

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.

VOL. XXXVII. NO. 1530]

SATURDAY, JULY 2, 1898.

[PRICE 3d.]

CONTENTS.

LEADERS—	PAGE.
Nothing Succeeds like Success... ..	307
A Year's Labour	307
The Largest Grand Lodge	308
Mithraic Worship	309
Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex	310
New Masonic Hall at East Grinstead	311
Resignation of the Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Essex	311
Obituary	311
MASONIC NOTES—	
Recent Centenary Celebration of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys ...	313
Quarterly Courts of the Girls' and Boys' Schools	313
Masonic Gathering in Rochester Cathedral	313
Death of Bro. A. A. Pendlebury, Past A.G. Secretary	313
Jubilee Masters' Lodge, No. 2712	313
<i>Correspondence</i>	314
Annual Athletic Sports of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys	314
Annual Picnic of the Gallery Lodge, No. 1928	314
The New Masonic Lodge at Portland	314
Craft Masonry	315
Mark Masonry	315
Knights Templar	316
Royal Masonic Institution for Boys... ..	316
Masonic Service in Rochester Cathedral	317
Masonic and General Tidings	318

NOTHING SUCCEEDS LIKE SUCCESS.

People appear to be amazed, and not without reason, at the marvellous success which has attended the different special Masonic Festivals that have been celebrated during the last 10 years. But, after all, this success has been strictly in accordance with the well-known law which we have chosen as the title for our present article—"Nothing succeeds like success." When, as the year 1888 approached, it was determined to make a great effort to celebrate worthily the 100th anniversary of the foundation of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, there were few, if any, data to guide those on whom devolved the duty of organising the necessary preparations. The Jubilee of the School had been celebrated in 1838, when the donations and subscriptions amounted to £1,000. Ten years later the Boys' School Jubilee was held, but so slight was the interest it aroused that even to this day it is not known who presided as Chairman, and what amount was realised on behalf of the Charity. In 1861, Bro. FREDERICK BINCKES—to whom the Craft is far more indebted for the development of its Charitable Institutions than, for the present, at all events, it seems prepared to admit—appeared upon the scene as Secretary of the Boys' School, and straightway the Festivals were, first of all, doubled and trebled, and then slowly but surely quadrupled and quinupled, and so forth. In 1875, H.R.H. the Prince of WALES was installed as M.W. Grand Master, and it became manifest that Loyalty and Charity were, in fact as well as in theory, the guiding principles of our Society. The Festivals of the Boys' School took to yielding £10,000, £12,000, and upwards, and those of the Girls' School and Benevolent Institution very naturally followed in the wake, and as time went on, occasionally equalled and even surpassed them. In 1881 it was found necessary to enlarge the Boys' School in order that it might keep pace with the increasing pressure upon its resources, and it was resolved to build a Preparatory School and otherwise extend the existing premises. Hence a Special Building Fund was started and at the Festival in 1883, at which Lord HOLMESDALE—now Earl AMHERST—presided, the then unprecedented sum of £23,000 was obtained. It may, therefore, have occurred to those who were organising the preparations for the Girls' School Centenary that if the record achieved in 1883 in the field of Masonic Charity was exceeded by 50 or 70 per cent, a grand—an historical—success would be

accomplished. Well, no effort was spared to effect this object. His Royal Highness the M.W.G.M. graciously consented to take the chair, nearly 1500 ladies and brethren gave their services as Stewards, and lo! instead of the record being beaten by some 50 or 70 per cent, the total obtained reached £51,600, or substantially more than double what had been obtained for the Boys' School only five short years previously. An interval of over three years followed and then the sound of preparation began to be heard for the Jubilee Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which had been founded by Grand Lodge, at the instance of H.R.H. the Duke of SUSSEX, M.W.G.M., in 1842. As a matter of course, a Jubilee is a less interesting and important anniversary than a Centenary, and to this extent the authorities of the Benevolent Institution, who had resolved on making the most of the proposed celebration, may be held to have laboured under some disadvantage in their efforts to enlist support. But the Committee of Management and Bro. TERRY, the Secretary, went on pegging away their very hardest, with the result that under the auspices of Bro. the Earl of MOUNT EDGCUMBE, and through the exertions of a Board of Stewards which comprised upwards of 1500 ladies and brethren, a total of donations and subscriptions amounting to £69,000—or more by some £17,500 than the Girls' Centenary had yielded—was obtained. Six years pass, and again we find ourselves in all the excitement of a second Centenary celebration—that of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. Bro. BINCKES had retired from the office of Secretary, in which he had achieved such a succession of triumphs, and had been succeeded by Bro. J. MORRISON MCLEOD, a man of equal energy, and at the same time very considerably his junior in respect of age. The result of his efforts and those of the Board of Management has just been witnessed in the accumulation of such a return of donations and subscriptions as not even the most enthusiastic supporter of a Charitable Institution, whether Masonic or non-Masonic, can ever have dreamed of in his philosophy. H.R.H. the Prince of WALES, M.W.G.M., again occupied the chair, but the Board of 1500 Stewards had swelled to one of nearly 4000, and the totals firstly of £51,000, and then of £69,000, became one of £134,000, a result which, as far as we know, has never been heard of in the career of any Institution established for the purposes of Charity and supported almost entirely by voluntary contributions. Not without reason is it that English Freemasons are proud of this and preceding achievements in this particular field of Masonic labour.

A YEAR'S LABOUR.

Bro. G. W. SPETH in his "English view of American Freemasonry" laid some stress, and not without good reason, upon the amount of work, mostly of a trivial nature, which is thrown upon an American Grand Master. There are those who may have looked upon his remarks as unnecessary, but in glancing through the "Masonic Gleanings" which constitute so interesting a feature in our worthy contemporary the *Voice of Masonry*, we happen to have lighted upon a review of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Michigan which very fully illustrates his criticisms. This Grand Lodge is rather more than half a century old, having held its 54th annual communication in January of the present year. It has a muster roll of 378 lodges and 39,576 subscribing members, while the receipts for the past year

exceeded 14,000 dollars, the total of the general fund being upwards of 20,500 dollars, and the disbursements not far short of 14,000 dollars. It may be taken, therefore, as fairly representative of those numerous and influential Grand bodies which have come into existence since the termination of the Anti-Masonic Crusade of between 60 and 70 years ago. As a matter of course, at this annual meeting the Grand Master delivered a long and elaborate address, in the course of which he carefully, and even minutely reviewed the occurrences of his year of office, and from the summary of this review, which is contained in *The Voice*, we learn, firstly, that this Grand Master constituted two new lodges in person, and three by proxy; that he instituted two new lodges, and received an incomplete petition for authority to form another; that he sanctioned the removal of 18 lodges into new halls, and allowed five others to jointly occupy halls; that he dedicated 19 new halls, laid three corner-stones, rendered 25 decisions, and granted 31 special dispensations. In addition, he issued three appeals on behalf of the Masonic Home and one for a P.M. who had suffered amputation of both his legs; that he had refused four requests for permission to issue appeals for aid, and considered 15 complaints. But this does not appear to have satisfied his greed for work, and, therefore, he gave himself up to assisting at 39 out of 54 lodges of instruction, and officially visited eight lodges. In the performance of his official work away from home, he announced that he had given up 159 days, travelled 10,171 miles, and written 13,8 letters. In short, he is reported to have "performed almost every kind of Masonic work for lodges, from the conferring of the Degrees to the conducting of the last sad funeral rites." Those who read this account of work done during a single year by the Grand Master of an important Grand Lodge like that of Michigan will probably come to the conclusion that the brother who fills this office must be the hardest-worked Mason in the whole of the jurisdiction, and that the lot of one who in the performance of his "official work from home," gives up more than one-half a year of working days, travels upwards of 10,000 miles, and writes more than 1800 official letters can hardly be looked upon as an enviable one. But, though as regards mere quantity the record is an impressive one, and though we are far from suggesting that this Grand Master discharged his duties in a perfunctory manner, we are not disposed to esteem very highly the circumstances which necessitated all this labour. We think the lodges and brethren in Michigan might exhibit just so much consideration for the peace and comfort of their Grand Master as to render it unnecessary for him—"as regards his official duties from home"—to write 1800 letters, that is at the rate of 12 per day for the 150 days he set apart for the discharge of this particular portion of his duties. As it is, we must congratulate the Grand Master in question—Bro. L. B. WINSOR—on having been providentially spared to give this elaborate account of his year's labour.

THE LARGEST GRAND LODGE.

It has long been considered that the Grand Lodge of England is not only the oldest, but also the largest, in the world, having the greatest number of lodges, and the most members on its register. I see, however, that in the very interesting volume, giving the Reports of the "Brooklyn Masonic Veterans" from 1888 to 1894 (to which Society I have the honour of belonging), the esteemed Grand Secretary of New York (*R. W. Bro. Edward M. L. Ehlers*), at the meeting held on December 10th, 1892, responded for his Grand Lodge, and remarked as follows on the question now being ventilated:

"It has been said that England has the largest and the greatest Grand Lodge, numerically, in the world. I question—I deny it. It is true she has more lodges, a greater number of lodges than we have, but she has no Lodges of the membership of the Lodges in New York.

"The Lodges of England, very many are found in her Regiments, boasting of eight, 10, or 12 men, while a Lodge in the Commonwealth of New York is considered poorly and weak if her membership is below 100, and to-day England does not give us—she dare not give us—because the truth would be known—the number of Masons upon her roll.

"It was my privilege to correspond with the Grand Secretary of England, and I asked him to give me the number of members reporting to the Grand Lodge of England, but I could never get a satisfactory answer. I believe to-day that New York has the largest numerically, and I know it to be the largest beyond question, of the Grand Lodges of the world."

Now I propose to consider this point, in a friendly manner, and with every desire to do justice to the important Grand Lodge of New York, so ably represented by its Grand Secretary, who is unquestionably one of the best informed brethren in America, and is pardonably anxious to secure for his Grand Lodge all the honour and distinction possible.

It is a curious fact that lodge statistics have never been a feature in any of the reports of the Grand Lodge of England, and I do not remember an instance from its origin in 1717 to the present time, when the number of its subscribing members has ever been authoritatively recorded. Now, one of the strongest and best points in the admirable published transactions of the Grand Lodges in the United States, is the attention paid to the statistical department, both as respects the number of the lodges and their subscribing members, as well as tables exhibiting the numerical position of all the Grand Lodges under the flag known so long and so honourably as "*Old Glory*" (or the "*Stars and Stripes*") which looks well, side by side with the venerable "*Union Jack*."

An annual payment is made for each subscribing member by lodges assembling in England, but not by any of its lodges meeting in the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown. Therefore, as the latter are not required to make any return of the names and numbers of their members, the Grand Secretary cannot tell how many brethren belong to such lodges, but only the number for whom certificates are required annually, so that, under present circumstances, it is impossible to state the exact numerical position of the Grand Lodge. Even for the lodges in England there is not, and never has been, any annual numerical report as to the precise number of members.

An average, however, can be obtained by examining the reports of Provincial Grand Lodges which make such returns to their respective Provincial Grand Secretaries, and annually remit the dues for all the subscribing members.

I have before me 15 of the Directories of Provincial Grand Lodges, taken promiscuously, and these exhibit a total of 561 lodges, having 34,092 subscribing members at the end of the year 1897, which gives an average of fully 60 to each lodge. The largest membership per Lodge is that of *Northumberland*, which has 2778 members in its 28 Lodges, or just 100 per lodge, the next in point of size in that respect (of the 15 Provinces) being *Durham*, with 37 Lodges and 2878 members, or an average of 77 per Lodge. *West Lancashire* returns 117 Lodges and 7603 members, and *Kent* 64 Lodges and 4156 members, or an average together of 65 per Lodge; several others of the selected Provinces returning 64, such as *Devon*, *Cornwall*, and *Hants and Isle of Wight*.

In the *official* Calendar of the Grand Lodge of England for 1898, published late in 1897, will be found particulars of 2241 Lodges, and, taking the average before noted of 60 each as a guide, that would give a grand total of 134,460 members.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales at the Royal Albert Hall, London, at the Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, on 10th June, 1898, said that at the present time (some six months later than the Calendar) "there are on the roll of Grand Lodge no less than 2270 lodges. Assuming therefore, an average of 50 in every lodge, there appears to be at the present moment nearly 114,000 Freemasons belonging to the lodges under the Grand Lodge of England." An average of 50 instead of 60 per lodge, would make the total in December, 1897, to be 112,050 members, so that, for safety, I accept the lower and less favourable estimate. As to the Military lodges, there are but three on our register now, so that, numerically, their membership is of no importance in connection with this inquiry. In 1892*, when I tested the matter, 27 Provincial Grand Lodges, with 897 lodges, returned 46,457 subscribing members, or an average of nearly 52 per lodge, so that evidently 50 per lodge is a very moderate and safe approximation.

The latest returns of the Grand Lodge of New York that I have is that printed in the truly grand proceedings for June 1897, so that, doubtless, the figures now would be rather larger. Then that Grand Lodge had 737 lodges returning 90,874 members, or an average per lodge of fully 123 brethren; more than double the average of that of England. But I take it as settled that down to A.D. 1898, New York has not reached 100,000 members. May I not, therefore, claim that England still remains the largest Grand Lodge?

W. J. HUGHAN.

* *Freemason*, 16th January, 1892.

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.

(Continued from page 297).

CHAPTER I.

In Hamilton's list of the Pauranic genealogies taken from the Bhagavat Purana, we find names connected with Agni, or Fire, such as Agnidhra, King of Jambudwipa, and Wilson also mentions as belonging to the Dwarpa Yuga, or brazen age—one of that line called Agni-verna, or Aparverma, Agni, or Vahmi, was also one of the names of the Dikpalas, or Guardians of the Cardinal points (the South East.) What seems to show that Mithra was regarded both as a god of the sun and of Fire in a list of the Sunga dynasty, B.C. 178, is the name Agni-Mitra, or Sun and Fire combined.

Mitra was used as a name, or a termination annexed to a name, about B.C. 1400. According to the Harivansa, it was also given to the third of the twelve monthly names, or emblems of the sun.

We may possibly form a very fair guess as to the approximate date of the transit of Mithraic worship from Asia to Europe, from the circumstance that the King of Pontus, in Asia Minor, was named *Mithridates* (the gift of the god Mithra, or the Sun.) (He began his reign B.C. 124, when in his thirteenth year).

According to Plutarch, the worship of Mithra came to the Romans through Sicilian pirates, who, he states, offered strange sacrifices, and celebrated mysterious rites. About the year 101 A.D., Mithraism was publicly established in Rome under the reign of Trajan (born 52 A.D., ascended throne 98 A.D.) and under the reign of Severus, it spread through the western provinces of the Empire. About the year 378, a prefect of Rome destroyed a cave of Mithras, but these mysteries continued down to 390 A.D. As we have seen above, it was permitted and tolerated by the Emperors in the first years of the second century of the Christian era; Christianity was then, however, beginning to gain ground, it having been recognised by Constantine (he began to reign about 320 A.D.) as the only true religion. It would appear that (like the early Christians) the worshippers of Mithra in Italy for nearly a century and a half found themselves obliged to carry out their religious rites in caves and grottoes. Emblems of Mithraic worship have been found in a cave on the island of Capri. (2)

In Naples itself there was also a Mithraic temple, some of its columns may still be seen in the church of S^a Maria à Cappella on the Chiatamone. At Milan, too, was a cavern or grotto of Mithra and his sacrificing priests, as appears from an inscription discovered near the Monastery of St. Ambrose. Sokrates, author of the Ecclesiastical History who lived in the fifth century A.D. relates that in his time—"The Christians of Alexandria, having discovered a cavern which had been consecrated to Mithra, but long closed up, resolved to explore it, and see what remnants of that superstition it contained. To their astonishment, the principal thing they found was a great quantity of human skulls with other bones of men that had been sacrificed. These were brought out, and publicly exposed—they excited the utmost horror in the inhabitants of that great city."

According to certain ancient writers, the candidate, when seeking initiation into the Mithraic mysteries, had to undergo several severe and appalling ordeals. Tertullian states that the neophyte encountered a drawn sword on the threshold of the cavern, and that, if he persisted in entering, he received more than one wound from this weapon. He had then to pass repeatedly through the flames of a fierce fire and to undergo a rigid fast, which—as some have stated—lasted 50 days, during which time he was to remain far from all human habitations. He was then beaten with rods for two whole days, and during the last 20 days of his trial he was buried up to his neck in snow. If he endured all these privations and sufferings, he was made a disciple of Mithra; a golden serpent was placed in his bosom—this was given him as a sign of his regeneration, for as the snake renews its vigour in the spring by casting its skin, so the vivifying heat of the sun is annually renewed. He was also alternately plunged into baths of fire and cold water to test his resolution and to purify him.

Our knowledge of Mithraic symbolism would seem to be mainly confined to what we can gather from the Roman sculptures of this subject, many of which have been found in Italy—the Tyrol and other parts of the Austrian dominions as well as in other countries which were colonised by the Romans. Some of these we now propose to describe in detail.

Montfaucon in his "Antiquities" gives a description of a statue, supposed to be that of Mithra, which was discovered at Rome at the close of the 16th century, between the Viminal and the Quirinal hills. His account of it is taken from that of an Italian sculptor named Vaced, who examined the temple at the time it was excavated. "The building was circular, as were all the temples of the Sun and of Fire. In the centre was a statue of white marble rather less than four feet in height. It stood erect upon a globe, out of which a serpent issued (the emblem of life) twined in numerous folds round the body of the deity. The form of the body was that of a man, the head that of a lion (one of the signs of the Zodiac). The hands grasped two keys (3) pressed to the breast, to indicate the gods power over the two hemispheres, and his Solar origin. Around him was suspended a circle of lamps in regular order, these were apparently made of baked earth. The most remarkable thing about these lamps was, that they were so arranged as to turn the side which gave the light towards the statue, which would seem to show that these ancient people knew that the planets were opaque bodies, and derived their light from the Sun, the central orb, around which they revolved." The temple, the statue, and its accessories seem to have disappeared, and to be only known from the above description of them.

A bas-relief in white marble, still existing in the Casino of the Villa Albani at Rome, represents a sacrifice to Mithra. In the centre of the

(2) Lactantius avers that the votaries of Mithra celebrated their mysterious rites in caverns and grottoes in order to denote the eclipses of the solar luminary; gloom and darkness would also naturally be favourable to the more complete absorption of the mind on the mysteries they celebrated.

(3) The well known symbol of Janus with which he was fabled to unlock the gates of light at dawn, and close them again at night.

group is a youth standing over a prostrate bull; he holds the head of the animal with the left hand, and with the right is thrusting a dagger into its flank. He is attired in the manner in which the Romans represented those whom they wished to delineate as foreign deities. This figure has a peaked, or so-called Phrygian, cap, flowing hair, a loose-sleeved robe, reaching only to the knees, and confined at the waist with a broad girdle, tight trousers down to the ankles, and pointed shoes.

In the foreground is a small dog, and a serpent in an erect position seems to be watching the course of the dagger. Near the serpent are two scorpions; behind and to the right of the principal figure is a half moon, within which is a human head, with long, flowing locks; it has a half bust. To the left is another human head, more masculine in character than either of the others; this may have been intended for Mithra himself or for the Sun and Moon. Both the pieces of sculpture described above are interesting and instructive as regards their symbolism. In each case the presence of zodiacal signs serves to show us that in Italy Mithra was recognised as a Sun-god. We are also enabled to connect the snake with Sun-worship. In each instance the serpent plays an important part. The later Kamer Herr Dr. Worsae, the head of the Archaeological Department in Denmark, was, we believe, the first to advance the idea that with the ancients the snake had its place amongst the heavenly bodies, a conjecture born out by the torso, or technically speaking, the Hermes in the Museum at the Arles in the South of France, a place known to have been colonised by the Greeks. This most striking piece of sculpture the learned have decided to be a statue of Mithra. The head is wanting unfortunately, the neck and shoulders are those of a man, the arms are kept close to the body by the folds of an enormous snake. Between the coils of the serpent (three in number) several of the signs of the Zodiac are sculptured in bas-relief. To this day many of the inhabitants of Arles possess a perfect Grecian type of features, and are said to keep themselves as a distinct class.

For the Austrian Tyrol and other parts of the Austrian Empire, a good many specimens of Mithraic sculpture have been found, some of which are in the Museum at Innsbruck, others in the Imperial Art and Historical Museum at Vienna, where in Room No. X. first floor, is a bas-relief labelled Mithras, representing a prostrate bull, a young man in Persian dress and Phrygian cap, kneeling upon the animal, drives a dagger into its flank. Below the wound a dog is licking the blood. In front of the bull is a youth holding an inverted torch, and behind this again a youth in a chariot drawn by four horses, also a tree, two goats and a ram—these form a portion of the border of the whole fragment. Underneath the bull's body a scorpion is seen biting its hind leg, and near that a serpent, in each instance the serpent plays an important part from which we may gather that Sun—Fire—and Snake worship were intimately bound together by subtle links and gradations.

In the basement of the same building, there are some still more interesting sculptures of the same type. One of these is especially so, in that, in addition to the youth and the prostrate bull, and medallions of the Sun and moon, it has on either side a border divided into several compartments containing sculptures illustrative of the process of the initiation of a candidate into the Mithraic mysteries. To the proper left of the principal figure in the central portion, is a youth, with a lighted torch, and a similar figure on its proper right holds an inverted torch.

The subject of the Medallions on the proper right are:	On the proper left of the figure the subjects are:
No. 1. The Candidate going into the bath.	No. 1. A man and an animal (a dog?) on its hind legs.
No. 2. He appears buried up to the neck with snow?	No. 2. An old man leads the Candidate forward by the right hand.
No. 3. Flames are surrounding him.	No. 3. Candidate attacked by an armed man.
No. 4. He is prostrate on the ground with out-stretched arms.	No. 4. Candidate kneeling before a seated superior.
No. 5. Much injured—the subject is undistinguishable.	No. 5. Candidate attacked by a goat. (Worldly temptations?)
At the base is the Dedicatory inscription: DEO INVICTO—IUL. PACA Ex Voto	

In his *Mithraica*, De Hammer gives an engraving of a piece of sculpture in which the same subject is treated, he states that this was found in the Tyrol, and that in 1833, when he wrote it, was in the Imperial Cabinet of Antiquities in Vienna; the subjects of the medallions differ considerably from those above described. On the proper right of the central figure, there are six compartments, and on the proper left five are represented:

No. 1. A figure (apparently kneeling) with out-stretched arms. A man who is standing over him is placing his left hand on the head of the forms, at the same time extending his right hand and pointing upwards.	No. 1. Two men in a chariot (1) endeavouring to restrain several fiery horses.
No. 2. A recumbent figure, the head is resting upon the left arm.	No. 2. A youth parting from a man of certain age.
No. 3. A figure with out-stretched arms is buried up to the waist with either earth or snow.	No. 3. This latter, with his left hand, grasps the arm of a youth who is kneeling before him, with his right hand he points upwards, the neophyte, with his left hand, meanwhile grasping his girdle.
No. 4. A man warming himself before a fire.	No. 4. A youth making obeisance to a seated figure, he has been introduced to his presence by a man in the background (as it would appear).
No. 5. A man with left knee bent, right leg extended, and right arm held up as if in defence, or in the act of throwing some object.	No. 5. In this group a powerful looking man is seizing a bull by its hind legs and holding it up thus, the animal resting only on its fore legs.
No. 6. A bull in an offensive attitude.	

(1) Mithra and Varuna.

Count Goblet D'Alviella in his work on the "Migration of Symbols," says, "that the worship of Mithra was certainly practiced in Belgium at the

time of the Roman domination; for inscriptions, "Deo Invicto Mithra" have been found in the Gallo-Roman cemetery at Justenville near Pepinster.

It would seem evident, from a piece of sculpture found in the Micklegate at York (the ancient Eboracum) about 150 years ago that the Romans introduced Mithraic worship and its mysteries into Britain.

In 1821, a Mithraic cave, containing interesting remains pertaining to those rites was found on the site of the ancient Borgovius (House-steads) in Northumberland. Mithraic antiquities have also been discovered at Cambeckfort in Cumberland. Stukeley mentions having seen an image of Mithras at Chester. Several altars have also been found, which were consecrated to Mithraic worship and inscribed DEO SOLI (To god the Sun) DEO SOLI INVICTO (To god the Sun unconquerable) SOLI DEO MITHRÆ (To god Mithras the Sun). Three such altars were found in the cave above mentioned; these are now, we believe, in the possession of the Dean and Chapter of York Cathedral.

H.M.A.

(To be continued.)

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MIDDLESEX.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Saturday, the 25th ult., at the Public Hall, Harrow-on-the-Hill, and was well attended. Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., P.G.W., Prov. Grand Master, presided, and was supported by Bros. Raymond H. Thrupp, P.A.G.D.C., Dep. Prov. G.M.; E. B. Denniss, P.P.G.W.; H. Hooper, Prov. G. Treas.; J. M. Small, Prov. G. Sec.; G. Lake, Dep. Prov. G.M. Herts; J. Mason, P.G.S.B.; W. A. Scurrah, P.G.S.B.; W. Martin, P.G.P.; A. Blenkarn, P.P.G. Treas.; G. Harper, Prov. G.D.C.; T. I. Bird, P.P.G.S.B.; Dr. Beresford Ryley, P.P.G.D.; T. Biddulph Martin, M.P., Douglas Hamilton Gordon, J.P., Prov. G. Stwd.; J. H. Gaskin, P.P.D.G.D.C.; Rev. J. E. C. Welldon, M.A., G. Salusbury Williams, Prov. G. Stwd.; A. H. Scurrah, P.P.G.S. of Works; G. J. Thomas, P.P.G.S. of Works; and a large number of other Prov. Grand Officers, Masters, Wardens, and brethren.

Provincial Grand Lodge was formally opened and the Prov. G. Master was saluted. The minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge meeting were confirmed.

The PROV. GRAND SECRETARY read a summary of the Prov. Grand Treasurer's account, and the reports of the Audit and Charity Committees, which were accepted.

On the proposition of the DEP. PROV. G. MASTER a vote of thanks was accorded the retiring Prov. Grand Treasurer, and a further sum of £100 was ordered to be invested in Great Eastern Railway Preference Stock.

Bros. Col. Thornton, R. Littler, O.C., C.B., and H. Hooper were elected members of the Audit Committee for 1899, and on the nomination of Bro. G. J. THOMAS, P.P.G.S. of Works, Bro. T. L. Green, P.M. 1194, was unanimously elected Prov. Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.

The PROV. G. SECRETARY announced that the Prov. Grand Master had conferred Past Provincial Grand Rank on the following brethren in commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee of her Majesty—Bros. Major H. F. Bowles, M.P., P.P.G.W.; H. B. Marshall, M.A., P.P.G.W.; Guilford E. Lewis, P.P.G. Reg.; Dr. Campbell Gowan, P.P.G.D.; and Paul Estler, P.P.G.D.

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

Bro. Douglas G. H. Gordon, J.P.	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" G. Salusbury Williams...	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. J. E. C. Welldon, M.A.	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" T. L. Green...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" H. P. Hay ...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" James M. Small (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Vivian Orchard ...	...	...	} Prov. S.G.Ds.
" C. Venning Burgess ...	...	...
" Charles Murray ...	...	...	} Prov. J.G.Ds.
" F. R. G. H. Robinson ...	...	...
" John F. Collinson ...	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" Horace G. Banks ...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" W. H. Cate ...	...	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" F. W. Tallack ...	...	...	} Prov. A.G.D.Cs.
" Walter Sykes ...	...	...
" Bertholdt Müller ...	...	...
" John A. Carter ...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" Henry W. Parker ...	...	...	} Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" S. Sidders ...	...	...
" H. Wharton Wells ...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. W. Lee, P.P.G.D. ...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" E. H. Trotter ...	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" G. J. Tagg ...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" R. Biddulph Martin, M.P.	...	...	} Prov. G. Stewards.
" C. E. Leyden ...	...	...
" R. Fox Warner ...	...	...
" Charles Fruen ...	...	...
" Joseph Cox ...	...	...
" R. C. Leversedge ...	...	...
" John Gilbert (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

A sum of 15 guineas was voted to each of the three Masonic Charitable Institutions, on the proposition of the P.G.M.

The roll of lodges in the province was called—four lodges being unrepresented.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER said he thought there should be as full an attendance as possible at these meetings, and gave notice that at the next meeting he would propose that all lodges not represented should be fined 10s., and that that rule should be a by-law of the province.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded the Herga Lodge, No. 2548, for use of furniture, and especially to Bro. Fisher, the Sec., for his valuable assistance in the arrangements for the meeting.

Letters of regret for non-attendance were announced from several distinguished brethren.

Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed.

A banquet was afterwards held at the King's Head Hotel, which was provided by Mr. G. Brown, the host, and at which the Prov. Grand Master presided.

The customary toasts followed, and an excellent musical programme was admirably rendered under the direction of Bro. E. E. Vinen, P.P.G. Org., assisted by the Troubadour Quartette.

In giving "The Queen and the Craft," the Prov. G.M. said that if her Majesty was prevented from being a member of the Craft, there was no one who had done more to give effect to the most prominent virtues of the Order—philanthropy and goodwill towards others—than our beloved Sovereign.

The PROV. G.M. then submitted "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and remarked that all present were agreed that the prosperous condition the Craft had attained was largely due to the fact that they had as Grand Master the first subject in the country, and that from the date of his installation, his Royal Highness had taken the greatest interest and exerted his utmost for the promotion of the Order. If her Majesty exemplified in her own person the best qualities and virtues of Freemasonry, a more courteous gentleman, or one who took a deeper sympathy in the well-being of the people, or one more ready to express his condolence with others in misfortune than their M.W.G.M. did not exist within her Majesty's realms. What his Royal Highness has done for Freemasonry it would be difficult to estimate. They were proud of him and would drink the toast with all honour.

"The Grand Officers" was next proposed by the Prov. G.M., who said that all who took an interest in the affairs of every day life were aware that no great organisation could thrive unless those at the head took a close interest in their business and gave personal attention to the various matters which from time to time were brought before them. All must admit that there was no body better organised than the Craft, and that this happy position had been arrived at was largely due to the attention of those distinguished gentlemen who undertook important duties in connection with it. They were not fortunate that night in the presence of many members of Grand Lodge, which was entirely due to the fact he had already mentioned, that a great Masonic festival was taking place at Rochester.

Bro. JOHN MASON, P.G.S.B., briefly replied, expressing the high honour he felt at having his name associated with the toast in the Province of Middlesex, the Prov. Grand Master having submitted his name for that purpose.

Bro. RAYMOND H. THURPP, P.A.G.D.C., Deputy Prov. G.M., then gave "The R.W. the Provincial Grand Master," describing it as the toast of the evening. Lord Geo. Hamilton, M.P., was so well known, not only as a Mason, but also as a citizen of the world, and as one serving her Majesty as Secretary of State for India, that he need not take up their time with his excellence. Middlesex was very proud to have such a distinguished Statesman, and such a good Mason as its Provincial Grand Master, and the members desired, and it was their duty, to do all they could to assist him in making the province a great success in Masonry. There was nothing which pleased the Provincial Grand Master better than to know that all the lodges were prospering, and that the work, in all its branches, was being carried out to perfection, and although the Provincial Grand Master was prevented from coming amongst them as they would like, still, they would be sorry to see him have more leisure from his official position in the State. He asked them to drink sincerely the health of the Prov. Grand Master, wishing him health and prosperity, and long might he reign over them.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER said he had to thank them most heartily for the kindly reception given the toast, because he could not help feeling that with the exception of the annual function, he had, during the past year, been unable to discharge those kindly visitations to different lodges in the Province which were usually associated with the duty of Provincial Grand Master. He was, therefore, much indebted to Bro. Small, who had arranged all the details of this meeting with such perfection as to associate with this toast so appropriate a song as "Absent, but present." When he was offered the honour of becoming Provincial Grand Master he was in a position in which he thought he should be able to devote sufficient time and attention to the duties, but almost from his acceptance of the office he had been engaged in other work which had given him little time for any duties outside his office. He was glad to say, however, that the exceptional pressure of his duties in connection with that part of her Majesty's dominions which had been afflicted by famine and pestilence, was passing away, and, therefore, he was confident that unless something unforeseen occurred during the ensuing autumn, he should be able to partake in a larger measure of those offers of hospitality he received from the lodges in the province. They had had a very successful meeting and perhaps they would allow him to talk to them in connection with the business of the province. He proposed strictly to adhere to the policy of his predecessor. The population was increasing in Middlesex and new centres were springing up, but he held strongly to the view that they should sanction no new lodges unless they were local in their origin and promotion. He was confident that if Freemasonry in this province was to be maintained in its present healthy position they should not allow any lodge under any pretext to be consecrated if it was to be dependent upon extraneous brethren from outside the province. Middlesex was a very difficult province to connect and it was difficult to find some common centre for brethren in the North to meet the brethren from the South. For three years Provincial Grand Lodge had met at Harrow which pleased the brethren from the North, but the brethren in the South said it was not a convenient locality to visit and they had noticed that one or two lodges were absent. He hoped at the next meeting to propose a by-law to fine any lodge not represented, and that meeting would be held at some part of the province more acceptable to the Southern lodges. During the past year many changes had taken place in the *personnel* of the various officials connected with the province. In the first place, their old friend Bro. Room had retired after admirably discharging the duties of Prov. Grand Secretary for nine years. He confessed that when he received Bro. Room's letter of resignation, supported by reasons which he could not traverse, he felt it would be almost impossible to supply his place. He was glad to say they had been fortunate enough to secure the services of another well known brother—Bro. Small—whose *bonhomie* and whose energy gave them every reasonable prospect that the office Bro. Room held would be adequately filled. Then they had lost by death the services of another brother—Bro. W. H. Lee—whose name for many years had been a household word amongst Middlesex Masons as Assistant Grand Secretary. He thought it was very satisfactory, and he felt it one of the most pleasant of his official duties to be able to associate the continuance of that duty with Bro. Lee's son. He was sorry to say there were other gaps caused by death. One of the oldest members

of the province—Bro. Stedwell—had been taken from them. Bro. Stedwell was the oldest member of Provincial Grand Lodge, having for 28 years belonged to that body, and with the single exception of Bro. John Gilbert, the Prov. Grand Tyler, there was no one in the province who had been so long associated with Provincial Grand Lodge. They had also lost the senior Past Master of the province—Bro. Shoppee—and Bro. Horton Smith, Q.C., now occupied that position. After that record, he turned with especial pleasure to the latest recruit in Prov. Grand Lodge—Bro. Rev. J. E. C. Welldon. For three successive years Prov. Grand Lodge had met at Harrow, and the Herga Lodge had done so much, and he therefore proposed a toast in connection with that lodge, and associated with it the name of Bro. Welldon, coupling the motto of the great school of which he was the head—“*Stet fortuna domus.*”

Bro. Rev. J. E. C. WELLDON, M.A., Prov. Grand Chaplain, thanked the Prov. Grand Master very heartily for the kind words in which that supernumerary toast had been proposed and accepted. He felt special gratitude, for he did not know if they were aware that he was somewhat in the habit of addressing at Harrow an audience very different to that, and when he addressed that audience his presence was by no means a source of the same satisfaction. It was one of the misfortunes of the office which he held, that the persons with whom he came most in contact were apt to regard one, if not with hostility, with a certain discriminating affection. Not long since a member of his profession had the misfortune to write a book, and not long after one of his friends was travelling on the Metropolitan Railway and a small boy was reading that book. It was a school book. After a time his friend thought he would ingratiate himself with the boy, and said—“So you are reading that book; I know the man who wrote it.” The small boy said—“You don't mean to say you know that beast.” Such were the experiences of his chequered profession. It was a great satisfaction to receive at the hands of Lord Geo. Hamilton, with so much kindness, the office conferred upon him that evening. A distinguished brother (Bro. Mason), remarked that he thought it was not the clothing that should ornament the brother, it was the brother should ornament the clothing. That distinguished brother did ornament the clothing, but it was the clothing which ornamented him (Bro. Welldon). In once again thanking them, he assured them that his highest ambition was to live up to his own clothing.

“The Visitors” was acknowledged by Bro. TRILL, After which the PROV. GRAND MASTER proposed “The Deputy Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Grand Officers,” referring to Bro. Thrupp's great services to Freemasonry. Whatever might be the question brought before Bro. Thrupp, it was decided—looking neither to right nor left—upon its merits, and what was best in the interests of Freemasonry, and it would be an evil day for Middlesex when Bro. Thrupp was compelled to relax his attention.

Bro. RAYMOND H. THURPP, Dep. P.G.D.C., said he still took—and always should take—a deep interest in the welfare of the province, to see that everything was carried out to the satisfaction of the Prov. Grand Master. He was sure all the Prov. Grand Officers, and especially Bro. Small, the Prov. G. Sec., would do all they could to assist him.

The PROV. GRAND TYLER then gave the concluding toast, and the proceedings terminated.

NEW MASONIC HALL AT EAST GRINSTEAD.

The foundation-stone of the Masonic Hall now being erected in St. James's-road, East Grinstead, was laid with full Masonic ceremonial on Wednesday, the 22nd ult. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, Prov. G.M., was unable himself to be present, but his Deputy—Bro. the Right Hon. Sir W. T. Marriott—attended on his behalf, and did the work most ably.

An emergency meeting of the Sackville Lodge, No. 1619, was opened at the White Lion Hotel punctually at 3.30 p.m., when the following brethren were present: Bros. J. E. Lark, W.M.; W. W. Gale, S.W.; A. Brandt, J.W.; Rev. R. B. Matson, Chap.; E. A. Head, P.M., Treas.; A. M. Betchley, P.M., Sec.; H. D. Gatford, S.D.; W. H. Hills, J.D.; J. Harrison, D.C.; H. Young, I.G.; W. J. S. Mann and W. J. Dunthorne, Stewards; W. H. Dixon, I.P.M.; F. J. Budd-Budd, P.M.; G. Mitchell, P.M.; C. M. Wilson, P.M.; C. J. Rowe, Tyler; F. Dunn, G. H. Lynn, A. R. Clark, H. E. Mathews, H. S. Martin, E. P. Whitley Hughes, T. Moore, R. G. Payne, and J. Cooper.

The visiting brethren included Bros. the Right Hon. Sir W. T. Marriott, Q.C., P.G.D., D.P.G.M.; A. R. Stenning, P.G.S. of W.; J. Farncombe, P.M., P.P.G.W.; V. P. Freeman, P.G.D., Prov. G. Sec.; T. G. Roberts, W.M. 1362, P.G.D. Surrey; R. A. Thompson, W.M. 2502; G. Cole, P.M. 1636; F. H. Beeny, I.P.M. 1797; J. Howe, P.M. 1465, P.P.G.S.B.; A. Alwen, W.M. 1797; G. W. Staden, 311; R. Weston, W.M. 311; W. Young, 1797; W. W. Welldon, 1821; T. Steer, 1287; C. J. Bye, P.M. 1238; and A. H. Smith, P.M. 315.

The lodge having been opened, a procession was marshalled by Bro. James Harrison, who very ably officiated as Director of the Ceremonies, assisted by Bro. W. H. Hills as his Deputy.

The site of the hall is exactly 100 yards from the White Lion Hotel, so that the brethren had no great distance to march. A considerable crowd witnessed the very unusual sight with evident interest. A number of the lady friends of the members had been provided with seats within the enclosure and had taken up their places before the arrival of the procession. As soon as the members of the Craft reached the site they divided right and left, facing inwards, forming up in two lines under an awning which had been erected over the main foundation of the building. The Deputy Prov. Grand Master proceeded to the stone, accompanied by his chief officers, and the brethren bearing the various vessels deposited them on a pedestal close at hand. Bro. E. A. Head, as chairman of the Building Committee, then in a few appropriate words, asked Bro. Sir Wm. Marriott to accept a handsome trowel, suitably inscribed, for use on and as a memento of that interesting occasion. The gift having been briefly acknowledged, Mr. W. N. Barnard then sang Cardinal Manning's beautiful hymn, “Lead, kindly light,” Mr. E. Hunt accompanying on the organ. The upper stone having been raised by the workmen, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master addressed the assembly, setting forth the duty of Masons to erect handsome buildings to be serviceable to men and to the glory of God. Prayer was next offered by the Chaplain, and the whole company then united in singing the hymn, “O Lord of Hosts, whose glory fills.” Bro. Betchley, Sec., then read the inscription to be afterwards placed on the stone and Bro. Head placed within the lower lead-lined cavity a packet of coins of the current year and copies of the *Daily Telegraph* of that day's date and the *East Grinstead Observer* of June 18th. Bro. Clark then presented the cement, which was duly spread, and the upper stone slowly lowered. The necessary tools were presented and Sir William successively declared the stone to be plumb, level, and

square, finally announcing that it was “duly prepared and truly laid,” and that the craftsmen had worked well. He next scattered corn upon the stone and then poured wine and oil over it. In a second address Sir William Marriott expressed his pride at having aided in commencing a building which, by the beauty of its design and the solidity of its construction, would, he trusted, be an ornament to the neighbourhood for centuries to come.

The architect (Bro. Mathews) was then presented to the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, who inspected the plans produced and then handed them back to Bro. Mathews, together with the general tools used in proving the position of the stone, and desired him to proceed, without loss of time, with the completion of the work in conformity with the plan.

The CHAPLAIN having offered prayer for the benefactors and workmen, the whole of the Masons present filed past the stone and laid their offerings upon it, the sum thus realised, which included a few previously promised subscriptions, amounting to nearly £25.

The familiar “Old Hundred” was then sung, and the ceremony closed with another prayer and the Benediction.

The procession having been re-formed, the brethren returned at once to the lodge room, where a very cordial vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Sir Wm. Marriott, on the proposition of the WORSHIPFUL MASTER, seconded by the TREASURER. The lodge was then formally closed.

The banquet which followed was served in a marquee erected at the rear of the White Lion Hotel, the catering being done by Messrs. Letheby and Christopher, of the Dormans Park Hotel, in conjunction with Mr. A. M. Betchley. It was a capital repast, excellent in its character, and admirably served.

At its conclusion, the W.M. of the lodge, Bro. LARK, who presided, submitted the toast of “The Queen and the Craft.”

Bro. E. A. HEAD afterwards gave “The Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales,” and referred to the great success of the recent Masonic Festival, so much of which was due to the personal popularity of his Royal Highness.

Bro. JAMES HARRISON gave “The Officers of the Grand Lodge, Present and Past,” and expressed the great pleasure it gave local brethren to see amongst them that day three gentlemen who had held office in Grand Lodge.

Bro. A. R. STENNING briefly replied to the toast.

Bro. Rev. R. B. MATSON submitted “The Provincial Grand Master of Sussex, the Duke of Connaught, and the Deputy Grand Master, the Right Hon. Sir W. T. Marriott, and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, Present and Past,” and congratulated the D. Prov. Grand Master upon the very admirable way in which he had conducted that very important ceremony, which, he believed, would long remain in the history of the Sackville Lodge, and in the memory of Bro. Budd-Budd, to whom they were very much indebted.

Bro. the Right Hon. Sir W. T. MARRIOTT, Q.C., responded, and first of all paid a deserved tribute to his honoured chief, and then expressed his own delight at having taken part in such a happy ceremony as they had carried through that day. He expressed the indebtedness of the province generally to Bro. Budd-Budd for his munificence, and hoped his example would be followed elsewhere.

Bro. W. H. HILLS gave “The Donor of the Site,” and, on behalf of the brethren, thanked Bro. Budd-Budd, not only for his generosity in that particular instance, but also for the many kindnesses which he was always extending to the brethren individually, as well as to the members collectively.

Bro. BUDD-BUDD, who was greeted with the greatest enthusiasm, said it had long been his wish, and no doubt theirs also, that they, as Masons, should have a home of their own. It was now nearing accomplishment, and the little he had done in regard to the matter would have availed nothing if it had not been for the cordial help he had received from the brothers generally, especially from the trustees, who, he was convinced, were most anxious to see the project successfully carried through.

Several other toasts followed.

The speeches were interspersed with some excellent musical selections by Mr. E. Hunt at the piano, and the following capable and well-known vocalists: Bros. A. Brandt, H. Young, and H. E. Mathews; Messrs. H. B. Harwood, W. N. Barnard, and A. E. Clarke.

RESIGNATION OF THE DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER OF ESSEX.

We are informed that, owing to his removal into Somersetshire, and his inability in consequence to keep in touch with Masonic work in the county, his Honour Judge Philbrick, Q.C. (Recorder of Colchester), has resigned his office of Deputy Prov. Grand Master, which he has held since December, 1880, and that the Earl of Warwick has appointed Colonel Lockwood, M.P., to the vacant post.

Much regret will be felt throughout the county at the announcement of Bro. Philbrick's resignation, as he has ever shown a great interest in the Order, and his genial manner has won for him the affection of all with whom he has been brought into contact.

At the same time no more popular successor could have been found than Col. Lockwood, who is a Past Master of two lodges in the province, and is a Past Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of England.

We understand that Col. Lockwood is to be installed into his office by the Earl of Warwick, Prov. G.M., at the forthcoming meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, which is to be held at Brentwood on July 26th.—*Essex County Standard.*

Obituary.

BRO. MARK W. MEADE.

On Wednesday, the 15th ult., Bro. Mark William Meade died at his residence at Kelvedon, Essex, after a somewhat prolonged illness. Bro. Meade, who was a P.M. of the Blackwater Lodge, No. 1977, was one of the founders of the Easterford Lodge, No. 2342, and had been its Secretary ever since its formation, and he was also P.P.G. Std. Br. of the Province of Essex. His remains were interred in Kelvedon churchyard on Tuesday, the 21st ult., amidst every token of respect. Till the last few years he had been postmaster of Kelvedon, and, as a mark of respect for his memory, the body was borne by the postmen of the district, whilst, in addition to many of the inhabitants, the following members of the Easterford and Blackwater Lodges: Bros. R. Galpin, E. E. Eve, F. H. Bright, F. G. Green, Walter Siggers, G. A. Eustace, S. Shawyer, W. Rudrum, S. J. King, J. Olive, J. B. Smith, H. T. Hicks, H. Carter, H. Ashwell, A. J. Bennett, and J. Inifer. The W.M. of the Easterford Lodge (Bro. J. Moss) and the Prov. G. Sec. (Bro. T. J. Ralling) were prevented by important engagements from being present. The officiating clergyman was Bro. the Rev. T. Lloyd, P.M. 2342, and P.P.G.C., and handsome wreaths were sent by the brethren of the Easterford and Blackwater Lodges.

THE SHIP AND TURTLE,

Proprietor, Bro. C. J. PAINTER.

Best and oldest house in London for recherché Masonic Banquets, Private Parties, and Dinners.
ASSEMBLY ROOMS FOR COMPANIES, &c.

OUR TURTLE "THE ELIXIR OF LIFE,"*Vide faculty.*

Purveyors to H.R.H. Prince of Wales, H.I.M. Emperor of Russia, Dukes of Saxe Gotha, Connaught, Cambridge, and most of Crowned Heads of Europe.

Manager, Bro. E. ASHBY.

THE SHIP HOTEL,

HALLIFORD-ON-THAMES, SHEPPERTON.

Bro. F. J. THAYRE, Proprietor.
(Many years at the Savoy Hotel).

The above old-established and famous Hostelry is most pleasantly situated on the banks of the Thames at one of its most charming reaches.

There is a large Coffee Room with a grand uninterrupted view.

Superior accommodation for Masonic gatherings, Families, Anglers, &c.

Fish abound in the immediate vicinity of the Hotel, and experienced Fishermen are always available, Billiards, Boating, Punting, Posting, &c.

HASTINGS.—GILDERSLEEVE'S

PRIVATE HOTEL.

STANTON HOUSE ROYAL

Every accommodation. 50 Spacious Rooms, Private and Public. Best situation on Sea Front. Most sheltered for Winter. Strictly moderate. Club of Instruction held.

Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. GILDERSLEEVE.

VALE OF HEALTH HOTEL,

HAMPSTEAD HEATH.

PROPRIETOR - Bro. CHARLES PETERS.

The Hotel now stands on the original site, which is not to be surpassed for the grand view of the surrounding scenery. Considerable alterations have been carried out making the Hotel replete with every comfort for the convenience of Visitors.

SPACIOUS BANQUETING & BILLIARD SALOONS.
CLUB AND CONCERT ROOMS

Suitable for large parties and private Balls.

SUPERIOR ACCOMMODATION FOR MASONIC
GATHERINGS.

SUMMER OUTINGS.**ROYAL WINDSOR AND THE RIVER THAMES.**

Complete arrangements made for Masonic or other parties visiting Windsor.

Steam Launch Trip: over some of the prettiest parts of the River.

Charming Drives to Virginia Water, Burnham Beeches, &c.

Steam Launches or Brakes engaged.

LUNCHEON & DINING ROOMS. RESTAURANT.
Carefully selected Wines

LAYTON BROTHERS,
CONFECTIONERS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN,
WINDSOR.

ANDERTON'S HOTEL & TAVERN

FLEET STREET, LONDON.

F. H. CLEWOW, Proprietor.

In connection with the Peacock Hotel, and Royal Hotel, Boston, Lincolnshire.

The central position of Anderton's is unequalled for Masonic Banquets, Public Dinners, Wedding Breakfasts, Meetings of Creditors, Arbitrations, &c.

The RESTAURANT on Eastern Side of Hotel Entrance is open to the public from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for Breakfasts, Luncheons, Teas, and Dinners.

The 2s. Hot Luncheon, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., in Coffee Room, unequalled.

Registered Address for Telegrams:—

CLEWOW, LONDON.

BRO. EDWARD P. DELEVANTI

will be pleased to undertake

MUSICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR MASONIC
BANQUETS, CONSECRATIONS, &c.
(Craft, Arch, Mark, Secret Monitor, &c.)

MASONIC QUARTETTE.

THE COURT PART SINGERS.

Layr Marney, Mount Park, Ealing; or 16 Great Queen Street, W.C.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION

FOR GIRLS.

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

INSTITUTED 1788.

Chief Patroness:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

Grand Patron and President:

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

Grand Patroness:

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at FREEMASONS' HALL, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C., on THURSDAY, July 7th, 1898, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution; to approve, and declare the List of Candidates for the Election on the 13th of OCTOBER next; and to declare the number of Girls then to be elected.

F. R. W. HEDGES,
Secretary.

5, Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen Street, W.C.,
1st July, 1898.

The 111th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will be held in May, 1899, and the names of Stewards willing to act on the occasion will be gratefully received.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION

FOR BOYS,

WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N

GRAND PATRON:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

PRESIDENT:

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

A QUARTERLY COURT of the Governors and Subscribers will be held at FREEMASONS' HALL, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on FRIDAY, the 8th day of JULY, 1898, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution.

To consider the following Notices of Motion:

(1.) By the W. Bro. WILLIAM RUSSELL, P.A.G.D. of C., Vice-Patron of the Institution:

(a) "That in Law 79, line 3, the words '*Five Hundred Guineas*' be struck out, and the words '*Nine Hundred Guineas*' be substituted therefor."

(b.) "That the Law become again operative."

(2.) By the W. Bro. STANLEY J. ATTENBOROUGH, P.A.G.D.C., Patron and Honorary Solicitor of the Institution:—

"That in order to recognise the efforts made to elect Albert Victor Birt, an unsuccessful (last chance) case at the April Election in the Centenary year of this Institution, an allowance of £20 per annum be made to him towards his Education and Maintenance, provided he be Educated at a School to be approved by the Board of Management, and be subject to the Rules applicable to Boys maintained and educated out of the Institution, and that such allowance commence from the date upon which he would, if elected, have been admitted into the School."

To consider and, if approved, to adopt a recommendation from the Council as to the number of Boys to be Elected at the Quarterly Court on Friday, 14th October, 1898, and to determine the List of Candidates.

The Chair will be taken at FOUR o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

By order,
J. M. McLEOD,
Secretary.

Offices: 6, Freemasons' Hall,
Gt. Queen-street, London, W.C.,
30th June, 1898.

WASHING WELL DONE AND

ACCURATELY RETURNED.

Old Established.

VICTORIA LAUNDRY WORKS, Child's Hill, Hendon.
Prospectus free.

PHENIX FIRE OFFICE,

19, LOMBARD ST., & 57, CHARING CROSS, LONDON.—Established 1782.

Lower Current Rates Liberal and Prompt Settlements Assured free of all Liability Electric Lighting Rules supplied
W. C. MACDONALD, { Joint
F. B. MACDONALD, { Secretaries.

FREEHOLD.

BUSHEY GROVE PARK,

NEAR WATFORD.

PICTURESQUE MODERN RESIDENCE

TO BE SOLD, Price £1750,

or would be let on lease at £90 per annum.

Eleven Rooms, Bathroom, Square Hall and Entrance Porch, ample domestic Offices, large Gardens, with Tennis Court, Cycle House, &c. Gravel Soil and pure Colne Valley Water, Extensive Views over the Park.

To view, apply to Mr. BROWN, "Fairlawn," The Avenue, Bushey Grove Park, near Watford.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

CHANNEL ISLANDS, via WEYMOUTH.

QUICKEST AND BEST ROUTE.

SHORTEST SEA PASSAGE.

TWO EXPRESS SERVICES DAILY.

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

JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER SERVICE.

DAY SERVICE (Sundays excepted), PADDINGTON, depart 8.50 a.m.; WEYMOUTH, depart 1.30 p.m., reaching GUERNSEY about 5.0 p.m., and JERSEY about 7.0 p.m.; returning from JERSEY at 8.30 a.m., and GUERNSEY at 10.0 a.m., reaching PADDINGTON by Special Boat Train, about 7.15 p.m.

NIGHT SERVICE (Sundays excepted), PADDINGTON depart 9.45 p.m.; WEYMOUTH, depart 2.15 a.m., reaching GUERNSEY about 6.30 a.m., and JERSEY about 9.0 a.m.

There is NO NIGHT SERVICE FROM THE ISLANDS.

EXCURSIONS will leave PADDINGTON STATION as under:

EVERY SATURDAY, 8.50 a.m. (Special Day Service Express), and 9.45 p.m. (Night Boat Express) for GUERNSEY and JERSEY, for a fortnight or less. RETURN FARE, 3rd class and AFTER CABIN 24s. 6d.

Passengers pass direct between the trains and Steamers at Weymouth. Steamers lighted by electricity.

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

EVERY WEDNESDAY.—To SWINDON, Cirencester, Tetbury, Chalford, Stroud, GLOUCESTER, Cheltenham, HEREFORD, Clevedon, WESTON-SUPER-MARE, Bridgwater, TAUNTON, Minehead, Wellington, Tiverton, &c., for a week, a fortnight, &c.; and to SHREWSBURY, Welshpool, ABERYSTWYTH, Llangollen, Corwen, Bala, Festiniog, DOLGELLY, BARMOUTH, Rhyl, Llandudno, Bettws-y-coed, Carnarvon, Llanberis (for Snowdon), &c., for 6, 9, 13, or 16 days.

EVERY WEDNESDAY MIDNIGHT.—To Chepstow, Monmouth, Newport, CARDIFF, SWANSEA, Llanelly, Carmarthen, Pembroke Dock, Tenby, Cardigan, OLD AND NEW MILFORD, &c., for 8 or 15 days.

EVERY THURSDAY.—To Newbury, Savernake, Marlborough, Devizes, Trowbridge, Warminster, &c., for a week, a fortnight, &c.

EVERY THURSDAY, FRIDAY NIGHT, AND SATURDAY.—To ENETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, PLYMOUTH, Bodmin, Wadebridge, Fowey, Truro, Falmouth, St. Ives, PENZANCE, &c., for a week, a fortnight, &c.

EVERY THURSDAY AND SATURDAY.—To Minehead, Lynton, Lynmouth, Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE, Yealmpton, Tavistock, Launceston, Torquay, Dartmouth, &c., for a week, a fortnight, &c.

EVERY FRIDAY.—To Chippenham, BATH, BRISTOL, Frome, Shepton Mallet, Wells, Yeovil, Bridport, Dorchester, WEYMOUTH, Portland, &c., and to the Scilly Islands, for a week, a fortnight, &c.

EVERY FRIDAY MIDNIGHT.—To WESTON-SUPER-MARE, for a week, a fortnight, &c.

EVERY FRIDAY MIDNIGHT AND SATURDAY.—To DOUGLAS (ISLE OF MAN), for a week, a fortnight, &c.

A FORTNIGHT IN IRELAND.—THURSDAYS, JUNE 30, JULY 14, 28, AUGUST 11, 25, SEPTEMBER 8, and 22.—For CORK and KILLARNEY.

FRIDAYS, JULY 1, 15, 29, AUGUST 12, 26, SEPTEMBER 9 and 23.—For WATERFORD, Dungarvan, Lismore, Clonmel, Tipperary, Kilkenny, KILLARNEY, BELFAST, Armagh, Enniskillen, Larne, Giants' Causeway, &c.

CHEAP THIRD CLASS RETURN TICKETS are issued DAILY by certain trains to WINDSOR (2s. 6d.), BURNHAM BEECHES (3s.), Maidenhead (3s.), HENLEY (3s. 6d.), Goring (6s.), &c.

Tickets, bills, pamphlets, and Country Lodging Lists can be obtained at the Company's Stations, and at the usual Receiving Offices.

J. L. WILKINSON, General Manager.

MAYO'S CASTLE HOTEL,

EAST MOLESEY, HAMPTON COURT STATION.

BRO. JOHN MAYO. MASONIC TEMPLE.

Accommodation in the new wing for Banquets for any number up to 120. Every convenience for Ladies' Gatherings. Spacious landing to river, whence Steam Launches can start. Five Lodges meet here, and reference may be made to the respective Masters as to the catering, &c.

FOR ECONOMICAL AND

RESPECTABLE FUNERALS at stated charges.

To cover all expenses, exclusive of cemetery fees.

BRO. C. G. HATT,

FUNERAL FURNISHER, APPRAISER AND
MONUMENTAL MASON,

2, HIGH STREET, KENSINGTON, W.

CREMATION AND EMBALMING.

Distance no object.

Orders by post or telegrams promptly attended to.

Price Lists free on application.

Telegraphic Address—"ORPHANHOOD," LONDON.

FREEMASON'S HYMN.—THE
MYSTIC TIE. Words and Music composed by
F. J. STEIN. Price 1s. 6d. nett.

SALARIED APPOINTMENT VACANT.—A large financial Corporation require the services of a gentleman of good social position to fill the above. Only those of undoubted standing need apply. Address: L. H. S., 71, Piccadilly.

TEOFANI'S
HIGH-CLASS
CIGARETTES.

UNEQUALLED FOR QUALITY.

TEOFANI'S CIGARETTES have been awarded Two Gold Medals for Quality and Make, International Tobacco Exhibition, 1895.

TEOFANI'S are sold at the leading Hotels, Restaurants, and Tobacconists throughout the United Kingdom.

A Feature of the Metropolis.

SPIERS & POND'S
CRITERION RESTAURANT,
PICCADILLY CIRCUS,
LONDON, W.

EAST ROOM.

Finest Cuisine, unsurpassed by the most renowned Parisian Restaurants, Luncheons, Dinners and Suppers à la carte and prix fixe. Viennese Band.

GRAND HALL.

Musical Dinner 3s. 6d. per head. Accompanied by the Imperial Austrian Band.

WEST ROOM.

Academy Luncheon 2s. 6d., Diner Parisien 5s., during both of which the renowned Mandolin Quartette performs.

BUFFET & GRILL ROOM.

Quick service à la carte and moderate prices. Joins in each room fresh from the Spit every half-hour.

AMERICAN BAR.

Service of special American Dishes, Grills, &c.

Splendid Suites of Rooms for Military and other Dinners.



Masonic Notes.

SATURDAY, JULY 2, 1898.

The Committee that had charge of the arrangements at the recent Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys must be extremely gratified at the testimony which the Prince of Wales as Chairman on that occasion, has borne to the admirable manner in which the preparations were made and carried out. A letter from his Royal Highness was read at the meeting of the Council on Friday, the 24th ult., in which he pronounced the meeting as a successful one from every point of view. The letter will be found appended to the report of the Council meeting in another column.

It is to be regretted that the weather on Saturday last was not more favourable for out-door sports. But in spite of this drawback, which no doubt had the effect

of diminishing the attendance, pretty nearly the whole of the programme that had been arranged was carried out. There was no Gymnastic Display and no Tug of War, as the grass was too wet, but with these exceptions everything passed off satisfactorily, and the School is to be congratulated on the good form which most of the competitors exhibited. A full report of the results in the several contests is published elsewhere.

The summer Quarterly Courts of the Governors and Subscribers of our two scholastic Institutions will be held at Freemasons' Hall next week, that of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls being appointed for Thursday, the 7th inst., at 12 noon, and that of the Institution for Boys on the following day at 4 p.m. The business at both meetings will include, as usual, the announcement of the lists for the October elections and the declaration of the vacancies then to be competed for.

The Stewards of the Festival, which was held on Tuesday, the 22nd February, in behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, paid their accustomed visit to the Asylum at Croydon, on Friday, the 24th ult. Among those present were Bros. John Newton, F.R.A.S., P.G.P., who presided as Chairman; James Terry, P.G.S.B., Secretary of the Institution; H. J. Strong, P.A.G.D.C., Hon. Consulting Physician to the Institution; and Walter Gladding, who acted as Vice-Chairman, together with Miss Terry, Bro. J. M. and Mrs. Campbell, Bro. and Mrs. A. Mullord, Bro. W. and Mrs. Webber, Bros. Griffiths, Mustart, Collison, Colsell, and others.

The visitors were delighted with all they saw and the inmates were equally pleased to receive the visitors. In the course of the afternoon luncheon was served, and Bro. Newton, who presided, gave the only two toasts which are honoured on these occasions, namely, "The Queen," and "Success to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution," to the latter of which Bro. James Terry replied in a very eloquent speech. In the course of the proceedings, a most excellent selection of music was very ably carried out by the Croydon Town Band.

Bro. the Very Rev. Dean Hole is most heartily to be congratulated on the success of the Masonic gathering in Rochester Cathedral on Saturday, the 25th ult. Our Very Rev. brother had a double object in view in planning it. Firstly, he was desirous of commemorating his initiation into Freemasonry 56 years ago and his appointment last year to the high office of Grand Chaplain of United Grand Lodge, and secondly he had in view to inaugurate a fund for the erection of a new Tower to the sacred edifice he is so intimately associated with and loves so well, in place of the present "unsightly" tower. It is estimated that the new Tower, which will be known as "The Freemasons' Tower," will cost some £5000, and it is to be hoped that from the known energy of the Dean and the splendid liberality which the brethren generally have invariably extended towards such projects the scheme will be as successfully carried through as was the gathering on Saturday last.

There was, as may well be supposed, a large attendance of the brethren, amongst them being Bros. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., Pro G.M.; Earl Amherst, Deputy G.M., and Prov. G.M. of Kent; Earl Egerton of Ta'nton, Prov. G.M. of Cheshire; Lord Harlech, Prov. G.M. of North Wales; Lieut.-Col. Clifford Probyn, G. Treas.; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Thomas Fenn, P.G.W., Acting G. Director of Ceremonies, who was assisted by Bro. J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C.; the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor (Bro. Alderman Davies, M.P.) and the Sheriffs (Bros. Alderman Green and Dewar) of London; the Mayors of Rochester and Chatham, and many others of rank in the Province of Kent; the members present being set down as about a thousand.

The service was a most impressive one and chiefly musical, the organ being seconded by the massed bands of the Royal Engineers and Royal Marines from Chatham. A shortened form of evensong with special psalms and anthems was followed by a brief but eloquent sermon by the Dean, on the text "Charity edifieth," in which he appealed to all present to give a generous support to the fund. From first to last there was no hitch in the arrangements, and when all was over, the holders of tickets for the service were entertained by Bro. the Dean and Mrs. Hole at an "At Home" in the Deanery and the grounds in which it stands.

It is with very deep regret that we have heard, just at the moment of going to press, of the death, after a long and painful illness, of Bro. A. A. Pendlebury, Past Asst. G. Sec., and Asst. G. Scribe E. We shall publish next week a full account of his valuable services, but in the meantime, we tender to his family and numerous friends our sincere sympathy in the loss they have sustained.

There is now rarely a year that passes but our Royal Masonic Institution for Girls at Battersea Rise attracts to it sundry visitors of greater or less distinction. On Monday the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of London (Bro. Alderman Davies, M.P.) and the Lady Mayoress, with the Sheriffs and Under-Sheriffs, visited the School in State, and had the pleasure of witnessing the girls' calisthenic exercises, and it is needless to say that the manner in which they went through them was in the highest degree appreciated, as also was the singing which formed part of the extemporised entertainment. Before leaving, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress expressed in the warmest terms the pleasure they had experienced, and thanked the House Committee for the welcome they had received. Bros. Ralph Clutton (Chairman), Sir J. B. Monckton, Frank Richardson, J. H. Matthews, and C. Hammerton, of the House Committee, were in attendance.

We congratulate Comp. J. Balfour Cockburn on his appointment to the office of Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Masonry in the Province of Guernsey and Alderney. It was only last week that we published an account of the consecration of the St. Sampson's Chapter, attached to Lodge No. 2598, bearing the same name, and as there were already two chapters in existence, his Royal Highness, the Grand Z., has thought well to elect Guernsey and Alderney into a Royal Arch Province, with Comp. Cockburn, who has presided so successfully over Craft Masonry as Prov. Grand Master for the last four years as the first Grand Superintendent. We doubt not that under his auspices the Royal Arch will prosper exceedingly.

Among the special lodges which have been constituted latterly in the Metropolitan district, there is none that is better calculated to strengthen the Craft than the Jubilee Masters' Lodge, No. 2712, which it was the privilege of the Grand Secretary to inaugurate on Monday, the 20th ultimo. It is intended that only those brethren shall be eligible as members who at the time of their being proposed are Worshipful Masters of lodges in the London district, and, as the number of founders was 75, there is very little reason to doubt its being a success. At all events, the greatest interest was taken in the proceedings of the inaugural meeting, there being as many as 230 brethren present, all of whom, with a solitary exception, had attained to the rank of Installed Master. The first Master is Bro. Alderman W. Vaughan Morgan, P.G. Treasurer, who, in addition to being a P.M. of many years' standing of the Burlington Lodge, No. 96, was early in last year installed as first W.M. of the Christ's Hospital Lodge, No. 2650, and to whose ability and experience Bro. Thomas Fenn bore willing testimony in the speech in which he proposed his health.

As regards the lodge itself, it will, in the first place, be a reminder to the brethren for all time of the grand events of last year, when the 60th anniversary of the accession to the throne of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen was celebrated with the greatest loyalty and respect throughout the length and breadth of her vast empire. In the next place, there is no other lodge in London, or, indeed, on the roll of United Grand Lodge which is so likely, as we have before suggested, to give stability to Freemasonry. The membership being restricted to installed Masters, there will, of course, be no initiations, while as regards the influence it is calculated to exercise, there will be, we presume, no limit as to the number of members, except such as the lodge itself may see fit to impose. Thus, as every member will be a brother of ability and experience in lodge work, and as there will be no ceremonies of initiation, passing and raising to occupy the time of the meeting, the lodge will be able to devote itself to the other duties of Freemasonry. Above all, it will be in a position to encourage the other lodges to still greater devotion to the interests of our Order. Its first duty, as our Rev. Brother Brownrigg pointed out in his oration at the constitution of the lodge, was "to be loyal Masons," and "then," he added, "this lodge could not fail to be a power."

There is an incident in connection with the inauguration of this lodge which must not be passed over in silence. There is no doubt that to Bro. J. D. Langton, Past D.G.D.C., is in great measure due the success of the preliminary arrangements, and the lodge having been constituted and fully organised lost no time in recognising the services rendered it by that brother. Accordingly a modest testimonial was presented to him, and Bro. Langton, in brief but kindly terms, acknowledged the courteous presentation.

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.

HONORARY SECRETARIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

About 33 years ago, I had occasion to write the then Grand Secretary on Masonic business, as Secretary of the Frederick Lodge of Unity, No. 452, and as, in those days, I paid my usual yearly subscription, I signed myself *Hon. Secy.* The W. Bro. Wm. Gray Clarke was the Grand Secretary, and he returned my letter stating that it must come through "the Sec. of the Lodge." I took the hint and re-wrote the letter signing myself *Secretary.* That letter was duly attended to.—Yours fraternally,

MAGNUS OHREN.

June 25th.

JUBILEE MASTERS' LODGE, No. 2712.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The "Jubilee Masters' Lodge, No. 2712," is now "un Fait accompli," and in the interesting account of the consecration that appears in your issue of this week, I regret to notice that no mention is made of the brother who was the originator of the whole scheme. I allude to Bro. W. Thomson Lyon. It was this brother who got up the dinner of London W.Ms. alluded to in your columns, and it was he who suggested that evening the formation of the present lodge.—Yours fraternally,

A FOUNDER.

London, June 25th.

A QUERY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

A Past Master who re-joins the lodge in which he served as Worshipful Master becomes a Past Master of such lodge. Does he regain his old position among the Past Masters, or does he rank at the bottom of the list?—Yours fraternally,

P.M.

June 27th.

ANNUAL ATHLETIC SPORTS OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The annual athletic sports of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys took place in the grounds of the Institution, Wood Green, on Saturday, the 25th ult., when there were present, among others, Bros. R. Eve (Chairman of the Board of Management), Glass, Cummings, Willing, Mansfield, Ellard, Butcher, Hodges, Bailey, Hawkins, Bale, Chatterton, Harris, Saunders, F. A. White, R. Manuel, and McLeod, Secretary.

Owing to the rain that fell during the morning the attendance was not so large as might have been expected, but thanks to the excellence of the arrangements made by the Committee in charge, everything passed off satisfactorily. Owing to the same cause, however, that kept many from attending, the gymnastic display, which is one of the attractions of the meeting, did not take place, the grass being far too wet, and for the same reason the tug-of-war was omitted. The other events were in nearly every case well contested, and when all was over Mrs. Willing very kindly distributed the prizes; a vote of thanks to her for her attendance—to which Bro. Willing responded—being proposed by Bro. R. Eve, and carried amid hearty cheers.

The following is a record of the results:

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.—Prize, the ball. 11 entered. Shaw, 1; Greenwood, 2. Distance thrown 88 yards 4 inches.

100 YARDS (UNDER 13).—First prize, tankard; second prize, batting gloves. 24 competed. Final heat. Curtis, 1; Chipp, 2. Time, 13 seconds.

There were 19 entries for the 100 yards (open).—First prize, opera glasses, presented by Bro. Kemp; second prize, drinking cup. Final heat. Shaw, 1; Chadwick, 2. Time, 11 4-5ths seconds.

HIGH JUMP (PREPARATORY SCHOOL).—First prize, Loxley, bat; second prize, Hawkins, a pair of pads. Height, 3 feet 2 inches.

HIGH JUMP (OPEN).—First prize, handbag; second prize, cricket ball. Campbell, 1; Chadwick, 2. Height, 4 feet, 1 inch.

For the 220 yards (under 13) handicap there were 24 entries. First prize, cricket bat; second prize, album. 1, Curtis (7 yards); 2, Aspden (24 yards). Time, 33 seconds.

300 YARDS (OPEN).—First prize, cricket bat; second prize, tankard; presented by Bro. A. B. Bennett. 14 entries. Shaw, 1; Chadwick, 2. Time, 43 seconds.

Four entered for the high jump (under 13).—First prize, telescope; second prize, tennis racquet. Walker, 1; Pickles, 2. Height, 3 feet 10 inches.

For the 440 yards (open) handicap there were 31 entered. First prize, bat; second prize, handbag; Curtis (40 1/2 yards) breasting the tape in 68 1-5th seconds; Grant (63 yards) being second.

220 YARDS (PREPARATORY SCHOOL).—First prize, football; second prize, writing case. Loxley won in 36 secs.; 2nd, Ward. Entries 17.

100 YARDS BICYCLE SLOW RACE.—Prizes presented by Bros. James Willing, jun., and Henry Pritchard. 1, Tutton; 2, Smith.

LONG JUMP (UNDER 13).—Presented by Bro. James Willing, jun. First prize, writing case, Pickles; 2, Walker; six entered.

BICYCLE TENT-PEGGING.—Prize, clock. 1, Tutton; 2, Garraway.

For the Bicycle Race, 220 yards, without hands, seven entered. First prize, tankard. 1, Tutton; 2, Buck. Time, 32 secs.

There were 29 entered for the 220 Yards (open) Handicap. First prize, cricket bat; second prize, pads. Result—1, Curtis (31 yds.); 2, Frost (18 yds.). Time, 29 2-5ths secs.

The Three-Legged Race.—First prize, two Hockey sticks; second prize, two pairs of fives gloves—was won by Horsburgh and Roberts, Curtis and Smith being second; 15 couples entered.

100 YARDS PREPARATORY SCHOOL.—First prize, bat; second prize, batting gloves; 18 entries. 1, Loxley; 2, Lloyd. Time, 12 4-5ths secs.

80 YARDS (OPEN).—First prize, cricket ball; second prize, pads; third prize, batting gloves; 26 entered. 1, Greenwood (10 yds.); 2, Chadwick (6 yds.); 3, Boden. Time, 2 min. 42 secs.

OLD BOYS' RACE.—220 Yards.—First prize presented by the Sports Committee; second and third prizes by the Old Masonians' Society. 1, Lillywhite; 2, Walker. Time, 17 secs.

LONG JUMP (OPEN).—First prize, pads; second prize, hockey stick. 1, Cowell; 2, Rees. Distance, 14 ft.

Attree, of St. Olave's, Southwark, won the 220 Yards Race (Open to Public Schools only.) Prize of the value of one guinea.

DONKEY RACE (PREPARATORY SCHOOL).—1, Loxley and Howson; 2, Abbott and Hist.

Six entered for the Hurdle Race. Prize, tankard.—Result: 1, Campbell; 2, Owen.

Six couples entered for the Three-legged Race (Preparatory School).—First prize, two albums; second prize, two pencils; Abbott and Dover being first, and Hawkins and Loxley, second.

The Consolation Sack Race.—First prize, pads; second prize, hockey stick. Won b, Owen, Hughes being second.

For the 220 Yards Consolation Race.—First prize, handbag; second prize, tennis racquet. Long came in first; Hemming, second.

VICTOR LUDORUM.—Over 13, prize presented by the Gavel Club—A. P. Shaw. Winners of Open Events only are eligible. A first place counts 3; a second 2; a third 1. Under 13; tankard, presented by the Assistant Masters—J. Curtis. No competitor allowed to take more than three prizes.

The band of the Strand Schools attended during the afternoon by kind permission of the Board of Guardians, and played an excellent selection under the direction of their bandmaster, Bro. Binnie.

ANNUAL PICNIC OF THE GALLERY LODGE, NO. 1928.

The annual picnic of the Gallery Lodge, No. 1928, took place on Saturday, the 18th ult., at Guildford. The party left Waterloo in specially reserved saloons attached to the 11.25 a.m. train, and on arrival at Guildford proceeded to the Constitutional Hall where luncheon was served. In the afternoon carriages were provided, and the members and their ladies, with several visitors, went for a delightful drive to Newland's Corner, Fairyland, and the Silent Pool, returning to Guildford by the lower road. The weather was all that could be desired for an excursion of the kind, and after the recent rains, this charming district of Surrey looked its best.

At 6 p.m., dinner was served at the Constitutional Hall, the W.M., Bro. Samuel James, presiding, when the toast of "The Gallery Lodge" was proposed by Bro. ASHER, and the W.M. replied.

Messrs. H. PIPER and CORNWALL responded for "The Visitors," and Bro. MAXWELL for "The Ladies."

Several capital songs were contributed by brethren, and at nine o'clock "Auld Lang Syne" brought the meeting to a close, the party returning to Waterloo by the 9.30 train. The arrangements for the day proved adequate and satisfactory in every respect, and the picnic of 1898 was universally voted a most successful and enjoyable gathering.

There were present, among others, Bro. S. James (W.M.) and Mrs. James, Bro. A. F. Asher, Bro. G. and Mrs. Tarran, Bro. W. M. and Mrs. Duckworth, Bro. W. T. and Mrs. Perkins, Bro. E. A. and Mrs. Peachey, Bro. F. W. and Mrs. Brodie, Bro. G. H. and Mrs. Ribbons, Bro. H. L. and Mrs. Bell, Bro. J. D. and Mrs. Irvine, Bro. John Martin, Bro. E. W. and Mrs. Hobson, Bro. Cornwallis H. Smith, Bro. and Mrs. Collins, Bro. H. E. and Mrs. Fenn, Bro. F. J. and Mrs. Barrett, Bro. G. A. and Mrs. Jones, Bro. T. Artemus Jones, Bro. A. and Mrs. Douglass, Bro. J. B. Maxwell, Mr. H. and Miss Piper, Mr. and Mrs. Cornwall, and others.

THE NEW MASONIC LODGE AT PORTLAND.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE.

There was a large and influential gathering of brethren at Portland on the 23rd ult., when the foundation-stone of the new lodge, which is in course of erection near the station, was laid with full Masonic honours by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Col. Brymer, M.P. For some time past the Portland Lodge has been growing rapidly in numbers, and great inconvenience has been suffered by the lack of sufficient accommodation in the present building. The scheme of a new lodge was initiated by the present W.M., Bro. Richard Score, and the proposal was taken up with the utmost enthusiasm by the members. Fortunately the W.M. was able to secure a site possessing unequalled advantages, and the support which has been forthcoming has been so encouraging as to afford the happiest auguries for the ultimate success of a scheme of considerable magnitude. The laying of the foundation-stone was a ceremony of sufficient interest to attract brethren from all parts of the county. Unfortunately, the Provincial Grand Master could not fulfil his promise to attend, but his place was filled by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master with his customary urbanity and ability.

The Provincial Grand Lodge met at the Soldiers' Institute at half-past two, when the following Provincial Grand Officers were present: Bros. W. E. Brymer, M.P., acting P.G.M.; Rev. W. Mortimer Heath, acting D.P.G.M.; S. R., Baskett, P.S.G.W.; F. W. Hetley, P.J.G.W.; R. D. Thornton, P.G. Treas.; H. Tizard George, acting P.G. Reg.; Robert Case, P.G. Sec.; H. Ling, acting P.S.G.D.; P. J. Gavin, P.J.G.D.; C. J. Freeman, acting P.G. Supt. of Works; Albert Hann, P.G.D.C.; H. Gibbs, acting P.A.G.D.C.; Henry N. Cox, P.G.S.B.; H. R. Morgan, P.G. Org.; O. M. Beament, P.G. Purst.; H. B. Vincent, F. P. Oakley, J. T. Whettam, J. Neville, acting, and F. T. Dowdeswell, acting, Stwds.; J. C. Vye, P.G. Tyler; and many Past Prov. G. Officers and brethren.

The new building was gaily decorated with flags, and on the platform were a large number of ladies. As the principal officers took up their places the band of the Northumberland Fusiliers played Mendelssohn's "Cornelius" March. The proceedings commenced with the hymn "O God, our help in ages past," the accompaniment being played by the band.

The stone being prepared and the upper part raised,

The DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER addressed the assembly. In the quaint words of the ritual, he said: Men and brethren here assembled to behold this ceremony; be it known unto you that we be lawful Masons, true and faithful to the laws of our country, and engaged by solemn obligations to erect handsome buildings to be serviceable to the brethren, and who fear God, the Great Architect of the Universe. We have among us concealed from the eyes of all men secrets which may not be revealed, and which no man has discovered; but those secrets are lawful and honourable, and are not repugnant to the laws of God or man. They were entrusted in peace and honour to Masons of ancient times, and having been faithfully transmitted to us, it is our duty to convey them unimpaired to the latest posterity. Unless our Craft were good and our calling honourable, we should not have lasted for so many centuries, and we should not have had so many illustrious brethren in our Order ready to promote our laws and further our Institutions. We are assembled here to-day in the presence of you all to erect this building to the honour and glory of the Most High, and we pray God may prosper, as it seems good to Him; and as the first duty of Masons in any undertaking is to invoke the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe on their work, I now ask you to unite with our Grand Chaplain in an address to the Throne of Grace.

The acting CHAPLAIN offered up prayer.

Then the PROV. G. TREASURER deposited in the cavity a bottle containing the day's copies of the *Times* and *Dorset County Chronicle*, programme of ceremony, notice of meeting, Provincial calendar, copy of the inscription on the plate, and the following coins: gold, sovereign and half-sovereign; silver, five shilling piece, half-crown, florin, shilling, sixpence; and in bronze one penny, halfpenny, and farthing, all of the present year.

The W.M. of Portland Lodge then presented the trowel and the D.P.G.M. spread the cement, and the upper part of the stone was let slowly down, while a short movement from the "Elijah" was played by the band.

The following was then sung:

"And we have come, fraternal bands,
With joy and pride and prosperous spoil,
To honour him by votive hands
With streams of corn, and wine, and oil."

The W.M. of the Portland Lodge then handed the plan of the building to the P.G.M. and presented the architect (Bro. Elford) to him. The D.P.G.M. addressed the architect as follows: I now place in your hands the plan of this intended building, together with the necessary tools, not doubting your skill and ability as a Craftsman, and I desire that you will proceed without loss of time to the completion of the work in conformity with the plans and designs now entrusted to you.

The band then played "God save the Queen," which was sung by the brethren and all present.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed.

After the D.P.G.M. and his officers had retired, a regular convocation of Lodge 1037 was formed, with Bro. Score in the chair, and after the usual business had been transacted, a Board of Installed Masters was formed. Bro. R. Score was then re-installed W.M. of the lodge for another year, the ceremony being ably performed by Bro. Eveleigh.

The W.M., in his address to the lodge, alluded to the important work which they had undertaken, and asked for the hearty co-operation of the members. He took occasion to offer the thanks of the lodge to Bro. R. D. Thornton for the gift of the foundation stone and the inscription.

The officers were invested as follows: Bros. F. T. Dowdeswell, I.P.M.; A. Davidson, S.W.; W. R. Wallis, J.W.; E. Mills, Chap.; T. Eveleigh, Treas.; W. Gregory, Sec.; J. B. Gray, S.D.; R. Lano, J.D.; J. W. Board, D.C.; C. Hutchings, Org.; F. Eacock, I.G.; S. Jackson, W. H. Baker, E. J. Elford, Wm. Pearce, and Wm. Thomas, Stwds.; J. Cooke, Tyler; and C. J. Freeman, P.P.G. Supt. of Works, Charity Stwd.

While the proceedings of the lodge were in progress a large company of ladies, numbering nearly 200, were by the invitation of the W.M. entertained to refreshment in the Cadets' ground, where the band of the Northumberland Fusiliers was in attendance.

Subsequently about 150 brethren sat down to a banquet, served in a large marquee erected by Mr. J. B. Gray in the same ground, when the W.M. presided, supported by well-known local and provincial brethren.

The usual loyal toasts were duly honoured.

The toast of "The Grand Lodge" was submitted by the WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

Bro. CASE, P.G.S.B. England, responded, and congratulated the members of the Portland Lodge on the highly successful nature of the day's proceedings.

"The Provincial Grand Lodge" was proposed by the WORSHIPFUL MASTER, who offered his warmest thanks to Bro. Col. Brymer for his ready kindness in coming to Portland to lay the stone in the absence of the Provincial Grand Master.

The toast was acknowledged by Bros. HETLEY, P.J.G.W.; H. GROVES, P.P. S.G.W.; and GEORGE, P.P.G. Reg.

"The Health of the W.M. of Portland Lodge" was given in warm terms by Bro. DOWDESWELL, who expressed the obligations of the brethren to Bro. Richard Score for the origination of the scheme of the new lodge, and his enthusiastic efforts to bring it to a successful completion.

The toast was received with the utmost cordiality.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in his reply, said the proposal to erect a new lodge in Portland had long been in his heart, and he was glad to say that with the co-operation of the brethren they were now bringing his hopes to fulfilment. The responsibility was a great one, but Masonry was progressing as Portland was, and he had little doubt that there was a successful future before them. He expressed the hope that the new lodge would be completed by the time they received the Provincial Grand Lodge.

"The Installing Master and Past Masters" was the next toast, and Bros. EVELEIGH and CRISP replied.

"The Masonic Charities" was then given.

Bro. FREEMAN ably responded, and furnished interesting details of the recent Festival of the Boys' School, when the Dorset list of subscriptions totalled £1093 5s. 6d., and when Bro. Whadcoat gave a personal donation of 1000 guineas, which, he was glad to say, would go to swell the Dorset votes. (Applause)

Bro. JAMES also replied.

Bros. WHITLEY BAKER and REES acknowledged the toast of "The Visiting Brethren."

Other toasts were "The Officers of Portland Lodge," "Prosperity to Portland Lodge," and the Tyler's toast.

Craft Masonry.

Alexandra Palace Lodge, No. 1541.

The installation meeting was held on the 25th ult., at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel, E.C., and passed off with great éclat. The principal business was the installation of Bro. C. J. Drummond, S.W., as W.M. for the ensuing year, which ceremony was performed by the retiring W.M. (Bro. J. F. Purton) in a manner that called forth the highest praise from all present.

The officers for the year were appointed and invested as follows: Bros. H. T. Arnott, S.W.; C. Robinson, J.W.; J. F. Purton, I.P.M.; R. Larchin, P.M., Treas.; C. W. Mayo, P.M. 1886, Sec.; H. E. Pont, S.D.; J. C. Brock, J.D.; H. P. White, I.G.; W. W. Snelling, P.M., D.C.; J. T. Moore and W. Long, Stewards; W. Wright, P.M., P.P.G.O. Middx., Org.; and James Rawles, Tyler.

By the unanimous vote of the lodge a beautiful Past Master's jewel, of unique design, was presented to Bro. J. F. Purton, the outgoing W.M., by his successor, and feelingly acknowledged. A feature of the evening was the receipt by Bro. C. J. Drummond, W.M., of the following telegram from the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

"The Grand Master desires me to congratulate you on your installation as Worshipful Master of the Alexandra Palace Lodge.—KNOLLYS."

Upwards of 60 brethren afterwards dined at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel; among the visitors present being Bros. Cruickshanks, P.M.; John Buchanan, P.M.; J. Passmore Edwards, and A. Saxon Snell.

Between the toasts an excellent programme of music was performed by the Angelus Glee Singers (Bros. Robert Alexander, Albon Nash, Henry Yates, and Vernon Taylor), Bros. Edwin Bryant and George Schneider, assisted by Bro. W. Wright, P.M., P.P.G. Org. Middx., the Organist of the lodge.

Anglo-American Lodge, No. 2191.

A very successful meeting was held in connection with this lodge at the Hotel Cecil, W.C., on the 21st ult. After the transaction of a lengthy agenda of business, including the three Degrees, the reins of office were handed over by Bro. C. O. Burgess, P.P.G.D., to his successor, Bro. Charles G. Rotter. The members present included Bros. C. O.

Burgess, P.P.G.D. Surrey, W.M.; Chas. G. Rotter, S.W., W.M. elect; F. Kedge, P.M., P.P.G.R. Berks, Treas.; F. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; J. W. Elvin, J.W.; A. H. P. Snow, S.D.; Geo. H. Atkinson, J.D.; W. J. Harvey; J. J. Woolley, P.M.; J. Skinner, P.M.; W. H. Martin Burgess, W. Hancock, P.M., D.C.; W. H. Kitto, Organist; J. Woodward, Steward; and many others. Visitors: Bros. George Roberts, 75; A. W. Bates, 445; H. A. Cowan, 2305; W. H. Matthews, 2163; A. Jozelay, 1585; V. G. Kirby, 1622; J. Kift, 1791; R. F. Behrend, 1584; Imre Kiralfy, I.P.M. 2581; W. H. Dunne, P.P.G. Supt. of Works Kent; J. J. Lamigeon, P.M. 2551; Syoney T. Bush, 463; C. Coram, S.W. 2552; H. G. Danby, P.M. 1056; W. Menett, P.M. 1987; G. T. Clough, J.W. 2077; R. Hart, 1597; L. Abrahams, 1348; W. Crawford, P.P.G.D. Kent; H. J. Lardner, P.G. Stwd.; R. Frank, 754; C. P. Coles, 1744; C. A. Crick, P.M. 2192; Major F. W. Frigout, W.M. 2397; Hy. Machin, W.M. 231; O. R. Reid, 970; E. B. Painter, 766; Gibson Harris, I.G. 222; S. Taylor, S. A. Miles, 118; Kitto, C. T. Hills, 45; J. Williams, 15; W. H. Chapman, 73; A. W. Bush, P.M. 165; W. W. Lee, P.M. 2381; and others.

Lodge was opened at an early hour, and several brethren were raised, passed, and initiated. Bro. C. G. Rotter was then presented as W.M. elect, and was installed by Bro. C. O. Burgess with the ability and precision to be expected from so able an exponent of the ritual. The following officers were invested: Bros. J. W. Elvin, S.W.; A. H. P. Snow, J.W.; F. Kedge, P.M., Treas.; F. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; G. H. Atkinson, S.D.; W. J. Harvey, J.D.; W. H. Martin Burgess, I.G.; W. Hancock, P.M., D.C.; W. H. Kitto, Org.; J. Woodward, W. Stevens, and W. H. M. Fenn, Stwds.; and R. F. Potter, Tyler.

Lodge was then closed, and an enjoyable banquet was followed by the kindly proposition and cordial reception of the usual toasts.

After the loyal and complimentary toasts,

Bro. C. O. Burgess, I.P.M., rose to propose "The Health of the W.M." He said he had had the honour of proposing that toast on several occasions in various lodges, but he could confidently say he had never proposed it with such absolute sincerity and great pleasure as on the present occasion. Since Bro. Rotter's initiation in the lodge he (the I.P.M.) had had an opportunity of appreciating his amiable, moral, and personal qualities, and if any brother had been in doubt as to the W.M.'s capacity, that doubt had been dissipated by his excellent investiture of the officers and genial presidency at the banquet table. The W.M. was the second initiate of the lodge who had attained the honour of the chair and would therefore extend a sympathetic interest to all those he might have the pleasure of initiating. The W.M. would receive the hearty and loyal support from all the officers and brethren to render his year a pleasant and successful one.

Bro. Chas. G. Rotter, W.M., in responding, said it was most difficult to give expression to his thanks not only for the kind remarks of the I.P.M., but also for the reception given them. This was a great encouragement to him, but made him feel his great responsibility more keenly. He had always held a high opinion of Freemasonry even before he joined the Order, and the more he saw of it the more that opinion was upheld, and the more he tried to instil it into others. He hoped during his year to procure some pleasant hours for the members and all his energies would be given to that object.

The W.M. then proceeded to propose "The Installing Master, Bro. C. O. Burgess, I.P.M.," who had shown such interest and enthusiasm in Freemasonry that it was difficult to sing his praises. The members most cordially offered Bro. Burgess a Past Master's jewel which he had so well deserved by his good work. It was another addition to the many testimonials Bro. Burgess had already received for good work done elsewhere, but they hoped he would wear it for many years in token of their esteem and affection.

Bro. C. O. Burgess, P.P.G.D. Surrey, I.P.M., replied, and said he should feel embarrassed were it not that he recognised the ring of sincerity in the words of the W.M. One of the fundamental principles of Masonry was genuine friendship, and it was this desire to mingle with their friends which brought them to these meetings to participate in that social enjoyment which genuine friendship could ensure. Around the Masonic Board they felt thoroughly at home, and this was characteristic of Freemasonry. He knew the W.M. felt the same genuine friendship for him that he experienced for the W.M., and that feeling was shared by the members. He had been ably supported by the P.Ms.—Bros. Kedge, Treasurer; Skinner, P.M.; Hancock, P.M.; and Woolley, P.M.; whilst Bro. F. Jackson, P.M., Sec., had been a tower of strength, and had brought in a great many new members. He looked forward with great confidence to a period of prosperity for the lodge under the W.M., which would redound to its honour and credit.

"The Initiate" was duly honoured, after which "The Visitors" were cordially welcomed.

Bro. Imre Kiralfy, I.P.M. 2581, in acknowledging the toast, said it was a great honour to be present and to be permitted to reply. The visitors would agree that they had seen some of the finest working it was possible to witness, and Bro. Burgess's rendering of the Three Degrees and the installation ceremony was worthy of the highest praise. He was interested in this lodge having resided for 25 years in America; was delighted with the entertainment provided, and hoped to visit them again.

Bros. Danby, Crick, and Reid also replied.

"The Past Masters" and "The Officers" received due recognition before a pleasant evening terminated with the Tyler's toast.

Bro. J. Kift presided at the pianoforte and was ably supported in the musical programme by Miss Marian Blinkhorn, Miss Gertrude Snow, and Bros. William Fell, and John Josey.

Mark Masonry.

Sir Francis Burdett Lodge, No. 181.

A meeting of this lodge was held on the 18th ult., at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, when there were present, among others, Bros. R. W. Forge, W.M., P.J.G.D., W.M.; J. Hill, S.W., Master elect by dispensation; R. W. Davis, P.P.G.O., as J.W.; W. Fisher, P.M., P.G.S., Treas., as M.O.; J. T. Briggs, P.M., P.G. Std. Br., as S.O.; H. Higgins, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., as J.O.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec.; F. F. Bonney, I.P.M., P.P.G.D.; C. H. Köhler, P.P.A.G.D.C.; and W. Bailey, P.M. Among the visitors were Bros. H. J. Lardner, P.M., P.S.G.D.; B. Trueman, and A. Austin.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bros. C. W. Frankenberg, 957, and J. P. Wad, 485, and it being unanimous they were duly advanced to the Degree by the Secretary. Bro. J. Hill, Master elect, having been presented was impressively installed as W.M. by Bro. F. F. Bonney, I.E.M., his delivery of the respective addresses being particularly praiseworthy. Bro. H. J. Lardner carried out the duties of D.C. with effect. Among the officers appointed and invested were Bros. Urridell, S.W.; C. W. Frankenberg, J.W.; W. Fisher, P.M., Treas.; Major Walls, P.M., Sec.; and G. Harrison, Tyler. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Officer, and a similar vote to the acting D.C. Communications regretting inability to attend were received from Bros. Lieut.-Col. A. B. Cook, J.P., P.G.M.; W. J. Porter, P.M.; and others.

The lodge was then closed. A banquet followed.

Upon the removal of the cloth the usual preliminary toasts were duly honoured. Bro. H. J. Lardner, P.S.G.D., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers." He was sorry to state that the M.W.P.G.M., Bro. the Earl of Euston, had been very ill but was slowly recovering. His lordship took a great interest not only in the Mark Degree, but in all other Degrees, and his thorough restoration to health would be universally hoped for by the members of the Masonic body. He congratulated the lodge on its prosperity, and complimented the I.P.M. and the Secretary upon their respective work that day.

Bros. Bailey, P.M., and Briggs, P.M., responded on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers," and both speakers regretted that their genial Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Lieut.-Col. Cook, was unable to attend the meeting.

"The Health of the Worshipful Master" was flatteringly proposed by Bro. R. W. Forge, who expressed regret that pressure of professional work had prevented him from installing Bro. Hill that day, and he took that opportunity of thanking Bro. Bonney, P.M., and the Secretary for kindly assisting him during his late year of office. He trusted that they would render the W.M., if necessary, the same amount of assistance during the coming year.

Bro. J. Hill, W.M., having briefly replied, gave "The Advances."

In reply to this toast, Bro. Wade in particular, made a most interesting speech, and contrasted favourably the working of the Mother Country with that of Australia. He said that he had received the Royal Arch Degree, quite recently, at Croydon, and the Mark that day, both ceremonies were excellently well performed. He had seen the Craft working since he had been in England, and he had seen nothing like it in Australia. He had to thank their Secretary for introducing him into the Arch and Mark Degrees, and he regretted that he should be unable to remain in England to take other Degrees.

Bro. Austin acknowledged the toast of "The Visitors."

"The Health of the Past Masters" was coupled with the names of Bros. Forge, Davis, Higgins, and Bonney, the first-named being the recipient of a Past Master's jewel. All the speakers regretted the absence, through illness, of Bro. George Everett, P.M., P.S.G.D.

During the evening the W.M., Bros. Bailey, P.M., and Lardner, P.M., entertained the brethren.

Florence Nightingale Lodge, No. 706.

The gallant captain of the "La Marguerite," and late of the "Royal Sovereign," Bro. George F. Fishenden, having completed his year of office as Master of the above grand old lodge, handed the management of it over on Friday, the 24th ult., to his successor, Bro. F. S. Thomas, S.W., and W.M. elect, and took his place on the left of the chair with the "Hearty good wishes" and congratulation of its members, and a goodly array of visitors from far and near.

The lodge is held at the Royal Mortar Hotel, Beresford-square, Woolwich, and was opened by Bro. Fishenden at 5 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, and Bro. Phillips, late of No. 700, having been elected a joining member, Bro. F. G. Nichols, P.M., and Sec., at the request of the W.M., assumed the chair as Installing Officer, and in due course Bro. Thomas was installed, proclaimed, and saluted. He invested his officers as follows: Bros. G. F. Fishenden, I.P.M.; E. Lonergan, S.W.; H. G. Mason, J.W.; Rev. C. Swainson, Chap.; A. Burnett, P.M., Treas.; F. G. Nichols, P.M., Sec.; E. Wood, S.D.; D. G. Jelley, J.D.; H. L. Bernays, P.M., D.C.; L. F. Webber, I.G.; E. G. Kimber, A.D.C.; and E. M. Foster, E. W. Jelley, and C. W. Scantlebury, Stwds. Bro. Nichols then gave the addresses in that clear and able manner for which he is so noted, and concluded a perfect and impressive ceremony. Bro. G. Fishenden was presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel, "as a mark of the brethren's esteem and for valuable services rendered the lodge during his year of office," for which he returned his warmest thanks.

Bro. Nichols was tendered a hearty vote of thanks—"the same to be inscribed on the minutes of the lodge"—for which he thanked the brethren, and then the lodge was closed.

The banquet was partaken of at the Royal Mortar, and was worthy of the name and fame of Bro. Hall, the esteemed proprietor.

Among the other brethren present were Bros. H. Banister, C. A. Baker, E. Phillips, J. D. Wolverson, J. D. Huddleston, O. H. Kimber, W. A. Woollett, P.M., P.G. Stwd. Eng.; C. Jolly, P.M. and Sec. 2184, P.M. and Sec. 1472, P.P.A.G.D.C. Essex; W. H. Turton, W.M., A. McQueen, S.W., and H. Jacobs, J.W., of 13; H. Pammant, W.M., W. Long, J.W., and H. Tuffnell, P.M., of 700; J. O. Cook, W.M., J. J. Murphy, S.W., and W. H. Lewis, of 913; F. Reed, W.M., A. Hill, S.W., and A. Simmonds, J.W., of 1536; B. Dyer, W.M., and J. Wheatley, S.W., of 2399; Capt. F. J. Down, P.M. Military; A. J. Call, P.M. 59; R. H. Stempson, P.M. 39; A. C. Huddart, J.D. 15; and others.

The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Grand Lodge toasts in neat and effective speeches.

Bro. Capt. Woollett briefly responded for the toast of "The Grand Officers, Present and Past."

The I.P.M., Bro. Fishenden, then rose to propose the toast of "The W.M." He said that he was about to undertake a task which, while it afforded him a great deal of pleasure, yet made him feel at the same time that he was unable to perform it in such a manner as he would like to, or which was adequate to its importance. It was to propose the toast of their W.M. They would agree with him that they had a brother in the chair of their old and honoured lodge, who was fully qualified to uphold and maintain its unsullied prestige amongst the lodges of the Metropolis, and who was a man and a Mason in every sense of the word, and one who would look after the interest of the lodge in every way. He thought that perhaps the advice he gave Bro. Thomas some 12 months ago had decided that brother in accepting the position he now occupied. At that time Bro. Thomas came to him and said he did not think he should go on because he was a little deaf and that would militate against a perfect performance of the duties of Master. But he told Bro. Thomas that as he had gone so far as the S.W.'s chair the brethren of the Florence Nightingale Lodge would be delighted to help him and render him any assistance he might require, and now that their W.M. had accepted and been installed into the chair of K.S., he was proud to see him there, and felt sure that he would do his duty in such a manner as would stamp him as one of the best Masters the lodge had ever had, and that at the close of his year of office the Past Masters and brethren would be right glad that Bro. Thomas had been the W.M. for the year 1898-99.

Bro. Fishenden was repeatedly applauded for the hearty eloquence that characterised his stirring speech.

Bro. Thomas, who was received with cheers, said it was quite true that he had great diffidence in accepting the position of W.M. in that good old lodge, because of a deafness in the right ear, but the brethren had kindly said "We will help you in your endeavours," and that had given him confidence. He could assure them that nothing should be wanting on his part to ensure the progress and prosperity of the lodge, and as the Past Master had received the hearty support of the brethren while in the chair, he trusted that hearty and generous support would be extended to him during his year of office.

Bro. G. Fishenden, in reply to a hearty reception of "The Past Masters," thanked the W.M. for coupling his name with so important a toast. They would all remember that when he was elected W.M. he told them that he was unable to fulfil that which he was expected, and partly promised to do, but during the time he was in the chair he had endeavoured to keep up the best traditions of the Florence Nightingale Lodge, and they had, as they promised him at his installation, "taken the will for the deed." He was not conceited enough to think that it was through any merit of his own, but he was proud to say that the lodge had been a little more prosperous during his year than it had been for some time past. He had Masonry at heart, and whatever he had done had been for the benefit of the lodge. He took that opportunity of thanking the officers of the lodge who had so ably assisted him during his year of office. He especially thanked Bro. Past Master Nichols for his splendid support and assistance. Before he accepted the office of W.M., he went to Bro. Nichols and told him that he did not feel able to undertake the high office offered him, and Bro. Nichols said—"Look

here, old man, you go on and every brother of the lodge will do their best for you." He thanked Bro. Nichols for that advice, and hoped his successor would receive the same hearty support and assistance he had received from every brother of the lodge.

Bro. Dr. H. Bernays said he was the oldest Past Master of the lodge, and endorsed every word that had been said by their I.P.M. with regard to the many services rendered the lodge by Bro. Nichols, who was always willing to do any work the brethren required of him.

Bro. Nichols, who is immensely popular, also briefly returned thanks, and said he was quite overwhelmed with the warmth of his reception.

Bros. Jolly, Turton, Pammant, Cook, and Reed, responded for "The Visitors," and "The Officers" and Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings of a pleasant and memorable meeting.

Bros. H. G. Mason, Capt. Fishenden, and C. Jolly, contributed songs and recitations. The two former are glorious singers, and were heartily applauded for their efforts.

Knights Templar.

Black Prince Preceptory, No. 146.

The installation meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, Canterbury—one of the most perfect buildings of its kind in the country—on the 17th ult. The visitors—Sir Knights Dr. F. Lawrence, P.G. Herald; J. Read, P.A.G.D.C.; Henry Lovegrove, P.G.C. of Guards; and Major E. W. Stillwell—were received by the E.P., and conducted to stalls.

After the confirmation of the minutes, the E.P., Sir Knight Sibert Saunders, requested Sir Knight Horatio Ward to perform the ceremony of installation, and Sir Knight John Dimsdale was duly installed and saluted. Sir Knights H. M. Biggleston, Rev. A. Jackson, G. Wilks, Mus. Bac., and Stephen Horsley were appointed to office, and Sir Knight Col. H. Tritton Sarkey was again appointed Registrar. The veteran Sir Knight R. J. Emerson was too unwell to attend.

An excellent banquet at the Royal Fountain Hotel followed.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held on Friday, the 24th ult., Bro. Richard Eve, in the chair, supported amongst others by Bros. Russell, Glass, Strachan, Tobias, Philippe, Valeiani, Imray, Saunders, Rule, Beale, and McLeod, Secretary.

The list of candidates for the October election was closed, there being 20 cases brought forward, and 25 new cases accepted, besides one for a vacant East Lancashire Presentation. One case was rejected as ineligible and two deferred for completion. It was reported that there were 26 vacancies to be filled at the election from 45 candidates.

It was resolved to make a further investment of about £38,000, and a vote of thanks was accorded to Messrs. Fenn and Crosthwaite for their continued kindness in making these investments free of charge.

On the report of the Centenary Festival, a letter from Sir Francis Knollys, on behalf of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, expressing gratification with all the arrangements and at the result achieved was read, and is appended to this report.

Votes of thanks were passed to T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the form which same should assume was left in the hands of the Board of Management.

A special vote of thanks and congratulation to the Secretary was also passed.

[COPY]

Marlborough House, Pall Mall, S.W.

11 June, 1898.

"My dear Sir,

"The Prince of Wales desires me to let you know that he was much pleased with the arrangements connected with the dinner last night. He thought that they were all excellent and that they reflected the greatest credit on those who had the management of the Festival.

"His Royal Highness considered the evening to have been a most successful one from every point of view.—Yours truly,

(Signed)

FRANCIS KNOLLYS.

"J. M. McLeod, Esq.,

"Hon. Sec., Board of Stewards, R.M.I.B. Centenary Festival.

SMOKERS SHOULD USE CALVERT'S DENTO-PHENOLENE.

A DELICIOUS ANTISEPTIC LIQUID DENTIFRICE.

A few drops in a wineglass of water makes a delicious wash, for sweetening the breath and leaving a pleasant taste and refreshing coolness in the mouth.

Editor of *Health* says:—"Most effectual for strengthening the gums in case of tenderness and ridding the mouth of the aroma of tobacco."

1s. 6d. and 2s. 6d. Bottles, at Chemists, &c., or Post Free for Value.

Illustrated Pamphlet of Calvert's Carbolic Preparations sent post free on application.

F. C. CALVERT & CO., Manchester.

COUNTY

50 REGENT ST., W., &
14 CORNHILL, E.C., LONDON.

FIRE

OFFICE.

FOUNDED 1807.

The Distinguishing Feature of this Office is **THE RETURN SYSTEM.**

On **Ordinary Insurances**, under which Policyholders who have been insured for Seven Years and who continue insured—whether under an Annual or Septennial Policy—become entitled to a **RETURN OF 25 PER CENT.** of the Premiums they have paid during each Seven Years, provided no loss has arisen under their Policies in that Period.

Insurances on Farming Stocks and on other than **Ordinary Risks** do not participate in the Returns, nor are the Returns given on amounts which, being in excess of its own holding, are not retained by the Office.

Policies may be effected or transferred without any extra expenses.

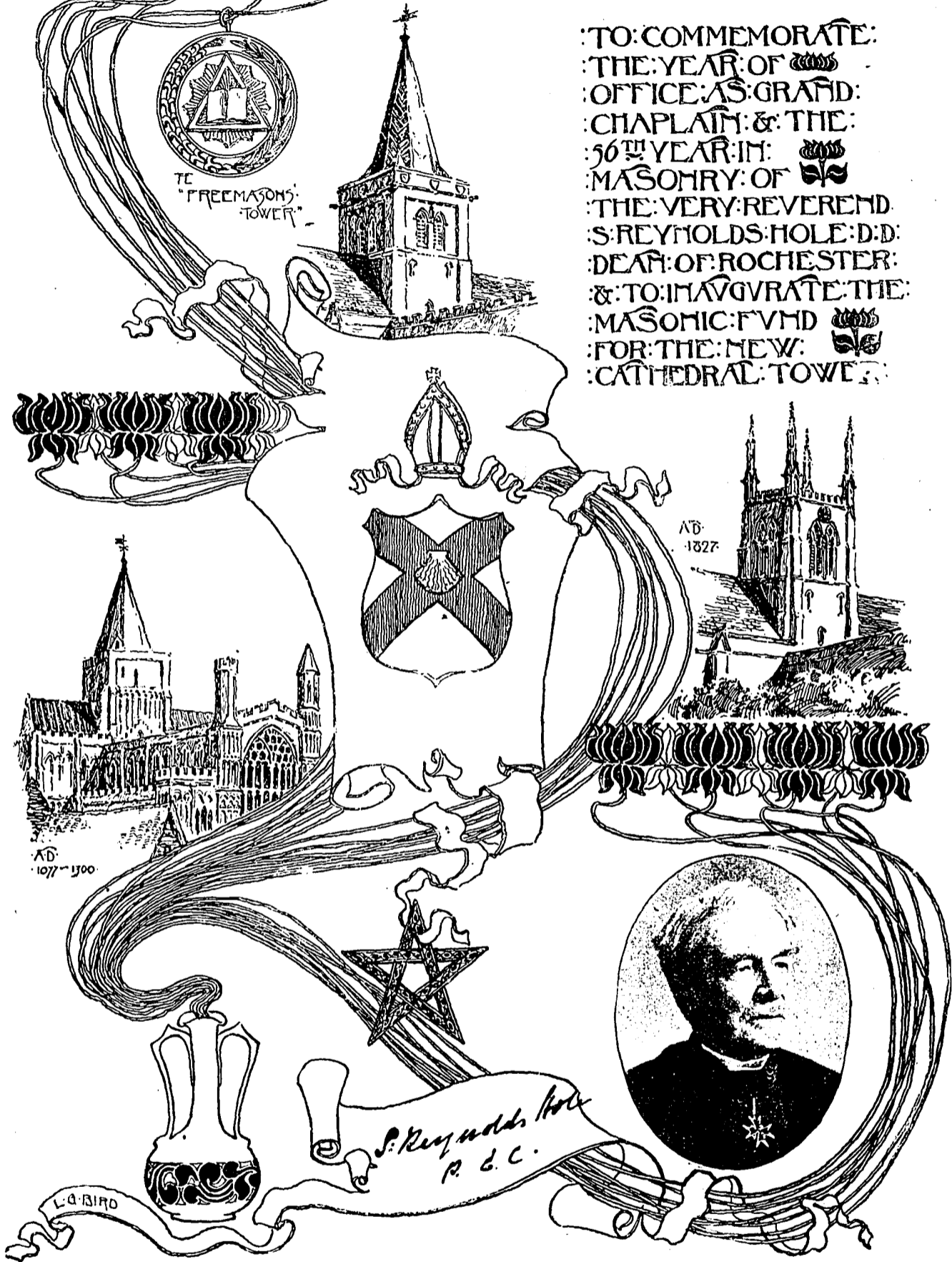
G. W. STEVENS, }
B. E. RATLIFF, } Joint Secretaries.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL:

SATURDAY: IVNE: 25TH 1898:

ORDER: OF: MASONIC: SERVICE:

TO: COMMEMORATE:
 THE: YEAR: OF
 OFFICE: AS: GRAND:
 CHAPLAIN: &: THE:
 50TH YEAR: IN:
 MASONRY: OF
 THE: VERY: REVEREND:
 S: REYNOLDS: HOLE: D: D:
 DEATH: OF: ROCHESTER:
 &: TO: INAUGURATE: THE:
 MASONIC: FUND
 FOR: THE: NEW:
 CATHEDRAL: TOWER:



MASONIC SERVICE IN ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL.

Last Saturday a Masonic service, originated by Bro. the Very Dean Hole, D.D., P.G. Chap., was held in Roschester Cathedral, with the object of raising funds towards £5000, which is required for erecting a new tower to the cathedral. The programme of the services arranged for the day contained the representations of the old cathedral, built A.D. 1075, the present tower, and the intended tower, which he proposes to call the "Freemasons' Tower," and, as he said in his brief sermon, for persons coming through Rochester by rail from abroad to point to under that description.

Grand Lodge was strongly represented, the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom, attending for the Prince of Wales; and with him were Earl Amherst, Deputy Grand Master, and Provincial Grand Master for Kent; Lord Harlech, Grand Master for North Wales; Earl Egerton of Tatton, Grand Master for Cheshire; Lord Methuen, P.G. Warden; Bros. the Rev. H. R. Cooper Smith, Dr. Robbins, and Archdeacon Stevens, P.G. Chaps.; Lieut.-Col. Clifford Probyn, G. Treas.; Maj. Woodall, Edward Terry, W. M. Stiles, and Alderman Vaughan Morgan, P.G. Treasurers; John Strachan, Q.C., G. Reg.; T. T. Bucknill, Q.C., Deputy G. Reg.; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; J. H. Matthews, President Board of Benevolence; and many more. Probably all the lodges in the Province of Kent were represented: Bros. the Lord Mayor of London and Alderman and Sheriff Green and Sheriff Dewar, with the under-sheriffs and corporation officials, attended

in State, as did also the Mayors of Rochester and Chatham, with the corporation officials and town councillors.

The massed bands of the Royal Engineers and Royal Marines, Chatham division, by permission of the officers commanding, under the direction of Mr. J. M. Wright, bandmaster Royal Marines, played during the procession after the service.

The DEAN preached the sermon, and selected for his text the words "Charity edifieth," 1 Cor., viii., first verse. There, he said, they had Freemasonry in two words, and in the original it was even better—"Love builds the house." In those words they had the principles, the history and the work of Freemasonry, and they might well be proud to associate themselves with the ancient builders and with those great religious guilds of Masons with their Worshipful Masters, Master Masons, fellow crafts, and entered apprentices, who in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries went about Europe in large companies to superintend and to take part in building such noble edifices as this cathedral.

After the benediction, a Masonic closing hymn was sung, and the National Anthem, with Dean Hole's alteration of the second verse—instead of "Confound their politics"—"Make wars to cease, keep us from plague and death, turn Thou our woe to mirth, and o'er all the earth, let there be peace"—was joined in by the whole congregation, the organ, and the bands.

At the close of the proceedings, Dean Hole and Mrs. Hole held a delightful "At Home," at which the very large company had an opportunity of viewing the beautiful gardens and the deanery.

Masonic and General Tidings.

LADY BRASSEY has issued invitations for a concert at her residence in Park-lane on Wednesday evening, the 6th inst.

THE DUKE and Duchess of Fife and their children arrived at East Sheen Lodge, near Richmond Park, on Saturday last.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, Patron of University College Hospital, has forwarded a donation of £100 in aid of its funds.

TUESDAY WAS THE 60th anniversary of her Majesty's coronation. That auspicious event took place in Westminster Abbey on June 28th, 1838.

BRO. LORD AND LADY CONNEMARA entertained a distinguished party of friends to dinner on Monday evening, to meet H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, at their residence in Grosvenor-street.

THE COUNTESS OF JERSEY held her second garden party on Saturday last at Osterley Park, but owing to the uncertain weather the gathering was not so large as that of the previous week.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT and Princesses Margaret and Victoria Patricia, attended by Bro. Colonel and the Hon. Mrs. Egerton, arrived at Windsor Castle on Saturday evening, on a visit to the Queen.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN on Saturday last visited Clifden House Institute, Bow, to distribute prizes to a number of working girls belonging to the institute, chiefly match factory workers, of whom 1200 or 1300 are employed in the immediate vicinity.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES and a large party from Warwick Castle, including Bro. the Earl and Countess of Warwick, the Duchess of Marlborough, Lady Randolph Churchill, and Sir Edward Bradford, attended service at St. Mary's Church, Warwick, on Sunday morning last.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, who returned to town from Warwick Castle on Monday, attended by Bro. Major-General Sir Stanley Clarke, left again the following day for Newmarket. His Royal Highness will return in time for the second and final State Concert of the season, at Buckingham Palace, this (Friday) evening.

AT THE MEETING of the Covent Garden Chapter, No. 1614, held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, W., on the 23rd ult., the following companions were unanimously elected to their respective offices: Comps. C. O. Burgess, M.E.Z.; J. Graham, H.; W. Hancock, J.; F. Kedge, Treas.; and G. Reynolds, S.E. We heartily wish the chapter continued success.

BRO. LORD AND LADY PIRBRIGHT'S Saturday to Monday party at Pirbright included: Bro. Viscount Wolseley, Lord and Lady Terence Blackwood, Bro. the Hon. Schomberg McDonnell, Colonel and Mrs. Douglas, Colonel and Mrs. Dick Cunyngnam, General Kelly-Kenny, Mr. and Mrs. Winans, Mr. and Mrs. Henriques, Captain Victor Paget, Mr. Balmaine, and Mr. Campbell.

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY, attended by Bro. Sir Robert Collins and Miss Heron Maxwell, paid a visit on Saturday last to Bramley, in Surrey, to distribute the prizes to the pupils of St. Catherine's Girls' School. Her Royal Highness was received by the members of the council of the school, including Viscount Middleton (Lord-Lieutenant of the county), Lord Ashcombe, the Ven. Archdeacon Sapté, the Rev. Canon Musgrave, Dr. Merriman, and the head mistress (Mrs. Russell-Baker).

THE LORD MAYOR, Sheriffs, and Under-Sheriffs went in State to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, Battersea Rise, on Monday, to witness the pupils' well-known calisthenic display, and to hear an admirable performance of music and singing. The Lady Mayoress and her daughters were present, together with a number of distinguished visitors, all of whom were greatly gratified by what they saw, as the Lord Mayor kindly took occasion to say before his departure.

THE DUCHESS OF YORK, who was attended by Lady Mary Lygon and Sir Francis de Winton, paid a private visit to the Paddington Green Children's Hospital on Monday afternoon, her Royal Highness being conducted over the institution by Colonel the Hon. F. C. Bridgeman and Mr. George Hanbury, the Treasurer. In passing through the wards the Duchess spoke to each little patient, and distributed some flowers, which she had very thoughtfully brought with her. Before leaving her Royal Highness named one of the wards the "Mary Adelaide."

THE QUEEN on Saturday afternoon last conferred the decoration of the Victoria Cross upon the following officer and private for acts of bravery: Lieut. Thomas Colclough Watson, Royal Engineers, and Private E. Lawson, Gordon Highlanders. The Queen afterwards conferred the Order for distinguished service upon several officers for operations on the North-West Frontier of India, 1897. Her Grand Ducal Highness the Princess of Leiningen, and their Highnesses Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, and Prince Maurice of Battenberg were present with her Majesty.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES, Princess Victoria of Wales, and Princess Christian headed the numerous and fashionable audience that assembled in the spacious hall of Stafford House on Monday, when the Duchess of Sutherland gave an afternoon concert in aid of a church in a poor district of the Staffordshire Potteries. Her Grace laid the foundation-stone of S.S. Mary and Chadd, situated on Sandford Hill, Longton, on Easter Tuesday, and the large sum realised by Monday's concert will be devoted to the building fund now being raised in order to finish and furnish the first portion of the sacred edifice, which is destined to become the centre of a new parish.

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY has consented to open the Queen's Wood, Highgate, formerly known as Churchyard Bottom, which is Hornsey's memorial in celebration of the Record Reign, and Mr. Alderman Cory-Wright, as chairman of the Reception Committee, has arranged to receive her Royal Highness at luncheon in his house at Highgate at 1.30 on Saturday, the 23rd instant. The Duchess will then proceed, *via* Hornsey-lane, Crouch-end-broadway, and Shepherds'-hill, to the wood, where the ceremony will be performed. The London County Council will be represented by its chairman, Mr. Mackinnon Wood, whilst Bro. the Earl and Countess of Jersey and the Bishop of London will also be present.

THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY announce a number of additional excursions from Paddington for July. On Wednesday's excursions will be run to Weston-Super-Mare, Taunton, Minehead, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Hereford, North and South Wales, Shrewsbury, Chester, Liverpool, &c.; on Thursdays to Newbury, Marlborough, Devizes, Trowbridge, &c.; on Fridays to Yeovil, Weymouth, the West of England and the Scilly Isles; on Saturdays to the Isle of Man, and on Saturdays to Guernsey and Jersey by special day and night services, *via* Weymouth, the shortest sea route; periodical excursions will run to Ireland *via* Waterford, Cork, and Belfast. On Monday, the 4th inst., a cheap day excursion to Newbury, Winchester, and Southampton will leave Paddington at 7.0 a.m., and tickets will be issued to include a steamboat trip round the Isle of Wight.

BRO. ALDERMAN SIR J. WHITTAKER ELLIS, Bart., has subscribed 100 guineas to the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund.

THE DUCHESS OF YORK and suite were present at the performance of "The Ambassador" at the St. James's Theatre on Thursday evening.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES and suite witnessed the performance of "Siegfried" at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, on Thursday.

THE MASONIC TOWER, ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL.—The contributions paid and promised last Saturday at the Masonic service in Rochester Cathedral to start the fund for rebuilding the tower of the cathedral in accordance with the rest of the structure amounted to £730. The amount required is £5000.

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG has promised to unveil the new window which has been put in the Lodge Chapel at Winchester Cathedral, in commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee. The south window of the chapel is in memory of Bishop Thorold, and the north is to be the Jane Austen commemoration window.

HER MAJESTY has made handsome presents to the principals engaged in the performance of "Romeo and Juliet" at Windsor Castle on Monday, in acknowledgment of their services. Mr. Neil Forsyth, the organiser, was given a handsome scarfpin, with the monogram V.R.I., set in pearls and turquoises, surmounted with a crown.

THE INSTALLATION dinner of the Tin Plate Workers' Company was held on Wednesday, the 23rd ult., at Ironmongers' Hall, Fenchurch-street, there being a large and distinguished attendance of the court and livery on the occasion. The newly-appointed Master (Bro. Baron de Bush) presided, having on his immediate right the Marquis of Lorne (a hon. liveryman of the company), and on his left Mr. G. H. Humphreys (the Immediate Past Master).

BRO. BARON DE BUSH has presented the Company with a handsome loving cup, a replica of the old cup given in 1670, but with the important difference that the new cup is a true one in style, whereas the old cup had a bastard pedestal added to the original bowl quite 100 years later.

THE MORRISON Collection of gems at Christie's astonished even *habitués*. A signet ring of Asanda, King of the Bosphorus, a marvellous intaglio by Apollonius, easily secured £460; a massive gold ring, set with an intagliated head of Pallas, £110; and the Sessa ring, a fine gold signet circlet of Italian work of the 14th century, £145. An antique Roman vase, of agate onyx, fetched £155; a fine bottle of purple glass, £100; and other examples of Oriental art also fetched large prices.

FOR NEARLY 30 years the funds of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage have substantially benefited by the proceeds of a grand fête annually held at the Crystal Palace. The fund has so strong a claim on the public, who perhaps do not always realise their indebtedness to a fine body of public servants, that the fête which is to be held on Thursday next should easily attract a gathering of thousands. But, apart from that consideration, a gigantic programme of amusements has been prepared, calculated to satisfy the most exacting of sightseers, and the concluding display of fireworks is expected to rival some of the more startling pyrotechnic effects for which the Palace is famous.

ALWAYS A PLEASANT occasion to old pupils of the City of London School and many more is the annual conversation of that useful educational establishment, and its popularity was proved on Thursday night, when nearly 2000 guests accepted the cordial invitation. The Chairman (Mr. A. Ritchie, J.P.), the Headmaster (Mr. A. T. Pollard), and the Secretary (Mr. A. J. Austin) welcomed this enormous assemblage, for whose pleasure a very varied programme was provided. The professional students of the Guildhall School of Music gave a concert, with the assistance of Miss Ethel Hyem to recite and Mr. George Robins in humorous sketches.

IT IS NOW officially published in the District Orders at Aldershot that "her Majesty the Queen has signified her intention of visiting Aldershot on July 6th. Her Majesty will present colours to the 3rd Battalion Coldstream Guards at five p.m. on that day, on the Queen's Parade, and on July 7th will review the troops on Laffan's Plain at 11.45 a.m." On the occasion of the presentation of colours by her Majesty to the 3rd Battalion Coldstream Guards there will be two reserved enclosures for spectators on foot—one for officers of the Brigade of Guards and their friends, and the other for officers of the Aldershot District and their friends. Space will also be available for the general public.

THE EARL OF DUNRAVEN opened a new branch in connection with the Streatham Libraries, which has been erected in Ramsden-road, Balham, mainly through the munificence of Sir Henry Tate, who, with Lady Tate, attended the ceremony. Lord Dunraven commented on the large circulation of works of fiction over books of a more serious character, and said the novel must not be underestimated on that account. The greatest test of the novel was the rapidity of its circulation, but the same rule did not apply to philosophic works. Many books which came under the character of romances contained an enormous amount of solid information, and he was not quite sure that if volumes were arranged automatically, some of the historical works would not come under the same category as fiction.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY'S GOODS DEPOT, DEANS GATE, MANCHESTER.—The Great Northern Company announce the opening to-day (Friday) of the first portion of their new Deansgate Goods Depot in the City of Manchester. The Depot occupies a most central and commanding site in the heart of the City facing Deansgate, and adjoining the Central passenger station of the Cheshire Lines Committee, of which the Great Northern are also joint owners. Pending the completion of the extensive Warehouses now in course of erection, convenient warehouse accommodation will be provided in close proximity to the new Depot. The Company will from the 1st prox. run their own through goods trains to and from the new Depot and will also collect and deliver goods in Manchester by their own teams. All information as to rates and facilities by the Great Northern route may be obtained from Mr. Pollington, Goods Agent, or Mr. Brightman, District Goods Manager, Deansgate Station, Manchester, or on application to Mr. R. H. Twelvetrees, Chief Goods Manager, King's Cross Station, London, N.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT presided on Thursday afternoon at a largely-attended meeting of military officers at the Royal United Service Institution, when Major-Gen. R. A. J. Talbot, commanding cavalry brigade at Aldershot, read an important paper dealing with cavalry manoeuvres of a special character in France. His Royal Highness said that from a military point of view the feature of cavalry regiments was a question of the greatest importance. It was a matter for congratulation that even infantry officers were deeply interested in cavalry movements, and it was absolutely necessary they should know each other a little and recognise the importance of each other's mutual support. When infantry were on the march it was quite easy for them to be caught at a great disadvantage by a body of dashing cavalry, and it was essential, therefore, that they should have some flanking support composed of all three branches of arms. Personally, he should rejoice to see an additional squadron of cavalry, for as matters stood at present ours, as compared with that of foreign armies, was at a great disadvantage. Our cavalry brigade was smart, well equipped and commanded, but the universal remark was what a pity they were so weak.



PRESENTATION AND FAMILY PORTRAITS.

Oil Paintings on Canvas

FROM LIFE OR FROM ANY PHOTOGRAPH.

Write or Call for PRICE LIST and See our SPACIOUS GALLERIES.

W. G. PARKER & Co, Artists,

288, HIGH, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.