

# THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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## THE FESTIVAL OF THE R.M.B.I.

When we expressed ourselves in terms more hopeful than we usually adopt as to the result of the Festival which was held at Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday evening, under the presidency of Bro. Lord LLANGATTOCK, Prov. G. Master of the Eastern Division of South Wales, we must confess that we did not anticipate a return so generous. We modestly suggested that if, under the circumstances, such a total was realised as would about suffice to make good the deficiency standing over from last year and the normal deficiency for the current year, which it is the object of these anniversary gatherings to supply, it would be as much as could be expected. But the brethren in town and country have gone still further and provided a comfortable little margin of about £1500 to meet any unforeseen contingency that may arise, or should there be none to meet, to add to the capital invested. Hence it is that we experience so much pleasure in tendering our sincere congratulations on such a splendid result, firstly to his lordship who presided so ably and pleaded the cause of the aged brother and the widow so earnestly, and the Board of Stewards which supported him, and by whose efforts the large total of nearly £18,300 was obtained; and secondly to the Institution which is thus freed from all anxiety upon the question of ways and means during the current year. Nor must we omit to express our satisfaction and the gratitude of our readers and the Craft generally, for the zeal and energy exhibited by Bro. JAMES TERRY, the Secretary of the Institution, and his small but able staff. It is, undoubtedly to his and their efforts that the preparations for the Festival were made so successfully, and to the success of those preparations we are primarily indebted for the great result which it is our privilege to record this week in our columns. We trust that future Festivals will result as satisfactorily.

A TERRIBLE TALE of the sea has been told by the four survivors of the ill-fated Bulgaria, who were luckily picked up by the Vittoria. They say that the vessel was sinking when their boat was accidentally loosed, and drifted off, and that it could scarcely have weathered the storm. When they were saved by the Vittoria, an effort was made to reach the Bulgaria in another boat by six of the crew, but they were obliged to return.

## ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

### ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

The Festival in celebration of the 57th anniversary of the foundation of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons was held on Wednesday at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, W.C., when the Right Hon. Lord Llangatock, Provincial Grand Master for South Wales (Eastern Division), presided. About 500 brethren assisted at the festival, and among those who were on the dais supporting the Chairman were Bros. the Earl of Dartmouth, Prov. G.M. Staffordshire; C. E. Keyser, P.G.D.; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Baron de Ferrieres; Lennox Browne, P.D.G.D.C.; E. M. Money, P.A.G.D.C.; J. Lewis Thomas, P.A.G.D.C.; J. A. Farnfield, P.G.S.B., Treasurer of the Institution; R. Eve, P.G.T.; Dr. Strong, P.G. Std. Br.; Marmaduke Tennant, P.A.G.D.C., Dep. Prov. G.M. South Wales (E.D.); Col. Lyne, Dep. Prov. G.M. Monmouth; Wm. Lake, A.G. Sec.; F. R. W. Hedges, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.G.; and J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.

A large number of ladies were entertained at a separate dinner. Bro. Lord LLANGATTOCK, in proposing the toast of "The Queen," said the first toast he had to offer for the brethren's acceptance was one that was dear to the heart of every Englishman and dear to every English home. It was a toast that was often given and always well received in every quarter of the globe, and yet Englishmen were never tired of doing it honour. (Cheers.) It was always a delight to them to have an opportunity of testifying their love to the Queen and their respect for the Sovereign who ruled



THE CHAIRMAN.

so well and so graciously over this vast empire. He would ask them all to join him, all hearts united in one, and drink with all love and respect "The Health of our Glorious Queen and our sincere wishes that she may live for many years to rule over a happy and prosperous people." (Applauses.)

The toast having been duly honoured, Lord LLANGATTOCK, in proposing "The M.W.G.M.," said the Prince of Wales, the first subject of the realm and nearest to the Throne, had been the first to learn that lesson of unselfish devotion to duty which had been so splendidly taught him by his Royal mother. No man in the kingdom worked harder than the Prince of Wales and no one worked with more genuineness. By his courteousness of manner and his sympathy with all classes, he had made himself an abiding home in the hearts of the people. Freemasons were bound to his Royal Highness by special ties not of Royalty or the Throne—he was our brother Mason. (Cheers.)

Bro. RICHARD EVE, P.G.T., responding to the toast of "The M.W. Pro G.M., the R.W. Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," said Lord Amherst was a brother full of enthusiasm for Masonry, who would do his utmost to promote its great principles and uphold the prestige of the Order. The Earl of Warwick was also full of Masonry, whose heart was in it and would be good and true to the Order. In that he would be supported by all the Grand Officers. The Grand Lodge of England was the mother Grand Lodge of the world and as such it was the duty of the Grand Officers to uphold her dignity.

Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D., at the loud call of the brethren, also responded, and said he thoroughly concurred in everything said by Bro. Eve.

Bro. Lord LLANGATTOCK next proposed "Success, Long Life, and Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons." He said he hardly knew how to begin; he only wished he was an orator that he might do greater justice to



Table listing names and amounts for various lodges and provinces including Mrs. George Graveley, Henry Kemp, J. H. Milton, T. H. Griffiths, James Terry, and others.

Table listing names and amounts for various lodges and provinces including Bro. W. Metcalfe, W. T. Boydell, W. Baddeley, Bro. Leonard Hill, James Edgar, Bro. W. Busbridge, Edward Burrell, etc.

Table listing names and amounts for various lodges and provinces including SHROPSHIRE, SOUTH WALES (E.D.), SOUTH WALES (W.D.), STAFFORDSHIRE, SUFFOLK, SURREY, SUSSEX, and others.

Table listing names and amounts for various lodges and provinces including Lodge Bro. Reuben Strong, W. P. Smith, A. H. Thomas, G. I. Morris, H. G. White, Bro. Gerald Loder, M.P., Bro. J. C. Nicol, J. Perkins, T. Surman, etc.

In the case of those marked \*, the amounts are included in lists either in London or the Provinces.

SUMMARY OF THE PROVINCES.

Summary table of provincial amounts including Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Cheshire, Cornwall, Devonshire, Dorsetshire, Essex, Gloucestershire, Hampshire and Isle of Wight, Hertfordshire, Kent, Lancashire (E.D.), Lancashire (W.D.), Leicestershire and Rutland, Lincolnshire, Middlesex, Monmouthshire, Norfolk, Northants and Hunts, Northumberland, North Wales, Oxfordshire, Shropshire, Somersetshire, South Wales (E.D.), South Wales (W.D.), Staffordshire, Suffolk, Surrey, Sussex, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Yorkshire (North and East), Yorkshire (West), and Foreign Stations.

The Earl of DARTMOUTH, Prov. G.M. of Staffordshire, then rose and said he had been somewhat unexpectedly called upon to submit to the brethren's notice a toast, and while he fully recognised the privilege he also recognised the great responsibility that devolved upon him, because he had to put into appropriate words what they all felt, which was a deep sense of gratitude to their Chairman for his presence and the admirable manner in which he had performed his duties.

of mankind at large; and he was sure all would agree with him that there was no better exponent of these principles than Lord Llangattock, their Chairman. It was difficult in his lordship's presence to say all one would like to say; they all knew what Lord Llangattock had done for Freemasonry and what he had done for the Benevolent Institution that evening; he was a man well known, and he wished him long life, success, and prosperity.

Bro. Lord LLANGATTOCK, in reply, said, in the name of the Institution, he thanked the Stewards and all the generous Masons for the magnificent contributions, and for their goodness in making his year of office successful. He wore on his breast a beautiful jewel that had been given him; he should keep it and value it as amongst his greatest treasures as a remembrance of Masonry, and of that happy, pleasant evening that he and the brethren had passed together. He looked into the jewel hoping to find a lock of Bro. James Terry's hair in it; but he found he had given it all to the old ladies at Croydon. (Laughter.) He (Lord Llangattock) did not wish to say anything about himself, except how proud he was of the honour that had been so graciously conferred upon him as Provincial Grand Master of the Eastern Division of South Wales; how proud he was of his 23 lodges and of the spirit and energy which pervaded the whole of the district, and to feel that they were all working happily and harmoniously together for the good of Freemasonry. He could not resist saying a word, although no words could express his feelings of gratitude and appreciation of his Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Marmaduke Tennant—how loyal he had been to him and had sustained him in working his province; he was glad of that opportunity of thanking him publicly. He was proud to see such a splendid gathering of Masons. He was sure that meetings such as those could not but be agreeable and profitable to the cause, where they were able to throw aside all differences of opinion and meet together with that unanimity and brotherly love without which Masonry could not exist. Let them continue to show the world that Masons did not meet there for big dinners and fine clothing, but that they endeavoured to carry out the principles of the Craft, which were founded on the Volume of the Sacred Law. Let them bear in mind that they belonged to a Society, the oldest on record, one which demanded of them that they should be firm and faithful in their allegiance, that they should walk uprightly in the world, respecting themselves, and thereby insuring the respect of others. He thanked them again for all their kindness and their warm greetings towards him that evening. He could now say one word—Let them rejoice that they were not divided,

One in body we,  
One in hope and doctrine,  
One in Charity. (Cheers.)

Bro. RICHARD EVE, P.G.T., proposed "The Other Masonic Institutions."

Bro. F. R. W. HEDGES, P.C.S.B., in responding, thanked Bro. Eve for the strong appeal he had made for the Girls' Institution. It was pleasing for him to have to congratulate the Benevolent Institution on the magnificent result of to-night. He did not believe the Girls' School or the Benevolent Institution would suffer materially for the Centenary of the Boys' School, and he congratulated the Benevolent Institution at being the first to give evidence that the constitution of the Craft was so well founded. He congratulated the Chairman's province, and he could not forget that two years ago his lordship presided at the Girls' Festival, when £16,000 was collected. The province sent then 1000 guineas. Last year it sent £605 to the Boys'. To-night they sent a further £600; in two years, £2300. The Girls' Festival, when Lord Dungarvan would preside, would be on May 10.

Bro. J. M. McLEOD also responded.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, G. Sec., proposed "The Stewards," and Bros. THOMAS and JAMES LEWIS THOMAS replied.

Bro. Dr. SUTHERLAND proposed "The Ladies," and Bro. LENNOX BROWNE acknowledged the compliment.

A concert in Freemasons' Hall followed, in which the following artists were engaged: Mme. Kate Cove, Miss Annie Bartle, Miss Florence Venning, Miss Edie Reynolds, the Westminster Singers (Bros. George May, Harper Kearton, Charles Ackerman, and W. H. Brereton), Bros. Mel. B. Spurr, F. R. Kinke, and David Devant.

#### ANALYSIS OF THE RETURNS.

There is no need for anything in the way of preface to the Analysis of the Returns which, for many years past, we have been in the habit of writing. We therefore plunge at once *in medias res* and offer such comments on the result as seem necessary or desirable.

The total which it was Bro. Terry's privilege to announce in the course of the evening was, as will be seen from the array of figures already given, £18,291 8s. 6d., the number of ladies and brethren who gave their services as Stewards being 483. Of these, 267 Stewards, who together raised £9912 1s. 6d., formed the London contingent, while the remaining 216, who obtained £8379 7s., did duty for the 35 represented Provinces.

Dealing, first of all, with

#### LONDON,

we remark with pleasure that, while the number of Unattached was considerable, comprising 60 brethren and 13 ladies, the other 194 Stewards acted for 135 lodges, one lodge of instruction, and seven Royal Arch Chapters, this being a fair proportion to the total number enrolled in the Metropolitan district. The premier place was taken by the City of Westminster Lodge, No. 1563, whose W. Master, Bro. H. T. Culliford, with the assistance of 30 of the members, had the satisfaction of handing in a list of £425. The second highest list was that of Bro. T. F. Marson, who acted for the Friends-in-Council Lodge, No. 1383, and raised a total of £279 6s.; while Bro. J. Morrison McLeod, Secretary of the R.M. Institution for Boys, represented the Old Masonians Lodge, No. 2700, and compiled precisely the same amount as he did last year when he represented the same lodge at the Girls' School Festival, namely, £246 15s. Following this we have a group of three lists which are fairly close together, and comprise that of Bro. Thomas Wakley, jun. who was in charge of the Old Westminster's Lodge, No. 2233, and secured fourth place with £198 9s., Bro. A. P. Bebrouth, Merchant Navy Lodge, No. 781, being next with £186 6s., and then Bro. James Terry, the indefatigable Secretary of the Institution, who, notwithstanding his many arduous duties, found time to raise, as the representative of his mother lodge—United Strength, No. 228—£180 13s. 6d. A second group of four must next be mentioned, comprising Bro. F. A. Harrison, of the Mizpah Lodge, No. 1671, with £157 10s.; Bro. A. Taylor and three other members of the Langthorne Lodge, No. 1471, who jointly return a list of £155 12s.; Bro. Stanley W. Ball, of the Cricklewood Lodge, No. 2361, with £155, and Bro. George Cunnington, Loyalty Lodge, No. 1607, £150. Coming close upon the heels of these are the lists of Bro. W. Hanes, of the Domestic Lodge, No. 177, amounting to £147, and of Bro. W. J. Darcy, Sincerity Lodge, No. 174, for £145, and then we light upon a third group,

which includes Bro. J. Campbell-Johnston, who raised £136 10s., as Steward for the Creation Lodge, No. 1791, while Bro. F. G. Doughty, of the Great Northern Lodge, No. 1287, tied him with a like amount. Bro. G. F. Rossiter, Royal Albert Lodge, No. 907, has a list of £131 9s. 6d. and is followed closely by Bro. Charles Fox, St. John's Lodge, No. 90, with 126. The Tivoli Lodge, No. 2150, is entered per Bro. W. Godson, for £120, and Bro. A. L. Thomas, Ionic Lodge, No. 227, for £117 12s. Bros. H. J. Bertram, of the Fitzroy Lodge, No. 569, and John P. Flew, Fulham Lodge, No. 2512, stand next in order, each having to his credit £115 10s., while Bro. H. Pamment, Nelson Lodge, No. 700, returned £110 10s.; Bro. J. R. Pakeman, Temple Bar Lodge, No. 1728, £109 10s.; and Bro. J. A. Stretton, Lewisham Lodge, No. 2512, £107 1s. The three next had the satisfaction of contributing, through the medium of their chosen representatives, £105 each, namely, Strong Man Lodge, No. 45, per Bro. W. Briggs and others; the Clerkenwell Lodge, No. 1964, per Bro. W. A. Hume; and the Whittington Lodge, No. 862, per Bro. W. C. Tyler. Bro. A. F. Hardymont, of the Brondesbury Lodge, No. 2698, brought up the rear of the three-figure lists with a round sum of £100.

The following lists are also worthy of recognition, namely, that of Bro. J. R. Francis, Albion Lodge, No. 9, for £70 5s. 6d.; of Bro. J. R. Creasy, Fortitude and Old Cumberland Lodge, for £73 10s. 6d.; of Bro. F. C. Bradley, Kent Lodge, No. 15, £81 18s.; and of Bro. H. P. Miller, of the Lodge of Felicity, No. 58, for £87 3s. Bro. A. Ritchie, as Steward for the Phoenix Lodge, No. 173, compiled a sum of £93 9s., and Bro. W. Reynolds, High Cross Lodge, No. 754, £71 13s. The John Hervey Lodge, No. 1260, is entered, per Bro. Walter Potter, for £70, and the Surrey Masonic Hall Lodge, No. 1539, per Bro. A. V. Marshall, for £71 4s. Bro. Harman Visger, as Steward of the Ravensbourne Lodge, No. 1601, compiled £84, and James Edge, of the Kilburn Lodge, No. 1608, £70. The Rothesay Lodge, No. 1687, did well, as usual, its representative, Bro. Josh H. Catton, returning £85 16s. Bro. W. Bland, All Saint's Lodge, No. 1716, had £70 to his credit, and Bro. James W. Facey, Kensington Lodge, No. 1767, £94 14s. Bro. W. Hill, representing the Earl of Lathom Lodge of Instruction, No. 1922, is entered for £73 10s., and Bro. E. W. Hobbs, Viator Lodge, No. 2308, for £75 4s. 6d., while Bro. A. Eades compiled £89 5s. for the Borough of Greenwich Lodge, No. 2332, and Bro. R. N. Crane £78 15s. for the Columbia Lodge, No. 2397. Bro. James O'Dea, Borough Lodge, No. 2589, figures for £73 10s., and Bro. Frank R. Kenning, Unattached, has £88 11s., including a donation from his father, Bro. George Kenning, sufficient to complete his qualification as Patron.

We must now give our attention to

#### THE PROVINCES,

of which 35 out of 46 were represented by 216 Stewards, and contributed £8379 7s. In estimating the merits of the Return, we cannot leave unnoticed the exceptional circumstances under which it was made. There can be no disguising the fact that the heavy calls made upon our country lodges—indeed, upon the whole English Craft—in June of last year in behalf of the Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the splendid response which was forthcoming from town and country alike, not only exercised a depressing effect on the amounts subscribed to the other Institutions in 1898, but are calculated to exercise a similar influence during the present year and those that follow upon all three Charities. It would be absurd, not to say unseemly, to call upon our lodges and Provinces always to be contributing at high pressure, as it were, and hence we look upon the part played by the Provinces in supporting this year's Festival of the Benevolent as most creditable. Considering that the whole of the Provinces were represented at the Boys' Centenary on "the glorious 10th June," 1898, that the number of ladies and brethren who acted in their behalf was 2559, and that the total amount raised through the exertions of those Stewards was within a minute fraction of £82,843, we have every reason to be grateful to the 35 Provinces which have so loyally come forward to support the Benevolent Institution on this occasion, and for the £8379 7s., which they have contributed towards the funds of this Charity.

As for the 11 absentee Provinces, there is one principal reason which is applicable to each and every of them, and which, at the same time, explains and excuses their absence. They all helped to make the Boys' Centenary the magnificent success it was, while in the case of those amongst them which did this only on a moderate scale, it will be found that they had previously done yeoman service in other directions, or else that they are too remote from the headquarters of Freemasonry for their non-attendance at a Festival or Festivals to attract unfavorable comment. Thus BEDFORDSHIRE (seven lodges) ever since it was constituted a Province under the late Bro. Col. W. Stuart as P.G.M., in 1835, has taken part in most of the anniversaries that have been celebrated, and last year it raised more for the Boys' Centenary and this Institution than it had ever done before. BRISTOL (nine lodges), not only has a Charitable organisation of its own, but contributed £354 7s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary. CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND (21 lodges) figured for only £222 1s. 6d. at the Boys' Centenary, but then in 1897, when its Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, M.P., presided at the Boys' School Festival, it raised £1260. DERBYSHIRE (27 lodges) surpassed anything it had ever previously done for one of our Institutions when it subscribed last year £2419 2s. to the Boys' Centenary. DURHAM (37 lodges) gave last year £52 10s. to this Institution, £57 15s. to the Girls' School, and £533 2s. to the Boys' Centenary, the total of the three contributions being £643 7s. HEREFORDSHIRE (5 lodges), which is about the smallest province in England, acquitted itself most creditably last year by raising the very fine total of £330 15s.; while as regards NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (18 lodges) we cannot call to mind a year in which it subscribed so large an amount as in 1898, the total it contributed to the Boys' Centenary being £777. WILTSHIRE, too, with it 12 lodges, not only raised £539 for the Boys' Centenary, but managed to help the Girls' School with an acceptable list of £71 1s.; its total for the whole year being £610 1s. The Province of GUERNSEY AND ALDERNEY (6 lodges) after raising £78 15s. for this Institution, and £10 10s. for the Girls' School, compiled a total of £151 4s. for the Boys' School, the product of the year 1898 being £240 9s. JERSEY (7 lodges) raised £130 12s. for the Old People and £131 5s. for the Boys' Centenary, or in all £261 17s.; while the ISLE OF MAN (9 lodges) gave £27 16s. towards the Boys' Centenary, and has from time to time done service for all our Institutions; but while its contributions are always welcome, its absence is rarely, if ever, the subject of comment. The number of lodges comprised within these Provinces is 158.

We now take the 35 represented Provinces in their alphabetical order, the first to claim our attention being

#### BERKSHIRE,

which both since its organisation in 1890 as a separate Province and previously as part of the old Province of Berks and Bucks has always exhibited a generous spirit towards our Institutions. In 1891, it raised in all £385 1s.; in 1892, its total for the year was £954 11s. 6d., of which £661 9s. 6d. was subscribed at the Jubilee of this Institution; in 1893, it was entered for £724 7s.; in 1894, for £583 13s. 6d.; and in 1895, for £939 6s. 6d. In 1896, it was still more successful and distributed £1010 19s. 6d. among the three Institutions, the largest portion being assigned to the Boys' School, while, in 1897, it raised in all £825 16s. 6d., of which the Old People had the good fortune to obtain £455 3s. 6d. Last year it was one of the limited number of Provinces, which, in their eagerness to support the Boys' Centenary, did not entirely lose sight of the claims of the Benevolent and Girls' Institutions, the amount it subscribed to the former being £163 16s. and to

the latter £96 12s. In June, with a band of 43 Stewards acting for the whole body of lodges, a Royal Arch chapter, a Rose Croix chapter, and a Mark lodge, it compiled a fine total of £1436 17s., which with its previous contributions to this Institution and the Girls gives an aggregate for the year of £1697 5s. On Wednesday, three of its lodges—the Union, No. 414, Reading; the Loyal Berkshire Lodge of Hope, No. 574, and the Victoria, No. 2671, Windsor—were represented by four Stewards, of whom Bro. C. E. Keyser, did duty for Nos. 414 and 574, the aggregate of their lists being £234 5s., and the most important items the £105 raised by Bro. Keyser, irrespective of what he contributed as one of the Stewards for the Province of Hertfordshire.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

sent up a contingent of six Stewards, of whom Bro. J. J. Simcox acted for the Province generally; while four of the 19 lodges and the chapter attached to a fifth had each its own special Steward. The total from all sources reached £156 18s. 6d., the principal item being £63 by Bro. Simcox as Steward for the Province. Like its old associate and neighbour, of whose Festival record we have just given a brief record, Bucks has proved itself an exemplary supporter of all the central Charities. In 1891, the first year of its existence as a separate Province, it subscribed in all £511 1s., of which the Girls' School, at whose Festival its then Prov. G. Master presided, obtained £300. In 1892, including £290 18s. towards the Benevolent Jubilee, it subscribed £705 15s.; in 1893 £479 16s.; in 1894, including £429 15s. to the Institution for Boys, £590; in 1895, £438 14s. 6d.; in 1896 £429 11s.; and in 1897 £489 17s. 6d., of which this Institution had the satisfaction of securing more than half. Last year, after raising £145 19s. for the Old People, and £33 12s. for Our Girls, it put forth all its strength, and subscribed no less than £1143 18s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary, thus placing the total for the year at £1323 9s. 6d.

Two of the seven lodges on the roll of

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

are entered in the Returns for Wednesday, one being the Isaac Newton University Lodge, No. 859, and the St. Audrey Lodge, No. 2727, Ely, which was only consecrated the other day; but which, notwithstanding, furnished a representative in the person of Bro. Henry Kempton, whose list reached the goodly total of £84. This is the total for the Province, as the 859 list has yet to be handed in. Last year the Province was represented at the Benevolent Festival by Bro. Briggs, Unattached, with a list of £10 10s.; while in May Bro. W. J. Fernie, who, together with Bro. W. J. Armitage, did duty for No. 859, returned £42. In June, 13 Stewards, including the Prov. G. Master, the Prov. G. Secretary, acting for the Province, the seven brethren, representatives of five out of the six lodges then on the roll, a Steward from Chapter, No. 859, and three Unattached brethren, compiled amongst them a total of £707 3s. 6d., making the product of the whole year £759 13s. 6d., the Bro. Armitage who took part in the proceedings on this occasion being the acting Steward for No. 859, and compiling a list of £131 5s. In 1897 it raised £323 10s. 3d., and in 1896 £364 5s., this Institution obtaining the chief support in the former year, and the Boys' School in the latter.

Last year

CHESHIRE,

which, with its roll of 52 lodges, is among our strongest Provinces, acquitted itself splendidly, the total of its contributions amounting to £2779 17s., of which all but the £10 10s. subscribed to this institution, and the £15 15s. to the Girls' School, was raised for the Boys' Centenary, the number of Stewards who took part in the compilation of this total being 118. This is the highest figure ever reached by this Province in any one year, and yet it has done great things from time to time of which its lodges and brethren have good reason to be proud. Thus, in 1891, it subscribed £1050 to the Boys' School, and the following year £1988 to the Jubilee of this Institution. In 1895, when its Prov. G. Master presided as Chairman at the Boys' School, it supported him with a contribution of £2000. In addition, it most generously maintains an Educational and Benevolent Institution of its own. On this occasion one of its lodges furnished two Stewards, and there were also two who acted independently, the total returned by three of the four being £31 10s.

One of the 30 lodges in

CORNWALL,

the Molesworth, No. 1954, Wadebridge, was represented by Bro. Sholto H. Hare, whose name, as the years roll on, is becoming tolerably familiar to our readers. His list amounted to £36 15s., and, in addition, £42 was subscribed by the Cotehele Lodge, No. 2166, Calstock, and £159 6s., raised by Bro. Lieut.-Col. G. J. Parkyn, Unattached, the total being £238 1s. Last year it raised the large sum of £854 19s. for the Boys' Centenary, in addition to £26 5s., per Bro. Sholto Hare, for the Old People, and £43 1s. for the Girls' School. Bro. Hare being one of the three brethren whose efforts produced this sum. Thus, the aggregate for last year reached £924 5s., which was substantially in excess of what Cornwall has ever previously accomplished, even in 1895, when the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Prov. G.M., presided at the Girls' Festival, and the total reached £789 18s., of which £750 was in respect of Our Girls' School. In 1892 his lordship presided at the Benevolent Jubilee, and the Province backed him to the extent of £776 15s.

We are glad to see that

DEVONSHIRE

is once again among the contributing Provinces. True only two of its 58 lodges are represented, and Bro. F. B. Westlake is the only Unattached Steward, the total of their lists being £131 15s., but with this, as with all the other Provinces, the heavy work of that year is not without its influence on the Returns on this occasion. In 1898 a contingent of 29 Stewards compiled the handsome total of £1875 2s. 10d., while in February it raised £21 for this Institution, and in May £65 2s. for the Girls' Institution, Bro. Westlake being a Steward at all three anniversaries, the year's total being £1961 4s. 10d. Its greatest successes previous to 1898 was in the year of the Girls' Centenary—1888—when the aggregate of its contributions reached £1013 5s., of which £47 5s. was in support of this Institution and £126 for the Girls' Centenary, the balance of £840 falling to the lot of the Boys' School, for which the then Prov. G.M., Bro. Viscount Ebrington, presided as Chairman. Again, at the Jubilee of this Institution, in 1892, Devonshire figured for a total of £807 18s. 6d. We shall welcome with pleasure the appearance of the Province in the Returns next month for the Girls' Festival.

Two of the 15 lodges in

DORSETSHIRE

furnished Stewards to the gathering on Wednesday, the Lodge of Amity, No. 137, Poole, being represented by a member of the Whadcoat family (Bro. W. H. Whadcoat), Bro. H. G. Kersley acted for the Lodge of Friendship and Sincerity, No. 472, Shaftesbury, while Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, J.P., and Lieut.-Col. W. Watts were Unattached, and the lists of the four together amounting to £157 10s., of which £105 was Bro. J. H. Whadcoat's contribution. Last year, thanks to the munificence of Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, who at the time was Mayor of Poole, the Province surpassed all its previous achievements. In February and May that brother figured for £10 10s. to the Benevolent Institution and £63 to the Girls' School, while at the Boys' Centenary in June the splendid sum of £2054 0s. 6d. was credited to the Province, of which £1211 8s., including the splendid gift of 1000 guineas announced at the Festival, was received from Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, there being nine other members of this family among the Dorset

representatives, namely, Bro. W. H. Whadcoat, together with Mrs. J. H. Whadcoat and the three Misses and four Masters Whadcoat, all Unattached, all the nine as well as the ex-Mayor himself being Patrons of the Institution. But besides this splendid return from Bro. Whadcoat, there was a list of £420 raised by Bro. Col. W. E. Brymer, M.P., P.G.D., D.P.G.M.; another of £110 5s. obtained by Bro. W. James, representing the St. Mary's Lodge, No. 707, Bridport; and still another of £105 compiled by Bro. C. H. Curtis, P.M., representing the Lodge of Honour and Friendship, No. 1266, Blandford. Its previous achievements prior to 1898 belong to the years 1892 and 1897, in the former of which it raised £521 6s., of which £500 6s. was in support of the Benevolent Jubilee, while in the latter it subscribed £137 11s. to the Benevolent Institution; £72 9s. to the Girls' School; and £375 to the Boys' School, making the aggregate for the year £585. Such Returns as these are in the highest degree creditable to a Province which even now has only 15 lodges on its roll. In addition, there is a Dorset Masonic Charity, which was founded in 1880, and which does an amount of good for the necessitous brethren of the Province and their widows.

As regards the Festivals of our Charitable Institutions and the Province of

ESSEX,

which can now boast of having as many as 41 lodges on its roll, its record is a brilliant one, which culminated in June last, when, with 38 lodges, it raised by the medium of 78 Stewards the splendid sum of £4122 12s. 6d., the amounts it had previously subscribed, namely, £149 13s. 6d. to this Institution, and 10 guineas to the Girls' School, making the total for the whole year £4282 16s., or not far short of £1700 in excess of what it had previously compiled during a single year. At the Girls' School Festival in 1884, when the present Prov. G. Master—then Lord Brooke—occupied the chair, Essex, with only 22 lodges, subscribed £1000, the total for the year being £1546 7s. 6d. In 1888, when it mustered 26 lodges, its contributions to the three Festivals, including £874 6s. to the Girls' Centenary, reached £1297 3s. 6d. In 1892, it raised £2318 2s. 6d. for the Benevolent Jubilee, and £2608 5s. during the year; while, in 1893, when Lord Brooke was Chairman of the Boys' School Festival, it raised £2155 6s. for that Institution, and during the year £2258 3s. However, after such successful efforts as it put forth in 1898, it is surprising it should have done so much, the total including £119 2s., per Bro. J. R. Johnson, of the Brooke Lodge, No. 2005, and £105, per Bro. J. Berry, Unattached, being £413 8s. 6d. as compiled by these two Stewards and others.

Three of the 17 lodges in

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

took part in this Festival, the Cotteswold having two brethren in charge of its interests, while Bro. R. V. Vassar-Smith, P.G.D., the Dep. G. Master of the Province, acted independently. The total from the five reached £166 8s. 6d., of which £63 was contained in the Deputy's list. Here, again, the record is a splendid one, and more especially last year when it subscribed £47 5s. to this Institution, £89 5s. to the Girls' School, and £2723 12s. to the Boys' Centenary, the number of lodges being less by one than it is now; and the year's aggregate £2860 2s. This is more than £1000 in excess of what it has done in any previous, its highest total for a single Festival having been in 1892, when its Prov. G. Master, Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., presided at the Boys' Festival, and the Province raised £1645 11s., while the year's aggregate was £1729 11s. At the Girls' Centenary, in 1888, it contributed £520 18s., and a few weeks later £21 to the Boys' School, which with the £59 5s. 6d. subscribed to this Institution constituted a total of £621 3s. 6d. for that year.

We now come to that Province of

HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT.

which, under the wise rule of its respected Prov. G.M., Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., has in all matters essential proved itself a very stronghold of Freemasonry. On Wednesday 10 of its 48 lodges, and the chapters attached to two of them, were represented by 10 Stewards—Bro. Commander Giles doing duty for Lodges Nos. 257 and 1903, and Capt. F. Powell for Nos. 903 and 2153, in addition to No. 2612, London, and No. 2404, Kent, while Bro. Cutler represented Lodge and Chapter No. 195, and Bro. John W. Gieve, J.P., Prov. G. Treasurer, was Unattached. The total from all sources amounted to £406 2s., the principal items being £116 16s. by Bro. Cutler, of Lodge and Chapter; No. 195; £112 7s. by Bro. Steele, of Peace and Harmony, No. 859; and £63 by Bro. J. W. Gieve, Prov. G. Treas. Last year, after raising £36 15s. for the Old People and £68 5s. for the Girls, it furnished a contingent of 56 Stewards to the Boys' Centenary, who together compiled the formidable total of £3238 13s. 6d. For the year of the Queen's Jubilee—1887—when the Prov. G.M. presided at the Festival of this Institution, the Province raised £1785 9s. 6d. for that Charity, the year's aggregate being £1882 19s. 6d. In 1888, when the Girls' School Centenary was celebrated, the total was £1355 1s. 6d., of which "Our Girls" obtained £1149 13s. 6d. In 1892, £1345 19s. 7d. was raised for the Benevolent Jubilee, and during the year £1650 17s.

HERTFORDSHIRE,

as we pointed out in our Notes of last week, has now 23 lodges on its roll, its youngest lodge having been consecrated as recently as Saturday, the 11th instant. Yet, with this moderate array of lodges, it has done great things under the auspices of its present chief—Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P. In 1888 it raised £145 15s. 6d. for this Institution; and £649 19s. for the Girls' Centenary; or, together, £795 14s. 6d.; there being at the time 16 lodges in the Province. In 1892, when the number had increased to 21, it raised in all £2135 6s. 6d., of which £1883 6s. 6d. was in support of the Benevolent Jubilee, while the following year, when one of its most distinguished members—Bro. C. E. Keyser—took the chair at the Festival of this Institution, the total was £2106 14s. of which £1455 18s. 6d. was in respect of this Institution. Last year it subscribed £343 2s. to this Institution; £168 15s. 6d. to the Girls' School; and £1614 5s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary, making the year's aggregate £2126 3s. On Wednesday, six of its 23 lodges, including the newly-consecrated Grove Park Lodge, No. 2727, and two of its eight chapters sent Stewards, and, in addition, there were three brethren Unattached, the total from the 11 representatives reaching £377 19 6d., of which Bro. C. E. Keyser's list of £115 10s., as Steward for Lodge No. 2518, which bears his name, was the principal figure. This is not such a very bad beginning for the current year in the case of so moderate a sized Province.

KENT

now has a muster roll of 64 lodges and a splendid organisation for Charitable purposes, while, to crown all, it has been for the last 38 years under the rule of one of the ablest and most popular members of our Order—Bro. Earl Amherst, who has recently been appointed Pro G. Master in succession to the late lamented Bro. the Earl of Lathom. But though these advantages have conducted materially to the splendid reputation which the Province has gained as a supporter of our Institutions, we must not entirely overlook the generosity of our Kentish brethren, who have themselves responded so handsomely whenever a call upon them for support has been made. Thus, in 1888, the total subscribed during the year, including £3059 9s. 6d. to the Girls' Centenary, was £3688 11s. In 1891, when the Prov. G. Master presided as Chairman at the Festival of this Institution, the total was £4018 6s., of which £3483 14s. 6d. was subscribed for the Old People. In 1892, including £1868 15s. 6d. to the Benevolent Jubilee, the product of the year was £2969 6s. 6d., but in 1868 the total reached £5671 16s., of which

no less than £5542 3s. 6d. was in behalf of the Boys' Centenary. On this occasion 13 of its lodges and one chapter were represented by 11 Stewards, together with two Unattached, whose lists amounted together to £698 5s., the principal items being £200 by Bro. W. Busbridge, of the Pattison Lodge, No. 913; and £102 7s. 6d. by Bro. L. Hill, of the Union Lodge, No. 127.

Even the strong Province of

#### LANCASHIRE (E.D.),

with its array of 113 lodges, feels that, after the grand efforts it put forth last year in behalf of the Boys' Centenary, an interval of rest is desirable, especially as it has Educational and Benevolent Institutions of its own with a first claim upon its support. This no doubt explains why the number of Stewards hailing from it on Wednesday was only nine, of whom six belonged to the Anchor and Hope Lodge, No. 37, Bolton, and two to the St. Thomas Lodge, No. 992, Broughton, while Bro. C. D. Cheetham was Unattached. The total raised by these brethren amounted to £199 12s., of which £126 was raised by Bro. Cheetham. Last year the Province raised in all £6081 6s. 6d., composed of £215 5s. to this Institution, £93 14s. to the Girls' School, and in June £5772 7s. 6d., this being the second highest total subscribed by any Province, while the number of Stewards who assisted in raising it was 180. In 1888 it raised £2873 11s. 6d. for this Institution and £1350 16s. 6d. for the Girls' Centenary, the year's aggregate, with £126 5s. to the Boys' School, amounting to £4350 13s. In 1892 it subscribed £2667 5s. to the Jubilee Festival of this Institution. In 1895 it raised upwards of £4000 in support of its Educational and Benevolent Institutions, while, even as far back as 1869, it subscribed £3885 to the Boys' School to help pay off the mortgage on the land and buildings at Wood Green. We hope the Girls' School will be well supported in May.

#### LANCASHIRE (W.D.),

which has 121 lodges on its roll, and is thus the strongest of our Provinces, has a Festival record of which it has every reason to be proud. It may not always appear in as favourable a light as other of our big Provinces, but an explanation of this is forthcoming in the fact that for many years past it has maintained three, and since 1897, four Charitable Institutions of its own; and as these have amongst them invested capital amounting to some £50,000, more or less, it would be manifestly unjust to expect the same measure of support for our Central Institutions, when it behaves so generously towards its own local Charities. Its greatest achievement was in 1891, when the late Earl of Lathom presided at the Boys' School at Brighton, and West Lancashire rallied to his lordship's support to such good purpose that its total reached £6126 14s. 4d. At the Girls' Centenary in 1888 it raised £2440 2s. for that Institution; at the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892 it subscribed £1197 8s. 6d., but the total for the year reached £1697 15s. In 1894, when Lord Skelmersdale—now Earl of Lathom—presided for his father as Chairman at the Girls' Festival, the Province gave a round sum of £2500, the year's aggregate being £2768 2s. 6d. Last year, after minor donations to this and the Girls' Institutions amounting together to £73 10s., it compiled, by the medium of 129 Stewards, a total of £4451 13s. for the Boys' Centenary; and it is just possible that had the late Earl of Lathom, the Prov. G. Master, who was President of the Board of Stewards, been able to take a more active part in the work of preparation, the amount would have been still more imposing. On Wednesday there were only seven Stewards hailing from this Province, of whom two were Unattached, while the other five did duty as representatives of four lodges, the sum of their lists being £152 5s. However, we doubt not that when the Province has become more reconciled to the grievous loss it has lately suffered through the death of its late beloved chief, and has had time to settle down under his son, the present Earl of Lathom, who is at present Grand Master Designate of the Province, our Lancashire brethren will be as active under the second Earl of Lathom as they were under the auspices of the first.

As we have again and again pointed out,

#### LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND,

with its modest contingent of 14 lodges, is one of those Provinces which makes it their practice to support each Institution in its turn, concentrating the whole of their year's contributions on the Festival of that one Charity. Occasionally it happens that support is forthcoming at other times, but the rule is, as we have stated, and on Wednesday the Province, with Bro. C. Bennion as its representative, subscribed the handsome sum of £424 14s. 6d. There are two years in which we have known the total to be higher; but then in 1898 the Province put forth a special effort in behalf of the Boys' Centenary, to which it subscribed £546 10s. In 1897 the Girls' School received £320 5s.; in 1896, the Boys' School, £231; and in 1895, the Old People, £300 6s. In 1894, the Girls' School had its turn, and was supported to the extent of £330 10s.; in 1893, the Boys' School to that of £267; and in 1892, the Benevolent Institution received at its Jubilee £388 10s.; while in 1888—which still remains the record year—the Province subscribed £648 10s., the chief list being that of Bro. S. S. Partridge, P.A.G.D.C., then, as now, the D.P.G.M., while among the other seven Stewards will be found Bro. Earl Ferrers, Prov. G.M.; Bro. W. Kelly, Past P.G.M.; and Bro. George Toller, Past Dep. P.G.M.

The Province of

#### LINCOLNSHIRE,

as a whole, was represented by Bro. Major R. F. Moresby-White, and in addition there were four out of the 24 lodges which sent representatives of their own, the total of the lists reaching £302 19s., and the principal item being £166 9s. by Bro. Major Moresby-White for the whole Province. During the last few years, and even further back still, this Province has done good service for our Institutions, while for its own deceased and indigent brethren and their children it has established Scholarship and other Funds, which do good work locally. In 1888, it subscribed £202 2s. 6d. to the Girls' Centenary. In 1891, it gave £418 11s. 2d. to the Boys' School, and the following year figured prominently among the contributing Provinces to the Jubilee of this Institution by compiling the sum of £660 5s. In 1896, when Bro. the Earl of Yarborough, who had not long been installed P.G.M. in succession to Bro. Major Smyth, resigned, took the chair for the Girls' School, his lordship was most loyally supported by the lodges and brethren under his charge, the total of their lists being returned in one sum of £1500. Last year the Province gave its whole attention to the Boys' Centenary, for which it raised £1383 18s., one of the most successful of the Stewards who compiled this total being Bro. Major R. F. Moresby-White, who represented the Province on Wednesday.

The Metropolitan Province of

#### MIDDLESEX

is always well to the fore, impartially distributing its favours among all three Institutions and on particular occasions more than maintaining the reputation for generosity to which it has for so long been justly entitled. On Wednesday, only six of its 42 lodges were represented, Bro. W. H. Reed, who likewise did duty for a Berkshire lodge, being the representative of lodges Nos. 382 and 2163. The total from all sources was £309 11s. 6d., the most notable lists being those of Bro. Walter Haddon, of the Raymond Thrupp Lodge, No. 2024, Hampton Court, for £94 10s., and Bro. C. E. Wetton, of the Electric Lodge, No. 2087, Hampton Court, for £76 13s. Last year, after subscribing £273 17s. to this Institution, and £507 13s. 6d. to the Girls' School, it gave its mind to the Boys' Centenary, and by the medium of 78 Stewards raised £2895 16s. for that important anniversary, the total of 1898 being £3587 6s. 6d. In 1897, it raised

£1105 18s., each Institution obtaining a fair share of the proceeds. But 1896 appears to have been its record year, the aggregate of its contributions being £3967 15s. 6d., of which no less than £3705 15s. 6d. was subscribed to this Institution, in support of the Chairmanship of Bro. Lord George Hamilton, Prov. G. Master. It was also well represented at the Girls' Centenary in 1888, and the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892, its returns to the former being £1107 14s., and to the latter £1315 9s. In 1890 also, when the late Bro. Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., its then Prov. G. Master, took the chair at the Girls' School, it contributed £1000. Thus, both generally and on special occasions Middlesex, has invariably acquitted itself well.

It is very greatly to the credit of

#### MONMOUTHSHIRE,

which has a muster-roll of only 11 lodges, that after its splendid performance last year at the Boys' Centenary, when, including the Homfray Memorial, it raised no less than £1088 8s. for that event, it should have come forward on this occasion and compiled the capital amount of £450. The number of Stewards who had a hand in this work was 12, of whom Bro. Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. Lyne, Deputy Prov. G.M., was Unattached, Bro. F. Phillips the representative for the whole Province, and the other 10 Stewards for as many lodges; the principal lists being those of Bro. A. E. Jones, Silurian Lodge, No. 471, for £65, and Bro. A. Swash, Isca, No. 683, for £70. We have already stated what it did for the Boys' Centenary. In 1897, when Lord Llangattock took the chair at the Girls' Festival, it raised £346 10s. for that Institution, while, in 1888, when the late Sir G. Elliot, Bart., presided at the Old People's Festival, it helped him to the extent of £438 3s. as it helped Sir G. Elliot's successor in office on this occasion.

#### NORFOLK,

with its roll of eight lodges, has done its part exceedingly well, especially when we remember that for the most part it is an agricultural county, and on Wednesday Bro. S. F. Stackard, the Provincial Steward, handed in a list of £105. This is all the more creditable as last year it raised £818 8s.—or more than it had ever previously subscribed to a single Festival—to the Boys' Centenary. In 1888 it gave £214 4s. to the Girls' School at its Centenary Festival. In 1892, at the Jubilee of this Institution, it contributed £515 10s., while in 1886, when Bro. Lord Sullfield, then Prov. G. Master, presided at the Boys' School Festival, the Province backed his lordship to the extent of £420.

Under the auspices of the Earl of Euston his Province of

#### NORTHANTS AND HUNTS,

notwithstanding it comprises only 16 lodges, has acquitted itself well, and on Wednesday and on this occasion four Stewards together raised £222 1s. 6d., the principal lists being that of Bro. George E. Caster, as Steward for lodges Nos. 442 and 2538, for £136 10s., the balance being the lists of Bros. John Haviland, J.G.D., D.P.G.M.; Harry Mansfield, and George Ellard, who were all Unattached. In 1889, when Lord Euston was in the chair at the Festival of this Institution, the Province loyally supported him by raising £914 10s. 6d., and that after subscribing £204 15s. to the Girls' Centenary. At the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892 it raised £255 8s. In 1893, when the Prov. G. Master presided as Chairman at the Girls' Festival, the Province subscribed a round sum of £1050, while last year its contingent of 28 Stewards compiled a total of £1621 7s., the £110 5s. raised for this Institution, and £52 10s. for the Girls' School, placing the year's aggregate at £1784 2s.

One of the 30 lodges in

#### NORTHUMBERLAND

—the Carville Lodge, No. 2497, Wallsend-on-Tyne—sent up a Steward in the person of Bro. S. Hunter, whose list amounted to £30. The Province is not a regular attendant, but when it does enter an appearance it acquires itself successfully. At the Girls' Centenary in 1888, and the Jubilee of this Institution, four years later, it did not show to great advantage, but in 1891 it raised £1364 4s., including £1050 for a Perpetual Presentation to the Boys' School, while in 1895, Bro. R. Holmes, Dep. P.G.M., handed in a list of £2315 5s. to the Girls' Centenary, a further £186 18s. raised for the Boys' Institution placing the total for the year at £2502 3s. Last year it raised £1290 9s. for the Boys' Centenary, the list of Sir M. White-Ridley, Bart., M.P., amounting to £1124 11s.

#### NORTH WALES,

with its 20 lodges, had two Unattached Stewards in the veteran Bro. C. U. Benson and Bro. Coxhead, whose lists comprised their personal donations of £10 10s. each. We should gladly have welcomed a return of larger amount, but we must bear in mind that at the Boys' Centenary in June, 1898, the Province, with a contingent of 25 Stewards, returned the splendid sum of £1089 10s., and that, too, after subscribing £294 to this Institution, and 10 guineas to "Our Girls," the year's aggregate being £1394. This is far and away its record total, the sum raised by the Province in 1888 for the Girls' Centenary being £674 17s. 6d., and for the whole year £792 9s. 6d. In 1892 it subscribed £222 14s. for the Benevolent Jubilee, £36 15s. for the Girls' School, and £234 3s. for the Girls' School, or in all £493 12s.

#### OXFORDSHIRE,

though a small Province of 12 lodges only, and, if we except the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, Oxford, having none that are numerically very strong, invariably comes out well. Last year, for instance, when its Prov. G. Master, Bro. the Earl of Jersey, was in the chair at the Festival of this Institution, it raised £503 12s. 6d. In the following May it gave £73 14s. to the Girls' School, and in June it was returned with £338 7s. to its credit, the aggregate for the year being £917 13s. 6d. Yet on Wednesday seven of its lodges compiled a total of £130 10s. In 1888 it subscribed £563 12s. to the Girls' Centenary, the total for the year being £656 9s. 6d.; and in 1892 it raised in all £629 14s. 6d., of which £428 7s. was in respect of the Benevolent Jubilee. These are brave Returns, and what enhances their value is that the contributions are regularly made, the Festival, which it did not assist having been held at some remote period in the history of our Masonic Institutions.

We are not surprised that

#### SHROPSHIRE

should have furnished only two Unattached Stewards—its Prov. G. Master (Bro. Sir O. Wakeman, Bart.) and Bro. W. Lascelles Southwell, whose lists together amounted to £36 15s. Last year, after subscribing £89 15s. to this Institution, and £36 15s. to the Girls' School, it raised, what for a Province with only 12 lodges on its roll, was the splendid sum of £1199 1s. 6d., the year's aggregate standing at £1325 11s. 6d. In 1887, when Bro. Sir Oflay Wakeman, P.G.M. signalled his appointment to office by presiding at the Girls' School Festival, the Province raised £1022. In 1888, it distributed among the three Charities £807 10s., of which £770 15s. was given to "Our Girls" at the Centenary Festival. In 1892, including £456 15s. to the Benevolent Jubilee, the total product was £615 16s. 6d. The record is a good one for a Province of such modest dimensions.

We did not anticipate that

#### SOMERSETSHIRE,

though it musters some 36 lodges, would put forth much of its strength. Last year, for instance, it subscribed £1187 19s. to the Boys' Centenary and £31 10s. to this Institution, or, together, £1219 9s., while in May next Bro. Viscount Dun-

garvan, P.G.M., has kindly consented to preside as Chairman at the Festival of the Girls' School. Yet the Province has a fine record, of which its members may justly be proud. In the year of the Girls' Centenary it raised in all £1293 6s., of which £946 1s. was in support of "Our Girls." In 1892, the total, including £613 10s. to the R.M.B.I., reached £841 15s., while in 1895, when Bro. Lord Dungarvan presided for the Old People, the total for the year reached £1745 3s. 7d., of which £1657 17s. 6d. was in support of his lordship's Chairmanship. May it be our privilege in May next to report an equal, or even a greater, success, in honour of his lordship's second Chairmanship!

The Chairman's Province of

SOUTH WALES (E.D.)

next claims our attention, and considering the strain upon its resources during the last two years, we cannot speak in terms too complimentary of its performance on Wednesday. The number of its lodges is 23, but in accordance with the custom it has invariably adopted, the number of its Stewards is small, Bro. J. H. Taylor being the Steward in charge of the whole Province, and in addition there were six other brethren, of whom Comp. A. L. Roberts represented St. John's Chapter, No. 36, Cardiff, while there were four brethren doing duty for Indefatigable Lodge, No. 237, Swansea, and Bro. Beer acted for the Llangattock Lodge, No. 2547, and the Marmaduke Tennant Chapter, No. 1992, both located at Cardiff. The total, including the Chairman's personal donation of £105, reached £631, Bro. Taylor's list as the Provincial Steward amounting to £465. Last year the Province figured for the goodly sum of £605 6s. 6d. among the supporters of the Boys' Centenary, the number of those who acted as Stewards being eight. In 1897 Lord Llangattock, Prov. G.M., occupied the chair at the Festival of the Girls' Institution, and the total subscribed by the Province, including the Chairman's donation of £100, reached £1050, the principal list being that of Bro. G. Clarry for £604 6s., and the number of representatives 12, including his lordship and two ladies Unattached. In 1891 the Province subscribed £180 to the Benevolent Jubilee and £321 15s. 6d. to the Boys' School, or together £501 15s. 6d., while in 1888, when Lord Llangattock's predecessor, the late Bro. Sir George Elliot, Bart., took the chair for this Institution, the Province raised £865, Sir George's donation of £26 5s. to the Girls' Centenary placing the year's aggregate at £891 5s. This, as we have said, is a goodly record.

Its neighbour,

SOUTH WALES (W.D.),

though mustering only 10 lodges, is entered for £105, being the amount of Bro. J. D. Perrott's list as Provincial Steward. At the Boys' Centenary its four representatives compiled a sum of £161 7s., the chief item being £150 17s., for which Bro. the Rev. D. Bowen, D.P.G.M., was responsible. In 1888 it raised £108 10s. for this Institution in compliment to Sir George Elliot, P.G.M. of South Wales (E.D.), as Chairman at the Festival, and £105 for the Girls' Centenary, and in 1892 £32 11s. to the Benevolent Jubilee and £161 1s. 6d. to the Boys' School, or in all £193 12s. 6d.

STAFFORDSHIRE

with its 32 lodges, makes a goodly show, thanks in great measure to the list of Bro. the Earl of Dartmouth, the Prov. G. Master, for £283 10s. In addition to his lordship there were seven other Stewards, of whom Bro. Lord Burton, S.G.W., with a donation of £26 5s., and another were Unattached, while the remaining five represented three of the lodges, Nos. 482, 624, and 2194, the total from all sources being £357. This, as we have said, is a capital return, when we bear in mind that last year the Province raised in all £4023 18s., of which £3845 8s., obtained by the efforts of 204 Stewards, was in support of the Boys' Centenary. In 1888, Staffordshire raised £355 7s. for the Girls' Centenary, and £262 10s. for the Boys' School, or together £617 17s. In 1891, it subscribed £761 18s. 6d., of which £452 was raised for the Boys' Festival at Brighton, under the late Bro. Earl of Lathom, Prov. G.M. West Lancashire, and in 1892, £762, of which £392 10s. was given to this Institution at its Jubilee Festival. If it supports the Girls' School in May next as liberally as it has this Institution, the current year will not be the least satisfactory in the more recent career of the Province.

SUFFOLK

is mainly an agricultural county, but, though it has only 22 lodges on its roll, it seldom allows a Festival to pass without contributing a something, and that something is, oftener than not, a good round sum. On Wednesday the representatives of two of its lodges together raised £65 2s., but in June last its 33 Stewards compiled the handsome total of £1510 17s. 6d., the £31 10s. and £21 subscribed to this and the Girls' Institution respectively making the year's aggregate £1563 7s. 6d. In 1888 it raised in all £1105 12s., this Institution receiving £451 10s., the Girls' School at its Centenary £517 12s., and the Boys' School £136 10s.; while in 1889 its total was £1048 17s. 6d., of which £577 19s. 6d. was on behalf of the Girls' School in support of the Chairmanship of Bro. Lord Henniker, Prov. G.M. In 1892 the total was higher still, and reached £1449 4s., of which £1291 15s. was subscribed to the Benevolent Jubilee.

We now pass South to the Province of

SURREY,

which, with a muster roll of 43 lodges, may always be relied upon for a strong subscription list, particularly when there are special grounds which induce it to put forth its strength. This we attribute in part to its proximity to the Metropolis, but chiefly to its goodwill towards the Institutions, and the salutary influence of a succession of able and popular Prov. G. Masters, of whom Bro. the Earl of Onslow, the present occupant of that position, is not the least popular. In 1886 it raised in all £1829, of which £1345 15s. was subscribed to the Girls' School, whose Festival was held under the presidency of the late Bro. General Brownrigg, P.G.M. in 1883; it raised £1147 18s. for the Girls' Centenary, and during the year £1298 14s. In 1892 it contributed £2148 0s. 6d. to the Jubilee of this Institution; while the year's aggregate was £2817 19s. 6d. In 1894 the product of the whole year was £1673 4s. 6d., of which £1399 2s. was in honour of the Chairmanship of the late Bro. Col. G. Noel Money at the Festival of the Old People; while last year it compiled in all £3968 2s., of which the sum of £3499 16s. was raised by the efforts of 85 Stewards for the Boys' Centenary.

The adjoining Province of

SUSSEX

has likewise acquitted itself admirably, both generally and particularly. In 1885 it subscribed £1850 in support of the presidency at the Girls' School Festival of the late Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart., P.G.M., the total for the year being £1923 10s. In 1888 it raised £946 13s., inclusive of £884 0s. for the Girls' Centenary. In 1892 its aggregate reached £2214 2s., of which £1155 6s. was in respect of the Benevolent Jubilee and £1026 5s. to the Girls' School in support of the Duke of Connaught's Chairmanship. In 1897 his Royal Highness presided at the Festival of this Institution, and the Province subscribed £1263 2s. 6d., and during the year £1497 5s. 6d. Last year it raised £63 for the Girls' School, and for the Boys' Centenary, by the medium of 125 Stewards, the excellent total of £2869 15s., the year's total being £2932 15s. On Wednesday 11 of its 32 lodges took part in the celebration, the number of Stewards, including the Unattached brethren, being 13, and the sum total of their lists £416 5s.

Pass we now to the great Midland Province of

WARWICKSHIRE,

three of whose 31 lodges took part in Wednesday's Festival for the Old People and together raised £84, the Athol Lodge, No. 74, Birmingham, which has impartially supported all our Central Institutions for several years past, furnishing five of the seven Stewards and three-fourths of the Provincial total. The Province has done some splendid work under the auspices of its Prov. G. Master, Lord Leigh. As far back as 1876, when his lordship presided at the Boys' School Festival, it raised £2900 for that Institution. In 1888, when the P.G.M. was Honorary Treasurer of the Board of Stewards for the Girls' Centenary, Warwickshire, with a contingent of 93 Stewards, contributed towards that memorable event £1440 6s. 6d. In 1892 a contingent of 82 Stewards compiled £2186, which before the year had run its course was increased by its contributions to the Schools to £2410 4s. Last year its subscriptions were £31 10s. to this Institution, £42 to the Girls' School, and £5079 14s. 6d., by the medium of 237 Stewards, to the Boys' Centenary, for which Lord Leigh again acted as Hon. Treasurer of the whole Board. After such returns it is not surprising that the total on Wednesday should have been small.

There are but 14 lodges in

WORCESTERSHIRE,

but two of these were represented on this occasion by four brethren, and together subscribed £95 11s. In June last it furnished a band of 40 Stewards, who raised £1136 2s. for "Our Boys," which with its contributions to this and the Girls' Institutions augmented the year's total to £1231 13s. In 1888 the Province, with 13 Stewards, subscribed £695 18s., the year's aggregate reaching £848 3s. In 1892 the year produced only £489 5s., of which £243 12s. was in respect of the Benevolent Jubilee, £144 17s. to the Girls' School, and £100 16s. to "Our Boys." In 1896 the year's total was £653 2s., and in 1897, £753 18s., of which £504 was subscribed to the Old People.

YORKSHIRE (N. and E. RIDINGS)

raised £78 15s. for the Girls' Institution in 1898 and £563 13s. 6d. for the Boys' Centenary, the two returns together amounting to £642 8s. 6d. But it has exceeded this in other years, notably in 1888, when, including the £762 15s. subscribed to the Girls' Centenary, the year yielded £832 1s. Again, in 1892, its Returns, including £717 9s. to the Jubilee of this Institution, amounted to £733 4s., while in 1896 it was highest of all, and reached £1022 19s., of which £900 fell to the lot of this Institution. On Wednesday, one lodge gave £65.

As for

YORKSHIRE (WEST RIDING),

there is little need to say anything, as the splendid work it does is known everywhere throughout the Craft in England. Be it enough for us to point out that last year it headed the Provinces at the Boys' Centenary with a total of £6136 3s. 6d., obtained by the efforts of 388 Stewards, the subscription to this Institution reaching £350 and to the Girls' School £1470, making a grand total of £7956 3s. for the year. In 1894, when the Prov. G. Master, Bro. the Right Hon. W. L. Jackson, M.P., presided at the Boys' School Festival, the year produced £6697 5s., of which this Institution received £1837 10s., the Girls' School £300, and the Boys' School £4559 15s. On Wednesday there were 26 Stewards, of whom 24 represented 15 of the 81 lodges and chapters, while a brother and a lady were Unattached, the total contributed being £500.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Four brethren figure as Stewards in this group, the sum of their lists, so far as they have been received, being £73 10s., of which 50 guineas was the personal donation of his Excellency Ragheb Bey Idris, the G.M. of Egypt. Doubtless the Institution would have welcomed a greater number of Stewards from our lodges in foreign parts.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

We have now completed our task, and it only remains for us to express, as usual, the hope that in analysing the Returns, we have said nothing to which exception may reasonably be taken.

MASONIC BALL AT BEDLINGTON.

On Monday evening, the 13th instant, the annual ball of the St. Cuthbert's Lodge, No. 1902, Bedlington, was held in the Co-operative Hall, Bedlington Station. The room was tastefully decorated by Bro. Dickinson. The dance was led off by the W.M., Bro. T. W. Barker, and Mrs. Barker, and among those present were Bro. G. R. Turner, I.P.M., and Miss Turner; Bro. S. Hare, S.W.; Bro. E. W. Carr, J.W., and Miss Carr; Bro. R. Johnson, J.D., and Miss Johnson; Bro. R. G. Metcalfe, I.G.; Bro. Isaac Barker and Miss Barker; Bro. J. Dixon and Miss Dixon; Bro. H. G. Goldsmith and Miss Goldsmith; Bro. T. Fogg; and Miss Foggio; Bro. Croudace, and many others.

A large number of foliage and evergreen plants were lent by Bro. A. E. Burdon, J.P., High Sheriff of Northumberland, of Hartford Hall, which gave the room a splendid appearance. A most enjoyable evening was spent by all, the affair being a most pronounced success. About 50 couples were present.

FIFTH ANNUAL SUPPER OF THE CITADEL LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1897.

Bro. F. Dunstan, P.M. and Sec. 1329, P.A.G.D.C. Midx, Preceptor, presided at the above at the Holborn Restaurant on Friday evening, the 17th inst., when he was supported by upwards of 60 brethren and their lady friends.

The musical arrangements were in the hands of Bros. Fred W. Bishop and W. A. Horstead, piano.

The following contributed during the evening: Mrs. Alfred and Emily Van Noorden (pianoforte duet), Misses Violet Millin, Gertrude Dunstan, Alexandra Stewart, Frances Pink (violin solo), Bros. A. W. Wade, J. H. Bishop, Harry Hill (humorous), W. E. Jeanes, J. Bartlett, Thomas Feistel (recitation), and others. A box of confectionery as a souvenir of the occasion was presented to each lady during the evening.

The toasts were in the hands of the Chairman and Bros. Geo. Clark, C. J. Davison, G. Larner, W. B. Ladler, and A. E. Horstead, and the following responded: Bros. J. Bartlett, A. Wade, and Harry Willms, Hon. Sec., for "The Lodge of Instruction."

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**Masonic Notes.**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1899

The Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge will be held at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 1st prox. The meeting will be opened at 2 p.m., when the minutes of the Grand Lodge on 7th December last, so far as they relate to the election of Grand Treasurer will be read and put for confirmation. The candidates for that office will be formally proposed and the ballot proceeded with. At 7 p.m. the minutes of the last Grand Lodge will be read for confirmation, and the brethren will at once deal with the business entered in the paper of Agenda.

We are looking forward to a very keen contest for the Grand Treasurership for the ensuing year. The candidates are both of them good men, and have each of them a large body of supporters. Bro. Alfred Bevan,

P.M. of the Eton Lodge, No. 2458, Eton, Buckinghamshire, is held to be the London candidate, as he is a member of the Friends-in-Council Lodge, No. 1383, while Bro. Harry Manfield, P.M. Eleanor Cross Lodge, No. 1764, Northampton, hails from the Province of Northants and Hunts and is looked upon as the Provincial candidate. As for ourselves, it is our duty to observe absolute neutrality in these contests, and hence we remain silent as to the claims put forward in behalf of the candidates.

The Report of the Board of General Purposes is chiefly concerned with what has been recently done in regard to the intended enlargement of Freemasons' Hall, with a view to provide additional accommodation for the Secretarial Staff, for the Library and Museum, and for the Charitable Institutions. As the particulars are published elsewhere in this issue, there is no need for us to do more than refer those who may be curious as to what has been, and what is proposed to be done, to the particulars in question.

We gather from the Agenda that his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to grant warrants for the constitution of 12 new lodges since the Quarterly Communication in December last. Of these no less than nine—Nos. 2736 to 2744, both inclusive—will be located in the Metropolitan district, one (No. 2745) in the Province of Cumberland and Westmoreland, one (No. 2747) in Cornwall; and one (No. 2746) in the District of Western Australia.

The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons for England and Wales, &c., will be held at the Mark Masons' Hall, on Tuesday, the 28th instant. The Agenda includes the election of Grand Master and of Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year, and as Bro. A. Bevan was the only brother nominated for the latter office, our Mark brethren will be spared the bustle and excitement by which contests for this post are ordinarily attended.

The Report of the General Board, which will be presented for adoption, is, as usual, very satisfactory. Warrants for three new Mark Lodges have been granted by his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master since the Communication in December last, two of them being located in the District of Queensland, and No. 523 at Widnes, in the Province of Lancashire. There have also been issued 161 Mark certificates, raising the total number of Mark Master Masons who have been registered to 39,192. Warrants for four Royal Ark Mariner Lodges have also been granted during the same period, of which the Menatschin, to be attached to Lodge No. 224 of the same name, will be in London, and the Noel, to be attached to Lodge No. 505, in the Province of Surrey; while Lodges Nos. 521 and 522 will be attached to the new lodges in Queensland, for which warrants have just been granted. The Royal Ark Mariner certificates issued were 55, making the total registered 5798.

Among the appointments which H.R.H. the Grand Mark Master has been pleased to make are those of Bro. Col. Sir E. S. Hill, K.C.B., M.P., as Prov. G.M.M. of South Wales, the office having been vacant for some time; the Earl of Lathom to be Prov. G.M.M. of Lancashire, in place of his lamented father; and Bro. Chas. Hammerton to be Dist. G.M.M. of Gibraltar. Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., Prov. G.M.M. of Hertfordshire, and Bro. W. A. F. Powell, Prov. G.M.M. of Bristol, have had their offices continued for a further term of three years. There is also a letter reported to have been received from the Earl of Lathom in acknowledgment of the resolution of condolence on the death of his father, which was adopted at the December Communication.

The next meeting of Lodge Quatuor Coronati, No. 2076, will be held at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 3rd prox., when in the course of the proceedings Bro. the Rev. J. W. Horsley will read a paper on "Intimations of Immortality." The brethren will afterwards dine together, as usual, at the Holborn Restaurant. Among the papers which are announced to be read at future meetings are one by the W. Master, Bro. C. Purdon Clarke, on the "Building Societies in Persia," and another by Bro. R. F. Gould on "The Degrees of Pure and Ancient Freemasonry." The other announcements relate to papers on "Freemasonry in Canada," by Bro. J. Ross Robertson, Past G.M. Canada; "The

Arms of the Freemasons," by Bro. W. H. Rylands; "17th Century descriptions of the Temple," by Bro. Professor S. P. Johnston; and "Relics of the Grand Lodge of York," by Bro. T. B. Whythead.

There was a fairly strong muster of the Dist. G. Lodge Officers, Present and Past, as well as of the representatives of the Private Lodges and visitors, at the Quarterly Communication of the Dist. G. Lodge of Queensland, which was held in Freemasons' Hall, Brisbane, on the 7th December last, under the presidency of Bro. the Hon. A. C. Gregory, C.M.G., M.L.C., District G. Master. The Dist. G. Treasurer's statement of account for the preceding quarter showed balances in hand amounting to £73 19s. 5d. on the General Account, and of £332 7s. 9d. on that of the Fund of Benevolence.

The District Grand Secretary having announced that the Grand Lodge of New Zealand had been recognised by the Grand Lodge of England, and having read in full the terms and conditions on which recognition had been granted to and accepted by the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, and the discussion which took place in our Grand Lodge on the occasion, the Deputy District Grand Master, Bro. B. L. Barnett, drew the attention of the brethren to a resolution of our Board of General Purposes, to the effect that "in the event of the election of the Worshipful Master elect being confirmed, it would be competent for him on his installation to appoint his officers, notwithstanding the appointment of officers by his predecessor."

In the Report of the Dist. Board of General Purposes reference was made to the visit paid, in accordance with previous arrangements and with the sanction of the Dist. G. Lodge, by the Deputy Dist. G. Master and the Dist. G. Treasurer to the Northern lodges in the jurisdiction of the Dist. G. Lodge, and the report furnished by those brethren is appended to the Board's Report. From this we gather that the Deputation were delighted with the reception accorded to them by the lodges they visited; and though there were many matters which they felt constrained to call attention to, they were able to report favourably on the whole of "the uniformly good working, high principle, and firm adherence to all our institutions displayed" by all of them, more especially as the said lodges "are far removed from each other and without the means of frequent intercourse with any Masonic centre." Under these circumstances, the Deputation, in closing their remarks congratulated the District Grand Master "on being able to view this group of lodges as being so prosperous at present and promising for the future."

A long discussion then ensued on certain new By-laws proposed by Bro. Alex. Corrie, Past D.S.G.W., to be adopted by the District Grand Lodge, more particularly that which required the business to be dealt with at a Communication of the District Grand Lodge, to be communicated 14 days previously to the District Board of General Purposes. In the course of the discussion, it was pointed out that the Book of Constitutions, Articles 49 and 51, delegated this duty to a General Committee, which was in existence, and, therefore, that it could not be handed over to any other body; and in the result, the proposed new By-law was rejected by a majority of three to one. The other proposals were either withdrawn or adopted in an amended form, but an amended By-law relating to the election of members of the District Board of General Purposes was ruled by the District G.M. to be *ultra vires*, on which Bro. Corrie gave notice of appeal to Grand Lodge against the ruling.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of copies of (1) the "Origin and Antiquity of Freemasonry," by Bro. Albert Churchward, M.D., P.M., P.Z., &c., &c., published by Sir Joseph Causton and Sons, Limited, 9, Eastcheap; and (2) Volume I. of the "Medaillenwerk" published under the auspices of the "Hamburgische Zirkel-Correspondenz." Both works are handsomely got up, and the latter especially will be cordially welcomed on account of the number and excellence of the illustrations of medals with which it is embellished and which are restricted entirely to Germany, as well as for the very full descriptions which accompany the illustrations. Bro. G. W. Speth has written an Introduction, and we hope to be able to give a critical notice of the contents at an early date, as well as of Dr. Churchward's work.

## Correspondence.

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

### RE THE ELECTION OF GRAND TREASURER.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

As a subscriber to the *Freemason* for some years, I wish to draw attention to the great importance to Provincial Masons of the forthcoming election of Grand Treasurer.

We, in the Province of North and Hunts are running Bro. Harry Manfield, and Bro. Bevan is nominated by the London contingent. I believe it has been the practice to elect a London, then a provincial brother alternately, and on this principle I understand there can be no question that this year a provincial representative should be elected.

Bro. Manfield is essentially a Provincial Mason, and I am given to understand that Bro. Bevan, though a truly good Mason, is practically a London Mason, and has had provincial rank conferred upon him.

Bro. Manfield is, however, an older Mason if he is a younger man, and his services will compare very favourably with those of Bro. Bevan. I do not wish unfavourably to press the personal claims of Bro. Manfield, but to impress upon all Masons the importance of carrying out the principle of giving the provinces a fair chance of being represented in Grand Lodge, and I therefore urge every Mason who desires to preserve this very reasonable practice to give Bro. H. Manfield his vote and support on the 1st March. I may add that Bro. Bevan has been nominated Grand Treasurer in Grand Mark Lodge, and I have no doubt he will be duly elected in due course; therefore on this occasion I hope he and his friends will see their way clear to vote for and support Bro. Manfield for this year; and I can assure Bro. Bevan, should he another year aspire to the office already referred to, we of Norths and Hunts will rally round him.—Yours fraternally,

HARRY HODGES,  
P.M. 1764, P.M. 245, P.Z. 360,  
P.C.N., P.S.R., &c., &c.

Masonic Club, Northampton,  
February 21st.

### A MOST DESERVING CASE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The Council of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys having been pleased to accept a petition on behalf of Henry Robert Lambert Dacres Baynes, aged eight years, I venture through your valuable columns to appeal to my brethren in England to support the candidate.

The boy is one of a family of five, whose ages range from 15 to 5 years, and of whom four are wholly dependent on their widowed mother, whose total income is £45 per annum.

At this time, when the depressed state of these once prosperous islands is engaging the earnest attention of our kinsmen in general in the mother country, I feel that I can with confidence appeal to the members of our Order for their assistance and support in this truly Masonic object.—Yours fraternally,

R. H. KORTRIGHT DYETT,  
I.P.M. St. John's Lodge, No. 492,  
P.M. Avondale Lodge, No. 460 (Mark),  
M.W.S. Antigua Chapter, No. 84.

St. John's, Antigua, West Indies,  
February 1st.

### TYLER'S RECORD SERVICE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Referring to a letter under the heading of "A Query" in your issue of February 4th, I beg to say that Bro. T. Moss was last night invested as Tyler of this lodge—the Cherwell Lodge, No. 599, Banbury—for the 47th time, his first appointment having been made on February 20th, 1853.—Yours fraternally,

W. E. WOOD, Sec. 599.

Masonic Hall, Banbury,  
February 18th.

## UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following is the business to be transacted on Wednesday next, the 1st prox.:

1. The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 7th December, 1898, so far as they relate to the election of Grand Treasurer, will be read and put for confirmation, after which the candidates for the office of Grand Treasurer will be formally proposed, and the ballot proceeded with. Bro. Alfred Bevan, P.M. 2458, and Bro. Harry Manfield, P.M. 1764, the only nominations.
2. The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 7th December, 1898, will be read for confirmation.
3. Election of M.W. Grand Master.
4. Report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which there are recommendations for the following grants, viz.:
 

The widow of a brother of the St. John's Lodge, No. 90, London ...	£50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Lodge of Sincerity, No. 943, Norwich ...	50 0 0
A brother of the Mornington Lodge, No. 1672, London ...	100 0 0
A brother of the Carnarvon Lodge, No. 1572, London ...	75 0 0
A brother of the Merchants Lodge, No. 241, Liverpool ...	50 0 0
A brother of the Perfect Ashlar Lodge, No. 1178, London ...	50 0 0

### 5. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of England:

The Board begs to report that the tenancies of the two houses, the property of Grand Lodge, numbered 57 and 58 Great Queen-street, on the West side of Freemasons' Hall, having expired at Christmas last, instructions were given to

the Grand Superintendent of Works to prepare plans and specifications for a building connected with Freemasons' Hall, to be erected on the site; such building to comprise on the ground floor, a Library and Museum, a Committee Room and a room for the Assistant Grand Secretary, whose present office it is proposed should form a portion of the approach of the new building; on the first floor, additional accommodation for the Grand Officers; on the second floor, additional rooms available for Lodge or other purposes; and in the basement, lavatories, dressing rooms, and rooms for the storage of papers. The plans prepared by the Grand Superintendent of Works having, after full consideration, been approved, and the necessary bills of quantities prepared by an independent Surveyor, the Board authorised tenders for the execution of the work being obtained from six eminent firms of builders, selected for the purpose. Tenders having been received from all these firms, it appeared that that of Messrs. Cubitt and Co., of Grays Inn-road, was the lowest, and the Board has authorised a provisional contract to be entered into with Messrs. Cubitt and Co., for the execution of the work, including the demolition of the existing buildings, and the shoring up of the adjacent ones, for the sum of £12,077.

The Board is perfectly satisfied as to the necessity of the proposed work, and are of opinion that the plans which have been prepared in every way provide for the necessary requirements; and it asks Grand Lodge to confirm the contract which has been provisionally entered into with Messrs. Cubitt.

The Board has further to report that it has entered into a provisional contract, subject to the approval of Grand Lodge, for the purchase, for the sum of £8150, and the further payment of £134 5s. on account of the vendors' solicitors' and surveyors' fees, of the freehold premises numbered 55 and 56, Great Queen-street, and No. 3 New Yard. These premises are at present let as under:

No. 55, Great Queen-street on a lease to Mr. Woolff, expiring 1906, at a rental of £130 per annum.

No. 56, Great Queen-street, let on a lease to Mr. Hocking, expiring 1914, at a rental of £130 per annum.

A stable in the rear let to Mr. Dickson, on a lease expiring 1907, at a ground rent of £10 per annum.

The Board ventures to think that Grand Lodge will recognise the expediency of acquiring this additional property, some part of which adjoins on two sides the structure of Freemasons' Hall, the acquisition of which would enable provision to be made for the better accommodation of the Charities.

The stables Nos. 9, 10, and 11, New-yard, are now in the possession of Grand Lodge, the tenant thereof having given up possession. The Board has agreed to put these premises in a tenable state of repair, and has arranged that they be let from quarter to quarter, so that if they be required for future extensions of our buildings, Grand Lodge may be able, without loss of time, to deal with such portions of its premises.

The Board has to report that the following presentations have been made to the Library and Museum since the last meeting of Grand Lodge, all of which have been accepted with thanks:

TITLE OR OBJECT.	BY WHOM PRESENTED.
Laws and Constitutions of Grand Lodge of Ireland, 1898 ...	The Grand Lodge of Ireland.
Constitution, By-laws, &c., Grand Lodge New Jersey, 1898 ...	The Grand Lodge of New Jersey.
Masonic Code, &c., Grand Lodge of Utah, 1897 ...	The Grand Lodge of Utah.
Laws of Masonry, Grand Lodge of Kansas, 1898 ...	The Grand Lodge of Kansas.
Old Past Grand Stewards' Jewel and Rosette ...	Henry Kemp, P.M. No. 862.
Masonic Journal, Vol. I., bound ...	J. Armstrong, P.P.G.W., &c.
Duke of Sussex Medal ...	W. H. Toye, P.M. No. 1278.
Apron and Collar of the Late Earl of Zetland ...	Victor A. Williamson, P.G.W.
Engraved Portrait of the Duke of Kent ...	Wm. Jas. Hughan, P.G.D.
" " Martin Folkes, Past D.G.M.	
" " John Aubrey, F.R.S.	
Warrant of Lodge Moral Reformation, No. 609 ...	Harold Burke, P.M. No. 2190.
Northumbrian Masonry, 1898 ...	John Strachan, O.C., Grand Registrar (The Author).
Masonic Halfpenny Token, 1794 ...	James J. Pope, P.M. No. 1305.
Origin and Antiquity of Freemasonry ...	Dr. Albert Churchward, P.M., &c.
Photograph of the Late Earl of Lathom (framed) ...	George Kenning, Prov. G.D., &c.
Oration at the Dedication of the Masonic Temple, Torquay ...	Wm. Jas. Hughan, P.G.D.
(Signed)	RICHARD LOVELAND LOVELAND, President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,  
18th February, 1899.

The Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 17th instant, showed a balance in the Bank of England (Law Courts Branch) of £9296 2s. 11d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash £100, and for servants' wages, £100.

6. Report of Bro. John Smith, Auditor of the Grand Lodge Accounts, of Receipts and Disbursements during the year 1898.

### 7. APPEAL.

By Bro. J. R. GIBBONS, of Lodge Star of the South, No. 1025, Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic—

Against the decision of the District Grand Master upholding his exclusion from the Lodge for alleged un-Masonic conduct.

List of lodges for which warrants have been granted by the M.W.G.M. since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge:

- No. 2736, The Nil Sine Labore Lodge, London.
- 2737, The Captain Coram Lodge, London.
- 2738, The Army and Navy Lodge, London.
- 2739, The Lodge of Verity, London.
- 2740, The Comrades Lodge, London.
- 2741, The Cathedral Lodge, London.
- 2742, The Eyre Lodge, London.
- 2743, The Maida Vale Lodge, London.
- 2744, The Sydenham Lodge, London.
- 2745, The Ambleside Lodge, Ambleside, Westmorland.
- 2746, The Tombo Lodge, Tombo, Queensland, Australia.
- 2747, The St. Michael Lodge, Newquay, Cornwall.

BRO. THE LORD MAYOR re-appeared in the Presidential chair at Guildhall on Thursday last for the first time after his severe illness, but could not remain throughout the sitting.

LORD JUSTICE ROMER, the newly-appointed Lord Justice of Appeal, and Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy, the new Judge of the Chancery Division, will be sworn in before the Lord Chancellor, in his private room at the House of Lords, on Monday morning next. The latter Judge is expected to take his seat in Court on Tuesday.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS.

The following is the business to be transacted on Tuesday, the 28th inst. :

1. Read and, if approved, confirm minutes of Quarterly Communication of 6th December, 1898.
2. Election of the M.W. Grand Master for the ensuing year.
3. Election of the Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.
4. Report of the General Board.
5. A motion will be made that the report be taken as read.
6. A motion will be made that the report be received and entered on the minutes.
7. A motion will be proposed that the report be adopted.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE ENFIELD LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1237.

The annual festival of the above lodge was held at the Rose and Crown, Church-street, Edmonton, on the 8th instant, under the presidency of Bro. Dr. C. H. Penny, W.M. 1237. Among those present were Bros. J. A. Taverner, P.M. 1237; A. Bryant, P.M. 1237; A. G. Fidler, P.M. 1237; H. Woodley, P.M. 1237; W. Marshall, P.M. 1237; A. Monk, P.M. 1237; W. Humphrey, P.M. 1237; J. Everdell, P.M. 1579; Dr. W. B. Benjafield, P.M. 1579; E. H. Bassett, P.M. 1579; Reynolds, W.M. 754; J. M. Dexter, S.W. 1237; H. E. Brown, S.D. 1237; and many others.

The usual loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the PRESIDENT proposed "Prosperity to the Enfield Lodge of Instruction." He thought too much importance could not be attached to lodges of instruction, for they were the soul of Freemasonry, and he could say for himself that he was much indebted to them for whatever Masonic knowledge he possessed. As Master of the Enfield Lodge he was happy in having officers who were all well up in their work, and showed by the manner in which it was performed that they were no strangers to a lodge of instruction. Occasionally in the unavoidable absence of one of the officers he had been compelled to ask one of the brethren who had not yet attained office to do the duty of the absent one, and it had on every occasion been gone through creditably. This showed the great advantage of attending a lodge of instruction, and as what was worth doing at all was worth doing well, he strongly urged those present to attend as frequently as possible, and endeavour to obtain that proficiency in the ritual and work of Freemasonry, which was so desirable in every brother, whether he aspired to office in his lodge or not. With this toast he would join "The Founders of the Lodge."

The FOUNDERS (of whom there were five present) having each tendered their thanks for the hearty manner in which the toast had been received, expressed their gratification at the satisfactory condition of the lodge, and trusted it would continue to flourish, and grow year by year in efficiency and numbers.

In giving the toast of "The Officers," the PRESIDENT said they were all greatly indebted to their Preceptor, Bro. Woodley, P.M., for the time and attention he bestowed on the lodge, as well as for the very able and efficient manner in which he carried out his duties. He was to be found in his place every meeting, ready and willing to impart instruction to whoever sought it. Their Treasurer, Bro. Fidler, P.M., had occupied his office for something like 17 years, and his merits as a good Mason and his attachment to the lodge, of which he was a founder, were too well known to require any eulogy from him. The Secretary, Bro. Marshall, P.M., had also held his post for some years, and carried out the duties to the satisfaction of all. He trusted they would each be long spared to give their services to the lodge.

Bro. WOODLEY thanked the brethren for the hearty reception the toast had met with. Their W.M. had spoken in high terms of the time and attention bestowed on the Preceptorship; but he could assure them that with him it was a labour of love, and nothing gave him greater pleasure than doing all in his power to further the interests of Freemasonry. If the brethren gained from him some knowledge of what was required of a Freemason, he considered himself amply repaid for any trouble he might take. Nothing threw so much discredit on a lodge as slovenly working, and he would follow their W.M. in impressing on them the desirability and necessity of obtaining a thorough knowledge of the ritual and working, so that if appointed to office they might carry out their duties with credit to themselves and their lodge.

Bro. FIDLER, P.M., Treas., in returning thanks, said the duties of his office were not very onerous, but such as they were he believed he had carried them out to the satisfaction of the brethren. Indeed, they had shown their confidence in him by electing him to that office year after year for so long a period. The W.M. had spoken of his attachment to the lodge, and he could only say it had always been his aim to do all in his power to further its prosperity. He did not attend its meetings so often as he wished, other duties sometimes prevented him, but he was always present whenever he had the opportunity. Bro. Fidler then gave an interesting *resumé* of the progress of the lodge from its first inception to the present time, and was pleased to see Bro. Bryant, P.M., one of the principal founders, present with them that evening.

Bro. MARSHALL, P.M., Sec., also returned thanks, and was gratified in seeing that his efforts to serve the lodge had met with such hearty approval. He would continue to do his best to that end in the future as he had done in the past, and brethren might rest assured the lodge would never retrograde if it was in his power to prevent it.

Bro. REYNOLDS, W.M. 754, Vice-President, then, in eulogistic terms, proposed "The Health of the President," which was drunk with musical honours.

The PRESIDENT returned thanks in a few well-chosen words and expressed his gratification at being with them that evening and seeing such a goodly array of brethren around him. It also gave him great pleasure to see the friendly feeling that existed between his own and the neighbouring lodges, more especially the High Cross Lodge with which he had always been intimately connected, and he trusted it would long continue. In conclusion, he proposed "The Health of the Vice-President," which was drunk with acclamation.

The VICE-PRESIDENT, in responding, said that was the first time he had been among them, but it would certainly not be his fault if it were the last. He was quite at one with the President with respect to the fraternal feeling existing with the neighbouring lodges and hoped, with him, that it would be continuous. He thanked the brethren for the kind and hearty welcome they had given him.

In giving "The Health of their Hostess," the PRESIDENT remarked on the excellent dinner provided for them that evening, which they all appeared to have thoroughly enjoyed, and was sure they appreciated the attentions she had paid to the comfort of the lodge during the whole period of its existence.

The intervals between the toasts were enlivened by some excellent songs from Bros. Taverner, Kirby, Caiger, and others.

SECOND ANNUAL BALL OF THE NOEL MONEY LODGE, No. 2521.

The second annual ball in connection with the above young, but very successful lodge, took place at Oatlands Park Hotel, Weybridge, on Thursday, the 9th instant, and proved a brilliant success.

The decorations in the spacious ball-rooms were elaborate and in excellent taste, the prevailing colour of the draperies being chocolate and Cambridge blue, while from the ceilings were hung a number of Chinese lanterns and mottoes. By a special dispensation from the Provincial Grand Lodge the brethren were allowed to wear full Masonic clothing, and the scene when the dancing was in progress was pleasing and effective.

The greatest credit is due to Bro. H. Budd, J.W., for his indefatigable efforts to secure the grand success achieved. The esteemed Secretary of the Ball Committee (Bro. E. A. Brown) was too unwell to take an active part in the necessary preliminaries, and Bro. Budd came to his assistance, with the result that a company of nearly 150 assembled in the ball-room.

Dancing was commenced at 9 o'clock, and was kept up with much spirit until 3.30 on Friday morning, a popular programme of music being supplied by the Royal Hunt Band under the direction of Mr. Thomas Hemmings. The arrangements were in every respect excellent, and much credit was due to the hotel management, who did much to contribute towards the success of the evening.

Among the company present were the W.M., Bro. F. Thomas, and Mrs. Thomas; Bro. Wm. Stephens and Mrs. Cornish; Bro. Wm. Stephens, jun., and Miss Cornish; Bro. Hy. Budd and Miss C. Budd; Bro. Arthur Grace and Mrs. Grace; Bro. Joseph Gammon and Mrs. Gammon; Bro. A. H. Gale; Bro. W. H. Crawshaw and Mrs. Crawshaw; Bro. W. Rowland Edwards and Mrs. Edwards; Bro. Joseph Woods, Mrs. Woods, and Miss F. Woods, all members of the lodge; Bro. W. J. Bradbury, Mrs. and Miss Bradbury; Bro. Fletcher and the Misses Fletcher; Bro. Humfrey and Miss Humfrey; Bro. W. A. Chalmers and Mrs. Chalmers; Bro. F. A. Simpson; Bro. John and Mrs. Rolfe; Bro. C. Waters and Mrs. W. Waters; Mr. W. Budd and Miss E. Budd; Mr. Lewis; Mr. Lane; Mr. and Miss Blyth; Mrs. and Miss Brice; Mrs. Hawkins and Miss Parsons; Mr. F. Harland; Mr. Farrant; Mr. Thynne; Mr. and Mrs. W. Bungard; Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Peall; Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Dix; Mrs. and Mrs. D. W. Madeley, Mr. H. J. Madeley and Miss Madeley; Mr. J. Tollon and Miss A. Madeley; Mr. F. Slade; Mr. L. Dundas and the Misses Keats; Mr. J. Kidman and Miss Keat; Mr. F. Albany and Miss Caswell; Mr. Haydon; Mr. Harry Welch; Mr. C. Brodie and the Misses Brodie; Mr. Wickenden; Miss Smith; Messrs. Goslins, Englefield, J. F. Kemp; Mrs. H. Turner; Mr. C. Price; Miss Ladbroke; Mr. A. Child; Miss Child and Miss Balchin; M. E. Brooks and Miss Howard; Messrs. H. Knight and W. Preece; Miss Crewdson and Miss Tranter; Mr. and Mrs. E. Power; Mr. and Mrs. G. Power; Messrs. T. H. Power, W. Power, and F. Power; Mr. and Mrs. Lewis; Messrs. Parsons and Champion; Misses Mackenzie, Ethel Power, Constance Power, and Kate Power; Mr. J. C. Adams; Miss E. Collins; Messrs. Stanley Fisher, W. Tolworthy, F. Warner, and A. Warner; Miss Higginson; Mr. and Mrs. Owen; Mr. and Miss Foote; Mr. and Mrs. Oldfield; Mr. Bath; the Misses Rowland; Messrs. J. W. Taylor, W. B. Simpson, and C. Gard.

The following brethren of the lodge acted as Stewards: Bros. T. Dix, P.M.; F. Harper, P.M.; E. T. Madeley, P.M.; W. Stephens, P.M.; F. Thomas, W.M.; H. Budd, J.W.; A. Grace, J.D.; A. H. Gale, S.W.; W. Stephens, jun.; and the Hon. Sec., Bro. E. A. Brown, I.P.M.

The admirable manner in which the duties of M.Cs. were discharged by Bros. F. Thomas, W.M., and H. Budd, J.W., did much to enhance the pleasures of the company present.

CONSECRATION OF THE ARMY AND NAVY LODGE, No. 2738.

The absence of a Service lodge—open to all members of the Army and Navy—has long been felt, especially by those who have exchanged their uniform for civilian garb. The desire of a few brethren to fill this void has, however, been graciously acceded to, the M.W.G.M. giving his sanction at the end of 1898 for the formation of a lodge under the comprehensive title of the Army and Navy.

The consecration took place at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 14th inst., when the founders and their guests—the majority being in uniform—had the great pleasure of witnessing Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., perform this interesting ceremony in his usual admirable and impressive manner. He was ably assisted by Bros. Capt. N. G. Phillips, P.G.D., as S.W.; Col. J. Davis, P.A.G.D.C., A.G.D.C., as J.W.; Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G.C., as Chap.; J. H. Matthews, Pres. B. of B., as D.C.; and Dr. W. A. Greene, P.M. 2346, as I.G.

Lodge was opened in the Three Degrees, and the Consecrating Officer addressed the brethren, calling attention to the sacredness and beauty of the ceremony carried out at the foundation of every new lodge. He also alluded to the unique character of the one being instituted, and anticipated every measure of usefulness and prosperity for the lodge in the future, and felt sure that every brother present wished it success.

The founders then signified their approval of the officers named in the warrant, and the Chaplain delivered a telling oration, taking for his subject "Duty," which, he said, was the keynote of every conscientious Mason, but more especially those who were in the service of her Most Gracious Majesty.

The new lodge was then solemnly consecrated in proper form, the magnificent vessels of the Grand Lodge being used for the rite.

Bro. M. A. McInerny, P.D.G. Pursuivant Gibraltar, was installed as the first Master, and invested the following officers: Bros. E. G. Farley, S.W.; J. M. Rogan, J.W.; C. S. Burdon, Treas.; J. Hazard, Sec.; J. Duffy, S.D.; W. E. Bailey, J.D.; J. N. Durrant, I.G.; S. Wright, D.C.; G. W. Bush, Org.; A. Truckle, Stwd.; and T. E. Weeks, Tyler.

The honorary membership of the lodge was conferred upon the Consecrating Officers, a compliment gracefully acknowledged by the G. Secretary. After a Bye-Law Committee had been elected, and a number of propositions for initiation and joining received, the lodge was closed.

A well-served banquet followed, the musical arrangements at this being well sustained by Bros. Nicholls, Cheesewright, Phillips, Roberts, Burdon, Wright, and Grist; Bro. J. Halle, Org. 2426, acting as accompanist in the same excellent manner as he did throughout the ceremony.

The toasts were few, and the speeches commendably brief, though pithy,

"The Queen and the Craft" and "The M.V.G.M." receiving true Masonic attention.

Then followed that of "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," for which Bro. Rev. J. S. BROWNIGG, P.G.C., responded, recalling with pride the fact of his ancestors being distinguished military men.

The W.M. next proposed "The Consecrating Officers," the GRAND SECRETARY replying. He thanked the brethren for the manner in which the G. Officers had been received, and congratulated the lodge upon its prospects and its first W.M. Bro. McNerny was a very worthy Mason, and had been a member of lodges in all parts of the world, receiving honours in the Dist. G. Lodge of Gibraltar. He (the G. Secretary) had had the pleasure of previously meeting him upon a similar occasion at the consecration of the Warrant Officers Lodge, and before sitting down would take the opportunity of asking them to drink "The Health of the W.M.," a toast that was most cordially honoured.

Bro. M. A. McINERNY, W.M., said that whilst thanking the Grand Secretary for his kindly remarks, he felt that he scarcely deserved all the nice things that Bro. Letchworth had said about him. The very natural pride he experienced at being their first W.M. was greatly increased when he viewed the splendid band of officers he had, who he knew would aid him in his endeavours to make the Army and Navy Lodge renowned in Masonic circles.

### AN INITIATION IN KING SOLOMON'S QUARRIES.

The s.y. Argonaut sailed for cruise No. 30 from Marseilles on January 11th, when it was soon found that many Masons had taken advantage of the arrangements notified to the different Masonic lodges by Bro. Dr. H. S. Lunn. An early opportunity was sought for an informal gathering of the brethren, which took place in the saloon, when W. Bro. Berridge, P.G.D. England, was voted to the chair, and W. Bro. T. Woods, P.M. 448, Halifax, and the first W.M. of Doric Lodge, Harrogate, undertook the duties of Secretary.

V.W. Bro. Canon BULLOCK, P.G. Chap. England, stated that he had been in communication with the lodges at Jerusalem and Cairo, requesting, if possible, for a lodge meeting to be called, to enable the brethren to visit the same, and see their working.

As a result of this timely forethought, on arriving at Jerusalem, we ascertained that a lodge meeting had been called, and a ballot taken for Mr. Connop F. S. Perowne, who was unanimously elected, and a special lodge of emergency

The W.M. then gave "The Visitors," to which brief and congratulatory responses were made by Bros. J. GRAPES, W.M. 1331, I.P.M. 2736 (who had acted as I.P.M. during lodge); J. D. LIDBURY, W.M. 2346; C. H. PERRYMAN, W.M. 2398; Surgeon-Captain R. J. MAITLAND-COFFIN, W.M. 2581; F. WILLIAMS, W.M. 2484; G. H. LISTER, P.M. 2444, P.P.G.S.B. Surrey; Dr. W. A. GREENE, P.M. 2346; J. BLACK, P.M. 706; B. GRIST, W.M. 2697; and H. SADLER, G. Tyler.

For "The Officers," proposed by the W.M., Bros. E. G. FARLEY, S.W. and C. S. BURDON, Treas., suitably replied.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Besides the brethren who responded for "The Visitors," there were present amongst others Bros. A. Best and J. M. Cunningham, 1604; A. W. Letts, 2509; E. Hartley and W. Peck, 1278; Jno. Fitch, 2599; A. Grist, 2523; E. C. Hartford, 2444; Jno. Drew, 1676; E. C. Collins, 903; and H. Johnson.

Some well-drawn sketches of the consecration ceremony, by Bro. H. Johnson, appeared in the *Daily Graphic* of the 16th instant, with a brief account of the proceedings.

The requisites for the above lodge were supplied by Bros. George Kenning and Son, London.

tapers in their hands, and the remembrance of the associations connected with the place—created an impression not likely to pass away from the memory of those present. The ceremony of initiation was then impressively performed by the W.M., and each of the officers being able to speak our mother tongue, in which the ceremony was conducted, it was pleasing to find that the working was practically the Emulation working of England.

After the lodge had been closed, the brethren departed with a deep sense of gratitude that it had been possible, in their Masonic career, to attend a lodge meeting in so historic a place.

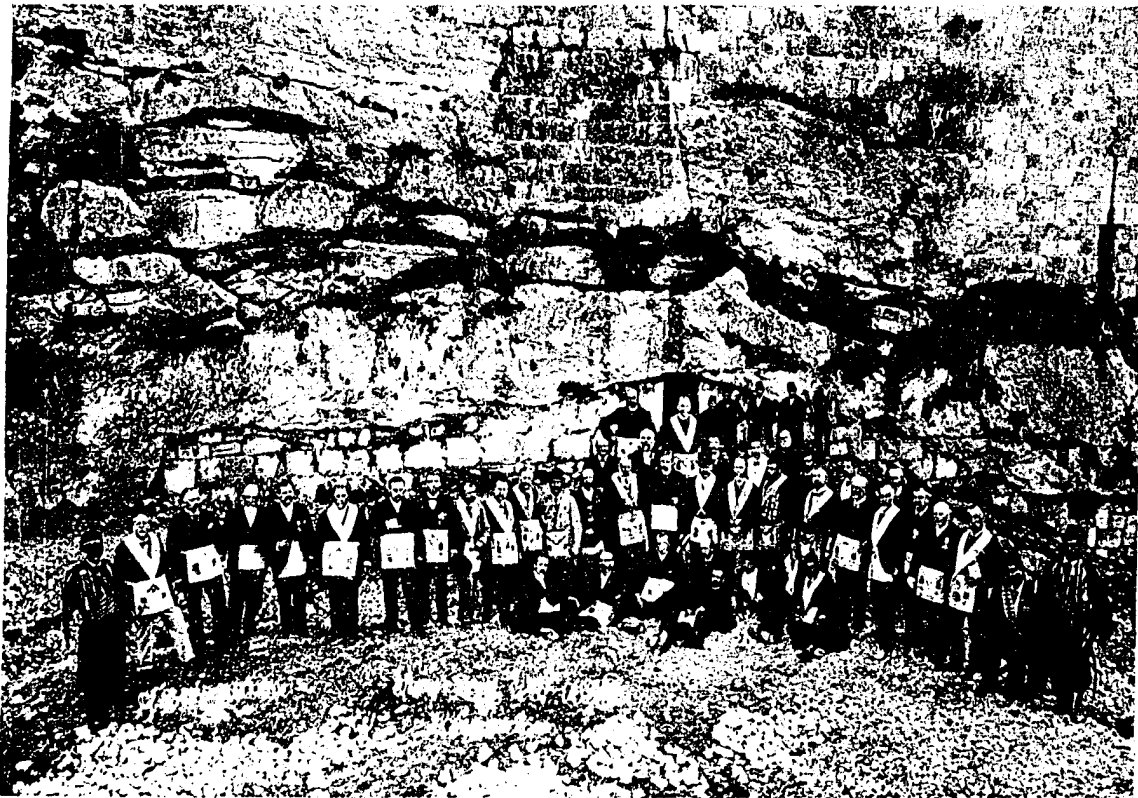
In the evening, the brethren and officers of the lodge dined together at Howard's Hotel, when V.W. Bro. Canon Bullock took the chair.

After dinner, the toast of "The Queen" was enthusiastically honoured.

W. Bro. WOODS, P.M., Worshipful Master of Doric Lodge, West Yorkshire, proposed "The Prince of Wales and the Grand Officers of England," to which Bro. BERRIDGE responded.

V. W. Bro. BULLOCK proposed "The Grand Lodge of Canada and the Royal Solomon Mother Lodge, Jerusalem," coupled with the name of the Worshipful Master. In doing so he said he had visited Canada, and was in a position to state that the working of the Grand Lodge there was excellent.

The W.M., in replying, returned thanks, and said that it cheered them to see



had been called in King Solomon's Quarries to initiate him on January 25th, at three o'clock in the afternoon, to which all the brethren on the cruise were very cordially invited.

Special arrangements were made in order to secure the necessary secrecy, and full possession of the Quarries for the brethren. The S.W., who is Chancellor to the British Consul, had specially arranged for two gendarmes to be in attendance to keep guard outside the entrance to the Quarries.

Special arrangements were made at the hotel to obtain the signature of every brother intending to be present, with the name and number of his lodge; and on arrival at the Quarries, each visiting brother was specially proved by the Senior Warden of the Royal Mother Lodge, and Bro. P. M. Craig, of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

This having been done, lighted tapers were handed to the brethren, who were then conducted about a quarter of a mile to a spacious and convenient spot, where ample room was found for conducting the ceremony. The lodge was opened in the First Degree by the W.M., Bro. Palmer, the other officers present being Bros. C. M. Tadross, S.W.; Chas. Hoemschein, J.W.; Dand Jamal, S.D.; A. Abrahamson, J.D.; D. Domian, I.G.; Dr. K. Saadeh, Sec.; Joshua Lyons, P.M.; and Allen, Tyler.

After the candidate had been properly prepared, he was duly admitted for initiation, and the sight on his entrance into the particular part of the Quarry where the lodge was being held—all the brethren standing round with lighted

brethren from across the seas; it encouraged them to go on and keep alight the sacred flame of Masonry, and they would continue faithfully to do so.

The S.W. also added his sincere thanks.

W. Bro. CHAS. CURTIS, P.P.G.S.B. Gloucestershire, proposed "The Grand Lodge of Scotland," and in doing so said that in Masonry there was no jealousy or rivalry, our only desire being to advance its great interests. He believed that in the autumn of life Masonry was one of the greatest helps, and he had only ventured upon the present cruise because he knew that he should meet many brethren with whom he could associate.

Bro. CRAIG, of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, replied, and stated that during his 30 years of Masonry he had seen many Grand Masters of Scotland, but none better than the present one.

V. W. Bro. Canon BULLOCK then proposed "The Health of the newly-initiated candidate, Bro. Perowne." He said he had been 40 years a Mason, but had never during all that time been present at so unique a meeting. He had found Bro. Perowne to be "one of the best" outside Masonry, and he had no doubt that he would prove himself a worthy brother.

In replying, Bro. PEROWNE stated that this day would stand out in his life more than any other. He appreciated the honour done him in initiating him in King Solomon's Quarries, and offered his heartiest thanks to all the visitors for supporting him.

After "The Health of the Chairman" had been honoured, the brethren dispersed, being unanimously of opinion that the day had been a most interesting and successful one.

The brethren subsequently attended a lodge meeting at Cairo, and there can be no doubt that it added much to the pleasure of the cruise to find that they were thus able to associate with members of the Craft in other parts of the world, from which lasting Masonic friendships are likely to result.

The following brethren attended: W. Bro. R. Berridge, P.G.D. Eng.; V.W. Bro. Canon Bullock, P.G. Chap. Eng.; W. Bros. Charles Curtis, P.M. 702, P.P.G.S.B. Glouc.; E. W. Rabbeck, P.M., P.P.S.G.W. Hants and Isle of Wight; W. T. Dupree, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Hants and Isle of Wight; J. T. Thackara, P.M., P.P.D.G.D.C. Hants and Isle of Wight; Thos. Woods, P.M., W.M. 765 and 933; Walter Davey, P.M., S.W. 1001 and 933; J. B. Robinson, P.M. 295 and 1013; the Rev. A. H. Elty, P.W.G. Chap. Bombay; and James Craig, P.M. (S.C.); Bros. E. C. Boardman, S.W. 2701; Capt. Roach, S.W. 57; and Alfred Jermyn, P.M. 177; W. Bros. D. Hargreaves, P.M. 286, and R. W. Williams, P.M. 198; Bros. Ashton Burgess, J.W. 1120; Max Muller, 1937; A. Barton Kent, I.G. 1693; J. Slingsby, 344; E. J. Swales, 242; R. N. Smith, 265; C. Wood, 265; J. M. Collett, 839; Alfred Slater, 839; Weston Aplin, 1413; Walter Hookins, 865; Percy Callingham, 1599; Jesse Ellis, 593; Robert Clay, 766; W. W. Whitehead, 1223; Westerham, 1223 and 1414; W. H. Wetherspoon, 47 (S.C.); Thos. Wm. Rose, 781; Chas. J. Adamson, 1804; Greenvale (engineer s.y. Argonaut); Wm. Witmarsh, P.P.G.C. Oxfordshire; Col. Blink, Star in the East, Calcutta; and E. Wingate, 2511.

**OLD MASONIANS' ATHLETIC CLUBS.**

**FIRST ANNUAL SUPPER.**

The first annual supper of the above clubs took place on the 11th instant in St. Dunstan's Room, Anderton's Hotel; Bro. R. S. Chandler presided and was supported by a good gathering of Old Boys and their friends. Bro. Chandler at the outset expressed regret that Bro. Sholto Hare was unable to preside through ill health.

After the usual loyal toasts, the CHAIRMAN proposed in complimentary terms "The Health of V.W. Bro. E. Letchworth, President of the O.M.C.C., and W. Bro. Sholto H. Hare, President of O.M.F.C.," the toast being acknowledged with musical honours.

Bro. R. S. CHANDLER then remarked that a most pleasing duty had fallen to his lot to perform, and, on behalf of the members of the clubs, presented Mr. C. W. Barber, the retiring Secretary of the cricket club, with a handsome travelling bag as a recognition of their appreciation of his past services, and whilst regretting his retirement, trusted that he would long continue to remain amongst them.

This was followed with musical honours and three rousing cheers.

Mr. BARBER, in acknowledging the gift, said he had been engaged in his work of Secretary to the Old Boys' Club since its foundation in 1855, it had always been a great pleasure to act (as Secretary), and he hoped his endeavours had given every satisfaction. He felt sure that the newly-appointed Secretary, Mr. Lumsden, would carry on the club's work with much interest.

The toast of the evening was then given, "The Old Masonians' Athletic Clubs," and the CHAIRMAN stated that the clubs had prospered since their foundation, and there was no reason why they should not continue to do so, and rank amongst the best Old Associates clubs.

Other toasts followed, including "The Vice-Presidents" and other officers.

The musical portion of the programme was much enjoyed, the following contributing: Messrs. Patrick O'Doherty, H. Wilson (Capt. O.M.F.C.), M. B. Lumsden, J. E. Walters, H. J. Lillywhite, W. A. Clark, H. Lewis, W. Kemp, Phil. Payne, C. W. Barber, R. S. Chandler, and R. McLeod, the last-named gentleman being responsible for the evening's arrangements, which he carried out in a very creditable manner.

**RECENT WILLS.**

**BRO. SIR JOHN GOLDIE-TAUBMAN.**

The will bears date the 14th January, 1893, of Bro. Sir John Senhouse Goldie-Taubman, late R.W. Prov. G. Master of the Isle of Man, of The Nunnery, Douglas, Isle of Man, J.P., Speaker of the House of Keys from 1867, who died on the 9th November last, aged 60 years, and the executor is his son, Mr. John Leigh Goldie-Taubman, by whom the testator's personal estate has been valued at £49,083 18s. 1d., and the gross value of the whole of his estate has been estimated at £70,969 15s. The testator bequeathed to his said son all his personal estate, with the exception of his Royal Niger Company securities, which latter, together with his residuary estate, he left in trust as to two-twentieths for the testator's wife, Dame Amelia Goldie-Taubman, who is otherwise well provided for under her marriage settlement; and as to one-twentieth each for his six children, Ellen Margaret, Charles Francis, Amy Alice, Ernest Harcourt, Gerald, and Evelyn; and as to the remaining twelve-twentieths for his said son, John Leigh Goldie-Taubman, during his lifetime, with remainder to his said son, Charles Francis.

**Craft Masonry.**

**Blagdon Lodge, No. 659.**

On Thursday evening, the 16th inst., the regular meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, Beaconsfield-street, Blyth, Bro. A. A. Askwith, W.M., presiding. There was a large attendance, including the following Prov. G. Officers, Past Masters, and others: Bros. W. Robson, P.G.S.B.; H. Moore, P.P.G.C.; Edward Forster, P.P.G. Std. Br.; John Tweedy, P.P.G.S. of W.; L. Carr, Reg.; R. T. Guthrie, D.C.; Robt. Spence, P.P.G. Stwd.; and there was also an official visit from St. Cuthbert's Lodge, No. 1902, the following being present: Bros. T. B. Barker, W.M.; G. R. Turner, I.P.M.; E. W. Carr, J.W.; H. G. Goldsmith, G. Fail, and others.

After the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, Bro. J. W. Tinning was passed by Bro. Guthrie, P.M., after which Bros. W. Wood, E. Arkel, and Sly were raised to the sublime Degree of a Master Mason by the W.M., part of the traditional history being given by Bro. Forster, P.M. The W.M. read a letter which had been received from the Duke of Northumberland, in reply to a vote of sympathy on the death of the late duke, which was passed at the last meeting of the lodge. The following is a copy of the letter:

"Alnwick Castle, 23rd Jan., 1899.

"Sir,—Please convey to the members of the Blagdon Lodge my sincere and cordial sense of their kindness in the expression of their sympathy with my family in the sad bereavement we have sustained,—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

"NORTHUMBERLAND."

The W.M. then moved that a letter of condolence be sent to the parents of Bro. Walter Fergus, S.D., who died after about five hours' illness, on the 3rd inst., in the 34th year

of his age. The W.M., in moving the resolution, spoke in most sympathetic terms of the loss the lodge had sustained by the sad death of Bro. Fergus. He was, as they were all perfectly aware, a most energetic and painstaking officer, and his death was much regretted. The motion was seconded by Bro. John Tweedy, P.M., and carried unanimously.

The lodge was afterwards closed, and the visitors were entertained to supper in the spacious ante-room of the new hall.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, songs and recitations being given at intervals by several brethren.

**Panmure Lodge, No. 723.**

On Tuesday evening, the 14th instant, the ceremony of the installation of Bro. J. B. Jaye as W.M. of this lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, Imperial Hotel, Aldershot, the Installing Master being Bro. Richard Eve. There was a goodly attendance of brethren, including several visitors. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows: Bros. J. Jenkins Kennett, I.P.M.; H. G. Marshallsay, S.W.; N. Solomon, J.W.; Richard Eve, P.M., P.G. Treas.; John Youd, P.M., Sec.; Arthur H. Smith, S.D.; A. J. Colledge, J.D.; Arthur Savill, D. of C.; C. Cullen, I.G.; H. Saunders, Org.; James Doe and F. E. Jerome, Stwds.; and W. Burns, Tyler.

At the close of the lodge meeting the annual banquet was held, Bro. J. B. Jaye, the new W.M., in the chair, being supported by Bros. Richard Eve and R. F. Gould, Past G. Officers; Lehmann, Colburn, and Youd, Past Prov. G. Officers. The tables were very tastefully laid, and the menu, needless to say a choice one, for the fare was put upon the table in good form, and to the entire satisfaction of the company, by the worthy host, Bro. Shillito.

The toast list was of the usual Masonic character.

Bro. R. F. Gould responded for "The Grand Lodge Officers" in a capital speech. Bro. Eve, Past Grand Treasurer of England, acknowledged the toast of "The Provincial Grand Officers" in good form, and then gave the toast of "The Health of W. Bro. Jaye, their newly-elected W.M.," and wished for him and his officers a good year of office.

Bro. Jaye thanked the brethren for their good wishes, and hoped, with the assistance of the lodge Past Masters and the hearty co-operation of the newly-elected officers, to have a successful year. Bro. Jaye then gave "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. J. Jenkins Kennett," to whom the lodge had previously presented a Past Master's jewel.

Bro. Kennett returned thanks, and made an appeal to the brethren to support the movement now being made to build a Masonic hall in Aldershot.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was responded to by Bro. J. Youd.

The W.M. next gave "The Officers of the Lodge," to which Bro. Marshallsay, S.W., and Solomon, J.W., suitably responded, and

The Tyler's toast by Bro. Burns closed the proceedings.

Some capital speeches were made in responding to the toasts, Bro. Eve speaking with power and impressiveness upon the toast of "The Masonic Charities." No one could listen to him without being convinced that Bro. Eve was a true Mason, and heart and soul interested in the Charities.

A very enjoyable evening was spent by all present.

The jewel was manufactured by Bros. George Kenning and Son, London.

**Lodge of Perseverance, No. 371.**

The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 14th instant, at the Masonic Hall, Eaglesfield-street, Maryport, when there was a large attendance. The W.M., Bro. Richard Monkhouse, P.G.S., presided, and was supported by the following brethren: Bros. Thos. M. Burn, S.W.; C. J. Stein, J.W.; J. Gardiner, P.M., Treas.; J. Sibson, Sec.; T. Sibson, J.D.; J. Smith, Org.; J. Messenger, Tyler; A. Birkett; Tom Brown; G. Johnson, I.P.M.; R. Brown, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; R. R. Graves; J. T. Lister; T. Armstrong; J. Dickinson, P.M., P.P.A.G.D. of C.; and others.

After the preliminary business, Bros. Armstrong, Graves, and Birkett were passed to the Second Degree by Bro. James Dickinson, P.M., P.P.A.G.D. of C., in a very impressive manner. He also explained the working tools. The Second Degree lecture was most ably rendered by the W.M., Bro. R. Monkhouse, P.G.S.

The proceedings terminated, and the brethren adjourned to the refreshment board.

**De Grey and Ripon Lodge, No. 1161.**

A meeting of the above lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on Wednesday, the 15th instant, when the following were present: Bros. H. M. Massingham, W.M.; J. Schofield, S.W.; O. M. Jones, I.P.M.; J. Irlam, P.M., Treas.; Saml. Richards, Sec.; J. T. C. Blackie, S.D.; J. M. Moss, P.M., Org.; J. Brownhill, I.G.; A. E. Bentley and S. Dixon, Stwds.; J. R. Fletcher, Tyler; R. Dottie, P.M.; E. Loebell, P.M.; Geo. J. Critchley, Chas. G. Balls, E. C. Huntley, Chas. F. Norbury, R. J. Burrow, Arthur Oughterson, and Jas. Burgess, P.M.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Arthur Oughterson having answered the questions satisfactorily, was passed to the Degree of a Fellow Craft by the W.M., Bro. H. M. Massingham, who performed the ceremony in a most able manner. The working tools in the Second Degree were given by Bro. J. Schofield in his usual impressive style.

The lodge was then closed, the brethren adjourning to spend the rest of the evening in harmony.

**Urban Lodge, No. 1196.**

A highly successful meeting of this lodge was the last installation meeting which took place at Freemasons' Hall, on the 10th inst., when Bro. Paul Alliston, the son of Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Alliston, was installed for the second year as Master of the lodge. The Lord Mayor and Sheriff were invited, but the Lord Mayor unfortunately was not able to attend on account of illness, but there was a tremendous gathering, nearly 120 brethren being present. Among those who attended were Bros. St. John Monckton, P.G.W.; Sheriff Lieut.-Col. Clifford Probyn, G. Treas.; Richard Eve, P.G.T.; Sir Joseph C. D. msdale, Kt., P.G.T.; Homewood Crawford, P.G.D.; James Stephens, P.D.G.D.C.; George Speth, P.A.G.D.C.; H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B.; Percy H. Davy, S.W.; Hubert Smith, J.W.; Japheth Tickle, P.M., P.P.G.R.; F. R. Farrow, P.M.; Percy B. Hollick, I.P.M.; E. M. Woods, Alderman and Sheriff F. Prat Alliston, P.M.; Charles Braid, P.M.; J. Henniker-Heaton, M.P.; Dr. John Wood, W. C. Cripps, P.P.S.G.W.; John Burton, P.P.G.R.; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; and others.

The W. Master initiated Mr. Robert Booth, into Freemasonry, and after Bro. Robert Manuel, P.M., had delivered the ancient charge, Bro. Hollick, I.P.M., reinstalled Bro. Paul Alliston as W.M. of the lodge. Bro. Hollick was again invested as I.P.M., and the other officers were invested as follows: Bros. Percy Hadden Davy, S.W.; William Hubert Smith, J.W.; Japheth Tickle, P.M., P.Z. 1196, P.M. 1702, P.Z. 95 and 1549, P.P.G. Reg. Middx., Treas.; Frederic R. Farrow, P.M., P.Z. 1196, P.M. 2416, Sec.; Harry W. Wildman, S.D.; G. Micklewood, J.D.; Robert Manuel, P.M., P.Z. 1196, D.C.; J. W. Facon, P.M., and Stanley Smith, S.Wds.; H. Coward, I.G.; and Thomas C. Edmonds, P.M., Tyler.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies the brethren adjourned to Freemasons' Tavern to an elegant banquet.

The usual toasts followed, and under the direction of Bro. Fred Walker, Miss Sara Gomersall, Miss Jenkins Colyer, and Bros. Clement Alliston, H. Stubbs, and G. Stubbs, with Bro. W. J. Barton at the piano, gave an admirable musical entertainment.

Bro. Sir J. B. Monckton, P.G.W., responding to the toast of "The Grand Officers," said it must be 30 years since he visited this lodge, when the late Henry Marston was in the chair, and that brother discoursed most beautifully on Freemasonry that was very fresh and pleasing. He now had to congratulate very much a dear old friend, Alderman and Sheriff Alliston, one of the most popular men in the City, on his son Paul being put in the chair of this lodge for the second time. Two nights ago he was put in the S.W. chair of the Buckingham and Chandlers Lodge, and he hoped to see him W.M. of that lodge.

Bro. Col. Clifford Probyn also responded. He was exceedingly glad to see the son of his colleague in the shrievalty occupying the chair. He hoped he would have a pleasant year of office. He was glad to meet the whole of the family on all occasions because his association with that family during the year had been very pleasant, and he trusted it would last for many years.

Bro. P. Alliston, W.M., next gave "The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs of London." What country in the world, what capital of Europe had more reason to be proud of the position held by the Chief Magistrate and his two Sheriffs than the City of London? Therefore, all the more did they regret the absence of the Lord Mayor. It would have given them all the greatest satisfaction to entertain his lordship, but a greater Power than they contradicted and thwarted their attempts. But the Sheriffs were able to come. It was the earnest desire of all that the Lord Mayor might soon be restored to good health and return to take up his arduous duties again. That his lordship has not quite forgotten the brethren was evidenced by the following telegram he had sent: "Worshipful Master, Urban Lodge, Freemasons' Hall.—Kind fraternal greetings. Best wishes to the Worshipful Master, Sheriffs, and all brethren and friends. Very sorry cannot be with you. Daily improving, though still very weak.—LORD MAYOR." One and all appreciated his lordship's kindness in sending such a very kind and brotherly telegram. The brethren extended to the two Sheriffs a most hearty and cordial welcome. It was a great evening for the lodge, but what must it be to the W.M., the son of his worthy and respected father to have him present to see him take a second year of office. He appreciated his father's kindness very much.

Bro. Sir Joseph Dimsdale, P.G. Treas., responding, said it was always an honour to have to respond to the toast of the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London, but he sincerely regretted the absence of the Lord Mayor. At first it would appear that there must be an analogy between Freemasonry and the Corporation of London. If there was one thing the Corporation had striven for from its earliest days it was religion, and that was one of the instances in which they found an exact parallel in Freemasonry. Although it made no distinction or difference in sects, it was founded upon religion, without which no human being could expect to be truly happy, and no empire could expect long to exist. They found in the Mansion House the centre of Charity, whether foreign, home, or imperial Charity; and that was another analogy between the Corporation and the great Fraternity. There were around the table many of his colleagues in the Corporation, and when he talked of traditions their hearts would jump with pride to think that they belonged to the oldest municipality in the world, which was an entity before the Conquest, and during the long period since had had an unblemished escutcheon, and a noble and a great heart, just as Freemasonry had. They were proud of their old and grand traditions. The aim and object of the Corporation and of Freemasonry were the same—to assist great works, to engage in Charity, and to do the best they possibly could for the happiness and welfare of the citizens of London and the prosperity and well-being of mankind in general.

Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Alliston, in his reply, said it was the experience of most people that as time rolled on they not only grew older but felt older, but to-night he might say he had not felt such a sensation of being junior for a very long time. He looked at his friend and colleague, Bro. Col. Probyn, and he trembled before him as Grand Treasurer. He saw his son passing through the chair of King Solomon for the third time, whereas he, poor junior member of the Craft, had only struggled through once, and then arrived at a very lame and impotent conclusion. The moral of all this was that he trusted, although in earnestness as a Mason he would not bow to any one, still he trusted in practice he might be a much better Corporator and a Sheriff than he was a Mason. He thanked the Urban Lodge for its entertainment of the Sheriffs; the Sheriffs had done well; and not only did they compliment the brethren on the graceful and elegant banquet, but on the mental and musical entertainment. The Sheriffs would long remember the visit to the Urban Lodge. He congratulated the W.M. on the proud position he enjoyed; he felt very pleased to see him occupy the chair for the second time. If he were not bound to the W.M. by the nearest ties of Nature he would say that Bro. Paul Alliston was precisely the man he should have chosen before all others, looking to his upright and conscientious character, for his Masonic brother, and whom to take to his heart as a trusted and faithful friend.

Bro. Hollick, I.P.M., in proposing "The W.M.," said if the brethren had not loved the W.M. they would not have elected him for the second time. During the past year they had found him in possession of that courtesy of manner which was so essential in every candidate for the Master's chair, combining the *suaviter in modo* with the *fortiter in re*. Like Masters before him he had had to contend against difficulties, but like a sportsman, if he found a gate, he went at it like a man and cleared it. They knew he would do the same this year. The brethren would help him to the utmost of their ability. Taking him as a man and a brother they knew if anyone went to him in distress he would have his sympathy and assistance. As to his working of the Degree, they had no fault to find with him. They were proud of the example he had set them, both in his Mastership of the lodge and in his presidency at the banquet table. He then presented the W.M. with a handsome Past Master's jewel.

Bro. Paul Alliston, W.M., in replying, said there was an old saying that the best men were moulded out of faults, and he thought the I.P.M. must have had that in his mind when he proposed that toast, for if there was any one more sensible than others of being composed of many faults it was the present W.M. But, notwithstanding those faults, it always had been, and always should be, his endeavour to serve the Urban Lodge zealously, faithfully, and well. He very much appreciated the unique honour of being placed in the chair for the second year. The lamented death of the S.W. led up to it. The late S.W. was very closely associated with him both in Masonry and everyday life. He thanked the brethren for the Past Master's jewel, and proposed "The Initiate."

Bro. Booth responded.  
Bros. Henniker Heaton, M.P., Ald. Smallman, and D. Christie Murray replied to the toast of "The Visitors."  
Bro. Henniker Heaton said we should soon have universal penny postage and imperial penny-a-word telegrams.  
The other toasts followed.

### Kennington Lodge, No. 1381.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Horns' Tavern, Kennington Park, on the 7th instant. Among those present were Bros. C. Chisholm, W.M.; T. Davies, S.W.; W.M. elect; W. H. Wolsey, J.W.; R. C. F. La Feuillade, P.M.; Treas.; J. N. Hearn, P.M., Sec.; R. B. Hopkins, S.D.; A. Harris, I.G.; H. Linwood, Org.; R. W. Brading, Stwd.; George Everett, P.M., P.G. Treas.; H. Higgins, P.M.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S., P.G. Std. Br.; C. H. Köhler, P.M.; J. La Feuillade, P.M.; A. Lundie, P.M.; and Barry, P.M. Among the visitors were Bros. Woodcock, W.M. 1638; Coram, W.M. 2552; Salter, P.M. 79; Mearing, P.M. 79; Heasman, P.M. 167; White, P.M. 975; Cockburn, P.M. 1314; Gorton, P.M. 1559; Pullen, P.M. 1622; Pemberton, 733; Butt, 753; Roles, 753; Beacles, 901; Clark, 1348; Jones, 1446; Hawkins, 2446; Everett, 2448; Taylor, 2528; Penn, 2550; Tawson, 2653; and Hood, Grand Lodge, New South Wales.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a gentleman was ably initiated into Craft mysteries. Bro. T. Davies having been presented was installed W.M. by the W.M., assisted by Bros. Higgins, P.M., as S.W.; A. Lundie, P.M., as J.W.; Major Walls, P.M., as D. of C.; and Barry, P.M., as I.G. Among the officers appointed and invested were Bros. Wolsey, S.W.; Hopkins, J.W.; R. La Feuillade, P.M., Treas.; J. N. Hearn, P.M., Sec.; Harris, S.D.; Court, J.D.; Brading, I.G.; Linwood, Org.; Reddish, D. of C.; Clay, Asst. D. of C.; and Hackin and Eyles, Stwds. The W.M. invested his officers in a most able manner. A Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. C. Chisholm, I.P.M. It was proposed by Bro. Major Walls, seconded by Bro. Higgins, and carried unanimously, "That the sum of 15 guineas be voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, per Bro. T. Davies, W.M., as Steward for the Festival, 1899." The resignation of Bro. W. W. Westley, P.M., through ill-health, was received with great regret. The lodge was then closed.

A banquet followed. Upon the removal of the cloth the customary toasts were duly honoured.

Bro. George Everett, P.G. Treas., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers." In the course of his speech he feelingly touched upon the great loss that Freemasonry had sustained through the death of that distinguished Mason, and genial, courteous nobleman, the Earl of Lathom. The M.W. Grand Master had made a wise and excellent selection in appointing Bro. the Earl Amherst to the position of Pro Grand Master. Bro. the Earl of Warwick, who had been appointed Deputy Grand Master, was well-known to the brethren of Warwickshire and Essex, but was comparatively unknown to the London Masons. He had no doubt that in the future his lordship would be very frequently seen at the Quarterly Communications of Grand Lodge. In concluding his speech, he said that he desired to express to the brethren of the Kennington Lodge his gratitude for the kindness that they had extended to him on all occasions. Unhappily, last year he was absent from the installation meeting, but on his bed of sickness he was

greatly comforted by the kind message of sympathy that was sent to him on that occasion.

"The I.P.M. gave "The W.M." In submitting this toast he said that Bro. Davis had filled all the minor offices well. They had seen that evening how excellently he invested his officers, and he (the speaker) ventured to predict that the W.M.'s rendering of the ceremonies during the coming year would equal the best efforts of those who had preceded him the chair. This toast was drunk with acclamation.

The W.M., in response, made a modestly brief but effective reply.  
The toast of "The Initiate" followed and was duly acknowledged.  
The W.M. gave "The Masonic Charities," coupled with the name of Bro. Major T. C. Walls, who duly replied.

"The Health of the Visitors" came next, and Bros. Woodcock, Mearing, and Coram, responded to the same. They all expressed themselves as being delighted with their visit to No. 1381, and augured for the W.M. a most pleasant and prosperous year of office.

The pledge of "The Installing and Past Masters" came next in order, and was coupled with the names of Bros. Chisholm and Lundie, who briefly responded.

Bros. R. La Feuillade and J. N. Hearn acknowledged the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary."

The toast of "The Officers" was given by the W.M. In the course of his remarks he expressed upon them the necessity of being punctual in their attendance not only at the lodge but at lodges of instruction. He desired during his year that the work should be thoroughly carried out, and he hoped to have their loyal support.

Bros. Wolsey, Brading, and Clay, responded to the toast.

A pleasant feature of the evening was the excellent programme of music ably directed by Bro. Herbert Linwood, the well-known tenor, who was supported by Mesdames Marion Lewis, Louise Lytton, and Bros. W. L. Cockburn, Sydney Jamieson, Wallis Arthur, and R. B. Hopkins. There were 16 varied selections given with great effect by the various artistes, but notwithstanding the length of the programme so delighted were the audience that they, like Oliver Twist, asked "for more."

The W.M. and the executive of the lodge are to be congratulated upon the great success of the whole proceedings.

### Cripplegate Lodge, No. 1613.

The ordinary meeting of the above lodge was held on the 16th inst. at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Bernard Groner, P.M. and P.Z. The members present were: Bros. S. da Costa Andrade, I.P.M.; J. W. Reddall, S.W.; A. Spiegel, J.W.; H. Stevenson, P.M., Treas.; Medwin, P.M., Sec.; A. L. Unthank, J.D.; Frank W. Rose, D.C.; A. J. Millington, I.G.; James R. Wilson and Claud Hooper, Stwds.; Thomas Berg, J. Westery, T. Page, Saul Grover, S. P. Pointer, N. J. H. Hodgson, T. I. Saillard, George Harlow, John F. Bell, S. J. Grover, Frank Parkin, G. J. Freeman, Herbert Linwood, J. Warner, A. Woolf, E. A. Hearn, A. Phippard, F. W. Adams, F. Hills, G. R. Hunt, Arthur Flint, C. W. Jarrett, Arthur Charles Unthank, Sam L. Harris, C. G. Hamley, Harry R. Tyrrell, Stanley Gibson, A. Mendel, Richard Blunden, and many visitors. Bros. Claud H. Jarrett, Percy A. Groner, Adolph Groner, and Moritz Wurm were elected for initiation, and Bros. Herbert Linwood, 1381; and S. L. Harris, 205, were elected joining members. The W.M. afterwards performed the initiation ceremony in a most feeling and impressive style. Before the lodge was closed, Bro. Hooper, P.M., announced that he was standing as Steward for the lodge at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution next Wednesday, and asked for the support of the lodge. The brethren thereupon voted 10 guineas to his list. The W.M. said he was standing as a Steward for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. He was a Steward for the Boys' School last year, and was supported to the extent of £143, while he hoped the lodge and the brethren would accord him equal support on the present occasion. The lodge then voted 20 guineas to the W.M.'s list. The lodge was closed shortly afterwards.

The usual toasts followed the subsequent banquet.  
Bro. S. da Costa Andrade, I.P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master," who he remarked, had done his duty to the lodge most satisfactorily to the brethren.

Bro. Bernard Groner, W.M., replied, and thanked the brethren for the assistance they had given him during his second term of office as the Master.

The W.M. and Bro. Wetherby, P.M., afterwards proposed "The Health of the Initiates," and those members severally responded.

The toasts of "The Joining Members," "The I.P.M. and P.Ms.," "The Visitors," and "The Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers of the Lodge," were all duly honoured before Bro. T. Williams gave the Tyler's toast.

An agreeable musical entertainment was given during the evening by Miss Edie Ross, Bro. E. A. Hearn, Mr. G. H. Gibson, and Bros. M. Wurm and H. Linwood.—  
*City Press.*

### Covent Garden Lodge, No. 1614.

The installation meeting of this well-known lodge, held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, on the 14th inst., attracted a large attendance of members and visitors. The former included Bros. Homer Price, W.M.; H. G. Walker, S.W.; H. J. Keen, J.W.; Jno. Mayo, P.M.; Simeon Jacobs, P.M.; S. Hewett, P.M.; C. O. Burgess, P.M.; Prov. S.G.W. Berks; Geo. H. Foan, P.M., D.C.; Geo. Coleman, P.M., Treas.; Geo. Reynolds, P.M., Sec.; T. Middleweek, C. Pullen, W. J. Thrussell, Org.; and others. Visitors: Bros. J. Mason, P.G.S.B.; J. T. Mayo, P.M. 2222; J. H. Mayo, P.M. 2222; Percy Edwards, S.D. 1627; R. Sebastian Hart, P.M. 2146; J. O. Connell, P.P.G.D. Surrey; Rev. C. J. Smith, W.M.; W. Hancock, P.M. 2191; C. J. Smith, W.M. 2648; W. Dennis, P.M. 9; H. Jays, P.M. 174; C. G. Rotter, W.M. 2191; H. White, P.M. 1257; C. G. Sherwood, W.M. 2473; A. Atkien, W.M. 1348; W. W. Lee, P.M.; and about 20 others.

Lodge was opened, and after the preliminary business had been disposed of, Bro. A. Atkins was passed to the Second Degree. Bro. H. G. Walker was then installed as W.M. by Bro. Homer Price in a very able and impressive manner. The following officers were invested: Bros. H. J. Keen, S.W.; T. Middleweek, J.W.; George Coleman, P.M., Treas.; George Reynolds, P.M. Sec.; J. A. M. Kellaway, S.D.; C. Pullen, J.D.; George H. Foan, P.M., D.C.; W. J. Thrussell, Org.; M. Citroen, I.G.; J. Mayo, P.M., J. Vowles, and T. McIntyre, Stwds.; and R. F. Potter, Tyler. Bro. Homer Price, I.P.M., was presented with a Past Master's jewel in recognition of his services. The W.M. intimated his intention of serving as Steward for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and a sum of 10 guineas was voted to his list. Letters of regret were announced and the lodge was closed.

After a *recherche* repast, which was well served under the superintendence of Bro. Thierry, the usual toasts were given.

Bro. J. Mason, P.G.S.B., replied for "The Grand Officers," and said the Craft were delighted that the G. Master selected such good men to assist him. Speaking of the rank and file, he could only say he was proud to be a P.G. S. D. Br., because he had the unique privilege of holding the same position in the Royal Arch and Mark.

Bro. Homer Price, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W. Master," and said he felt he had installed a Master who would conduct the affairs of the lodge with that quiet honest dignity that Freemasonry required. In the past offices, Bro. Walker had set them an example of good order and regularity, and during the coming year the best traditions of Freemasonry and of their lodge would be thoroughly maintained. It was needless to remark that the W.M. would have the support of all the members, who cordially welcomed him to the chair.

Bro. H. G. Walker, W.M., in responding, said they were fully aware that he was not given to speechifying. He wished to thank the I.P.M., for the able manner in which he had proposed the toast, and also the brethren for their cordial reception. He would endeavour to do his best as W. Master of the Covent Garden Lodge and as regards the ritual, he thought he was pretty well up in that, although sometimes nervous. He started as an initiate some seven or eight years ago, when Bro. Saml. Hewett, now a respected P.M., was the W.M., and he then promised to do his best to work up to the chair. He hoped during his Mastership to communicate happiness to others and be happy himself. He thanked Bro. Price, I.P.M., for having taken so much trouble previous to this meeting for his kind advice, and also for having installed him in such an able and impressive manner.

Bro. Homer Price, I.P.M., replying to the toast of his health, which was briefly given by the W.M., said the W.M. did not say much, but meant 10 times more. During the past year he (the I.P.M.) had conducted the lodge on purely Masonic lines, and had been ably supported by the officers and brethren. Every Master assumed a great responsibility, and he had endeavoured to keep in view the great principles of the Order, and hold the scales of justice with equal poise.

Bro. J. Mason, P.G.S.B., representing the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, acknowledged "The Masonic Charities," and referred to the fact that that Institution at the last Festival only received one-half of the sum necessary for the year. They were trying to retain their position, but in many places had been met with the answer—"You cannot expect us to do anything; look at what we did for the Boys' last year." That lodge was founded 22 years ago to see what they could do for each other, and to see what they could spare for others, and on those lines it had done well. He remembered with gratitude that their lodge of instruction had done wonders. During the past month Stewards had been coming along better; but the Institution needed much support, and he hoped the members would give their best endeavours to increase the list of the W. Master.

"The Visitors" was acknowledged by Bros. J. O'Connell, P.P.G.D. Surrey; Rev. C. J. Smith, W.M. 2648; W. Hancock, P.M.; W. Dennis, P.M. 9; and C. J. Sherwood, W.M. 2473.

Other toasts were "The Past Masters," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers."

Bro. Herbert Schartau, P.P.G. Org., was assisted in the musical arrangements by Miss Kate Cherry, Miss Marie Hooton, and Bro. Walter Churcher.

### Aldersgate Lodge, No. 1657.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Albion Tavern on Monday last, the 20th instant, when there were present Bros. Rupert Smyth; Ralph Langton; Dr. C. E. Milnes Hey; Col. and Sheriff Probyn, G. Treasurer; J. Tickle, P.P.G. Reg. Midx.; Paul Alliston, W.M. 1196; Brooke-Hitching; Thomas Briggs, Installing Master; Alderman and Sheriff Alliston; S. White, P.M., Treas.; J. Rock; Deputy Gooding; W. T. Roberts, J.W. 1827; J. C. Hayes, P.M. 619 and 1708; W. H. Greaves; H. F. Woodward; P. M. Rogers; William Baker, W.M. 192; T. H. James; John Dives, 1670; C. R. Leedham; N. R. Hart, J.W. 2020; Walter Hooker, P.M. 538; John Robeson, W.M. elect 192; Frederick Hughes, P.M. 192; Geo. W. Thompson, Grove Lodge; J. N. Noakes, 92; Geo. Briggs, P.M. 1572; Edw. Anderton, P.M.; Hudson, P.M.; M. R. Webb, P.M.; S. Croft, P.M.; H. C. Heard; G. Rawlinson, P.M., Stwd.; Ernest Robinson, W.M. 179; Gordon Langton, P.M. 96; E. Brooks; J. E. G. de Montmorency; W. H. Hewitt; J. V. Sherrin; and Dr. Fagan, 1708.

The minutes of the previous meeting and the emergency meeting of November 20th were read and confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee having been sent to every member, it was proposed by Bro. T. Briggs, and seconded by Bro. Hudson, that it be received, adopted, and entered on the minutes, which was carried unanimously. Bro. Rupert Smyth was duly installed into the chair of King Solomon by Bro. Thos. Briggs, I.P.M., who acted as W.M. in the unavoidable absence, through illness, of Bro. H. N. Bennett. The W.M. then appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bro. H. N. Bennett (by deputy), I.P.M.; Ralph Langton, S.W.; Dr. C. E. M. Hey, J.W.; S. White, P.M., Treas.; George Kenning, P.M., Sec.; George Briggs, acting Sec.; H. F. Woodward, S.D.; T. H. James, J.D.; J. V. Sherrin, I.G.; G. Rawlinson, P.M., Stwd.; A. B. Hudson, P.M., D. of C.; and Plant, Tyler. The Installing Officer then delivered the addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren. The W.M. then presented his banner to the lodge. Bro. George Rawlinson, P.M., accepted it in the name of the lodge. Mr. A. Clarke Williams was proposed for initiation by the W.M., and Bro. Rawlinson seconded. The W.M. then proposed, and Bro. S. White, Treas., seconded, Bro. A. A. Barnes, 1321, as a joining member. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren dined together under the gavel of the W.M.

The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts.

In replying for "The Grand Officers," Bro. Joseph Rock, said it was always a pleasing duty to reply to the Grand Officers. Headed by such a G.M., the subordinates would always do all they could to enhance the ancient fraternity and the Prince of Wales was always most anxious to do all possible to promote in every way the prosperity of all Institutions connected with our glorious Brotherhood. We all had to lament the death of the Earl of Lathom; the gap that has been created by his demise, will be difficult to fill, but in Grand Lodge there are many good men and I am glad to be here as a Grand Officer to say how much they do to promote the true tenets of Freemasonry, and especially am I proud to avow it in the grand old hall in which I partook of the first dinner after I had the honour and privilege to see the light. I congratulate you W.M. on your elevation to the chair, and I am glad to see you keep the true spark of Freemasonry alive in Brotherly love, relief, and truth.

The Installing Officer next proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and in doing so said—Our W.M. has always taken a deep interest in Freemasonry, and I may say from the moment he entered he has never missed a single meeting, and it has given me great pleasure to install him this evening, and all I can say is I do wish you most sincerely a most successful and happy year of office. You have endeared us all to you by your courteous modesty and sincere attachment to the best interests of the lodge.

The W.M. replied by thanking all for the hearty reception they had given to the toast of his health. Especially do I thank the Installing Officer for the kindly manner in which it was proposed, but still more especially do I thank him for the beautiful and graceful manner in which I was installed, and I may now say frankly to you all, brethren, that though I may not be able to do all so lavishly towards the lodge as some of my predecessors, yet I do not give way to anyone in the true zeal of promoting its best interests, and on that account I feel I have your best wishes, brotherly love, and support.

The W.M. next proposed "The Installing Officer." This, said he, is a case of deeds, not of words. All you who have the privilege to know him know what a man he is; he has been invaluable to the Aldersgate Lodge almost from the moment he entered. Formerly we had to depend on the goodness of one of our hon. members (Sir John B. Monckton) for our installation, but he finding his quiver of engagements rather full, Bro. Thomas Briggs came to the rescue, installed his successor, and now you have seen to-night how ably for the second time he has performed the ceremony.

Bro. Thomas Briggs replied: I scarcely know how to thank you for your kind words, W.M., and you, brethren, for the warm manner you have received the toast of my health, and as you have now listened so long to my voice to-night, I feel I shall best conduce to your happiness if I simply say how very much I thank you, and as my heart is always with the Aldersgate Lodge, I can assure you I will always do all possible to promote its best interests.

The W.M. proposed the toast of "The Visitors." We have to-night the Grand Treasurer, Bro. Sheriff Probyn, and we think it exceedingly good of him to supplement his other engagement to come among us. Then we have our good old friend, Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Alliston, Bro. Rock, Basset Hopkins, and Bro. Paul Alliston. I am especially proud to see you all here at my installation, and the Aldersgate Lodge extends to you a hearty welcome, and I hope to have the pleasure to see you all here again next year.

Bro. Sheriff Probyn, G. Treas., replied, and said: W.M., Wardens, and brethren, personally I feel deeply honoured in being included in the toast: the W.M. has so cordially proposed. I desire, firstly, to say to all the members of the lodge how deeply I regret not being present at the meeting, and also to the splendid fare I know the Albion can provide. I have also to express my regret in not presenting myself in the regalia of the high office I have the honour to hold; but man proposes and circumstances dispose, and it is impossible to be in two places at the same time; but I came as soon as I possibly could, and now find myself surrounded by friends and my dear old colleague, Bro. Alderman Sheriff Alliston, whom to know is to know a man, and a man whose word is his bond. I see also on my right a worthy son of a worthy father, who has recently been installed into the chair of the Urban Lodge, so I feel I am quite at home, and can with all sincerity thank you sincerely for your kind expressions.

Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Alliston also replied, and said: If there is anything wanting, it shall not be wanting in truth, and I desire, W.M., to tender you my sincere thanks for your hospitality, and to tell the members of the lodge, firstly, how delighted I am to come here as a Mason, and, secondly, as an Alderman of a neighbouring Ward. I want now to remind you of a great writer (Shakespeare), when he speaks of the baseless fabric of a vision, it seems to me he must have been a Mason, and also Robert Burns refers in a poem to the sons of light, which makes me think, also, he must have been a Mason; and now let me thank you for all your kindness and generous treatment.

Bros. Tickle and Heard also briefly replied.

The toast of "The Past Masters, Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers of the Lodge" was duly honoured.

The Tyler's toast concluded a most enjoyable and brilliant evening.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Miss Florence Venning, and were carried out in a most perfect manner, which added greatly to the harmony of the evening.

### Elteldreda Lodge, No. 2107.

The installation meeting was held on Thursday, the 16th inst., at the Subscription Rooms Club, Newmarket. The lodge having been opened by Bro. W. Hutchinson, P.M., four new members were balloted for and elected, and also one joining member. The installation of Bro. Thomas Leader, P.M. of the Gooch Lodge, P.P.G.S. of W., was then proceeded with, Bro. H. Price, P.M. 2012, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., acting as Installing Master. The duties of D.C. were discharged by Bro. J. Royston, P.M. 441, P.G. Reg. The officers for the year are as understated: Bros. Thos. Leader, P.P.G.S. of W., W.M.; J. G. Chennell, P.P.A.G.D.C., I.P.M.; J. W. Carr, P.P.A.G.D.C., S.W.; C. H. Davey, P.G. Treas., J.W.; C. F. Moody, Chap.; W. Hutchinson, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., Treas.; Geo. Simpson, Sec.; J. G. Cowell, P.G. Stwd., S.D.; F. H. Potts, J.D.; T. Jennings, jun., P.M., P.P.J.G.W., D.C.; J. W. Metcalf, I.G.; H. M. Martin, Org.; C. B. Bosworth, Stwd.; and J. Arnold, Tyler. The addresses were impressively delivered by Bro. H. Price.

The lodge afterwards voted 10 guineas to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and a similar sum was collected after banquet for the same purpose.

At the banquet, the toast of "The Grand Lodge Officers" was responded to by Bros. George Everett, P.G. Treas., and H. Price, P.G. Std. Br.

The W.M. submitted the toast of "The Prov. G.M. of Cambs, the D.P.G.M., and the rest of the P.G. Officers."

Bro. Frank Piggott, P.M. 88, P.J.G.W., responded, and spoke of the progress of Masonry and the support given to Masonic Charity during his 20 years' career in the Craft.

Bro. J. Royston, P.M. 44, P.G. Reg., also responded.

"The Health of the Worshipful Master" was happily proposed by Bro. Oliver Papworth, P.M. 88, P.G. Sec., and was received with the liveliest enthusiasm, Bro. Leader having a real hearty "send off," which he acknowledged it fitting terms.

Bro. H. Price gave "The Masonic Charities," which was acknowledged by Bro. H. Laxton, who collected the 10 guineas mentioned.

The toast of "The Visiting Brethren" was responded to by Bros. H. Wood, 2012; H. S. Davison, 88; Wolfenden, E. Wavell, T. W. Liddington, F. W. Potts, Dr. Hargraves, and Dun Woody.

"The Officers of the Lodge" were not forgotten, and the proceedings closed with the Tyler's toast.

A number of musical items were contributed, and Bro. Cheeseman was in great form.

### Iris Lodge, No. 2545.

The installation meeting of this young lodge was held on Monday, at the Hotel Cecil, Bro. H. L. Chaplin, W.M., in the chair. The other brethren present were Bros. T. M. E. Armstrong, S.W.; A. F. Howard, P.M., Treas.; R. E. F. Lander, P.M., Sec.; C. H. Knight, S.D.; G. J. Fowler, P.M., D. of C.; J. Murray, I.G.; H. Stubbings and N. F. O'Brien, Stewards; P. Rothermel, J. M. O'Donnell, R. More, B. M. Trendle, G. Hallows, W. Gayton, T. S. Egan, H. C. Houldle, Bedford Fenwick, R. H. Peren, W. P. Humphris, C. S. Crossman, C. L. Chubb, A. Hetherington, and J. Scarlett. The visitors were Bros. F. G. Mellows, 2108; R. Hughes, S.W. 2086; W. L. Aylmer, P.M. 1725; J. H. Whitaker, 2408; Wm. Fooks, 2033; S. H. Goldschmidt, P.M. 1329; Wm. Campbell; F. Greenwood, P.M. 357, P.P.G. Reg. Oxon; G. C. Kent, P.M. 546; C. W. A. Trollope, P.M. 1826, P.P.S.G.D. Surrey; A. M. Stuart, P.M. 1826; R. H. Stimpson, P.M. 59; C. W. Emson, W.M. 1872; Francis Drury; F. Barry, 1526; H. W. Turner, 1347; C. A. Hardwick, 1347; J. H. Hayes, 1347; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; J. J. Marsh, P.M. 2528; Clement Godson, M.D., P.G.D.; R. S. Fairbank, W.M. 2000; A. J. R. Trendell, P.A.G.D. of C.; H. W. Douglas, 2335; R. T. Tyler, 1599, P.P.G. Org. Midx.; J. Lewis Morgan, W.M. 1150; A. H. Jessel, 10, 2346; J. H. D. Fodd, I.P.M. 4, 2312; J. W. Ivimey (Cavendish); and J. F. Wood, P.M. 959.

Bro. G. J. Fowler, P.M., D.C., initiated his friend (Mr. George Clunies-Ross, proprietor and ruler of the Keeling-Cocos Islands in the Indian Ocean), after which Bro. Henry Leopold Chaplin, W.M., installed Bro. Thomas Mandeville Emerson Armstrong as W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Chaplin was invested as I.P.M., and afterwards received a handsome Past Master's jewel. The other brethren invested were Bros. C. H. Knight, S.W.; A. Chapman, J.W.; A. F. Howard, Treas.; R. E. F. Lander, P.M. 2086, Sec.; J. Murray, S.D.; N. F. O'Brien, J.D.; H. Stubbings, I.G.; G. J. Fowler, P.M., D.C.; P. Rothermel, Org.; B. Fenwick, Stwd.; and H. Evenden, P.M., Tyler.

At the conclusion of the lodge business the brethren adjourned to a choice banquet, after which the usual toasts were proposed, and some lovely violin performances given by Bro. Joseph Ivimey.

Bro. Dr. Clement Godson, P.G.D. (who during the ceremony of installation had acted as S.W.), responding to the toast of "The Grand Officers" said the Grand Officers were only too pleased to take part in the work if asked to do so, and they considered it a privilege, as he had considered it that evening. As one of the Consecrating Officers of the lodge it was a special pleasure to be now present. He had been elected an honorary member of the lodge, and there was only one installation meeting of it that he had not been present at, which was on account of a professional engagement. But it was a great denial to him that he was not present. He could never forget the number of the lodge—2545—for he was the first Master of the Rahere Lodge, which was 2546. He was placed in that chair by the Grand Master. He was happy to say that lodge was most prosperous, and he was happy to find that this lodge was also prosperous. Both were prosperous both in finance and in the number of their members. That did not always make prosperity. What made prosperity was what he found in the Iris and in the Rahere Lodges—admirable working, good fellowship, and sufficient money to keep them going.

Bro. A. J. R. Trendell, P.A.G.D.C., who also replied, said he also had the honour of being an hon. member of the lodge, although he took only a small part in its consecration. He was much struck with the great promise of vitality that seemed to exist within it, and he saw then, with great pleasure, the good working and the good fellowship that was maintained. He congratulated the lodge on taking in a gentleman from the Dutch East Indies, who ruled over a vast population with justice and mercy. He was sure that the principles of Masonry would add to his sympathy for those who were poor and distressed. It was a great thing to see men from all parts of the world drawn into the Masonic Brotherhood.

Bro. Kent, in his reply, said that among the members of the lodge were men who represented the best traditions of this country, and he hoped the lodge would continue to have such men put in the chair as the W.M. of that day.

Bro. Chaplin, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M." Those of the brethren who were in the lodge at the commencement, knew the active part Bro. Armstrong took in the Secretaryship; he worked hard and zealously in that post. In the office of S.W. his work was all that could be desired; and now they saw him in the proud position of W.M. they knew no man deserved it more.

Bro. Armstrong, W.M., in acknowledging the toast, said it was very inspiring to a youthful W.M. to have his health proposed so nicely. It was a great service of delight to him that he was so loyally supported by officers from whom he could expect a certain amount of service as well as from other members of the lodge. He wanted especially to mention a matter to the lodge, but, unfortunately, it escaped his attention. He was asked to say on that occasion, when there were more than the usual number of members of the lodge present, and junior members, too, that that was not a cricket club. Bro. Fowler said that. That had a somewhat hidden meaning; but he gathered that what was intended was that they were not entitled to treat the lodge as if it was a cricket club; if a member could not come to time he should send a telegram. He then proposed "The I.P.M.," who had given them no mean example of capacity as a Master, he had done his work in a very loyal way.

Bro. Chaplin, I.P.M., in reply, said that, looking back at his past work, he did not know what he had done to earn the brethren's commendation; if he had to do it again he hoped he should give a better account of himself. However, he tried to do his duty, and he was glad that what he had done had met with their satisfaction. He thanked the brethren very heartily for supporting him and for overlooking his faults.

Bro. Armstrong, W.M., in proposing "The Initiate" said the Iris Lodge had had many initiates, but it never had had one who had given them more pleasure to welcome in the brethren's midst than Bro. Clunies-Ross. Most of the brethren had no doubt read either the Parliamentary Blue Book or in the public Press an account of Bro. Ross and the wonderful distant islands in the Indian Ocean over which he ruled; but to those of the visitors or the brethren who had not read it he might say that for the last 27 years Bro. Clunies-Ross had ruled with the utmost skill the inhabitants of the Keeling-Cocos Islands which were situated some 1500 miles from the nearest land. From a geographical point of view they were wonderful; they were described in Darwin's book and by Capt. Fitzroy, who said that the Keeling-Cocos Island were the most wonderful and unique place he had seen in the world; they were a place where crabs ate cocoa-nuts, fish lived on corn, dogs caught fish, men rode on turtles, and rats made their nests on the top of palms. Bro. Clunies-Ross was entering on Masonry, and it was doubtful whether he would find in it anything more wonderful than in his own Islands. Bro. Ross had ruled over the inhabitants of these islands without aid, without an army, a police force, or any navy; he had done it by force of his own individuality, and unflinching justice tempered by his kindness of heart. This was all the more wonderful when it was considered that the inhabitants of the islands were not people all belonging to one race; they were a miscellaneous species of humanity—Malays principally—but Bro. Ross had brought them all into subjection; he had educated them, taught them industries, to build ships, so well indeed, that they had built a yacht under his supervision that he himself was able to go all round the world in it; he had taught them trade, how to carry on an extensive trade in the chief produce of their islands. Further than that, his administration had from time to time been the subject of enquiry by the British Government, because some time ago, when he found himself a weak power—a weak power compared with Germany—he placed the whole of his islands—the whole of his possessions—under the British flag; he therefore came under British law, and the Government sent out commissions to investigate the condition of things and how Bro. Ross carried on his business. The numerous commissioners who visited the islands had one and all reported that they had nothing to find fault with, that everything they saw in the island from beginning to end was creditable. The last Commissioner who went out there was a man sent from the Straits Settlements, who was accustomed to the Malays, and he gave a testimonial most flattering to Bro. Ross. Although he had been associated from his earliest youth with the government and education of Malays, he had never come across a set of them so well governed as those under Bro. Ross. They said that Bro. Ross was to them as a father, and he was regarded as such by them. In their quarrels they went to him, and his judgment was regarded, and he settled them with his paternal counsels. That wonderful state of affairs had not been attained by Bro. Ross in a day; it was the result of long years of patient labour. Years ago there were black times when Bro. Ross, knowing the truth of Shakespeare's remark, "Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown," having no army, no watchmen, but was alone with his family, had about him treacherous assassins, who on more than one occasion attempted his life. On one of those occasions Bro. Ross refused to have any guard, knowing the treacherous nature of the people, and he was obliged to keep a watch himself, and was unable to sleep more than an hour at a time. When he was asleep, a wretched, miserable specimen of humanity, actuated by a murderous design, went to Bro. Ross's room, but Bro. Ross awoke in time, and his own strength stopped the wretch's hand, with a knife in it. Bro. Ross having caught him red-handed, the culprit expected immediate death, but under all the circumstances, Bro. Ross, satisfying himself that the man was only a tool, let him go scot free. Some years ago, when a mutinous band of Italian brigands were wrecked off his island, they set on foot a plan for upsetting the Ross Government, and, strange to say, it was made known by the very man Bro. Ross had let go. It was only just to Bro. Ross that these facts should be told, in order that the brethren might duly appreciate the kind of man they were now welcoming as a member. Bro. Ross was not able to make a speech that evening, but if they would drink his health with a proper amount of vigour, he would tell them, probably in Malay, something of his islands, his own life, his own hardships, and, possibly, something of his own successes. He (the W.M.) had said enough to show that they should be exceedingly proud of their initiate, and he hoped they would drink with spirit and show Bro. Ross, who was not altogether accustomed to our English social life, that he was, at any rate, thoroughly and heartily welcome to the Iris Lodge.

Bro. Clunies-Ross, in reply, said that he had lived so long among the savage people that he hardly knew how to find English words to thank the brethren for their kindness in allowing him to become a member of the Iris Lodge of Freemasons; but he appreciated the honour they had done him, and he should try all he could to be a worthy member. That was his poor resolve. It was an encouragement when he returned to the old country. It was a pleasure to be among the brethren, and would be more so when he knew more of the ways of this body. Being away 23 years without speaking the English language it was very difficult to command your own expression in that language. During all the time he had been away he hardly ever saw one to speak it. He felt very much complimented by the W.M. giving such a sketch of his (Bro. Ross's) life.

The Charity box at this point fetched £5 10s.

The toast of "The Visitors" was replied to by Bros. Emson, Morgan, and Fooks, and the other toasts having been given and accepted, the brethren separated.

#### Agricultural Lodge, No. 1199.

On Monday, the 20th instant, the annual meeting of this lodge took place at the Assembly Rooms, Yatton, for the installation of the new W.M. and other officers. There were present Bros. J. W. Pitts, P.P.G. Stwd., W.M.; J. H. T. Evans, P.P.S.G.D., I.P.M.; A. W. Metcalfe, S.W., W.M. elect; W. A. Lyddon, J.W.; C. L. F. Edwards, P.M., P.P.G.S.W., S.G.D., Treas.; T. A. Smith, P.M., P.P.G.O., Sec.; R. W. Mattock, S.D.; A. Powell, J.D.; W. Reece, P.P.G. D. of C., D. of C.; E. Thatcher, P.P.G.O., Org.; E. H. Openshaw, I.G.; E. J. Davey, Stwd.; A. Barber, P.M., P.P.G. Purst.; G. W. Knowle, P.M.; S. D. G. Cox, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.; Savage-Glanvill, and others.

Lodge was opened, the minutes confirmed, and a satisfactory Audit Report was adopted. Bro. Metcalfe was then presented by Bro. Smith as W.M. elect, and duly installed into the chair by Bro. E. F. Wade, P.M. 291, P.G. Sec., in the absence of Bro. R. C. Else, D.P.G.M., P.G.D., through illness. The following officers were appointed: Bros. J. W. Pitts, I.P.M.; R. W. Mattock, S.W.; W. A. Lyddon, J.W.; R. W. Statham, Chap.; C. L. F. Edwards, S.G.D., Treas.; F. A. Smith, Sec.; A. Powell, S.D.; E. H. Openshaw, J.D.; E. J. Davey, I.G.; C. W. Bristowe and C. Winter, Stwds.; and J. Hall, Tyler.

The brethren then adjourned to the banquet served by Bro. J. Mountsteverly, P.M., P.P.A.G.P., which being concluded, the W.M. proposed the usual toasts.

The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The Grand Lodge," referred to the honour of having Bro. C. L. F. Edwards, S.G.D., as Treasurer another year, who replied and said the Grand Officers were not idle men, and took a great deal of interest in the Craft.

In submitting the toast of "The W.M.," Bro. Collins, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., said that he hoped the W.M. would have a busy year, and was sure that with health and strength the duties of the lodge would be carried out in a satisfactory manner.

"The Health of the Visitors" was next proposed.

Bros. F. Blackmore, P.M. 1222, P.P.G.S.B.; W. C. Thomas, W.M. 1222; H. W. Mackenzie, S.W. 1750; T. F. Goodall, W.M. 446; J. Gover, Colston, and Bristol replied.

The toasts of "The Past Masters" and "The Officers of the Lodge" were respectively briefly given, and responded to in a few words.

A few good songs closed the proceedings.

#### Southampton Lodge, No. 394.

The brethren of the above lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John on Thursday, the 16th inst., at the Masonic Hall, when Bro. A. Wellesley Harris, S.W., was installed as W.M., the ceremony being performed by Bro. G. Tilling, P.M., P.G.D. A large number were present, including Bros. E. Le Feuvre, P.G.D. England; Chaloner Shenton, W.M. 76; R. R. Linthorne, W.M. 130; H. Rowthorne, W.M. 359; S. Cooksey, W.M. 1112; R. W. Rider, W.M. 1461; Drysdall, W.M. 1780; C. H. H. Candy, W.M. 785; J. Lemon, H. F. Aslatt, H. Bull, H. Lashmore, S. Dacombe, A. Hewitt, F. W. Dunsford, W. Bowyer, A. Doggrell, and J. Hollis, of the lodge; C. J. Sharp, I.P.M., J. Cole, C. W. A. Jellicoe, and Bernard Harfield, of 130; Rev. H. Searle, 76, P.G.C.; Fletcher, 1112; and J. C. Burbage, 319.

The following officers were appointed for the year: Bros. Fairweather (from whom a telegram explaining absence was received), I.P.M.; E. Cooper Poole, S.W.; W. Berry, J.W.; J. Lemon, Treas.; R. R. Linthorne, Sec.; Rev. S. W. Stevens, M.A., Chap.; W. Paul, S.D.; J. E. Maffey, J.D.; F. A. Dunsford, P.M., D.C.; E. R. Ensor, I.G.; J. T. Wells, Org.; J. H. Blizard and M. G. Conlan, Stewards; and W. Vane, Tyler. Votes of thanks were passed to the Installing Master, to the I.P.M., and the late Secretary, Bro. Bowyer, a Past Master's jewel and a Secretary's jewel being voted in the two latter cases. A vote of sympathy with Bro. W. Bates, P.M., on the death of his brother, Bro. H. Bates, A.R.A., was also passed. The lodge was then closed.

The brethren afterwards partook of a *recherche* banquet, served by Mr. Etheridge. The new W.M. presided, and a very enjoyable evening ensued.

#### St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 2541.

The installation of Bro. Goodwin-Norris took place at the Masonic Hall, Avonmouth, near Bristol, on Saturday, the 18th inst. The ceremony was most ably performed by the W.M., Bro. T. Hoskins Gore, assisted by Bros. R. P. Sumner, P. Prov. S.G.W., and E. J. Villers, P.M. The W.M. appointed as his officers for the ensuing year Bros. F. S. Gifford, S.W.; J. J. Pearse, J.W.; E. R. Hodges, Sec.; T. Chapman, S.D.; H. Cottrell, J.D.; E. J. Pillers, D.C.; Charles Stone, I.G.; Barnard and Jefferies, Stwds.; and James, Tyler.

A banquet was subsequently held at the Royal Hotel, when the usual Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

There were some 30 brethren present, and among the visitors were Bros. R. C. Stephens, P.M.; Machon, P.M.; T. D. Sibly, F. H. Jullion, H. Dix Vincent, and Barnard.

## Royal Arch.

#### Royal Alfred Chapter, No. 777.

The regular meeting of this chapter was held at the Angel Hotel, Guildford, on Wednesday, the 15th instant, when there were present Comps. F. Dowse, Prov. G.D.C., M.E.Z.; Richard Eve, Past G. Treas. Eng., as H.; Alfred Gibbs, J.; J. B. S. Lancaster, P.Z., Scribe E.; T. P. Whateley, P.S.; and W. Macklin, A.S. Visitors: Comps. R. F. Gould, P.Z. 92; W. A. Shaw, 2317; and Surgeon Major Wellington Lake, 1704.

After the transaction of some routine business the chapter was closed, and an excellent banquet followed, the companions spending a very pleasant evening, and separating at an early hour.

#### Kennington Chapter, No. 1381.

A convocation of this chapter was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, on the 9th inst. Among those present were Comps. A. Lundie, M.E.Z.; Smith, H.; Whitney, J.; H. Higgins, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C.; S. C. George Everett, P.G. Treas. Eng., P.Z., Treas.; Wolsey, P.S.; Maj. T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C. Eng.; C. H. Kohler, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B.; H. J. Lardner, P.Z., P.P.G. Std. Br.; H. Salter, P.Z.; Lingley, P.Z.; and C. Patrick, P.Z. 1523, Janitor.

The minutes of the last convocation having been read and confirmed, the election of Principals and officers took place as follows: Comps. Smith, M.E.Z.; Whitney, H.; Gale, J.; Higgins, P.Z., S.E.; Wolsey, S.N.; G. Everett, P.Z., P.G.T., Treas.; Clay, P.S.; Wilkinson and Owen, Asst. Sojs.; and Patrick, P.Z., Janitor. A Past Principal's jewel was voted to the First Principal. E. Comp. W. Porter Webb, P.Z., was elected a member on the non-dining list. The M.E.Z. elect having kindly promised to present the chapter with a First Principal's collar and jewel, the offer was accepted with thanks. The Auditors having been elected, apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. Gale, S.N.; Clay, 1st Asst. Soj.; Buxton, I.P.Z.; Webb, P.Z.; Westley, P.Z.; Dennis, P.Z.; Dowling, P.Z.; Sims, P.Z.; Hopkins, Org.; and others. The chapter was then closed.

A banquet followed. Upon the removal of the cloth the usual toasts were duly honoured.

Comp. George Everett, P.Z., P.G. Treas., responded in happy terms on behalf of "The Grand Officers," and he subsequently submitted.

The toast of "The M.E.Z." He said that Comp. Lundie at the last meeting had had an opportunity of exalting a candidate, and he had taken advantage of the same by performing the ceremony well. This was the more to his credit, as the M.E.Z. had had few chances of seeing the ceremony performed in No. 1381. The chapter, although in a good financial position, unfortunately had made but slow progress in point of numbers. The lodge, for some reason or other, did not support the chapter as it deserved to be supported. He (the speaker) belonged to a London chapter, and its candidates were too plentiful. He, personally, did not believe in large lodges or chapters. No. 1381 was a very happy little institution, and he, as its originator, was very proud of it. In

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B. E. RATLIFF, } *Joint Secretaries*