

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

VOL. XXXVIII. NO. 1571]

SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1899.

[PRICE 3d.]

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ORIGIN OF THE "ANCIENT" GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

We happened recently in one of our Australasian exchanges to meet with an article quoted from the *Masonic Sun* which entitles us to conclude that neither the *Sun* nor the Masonic journal which honoured the *Sun's* article with a place in its columns, possesses any knowledge of the subject it has been writing about, or to which it has given all possible prominence. The article is headed "Grand Lodge of England—Story of its formation in 1717 and of the Schism of 1739." With that portion of it which is devoted to the formation of the 1717 Grand Lodge we need not concern ourselves. It contains nothing which has not been recorded times without number in every Masonic History and reproduced in almost every Masonic periodical that has ever been published. But this latest version of the origin of the "Ancient" Grand Lodge of England is such a marvellous compound of absurdities that we are unable to refrain from laying it briefly before our readers.

According to the writer of the article, "the schism," as he calls it, had its origin in the difficulties caused by certain regulations enacted by the 1717 Grand Lodge in reference to "establishing new lodges and conferring Degrees." It seems that, in or about 1739, "a few ambitious brethren, who were ineligible in the Grand Lodge for the Second and Third Degrees of Masonry, prevailed upon some inconsiderate Master Masons to open an illegal lodge, and pass and raise them to the Sublime Degree. These irregularities having escaped immediate detection, the same brethren proceeded to initiate new members into the Order, and attempted to invest them with Masonic privileges." But when the newly-initiated brethren applied to the regular lodges for admission as visitors, "their pretensions were unmasked, and the authors of the imposition were called upon to vindicate their conduct before the Grand Lodge." Accordingly, the matter was fully inquired into and the transgressors were pardoned on their undertaking to make full submission and be of good behaviour for the future, while stringent laws were enacted against those who should take part in irregular makings. This, we are told, was in 1739, but the delinquents, though pardoned, considered themselves aggrieved, and assuming the rôle of persecuted brethren

continued to meet in unauthorised places and to initiate, pass, and raise candidates, performing all the duties of a regularly warranted lodge "under the plea of an 'inherent right.'" Upon this the Grand Lodge introduced certain regulations which rendered it impossible for the clandestine brethren to gain admission into the regular lodges. The clandestines, however, replied by denouncing these regulations as departures from the ancient landmarks of Freemasonry and dubbed their opponents "Moderns" and themselves "Ancients," and at once set about establishing a new Grand Lodge "under the title of 'Ancient York Masons' without the assent or least recognition of the Grand Lodge at York, which had been revived and reorganised in 1725." It is added that LAWRENCE DERMOTT was firstly G. Secretary and subsequently Deputy Grand Master of the schismatic Grand Lodge, and that he published the "Ahiman Rezon," or Book of Constitutions, for those who adopted the "Ancient" system of Masonry.

* We should not have been surprised had this been written during the 18th century, when there were but few who knew anything about the rival systems of English Masonry, but that it should have been seriously written for one Masonic paper and quoted in the columns of another in this year of grace, 1899, and in the face of what has been discovered by such able writers on Masonic History as Bros. R. F. GOULD, W. J. HUGHAN, the late Rev. A. F. A. WOODFORD, HENRY SADLER, and others, is as deplorable as it is astounding.

GRAND LODGE OF TASMANIA.

We have every reason to be proud of the position achieved for itself by the Grand Lodge of Tasmania during the eight or nine years it has existed as a separate and independent body, and possessing supreme authority over the lodges and brethren in the colony. True, it is one of the smallest, if not absolutely the smallest, of the Grand Lodges which have been established during the last two centuries in divers countries. Nevertheless, as the reports of its proceedings at successive annual meetings disclose, it discharges its important duties in a manner which it is hardly possible to commend too highly, while the members, one and all, appear to be actuated by a spirit of the most devoted loyalty to the principles of Freemasonry. The latest evidence we have of the justice of these asseverations is to be found in the printed report of the Eighth Annual Communication held in Launceston on the 27th January last, when the reports presented by the Board of General Purposes and Benevolence and the different executive officers of Grand Lodge clearly indicated that the proceedings of the year then closed had been in all respects most gratifying. This evidence must have been particularly welcome to the respected Grand Master, M.W. Bro. the Hon. C. E. DAVIES, M.L.C., who had spent the greater part of the interval between the annual gatherings of last year and this in visiting England, where both in his official Masonic capacity, and as a private individual he proved himself *persona grata*. Indeed, as between our Tasmanian brethren and their Grand Master, the pleasure of meeting once again in their Grand Lodge must have been mutual. He must have been delighted to find that during his absence the work of the Tasmanian Craft had prospered beyond all previous experience, while they must have been equally delighted to hear how kind and cordial had been the reception

accorded to their elected chief by all sections of the English Craft, from his Royal Highness the Grand Master downwards. Nor can the brethren in this distant part of the British Empire have been otherwise than deeply impressed with the picture their Grand Master gave of the principal Masonic gatherings to which he had been invited. No doubt they had heard long before he returned home how he had visited United Grand Lodge and our Institutions; how he had been present at the Centenary of our Boys' School and sundry of the principal functions which are celebrated annually; and how, wherever he attended, he had been heartily and enthusiastically received, not only as an honoured guest from a remote colony, but also as the Grand Master, and, therefore, in his own person the representative, of one of the many British Colonial Grand Lodges which have come into existence during the last half century, and which, though they severally exercise supreme authority over the Masons in their respective countries, are, nevertheless, part and parcel, so to speak, of our own Masonic kith and kin. All this must have lent additional interest to the proceedings at the recent annual communication at Launceston.

We have said that the reports for the year 1898, as presented by the Boards and executive officers of Grand Lodge, were most encouraging. At first sight this remark might not seem to apply to that of the Board of Benevolence, from which we learn that "early in the year the liabilities attaching to the Tasmanian Masonic Benevolent Fund were assumed by the Board, the Fund having previously been vested in Trustees for the benefit of the Grand Lodge Fund. As these liabilities at the present time largely exceed the income derived from the investments in the securities held by the Trustees, some time must necessarily elapse before the full advantage accruing from the transfer of this important Fund can be realised." But this is only a temporary drawback, nor does it seem to have affected the prosperity of the Fund of Benevolence generally, seeing that, after accounting for the interest received from the Trustees of the Fund thus taken over and for expenditure amounting to £156 7s., there remained a balance in hand of over £132. One incident is mentioned, which, as it illustrates the spirit in which the Committee of the Masonic Benevolent Fund discharged their duties, is well worthy of being repeated in our columns. Assistance had been rendered to a well-known brother by the said Committee, and in order to save certain life assurance policies, it took them over, and "regularly paid the premiums for several years, and made an advance to the brother, who was in some distress at the time." The brother has recently died and "it fell to the lot of the Trustees of the transferred Fund to hand over to the widow the substantial sum of £145 14s. 2d., after allowing for advances previously made and for the premiums paid; and in addition, to restore, paid up to date, a policy on the widow's own life for £100. Without the timely assistance given by the Committee these policies would have lapsed absolutely, and the widow and family of an esteemed and deserving brother would have been left in exceedingly poor circumstances."

It remains for us to add that in the course of the meeting Bro. C. E. DAVIES was re-elected and re-installed M.W. Grand Master for the ensuing year, that he appointed the same brethren as last year his Pro and Deputy Grand Masters, and invested the rest of his Grand Officers. We may also state that a petition was presented during the Grand Master's absence from home for the constitution of a new lodge to be opened at Queenstown and to be named, in all probability, the Mount Lyell Lodge, and in the event of the Grand Master having been able to carry out his intention of visiting the west coast of the island for the purpose of inaugurating it, that lodge now ranks as No. 24 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Tasmania.

LODGE No. 228.

Bro. G. B. Abbott has written an interesting sketch of the "Lodge of United Strength, No. 228," and has almost literally proved himself to be a manufacturer; for the period covered by him, viz., 1798 to 1813, has been entirely made up by researches apart from the minutes which have been lost for those years.

Those familiar with Bro. R. Grigg's historical address delivered at the Centenary celebration of the lodge will be aware how badly off No. 228 is

in respect to its early records, yet both Bro. Grigg and Bro. Abbott were not daunted thereby, and have traced a number of facts as to the lodge from its advent in 1798 onward, which has placed the members in possession of a mass of information quite wonderful under the circumstances.

The sketch by Bro. Abbott has been neatly printed in book form by Bro. George Kenning for private distribution, and has my dear old friend James Terry, looking as well preserved and hearty as ever, as the appropriate frontispiece, that zealous Masonic veteran being W.M. for the third time, and looking as if he could fill it acceptably, as doubtless he would, if needs be, for many more years yet.

Bro. Abbott furnishes two corrections, apparently, to Bro. Jno. Lane's invaluable "Masonic Records, 1717-1894"; the place of meeting in 1803 being at the "Red Lion, Five-fields," not "Five Bells," and it was the "Three Tuns" in which the Lodge assembled a little later on. Apparently, the name was selected in 1816, viz., "United Strength," or even sooner, and probably, in consequence of the union of the two rival Grand Lodges, No. 228 being under the "Atholl Masons," or "Ancient," from 1798 to 1813, as No. 314.

The roll of principal officers from the origin of the Lodge to the "Union," of Dec., 1813, is a most useful compilation, as also the Roll of Members for the same period, thus bringing the brethren of the present time acquainted with their forbears, and completing the Register for a century. It is much to be desired that other competent brethren would be equally diligent in making the histories of their Lodges so happily and accurately known to their members, especially those of last century constitution. What could be better than such a digest of the facts, as thus presented, being printed as a preface to the By-Laws and presented to all new members?

W. J. HUGHAN.

DEVON MASONIC EDUCATIONAL FUND.

The annual meeting of this Institution, of which Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, C.B., M.P., Prov. G.M., is President, was held at the White Hart Hotel, Okehampton, on the 5th inst., under the banner of Obedience Lodge, No. 1753, for the purpose of electing a child on the funds of the Institution. Until last year it had been the custom to hold the meeting alternately at Exeter and Plymouth, but last year there was a departure, the meeting being held at Torquay, the object being to secure greater interest in the funds.

Prior to the meeting the executive officers of the Institution and representatives of various lodges were entertained by Bro. G. J. Gibson, W.M. 1753, and the brethren of the lodge. Mr. and Mrs. Heywood served an excellent repast in the dining-room of the hotel.

On the motion of Bro. C. MUTTEN, seconded by Bro. STEBBING, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Bros. Gibson and Charles Piper, Charity Steward; and to the brethren of the lodge for their kind hospitality, and the arrangements they had made for the meeting.

The brethren present were Bros. E. H. Shorto, P.M., 39 and 2659, P.P. J.G.W. (who presided); C. Stebbing, P.M. 155 and 1212, P.G. Treas.; H. R. Grover, P.M. 1135, P.P.J.G.D.; J. R. Lord, P.M. 1247, P.P.G., Treas., P.G.D.C. (Treasurer to the Fund); J. B. Gover, P.M. 70, P.P.A.G. Sec. (Secretary to the Fund); W. A. Gregory, P.M. 1753, P.P.G. Treas.; J. W. Cornish, P.M. 223, P.P.G. Treas.; Charles Piper, P.M. 1753, P.D.G.D.C.; W. Allsford, P.M. 202, P.P.G. Treas.; G. J. Gibson, W.M. 1753; T. H. Channing, 1753; A. R. Bray, 1753; W. T. Hockin, P.M. 70, P.P.G. Std. Br.; E. G. Dyke, P.M. 1246, P.P.G. Org.; A. S. Henty, P.M. 189, P.P.S.G.D.; Andrew Hope, P.M. 39; F. W. Payn, P.M. 2025, P.P.S.G.D.; W. L. Lavers, P.M. 1255, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Charles Mutton, P.M. 1550; R. Douglas Renwick, P.M. 328; J. C. Elliott, P.M. 1212 and 2655; W. Powell, P.M. 1205, P.P.G. Treas.; B. S. Johns, P.M. 159, P.P.G. Std. Br.; J. Griffin, P.M. 2025, P.P.S.G.D., and James Coombe, 1753.

The Treasurer's report showed that the balance brought forward from last year, 1897, was £595 6s. 5d., and the subscriptions and other receipts amounted to £329 19s. 8d., while the interest on the deposit account was £32 10s., making a total of £957 16s. The subscriptions and other receipts for 1897 were £529 8s. 4d., so that they would see there was a regrettable falling off of nearly £200 as compared with the previous year. This was in a great measure due to the failure of the annual concert at Plymouth. There was in the bank on current account the sum of £558, and with £26 in the Treasurer's hands, made a total of £584. There was also the sum of £1300 on deposit, making their total funds £1885. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. ALLSFORD said he had no doubt that his action in advising that the proceeds of the concert should be divided had led to a great extent to the falling off in the receipts of at least £100. He felt now that it was a mistake, and he would endeavour by his future energies to do all he could to rectify it.

The CHAIRMAN said he was very sorry to hear the Fund was £200 worse off than it was in the previous year. He trusted that during the coming year all the leeway would be more than made up. He would move the adoption of the report, and commended the hard and unselfish labours of the Treasurer (Bro. Lord), and the Secretary (Bro. Gover), whose work was a labour of love.

Bro. POWELL seconded the motion, which was carried.

The Guardians of the Children having presented their reports, a vote of thanks was passed to them.

The following officers were then cordially thanked for their past services, and re-elected: Bros. J. R. Lord, Treas.; J. B. Gover, Sec.; and W. H. Dillon, Asst. Sec.

On the motion of Bro. CHARLES PIPER, seconded by Bro. C. MUTTEN, the Secretary (Bro. Gover) was tendered the sincere thanks of the subscribers for the valuable services he had rendered the Fund, of which he was one of the founders, and for which Bro. Lord had done so much.

The motion was carried, and in reply, Bro. GOVER said he felt very proud of the work done by the Institution. He had held his present post 20 years. He thanked the brethren very sincerely for his re-election.

Bros. Allsford and Stanbury were elected Auditors.

The Dep. Prov. G. Master (Bro. Davie) and the Prov. G. Secretary (Bro. John Stocker) were elected on the Committee of Management.

Bro. C. MUTTEN moved, and it was resolved, that £5 be voted towards the advancement in life of the son of a brother.

It was reported that there were at present 23 children on the fund, the guardians of each being paid an annual sum of £15.

The brethren then proceeded to elect a child on the Fund. There were two candidates, both of whom were unsuccessful at the last election. The candidate nominated by the Ilfracombe Lodge was the son of a late brother of Concord Lodge, and brought forward 1086 votes, and the candidate supported by the

Torquay Lodge was the daughter of a brother who died there last year. The votes brought forward were 470. The result of the voting was that the Ilfrcombe candidate secured in all 3171 votes, and the Torquay candidate 1401 votes, which were carried forward to next election. The Scrutineers reported that 3304 votes had been issued, but that 144 papers were useless, not having been filled up. The Chairman was warmly thanked for presiding, and a very pleasant evening terminated.

THE RECENT FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The following lists and additions to lists have been received since our report of the 1st inst., namely:—

Lodge	LONDON.	£	s.	d.
781	Bro. A. P. Bebrouth, additional (raising his list to £196 10s.)	10	10	0
862	Bro. W. C. Tyler, additional... (raising his list to £112 2s.)	7	2	0
1035	Bro. F. C. Van Duzer, further additional (raising his list to £43 8s.)	2	2	0
THE PROVINCES.				
ESSEX.				
1343	Bro. — Weymouth, new Steward and list	10	10	0
KENT.				
1915	Bro. J. R. Elvin (Lewis), additional (raising his list to £105.)	52	10	0
2404	Bro. Capt. Fras. Powell, further additional (raising his list to £97 17s.)	10	10	0
LINCOLNSHIRE.				
838	Bro. W. H. Gane, additional (raising his list to £36 15s.)	5	5	0
MONMOUTHSHIRE.				
To the total for the whole of the Province, additional (making the amount £480.)				
NORTHS AND HUNTS.				
Unattached				
Bro. John Haviland, additional (raising his list to £26 5s.)				
Bro. George Ellard, additional (raising his list to £54 1s. 6d.)				
OXFORDSHIRE.				
1036	Bro. the Hon. H. Lee-Dillon, new list	10	14	0
SOMERSETSHIRE.				
Prov. G. Lodge, additional (raising the total to £25 10s.)				
SURREY.				
2444	Bro. E. H. Lewis, further additional (raising his list to £49 12s.)	1	10	0
SUSSEX.				
384 } 56 }	Bro. G. Fielder ... (raising his list to £60 12s.)	3	5	0
WORCESTERSHIRE.				
The Province ... (raising the total for the whole body of Worcestershire Stewards to £221 11s.)				

Craft Masonry.

Strong Man Lodge, No. 45.

A meeting of this important lodge was held at the Holborn Restaurant on Tuesday, the 4th inst. There were present Bros. Wm. Briggs, L.L.M., W.M.; Tom Taylor, S.W.; T. Ockelford, J.W.; G. G. Symons, P.M., Treas.; W. G. Mills, P.M., Sec.; T. J. Burgess, J.D.; D. A. Langton, P.M., D.C.; J. Briggs, M.A., Org. and Asst. D.C.; E. J. Vidler, I.G.; W. R. G. Emerson, F. Bristow, and G. Smith, Stewards; T. Williams, acting Tyler; J. Cuer, I.P.M.; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M.; Chas. Cerdingley, P.M.; Philip Sharp, P.M., P.G. Std. Br. Herts (Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction), Hon. Member; E. M. Hall, J. J. Berry, A. G. Peckham, A. Davies, E. Thornicroft, G. F. Ward, J. H. Telmes, J. King, A. Hall, C. Helby, J. L. Leslie, B. Hall, T. W. Heaton, and H. Durell. Visitors: Bros. E. Holmes, Org. 2499; A. W. Hoskins, 1816; A. W. Alger, 1598; E. M. Money, P.A.G.D.C. Eng.; N. C. Crewl, W.M. 2096; and R. J. Harris, W.M. 1695.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Mr. C. Helby and Dr. J. L. Leslie, which proved unanimous in their favour. The election of Auditors then took place, Bros. Sells, Bromley Hall, and Durell being elected. Bro. Mallet was elected Tyler. Bro. J. Briggs asked the approval of the brethren for the formation of a Royal Arch chapter in connection with the lodge, which was unanimously granted. Messrs. Helby and Leith were initiated by the W.M. in an able and impressive manner. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year then took place, the choice of the brethren falling upon Bro. Tom Taylor, S.W., who returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him. Bro. G. G. Symons was again elected Treasurer. The initiates having returned to the lodge, the W.M. gave the charge of the First Degree. Bro. Cuer, I.P.M., proposed, and Bro. G. G. Symons, P.M., Treas., seconded, "That a Past Master's jewel and collar should be presented to the W.M.," which was unanimously approved by the lodge. The W.M. heartily thanked the brethren for their kind appreciation of his services and the lodge was closed.

After the banquet in the Prince's Salon, the W.M. gave the usual loyal toasts—"The Queen and the Craft;" "The M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales;" "The Pro G.M., the Earl Amherst; the Dep. G.M., the Earl of Warwick; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Bro. E. M. Money replied on their behalf. He said that all the Grand Officers were actuated by the same ardent desire to promote the interests of the Craft.

Bro. Symons, in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," feelingly alluded to his many virtues, his great kindness to one and all of the brethren, and remarked that he had raised the dignity and character of the Strong Man Lodge in an exemplary manner.

The W.M., in reply, stated that he heartily thanked the worthy Treasurer for his kind remarks, and assured the brethren that he was fully repaid for all his efforts by the kind sympathy and support he had received from them. The W.M. related some interesting personal experiences showing how carefully and judiciously the cases brought before the Board of Benevolence were investigated, and how conscientiously the Board discharged its incumbent duties. In spite of the happy year of office he had passed, he would be pleased to join the noble band of Past Masters, to whom whilst presiding over the lodge he had been very grateful for the support they had so readily accorded him.

"The Initiates" was given by the W.M., who said that during his year he had had eight candidates; he felt sure that the present initiates would be an honour to the lodge. The initiates shortly replied, and to the point.

By the request of the W.M. the toast of "The Visitors" was given by Bro. Philip Sharp, Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction, hon. member. He said that for nearly

20 years he had replied on behalf of the visitors, but had now the proud privilege of giving that toast himself. On behalf of the brethren he accorded them a hearty welcome, assuring them that generous hospitality was a distinguishing feature of the Strong Man Lodge.

Bro. Holmes and other visitors responded. Then came "The Officers of the Lodge," and the Tyler's toast brought a pleasant evening to a close.

Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 60.

A meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on the 24th ult. Among those present were Bros. Debenham, P.M., P.G.S., W.M.; W. H. Kempster, P.M., P.G.S., as S.W.; C. Robinson, P.M., P.P.G.R., Grand Steward, J.W.; Chancellor, P.M., P.G.S., Treas.; E. Rogers, P.M., P.P.G.D., P.G.S., Sec.; F. Slade, J.D.; W. Thomas, P.M., I.G.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S., P.G. Std. Br., D. of C.; W. Ford, Stwd.; H. J. Lardner, P.P.G.D.C., P.G.S., I.P.M.; and H. Slade, P.M., P.G.S. Bro. A. B. Brown, P.M. 1503, was a visitor.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bros. A. B. Brown, P.M., and L. M. Binnie as joining members, and it proved to be unanimous. The sum of 10 guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, per the W.M., who represents the lodge as a Steward at the ensuing Festival. Bro. C. Robinson, J.W., G. Steward, also represents the lodge for the same Institution, and the sum of five guineas has been voted to his list. Bro. F. Slade, G. Stwd. nominate, was elected to represent the lodge at the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in 1900. It was unanimously resolved that the summer dinner be held at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, on the fourth Friday in June next. The W.M. then announced that it was his intention to provide a steam launch for an up-river excursion on the day, and that luncheon would be served on board. One of the bye-laws having been added to, and communications from absent brethren read, the lodge was closed.

A banquet followed. Upon the removal of the cloth, the customary toasts received full justice. Bro. C. Robinson, G.S., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers."

"The Health of the W.M." was proposed in flattering terms by the I.P.M. The W.M. having replied, gave "The Joining Members," coupled with the name of Bro. A. Burnett Brown. The W.M. said that they were always pleased to receive with open arms new members when well recommended. Number 60 was a lodge of antiquity and renown, and possessed also valuable privileges. He hoped that in due time the brethren admitted that evening would participate in those privileges.

Bro. Brown, in reply, expressed his acknowledgments to his proposer and second for having given him the opportunity of joining so good and old a lodge. He had long desired to become associated with one of the 13 "red apron" lodges. He trusted in due time to pass through the offices leading to the chair.

"The Health of the Past Masters" was coupled with the names of Bros. Lardner and Slade, who duly responded.

"The Treasurer and Secretary" followed. Bros. Chancellor and Rogers having briefly acknowledged the compliment paid them, the toast of "The Officers" was given, and to this pledge Bros. F. Slade and W. Thomas replied.

The proceedings then terminated.

Honour and Generosity Lodge, No. 165.

A meeting of this ancient and well-known lodge was held on the 28th ult., at the Inns of Court Hotel, W.C., at which a large number of brethren were present, amongst whom were Bros. A. P. Crabb, W.M.; F. E. Rosher, I.P.M.; F. Howard Rosher, S.W.; J. Woodhouse, J.W.; Henry Times, P.M. and Sec.; Godfrey Sykes, S.D.; W. de B. Herbert, J.D.; H. W. Clarkson, Org.; W. M. Thompson, I.G.; G. E. Wainwright, P.M.; J. R. Drake, P.M.; Frank Baggallay, P.M.; F. S. Gaylor, Harry Bearman, C. J. Andrews, W. H. Burt, J. W. Ellis, and W. C. Hulbert. Amongst the distinguished visitors were Bros. Henry Neville, A.G.D.C.; W. L. Florence, G. Supt. of Works; J. B. Phillips, I. W. Torckler, 2234; W. H. Anns, 1146; J. F. Beck, 1853; M. P. Robinson, 15; A. R. Upjohn, 2033; J. White, jun., I.P.M. 176; J. A. Hamilton, 1319; H. Wharton Wells, W.M. 946; Templer Saxe, 2199; Reg. Groome, 1929; and F. H. Cheesewright, P.M. 907.

A large amount of Masonic business was transacted including the First and Second Ceremonies, which were worked by the W.M. in strict accordance with Emulation working and, after the election of the officers for the ensuing year, it was announced that Bro. F. Howard Rosher, S.W., would represent the lodge as Steward at the forthcoming Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and a sum of 10 guineas was voted from the funds of the lodge to be placed on his list. Other business having been transacted the brethren adjourned to a well served banquet.

The usual loyal toasts were given by the W.M. and duly honoured.

Bro. Henry Times, in proposing the toast of "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," said that this was a toast that required no eloquence from him, as it was well-known to all present the good work that was done by the Grand Officers. Unfortunately, Bros. Eve, P.G.T., and Belton, P.D.G.D.C., both shining lights in Freemasonry, and P.Ms. of the lodge, were unable to be present, but they were fortunate in having among their guests two present Grand Officers, Bro. Henry Neville, A.G.D.C., whose fame had spread throughout the land, not only as an ornament to the profession which he adorned, but as a worker of the Masonic ritual, who had been travelling since the early morning from Ireland on purpose to be present with them that evening, and Bro. W. L. Florence, G. Supt. of Wks.

Bro. Henry Neville, A.G.D.C., in responding, said that it was a great pleasure to be present and a guest in the lodge where the work was so well done and where honour and generosity predominated, and concluded his speech with an intimation that if it were desired he would give a recitation, which was received with prologued applause by all present.

Bro. F. E. Rosher, I.P.M., gave the toast of "The Worshipful Master." His work in the lodge could not but be fully appreciated by the brethren, and although his years were not many, he had proved himself thoroughly conversant with the work of the lodge, and had fulfilled the arduous duties which had devolved upon him in a masterful manner.

The W.M., Bro. A. P. Crabb, briefly responded, and thanked the brethren for their support during the past year. His duties had fallen lightly upon him from the fact that, although there had been a large amount of work to do, he had been supported so loyally by the I.P.M., who had always been close at hand to render any assistance should it be required. Before resuming his seat the W.M. gave the toast of "The Past Masters," to which Bro. Drake, P.M., responded.

The toast of "The Initiate" was entrusted by the W.M. to Bro. G. E. Wainwright, P.M., who said that as a rule it was the custom to deliver to the initiate a long lecture on the importance and dignity of the Order into which he had been admitted; but he proposed to break away from that rule on that occasion, more especially as an excellent musical programme was before them, and the W.M. had set the excellent example of curtailing all the speeches as much as possible, and he would, therefore, simply welcome him into the Order of ancient Freemasonry.

Bro. W. H. Burt, the initiate, in responding, said that he felt he had been admitted into a society of men who were brothers indeed; that he had been deeply impressed by what he had heard that evening, and that he trusted he would in due time make a good Mason. He was grateful for the honour that had been done him by being admitted a member of the Institution, and having been elected a member of such a distinguished lodge as Honour and Generosity.

"The Visitors" was proposed by Bro. W. M. Thompson.

Bro. W. L. Florence, G.S. of W., responded, and complimented the brethren on the excellent working he had witnessed.

Bro. F. Howard Rosher, S.W., replied on behalf of "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast brought a most successful evening to a close.

During the evening Bro. Henry Neville recited, with his well-known dramatic force, "Roger and I," and for an encore delighted his audience with "If we only knew." Bros. Templer Saxe, Reg. Groom, and Fred Cheesewright sang, and in each case an additional song was demanded and generously given by these artists. The instrumental part of the programme was supplied by Bros. James A. Hamilton (flute) and Wharton Wells (piano).

St. George's Lodge, No. 242.

The monthly meeting was held in the Masonic Rooms, Doncaster, on Friday, the 7th instant. Present: Bros. H. H. Buckland, I.P.M., acting W.M.; T. W. Turner, S.W.; F. Duff, J.W.; J. Fitzgerald, Chap.; F. Rand, P.P.G. Treas.; J. W. Hainsworth, Sec.; H. Foster, S.D.; C. Reasbeck, J.D.; A. W. Fretwell, D.C.; J. H. Pawson, P.P.G.R., Org.; J. W. Chapman and J. Hurst, Stewards; J. Mason, Tyler; C. Goldthorpe, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; F. J. Forth, P.M.; R. A. Bridge, P.M.; F. Webb, P.M.; F. King, C. Porrett, J. W. Taylor, H. C. White, W. H. Ord, J. F. Hanson, and J. Charles. Visitors: Bros. J. Constable, 2259, P.P.G. Std. Br., and G. Wesley, 86.

A letter of apology was read from Bro. G. Smith, the W.M., for absence owing to ill-health. The election for the W.M. for the ensuing year resulted in a unanimous vote for Bro. T. W. Turner, S.W., who suitably responded. Bro. F. Rand was re-elected Treasurer. The office of Tyler and Assistant Tyler being vacant, Messrs. J. Marsden and E. J. Pratt were duly initiated into Freemasonry as serving brethren, and were afterwards elected Tylers.

The brethren at the close of the lodge partook of light refreshment in the ante-room.

Franklin Lodge, No. 838.

At the Peacock and Royal Hotel, Boston, on the 6th inst., Councillor William Pooles, the Mayor of the borough, was entertained at a complimentary banquet by the members of the above lodge, with which he has been actively associated for upwards of 30 years, and was presented with a handsomely illuminated address, congratulating him on the high honour conferred upon him by his fellow townsmen.

A lodge was held in the afternoon, at which a large number of members and visiting brethren were present, including Bro. W. Harling Sissons, J.P., D.L., the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Lincolnshire.

The W.M., Bro. T. Kitwood, presided at the banquet, and was supported on the right by the guest of the evening, and on the left by the D.P.G.M.

Business engagements prevented the attendance of Bros. W. Garfit, M.P.; C. A. Kirby, W. J. H. Wood, C. T. Tunnard, and others.

Gundulph Lodge, No. 1050.

The installation meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Guildhall, Rochester, on Wednesday, the 5th instant, the event being marked, by the kind permission of the Mayor and Corporation, by the hoisting of the flag belonging to the lodge on the Gundulph Tower of the ancient Castle. There were present Bros. F. Oldroyd, W.M.; H. W. Bagshaw, I.P.M.; J. F. W. Morris, S.W., W.M. elect; C. H. Fielding, M.A., P.M., P.P.G.C., Chap.; J. W. Nash, P.M., Treas.; Ed. Barrell, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br. Kent, Sec.; R. Ternouth, S.D.; E. J. Martell, J.D.; James Smart, I.G.; J. T. Snell, Stwd.; G. H. Russell, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; E. Lemon, P.M.; C. T. Ashton, P.M.; S. Price, junr., P.M.; F. Oman, C. H. Dibley, H. Littlewood, W. Browning, W. A. Peach, W. S. J. Brice, H. Butler, and A. S. Boucher. Visitors: Bros. the Very Rev. Dean S. Reynolds Hole, P.G.C.; C. F. Bow, W.M. 503; S. E. Morgan, P.M. 2404; G. Masters, W.M. 77; H. W. Bagshaw, P.M. 543; H. W. T. Oaks, W.M. 20; E. Lake, 1967; F. F. Smith, W.M. 1174; T. Davies, W.M. 1381; C. D. Levy, P.M. 20; C. Martin, 65; F. Fox, 101; Archie Christie, 1622; F. A. Harris, 1622; S. W. Ballard, P.M. 1622; S. J. Derham, P.M. 1622; C. Woodgate, W.M. 1967; Francis Powell, P.M. 993, P.P.G.D. Hants; W. J. Beck, W.M. 2404; and C. H. Stone, P.M. 507, S.W. 1641.

Bro. H. W. Bagshaw, I.P.M., D.C., announced the arrival of Bro. the Very Rev. Dean Hole, P.G. Chap., and he was saluted in due form. In reply, the Ven. Dean accepted "their hearty salutations, and extended fraternal greetings." The W.M. elect, Bro. J. F. Morris, was next presented by Bro. H. W. Bagshaw, I.P.M., D.C., to the W.M. to receive at his hands the benefit of installation, which ceremony was admirably carried out in a Board of 25 Installed Masters. Bro. J. F. W. Morris, W.M., invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. T. Oldroyd, I.P.M.; W. Mason, S.W. (deferred); R. Ternouth, J.W.; the Rev. C. H. Fielding, P.M., Chap.; J. W. Nash, P.M., Treas.; E. Barrell, P.M., Sec.; E. J. Martell, S.D.; A. L. Brown, J.D.; H. Amon, D.C. (deferred); J. Smart, Org.; J. T. Snell, I.G.; Peach and Boucher, Stwds.; W. Broadbridge, Almoner (deferred); and B. Astle, Tyler. The three addresses were impressively rendered by Bro. Oldroyd, Installing Master. The W.M. next rose, and said a very pleasing duty devolved upon him and that was to present a handsome jewel to Bro. Oldroyd unanimously voted by the brethren for the able services he had rendered the lodge and specially during the past year. He had worked the installation ceremony in a very able manner which had been admired by all. He hoped he would wear that testimony of their esteem for many years. In reply, Bro. Oldroyd tendered his hearty thanks for the handsome jewel and for their kind expressions towards him. He had done his best, which was only his duty, and none could do more, and he trusted he might live for many years to wear that mark of their affection in the Gundulph Lodge. The W.M. next moved "That a hearty vote of thanks be given to the Mayor and Corporation for allowing the lodge to hold its installation meeting in the Guildhall, which was a very great privilege, and also for hoisting the flag on the Gundulph Tower in commemoration of the same." This was ably seconded by Bro. E. Lemon, P.M., and supported by Bros. F. F. Smith, W.M. 1174, and H. W. Bagshaw, I.P.M. Bro. E. Lemon, P.M., very kindly undertook to convey the resolution to the Mayor and Corporation that evening. Bro. Solon Price, junr., P.M., was re-elected the Charity Representative, which office he had ably filled for some time. Bro. S. Price very suitably replied, and thanked the brethren for the trust reposed in him to fill such an important office. A hearty vote of thanks was next proposed by the W.M. to the Installing Master, who had performed the ceremony in an excellent manner. The W.M. hoped to emulate the Installing Master in every way. This was very ably seconded by Bro. H. W. Bagshaw, I.P.M. In reply, Bro. Oldroyd, I.P.M., thanked the brethren very much; what he had done was to the best of his ability, and having put his shoulder to the plough he would not turn back, and if he had succeeded, it fully gratified him.

The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the King's Head Hotel, where was served a sumptuous banquet, at which the W.M. most ably presided.

The banquet ended, the W.M. presented the customary loyal and Masonic toasts in a very patriotic manner.

The toast of "The Prov. G.M., Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers," was presented by Bro. C. H. Fielding, Prov. G.C., who said the men of Kent were very proud of Earl Amherst, P. G.M., who was indeed an able nobleman, and also of other brethren holding honours in Grand Lodge.

The toast was cordially received.

Bro. H. W. Bagshaw, I.P.M., next presented the toast of "The Prov. G.M., Dep. Prov. G.M., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers," and stated that the brethren of Kent felt indeed the great honour in their Prov. G.M. having been installed Prov. G.M., and none were more worthy of that position. Of Bro. Estes, Dep. Prov. G.M., there was no one more brotherly, genial, and fatherly to all, and but to know him was to love him. He coupled with the toast Bro. C. H. Fielding, Prov. G. Chap.

In reply, Bro. Fielding, M.A., said he was always glad to respond for such eminent Masons and sing their praises, which he had done for years past. There were others who had toiled hard in Freemasonry besides himself, such as Bros. Price and Barrell. The Gundulph Lodge, withal, was well represented in the Grand Lodge of Kent. It was 21 years since he became a member, and he felt he had come of age, and he hoped that many more in the lodge would reach the summit and be added to the roll of Prov. G. Officers.

The Installing Master next proposed the toast of "The W.M.," of whom he could not say too much, for there was no brother who had filled the various offices more ably and now had been installed as W.M., and he (Bro. Oldroyd) was assured the duties would be carried out in the same efficient manner, and the brethren of the Gundulph Lodge were proud of him.

In reply, Bro. Morris, W.M. (who had a warm reception), said he most heartily thanked them for their cordial greeting. He could assure them with what pleasure he held the honourable position. It had taken him 10 years to attain the same, and it had been his ambition, as it ought to be of all brethren, if possible. He had followed the I.P.M. step by step, and had been installed by him most ably. His aim would be to uphold the dignity and prestige of the Gundulph Lodge, which prided itself upon having as good Masters as any lodge in the Province of Kent. Although living away from Rochester, it would not deter him from doing his utmost to carry out his duties, and

maintain the good name that had always been connected with the lodge. He thanked them most heartily.

The W.M. next presented the toast of "The Visitors" in most becoming terms, giving them all a most hearty welcome, and the lodge was proud of having so many worthy brethren present.

The toast was most ably responded to by Bros. Powell, Oaks, Masters, Bow, Smith, Davies, Stone, Beck, and Woodgate, one and all remarking upon the work, kindly feeling, and hospitality shown.

The toasts of "The Past Masters," "The Officers of the Lodge," and "The Masonic Charities" having been duly honoured, the Tyler's toast closed a happy and profitable evening.

An excellent programme of music was arranged by Bro. T. Oldroyd, P.M., ably assisted by Miss Kate Willey (loudly encored), Miss Marie Villiers (who also had a capital reception), Mr. C. Shepherd (humorist), Bros. S. J. Derham, P.M. (flautist), and Valentine Hill (reciter). Mr. Spence very ably accompanied upon the piano.

Farringdon Without Lodge, No. 1745.

A meeting was held at the Viaduct Hotel, Holborn, on the 27th ult. Among those present were Bros. W. R. Witt, W.M.; J. D. Webb, S.W.; C. Bachoffner, P.M., as J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., P.G.S., P.P.G. Std. Br., Treas.; W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; Dr. E. M. Lott, P.M., P.G. Org. England, Org.; Dr. J. W. Hinton, M.A., P.M. 84, W.M. 1503, P.P.G.O., Asst. Org.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S., P.P.G. Std. Br.; J. Young, P.M.; T. Simpson, P.M.; N. P. Lardner, P.M.; Evans, I.P.M.; F. Kent, P.M. 177; J. W. Gaze, C.C., P.M.; and E. Mallet, P.M. 141, Tyler.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Messrs. William Henry Hayward and William Gipps Kent, and they being in attendance, were impressively initiated—the first named by the W.M. and the latter by Bro. F. Kent, P.M. A resolution was unanimously passed—"That a summer outing of the lodge take place, and a sum of money be contributed from the funds of the lodge towards the expenses of the same." Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. W. Wellsman, C.C., P.M., J.W.; P. Weinel, S.D.; G. Herbert, P.M.; T. L. Pewtress, and others.

The lodge having been closed, a banquet followed upon the removal of the cloth the customary loyal and Craft toasts were, duly honoured.

Bro. Dr. E. M. Lott, P.G.O., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers."

"The Health of the W.M." was submitted by the I.P.M. He congratulated the W.M. upon the steady progress of the lodge during his Mastership. He also complimented him upon the manner in which he had discharged his duties both in and out of the lodge.

The W.M. briefly, in reply, expressed his acknowledgments to the proposer of the toast for the flattering manner in which he had given the same. He had endeavoured to do his best. He hoped that the summer outing and dinner in July, over which he hoped to preside, would be as successful as the last one had been. In giving the toast of "The Initiates" the W.M. conveyed his appreciation of the services of Bro. F. Kent in initiating one of the candidates. It was always an interesting event to see a father initiate a son. Bro. F. Kent was an old Masonic veteran, and he trusted that his son would follow in the footsteps of a worthy sire.

This toast having been warmly received, the candidates duly replied.

The other toasts followed in quick succession, as the hour was late. They were "The Visitors," "The Past Masters," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers."

During the evening several of the brethren entertained the members, assisted by the valuable professional aid of Bros. Drs. Lott, and Hinton.

**THE LATE BRO. COL. LE GENDRE N. STARKIE
PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF
LANCASHIRE (E.D.).**

We were just on the eve of going to press, when the mournful news reached us that yet another of the most distinguished members of our Order—R.W. Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie—died at his residence, Huntroyde, near Burnley, after a brief illness, on Thursday, the 13th instant. Bro. Col. Starkie won high distinction in every branch of Masonry with which he was connected. He had presided over Craft and Royal Arch Masonry in the large and influential Province of East Lancashire for close on 29 years, having been appointed Provincial Grand Master in July, 1870, and Grand Superintendent the September following. In Mark Masonry he served as S.G.W. in 1873, and since 1876 had held the office of Dep. Prov. Grand Mark Master of Lancashire, under the late Earl of Lathom. He was also a Past Grand Constable in the Order of the Temple, and Captain of the Guards in the Supreme Council of the A. and A. Rite. He was much loved and highly respected by the whole body of East Lancashire brethren, in the promotion of whose interests he spared neither time nor energy. He was a staunch supporter of all our Charitable Institutions, the last occasion on which he took part in any of their annual functions having been on the "glorious 10th June," 1898, when he headed the East Lancashire contingent of Stewards at the Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys with a list of Donations and Subscriptions amounting to upwards of £500. He was a Patron of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at whose Festival in 1879 he presided as Chairman with a degree of success which in those days was remarkable; a Vice-Patron of the Girls' School, and a Vice-President of the Boys' School; while as regards the East Lancashire Systematic Educational and Benevolent Institution, of which he was the President, there was no duty he was not prepared to undertake, if by so doing he saw his way to doing it a service. We shall hope to give a fuller account of his Masonic career next week, but in the meantime we take the opportunity of tendering to the members of his family and the brethren of his Province our most sincere sympathy in the loss they have sustained.

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111TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL,
WEDNESDAY, the 10th MAY, 1899.

R.W. VISCONTI DUNGARVAN, D.L.,

R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Somerset,

IN THE CHAIR.

Brethren willing to act as Stewards are earnestly solicited
to send in their names to the Secretary as early as con-
venient. Stewards are much needed, and their services
will be gratefully received.

F. R. W. HEDGES,

Secretary.

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At a GENERAL COURT of this Institution, held at
FREEMASONS' TAVERN, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London,
W.C., on THURSDAY, APRIL 13th 1899, after the General
Business was disposed of, the Governors and Subscribers
proceeded to the election by ballot of 16 Girls into the Insti-
tution, from a list of 36 approved candidates, when the
following were declared duly

No. on Poll.	No. on List.	ELECTED.	Notes.
1	6	Ellis, Florence (<i>last</i>)	5709
2	4	Knott, Marguerite (<i>last</i>)	5077
3	15	Green, Wilhelmine Theodora (<i>last</i>)	4875
4	2	Gilkins, Mabel	4795
5	29	Carswell, Winifred Ethel (<i>last</i>)	4780
6	18	Rodway, Gladys (<i>last</i>)	4740
7	28	Lockwood, Agnes Mildred	4710
8	3	Fjelden, Bertha Matilda	4682
9	13	Sparks, Lucy Emmeline	4510
10	5	Clayton, Muriel	4473
11	14	Firth, Marjorie Louise	4499
12	35	Reddall, Dorothy Clara (<i>last</i>)	4339
13	19	Griffin, Phyllis	4281
14	25	Corble, Winifred Maud	4265
15	9	Green, Rosina Frances	4224
16	33	Sargent, Bessie Florence	4149

The number of votes recorded to unsuccessful candidates
can be obtained on application at the Secretary's office,
and will be duly carried forward at the next election, if
eligible.

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NOTICE.

A SPECIAL EDITION will be issued on SATURDAY MORNING containing a full Report of the Quarterly Court of the R.M.I. for Boys, with the result of the Election.



Masonic Notes.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1899.

The Quarterly General Court of Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held at Freemasons' Tavern on Thursday under the presidency of Bro. Sir R. Hanson, Bart., M.P. The names of the 16 girls who were elected from an approved list of 36 candidates will be found in our advertisement columns, while the rest of the proceedings are described in the report we publish elsewhere. As regards the Boys' School Court, which

takes place to-day, a full account with the names of the 23 successful candidates will appear in a special edition which will be issued to-morrow (Saturday) morning.

* * *

We have much pleasure in announcing that Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Addington, Prov. G. Master of Buckinghamshire, has very kindly consented to preside at the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which will be held at the usual place on Wednesday, the 28th February, 1900. The fact was made known at the meeting of the Committee of Management on Wednesday, and it is needless to say that the members were delighted to hear that the Secretary had succeeded thus early in enlisting the support of so distinguished a Mason as next year's Chairman.

* * *

In the meantime our readers will be glad to learn that a very substantial addition has been made to the total of Donations and Subscriptions as announced at this year's Anniversary, which took place under the presidency of Bro. Lord Llangattock, Prov. G. Master of South Wales (E.D.), on Wednesday, the 22nd February last. The sum, as then stated by Bro. Terry, was £18,207 8s. 6d. New lists and additions to lists have since been returned, particulars of which have been published in our columns, and the total products of the recent Festival now reaches the splendid sum of £19,580 10s.

* * *

The Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution held their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday. Bro. J. A. Farnfield presided, and the Secretary having reported the deaths of one male and two widow annuitants and the withdrawal of one man's name from the list of candidates for the May election, the Warden's report for the past month and that of the Finance Committee were read, and the latter adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. The usual Committee was appointed to draw up the report for the past year for presentation at the annual general meeting of Governors and Subscribers, which will be held on Friday, the 19th May.

* * *

It will be seen from our report of the proceedings at the Quarterly General Court of Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls on the 13th instant, that Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., P.G.W., Patron and Treasurer, who was in the chair, made graceful allusion in one of his speeches to the great loss which the Girls' School in particular, and Freemasonry in general, had sustained through the death of Bro. Col. Peters, P.G.S.B., who for more than a quarter of a century had done our Masonic state good suit and service. For many years Bro. Col. Peters was a member of the Girls' School House Committee and it was in that capacity, perhaps, that he rendered his best services. He will be greatly missed by his brother members of that Committee and, indeed, by all good men and true in Masonry.

* * *

We cannot but sympathise with our Madras brethren on the loss they are about to sustain. Three Craftsmen who have held high office in the District Grand Lodge—Bros. Stiven and Sibthorpe, Past Dist. Grand Wardens, and the Rev. Bro. Lawrence, Past Dist. Grand Chaplain, are leaving India for good and some time must necessarily elapse before their places can be filled by brethren of equal experience and influence. It will be remembered that Bro. Stiven had the brevet rank of Past Grand Deacon of England conferred upon him in 1897, when the Diamond Jubilee of her Majesty's accession to the throne was commemorated, while our Rev. Bro. Lawrence was for some years editor of the *Indian Masonic Review*, a journal which has long enjoyed a high reputation among the Masonic periodicals of the day. But what must prove a great loss to Madras Masonry will, in the event of their taking up their residence in this country, be a gain to the Craft in England.

* * *

The *Freemasons' Chronicle of Australasia* for the 28th February publishes a portrait, with accompanying record of his services, of Comp. Major Z. C. Rennie, who, in September last, was appointed Grand Superintendent of the Provincial Grand Chapter of New South Wales, holding under the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland. Major Rennie has resided in Sydney since 1886. He was installed in office on the 23rd December last, and, according to our contemporary, has been "intimately connected with the Masonic Brotherhood throughout his adult life, and has passed through the

scale of Degrees up to the 30th." He is the representative in Sydney of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York.

* * *

The *Canadian Craftsman*, quoting from one of its contemporaries, publishes an utterance of Bro. J. M. Drummond, of Maine, to the effect that he is of the opinion "that membership in the Catholic Church ought to prevent the admission of a candidate into Masonry." Bro. Drummond's argument is that as it is "the officially and publicly announced law" of the Romish Church that its members cannot be Masons, a Roman Catholic who becomes a Mason must be "either a traitor to his Church or a traitor to Masonry, or to both," and he adds, "when a man by becoming a Mason, must become either a traitor or a hypocrite, he is no fit stone for our Temple."

* * *

The *Craftsman* condemns, and we think rightly condemns, this opinion, mainly on the ground that "sectarianism must be left outside the Mason's door." Our contemporary very justly points out that there are "Brethren of that faith who were 'neither traitors nor hypocrites.'" It remarks that "it is not the mission of the Masonic Craft to bind the fetters of the Priesthood on the men of thought throughout all the different phases of religious sentiment as expressed in the Creeds of the Churches." It points out that "the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man is the Creed of Masonry, and the Craft welcomes all true believers in that doctrine, no matter what church or sect they belong to."

* * *

Though, as regards one head of receipt, there appears to have been a substantial falling off in the income for the past year of the Devon Masonic Educational Fund—of whose meeting we publish a full report elsewhere—the general prosperity of the Fund does not appear to have been seriously affected. The total sum received in 1898 from all sources, including a balance brought forward from the previous account of nearly £600, reached £958, the subscriptions, &c., amounting to £330, as compared with £529 in 1897. This diminution of nearly £200, however, is explained by the failure of the annual concert at Plymouth. But the year's account closed with a balance in the bank and in the Treasurer's hands of £584, while the Fund has £1300 on deposit. It cannot, therefore, be affirmed that with a total of assets amounting to £1885 the Fund is in difficulties.

* * *

In the course of the proceedings at the annual meeting one of the two candidates whose claims had been approved was elected to the benefits of the Charity. There are now 23 children on the Fund, to the guardians of each of whom is paid annually the sum of £15, so that Devonshire, apart from the support it gives to the Fortescue Annuity Fund and its contributions to the great Central Charities, spends annually about £200 on educating the children of its deceased or indigent brethren. This is in every way creditable to the Province, and we trust that in future years the Educational Fund will be even more generously supported, and so enabled to do a still greater amount of good for the sons and daughters of reduced or deceased Devonian Masons.

* * *

It seems that the Grand Lodge of Tasmania has in its Statute Book a law which cannot be otherwise than most useful in preventing strangers of whom but little is known "being rushed into Masonry." By the provisions of this law a person who offers himself as a candidate for admission to the mysteries and privileges of the Order must have been resident in the colony for at least "six months prior to the date of his candidature," nor can anyone who has not been a resident for that period be accepted as a candidate by any lodge until a dispensation for the purpose has been first obtained. Mention is made of the existence of this salutary enactment by the G. Secretary in his latest annual report in consequence of "a member of a well known and much respected family, who, on returning to the colony after an absence of some years, expressed a desire to join the Fraternity, and the question at once arose whether in his case it would be necessary to obtain a dispensation. We shall be curious to hear the result."

* * *

We learn from the March number of the *Freemason* of Toronto, that with that issue our contemporary completed a career of 18 years, and that its prospects for the future are most encouraging. We are pleased to hear that a Masonic periodical so well conducted and edited, whose articles are invariably well written, and whose columns are filled with useful information, is making good progress, and we trust that future annual announcements of a like character may be equally encouraging.

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.

THE OLD MASONIANS AT MANCHESTER.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have much pleasure in informing you that the first meeting of Old Masonians in the province was held at the Tweedale Restaurant, Manchester, on Saturday, the 8th inst. The chair was occupied by W. Bro. John Slyman, P.P. G.D. Lancs., who was supported by W. Bros. William Goodacre, Prov. G. Sec. W. Lancs.; J. Howers, and a goodly number of Old Boys. Letters of regret were received from W. Bros. John Newton, Prov. G. Sec. E. Lancs.; W. Bowden, H. Nall, and several other prominent brethren and old boys of the School.

The Chairman, in proposing the toast of "The Old Masonians," remarked that this was the first meeting of Old Boys in the provinces. He reviewed the career of the Association from its birth in 1886, and emphasised the value of such societies in fostering the good fellowship always existing among Old Boys of an English school, and in encouraging the continuance of former friendships. He also laid stress on the hope that members of the Craft would do what they could for the boys by finding them situations on leaving school.

Mr. E. Hair (Liverpool), in responding, drew attention to the fact that the Association is in possession of a fund for the assistance of any member who may be temporarily in need of it.

Mr. A. O. Crompton (Representative of the Association in Manchester), who has worked hard to arrange this meeting, also replied.

The toast of "Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys," proposed by Bro. Lewis Taylor (O.M.), was enthusiastically received.

W. Bro. W. Goodacre fully sympathised with the object of the meeting, and wished it hearty success.

The same sentiment found expression in the remaining speeches, which also included interesting reminiscences of school life.

Loud applause was elicited when it was incidentally mentioned that an Old Boy, Colonel Sparkes, had led one of the Soudanese regiments at the battle of Omdurman.

An attractive and varied programme was efficiently rendered, and the usual toasts having been given, the National Anthem terminated a highly successful gathering.

This provincial meeting having proved so successful, a similar one is now being arranged to be held in Cardiff in two or three weeks' time, and others are expected to follow.

While trusting that I do not trespass on your valuable time and space too much, may I again ask your favour in noticing these provincial meetings of Old Boys in your columns, and very much oblige.—Yours fraternally,

H. LEWIS.

April 12.

Reviews.

"MASONIC YEAR BOOK FOR THE PROVINCE OF CAMBRIDGE, 1899." (W. P. Spalding, 43, Sidney-street, Cambridge.)—This annual for 1899 is a little gem, and is very tastefully printed by the Editor, Printer, and Publisher, Bro. W. P. Spalding. The editorship is equal to the quality of the typography, and that is saying a good deal, but none too much, for the dainty web brochure. The statistics of the Province are duly detailed in a separate page, as should be generally done, and exhibit the fact of the six lodges returning 456 members to October, 1898, but as now "we are seven," through the addition of No. 2727, Ely, the total membership is further increased by 36, so that the acquisition of another lodge is not likely to reduce the average, so it will prove it was needed. The particulars are well arranged as to the lodges, chapters, and other Masonic Bodies in the county, and as the list of former Grand Superintendents of the Royal Arch is given, it would be as well to add similar information as to the Provincial Grand Lodge at p. 7, which is rather "thin." There are four Royal Arch chapters, two Mark lodges, one preceptory, and two Rose Croix chapters in the county (or city), and members of all these Degrees will find the "Year Book" a never-failing guide for all such matters. The Preface is an excellent feature, and so is the *Almanack*.

ORIGIN AND ANTIQUITY OF FREEMASONRY, and its Analogy to the Eschatology of the Ancient Egyptians, as witnessed by the "Book of the Dead," and the Great Pyramid of Ghizeh, the First Masonic Temple in the World. By Albert Churchward, M.D., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., F.G.S., P.M., P.Z., 1898, &c. London: Printed and Published by Sir Joseph Causton and Sons, Limited, 9, Eastcheap, 1898.

Bro. Dr. Churchward's object in writing this book will be gathered from his first chapter in which he claims to be in a position to prove "that the whole principles and tenets of the Craft are the truest copy we have in existence (handed down from generation to generation) of the Eschatology of the Egyptians at the time when their Mythology and Belief were perfected in their Eschatology; and that they built the great Pyramid of Ghizeh in Egypt as a monument and lasting memorial of their religion." Of the very close correspondence existing between the secret passages and chambers of the Great Pyramid and those portrayed in the sacred papyrus describing the 'Entrance on Light,' which we at the present time call the *Book of the Dead*, but which the Egyptian priests entitled *The Book of the Master of the Secret House*, some very remarkable evidence is to be found in Mr. Marsham Adams's "The House of the Hidden Places," and also in his later work, to which we had the pleasure of calling our readers' attention recently—"The Book of the Master"—this evidence being confirmed, as Mr. Adams tells us in the Preface to his later work, by the distinguished Egyptologist Professor Maspero, who remarked in a letter to Mr. Adams that "The Pyramids and the *Book of the Dead* reproduce the same originals, the one in words, the other in scene." Thus Mr. Adams and Bro. Churchward have been traversing common ground, but each with a different purpose in view; Mr. Adams being desirous of enlightening the world, as far as possible, as to the creed of the ancient Egyptians, and the marvellous correspondence of its tenets and principles with those of the religion which, centuries upon centuries later in the world's history, was revealed by the Divine Founder of Christianity and His earliest disciples. The task which Bro. Churchward has set himself is to establish a similar correspondence between the principles and tenets of Freemasonry and those embodied in the eschatology of the Egyptians. In his attempt to fulfil this task he has brought together within the compass of a not over-long essay a mass of most interesting and valuable information, and those will be the best able to follow him in his exposition who are conversant with the ritual of Craft and Royal Arch Masonry. There is, indeed, no doubt that he has succeeded in tracing much of the symbolism with which we, as Masons, have become familiar in our lodges, and our chief regret is that he has not been somewhat clearer and more distinct in his exposition. He seems to have taken it for granted that a considerable number of brethren are familiar with the contents of the sacred papyri of the ancient Egyptian priesthood, and that reference to this and that papyrus will enable them to follow him closely through the various stages of his argument. We dare say this arises from his desire to compress his essay into as moderate a compass as possible, but we think he would have done better had he allowed some additional space for purposes of elucidation. Had he done so, the reader would have been in a better position to judge of the extent to which Bro. Churchward has succeeded in demonstrating, as in the concluding paragraph of the book he claims to have demonstrated, "that our rites and ceremonies, as well as the principal

tenets of the Craft, have descended from remotest ages"—of this, indeed, there is no doubt—"and that some of our signs and symbols were those used in representing the Astronomical Mythology of the Ancient Egyptians, and afterwards as sacred symbols, when the Mythology was perfected in their Eschatology; and that the G.P." (Great Pyramid) "was the first and still remains the greatest Masonic Temple in the world, open to all Masons who can read symbolically what was written in stone; ages ago, teaching the principles that we teach; that to all just, upright, and true Masons there is nothing to fear, and that the Grand Master waits above ready to receive with joy the souls of those who fail not in the hour of trial."

We have much pleasure in adding that the book is well printed and handsomely bound and that the illustrations, of which there is a considerable number, will be found of great use by the reader.

Craft Masonry.

Ranelagh Lodge, No. 834.

This lodge held its installation meeting on the 11th inst. at the Criterion, Piccadilly-circus, when the W.M., Bro. James Banks, presided. There was an excellent attendance, and among the brethren present were Bros. Robert Philips, I.P.M.; J. Worth, S.W.; E. D. Richards, J.W.; W. J. Coplestone, P.M., Sec.; Ed. Lucas, S.D.; H. Storks, J.D.; George E. White, D.C.; Henry J. Inderwick, I.G.; W. F. Wilkins and H. W. Dyne, Stwds.; Fred Craggs, P.M.; Arthur Williams, P.M.; C. Barker, P.M.; F. J. Oliver, P.M., Org.; H. Purdue, P.M.; E. Newland, P.M.; J. H. King, J. H. Schwazar, A. King, A. W. Pettit, J. Pope, T. W. Potts, W. J. Bennett, W. P. Williams, A. J. Dalton, C. W. Scott, E. W. Stringer, E. Edwards, and J. G. Cantrell. Visitors: Bros. Herbert Reil, W.M. 1275; S. Drewell, I.G. 1310; J. J. Ponting, S.W. 2032; N. Cawley, S.W. 172; H. J. Cousens, W.M. 172; R. Williams, P.M. 1767, P.G.D. Middlesex; John R. Jeffane Becte, 960; Stephen J. Parker, P.M. 2512; W. Hinds, P.M. 185; J. Field, 144; E. R. Painter, 766; R. L. Mayne, 504; Avalon Collard, 2548; and H. Massey, P.M. and P.Z. 619 and 1928.

A very full paper of business was before the brethren; the three Degrees had to be worked; the new Worshipful Master had to be installed; the new officers invested, and several gifts of money to be proposed, seconded, and adopted; and a jewel to be presented to the outgoing Master. The lodge, therefore, was called for three o'clock in the afternoon, and banquet was appointed to take place at eight—a rather late hour, considering that an abundant entertainment of music was to follow. But all the work was got through, and the dinner hour was punctually kept. The outgoing Master, Bro. Banks, raised Bro. J. A. Schwarzar to the Third Degree, and passed to the Second Degree Bros. Tom Pope and Thomas Potts. The report of the Audit Committee was adopted, and Bro. Arthur Williams, P.M., installed Bro. John Worth as W.M. Bro. James Banks received the cellar of I.P.M., and later on was presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel. The officers for the year were Bros. E. D. Richards, S.W.; E. Lucas, J.W.; G. F. Butt, P.M., Treas.; W. J. Coplestone, P.M., Sec.; H. Stokes, S.D.; H. J. Inderwick, J.D.; G. F. White, I.G.; F. Craggs, P.M., D.C.; M. F. Wilkins, A.D.C.; H. W. Dyne and W. J. Bennett, Stwds.; and G. Mallett, P.M., Tyler. On the motion of Bro. Arthur Williams, P.M., seconded by Bro. Henry Purdue, P.M., 10 guineas were voted to the Girls' School; 20 guineas to the Boys' School; and 20 guineas to the Old People's Institution. The new Worshipful Master next initiated Mr. Richard Edward Williams in Freemasonry, performing the work in an admirable manner. Bro. Coplestone read the circular issued by the Grand Secretary, together with the resolutions passed in Grand Lodge in March last with reference to the Grand Lodge of Peru restoring that Grand Lodge to the recognition of Grand Lodge of England on their having withdrawn their edict removing the Volume of the Sacred Law from the meetings of the Grand Lodge of Peru and its subordinate lodges, and all mention of it in their ceremonies. In accordance with the directions of the Grand Secretary's circular these documents were ordered to be entered on the minutes of the Ranelagh Lodge. Some other business having been transacted, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet.

Subsequently the toasts were honoured, and Bros. Dyne, P.M.; Oliver, P.M.; Frank Boor, and Richard Green performed some beautiful vocal music between the speeches.

Bro. James Banks, I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The Worshipful Master," remarked that too much could not be said in favour of Bro. Worth as a Masonic worker; he was first and foremost in every good cause. Bro. Worth was a young Mason, but still he had gone up as a Steward for the Boys' Institution with high honours, and this year he intended to go up for the Girls' School. All the brethren knew Bro. Worth well, and they all felt that the Ranelagh Lodge would lose none of its lustre under the kind and genial Mastership of Bro. John Worth, whom they wished a very pleasant and successful year of office.

Bro. John Worth, W.M., replying, said he was not much of a speaker, and the brethren must not expect a great speech from him. The first time he had the honour of replying to a toast in the Ranelagh Lodge was 13 years ago, when he set on the right of the W.M., Bro. Dobson. Since that time he had had many opportunities of responding to toasts, but with all that practice he had not been able to accomplish fluent speaking. On the first occasion of his addressing the brethren of the Ranelagh Lodge he felt very proud that they had elected him as worthy to be initiated; but to-night he felt more proud at being placed in the Master's chair. It was the height of the ambition of all Masons to be Master of their mother lodge. He had held every office in this lodge from Assistant Steward to W.M. During those years he had never once been absent at the opening of the lodge to do his work. It had not always been easy to be so present, but he had accomplished the task, and to-night he felt more than repaid for the energy he had used. The brethren must have appreciated the little he had done or they would not have elected him as their Master. He thanked them, and promised to do his best for the Ranelagh Lodge and for Freemasonry.

Bro. James Banks, I.P.M., in replying to the toast of "The I.P.M.," proposed by the W.M., who said Bro. Banks had carried out the duties of W.M. most ably and with credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren, thanked them for their cordiality in receiving the toast, and said his year of office had been the red-letter year of his life; it had been a year of Masonic business in the lodge, a year of perfect peace and harmony, a fact which spoke volumes for the goodwill and heartiness which had been shown to him by all. That had made his work easy, and he hoped every succeeding Master would have as many friends around him as he had had. He was proud to hand over the gavel with such a prosperous balance-sheet to his successor.

Bro. Williams responded to the toast of "The Initiate," and said he felt more than thankful the brethren had made him a member of their body. He hoped to prove by his future conduct to be a good Mason, that his affection for the brethren might be strengthened, and that they might not find they had made a mistake in admitting him.

Bro. John Worth, W.M., next proposed "The Masonic Charities," which he knew were good Institutions. He was going up as Steward for the Girls', Bro. Dyne for the Boys', and Bro. Dalton for the Old People. He would be glad if individual brethren would support their lists. He should like to see his own list made up to 100 guineas.

Bro. A. Williams, P.M., in acknowledging the toast, after remarking that charges had been made against Masons of indulging in eating and drinking and neglecting their homes, said a great deal had been done by brethren to disprove those charges by showing that Masonry taught that Charity was the highest form of godliness, and that to relieve distress was the very highest honour a Freemason could boast of taking part in. Many members of the Ranelagh Lodge had taken a position more or less profitable in that direction, and the lodge had made a bold step forward in supporting the Charities. It had had to call upon those Institutions for their benevolence, as some of its members had required assistance. It had sent up Stewards to those Charities, and that evening a Stewardship had been taken for each of the three. On the Centenary of the Girls' School seven Stewards went up from the Ranelagh Lodge, each taking his own list. To-night the three Institutions obtained Stewards, and, therefore, brethren could support whom they pleased, and he hoped they would give a substantial sum.

Bro. Pratt, P.M., who also replied, referred to the West London Masonic Election Association, of which Bro. A. Williams was Secretary, and which had been established five years. It had a large number of members. Before it was established there were five others, but they failed, for the reason that every member was bound to bring his votes into them. The West London had a by-law that each could give his vote as he liked.

Bro. Dyne, who had discharged his duties as Steward most admirably during the evening, said he had been successful in going round the table and getting subscriptions to the W.M.'s list. He had already got 30 guineas, and hoped to get 50. He would try to get some from the Bedford Lodge, and hoped that ultimately the list might be £105.

The remaining toasts were duly honoured before the pleasant evening was brought to a close.

Kingswood Lodge, No. 2278.

An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 8th instant, at Broxbourne, the members attending being Bros. A. Ingram, W.M.; C. C. Renaud, S.W.; C. Nicole, acting J.W.; J. Petch, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Treas.; H. R. Bower, S.D.; G. H. Redding, acting J.D.; A. Donald King, acting I.G.; E. H. Moore, P.M., P.G. Std. Br., D. of C.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D., Sec.; Sydney Butler, O. P. House, H. A. House, A. Palmer-Palmer, J. Perceval, W. Wicking, F. H. Johnson, A. C. Little, and Herbert E. Prior, 1365 (visitor).

The business of the meeting was to pass Bro. W. Wicking and to raise Bros. O. P. and H. A. House.

The brethren afterwards partook of an enjoyable repast, which was followed by one of the entertainments for which the lodge is becoming well known. The programme was contributed to by Bros. A. Donald King, J. Perceval, A. C. Little, F. H. Johnson, G. H. Redding, and C. Nicole, who also very ably presided at the pianoforte.

Though the weather was inclement for a meeting in the country, it proved an extremely pleasant gathering.

Galen Lodge, No. 2394.

The installation meeting of this lodge—one of the foremost of the Metropolitan "class" lodges, being composed principally of members of the pharmaceutical profession—was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Monday, the 10th instant. The members present were Bros. P. C. Maitland, I.P.M.; F. Bascombe, S.W.; C. Butler, P.M., J.W.; Michael Carteighe, I.P.M., Treas.; J. B. S. Lancaster, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; J. W. H. Littleboy, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., S.D.; W. J. Rogerson, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., D.C.; H. W. Roach, P.M.; Sheriff Lieut.-Col. Clifford Probyn, G. Treas.; B. H. Paul, P.G. Stwd.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. W. H. Glazier, P.M. 34; A. C. Doughty, P.M. 1287; Sydney Fowle, 1924; E. Wavell, P.M. 2012; Wm. A. Curnow, 1275; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; E. O. Howis, J.W. 2200; J. Wright, P.M. 195; H. H. Nuding, P.M. 1924; Lennox Browne, P.D.G.D.C.; A. M. Robertson, M.D.; G. F. Smith, P.G. Org.; T. G. Doughty, I.P.M. 1287; C. M. Hurst, P.M. 194; J. B. Walker, 2317; J. Holding, P.M. 1538; J. Wade, P.M. 860; A. Child, 1503; J. C. Dunningham, 174; F. J. Chaffer, 2063; G. Nelson Watts, P.M. 194; Sir H. Trueman Wood, P.A.G.D.C.; W. W. Lee, P.P.G.D. Middx.; and others.

After the opening of the lodge and the transaction of formal business, Bro. Frederick Bascombe was presented as W.M. elect, and duly installed into the chair by Bro. Michael Carteighe, P.M. The officers appointed and invested were Bros. P. C. Maitland, P.M. 1538, I.P.M.; Charles Butler, P.M. 1195, S.W.; J. W. H. Littleboy, P.P.A.G.D.C. Surrey, J.W.; Michael Carteighe, P.M., Treas.; J. B. S. Lancaster, P.P.G. Std. Br. Surrey, Sec.; A. W. Gerrard, P.M. 1415, S.D.; T. H. W. Idris, J.D.; W. J. Rogerson, P.P.G.D.C. Notts, D. of C.; C. J. Strother, Asst. D. of C.; E. J. Eastes, Org.; J. J. Arrow, I.G.; H. W. Roach, P.M., and W. Judd, W.M. 1884, Stwds.; and George Harrison, Tyler.

Lodge was closed, and a banquet was enjoyed in the Crown Room of Freemasons' Tavern.

The usual toasts were given, interspersed with selections from a capital musical programme, in which the following assisted: Miss Violet G. Carter, Miss Emily Rasey, Bros. A. H. Gee, and G. F. Smith, P.G. Org.

Bro. Lennox Browne, P.D.G.D.C., replying for "The Grand Officers," said he was no stranger to the lodge, having been present at its consecration. They wanted to see heartiness and sincerity in a lodge, and for a type of that nothing could have been better than the Installing Master that evening, Bro. Carteighe, who was greatly respected in Masonry, as in the special profession of the Galen Lodge. The profession of medicine was indebted to the friends he saw present, and he was pleased at the opportunity of saying so.

Bro. Sir H. Trueman Wood, P.A.G.D.C., said he was pleased to see the lodge prospering, and thanked the members for the excellent cheer provided and for the welcome he had received.

Bro. P. C. Maitland, I.P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master." He felt he possessed the confidence of the members in doing so, for any words of his, which were poor indeed, were for the purpose of focussing them on the W.M. Many had seen the W.M. do his work, and others would exercise a faith so intense that if not fulfilled, the word "faith" should be expunged from the dictionary. They had drunk to the W.M.'s happiness, and wished him plenty of work for the coming year.

Bro. Frederick Bascombe, W.M., in response, said he hoped that during his year they would not rely upon faith alone, for he knew he had some work to start with. It would be his endeavour to do his duty to the best of his ability, and he trusted to their satisfaction. He was comparatively a young Mason, but took a great interest in Freemasonry, and was the first member of the lodge who had filled all the offices without being previously a Past Master. He would next propose "The Health of Bro. Lieut.-Col. Sheriff Probyn, G. Treas.," who had just arrived, and ask the brethren to drink it with enthusiasm.

Bro. Lieut.-Col. Sheriff Clifford Probyn, G. Treas., expressed his gratification at their warm reception. He was sorry he could not attend earlier to see the working, having been in attendance on the Lord Mayor at another function. He was, however, glad to be with them that evening in a position they were gratified to see him fill, namely, Grand Treasurer of England. Napoleon said that in every soldier's haversack was a Field Marshal's bâton, which, applied to Freemasonry, was the distinctive position, the elect of the Craft throughout the length and breadth of the land as Grand Treasurer. He was proud to be a member of this lodge, and hoped it would go on successfully, and that the W.M. would have a pleasant year of office.

The W.M. then proposed "The I.P.M.," and presented Bro. Maitland with a Past Master's jewel as a slight token of appreciation from the members.

Bro. P. C. Maitland, I.P.M., returned thanks, after which "The Visitors" were duly honoured.

Bro. A. C. Doughty, P.M., in acknowledging the toast, said it had been a great pleasure to introduce the W.M. into Freemasonry, and he hoped that before long Bro. Bascombe would fill the same position in his mother lodge—the Great Northern Lodge. Bros. Holding, P.M., and Howis also replied.

In giving "The Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. said he was gratified at being installed by such an esteemed friend as Bro. Carteighe, the Treasurer. The Secretary, Bro. Lancaster, was loved and esteemed by all as one of their most distinguished members, being a P.M. of several lodges, with many Masonic honours.

Bros. M. Carteighe, P.M., Treas.; J. B. S. Lancaster, P.M., Sec.; Roche, P.M.; and Dr. Paul, P.M., P.G. Stwd., responded, and "The Officers" having been honoured, a successful evening terminated.

Brondesbury Lodge, No. 2698.

A numerous body of brethren assembled on Wednesday evening, the 12th inst., at the Earl of Derby Hotel, Kilburn, to witness the second installation ceremony of the above lodge. A year ago the lodge was consecrated, and Bro. R. J. Campbell, a P.M. of No. 1489, was installed as the first Master of the lodge. That Master presided on Wednesday, and he was supported by Bros. F. Hardyment, S.W.; Charles Goodman, J.W.; C. N. Coxon, Treas.; Edwin George, P.M. 1489, Sec.; Benjn. Stocker, P.M. 754, S.D.; Albert H. Oldrey, P.M., J.D.; J. M. Goodwin, D.C.; John Britton, Org. pro ten.; W. H. Coxon, Stwd.; C. J. Greaves, W. H. Pearce, E. G. Line, J. H. Crook, H. Coxen, F. Crocker, R. Segar, Frank Crook, T. G. Palmer, F. C. Fleming, W. G. Coxen, J. Aylett, H. J. Dunaway, George Wheeler, Harry Williamson, S. A. Marks, A. R. Greaves, G. R. H. Shingle, John Luxton, and Matthew Harris. Bro. J. W. Smith, the Tyler of the lodge, was also present. The visitors were Bros. G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C.; A. E. Hoystead, 1807; P. N. Goodwin, 1445; A. T. Pasmore, 1278; R. W. Huntley, P.M. 1489; H. J. Bonner, 754; L. E. Wilson, P.M. 754; H. Warne, 1500, 2727, I.P.M., P.G. Reg. Norfolk; Algernon S. Wilde, 1500, 807, 1193, P.P.G. Org. Norfolk; Thomas J. Mackley, 1500, P.P.A.G.D.C. Norfolk; W. A. Reeve, J.W. 1500; H. W. Springfield, 1500; T. E. George, 1489; John Sparrow, P.M. 1489; J. Birks, P.M. 195; Thomas Golby, 1637; Edwin Gell, 2533; B. Haylor, 2361; Jack Buswell, 933; W. B. Snowdon, 1541; A. Ginger, P.M. 901; James Gawthrop, W.M. 1706; F. S. Plowright, P.M. 193; S. W. Page, 1367; S. Pardoe, P.M. 1535; Walter Hancock, P.M. 2191; J. Horstead, 2361; F. Ruthven, S.W. 754; A. Wyatt, 1585; W. R. Walker, 177; B. A. Pardoe, 1585; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; E. W. Fraser, 2310; J. H. Clemens, I.P.M. 183; J. Bury Oliver, 1987; F. Chappell, 2021; H. J. Bantick, 72; David Strong, 1706; Walter Coward, 2000; Charles Ackerman, 1706; W. G. Dickinson, 2535; Horace A. Huntley, W.M. 1489; and J. Duncan, W.M. 59.

The business before the brethren consisted in the election of Bro. Harry Wilsmer, 1567, as a joining member, the installation of the new W.M., and appointment and investiture of officers, the reception of the Auditors' report, and the presentation of a Past Master's jewel to Bro. R. J. Campbell. This work was gone through. Bro. Wilsmer having been elected to join the lodge, Bro. Campbell proceeded to instal Bro. Archibald Frost Hardyment, S.W., W.M. elect, as W.M. It may be interesting to note that Bro. Hardyment is in the unique position of holding office in two other lodges, viz., S.W. of Walpole Lodge, No. 1500, Norwich, and S.D. of Marquis of Ripon Lodge, No. 1489. The new W.M. having been placed in the chair, Bro. Campbell was invested as I.P.M. The officers for the year were Bros. Charles Goodman, S.W.; Benjamin Stocker, P.M., J.W.; C. N. Coxon, Treas.; Edwin George, P.M., Sec.; A. H. Oldrey, P.M., S.D.; C. W. Paine, J.D.; J. W. Goodwin, I.G.; W. G. Coxen, D.C.; H. Coxen and J. H. Crook, Stwds.; and J. W. Smith, P.M., Tyler. After the addresses had been delivered by Bro. Campbell, the Secretary, Bro. E. George, P.M., read the communication from Grand Secretary, and the resolutions of Grand Lodge at its last meeting restoring Grand Lodge of Peru to recognition by United Grand Lodge as a true and lawful Masonic body. On the motion of Bro. Campbell, I.P.M., seconded by Bro. Edwin George, P.M., Sec., the sum of 10 guineas was voted to the list of Bro. Hardyment, W.M., as Steward of the lodge at the forthcoming Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. The W.M. next presented a handsome jewel of a Past Master to Bro. Campbell, accompanying the presentation with some highly complimentary observations on the way in which Bro. Campbell had performed the duties of Master during the past year. Bro. Campbell had had 14 initiates and six joining members during his year, and the brethren had voted him a beautiful jewel to commemorate his year. Bro. Campbell, I.P.M., thanked the brethren for the gift, and the lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a charming banquet.

When the toasts were proposed there was provided a beautiful programme of music, which prolonged the proceedings, but greatly entertained the company. Bro. James Gawthrop was the conductor, and he had for his assistants a Chapel Royal Quartet, consisting of Bros. Walter Coward, James Gawthrop, David Strong, and Charles Ackerman. Bro. Will Edwards gave some humorous songs, and Bro. John Britton performed at the piano.

The evening was a great success.

Instruction.

PROSPERITY LODGE, No. 65.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 12th inst., at the Whittington, 5 and 7, Moorlane, E.C. Present: Bros. J. G. Robeson, W.M.; T. Stokes, S.W.; A. Fergusson, J.W.; William Baker, P.M., Treas.; H. T. Meadows, P.M., Sec.; W. M. Graham, S.D.; W. G. Read, J.D.; R. F. Roche, I.G.; D. Harlow, P.M., Preceptor; J. Brown, P.M.; Croft Wise, P.M.; Jas. Smith, P.M.; C. Butcher, P.M.; Shipman, Miller, Packer, Bliss, Rix, Seneschall, Farr, Lloyd, Gernon, Bayley, Williams, and Palmer.

The lodge being opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, the initiation ceremony was rehearsed, Bro. C. Butcher acting as candidate. The ceremony of passing was then rehearsed, Bro. Seneschall acting as candidate. The lodge opened in the Third Degree, the brethren rehearsing Masonic drill. The lodge was closed in the Third and Second Degrees respectively. The W.M. rose first and second times, and Bro. W. J. Packer, 2700, was elected a member. The W.M. then rose the third time, and lodge was closed.

HYDE PARK LODGE, No. 1425.

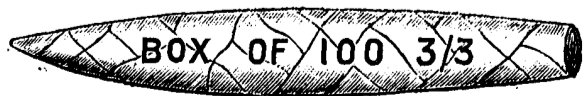
A meeting was held at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, Bishop's-road, Paddington, W., on the 10th inst. Present: Bros. W. J. Lewis, W.M.; P. S. Wallis, S.W.; W. E. Jefferson, J.W.; W. J. Fergusson, P.M. 177, Deputy Preceptor; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, P.P.S.G.D. Essex, Sec.; W. H. Smith, S.D.; H. G. Blackmore, J.D.; H. F. Foskett, P.M. 1642, D.C.; G. E. Harris, I.G.; W. J. Webster, Stwd.; A. L. Butters, P.M. 2163; W. H. Handover, J. Chubb, F. N. Bates, C. B. Lumley, and C. G. Thirstfield.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Lumley being the candidate. The lodge was called off and on. The lodge was then opened in the Second and Third Degrees. Bro. Fergusson, at the request of the W.M., assumed the chair, and rehearsed the ceremony of installation. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Lewis for the able manner he had carried out the duties of W.M. for the first time, and the worthy brother acknowledged the compliment. A communication from Bro. Fitzgerald was read announcing the candidature of Bro. Manfield for Grand Treasurership next year. Bro. Wallis was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and after "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

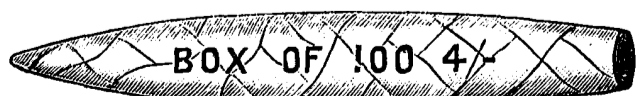
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STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

A meeting was held on Friday, the 7th instant, at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E. Present: Comps. J. H. Cureton, M.E.Z.; T. R. Cass, H.; Hy. Cornford, J.; C. H. Stone, P.Z., Scribe E.; Stone, Scribe N.; Everett, P.S.; Atkinson, Loader, and Morris.

The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Atkinson personating the candidate. Comp. T. R. Cass was elected M.E.Z. for Friday next at 8 p.m. Comp. Eaborn, Stanhope Chapter, No. 1269, was elected a member. Expressions of deep sympathy were made and resolved to be sent to Comp. T. Grummant, P.Z., Preceptor, through a sudden bereavement in his family. The annual supper will take place at the Ship Restaurant, Charing Cross, S.W., on the 29th inst., at 7 p.m. Comp. T. Grummant will preside. Also (D.V.) on the 21st inst. the exaltation ceremony and the three installations will be rehearsed in Star Chapter of Instruction by Comp. T. Grummant, Preceptor, commencing 7 p.m. for exaltation, and 8.30 p.m. for installations. The chapter was then closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 11th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. C. Isler, W.M.; A. F. Hardymont, S.W.; C. Nicole, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; W. F. Roberts, S.D.; R. W. Nicole, P.M., P.P.G.P. Herts, J.D.; W. Fowler, I.G.; J. Birks, P.M.; A. Oliver, P.M.; A. H. Robertson, A. L. Langton, O. P. House, H. A. House, S. Clod, E. J. Harrison, P.M.; R. Loomes, P.M.; and H. B. Harding, P.M.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. H. A. House being the candidate. The Lecture was given by Bro. Loomes, P.M. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Clod being the candidate. Bro. Hardymont was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

BRONDESBURY LODGE, No. 2698.

A meeting was held on Monday, the 27th ult., at the Earl Derby (Bro. W. G. Coxen's), High-road, Kilburn. Present: Bros. Dr. A. Achard, W.M.; M. E. Swann, S.W.; J. C. Kruse, J.W.; Harry Willsmer, Sec.; Hands, S.D.; B. R. Thomas, J.D.; H. J. Thomas, P.M., D. of C.; Frank Crocker, I.G.; J. J. Thomas, P.G. Std. Br., acting Preceptor; James Stephens, P.G. Std. Br.; J. Welford, P.M.; and about 40 others.

The principal offices were occupied by members of the Prince Frederick Lodge of Instruction, No. 753. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of installation. Bro. Goldstein, as W.M. elect, having assumed the chair, rehearsed the investiture of officers and the initiation ceremony. A vote of thanks was proposed and carried to the following: Bros. Dr. Achard, Swann, Kruse, and H. J. Thomas (who were elected hon. members), and the members of the Prince Frederick William Lodge of Instruction for their visit and excellent working. Fourteen joining members were accepted, and Bros. James Stephens and John Welford, respectively Secretary and Treasurer of the Fellowship Lodge, No. 2535, elected life members. The return visit will be held at the Crown, Aberdeen-place, on Tuesday, the 25th instant, when a team will be selected to carry out the duties for the evening.

A meeting was also held on Monday, the 10th inst., at the above address, when there were present Bros. A. F. Hardymont, Preceptor, as W.M.; M. Spiegel, P.M., S.W.; G. D. Fraser, J.W.; Knowles, S.D.; Shim, J.D.; Palmer, I.G.; L. Cohen, T. Golby, Craig, Aylett, H. Crook, W. J. Smith, P.M.; G. Coxen, W. G. Coxen, R. J. Campbell, Treas.; and H. Willsmer, Sec.

The installation ceremony having been rehearsed by Bro. R. J. Campbell, P.M., the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Aylett being the candidate. Bros. Hardymont, Campbell, and Oldrey were selected to occupy the Three Principal chairs on the occasion of the visit of the members to the Prince Frederick William Lodge of Instruction at the Crown Hotel, Aberdeen-place, Maida Vale, on the 25th inst. Bros. Cohen, Golby, and Craig were elected joining members. Bro. Spiegel was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

The Craft Abroad.

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS.
Chebucto Council, No. 4.

The above council was re-organised recently at Halifax, New Brunswick, by Past Puissant Grand Masters W. B. Wallace and Robert Marshall, assisted by Right Puissant Theo. A. Cressman, Inspector-General, and other members of the Cryptic Rite. The following officers were duly elected, appointed, and installed for the current year: Excellent Comps. Chas. Marsters, acting as Conductor of the Council; Wm. Marshall Black, Thrice Illustrious Master; Daniel Hugh Campbell, Right Illustrious Master; James Simmons, Illustrious Master; Thomas Trenaman, Chaplain; William Crowe, Treasurer; Malcolm McFarlane Hall, Recorder; Robert James Wilson, Master of Ceremonies; J. A. Gass, Captain of the Guards; James Halliday, Conductor of Council; Fred Huntress, Organist; John C. Calder, Steward; and James Edward Webster, Sentinel. The council started under very favourable auspices, having added largely to its membership.

The Premier Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters and Appendant Orders in Canada, which was duly organised in St. John, N.B., on the 14th day of August, A.D. 1867, will invite a conference of the Order of the Cryptic Rite in Canada, to be held in the Masonic Temple in St. John, N.B., in the early part of the month of August, next, to consider the formation, under generous and reasonable conditions, of a Grand Council of the Cryptic Rite for Canada, with its Grand East in the city of St. John, N.B. Failing this there will be then organised the Grand Council of the Cryptic Rite for the Atlantic maritime provinces. Duly authorised proxies will be recognised by the convention. Communications on the subject may be addressed to the Grand Recorder, Robert Marshall, St. John, N.B., Canada.

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

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The April Quarterly Court of Subscribers to the above Institution was held on Thursday last at Freemasons' Tavern, Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, M.P., P.G.W., Patron and Treasurer, in the chair. He was supported by Bros. Frank Richardson, Henry Smith (late Treasurer), J. W. Burgess, W. F. Smithson, Captain Herbert Green, Lupton, and many other Yorkshire brethren as well as distinguished brethren from Lancashire and other provinces.

When Bro. Hedges, Secretary, read the advertisement convening the meeting, he referred to the notice at the end of it that the 11th Anniversary Festival would be held on May 10th, and that Viscount Dungarvan, Prov. G. Master for Somerset, would preside, for which Festival Stewards were urgently needed. He added that, though Stewards had come in through noticing this advertisement, more were still required.

After the minutes of the former meeting had been read and confirmed

Sir REGINALD HANSON said, I regret to inform the brethren that since our last meeting, the Masonic world, as well as this Institution and the other Masonic Institutions, have lost a great friend in the death of Col. James Peters, Past G. S.B., who for a quarter of a century had been a very active worker in Masonry, and more especially in the Girls' Institution, of the House Committee of which he was long a member, besides being one of the Trustees of the Institution. I feel sure that I am expressing the feelings of every brother here, and of everyone interested in the Charities, when I say I express our deep regret at Col. Peters's death. (Hear, hear.) He was not a young man, but still he was so active up to almost the last day of his life that we feel his loss coming so suddenly as much as we should feel that of the youngest man. I will move a resolution of condolence with the relatives of our late brother.

Bro. HENRY SMITH, P.G.D., Past Deputy G.M. West Yorkshire: I beg to second it.

The motion was carried.

Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, P.G.D., moved the re-election of Sir Reginald Hanson, M.P., P.G.W., Patron of the Institution and Treasurer, as Treasurer. He was quite satisfied the members could not do better than re-elect Sir Reginald Hanson, who had now for some years acted as Treasurer of the Institution, and done an immense deal of work for it at the different meetings. He put that motion to the brethren with the full conviction that they would receive it with gratification.

Bro. HENRY SMITH seconded the motion, and said he felt confident that no man who occupied the position of Treasurer of the Institution could do so with more energy and heartiness than Sir Reginald Hanson.

The motion was carried unanimously amidst applause.

Bro. Sir REGINALD HANSON, who was greeted with loud applause on rising, said: Brethren, I thank Bro. Richardson and Bro. Smith very heartily for the kind terms in which they have respectively proposed and seconded me for re-election, and you, brethren, for your unanimous acceptance of the proposition. I am afraid I cannot speak so well of my assiduous work as Bro. Richardson has; but I can say that if I have not been present *in propria persona*, my heart is always there, and when not there I know that brethren will be there whose ability to perform the duties is unquestioned. (Cheers.)

The poll for the election of 16 girls out of a list of 36 approved candidates was then declared open, and Bro. Henry Smith presided, in place of Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, who had other engagements.

The following are the unsuccessful candidates:

Name.	Votes.	Name.	Votes.
Moore, Jane	4051	Collins, Jessie Helen	221
Joseph, Hilda	4037	Dodd, Amy Mina	218
Hoad, Gladys Evelyn Ellen	2833	Kay, Margery Mellin	185
Smith, Ida Angela	2185	Palmer, Dorothy May (last)	147
Shenton, Winifred Amelia	2159	Delahaye, Josephine	108
Gotch, Margaret Alice	1861	Healey, Evangeline	23
Jacobs, Josephine Charlotte	1816	Holloway, Florence Beatrice	8
Brooks, Edith Arbery	1432	Wright, Eleanor Elizabeth	5
Gibson, Janet Louisa	1072	Lerpiniere, Lilian Irene	2
Green, Elsie Beatrice	546		

The successful will be found in our advertisement columns.

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MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, April 22, 1899

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries for Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Rose Croix Chapters, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place, day, or month of meeting.

MONDAY, APRIL 17.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 1, Grand Master's, Freemasons' Tavern.
- 8, British, Freemasons' Hall.
- 21, Emulation, Albion Tavern.
- 907, Royal Albert, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1500, White Horse of Kent, Holborn Viaduct Hotel.
- 1694, Imperial, Holborn Restaurant.
- 2540, Benevolentia, Holborn Restaurant.
- 2699, Wandle, Town Hall, Wandsworth.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 1366, Highgate, Beale's Restaurant.
- 2060, La France, Cafe Royal.
- 2202, Regent's Park, Anderton's Hotel.

MARK LODGES.

- 175, Temple, London Tavern.
- 234, Brixton, Anderton's Hotel.
- 230, Royal Naval, Freemasons' Hall.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Blackheath, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8
- Commemoration, Star and Garter, Arbour-square, Commercial road, E., at 8.
- Cripplegate, Goldsmiths' Arms, Gutter-lane, at 6.30.
- Dalhousie, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.
- Duke of Cornwall, Whittington Arms, Moor-lane, Fore-st., at 7.
- Eleanor, Red Lion, High Road, Tottenham, at 8.
- Euphrates, Ye Old Greyhound, Balaam-st., Plaistow, E., at 7.30
- Friars, The White Horse, 94, White Horse-lane, Mile End-rd., E., at 8.
- Hyde Park, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terr., Bishop's-rd., Paddington, at 8.
- Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30.
- Loggia Italia, Restaurant Frumagalli, 12 and 13, Wilton Road, Victoria Station, S.W., at 9.
- Marquess of Ripon, Weaver's Arms, London Wall, E.C., at 6.45.
- Metropolitan, Moorgate Tavern, 15, Finsbury-pavement, at 7.30.
- Neptune, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, S.W., at 7.30.
- North London Chapter, Cock Hotel, Highbury, at 8.
- Perserverance, Ridler's Hotel, Holborn, E.C., at 7.
- Queen's Westminster, Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8.
- Regent's Park, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.
- Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hotel (opposite Wimbledon Railway Station), at 8.
- Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, Putney, at 8.
- Scots, Holborn Restaurant, Holborn, at 7.30.
- St. James's Union, St. James's Restaurant (Piccadilly entrance)
- St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road.
- St. Michael's, Richmond Hotel, Shepherd's Bush Road, W., 8.
- Sincerity, Blackwall Railway Hotel, Fenchurch-street, at 7.
- South Norwood, Goat House Bridge Hotel, Penge-rd., at 8.
- Stockwell, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 6.
- Tyssen Amherst, Amherst Club, Amherst-rd., Rectory-rd., N., 7.30
- United Military, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich, at 7.30
- Upton, Great Eastern Hotel, Bishopsgate-street, at 8.
- Walthamstow, The Chequers, High-street, Walthamstow, at 8.
- Wellington, New Cross House, New Cross, at 8.
- Woodrow, Stone's, 24, Pantion-street, Haymarket, S.W., at 3.
- Zetland, "The Falkland," Falkland-road, N.W., at 8.
- Doric Chapter, Duke's Head, 70, Whitechapel-road, at 6.
- Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8.
- North London Chapter, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8

TUESDAY, APRIL 18.

Board of General Purposes, at 5 precisely.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 30, United Mariners, Frascati Restaurant.
- 45, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
- 102, Cadogan, Freemasons' Hall.
- 194, St. Paul's, Cannon-street Hotel.
- 435, Salisbury, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1330, Stockwell, Surrey Masonic Hall.
- 1025, New Finsbury Park, Holborn Restaurant.
- 2022, Haven, Public Buildings, East-Ing.
- 2045, Wharton, Holborn Restaurant.
- 2104, Anglo-American, Hotel Cecil.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 1017, Montefiore, Trocadero Restaurant.
- 624, Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall.

MARK LODGE.

- 284, High Cross, Liverpool-street Hotel.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, S.E., at 8.
- Copper, City Arms, St. Mary Axe, at 6.
- Clarence and Avondale, Green Man Hotel, Leytonstone, E., at 8.
- Constitutional, "Apple Tree and Mitre," 30, Cursitor-street, Chancery-lane, W.C., at 7.
- Claucaer, Grapes Tavern (Slee & Pike's), 121, Borough High street, at 8.
- Corinthian, George Hotel, Cubitt Town, Poplar, at 8.
- Croydon Lodge of Concord, King's Arms, Katherine-street, Croydon, at 8.
- Dalhousie, Lord Truro, Dalston-lane, at 8.
- Egyptian, Salutation, Newgate-street, at 7.
- Emblematic, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.
- Zetland, Rose and Crown, Church-street, Edmonton, at 8.
- Euphrates, Ye Old Greyhound, Balaam-street, Plaistow, E., at 7.30.
- Excelsior Commercial Dock Tavern, Plough-road, Rotherhithe, Faith, Frumagalli Restaurant, Wilton-rd., Victoria Station, at 8
- Finsbury, The Bell Hotel, Old Bailey, at 7.
- Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-street, Woolwich, and and 4th Tues., at 7.30.
- Hendon, Railway Hotel, West Hampstead, N.W., at 8.
- Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 7.30.
- Joppa, "The Moorgate," 15, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30.
- Kensington, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.
- Kirby, Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras Station, at 7.30.
- Mount Edgumbe, Rockingham Arms, Newington Causeway, S.E., at 7.30.
- Nelson, Star and Garter, Powis-street, Woolwich, at 8.
- New Cross, Chester Arms, Albany-street, N.W., at 8.
- New Finsbury Park, Hensley Wood Tav., Finsbury Park, at 8.
- Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, Greenwich, at 8.
- Richmond, Station Hotel, Richmond, at 8.30.
- Robert Burns, Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W.
- Rose of Denmark, Brunswick House, Wandsworth-road, at 8.
- South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Walham Green, S.W., at 7.30
- St. Kew, Masonic Hall, Weston-super-Mare, at 8.
- St. Leonard's, Bedford Hotel, Victoria Park-road, South Hackney, at 8.
- Southwark, White Hart Hotel, New Cross Gate, at 8.
- Wandsworth, St. Mark's School-room, Battersea Rise, S.W., at 8
- Westbourne, Oliver Arms, Westbourne-terrace North, Harrow-road, at 8.
- Yarborough, Mitre Tavern, Fish-street-hill, E.C., at 7.30.
- Camden Chapter, The Moorgate, Moorgate-street, at 8.
- Metropolitan Chapter, Eastcheap Restaurant, Eastcheap, at 6.30
- Kintore Mark Lodge, Stirling Castle Hotel, Camberwell Green, S.E., at 8.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19.

General Committee Grand Chapter, at 4.
Board of Benevolence, at 5 precisely.

CRAFT LODGES.

- Grand Stewards, Freemasons' Hall.
- 7, Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, Albion Tavern.
- 169, Temperance, Tower Bridge Hotel.
- 174, Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern.
- 190, Oak, Freemasons' Hall.
- 909, Maybury, Inns of Court Hotel.
- 1044, Wandsworth, Municipal Buildings, Lavender-hill.
- 1150, Buckingham and Chandos, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1349, Friars, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
- 1382, Corinthian, George Hotel, Cubitt Town.
- 1673, Welcome, Holborn Viaduct Hotel.
- 1681, Londeshorough, Cafe Royal.
- 2272, Rye, Peckham Public Hall.
- 2348, Lombardian, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
- 2400, Woodgrange, Princess Alice Hotel, Forest-gate.
- 2450, Chancery Bar, Hotel Cecil.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 192, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-street Hotel.
- 554, Yarborough, London Tavern.
- 1658, Skelmersdale, Surrey Masonic Hall.
- 2190, Savage Club, 33, Golden-square.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Belgrave, The Woolpack, Moorgate-street, at 7.
- Bromley St. Leonard, Bromley Vestry Hall, Bow-road, at 8.
- City of Westminster, Cafe Royal, "B" Room, at 8.
- Confidence, Bunch of Grapes, 14, Lime-street, E.C., at 7.
- Creator, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
- Crusaders, The St. John's Gate Tavern, St. John-square, Clerkenwell, at 8.30.
- Derby Alcroft, Midland Grand Hotel, at 8.
- Doric, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, at 8.
- Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, at 8.
- Earl of Lathom, Station Tavern, Camberwell New-road, S.E., 8.
- Fidelity, Castle Hotel, 81, Holloway-road, N., at 8.
- Gallery, Press Club, Wine Office-court, Fleet-street, at 7.
- Guelph, Plough and Harrow, Leytonstone-road, E., at 8.
- Langthorne, Angel Hotel, Iford, at 8.
- La Tolerance, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.
- Londesborough, Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8.
- London Scottish Rifles, Albert Hotel, Victoria-street, S.W., 8.30
- Merchant Navy, Town Hall, Limehouse, at 7.30.
- Mitcham, Vestry Hall, Mitcham, at 8.
- Mount Lebanon, Foresters' Arms, 204, Boro' High-street, at 8
- New Concord, Farleigh Hotel, Amherst-road, N., at 8.
- Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7.30.
- Plucknett, Railway Hotel, Finchley, at 7.45.
- Prosperity, The Whittington, 5 & 7 Moor-lane, Fore-st., at 7.
- Royal Jubilee, the Crown, Lambeth-road, S.E., at 8.
- Royal Oak, Lord Clyde, Wotton-road, Deptford, at 8.
- Royal Savy, Earl Russell, 2 Pancras-road, King's Cross, at 8.
- Royal Savoy, Prince of Wales, Hampstead-road, at 8.
- St. Leonard, Prince of Wales Hotel, Bishop's-rd., Victoria Pk., 8.
- Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 8.
- Strong Man, Blue Anchor, 164, Fenchurch-street, E.C., at 6.30.
- Temperance-in-the-East, Greenwich Pensioner, Bow-lane, Poplar, at 7.30.
- United Mariners, Duke of Albany, Kitto-road, Nunhead, at 7.30
- United Strength, Hope Tavern, Stanhope-st., Euston-road, at 8
- Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-street, S.W., at 7.30.
- West Smithfield, City Scotch Stores, St. Paul's Churchyard, E.C., at 7.45.
- Whittington, Red Lion Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8.
- Zodiac, Denmark Hotel, East Ham, at 8.
- Andrew Chapter, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
- Clapton Chapter, Amhurst Club, Rectory-road, N., at 8.
- Domestic Chapter, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, W., at 8.
- Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 8.
- Camden Mark Lodge, Earl Russell, Pancras-road, King's Cross.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20.

House Committee Girl's School, at 4.30.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 6, Friendship, Criterion.
- 23, Globe, Freemasons' Hall.
- 49, Gihon, Guildhall Tavern.
- 55, Constitutional, Cannon-street Hotel.
- 93, St. Mary's, Freemasons' Hall.
- 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hotel.
- 957, Canonbury, Holborn Restaurant.
- 733, Westbourne, Holborn Restaurant.
- 1320, Blackheath, Bridge House Hotel.
- 1475, Peckham, Surrey Masonic Hall.
- 1598, Ley Spring, Anderton's Hotel.
- 1013, Cripplegate, Albion Tavern.
- 1710, All Saints', Office of board of Works, Poplar.
- 1901, Selwyn, Montpelier Hotel, Peckham.
- 2551, Clissold, Great Eastern Hotel.
- 2012, Navy, Hotel Cecil.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 9, Albion, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
- 79, Pythagorean, Ship Tavern, Greenwich.
- 1055, Guelph, Red Lion Hotel, Leytonstone.

MARK LODGE.

- 357, Chiswick, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

- 154, Shadwell Clerke, 33, Golden-square.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Burdett-Count's, Swan Tavern, New Bethnal Green-road, at 8
- Burgoyne, Coach and Horses, 348, Clapham-road, S.W., at 7.30.
- Caxton, Carr's, 265, Strand W.C., at 7.
- Covent Garden, The Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8.
- Crescent, King's Head Hotel, Twickenham, at 8.30.
- Duke of Edinburgh, Eastern Hotel, East India Dock Rd., E., 7.30.
- Elliot, Railway Hotel, Feltham.
- Great City, Red Cross, Paternoster-square, at 7.
- High Cross, Red Lion, High-road, Tottenham, at 8.
- Highgate, Falkland Arms, Falkland-road, N.W., at 8.
- Horsely, White Hart Masonic Rooms, Lewisham, S.E., at 8
- Ivy, Half Moon & French Horn Hotel, East Hill, Wandsworth, at 8.
- Justice, Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford, at 8.
- Kent, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, at 8.
- La France, Cafe Royal, Regent St., W.C., at 8.
- Langton, The Eastcheap, Eastcheap, E.C., at 5.30.
- Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, E.C., at 7.
- Montefiore, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.
- Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, at 7.
- Priory, Berymead Priory, Acton, at 8.15.
- Rose, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8.
- Royal Albert, White Hart Hotel, Abchurch-lane, at 7.30.
- Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.45
- St. Ambrose, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, W., at 8.
- St. John's, Court House, Harlesden, N.W., at 7.30.
- St. John's, Queen Victoria Tavern, Exmouth-st., Stepney at 8.
- St. Luke's, Victoria Tavern, Gertrude-street, Chelsea, at 8.
- Sir Hugh Myddelton, Star and Garter, Upper-st., Islington, at 8
- Southern Star, Sir Sydney Smith, Chester-st., Kennington, at 8.
- Stockwell, Salutation Tavern, Newgate-street, at 6.30.
- Tranquillity, Restaurant Frascati, Oxford-street, W., at 8.
- Trudgear, The Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars, E.C., at 7.30.
- Union Waterloo, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-street, Woolwich.
- Victoria Park, George Hotel, Stratford, E., at 7.30.
- Industry Chapter, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, at 8.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21.

Board of Management Boys' School, at 2.30.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 975, Rose of Denmark, The Horns, Kennington
- 1902, London Rifle Brigade, Anderton's Hotel.
- 2157, St. Mark's College, Holborn Restaurant.
- 2340, Warrant Officers, Freemasons' Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 1538, St. Martin's-le-Grand, Guildhall Tavern.
- 1501, Studholme, Cafe Royal.
- 2621, Military, Hotel Cecil.

MARK LODGE.

- 251, Mount Moriah, Mark Masons' Hall.

ROSE CROIX.

- 10, Invicta, 33, Golden-square.
- 137, Earl of Lathom, Surrey Masonic Hall.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Albion, Essex Head, Essex street, Strand, at 7.
- All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar, at 7.30.
- Citadel, Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst-road, Stoke Newington, N.
- Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, E.C., at 7.
- Coborn, The George Inn, High-road, South Woodford, at 8.
- Earl of Carnarvon, Elgin Hotel, Ladbroke-grove, Notting-hill.
- Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, at 7
- Emulation, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.
- Gavel Club, Freemasons' Tavern, at 8.
- Harrow, Waterloo Arms, High-street, Marylebone, at 8.
- Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 8.
- Hugh Owen, Restaurant Frascati, Oxford street, at 7.30.
- Kennington, Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, S.E., at 8.
- Lewis, Fishmonger's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8.
- Lewisham, White Hart, Lewisham, S.E., at 8.
- Loyalty, Private Rooms, 91, Church-st., Stoke Newington, at 8.
- Metropolitan (Victoria), Mail Coach, 60, Farringdon-street, at 7.
- Ranelagh, Six Bells, Queen-street, Hammersmith, W., at 8
- Royal Standard, Castle Tavern, 81, Holloway-road, at 8.
- St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-road, S.E., at 8.
- Savage Club, Savage Club, Adelphi-terrace, at 6.
- Selwyn, Montpelier Tavern, Choumert-road, Peckham, at 8.
- Stability, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons'-avenue, at 6.
- Stanhope, Fox and Hounds Hotel, Upper Richmond-road, Putney, at 8.30.
- Temperance, Railway Tavern, New Cross-road, at 8.
- The Abbey, The Town Hall, Westminster, 7.30 till 9.30.
- United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.
- Woodgrange, Princess Alice Hotel, Forest Gate, E., at 8.
- Eastern Star Chapter, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, 2nd and 4th Friday, at 7.
- Dagmar Chapter, "Slee & Pike's," 121, Boro' High-street, at 8.
- Hornsey Chapter, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace Bishop's-road, Paddington, W., at 8.
- Lily of Richmond Chapter, Station Hotel, Richmond, at 8.30.
- Pythagorean Chapter, Dover Castle, Broadway, Deptford, at 8
- Star Chapter, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-st., Camberwell, at 8
- Westbourne Chapter, Town Hall Tavern, High-st., Kensington, at 8.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 1541, Alexandra Palace, Holborn Viaduct Hotel.
- 2700, Old Masonians, Anderton's Hotel.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

- 1329, Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall.

RHEUMATISM CURED
Or Money Returned. Usually One Application.

HAD OF YOUR CHEMIST, OR
The Dr. Griffin Sure Rheumatic Cure Co., Ltd.,
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ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION
FOR
AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS.

Your votes and interest are solicited on behalf of
LUCY WHILE,

aged 60 years, Widow of the late Bro. JOHN WHILE, Journalist, who died on January 20th, 1892. Bro. WHILE was initiated in the Lodge of United Strength No. 228, on December 10th, 1867, and became W.M. of that Lodge in 1875, continuing a member of it until the time of his death. He was also for two years a member of the Gallery Lodge, No. 1928; was a Royal Arch Mason, exalted in the William Preston Chapter, No. 766, and a P.Z. of the Chapter of United Strength. He was a subscriber to the three Masonic Institutions, and in 1875 a Steward of the Benevolent Institution, of which he was a Life Governor. His Widow is also a Life Governor of this Institution.

- The case is strongly recommended by—
- R.W. Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W., Guildhall, E.C.
 - W. Bro. J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D., P.D.P.G.M. Middlesex, Reform Club, S.W.
 - W. Bro. Lennox Browne, F.R.C.S., P.D.G.D.C., 15, Mansfield-street, W.
 - W. Bro. Thomas Catling (Editor Lloyd's Weekly), P.M. 2190 and 2127.
 - W. Bro. John Northcott (Daily Chronicle), P.M. 2190.
 - Bro. John Lobb, C.C., M.L.S.B., 228, 4, Bride-street, E.C.
 - W. Bro. Robert Griggs, P.M. 228, 11, Gray's-Inn-square, W.C.
 - *W. Bro. George J. Dawson, P.M. 1853, 41, Holland-road, Brixton, S.W.
 - W. Bro. E. E. Peacock (Morning Post), P.M. and P.Z. 1928, I.G. 2190.
 - W. Bro. Orton Cooper, P.M. 211, J. 1928, II. 483, Tilbury, Essex.
 - Bro. C. F. H. Smith, 1928 (late 228), 42, Blythwood-road, Crouch Hill.
 - Bro. J. Bunc, 1928, Clent, Thurlow-park-road, West Dulwich.
 - Bro. J. D. Irvine, 1929, 140, Acre-lane, Brixton, S.W.
 - W. Bro. W. T. Perkins, P.M. 1928, 39, Norwood-road, Herne-Hill, S.E.
 - Bro. William Senior, 2190, 9, Parkhill-road, N.W.
 - W. Bro. Percy W. Husk, P.M. 1928, M.E.Z. 1928, 125, Brixton Hill, S.W.
 - * Bro. W. W. Morgan, 177, New Barnet.
 - *W. Bro. H. Massey, P.M. and P.Z. 619 and 1928, 1, Clifford's Inn, E.C.
 - W. Bro. George Kenning, Patron ("Freemason"), P.M. and P.Z. 192 and 1957, P. Prov. G.D. Middlesex, Upper Sydenham, S.E.
- Votes will be thankfully received by the brethren against whose name a * is marked, and by the candidate, 19, Knighton-park-road, Sydenham, S.E.

WHAT IS CHRISTIANITY?

DEDICATED TO THE FREEMASONS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

A world-famous prelate of the Roman Catholic Church, in course of conversation with a correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, remarked, "There is no doubt as to the anti-Christian character of Freemasonry."

What is true Christianity? The pomp of outward show,
The organ voice of lofty praise, the solemn chant and slow,
The prayer for all the world to hear, the ostentatious deed?
Oh, no! there is a loftier and a diviner creed—

The creed some call Humanity, and some, whose spirit-sight
Can pierce through falsehood's dusk to where awaits Truth's morning light,
Have called, with dumbless faith and hope, the sole sweet creed of Him
Who preached the Brotherhood of Man in ages dark and dim.

What, then, is Christianity? The strong, the helpful hand
That aids a struggling brother-man, whate'er his faith or land;
The heart that's open unto all who suffer and who need—
That is true Christianity, a very Christ-like creed.

What! anti-Christian! Their grand creed, which teaches one and all
To hold together, heart and hand, together stand or fall!
Not Christians they, that ever first and foremost in the van
In all that's great and noble prove the Brotherhood of Man!

Is it not Christianity to hear the weakest plaint?
Not turning like the Pharisee from sinner unto saint,
But yielding unto both an ear, to both an equal care?
Ay, one small deed of Charity must be the noblest prayer.

Is it not Christianity the orphan's call to heed?
Is it not true morality the faltering steps to lead?
Is it not Christianity, to have for rich and poor
An equal law, an equal love, the self-same open door?

What! anti-Christian, that grand cause which owns as brothers all
In one brave never-broken band the earthly great and small;
Which teaches true equality, ay, ever firm has stood
By God's ideal when He made Mankind—Man's Brotherhood!

The hand that may a sceptre sway, the hand that toils for bread,
Meet in a brother's earnest clasp, to both one goal ahead:
Life's noblest goal—Humanity. Come, show me if you can,
A higher faith and creed than theirs—the love of man for man!

Where are their temples? Where the orphan boy and girl are found.*
Their works are where the noblest works of Charity abound;
Their fruits are grateful hearts and lives of usefulness and good,
Due to the efforts and the aid of common brotherhood.

Give me the creed which holds that love is all that's needed here—
To make life's complex problems plain, its cloudy pathways clear;
Too high for dogmas and for rites which bigots love to scan,
The Christ-like yet the human creed—the Brotherhood of Man.

KATE BISHOP ("Kay Bee")

—The Illustrated Penny Paper.

Masonic and General Tidings.

H.R.H. PRINCESS CHRISTIAN OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN has fixed Wednesday, the 31st prox., to open the Lord Picbright Hall, at Picbright.

PRINCESS LOUISE MARCHIONESS OF LORNE has returned to Kensington Palace from Cannes, where her Royal Highness has been staying for two months.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN has decided to hold the annual sale at the Royal School of Art Needlework on Monday, June 19th, and two following days.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES was to bring his visit to the Riviera to a close on Thursday, and leave the South of France for Paris. His Royal Highness may be expected in town by Monday.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, who is honorary Colonel of the Norfolk Artillery Militia, will inspect the brigade during its annual training, which commences at Yarmouth on the 1st prox., Viscount Coke being in command. It is probable that Field-Marshal Viscount Wolseley will accompany his Royal Highness.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR (Bro. the Earl of Halsbury) and the Lord Chief Justice have convened a Council of the Judges of the Supreme Court to meet at the House of Lords on Friday, the 21st inst., at two o'clock, when the subject of the assizes for the county of Surrey will be under the consideration of their lordships.

AT THE REGULAR MEETING of the Past and Present Lodge, No. 2665, held at Freemasons' Hall on the 6th instant, one of the initiates, Mr. E. A. Martin, was supported by his four brothers—Bros. Wm. Martin, P.M. 1492; George Martin, 53, Melbourne; and Robert and Lester Martin, 2665. It is not often that we have to chronicle the fact of five brothers of one family being assembled together in lodge.

THE *British Architect* says: "We have received a volume on 'Northumbrian Masonry, and the Development of the Craft in England,' by Mr. John Strachan, O.C., and published by George Kenning, 16, Great Queen-street, W.C. The book is full of the quaint customs and details connected with the rise and progress of the Craft in bygone years, and should prove a most interesting volume to all Freemasons."

ARRANGEMENTS are being made by the Office of Works for the forthcoming visit of the Queen to the South Kensington Museum for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the new buildings which have been designed to replace the present unfinished structures. The ceremony, which will take place on 17th May, will be a semi-State function, as was the case at the Imperial Institute. It will be performed in a large marquee, the site for which has now been cleared.

RHODESIAN GOLD TRUST.—Interest during the past week has largely centred in the Rhodesian share market. The declaration of substantial dividends by three of the companies carrying on gold mining operations in Rhodesia, and the rise in the price of Chartered shares to over £4 has drawn considerable attention to everything Rhodesian. The leading Berlin bankers are already largely interested in the success of many of the Rhodesian gold mines. It is said that Mr. Cecil Rhodes has had substantial assurance from the German Emperor and the English Colonial Office that his scheme for the continuation of the railway from Bulawayo northward to connect with the direct line to Cairo will be assisted by the guarantees of the German and British Governments. Mr. Cecil Rhodes has said, however, that he is determined that the railway shall go on in any case. With cheap transportation thus assured in Rhodesia there is every probability of the shares of the Rhodesian Gold Trust going to a very considerable premium. The Rhodesian Gold Trust owns 3157 claims in the best known and most important parts of Matabeleland and Rhodesia. There have been large dealings in these shares during the last account, and at about the price of 8s. per share, at which the £1 shares are now dealt in on the London Stock Exchange, they are certainly worth the attention of the speculative investor.

* Masonic schools.

SIGNOR AND MADAME TOSTI have returned to 12, Mandeville-place from the Riviera.

THE MARRIAGE arranged between Lord Petre and M^{rs}: Audrey Clark will take place on the 25th prox.

THE DUKE OF YORK has been re-elected Commodore of the Royal Harwich Yacht Club, and it is hoped that his Royal Highness will honour the regatta on May 29th and 30th with his presence.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES is to be the guest of Colonel and Mrs. Cornwallis-West, at Ruthin Castle, for the Chester Races, in the first week of May. A distinguished party is to be invited to meet his Royal Highness.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN, the Duchess of York, and Princess Frederica Baroness von Pawel Rammingen, have kindly consented to become patronesses of the bazaar to be held in Kensington Town Hall at the end of this month, in aid of the Mission to French-speaking Foreigners.

WE HAVE TO announce the marriage of Bro. J. A. Hughes, youngest son of Bro. Joseph Hughes, P.P.G.P. Warwickshire, to Beatrice C. Mercer, only daughter of Bro. D. D. Mercer. P.G. Purst., Senior Vice-President of the Board of Benevolence, on Wednesday last, the 12th inst., at St. Albans Church, Streatham Park.

RHODESIA.—The *Statist* has been devoting much attention to Rhodesian Mining Companies, and is about to issue a second edition of its special pamphlet. The *Financier* takes a favourable opinion of the South Rhodesia Goldfields, Limited, inasmuch as the 1560 located claims are all on ancient workings, and some of these, it is reported, are phenomenally rich. It points out that the company has the right to peg out a further 1000 claims; and, as its capital is moderate, it predicts a steady increase in the value of the shares, now quoted about 17s. 6d.

BRO. FIELD-MARSHAL VISCOUNT WOLSELEY, Commander-in-Chief, arrived in Edinburgh on Wednesday evening. At the station a guard of honour was provided by the Gordon Highlanders garrisoning the Castle. His lordship was met by Colonel Trotter, acting on behalf of General Chapman, commanding the Scottish district, and officers of the staff, including Colonel Mathias, of Dargai fame. During his stay the Commander-in-Chief will be the guest of Major-General Wauchope, who commanded a British brigade at Omdurman. Besides inspecting the Edinburgh garrison, Lord Wolseley will attend a few social functions, and the honorary degree of LL.D. will be conferred upon him by the University.

AMONG THE SUGGESTIONS now under official consideration for the celebration of her Majesty's 80th birthday is one for holding a great banquet in the Metropolis on or about May 24th. The function is intended to be made as representative as possible of the Empire, and at the same time typical of the loyal demonstrations of the people of the United Kingdom. With the former object in view, the Agents-General of the self-governing Colonies have been approached with the request that they will secure the countenance and support of their respective Governments, as well as lend their personal aid in the deliberations of the organising Committee now in process of formation.

A COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL was held at 11 a.m. on Monday to enable the Corporation to reply to a request from Sir Courtenay Boyle, who is conducting the electric lighting inquiry by the Board of Trade, as to their views on the three applications of electric lighting companies for Provisional Orders to supply electricity within the City. Many resolutions were lost and as many adopted, the more important of which laid it down that the Court desired to be left free to consider the question of providing its own electric supply a preference for any one or other. The Lord Mayor (Bro. Sir J. V. Moore) presided at the opening of the Court, and was relieved by Bro. Sir Henry Knight later in the afternoon.

THE BRITISH NATURAL PREMIUM LIFE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED, whose chief office is at 56, Ludgate-hill, held its sixth annual meeting on the 28th ult. The accounts were presented in a form to clearly show the operation of this system. Coming to the life assurance and tontine investment premium income, the premiums received during the year and the interest upon investments amounted to £38,138 12s. 9d. Under the system of the Association, the life assurance premiums are payable bi-monthly in advance, each premium covering the ensuing two months. For the convenience of policyholders, payments are also received by the Association to meet any period up to a year, and are applied by the Association in satisfaction of the accruing bi-monthly premiums as they become due. For this reason the cash receipts of the year are always considerably less than the premium income of the Association at the end of the year. In reference to the trust funds on December 31 last the investments and cash in the hands of the trustees on behalf of policyholders (taking the investments at cost price) amounted to £85,156 0s. 4d. Looking now briefly at the other side—the death claims, during the year £19,883 10s. has been paid for death claims out of the Life Assurance Trust Fund; Industrial Death Claims, £1731 12s. 11d.; and £459 3s. 5d. for claims in the Tontine Investment Department. The directors call attention to the growth of the funds held by the trustees, after payment of claims, notwithstanding that the premium rates are about 45 per cent. less than those charged under the ordinary system of life assurance. The balance of receipts on account of life premiums and interest not required for the payment of death claims will become surplus for division amongst surviving policyholders of 10 years' standing and upwards; and the same applies also to the Tontine Investment Fund, according to the tontine period selected by policyholders. In regard to new business during the year under review, proposals were received upon which policies have been written amounting to no less than £520,610. A large portion of the new business received prior to December 31st has been paid for since that date, and such payments could not, therefore, be included in the present balance-sheet. As is particularly pointed out to the shareholders, the business of the Association continues to show satisfactory progress. The new department for industrial assurance was inaugurated during 1896. The business of this department, like the ordinary branch, has outstepped anything previously accomplished by any other company for the same period, and shows the highest promise for the future. Of the authorised capital of £100,000, £54,068 has been allocated in accordance with the Articles of Association, and upon the issue £32,757 15s. has been paid up. The gross receipts from business amounted to £52,877 8s. 4d. It is particularly to be borne in mind that under this head only cash received for premiums during the year are taken, and no credit is taken for premiums falling due, but not actually received, as is usual with other offices. In regard to the expenses of management the directors are happy to state that they are considerably below those of the previous years, showing that the very heavy initial expenses in founding an Association such as the British Natural Premium are becoming rapidly lighter. The next paragraph of this able statement mentions that the Association took possession of its new offices at 56, Ludgate-hill, E.C., in June last, and has experienced great benefit from the increased accommodation and the concentration of the different departments under the immediate control of the General Management.

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