; A. W. Tribe, 55; H. T. Brickwell, T. B. Tipton, J. Easterbrook, and W. W. Lee, P.Z. 1524.

Chapter was duly opened, and the minutes confirmed, after which Comp. J. R. Cleave was installed as M.E.Z. Several candidates were then exalted into R. A. Masonry, the ceremony being most ably performed. Comps. E. Newland and E. J. Turnbull were installed as H. and J. respectively, the installation ceremony being impressively rendered by Comp. Herman, P.Z. The officers invested were Comps. Potts, S.E.; W. R. Dunn, S.N.; J. Gibson, Treas.; Montague, P.S.; White, 1st A.S.; Todman, 2nd A.S.; Mountain and Weeden, Stwds.; Herman, P.Z., D.C.; and J. Williams, Janitor.

The chapter was closed, and an excellent banquet followed.

The usual toasts were afterwards honoured, and

Comp. W. B. Fendick, P.G.S., responded for "The Grand Officers." He expressed his pleasure at seeing an old friend in the chair of M.E.Z. that evening, for Comp. Cleave was one of the best workers he had met.

Comp. W. Vincent, P.A.G.D.C., also responded, and said the M.E.Z. had at once proved himself to be Master of all the work. He was delighted with the chapter, and hoped the members would provide sufficient work in order that a prosperous year might ensue.

Comp. E. Newland, H., briefly proposed "The M.E.Z.," in the absence of Comp. Bonwick, I.P.Z., through illness. There could not possibly be a better member of a chapter than their M.E.Z., for immediately after his installation the companions had a specimen of the way in which the work could be performed. The Abbey Chapter was young—hardly a year old—and their installation that evening had been by dispensation, but they were a strong chapter, with every promise for the future.

Comp. J. R. Cleave, M.E.Z., thanked the H. and companions for their cordial reception of the toast. It had been one of his mottoes that whatever he had undertaken to do he had tried to do to the best of his ability. If he had pleased them by the manner in which the ceremonies had been conducted he was gratified, for he had never done them before in chapter. He hoped the Abbey Chapter would go on and become a very flourishing and good chapter, as it ought to be, and they could then devote some of their surplus funds to the Masonic Charities. He hoped that next year they would be able to send up a Steward, who would no doubt be well supported.

For "The Visitors," Comps. Purdon and Lee replied.

"The Installing Principal, the H. and J.," was the next toast honoured, the M.E.Z. referring to the excellent services rendered by Comp. Herman, P.Z., as Installing Principal, by Comp. Newland H., and by Comp. Turnbull as S.E. during the early and difficult work of establishing the chapter.

Suitable responses having been made, "The Officers" and the Janitor's toast closed the proceedings.

During the meeting the following assisted in a capital entertainment—Comps. Pollard, Robins, and Busby, and Mr. Fred. Upton.

ANNUAL PIC-NIC OF THE WHITE ROSE OF YORK LODGE, No. 2491.

The usual summer day's visit into the country so pleasantly associated with the White Rose of York Lodge took place on Friday, the 17th inst. Of the two social festivals which the brethren year by year keep up with such spirit and hospitality, it would perhaps be difficult to determine which is the more popular. The White Rose dance, as it is familiarly known in Sheffield, is always looked forward to with pleasurable anticipation, and the pic-nic is no less eagerly welcomed. Both are efforts on the part of the brethren to combine social and family intercourse with Masonic relation, and both have met with marked success. Each Worshipful Master seems to vie with his predecessors in promoting these delightful re-unions and the anxiety of the present occupant of King Solomon's chair in Lodge No. 2491, to leave nothing undone and to have everything so far possible foreseen, was very marked. As in the case of the dance in the winter, Bro. Hahn was ably assisted by Mrs. Hahn, who played hostess with charming perfection. Every arrangement having been made, every difficulty anticipated and removed, there remained only one factor—that it is true a very important one—to be considered and that was the weather. Fortunately, the fates were propitious; no finer summer day could have been wished for—it was unbroken sunshine tempered by a delicious gentle breeze. It was a merry party therefore that assembled at the Midland Station, Sheffield, at 10 a.m. on the 17th. Saloon carriages awaited to convey them to Grindleford on the popular Dore and Chinley Railway. Here they were to take to the road for a long drive through the lovely Derbyshire lanes and picturesque roads.

Amongst the company were the following: Bro. C. A. Hahn, W.M., Mrs., Miss, Mr. Alfred, and Mr. Arthur Hahn; Mdlle. Rossignon (Brussels), Miss Stephenson (Constantinople), and Bro. Joseph Matthewman, P.M., P.P.A.G. Sec.; Bro. W. Gunstone, I.P.M., W.M. 139, and Mrs. Gunstone; Bro. John Hunt, P.M., P.P.G.D., Mrs., Miss, and Mr. J. E. Hunt; Bro. Simeon Hayes, P.M., P.P.G.W., and Mrs. Hayes; Bro. T. H. Vernon, P.M., P.P.G.D., Mrs. and Miss Vernon; Bro. Joseph Jackman, P.M., Prov. G.D., and Mrs. Jackman; Bro. C. F. Brindley, P.M., Mrs. Brindley, and Miss Whitehead; Bro. John Shaw, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., and Mrs. Shaw; Bro. Dr. John Stokes, P.M. 139, S.W. 2491; Bro. T. W. Hanforth, J.W. 2491, P.P.G.O.; Bro. J. Craven, Treas., and Mrs. Craven; Bro. Owen and Mrs. Owen; Bro. G. Wish and Mrs. Wish; Bro. W. D. Foxon and Mrs. Foxon; Bro. A. S. Jarvis; Bro. Roberts and Miss Fearnough; Mr. and Mrs. T. Nash and Miss Nash; Mr. C. A. Wheatley, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Vernon, and Mrs. A. J. Birks; Mr. and Mrs. Wheatley; Bro. and Mrs. C. A. Shaw; Bro. A. B. Gunstone and Miss Hoyland; Mrs. Hargreaves, Miss Dunbar, and Mr. Law.

A four-horse coach, fully equipped, together with some 10 or 12 open barouches and pairs, were waiting at Grindleford to receive the party, and, enlivened by the merry sound of the horn, a start was made for Buxton—a drive of some 18 or 19 miles. The route was through Hassop and Longstone to Ashford, in the first instance. Here a halt was called for some 30 minutes, after which the journey was resumed, the road chosen being through Taddington and Ashwood Dale. Perhaps no county in England presents greater beauty of scenery than does Derbyshire, nor does any portion offer greater contrasts. On the one hand you have wild, desolate, and barren moorland, with hills rugged and bare in the distant background; on the other, you find charming nooks, wooded dells, narrow gullies, the sides of which are masses of lichen-covered cliff, gemmed with tiny ferns; and through all the musical rhythm of a running stream or the pleasant murmur of tumbling water continually greets the ear; or at a turn in the road it may be the country opens out and presents quite a park-like aspect, with gentle slopes of emerald turf, and trees, singly or in groups, in the full luxuriance of leafy June. Between the distant hill tops peeps the village spire, whilst from time to time glimpses may be obtained of ancient hall or ancestral manor house.

The drive was pronounced by all to have comprised some of the most beautiful scenes in the county, and it was with regret rather than with relief that the cavalcade clattered through the streets of Buxton and pulled up at the Crescent. An excellent dinner was served at the hotel, covers being laid for upwards of 60 guests.

The W.M., Bro. C. A. Hahn, presided. Derbyshire scenery gratifies the eye and Derbyshire moorland air stimulates appetite, consequently justice was done to the good things provided.

With bright sunshine, gardens, and other pleasant outside resorts inviting visits, it was not likely that longer time would be spent at table than necessary. The toasts were therefore few and short, comprising only "The Queen," "The Worshipful Master, his Wife, and Family," and "The Ladies."

The first was proposed from the chair, and, of course, met with the usual hearty reception.

"The W.M., Bro. C. A. Hahn, Mrs. Hahn, and Family" was very cordially proposed by Bro. W. Gunstone, I.P.M. Bro. Gunstone was in a decidedly genial, not to say humorous, mood, and spoke in very high terms of the ability of the W.M. and the unsparing and energetic efforts he had made to keep up the tone and prestige of the White Rose of York Lodge.

His remarks were very warmly received.

Bro. HAHN'S reply was brief. He confessed that the organisation of this annual and popular fête had been to his wife and himself a matter of great anxiety. The weather, too, being a factor at no time absolutely to be depended upon, still further gave them cause for serious consideration, but he was delighted that all had turned out well and if the pleasure which they had experienced that day at all equalled the satisfaction of Mrs. Hahn and himself at the apparent success of their endeavours, then he thought they might mutually congratulate themselves and go forth in search of still further enjoyment on this beautiful summer day. He could not, however, resume his seat without thanking them for their kind wishes towards himself, his wife, and his family, and further expressing his gratitude to his Sub-Committee, and especially Bro. Roberts and Bro. Jarvis, for the great and ready help that had been given him in making all the arrangements. Bro. Hahn was warmly applauded.

Bro. Dr. JOHN STOKES gave the toast of "The Ladies," which was also heartily received. He deprecated as a waste of time that spent in talking about the ladies when there was so favourable an opportunity, under exceptionally pleasant circumstances, of talking to them. For his part he preferred the latter.

The brethren agreed with him to a man and after Bro. Roberts, with all a lady's modesty, and with much more than her accredited brevity, had responded, the party broke up, and in groups or pairs strolled about the town and gardens.

All assembled again later for tea, after which a move was made to the station. After a pleasant journey Sheffield was reached about 9 p.m., and all regretfully dispersed, universally agreeing that the fifth annual picnic had been charming and that the fête days of the White Rose of York Lodge were institutions deservedly popular and as such to be continued and maintained.

Obituary.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE BRO. W. COMYNS, G. TREAS. IRELAND

On Tuesday, the 14th inst., the remains of the late Bro. William Comyns, of Dame-street, Dublin, and Ardcauine, Glenageary, were removed from the last-named place for interment in Dean's Grange Cemetery. The high esteem in which the deceased brother was held was manifested in a most striking manner by the large and representative attendance at the funeral. When placed in the hearse the coffin was enveloped in a number of beautiful wreaths and floral tributes sent by sympathising friends. The chief mourners were Messrs. Macolm Comyns, Henry Comyns, Ernest Comyns, Allen and Alec Comyns (sons). The Grand Lodge of Ireland was represented by the following: Bros. James Creed Meredith, LL.D., Dep. G. Master; the Rev. Benjamin Gibson, M.A., G. Chap.; William M. Battersby, J.P., S.G.D.; William G. Huband, J.G.D.; William Spence, C.E., G. Supt. of Works; George Drury, G.D.C.; James M. Lowry, G. Stwd.; Wm. McGee, J.P., G.S.B.; Thomas R. G. Joze, Mus. D., G. Org.; George Scriven, M.D., G.I.G.; W. J. Chetwode Crawley, LL.D., G. Sec. G.L. of Instruction; Henry E. Flavelle, Dep. G. Sec. and Treas.; and Henry C. Shellard, Clerk.

Instruction.

SELWYN CHAPTER, No. 1901.

A meeting was held on Monday, the 20th inst., at the Montpelier Hotel, Choumert-road, Peckham, S.E. Present: Comps. W. R. Barr, M.E.Z.; H. Hardman, H.; G. Rankin, J.; Thos. Grumant, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, P.Z., S.E.; H. Hayward, S.N.; J. Pointon, P.S.; F. E. Pow, Treas.; Simmonds, L. J. de Whalley, A. F. Slec, H. Cornford, and J. A. Braik.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. H. Cornford personating the candidate. Comps. J. A. Braik, H. Macdonald, 1216, and A. F. Slec, 142, were elected joining members. Comp. H. Hardman, H., was elected M.E.Z. for next convocation. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Comps. Barr, Hardman, and Rankin for so ably rehearsing the duties of the respective chairs for the first time. The chapter was then closed.

This very promising chapter of instruction meets at the above address on the first and third Mondays in each month—except on Bank Holidays—at 8.30 p.m. All Royal Arch companions will be welcomed.

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TRUTH BEST AND SAFEST.

FOR ages the fossil remains of sea plants and animals have from time to time been found in rocks and on mountains. Somewhere about the seventh century an Arabian philosopher advanced the theory that this was because the mountains in which these things were found had been created by water. A similar explanation was put forth by the engineer-artist, Leonardo da Vinci, in the fifteenth century, and by Palissy the Potter in the sixteenth; but thence onward for more than a hundred years the earth was a sealed book to man. Ignorance, prejudice and vested interests (chiefly ecclesiastical) stood in the way of that sort of investigation. The effort to acquire exact knowledge was extra hazardous in those days, and it was still more risky to publish it. A Dominican Monk, Giordano Bruno, said he believed the earth turned on its axis; and they roasted him alive for it on February 15th, 1600.

But then, none of us is afraid of that now. The only excuse for ignorance—at least of matters which have been unearthed and cleared up—is want of time to study the subject and to read what is written. And for men in certain responsible positions even this apology will not avail. Chemists must *know* their acids and gases; miners must *know* their minerals; navigators must *know* the way across the trackless ocean, and the surgeon must *know* how the body is made and the relative functions of all its organs.

Had a particular doctor known what it was his duty to know he never would have told a woman patient of his that all her trouble was *due to weak action of the heart*. For, as the sequel showed, it was not so; and the mistake came near proving fatal to her. "In October, 1890," she tells us "I became low, weak and prostrated. I had no desire for food and the little I ate gave me intense pain at my chest and around the waist. There was also a horrible gnawing sensation in the stomach which nothing relieved, and I was much troubled with palpitation and pain around the heart. A little later my breathing came to be so bad I had to be bolstered up whilst in bed.

"I then began to lose strength rapidly and grew so feeble I could no longer move about; and was obliged to take to my bed. There I lay for four long months—being nursed night

and day. From a strong, healthy woman I was in six months reduced to a mere shadow of my former self. I had a doctor attending me. Several times he examined my heart and *said all my trouble was due to a weak action of the heart*. I took bottle after bottle of medicine without benefit. I was now as near death's door as any one could be and live, and had given up hope. Yet I am now in good health, and thus it came to pass:—

"In April, 1891, my sister, living at Bath, wrote and urged me to try a medicine called Mother Seigel's Syrup. I had no great expectations of it doing me good, but my husband procured a bottle from Mr. R. Widdowson, the chemist at Bulwell. After taking it for a week, I felt much better. My appetite revived, and my food caused me no pain. My breathing also was easier. For these good reasons I continued to use this medicine, and *in ten days I was able to leave my bed*. I was still very weak but getting stronger every day. Not long afterwards I was able to walk about, and *in three months I was as well as ever*. I consider that Mother Seigel's Syrup saved my life and desire other sufferers to hear of it. I am therefore willing my statement should be published if you think it may do good. I will answer any inquiries. (Signed) Matilda Walter, 22, Chatham Street, Highbury Vale, Bulwell, Nottingham, October 30, 1894."

The error in this case consisted in the false assumption that Mrs. Walter's disease was of the heart, when in fact it was of the digestion and of the digestion *only*. The weakness of the heart was due solely to the general weakness of the whole body, —and *that* resulted from the patient's inability to digest sufficient food to sustain her strength. In *that* fact lies the very nature of dyspepsia—the most prolific of evil of all our ailments. Under its influence all the organs of the system are more or less crippled,—as a watch ticks faintly and loses time when the spring is almost uncoiled. When Mother Seigel's Syrup corrected the digestion, food began to do its good work, strength returned and the heart acted as it should. How simple, how natural! Let us try, my friends, to know the truth—for ignorance travels ever in darkness.

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Masonic and General Tidings.

THE LORD-LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND AND COUNTESS CADOGAN have returned to Chelsea House, from New Lodge, Windsor Forest.

BRO. THE EARL OF ONSLOW, G.C.M.B., will preside at the first Annual New Zealand Dinner, to be held at the Hotel Cecil, on Monday, the 4th prox.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN will hold two investitures of knighthood during her stay at Windsor Castle, the first on the 4th and the second on the 13th prox.

MONDAY was the 61st anniversary of her Majesty's accession to the Throne, that event having taken place on June 20th, 1837, on the death of her uncle, King William the IV.

THE QUEEN has forwarded, through Sir Fleetwood Edwards, her subscription of £20 to the Society for Improving the Condition of the Working Classes, of which her Majesty is the patron.

T.R.H. THE PRINCE and Princess of Wales, the Princess Victoria of Wales, and Princess Christian witnessed the performance of "Siegfried" at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, on Tuesday evening.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES will accompany H.R.H. the Prince of Wales on the occasion of his laying the foundation-stone of the Deptford Fund Buildings, at the Creek-road, Deptford, on Saturday, the 2nd prox.

PRINCESS VICTORIA OF WALES, who accompanied Princess Henry of Prussia from Balmoral Castle, arrived at Marlborough House on Saturday morning last. Princess Henry of Prussia visited H.R.H. the Princess of Wales and remained to luncheon.

HER MAJESTY'S cruiser, the Crescent, on which the Duke of York has hoisted the pennant, made her trials on Saturday last, at Spithead. On Sunday afternoon his Royal Highness landed and proceeded by special train to London. During his temporary absence the command devolves upon Commander Campbell.

THE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT was to have opened on Tuesday afternoon, at 12, Hyde Park Gardens, a bazaar in aid of the Hospital for Incurables and other Sick Children of the Poor, St. Leonard's-square, Shoreditch, but a telegram was received, stating that her Royal Highness was too unwell to attend, and in her absence the Duchess of Rutland performed the ceremony.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 20th inst., the date of the Royal fête at Chislehurst on behalf of the Deptford Fund, the Duchess of Albany will attend a service at the Chislehurst Parish Church at half-past 12, and, after lunching at one of the private houses in the neighbourhood, will drive through the decorated streets of the village on her way to Camden Park, where there will be a procession of school children and a display of flowers.

THE QUEEN and Court left Balmoral on Tuesday afternoon, en route to Windsor. At Ballater station her Majesty was received by a guard of honour of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, under the command of Captain Campbell, and Sir John Clarke, Deputy Lieutenant of the county, the directors of the Great North of Scotland Railway being also on the platform. Her Majesty arrived at Windsor early the following morning.

ON THE OCCASION of the visit of T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales to Deptford on the 2nd prox. for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Deptford Fund Buildings by the Prince, their Royal Highnesses will be received at the site by the Duchess of Albany, President of the Deptford Fund, and the Trustees. The Bishop of Rochester will officiate at the religious ceremony, and a collection will be made for the Building Fund. Great preparations are being made in Deptford for the approaching visit, and High-street, Deptford, together with other parts of the route, will be decorated.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN, attended by Miss Emily Loch and Major Evan Martin, distributed, at the Royal Botanic Society's Gardens, the certificates for long and satisfactory service gained by girls assisted by the Metropolitan Association for Befriending Young Servants. Among those who received the Princess were Lady Edward Cavendish (Hon. Treas.), the Rev. Brooke Lambert (Chairman), the Earl and Countess of Stamford, Lady Alderson, Lady Pollock, Bro. the Archdeacon of London, and Miss Elliott. A vote of thanks was passed by acclamation, the Princess bowing her acknowledgments.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, Colonel-in-Chief of the Gordon Highlanders, presided on Monday evening at the annual regimental dinner, held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole. Among those present were Col. J. E. Boyes, Col. James Browne, Bro. Col. R. T. Caldwell, Gen. D. M. Crichton-Maitland, Lieut.-Col. Dick Cunyngnam, V.C., Gen. Sir J. A. Ewart, Bro. Major-Gen. J. C. Hay, Col. J. S. M. Hamilton, D.S.O., Col. Innes, the Hon. R. F. Carnegie, the Hon. R. G. B. Forbes, Lord Granard, Bro. the Earl of Kintore, the Hon. George Keppel, and Bro. Major-Gen. Sir Stanley Clarke, in attendance on his Royal Highness.

FIRST TRIP OF THE SEASON.—Gay Boulogne and our own festive Margate were joined together on Wednesday. That ever popular Channel steamer La Marguerite made her first run of the present season, and her decks and saloons were crowded by a holiday-making multitude. La Marguerite left Tilbury punctually at 7.10 a.m., and proceeded in beautiful weather to Margate and Ramsgate, where large numbers embarked. Although showers threatened the voyage (and actually did visit the two last-named places) the steamship holiday-makers escaped any wetting, the skies continuing clear both on the outward and inward journeys. The steamer will repeat the Boulogne excursion to-morrow (Saturday). On Tuesday will be made the first Ostend trip of the season.

THE CEREMONY of distributing prizes at the Soldiers' Daughters' Home, Hampstead, on Tuesday, was largely and influentially attended. Amongst those present were the Duchess of Portland, Lieut.-Gen. Lord de Ros, who occupied the chair, Gen. Sir E. Bulwer, Maj.-Gen. O. Wilkinson, Lieut.-Gen. Gordon Pritchard, and Col. G. Grant Gordon. The boys' band of the Duke of York's School, Chelsea, gave several musical selections during the afternoon. There are at present 180 girls in the home, which has recently been structurally much improved, the Commander-in-Chief, Bro. Lord Wolsley, one of the patrons, having granted £550 out of the proceeds of the Military Tournament, and £100 from the Volunteer Tournament at the Crystal Palace, and the Adjutant-General, Sir Evelyn Wood, £50 out of the profits from the canteens on board hired transports, to meet the outlay. A vote of thanks to the Duchess was passed by acclamation.

THE FOUNDATION-STONE of the Nurses' Home of Queen Charlotte's Lying-in Hospital in the Marylebone-road will be laid by Viscountess Portman on Wednesday, the 6th prox.

BRO. LORD BRASSEY has purchased the very successful 36 footer, Emerald, from Mr. J. Gretton, M.P., and she is entered to race for the first time under her new owner's flag at the matches of the Castle Yacht Club, at Calshot.

THE LONDON CORRESPONDENT of the *Birmingham Daily Post* has the following in its Tuesday issue: "I have excellent reason for the statement that the Queen meditates an early recognition of the remarkable development in the benevolent enterprises of Freemasonry. Two prominent Masons in particular are mentioned as probable recipients of the contemplated distinction, both of whom are connected with the benevolent institutes of the Craft. Her Majesty, it is known, has been deeply impressed by the extent of the recent benefactions to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and has conveyed her congratulations to the Prince of Wales, the Grand Master, upon the receipt, under his presidency, of the "record" collection of £134,000—a portion of which must be taken as a tribute to his personal popularity among the Craft."

ON MONDAY, at St. George's, Hanover-square, was solemnised the wedding of the Hon. Bridget Harbord, youngest daughter of Bro. Lord and Lady Suffolk, to the Hon. Derek Keppel, second son of the late Earl of Albemarle, and Equerry to the Duke of York. T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales have given as a wedding gift a set of silver dishes for the table. The Duke and Duchess of York's is a complete set of table silver, forks, spoons, and dessert knives and forks. The Duke of Connaught gives a double silver inkstand, suitably inscribed. The Duke and Duchess of Fife are represented by a beautiful George the Third silver kettle. Prince and Princess Charles of Denmark have sent a silver tray, with a set of egg-shell china coffee cup and saucers. Princess Victoria of Wales's gift is a diamond bee brooch mounted on a gold bar set with pearls.

AT A MEETING of the Court of the Fanmakers' Company at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Friday evening last, Bro. Col. T. Davies Sewell, the clerk, was presented with a handsome silver salver in recognition of his services in connection with the Fanmakers' Exhibition of last year. The presentation was made by the Master (Bro. Alderman Ball), and the gift was suitably acknowledged. The plate bore the following inscription: "Presented to Colonel T. Davies Sewell, together with the freedom of the Worshipful Company, by the Master, Wardens, and other members of the Court of Assistants, in recognition of his services in connection with the Fanmakers' Exhibition, 1897. January 25th, 1898." Bro. Alderman Newton was admitted as foreign Warden, and Mr. Joseph Ettlinger, fan manufacturer, of Lawrence-lane, was unanimously elected an Assistant.

THE DUKE OF WESTMINSTER presided in Grosvenor House over a meeting on Tuesday of the Gladstone National Memorial Committee, and among the members present were the Duke of Rutland, the Earl of Rosebery, Lord James of Hereford, the Right Hon. Arnold Morley, the Right Hon. G. N. Curzon, M.P., Bro. Sir John Mowbray, M.P., the Right Hon. John Talbot, M.P., Sir William Agnew, the Right Hon. James Bryce, M.P., Bro. Lord Kinnaird, Bro. Sir Henry Irving, Marquis of Ripon, the Hon. Spencer Lyttelton, the Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, M.P., the Chief Rabbi, and others. On the proposition of the Duke of Rutland, seconded by Mr. Goschen, it was resolved to form an Executive Committee, and many representative names were selected to act on it.

THE BRITISH NATURAL PREMIUM LIFE ASSOCIATION.—The sixth annual report of this Association is brimful of interest, disclosing as it does an exceedingly successful year's operations, and a business-like and vigorous administration. From its inception the British Natural Premium has been singularly fortunate for the admirable programme conceived and formulated by the founder, Mr. W. H. Hayward. Much energy has been displayed in giving full effect to the formula now adopted by this office, which appears to be having a full share of public appreciation. As regards the progress, as detailed by Mr. Hayward, the particulars rendered are decidedly satisfactory. Thus in the sixth year its premium income has grown to £54,000—this is evidence of great progress—as the previous years are as follows: 1892, £3547; 1893, £11,100; 1894, £17,700; 1895, £29,500; and 1896, £34,200. The object of the Association is so to limit its powers as to make it impossible for it to dip into the life premiums for the purpose of meeting the expenditure of business; this is the leading principle of the Association and it must result in the building up of one of the greatest businesses in Life Assurance this statement is plain and explicit. In the meanwhile during the past year the Association has increased its capital to £100,000, it has had an increase in its invested funds of something over £10,000. The summation of the entire report is a brilliant record of work well done and of a prosperity which, judging from all standpoints, betokens developments not easily computable but decidedly the due reward of energy and enterprise. To meet the requirements of an enlarging business the directors have secured very desirable and more commodious premises at Ludgate Hill, E.C.

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