

THE FREEMASON.

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

REPORTS OF THE GRAND LODGES ARE PUBLISHED WITH THE SPECIAL SANCTION OF

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

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THE NEW SCHOOL BUILDINGS OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS AT BUSHEY.

It is not often that an important and imposing function takes place in connection with one of our Institutions such as that which has been arranged to come off in May next, when H.R.H. the Duke of CONNAUGHT, M.W. Past Grand Master, has graciously consented to lay, with full Masonic ceremonial, the foundation-stone of the new School Buildings of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys at Bushey, near Watford, in the county of Herts. The few there have been have occurred during the latter half of the present century, the earliest being the dedication, by the then Grand Master, the late Earl of ZETLAND, of the present Girls' School, on the 2nd August, 1852. It is probable there are not many living who were present on the occasion, though there are those who, like Bro. BINCKES—initiated into Freemasonry in December, 1851—have a personal recollection of the event. Some five years later, the first batch of 25 boys was taken into residence in Lordship House, Wood Green, and then, on the 8th August, 1863, after a further interval of six years, the foundation-stone of the main portion of the present Boys' School was "laid with full Masonic Honours by ALGERNON PERKINS, Esq., Right Worshipful Past Grand Warden, in the presence of the officers and members of the United Grand Lodge of England (especially summoned for the occasion), and numerous members of the Craft." On the 8th July, 1865, the ceremony of inaugurating the new School was performed by the Earl DE GREY AND RIPON, Dep. G. Master, in the unavoidable absence of the Grand Master; while on the 11th August, 1885, the memorial stone of the new Assembly Hall was laid by the Baroness BURDETT-COURTS, who, on many occasions both before and since and in various ways, has evinced her interest in the proceedings of the Craft; nor must we omit to mention that the moving spirit in connection with the last three functions was the late Secretary of the Institution for Boys—Bro. FREDERICK BINCKES, P.G.S.B. Since then there has been one function in connection with the Girls' School, namely, in March, 1891, when H.R.H. the Prince of WALES opened the new Hall of the Institution, and, with the sanction of the Princess of WALES, bestowed on it the name of the "Alexandra" Hall. But successful as were all these various ceremonies, we imagine they will be cast into the shade by the proceedings which

await us some time during the month of May in the closing year of the present century. No such enterprise as this has ever before been undertaken by the English Craft. The buildings about to be erected on the Grove Park Estate, Bushey, are estimated to cost not far short of £100,000, with the exception of the Chapel, for which Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D., the Treasurer of the Institution, has generously provided the necessary funds. They are intended to accommodate 400 boys, and should it ever happen that a still further increase in the number of children becomes necessary, the requisite dormitory space can be added without detriment to the general design of the whole structure. The time within which the contractors have undertaken to complete their operations extends over two and a half years, and till that period has expired the Boys will continue to reside in their present quarters. In the meantime, and till the day appointed for the ceremony arrives, the authorities will have their hands full, but we doubt not they will be fully equal to the occasion, and that the coming ceremony will prove, in its way, as brilliant a success as did the Centenary Festival of 1898.

THE PROVINCE OF CORNWALL.

There is little doubt that the recent annual meeting, at Launceston, of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall was one of the most successful that has been held under the auspices of Bro. the Earl of MOUNT EDGCUMBE, Past Deputy G.M. of England, Prov. Grand Master. There was, as we remarked last week, a full attendance of the brethren, and one on which, having regard to the comparative inaccessibility of the town, the Province had every reason to congratulate itself. Above all, the financial and other reports showed that the Province was in a very flourishing state. According to the Provincial Grand Secretary's statement, there had been an increase during the year in the membership to the extent of 54 brethren, while, as was recorded at the time in these columns, a second lodge at Newquay—the St. Michael, No. 2747—had been added to the roll. The Treasurer's statement of account gave a closing balance of £307, as compared with £249 at the opening of the account. The Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund would seem to have fared particularly well. There was a substantial increase in the donations and subscriptions from the lodges, the total in this respect amounting to nearly £386, as compared with about £330 in the preceding year. The total income was returned at £1114, and the total of the charges on the Fund for annuities to brethren and widows and educational grants reached £442, the balance in the bank at the close of the year being close on £611, while the balance of capital belonging to the Fund was £6364, or nearly £300 in excess of the previous year's return. The other reports were those of the Committee of Relief on Petitions and the Cornwall Masonic Charity Association, the latter having a small grant of 10 guineas voted on its behalf in order to remedy some slight shortcomings it had met with, while the former was in such a position that 90 guineas were voted to the Provincial Annuity and Benevolent Fund and the great central Masonic Charities. A sum not exceeding 50 guineas was also voted to the "Anderton Memorial Fund." Lastly, Bro. EDYVEAN presented his statement as manager of the votes for the Central Charities, and in doing so expressed regret that the demands upon his time rendered it necessary that he should hand over the

duties to someone else. On this announcement, the Prov. G. Master at once rose, and, after expressing his thanks to Bro. EDYVEAN for the work he had done during the six years of his management, proposed that a suit of full-dress clothing as Past A.G.D.C. England, should be presented to him in recognition of his services—a proposal which it is almost needless to say was immediately adopted *nem. con.*

On the other hand, circumstances had occurred which could not be otherwise than the subject of sincere regret. The Province had sustained a heavy loss by the death of Bro. E. D. ANDERTON, P.G.D. England, who had rendered invaluable service to Cornish Freemasonry, and in whose honour a Memorial Fund was being raised, which already amounted to 187 guineas. It was also announced that Bro. Sir CHARLES B. GRAVES-SAWLE, Bart.—who, it will be remembered, found himself some time since obliged to resign the office of Prov. G. Master of Cornwall in the Mark Degree—had resigned as Dep. Prov. G. Master, and though the benefit of his great experience would not be entirely lost, there was great reason to fear that Sir CHARLES would no longer be able to take a very active part in Masonry. The office thus vacated was filled during the meeting by the appointment of Bro. P. COLVILLE SMITH, S.G.D. England, than whom it would have been difficult for Lord MOUNT EDGCUMBE to find an abler Mason, or one better qualified by his long and varied experience in London and the Provinces to fill so arduous and responsible an office.

But there is no need that we should dwell longer over a meeting, the proceedings at which were so fully described last week. It is enough for us to know that during the past year Cornwall, in its monetary state, in membership, and as regards the manner in which its lodges have discharged their duties, has made substantial progress, and we trust that in future years we may find ourselves in a position to speak, at least, as flatteringly of the progress it has made as we have on the present occasion.

PROVINCIAL PRIORY OF CHESHIRE.

The annual provincial meeting of the Knights Templar of Cheshire was held at the Town Hall, Altrincham, on the 16th inst., under the presidency of Bro. the Hon. Alan Egerton, M.P., Prov. Prior. There were also present Bros. A. W. Siddall, P. 2nd Constable; F. K. Stevenson, P. Chancellor and Treas.; James Davenport, P. Vice-Chancellor; Harrison Veevers, P. Chamb.; J. S. Derbyshire, P. Almoner; Dr. C. S. Brewer, P. Std. Br.; W. J. Nash, P. Std. Br.; W. Skilling, P.S.B.; W. Newton, P.P.T.; H. G. Small, P.P.C.; J. F. May, P.P.C.; E. Crew, P.P.C.; J. Crowther, P.C.C.; John Cliffe, P.P.G. Std. Br.; W. Agar Renshaw, P.P. 1st C.; W. Astle, P.P. 1st C.; A. Birket, John Lees, E. Young, R. C. Davies, S. Jones, and Alfred Huxley, P. Guard.

The Provincial Prior, attended by his officers, entered the preceptory, which had been formed under the banner of the De Tabley, No. 100, and was received with the customary honours. Various business was disposed of. The Treasurer's accounts were adopted, special reference being made by the auditors as to the precise manner in which they had been kept.

The Prov. Prior referred to the progress made in the province, and mentioned the fact that although many candidates had been admitted to the Order during the past 12 months, the numbers of the Temple were not much increased owing to several old members having been taken away by the hand of death. Still, the records showed a healthy state. He was pleased to report on the newly resuscitated preceptory Geoffroy de Bouillon, No. 91, which had been transferred from Scarborough to Birkenhead. This added a new preceptory to the province, and one which had made an exceptionally good start. He hoped it would continue to be successful.

The following officers for the ensuing year were appointed by the Prov. Prior:

Sir Knight W. S. Sutton ...	...	Prov. Sub-Prior.
the Rev. C. C. Atkinson, D.D. ...	...	Prov. Prelate.
" F. K. Stevenson ...	...	{ Prov. Chan. and
" James Davenport ...	...	Treasurer.
" F. I. Walmsley ...	...	Prov. 1st Constable.
" James Cookson ...	...	Prov. 2nd Constable.
" Dr. C. S. Brewer ...	...	Prov. Reg.
" J. S. Derbyshire ...	...	Prov. Vice-Chan.
" E. G. Parker ...	...	Prov. Almoner.
" Joseph Roby ...	...	Prov. W. of Reg.
" Harrison Veevers ...	...	Prov. Herald.
" R. C. Davies ...	...	Prov. Std. Br. Beau.
" F. R. Oke ...	...	Prov. Std. Br. V.B.
" A. Birkett ...	...	Prov. Prior's Ban.B.
" J. Lees ...	...	Prov. Capt. of Gd.
" Samuel Jones ...	...	Prov. S.B.
" Alfred Huxley ...	...	Prov. Chamberlain.
	...	Prov. Guard.

The Prov. Priory voted five guineas to the Cheshire Masonic Education Institution, and a similar sum to the Cheshire Benevolent Fund.

At the subsequent banquet the following toasts, amongst others, were honoured: "The Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, G.C.T., Grand Master

of Knights Templar for England and Wales and the Dependencies thereof," "The Right Hon. Viscount Dungarvan, G.C.T., Great Seneschal, and the rest of the Officers of the Great Priory, Present and Past;" "The Very Eminent Knight the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., K.C.T., Prov. Prior of Cheshire;" and "The Officers of the Prov. Priory of Cheshire, Present and Past."

PRESENTATION TO COMP. HORATIO WARD, P.G. Std. Br.

A large gathering of Royal Arch Masons attended the installation meeting of the Bertha Chapter at the Masonic Temple, Canterbury, on Thursday, the 21st inst., when the retiring First Principal, Comp. Ward, duly installed his successor and the other two Principals of the chapter. The ceremony was most impressively performed, and after the business the companions adjourned to the Royal Fountain Hotel for the annual banquet. The Principals were supported by Comp. Eastes, P.P.G. Std. Br., Prov. G.H.; and a large number of Present and Past Prov. G. Officers.

During the evening the First Principal, Comp. Biggleston, presented Comp. Ward with a very handsome Masonic silver bowl, richly chased. A plate on the ebony plinth bore the following inscription:

"Presented to M.E. Comp. Horatio Ward, P.Z. 31, 586, 622, 1273, 2099, P. Prov. G.S.N. Dorset, P. Prov. G.J. Kent, Past Prov. G.H. Wiltshire, and Past Grand Standard Bearer in the Supreme Grand Chapter of England, by the Principals and Companions of the Bertha Chapter, No. 31, Canterbury, on his vacating the chair of First Principal, September 21st, 1899, in recognition of his services as one of the Founders of the Chapter and for the continuous support rendered for the past twenty-one years."

In making the presentation, the M.E.Z. alluded to the great success of the chapter and the great advantage derived from the services of Comp. Ward, who was always willing to render any assistance needed. He had, with one or two exceptions, installed all the Principals during the past 21 years, and had only been absent during that period on five occasions, and then on account of severe illness. He trusted that Comp. Ward might long be spared to carry on the work of Masonry not only in Canterbury, but in the province.

Comp. WARD, who felt very keenly the kindness of the companions in making him the handsome present, expressed his deep gratitude for the same, and could not find words with which to express his feelings as he would have wished. One thing touched him very closely—and that was their wish that the article chosen should be of a character to be handed down as an heirloom to his son, who was also a member of the chapter. He felt his work was now done, but so long as he was spared he would endeavour to carry on the work of Masonry in the future as in the past. He had been a Royal Arch Mason for upwards of 36 years, and enjoyed the work of promoting and extending that beautiful Degree, feeling sure that in spreading the principles it inculcated, it promoted the highest good of its members.

During the evening the highly esteemed Prov. G.H., Comp. EASTES, P.G.S.B. Eng., and many others attested to the great services rendered by Comp. Ward to Royal Arch Masonry, especially in East Kent, and expressed the hope that his health might ere long improve, and that he might still continue his work in Masonry.

After the usual toasts (during which some excellent songs were given by members of the Cathedral choir) the companions separated at an early hour.

LOGIC CLUB.

The members of this well-known Club will re-assemble at the Cavendish Rooms, Mortimer-street, W. for their winter session, at 11.15 a.m., on Sunday, the 1st instant, when the ceremony of installation will be rehearsed by Bros. Robert Manuel, P.M. 1196 (Preceptor), I.M.; R. D. Cummings, P.M. 2168, M.E.; J. J. Thomas, P.G.S.B., S.W.; Harry Nicholls, P.M. 2127, J.W.; Nathan Robinson, P.M. 55, I.P.M.; A. G. Duck, P.M. 898, D.C.; F. Spicer, M.D., P.M. 2183, S.D.; Luigi Lablache, W.M. 1319, J.D.; Albert G. Neville, S.D. 2127, I.G.; and Lionel Rignold, S.D. 2127, Tyler.

The Treasurer, Bro. Sam Johnson, P.M. 1319, and the Secretary, Bro. J. Percy Fitzgerald, will be present.

A programme of music has been arranged by Bro. Llewellyn (Chairman of the Music Committee), and by Bro. J. T. Murray, 2127, Organist.

Great satisfaction has been expressed by the members of the Club, and by many brethren outside it, with the special facilities that have been recently afforded for the study of the much approved Logic working.

MASONIC RECOGNITION EXTRAORDINARY.

An amusing story comes to us from a Surrey P.M., who was to an extent implicated in the little play, the other actors being a well-known and popular P.G. Chaplain, a Surrey Vicar, and a Gloucestershire Rector, the last named being the only one of the four "outside the pale." The Surrey P.M. accompanied the S.V. down West, the clerical brother being engaged to officiate at a wedding in the Rector's village, to which the P.G.C. was invited as a friend of the bride's family. On his way to the marriage the P.G.C. fell in with the S.P.M., whom he had previously met in a lodge of renown in the Cotswold district. The S.P.M. explained his presence in the land of cheese, and mentioned that the S.V. and himself had received an invitation to attend the meeting that night of the lodge in the town of which the P.G.C. is a member. The few words which passed sufficed to enable the P.G.C. to pick out his Surrey brother from among the other clergy in attendance at the wedding; and after the ceremony he made straight for him, gave a fraternal greeting, and said, "I hear you are to

be at our lodge to-night. I am so sorry I cannot be there," &c. The village Rector heard what passed, and knowing that the two clerics were strangers, he took an early opportunity of saying to the S.V., "How extraordinary that Mr. — should have known you were a Mason!" The extraordinary recognition—as it seemed to be—so impressed the Rector that he evidently pondered over it, for later in the day he again referred to it, and expressed his wonderment that a Mason could be thus recognised before a word had been spoken. It needs only to be added that no sign had passed, but that the P.G.C., having heard of his Surrey brother's presence, needed no introduction before exhibiting that genial spirit which is characteristic of him.

Royal Arch.

Hope Chapter, No. 574.

There was a gathering of this chapter at Newbury on the 21st instant, under the presidency of Comp. the Rev. W. M. Hope, M.E.Z., formerly curate of St. Nicholas, but now engaged in a West-end parish. Comp. S. Knight was installed as M.E.Z., Comp. W. H. Belcher as H., and Comp. Colonel Gerald Ricardo as J. The installation ceremony was impressively performed by the retiring M.E.Z. (Comp. the Rev. W. M. Hope), assisted by Comp. C. E. Keyser. A jewel was presented to Comp. the Rev. W. M. Hope.

At the close of the ceremony the installation banquet was served at the Jack Hotel by Comp. W. S. Veitch.

Mark Masonry.

Porchester Lodge, No. 27.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 21st instant, at the Temperance Hall, Newbury, when the W.M., Bro. John Napoleon Day, presided, supported by Bros. C. E. Keyser, I.P.M.; Col. Gerald Ricardo, W. H. Belcher, S. Knight, H. C. Heard, G. J. Cosburn, E. Head, T. S. Cambridge, E. Turner, J. Wright, S. P. Burton, and others. There was no special business of importance.

Whitwell Lodge, No 151

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Eaglesfield-street, Maryport, on the 21st inst. The W.M., Bro. R. Monkhouse, P.S.G.D., presided, and was supported by Bros. T. Millburn, S.W.; Jos. Abbott, P.M., P.P.J.G.O., as J.W.; Thos. Atkinson, P.M. 229, P.P.J.G.W., as S.D.; Isaac Sibson, Sec.; Jas. Gardiner, P.M., P.G. Sec., as Treas.; John Smith, Org.; John Messenger, Tyler; and others.

The minutes of the last quarterly meeting having been read and confirmed, the business was to advance Bro. Thomas Sibson, 371, to the honourable Degree of a Mark Master Mason, which was done by Bro. Gardiner, P.M., P.G. Sec., ably assisted by Bro. T. Atkinson, P.M. 229, P.P.J.G.W. Several apologies were offered for unavoidable absence, and the lodge was closed.

Instruction.

PROSPERITY LODGE, No. 65.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 27th inst., at the Whittington, 5 and 7, Moor-lane, E.C. Present: Bros. J. Huckell, W.M.; T. Stokes, S.W.; H. A. Baxter, J.W.; William Baker, P.M., Treas.; H. T. Meadows, P.M., Sec.; W. G. Read, S.D.; G. Wetton, J.D.; O. W. Rix, I.G.; Jas. Smith, P.M., Asst. Sec.; D. Harlow, P.M., Preceptor; H. Sanuion, P.M.; J. Butcher, P.M.; G. T. Kinipple, P.M.; J. Brown, P.M.; S. Emden, P.M.; J. G. Robeson, P.M.; L. G. Worrell, B. Belling, F. Norman, F. Miller, P. Gray, F. H. Farr, J. Cohen, H. Palmer, and G. Schadler.

The lodge was opened in due form. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. F. Norman acting as candidate. Lodge was then opened in the Second and Third Degrees. Raising was rehearsed, Bro. J. Cohen acting as candidate.

The lodge will be officered by the Lion and Lamb brethren next week, Bro. J. G. Robeson, W.M., in the chair.

LA TOLERANCE LODGE, No. 538.

A meeting was held on Wednesday evening, the 27th inst., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W. Present: Bros. J. L. Goldstein, W.M.; H. Raphael, S.W.; N. Dukas, J.W.; J. Paul, P.M., Preceptor; L. S. Genese, P.M., Treas.; Howard E. Mullins, Sec.; E. B. Homewood, S.D.; J. Bannister Howard, J.D.; Dr. W. H. George, I.G.; W. Proctor, Tyler; T. W. Smale, P.M.; T. A. Tidy, B. J. Harris, T. L. Bowden, S. P. Rees, W. Cumberland, C. Glaser, J. Cumming, J. Whittle, and F. Crocker.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. J. L. Goldstein. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. J. Cummings being a candidate for raising, was duly examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Cummings being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree. The First Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Paul, P.M., Preceptor. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. rose for the first time, and Bro. E. J. Whittle, 538, was unanimously elected a joining member. Dues were then collected. The W.M. rose for the second time, and Bro. H. Raphael was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed the officers in rotation. The W.M. rose for the third time, and it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that Bro. Cumberland be invited to work the ceremony of installation at the ensuing week. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was then closed.

WHITTINGTON LODGE, No. 862.

A meeting was held on the 20th inst., at the Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, when there were present Bros. Alex. Clarkson, W.M.; Alfred Collens, S.W.; Percy Day, J.W.; A. V. H. Pouncefort, P.M., Treas., Preceptor; Henry T. Kobelt, Sec.; J. Scarlett, S.D.; J. Birkin, J.D.; T. H. Pate, P.M., I.G.; H. Gardner, P.M.; R. Smart, and R. J. Fletcher.

The lodge was opened, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Smart acting as candidate, after which the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Birkin acting as candidate. The lodge was then closed.

HORNSEY CHAPTER, No. 890.

The above chapter held its usual weekly meeting at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Easbourne-terrace, Bishops'-road, Paddington, W., on Friday, the 22nd instant. There were present Comps. W. Hillier, P.Z. 834, M.E.Z.; Professor F. W. Driver, M.A., P.Z. and E. 742, H.; H. Foskett, J. 185, J.; H. Dehane, P.Z. 890, P.P.G.P.S. Essex, S.E. and Preceptor; J. Bailey, P.Z. 1602, S.N.; H. Armfield, P.S. 1642, P.S.; A. L. Butters, P.S. 890, 1st A.S.; and F. Marchant, 890.

The chapter was opened, companions admitted, and the minutes of the last convo-

cation read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Marchant being the candidate. The M.E.Z. rose the first, second, and third times. Communications were read from Comps. J. McLeod and Huish. The W.M. then rose for the fourth time, and "Hearty good wishes" were accorded. A vote of thanks to Comp. Professor Driver for acting as H. was proposed and carried. Comp. Driver returned thanks, and the business of convocation being ended, the chapter was closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

A meeting was held on Friday, the 22nd instant, at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E. Present: Comps. Hy. Cornford, M.E.Z.; H. C. Turner, H.; W. H. Barratt, J.; Thos. Grummant, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, P.Z., Scribe E.; Bonner, Scribe N.; J. H. Cureton, P.Z., P.S.; Geo. White, H. D. Grazebrook, Fred. Sinclair, Wm. Dawson, Wal. Jeffery, Blewett Faull, and T. R. Cass.

The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. H. D. Grazebrook personating the candidate. Comps. Fredk. Sinclair, 2345, and Blewett Faull, 101, were each elected a member. Comp. W. H. Barrett, J., was elected M.E.Z. for to-day (Friday). The business of the convocation ended, the chapter was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 26th instant, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. S. Cload, W.M.; C. Nicole, S.W.; J. Birks, P.M., J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; R. E. Maskall, S.D.; W. A. Evans, J.D.; T. A. Spencer, I.G.; H. R. Bower, F. H. Johnson, S. L. Brewer, C. C. Renaud, A. F. Hardymont, R. H. Nichols, and H. Willsmer.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Brewer being the candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Hardymont, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Bower being the candidate. The traditional history was given. Bro. C. Nicole was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

DUKE OF CORNWALL LODGE, No. 1839.

A meeting was held on Monday, the 25th inst., at the Whittington Hotel, Moor-lane. Present: Bros. Sayin, W.M.; Haynes, S.W.; Frohlich, J.W.; Percy Gray, Sec.; Smith, S.D.; Pink, J.D.; Sowden, D.C.; Schnieders, I.G.; Walter Martin, P.A.G.P., Preceptor; Hendrey, Francis, Unthank, Wright, Jones, Saunion, Mullerhausen, Jacobs, Reddell, and Hinchliffe.

The lodge was opened in due form. The ceremony of installation was then rehearsed, Bro. Haynes being the candidate. Bro. Haynes then rehearsed the investiture of officers, and the lodge was closed.

HUGH OWEN LODGE, No. 2593.

A meeting was held on the 22nd inst. at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, when there were present Bros. J. B. Schrader, W.M.; J. G. Swinton, S.W.; Albert Taylor, J.W.; H. G. Holland, P.M., Preceptor; Henry Thos. Kobelt, Sec.; F. Hewson, S.D.; J. Mayhew, J.D.; T. J. Phillips, I.G.; W. Cleghorn, P.M.; Henry Tull, Jno. W. Whipp, W. G. Read, B. Ware, Wm. Hill, Watson, W. Spencer, H. Ramsbottom, and H. C. Wootton.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Wootton acting as the candidate, after which the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Schrader acting as the candidate. The lodge was then closed.

BRONDESBURY LODGE, No. 2698.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 25th instant, at the Earl Derby Hotel, High-road, Kilburn, when there were present Bros. H. de L. Woods, W.M.; T. Golby, S.W.; C. E. Batchelor, J.W.; A. F. Hardymont, W.M. 2698, Preceptor; R. J. Campbell, P.M., Treas.; H. Willsmer, Sec.; A. R. Greaves, S.D.; T. Bore, J.D.; H. Coxen, I.G.; H. J. Dunaway, Org.; A. H. Marks, P.M.; G. Levin, P.M.; M. Spiegel, P.M.; J. W. Smith, P.M.; G. D. Fraser, S. A. Marks, and T. G. Palmer.

The lodge was opened and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Lodge was called off and on. The lodge having been opened in the Second Degree, Bro. T. H. Palmer was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Palmer acting as candidate. The W.M. delivered a lecture on the tracing board. The lodge was closed in the Third and Second Degrees. Bro. T. Golby was elected W.M. for the next meeting. The lodge was then closed.

Royal Ark Mariners.

Collin Lodge, No. 151.

The regular quarterly meeting was held at Freemasons' Hall, Maryport, on the 21st instant, when there were present Bros. Thos. Atkinson, P.W.C.N., in the chair; John Bouch, J.; J. Abbott, P.W.C.N., S.; and others. A telegram regretting inability to attend was received from Bro. James Meneely, W.C.N. The business of the meeting being to elect the W.C.N., Treasurer, and Warden for the ensuing year, a list of those eligible was read over, when those present who were qualified withdrew their names in favour of Bro. John Bouch, J. The ballot was then taken, when Bro. Bouch was unanimously elected W.C.N. Bro. Bouch thanked the brethren for the honour they had conferred upon him. Bro. J. Gardiner, P.W.C.N., Treas., then said that he had filled the office of Treasurer since the consecration of the lodge, some 10 years ago, and now he wished to be relieved of the office. The ballot was then taken for Treasurer, when Bro. Thos. Atkinson, P.W.C.N., was elected to the office. On the motion of Bro. Abbott, seconded by Bro. Gardiner, Bro. John Messenger was again re-elected Warden.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Star Hotel for refreshment, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

BRO. THE REV. WM. H. EDGELL.

Bro. the Rev. Wm. H. Edgell, of the Dobie Lodge, No. 889, Kingston-on-Thames, who went from St. Augustine's College, Canterbury, to work in the Melanesian Mission, has recently sent home a graphic description of a visitation made by him to the Mission stations in the islands of the Hebrides group. The tour extended in point of time from July 23rd to December 19th last year, and our brother, who is well on the "right side" of 30 years of age, went through a variety of experiences. In the *Kingston and Surliton News* of last Saturday some of the incidents of his journey were given, and it is evident that Bro. Edgell is made of the proper material for mission work among a still savage and cannibal-practising people. In July last, Bro. Edgell received priest's orders at the hands of the Bishop of Melanesia. He is the elder son of Bro. Jas. Edgell, J.P., P.M. 889.

BRO. LORD STANLEY, M.P., will be installed as Prov. Grand Master of East Lancashire, at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on November 3rd.

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A GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held in the Large Hall of the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C., on THURSDAY, the 12th October, 1899, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution; and to Elect 16 Girls into the School from a List of 33 approved Candidates. The Election will commence at one o'clock, or immediately after the conclusion of the General Business, and close at Three o'clock precisely.

F. R. W. HEDGES,

5, Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen-street, W.C.,
28th September, 1899. Secretary.

The 112th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will be held on Wednesday, May 9th next, under the distinguished Presidency of the

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1899.

Masonic Notes.

Lord Stanley, M.P., Provincial G. Master nominate of East Lancashire, whose installation is fixed for Friday, the 3rd November, was initiated in the Studholme Lodge, No. 1591, on the 15th June, 1891, is a joining member of the Anchor and Hope Lodge, No. 37, Bolton, which was warranted in 1732, and, in 1896, was one of the founders of the Household Brigade Lodge, No. 2614, of which the present Earl of Lathom, the newly-installed Prov. G. Master of West Lancashire, was also a founder and the first Deputy Master. His lordship was appointed Junior G. Warden of England in 1897, and is Past S.G. Warden of the Mark Grand Lodge. The ceremony will take place at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, and will probably be performed by Earl Amherst, Pro G. Master, Prov. G. Master of Kent. It is not far short of 30 years since Lord Stanley's predecessor in office—the late lamented Bro. Col. Le Gendre N.

Starkie—was installed P.G. Master, so that the number of those among our East Lancashire brethren who were present on that occasion cannot be very large, and we may, therefore, anticipate that the muster in November next will be on an exceptionally grand scale, worthy in every way of so influential a Province.

The Masonic offices in Lancashire rendered vacant by the death of the late Earl of Lathom have all of them been at length filled up, and in each case the father has been succeeded by the son and successor in the title and estates of the Earldom, the second Earl, who had already been installed Prov. G. Master and G. Superintendent of West Lancashire, having on the 19th instant been installed Prov. G. Mark Master of Lancashire. This is far and away the strongest Province under the Grand Mark Lodge of England, having as many as 37 lodges on its roll, with an aggregate membership of 1030, or an average of some 28 per lodge. The next in order of numerical strength are, according to Bro. Kenning's "Cosmo." for the current year, Devonshire, with 24 lodges, and Kent, with 20 lodges, the aggregate membership in each case being well on towards 600. We trust that Lancashire under its new chief, as under his predecessor, will continue to prosper in the Craft, Royal Arch, and Mark Masonry.

There can be little doubt that Royal Arch Masonry in the Province of Durham is proportionally stronger than in most of its sister Provinces. At the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter, which was held at Stockton on the 16th instant, it was announced that the number of subscribing members in Durham had increased during the past year from 503 to 528, and as, according to Grand Lodge Calendar, the number of chapters on the roll is only 13, the average membership per chapter just exceeds 40. The proportion of chapters to lodges is, roughly speaking, about one to three, while the membership is in the proportion of about one to six. There is still, therefore, room for the strengthening of the chapters, even though it may be considered undesirable to increase their numbers. But, as numbers go, Durham has every reason to be gratified with its position as a Royal Arch Province.

The month of August appears to have been an exceedingly busy one in New Brunswick Masonry, the annual meetings of the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, and Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters having been held on consecutive days in the Masonic Hall, St. John, that of Grand Lodge, though not the first in order in time, being the most important. It took place on Tuesday, the 22nd instant, when Bro. Dr. Thomas Walker, M.W. Grand Master, who presided, was able to give a very gratifying account of the events of the past year. The monetary position of Grand Lodge was shown to be sound, there had been a slight increase in the number of subscribing members, who now muster 1778, while the lodges appear for the most part to have performed their duties satisfactorily. During the meeting a delegation from the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, consisting of M.W. Bro. W. F. McCoy, Past Grand Master, and Bro. J. M. Owen, District Deputy Grand Master, were introduced, and both these brethren addressed Grand Lodge on the desirability of uniting the Grand Lodges of the three Provinces—those of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. We cannot say how far the opinion of the brethren of the three Constitutions is favourable to such a union, but the result would give us one Grand Lodge of considerable strength and influence, in place of three, which are necessarily neither so strong nor so influential.

But though the opinion of the general body of Masons in New Brunswick may not be very decided, at present, either in favour of or against the movement, and though Grand Master Dr. Walker—now the I.P.G. Master—declared in Grand Lodge that he was "not prepared at present to support the scheme of a union of the Grand Lodges," there appears to be a tendency on the part of the Grand Lodge in the direction of a union. The Board of General Purposes stated in their report that letters had been received from the Grand Secretaries of the Grand Lodges of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island advising them of the appointment in each case of a Committee of three members to meet with Committees from the other two Grand Lodges "to discuss the matter of the union of the Grand Lodges of the Maritime Provinces," and recommended that such a Committee should be appointed; and after hearing

the appeal made by the delegates from Nova Scotia Grand Lodge decided that such a Committee should be formed, and consist of Bros. J. V. Ellis, Past G.M. John A. Watson, and J. G. Forbes, the present M.W.G.M. When the matter has been fully discussed, and in a friendly spirit, the chances are, we think, likely to be in favour of the scheme.

There is, indeed, already in existence a Supreme Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters for the Maritime Provinces, as shown by the report of the proceedings which took place in the Masonic Hall, St. John, on the 21st August. At this meeting it was resolved that such a body should be formed, and the constitutions, general regulations, &c., as previously formulated, were adopted. Bro. the Hon. Robert Marshall was elected and installed M.P.G. Master, and there are Dep. G. Masters for New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. Thus, in the event of the new organisation in Cryptic Masonry proving a success, the joint Committee of the three Grand Lodges will no doubt be influenced in the recommendations they may see proper to make. Should a Grand Lodge be formed for the three Provinces, there will be on its register upwards of 100 private lodges, the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia having over 60 on its roll, that of New Brunswick 32, and that of Prince Edward Island 12, with one under dispensation.

It is evident the movement for a union is being earnestly and impartially discussed by all the bodies concerned. At the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island—for particulars of which, as well as of those from which we have derived our information in the preceding Notes, we are indebted to the *Canadian Craftsman*—Bro. the Hon. Robert Marshall, M.W. Past G. Master, was present and recommended that a Committee should be appointed to discuss the question jointly with Committees of the other two Grand Lodges, and Grand Lodge responded by at once appointing such a Committee, consisting of Bros. George W. Wakeford, D. Darrach, Past G.M., and Roderick MacNeill, Past G.M. Thus far, then, the omens are favourable, but the matter is one that must not be decided hastily, and we shall probably have to wait till next year before we are made acquainted with the recommendations of the Joint Committee.

Lodge Quatuor Coronati, No. 2076, will resume its labours after the holidays on Friday, the 6th prox., when a stated meeting will be held for the purpose of electing a W. Master, Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year. Subsequently Bro. W. Macbean will deliver an address in memory of the late Bro. W. Simpson, P.M., while the W. Master—Bro. C. Purdon Clarke, C.I.E.—will read a paper entitled "Vestigia Quatuor Coronatorum." The brethren will dine together in the Gordon Room of the Holborn Restaurant at seven p.m.

The Grand Chapter of New Brunswick met in St. John on the 23rd August under the presidency of M.E. Comp. John V. Ellis, G.H.P. There does not appear to have been much business to transact, but the proceedings passed off harmoniously, and Comp. John A. Watson, the G. Secretary of last year, is now G.H.P., while Comp. W. R. Wallace is G. Secretary.

A quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of Philadelphia was held at the Masonic Hall, Philadelphia, on Wednesday, the 6th instant, when among the several reports presented was one from the Grand Secretary, showing that in December, 1898, there were 433 lodges, and an aggregate membership of upwards of 53,000 brethren.

The *Keystone*, of Philadelphia, of the 9th instant publishes in full the original By-laws of Lodge No. 2 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, which was numbered 1 in the first instance, and was warranted by the Earl of Blesinton, Grand Master of the "Ancient" Grand Lodge of England, on the 7th June, 1758, and ranked as No. 69 on the register of that Grand Lodge. The By-laws are contained in the minute book of the lodge, which was recently found by Bro. John A. Perry, Deputy Grand Secretary among a number of old records in the Grand Secretary's office at the Masonic Hall, Philadelphia. It was at once given into the custody of Bro. H. G. O. Ramborger, the Secretary of the lodge, who has since been busily engaged in reading the contents.

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.

ASHTON DISTRICT MARK LODGE AND THE GRAND LODGE OF M.M.M. OF ENGLAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Allow me to thank you for the fair comments and just criticism of your Editorial and "Notes" on my letter of the 2nd instant. However, I beg to point out an error, made unwittingly through lack of historical knowledge and true information, which error is, and has been, a factor of great or vital importance, as it turns out to be the special point on which the Grand Lodge based their action, and the chief, or only one, with which they now find fault, and has all through been "the head and front of our offending."

Towards the end of your article it is stated: "And yet in the teeth of all this evidence of its acknowledged regularity of constitution, the Mark Grand Lodge now declares it S..... and C..... The reason, of course, is clear. The Ashton Mark has recently dubbed itself 'The Hon. United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Mark Master Masons, Ashton District,' &c.; and—"We think that the Ashton Mark Lodge has done an impolitic act in introducing the word 'Grand' into its designation."

Now, this is the very thing the Ashton District Lodge has not recently done, at least, no change has been made in its title during the present generation. When advanced about 13 years ago, I was presented with a copy of their Constitutions, or By-laws, the front page of which reads as follows: "Rules for the Government of the Honourable United Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons' Meetings, Ashton District, and Burial Society, established 11th July, 1830. Revised 22nd October, 1885." I have proof before me to show that the word "Grand" was used by this lodge as far back as 1857, and tradition dates it before that epoch of its history.

Had above facts been known to the writer of Masonic Notes, he would not have stated, "but now it has taken to itself the title of the 'United Grand Lodge.' It is greatly to be regretted that it should have assumed its present title, and if it reverts to its old title, or adopts a less grandiose designation than it has recently chosen for itself, who shall say it is not to the full as regular as any of the other 'Time Immemorial' lodges on the roll of the Mark Grand Lodge?"

I do not believe the Ashton Mark Lodge desired or thought much about this "grandiose designation," and had they known it was in the least offensive to Grand Lodge would willingly and cheerfully have dropped it. It is their intention to drop it in future, or it is already *fait accompli*.

It is to be regretted the Grand Mark Lodge did not seek information from a reliable source and approach the Ashton Lodge with an open statement of their grievance, and suggest the desirability of union, &c., instead of threatening penalties in their first communication. Had that been done union might have been effected ere this with advantage to the Masonic Order, but let us hope it is not even yet too late, as from information received during the past week my views of the general aspect of the case have been materially modified, and, possibly, I "may have mistaken the cold formality of an official communication" for the curtness and abruptness of which I complained; anyhow, many of the difficulties have vanished, and the case is ripening for adjustment if we all meet in that fraternal spirit characteristic of our noble Order. Having had an opportunity of learning some details of the information laid before Grand Lodge, the action taken by them is not to be wondered at, as that information was grossly inaccurate, very misleading, and calculated to bias the mind of the General Board.

It is not an enviable position to be an informer, and when the information volunteered is inaccurate and untrue it does not elevate the person in the respect and esteem of his fellow men. All along I suspected the source of the information, but last week my suspicions became stronger, and eventually were confirmed from authentic sources. I was not surprised, for this friend, Bro. John Armstrong, of Liverpool, had written a "History of Joppa Mark Lodge, No. 11," in which he enters into details of the working as well as the history of the Ashton District Lodge, which is the mother of the "Joppa." He is not only misleading and inaccurate, but states facts that are untrue, and displays a deplorable ignorance of the subject, and not satisfied, he repeats himself and reiterates the inaccuracies, the only plausible excuse for such tautology being a desire to swell the bulk of the 21 page volume he afterwards presents to Grand Lodge, to be treasured in its archives.

I shall only refer to a few points, he writes: "The Lodge has at different times been called the 'Dukinfield Lodge,' &c., &c., and is now (1898) called the 'Hon. United Grand Lodge of M.M.M. of the Ashton-under-Lyne District,' it has always and still meets under the Banner and Warrant of some Cheshire or East Lancashire Craft Lodge. The Craft Lodge is first opened in the three Craft Degrees, when the Mark Master enters and takes the chair. The candidates are balloted for in the Master Mason's Degree, and the Mark Lodge is then opened, &c."

The above "high sounding title" with the word "Grand" was in use long before (1898), even before he or I "cut our wisdom teeth," as shown in an earlier part of this letter; however, the author must be much pleased with it, as he has repeated it in all its fullness at least four times in his pamphlet. I must emphatically deny that candidates are either proposed or balloted for in the 3^d, or that the lodge ever met under either banner or warrant of any Craft lodge, so far as I know, or can learn from the testimony of brethren having personal knowledge for at least 25 years; but only "at the lodges," meaning the lodge rooms, as enumerated in Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Lancashire (see by-laws), or that Craft lodges were ever opened, the whole ceremony, pure and simple, being part and parcel of the ritual of the Mark Degree.

There are many other erroneous passages in the volume, but the above are more applicable to the points at issue and sufficient to expose and prove the worthless and unreliable character of the production. My advice to Bro. Armstrong when next he contemplates attempting to write Masonic History, is the same as *Punch* gave some years ago to the man who sought his opinion as to marrying, "Don't."

Bro. Armstrong applied to me for information and historical details of the Ashton District Mark Lodge, as he was about to write a History on Mark Masonry in Cheshire. I looked through all the minutes and records available and forwarded him several extracts therefrom, of which exceedingly little, if any, were utilised by him, and I have no knowledge of the source from which he gathered his material. We got into friendly correspondence on this and kindred subjects, I invited him to visit the Ashton Mark, enclosing a circular for the lodge meeting, also a copy of our by-laws. I considered our correspondence, although not all marked private, of a confidential nature, and never contemplated he would have used the privilege without, at least, consulting me, if not obtaining permission, before sending the by-laws and circular to Grand Mark Lodge,

together with a copy of his heterodox history and other information, formulating a charge against his neighbours. "Do unto others as you would wish they should do unto you."

The Grand Mark Lodge could not well overlook the case as put before them by my over-zealous friend, and the same misleading and inaccurate reports being communicated to Grand Craft Lodge necessitated action on their part; however, the Grand Lodge authorities might have displayed equally prudent administrative and judicial ability, when taking the *ipse dixit* of this brother, had they tabled the charges and evidence more fully with the name of the informant, so that a complete answer could have been given, and thereby saved much time and trouble to the General Boards, the officers of the provinces, and the W. Masters of lodges; for a simple admonition on any irregularity, real or supposed, with a warning for the future to adhere strictly to any law of the Constitution if such was broken or infringed, might have been sufficient, and decidedly would have produced less friction.

This closes my correspondence on the subject, and I beg to state that in defending my position, also the good name and fame of the Ashton District Mark Lodge, as well as the honour and reputation of the Craft lodges implicated in Cheshire and Lancashire, I have endeavoured to adhere strictly to facts, with *meus conscia recti*, and think it is fully proved now that all concerned are not so bad as painted.

In conclusion, allow me to give a word of council to the brethren of the Ashton District Mark Lodge, collectively and individually. Let us live in peace, love, and harmony; union is strength; let us be united. We are all one happy Masonic family, therefore, let there be no divisions or dissensions amongst us. Forgive and forget. After a quarrel, the family relationship often becomes stronger and more firmly cemented. Rise to the magnanimity of the occasion. Come over and help us. Come and unite with us of the Royal Mark. I am one of them; you know me. I promise all possible assistance in effecting union with the Grand Mark Lodge of England. It is the parent in old age, having passed the century, going home to abide with her fair daughter, who is young and vigorous, fresh and full of resources, and she bids you welcome.

Having had interviews lately with several prominent officers of Grand Mark Lodge, I assure you they, one and all, are prepared to extend the right hand of fellowship, give the most hearty welcome and cordial reception possible to every member, and the terms of union suggested are most magnanimous and liberal.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

THOMAS D. FOREMAN,
P.P.G.W. Lancs.

Denton, September 26th.

VERY ANCIENT AMERICAN FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

We are getting on! "Antiquity's pride we have on our side," sang Bro. Matthew Birkhead; but what of the following—taken from a London daily?—

"The Grand Master of the Freemasons of Virginia has addressed an invitation to the Prince and Princess of Wales to attend the six-hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the lodge.—*Reuter*."

I suppose it may be taken for granted, in this age of scepticism, that America itself was only "discovered" about four hundred years ago. As for Freemasonry in Virginia, there is no evidence of the existence of any lodge in that State until A.D. 1741.

I wonder if the writer of the paragraph in question knows anything about Freemasonry; or may we charitably suppose he is travelling without square and compasses. Surely he needs both.—Yours fraternally,

JNO. LANE.

2, Bannercross, Torquay,
September 25th.

Craft Masonry.

Industry Lodge, No. 48.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, the 25th instant, at the Masonic Hall, Gateshead, when there was a good attendance of members and visitors. The chair was occupied by the W.M., Bro. John Armstrong, P.M., who was supported and assisted by the following brethren: Bros. W. C. A. Holzappel, I.P.M.; A. Simpson, P.M.; Wm. Stafford, P.M.; H. Jackson, P.M.; Wm. Brown, P.M., D.C.; Rob. Whitfield, P.M.; J. T. Pragnell, S.W.; T. Douglass, J.W.; W. J. Jobson, P.M., Treas., as Sec.; W. E. Peacock, S.D.; R. Laverick, J.D.; R. Ferry, Org.; T. H. Armstrong, I.G.; G. T. Bootes and Joe Moffatt, Stwds.; E. Elliott, W. Witherington, J. Lawson, J. G. Hind, W. A. Woodeson, J. Rhind, G. T. Robertson, J. Lightbown, F. Hastie, J. Charlton, Wm. Taylor, J. R. Lightbown, W. Turnbull, R. Dobson, John Carr, G. Kindred, S. Brown, R. Forsyth, W. W. Nichols, T. Buckham, C. G. Nichols, E. Histon, R. Richardson, A. D. Coverdale, and J. B. Thompson. Amongst the visitors were Bros. J. T. Stark, W.M. 2680; R. B. Jackson, 2680; R. Holloway, S.W. 2680; W. J. Heppell, P.M. 424; J. Burrell, P.M. 424; T. M. Warden, 424; Jos. Cook, P.M. 481; W. T. Hall, 406; W. King and W. McFarlane, 448 (S.C.); L. J. Allan, 991; R. Renwick, W.M. 541; H. A. Ward, J.W. 541; T. Coxon, 541; M. Marks, J.W. 2557; J. Saunders, 2557; M. Laserson, 2557; J. Levy, 2557; G. T. Andrews, 2557; E. Walker, 2557; T. W. Holmes, 2674; E. Scurfield, 2674; A. J. E. Page, S.W. 2520; H. Sayer, J.D. 2751; E. Bowman, S.W. 1427; H. J. Chard, W.M. 1342; and many others.

After the preliminary business, the lodge was opened, and the W.M. raised the following brethren as M.Ms.: Bros. W. A. Woodeson, J. B. Thompson, Wm. Taylor, J. Scott, 2557, and J. Levy, 2557. The work was done in a masterly style by Bro. Armstrong. Before closing the proceedings a petition in favour of a new lodge—the Alston-Cumberland—was signed by the W.M., Wardens, and brethren.

The "Hearty good wishes" of the visitors being tendered, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the refreshment board, and the evening was spent in a harmonious manner.

De Grey and Ripon Lodge, No. 1161.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on Wednesday, the 20th instant. The following were present: Bros. Walter Cockerham, S.W.; J. T. C. Blackie, J.W.; J. Irlam, P.M., Treas.; Samuel Richards, Sec.; John Brownhill, S.D.; A. E. Bentley, J.D.; Buckley Carr, P.M., P.P.G.D. of C., D. of C.; E. C. Huntley, Org.; R. Dottie, P.M.; E. Loebell, P.M.; Geo. J. Critchley, W. Clewlow, J. M. Whalley, Chas. G. Balls, P. Smith, and J. R. Fletcher, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. W. Bauer, W.M. 2241; F. O. Taylor, 192; W. E. Harrison, W.M. 1588; W. Burdon, 1588; and H. Woodhead, 304.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. J. M. Whalley having answered the usual questions satisfactorily, was passed to the Degree of a Fellow Craft, the ceremony being performed in a most impressive manner by Bro. J. Irlam, P.M. After "Hearty good wishes" from the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed.

At the social board which followed Bros. Richards, Cockerham, Dottie, Carr, Harrison, and Balls contributed to the harmony of the evening.

Clapton Lodge, No. 1365.

The installation meeting of this distinguished and ever-growing lodge was held at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, on the 21st inst., at which there was a good muster of the brethren to do honour to the installation of Bro. T. T. Gething, an esteemed member of the lodge. There were present Bros. T. T. Gething, S.W., W.M. elect; F. Orfeur, J.W.; W. Blackburn, P.M., Treas.; W. D. Church, P.M., Sec.; F. J. Thayre, S.D.; G. Schilling, J.D.; F. G. Minter, D.C.; R. B. Chessum, H. J. Dyer, and W. R. O. Cathron, Stewards; F. C. Lintott, I.P.M.; W. Finch, P.M.; A. H. Church, P.M.; A. Tucker, P.M.; D. Campbell, P.M.; C. E. Luker, P.M.; A. W. Diamond, W. H. Caton, P.M.; H. Bowen, T. Thurston, E. F. Bowler, E. Stanger, C. Storey, F. Brown, T. Shipman, E. Sienesi, T. W. Vaughan, A. Lichtwitz, J. E. Zoers, J. Vincent, D. G. Zoers, H. A. Zoers, H. C. Amendt, E. Horley, H. E. Prior, W. D. Seaton, S. T. Green, F. H. Pearse, Dr. J. N. Bredin, J. E. Wall, Harry Greene, and E. Wildash. Visitors: Bros. W. H. Lucas, S.W. 1733; C. H. Pemrey, W.M. 127; Norman Orfeur, Sec. 1312; J. Masterd, W.M. 1446; S. Pocock, 2730; T. Middleweek, J.W. 1614; E. Cockerell, 1385; C. L. Johnson, 899; J. R. Rutter, S.W. 1360; B. Crewe, 4; W. Schroder, 25; S. A. Stanger, P.M. 12; J. Nicholson, P.M. 12; W. Prest, 2012; J. Le Beau, 30; P. E. Campbell, P.M. 1670; J. Garrod, P.M. 754; and R. T. West, 1744.

In the unavoidable absence of the esteemed W.M., Bro. W. Banks, through illness, Bro. W. D. Church, P.M., occupied the chair. The minutes of the last lodge and emergency meetings having been read and confirmed, Bro. H. Martin, P.M., was elected Tyler in the place of Bro. E. Mallett, P.M., deceased, and the Auditors' report was received and adopted. Bro. W. D. Church, P.M., stated that he had received a letter from the W.M., Bro. W. Banks, that he was too unwell to be present, and asking him (Bro. Church) to take his duties. On the motion of Bro. W. Finch, P.M., and seconded by Bro. D. Campbell, P.M., it was unanimously resolved that a letter be sent to Bro. W. Banks, W.M., that the officers and members condoled with him in his serious illness, and their earnest and sincere wish being that he might soon be restored to health. The acting W.M., Bro. W. D. Church, P.M., initiated Mr. I. Edwin Wall and Mr. F. H. Pearse, the ceremony being performed in an excellent manner. The ancient charge was given by Bro. A. H. Church, P.M., in a manner that was perfect. The W.M. elect, Bro. T. T. Gething, was presented by Bro. W. Finch, P.M., and installed into the chair by Bro. W. D. Church, P.M. The W.M., Bro. Gething, appointed and invested his officers, and addressed them in suitable terms as to their respective duties, but made special mention of the Treasurer, Bro. W. Blackburn, P.M., and the indefatigable Secretary, Bro. W. D. Church, P.M. They were as follows: Bros. F. Orfeur, S.W.; F. J. Thayre, P.M., J.W.; W. Blackburn, P.M., Treas.; W. D. Church, P.M., Sec.; G. Schilling, S.D.; C. R. Campbell, J.D.; F. G. Minter, I.G.; R. B. Chessum, D.C.; H. J. Dyer, W. R. O. Cathron, and A. W. Diamond, Stwds.; E. S. White, Org.; and H. Martin, P.M., Tyler. Bro. W. D. Church, P.M., gave the usual addresses. It has been our privilege and pleasure to have seen Bro. Church act as Installing Master several times, but on this occasion he excelled himself.



From a Photograph by Charles F. Treble, 270, Lavender Hill, London, S.W.

THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

Other business followed, after which the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to one of the usual banquets, for which the Great Eastern Hotel is famed, and which was well served under the personal superintendence of Bro. H. C. Amendt, the Manager of the Hotel Department of the Great Eastern Railway Company.

In brief, but eloquent terms, Bro. Gething, the W.M., gave "The Queen and the Craft," which was duly honoured.

In giving "The M.W. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," the W.M. stated that it was not only in Masonry that he was a great worker but in many other good causes. "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," came next.

Bro. W. D. Church, P.M., said that in the regrettable cause of absence of the I.P.M., Bro. W. Banks, it devolved upon him to propose the toast of "The Worshipful Master, Bro. Gething." They all knew what an excellent Mason the W.M. was, and they were all proud of him. He was pleased to see him in the chair as he had the honour of initiating him. He was a most genial fellow and a splendid Mason, and what he had to do that evening was done well. At the next lodge meeting he would have a more difficult task, but he would come out of it with honour as he was well able to do the work of the ritual. The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm, and

Bro. Gething, the W.M., on rising to respond was heartily received. He thanked them from his heart for the very kind way the toast had been proposed and received and would endeavour to carry out all the good things that Bro. Church, in proposing the toast, had said of him. His predecessors were all splendid workers of the ritual and it would be a hard task for him to follow in their footsteps, but anyway, he would have the benefit of their great experience in Masonry, and he thought they would give him every assistance, and he earnestly hoped that his year of office would be a successful one, and satisfactory to them all.

In submitting "The I.P.M., Bro. Banks, and Installing Master, Bro. W. D. Church, P.M.," the W.M. remarked that it was a very important toast. It was a great disappointment to them that Bro. Banks was not able to be present through ill-health. His working and his kindness and geniality had won for him the goodwill of every member, and he (the W.M.) was very sorry not to see him there, because he and Bro. Banks were initiated in the lodge together. Their great thanks were due to the Installing Master, Bro. W. D. Church, P.M., for acting at a minute's notice as Installing Master, and he had well performed the ceremony, which was no surprise to them, as he always did any work in the ritual in a very able manner, and he and the members could not thank him enough for his great efforts.

Bro. W. D. Church, P.M., responded, thanking them on behalf of the I.P.M., Bro. Banks, who had made himself perfect to install his successor; but at the last moment his health would not permit. He had well earned the Past Master's jewel, which had been unanimously voted to him, and he hoped that at the next meeting he would be there to receive it. It was a pleasure to him to act as Installing Master, but still with pain, because of the reason of the absence of Bro. Banks, I.P.M. He was called upon at nearly the last moment to install the W.M., who was one of his initiates, and he hoped they would forgive all his shortcomings that evening.

The W.M. proposed "The Initiates." He said that the two initiated that evening, coming with such good introductions, would, he thought, make good members of the Craft, and he heartily welcomed them as members of their good old lodge.

Bro. I. Edwin Wall, in response, expressed his thanks to his proposer and seconder, and also to the W.M. for the pleasure the ceremony of initiation had afforded him. He hoped, with the help of The Great Architect to carry out what he had undertaken, and to do something useful in the future in Freemasonry. He was touched by the many acts of kindness he had received the few minutes he had been a Mason, and he trusted some day to deserve it.

Bro. F. H. Pearse also responded, observing that he was thankful to them all for initiating him. He could not add anything to what his co-Initiate had so well said, except to hope that he would be a good Mason, and that they would never regret having admitted him as a member of their lodge.

In giving "The Visitors," the W.M. remarked that it was a toast that was a favoured one there, as in all lodges, and he was honoured with their presence, and on behalf of the lodge he gave them all a hearty welcome, and he hoped to see them there again. He associated with the toast the names of Bros. C. L. Johnson, J. Nicholson, P.M., J. Le Beau, T. Middleweek, J. R. Rutter, and R. T. West.

Bro. C. L. Johnson said that it was a great surprise to him to be called upon to respond to the toast, but he appreciated the honour. The work in the lodge was splendid, and he was well pleased with his visit. The W.M., Bro. Gething, was a member of the lodge of instruction at Wimbledon, in which he was an ardent worker, and he congratulated him on being installed as W.M. in their important lodge.

Bro. J. Nicholson, P.M., stated that he would carry away with him a splendid recollection of the great working and lavish hospitality of the members, as he had never met a jollier set of Masons. Everyone knew that the Clapton Lodge did great things in Masonry, and it was well known in the Masonic world for its great support of the three Institutions.

Bros. J. Le Beau, T. Middleweek, J. R. Rutter, and R. T. West, also responded, expressing their admiration for the exemplary rendering of the ritual they had witnessed and their appreciation of the profuse hospitality and cordial welcome given them as visitors.

"The Masonic Charities" was the next toast given, coupled with the name of Bro. D. Campbell, P.M.

Bro. D. Campbell, P.M., said he supposed he had been asked to respond because he had been honoured by being appointed Treasurer of the new Benevolent Association connected with the lodge. The Clapton Lodge of Instruction had sent up large sums to the three Institutions, and he hoped the new Association would also follow suit in that direction.

The W.M. gave "The Past Masters, Treasurer, and Secretary," in terms of eulogium, which was well received.

Bro. W. Blackburn, P.M., Treas., responded, congratulating himself and everybody upon the great financial success of the lodge, which was due in a great measure to the exertions of their indefatigable Secretary, Bro. W. D. Church, P.M.

Bro. W. D. Church said that again he had been honoured by being appointed Secretary, for which he thanked the W.M. He belonged to no other lodge, and he would do, as he hoped he had done in the past, his duty fearlessly, and without favour, but with one object—to promote the interests of the lodge, which he dearly loved.

The toast of "The Officers of the Lodge" having been honoured, the Tyler's toast brought to a close a most successful and pleasant gathering, which was carried out in every detail without the slightest hitch.

The musical arrangements were under the able direction of Bro. Harry Greene, assisted by Bro. Roland Henry, Mr. Algernon Boulton, Miss Masie Riversdale, Miss Dorothy Bruce, and Miss Madeline Boulton. Special mention should be made of Miss Masie Riversdale and Bro. Harry Greene, whose efforts were much appreciated.

The Worshipful Master, Bro. T. T. Gething, who is the son of Bro. J. M. Gething, Architect, of Stourbridge, was initiated in the Clapton Lodge, by Bro. W. D. Church, P.M., on the 20th November, 1890. He served all the principal offices up to the Master's chair, to which he was unanimously elected. He is a member of the Royal Arch, a Life Governor of the Girls' Institution, and has never forgotten the Charities; is subscribing to two Benevolent Associations and is Secretary to the Clapton Lodge Benevolent Association. The Clapton Lodge is well known for its excellent working and we have no doubt that it will continue to prosper during the reign of Bro. Gething, and the brethren of his lodge are to be congratulated in having so excellent a Master.

Graystone Lodge, No. 1915.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 14th inst., at the Foresters' Hall, Whitstable, when there were present Bros. Mark Kemp, W.M.; J. W. Elvin, I.P.M.; Charles Edward Monkley, S.W.; B. Lightfoot, J.W.; H. Hemsley, J.D.; H. E. Limmer, I.G.; H. K. Daniels and W. H. Wakeford, Stwds.; A. J. Weatherly, Tyler; J. T. Reeves, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., D.C.; E. G. Walthew, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; Sydney Brown, P.M.; T. W. Porter, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; W. B. London, P.M.; W. H. Brand, P.M.; E. J. Suckling, E. H. Durnford, H. Barrett, P. J. Merrick, J. P. Bren, A. C. Child, F. Gibbs, F. A. Johnson, H. J. Setterfield, R. H. Gubbins, R.N.; F. J. Sparshott, and H. P. Coleman. The visitors included Bros. J. W. Court, P.M. 1096, P.P.G.D.C.; James Edgar, W.M. 784; G. Taylor, W.M. 125; F. L. Pettman, J.W. 429; W. F. Gadd, W.M. 1209; W. G. Head, W.M. 2305; W. Durnford, J.W. 2062; W. H. Moses, A.D.C. 2350; T. E. Dexter, W.M. 158; J. Plant, P.M. 31, P.P.G. Org.; A. Cole, 957; A. S. Baskett, P.M. 158, P.P.G.D.C.; J. S. Dyke, W.M. 2046; H. H. Todd, 1208; Joseph Watson, 1028; H. Taylor, P.M.; R. R. Banks, C. A. Hardwicke, P.M. and Sec., P.P.A.G.D.C. Surrey, and A. Sheppling, P.M., all of 1347; J. W. Moggridge, I.P.M. 1507; J. W. Clark, F. Clarke, and J. Pearson, of 1449; T. F. Morris, J. White, P.M., P.P.G.P., and P. Iggulden, of 2099; Byron Dewhurst, P.M., and Henry Allen, of 972; G. Pope, P.M. 1449, P.P.G.S.B., and others.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., and after a Board of Installed Masters had been formed, Bro. C. E. Monkley, the W.M. elect, was ably installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. J. W. Elvin, in his usual impressive manner. The W.M. afterwards appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Mark Kemp, I.P.M.; B. Lightfoot, S.W.; H. Hemsley, J.W.; A. Anderson, Treas.; E. G. Walthew, P.M., Sec.; H. E. Limmer, S.D.; H. K. Daniels, J.D.; J. T. Reeves, P.M., D.C.; W. H. Wakeford, I.G.; A. C. Child and G. Plommer, Stewards; and A. J. Weatherley, Tyler. Bro. Walthew was also elected Charity Delegate and Lodge Almoner. "Hearty good wishes" were tendered by the visiting brethren, and the lodge was closed.

The banquet, presided over by the W.M., took place at the Bear and Key (Bro. J. Fielding's), when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

Bro. Kemp, I.P.M., in submitting the toast of "The W.M.," congratulated the brethren on the wise choice they had made, and said he was sure Bro. Monkley would carry out the duties of his year of office in a manner which would reflect very great credit upon himself.

Bro. Monkley, in acknowledging the toast, assured the brethren he was deeply grateful to them for the kind way in which he had been treated, and said he should try to follow the example which had been set him by the previous occupants of the chair.

Amongst those who responded for "The Visitors" were Bros. W. Durnford, Joseph Plant, and Joseph Watson.

Harmony was indulged in, songs being sung by Bros. Plant, Pearson, and Dewhurst, accompanied by Mr. F. A. Johnson, and some instrumental music by Bros. Johnson, Brown, and Hemsley, assisted by Miss Monkley.

La France Lodge, No. 2060.

On Monday last, at the Regent Masonic Temple, Café Royal, the above lodge held its first meeting after the recess, which, considering the not yet concluded holiday season, was fairly well attended.

After the ceremony of initiation was performed in a most impressive manner by

Bro. Captain H. Mondeharc, W.M., Bros. Barlet and St. Clair, P.G.S., acting as Senior and Junior Wardens, the election of the W.M. and Treasurer took place. Bros. J. Oppenheim, P.M., Treasurer of the French Chamber of Commerce, and H. Buc, of Christ's Hospital, P.M., P.G. Std. Br., were respectively elected W.M. and Treasurer by a unanimous vote, the lodge thus showing the esteem in which these brethren are held, not only for their services rendered to the above lodge, but also to the Craft in general.

The usual business being transacted, the brethren adjourned for the customary banquet.

The toasts of "The Queen," "The President of the French Republic," "The Grand Officers," and "The Officers," were duly honoured amidst great enthusiasm.

The retiring W.M., Bro. Mondeharc, in a few well-chosen words returned thanks for the jewel of the lodge presented to him the same evening. He said that the small services he had been in a position to render to the Lodge La France were more than repaid by the friendship shown to him by his brethren. This was of much greater value to him than any jewel or brilliant.

The banquet was followed by an excellent musical entertainment, contributed to by Madame Mondeharc, who charmed the guests with her well-trained soprano voice, whilst Miss Dyer displayed her artistic skill at the piano, and her father, Bro. Dyer, one of the most favourite and permanent visitors, added another leaf to his amateur laurels by rendering several songs in a powerful baritone voice.

On this occasion it may be borne in mind that the lodge of instruction created under the auspices of the La France Lodge at the beginning of the current year has realised more than the hope of its founders. It has already close on 50 members, including a large number of English brethren, who take the greatest interest in the Masonic work in French as translated from the English by Bro. H. Buc, P.G. Std. Br. The meetings of this lodge are held every Thursday night, 8.30, at the Cafe Royal, Regent-street, where visiting brethren are sure to receive a hearty welcome. The banquet of the lodge of instruction, arranged for October 26, bids fair to be a great success.

Downshire Lodge, No. 2437.

A numerously attended gathering was held last week, at Wokingham, under the auspices of the above lodge, on the occasion of the installation of Bro. Alderman D. N. Heron as W.M. for the ensuing year, in succession to Bro. G. W. Fortescue. Among those present were Bros. C. E. Keyser, W.M. 2760; Colonel Gerald Ricardo, W.M. 574; R. C. Edwards, W.M. 2408; G. S. Elliott, W.M. 2603; W. G. Boswell, P.M. 2417; I. J. Lawrence, P.M. 414; C. Slaughter, E. Baber, D. Wilson, W.M. 1566; W. B. Reed, E. H. Simmons, W.M. 2043; E. Farrer, F. A. Serjeant, F. Tunbridge, J. B. Markham, W. J. James, and others.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Fortescue, supported by the lodge officers, including Bros. Heron, S.W.; E. Caldecott, J.W.; Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, Chap.; H. Creed, Treas.; T. Rowland Kent, Sec.; G. T. Phillips, S.D.; H. G. Powell, D.C.; A. Clarke, Org.; and J. Headington, I.G.; other members of the lodge embracing Bros. J. S. Tavener, J. W. Trowbridge, A. G. Potter, C. J. Cave, E. E. Lawrence, J. May, J. W. Bickerton, W. White, G. G. Stanham, J. Cox, T. Hunt, J. T. Stevens, and others. The installation ceremony was impressively performed by the retiring W.M., after which the newly-installed W.M. appointed and invested the officers as follows: Bros. G. W. Fortescue, I.P.M.; E. Caldecott, S.W.; Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, J.W.; H. Creed, Treas.; T. Rowland Kent, Sec.; G. T. Phillips, S.D.; J. Headington, J.D.; H. G. Powell, D.C.; A. Clarke, Org.; J. May, I.G.; F. Foot and J. W. Trowbridge, Stwds.

At the conclusion of the business the brethren sat down to a banquet provided at the Town Hall, under the genial presidency of the W.M., Bro. Heron, when the customary Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

Bro. Keyser responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers," and Bros. Colonel Ricardo and Slaughter for "The Provincial Grand Officers."

The I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M.," which was drunk with enthusiasm, and appropriately acknowledged.

Bro. Creed gave the toast of "The Installing Master and Past Masters," for whom Bro. Fortescue returned thanks.

Bro. Rev. P. H. Ditchfield proposed the toast of "The Masonic Charities," to which Bro. Keyser replied.

Other toasts were also given and responded to, including "The Visitors," "The Officers of the Downshire Lodge," and the Tyler's toast.

The enjoyment of the company was much enhanced by the admirable performances of Miss Heron and the Gregorian Singers of the Chapel Royal, Windsor Castle (Messrs. Fred Naylor, James Dempster, Harry Carver, and Bro. Bell Kempton).

Aldermaston Lodge, No. 2760.

The officers of this lodge assembled in their lodge room at the Hind's Head Hotel on Wednesday, the 20th inst, under the presidency of Bro. Keyser, W.M., when several matters of interest were dealt with. Bro. T. S. Cambridge, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, but his installation will not take place until next summer. A hearty vote of thanks was presented to the retiring W.M., not only for the able manner in which he had presided over the lodge since the date of its formation, but also for his liberality in providing nearly the whole of the lodge furniture. Bro. Simcox was also thanked for handsome gifts to the lodge.

A VETERAN MONMOUTHSHIRE FREEMASON.

It is given to few men to reach the age of four score years and ten, and to still retain the power of enjoyment and a keen relish of life, yet this is the case with Dr. William Williams Morgan, Newport, Monmouthshire, who celebrated his ninetieth birthday on Sunday. Dr. Morgan was born in 1809, the year which saw the birth of Gladstone, Tennyson, Whittier, Wendell Holmes, and other great literary figures. In answer to queries on the subject, he said:

"My Masonic life dates back a long time—to 1835-6. I was initiated in Lancashire, in the Naphtali Lodge. I was one of the first movers in the Silurian Lodge at Newport, but my name was not put upon the application, though I had a good deal to do with it, as I was away in Lancashire on one of my visits to my future wife. At that time there was no lodge of Freemasons in Newport, and only one in the county—at Monmouth—though there were two or three defunct, one at Abergavenny and one at Pontypool. I was connected for many years with the Silurian, but we

became so numerous that there was room for a second lodge, and I tried to get another. I tried to get the signature of the Silurian Lodge to the application to Grand Lodge through the Provincial Grand Lodge, but they declined to sign it. So I took the bull by the horns, and went to Colonel Tynte, with Bro. Middleton, and put the case before him, asking him to intervene with his father, and put the case before him as Provincial Grand Master for the Province of Monmouth. The matter was put before him, and the result was that we were granted the warrant to found the Isca Lodge. They elected me the first Master, and kept me in the chair two years. Those are the first officers"—pointing to a photograph on the wall, a duplicate of which is to be seen in the Masonic Hall at Newport—"Bro. Laybourne presented his to the lodge."

It is a remarkable fact—and possibly unique—that Bro. Dr. Morgan, a Freemason of nearly 65 years' standing, is the son of one who was a Freemason for more than 50 years. His father was a Tyler of the Loyal Cambrian at Merthyr, and a Knight of St. John. He continued a member until he was no longer able to walk, and he died at the age of 92.

The Craft Abroad.

CENTENARY OF THE UNION LODGE, No. 7.

The centennial of the above lodge was celebrated on Thursday, the 17th ult., at Grimsby Park, Canada. Members of the Craft were present from Toronto, Hamilton, Guelph, Dunnville, St. Catharines, Beamsville, Stony Creek, Niagara Falls, New York, and other places.

Shortly after 2 o'clock a procession was formed in front of the Lakeview House, and, headed by the Citizen's Band of Grimsby and the original goat, 1799, marched to the Tabernacle, where addresses were delivered.

The chair was occupied by Bro. William Gibson, M.P., and around him on the platform were: Bros. Hon. Thos. Bain, Rev. E. S. Rowe, Rev. Dr. Burns, W. C. Wilkinson, and many other prominent Masons.

The proceedings began with prayer by Bro. Rev. Dr. Burns.

President NOAH PHELPS, of the Grimsby Park Company, in a few words of welcome said the present gathering made up an event long to be remembered in the history of the park.

Bro. A. C. COLE, W.M., read an address of welcome. "If those gentlemen," he said, "who had established the lodge a century ago could see the condition of the Craft of the district and of Canada at the present time they would be greatly astonished. Union Lodge was the seventh Masonic lodge to be instituted in the Dominion, but now the Craft was established in every part of Canada, and there were over 400 lodges."

The CHAIRMAN, in a short address, said he had a personal recollection of the lodge for nearly 30 years, and was proud to say there were brethren present who had been associated with it for upwards of 50 years. Bro. Andrew Randall, who was initiated in 1854, was the oldest member present. Bro. Tierney, who was also in the audience, had received the first certificate from the Canadian Grand Lodge.

Bro. WILLIAM FORBES explained the unavoidable absence of a number of expected speakers, and read a letter of regret from Bro. Mayor Maybury, of Detroit.

Bro. W. J. DROPE gave an exceedingly interesting and sketchy history of the lodge. On December 17th, 1779, eight men banded themselves together and organised the lodge, with Bros. Colonel Robert Nelles, W.M.; Jonathan Woolverton, S.W.; Allan Nixon, J.W.; John E. Foot, Sec.; and Jonathan Moore, Treas. Bro. Colonel Nelles was a U.E. Loyalist, and with his father and two brothers was the first settler of the township, coming here in 1783. He became a member of Parliament in 1803, and lived to a comfortable old age. Bros. Colonel Nelles, Woolverton, and Nixon now slept in St. Andrew's churchyard, near the foot of the mountain near by. The constitution drawn up in the early years of the lodge provided among other things that every member shall appear in clean and decent clothing, and that members should be fined for absence unless they received permission. Members who cursed or swore or corrupted good manners should be fined at the discretion of the Master and the majority. The first initiations after the beginning took place in June, 1800. In the early days the members endeavoured in some degree at least to encourage temperance. The records showed that one member was allowed to pay only one shilling instead of two shillings dues, because he took no refreshments. In 1803 the lodge went into the bee business, but the records did not show that it proved a profitable venture, and during the troublous period of 1812 no meetings were held, many of the brethren being engaged in active service in the defence of their country, and at the first meeting in 1816 it was resolved to destroy the old notes held against deceased brethren. From 1827 to 1854 there were dark days in local Masonry, owing to the troublous political pot and the revelations of an alleged member, and no meetings were held. For a portion of this time the lodge's tools, &c., were hidden in a cave in the side of the mountain. In 1854 it was resuscitated by Sir Allan McNab, and has had a successful career ever since.

Bro. Rev. E. S. ROWE, of Toronto, who followed, spoke of the importance and rarity of the occasion. Such societies as the Masons, he said, did

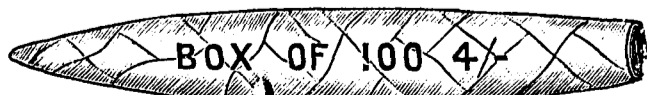
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