

# THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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### AMERICAN MASONIC DRINK LEGISLATION.

Bro. G. W. SPETH some time since favoured Bro. UPTON, of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and through him the whole body of Freemasons in the United States, with "an English View of American Freemasonry," and we venture to say that there are very few of the opinions which he has propounded which are not fully endorsed by English Craftsmen. On previous occasions we have laid before our readers some of the opinions of Bro. SPETH, so that they may be held to be fairly conversant with his views. But there is not one among the many "fads" which find favour among the brethren belonging to sundry of the American jurisdictions which he has supported by more forcible arguments and more successfully than the "drink question." Our readers have doubtless heard that in several of the Grand Lodges in the United States the candidature of any person engaged in the liquor traffic for the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry is strictly forbidden by specially enacted laws, while in some a person so engaged who had been admitted and taken the Degrees, pursues his avocation at the risk of being excluded from his lodge. Against this legislation Bro. SPETH has spoken, as we have said, very strongly. He remarks, in the first place, that in England there are "confirmed teetotallers among the Brotherhood," and that occasionally they form new lodges, where they can meet and practice their principles "in their own particular fashion. To this, he says, he has no objection; "they have every right" to form *new* lodges, where "their own ideas of pleasure and morality can be carried out." But he most decidedly objects to conceding "to a chance majority in an old lodge the right to pass a bye-law and forcibly turn it into a teetotal lodge." He declines to "recognise the right of any majority to deprive a minority of a right, unless such right can be shown to be injurious to the majority," and as he puts it very plainly "It cannot hurt *you* if *I* drink a glass of wine." Hence, he does not object to the establishment of new lodges on teetotal principles, but only to their adoption of the title of "Temperance lodges" on the ground that it implies that all other lodges are intemperate. Nor does Bro. SPETH take exception to the establishment of teetotal lodges in America any more than in England. What he exclaims against is the tyrannical legislation of some Grand Lodges, which forbid the use of

alcoholic stimulants at lodge dinners, notwithstanding that a majority of those present habitually take wine or other alcoholic beverage in their own homes. He argues that to judge by those who occasionally visit our lodges, there is not one American Mason in 20 who is a teetotaler and his inference is that this anti-drink legislation is enacted on the ground that members of lodges cannot be trusted to drink alcohol at lodge dinners without making themselves drunk and thereby "bringing disgrace upon the lodge and the Craft." He concedes that it is distasteful to him to advance such a reason as this, but he is quite right in pointing out that such a reason or inference is materially deducible from the passing of such enactments.

His most forcible arguments are brought to bear against those Grand Lodges which forbid the admission into Masonry of those who are engaged in the manufacture of, or traffic in alcoholic liquors. As regards this he says very justly: "You actually cast a huge stigma on a large class, the majority of which is comprised of men as virtuous, as honourable, as upright as any citizen in the State. They do not get drunk themselves, they do not incite others to get drunk, they are in most cases good citizens, excellent fathers of families, charitable as becoms their wealth, foremost in every project for the amelioration of the lot of man, men whom many of you receive into your own families as intimate friends—and with one stroke of the pen you defame them indiscriminately, degrade them by declaring them unfit to associate with you in lodge; besmirch them with an indelible stain. Some of these men your daughters love and marry, and you bless the union; some of these men your State honours by office; some of these men go down to the grave wept by the poor, the widow, and the orphan; some of these men we, in England, raise to the rank of peerage. Oh! you sanctimonious Masons, how good and moral and high-toned you must be!" But he carries his argument still more forcibly home by quoting the "axiom as old as the hills—'The receiver is worse than the thief.'" If, says Bro. SPETH, "there were no receivers, there would be no thieves; if there were no moderate drinkers, there would be no brewers; because it is not the small proportion of drunkards in a community which can supply them with a living, let alone great riches. And the majority of you are moderate drinkers, and thus you are the direct cause of the existence of the brewers and distillers. You first encourage these men in their atrocious crime of brewing and distilling in order to please your palates, and then, like so many PECKSNIFFS, you raise your virtuous hands and eyes to heaven, and vilify them." These are terrible home thrusts which the fanatical promoters of the anti-drink legislation in some of the American Grand Lodges will scarcely relish. And Bro. SPETH might have carried his argument still further by pointing out that one of the first and most important duties enjoined on the Mason on his acceptance and initiation into our Society, is that he should respect the laws of his country and the avocations of brewer and distiller have the sanction of the law. Thus it comes about that these Grand Lodges which by law forbid the admission into Freemasonry of those who are "manufacturers of or dealers in alcoholic liquors," are not only stigmatising them in the manner so justly and so accurately described by Bro. SPETH, but they are likewise denying them admission into an honourable Society, not for any dishonourable acts, but because they follow associations which the laws of their State both sanction and permit.

DECISIONS BY THE TASMANIAN BOARD OF  
GENERAL PURPOSES.

We have on several occasions commented on the multiplicity and, in far too many cases, the absurdity of the questions which it is the custom in many of the American jurisdictions to refer to the Grand Master for his decision. We are the more pleased, therefore, to find that under the Grand Lodge of Tasmania the more sensible plan prevails of referring all questions which the private lodges feel themselves incompetent to settle to be dealt with by the Board of General Purposes. Still more pleased are we at finding firstly that the questions thus referred are such as may be properly determined by a superior authority, and secondly, that the decisions of the said Board have given such general satisfaction that "in no instance has an appeal been even suggested from a ruling of the Board to the superior jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge."

We have said that the questions thus referred are such as may be properly dealt with by such an authority, and here follow the examples of the questions—as quoted in the Board's report—on which rulings have been given: (1) A brother, after years of useful work, had reached the chair of S.W., and there was every prospect that he would be elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Unfortunately, his business compelled him at this juncture to remove into a sister colony and he lost the opportunity of securing the highest honour which it was in the power of his lodge to bestow. He, therefore, prayed the Grand Master to confer upon him the honorary rank of P.M., and in support of his petition quoted as a precedent certain extracts from the minutes of one of the oldest lodges in the colony (then under the E.C.) which showed that in the "fifties" such honorary rank had on three different occasions been conferred upon members of the said lodge. It was further urged that this lodge had originally been founded by members of the Irish Constitution, and it was alleged that at a remote period, in some lodges at least under that jurisdiction, the practice in question existed. It was pointed out, however, that such practice had never been sanctioned "by the English Constitution, nor during the last 40 years by any Grand Lodge of which we possess records." The Board, therefore, declined "to recommend the Grand Master to entertain what might prove an undesirable precedent." We venture to suggest that the three cases in which the honorary rank of Past Master was conferred, as quoted by the petitioner as a precedent from the minutes of the old lodge referred to, may have been cases in which brethren passed the chair in order to be exalted to the Royal Arch. The practice existed formerly, and may have been continued in a Colonial lodge to a later date than in lodges at home. In another case referred to the Board, a lodge, in order to build a hall of its own, had issued debentures, which had been taken up by its members. One of these debenture-holders fell into arrear with his lodge subscriptions, and the point raised was whether the lodge had power to deduct such arrears from the liability due to the brother upon the debenture. The Board, however, decided that the debenture must be regarded as inviolable. In a third case application was made by some brethren in Western Australia for a dispensation to open a lodge under the Grand Lodge of Tasmania in an important mining centre, but the Board promptly and very properly replied that "Western Australia was outside the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge." In yet another case that was submitted a country lodge some years ago became dormant, and the Wardens, who, with the W.M., are by the Constitutions, the trustees of all the lodge property, left the Colony. The W.M. seeing no prospect of reviving the lodge was desirous of presenting the furniture and regalia to another country lodge which had lost its property by fire, but the Board held that a trustee had no power to absolutely dispose of property held in trust, and that he could only transfer the trust. It was ultimately arranged "that the Grand Lodge should take over the trusteeship of the W.M. on behalf of the dormant lodge and rent the furniture and regalia to the other country lodge at the nominal sum of half-a-crown per annum." It was further suggested that some provision should be made when amending the Constitutions, "for a trusteeship to be absolutely surrendered

to Grand Lodge, which could then exercise discretionary power if unexpected contingencies occurred." We think it will be allowed that the foregoing questions were, as we have said, properly referred to a superior authority.

SUPREME COUNCIL OF SCOTLAND.

The Supreme Council of Scotland for the Ancient and Accepted Rite issues what is termed the "Annual Reporter," and the pagination is consecutive for several years until a volume is completed. It is now Vol. V. that is appearing.

The "Reporter" is very complete, and is ably edited by the veteran Grand Secretary, Bro. Lindsay Mackersy, W.S. There are nine members in the Supreme Council, the Grand Commander being the Right Hon. the Earl of Kintore. Lord Saltoun, the Marquis of Breadalbane, K.G., and the Earl of Haddington are also members, so that there is no lack of distinguished Craft Masons in the *nine*. Lord Blythswood is one of the honorary members. The Supreme Council is particularly well represented in our Colonies and Dependencies, there being Grand Inspectors-General for China, India, New Zealand, West Indies, Capetown, and Queensland, and many other Supreme Councils exchange Representatives with the Scottish Body.

It is as to this point that I am so glad to have a copy of this Reporter to date, because it has been stated that the Supreme Council of Scotland still exchanges Representatives with the *Grand Orient of France*. This is an error. *It does not, and never has*, and I hope the contradiction will reach our Masonic brethren in the United States, where the statement was circulated. "The Supreme Council" of Scotland exchanges Representatives with the "*Supreme Council of France*," which has no connection with the *Grand Orient*, either directly or indirectly, and, as an Organisation, has always been most anxious to advance the principles and practices of the Craft, according to the well-established landmarks, without which it would be shorn of its beauty, dignity, and continuity.

There are 33 members of the *Thirty-second* Degree, 28 of the *Thirty-first*, and some 250 of the *Thirtieth*. A cursory glance at the roll of the *Eighteenth* suggests that the Degrees of this Rite are more popular abroad than in Scotland. The Registers of the 30th and 18th are in alphabetical order, entailing considerable editorial labour, but a great advantage to the brethren.

There are 18 Rose Croix chapters, No. 1 being at Edinburgh, No. 11, Glasgow, and No. 20, Ayr, the remainder being abroad. Of the eight consistories, No. 1 is held in Edinburgh, and the other seven also assemble abroad, full particulars being appended of all these bodies.

The business transacted at the various meetings of the Supreme Council for the official year is duly and succinctly described, thus rendering the annual complete and most useful to the members of the Rite, which is in a flourishing condition.

W. J. HUGHAN.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF  
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

INSTALLATION OF THE DUKE OF PORTLAND AS  
PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

With befitting ritual an impressive ceremony was performed in Nottingham on Thursday, the 7th instant. In the presence of members of the Craft assembled from all parts of the province, as well as many of influence from distant centres, his Grace the Duke of Portland was installed as Prov. Grand Master of Nottinghamshire, in succession to the late Duke of St. Albans, who held the office with distinction for many years. It had been appropriately arranged to embody in the proceedings elements significant of the basis upon which the Craft rests. In the memorable Jubilee period of 1897 the pressing need for the extension of the Nottingham General Hospital appealed to people of all classes who were desirous of aiding in the extension of the oldest of local medical institutions. How liberal was the response for funds is a matter of history. And as a corollary to that which was practically a private function, nothing could have been more appropriate than that with Masonic honours the corner-stone of the new wing of the hospital should be laid by the Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, who has thus succeeded the late Duke of St. Albans in a dual capacity.

The first Grand Master of the province was Thomas Boothby Parkins, afterwards first Lord Ranelagh, who was appointed in 1783. Lord Ranelagh's successor was Admiral Sir John Borlase Warren, Bart., installed in 1802, this distinguished officer being succeeded in 1823 by Col. Thomas Wildman. Col. Wildman held the office for 37 years with conspicuous advantage to the Craft, and was followed in 1860 by Henry Pelham, fifth Duke of Newcastle,

K.G. Henry Pelham Alexander, sixth Duke of Newcastle, succeeded to the position of Prov. Grand Master in 1865, and upon his death the late Duke of St. Albans was, to the gratification of all Nottinghamshire Masons, called upon to assume the appointment in the year 1878. To the great regret of the members of the Craft, reasons of failing health necessitated the resignation in December last of the position of Prov. Grand Master held by the Duke of St. Albans. The announcement, which unhappily had not been entirely unexpected, was made by his Grace in person at a Prov. Grand Lodge meeting held at the Masonic Hall on the 9th of that month. The duke had up to that time held the office for a little over 19 years, and those whose privilege it was to hear the valedictory address will long preserve recollections of the deep impression which it created.

When a few months since it was announced that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had invited the Duke of Portland to fill the vacancy, and that his Grace had been pleased to comply with the request, it was felt that no more fitting choice could have been made. The duke has ever displayed the heartiest interest in matters appertaining to the Craft, and follows a distinguished line of predecessors in upholding its prestige in Nottinghamshire, as throughout the country generally. His Grace was originally initiated into the Craft as a member of the United Lodge, at the Freemasons' Hall, in London. He is also a member of the Household Brigade Lodge, and of the Royal Alpha Lodge, of the latter of which he is at present S.W., and of the Forest and Duke of Portland Lodges. His Grace has held office in Grand Lodge as Warden.

Not the least interesting circumstance in connection with yesterday's proceedings was that the installation ceremony was performed by Bro. Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, M.P., brother of the duke, and himself the Prov. G. Master of Cumberland and Westmoreland. Many Past and Present Officers of the Grand Lodge of England were present, the majority of whom travelled with the Duke of Portland by the nine o'clock train from St. Pancras, and were met upon their arrival at the Midland Station, Nottingham, by Bro. J. T. Spalding and others representing the brethren of the province.

Provincial Grand Lodge was opened at a quarter past 12, at the Albert Hall, which had been admirably arranged for the purpose of the large gathering. At one end of the room a dais had been erected, which was occupied by the Installing Master, supported by officers of the Grand Lodge of England. The ground floor was reserved entirely for past and present officers of Provincial rank. The members of the lodges in order of seniority were ranged under their respective banners alternately on the right and left of the dais. The order for mourning for the late Provincial Grand Master was suspended for the occasion. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Wm. Newton, as Deputy Prov. Grand Master, presided at the opening of the lodge, the chair being afterwards taken by Bro. Lord Henry Bentinck as Installing Master. Among those present were—

Bros. the Right Hon. W. Lawies Jackson, M.P., P.G.M. Yorks.; the Marquis of Granby, P.G.W. Eng.; Thomas Fenn, acting G.D.C., P.G.W. Eng.; Robert Grey, P.G.W. Eng.; Henry Smith, P.D.P.G.M. W. Yorks., P.G.D. Eng.; Lieut.-Col. John Allen Bindley, P.D.P.G.M. Staffs., P.G.D. Eng.; Lieut.-Col. William Newton, D.P.G.M. Notts., P.G.D. Eng.; John C. Malcolm, D.P.G.M. W. Yorks., P.G.D. Eng.; his Honour Judge Masterman, P.G.D. Eng.; Ensor Drury, Sheffield, P.G.D. Eng.; W. H. Bailey, P.G.T. Eng.; E. Letchworth, G. Sec. Eng.; Samuel Steads Partridge, D.P.G.M. Leicestershire, P.A.G.D.C. Eng.; George Beech, D.P.G.M. Warwickshire, P.G.S.B. Eng.; Lieut.-Col. G. W. Walker, D.P.G.M. Staffs., P.G.S.B. Eng.; G. C. Kent, Staffs., P.A.G.D.C. Eng.; Thomas Cox, Derbyshire, P.A.G.D.C. Eng.; Benjamin Vickers, Lincolnshire, P.A.G.D.C. Eng.; H. J. Strong, Surrey, P.A.G.D.C. Eng.; Wm. Naylor, Derbyshire, P.G.S.B. Eng.; J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B., P.G.S.B. Eng.; W. H. Marsden, N. and E. Yorks., P.G. Std. Br. Eng.; Arthur Stubbs, G. Std. Br. Eng., P.G.S. Notts.; F. G. Ivey, W.M. 99, P.G. Stwd. Eng.; E. M. Kidd, P.P.S.G.W., acting P.J.G.W., in the absence of Bro. C. A. Bolton; Rev. A. J. L. Dobbin, 402, P.P.S.G.W., Prov. G. Chap.; Rev. H. T. Hayman, 402, P.P.G.C., Prov. G. Chap.; George Atter, 1661, Prov. G. Treas.; F. W. Fox, 2017, Prov. G. Reg.; Thos. Fisher, 1852, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Frank Farrands, 1405 and 2594, Prov. G.D.C.; N. Ashurst, 1435 and 2553, Prov. A.G.D.C.; H. Kiddier, 1435, Prov. G.S.B.; H. Blandy, 411, Prov. G. Std. Br.; S. E. Berrey, 1493, Prov. G. Std. Br.; A. R. Watson, 47, Prov. G. Org.; J. P. W. Marx, 1509, P.P.G.D.C., Prov. A.G. Sec.; T. J. Hayter, 1794, Prov. G. Purst.; C. B. Beccroft, 2412, Prov. A.G. Purst.; John Moody, acting Prov. G. Tyler; Arthur Barlow, 1434, E. F. Milthorpe, 1661, Geo. Thompson, 1802, G. W. Hooton, 1909, Lisle Rookley, 2302, and Dr. W. H. Wright, 2594, Prov. G. Stwds.; together with Past Prov. G. Officers, members of lodges, and others.

Bro. Lord HENRY BENTINCK, in the course of an inaugural address, referred to the progress the province had made under the benign rule of the late Grand Master, the Duke of St. Albans. He remembered the occasion when the duke delivered his farewell address to the Provincial Grand Lodge, and was profoundly touched by the evidence of the esteem and affection in which the duke was held. He need not say anything with regard to the Duke of Portland, whom he knew probably better than anyone else present. Perhaps, however, he should not be saying too much when he ventured to prophesy that his Grace would prove, in his capacity as Provincial Grand Master, one who was possessed of all the virtues which he had so well displayed in the past, and which had endeared the duke to him (Lord Hy. Bentinck) and to the whole of his family.

Seven Masters of the Province, in the order of seniority of lodges, were then deputed to introduce the Provincial Grand Master elect to the lodge, these included Bros. Mason, 47; H. G. Ashwell, 402; F. H. Fish, 411; J. W. Spedding, 539; E. W. Wells, 1405; M. I. Preston, 1435; and W. Wheatley, 1405.

Bro. F. W. FOX, Prov. G. Reg., read the patent of appointment, which was signed by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as Grand Master; Earl Amherst, Deputy G.M.; and Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec.

The ceremony of installation having been performed, the Duke of PORTLAND said he desired to thank the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England for having appointed him his representative for the Province of Notts, with which county he (the duke) was associated by so many friendly ties. He accepted with pleasure the honour which his Royal Highness had conferred upon him, and did not forget the responsibilities attaching to the position. He was certain he was expressing the feeling of every brother present when he said how deeply they regretted the death of the late Provincial Grand Master, the Duke of St. Albans, who took so great an interest in the Craft, and under whose wise and genial rule Masonry flourished in the province. He only hoped that during the time he (the Duke of Portland) had the honour and privilege of occupying his present

position, he might be thoroughly successful in obtaining the support and esteem of the brethren, and be enabled to sustain the prosperity of their valuable Institutions. He should endeavour to thoroughly realise and carry out the aims of the Craft and improve its position in the province, and he trusted that all the brethren would support him in his endeavour. He had great pleasure in announcing as his deputy, Lieut.-Col. Wm. Newton, an excellent member of the Order, who would, he was sure, carry out the duties with the same assiduity which he had displayed under the late Grand Master of the province.

The PROV. GRAND REGISTRAR read the patent relating to Bro. Col. Newton's appointment, and the latter was duly invested.

This terminated the business of Prov. Grand Lodge, and the members were afterwards formed in procession in order of precedence, and marched to the hospital for the purpose of the foundation-stone laying.

The procession left the Albert Hall at 1.30 and proceeded by way of Wellington-terrace, East Cathedral-street, Park-row, and Postern-street to the hospital.

On arriving at the site, Sir CHARLES SEELY, addressing the Duke of Portland, said that it was his pleasant task to ask his Grace to be good enough to lay that stone, and he had to thank him and that great assembly of their great and ancient Order for the kindness they had done them and the honour they had conferred upon them by coming there that day. That wing, of which that was the memorial stone, was primarily intended for the benefit of those who needed surgical and medical assistance, and who were not able to procure it themselves. But it was also intended as a memorial of the 60th year of the illustrious reign of the Queen.

The Duke of PORTLAND having had a silver trowel presented to him by Sir Charles Seely, said: Men and brethren here assembled to behold this ceremony, be it known unto you that we be the 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 to 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 these secrets are lawful and honourable, and 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, nor should we have had so many illustrious brothers in our Order, ready to promote our laws and further our interests. I am very glad that, coming direct from my installation as Prov. Grand Master of Nottinghamshire, the first official duty I have to discharge is to lay the foundation-stone of an important addition to the hospital of the county town as commemorating the Diamond Jubilee of our Patron her Majesty the Queen. The new building will contribute largely to the alleviation of suffering, and administer to the wants of the sick and distressed amongst us, and I heartily hope that the undertaking may be crowned with success for the beneficent purposes for which it is designed. 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, which we pray God may prosper as it seems good to Him, and as the first duty of Masons in an undertaking is to invoke the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe on their work, I call upon you to unite with our Grand Chaplain in an address to the Throne of Grace.

Prayer having been offered by the Prov. G. Chap., Bro. the Rev. H. T. HAYMAN, the upper stone was raised and the lower one adjusted, the Duke of PORTLAND saying—"I now declare it to be my will and pleasure that the corner-stone of this building be laid."

By direction of his Grace, the G. SECRETARY read the inscription on the plate, which was as follows: "This foundation-stone of the extension of the Nottingham General Hospital, and in commemoration of the 60th year of her Majesty Queen Victoria, was laid on the 7th day of July, 1898, by his Grace the Duke of Portland, G.C.V.O., P.C."

It was announced that the words "Provincial Grand Master of Notts, with Masonic ceremony," would be added.

The G. Treasurer afterwards deposited coins of the realm and the following other articles in the cavity, in accordance with time-honoured custom: The day's issue of the *Times*, the *Nottingham Daily Guardian*, the *Nottingham Daily Express*, a copy of the 115th annual report of the state of the General Hospital, from March, 1896, to March, 1897, with a list of the annual subscribers and benefactors, and an extract from the rules, a list of the names of the Extension Committee, official programmes of the installation of his Grace the Duke of Portland as Prov. Grand Master of Notts, and of the ceremony of the laying of the memorial stone of the new Jubilee wing, together with one each of the current coins of the realm.

The G. Secretary placed the plate on the lower stone, on the upper face of which the cement was spread, and the Duke of Portland adjusted the same with the trowel handed to him for the purpose, after which the upper stone was slowly lowered, with three distinct stops.

A vocal quartette, consisting of Bros. H. Stubbs, G. Stubbs, and E. Marriott (St. Paul's Cathedral), and T. J. Hayter rendered an appropriate sentence at each of the three intervals.

The Duke of Portland, having proved the stone by the level and the square, struck it three times with the mallet, and then scattered corn, poured out wine, and sprinkled oil upon the stone.

Mr. P. Waterhouse was then presented to the Duke of Portland, who, having inspected the plans, returned them to Mr. Waterhouse, together with the several tools used in proving the position of the stone.

The Prov. S.G. Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. A. L. DOBBIN, pronounced the blessing, and the ceremony concluded with the National Anthem and cheers for the Queen.

The procession returned to the Albert Hall in reverse order, and the Prov. Grand Lodge was closed.

Following upon the closing of the Provincial Grand Lodge, the officers and brethren of the Craft repaired to the Victoria Hall, Upper Talbot-street, to partake of a banquet, over which the newly-installed Prov. Grand Master presided.

At the conclusion of the banquet, the toast of "The Queen and the Craft" having been drunk with enthusiasm upon the proposal of the Duke of PORTLAND, his Grace, in proposing "The Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," said the next toast which I have the honour to propose to you, like that which you have just pledged, does not depend on the words of the speaker to cause it to be received with the greatest loyalty and pleasure. In such an assembly as this it is needless for me to dilate on the manifold benefits which have accrued to the Craft from

his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales's long tenure of office as Most Worshipful Grand Master. (Cheers.) Despite his manifold and multifarious duties—for one has only to glance at the newspapers to see he is here one day and there another, doing his utmost to further the welfare of the people over whom, if God so wills it, he will some day rule—he yet finds time to give his services for the benefit of Freemasonry whenever the occasion demands. Quite lately he has rendered vast service by his presidency at the wonderfully successful dinner at the Albert Hall in aid of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, when a record subscription list was obtained, thus proving not only the love which is borne him by the Freemasons of the United Kingdom, but also the vitality of the Craft. In this respect I am glad to say the Province of Nottingham was not backward, for it rendered material assistance to which I have just alluded. (Cheers.)

Bro. Sir FREDERICK MILNER proposed "The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master of England, Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom; the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Amherst; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and in doing so spoke of the Pro Grand Master's many qualities, and the extent to which Freemasonry was indebted to him. The hearts of all went out to Lord Lathom in sympathy in the terrible tragedy which deprived him of the light and brightness of his home, and deprived the country of a lady who by her many amiable qualities had endeared herself to all who knew her. It was some satisfaction to Masons, however, to know that the universal sympathy which was shown to Lord Lathom helped him to bear his great trial, and they hoped that time might soften the terrible wound that had been inflicted upon him, and that he might be restored in due course to complete health and strength. (Applause.) With regard to the officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past, he thought it must have been an immense satisfaction to all who were present at the magnificent banquet the other day in the Albert Hall to find that the efforts of Masons resulted in the declaration of the largest sum that had ever been given out at any public dinner. (Applause.) It must also have been a great satisfaction to the Grand Officers present on that occasion to hear the tribute which was paid to them by the Prince of Wales when he said that during the 20 years he had been a Grand Master he had been most loyally supported by all the Grand Officers, and that it was principally to their efforts that he attributed the great success which had attended the efforts of Freemasons. He coupled with the toast the name of the R.W. Bro. the Marquis of Granby, P.J.G.W., upon whose many virtues he would not descant, as the noble marquis was somewhat modest, and it might embarrass him. (Laughter.) He had the utmost pleasure in proposing the toast.

The toast having been drunk with enthusiasm.

Bro. the Marquis of GRANBY, in reply, said that Lord Lathom since his return had devoted his first thought to the Craft with which he had been so long connected, and with regard to the other officers of the Grand Lodge, it was sufficient to say that all those who were so honoured as to hold office therein would do their utmost to preserve the dignity and the interest of the Craft with which they were all so closely allied. (Applause.)

Bro. Sir SAMUEL JOHNSON next submitted the toast of "The Prov. Grand Master of Nottinghamshire, Right Wor. Bro. his Grace the Duke of Portland." It was, he said, his duty, as far as he could, to give voice to the sentiment of the brethren of the lodge on the occasion of the appointment of a new Prov. Grand Master for that province. They were all, he believed, loyal Masons, dutiful Masons, obedient to the powers that be, and he who had been appointed as their Prov. Grand Master had been received by them with acclamation. But it was all the more acceptable to them when, as on that occasion, their duty coincided with their pleasure—(cheers)—when, if they had themselves had the choice, their universal and unanimous choice would have been the same as that which had been made by the powers that be in Masonry. (Cheers.) That was an occasion, he was about to say, and from their applause it was evidently their opinion too, when very few words were required from him to commend to their notice the important toast which he had to propose. They all knew that Masonry presented both an outside and internal appearance. Outside to the world they appeared by their charity, which they could fairly boast had been useful in the directions to which it had been directed, but speaking Masonically, the greatest charm of Masonry to him lay in its influence upon the character of everyone of those who belonged to it. And that being the two-fold aspect of their grand Order, whom could they have better chosen, whom could they have better placed over them, to lead them successfully through those channels of operation of Masonic influence than the noble duke who presided over them that afternoon? (Cheers.) In remembering the very many honours that had been conferred and had devolved upon him, they could not but remind themselves that he had been appointed Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Nottingham. (Applause.) At the same time they of the city of Nottingham were equally proud with those of the county, because the noble duke had also been appointed by a separate patent Lord-Lieutenant of the city of Nottingham. (Applause.) For those combined reasons that day would stand as a red-letter day in the history of Nottingham, and they welcomed the noble duke with all their hearts, and rejoiced with all their spirits, because they were sure that Masonry would prosper in this province so long as his Grace reigned over them as the Provincial Grand Master. (Cheers.) On an occasion like that one would like to dilate to a considerable extent upon the toast, but without further words he asked them to drink, with ringing cheers, the health of the Prov. Grand Master, the Duke of Portland. (Cheers.)

The toast was received with repeated cheers, and at the call of Sir SAMUEL JOHNSON, who remarked that whether it was Masonic he did not know, but it was human, an additional cheer was given for the duchess, and subsequently one for the young marquis.

Bro. the Duke of PORTLAND, in reply, said: I have to thank Sir Samuel Johnson for the manner in which he has proposed this toast, and also for the cordial welcome which he, on behalf of the city of Nottingham, gave me to the high office to which her Majesty the Queen has graciously appointed me. (Applause.) And I thank you, my brethren, for the cordial reception that you gave to the toast. I do not know whether it is Masonic, but it is certainly human—(laughter)—and I am sure you would not consider me to be a good Mason if I was not human—if I do not tell how heartily I appreciate the cordial cheer which you gave for my wife. (Applause.) I assure you that she takes the greatest interest in Masonry, but she never tries to find out its secrets. (Laughter and applause.) I most deeply appreciate the great honour which has been done me by the Most Worshipful Grand Master in having appointed me Grand Master of this important province, and I shall always endeavour most earnestly to carry out the duties which fall to me to the best of my ability and for the

benefit of Freemasonry. (Cheers.) Although I have already alluded at the installation ceremony to the great loss which the province has sustained by the death of the late R.W. Prov. Grand Master, the Duke of St. Albans, yet I am sure I am only fulfilling your wishes if I once again do so. I would, then, say that as a man he claimed our admiration by the earnest and upright way in which he carried out his political duties, and the courage with which he endured many trials and sufferings. (Hear, hear.) As a Freemason, first as Provincial Grand Master of Lincolnshire, and then for 20 years in the same capacity for Nottinghamshire he rendered most valuable service to the Craft, for it flourished under his rule, and to quote the words which Colonel Newton used at the last anniversary meeting: "He was the means of establishing the prosperity of the Order amongst many of his neighbours and friends in the county, thereby adding to their happiness, both morally and socially." (Cheers.) Brethren, I hope when the time comes the same may be said about me, for if such is the case I feel I shall have to some extent done my duty and been of benefit to my fellow creatures. With this wish ever before me, I shall spare no effort to uphold the welfare of the Craft in this province, and I am sure, whenever I require assistance, I shall always find support, kindness, and sympathy, not only from Colonel Newton, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, but from the various officers and every member of the Craft. (Cheers.) As you are all aware, brethren, it was considered right and proper that other festivities besides this luncheon should be postponed to some future time, but it gives me great pleasure to announce that it is proposed to give a ball during the coming winter, at which I hope you will all attend. (Cheers.) I know that ladies are debarred from our general assemblies, but I trust that on this occasion they will join our revels, thereby showing their interest in the Craft, but at the same time without desiring to discover our secrets. (Applause.) I beg to assure you that I shall always use my best endeavours to foster Freemasonry in this province. (Cheers.)

"The Health of the Installing Master, the R.W. Bro. Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, Prov. Grand Master of Cumberland and Westmorland," was proposed by Bro. Sir THOMAS ROE, who alluded to the interesting spectacle they had had of the younger brother installing the elder. The worshipful brother, who already was the R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Cumberland and Westmorland, had done good work in coming down to the Midlands that day and taken the part he had done in the ceremony, and he (the speaker) hoped and trusted that his Grace the Duke of Portland would never have cause to regret what had taken place that day. (Applause.)

Bro. Lord HENRY BENTINCK, M.P., said that perhaps they were aware of the reason why he found himself in that position. When his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales found it impossible, owing to his many engagements, to visit Nottingham, his brother the duke was kind enough to say that if the province had no objection he would like him to perform the ceremony of installation. (Applause.) Very seldom had he been more pleased than he had been that day, and he felt certain that one who had proved himself one of the kindest, best, and most indulgent of brothers—(applause)—would prove himself to be the best possible ruler over them. (Hear, hear.) He would throw himself heart and soul into the work of promoting the welfare of the province, and he (Lord Henry) had no doubt but that the province would continue in its present state of prosperity. (Renewed applause.)

The remaining toasts having been honoured, the proceedings terminated. An offertory in aid of the Hospital Extension Fund realised 100 guineas.

#### SUMMER OUTING OF THE QUATUOR CORONATI LODGE, No. 2076.

The 10th annual outing of this lodge was this year devoted to a study of York and its neighbourhood, the traditional cradle of the Craft, the undoubted seat of one of the oldest lodges known, and of the former Grand Lodge of All England, remarkable alike for its historic, Masonic, and architectural interest. The following brethren left King's Cross terminus on the 30th ult., by the 3.25 p.m. train, in reserved saloon carriages, viz.: Bros. Sydney T. Klein, W.M.; G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; G. Greiner, I.G.; H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B.; Dr. G. Nickley, P.A.G.D.C.; J. J. Thomas, P.G. Std. Br.; Dr. T. Charters White, W. J. Songhurst, G. Powell, F. A. Powell, J. Thompson, F. J. Rebman, J. W. Stevens, R. S. Ellis, J. Robbins, C. B. Barnes, J. P. Watson, E. T. Edwards, F. L. Gardner, G. H. Buck, Dr. C. Wells, T. Cohu, J. L. Bennett, C. E. Ferry, W. H. Tarrant, E. Hulbert, Capt. C. E. Reynolds, Dr. C. R. Walker, R. Orttewell, H. Woodcock, W. Busbridge, and J. Wakelin. At Peterborough they were joined by Bro. H. Bambridge, and arrived at York at 7.40 p.m., having partaken of tea *en route*, which was provided at Grantham. At York they found awaiting them Bros. F. Stevens, Professor Swift, P. Johnston, C. F. Brindley, Dr. J. Stokes, T. Purvis, Seymour Bell, T. Pickering, J. Bodenham, P.A.G.D.C.; T. J. Salway, C. Letch Mason, H. J. Sparks, Dr. W. Wynn Westcott, P.M. of the lodge; and T. B. Whytehead, P.G.S.B.

The head-quarters were at the North Eastern Hotel (Bro. F. W. Halliwell) where most of the brethren were accommodated, but some few had to sleep out, at the Adelphi and Great Northern Hotels.

Dinner was served at 8.30, and the remainder of the evening devoted to conversation.

By breakfast time at nine on Friday morning, our party had been increased by the arrival of Bros. Capt. M. D. Bell, J. A. Jones, W. M. Battersby, H. Brown, M. C. Peck, T. B. Redfearn, and A. Bruce.

At 10 o'clock a start was made under the guidance of Bro. Whytehead to perambulate the city. After viewing the Micklegate Bar, we ascended the walls which were followed to the Lendal Bridge, and crossing this, the Gardens of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society were entered. Here we viewed with interest the ruins of the Hospital of St. Leonard, founded by Athelstan, remnants of the old Roman city walls, the Museum of the Society, the remains of St. Mary's Abbey (1074), Henry VIII's Manor House, and the old Guest House of the Abbey, now used as a Museum of Roman Antiquities. A very pleasant two hours was spent in surveying all these interesting objects, and then a move was made to the Minister. Here we were met by the Dean, Bro. Parey-Cust, P.G. Chap., who conducted us to the Zouche Chapel, where, with the aid of plans, he explained the different states of the building at different epochs, and also exhibited the various relics and plate of the cathedral, imparting at the same time a great deal of information about their history.

After the conclusion of this most interesting lecture, we were conducted by the Dean through the building, all of which was thoroughly explained, although our kindly guide deplored that our time was too short to do justice to the subject. We, however, promised to return on some future occasion, and once more benefit by his perfect knowledge of the grand old Minster and its history. Shortly before two o'clock we left him, and placing ourselves once more under the guidance of Bro. Whytehead, visited St. William's College *en route*, and made our way to the Freemasons' Hall, St. Saviourgate, the property of the Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611. Here we were met by Bro. W. H. Chambers, W.M., and several of the brethren, and after inspecting the handsome lodge-room, a splendid collection of Masonic engravings, the Bible of the extinct Grand Lodge of All England, and being entertained by a selection of music on the fine organ, we were heartily welcomed to a sumptuous lunch, for which our appetites by this time were quite prepared.

A few speeches of welcome to York, and thanks to our entertainers, naturally followed, and cabs having been meanwhile ordered, we bade them farewell for the time, and commenced a drive round and through the city, pausing here and there to admire the many objects of interest presented to our view. In the course of this drive a lengthened stay was made at the Merchants' Hall, the property of the ancient Guild of York Merchant Adventurers—still an active body. The hall is in itself curious from an architectural point of view, as its underground chapel is reached through a trap door. But beyond this, it is, Masonically interesting because here the Grand York Lodge met, as did the Apollo Lodge of Freemasons, and here Drake, the then Junior Grand Warden, delivered the famous oration on the 27th December, 1726.

The drive terminated at the ancient Guildhall (1446), which was thoroughly inspected, and finally a move was made to the adjacent Mansion House, where, by direction of the Lord Mayor, the city plate was displayed for our benefit. Dinner at head-quarters at 6.30, where we were joined by the Dean and some of the local brethren. The only speech was one of thanks to the Dean for his kindness during the forenoon, to which he eloquently replied.

At 8.30 the brethren proceeded to the Masonic Hall, Duncombe-place, the property of the York Lodge, No. 236, where the lodge was opened under the presidency of its W.M., Bro. A. Procter, with a full attendance of members. The York Lodge is the fortunate possessor of most of the relics of the extinct Grand Lodge—pedestal, candlesticks, minute books from 1712, rolls of members, five rolls of the Constitutions, old jewels, &c.—all of which were displayed for our inspection and explained.

The Grand Officers having been saluted, the W.M., Bro. PROCTER, delivered the following address of welcome: Brethren,—Your summons informs you that this lodge of emergency is convened for the purpose of receiving a visit from the W.M. and brethren of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, and on behalf of the York Lodge I offer to our distinguished visitors a most hearty and cordial welcome. The title of the lodge has, I believe, caused a little perplexity to some of our brethren who have only recently become aware of its existence. I understand it has some reference to an old legend of four crowned martyrs, but, beyond that, my information does not extend, and it would be interesting to hear from some of the brethren something of the legend and of its connection with the foundation and objects of our visitors' lodge. My membership of the Outer Circle has given me some little acquaintance with its most valuable work and with the names of its prominent members. It forms a centre for all students of Masonic history and literature and for the collection of documents and objects of value and interest to the Craft, which are stored and cared for, and placed at the disposal of Masons who desire to prosecute literary work. Here, all discoveries and theories are examined and discussed by the most competent authorities and the results made known to the Masonic world by means of that valuable publication known as "Ars Quatuor Coronatorum" so ably edited and compiled by the Secretary, Bro. Speth. To those who desire, as Craftsmen, to make the liberal arts and sciences their study, the most valuable aid is given by this lodge, and the readers of the "Ars Quatuor Coronatorum" will all have fresh in their memories those truly marvellous papers on "Hidden Mysteries," which have recently appeared from the pen of the W.M., Bro. Klein, in which some of the wonderful works of the Almighty are described with such vivid force and made to appear rather as chapters of romance than as dissertations on the hard facts of nature and science. In another direction, the interesting and ingenious theory of the W.M. upon the genuine secrets of a M.M. has startled the Masonic world. His paper on "The Great Symbol" was a marvellous monument of labour and research, tracing as it did the history of geometry from the earliest times of Socrates and Plato, and exhibiting forcibly the relation to Masonry of the knowledge of the square and of that amazing proposition which is the foundation of Masonry. Then the recent labours of the Secretary, Bro. Speth, on the question of the number of Degrees worked by Masons in pre-speculative times, have found expression in a paper showing infinite labour, and extensive Masonic knowledge, and whatever theory one may adopt, the learning and information to be gathered from the paper and the discussions thereon are invaluable to a Masonic student. The publications which are regularly sent to the Outer Circle are most fascinating documents, and the interest in them grows upon one from time to time; indeed, I do not know of any expenditure of 10s. 6d. a year which yields such a satisfactory return. The Craft is under the greatest obligation to the Quatuor Coronati Lodge for its work, and I consider it a great privilege to have the opportunity of receiving its members here, and that an honour is conferred on our ancient lodge by the presence of our visitors this evening. In coming to our city, our visitors are coming to what has often been called the "Mecca of Freemasonry," and if tradition is to be accepted, this designation would seem to be not far wrong. It is at any rate matter of history that there was a Grand Lodge of All England at York and of this we shall offer you visible and actual proof in the shape of some of its records and constitutions which you will have the opportunity of inspecting, and of their old banner which stands on my right, and the obligation pedestal with its cover, and the candlesticks of the W.M. and Wardens, which formed part of their lodge furniture. This is an inheritance of which we are naturally very proud, and it was with great pleasure and satisfaction that we acceded to the suggestion of Bro. Whytehead, your J.W., whom we appreciate so highly in York, and offered you an invitation to pay us a visit. I end as I began, by saying we are delighted to have the opportunity of receiving the W.M. and brethren of this distinguished lodge, and we welcome them most heartily.

Bro. S. T. KLEIN, in a short speech, thanked the W.M. and the brethren of the York Lodge most heartily for the splendid welcome afforded them in their ancient lodge and beautiful hall, and expressed the pleasure which all his companions in the pilgrimage to York felt at visiting the old city under such propitious circumstances.

Bro. G. W. SPETH, in compliance with the request of the W.M., next gave a sketch of the legend of the Quatuor Coronati, and of the reasons why the lodge had assumed the name as it title.

The lodge was then closed, and the visitors and members repaired to the upper room where the rest of the evening was spent in a most delightful manner, with the aid of speeches, song and recitation, tobacco and wine, in goodfellowship and fraternal affection.

After breakfast at 8.30 on Saturday morning, the party was increased by the arrival of Bros. P. Cobb, York; W. N. Cheesman, Selby; R. Hudson, P.G.S.B., Tynemouth; S. Pegler, Retford; and R. J. Smith, Leeds; and we took the train at 10.20, special saloons having been provided by the Railway Company, for Cots-

wold, where we arrived at 11.10. Here we found carriages awaiting us and were driven to the ruins of the Benedictine Byland Abbey close by, where half an hour was devoted to its inspection. We were then driven by a beautiful road amid charming scenery over Wass Bank and some moors to Helmsley, and alighting at the Black Swan found a welcome lunch prepared for us.

A fresh start was made at two o'clock in the carriages to Rievaulx Terrace, overlooking the ruined Abbey, a vast sweep of lawn, semi-circular in shape, backed by beautiful woods and commanding one of the most picturesque views in all England. At each end of this terrace, some two miles long, stands a temple, and advantage was taken of the steps of one of these to photograph the party. Then by a circuitous descent, rather steep in places, through the wood to the Abbey below, a Cisterian building of the 12th century, one of the finest ruins in the country. Here we lounged and chatted for an hour or more, and regaining our carriages about 4.30 were driven through the Park to Helmsley, partaking of a refreshing cup of tea at the Black Swan. Train at six p.m. to York, and dinner at eight.

After dinner, the tables having been cleared and dessert set, we were favoured with the company of many of the local brethren, each of the lodges in York being represented by several of its members. It is scarcely necessary to describe the proceedings, song and toast followed each other in quick succession, the pleasure which the Quatuor Coronati brethren felt in being able to entertain their guests of the day before and the delight which they had derived from their visit, were duly portrayed, the brethren who had contributed to the success of the outing, Bros. Whytehead, Speth, Halliwell, and others, were warmly thanked. "The Health of the York brethren and the prosperity of their lodges" were drunk with all honours, and responded to, and it was with reluctance that the brethren separated about midnight.

Sunday, of course, was a comparatively idle day, but none the less enjoyable. After nine o'clock breakfast, most of us attended morning service at the Minster, and afterwards sauntered about the town until dinner at 2.30. Three hours later came the inevitable good-byes—a sad ceremony, not unsweetened, however, by the thought that the visit might and would be some day renewed, and then at 5.20 our train steamed out of the station for London amid the cheers of many local brethren and some few of our own who intended remaining over until the Monday.

Throughout the excursion the weather had been exceptionally propitious—during our walk about the city on Friday, when too much sun would have been trying, the orb of day had been veiled as if for our especial comfort; on Saturday and Sunday it shone brilliantly; but, owing to the fact that we were driving, and that a delicious breeze was blowing, at no time was it oppressive, and what rain did fall was kind enough to perform its gentle ministrations during the night. Had it been possible to select one's own weather, no better choice could have been made.

The York outing of the Quatuor Coronati will long remain a treasured memory with those who took part in it.

## Craft Masonry.

### St. Lawrence Lodge, No. 2078.

This lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Frodingham, on Monday, the 4th inst., Bro. the Rev. E. M. Weigall, P.M., P.P.G.C., occupied the chair in the absence of the W.M., Bro. Dewhurst. There was but little business. A petition was signed on behalf of the widow of the late Bro. S. M. Peace, and ordered to be sent to Provincial Grand Lodge for relief. Bro. Constable, P.M. 1482, and P.P.G.O., was proposed as an honorary member.

The brethren adjourned after lodge for light refreshment.

### Broxbourne Lodge, No. 2353.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held on Saturday, the 25th ult., at the Red Lion Hotel, High Barnet, when there were present Bros. O. Newman, W.M.; E. J. Gittins, S.W.; J. W. Hunt, J.W.; E. C. Mulvey, P.G.P., Treas.; S. Lichtenfeld, P.M., P.P.G. Stwd., Sec.; T. J. Phillips, S.D.; J. Heilbrun, J.D.; C. A. Hempel, D.C.; T. J. Patrick, I.G.; R. H. Nicholls and H. Ramsbottom, Stwds.; H. Evenden, Tyler; H. Monson, P.M.; H. G. Holland, P.M.; W. Winsor, P.M.; H. Saunton, G. Buchner, H. Passenger, W. Hall, J. M. Wright, M. Hummel, W. Hewitt, C. E. Greening, J. Essien, W. Watson, R. Ridgway, W. Staples, E. Ratcliffe, G. Angold, H. Kobelt, and others. Visitors: Bros. Jas. Watts, P.M. 179; C. Bullock, Prov. G. Sec.; W. Harper, P.M. 2182; W. Stracey, 2345; C. H. Bestow, P.M., P.G.P. Essex; G. Grant, 1765; G. Evans, 1297; and others.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, after which Bro. E. J. Gittins, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., W.M. elect, having been duly presented, was very impressively installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. E. C. Mulvey, P.M., P.G.P. The W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. J. W. Hunt, S.W.; T. J. Phillips, J.W.; E. C. Mulvey, P.M., P.G.P., Treas.; S. Lichtenfeld, P.M., Sec.; J. Heilbrun, S.D.; T. J. Patrick, J.D.; C. A. Hempel, I.G.; H. G. Holland, P.M., D.C.; G. E. Buchner, A.D.C.; R. H. Nicholls, Org.; H. Ramsbottom and H. Saunton, P.M., Stewards; and H. Evenden, P.M., Tyler. The first act of the W.M. was to present a handsome Past Master's jewel to the outgoing W.M., Bro. O. Newman, who expressed his gratitude for the kindness and consideration he had received during his year of office. The Auditors' report was presented, and showed a substantial balance to the credit of the lodge. The ballot was then taken for the Rev. J. C. Wilson, Messrs. W. H. De Maid, and D. S. Aston, which proving unanimous, those gentlemen were initiated in a very able and impressive manner. Following this, the W.M. performed the pleasant duty of presenting Bro. E. C. Mulvey with an oil painting of himself, unanimously voted by the lodge in recognition of his valuable services to the lodge, and in commemoration of his year of office as G.P. of England. Bro. Mulvey, in cordially thanking the W.M. and brethren, said he fully appreciated their kindness, and with their kind permission would be glad if the lodge would accept the portrait to adorn the lodge-room. The W.M., in suitable terms, accepted the gift on behalf of the lodge.

The brethren afterwards adjourned to the banquet table, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

Bro. E. C. Mulvey, P.G.P., responded for "The Grand Officers," who he said were always willing and able to do their utmost in the interests of the Craft.

The W.M. then gave the toast of "The Prov. Grand Master, Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.M.," which was very cordially received.

In response to the toast of "The Provincial Grand Officers," Bro. C. Bullock, Prov. G. Sec., expressed the great pleasure it afforded him to be present on that occasion as the guest of the W.M. He was quite sure the lodge would continue to flourish under the rule of the W.M., who had that evening shown that he could work the ceremony of initiation in a perfect manner. He could also testify to his excellent work on behalf of the lodge whilst acting as their Secretary during the past six years—as was evidenced by the rapid increase in the number of members—the lodge being now third in the province.

The toast of "The W.M." was given in appropriate terms by Bro. E. C. Mulvey, who referred to his long association in Masonry with the W.M., who he felt sure would increase the prestige of the Broxbourne Lodge.

The W. Master having suitably responded, the remaining toasts were then gone through.

An excellent programme of music was provided, songs being given by Mr. Eric Farr, Bros. H. G. Holland, P.M., W. Stracey, W. J. Hall, and others, and a very pleasant meeting then terminated.

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Bridgwater, TAUNTON, Minehead, Wellington, Tiverton,  
&c., for a week, a fortnight, &c.; and to SHREWSBURY,  
Leominster, HEREFORD, Welshpool, ABERYSTWYTH,  
Llangollen, Corwen, Bala, Festiniog, DOLGELLEY,  
BARMOUTH, Rhyl, Llandudno, Bettws-y-coed, Carnar-  
von, 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; and to  
CHESTER, Birkenhead, and LIVERPOOL, for 5, 8, 12  
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, PLY-  
MOUTH, Rodmin, Wadebridge, Fowey, Truro, Falmouth,  
St. Ives, PENZANCE, &c., for a week, a fortnight, &c.

EVERY THURSDAY AND SATURDAY.—To Mine-  
head, Lynton, Lynmouth, Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE,  
Yealmpston, Tavistock, Launceston, Torquay, Dartmouth,  
&c., for a week, a fortnight, &c.

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

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**PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE  
OF SURREY.**THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF ONSLOW, G.C.M.G.,  
R.W. PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

July, 1898.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Provincial Grand  
Lodge will be held at THE MASONIC HALL, SUTTON, on  
THURSDAY, the 21st day of JULY, 1898, at 4.40 o'clock in  
the afternoon precisely.

By command.

CHARLES T. TYLER, P.M.,  
Prov. Grand Secretary.

N.B.—Morning Dress.

2, Bank Buildings,  
Woking.**BUSINESS BEFORE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.**

To read the Minutes of the last P.G. Lodge.  
To call over Roll of Lodges in the Province.  
To receive the Report of the Audit Committee.  
To receive the Report of the Charity Committee.  
To elect a Provincial Grand Treasurer.  
The appointment of Provincial Grand Officers.  
General Business.

Banquet at 6.30 p.m. punctually at the COCK HOTEL,  
SUTTON.

N.B.—Banquet will be provided for those only who have  
taken tickets, for which application must be made to the  
Asst. P.G. Sec., W. Bro. A. J. LATHAM, at 179, Blackfriars-  
road, S.E.

**PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER  
OF SURREY.**THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF ONSLOW, G.C.M.G.,  
M.E. GRAND SUPERINTENDENT.

July, 1898.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Provincial Grand  
Chapter will be held at THE MASONIC HALL, SUTTON,  
in the County of SURREY, on THURSDAY, the 21st day of  
JULY, 1898, at THREE o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

By command.

CHARLES T. TYLER, P.P.G.J.,  
Prov. Grand Scribe E.

Morning Dress.

2, Bank Buildings,  
Woking.**BUSINESS BEFORE PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER.**

To read the Minutes of the last P.G. Chapter.  
To call over the Chapters in the Province.  
To receive the Report of the Audit Committee.  
To elect a Provincial Grand Treasurer.  
The appointment of Provincial Grand Officers.  
General Business.

Banquet at 6.30 o'clock punctually.

N.B.—Banquet will be provided for those only who have  
taken tickets. The Companions will banquet with the  
Provincial Grand Lodge.

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**Masonic Notes.**

SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1898.

The 30th Anniversary Festival in behalf of the Mark Benevolent Fund on Wednesday, proved, under the circumstances, a great success, and we heartily congratulate the Chairman—Bro. the Hon. Alan de Talton Egerton, M.P., Prov. G. Master of Cheshire, and his Board of 123 Stewards on the excellent total of £1736, which they succeeded in raising. No one expected that the record total of last year would be equalled or even very nearly approached. The Boys' School Centenary had absorbed so much of the attentions of the brethren that even the claims of the Benevolent Institution and Girls' School were, for the time being, put in the shade. But the Mark Benevolent Festival is always a popular gathering and the sum obtained will more than satisfy the requirements of the year and leave a comfortable margin over for investment.

The Board of Stewards was a fairly strong one and the total compiled by the Provinces and Stations Abroad was not so very much below that which the Provincial section of the Board had the pleasure of realising in 1895; and it is quite on the cards that if the Chairman's Province of Cheshire had been a stronger one, the total of three years since would have been equalled or even surpassed. However, the result is beyond what any one expected, and for this reason our congratulations are all the heartier.

It is to be regretted that at the meeting we reported last week of the Excelsior Mark Lodge, No. 226, Bro. Major Weston, Past G.I.G., in responding for the officers of the Mark Grand Lodge, did not confine himself to the subject-matter of the toast. Had he replied in the stereotyped form to the effect that it was a great honour to be a member of so distinguished a body, which was always ready and willing to do its utmost to advance the interests of Mark Masonry, he would have shown judgment, even though his remarks would have been far from original. But it was in bad taste, as well as impolitic, to go out of his way to sneer at the great Central Charitable Institutions of the Order. He is reported to have said that "the Benevolent Charities of the Degree were not nearly as well supported as they ought to be; that they"—the said Mark Charities—"did not employ a large staff of officers and officials, but yet they educated their boys and girls and looked after their old people;" that "there was no sounding of trumpets in Mark Masonry; there was no £134,000 for their Charity; some two or three thousand was all they got, and they wanted more, as more claims were being made on them;" and, finally, that "they had had hitherto no elections, thanks to the care and kindness of their esteemed Grand Secretary, Bro. Matier; but some day there would be an outburst from that brother, and they would be able to make as big a show as the other Institutions." These remarks, as they had nothing whatever to do with the toast of the Grand Officers, were decidedly out of place.

We have always taken a kindly interest in the Mark Benevolent Fund and have never missed an opportunity of writing in its behalf, when we have thought that any remarks of ours were calculated to promote its success. But this part of Bro. Weston's speech was, as we have said, in bad taste and impolitic. It was in bad taste, because a sneer is a poor requital to make to those who have laboured in the cause of Charity, and it was impolitic because the constituency to which the Mark Benevolent Fund looks for support is part of that greater constituency to which the Central Charities of the whole Order appeal. Moreover, Mark Masons in their capacity of Craft Masons are eligible to receive the benefits of these greater Charities.

It is also to be regretted that Bro. Major Weston was not somewhat better informed as to the circumstances of the Fund, to which we venture to think he has done a disservice. The Male Annuitants are in receipt of £26 a year and a Christmas gift of £5, and the Widow Annuitants of £21 a year with a Christmas gift of the same amount as the men. As for the children they are educated at Schools in the neighbourhoods they reside in and are given £5 a year towards their clothing. There is no need for any School premises, because the number of those who are benefited is small. Again, it is true there have never been any elections since the Educational and Annuity branches have been established, but this is not due to any act of the Grand Secretary—though we all recognise "the care and kindness" he exhibits in connection with the Fund and the splendid manner in which he works to promote its success—but because the Fund has been able to provide for all who have offered themselves as candidates. However, the matter is not worth pursuing further.

It will be seen, from the report we published elsewhere, that the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution have rescinded the resolution passed in November, 1896, by a small majority, to celebrate in an especial manner the jubilee Festival of the Widows' Fund. That Fund was established by United Grand Lodge in 1849, and next year, therefore, will have completed an existence of half a century. Considering the keenness of the competition for support among our three Central Charitable Institutions, there would have been nothing unreasonable if the Committee had decided upon making a special appeal to the Craft in respect of this jubilee; but the brethren do not appear to have taken very kindly to

the proposal, and it has, therefore, been very wisely resolved not to carry out the original plan; but the Secretary will be content with calling attention to the claims of this particular Fund to the support of the brethren in the Jubilee year of its existence. We trust the amount of support which may be forthcoming in 1899 will be considerably enlarged in consequence.

At the Provincial Grand Lodge of Norfolk, held on Thursday last, at Norwich, Lord Suffield announced that he had placed his resignation of the Provincial Grand Mastership in the hands of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, and that his Royal Highness had intimated his intention to appoint Bro. Hamon Le Strange to the post. The announcement was received with much regret at a crowded meeting, and a resolution to that effect was passed; but it was decided to postpone a more formal resolution till next meeting.

The usual summer entertainment was given to the inmates of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at Croydon, on Thursday, the 14th inst. A number of ladies and brethren were present on the occasion, and Bro. Terry, as usual, was in great form. Everything passed off admirably. The Old People enjoyed themselves thoroughly and were greatly delighted with the entertainment provided for them during the evening.

The installation of the Duke of Portland, Past G. Warden of England, as Prov. G. Master of Nottinghamshire, in succession to the late Duke of St. Albans was attended with rather more than the usual pomp and circumstance. There was a grand gathering of the brethren, not only from all parts of the Province, but also from adjoining Provinces, and even from still more distant centres of Masonic activity. Grand Lodge was very strongly represented, and there was little, if any, limit to the enthusiasm of those who had the good fortune to be present. A leading feature about the ceremony was the fact of its being performed by the Duke's younger brother, Lord Henry Cavendish Bentinck, M.P., P.G.M. of Cumberland and Westmorland. From the manner in which the whole of the arrangements were carried out as well as from the success which attended the subsequent ceremony of laying the stone of the Jubilee annexe to the Nottingham General Hospital, we have every reason to augur well for the presidency of the Duke of Portland over the Province. His Grace has been preceded in his office by some of the ablest and most popular Masons of their day, and under his auspices the reputation of Nottinghamshire will be fully maintained.

It was announced at the consecration at Brentwood the other day of the Weald Lodge, No. 2707, that Bro. his Honour Judge Philbrick, finding it impossible to continue in office as Deputy Prov. Grand Master, has made up his mind to resign that post and will be succeeded by Bro. Colonel Lockwood, M.P. We regret the retirement of Bro. Philbrick, at the same time that we welcome his successor.

It appears that the *Craftsman* of Atlanta, Ga., some time since, addressed circular letters to lodges throughout the United States "soliciting contributions to a fund for the relief of distressed Masons in Cuba." This circular "received the endorsement of a number of Grand Masters," and considerable sums were in consequence subscribed, chiefly by lodges in the South. A similar circular was addressed to the lodges in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York, and the Grand Master was invited to give them his "official endorsement," and solicit their support of the movement. However, after carefully considering the matter, and corresponding on the subject with the President of the United States, the Grand Master has declined to act as requested.

The reasons for this action are fully explained in a letter written by Bro. E. M. L. Ehlers, G. Secretary of New York, which is quoted in the May number of the *Voice of Masonry*. "In the absence of a responsible Masonic medium," says Bro. Ehlers, "through which the assistance rendered by the Craft can be distributed, any effort in the direction of raising funds for the brethren in Cuba is absolutely useless." Again, "although in correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Cuba, we have not received a communication from it in two years. . . . The lodges of Cuba, I am credibly informed, have for the time being ceased to meet. . . . It is impossible to reach the families of the Cuban brethren in distress at this juncture, except through the instrumentality of their most relentless foe, the Spaniards."

Bro. Ehlers concludes his letter thus: "Let me assure you, my brother, the Craft of New York has never listened with deafness to the cry of distress, and that when the time comes for real benevolence it will be found first among the foremost." There is much we might remark on this letter and that which led to its being written, but we will content ourselves with expressing the opinion that when the present troubles in Cuba are over, then will be the time to help the Cuban brethren and their distressed families.

## Masonic Notes and Queries.

1125]

### THE LARGEST GRAND LODGE.

I am much obliged to the R.W. Bro. Lamony for pointing out the error I made as to the returns to Grand Secretary. It is quite clear that these have to be made by "District lodges," as well as Metropolitan and Provincial lodges, so that if such returns were all duly united, as respects the number of members, we should then arrive at the total strength of the Grand Lodge. This apparently never has been done. The lodges in the District Grand Lodges, &c., do not pay any annual dues for their members, but they make annual returns of the names of such, with other particulars. However, the question at issue is not affected by my error, as an average of 50 members per lodge of the 2270 on the register gives a grand total of over 113,000.

W. J. HUGHAN.

## Reviews.

"AN ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE OF OLD AND RARE BOOKS FOR SALE AT PRICES OFFERED."—Part VI. One shilling, *post free* (Pickering and Chatto, 66, Haymarket, St. James's, S.W.).—This part concludes the volume which may now be had complete for six shillings, or separate parts at one shilling each. The illustrations in the present issue, S. to Y. are of a most remarkable character, the reproductions being fully equal to the rare and valuable originals. The work is most creditable to all concerned and deserves a very wide circulation. This it is sure to have, if *Book buyers* could only see it for themselves.

DAVID LYALL'S LOVE STORY" (Hodder and Stoughton, 27, Paternoster Row, London).—This most pathetic and interesting volume is by the author of "The Land O' the Leal," and is full of deeply affecting incidents and heart-melting sketches. The grave and the gay are most artistically blended in the wonderful experiences of that "child of nature" who recites his personal adventures and thrilling interviews, in a most unaffected and yet effective manner. The book is printed and bound in the admirable style of the *Im MacLaren* series, and consists of XVI. Chapters, the peculiarity of which is that each can be read separately and independently of each other, and yet they are parts of one harmonious whole. David Lyall has no superior in the narratives of these simple, yet eloquent accounts of Home life and duties, love and betrayal, high resolve and devotion to grand ideals, which captivate the reader and hold him entranced until the end is reached. The volumes of the series are published at 6s. each, and may be ordered through any Bookseller, or direct from the Publishers.

### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The July Quarterly Court of Subscribers to this Institution was held on the 8th instant, at the Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Richard Eve, P.G.T., presided, and there were also present Bros. George Everett, W. H. Kempster, W. J. Everett, J. W. Burgess, C. H. Webb, Henry A. Tobias, H. Massey, Charles E. Keyser, Edw. Margrett, W. A. Scurrah, C. D. Cheetham, W. Harris Saunders, John Glass, David H. Jacobs, C. Pulman, H. Mowbray, J. Leach Barrett, H. Thomson Lyon, J. J. Thomas, and James M. McLeod (Secretary).

In the course of the reading of the different minutes, the result of the Centenary Festival of the Institution was conveyed to the Court, namely that £134,000 was the total amount of the Stewards' list. The following letter was also read:

"Marlborough House, Pall Mall, S.W.,  
"11th July, 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.—I remain, yours faithfully,

"FRANCIS KNOLLYS.

"J. M. McLeod, Esq.,

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

Bro. JOHN GLASS, P.M. 453, for Bro. William Russell, P.A.G.D.C., Vice-Patron of the Institution, moved—

(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."

Bro. Glass said no motion ever came before the meetings was received with greater unanimity.

Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.T., Treasurer of the Institution, in seconding the motion, said in the case both of life and perpetual presentations it was considered that the amounts to be paid for them should be very much raised. In the case of life presentations, the 500 guineas, which was at one time considered enough, it was now suggested should be raised to 900 guineas.

Bro. RICHARD EVE said, with respect to resolution (b), it was palpable that rule would have to be altered, and, therefore, it had to be suspended, so as to prevent it being acted on. Now that it had been altered, the suspension would have to be removed, or they could not give effect to the resolution.

The resolutions were carried.

Bro. JOHN GLASS, for Bro. Stanley J. Attenborough, P.A.G.D. of C., Patron and Honorary Solicitor of the Institution, moved—"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."

Bro. H. MOWBRAY seconded the motion, which was then put and carried.

On the motion of Bro. C. E. KEYSER, seconded by Bro. W. A. SCURRAH, the list of candidates for the election on October 14th, was settled at 45 and the vacancies at 26.

Bro. RICHARD EVE said that something further had been done with reference to the site of the new Schools at Bushey, and Bro. Keyser, who was present at a meeting of the Building Committee that afternoon, would like to make a few observations on the subject.

Bro. C. E. KEYSER said the Committee had a meeting that day which the architect attended. Those gentlemen thought the Institution had got far enough now to invite tenders for parts of the buildings. When they invited certain builders to tender, it would help matters if the Committee took upon themselves

the lead, and started by ascertaining the price of bricks, and lifts, and certain specialities which would be required. Some of these things rose in value, and the sooner tenders were got for them the better. Therefore, instructions had been given to invite tenders for bricks and lifts. They ought to be very particular in some of these matters. Then the builders must make their price including the particular articles the Committee had. It would expedite matters in the end, and it would economise. In answer to Bro. C. Pulman, Bro. Keyser said they were going to have samples of the bricks and the prices at which they would be supplied. Five or six millions of bricks would be required; it would be a large order.

Bro. R. EVE said the Committee told the brethren this to show them that the subject of the erection of the buildings was going on.

Bro. W. A. SCURRAH added that the Committee were determined that nothing but the very best material should be used.

Bro. C. H. WEBB enquired when the lists of the Centenary Festival would be published?

Bro. J. M. McLEOD replied that the Board of Stewards and the Board of Management had ordered the Special Number of the *Freemason* for that purpose. That paper had published a certain quantity for its own subscribers; but that was not the Institution's own edition of it, which would be an enormous work to get ready, and would take three months to get through. There were more than 4000 lists, and more than 2000 were not yet in his possession. They wanted it to be accurate; an inaccurate one would be worse than useless.

Bro. H. THOMSON LYON asked whether it was in contemplation to have the electric light in the new buildings, because if so he anticipated the lifts would be electric and not hydraulic? The question hinged on that.

Bro. RICHARD EVE said they had not got so far as to be able to reply to that. At all events, there was no harm in asking the question.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

### ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

The ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the new church of Weston-Super-Mare took place on Friday, the 24th ult., the function being undertaken by Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, P.G.M., with full Masonic ceremonies. The ceremony was preceded by a celebration of the Holy Eucharist at All Saints' Church at 8 a.m., and by Divine Service at the Parish Church at noon, when an address was given by the BISHOP of the Diocese, in the course of which his lordship spoke as follows: We are gathered together in the House of God that we may evoke the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe upon the operations which to-day we are about to perform in His sight and, as we trust, to His glory. You are aware that we are about to lay the foundation-stone of a church for which there is great need, for there is a need—I say with all the emphasis I can—of considerable extension of the Church in this place. And we are about to take our part in that service that will be offered at the laying of that foundation-stone with all such ceremony, with all such, I hope, reverence, as we think may in any way affect our minds with a due apprehension of the greatness of God, and of the importance of the work which we are doing. There will be those who will be likely to say "Surely such doings as those which we perceive to-day, can hardly be consonant with the simplicity of the Gospel of Jesus Christ." And they will compare that manner of great simplicity with which you might say, prayer was wont to be made by the riverside to which St. Paul and his earliest converts in Europe would repair. They would compare such simplicity of worship with the acts which we to-day perform, and would say, "How can you reconcile these with the teachings of the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ?" And my answer would be, "Do not think that we suppose for one instant that in what we are doing we are ourselves adding to the glory of God." That is impossible for us to be doing in whatever actions we may perform in this manner. But we do believe that we impress upon our own minds, and that we impress upon the minds of those who are with us, a deeper sense of the inner meaning of it all; of the greatness of the majesty of our God; of the necessity of our thinking of Him in all reverence; and of our doing our utmost to make men share in the knowledge of His greatness and His goodness. You might say, "What a contrast between the simplicity of that character St. John the Baptist, whose festival is to-day kept throughout the Christian Church, with the very actions which we are performing." But I would again remind you that while it is right that in our corporate actions we should take pains to show our reverence by the very majesty of the ways we adopt, and by the solemnity of the service which we offer; yet that simplicity of character which St. John the Baptist exhibited and which we may well take to ourselves as the absolute necessity for the life of everyone of us, are by no means things that are out of keeping the one with the other. Individually, let us strive to cultivate in all ways that we can that self-denial, that self-abnegation, that self-effacement, that simplicity—nay, I had almost said that severity of character which marks his life. But let us remember that when joined together as a great Brotherhood we have to think of the needs of others; we have to think of the good of others, we have to think how we can help one another in realising the greatness and the goodness of our God, who honours us by tabernacling among us. And it is just because our blessed Lord has found His Church and has gathered us into it that we may in it realise His presence and that He is one with His people; it is just because of that that we desire to do everything we can do with dignity, to show forth our sense of His majesty and greatness. Therefore, we are gathered in the manner in which we are gathered together, here in this holy House of God, and, therefore, we proceed to lay the foundation stone in the manner that is prescribed for this occasion. Don't let us forget that that which the brethren of the Craft are ever aiming after, that rectitude of character and conduct, that charity of disposition, which everyone of us must set before himself at what he must aim at, what he must strive to promote, is in the deepest sense the teaching that our God would have us learn in His Church. And as we learn it, as here in God's presence—for He is of a truth where two or three are gathered together in His name—let us strive to know Him better; to understand Him better; to grow more after the likeness of His dear son. If this be our aim then in our church extension we shall not strive for vain glory; we shall not strive for our own advantage, but we should be striving to promote the glory of our God, the good of our fellow men who may be gathered together into His church, and may learn the love of God which passeth, as doth His peace, all understanding. It is that we may impress these lessons upon ourselves, and to help others to realise them, that we are taking part in this good work to-day—a work on which we are about to implore the divine blessing, and a work to which we are setting ourselves, I trust, just in the spirit of a desire to help our brethren, which we have learned from our Lord and Master Jesus Christ.

After the service the procession was formed in due order, and it proceeded to the site of the new church, *via* South-parade, Waterloo-street, and Victoria-quad-

rant; it was an imposing one, but its beauty was marred by heavy showers. It was headed by Mogg's Military Band.

The ceremony threatened at one time to be completely marred by the weather, but fortunately for all concerned and the comfort of the large gathering of the on-lookers, the adverse conditions prevailed for a short period only.

At the site, after the recital of the Lord's Prayer, came Psalm lxxxiv.—"O how amiable are Thy dwellings; Thou Lord of hosts."

The BISHOP having read certain prayers, the W.M. of St. Kew Lodge, Bro. J. J. LOVELL, requested the Prov. G.M., Viscount DUNGARVAN, to lay the stone. Before doing so, he briefly explained the object of the building. The foundation-stone, he said, was intended as a corner-stone for a temple to be erected there for the praise and worship of the Most High. The presence and co-operation of the Bishop of the Diocese at the ceremony was an earnest that the doctrine taught within the walls of that church would be in accordance with the doctrine of the Church of England. Bro. Lovell concluded: Right Worshipful Grand Master, I request you in the name of the brethren assembled, to lay this foundation-stone, and we trust that the building hereafter to be erected on it will continue until time shall be no more.

The stone being raised, the Prov. G.M., Viscount DUNGARVAN, addressed the assembly after the prescribed formula.

After prayer by the Prov. Grand Chaplain, Bro. Dr. KENNION, the hymn "O Lord of hosts, Whose glory fills," was sung.

The Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. E. F. WADE, then read the following document which was to be placed in the stone: "This foundation-stone of the Church of All Saints, in the parish of Weston-super-Mare, in the diocese of Bath and Wells, was laid by the Viscount Dungarvan, P.G. Master Somerset, with Masonic ceremonies, and solemnly dedicated by the Right Rev. George Wyndham, Lord Bishop of the diocese, on the Feast of St. John Baptist, Anno Domini 1898; the Ven. Edward Arthur Salmon, Archdeacon of Wells, being rector; the Rev. Edmund James Morris being curate and vicar designate; Thomas Mullins and James Partridge Capell, churchwardens of the parish church of St. John Baptist; Francis Blackmore, Thomas Cox, Henry Wm. Marriott, Charles Besley, James Thomas Collis, William Hewett, sidesmen of the temporary church of All Saints, erected A.D. 1871; the Archdeacon of Wells, the Rev. E. J. Morris, Ernest Edward Baker, Charles Edward Barry, Francis Blackmore, Thos. Cox, James Craik, Henry William Marriott, Charles Besley, Thomas William Warry, James Thomas Collis, William Hewett, members of the Building Committee; George Frederick Bodley, A.R.A., F.S.A., architect."

A phial containing coins of the realm was then placed in the stone. The document was then placed in the stone, and the cement spread by the workmen. The Prov. G.M. adjusted the cement with a silver trowel.

The trowel, which was handsomely chased, with ivory handle, bore the following inscription: "Presented by Miss Blackmore to Viscount Dungarvan for laying the foundation-stone of All Saints' Church, Weston-super-Mare. June 24th, 1898, Feast of St. John the Baptist."

The stone was then lowered, and the Prov. G.M. having proved the stone, declared it to be well and truly laid, after which corn, wine, and oil were poured upon it.

The BISHOP then pronounced the Benediction prayer, and the Bishop's Chaplain having offered prayer for the masons and workmen, the Bishop followed with prayers for the gift of the spirit and the prayer for all worshippers. The offerings were then collected, after which the architect, Mr. Bodley, was presented to the Prov. G.M. by the vicar designate, Bro. the Rev. E. J. Morris. The Prov. G.M. examined the plans, after which the purses and other contributions were presented to the Prov. G.M., who placed them upon the stone.

The BISHOP, taking into his hand the pastoral staff, then pronounced the Benediction, and "All people that on earth do dwell" was sung as the closing hymn.

The procession then re-formed, the brethren returning to the Masonic Hall, where lodge was closed.

Luncheon was provided at the Victoria Hall immediately after, those present numbering upwards of 300. Viscount Dungarvan occupied the chair, and he was supported by Bishop Kennion, Archdeacon of Wells, and others.

Bro. the Rev. E. J. MORRIS announced that the total amount of the offerings was £278 13s. 6d.

### ST. MARY MAGDALEN'S NEW CHURCH, ACCRINGTON.

#### STONE LAYING.

The laying of the foundation and corner-stones of the new church to be dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen was the occasion for a large demonstration by the Church of England schools, and also of an imposing demonstration of Freemasons in Accrington, on Saturday afternoon, the 25th ult. Bro. Col. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, Prov. G.M. of East Lancashire, being unable to be present personally, he had granted a special dispensation to Bro. Arthur Appleby, J.P., 1519, to perform the ceremony of the corner-stone laying. A dispensation had also been granted for the attendance of brethren in Craft clothing, and this having been read in the lodge room of the Bank Terrace Lodge, No. 462, at the Hargreaves Arms Hotel, by Bro. BROADBENT, Prov. G. Dep. Reg., Prov. Grand Lodge was opened at 3.30 p.m., by Bro. Appleby, acting as Prov. G.M., assisted by Bros. C. D. Cheetham, P. Prov. G.W., as Prov. S.G.W.; and J. T. Newbold, P. Prov. G.D., as Prov. J.G.W. After the lodge was opened, the brethren were ranged in order by Bro. Walter Packman, Prov. G.D.C., and the procession started. The Craft came first, and the Provincial brethren followed. The three Worshipful Masters who preceded the Grand Officers were Bro. E. Welch, 462, who carried the corn; Bro. Jos. Grimshaw, 1145, carrying the wine; and Bro. R. Pickup, 1519, carrying the oil. Following came two P.M.s., Bro. D. C. Dewhurst, 462, carrying the mallet, and Bro. Richard Anderton, 1775, carrying the trowel. Two P.M.s., Bros. C. Wilmore, 1519, and H. Ramsbottom, 1145, carrying the S.W. and J.W. columns, came next, and Bro. Wm. Ormerod, P.M. 462, carried the brass plate containing the inscription. Immediately following were eight sons of Freemasons, in purple cassocks and white surplices, who carried an open Volume of the Sacred Law. These boys, who wore purple skull caps, were Masters Fred Welch (son of Bro. Edwin Welch), Robinson (son of Bro. W. Robinson), R. G. Cunliffe and J. G. Cunliffe (sons of Bro. Jas. Cunliffe), Frank and Alex. Rushton (sons of Bro. Richard Rushton), Harker (son of Bro. Simon Harker), and Stanley Ware (son of Bro. R. F. Ware).

Abbey-street was crowded to witness the Masonic procession, and the spectators were gratified with the large muster and grand appearance of Provincial and Master Masons. They were led by the Accrington Reed Band. The effect of the fine display of rich Masonic clothing and jewels was spoiled by the rain, and the necessity for the use of umbrellas. Bro. John Hindle, P.M. 462, and P. Prov. G.S.B., acted as D. of C. to the brethren, who led the procession, and on reaching Eccles-street the brethren divided into open lines, and acting Prov. G.

Master, Bro. Appleby, together with the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers and brethren, passed through to the platform which had been raised for the brethren.

After the foundation-stone of the new church had been duly laid by the Rev. Canon Rogers, Bro. APPLEBY delivered the Masonic address, provided for such occasions, in which it is stated that Masons had among them many secrets which might not be revealed, yet those secrets were lawful and honourable, and were not repugnant to the laws of God or man. They had been transmitted faithfully to them from ancient times, and it was their duty to hand them down to the brethren unimpaired to the latest posterity. Unless their Craft were good and their calling honourable they would not have lasted through so many centuries, or have numbered among them so many illustrious brothers. They were pleased in taking part in the erection of the proposed new building, and prayed that God, the Great Architect of the Universe, might bless it as it might seem good to Him. As it was the first duty of Masons in any great undertaking to ask the Divine blessing upon it he would ask the Grand Chaplain to invoke the blessing.

Bro. the Rev. W. W. D. FIRTH, Prov. G. Chap., then offered the prayer, which concluded with the hope that the building would unite those who worshipped in it in brotherhood, peace, truth, and Charity.

The stone was then lowered about nine inches, during which the Masonic choir sang the first verse of "Prosper the art," a beautiful piece of music.

Bro. Walter Alcock, Prov. G. Treas., placed a bottle containing copies of the local newspapers, circular, programme, history of the new church, and coins of the realm, &c., in the cavity in the stone.

Bro. JAS. NEWTON, Prov. G. Sec., read the inscription on the copper plate: "Church of St. Mary Magdalen, Accrington. This corner stone was laid by Bro. Arthur Appleby, Master Mason, Albert Edward Lodge, 1519, acting as Deputy for Colonel Le Gendre N. Starkie, Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master East Lancashire. 25th June, 1898." The Prov. Grand Secretary then placed the plate over the cavity. After this the stone was again slightly lowered, and the choir sang the second verse of "Prosper the art."

Bro. EDWIN WELCH, W.M. 462, presented a beautiful silver trowel, containing inscription, to the acting Prov. Grand Master, saying: In the name of the scholars attending St. Mary Magdalen's Sunday School I have great pleasure in presenting you with this handsome trowel, and their earnest hope is that you may live long and never regret the day or the work which you have undertaken this afternoon. (Cheers).

The acting Prov. Grand Master having spread mortar, the stone was lowered and placed, and the ceremony carried out according to ancient custom.

Bro. S. MILLS, Prov. G.S. of W., then handed the plans of the church to the Acting Prov. Grand Master, who gave them to Bro. Ross, P.M. 462, the architect, desiring him to proceed with the work without loss of time, and in accordance with the plans and designs.

The Prov. G. Chaplain having offered the Benediction,

Archdeacon RAWSTHORNE said that, at the request of Mr. Sayer, he begged them all to join with him in giving a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Appleby for his presence and kindness in laying the corner-stone with full Masonic ceremonial. His presence, and the presence of so many Masonic brethren, had added very greatly indeed to the impressive and solemn service which had just been completed. The interest shown in the town by the people, and the large number of young and old gathered there, showed how much the occasion was appreciated. They could have wished, if it were in their power, for better and brighter weather, but the rain which had been falling more or less showed the eagerness and determination of those in the neighbourhood to come and see the ceremony. He could only add that it was their prayer that God would bless the building of that church, that no accident might happen to those building it, and that when built it might enjoy God's blessing, and that the ministrations offered in it might bring many souls nearer to God, and that it would ever continue a blessing to that district and neighbourhood. (Hear, hear.) He would ask them to give three cheers for Mr. Appleby.

The request was cheerfully complied with, and Mr. APPLEBY acknowledged the compliment in a graceful speech.

The band, choir, and people then joined in singing the Masonic version of "God save the Queen," and cheers having been given, the Prov. Grand Officers and brethren reformed and left the ground.

On arriving at the Hargreaves Arms the Prov. G. Lodge was closed.

The brethren partook of an excellent tea provided by Bro. Birtwistle.

A social followed, with Bro. E. Welch, W.M. 462, in the chair, and Bro. Jos. Grimshaw, W.M. 1145, in the vice-chair.

The CHAIRMAN gave "The Queen," and "The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of England, and the rest of the Grand Officers." He next proposed "Col Le Gendre N. Starkie, R.W. Prov. G.M., and the rest of the Prov. G. Officers."

Other toasts followed.

### MARK BENEVOLENT FUND FESTIVAL.

The thirtieth Annual Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Tavern, London, under the presidency of the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., Provincial Grand Master (Mark) for Cheshire. About 100 ladies and brethren sat down to a choice repast, among whom were Bros. Viscount Dungarvan, R. Lovland-Loveland, D. P. Cama, Frank Richardson, Davoren, Wright, W. M. Stiks, Parke, Kelso King, P.G.D. New South Wales, Israel Davies, G.M. Tasmania, Richard Eve, C. Belton, Robert Berridge, Sir Thomas Roe, Rev. William Cree, John Smith (Beds), Dr. W. H. Kempster, Rev. Richard Peek, M.A., G.C., L. Crosthwaite, Belgrave Ninnis, F. C. Van Duzer, F. Hughes Hallett, J. C. Fitzroy Tower, Rowland Plumbe, A. F. Church, T. P. Dorman, C. F. Matier, R. Clowes, Major C. W. Carrell, Freer, A. Woodiwiss, Sir Thomas Roe, J. P. Hamilton, H. S. Wellcome, and A. E. Chirgwin.

After dinner the toasts were proposed.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the toast of "The Queen," said Her Majesty had just got over her great Jubilee, and he thought the nation might congratulate itself that she had passed through a great crisis in her life, a crisis of excitement—he would not say, terror—but of excitement from the pleasure of seeing her people around her, who appreciated all the benefits her reign had brought to them. She had passed through this great crisis, and now he was thankful to say, from all accounts, she seemed to be in as good health as she was at the Jubilee. He congratulated all the brethren because he felt sure that in the great crisis this country was passing through at the present time it was through the great knowledge her Majesty had of past events that they could steer clear of dangers which surrounded us. The great knowledge the Queen had of the world and of the position she held as the oldest Sovereign of all the Sovereigns of the world that we might hope to steer through and bring the country safe out of the most difficult situations.

After "The Health of the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," had been duly honoured,

Bro. Viscount DUNGARVAN proposed "The M.W. Pro G.M., the Earl of Euston, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," in which he included Earl Egerton of Tatton, a generous donor to the Mark Benevolent Fund. They deplored the absence of the Earl of Euston, who was obeying his doctor's orders; but the brethren hoped he would soon be able to resume his attendance at all their meetings.

Bro. Col. A. B. COOK, in proposing the toast of "The Chairman of the day," said it hardly seemed 12 months since he himself was Chairman. What had surprised him that evening was that his duties as Chairman last year were not yet concluded. It was a point with the Mark Benevolent Fund that the Chairman of one year should be present the next year to propose the health of his successor. He did so that night with a great deal of pleasure, and he hoped the brethren would extend to their present Chairman the same courtesy and cordiality which they gave him (Col. Cook) a year ago. He felt that that would be the case, because they must all feel they were indebted to any one who came to assist the Fund that year, taking into account the great efforts made last year, and also the enormous amount given away this year on the occasion of the Centenary of the Boys' School. Those were all difficulties in taking the chair on an occasion like this.

The CHAIRMAN, in acknowledging the toast, said he acknowledged that at the time Bro. Matier asked him to undertake this duty he felt that he was going—he would not say, to a forlorn hope, but that he was undertaking a work in which he had to face the difficulties which Col. Cook had mentioned. But as the first thing taught in Masonry was obedience, and secondly that bearing in mind that one had to do his duty and the best he could for charity, he consented. He was well rewarded by seeing so many brethren and ladies around him. Further on they would learn the result of the support received in London and in the Provinces. He thanked them specially for coming and making such a grand success of this entertainment.

The CHAIRMAN next proposed "Prosperity to the Mark Benevolent Fund." They were all well aware that the first duty of Masonry was Charity. The Mark Benevolent Fund carried out this first duty, and on this occasion in proposing this toast he did so with very great pleasure. When he reflected on the progress that had been made in Mark Masonry in the decade we were now completing—that from 386 Mark Lodges in England they had passed beyond 500, and that with this increase in the number of lodges that had been consecrated there had been a proportionate increase in benevolence, he could not but feel surprised. He had been told by outsiders who pretended to know a little about what was going on in the Masonic world and who studied the question of Charity and charitable Institutions, that the Mark Benevolent Fund was undoubtedly one of the best managed of the Charitable Institutions of Masonry. Now that was from an outside source, and when he found and heard such an opinion as that he felt certain there must be a good deal of truth in it. It was for that reason that he could confidently ask the company to drink the toast, with all honours, of "Health and Prosperity to the Mark Benevolent Fund."

Bro. C. F. MATIER then read the following

STEWARDS' LISTS

LADY STEWARDS.		Lodge	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Mrs. Carrell	5 5 0	399 Bro. A. H. Bevan	10 10 0
" Matier	5 5 0	400 " Belgrave Ninnis	5 5 0
" Wright	5 5 0	406 " Sir Jos. C. Dimsdale	10 10 0
" Bevan	5 5 0	406 " John Smith	10 10 0
Miss Bevan	5 5 0	406 " William Briggs	10 10 0
GENERAL BOARD.			
Bro. R. L. Loveland (see Hants and Isle of Wight)	—	411 " John Dymond Vicary	10 10 0
" Frank Richardson	10 10 0	454 " A. Escott Young	5 5 0
" *Right Hon. the Earl of Euston (see Leicester and Northants)	—	469 " H. S. Wellcome	54 12 0
" *Right Hon. the Viscount Dungarvan (see Kent)	—	476 " Sir Simeon Stuart, Bart.	5 5 0
" *Sir Thos. G. Carmichael, Bart., M.P. (see London)	—	UNATTACHED.	
" Charles Belton	10 10 0	Bro. Stanley J. Attenborough	5 5 0
" *A. Stewart Brown (see Middlesex)	—	" R. Berridge	5 5 0
" *Major C. W. Carrell	21 0 0	" Major-Gen. F. Gadsden	5 5 0
" *Richard Clowes (see Sussex)	—	" W. H. Kempster	5 5 0
" *Rowland Plumbe	—	" W. H. Kempster, jun.	5 5 0
" *Richard Eve (see Hants, &c.)	—	" G. W. Marsden	5 5 0
" *G. C. W. Fitzwilliam (see Northants, &c.)	—	" C. F. Matier	31 10 0
" Gordon Miller	—	" A. W. Orwin	5 5 0
" W. M. Stiles (see Middlesex)	—	" E. St. Clair	5 5 0
" *Frederick West (see Surrey)	—	" T. Blanco White	—
" *A. Woodiwiss (see Derby)	—	" Rev. C. E. L. Wright	5 5 0
" A. F. Church	5 5 0	THE PROVINCES.	
" *T. P. Dorman (see Northants, &c.)	—	BERKS AND OXON.	
Lodge Grand Master's Bro. Jas. S. Eastes	31 10 0	Province	
4 Bro. Sir Thos. D. G. Carmichael, Bart., M.P.	5 5 0	Bro. Charles Batting	36 15 0
7 " Leopold G. Gordon-Robbins	21 0 0	Lodge	
22 " E. J. Day	5 5 0	27 Bro. Charles E. Keyser, M.A., J.P.	10 10 0
144 " J. Paynter Hamilton	50 8 0	225 " T. Robert Barnby	10 10 0
224 " John Dimsdale	10 10 0	BUCKS.	
361 " E. Milner-Jones	—	Lodge	
392 " *Col. A. B. Cook (see Middlesex)	—	St. Peter and St. Paul Bro. Rt. Hon. Lord Addington	5 5 0
399 " *Earl of Euston (see Northants)	—	CHANNEL ISLANDS.	
399 " *Viscount Dungarvan (see Kent)	—	Lodge	
399 " *G. C. W. Fitzwilliam (see Northants)	—	425 Bro. J. B. Cockburn, M.D.	5 5 0
399 " *J. C. Fitz Roy Tower (see Middlesex)	—	CHESHIRE.	
399 " *Earl of Yarborough (see Lincolnshire)	—	Bro. The Hon. A. de Tatton, P.G.M.	78 15 0
399 " *Frank Richardson	—	" *Colonel C. S. Dean, D.P.G.M.	—
399 " *Earl of Portarlington (see Dorsetshire)	—	Lodge	
		11 Bro. John Armstrong	12 12 0
		31 " Dr. C. S. Brewer	21 0 0
		67 " James Cookson	8 8 0
		165 " L. Crosthwaite	21 0 0

DERBYSHIRE.		£ s. d.	
Province			
Bro. *A. Woodiwiss, J.P., P.G.M.	12 12 0		
" J. R. Eastwood, J.P.	7 7 0		
" T. C. Eastwood	5 5 0		
" Isaac N. Woodiwiss	7 7 0		
" Edwin S. Woodiwiss	5 5 0		
" A. W. Slack	5 5 0		
" Sir Thomas Roe	7 7 0		
" J. H. Lawson	10 10 0		
" Ald. W. H. Marsden, J.P.	5 5 0		
" J. A. Arnold, J.P.	5 5 0		
" Edgar Horne, J.P.	10 10 0		
Lodge			
246 Bro. C. F. Wardley	10 10 0		
246 " J. E. Harrison	10 10 0		
302 " Chas. D. Hart	26 5 0		
373 " Gilbert Wilkinson	21 0 0		
414 " Thomas W. Lumley	10 10 0		
503 " Frank Iliffe	6 6 0		
DEVONSHIRE.			
Bro. Henry Sholto Hare (see Cornwall)	—		
Province			
Bro. Francis B. Westlake	31 10 0		
Lodge			
15 Bro. Rev. Richard Peek	12 2 0		
DORSETSHIRE.			
Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Portarlington	5 5 0		
EAST ANGLIA.			
Lodge			
334 Bro. Arthur E. Chaplin	10 10 0		
377 " Frank Landon	15 15 0		
GLOUCESTERSHIRE AND HEREFORDSHIRE.			
Province			
Bro. Richard V. Vassar-Smith, P.G.M.	5 5 0		
" Baron de Ferrieres	—		
HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.			
Bro. R. Eve, D.P.G.M.	5 5 0		
" R. Loveland-Loveland	5 5 0		
Lodge			
2 Bro. W. Gillman	5 5 0		
17 " Capt. G. Hearn	5 0 0		
349 " Sur.-Maj. J. G. Harwood	8 13 0		
HERTFORDSHIRE.			
Lodge			
354 Bro. Rev. W. R. Finlay	16 16 0		
354 " G. L. Eyles	5 5 0		
KENT.			
Bro. the Right Hon. Viscount Dungarvan, P.G.M.	5 5 0		
" F. Hughes-Hallett	5 5 0		
Lodge			
226 Bro. Edwin B. Hobson	10 10 0		
LANCASHIRE.			
Lodge			
34 Bro. J. M. Sinclair	10 10 0		
156 " Nathan Heywood	16 10 6		
156 " R. Thomsons, M.D.	—		
490 " Rev. C. C. Bluett	10 10 0		
SUMMARY OF THE PROVINCES.			
Berks and Oxon	57 15 0	Lancashire	37 10 6
Buckinghamshire	5 5 0	Leicestershire and Rutland	10 10 0
Channel Islands	5 5 0	Lincolnshire	10 10 0
Cheshire	147 0 0	Middlesex	93 9 0
Cornwall	107 10 0	Northants, Hunts, and Beds.	59 15 0
Cumberland and Westmorland	5 5 0	North Wales	5 5 0
Derbyshire	166 9 0	Somersetshire	50 0 0
Devonshire	43 12 0	Surrey	38 1 0
Dorsetshire	5 5 0	Sussex	5 5 0
East Anglia	26 5 0	Staffordshire	10 10 0
Gloucestershire and Herefordshire	5 5 0	Yorkshire (West)	170 0 0
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	29 8 0	Queensland	—
Hertfordshire	22 1 0	Egypt	210 0 0
Kent	21 0 0	South Africa	—
		Argentine Republic	—
123 STEWARDS (LONDON)	£ 293 15 0		
PROVINCES	1342 4 6		
GRAND TOTAL	£ 1735 19 6		

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.		£ s. d.	
*Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, P.G.M. (see Northants)	—		
" Thomas Paget	5 5 0		
Province			
Bro. W. J. Freer	5 5 0		
LINCOLNSHIRE.			
Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Yarborough, P.G.M.	5 5 0		
" Rev. E. M. Weigall	5 5 0		
MIDDLESEX.			
Bro. Col. A. B. Cook, P.G.M.	52 10 0		
" W. M. Stiles	5 5 0		
Lodge			
488 Bro. *A. Stewart Brown	15 15 0		
493 " H. R. Graham, M.P.	14 14 0		
504 " *J. C. Fitz Roy Tower	5 5 0		
NORTHANTS, HUNTS, AND BEDS.			
*Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Euston, P.G.M.	5 5 0		
" *G. C. W. Fitzwilliam, D.P.G.M.	10 10 0		
" H. Manfield	7 5 0		
Province			
Bro. *Rev. Vitruvius Wyatt	5 5 0		
Lodge			
245 Bro. Thos. Phipps Dorman	21 0 0		
434 " *Rev. Vitruvius Wyatt	10 10 0		
NORTH WALES.			
Bro. Major G. R. Ashley	5 5 0		
SOMERSET.			
41 Bro. George Norman	50 0 0		
SURREY.			
Bro. *F. West, D.P.G.M.	5 5 0		
Lodge			
13 Bro. F. C. Van Duzer	15 15 0		
442 " C. F. Passmore	5 5 0		
451 " E. G. L. Anderson	11 16 0		
SUSSEX.			
Bro. *R. Clowes	5 5 0		
STAFFORDSHIRE.			
467 Bro. W. L. Southwell	10 10 0		
YORKSHIRE (WEST).			
Bro. Chas. Letch Mason, P.G.M.	—		
" G. H. Parke	—		
Lodge			
14 Bro. *James Simpson	—		
53 " A. J. Forsdike	—		
53 " Thos. Rowbotham	170 0 0		
53 " F. Clevees	—		
110 " W. A. Statter	—		
137 " T. G. Howell	—		
398 " John Reed	—		
501 " James Simpson	—		
QUEENSLAND.			
Bro. H. Courtenay Luck	—		
EGYPT.			
Bro. H. E. Idris Bey Ragheb	210 0 0		
(Largest individual list ever received by Mark Benevolent Fund).			
SOUTH AFRICA (WESTERN DIVISION).			
Bro. Guy Weir Hogg	—		
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.			
Lodge			
507 Bro. *C. S. Brewer	—		

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing "The Ladies," said it was always a great pleasure where good work was being done to see that they were assisted by the ladies, and he was glad to see that spirit was growing up among Masons, that, whereas in former times ladies were not admitted to the less serious portion of the ceremonies at Masonic meetings, they were admitted now. In his Province of Cheshire, especially in Craft Masonry, ladies were invited to join the social board and to assist in the entertainments which took place there. That night especially he was pleased that the Board was graced by so many ladies, because the brethren felt they had the assistance of the ladies in the good work which they were encouraging. It would be invidious to connect any lady's name especially with that toast; but in listening to the report Bro. Matier just read he noticed the names of several ladies connected with the collection of the Fund. The brethren were always glad that the harshness of men's meetings should be softened by the assistance of the ladies, who they were glad to see around them.

Bro. RICHARD EVE responded, but he said he had not had the opportunity of consulting the ladies first, but looking round the table he was convinced they had thoroughly enjoyed themselves, they endorsed the Chairman's remark as to their presence on this occasion, and on like gatherings; they felt that the time had not been too soon when they were admitted to the festive board of Masons. The ladies were delighted to be with the brethren in their pleasures as well as in their pain and trouble, and they felt that nothing could give them greater pleasure than to be present with them; the ladies believed thoroughly in the

charity of the brotherhood, and anything that would promote that feeling, they all said they would do their utmost to assist. They were astonished at the amount just announced which they looked upon as far more than would have been recorded considering the large calls which had been made on the Craft and on the Mark Degree during the past year. The ladies delighted with all Mark Masons in celebrating this occasion, and felt that the Chairman had had wonderful pluck and courage in taking the chair after the successful Chairmanship of Col. Cook. They knew that these large amounts could not go on for ever. It was only a month since an enormous sum was got for one Masonic Institution, which made the large amount now announced the more striking. Although the amount was less than last year they rejoiced it was so large as it was. Next year they hoped it would be double, and the ladies hoped to be with the brethren then as now, but even in greater force.

Bro. Major J. W. CARRELL responded to the toast of "The Stewards," and said he was glad the result of the festival had been so great. If any of them had been asked a week or a fortnight ago they would not have been very sanguine as to what the amount would be because there had been so many calls on the pockets of the Masonic Order during the present year. He thought they had done extremely well, quite as well as they had expected. The Stewards were much indebted to the Right Worshipful Brother for taking the chair, because this was an occasion when the majority of the brethren would have felt inclined to cry "Hold, enough!" They were pleased their efforts had been fairly successful. Next year the brethren would have a better opportunity. There would be a rest of six months between this and the next Masonic Charity Festival. Next year the Mark Benevolent Fund would have a bumper festival. The Craft Festivals had done very, very well; the turn of the Mark must come next.

Bro. KELSO KING responded to the toast of "The Visitors." It had been a great treat to him, and he regarded it as a privilege to meet so many members of the Honourable Degree of Mark Master. The names of many of the brethren present were household words throughout the Mark world. Long distances, such as he had come, 13,000 miles away, they knew the names of the brethren perhaps almost as well as they were known here. Masonry in Great Britain had set a noble example to Masonry in all parts of the world, and he might tell the brethren that in the Colonies they regarded the acts of the brethren of the Grand Lodge as in all respects worthy of imitation. It was the position Masonry had achieved in Great Britain—and it was one of the penalties of greatness—that they might know that their acts were watched not only in Great Britain alone, but throughout the Masonic world. In the Colonies the brethren got the reports, and they were highly gratified and took great interest in every event that took place here. If the distance had been double what it was he should have been well repaid by the kindness shown to him by the Freemasons in London, and especially those associated with the Mark Degree. He offered his hearty congratulations on the success of the Festival, and his best wishes for the success and for the prosperity, and continued prosperity, of the Mark Benevolent Fund. He had been looking through the printed book placed before each brother, and it was a noble array of brethren and ladies who had been instrumental in doing so much good. There were a large number of brethren of great influence, gentlemen whose time was no doubt of great value, and he thought the thanks of Great Britain was due to them for giving so much valuable time to the interests of the Order.

Bro. DAVOREN also responded, and the brethren then joined the ladies in the Crown Room, where a beautiful concert was given, the artistes being Madame Isabel George, Madame Marie Hooton, Bro. Edward Branscombe, Bro. Robert Hilton, Bro. A. R. Blagrove (solo violoncello), and Bro. George Pownall (piano), the whole was under the direction of Bro. Edward Branscombe.

ANALYSIS OF THE RETURNS.

The Returns on this occasion are a long way behind the total of last year, but no one expected any other result. To begin with, the Festival of 1897 was a record one, when 235 Stewards raised the large sum of £3100, while this year the Boys' School Centenary has attracted to itself most of the attention, so that if our Benevolent and Girls' Institutions had to content themselves with Returns that were considerably below the average, it is not surprising that this Mark Fund, which appeals to only a part of the same constituency should have suffered likewise. Indeed, it seems to us that proportionately the Mark Benevolent Institution has been even more successful than the Benevolent Institution and Girls' School. However, we need not concern ourselves about this. The material point is that the 30th anniversary Festival in aid of the Mark Fund has produced somewhat less than £1750, while in 1897 it was bigger to the extent of between £1300 and £1400.

Under the head of

LONDON

are grouped together the Lady Stewards, the General Board, the lodges in the Metropolitan district, and the Unattached, who returned the following amounts, namely, Lady Stewards, £26 5s.; General Board, £47 5s.; lodges, £246 15s.; and Unattached brethren, £73 10s.; making a total of £393 15s. The principal items are £21 by Bro. Major C. W. Carrell, of the General Board; £31 10s. compiled by Bro. Jas. E. Eastes, representing the Grand Master's Lodge; £21 by Bro. L. G. Gordon Robbins, Carnarvon Lodge, No. 7; £50 8s. by Bro. J. P. Hamilton, of the Grosvenor Lodge No. 144; and £54 12s. by Bro. J. S. Wellcome, of the Savage Club Lodge, No. 469; with £31 10s. by Bro. C. F. Matier, G. Secretary and Hon. Secretary of the Board. Last year the total was £691 19s. 6d.; in 1896, £630 9s.; and in 1895, £662 19s. 6d.

As regards the Provinces, there were 25 out of 33 that sent up Stewards, and four stations abroad, but from two of these there was no Return. The total from all sources was £1342 4s. 6d., the number of Stewards being 87, while last year 164 raised £2408 13s. 6d.; in 1896, 119 Stewards £1781 9s. 6d.; and, in 1895, 104 Stewards, £1445 10s.

From

BERKS AND OXON

there were three Stewards, of whom Bro. Charles Batting, representing the Province as a whole, compiled £36 15s., and Bros. Charles E. Keyser, Porchester Lodge, No. 27, and T. R. Barnby, Abbey Lodge, No. 225, £10 10s. each. Bro. Lord Addington, I.P.M. of the Lodge of St. Peter and St. Paul in the Province of Bucks, is entered for the sum of £5 5s., and Bro. J. Balfour Cockburn, hailing from the Saravian Lodge, No. 425, on the roll of the Channel Islands, for an equal sum.

The Chairman's Province of

CHESHIRE

is by no means strong, there being only eight lodges over which Bro. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., presides as P.G. Master, and four of these, with the Cestrian Conclave of Knights of the Order of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine together contribute to the extent of £68 5s., while the Chairman gave a personal donation of £78 15s., making a total from Cheshire £147, Bro. Dr. C. S. Brewer, Lodge of Fidelity, No. 31—and for the Rosario Lodge, No. 507, in the Argentine Republic—and Bro. L. Crosthwaite of the Egerton Lodge, No. 165, each compiling a total of £21. This we look upon as a capital result from a Province of such limited strength as Cheshire, and in a year when one of the great Central Charities had raised for its Centenary Festival the enormous sum of £134,000.

Two Stewards from the Province of CORNWALL, of whom Bro. H. S. Hare, who did duty for Devon also, appears to have acted independently, and Bro. P. T. Chirgwin who served for the Province, returned a total of £107 10s., of which £57 10s. was from Bro. Hare, and £50 from Bro. Chirgwin, while Bro. the Rev. W. Cree for that of CUMBERLAND and WESTMORELAND figures for 5 guineas.

The Province of

DERBYSHIRE,

which comprises six lodges, furnished quite a numerous contingent of 17 Stewards, 11, including Bro. A. Woodiwiss, J.P., Prov. G. Master, being Unattached, while the remaining six did duty for four of the six lodges; the Duke of Connaught, per Bros. C. F. Wardley and F. E. Harrison, being entered for £21; the Derby Lodge, No. 302, per Bro. Chas. D. Hart, W.M., for £26 5s.; and the Ilkeston Lodge, No. 373, per Bro. Gilbert Wilkinson, for £21. The Prov. G. Master returned £12 12s., and Bros. J. H. Lawson and Edgar Horne, J.P., both Unattached, £10 10s. each. From DEVONSHIRE there were three Stewards, of whom Bro. H. S. Hare figured under Cornwall; while Bro. F. B. Westlake, for the Province, compiled a total of £31 10s., and Bro. the Rev. R. Peek, St. George Lodge, No. 15, £12 2s. DORSETSHIRE, as represented by Bro. the Earl of Portarlington, is down for £5 5s.; East Anglia for £26 5s., of which Bro. Frank Lindon, for the Brentwood, No. 377, raised £15 15s., and Bro. A. E. Chaplin, York Lodge, No. 334, the balance. The Present and Past Prov. G. Masters of GLOUCESTERSHIRE AND HEREFORDSHIRE appear among the Stewards, but only Bro. R. V. Vasser-Smith is down for a list amounting to £5 5s., Bro. Baron de Ferrieres, Past Prov. Grand Master having as yet made no return. Three of the 13 lodges in HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT sent up Stewards, and in addition there were Bros. Richard Eve, D.P.G.M., and R. Loveland Loveland, Past D.P.G.M., President of the General Board, who acted independently, the total for the five lists being £29 8s. There were also two Stewards with £22 1s. from the Rose and Lily Lodge, No. 354, one of the five lodges in the Province of HERTFORDSHIRE; while had it not been that the Prov. G.M.—Bro. Viscount Dungarvan—and Bro. Hughes-Hallett, the D.P.G.M., put in an appearance, the strong Province of KENT, which musters some 20 lodges, would have had only one of them represented, and that to the extent of £10 10s., the total from the Province being £21. Three lodges in LANCASHIRE sent up four Stewards, whose lists amounted together to £37 10s. 6d., the principal item being the joint list of Bros. Nathan Heywood and R. Thomson for £16 10s. 6d., while the two acting Stewards for LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND are down for £5 5s. each, there being the same returns from the Earl of Yarborough and Bro. the Rev. E. M. Weigall, who supported the reputation of LINCOLNSHIRE.

Five Stewards, headed by Bro. Col. A. B. Cook, Prov. G. Master, who had the satisfaction of presiding at the record Festival of last year, did duty for the Metropolitan Province of

MIDDLESEX,

and very well they discharged it, the total of their lists reaching £93 9s., of which Bro. Col. Cook is entered for £52 10s., and Bro. A. Stewart Brown, Hampton Court Lodge, No. 448, and Bro. H. B. Griham, M.P., St. Pancras Lodge, No. 494, for 15 guineas and 14 guineas respectively. Last year as "Chairman's Province" it compiled the exceptionally large total of £1251 13s., the number of Stewards being 44. Bro. Col. Cook's own list alone amounting to £799 1s. From the Province of Northants, Hunts, and Beds, which is presided over by Bro. the Earl of Euston, as Prov. Grand Master, and has some four lodges on its roll, had five brethren acting on its behalf, the Provincial Grand Master, the Dep. P.G. Master—Bro. G. C. W. Fitzwilliam—and Bro. H. Manfield being Unattached, while Bro. the Rev. V. Wyatt did duty for the Province and the Stuart Lodge, No. 434, and Bro. T. Phipps Dorman for the Simon de St. Liz Lodge, No. 245. Bro. the Rev. V. Wyatt had two lists which amounted together to £15 15s., while that of Bro. T. P. Dorman was for £21. A Steward for NORTH WALES in the person of Bro. Major G. R. Ashley is down for £5 5s., while Bro. George Norman, W.M. Royal Cumberland Lodge, well sustained the honour of Somersetshire with a total of £50. From SURREY there came Bro. Fred. West, D.P.G.M., and the representatives of three of the eight lodges, the total of the four lists amounting to £38 1s.; while from SUSSEX we have Bro. R. Clowes with five guineas, and Bro. W. Lascelles Southwell, W.M. of the Tudor Lodge, STAFFORDSHIRE, with 10 guineas.

The last of the Provinces is that of

WEST YORKSHIRE,

which takes the lead with a total of £170, the number of Stewards, including Bro. Chas. Letch Mason, Prov. G. Master, and Bro. G. H. Parke, Past Grand Treasurer, being 10, while the number of lodges that were represented was six. This beats last year's total, which was only £141 15s.

In addition, there were four Stewards from

FOREIGN STATIONS,

but the list of one was included in the Cheshire total, and from the two hailing from QUEENSLAND and SOUTH AFRICA (W.D.), there came nothing. However, H. E. Idris Bey Raghheb, who has just been appointed Dist G. Master for Egypt, fully compensated for their shortcomings by contributing a personal donation of £210, which is the largest sum ever given by a private individual to the Mark Benevolent Festival, and for which our distinguished brother deserves all praise. Indeed, those who took part in the celebration deserve credit for their successful labours.

SIR RICHARD WEBSTER, O.C., M.P., will preside at the dinner to Dr. W. G. Grace, at the Sports' Club, on Tuesday next.

A VERY gratifying presentation took place on the 6th inst. during the monthly meeting of Mariners' Lodge, No. 168, at the Masonic Hall, Le Marchant-street, Guernsey. The recipient of the presentation, which took the shape of a magnificent Past Master's jewel, was Bro. J. R. Carrington, of Lodge Friendship, No. 1096, Mauritius, W. Bro. Austin, the W.M. of Mariner's Lodge, who made the presentation, complimented Bro. Carrington, and explained to the members that the jewel was presented to the latter from the members of Lodge Friendship in recognition of Bro. Carrington's valuable services thereto, he having, in 1897, accepted the Mastership of the lodge when it was at a very low ebb. By his efforts, Bro. Carrington had raised the lodge in a very short period to a membership of about 80, with funds to the amount of £80. The presentation was made in the presence of between 40 and 50 brethren, among whom were many visitors.

## Craft Masonry.

### Pattison Lodge, No. 913.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Mount Pleasant, Plumstead, on Thursday, the 7th inst. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. J. O. Cook, who commenced his day's work by passing a candidate to the Second Degree. Bro. Capt. J. J. Murphy, S.W. and W.M. elect, was then presented to the W.M. as a candidate for installation, and Bro. Cook installed his successor in his own peculiar manner. Bro. Murphy appointed and invested those of his officers who were present. The following is the full list: Bros. John Oliver Cook, I.P.M.; E. M. Taylor, S.W.; A. Moore, J.W.; Rev. Aug. Jackson, P.M., P.P.G.C., Chap.; C. Coupland, P.M., P.A.G.D.C. Eng., P.P.J.G.W., Treas.; W. C. Taylor, P.M., Sec.; Wm. Sanders, P.M., Asst. Sec.; J. G. Tucker, S.D.; J. H. Bull, J.D.; F. Hoar, I.G.; R. J. Cook, P.M., P.P.G.R., D.C.; W. H. Chaney, B. Hammond, and G. Roberts, A.D.Cs.; S. Horton, P.M., Org.; H. J. Butter, P.M., P.P.G.R., Dr. J. Clark, W. H. Lewis, J. O. Widger, and T. J. Nell, Stwds.; and C. Warren, Tyler. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Cook for his services as Installing Officer, and he was presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel, of the value of 10 guineas. Bro. Coupland was re-elected as representative of the lodge on the Provincial Charity Committee, and then the lodge was closed.

The banquet was at the Holborn Restaurant, and among other brethren present were Bros. A. Penfold, L.C.C., P.M. and P.P.S.G.D.; H. Mason, P.M. and P.P.J.G.D.; W. Busbridge, P.M.; C. J. Clapham, P.M.; Dr. E. Bryceson, P.M.; D. K. Summers, P.M.; G. H. Letton, P.M.; Jas. Farrier, P.M.; C. Jolly P.M. (Hon.) P.M. and Sec. 1872, P.M. and Sec. 2184, and P.P.A.G.D.C. Essex; A. Tucker, Jas. Ruse, B. Broadbridge, A. D. Capon, A. Eton, J. W. Kirkman, F. S. White, W. E. Champin, W. Folkhard, F. Hutchins, B. Littlewood, S. H. Oliver, R. Turrell, G. Frost, J. Messent, Capt. C. J. Swiss, G. W. Lockwood, H. J. Butter, T. Griffiths, J. Taylor, L. Mills, L. Nebel, T. Turton, W. Wren, Jas. Franklin, C. H. Stone, James Stratton, A. Hiscock, R. Lumsden, C. L. James, W. Rahty, H. H. Grafton, H. Pryce, J. J. Mitchell, J. H. Russell, A. W. Wallis, W. J. Squires, D. Sedgley, W. Sallenger, and A. Wordsworth, all of the lodge; and a large number of visitors.

The usual loyal, Grand Lodge, Provincial Grand Lodge, and personal toasts were drunk in due order, but we were so unfortunately placed that it was impossible to hear but very little of the speeches.

The singing was very good, the contributors being Miss Marian Blinkhorn, Miss Cecelia Gray, Bros. V. Bennetts, W. Edwards, and T. Jefferson Nell. Bro. Horton presided at the piano.

### Wolsey Lodge, No. 1656.

The installation meeting of this exceedingly prosperous lodge was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on the 23rd ult., when there were present, among others, Bros. R. W. Simpson, W.M.; W. R. Flack, S.W., W.M. elect; H. C. Crozier, P.J.G.D. Egypt, J.W.; J. Featherstone, P.M., P.P.G.P., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G.S.B., Sec.; D. A. Ross, S.D.; A. Jehu, J.D.; J. H. Gaunt, I.G.; F. Figg, Org.; H. Sapsworth, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., and J. T. Crocken, Stwds.; R. W. Rice, I.P.M.; F. L. Chandler, P.M., P.P.G.P.; E. Dare, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; T. Grant, P.M., P.G. Std. Br.; H. J. Bond, and W. T. Peat, P.M., P.P.G.O. Among the numerous visitors were Bros. the Rev. C. E. Wright, M.A., P.G. Chaplain Egypt; J. C. Jessett, P.M. 1512, P.P.G.S.B.; E. W. Warner, P.M. 1703, P.P.A.G.D.C.; W. J. Mason, P.M., P.P.G.D., V.P. Board of General Purposes; A. K. Finch, W.M. 1238; A. Austin, W.M. 2637; R. T. Elson, P.M. 201, P.P.G.D.C.; F. Lockett, P.M. 2141; W. Ellis, S.W. 820; and D. R. Duncan, S.W. 2319.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. F. Hunt was raised to the Third Degree, and Bros. A. J. Burdett, E. E. Rice, and F. Bullard were passed to the Second Degree—both ceremonies being admirably performed by the W.M. Bro. W. R. Flack, W.M. elect, having been presented, was duly installed as W.M. by the senior Past Master of the lodge—Bro. J. Featherstone—assisted by Bros. H. J. Bond, P.M., who delivered the addresses, and H. Sapsworth, as Director of Ceremonies. The following officers were afterwards appointed and invested: Bros. R. W. Simpson, I.P.M.; H. C. Crozier, P.M., S.W.; D. A. Ross, J.W.; J. Featherstone, P.M., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., Sec.; A. S. Jehu, S.D.; J. H. Gaunt, J.D.; J. Nicholson, I.G.; F. Figg, Org.; T. Grant, P.M., D.C.; H. J. Bond and Tom Jones, Stwds.; and J. Gilbert, P.G. Tyler, Tyler. The report of the Audit Committee having been received and adopted, a Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Councillor R. W. Simpson. The ballot having been taken, Messrs. G. E. P. Hertslet and F. Foster were respectively initiated by the W.M. The Secretary reported the recent death of Bro. R. Drummond, P.M., an old initiate of the lodge, and that he had written a letter of condolence to the widow and family. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. H. Room, P.G. Std. Br., &c.; T. W. Ockenden, P.M. 1656, P.P.G.D.; and J. Spencer, P.M. 1656. The lodge was then closed.

An excellent banquet followed and gave unqualified satisfaction. The usual toasts followed.

Bros. T. Grant and J. C. Jessett responded on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers."

"The Health of the W.M." was given by the I.P.M. in flattering terms. He congratulated Bro. Flack upon the excellent manner in which he had initiated the candidates, and he felt confident that everyone present endorsed his commendation.

The W.M., having responded, gave "The Initiates," who duly replied.

Bros. Warner, P.M., Elson, P.M., W. J. Mason, P.M., and others, acknowledged the toast of "The Visitors."

Bros. Simpson and Featherstone responded on behalf of "The Past Masters," and Bros. Crozier, Jehu, Bond, P.M., and Gaunt, for "The Officers."

An excellent programme of music under the management of Bro. F. Figg was presented, the selections of Bros. Jehu, D. Jones, T. Grant, and A. R. Finch, being heartily received.

### Scots Lodge, No. 2319.

The installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Holborn Restaurant on the 23rd ult., when there were present Bros. D. M. Forbes, W.M.; James Thomson, I.P.M.; John Whitehead, P.M.; John Page, P.M.; D. F. Gellion, P.M.; Joseph J. Whitehead, P.M.; Thomas Grant, P.M.; D. Robertson Duncan, S.W.; E. J. Gordon, J.W.; the Ven. Archdeacon Sinclair, P.G.C., Chap.; A. Ritchie, J.P., C.C., Treas.; David A. Ross, Sec.; Wm. Craig, S.D.; Ashley Gordon, J.D.; T. Sandilands, I.G.; J. D. Balfour, A.D.C.; A. D. Arnott, Org.; T. Charteris and J. Macgregor, Stwds.; John Latta, Tyler; Peter McLean, Piper; John Inray, M.A., Col. J. S. Young, W. Bain, J. McMillan, P. G. Mallory, A. McCrush, J. M. Barclay, A. Whitehead, J. Gemmill, T. Wright, J. Anderson, T. B. Barrett, D. McMaster, W. MacKean, J. Bennett, T. D. M. Burnside, J. Plenderleith, R. S. Darling, J. J. Galbreath, D. M. Smith, and J. Green. Visitors: Bros. Robertson, F. Blake, G. Adams, W. Bussey, J. R. Elliott, E. J. Harrison, J. Featherstone, J. Spooner, J. J. Sandeman, W. H. Gardner, C. F. Ward, J. G. Moore, G. Chambers, E. Gabriel, H. J. Tasker, R. Marshall, Rev. J. R. Patterson, W. Stewart, E. A. H. Gordon, E. Hogbury, A. G. McDonald, Vernon Taylor, G. A. L. Fey, W. E. Edwards, A. Mason, and H. Percy Monckton.

The business of the meeting, which had as its chief item the installation of Bro. David Robertson Duncan as W.M. for the ensuing year, was conducted in an admirable and impressive manner, Bro. Dr. D. M. Forbes, P.M., acting as Installing Master. On the conclusion of the business of the lodge, which included the presentation of a jewel to the retiring W.M., Bro. Dr. Forbes, and of a testimonial to Bro. D. A. Ross, the very popular Secretary of the lodge, the brethren, headed by the lodge Piper and Tyler, marched in procession to the banqueting room, where dinner was served.

Dinner having been partaken of, the W.M., who presided, proposed in short and felicitous speeches the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," and subsequently the toast of "The M.W. Grand Master, H.K.H. the Prince of Wales." Both toasts were received, as usual, with the greatest enthusiasm and musical honours.

The usual remaining toasts followed.

The speeches were interspersed with songs, under the direction of Bro. Davidson Arnott, the Organist, by Bros. Fry, Gemmill, Grant, McMaster, McMillan, Taylor, and Ward, and also by Bro. Will Edwards.

In replying to the toast of "The Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and all the Grand Officers, Present and Past," Bro. the Ven. Archdeacon Sinclair, P.G. Chap., referred in sympathetic terms to the sad accident which had cast a gloom, slowly but happily dispersing, over the domestic life of the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom. He also referred to the great meeting of the brethren at St. Paul's Cathedral last year, and stated that the generous subscription collected on the occasion would be devoted to the building of the aisles of the choir, a tablet recording the circumstances to be suitably placed; also to the great gathering recently held at the Albert Hall, at which a noble and magnificent sum was subscribed in aid of a certain well-deserving Masonic Charity, a most satisfactory feature being that the other Charities did not suffer in consequence. He further expressed the hope that after that year the decoration of St. Paul's Cathedral—the finishing touch to Wren's great work—would be a duty which the brethren would take in hand, and one to which they would generously contribute; and also the hope that an anniversary service at the Cathedral might be arranged for, promising his hearty support in such an enterprise.

Bro. John Whitehead, P.M., also spoke a few words in response to the toast.

"The Worshipful Master," the next toast on the list, was proposed by the I.P.M., Bro. Dr. Forbes, who remarked that although the W.M.'s christian name was the same as that of the Scottish King who proved "sic a fair saunt for Scotland," yet he felt sure that, from what he knew of the W.M. and from what had been seen of his work and his efforts that evening, the brethren had the best augury that the same would not be said of Bro. Duncan's year of office as Worshipful Master of the Scots Lodge.

In reply, the W.M. spoke of the very kind and hearty way in which the toast had been proposed and accepted, and promised that he would do the best he could to promote the interests of the Scots Lodge. To do so, however, he must have the support of the brethren, and trusted he would receive it, adding that he had already been assured of the support of every one of the Past Masters as well as many of the brethren. He further added that he could at least assure the brethren that whatever could be done for the prosperity of the lodge should be done, and he trusted at the end of his year of office to pass over the gavel unscathed to his successor.

In proposing the toast of "The Immediate Past and Installing Masters," the W.M. congratulated Bro. Dr. Forbes on the change of lodge quarters which had been brought about by the I.P.M. during his year of office, and expressed his gratification at the fact of Bro. Gellion having taken part in the installation ceremony.

Bro. Dr. Forbes, in replying, referred to the installation ceremony, and to the fact that he had given way, as Installing Master, to Bro. Gellion, who did the charges so very perfectly, who conducted the ceremony so solemnly and so impressively, that every brother realised, not only its profound significance, but also that it contained one of the most solemn engagements that could be assumed.

Bro. Gellion also responded to the toast, and while expressing his thanks for the cordial and kindly way in which it had been received, assured the brethren that, although getting old, he would, so long as the Great Architect of the Universe vouchsafed him life and strength, continue to do what he could for the Scots Lodge and its officers.

Bro. Page, P.M., in replying to the toast of "The Masonic Charities," remarked that the magnificent sum collected at the recent gathering of brethren at the Albert Hall confirmed, if confirmation were required, the truth of the statement that Charity is the leading feature of Masonic character, and in referring to the grand subscriptions of the London lodges on the occasion, expressed the hope that the brethren would still further develop the bump of benevolence.

The toast of "The Visiting Brethren," who are "aye" "welcome to the Scots Lodge," was responded to by several of the visitors—Bros. Harrison, P.M.; Sandeman, Bussy, and Marshall, P.M. The Rev. Bro. Patterson also responded, and *in ter alia*, congratulated the lodge, which as a lodge comprised of Scotsmen was, presumably, Presbyterian, on its unique position in having an Episcopalian clergyman—Bro. the Ven. Archdeacon Sinclair—as its Chaplain. He also remarked on the serious, and at the same time humorous, note struck on the occasion of such gatherings, and which in its perfection he found in the Scots Lodge.

The toasts of "The Past Masters, Trustee and Founders," "The Chaplain, Treasurer, and Secretary," and "The Officers of the Scots Lodge," were also duly proposed and replied to in suitable terms, the Treasurer, Bro. A. Ritchie, J.P., C.C., making some exceedingly interesting remarks on the working of Masonic lodges in Capetown, the opportunity for observing which had been afforded on the occasion of his recent visit to South Africa.

After the Tyler's toast had been duly honoured, the brethren all joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne" and so brought to a close, in a characteristic fashion, what had proved a very successful and enjoyable gathering.

### London School Board Lodge, No. 2611.

An interesting and enjoyable meeting was held in connection with this distinguished "class" lodge at the Hotel Cecil, Strand, on the 11th inst., when Bro. H. Lynn was succeeded in the chair of W.M. by Bro. W. H. Kidson. The members present were Bros. H. Lynn, W.M.; W. H. Kidson, S.W.; J. R. Diggle, J.W.; Canon Ingram, Chap.; H. S. Foster, M.P., Treas.; E. Barnes, Sec.; G. Benson Clough, S.D.; W. Roston Bourke, J.D.; W. H. Key, F. Davies, P. White, Lieut.-Col. Clifford Probyn, G. Treas.; Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap.; Rev. A. W. Oxford, M. Mayhew, and others. Visitors: Bros. T. Fenn, P.G.W.; Archdeacon of Essex, P.G.C.; G. Brown, P.A.G.D.C.; Archdeacon of London, P.G.C.; Perceval Nairne, P.G.D.; A. Kidson, S.D. 1820; W. E. Phelps, P.M. 1670; A. Dutton, P.M. 34; C. Jerome; J. J. Chapman, P.M. 657; W. Morley, P.M. 1769; L. Lucas, J.D. 2395; E. L. Horne, P.M. 227; W. S. Callarde, 463; J. Bouchier Chilcote, P.M. 1884; J. G. Albert, P.M. 227; W. Haydon, P.M. 263; J. W. Elvin, W.M. 1915; Nathan Robinson, W.M. 2603; G. Burdge, 2395; Turle Lee, 2264; H. Yates, P.M. 2395; E. Theodore Smith, P.M. 1764; F. A. Martin, 1395; C. Woods, P.M. 2395; W. Wilkinson, P.P.G.R.; E. Stimpson, P.M.; W. W. Lee, P.M.; and others.

The opening of the lodge was followed by the confirmation of the minutes and an excellent rendering of the Second and Third Degrees by the W.M. The principal item on the agenda—the installation of Bro. W. H. Kidson as W.M.—next received ample justice at the hands of the experienced Installing Master, Bro. Lynn, who was invested with the collar of I.P.M. The other officers appointed were Bros. J. R. Diggle, S.W.; G. Benson Clough, J.W.; Canon Ingram, Chap.; H. S. Foster, M.P., Treas.; E. Barnes, Sec.; W. Roston Bourke, S.D.; W. H. Key, J.D.; Fred. Davies, I.G.; P. White, Stwd. and Org.; and G. Cartwright, Tyler. The lodge was closed and an adjournment was made to the *Medici Room*, where banquet was served.

After dessert the usual loyal toasts were briefly but heartily honoured.

Bro. the Archdeacon of London, P.G.C., replied for "The Grand Officers," and said he was indebted to them personally, for his other duties prevented him from being a very effective Mason, and the Grand Officers were always ready to come forward. It was a great pleasure to be present for the first time in that lodge, the formation of which he had watched with sympathy. It was a very excellent idea, and he only wished the lodge had existed when he was a member of the School Board. His policy on that Board was to try and combine the two great systems—the Voluntary and School Board—and it was he who originated the Queen Victoria full attendance medal, and persuaded them to admit the voluntary schools to the competition for the Challenge Banner. Sitting on his right was an older Grand Officer (Bro. Brownrigg), who was sitting like a lamb amongst them, and he was sure Bro. Brownrigg would carry back to the formidable Treasurer of the National Society an amiable report of the evening's proceedings. He thanked the lodge very sincerely, and congratulated the London School Board on the admirable way in which it was cementing those friendly relations which did so much good to those who were not perhaps on all points united.

Bro. T. Fenn, P.G.W., also replied, expressing the great delight which the Grand Officers and others experienced at seeing Lord Lathom at the great service at Rochester. He hoped that that lodge would be the means of smoothing down those asperities which must unavoidably arise in a Board such as theirs, where acute antagonism, both of religion and politics, must occasionally exist. It was good to see at such a pleasant gathering as that those who had "striven mightily, but eat and drink as friends." He congratulated the W.M. on his position, and, although there might occasionally be conflicting elements which might cause difficulty, he hoped the W.M. would be imbued with wisdom to discharge his duties so as to make his year of office one of marked success.

Bro. H. Lynn, I.P.M., next gave "The Worshipful Master," referring to Bro. Kidson as one of the founders and the first J.W. of the lodge. The W.M. had moreover discharged his duties with the utmost fidelity and success. Speaking from a knowledge of many years he (the I.P.M.) knew they could not possibly have a brother who would fill the office of W.M. with greater success than was anticipated for Bro. Kidson.

The Worshipful Master briefly responded, thanking the I.P.M. and brethren. He said that this lodge had been a very favourite child of his and he hoped to see more members of the Board joining it. He echoed the wish of the I.P.M. that he might have plenty of work to do. Next meeting he would have the pleasure of raising Bro. Mayhew, who he was glad to say was not on the same side, and he had every expectation of another member offering himself for initiation. He would do his utmost to follow the excellent example set by his predecessors. Bro. Lynn had had an overwhelming amount of work and he (the W.M.) would propose the next toast—"The I.P.M. and Installing Master." Every brother present must agree that the ceremonies had all been performed in a most excellent way. He, personally, thanked the I.P.M. for his rendering of the installation ceremony and had much pleasure in presenting him with the Past Master's jewel, which no brother had better deserved.

Bro. H. Lynn, I.P.M., in response, said that if he had given them satisfaction he was thanked, and if in the coming year he could be of any assistance it would be the greatest pleasure he could enjoy.

"The Visitors" was acknowledged by Bros. Nathan Robinson, W.M. 2603, and Elvin, W.M. 2395.

"The Treasurer and Secretary" and "The Officers" were honoured before the Tyler's toast closed the pleasant proceedings.

### Royal Arch.

Mozart Chapter, No. 1929.

The installation meeting of the above chapter was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, on the 20th ult., when there were present, among others, Comps. Dr. Russell Beardmore, P.G. Std. Br. Surrey, M.E.Z.; Maj. T. W. Richardson, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B., H.; J. Cain, S.N., J. elect; and Maj. T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C., S.E.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the S.E. inducted Comp. Dr. R. Beardmore as M.E.Z. (re-elected), and Comp. Major Richardson as H. (re-elected). The latter installed Comp. Cain as J., the ceremony being well performed. Comp. Major Walls was invested as S.E., and Comp. W. Lane, Janitor. A Past Principal's jewel was presented to Comp. Dr. Russell Beardmore. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. Communications regretting inability to attend were received from Comps. J. Boulton, P.Z., P.A.G.D.C., &c.; Lieut.-Col. T. Tully, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B.; R. A. Gowan, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; H. H. Shirley, M.A., P.Z., P.P.A.G.S.; R. P. Thomas, P.Z., P.G.S.B.; and others. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Third Principal. The chapter was then closed. A banquet followed.

Upon the removal of the cloth a few toasts were given.

The M.E.Z., in responding to his health, expressed regret that no members of the Mozart Lodge were members of the chapter, which presented such excellent opportunities for obtaining office in the beautiful Royal Arch Degree. He trusted that the Provincial Grand Authorities would kindly take the matter up, as it would be a regrettable circumstance if the chapter were compelled, by lack of support, to surrender its warrant. The proceedings then terminated.

### Cryptic Masonry.

Grand Master's Council, No. 1.

The installation meeting of this distinguished council was held at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on the 19th ultimo, when there were present, among others, Bros. and Comps. J. J. Pakes, T.I.M.; G. Gregory, P.M.; Hay, C. of W.; G. Graveley, P.T.I.M., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.D.G.M., &c., Recorder; B. Stewart, G. Briggs, W. H. Toye, H. Higgins, W. M. Stiles, Baron de Ferrieres, P.D. G.M., &c.; Major J. E. Anderson, P.T.I.M.; and Rowe.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Comp. G. Gregory was installed as T.I.M. by the Recorder. Among the officers appointed and invested were Comps. Hay, D.M.; Graveley, Treas.; Major Walls, Recorder; the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, Chap.; the Rev. C. E. Wright, Asst. Chap.; J. J. Thomas, C. of W.; J. N. Frye, C. of C.; B. Stewart, C. of G.; G. Briggs, H. Rogers, and J. Smith, Marshals; J. T. Rowe and C. Slater, Stewards; W. H. Toye, Warder; H. Higgins, Asst. Warder; Dr. Ezard, J.S.; and E. Mills, O.S. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Officer.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. R. Loveland Loveland, O.C., P.T.I.M.; the Rev. Dr. W. Lemon, P.G.C.; the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., G. Chap.; the Rev. C. E. Wright, M.A., P.G.C.; H. J. Lardner, P.T.I.M.; G. Powell, P.T.I.M.; W. A. Scurrah, P.T.I.M.; John Smith, J. N. Frye, C. Slater, and many others.

The council was closed in the Degree of Select Master, and the companions adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant, where the annual festival was held.

In the absence of the T.I.M., Comp. J. J. Pakes, P.T.I.M., presided most ably and genially.

Comp. Baron de Ferrieres responded on behalf of "The Grand Council" in a neat speech.

Ex. Comps. J. J. Pakes and Major J. E. Anderson replied for "The P.T.I. Masters."

Ex. Comp. G. Graveley and Comps. Hay, Briggs, Rowe, Toye, and Higgins responded for "The Treasurer and Officers." The proceedings then terminated.

### The Craft Abroad.

Bluefields Lodge, No. 875 (S.C.).

The regular communication of the above lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 2nd ult., in the Masonic Temple, Bluefields, when the following officers were elected and installed to serve for the ensuing year: Bros. M. J. Clancy, R.W.M.; W. J. Malone, S.W.; J. N. Sewell, I.W.; J. A. Petersen, Treas.; L. L. Marx, Sec.; W. P. Brown, S.D.; Geo. B. Wiltbank, J.D.; and John Thompson, Tyler.

The lodge was instituted on Thursday evening, March 17th last, and the above officers were installed at the time, so that the Charter Officers were all re-elected at the meeting held on Thursday evening.

### ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of Management held their regular meeting for the current month at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, the 13th instant, at 4 p.m. Bro. J. A. Farnfield, P.A.G.D.C., Patron and Treasurer of the Institution, occupied the chair, and there were present Bros. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; Chas. Sheppard George Allen, W. Fisher, John R. Reep, F. Dangerfield, W. M. Bywater, P.G. S.B.; John Hattersley, Henry W. Clarke, R. J. Tucker, F. G. Newton, Charles Kempton, A. Durrant, R. D. Cummings, S. V. Abraham, P.G.P.; Robert Colvill, Charles Lacey, Hugh Cotter, Chas. Daniel, W. H. Hubbert, J. Boulton, P.G.P.; Robert Griggs, James Stephens, P.D.G.D.C.; and James Terry, P.G.S.B. (Secretary).

The minutes of the June meeting having been read and verified, the SECRETARY reported the deaths of two male and three widow annuitants and one accepted candidate.

The Wardens' report for the past month was read, and that of the Finance Committee read, adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

A letter was read, which had been addressed to the Treasurer, from Messrs. Capel, Case, and Terry, pointing out that in 1903, the rate of interests on Consols would be reduced to 2½ per cent., and stating that the rate of £35,000 Consols at their present price would realise £39,025, which amount, if invested, in India 2½ per cent Stock at its present price, would purchase £43,360 of that Stock, giving a gain to the Institution in the amount of its dividends of £121 10s. per annum.

With reference to the resolution passed in November, 1896, to hold a Jubilee Festival next year in respect of the Widows' Fund of the Institution, which was founded in 1849, it was on further consideration, resolved that such resolution should be rescinded, it being left to the Secretary to make a special appeal in behalf of that Fund in the circular letter he addresses to Lodges and Chapters, inviting them to furnish Stewards for the Festival which will take place at the usual time in 1899.

The proceedings terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman.

### Our Portrait Gallery.

BRO. E. J. GITTINS, P.M., P.P.G. STD. BR. HERTS.

Bro. E. J. Gittins, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br. Herts., whose installation as W.M. of the Broxbourne Lodge is reported in this issue, was initiated in the De Shurland Lodge, No. 1089, October, 1878; joined the Manchester Lodge, No. 179, London, in January, 1883, and was installed W.M. in January, 1890. Founder and first D.C. of the Broxbourne Lodge, No. 2353 (April, 1890), of which he was



Secretary from 1892 to 1897. Exalted in the Manchester Chapter, No. 179, February, 1894, and Scribe E. Founder and first Scribe E. of the Broxbourne Chapter, No. 2353, May, 1896, and the present H. of the same chapter. Life Governor of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, for both of which he has served Stewardships.

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

## Masonic and General Tidings.

THE CROWN PRINCESS OF AUSTRO-HUNGARY, accompanied by the Archduchess Elizabeth and the Duke of Connaught, visited T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, and, with Count Albert Mensdorff, lunched with their Royal Highnesses.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR (Bro. the Earl of Halsbury) and the Countess of Halsbury have signified their intention of being present at the annual "Ladies' Night" debate of the Hardwicke Society, which, by permission of the Benchers, will be held in the Inner Temple Hall on Friday, the 29th inst.

ON SATURDAY, at the Wellington Barracks, the Duke of Cambridge, Colonel of the Grenadier Guards, inspected the 2nd Battalion of the regiment, prior to its embarkation for Gibraltar, and also a strong draft of men who are to join the 1st Battalion, going on from Gibraltar to Egypt on being relieved by the 2nd.

THE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT presented the prizes to the successful competitors at the Aldershot District Meeting, which concluded on Saturday last at the Ash Ranges. The Duchess was accompanied by the Duke of Connaught, the Princesses Margaret and Victoria Patricia, and Prince Arthur, and Captain E. W. Blunt and Mrs. Malcolm McNeil were in attendance.

THE QUEEN'S dinner party at Windsor Castle on Monday included, in addition to the Royal family, the Marquis of Salisbury, Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, Bro. the Duke of Portland, Earl Granville, Bro. Lieut.-General Lord Methuen, Prince Mahomed Ali Pasha, brother of the Khedive of Egypt, the Crown Princess of Austria, the Duchess of Buccleuch, and Lady Carnegie.

UNDER the command of Vice-Admiral Stephenson, the Channel Squadron, which had been mobilising at Portland during the past week, left on Monday for the North of Scotland. The fleet comprised the battleships Magnificent, Majestic, Prince George, Repulse, Resolution, Mars, Jupiter, and Hannibal, and the cruisers Arrogant, Pelorus, and Isis. Before it sailed the Duke and Duchess of York lunched with the Admiral on board the Majestic.

AT WINDSOR CASTLE, on Saturday last, the Queen conferred upon Brevet Lieut.-Col. Robert Bellew Adams, Indian Staff Corps, the decoration of the Victoria Cross for conspicuous bravery during the operations on the North-West Frontier of India. Princess Henry of Battenberg was present with her Majesty. The Earl of Denbigh, Maj. the Hon. Charles Harbord, and Bro. Col. the Earl of Strafford were in attendance as Lord, Groom, and Equerry-in-Waiting.

AS WIFE of the Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, the Duchess of Devonshire conferred honour officially upon a very charming exhibition of flowers grown by the youthful members of the Children's Geranium Club in connection with the Cambridge House Settlement in Camberwell. The event had created the liveliest excitement in South London, and over 5000 free tickets were distributed to the poor around to visit the display during the two days it is open.

THE DUCHESS OF YORK, who was attended by Lady Mary Lygon, paid a visit to St. Katherine's College, Tottenham, on Saturday afternoon last, for the purpose of presenting the prizes to the successful students. Her Royal Highness was received on the lawn by the Bishop of London (President of the college), members of the council, and the Principal. The ceremony took place in a large and elaborately decorated marquee erected in the garden at the rear of the college.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, who arrived at Windsor Castle on Saturday evening last, was present on Sunday morning at the church parade of the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards, of which regiment he is colonel. His Royal Highness, with Colonel Inigo Jones, marched at the head of the battalion, which was preceded by the band, drums, fifes, and pipers, to Holy Trinity, where the 2nd Life Guards, under Colonel the Earl of Dundonald, and a large congregation, had already assembled.

COUNTESS CADOGAN held a meeting at Chelsea House on Monday to consider the best way of promoting the adequate representation of Irish industries at the Paris Exhibition of 1900. Among those present were the Duchess of Abercorn, the Countess of Fingall, the Countess of Arran, the Countess of Erne, the Countess of Enniskillen, the Countess of Longford, the Countess of Lucan, the Countess of Bandon, and the Countess of Cork, Viscountess Duncannon, Lady Ashbourne, Lady de Ros, the Right Hon. Herceze Plunkett, and Mr. Hussey Walsh.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES presided over the 15th annual general meeting of the Royal College of Music at Marlborough House, and among the members of the Council present were the Duke of Westminster, Lord Farquhar, Lord Strathcona, Lord Tredegar, Lord Windsor, Bro. Right Hon. C. B. Stuart-Wortley, M.P., Colonel the Hon. C. G. C. Eliot, Hon. G. W. Spencer Lyttelton, Bro. Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Sir W. J. Richmond Cotton, Sir E. W. Hamilton, Sir A. Fairbairn, Sir Edward Green, Sir C. E. G. Philipps, Sir Charles L. Ryan, Sir John Stainer, Mr. Charles Morley, M.P., Sir Hubert Parry, and others. The annual report emphasised the steady progress of the college, the number of pupils at the close of last term being 395.

ON SATURDAY LAST T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales and a select party were the guests of Lord Sackville at Knole, Sevenoaks. Their Royal Highnesses went down by special train from Charing Cross, arriving at Sevenoaks at 1.16, and were accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Sparta, Bro. the Marquis and Marchioness of Granby, Earl and Countess Stanhope, Bro. Earl and Countess Amherst, Earl and Countess De La Warr, Bro. Lord and Lady Brassey, the Hon. Victor Stanley, the Hon. Sidney Grenville, the Hon. Michael and Mrs. Herbert, Mr. and Mrs. W. James, Capt. and Mrs. Charles Sackville-West. The Prince planted a fir tree in the garden, and after tea, served on the colonnade, the company left Knole and journeyed back to town. In the evening the Prince and Princess attended the Lyric Theatre to witness Madame Sarah Bernhardt's performance of "Camille."

THE LORD MAYOR (Bro. Alderman Davies, M.P.) opened the new wing of the Guildhall School of Music, the foundation-stone of which had been laid in July last by Mr. Deputy Pearse Morrison. Shortly after three o'clock, his lordship, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Green, and Bro. Sheriff Dewar, was escorted in procession by the City Marshal and the Sword and Mace Bearers, with several members of the Music Committee carrying their wands of office, to the new theatre in the annexe, which has been designed by Mr. Andrew Murray, the City Surveyor. This new addition will be used by the professors and students when they re-assemble after the vacation. A Festal March, composed specially for the occasion by Bro. W. H. Cummings, Principal of the Institution, opened the proceedings, the same composer's ode, "Domine Dirige Nos," being then performed by the choir and orchestra, together with the favourite part song, "Sweet and Low," by the late Bro. Sir Joseph Barnby, while vocal pieces were contributed in good style by Miss Maude Elliott and Mr. Frank Tebbutt. After an address from the Chairman of the Music Committee, the Lord Mayor declared the building open.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES, with Princess Victoria of Wales, is expected to go to Copenhagen in the beginning of August, on a visit to the King and Queen of Denmark.

BRO. VISCOUNT DUNGARVAN, the Prov. Grand Master of Somersetshire, has undertaken to preside at the 111th Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls in May next.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES honoured the Earl of Rosebery by his company at dinner on Thursday evening, in Berkeley-square, when a distinguished party was invited to meet his Royal Highness. His lordship afterwards gave a ball, which was numerously attended.

THE GREAT WESTERN Railway Company announce that a half-day trip to Shakespeare's Country, and to Oxford and Leamington, will leave Paddington at noon on Thursday, the 21st inst., Kensington (Addison-road), 11.27 a.m., and Hammersmith, 11.34, returning from Stratford-on-Avon at 7.15 p.m.

THE MILITARY CYCLING TOURNAMENT to be held at Wood Green on the 23rd inst., under the patronage of the Duke of Connaught and Viscount Wolsley (Commander-in-Chief). The volunteer cycling championships and the army cycling championship, both over a distance of one mile, will be decided.

UPON AN examination of the bells that are rung upon the Royal birthdays in the Curfew Tower of Windsor Castle—one of which, the big tenor, suddenly fell during a recent celebration—it was found that the fifth bell was cracked. This weighs about 14 cwt., and has been pealed at intervals for over a century and a half. It is composed of tin and copper, and was cast in 1745.

ROYAL FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.—Bro. Sir John B. Monckton presided on Saturday last over the annual prize distribution of the above asylum at Beddington, when the Lady Mayoress distributed the awards. The children gave some excellent action songs in the dining hall, where the ceremony took place, and subsequently entertained the visitors by an exhibition of skipping-rope and fire drill.

CRYSTAL PALACE BILL.—The Bill authorising the re-organising of the capital of the Crystal Palace Company was read a third time in the House of Lords on Monday. As it has already passed through the House of Commons, it now only requires the Royal assent to become effective; this will probably be given before the end of the month, and the prospectus of the company, as reconstituted, may be expected by the end of September.

THE EARL OF ROSEBERY presided on Thursday over a meeting of the committee appointed to arrange memorials of the late Bro. Sir Frank Lockwood, M.P. Among those present were Lord James of Hereford, Lord Tweedmouth, Mr. Butcher, M.P., and Col. Lockwood, M.P. It was agreed to confirm the recommendations of the sub-committee as to the disposal of the fund, which amounts to £1350—namely, £500 to endow a cot in the Children's Hospital, the nomination to be vested in the Lockwood family; 400 guineas for a portrait of the late Sir F. Lockwood, to be painted by Mr. Cope, jun.; also sums for a stained glass window in York Minster, under the superintendence of the Dean and Chapter; and a memorial brass in St. Margaret's Church, Westminster.

SOME INTERESTING autograph letters and historical documents, the properties of various collectors, were disposed of at Sotheby's on Thursday. A document with sign manual of Oliver Cromwell on a warrant, dated Whitehall, June 20th, 1654, fetched £10; autograph letter of John Bradshaw, celebrated regicide, President of the Court that tried Charles I., dated Whitehall, January 27th, 1652, to the Commissioners of the Admiralty, £5; autograph letter of George Eliot (Marian Evans, celebrated novelist), dated "Clématis," Coventry, May 21st, 1834, £6; two poems of Jean de La Fontaine in his autograph, £6 2s. 6d.; autograph letter of Beethoven, dated 1819, corrected scores, £11 10s.; an interesting letter of General C. E. Gordon, dated 1864, respecting his campaign in China, £6 2s. 6d.; and three love letters of Napoleon III. to a young English lady whom he ennobled, £2 14s. The day's sale realised £206 19s.

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY, attended by Sir Robert Collins and Miss Heron Maxwell, was present at the drawing room meeting held at 3, Grosvenor-place, on the 14th inst., by invitation of Lady Esther Smith, in aid of the public library for the parish of St. George's-in-the-East. The cost of the building itself has been borne by Mr. Passmore Edwards, while other expenses, as that of the site, were met by the voluntary rate; but a sum of about £1600 is still needed for furniture and books. In the chair was the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., who said that the parish, being too poor to do more for itself, looked to the West-end for help. The East-end had been a pioneer in the free library movement, for Bathnal-green has established the first institution of the kind. Practical aid had been shown by the Royal Family towards these efforts in various ways, and the presence of the Duchess of Albany on this occasion was not the first time that she had encouraged good works on behalf of this poor parish. The Bishop of Islington explained the financial position of the library commissions, and the plans they had in view as to the arrangements for storing and reading the books; and Earl Nelson, who, from his long connection with the mission work of St. Peter's, London Docks, introduced himself as "a near neighbour," warmly commended the effort as likely to raise and refine the crowded district.

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