

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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FREEMASONRY AND THE WAR FUNDS.

We have no desire or intention of parading before the public the doings of Masonry in the field of benevolence. There is, in the first place, no need to do anything of the kind, the reputation of the Craft in this respect being so well established, while, in the next, it tends to mar the effect of a duty that is gracefully done, to be continually drawing attention to its performance. Still, it is satisfactory, if not very surprising, to find that the Freemasons of Old England are doing their fair share of the work of providing for the widows and orphans of the brave men who have fallen in battle in the service of their QUEEN and country; for those of our soldiers who may be either for a time or permanently disabled from earning a livelihood; for the thousands of families, many of them once living in affluence, but all in more or less comfortable circumstances, who are now not only outcasts from their homes, but, in the majority of cases, in actual want of the necessaries of life; and, generally, for all who are, or may be, in suffering through this fierce and terrible war which is now raging in South Africa. For weeks our lodges and chapters and other Masonic bodies have been remitting to one or other of the Funds started for the purposes we have mentioned the modest sums subscribed at their regular or special meetings; and nearly all the reports that reach us contain evidence of the determination of our brethren and companions not to be behind the rest of their fellow-countrymen in helping to relieve the distress that has arisen out of this Transvaal War. The other day it was the Supreme Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch which voted 100 guineas to the Transvaal Refugees Relief Fund and its Grand Officers' Mess 1050 shillings to the *Daily Telegraph* Shilling Fund. Then the Woodgrange Lodge sent its 1102 shillings to the latter. The Capper Lodge, No. 1076, gave 11 guineas to the "Patriotic Fund;" the Fellowship, No. 2535, £25 to the Mansion House Fund. Other subscriptions include 10 guineas from the Asaph Lodge, No. 1319; £7 10s. from the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076; 245 shillings from the Cosmopolitan Lodge, No. 915, all paid over to the *Daily Telegraph* Fund, while this week we have had 100 guineas voted to the same Fund by the Mark Grand Lodge, and 1000 guineas to

the Mansion House Fund by United Grand Lodge, and this (Friday) evening, when the Great Priory of the Order of the Temple meets at Mark Masons' Hall, there will, we doubt not, be a further 100 guineas voted, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council, to the *Daily Telegraph* Fund. Thus, throughout the English Craft, from Grand Lodge and private lodge, Grand Chapter and Great Priory and private chapter and preceptory, subscriptions, have been finding their way to the different Funds, and for weeks and months to come will continue to flow in, so that the sufferings of those affected by the war may be, as far as possible, alleviated. Of course, the reader will understand that the sums we have specified are merely representative of the far more numerous contributions which have been raised in all directions by bodies of Masons. They are, in fact, just a few of the amounts that have been mentioned in our own reports, or that have caught our attention in glancing down the lists which are appearing day by day in the *Times*, *Daily Telegraph*, and other papers, and compiled in a list of our own. But, after all, we are doing no more than has been done before when occasions have arisen and it has been found necessary to appeal to the nation for the wherewith to relieve the sufferers in times of war. Very generous contributions were made by our brethren to the Patriotic Fund established at Lloyds', that was started during the wars in which the country was engaged during the early years of the present century; while, in the days of the Crimean War and Indian Mutiny, our lodges, both Grand and private, were among those who assisted in the patriotic work—a grant from Grand Lodge of £1000 being made to the Patriotic Fund in 1855 in connection with the former, and one of equal amount in 1858 to the Indian Relief Fund in connection with the latter.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England was held on Wednesday evening last, at Freemasons' Hall, London. The Earl of Warwick, Dep. G.M., presided. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G. Master for Hants and the Isle of Wight, acted as Dep. G.M.; and Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., as Past Grand Master. Bro. Thomas Fenn, P.G.W., acted as S.G.W.; and Bro. Robert Grey, as J.G.W.

Among numerous other brethren present were—

Bros. R. Loveland Loveland, Q.C.; Sir Forrest Fulton, D.G. Reg.; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; J. W. Woodall, P.G.T.; Richard Eve, P.G.T.; George Everett, P.G.T.; S. Cochran, P.G.T.; Alfred H. Bevan, G.T.; Lennox Browne, R. D. M. Littler, Q.C., P.D.G. Reg.; Sir Joseph C. Dimsdale, P.G.T.; J. Lewis Thomas, J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; James Henry Matthew, Dr. Clement Godson, P.G.D.; Rev. F. N. Bethune Norman Lee, G.C.; Imre Kiraly, W. Vincent, W. A. Scurrah, James Boulton, James Kew, and Frank Richardson, acting G.D.C.

Grand Lodge having been opened in due form,

GRAND SECRETARY read the minutes of the Quarterly Communication of September 6th, and they were put and confirmed.

Bro. H. THOMSON LYON rose to call attention to a question of privilege. Since the last meeting of G. Lodge he had received a lithographed letter addressed to himself, and signed by a G. Officer. On looking through it carefully he discovered, to his astonishment, that it was nothing but a lithographed circular relating to trips got up by a touring agency, and, as it appeared to him to be contrary to the usages of the Craft, he brought the matter before G. Lodge.

The Earl of WARWICK said that this had nothing to do with the business before G. Lodge.

Bro. H. THOMSON LYON remarked that he thought that it ought to be brought before the G. Lodge.

The Earl of WARWICK repeated that he did not think it had anything to do with G. Lodge; but if Bro. Thomson Lyon would kindly bring it before G. Lodge on a notice of motion, it would be well considered.

Bro. CHARLES BEAUMONT, G. Stwd., then rose and said: Most Worshipful Acting Grand Master,—I have the honour to nominate for Grand

Master for the ensuing year his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. It is not usual, and it is not necessary, for a brother who has the honour allowed him to nominate the G.M. to inflict a speech on G. Lodge. During the years the Prince of Wales has been G.M., he has invariably not only in G. Lodge, but throughout Masonry, performed his duties in such a way as to win the admiration and respect of the Craft. (Cheers.)

Bro. JOHN GLASS, P.M. 453: Most Worshipful the Grand Master in the chair, I have again the pleasure, on behalf of the Right Worshipful Grand Master of Norths and Hunts and the brethren of the province and of a large number of eminent brethren of London and the provinces, to nominate for the office of Grand Treasurer, W. Bro. Harry Manfield. W. Bro. Harry Manfield was initiated in 1882, and is now P.M. 1764 and 1911, P. Prov. S.G.W. Norths and Hunts, also P.P.G. Soj. Norths and Hunts, Vice-Patron Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, Patron Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, Vice-Patron Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and Representative of the Province of Norths and Hunts on the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, in which capacity he has done most admirable service for that Institution. In fact, Bro. Manfield's Masonic and social attainments, I venture to say, are such as in every way fit him for the high and responsible office of G. Treasurer. Brethren may with the utmost confidence feel that in electing him they will appoint an upright man and Mason. I do not propose to take up the time of Grand Lodge by detailing the many estimable qualities of our brother, nor detail his very numerous and excellent Masonic achievements. These I went into at some length last year, when, although opposed by a very distinguished and popular London candidate, Bro. Manfield obtained 1030 votes for the office of Grand Treasurer. This fact alone inclines me to believe that a considerable amount of gratification will be afforded, and you, Most Worshipful Grand Master in the chair, may be now permitted to proceed without interruption to the next item on the agenda. (Applause.)

The Earl of WARWICK enquired whether there was any other nomination. There being no response, cries of "Bravo!" were raised, and there was general applause.

The Earl of WARWICK then declared Bro. James Henry Matthews re-appointed President of the Board of Benevolence, and Bro. Matthews advanced to the throne and was re-invested.

The Earl of WARWICK declared Bro. David Dixon Mercer duly elected Senior Vice-President, and Bro. Henry Garrod Junior Vice-President of the Board of Benevolence.

Bro. LETCHWORTH read the following names of brethren nominated to serve as Past Masters on the Board of Benevolence:

Bros. James Block, P.M. 1158; Fredk. Wm. Downes, P.M. 1158; William H. Caton, P.M. 1365; George B. Chapman, P.M. 299; John Ellinger, P.M. 2222; Simon H. Goldschmidt, P.M. 1329; Frederick W. Hancock, P.M. 548; Wm. Kipps, P.M. 1275; Edward Nightingale, P.M. 87; Charles Pulman, P.M. 720; Charles Henry Stone, P.M. 507; Robert Wellwood Ker, P.M. 194; and Wm. Wills, P.M. 1901.

Bro. LETCHWORTH said that, in order to prevent an election, Bro. F. William Downes, 1158, had been good enough to retire, and, under those circumstances, there would be no election. (Applause.)

The Earl of WARWICK: I have great pleasure, brethren, in declaring those 12 brethren whose names have just been read to you duly elected. (Applause.)

The Report of the Board of Benevolence was then read, and the following grants were confirmed, on the motion of Bro. J. H. MATTHEWS, seconded by Bro. D. D. MERCER:

A brother of the Mount Edgcombe Lodge, No. 1446, London...	£75 0 0
A brother of the Northern Lodge of China, No. 570, Shanghai	50 0 0
A brother of the Zetland Lodge, No. 603, Cleckheaton	100 0 0
Eight orphan children of a late brother of the Hundred of Elloe Lodge, No. 469, Spalding	100 0 0
A brother of the Royal York Lodge, No. 315, Brighton	50 0 0
A brother of the Langthorne Lodge, No. 1421, Ilford, Essex	50 0 0
A brother of the Southern Star Lodge, No. 1158, London	150 0 0
A brother of the St. Chad's Lodge, No. 1129, Rochdale	50 0 0
A brother of the Afan Lodge, No. 833, Aberavon	50 0 0
A brother of the Bank of England Lodge, No. 263, London	75 0 0
A brother of the Beaconsfield Lodge, No. 1662, London	75 0 0

A vote of thanks to the President, Bro. James H. Matthews, for the courteous manner in which he had, during the past year, presided over the meetings of the Board, was carried at the November meeting.

On the motion of Bro. R. LOVELAND LOVELAND, Q.C., President, seconded by Bro. W. J. MASON, Vice-President, the report of the Board of General Purposes, as published in these columns last week, was taken as read and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

Bro. R. LOVELAND LOVELAND then moved that the following lodges be erased from the roll of Grand Lodge, they having either seceded, ceased to work, or by the required majority decided to place themselves under the jurisdiction of the newly-recognised Grand Lodge of New Zealand:

Canterbury—Ionic Lodge, No. 1917, Leeston. Otago and Southland—Southern Cross Lodge, No. 997, Ivercargill; Waitaki Lodge, No. 1111, Oamaru; Lake Lodge of Ophir, No. 1195, Queenstown; Mount Ida Lodge, No. 1262, Naseby; Aparima Lodge, No. 1617, Riverton; Palmerston Lodge, No. 1749, Palmerston; Herclues Lodge, No. 1875, Tapanui; Hiram Lodge, No. 2008, Dunedin; St. John's Lodge, No. 2102, Mosgiel; Waikonita Lodge, No. 2115, Waikonita; Mokarita Lodge, No. 2287, Wyndham; and Lodge of Fortitude, No. 2311, Bluff. Westland—Tatara Lodge, No. 1241, Ross. Auckland—Albion Lodge, No. 2003, Devonport, and Alpha Lodge, No. 2014, Cambridge. Lodges not under a district—Marlborough Lodge of Unanimity, No. 1236, Blenheim; Forest Lodge, No. 1481, Wakefield; Victory Lodge, No. 1927, Nelson; and Waitoki Lodge, No. 2036, Picton.

With the exception of two of these lodges the warrants had been returned back to Grand Lodge and a good many of them would like to have their warrants returned when cancelled. From these two there was an intimation to the District Grand Secretary of our Grand Lodge that they had gone over to the Grand Lodge which had been formed in that district.

Bro. W. J. MASON seconded.

Bro. RICHARD EVE, P.G.T., with respect to the rights of minorities, wished to know whether the course had been pursued which was laid down by Grand Lodge in September, 1898, whether three months had passed before the cancellation, and that none of the minorities had applied for the resuscitation of the warrant?

Bro. LOVELAND LOVELAND replied that the three months either had elapsed or would elapse before the cancellation of the warrants, with the exception of the two lodges, one at Otago, and the one at Westland. We had not received the warrant, but had a notification from the Dist. Grand Secretary that they had gone over to the new Grand Lodge.

Bro. RICHARD EVE said he was quite satisfied.

The motion was then carried.

Bro. Rev. F. BETHUNE N. NORMAN LEE, Chaplain to the Forces, G. Chaplain, then moved to add to Rule 165 of the Book of Constitutions—

"And if in any Lodge it should become impossible to hold the regular meeting upon the day named in the Bye-laws for that purpose, the Grand Master, and in Provinces and Districts the Provincial and District Grand Master, may grant a dispensation for the holding of such meeting upon a day not later than seven days before or after that day fixed by the Bye-laws, which day shall for all purposes be deemed the regular day of meeting."

He said he thought such an alteration was necessary, as, by the present rules, a hardship was inflicted on the Craft, as if a lodge could not be held on the day named in the by-laws they could not at an emergency meeting propose a candidate or confirm minutes of a regular meeting. Therefore, he wished to give the powers named in his notice of motion.

Bro. THOMAS FENN, acting S.G.W., supported the motion, although after the laws had been settled by brethren of great experience and authority he had a great objection to any alteration.

A BROTHER thought that considering the question was one of far-reaching and important effect it required more consideration than could be given in a meeting of Grand Lodge, and he moved that it be referred to the Board of General Purposes.

Bro. RICHARD EVE, P.G.T., seconded the amendment. The matter could be easily settled by the Board; there was not much question at present.

The Earl of WARWICK said he thought the amendment very reasonable and that Grand Lodge would be wise in adopting it.

Bro. the Rev. F. N. BETHUNE NORMAN LEE observed that it had already been before the Board of General Purposes. (No, no.) He spoke subject to correction.

Bro. THOMAS FENN said he did not know it himself. If Bro. Norman Lee agreed to a reference to the Board, he did not object, and he thought it was the only proper course.

Bro. R. LOVELAND LOVELAND said that as President of the Board, as far as he recollected for four years the Board had never had the question before it.

Bro. the Rev. NORMAN LEE thought that before a matter went to the Board you had to write. If so, to whom were you to write?

Bro. R. LOVELAND LOVELAND said it was brought before the General Committee of Grand Lodge first, which was quite a different body.

Bro. the Rev. NORMAN LEE said he wrote some months ago, and he thought it was to the Board of General Purposes.

The amendment was put and carried.

Bro. the Rev. NORMAN LEE: I must ask you, Right Worshipful Grand Master, to let someone propose it in my place. I shall be gone to South Africa.

The Earl of WARWICK: I am sorry for it.

The Earl of WARWICK next said that, in the absence of Sir Reginald Hanson, P.G.W., he ventured to ask the brethren to allow him to move the resolution which stood in his name. If he might say so, he thought the resolution was of such importance that he was sure it would have the support and sympathy of the whole Masonic body throughout the country, because it conveyed in a practical way the universal support of all. Had they had the great honour and privilege of the presence of the Grand Master among them that evening, he felt certain that such a resolution as that would have been moved by his Royal Highness himself. Of course, it was open to anyone to say whether they approved of the distribution of the sum of 1000 guineas in the way in which it was proposed: but he was quite sure he was echoing the sentiments of all in that body when he moved the resolution—

That the sum of 1000 guineas be voted from the funds of Grand Lodge to be paid over to the Mansion House Transvaal War Fund for distribution in the following proportions:

400 guineas for the wives and children of those serving in South Africa.
200 guineas for the widows and orphans.
200 guineas for the sick and wounded.
200 guineas for the disabled soldiers and sailors.

He felt that the heart of every Mason was with their brave soldiers who were fighting for their country at the present moment. He had great pleasure in moving the resolution that stood in Sir Reginald Hanson's name.

Bro. W. W. B. BEACH, M.P., acting Deputy Grand Master, said he had great pleasure in seconding the motion. The cause in which it was proposed came home to the hearts of all Masons, who were always anxious to take part in any Charitable fund arising out of any distress. The motion commended itself to the hearts of all Masons, and he hoped it would meet with universal approbation.

Bro. R. D. M. LITTLER, Q.C., P. Dep. G. Reg., said no one would suppose that in proposing an amendment to the resolution he wished in any way to oppose the amount which had been given. On the contrary, he should not have objected if the amount had been ten times as much. The only amendment that he had to propose was as to the distribution of the fund, and he wished the brethren to consider how the sum was to be laid out. There was very considerable difficulty to be encountered with regard to the way in which the fund should be appropriated. Remembering how strong a following Masonry had in the Colony of Natal the question arose whether the fund should not be appropriated, not only to the soldiers and sailors of the officers and others in this country, but whether some part should not be appropriated to those who had lost their homes in the colony. The brethren in Natal had been losing their homes and their farms, and had also taken up arms, and had been a great power and a means of saving this country. He thought that if they were to overlook their brethren in Natal, who were making every effort for this country, if they were not to take part in their Charity, when the fact reached them out there it would have a great effect on them. Therefore, he thought it would be of great advantage if they were to be allowed to take part in the reception of the fund. There might be some difficulty as to how it should be appropriated, and how far the Mansion House Fund could be associated in this object.

They might make an important alteration in the terms of the motion, and he would venture to move "That the sum of 1000 guineas be voted from the funds of Grand Lodge to the Transvaal War Fund, and that it be referred to the Board of Benevolence for distribution to such Transvaal War Fund, and in such proportions as they in their discretion might think fit." That would enable the Board to see how the funds stood. At present the fund for Natal only reached the miserable amount of £5000, and he thought they ought to earmark the funds. A good many suggestions had been made, but he felt very strongly indeed that when they had so many funds—he did not make invidious comparisons—he considered that when the people were doing so much good in Natal they should show how they appreciated what they were doing. When their farms were lost, and their homes gone, they should do their share in assisting them. He begged to propose the amendment.

Bro. Rev. C. J. MARTYN, P.G.C., had great pleasure in seconding the amendment, because he considered that no distinction should be made whether the widows of the soldiers were married on the strength or not.

Bro. LENNOX BROWNE, P.D.G.D.C., felt that they should recognise the services of all those people, and not create any dissension among them. He would ask that the resolution be passed, and he should leave entirely its distribution for the consideration of the Board of Benevolence.

Bro. J. E. LE FEUVRE supported the amendment, and said there were very many wives and widows who were not recognised as such by the authorities, and he was sure that Grand Lodge would not be satisfied unless that fund was distributed for the relief of the distress of those who were not formally on the establishment. He would ask if words could not be added in order to designate carefully what they meant by wives and widows—what they understood by the phrase that night? What they intended was all those relatives of soldiers who were married who were not on the establishment. There was no necessity to propose a rider with the specific words but if that was the understanding of Grand Lodge, he was perfectly satisfied.

Bro. Sir FORREST FULTON, Q.C., Dep. G. Reg., brought forward the appeal of Bro. J. Lockwood Wingate, I.P.M. of Friendly Lodge, No. 239, Kingston, Jamaica, against a ruling of the Deputy District Grand Master in charge (Bro. Dr. C. J. Morse, C.B., M.L.C., &c.), at a meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Jamaica on July 27th, 1899. He said Bro. Strachan, Q.C., Grand Registrar, was away on circuit, but he had according to practice reduced his opinion to writing, which he (Sir F. Fulton) would read to Grand Lodge. This he did, and according to the recommendation of the Grand Registrar the appeal was allowed, but only on one (the last) out of four points raised by the appellant.

The motion was made by Bro. Sir F. FULTON and seconded by Bro. LOVELAND LOVELAND.

Bro. Sir Forrest Fulton read the opinions of Bro. Strachan, Q.C., G. Reg., on the appeal of Bro. William Henderson, P.M. of Franklin Lodge, No. 2486, Windsorton, Barkly West, South Africa, against a decision of the Deputy District Grand Master and the District Board of General Purposes of the District Grand Lodge of South Africa, Central Division. Bro. Strachan did not think the appeal ought to have been brought at all, but he did not propose to go further into the matter at present. The motion was not given until September, 1899, when Kimberley was cut off from the outer world, which would account for the answer not having reached our Grand Secretary, and he recommended the matter should be postponed until next quarterly communication.

The postponement was proposed by Bro. Sir FORREST FULTON, seconded by Bro. LOVELAND LOVELAND, and carried.

Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

MARK GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown was held on Tuesday evening last at Mark Masons' Hall, London. The Earl of Euston, M.W. Pro G. Master, presided. Bro. C. Letch Mason acted as Dep. G. Master, and Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., as P.G.M. Baron de Ferrieres acted as S.G.W., and Bro. Major J. W. Woodall, P.G. Treas., as J.G.W., and among the other brethren present were Bros. R. Loveland Loveland, Q.C.; Charles Belton, as G.M.O.; W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas.; Dr. Clement Godson, Richard Eve, P.G.T.; W. E. M. Tomlinson, M.P.; Harry Nicholls; W. Vincent, acting as G.D.C.; and John Smith (Bedford) G.I.G.

After the minutes had been read and confirmed, the Report of the General Board was taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

On the motion of Bro. R. LOVELAND LOVELAND, Q.C., President, seconded by Bro. W. M. STILES, P.G. Treas., the Garnet Lodge, No. 228, Dinapore, India, and the Ark Mariner lodge attached thereto, were removed from the roll of Grand Lodge, the lodges not having met since 1882. Bro. Loveland said there was no prospect of the lodge meeting.

Bro. LOVELAND LOVELAND next moved: "That the Grand Inspector of Works be an *ex-officio* member of the General Board; and that Article 154, Book of Constitutions, be altered as follows: after the word 'President' to insert 'Grand Inspector of Works.'" The Board on several occasions had found that it was inconvenient not to have the Grand Inspector of Works present when they were considering the embellishment of the lodge or repairs. Unless he was a member, they found they could not get him. It was under those circumstances they now asked the alteration of the Constitutions.

Bro. W. M. STILES, P.G.T., seconded the motion, which was then put and carried.

After two benevolent grants of £25 each had been carried, the report of the General Board was adopted, on the motion of Bro. LOVELAND LOVELAND, seconded by Bro. W. M. STILES.

The Earl of EUSTON then said he had to move "That the sum of 100 guineas be voted from the Benevolent Fund to the *Daily Telegraph* Widows' and Orphans' Fund." He was sure the brethren would be unanimous in adopting this vote, which was for the assistance of wives who were left at home without husbands, and children without fathers.

Bro. R. LOVELAND LOVELAND seconded the motion.

Bro. W. E. M. TOMLINSON, M.P., inquired why the money should not be sent to the Lord Mayor's Fund.

The Earl of EUSTON replied that this question had been very carefully considered by the General Board. The Lord Mayor's Fund was rather on the lines of the Patriotic Fund, and that Fund only acknowledged the widows and orphans of husbands who were married "on the strength," or those who were married by leave of the colonel. Now, when they found men coming from the reserves, and going out to the war, men who had been married without leave, he did not think it was a time to quibble over regulations. Every one of them should be relieved so long as they could prove their claim.

Bro. W. E. M. TOMLINSON said he agreed with the Pro G.M. in that respect.

Bro. RICHARD EVE, P.G.T., would speak as one who knew something of the matter. He could assure the brethren that the sufferings of the wives and children of the men who had married without leave were very grievous. It was a most dreadful case for them when the husband and father was removed to a distance. It was necessary to look after them because they had arrived at a stage when they could not help themselves. The Patriotic Fund and the Lord Mayor's Funds were devoted to those who were married with leave, whereas the *Daily Telegraph* Fund was devoted to all those women and children who were dependent on those who had gone away and could not obtain legally any relief from the Government. The Government was doing a great deal, but it was essential that care should be taken of those who were very much in need. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was carried.

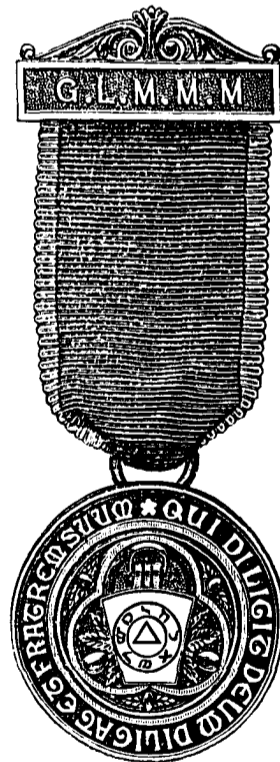
Bro. FITZROY TOWER, in nominating H.R.H. the Prince of Wales for re-election as M.W.G.M. for the ensuing year, said his Royal Highness was so beloved by all Masons, and more particularly by Mark Masons, that it became quite unnecessary for him (Bro. Tower) to say much respecting him, more especially at a time when the love and loyalty of the British people was greater than it had ever been before. (Cheers.)

Bro. H. S. CLUTTON nominated Bro. John Dimsdale for election as G. Treasurer. Bro. John Dimsdale was so well known, that it was an easy task to have to nominate him. He was a P.M. of the Menatschim Lodge, and also of the lodge at Canterbury, No. 262. In the Craft he was a G. Steward this year. Coming from a family so well known for the interest they took in Masonry in general, he was a very fit brother to be Grand Treasurer of Grand Mark Lodge. (Hear, hear.)

The Earl of EUSTON then said by the vote the brethren had just now passed making the Grand Inspector of Works *ex-officio* a member of the General Board, there was a vacancy to be filled up. He would, therefore, appoint Bro. John Strachan, Q.C., to fill it. He was quite sure that Bro. John Strachan, who was Grand Registrar in the Craft, was a brother who would be a valuable addition to the Board, and would help them in every way he possibly could.

Bro. C. F. MATIER, G. Sec., announced that the Charity jewels of brethren who had served as Stewards of the last festival of the Benevolent Fund, with such great success, would be presented to those brethren on application at the offices of Grand Lodge.

Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.



THE CHARITY JEWEL

Presented to the Stewards of the last Benevolent Fund Festival,

MANUFACTURED FOR THE

GRAND MARK LODGE OF ENGLAND

BY

GEORGE KENNING AND SON,

LONDON, E.C.

THE TRUSTEES OF LLOYD'S PATRIOTIC FUND announce that they will consider the cases of officers who may be disabled in the present war in South Africa as well as those of disabled men. The cases of officers of the Colonial forces will receive equal consideration with those of officers of the Home forces. Subscriptions for this object will be thankfully received by the Secretary, Brook House, Walbrook, E.C., but subscribers should state the purpose to which they wish their subscriptions applied.

Art and the Drama.

MASTERPIECES OF THE ENGLISH SCHOOL,
NOW EXHIBITED AT MESSRS. AGNEW AND SONS, 39B, OLD BOND-
STREET, W.

At the above Galleries are now exhibited, for the benefit of the Artists' General Benevolent Institution, 20 *chefs d'œuvre* of the English School of Painting. These choice pictures may be said to possess an historical celebrity. Those who view them will at once recognise the originals whence have been derived the fine engravings with which they are already familiar. In order of date, we first notice one of Hogarth's most famous pictures—"The Lady's Last Stake," who having, in the inordinate passion for gambling, so prevalent in those times, lost her money and jewels in a *tête-à-tête* card play with a young and handsome gallant, is now compelled to risk and endanger the loss of her honour, which should, indeed, be more precious to her than all which she has previously so recklessly squandered. This masterpiece is painted with an unusual charm and refinement, and exhibits, in a marked degree, Hogarth's marvellous subtlety in the rendering of facial expression. In style it resembles Greuse. After a seclusion of nine years, Sir Joshua Reynold's renowned portrait group, "The Ladies Waldegrave," makes a welcome re-appearance. Every one remembers how Horace Walpole, the uncle of the three beauties, admired the picture. The three ladies of whom we have spoken were the daughters of the Earl of Waldegrave. Each of them made a distinguished alliance in the upper ranks of the nobility. "The Ladies Waldegrave" has long been the despair of those who have sought to group beautiful women in one canvas, and to link them together by a motive, comprehensible, yet not too dramatic. From this point of view, up to the present time it has been unequalled. Surely the loveliest of all Sir Joshua's portraits of children, for which he was so justly celebrated, is the "Miss Penelope Boothby," which here finds a place. It is a flower of perfect, and seemingly, effortless, painting, with its severe, almost monochromatic, colour, made up of warm white, black, and grey, and relieved only by the ruddy locks and delicate pink cheeks of the little lady, who looks out of the picture demurely, yet with a perfect consciousness (little puss) that she is a beauty. The half-length "Anne Duchess of Cumberland," by Gainsborough, is an unfamiliar piece, dashed off by the painter, in his slightest, yet his most fascinating, manner. Whilst Reynolds surpassed his more brilliant rival, in the suggestion of real distinction, Gainsborough particularly excelled in depicting feminine allurements, exercised insidiously, rather than in an open manner. As good examples, we may mention the unrivalled "Perdita" (Mrs. Robinson), of Hertford House, and the "Mrs. Grace Dalrymple." The "Mrs. Jordan, as Hippolyta," is a showy and brilliant picture by Hoppner. It has been made famous by the fine mezzotint of J. Jones (1791). Its attractiveness, however, is marred by a vein of vulgarity, rather than refinement. We may remind our readers that Mrs. Jordan was the celebrated comedy actress of her time—nobody could even approach her in the music of her voice and the archness of her manner. Romney also has a picture of Mrs. Jordan in the "Country Girl." Superb in vigour in the almost sculptural firmness of the modelling is the "Colonel Francis James Scott," of Raeburn. The warrior here portrayed is every inch a Briton, and a north Briton too. All force of the painting is, however, expended on the head, the body, imprisoned in uniform, being far from expressive. All the pictures of Romney are pleasing, though there is not one that, without hyperbole, could be called a "masterpiece." The thought occurs to us whether this painter, who has, of late, become so fashionable, is, in an artistic point of view, justly entitled to indiscriminating modern praise. Sir William Beechey is seen at his best in his delightful "Master Henry Boyce." There is a large Morland, "A Country Inn," which is far from being a "masterpiece." It is a scattered and unsatisfactory grouping of figures, in a landscape, which lacks his usual charm of harmonious composition. Of the work of Turner, "Rockets and Blue Lights," we give no opinion, simply because we do not understand it.

THE ROYAL DUCHESS THEATRE, BALHAM.

The inhabitants of the suburban districts of London, until comparatively modern times, were practically excluded from the pleasure of participating in theatrical entertainments, from the great distances between their homes and the London playhouses. A visit on rare occasions to a West-end theatre was a serious matter, entailing the expense of a private conveyance, with all the trouble and annoyance incident thereto. Of course, a theatrical visit in wet, or inclement weather, was out of the question. In the course, however, of the last few years, this age of continuous progress, the apparently unsurmountable difficulty has been bridged over in a simple practicable manner. As suburban residents, for the reasons assigned, could not go to the theatre, the theatre has come to them. We have now, in the outlying districts, upwards of a dozen theatres, where touring companies visit week by week, and give efficient representations of all the London pieces. In one respect, indeed, the suburban theatre has an advantage over a London house—there are no long runs of 200 or 300 nights of a piece which has caught on. The duration of a piece rarely exceeds a week, as there is a constant change of companies. The suburban residents can therefore, in succession, make acquaintance with all the successful novelties. We paid a visit last week to the really handsome Royal Duchess Theatre at Balham. This is, we believe, the newest of the suburban theatres. It was opened about two months ago. This is a very imposing structure, a modern adaptation of the Ionic style of architecture, surmounted by a handsome dome. The effect of the building would be greatly improved were it possible to put it further back from the main road, but we were told that from the first this was impracticable. The internal arrangements are carried out with a liberality and completeness which is eminently satisfactory. All the up-to-date improvements are adopted, and the comfort and convenience of its patrons are studied even to the most minute details. The

plan of the auditorium has been well conceived. A full, uninterrupted view of the stage can be obtained from every part. There are no glaring, gaudy colours in the decorations to offend the canons of good taste; the general impression is that of harmonious cheerfulness. The lighting by electric installation is efficiently carried out. The residents call it "the pride of Balham," and it well deserves the name. The fare offered on our visit was of an attractive nature. It was "La Poupée" (The Doll), which had such a long successful run at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Leicester-square. It is an English version of a pretty comic opera from the French, the music by Edmond Audran. The charming story is too well known to require telling. The interpretation of the work, on the whole, was fairly good. Hilarius was personated by Mr. Harry Parker, who followed on the well-known lines of Willie Edouin, whose conception of the character was sufficiently broad. It is a pity that Mr. Parker in his earnestness exaggerated it. Alesia, daughter of the toymaker, Hilarius, was efficiently represented by Miss Midge Clark. She has a pleasing, melodious voice. The very simple lover, Launcelot, was undertaken by Mr. T. A. Shale. The part of the Prior, Father Maxime, was given intelligently, not overdrawn, by Mr. Wilson Sheffield. There was dry, quaint humour in Balthazar by Mr. Geo. Paulton. Between the acts "The Absent-minded Beggar" was given by Mr. Wilson Sheffield.

CHRISTMAS AT THE INNS OF COURT.

In the days of our ancestors, in the "good old times," all sorts and conditions of men vied in their endeavours to be foremost in the celebration of the festive season, and the wearers of the coif were certainly not behind-hand in the joyousness and good-fellowship of the time. Indeed, the gentlemen of the Inns of Court oftentimes led the way in the matter of festivities, giving entertainments rivalling those produced at Court, and occasionally even surpassing the most superb civic pageants. The expenses incurred thereupon appear almost incredible, even at this present time. The most learned men of the day furnished the lyrics and dialogue for the "Disguisings," as the masques were termed, and the revels were frequently prolonged from Christmas up to Shrovetide. As soon as the Yule season set in, all members of the Inns, whether grave Benchers, the Serjeants-at-Law, Barristers, or Students, seem to have given themselves up to mirth, not unmixed with mischief. Of course, the proceedings commenced with feasting, and then ensued the grotesque, but all-important ceremony of dancing round the fire. The fire was set in a raised brazier placed in the centre of each Hall of each Inn, and Benchers, Barristers, and the highest members of the profession joined hands and danced thrice round the blaze, singing as they stepped an old ditty, the words of which seem now forgotten. A very scarce tract states that:

"The dancing and singing of the Benchers, in the great Inns of Court, in Christmas, is in some sort founded on Interest, for they hold, as I am informed, some privilege by dancing about the fire in the middle of the Hall, and singing the Song of 'Round about our Coke Fire.'" As a matter of fact, members of the Court were liable to be dis-barred, and, indeed, were put out of Commons, for refusing to take part in this ceremony, and at Lincoln's Inn the threat of dis-barment was held out to an offender as recently as in the days of James I. Dugdale tells us that the members of the "utter bars" were compelled to sing a song to the Judges, Serjeants, or Masters of the Bench, and in default "there may be an amer-cement."

ANNUAL SUPPER OF THE PROSPERITY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 65.

The annual supper of the above well-known lodge of instruction took place on Wednesday, the 29th ult., at the Whittington, Moor-lane, E.C., when the following large number of brethren met to support Bro. Harlow, P.M., the Preceptor, who ably presided: Bros. Schadler, P.M. 65; Ruse, P.M. 65; Harrison, P.M. 65; Grieg, P.M. 65; Kinipple, P.M. 65; Spencer, P.M. 65; Palmer, 65; Sargent, 65; Huckell, 65; Downs, 65; Read, 65; Drake, 65; Page, 65; Ridgway, 65; Hammerton Foyer, 65; Fuller, 65; Robeson, W.M. 192; William Baker, I.P.M. 192; Cohu, P.M. and Treas. 192; Smith, P.M. 192; Lockett, 192; Farr, 192; Pecoover; Lloyd, 192; Collins, 192; Gibbs; Ward, 192; Leach, 192; Stokes, 192; Hillman, W.M. 569; Mills, 569; Ward, 569; Horwell, W.M. 1571; Jas. Durrell, 1571; Jos. Durrell, 1571; Lee, 1571; Eyles, 1571; Kipps, W.M. 1275; Barker, P.M. 1607; Brown, P.M. 1446; Butcher, P.M. 902; Meadows, P.M. 1571, Sec.; Saunton, P.M. 1423; King, 1329; Trotman, 1329; Williams, 1329; Scott, 548; Child, 1472; Shipman, 1365; Miller, 879; and Bliss, 1320.

After a substantial supper had been enjoyed, the toasts of "The Queen" and "The Grand Master" were proposed by the PRESIDENT, and, needless to say, were duly received with the usual heartiness.

Bro. ROBESON, W.M. 192, then proposed "The Preceptor," stating that Bro. Harlow was well known and appreciated by all as their able Preceptor, and it gave him (Bro. Robeson) very great pleasure to see him at the head of the table.

Bro. HARLOW, in reply, returned sincere thanks both for the expressions accompanying the toast and the reception given it. He said that during the six years he had been Preceptor the work entailed had been a labour of love. He pointed out that the lodge had not always been in the flourishing condition it then was, for which it owed not a little to the loyal support of the brethren of the Lion and Lamb Lodge for many years. He was greatly pleased by the presence there of seven Past Masters of the mother lodge, on whose services he lightly touched.

"Success to the Prosperity Lodge of Instruction" was given by Bro. SCHADLER, P.M., who said a very pleasing duty devolved upon him in presenting what was the toast of the evening. The lodge he considered must rank as the foremost in the City, and its meetings were not confined to the winter months only, but all the year round they had an average attendance of 17, which he thought no other lodge could boast of, and it undoubtedly reflected the greatest credit upon the Preceptor, and was a credential for the able manner in which the duties were carried out.

Bros. WILLIAM BAKER, Asst. Preceptor, MEADOWS, Sec., and SMITH, Treas., responded.

In replying for "The Visitors," Bro. COHU said that he had frequently made up his mind in former years to be present at the annual supper, but from various reasons had hitherto been unable, and to-night was his first visit, although as a P.M. of the Lion and Lamb Lodge, he deemed himself no stranger. It was interesting to note that there was evidence of a visit paid by that lodge to the Prosperity Lodge in 1812, which, he hastened to assure the brethren, he did not attend.

Bros. SCOTT and WARD also replied.
A musical programme was carried out by Bros. Huckell, Brown, Horwell, Smith, and Sargent, Bro. Thompson ably reciting Kipling's "Absent-Minded Beggar," subsequently passing the hat round, and realising three guineas for the Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DORSETSHIRE.

The annual gathering of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Blandford, on the 28th ult., when there was a large and influential assemblage. Bro. M. J. Guest, Prov. G.M., opened the lodge at 1.15, and was supported by the D.P.G.M., Bro. Colonel Brymer, M.P., and—

Bros. J. H. Whadcoat, Prov. S.G.W.; R. Score, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. J. A. Miller, Prov. G. Chap.; R. D. Thornton, Prov. G. Treas.; F. B. Oldfield, Prov. G. Reg.; R. Case, Prov. G. Sec.; E. T. Dowdeswell, Prov. S.G.D.; E. H. Wallis, Prov. J.G.D.; A. Budden, Prov. G.D.C.; H. Budden, acting Prov. A.G.D.C.; W. B. Alexander, acting Prov. G.S.B.; J. W. Board, acting Prov. G. Purst.; C. H. Gush, H. G. Kersley, B. Morris, and H. R. Jesty, Prov. G. Stwds.; and S. Vye, Prov. G. Tyler.

Past Prov. Grand Officers—

Bros. G. E. Turner, W. W. Stickland, C. H. Curtis, A. Cherry, E. Skivington, H. R. Morgan, H. G. B. Frampton, E. Whitley Baker, C. H. W. Parkinson, E. Mills, C. J. Freeman, F. Burt, S. R. Baskett, C. Toleman, G. F. Stokes, L. H. Ruegg, H. G. Cross, C. F. Yearsley, H. Budden, and W. J. Tarrant.

And the following brethren :

Bros. F. B. Oakley, N. Bowes, S. S. Milledge, F. Parker, G. J. Hunt, O. G. Barrow, F. G. Pinney, E. Johnson, E. H. Wallis, J. Spurr, D. T. Chapman, F. Britton, J. Grove, Sir Cuthbert Peek, Bart., C. P. Turle, C. T. Stride, C. H. W. Parkinson, F. J. Dowsing, A. Budden, A. Harris, W. H. Marshallsay, W. S. Edwards, W. Pearce, A. Middleton, W. Gregory, E. P. Sugden, G. Bernhardt, A. J. Lampert, C. F. Parker, E. P. Slater, E. C. Fisher, F. Hatton, J. T. Hillier, J. Vye, W. J. Bick, F. A. K. Hounsell, W. H. Tomes, A. K. Woolmington, T. E. Vincent, A. Gates, E. A. Curtis, J. L. Marsh, V. L. Gordon, J. W. Walker, E. A. Goodman, W. J. Foot, W. Strange, S. Pond, A. C. Todd, F. Salmon, A. J. Gill, W. Greenhalgh, F. J. Smith, W. E. Dockar, C. O. Reed, W. Arscott, R. D. Norman, F. P. Kitson, C. Carter, Percival Bouch, and R. E. Clement. Bro. the Rev. R. Peek, P.G. Chap. Eng., was a visitor.

Prov. G. Lodge having been opened, Bro. the Rev. J. MILLER, P.G. Chap., Headmaster of Weymouth College, delivered an able lecture on the principles and objects of the Craft.

The PROV. G. MASTER next addressed the brethren on Freemasonry in Dorset.

The accounts of the Treasurer having been confirmed, Bro. R. D. Thornton, who has held the office for 15 years, was re-elected.

The reports of the Charity Organisation and Dorset Masonic Charity Committees were adopted.

On the motion of Bro. THORNTON, W.M., a sum of 20 guineas was voted towards the fund for the new lodge to be built by the Faith and Unanimity Lodge, No. 417, Dorchester.

A sum of 10 guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

It was decided on the proposition of the PROV. G. MASTER, to contribute 50 guineas to the Mansion House Transvaal War Fund.

A Charity jewel was presented to Bro. H. G. Kersley, W.M. 172, he having served as Steward to two of the great Masonic Charities.

The Prov. G.M. subsequently invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows :

Bro. Sir Cuthbert Peek, Bart.	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" G. E. Turner	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. E. Borradaile	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" R. D. Thornton (re-elected)	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" F. P. Kitson	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" R. Case (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" H. R. Jesty	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" R. H. Groves	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" C. F. Yearsley	...	...	Prov. G.S. of Wks.
" S. Pond	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" H. Saunders	...	...	Prov. A.G.D. of C.
" C. T. Stride	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" W. B. Wildman	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" F. A. K. Hounsell	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" H. W. Scratchley	...	...
" C. J. Hunt	...	...
" T. G. Pinney	...	...
" C. P. Turle	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" J. Vye	...	...
" T. E. Vincent	...	...
" S. C. Vye	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

The Provincial G. Lodge was closed after the usual votes of thanks had been accorded, more particularly to the Blandford Lodge for the excellent arrangements made for the reception and accommodation of the Provincial G. Lodge.

The brethren afterwards adjourned for luncheon to the Crown Hotel, where Bro. H. Champion catered most satisfactorily. The room was effectively decorated with evergreens and the national flags of England and America, and the tables were tastefully arranged. The brethren numbered 95, and the proceedings were of an enjoyable character.

The P.G.M. proposed the usual Masonic toasts.

"The Health of the R.W.P.G.M." was given by Bro. Colonel BRYMER, M.P.

The P.G.M. having acknowledged the toast, gave "The W.D.P. G.M., Bro. W. E. Brymer."

Bro. BRYMER appropriately responded.

The P.G.M. proposed "The Officers of P.G. Lodge, Present and Past."

The toast was acknowledged by Bros. THORNTON and TURNER.

Bro. C. H. W. PARKINSON proposed the toast of "The Masonic Charities."

The P.G.M. and Bros. WHADCOAT and FREEMAN responded.

The P.G.M. proposed "The Host" and "The W.M. of Blandford Lodge, Bro. H. R. Jesty."

The Tyler's toast concluded the list.

CONSECRATION OF THE ST. ALBAN'S LODGE,
No. 2786.

The Province of Herts received a valuable addition to its roll of lodges on the 29th ult., when the St. Alban's Lodge, No. 2786, was consecrated at the Red Lion Hotel, St. Albans, by Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., Prov. G. Master, in the presence of a large and influential gathering. The founders of the new lodge start with a firm determination to do good Masonic work, especially in Charity, and for this object a Benevolent Association has already been formed, and each member has taken up one or more shares. The W.M., who will represent the lodge at the Benevolent Institution Festival, should, therefore, have a substantial list. The lodge is fortunate in securing as its first W.M. so capable and experienced a Mason as Bro. C. O. Burgess, P.P.S.G.W. Berks. The Wardens' chairs will be ably filled by Bros. Frank Crocker and Henry Watts, whilst for the important post of Secretary it would be difficult to find a more efficient and energetic brother than Bro. E. L. Berry, P.P.G.D. Surrey.

A large party journeyed down in two saloons from St. Pancras, and it was then that the majority of the brethren heard the sad news of the death of Bro. G. E. Lake, D.P.G.M., who was to have taken a very important part in the proceedings and installed the W.M. On arrival at St. Albans, several brethren visited the Abbey, and, under the guidance of Bro. C. E. Keyser, a very interesting and instructive hour was spent. The brethren then assembled in the lodge room, the Masonic furniture in which was presented by the founders, the handsome banner, bearing the motto *Quas dederis solus semper habebis opes*, being the gift of Bro. C. O. Burgess, the W.M. designate.

The Consecrating Officer was assisted by Bros. C. E. Keyser, P.G.D., as S.W.; A. H. Boucher, Prov. J.G.W., as J.W.; Rev. Oliver C. Cockrem, LL.D., P.P.G.C., as Chap.; J. Terry, P.G.S.B., Prov. G.D.C., Secretary R.M.B.I., as D.C.; and W. Metcalfe, P.P.G.P., as I.G.

After the opening of the lodge,

The CONSECRATING OFFICER, addressing the brethren, said that they had assembled for the interesting purpose of the consecration of a new lodge. He must, however, refer to the great loss that had fallen upon their province. He alluded to the untimely death of the D.P.G.M., who had for so many years taken part and assisted him on these occasions, and who had so endeared himself to the brethren. That loss would be deeply felt by all in the province, and was, in fact, almost irreparable to him (the Prov. G.M.), for Bro. Lake was his right hand man, but it had pleased the Great Architect to take him from them. It was too late to alter the arrangements for that day, but after lodge was closed he and the Prov. G. Treasurer would withdraw, although this would be a great disappointment to them, as they felt it would be improper for them to attend the banquet. He hoped, however, that the other Prov. G. Officers would attend the banquet, so that the proceedings should be as auspicious and prosperous as Bro. Lake himself would have wished them to be.

The warrant was read by the Prov. G.D.C., and the founders approved of the officers named, after which the following oration was delivered by Bro. the Rev. O. COCKREM, LL.D., P.P.G. Chap. :

"What are a nation's possessions?" asks one of our great essayists. "The great words that have been said in it; the great deeds that have been done in it; the great buildings and the great works of art that have been made in it. A man says a noble saying—it is a possession first to his own race, then to mankind. A people get a noble building built for them; it is an honour to them, also a daily delight and instruction." Could any words be more appropriate for the commencement of a Masonic oration addressed to the founders of a St. Alban's Lodge. Here, beneath the shadow and within the influence of the glorious Abbey, whose fame has spread throughout the world, we are about to lay a foundation, to erect a structure, which we trust will also overshadow and influence all those who come within its boundaries. Further, this noble building, which will be emblazoned on your banner, and which will become part of your insignia, is of especial interest to us as Freemasons. If you look down the vistas of 12 centuries, you will find our Operative brethren busily employed in embellishing and adorning this land of ours with magnificent piles of architecture. And these they raised by their labour and genius in honour of the Great Architect of the Universe, and for the worship which all His creatures owe to Him. And the Abbey of St. Alban is distinguished amongst all its compeers as being the one upon which the first labours of an organised craft were employed. The legendary story of our Order, attached to those ancient charges, of which we only possess garbled and inaccurate transcriptions even in the 15th century, contains, amid the mist of legend, some precious solid facts of truth and history. In that story St. Alban is credited with being the first to introduce the art of Freemasonry into England. Careful researches have rendered it extremely probable that, though the martyr had no connection with our Masonic history, yet that the name of St. Alban is closely associated with the earliest introduction of a Masonic body into this country. When King Offa determined to establish a religious order and build an abbey, he had to procure a foreign master and foreign craftsmen to design and carry out his intentions. Whether in doing so he sought the assistance of Charles the Great, or Charles Martel in procuring these workmen, and whether they were Nemausian Greeks, as some think from Nimes, or members of the Collegium Fabrorum at Rome as others suggest, there is at least strong grounds to believe that these men came over as a regularly organised body, with their own rules of work, their own rates of pay, and their own regular assemblies. And this organisation would be secured to them by charter from the king as the condition of their coming. We may suppose that they would absorb by degrees into their own lodges the native workers, whom they would instruct in the art, and so Craft Masonry became implanted on English soil. It is much to be regretted that the subsequent Danish wars and the disorganisation which they caused brought this first establishment of our Masonic body to an untimely end. But within two generations it was revived at York, and received its charter from King Athelstane, since which time it has been a corporate society with many vicissitudes, but always in existence. And although the lodge now to be consecrated is not the first of its name, for one in 1739 and another in 1839 have preceded it, both of which were afterwards erased, we may hope that history will repeat itself, and the body of Masons which we incorporate to-day in this Lodge of St. Alban may erect such a noble superstructure, perfect in all its parts, and honourable to the builders, that future generations will gather beneath it and extol the wisdom, skill, and judgment of its promoters. For the members of this far-reaching Fraternity of ours are truly and really Masons. Our structures have, it is true, no material existence, yet they are of the highest importance in the world; they are not fairy palaces which, like a dream, melt into nothingness as the morning mists at dawn of day, but they

possess solid qualities which will depend on and add to the reputation of the builder. It is in the power of each Mason to mar his work, and so spoil the fair reputation of the whole. For what purpose do we now erect lodges, hold our regular assemblies, perform Masonic ceremonies, and are brought into one organised body? Is it for the purposes of mere social and convivial society? Every true Mason will give an emphatic, "No." Is it to be a mere benevolent society, which amasses vast sums to relieve the destitute and distressed of their body, whether they be orphan sons and daughters, or widows of their deceased members, or those brothers upon whom fortune has frowned? Again the true Mason will answer "No; this, but more than this." Brethren, do not each of you recognise from your knowledge of the secrets and mysteries of the Craft we pursue so eagerly and love so much that there is far more than this in a true ideal of Freemasonry. We, as our operative brethren of 12 centuries ago, are engaged in the construction of a building which demands all our energies, all our skill, a building for which we must have a skilful apprenticeship, in the erection of which we need deep instruction from a master mind, and in which we are assisted by the contemplation of other men's work; a building, moreover, which we shall never complete, but which, in proportion to the excellence of our work, will preserve our name amongst men, will be an honour to our Craftsmanship, an abiding influence on all within its sphere, and which, unlike the structures of the operative mason, massive though they be, will be eternal. For this truly Freemasonic structure is character. And character in the individual is the goodly stone of which the whole structure of our Order—the new and sublime Order of Architecture—is composed. Founded on three grand principles, illuminated by three great lights, and supported by three grand pillars, Freemasonry furnishes all the apparatus necessary to attain this desirable object of every true Mason's existence. All its ceremonies, all its formulæ, point to the same end, and secrete and enshrine the great secrets which lead to success. And we do not doubt that the founders of this lodge realise the responsibilities laid upon them, the selection of proper persons for their apprentices, who, by the aid of their Masonic teaching, will become true Craftsmen, and, eventually, Master Masons of a noble character. And to those who are about to be entrusted with the government of this lodge—the W.M., S. and J.Ws.—may I suggest a thought which may be helpful to them in their several capacities. Every aspirant to apprenticeship enters first by the J.W.'s portal, and so passes by the Corinthian column, the pillar of beauty. Why is this, the highest of the orders of architecture placed here? Surely because it is the beauty and symmetry of the Masonic temple as displayed in the lives of its artificers which first attracts the would-be devotee, which gives the desire to be enrolled among the members of so honourable a body. And thence he proceeds to the S.W., and passes by the Doric column, the pillar of strength, facing at once the plain rugged strength of first principles, the stern unbending requirements of B.L., R., and T., and thence, by regular and instructed steps he passes to the W.M. to the Ionic column, the pillar of wisdom, typical of that wisdom which will enable him to assimilate all that is good and noble, and reject all that is base and degrading, and so carve for himself that most truly Masonic work—a noble character. Brethren, may these worthy Masons chosen to these offices live up to and illustrate in their lives the grace, the sturdiness, and the comprehensiveness of the pillars at their right hands, and may their successors be equally animated by the same high motives, that this St. Alban's Lodge, whether it becomes a massive pile or a building of ordinary proportions, may present the features of perfect work, the accomplishment of a great purpose, the strenuous development of a perfect and truly Masonic character.

The elements of consecration were carried round, and the St. Alban's Lodge was solemnly dedicated and constituted.

Bro. Sumner Knyvett, P.G.D., Prov. G. Treas., then installed Bro. C. Offord Burgess as the first W.M., assisted by Bros. C. E. Keyser, P.G.D., and J. Terry, P.G.S.B.

The other officers invested were Bros. F. Dangerfield, P.M., acting I.P.M.; Frank Crocker, S.W.; H. Watts, J.W.; Francis Fisher, P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; E. L. Berry, P.P.G.D., Sec.; W. Sergeant Lee, P.M., S.D.; H. Burkett, I.G.; J. I. Matthews, Stwd.; and Everett, Tyler. Bro. W. G. Coxon was appointed J.D., but was unable to be present.

A vote of thanks was accorded the Consecrating Officers, and they were unanimously elected honorary members, for which the P.G.M. expressed sincere thanks.

The W.M. was elected to represent the lodge as Steward for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and a sum of 10 guineas was voted to his list. The W.M. was also elected Charity and Finance representative.

The Secretary was instructed to write a letter of condolence and sympathy to the widow of the late Bro. Lake.

Propositions were received, and the lodge was closed.

The banquet which followed clearly showed that the lodge will be well catered for by Bro. G. Rolls, the worthy host, for everything was carried out in the best style, and Bro. Rolls was thanked by the W.M. for the very satisfactory arrangements made for their comfort.

The usual toasts followed, "The Queen and the Craft" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," being first honoured.

In giving "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. alluded to the presence of three Grand Officers. Bro. Keyser, who had assisted in the consecration, was known throughout the Masonic world. The last time they met, Bro. Keyser was installed as the first W.M. of the Aldermaston Lodge, and he could tell them that that brother was a subscribing member of 16 or 17 lodges, honorary member of 30 or 40 lodges, and was also Treasurer of the Boys' School. Bro. Keyser's hearty enthusiasm in the cause made him always ready to offer his services wherever useful. There were also present the veteran Bro. Terry and Bro. J. J. Thomas, one of the most popular men in Masonry, and a personal friend of all.

Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D., in response, said that had it not been for the calamity which overshadowed them, they would have had the presence of the Prov. G.M. and Bros. Knyvett and Lake. Bro. Lake and he had grown up together, and been friends all their lives, and he felt deeply his loss. Bro. Lake was also a first-rate Mason, who well upheld his position, and a P.G.D. for several years. He (Bro. Keyser) hoped the Grand Officers felt, on their appointment, that their work was only begun, and that they must use their position and influence to the best advantage. They could not use it better than by taking part in occasions of this kind. It was a pleasure to see new lodges formed under such auspicious circumstances, and especially to see one started in that old city. The W.M. and he had been closely connected in Masonic work, and it was a pleasure that so good and old a Mason as Bro. Burgess should now come and ally himself with the province with which he (Bro. Keyser) was identified.

"The Prov. G. Master and Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past," was proposed by the W.M., who mentioned that Bro. Halsey, M.P., had consecrated 14 lodges in Herts, with which province he had been connected for about 26 years. This lodge owed him a debt of gratitude for the admirable manner in which he had consecrated the lodge. He (the W.M.) resided on the borders of the province, and at present knew very little of the Prov. G.

Officers, who had, however, shown their interest by coming to support them.

Bro. A. H. BOUCHER, Prov. G.W., briefly replied. No lodge, he said, could have had a better start or under better auspices.

The Consecrating Officers returned sincere thanks for their election as honorary members.

Bro. F. DANGERFIELD, P.M., acting I.P.M., then, in cordial terms, submitted "The Health of the W.M." The founders appreciated the labours and hard work of Bro. Burgess in the formation of the lodge, for he had spared neither time, trouble nor expense to bring the brethren together and to ensure the splendid gathering they had that evening. He could not better express his own feelings of their W.M.'s character than by referring them to the motto on the banner, a translation of which was, "what is given will ever be your own." The W.M. was always giving to Charity and was never appealed to in vain. He looked forward to a splendid year of office which would place this lodge on a sound basis and make it certainly not the least in Herts. He asked them with acclamation to drink to the health of their W.M.

Bro. C. O. BURGESS, W.M., thanked the I.P.M. for his kindly remarks. It was premature, however, to say anything in his praise for everything would depend upon the work to be done, before they could offer those congratulations which were so pleasant when duly earned. "Let not him who buckleth on his armour boast as he who taketh it off." They intended to carry on this lodge as a help to the Charities and as a help to Masonry as far as in them lay. They had seen lodges started which did not follow out those principles, but they had a strong determination that they would not only be good soldiers in Masonry but careful as to the character of those they initiated. They had been generously assisted by the Halsey Lodge, and hoped to do nothing to disgrace that introduction but be a credit to the province. There were present that evening several members of the Halsey Lodge, including the W.M., to all of whom they tendered their best thanks. Personally, he looked forward with great pleasure to a year of office in Herts, in which neighbourhood he had lived for some years and with which province he had wished to be identified. He hoped that Bro. Keyser would often be with them to see that their work was progressing in a manner as favourable as even he could wish. He thanked them sincerely for the excellent attention given him.

The W.M. then proceeded to propose the toast of "The Consecrating Officers," upon whom the success of the ceremony depended. They must all have been impressed with the oration of the Prov. G. Chaplain. He did not think he had ever listened to an oration which went more deeply and more logically into the bonds which bound them together, and into those recommendations for carrying on a lodge in the proper spirit.

Bro. the Rev. Dr. COCKREM, P.P.G. Chap., expressed the pleasure it had given the Consecrating Officers to attend. It was one of those opportunities of impressing upon the rank and file that Masonry did not consist, as one might think, of mere tradition and performance of ceremonies in a lodge. It was the high and noble ideal—that of living up to those principles of life and character towards those who were not Masons. The success of a lodge depended upon the selection of candidates, for the admission of one unworthy member would wreck the finest lodge that ever existed. The late Dep. Prov. G.M. had been his most intimate friend, and he deeply felt the loss the province had sustained. All the Consecrating Officers knew that Bro. Terry would be there to put them in their places, so that they could not go wrong. They wished the W.M. a most prosperous year, and hoped the lodge would flourish and live for years under the shadow of the great cathedral, which they had adopted as part of their insignia.

For "The Visitors," Bros. J. J. THOMAS, P.G.S.B., and HODDING, W.M. 1479, returned thanks, after which Bro. JAS. TERRY, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., replied for "The Masonic Charities," and thanked the W.M. for kindly undertaking a Stewardship for the Benevolent Institution, and the lodge for its donation of 10 guineas.

In proposing "The Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers," the W.M. referred to the energetic Secretary, and said that if Bro. Berry had not already made a reputation to fall back upon he would have made one that night. Bro. Berry gave them the entire benefit of his experience, and brought it all to bear upon any lodge with which he was connected, so that the result was a certain success.

Bro. E. L. BERRY, P.P.G.D., Sec., modestly assured the W.M. that his best exertions could be relied on, and Bros. CROCKER, S.W., WATTS, J.W., SERGEANT LEE, and DANGERFIELD also replied.

Bro. GEO. ROLLS, the host, was also called upon, and expressed his pleasure that everything had gone off so well.

Bro. Herbert Schartau, P.P.G. Org. Middlesex, was ably assisted in the musical arrangements by Miss Mabel Richards and several brethren.

Bro. Sergeant Lee, P.M., gave a spirited rendering of "The Absent-minded Beggar" and "The Handy Man," and a collection for the Mayor of St. Alban's War Fund realised £10.

The visitors present included:

Bros. J. J. Thomas, P.G.S.B.; J. R. Cleave, P.P.G.D.; W. F. Fendick, P.M. P.P.G.S.D.; W. J. Mason, Vice-President Bd. of Gen. Purps. Rev. P. Deedes, P.P.G.C.; Rev. F. Wilcox, P.P.G.C.; E. Lockwood, J.D. 108; D. Redfern, P.M. 753; J. S. Goldstein, S.W. 2265; J. M. MacLarty, 1260; N. Dukas, 2398; F. H. Mansell, P.G.S.; C. H. Phillips, Prov. J.G.D. Herts; F. Lerner, P.P.G.S. of Works; E. Cole, 2409; W. Yeo, 753; H. J. Keen, W.M. 2473; C. Arnold, 2550; T. B. Tipton, S.W. 2550; L. W. Fleck, 272; C. E. Betts, P.M. 865; T. H. Parry, S.D. 2550; T. S. Carter, P.P.S.G.W.; A. H. Bouchier, Prov. J.G.W.; F. Arnold, Prov. G. Steward; W. O. Welsford, P.M. 1321; T. A. Markland, P.M. 144; W. Parsons, 753; H. Trask, P.P.G.S. of W.; W. P. Warren, P.P.G.W.; W. A. Sproat, P.M. 1327, P.P.G.S.; W. J. James, P.M. 2218; W. B. Cosslin, W.M. 1743; E. W. Newman, W.M. 2518; H. E. Smith, P.M. 1327, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Purrott, P.P.S.G.W.; W. M. Wilson, W.M. 2202; P. Dades, P.M. 1479, P.P.G.C.; F. Kedge, P.P.G. Reg. Berks; E. Debenham, P.P.G. Reg.; A. F. Hardymont, W.M. 2698; R. J. Campbell, I.P.M. 2698; J. P. Taylor, P.M. 1984, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. Percival, Prov. G. Tyler; H. W. Schartau, P.P.G. Org.; H. Ward, 1744; Otto Schuler, 2743; A. F. Smith, Prov. G.S.B.; W. W. Lee, P.M., P.P.G.D.; and many others.

OWING TO unavoidable delays, the original date arranged for the viewing of the Maine has had to be postponed until the 17th inst. This is the earliest and only date when it will be possible for the Maine to be seen. Only those who apply for cards will be admitted on the ship, and these must be obtained from the hon. secretary, Mrs. A. A. Blow, Walsingham House, Piccadilly.

CONSECRATION OF THE MIZPAH CHAPTER, No. 1671

An interesting ceremony was performed at the Hotel Cecil, on Tuesday, the 5th inst., when the Mizpah Chapter, No. 1671, was consecrated in the presence of 60 R.A. Masons. The founders have been particularly fortunate in securing as the first M.E.Z., Comp. W. H. Cole, who is a P.M. of the Mizpah Lodge and a P.Z. of the Carnarvon and Cray Valley Chapters. He will be ably supported by Comps. A. G. Darby and J. G. Vigo, as the Second and Third Principals. The other founders are Comps. J. Bergmann, C. H. Dancocks, C. H. Denny, J. P. Hamilton, W. R. King, Josiah Russell, P. G. W. Typke, H. H. Wells, and T. W. Withers.

The Consecrating Officer, Comp. E. Letchworth, G. Scribe E., was assisted by Comps. J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., as H.; Rev. Canon Brownrigg, G. Supt. Bucks., as J.; T. H. Gardener, P.G.S.B., as S.N.; and J. H. Matthews, P.G.D.C., as D. of C.

The visitors included:

Comps. R. Clowes, P.G.S.B.; T. A. Bullock, P.A.G.D.C.; W. F. Smithson, P.G.S.B.; A. G. Sandberg, D.G.D.C.; W. Cleghorn, G.S.B.; H. Sadler, G. Janitor; George Cowen, 1st Asst. Soj. 1851; G. M. Bond, P.P.G.P.; Milner Jutsum, P.Z. 95; H. Dehane, P.P.G.P.S. Essex; R. Nicholson, P.Z. 771, 1501; W. S. Whitaker, P.P.G.R. Kent; R. Kilsup, M.E.Z. 534; J. Nowakowski, P.Z. 534; G. Rawlinson, P.Z. 1657; W. S. Heath, P.Z. 91; F. Arnold, P.Z. 806; C. Arnold, 806; J. J. Avery, P.Z. 1572; T. P. Dickson, P.Z. 1572; J. Marchand, J. 1572; M. Goldstein, P.Z. 1572; R. J. Davis, 1572; R. W. Harris, 2147; C. Sissons, H. W. Schartau, 2091; C. Ellison, 25; W. Llewellyn, 2395; J. F. Bell, 2147; B. Kauffmann, P.Z. 619; J. W. Facey, Geo. Harlow, P.P.G.S.B. Kent; W. K. Burton, 1572; H. T. Reed, P.Z.; Claud A. Hooper, Prov. G.S.B. Kent; L. Mantell, M.E.Z. 173; E. J. Jones, P.Z. 134; W. W. Lee, P.Z. 1524; and others.

The chapter having been opened, the CONSECRATING OFFICER, addressing the companions, said: "It will not be necessary to occupy your time for many moments with any words of my own. We are met, as you know, for a very interesting purpose—that of constituting and consecrating a new Royal Arch chapter. That chapter will be attached to a lodge which has been in existence, as the number indicates, for many years, and which, I believe, has enjoyed a career of considerable prosperity. I feel sure you will all join in the hope that this chapter we are about to start into existence may prove itself in every way worthy of the lodge with which it will be connected, and that it may have a prosperous career is, I feel, the wish of all present.

An interesting oration was delivered by Bro. the Rev. Canon BROWN-RIGG, G. Supt. Bucks, after which the ceremony was proceeded with, and the new chapter was dedicated and constituted with the usual solemn formalities. Comps. W. H. Cole, M.E.Z. designate, and J. G. Vigo, H. designate, were inducted into their respective chairs, and Comp. A. G. Darby was installed as J. by Comp. the Rev. Canon Brownrigg. The other officers invested were Comps. J. P. Hamilton, S.E.; T. W. Withers, S.N.; J. Bergmann, Treas.; Josiah Russell, P.S.; P. G. W. Typke, 1st A.S.; and Goddard, Janitor.

The Consecrating Officers were thanked by the M.E.Z. for their services, and were each presented with a gold match-box as a souvenir of the occasion, for which the G.S.E. returned thanks.

Several brethren were proposed for exaltation, and the chapter was closed.

After an enjoyable banquet the customary toasts were given, "The Queen and Royal Arch Masonry," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," and "The G. Officers" being first briefly submitted by the M.E.Z.

Comp. Rev. Canon BROWN-RIGG, G. Supt. Bucks, in reply to the last toast, said that his work in Royal Arch Masonry was chiefly in the province where he tried to keep them up to the mark. As a matter of fact, Royal Arch Masonry was rather that happy haven where one was not worked as hard as in other things.

The M.E.Z. then proposed "The Consecrating Officers," and referred to the able manner in which those companions performed the ceremonies. It had been his privilege to see those ceremonies performed on more than one occasion, but never in a more dignified manner. They would all remember the oration they had heard for a good many days to come. The H. had very little to do, unfortunately; but all the officers did their work in a magnificent manner, and the founders were obliged for the trouble they had taken. He had intended to ask the Consecrating Officers to allow themselves to become honorary members, but, unfortunately, he thought that could be done at the banquet. He apologised for that omission, which would, however, be rectified.

Comp. E. LETCHWORTH, Grand Scribe E.: In view of the very charming musical programme, the quality of which we have already tasted with so much pleasure, and having regard to the brevity of the speeches of the M.E.Z., which is most commendable, you will not expect a speech from me. I wish the M.E.Z. had associated the name of my companion on my right (Comp. Brownrigg). Those who were privileged to attend the Board of Installed Principals could not but be struck with the admirable manner in which Comp. Brownrigg installed the J., and had it fallen to the lot of Comp. McLeod to install the H. he would have done it in an equally able manner. It has afforded us the greatest pleasure to be here this evening and assist in starting into existence this chapter. I feel confident it is one which cannot fail to prove a very great success, and will not be one of the least important in this metropolis under the Supreme Grand Chapter. We all regret the absence of Comp. Matthews, who has been obliged to leave, and also of Comp. Keyser, who had undertaken the duties of S.N., but probably it is within the knowledge of many that he had the melancholy duty of attending the funeral of a Grand Officer—Bro. Lake, the Dep. Prov. G.M. for Herts. The duties of the S.N. were undertaken by Comp. Gardener at the last moment. I must also acknowledge the very kind observations of the M.E.Z. with regard to our becoming hon. members, and should you do us the great honour to which he has referred, we shall accept it with a great deal of pride and pleasure. On behalf of the Consecrating Officers I tender you our warmest thanks. It now becomes my privilege to propose the next toast, which is really the toast of the evening, "The Health of our M.E.Z.," whom I have had the great privilege of placing in the chair as the First Principal. I do most heartily congratulate the chapter on having as their First Principal one who is so competent in every way to rule and guide them in this, the first and most important year of its existence. Comp. Cole, as you are all aware, is no novice in Masonry. Not only is he P.M. of the lodge with which this chapter is associated, but he has had considerable experience in Royal Arch Masonry, because, I am informed, he is not only P.Z. of the Carnarvon Chapter, but also of the Cray Valley

Chapter in Kent. I feel confident he will rule you in such a way as this chapter should be ruled during its first year. He has other claims, because he is a most generous supporter of the Charities. I ask you, with all cordiality, to join in drinking the health of your M.E. First Principal.

Comp. W. H. COLE, P.Z., M.E.Z., sincerely thanked the G.S.E. for his kind remarks. The Mizpah Lodge had been in existence for 22 years, and for some time it had been considered that the objects of the lodge were not completed until they had a chapter practically associated with it. This had been the work in view of the most promising members of that lodge for many years. They had been waiting an opportunity, until they thought they were strong enough to start a chapter properly. They had now come to the conclusion that they were strong enough to start it as it should be started. The result was the gathering of that evening, and they were gratified with the manner in which everything had gone off. They expected rather more to attend, but illness had kept some away. They were taught that brotherly love should be a feature of Freemasonry. He might say that genuine brotherly love existed in a most remarkable degree in the Mizpah Lodge, and he, therefore, had great confidence that he would preside over a very united chapter. Another great feature of their Masonic Order was Charity. This was also a very satisfactory feature of the lodge, for the brethren always responded in a most noble manner, whether for distressed brethren or for appeals from the excellent Masonic Institutions. During the existence of the lodge no less a sum than £3230 had been contributed, viz., £1266 Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; £1043 Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; and £924 Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. This was a result upon which the lodge might fairly claim a little credit. It had also been done without any pressing, the money being freely subscribed in all good will. The chapter would follow in the footsteps of its parent, perhaps not so largely; but already the by-laws arranged that a percentage of the funds should go to a Benevolent Fund. He was also given to understand that the chapter would send a Steward regularly to the various Institutions, and he had reason to believe the list would not be the smallest. Coming to the more personal element, they had known him for many years, and he could only say he did not expect to make brilliant records in Freemasonry. He could promise them that nothing he should ever do would disgrace the chapter, and, as far as the duties were concerned, they could be safely left in his hands. He found they had not an officers' toast in the list. He was supported by as fine a body of Royal Arch Masons as any M.E.Z. ever had under him. He had known them all, and had never known anyone let any work go past that fell to his share, and, as a very able Mason expressed it, they were "gluttons for work." They had an excellent Treasurer in Comp. Bergmann, who, in the ordinary course of events, as the senior Past Master of the Mizpah Lodge, would have occupied the post of M.E.Z. Comp. Bergmann was, however, already M.E.Z. of two chapters, and it therefore fell to his (the M.E.Z.'s) share. He wished to thank the S.E., Comp. Hamilton, for all knew that there was a great deal of detail work to be done in the formation of a chapter, and this work had been done in a manner reflecting the highest credit. He again thanked the Grand Scribe E., and asked all present to drink to the prosperity and long life of the Mizpah Chapter.

For "The Visitors" Comps. S. WHITTAKER, P.Z.; AVERY, P.Z.; READ, P.Z.; and BOND, returned thanks, after which the Janitor's toast was given.

Bro. H. W. Schartau was assisted in the excellent musical arrangements by Comps. C. Ellison and W. Llewellyn, Misses Annie McBride and Emily Foxcroft, and Mr. Wallis Arthur.

The various requirements were manufactured by Comps. George Kenning and Son.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF ESSEX.

The annual meeting of the above Prov. G. Chapter was held on Tuesday, the 28th ult., at the Royal Forest Hotel, Chingford. Comp. his Honour Judge Philbrick, Q.C., G. Superintendent, presided, and was supported by a large gathering of Grand and P.G. Officers and companions.

The minutes of the last annual Provincial Grand Chapter (held at Southend-on-sea), having been read and confirmed, letters and telegrams were read from several companions unavoidably prevented attending. The roll of chapters was called, and all were found to be represented.

The Report of the Board of General Purposes showed the present strength of the Province to be 341, the number of exaltations during the year had been 20, and their had been seven joining members, whilst the resignations had been 25, deaths seven, and exclusions nine. The Board recommended a grant of ten guineas to the R.M.I. for Boys.

The report was adopted, and Comps. G. H. Finch, P.P.G.J., J. J. C. Turner, P.P.G.J., and W. E. Dring, P.P.G.H., were elected as the Board of General Purposes for the ensuing year.

Comp. Andrew Durrant, P.Z. 276, was, for the 17th year, re-elected Prov. G. Treasurer.

The officers of the year were appointed as under:

Comp. Sir Wm. Abdy, Bart., P.Z. 1024	...	Prov. G.H.
" H. G. Giles, M.E.Z. 51	...	Prov. G.J.
" Thos. J. Ralling, P.Z. and S.E. 51, P.G.S.B.	}	Prov. G.S.E.
Eng. (17th year)		
" T. Garland-Wrighton, M.E.Z. 453	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" A. J. Arthy, H. 1000...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" F. H. Bright, P.Z. 1024	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" Basil Stewart, I.P.Z. 2501	...	Prov. 1st A.G.S.
" James Block, M.E.Z. 2184	...	Prov. 2nd A.G.S.
" C. H. Bestow, H. 2374	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" G. M. Long, M.E.Z. 2256	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" A. Lucking, P.Z. and Treas. 1000, P.A.G.	}	Prov. G.D. of C.
D.C. Eng. (17th year)		
" J. P. Green, M.E.Z. 276	...	Prov. A.G.D. of C.
" W. Hayman Cummings, Chap. 2005	...	Prov. G. Org.
" James Clark, S.E. 2374	...	Prov. A.G.S.E.
" A. W. Martin	...	Prov. G. Janitor.

On the motion of the GRAND SUPERINTENDENT, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the entertaining chapters for the excellent arrangements they had made for the meeting, and having announced that the meeting next year would be held at Colchester, the Prov. G. Chapter was closed.

About 50 companions afterwards dined together at the hotel, under the genial presidency of the Grand Superintendent.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1899

Masonic Notes.

The Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, the 6th instant, when, as will be seen from our report, the business on the paper of agenda was disposed of. The Earl of Warwick, Deputy Grand Master, presided, and was very strongly supported both by the Grand Officers, Present and Past, and the representatives of the private lodges. We are glad that the excitement of a contested election for the office of Grand Treasurer will be avoided next March. Bro. Harry Mansfield, the defeated candidate in March last, was the only brother nominated, and is thus, even at the present time, virtually the Grand Treasurer-elect for 1900-1.

As regards the motion of which Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., had given notice, for a grant of 1000 guineas to the Lord Mayor's Transvaal War Fund, the resolution was accepted in general terms with acclamation, the only other feeling evinced being one of regret that the vote of a far larger amount was out of the question. A discussion, however, arose as to the manner in which the sum should be appor-

tioned among the several Relief Funds that have been started, Bro. R. D. M. Littler, Q.C., Past Dep. G. Registrar, and others being of opinion, not only that the wives and widows and orphans not "on the strength" should benefit, but also that officers' widows and wives and the loyal people in Natal and Cape Colony, who had lost all their property, and were fighting for Queen and country, should participate. Accordingly, it was referred to the Board of Benevolence to determine in what proportion and to what funds the money should be allocated.

The Earl of Euston, M.W. Pro G.M.M., presided at the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons, which was held at Mark Masons' Hall, on Tuesday, the 5th instant. There was a fair attendance, and, as will be seen in our report of the proceedings in another column, there was only one nomination—that of Bro. John Dimsdale—for the office of Grand Treasurer for the year 1900-1. This is a matter for rejoicing, as contested elections for office are always to be avoided, if possible. We notice also, with pleasure, that the proposed grant of 100 guineas to the *Daily Telegraph* Shilling Fund was voted with acclamation.

We mentioned, a short while since, that the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., owing to the multiplicity of his engagements, was under the necessity of declining the invitation addressed to him by the Grand Lodge of Virginia to be present at the approaching centenary of the death of Bro. General George Washington, when several thousands of brethren from all parts of the United States and elsewhere are expected to be present to do honour to the occasion. We learn, however, that his Royal Highness, though unable to attend, has sent a framed portrait of himself, in his full Masonic clothing, as a present to the Grand Lodge of Virginia. It is just one of those graceful acts which are associated with the Prince, and have made him so deservedly popular with all classes.

We regret to find from our report of the proceedings at the recent annual convocation at Chingford, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Essex that in the matter of numerical strength the Royal Arch has shown a tendency towards decrease. The statistics furnished at the meeting by the Prov. G. Scribe E. show a total of 341 companions, and though the proportion of chapters to lodges is by no means unsatisfactory—being at the rate of one chapter to about every three lodges—the aggregate membership is decidedly low—at all events there has been a reduction in the number of R.A. Masons during the past year to the extent of about 16. We do not desire to attach undue importance—which, after all, may be nothing else than one of those fluctuations in the wrong direction which are unavoidable at times—to this reduction. The Royal Arch in Essex has the advantage of being presided over by one of the most distinguished members—Comp. his Honour Judge Philbrick, Q.C.—and its prestige is not likely to suffer under his auspices. But there certainly is room for improvement in the matter of membership, and this will probably result if the private chapters develop a little more activity.

We are glad to hear that Freemasonry in Dorsetshire has prospered during the past year. The annual meeting at Blandford, on Monday, the 27th ult., at which Bro. Montagu J. Guest, Prov. G.M., presided, was well attended. It is clear from the reports that were presented the lodges are doing good work, and the Treasurer's accounts show capital balances in favour of the Province. Owing to this fact, the brethren were in a position to vote sums of 10 guineas to the Girls' School, 20 guineas to the fund for erecting new premises for Lodge, No. 417, at Dorchester, and 50 guineas to the Mansion House Transvaal War Fund. We may also mention, from information which has reached us through a private channel, that Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, P. Prov. G.W., purchased the Charity or alms box which, in the course of the evening, was circulated among the brethren, for 25 guineas, to serve as a nucleus for his list as Steward at the approaching Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

It must have been a subject of deep regret to Earl Ferrers, Prov. G. Master of Leicestershire and Rutland, that at the last moment he found himself unable to carry out his intention of presiding at the annual meeting of his Prov. Grand Lodge at Leicester, on Thursday, the 30th ult. Had he been present, not only would he have heard reports in every respect

favourable of the proceedings of the lodges and the financial position of the Province during the past year, but the agreeable duty would likewise have devolved upon his lordship of presenting his respected Deputy, Bro. S. S. Partridge, P.A.G.D.C. Eng., with the portrait by A. Hacker, A.R.A., and the silver salver subscribed for by the brethren of Leicestershire and Rutland in recognition of his eminent services to Freemasonry, both generally, and in the two counties just mentioned. It will, however, be a consolation to him to know that Bro. J. Herbert Marshall, P. Prov. G.W., very ably discharged the duty in his lordship's absence. We mention elsewhere that we are unfortunately compelled to hold over the report of the meeting till next week, but as regards this interesting incident in the proceedings, we think it as well to anticipate its publication, if only that we may take this early opportunity of congratulating Bro. Partridge and the brethren of the Province on the kindly relations existing between them, of which this presentation is the latest sign.

The usual monthly meeting of the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, the 13th instant, when, no doubt, the opportunity will be taken of expressing the deep regret with which they have heard the news of the death of Bro. John Newton, P.G.P., who for so many years had been one of them, and served on the House Committee, and also the sincere sympathy they have for the widow and children in their bereavement. The chief business of the meeting will, no doubt, be the consideration of petitions, which are always more numerous as the close of the period within which they must be delivered approaches.

Among those who have been appointed to the staff of the Sixth Division, which is now about to proceed to South Africa as soon as it has been mobilised, and transport found for its conveyance, is Bro. the Rev. F. Bethune N. Norman Lee, Chaplain to the Forces, G. Chaplain of United Grand Lodge. We wish him a successful performance of his duty and a speedy return home.

According to our American exchanges great preparations have been made for celebrating on Thursday, the 14th instant, the centenary of the death of Bro. General George Washington, who was made a Mason in the lodge at Fredericksburg, and was subsequently W. Master of the Alexandria-Washington Lodge, No. 22, Alexandria. The Grand Lodge of Virginia will direct the arrangements, which will be of a very simple character, consisting of certain "exercises" at Washington's tomb, for which the sanction of the lady-regents at Mount Vernon has already been obtained. Two addresses will also be delivered, one by the G. Master of Virginia, and the other, in all probability, by Bro. McKinley, President of the United States. It is expected that fully 10,000 members of the Order will assemble to do honour to the occasion. The subsequent banquet, at which a number of representative brethren from all parts of the country will be present, will be held in Washington.

At the 16th annual assembly of the Great Priory of the Order of the Temple in Canada, which was held in the City of Windsor, on the 18th September, Supreme Grand Master, D. L. MacWatt, presided, and in the course of the proceedings delivered the address which is customary on these occasions. According to the report which appears in the *Canadian Craftsman* for October, the Most Eminent, in the course of his remarks, suggested that as, according to the oldest Templar document that has come to light, a warrant was issued in the Province of Ontario for the City of Kingston, Ont., in the year 1800, Great Priory might celebrate the centenary of the event by holding its annual meeting in that City in 1900. Before Great Priory was closed, the suggestion was adopted, and it was arranged that next year's meeting of Great Priory should be held in Kingston.

The demands on our space this week are so heavy that we find ourselves, to our great regret, under the necessity of holding over several reports and notices till our next issue, among them being a full report of the proceedings at the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire on the 30th ult., and notices of the Masonic services rendered by our recently deceased Bros. George E. Lake, P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M. Herts; E. L. P. Valeriani P.G. Std. Br.; and S. H. Jutsum.

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.

OUR BRETHREN OF THE TRANSVAAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

A few weeks ago, in one of your sub-leaders, you alluded to the probable distress amongst our brethren in the Transvaal, in consequence of the war which is now raging in South Africa.

I did not at that time follow up your suggestion, as I was hoping that our brethren would be able, with the help afforded them from my district, to struggle through the bitter time of waiting for the end.

I have, however, received advices from my Deputy that the amounts which have been subscribed amongst ourselves are utterly inadequate to cope with the growing distress and urgent necessity of numbers of our brethren who, driven from their homes in the Transvaal, compelled to leave behind them all their household goods, and, in the majority of instances, with families dependent on them for their living, now find themselves almost penniless in the neighbouring Colonies totally unable, though eagerly willing, to procure work of any kind, and not knowing from what source to obtain daily food for themselves and their little ones. In many instances, also, our brethren, with that love for the home of their birth, so beautifully inculcated in the teachings of our Craft, have freely and ungrudgingly offered their lives for the cause of Queen and Empire, and are now fighting gallantly side by side with their comrades of the regular army.

It is with great reluctance that we appeal to our brethren in England to assist us in some measure to provide relief for the urgent cases of distress which have arisen in our ranks; but I now feel it to be a duty forced upon me by the stress of circumstances to enlist the practical sympathy of the English lodges and their members towards their Transvaal brethren in distress.

It may, perhaps, be asked why these brethren do not apply to share in the funds so nobly subscribed by the people of England for the relief of the Transvaal Refugees.

It is for the reason that the members of the Craft in my district are but a very small proportion of the many thousands of families driven from their homes by the Boer Government, and who, through no fault of their own, and sorely against their grain, are absolutely dependent on Charity for a bare existence, and we think that on the general public fund those who are not Masons should have the first call.

I do not ask for large sums, for I know how nobly all ranks and classes have responded, and are still responding, to the call for help from South Africa; but I specially appeal to my brethren in England, when they have done their duty to those whom they have sent out to fight the battles of our Queen and country, to spare a little of what they have left for the alleviation of the sufferings and wants of the English Freemasons of the Transvaal; and if I have rightly gauged the spirit of Freemasonry in England, I feel confident I shall not appeal in vain.

If, dear Sir and Brother, you would kindly assist me in the work I have so much at heart, by allowing a list to be opened at your offices for the receipt of donations for the relief of the English Freemasons of the Transvaal, I shall be proud to head such list, and shall also be very grateful for your fraternal co-operation.

Let me say, in conclusion, that only the sternest necessity has induced me to make this appeal on behalf of the distressed brethren of my district, and I now wait in full confidence for a response from that Masonic Charity which knows no bounds save those of prudence, and which has never yet failed in time of need.

I will charge myself with the responsibility of a faithful and judicious distribution of any funds which may be generously given by lodges and brethren for the cause I advocate, and our need being urgent *bis dat qui cito dat*.—I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours sincerely and fraternally,

GEORGE RICHARDS,
District Grand Master Transvaal.

Hotel Cecil, Strand, W.C.
5th December.

THE HISTORY OF THE OLD KING'S ARMS LODGE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In thanking you for the kindly interest which you have displayed in my book, and for the courtesy that prompted you to open your columns to the correspondence that has appeared on the subject, will you permit me to trespass a little further upon your valuable space, and to acknowledge, with sincere thanks, the many letters which have reached me from Masons in all parts of the country? I have endeavoured to deal with all letters that call for replies; others have reached me without addresses, while many more have been of a congratulatory nature, which did not necessitate individual acknowledgment. To all these correspondents, and to the writers of the various interesting letters which have appeared in the *Freemason*, I beg to tender my cordial thanks.

The reception which my book has met with, not only in my mother lodge, but throughout the Craft generally, has been a source of surprise and intense gratification. I only regret that I was not in a position to profit by the many valuable hints and suggestions that I have received since its publication; but I shall gladly avail myself of such assistance in the preparation of another work upon which I am at present engaged.—I am, dear Sir, yours fraternally,

ALBERT F. CALVERT.

Royston,
Eton-avenue, N.W.

CONSECRATION OF THE ASSHETON-EGERTON LODGE, No. 2793.

The number of lodges of the fast growing Province of Cheshire was further augmented by still another, which we are inclined to believe will prove a great acquisition to those already in existence, namely, the Assheton-Egerton Lodge, No. 2793, consecrated on the 25th ult., at the Bleeding Wolf Hotel, Hale, Bowdon. The new lodge owes its origin principally to the following brethren: Bros. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., P.G.W. Eng.; Richard Newhouse, P.G.S.B. Eng., P.G. Sec.; Fredk. Broadsmith, P.P.S.G.W.; John Ferguson, P.A.G.S.; Henry H. Mainwaring, P.P.G. Stwd.; Rev. C. Chetwynd Atkinson, D.D., P.P.G. Chap.;

John Hawker, P.P.G. Stwd.; John S. Derbyshire, Alfred W. Boucher, Fred W. E. Mehlhaus, Thomas Stephens, Thomas Smallwood, Edward J. Sidebotham, P.P.G.D.; William Campbell, P.P.A.G.D.C.; Henry Walmsley, P.P.A.G.D.C.; Fred Johnson, P.M.; Coningsby Disraeli, M.P.; John T. C. Blackie, and John W. Norcliffe, who are the founders and have signed the warrant.

There was a large number of influential brethren of the Province of Cheshire and neighbouring provinces present, viz.:

Bros. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., P.G.W. Eng.; Rev. Newhouse, P.G.S.B. Eng., P.G. Sec.; Hy. Jackson, P.P.S.G.W.; Lilley Ellis, P.J.G.W.; John Armstrong, P.P.S.G.W.; Hy. G. Small, P.P.S.G.W., P.G.D.C.; Wm. J. Nash, P.P.G.D.; Wm. Campbell, P.P.A.G.D.C.; Canon C. R. Nunn, P.G. Chap.; Rev. Edward Evans, P.G. Chap.; Wm. Ramsden, P.P.G.D.; Mark Oliver, P.A.G.D.C.; Fredk. Broadsmith, P.P.S.G.W.; Wm. Dykes, P.P.G. Stwd.; Wm. Peers, P.P.G. Treas.; John H. Brookes, P.P.A.G. Sec.; Geo. Fountain, P.P.G. Std. Br.; T. W. Sheldon, P.P.G.S.; A. Whittaker, P.G.S.; Sidney May, P.P.A.G.P.; Wm. Williams, P.G.P.; Wm. Rumsey, P.P.G.P.; J. H. Marsh, P.P.G.D. W. Lancs.; Hugh Lowndes, P.G.S. of W.; J. E. Steward, P.P.G.D.; Jno. Crompton, P.S.G.D.; John Hawker, P.P.G.S.; H. H. Mainwaring, P.P.G.S.; John Lee, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Hy. Walmsley, P.P.A. G.D.C. E. Lancs.; J. F. Swift, P.G.O.; James W. Shaw, P.G. Std. Br.; R. Blakehurst, P.A.G.P.; F. G. Bowden, P.P.A.G.D.C. Leicester; A. Sidebotham, P.J.G.D.; James Parker, P.P.G.O.; W. Wildegoose, P.P.G. Treas.; J. Bowers, P.P.G.P. W. Lancs.; John W. Byrom, P.P.G. Treas.; M. H. Wells, P.P.G. Stwd.; E. J. Sidebotham, P.P.G.D.; Joel Fowden, P.P.A.G.D.C.; D. Sutcliffe, P.G.S.; Thos. Drinkwater, P.G. Reg.; C. Bennett, P.G.S.B.; Alfd. Huxley, P.G. Tyler; J. S. Derbyshire, 1565; W. Moody, P.M. 2144; C. Stoneley, P.M. 267; J. T. C. Blackie, J.W. 1161; Ed. Dunn, S.W. 322; Wm. Bennett, S.D. 322; A. B. Hale, Stwd. 322; Isaac Adshead, 322; G. E. Blathewaite, 322; Thos. Ivison, 428; J. C. Armitage, P.M. 428; Wm. Hughes, J.W. 1045; A. Whittaker, 295; J. H. Brooke, P.M. 295; T. W. Sheldon, W.M. 295; Rev. F. H. Mentha, W.M. 1357; T. Stators, P.M. 317; A. Rottmayer, P.M. 317; R. G. Brew, W.M. 222; G. J. Critchley, 1161; G. H. Podmore, 1045; A. R. Jeffs, P.M. 533; A. W. Boucher, 1045; Fred Johnson, P.M. 2144; Henry Stanley, 1045; T. Margison, W.M. 1126; S. J. Brufford, 1126; L. Todd, 941; T. Jackson, 941; T. Ellwood, 941; J. W. Baird, 941; R. S. Thutchley, W.M. 941; Hy. Holt, 1045; F. W. E. Mehlhaus, 2793; Thos. Stephens, 1045; G. W. Stephenson, 336; R. C. Whitelegg, W.M. 1045; C. Disraeli, M.P., 1045; W. Allwood, 1045; and W. G. Groves, 1565.

It was announced on the summons that the P.G.M., Bro. the Right Hon. Earl Egerton of Tatton, would perform the consecration ceremony; but, owing to the unavoidable absence of the P.G.M., the duty was performed by Bro. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., P.G.W. England, who was assisted in its performance by Bros. Hy. Jackson, P.P.S.G.W., as S.W.; Tilley Ellis, P.J.G.W., as J.W.; Rev. Canon C. R. Nunn, P.G.C., as Chap.; R. Newhouse, P.G.S.B. England, P.G. Sec.; H. Gordon Small, P.P.S.G.W., as D.C.; and Mark Oliver, P.A.G.D.C., as I.G.

The lodge was opened in the Three Degrees, and a hymn was then sung.

The PRESIDING OFFICER then addressed the brethren with regard to the object for which they had met together, after which the Rev. Canon NUNN, P.G.C., offered up prayer.

The D.C. then arranged the founders in order, and Bro. R. NEWHOUSE, P.G.S.B. England, P.G. Sec., read the petition and warrant which had been granted by the M.W.G.M.

The CONSECRATING OFFICER inquired of the brethren ranged before him whether they approved of the officers named in the warrant, and the brethren having signified their approval.

The CHAPLAIN then gave a beautiful oration on the nature and principles of the Institution.

The Presiding Officer proceeded to dedicate and constitute the lodge, after which an anthem was sung.

The ceremony was brought to a close by the Patriarchal Benediction.

The lodge was then resumed in the Second Degree, and Bro. Fred Broadsmith was installed first W.M. of the lodge, the ceremony being performed admirably by Bro. W. Campbell, P.P.A.G.D.C., assisted by Bros. Tilley Ellis, P.J.G.W., and John Armstrong, P.P.J.G.W.

The W.M. then invested his officers as follows: Bros. John Ferguson, P.A.G.S., S.W.; Henry H. Mainwaring, P.P.G. Stwd., J.W.; John Hawker, P.P.G. Stwd., Treas.; John S. Derbyshire, Sec.; W. Campbell, P.P.A.G.D.C., D.C.; Alfred W. Boucher, S.D.; Fred W. E. Mehlhaus, J.D.; Thomas Stephens, I.G.; Thomas Smallwood, Stwd.; and W. G. Groves, Tyler.

Bro. Fred Johnson, P.M., was elected Charity Representative.

At the close of the proceedings the customary banquet followed, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured and responded to.

The musical arrangements were ably carried out by Bros. James Parker, P.P.G.O., and J. S. Derbyshire.

The collars, jewels, &c., were manufactured by Bros. George Kenning and Son, Manchester.

Craft Masonry.

Honour and Generosity Lodge, No. 165.

This old lodge, which was constituted in the year 1767, opened its new season on Tuesday evening, the 25th ult., at the Inns of Court Hotel, London, under most favourable circumstances. It had an excellent attendance of members of the lodge, and, as usual, a good gathering of visitors. Several others had been invited, but, to the regret of everybody, illness and other unavoidable causes kept away Bro. Sir Arthur Collins, Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W.; Richard Eve, P.G. Treas.; Edward Letchworth, F.S.A., G. Sec.; V. P. Freeman, P.G.D., Prov. G. Sec. Sussex; Charles Belton, P.D.G.D.C.; R. Clay Sudlow, P.G. Std. Br.; and John Le Hay. The best arrangements had been made for a successful meeting, and they were admirably carried out, with the natural result that there was not a hitch throughout, whether in the working of the lodge, the beautiful banquet provided, or the capital musical and variety accompaniment of the after-dinner proceedings. Bro. F. Howard Roshier, W.M., presided, and he was supported by Bros. John Woodhouse, S.W.; Godfrey Sykes, J.W.; A. P. Crabb, I.P.M.; Frank E. Roshier, P.M.; Henry Times, P.M., Sec.; J. W. H. Thompson, P.M., Treas.; Henry William Clarkson, Org.; Hayward J. Strudwick, William H. Burt, Harry Beaman, C. J. Andrews, Joseph W. Edis, W. C. Hulbert, Bertram W. Vaan Praagh, Frank Springlow, and Ernest H. Palin Francis, members of the lodge; and the visitors were Bros. Walter H. Anns, 1146; John Dowdeswell, 1146; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; Albert Leighton, W.M. 263; D. Marston, 1863; Willie Drew, Excelsior; Henry Pritchard, P.M. 263, P.P.G. Treas. Middx.;

F. H. Callingham, S.D. 1749; Reginald Groome, 2430; W. C. Lumley, 1; Percy Nisbet, late 1260; John Bromley, No. 1, Mary Chapel, Edinburgh; and F. H. Cheesewright, P.M. 907.

The lodge was opened and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. H. Times, P.M., Sec., reported that Bro. John Appleyard Dugdale was raised to the Third Degree at the Jubilee Masters' Lodge, No. 2712, on September 17th. Bro. F. Howard Rosher, W.M., in the absence of Bro. J. W. Howard Thompson, P.M., moved "That Bro. Henry Times, P.M., Secretary, represent the lodge at the forthcoming festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and that the sum of 10 guineas from the lodge funds be placed on the Steward's list." Bro. A. P. Crabb, I.P.M., seconded the motion, which was put and carried. Bros. William Henry Burt and Hayward James Strudwick were then raised by Bro. A. P. Crabb, I.P.M., to the Third Degree, the work being admirably rendered by him and the other officers of the lodge. Bro. Thompson, P.M., Treasurer, who arrived during the ceremony, when it was concluded, desired to say a few words. He had heard that the motion, which stood on the paper in his name, had been carried, but he wished to increase the vote of money to Bro. Times's list. Although the lodge had been established 132 years it had done very little for the Masonic Charities. It had subscribed to all of them but quite inadequately to the age of the lodge. To the Benevolent Institution it had subscribed only £40 and had but four votes. This, he thought, was rather a reflection on such a celebrated lodge, and he hoped that in future it would look with greater zeal on the Charities of the Order. To begin with, he should move that the sum to be voted to Bro. Times' list should be 20 guineas. After a few remarks favourable to this amendment had been made by some brethren, the amendment was carried. The lodge was thereupon closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

The usual toasts followed.

Bro. A. P. Crabb, I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," said all the brethren knew Bro. Howard Rosher very well; they knew he was a very good man, and would make a first-rate Master. Bro. Rosher asked him that day to do the ceremony of raising, and of course he felt it his duty to obey, but, still, those brethren he had raised really came in his (Bro. Crabb's) year of office, but unfortunately in the middle of the summer most of them were away. Nevertheless, although they had not seen much of the W.M.'s work that night, the brethren would see it next meeting, when there were two ceremonies to be performed.

Bro. F. H. Rosher, W.M., in responding, said he felt that at any rate the honours of the evening should have been with Bro. Crabb. The refreshment had been with him (the W.M.), the labour with Bro. Crabb. Although there was no P.M. toast that night, still he thought he could not pass it over, and, therefore, he should ask the brethren to drink the health of Bro. Crabb. (Hear, hear.) He might mention that in the lodge they had discussed the question of Charity, and he hoped the Charity-box would be given to the widows' and orphans' fund of their absent soldiers; that was an object which would appeal to the hearts of all Masons, and consequent upon Bro. Reginald Groome singing "The Absent-Minded Beggar," he would get him afterwards to take round his little tambourine, and ask the brethren to "Pay, pay, pay." (Cheers.)

The Charity-box was put up to auction, and it realised £10, and Bro. Thompson, P.M., the Treasurer, said the amount would be handed to the *Daily Telegraph* Shilling Fund.

Bro. A. P. Crabb, I.P.M., replying to the toast, said it became rather a shock to him, because they had been endeavouring to keep the toasts as few as possible. He made out a list for the W.M., and intentionally omitted "The I.P.M. and the P.Ms.," but the W.M. had stolen a march upon him by the authority which he had, and on which he insisted, and he had given the toast of "The I.P.M., Bro. Crabb." He was very sorry the W.M. did so, because it afflicted the brethren, and he (Bro. Crabb) was afflicted. However, he thanked the W.M. and the brethren very much for the cordiality of the proposition and its reception.

Bro. F. H. Rosher, W.M., next proposed "The Visitors," who, he said, must have been much delighted with the working of Bro. Crabb that evening. He trusted they had enjoyed the entertainment. The Bank of England Lodge, No. 263, had raised one of the brethren of the lodge, and that had relieved Bro. Crabb of one raising that evening, and, therefore, he should couple the name of Bro. Leighton, the W.M. of that lodge, with the toast, with Bros. Pritchard and Callingham.

Bro. Pritchard, P. Prov. G. Treas. Middx., in the course of his response, referring to the name of the lodge, Honor and Generosity, said the generosity of the lodge had been expressed and shown that evening by the kindness evinced to the three Masonic Institutions. Those people outside Masonry who believed that the principles of the Order were eating and drinking would find there was something else in it, although his experience was that those who enjoyed a dinner and a glass of wine were more likely to remember their fellow creatures in distress than those who had not. With regard to the three Masonic Institutions, there was a certain amount of rivalry between them, but the supporters of each of them, although he might prefer one particular Institution, still had hidden feelings of charity to the others, and they never grudged the success the others had.

Bros. Callingham and Leighton also replied, and

The Treasurer, the Secretary, the S.W., and the J.W., responded to the toast of "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

Bro. Reginald Groome had charge of the musical entertainment of the evening, and Bro. Cheesewright assisted in making an exceedingly pleasant evening. There was a very clever sleight-of-hand performance by Dr. Byrd Page.

Hemming Lodge, No. 1512.

The election meeting of this lodge was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on the 23rd ult. Among those in attendance were Bros. C. Wheatley, W.M.; H. Gale, S.W.; C. F. Davis, J.W.; J. C. Jessett, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G. Std. Br. Eng., Sec.; H. Webster, S.D.; W. Hill, J.D.; G. Ransford, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., D.C.; H. Wheatley, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., A. Z. Schultze, R. Ruff, and R. Fox, Stwds.; W. Spearing, P.M.; T. W. Ockenden, P.M.; W. Fisher, P.M.; W. Hopkins, P.M.; P. Cronin, P.M.; and J. Gilbert, P.G.T., Tyler. Among the visitors were Bros. H. Brook, P.P.G. Std. Br. Surrey; J. Mayo, P.M. 1614; T. Knight, P.M. 2032; H. Mills, J.W. 2540; T. M. Wells, 1136; P. Hall, 1563; H. Bowman, 1733; J. Brett, 1733; J. Price, 1733; B. Ruff, 1733; F. Latham, 2032; P. Macdonald, 2140; J. Abbott, 2222; and J. Wheatley, 2540.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. Lohmann and Bench were raised to the Third Degree by the W.M. in a most impressive manner. It being the 25th anniversary of Bro. T. W. Ockenden's initiation, the W.M., to mark the event, requested him to perform the ceremony of passing. The manner in which the work was performed must have highly impressed the candidates, Bros. H. Singer, E. Hopkins, and P. E. Jaquier. The ballot was taken on behalf of Messrs. W. Marchmont, W. Wright, and G. S. Aspinall, and it being unanimous, they were duly initiated by the W.M. most creditably. It was resolved that in future the lodge subscription be three guineas per annum. A Past Master's jewel and collar were voted to the W.M. with acclamation. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. Major-Gen. F. W. Hemming, C. Boyce, H. Robinson, and others. The lodge was then closed.

An excellent banquet followed.

Bro. T. W. Ockenden, P.P.G.D., responded on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers."

The I.P.M., in submitting the toast of "The W.M.," was loud in his praise of the working as exhibited that evening. He said that Bro. Charles Wheatley's working was a credit to any lodge. In addition to which he was a most excellent chairman at the banquet table. In his approaching retirement he would carry with him the esteem of every member of the Hemming Lodge.

The W.M., in reply, said that his year of office had been a most pleasant, and he might say, a prosperous one, as he had initiated eight candidates and welcomed one joining brother. His retirement from active work would not be for long as he should be called upon to preside over a neighbouring lodge almost immediately.

The hour being late, the remaining toasts were quickly submitted and briefly responded to. They were "The Initiates," "The Visitors," "The Master elect," "The Past Masters," and "The Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers."

During the proceedings, several of the members vocally entertained their brethren.

Howe and Charnwood Lodge, No. 1007.

The installation meeting was held in the lodge room at the Bull's Head Hotel, Loughborough, on Tuesday, the 28th ult. The brethren present were Bros. W. Tyler, W.M.; W. H. Wootton, P.S.G.D., I.P.M.; A. Smith, S.W., W.M. elect; E. D. Mullis, J.W.; G. C. Oliver, P.M., Prov. G. Treas., Treas.; W. Vial, P.M., P.P.S. G.W., Sec.; E. V. Oliver, S.D.; F. Arnatt, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., D. of C.; Handel Schofield, Org.; H. Tyler, I.G.; J. S. Potter, Stwd.; F. Poole Harris, Tyler; R. L. Gibson, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.; T. Corcoran, F.R.C.S.E., P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; W. H. Silverthorne, P.M., P.P.G.S.; J. Raven, P.M., P.P.G.P.; C. F. Oliver, P.M., P.P.G. Reg.; J. J. W. Knowles, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; J. W. Bromley, P.M., P.P.G. Stwd.; J. F. Smith, P.M.; J. E. T. Chapman, A. S. Brett, T. Smith, W. J. Billson, G. Clements, W. Rowe, and others. The visitors included Bros. S. S. Partridge, P.M. 523, P.A.G.D.C. England, D.P.G.M.; E. Holmes, P.M. 279, P.P.S.G.W., Prov. G. Sec.; W. D. Grant, P.M. 279, P.P.J.G.D.; W. Adams Lea, W.M. 523; Samuel Cleaver, W.M. 1330; John Clifton, P.M. 1391, Prov. G.S.B.; Wm. Walters, W.M. 1391; H. G. Marriott, P.M. 2028, Prov. A.G.D.C.; Rev. G. Chappell, M.A., Chap. 445; E. Bland, W. Earp, and R. B. Adcock, of 279; J. McRobie and A. H. Hampson, A. Page and C. H. Page, of 1391; and others.

The minutes of the last regular meeting having been read and confirmed, and the usual routine preliminary work having been got through, the ceremony of installation of Bro. A. Smith was performed by the D.P.G.M. in his usual impressive and punctilious manner, the other succeeding portions of the ritual observances being ably carried out by Bros. W. Tyler, W. H. Wootton, J. F. Snaith, T. Corcoran, C. F. Oliver, and Wm. Vial. The service was fully choral. At the proper juncture, the newly-installed W.M., who had already placed the I.P.M.'s collar on the shoulders of his predecessor, invested his officers as follows: Bros. E. V. Oliver, S.W.; Thos. Paget, P.M. 455, J.W.; G. C. Oliver, P.M., Treas.; W. Vial, P.M., Sec.; H. Tyler, S.D.; J. S. Potter, J.D.; F. Arnatt, P.M., D. of C.; Handel Schofield, Org.; A. H. Tyler, I.G.; J. E. T. Chapman and W. Rowe, Stwds.; and F. P. Harris, Tyler. In investing the Secretary, the W.M. referred in particularly felicitous terms to the fact that Bro. Vial had not only just completed his 25th year of membership of the Craft, but also his probably unique record in that he had not during that lengthy period been once absent from any assembly of his lodge. Addressing him as a "tower of strength" in Masonry, the W.M. heartily thanked Bro. Vial for having again accepted the Secretaryship. The W.M.'s eulogium was roundly applauded by the brethren. The next duty of the W.M. was to present the I.P.M. with the customary Past Master's jewel, an act gracefully performed and gracefully received. The Auditors' report on the Treasurer's accounts, which shows the Howe and Charnwood to be about the soundest lodge in the province, was presented, and unanimously received and adopted, with thanks to the Treasurer. Certain brethren were then unanimously re-elected to represent the lodge (a) on the Provincial Committee of General Purposes, (b) the Provincial Charity Committee, (c) the Provincial Masonic Charity Association. The lodge was then closed.

At the banquet which followed, and which was quite in keeping with the best traditions of the famous old Leicestershire hostelry, covers were laid for 60 guests. The very numerous apologies for unavoidable absence testified that the attendance would probably have been a record one had it not been for the plethora of other functions, either social or public, that just now are engaging attention in Leicester and neighbourhood.

The toast list of the evening was strictly on Masonic lines, and the harmony of the evening was amply provided for by the presence of such famous local artistes as Bros. A. Page, H. Page, J. McRobie, A. R. Adcock, W. Earp, and J. Black.

In proposing "The Queen," the W.M. referred in very feeling terms to the national anxieties that were now pressing upon our revered and august patroness in her last days, and wished the assurance to go forth to the world that among her loyal subjects there were none more devoted or sympathetic than the members of the Craft.

In dealing with the next toast, and coupling it with the name of Bro. S. Steeds Partridge, Dep. Prov. G.M., P.A.G.D.C. Eng., the W.M. alluded in graceful terms to the highly important Masonic function of the following Thursday, when at a meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge, Bro. Partridge would receive from the hands of the Prov. Grand Master, Earl Ferrers, his portrait in oils by A. Hacker, A.R.A., and other suitable tokens of the brethren's gratitude and esteem for Bro. Partridge after 30 years' uninterrupted and successful devotion to the best interests of the Craft in the province.

The Dep. Prov. G.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M."—did so in that kindly and impressive manner which is so eminently characteristic of him—mingling high commendation of the lodge and its proceedings for now so many years past, and a special tribute to the marked devotion to Masonic duty that for the W.M. had that day culminated in the honours he had just conferred upon him and which augured so well for the future of himself and the lodge under his guidance, with some sound and useful advice to both the W.M. and the brethren generally.

The toast was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm.

In reply, Bro. Smith gave a brief retrospect of his Masonic career and very gratefully acknowledged the kindness of many of the brethren who had been aidful to him therein, especially to that veteran Bro. Wm. Vial. He felt particularly honoured by the presence of the Dep. Prov. G.M., whose words of wisdom he would regard. It had been impressed upon him that himself, as W.M., was the most autocratic personage in the lodge, but, personally, he felt the most dependent, upon the brethren generally for their loyal support and goodwill, but above all upon his officers, who he trusted and felt assured would at all times be faithful to the call of duty and help him in his purpose to maintain the high repute of the Howe and Charnwood Lodge. He heartily thanked all present for the manner in which the toast of his health had been received.

The remaining toasts were fitly dealt with both by the proposers and responders.

Among the other musical items, Bro. Alfred Page gave an excellent rendering of Bro. Kipling's "Absent-minded Beggar," the refrain of which was taken up by all present in a manner becoming to Britons. At its conclusion, the W.M. sent round "the cap" with the result that upwards of five guineas was immediately forthcoming, which sum was placed in the hands of Bro. T. Smith, Deputy Chief Constable for Leicestershire, as a contribution towards the Local Relief Fund.

Too soon the hour for departure came, and when the many brethren from Leicester quitted the first-class saloon carriage, placed at their disposal by the Midland Railway Company, all did so with the feeling that the fortunes of old 1007 were in good hands.

Mozart Lodge, No. 1929.

A very successful installation meeting was held in connection with this lodge at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, on Saturday, the 2nd inst. For many years this lodge has had a strong connection with the musical profession, and during the ensuing year this branch of art will be well represented by Bro. Edward Branscombe, P.P.G. Org., who was installed as W.M. by the retiring Master, Bro. J. J. Lamigeon, P.M., Prov. G. Stwd. The members in attendance included Bros. J. J. Lamigeon, P.M., Prov. G. Stwd., W.M.; E. Branscombe, P.P.G.O., S.W., W.M. elect; J. A. Chalk, J.W.; H. J. Macfarlane, P.M., P.P.G.O., Treas.; F. Flood, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; W. Salmon, S.D.; J. J. Kern, J.D.; Augustus Toop, A.R.C.O., A.D.C.; J. Sinclair, I.G.; Trefelyn David, H. Dearth, C. W. Freeman, C. H. Howlett, P.M.; Wallis Wesche, P.M.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. F. West, P.G.D., D.P.G.M.; H. J. Salmon, 1929; T. H. Barker, P.M. 1539; F. W. Salmon, P.M. 1553, P.D.A.G.P.; G. S. Stanton, 2191; G. F. Atkinson, J.W. 2191; E. W. Nightingale, P.M., Sec. 87; H. J. Grimwade, 1385; G. Larner, 1326; J. F. Saunders, 1507; D. Jackson, W.M. 548; W. Wills, P.M., Treas. 1901; G. H. Kitson, P.M. 548; G. S. Elliott, W.M. 2603; T. Jefferies, P.M. 1744; W. Fenn, P.M. 4; A. W. Smith, P.M. 463; A. H. Cole, P.M. 1744; H. Tomlin; W. F. Driver, P.M.; J. H. Anderson, 2272; W. H. Abrams, 511; A. C. Hawes, 516; T. Milsted Spencer, P.M. 1922; W. E. Jeanes, S.D. 548; W. W. Lee, P.P.G.D. Middx.; and others.

At the opening of the lodge there was a heavy agenda of work. The minutes were confirmed, Bro. A. J. Walenn was passed to the Second Degree, and Bros. Harry Dearth, S. F. A. Donnelly, and W. F. Shields, were raised to the Third Degree. Bro. J. J. Lamigeon, Prov. G. Stwd., then concluded a lengthy afternoon's work by installing Bro. Edwd. Branscombe as W.M. in a very creditable manner. The officers appointed were Bros. J. J. Lamigeon, P.M., P.G. Stwd. Surrey, I.P.M.; J. A. Chalk, S.W.; Walter Salmon, J.W.; H. J. Macfarlane, P.M., P.P.G.O. Surrey, Treas.; Fredk. Flood, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C. Surrey, Sec.; J. J. Kern, S.D.; Augustus Toop, A.R.C.O., J.D.; John Sinclair, D.C.; Harry Dearth, Org.; Chas. W. Freeman, I.G.; Trefelyn David, F. Whatley, S. E. M'Lewin, T. H. B. Bolton, and W. H. Bartlett, Stwds.; and George Harrison, Tyler. The brethren heard with

regret the announcement of the death of Bro. T. D. Phillips, P.M., P.P.G.D., a founder, and the oldest member of the lodge, which occurred since the last meeting. Other business was transacted, and the lodge was closed.

A banquet was followed by the proposal and reception of the usual toasts, the W.M. at the outset expressing the opinion that the brethren would rather listen to the musical programme than to speeches.

Bro. W. Fenn, P.M., P.G. Stwd., answered for "The Grand Officers," and said it was always a pleasure to attend on such pleasant occasions. He was pleased to see the W.M. installed, although it was no easy matter to preside over such a large body as this lodge mustered. Although there would be a great deal of work, he was confident of Bro. Branscombe's ability and capability to do it.

In giving "The Prov. G.M. and Prov. G. Officers," the W.M. said they were expecting a visit that evening from the Prov. G. Master's son, Viscount Cranley. The Dep. Prov. G.M. had paid them the compliment of visiting them, and it was in the interests of Surrey Masonry that they should be brought into immediate association with those placed in authority over them.

Bro. Fred. West, P.G.D., Dep. Prov. G.M., thanked them sincerely. As Deputy he was pleased to be present, especially in a lodge he had seen under different circumstances. He had been connected with Surrey for many years and it was a matter of gratification to find a strong healthy lodge such as they had that night. He was glad they were going to try and limit their members because he thought that large numbers were a great mistake, and he hoped they would not increase beyond their present number. In this lodge there was an element that one should certainly encourage—a large number of musical brethren, who were willing to assist in the "fourth" degree and thus make themselves valuable members. The lodge also possessed Masters who were doing their work. The I.P.M., who did the various ceremonies, including the installation, deserved well of their province because of the difficulty he must have gone through in acquiring the language of the Order and the language in which he gave those ceremonies. The I.P.M. deserved great praise for the way in which he went through the work. This lodge had risen from a smaller lodge into a very important one. With a lodge so ambitious, both with regard to work and comfort, they might go one step further and fall in with the ranks of those who regard the installation ceremony as the most important ceremony in Freemasonry, and allow nothing else to come in and spoil it. It was a most difficult ceremony to work well, and it was not enhanced by having two or three others in front of it. He threw the suggestion out in a lodge with such good ideas, knowing that they would see the importance and advantage of having plenty of time in which to perform the ceremony. He knew the W.M. was a good Mason, and if he could go through with the same ability he had displayed in another sphere of usefulness, he would have done as well as any of the Past Masters, and have one of the most prosperous years of office possible.

"The Health of the W.M." was submitted by Bro. Lamigeon, I.P.M., who said they had known Bro. Branscombe, their W.M., for many years in that lodge, and he was also a P.P.G. Officer of Surrey. Their W.M. was a good Mason, and as a Master would have the support of all the brethren. Bro. Branscombe had already shown them a little of what he was capable of doing, and would, doubtless, work the ceremonies with credit to himself and to the full satisfaction of the members. He (the I.P.M.) was connected with him in other Degrees, where he had seen him work through, and if he did his work in this lodge, and in as nice a manner, the brethren would be pleased indeed.

Bro. Edward Branscombe, P.P.G. Org., W.M., in response, said it was a very difficult thing to reply in suitable terms to the complimentary and courteous remarks of the I.P.M. He could only say he hoped he had proved to their satisfaction his interest in the lodge and his ability to do certain kinds of work. He had still to show that he could follow the Past Masters in the work of the chair. This lodge, by no means, held an inferior position as regards work. During the past few years the W.Ms. had striven to outdo each other, but if he had failed, he hoped to give them satisfaction in other ways. He should revive the music, which at a certain period of the lodge's existence, gave it a musical celebrity. They had had exceptional facilities in this respect and had been well supported by a most worthy body of members of his own profession. He could have entertained them by bringing many friends, not members of the lodge, but he intended to go through his year with the assistance only of those initiated in the lodge. He could only appeal to those concerned to support him, and he knew they would do so if circumstances permitted. He hoped that their next meeting, when they would have less to do, would be less hurried, although he would not say a less pleasant one. It would be his earnest endeavour to fulfil the wishes expressed by the I.P.M.

In giving "The Visitors," the W.M. alluded to the presence of his brother, who was initiated in South America.

Bro. G. S. Elliott, W.M. London County Council and Clissold Lodges, responded. Although not associated with the Province of Surrey, he had been associated with its Prov. G.M., who had done so much for the good of Freemasonry. If it had not been for Lord Onslow the London County Council Lodge would not have been founded. It was marvellous to see a brother like the I.P.M. performing the ceremonies in such a splendid manner, after encountering, as he must have done, so many difficulties. He (Bro. Elliott) became a Freemason at 21 years of age, proposed his father for initiation in his mother lodge, and had since then personally initiated three sons, the eldest of whom was rapidly approaching the chair of the Belgrave Lodge.

The proposition of "The Installing Master and Past Masters" afforded the W.M. an opportunity of again referring to Bro. Lamigeon's services, and of presenting him with a handsome Past Master's jewel.

Bro. J. J. Lamigeon, I.P.M., in replying, said he had always tried to do his best, whether as an officer or as W.M., and was pleased to think they were satisfied. He had the interests of the lodge at heart, and had always endeavoured to do everything he could to promote its welfare. Although he had had several Past Master's jewels already, he should appreciate the Mozart Lodge jewel as a memento of the lodge immediately he left his mother lodge.

Bro. Flood, P.M., Sec., acknowledged "The Officers," and the W.M. expressed the thanks of all present to those brethren who had kindly assisted in the musical arrangements. These included Bros. Wesché, Augustus Toop, S. Donnelly, Arthur Walenn, Trefelyn David, and Harry Dearth.

Borough of Greenwich Lodge, No. 2332.

As much noted for its splendid charity, as for its excellent work, and almost phenomenal success, the above flourishing lodge is making itself a name and a history second to none of the metropolitan lodges, and its annual installation meeting on Wednesday, the 22nd ult., evinced its popularity in a remarkable manner, no fewer than some 75 of the brethren of the lodge and guests attending to do honour to the occasion. The lodge is held at the William the Fourth Hotel, East Greenwich, and was opened at 5.15 p.m. by the W.M., Bro. W. J. Frooms, and the usual formalities having been observed, Bro. G. P. Carter, P.M., D.C., presented Bro. R. D. Simpson, S.W., and W.M. elect, to the presiding W.M. to receive at his hands the benefits of installation, and in the presence of a large Board of Installed Masters, Bro. Simpson was installed and saluted according to ancient custom. He appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Frooms, I.P.M.; F. J. Simpson, S.W.; J. W. Rozier, J.W.; C. P. Carter, P.M., Treas.; A. H. Oakley, P.M., Sec.; A. Lewis, S.D.;

D. McCall, J.D.; E. W. Higgs, P.M., D.C.; F. T. Marrable, I.G.; E. S. Cockton, Org.; G. Greenaway, W. Powley, W. J. Armstrong, E. Mills, E. A. Higgs, and J. S. Fowler, Stwds.; and E. Spinks, Tyler. The addresses were well given, and, indeed, Bro. Frooms worked the ceremony in a manner worthy of the traditions of the lodge, and for which he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks, the same to be inscribed on the minutes of the lodge. The report of the Audit Committee was of a most gratifying character, and was received and adopted.

After "Hearty good wishes" had been tendered, the lodge was closed. The banquet was served in the handsome assembly room of the establishment, and Bro. G. Burney, the host, laid before his clients a generous repast, on the excellence of which he was universally complimented and congratulated.

Among the other brethren present were Bros. H. Roberts, P.M.; J. G. Thomas, P.M.; W. H. Burney, P.M.; G. Burney, P.M.; J. H. Harper, P.M.; E. Eades, P.M.; H. Austin, R. Blagrove, J. Somally, C. Thomas, C. Shields, C. Barrett, T. Rice, F. Bretton, H. Eades, C. Cordell, J. Nixon, T. Law, W. Powley, G. Sutton, B. Stringer, J. Smith, B. Fortt, J. Foster, A. Metcalf, H. Kennerd, C. Scott, J. Henderson, W. Leverett, T. Alexander, F. Knight, A. Elen, G. Burney, jun., F. Burney, E. Carpenter, T. Connor, H. Cole, W. Stephens, W. Seblin, W. J. Huntley, and A. Baygens, all of the lodge. Among the visitors were Bros. G. W. King, P.M. 1487, P.P.G.D. Essex; C. Jolly, P.M. and Sec. 1472 and 2184, P.P.A.G.D.C. Essex; A. White, P.M. 1093; B. R. Banks, P.M. 177 and 2332; J. F. Saunders, P.M. 1507; C. Moggerege, P.M. 1507; W. Richardson, P.M. 140; J. Fyfield, W.M., and T. Coombes, J.D. 829; W. Bishop, 1686; E. Taylor, 147; G. Hayne, 79; J. Abbiss, 871; J. Pardoe, 1686; H. Palmer, 65; and D. Smith, 1382.

It was getting late when the W.M. proposed the first toast, that of "The Queen and the Craft," which was drunk most loyally, as was that of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of the Order," and "The Grand Officers, Present and Past."

The W.M., in response to the briefly proposed, but hearty reception of the toast of his health, said he sincerely thanked them for their kind reception of his name. He could not be insensible to the high position that they had that day placed him in. He took, and had taken, a great interest in the welfare of the lodge, having been one of its founders. He might have held the position before, but it seemed fitting that those who had preceded should, in his mind, have done so. He could assure them that he should endeavour to do the work in such a manner that at the end of his year of office they would be satisfied. (Cheers.)

The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The Installing Officer," said he felt sure they were all delighted and satisfied at the perfect manner in which, as it struck him, Bro. Frooms had carried out his duties as Installing Officer that day. He then presented Bro. Frooms with a handsome and valuable Past Master's jewel, suitably engraved, and in the name of the lodge wished him many years of health and prosperity to wear it, as a token of the esteem and kindly regard of the Borough of Greenwich Lodge.

Bro. Frooms, in response, was extremely pleased to hear that his efforts that day had met with their approval. He hoped that he had given satisfaction during his year of office, and if he had during that time made any mistake, he trusted they would look upon them as Masons should look upon the faults and failings of a brother. He should always be proud of the beautiful jewel presented to him that day, and from the bottom of his heart thanked them for their kindness to him at all times.

Bro. Richardson, in responding for "The Visitors," complimented the W.M. upon having achieved the proud position of Master of that lodge, of which he was a founder. He also paid tribute to the manner in which the I.P.M. had performed the ceremony of installation. The W.M. was in a unique position, as he would have to install his own son, the S.W., into the chair.

Bro. Muggerege said that was the first time he had had the honour of visiting the lodge, and trusted it would not be the last.

Bros. Jolly, Sanders, and Fyfield also responded. The toast of "The Charities" followed, and a splendid account of the work done by their Benevolent Association was given, no less than 100 guineas being sent up from the lodge every year to the Charities.

"The Past Masters," "The Officers," and Tyler's toast followed, and the proceedings terminated with a verse of the National Anthem.

The singers were Messrs. T. Frooms, G. Burney, Cockton, W. Powley, H. Simmons, and G. Carter.

A collection was made for the Transvaal Fund, and some 10 or 11 guineas were subscribed from the lodge and brethren present.

York Lodge, No. 236.

The York Lodge, warranted in 1777, enjoys all the prestige which belongs to ancient lineage and to a long and honourable record, for when the Grand Lodge of All England ceased to exist in York, it became the sole exponent of the Craft in that city of Masonic legend and tradition, and succeeded to many valuable treasures of furniture and Masonic records and documents which formerly belonged to that body. It is also fortunate in possessing all the vigour and strength of youth, of which evidence has been afforded in the recent improvement of its habitation. The brethren have long felt the need of more space in the banqueting room and better lavatory accommodation, and last year a scheme was prepared by Bro. Hepper, F.R.I.B.A., to meet these necessities. A piece of land was acquired, and additions have now been made to the building, which enlarge the banqueting room so as to provide for 30 brethren, provide a new lavatory, and improve the preparing room and entrance hall. All the work has been carried out under the superintendence of Bro. Hepper, and has been executed by the following contractors: Builder, Bro. Biscomb; joiner, Bro. Bellerby; plumber, Bro. T. G. Hodgson; painter and decorator, Mrs. Sanderson (widow of the late Bro. Sanderson). The enlarged room now presents a spacious and handsome, and, at the same time, comfortable appearance, the large and valuable collection of portraits of Masonic worthies and Past Masters and of other engravings making a very effective feature on the newly-decorated walls. The W.M., Bro. F. W. Loughton, has put all his well-known energy and capacity into the execution and completion of the scheme, and he reaped his just reward in the perfect success of the inaugural proceedings on Monday, the 21st ult.

A regular lodge was held at 6 p.m., presided over by the W.M. who was supported by Bros. Alfred Procter, I.P.M.; Askew, S.W.; E. S. Robinson, J.W.; O. G. Taylor, Sec.; Shannon, S.D.; Rayner, J.D.; Wray, D.C.; Hepper, Org.; Cull, I.G.; Thompson, Cobb, and Carter, Stwds.; and several brethren of the lodge. Visitors: Bros. Humphreys, W.M. 1611; Hill, W.M. 1991; Capt. Lendberg, W.M. 2328; E. Lawson, W.M. 910; Garrod, J.W. 1611; and C. E. Wood, Sec. 2328.

After the lodge was opened, Bro. Lord Bolton, D.P.G.M. N. and E. Yorkshire, entered with Bros. Peck, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., P.G.S.; Swift, P.P.G.W.; Melrose, P.P.G.W.; Jones (Sheriff of York), P.P.G.T.; J. S. Rymer (Lord Mayor of York), P.P.G.R.; Border (ex-Lord Mayor of York), P.P.G.R.; Potter-Kirby, P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; Foster, P.P.G.D.C.; Buckle, P.P.G.D.; Garbutt, P.P.G.D.; Dr. Draper, P.P.G.D.; Blenkin, P.P.G.; Hepper, P.G.O.; Preston Cobb, P.G. Stwd.; and Fleming, P.P.S.G.W. W. Yorks. The W.M. then initiated the Rev. A. F. Chambers and Mr. James Brown Inglis into Freemasonry, the ceremony being performed by him in the most impressive and admir-

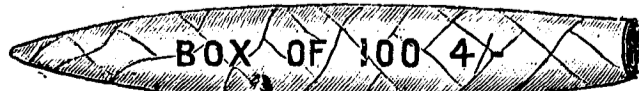
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able manner, and the work of the officers being excellent in every detail. The W.M. also presented to the lodge a handsome alms dish, for which he received the thanks of the brethren.

At the close of the lodge dinner served in the enlarged banqueting room, the above-named and other brethren being present, after which

The W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft."

Bro. Buckle proposed "The M.W.G. Master and the Grand Lodge," to which Bro. Peck responded, and referred to the deceased members of the lodge, Bros. R. W. Hollon and Joseph Todd, who had held office in Grand Lodge and rendered distinguished services to the Craft.

The I.P.M. proposed "The R.W.P.G.M., the R.W.D.P.M., and Prov. G. Lodge," and Lord Bolton, D.P.G.M., responded.

Bro. Sarff proposed "The W.M." in most appreciative terms, which met with a hearty reception by the brethren, and was suitably acknowledged.

The J.W. proposed "The Visitors," to which the W. Masters of the Eboracum, Agricola, and Albert Victor Lodges, and Bro. Fleming, replied.

Bro. Border proposed "Bros. J. S. Rymer, Lord Mayor of York, and Arthur Jones, Sheriff of York," who are both Past Masters of the lodge, for which they returned thanks.

Lord Bolton then proposed "Success to the York Lodge," impressing on the brethren the desirability of admitting only fit and proper persons into the Order, and he congratulated the W.M. and the lodge on the completion of the improvement, and wished all prosperity and success to the lodge.

The Treasurer appropriately acknowledged the toast, and presented his financial statement of cost and of donations towards it.

The toast of "The Officers" was proposed by Bro. Foster, and the S.W. and Secretary replied.

During the evening Bros. Garrood, Preston Cobb, and Hirst contributed to the enjoyment of the brethren by their excellent songs, and Bro. E. S. D. Carter recited "The Absent-minded Beggar" in excellent style, which resulted in a shilling collection of £3 3s.

Stuart Lodge, No. 1632.

A meeting was held at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, on the 27th ultimo. Present: Bros. D. R. Milch, W.M.; J. T. Sweet, W.M. 2721, acting S.W.; C. E. Brook, J.W.; E. Falkner, S.D.; H. J. Grey, J.D.; J. Harp, I.G.; A. H. Pardo, Treas.; H. Montgomery and G. Luckings, Stewards; J. M. Klempner, I.P.M.; A. Bannister, P.M., Sec.; and a goodly gathering of members. The following visitors were also present: Bros. J. W. Woodward, 2721; A. Abrahams, 1707; L. Abrahams, 1348; W. Agnew Fedden, P.P.A.G. Sec. Somerset; W. Warran, 939; W. S. Hanks, 2466; W. Musto, 1816; J. Criddle, 2021; W. C. Shaw, 2038; G. S. Howell, 2433; and Max Erde, 1559.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Messrs. Thomas H. Jupp and Charles Perry, which proved unanimous in their favour, and they, with Mr. C. Dunne Edwick (already balloted for), were duly initiated. Bros. Ford and Toole were passed to the Degree of F.C. by Bro. J. M. Klempner, I.P.M. Bro. Uglow was raised by the W.M. It was then resolved to have a ladies' night, and the matter was referred to a Committee consisting of the officers of the lodge and three of the members to discuss and arrange the details. It may be mentioned that the ladies' night last year was an unqualified success.

The lodge business being ended, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, at which about 45 sat down, and at which function Bro. Kalla kept his ever watchful eye, to see that nothing was wanting.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, and the toast of "The Visitors" having been responded to by Bro. Agnew Fedden, P.P. Asst. G. Sec. Somerset, who came specially from Bristol on the invitation of the W.M., the brethren spent a most enjoyable evening in listening to the harmony provided by Bro. Sweet. The artists, who had regaled themselves at a little dinner in an adjoining room, consisted of the following ladies and gentlemen: Misses Elsie Cooper, Lilla Nordon, Ada Wotton, Ethel Painter, and Mrs. Sweet, and Messrs. Arthur Ashby, Ernest Mitchell, Bert Mitchell, Bert Sweet, F. W. Martin, and Rub Roy. Miss Cooper sang in her best form and was much appreciated. Miss Nordon recited Bro. Rudyard Kipling's "Absent-Minded Beggar" with good effect, and augmented the Patriotic Fund to the extent of three guineas, which was sent to the *Daily Telegraph*, and duly acknowledged in its columns. Bro. Rub Roy followed in her footsteps with "The Penny Whistler," and added his takings to the lady's collection. He also sang, with remarkable force, Mr. Eardley Turner's patriotic song entitled "Old England is Still on the Map," with an additional verse written by Mr. Turner, specially for this occasion. The effect upon the brethren when he reached the line in the chorus, "Britons, stand up," was remarkable. The brethren rose to their feet and joined in the chorus in a manner that surprised the artist. Mr. Ashby, who was in excellent form, gave "Drake's Drum" and other songs in a rastery style. Mr. Bert Mitchell, who has a good tenor voice, was very successful with "Queen of Angels." The vocal portion was interspersed with a violin solo by Mr. Martin, well rendered, and by a banjo quartette (Mrs. Sweet, Bert Sweet, Ernest and Bert Mitchell). Their "Black Bess Polka March" was much appreciated, and an encore was demanded and responded to. Miss Wotton and Miss Painter were the accompanists during the evening, assisted by Bro. Johnson, the Organist of the lodge.

Altogether, a most enjoyable evening was spent by the brethren, and the hands of the clock pointed to "the witching hour" when the company separated. Bro. Sweet intimated that he, with the sanction of the W.M., would repeat the musical portion at future meetings.

Claremont Lodge, No. 1861.

The installation meeting of this flourishing provincial lodge of Surrey took place at the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Croydon, on Monday, the 27th ult., when there were present Bros. J. S. Pointon, W.M.; E. W. Treadaway Hoare, S.W., and W.M. elect; J. Rogers, J.W.; H. E. Frances, P.P.S.G.D. Surrey, Sec.; F. J. Terry Horsey, P.M., Treas.; P. Williams, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., D.C.; J. R. Dickason, S.D.; W. T. Greenland, J.D.; S. R. Faulder, I.G.; J. Bailey, Tyler; Thomas Bowler, P.M.; W. P. Underdown, A. H. Portch, A. Bridge, R. Day, J. Lees, Alf. Wood, H. R. Gurney, and H. A. Portch. The visitors were Bros. Walter Martin, P.G.P. Eng.; John Ellinger, P.M. 2222, Prov. G. Stwd. Surrey; Walter Sykes, P.M. 1597, P.P.G.D.C. Middx.; W. H. Webb, 1329; H. Pearce, I.P.M. 1599; H. Pitt, 1441; H. P. White, J.D. 1541; W. G. Simmonds, P.M. 1155; F. S. Williams, 101; B. Faul, Org. 1625; L. Nottley, 1922; T. W. Hall, J.W. 2096; J. Lightfoot, P.M. 1901; W. H. Wheeler, 2454; H. A. Brown, S.W. 2096; and Chas. Hy. Stone, P.M. 507, W.M. elect 1641.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Auditors presented their report, which was received and adopted, and showed the lodge to be in a flourishing condition. Bro. H. A. Portch was passed, and Bro. R. Day raised, both ceremonies being performed by the W.M. in a very perfect and impressive manner. Bro. P. Williams, P.M., D.C., next presented Bro. E. W. Treadaway Hoare, W.M. elect, to the W.M. to receive from him the benefit of installation, which was carried out in an exemplary manner by the Installing Master, Bro. J. S. Pointon. The new W.M. invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bro. J. S. Pointon, I.P.M.; Wm. Rogers, S.W.; J. R. Dickason, J.W.; F. J. T. Horsey, P.M., Treas.; H. E. Frances, P.M., Sec.; B. Williams, P.M., D.C.; W. J. Greenland, S.D.; S. R. Faulder, J.D.; H. R. Gurney, I.G.; A. H. Portch, A.D.C.; A. Woods and A. Bridge, Stwds.; and J. Bailey, Tyler. The three addresses were admirably delivered by Bro. Jos. S. Pointon. The W.M. next rose and said it was the usual custom in the lodge for every W.M. to present a banner which he had very great pleasure in doing with his earnest desire that it should take its place among those of the worthy Masters who had preceded him. The motto was *Hora e semperi*—"Do not put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day."—Bro. E. W. Treadaway Hoare, 1899. Bro. J. S. Pointon, in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to the W.M. for his splendid gift, said the banner was designed by Bro. Frances, and was quite a work of art. It would be highly appreciated by every member of the lodge, especially as it was the work of the Secretary, a sterling Mason of 45 years' standing. He hoped the same spirit would actuate the worthy W.Ms. who might follow. The proposition was seconded by the J.W., and carried with acclamation. The W.M. thanked the brethren most cordially. The W.M. next said one of his very best duties was to present the Past

Master's jewel to the I.P.M., Bro. Pointon, who had carried out the duties of the past year with very great ability; none could have worked harder and performed them better. He hoped he might wear it for many years in the love and esteem of every brother in the lodge. Bro. Pointon most heartily thanked the brethren for so handsome a jewel and for such a cordial greeting. He had done his best for the lodge, and had been most ably supported during the past year by his officers. He had been a P.M. for a short time, but he hoped to remain among them in that capacity for a long time, and the jewel would remind him of the very many happy hours he had spent in the lodge. The inscription upon the jewel was as follows: "No. 1861. Presented to Bro. J. S. Pointon, P.M., for efficient services. November, 1899."

The business ended, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet.

The cloth removed, the W.M. gave the loyal and Masonic toasts in commendable terms, which were most loyally received.

The W.M., in proposing "The Pro G.M., Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," said their working was admirable. The Pro G.M. was one of the finest workers, and the D.G.M. was hardly eclipsed by Earl Amherst in the working. The lodge was honoured by the presence of a G. Officer—Bro. W. Martin, P.G.P.—who was an honour also to the Craft, and he hoped the lodge would be graced by his presence very often.

The toast was most cordially received.

In reply, Bro. Walter Martin said it was a most difficult task to respond to so important a toast, but he did it with great pleasure for so worthy a body. He congratulated the W.M. upon his high position, and also the I.P.M. (who was one of his old boys) upon working the installation ceremony in so perfect a manner. He had been a Mason for nearly a quarter of a century, and had never witnessed it better done. Bro. Pointon was one of the most sterling Masons that could be found in South London, and he was confident that the work of the chair in his mother lodge—the Selwyn, No. 1901—to which he would shortly attain, would be carried out with the same ability as during the past year. He hoped the W.M. would have a happy and successful year.

The W.M. next presented the toast of "The Prov. G.M., Earl Onslow; the Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. West; and the rest of the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past," in becoming terms.

The toast was ably responded to by Bro. J. Ellinger, Prov. G.S., who said although one of the youngest Grand Officers, yet he highly appreciated the eloquent remarks of the W.M. towards them. He paid a high tribute of respect to the late Prov. G. Master, Col. Money, who was an ideal Mason. He hoped to attain to a higher position before long in the province, but if he did it could not alter his admiration for the cause of Freemasonry. He hoped that the Claremont Lodge would never go backward, but be always kept well to the front in the province.

Bro. J. S. Pointon, I.P.M., in complimentary terms, presented the toast of "The W.M.," which was always received with enthusiasm in the lodge. He had succeeded the I.P.M. in the various offices with great credit, and now had the confidence of every brother in the lodge. He should like to mention to the brethren, which showed the W.M.'s assiduity, that he had never missed a meeting in the lodge while an officer, and yet he travelled every time from Devonshire. That was most commendable, and proved the interest he took in the lodge, and he wished him long life, health, and prosperity, and that he would long remain a member of the Claremont Lodge.

The W.M., in reply, most heartily thanked the brethren, and said that twice in his life he felt nervous, when initiated, and then, as W.M. However, he had aspired to the chair of his mother lodge, and his desire had been, and would continue to be, to help forward their noble Charities, and do his very best for the brethren.

The toast of "The Installing Master" was most ably given by the W.M., who eulogised the splendid work.

This was most cordially replied to by Bro. Pointon, who promised to help forward the lodge in every way to the very best of his ability.

The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" was duly proposed by the W.M. and they were thanked for their excellent services.

Both those worthy officers ably replied.

The toast of "The Visitors" was most cordially presented by the W.M., and eloquently replied to by Bros. Walter Sykes, Pierce, Simmonds, Hall, Lightfoot, Stone, and Brown.

The toast of "The Officers" was next duly honoured, and the Tyler's toast closed a very happy meeting.

An excellent programme of music was arranged, the following artistes being well and deservedly received: Bros. W. Rogers, W. H. Wheeler, Fred W. Stephens, P.M.; B. B. Hopkins (Royal campanologist), loudly encored; and H. A. Portch. Bro. Blewett Faull ably presided at the piano.

Yorick Lodge, No. 2771.

The first regular meeting was held on the 28th ult., at the Queen's Hotel, Leicester-square, when four candidates—including Mr. J. L. Kight, the Secretary of the Yorick Club—were initiated into Freemasonry, and seven brethren were elected joining members. Seven gentlemen were also elected as candidates for initiation at future meetings. The new lodge has, therefore, made a vigorous start, and under Bro. Bartley Dennis, P.P.G.W., as the first W.M., assisted by Bro. Trehawke Davies, the energetic Secretary, should fulfil the prophesy of success made at the consecration.

Amongst those present were Bros. E. R. Bartley Dennis, P.P.G.W., W.M.; C. Sounes, Treas.; F. Trehawke Davies, Sec.; Walter Gay, S.D.; H. L. Swinburne, J.D.; F. Addyman, D.C.; Walter Passmore, Org.; E. Lockwood, I.G.; J. B. Howard and G. Robbins, Stewards; H. T. Brickwell, P.M.; J. Fernandez, P.M.; J. H. Barnes, E. J. Whitwood, Guy Repton, P.P.G.W.; Louis Kight, H. D. Lowry, Duncan Tovey, J. Chapman, Athelstane Nobbs, T. B. Russell, and M. R. Morand. Visitors: Bros. H. J. Gregory, P.M. 3; C. J. Marrian, P.M. 2489; Luigi Lablache, I.P.M. 1319; Otto Peinzer, 2548; F. Atherley, 2127; Harry Nicholls, P.M. 2127; E. Maurice, 2127; W. Watson, I.P.M. 959; F. Eastman, 1609; R. Manuel, P.M. 1196; Clarence Holt, Charles Warner, W. W. Lee, P.M.; and others.

Lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. Bros. Mel B. Spurr, 57; E. J. Whitewood, 280; Lieut.-Col. H. T. Wison, 25, Dublin; Athelstane Nobbs, 1963; T. Baron Russell, 933; F. U. Travers, 1049, India; and F. W. Eastman were elected joining members. Messrs. J. L. Kight, J. Chapman, Duncan Tovey, and H. D. Lowry were then initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M., who concluded a fine rendering of the ceremony by an excellent delivery of the ancient charge. Bro. the Ven. Archdeacon Sinclair, P.G. Chap., was unanimously elected an honorary member, and will, it was understood, become the Chaplain of the lodge.

Lodge was closed, and a well-served dinner was afterwards enjoyed.

Bro. Guy Repton, P.P.G.W. Middx., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and said that Bro. Bartley Dennis, W.M., was just now passing through a period of considerable anxiety, as his son was one of the gallant soldiers at Ladysmith. Their hearts, therefore, went out to the W.M., and they sincerely hoped that Bro. Dennis would shortly hear of the safety of his son. He could tell the initiates that although he had heard the initiation ceremony performed many times, he had never heard it given with such great feeling, and such dignity and ceremonial.

Bro. Bartley Dennis, P.P.G.W., W.M., in reply, said the original lines just recited by Bro. J. H. Barnes were so beautiful that he was unable to prepare anything in the way of a reply. He returned sincere thanks for the very sympathetic way in which Bro. Repton had referred to him, and more especially to his son. On the day of the consecration he attended in an extremely depressed frame of mind, and he had the greatest difficulty in preventing that depression being conveyed to the brethren. He did his best to conceal it, and was, therefore, afraid he was not at his best on that occasion. He was grateful to Bro. Repton for the kind words said of the ceremony. He hoped they were true, for that they were very flattering must be admitted. The W.M. of a new lodge had a heavy task before him. One great difficulty was the absence of Past Masters, and he was thankful to two P.Ms. of the Drury Lane Lodge, who were honorary members of the Yorick Lodge, for their kindly assistance. It was a graceful act for the Drury Lane Lodge, of which Bro. Guy Repton was W.M. to sign the petition for their lodge. He would do his utmost during his year to perform the ritual to the best of his ability. He had the assistance of the officers, and particularly of Bro. Trehawke Davies, Sec., and hoped to have the support of all the members, so that brotherly love and unanimity would make his year of office an easy one. He looked forward with confidence to the future of the lodge, for there were many members of the club yet to join.

In giving "The Initiates," the W.M. expressed his pleasure that Bro. Kight, the Secretary of the club, should be the first initiate of the lodge. He made appropriate

allusions to each of the initiates, which were heartily received by the members, to whom the four brethren were all well known and highly respected.

Bro. Kight said that during the past eight or nine years he had intended becoming a Mason but it had largely been a question of opportunity, which he found in this lodge. As the first initiate of the lodge, they had paid him the highest compliment possible and he hoped it was paid him as Louis Kight and not as Honorary Secretary of the Club. He was on the threshold of Freemasonry but he promised to study it as he realised the importance of it.

For "The Visitors," Bros. Luigi Lablache and Manuel, P.M., returned thanks. The officers, who returned thanks for the toast of their health included Bro. Trehawke Davies, Sec., who said his heartiest wish was to make the lodge a success and he should work hard to that end. He had left no stone unturned and should continue on the same lines.

The lodge is well provided with dramatic talent and the proceedings were, therefore, enlivened with several first-class recitations and songs, including items by Bros. Passmore, Morand (a new patriotic song "I'm for Pretoria"), J. H. Barnes, Clarence Holt, Tovey, Watson, and Gay.

Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge, No. 2432.

On the 23rd ult., the annual installation meeting of the above lodge, which was founded in 1892 for the special convenience of gentlemen engaged in the tobacco trade, was held at the Inns of Court Hotel, London. The brethren who attended were Bros. W. F. Bates, W.M.; W. H. Lowry, I.P.M.; C. Ransford, S.W.; Thomas Rayner, J.W.; George Ransford, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Middx., Treas.; W. H. Bullock, P.M., Sec.; A. S. Benjamin, S.D.; Oscar Charles Moore, J.D.; A. F. Jones, I.G.; H. Cosins and E. Grahner, Stwds.; D. T. Phillips, P.M.; A. Pringle, P.M.; W. Klingenstein, P.M.; W. F. Smithson, P.M., P.G.D.; James Parkins, J. H. Custance, D. Naphtali, H. Alberge, S. Cohen, W. Pearson, H. Paterson, Alfred Simpson, H. O. Winter, H. Robinson, Emanuel van Raalte, Job S. Morriss, J. La van Gelder, W. C. Foyle, W. C. Lightfoot, J. Maier, J. Metcalf, T. C. Francott, F. Smith, and H. J. Nathan. The visitors were Bros. A. Welch, P.M. 1288; N. Robinson, I.G. 1798; R. H. Unsworth, 959; A. Stirling, 27 (S.C.); William Curry, W.M. 435; Frank Todman, I.P.M. 2030; W. Ellis King, 1641; J. Goulston, I.G. 1349; Charles Gammon, P.M. 704; J. Jacobson, 2313; M. Beedle, 619; H. Nathan, 1626; J. Dove Behr, 706; F. E. Thomson (unattached); Augustus Norton, W.M. 1512; H. W. Tooley, 2442; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; and E. L. Greville, W.M. 2222.

The installation was admirably performed by Bro. W. F. Bates, W.M. After the minutes of the previous regular meeting had been read and confirmed, and the annual balance-sheet had been adopted. Bro. Charles H. I. Ransford, S.W., W.M. elect, was placed in the chair of K.S. most impressively, and Bro. W. F. Bates was invested as I.P.M. The following brethren were the new officers: Bros. T. Rayner, S.W.; A. S. Benjamin, J.W.; George Ransford, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Middx., Treas.; W. H. Bullock, P.M., Sec.; the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., Chap.; Oscar C. Moore, S.D.; A. F. Jones, J.D.; H. Cosins, I.G.; George Emblin, P.M., D.C.; E. H. Grahner, W. C. Lightfoot, S. Maier, and H. O. Winter, Stwds.; and Henry Evenden, P.M., Tyler. The new W.M. initiated Mr. W. Metcalf into the early mysteries of the Craft, and presented to Bro. Bates, I.P.M., a handsome jewel of a Past Master.

A choice banquet followed the working of the lodge, and Bro. Harry Alberge recited "The Absent-Minded Beggar," with the result that "Pay, pay, pay," realised £4 for the Daily Mail fund. Miss Cissie Dryden, Mr. Ralph Cartoef, Mr. Frewin, and Bros. Charles Gammon, P.M. 704, and J. E. Thomson contributed to the singing programme of the evening.

Bro. W. F. Smithson, P.G.D., replying to the toast of "The Grand Officers," referred to "this terrible war," and said the brethren knew what should guide them as Masons they represented all over the globe; they all sincerely wished peace and prosperity in the time of the Grand Master; they gave him their most loyal and hearty support in the position of Grand Master of their noble Craft; they had him to support, the Queen to support, the Royal family to support, and their brethren all over the world to support in Charity, in hearty good fellowship to-day. No matter who came to this island, or who went to Australia, and other foreign parts, if a Mason he was bound to us heart, body, and soul; what they were led by was the highest principles of Freemasonry. He was not going to tell them about his little career, but there was one thing he was grateful for and honoured by, and that was the rank bestowed on him by the Prince of Wales some years ago. He hoped it might fall to the lot of other brethren of the lodge to be similarly distinguished. He was glad the brethren appreciated what he had done and the honour that had been conferred on him; he assured them he should never forget it.

Bro. W. F. Bates, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M." It was a peculiar pleasure to do so, because although the lodge had been consecrated seven years, Bro. Charles Ransford was the first W.M. who had never received the collar of an Installed Master until that evening. Seven years ago Bro. Charles Ransford was initiated, and after serving seven years he had attained the position of W.M. of his mother lodge. There was also this particular coincidence: that 21 years ago last May he (Bro. Bates) was initiated; to-night, for the third time, he had relinquished the position of W.M. It necessarily followed that in three times seven years he had served the office of W.M. three times. The W.M. of this evening was the first initiate in the Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge, he was initiated by his father with the consent of Bro. W. H. Bullock, the first W.M. of the lodge. He sincerely and heartily congratulated Bro. Charles Ransford on becoming W.M. of that lodge in seven years. He (Bro. Bates) was a member of five London lodges at the present time, and it would have taken Bro. Ransford very much longer than seven years to become W.M. in either of those lodges. Of every office Bro. Ransford had been called upon to fill he had performed the duties in every way to his own satisfaction, and to the gratification of the W.M. he had served.

Bro. C. H. I. Ransford, W.M., in response, said, after thanking the brethren very much for the cordial manner in which they had drunk his health, that he was the first brother who had occupied the W.M.'s chair in the Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge who had not been a W.M. previously in another lodge. He hoped he should not disgrace the office.

Bro. Metcalf, replying to the toast of "The Initiate," said he deeply appreciated the very great honour conferred upon him by associating him with the members of the Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge. He had been particularly impressed and affected by the ceremonies, and the able and efficient way in which the W.M. had fulfilled his duties. He thanked the W.M. for having said he had appreciated the ceremony, and that he would make as true and faithful a brother as any other.

Bro. Unsworth, P.M., P.G.S. of W. Suffolk, and several other brethren spoke for "The Visitors."

Bro. W. F. Bates, I.P.M., acknowledged the toast of "The Installing Master and the Past Masters." Seven years ago, when, as a founder of the lodge, he accepted the office of junior Steward, he never expected the time would come so soon that he should occupy the dignified position of I.P.M. of the lodge. He was asked to accept the position of founder of No. 2432, and was given to understand that the qualification for membership should be that he was connected with the smoking business. The brethren who approached him knew he was not in the trade; but he (Bro. Bates) said he was a

very good smoker, a big and strong smoker, and if being a good smoker would qualify him, then he would be a member. He was accepted as a founder. He took the subordinate positions, and very gladly took them, and he worked every office up to the present. He did not mean to say he had done that work more than any brother could, but he tried to bring the brethren on just the same. If what he had done that evening in installing the W.M. of the Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge had pleased them he was satisfied. Whatever duty he was called upon to fulfil, whether the greatest or the least, he should endeavour to do it properly. He was a member of the lodge, and he did not presume on his position of Past Master, but only acted as a member, and would carry any position out to the best of his ability. He would leave it to the brethren to say whether he did it well or not. He thanked the brethren for the very beautiful jewel they had presented to him.

Bros. George Ransford, P.M., Treas., and W. H. Bullock, P.M., Sec., also responded.

The toast of "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast terminated the evening's proceedings.

Old Masonians' Lodge, No. 2700.

A meeting was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Saturday, the 25th ult. Present: Bros. R. S. Chandler, W.M.; E. Roehrich, S.W.; A. G. Neville, acting J.W.; R. Harold Williams, Treas.; Patrick O'Doherty, Sec.; R. E. Barnes, S.D.; Geo. Allison, J.D.; R. Ward, D.C.; R. H. McLeod, I.G.; J. Sarjeant, Org.; W. J. Packer and E. Gough, Stwds.; F. J. Stinson, acting Tyler; Major J. W. Woodall, P.G. Treas.; D. Edwards Radclyffe, P.P.G.D. of C. Berks; Pow Bingham, H. H. Lewis, H. Lewis, Wyatt, Lee, Cummings, Tyler, Stephenson, and Crew. Visitors: Bros. T. Whittingham, J.D. 1415, and W. A. Sterling, 174.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. then advanced the following officers: Bros. G. Allison, to be J.D. (in place of Bro. Chate, who had resigned office); R. H. McLeod, I.G.; and Packer and Gough, Stewards; after which Bros. Lee and Cummings were duly raised to the Degree of F.C., the W.M. giving the second lecture in a very impressive manner. A ballot was taken for Mr. Frederick Alt Crew (C.M.), which, proving unanimous, he was duly initiated. The W.M. proposed, seconded by the Treasurer, that the sum of two guineas be voted from the lodge funds, and given as a special prize (subject to be hereinafter determined) to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, which was carried unanimously. Letters of regret were read by the Secretary from Bros. Sir Augustus F. Godson, Prov. G.M. Worcestershire; Edward Letchworth, G. Sec.; C. E. Keyser, P.G.D.; J. Morrison McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; Sholto H. Hare, P.P.G.D. Cornwall; Bowler, and Chote. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

The musical portion of the evening was carried out under the direction of Bro. J. Sarjeant, Org., assisted by Bros. Patrick O'Doherty (who sang Bro. Sarjeant's setting of "Blow, blow, thou Wint'ry Wind"), A. Gartside Neville, C. S. Cummings, and V. J. Lee. During the evening the sum of 43 shillings was collected for the Daily Telegraph Widows' and Orphans' Fund, after a very spirited rendering of "The Absent-Minded Beggar," given by Bro. G. S. Cummings.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1648.

The installation of Bro. Joseph Foy, S.W., as W.M. of the above lodge took place in the Masonic Rooms, Rawson-square, Bradford, on Friday, the 1st inst. The brethren assisting in the installation were Bros. Carter, P.M.; Russell, P.M.; and Butterworth, P.M. Subsequently the newly-installed W.M. invested his officers for the year as follows: Bros. H. W. White, I.P.M.; James Conchar, S.W.; H. Newsome, J.W.; Rev. J. Browne, B.A., Chap.; F. C. Robinson, P.M., P.P.G.D., Treas.; C. Booth, P.J.W., Sec.; J. Pelham Browne, P.M., P.J.G.D., C.M. and A.; F. P. Carter, P.M., D.C.; J. W. H. Durant, P.M., Librarian; J. E. Russell, P.M., Preceptor; R. H. Lindsay, Org.; L. H. Browne, S.D.; J. Macvean, J.D.; M. Sowden, I.G.; A. G. Collon, O.G.; J. H. Lister, S. of W.; H. Whitehead, F. D. Ackroyd, L. Wrinht, J. C. Sturdy, A. J. Plunkett, T. W. B. Milligan, and T. Sutcliffe, Stwds.; and H. Dobbyn, Tyler.

The brethren afterwards proceeded to celebrate the festival of St. John the Evangelist, there being a large attendance, among those present being the following visitors: Bros. A. E. Barnes, A.D.C. 1928; D. W. Danzye, 2455; V. A. Lennon, 1790; J. V. C. Boyd Wilson, Glasgow, St. John's (S.C.); Cockran, St. Urwin (S.C.); J. H. Carter, P.M. and P.Z. 1664; C. Blagboro, W. Ambler, and W. Hick, P.M., of 439; R. S. Hind and J. Legrand, of 2321; M. T. Myers, A. Butterworth, P.M., G. S. Meed, and S. Ward, W.M., of 1034; V. F. Howarth, 2330; J. Hodgson, H. J. Taylor, T. W. Woodhead, C. W. Hardacre, S.W., and St. Clair Telley, W.M., of 2669; A. Sharpe, W.M. 630; H. F. Wormacatt, 61; W. Metcalf and W. Brown, P.M., of 1545; W. H. Marlow, W. F. Dykes, and W. F. Fawcett, of 387; C. W. Hudson, S.W. 2569; G. E. Porrett, 600; T. Knight, 1214; F. Lister, P.M. 387; C. Macnevell, P.M. 439; W. F. Fawcett, P.S.W. 387; J. Booth, W.M. 2330; C. Dean, P.M., and J. C. Making, I.G., of 1034; and W. E. Kershaw, W.M. 1018.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Caer Daff Chapter, No. 118.

The annual meeting was held at the Masonic Temple, Cardiff, on the 16th ult. Bro. John Shaw, M.W.S., occupied the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, after which the election of Treasurer, which had been postponed from last meeting, was proceeded with, and Ill. Bro. John Munday, 30°, P.M.W.S., was unanimously re-elected. This being the meeting for the installation of M.W.S., Bro. H. Bryon Crouch was ably installed by Bro. John Shaw. The M.W.S. then invested his officers as follows: Bros. H. Frazer, H.P.; Isidore Leon, 1st Gen.; Dr. De Vere Hunt, 2nd Gen.; Ill. Bros. John Munday, 30°, Treas.; J. H. Taylor, 31°, Recorder; Lewis Morgan, Marshal; Bros. G. Colman, Raphael; G. H. Bedford, D. of C.; J. Stanfield, A.D. of C.; C. Carlsen, Herald; J. Sheridan, Capt. of Guard; E. J. Whitley, Almoner; J. Nicholas, Steward; and Amos Jenkins, Serving Brother. The accounts were passed, and showed a good balance in hand, and the chapter was closed.

Among the visitors present were Ill. Bros. W. H. Williams, 30°, M.W.S. 34; F. Martin, and others.

The brethren adjourned to the Queen's Hotel, where a *recherché* supper was held, under the presidency of the M.W.S., which was done ample justice to, testifying to the good catering of Bro. Sam Dean.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

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Strong Man Chapter, No. 45.

A regular convocation of this chapter was held at the Café Monico, W., on Thursday, the 16th ult. There were present Comps. William Briggs, M.E.Z.; J. R. Green, H.; C. E. W. Boughton-Leigh, J.; W. G. Mills, Scribe E.; R. H. Adie, Scribe N.; John Briggs, P.S.; W. R. G. Emerson, 1st A.S.; S. W. Heaton, Org.; W. Vincent, P.A.G.D.C.; G. Widdicombe, and others.

The minutes of the previous regular and emergency meetings having been read and confirmed, Bros. Bromley Hall, Durell, King, and A. L. Guittard, all of the Strong Man Lodge, No. 45, were duly elected and exalted. The work of the M.E.Z. and other officers was carried out in a manner which reflected great credit on so young a chapter. Comp. W. Vincent, P.A.G.D.C., who has shown a keen interest in the chapter, assisted in the ceremony.

After labour, the banquet was served, as experience has led us to expect at the Monico, our *glace à la surprise* being served with patriotic accompaniment, orchestral and pyrotechnic.

The loyal and customary Royal Arch toasts were given and received with fervour, and a pleasant and profitable evening was spent by all present.

Allied Masonic Degrees.

Metropolitan Council (T.I.M.).

A meeting of this council was held at Mark Masons' Hall, on the 17th ult. Among those officers in attendance were Bros. Basil Stewart, W.M.; George Graveley, P.M., as S.W.; T. L. Pewtress, J.D., as J.W.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; and E. Mills, Tyler.

The minutes of the previous council having been read and confirmed, it was resolved unanimously "That in future the council meetings be held on the same dates as the meetings of the Grand Masters' Council (Cryptic), viz., the last Friday in February, September, and October; the election of W.M. to be in February, and the installation in September." Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. Baron de Ferrieres, P.M.; R. L. Loveland, O.C., P.M.; A. McDowall, P.M.; H. J. Lardner, P.M.; J. J. Pakes, P.M.; A. W. Humphreys, S.W.; W. H. Toye, J.W.; the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., C.; and J. V. Sherrin, S.D. The council was then closed.

The banquet was held at the Holborn Restaurant.

The W.M. gave a few toasts.

In response to his health, the W.M., in the course of his remarks, expressed his pleasure that the council had decided to alter its dates of meeting. He felt confident that the change would benefit not only the Metropolitan Council but the Grand Masters' Council (Cryptic). With few exceptions, the members of the former belonged to the latter body. It was, under the present circumstances, impossible to work the Degrees of the Allied with the paucity of members attending. He also regretted that so few Past Masters attended their council. He hoped next year to introduce one or two candidates.

In submitting the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. regretted that the health of the first-named excellent officer was so indifferent.

The proceedings then terminated.

Instruction.

IVY LODGE, No. 1441.

The weekly meeting was held at the French Horn Hotel, East Hill, Wandsworth, S.W., on Thursday, the 30th ult. Present: Bros. Hardeman, W.M.; Richmond, S.W.; Hawke, J.W.; Chandler, Preceptor; James, Treas.; West, Sec.; Crane, S.D.; Fielding, J.D.; Marchbank, I.G.; Pike, P.M.; Cooper, P.M.; Moore, Mayes, Bearsley, George, Wheeler, Chilcott, Rimbout, Peck, Atkins, Rand, and Phillips.

The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Rimbout presented as W.M. elect. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of installation rehearsed by Bro. Hardeman, P.M., in a most impressive manner, the investiture of officers by the W.M. being also most commendably performed. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Wheeler acting as candidate. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the Installing Master, and the lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 28th ult., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. A. C. Smith, W.M.; C. Nicole, S.W.; W. E. Evans, J.W.; A. F. Hardymont, Asst. Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, Treas.; J. Duncan, P.M., Sec.; D. Taylor, S.D.; J. E. Thomas, J.D.; M. Relph, I.G.; J. Birks, P.M.; H. B. Harding, P.M.; A. Williams, E. Parker, A. Noel, E. Lucas, A. Oliver, P.M., Hind, and J. Ewings.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Hind being the candidate. The ceremony of raising was afterwards rehearsed, Bro. Williams being the candidate. Bro. Nicole was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

CITADEL LODGE, No. 1897.

The usual weekly meeting of the above lodge was held on Friday, the 24th ult., at Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst-road, when there were present Bros. U. B. Ladler, S.W. 1877, W.M.; E. G. Platt, S.W. 1327, S.W.; Leber, J.W.; F. Dunstan, P.M., Preceptor; Harry Willsmer, Sec.; A. Rusby, P.M., S.D.; Alderman, I.G.; Geo. Clark, P.M.; and Palmer.

The lodge being opened, and the minutes read, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Palmer acting as candidate. The W.M. delivered the charge in a very impressive manner. Bro. Palmer answered the questions leading to the Second Degree. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the lecture on the tracing-board was exceptionally well rendered by Bro. Ladler. The election of officers for the year then took place. Bro. George Clark, P.M., proposed, and Bro. Platt, S.W., seconded, that Bro. F. Dunstan, P.M., be re-elected Preceptor. Bro. Dunstan proposed, and Bro. Leber, J.W., seconded, that Bro. Harry Willsmer be re-elected Secretary. The late Bro. T. I. Bird, P.M., P.Z., having held the office of Treasurer since the consecration of the lodge of instruction in November, 1894, it became necessary to elect a brother in his stead. Bro. Dunstan, P.M., Preceptor, proposed, and Bro. Geo. Clark, P.M., seconded, that Bro. Harry Willsmer, Sec., should occupy also the position of Treasurer. Complimentary allusions to the services of these brethren having been made by the W.M., both brethren responded, returning thanks and assuring the members of their continued interest in the Citadel Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Palmer, Duke of Connaught Lodge, was elected a joining member. Bro. E. G. Platt, was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

A meeting was also held on the 1st inst., Bro. E. G. Platt presiding, supported by Bros. F. Dunstan, P.M.; Geo. Clark, P.M.; J. Abrahams, Alderman, T. Feistel, Reed, Herbert, and Ashton.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the First and Second Degrees. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Reed acting as candidate. The lodge was closed in the Third and Second Degrees. Bro. Alderman was elected W.M. for the next meeting. The Auditors' report was received and adopted. The lodge was then closed.

HUGH OWEN LODGE, No. 2593.

A meeting was held on Friday, the 1st inst., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, when there were present Bros. R. H. Nicholls, P.M., W.M.; J. W. Hunt, S.W.; H. Ramsbottom, J.W.; Henry Thos. Kobelt, Sec.; C. G. Ridgway, S.D.; Jas. Barnett, J.D.; J. B. Schrader, Org.; B. Ware, I.G.; Albert Taylor, Thomas J. Phillips, Fred. J. Thomas, R. Nicholls, W. G. Read, C. T. W. Drake, and R. Sandland.

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

EARL OF LATHOM LODGE, No. 1922.

The Fifteen Sections were rehearsed in this lodge on Wednesday, the 29th ult., at the Station Hotel, Camberwell New-road, S.E., under the able presidency of Bros. Hy. Cornford, W.M. 1922, as W.M.; F. W. Trotter, 2182, as S.W.; and Wm. Hill, J.D. 1512, as J.W.; and about 70 brethren.

The minutes of the previous weekly meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Three Degrees. The First Lecture was rehearsed by the following brethren: Bros. E. West, 1641, 1st Section; W. Wiltshire, J.W. 1602, 2nd Section; L. S. Shipton, Asst. Sec. 1922, 3rd Section; W. Hill, J.D. 1512, 4th Section; E. J. S. Ware, W.M. elect 1922, 5th Section; C. L. Plant, P.M. 101, 6th Section; and F. W. Trotter, 2182, 7th Section. The Second Lecture was worked by Bros. W. S. Whitaker, P.M. 1572, 1st Section; W. Dawson, P.M. 1622, 2nd Section; C. Johnson, J.W. 2206, 3rd Section; W. S. Whitaker, P.M. 1572, 4th Section; and Wm. Dawson, P.M. 1622, 5th Section. The Third Lecture was worked by Bros. C. Johnson, J.W. 2206, 1st Section; B. Cohen, 1658, 2nd Section; and M. McVey, W.M. 1310, 3rd Section. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Hy. Cornford, W.M., for so ably presiding and working the Sections in so admirable a manner. Bro. H. Cornford acknowledged the very great compliment, and replied that his best thanks were due to those brethren who had so kindly and ungrudgingly assisted him, for which they also received the vote of thanks of the lodge. The proposition was ably replied to by Bro. F. W. Trotter, S.W. The lodge was then closed.

The lodge is to be congratulated upon having such an excellent staff of officers: Bros. C. L. Plant, P.M. 101, Preceptor; H. Buckeridge, P.M. 1654, Asst. Preceptor; Wm. Hill, J.D. 1512, Treasurer; Hy. Cornford, W.M. 1922, Sec.; and E. J. S. Ware, S.W. and W.M. elect 1922.

THE NEW GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY AND THE CRAFT.

There is a very general feeling amongst the brethren of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon that their esteemed Provincial Grand Master should continue to rule over the province by his Deputy, during his absence as Governor of Bombay, rather than resign. The Hon. Sir Stafford H. Northcote, Bart., C.B., was appointed by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master, as Prov. G.M., by patent dated May, 1896, and was duly installed by his respected predecessor in office accordingly on August 12th, at Exeter. Since then, the prosperity of the province has been annually on the increase, and the large number of six lodges has been added to the roll, making the total now to be 59. The Grand Mark Master also appointed Sir Stafford Northcote Provincial Grand Master of the Mark Lodges in the province in 1890, and he became Grand Superintendent over the R.A. chapters in 1897, there being now 20 of the former and 29 of the latter actively working in the county. It is confidently anticipated that in response to the unanimous and most hearty wishes of the province the Prov. G.M. will decide to continue these offices, especially as there is no lack of willing and competent Craftsmen to act for the interests of the fraternity during the period of Governorship, and besides which at least five years must be served before past rank can be acquired as a Ruler of the province. Many lodges have already passed resolutions, supported by all the members in attendance, asking Sir Stafford Northcote to continue as their beloved and trusted Provincial Grand Master, especially as there are plenty of precedents in favour of such a desirable course. The Duke of Connaught, K.G., Past G.M., still continues as District Grand Master of Bombay though the active Provincial Grand Master of Sussex; and as the present Governor of Bombay, Lord Sandhurst, G.C.I.E., is the Pro Dist. G.M. of that province, it is more than likely that Sir Stafford Northcote will be appointed to that office in due course. There are 27 lodges in Bombay, the district organisation dating from 1764.—*Western Morning News*, November 16.

Obituary.

BRO. G. W. PERRY, P.M., P.Z., TREAS.

It is with extreme regret we have to announce the great loss the Mount Edgcumbe Lodge, No. 1446, London, has sustained in the loss of their esteemed Treasurer, Bro. G. W. Perry, P.M., P.Z. Bro. Perry was initiated in the above-named lodge in 1883. Having passed with credit through the minor offices he was placed in the chair of K.S. at the beginning of 1890, and proved himself a most efficient W.M. So great was the respect his conscientious work and amiability of disposition gained for him, that at the close of his Mastership, the office of Treasurer having become vacant, he was elected to that position with the same unanimity as marked his previous election to the chair, and he had the satisfaction of seeing the affairs of the lodge raised from a low ebb to a position of great prosperity. Bro. Perry's last attendance at the lodge was in September, when he was far from well; he, however, struggled on, but took to his bed at the beginning of last month, and the following week, on being removed to Bolingbroke Hospital, underwent a most serious operation, to the effects of which he eventually succumbed, passing away peacefully in his sleep on Wednesday, the 29th ult. The funeral took place on Saturday last, the first portion of the service being taken at St. Luke's, Nightingale-lane, the latter at the family grave at Brompton. Both the lodge and chapter sent wreaths to be placed upon the coffin, the former being inscribed: "A tribute of honour and respect to the memory of their esteemed Treasurer from the members of the Mount Edgcumbe Lodge." Amongst the brethren who attended to pay the last tribute of respect to departed merit were Bros. Jesse Masters, W.M.; W. G. Hale, S.W.; G. E. Hamilton, Sec.; J. Brown, I.P.M.; Phis, Cull, Mullins, Whitehead, and many lay members of 1446, besides several members of the Committee of the Benevolent Institution, of which the deceased had been Secretary for nearly 40 years; these included Bros. R. Bottle, 1624; R. Catling, 2157; F. J. Welch, Chairman of the Committee of the Institution; and others.

THE QUEEN has, through Sir Fleetwood Edwards, sent a donation of £10 to the funds of the Windsor and Eton Branch of the Navy League.

THE "DAILY TELEGRAPH"
SOLDIERS'
WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS'
ONE SHILLING FUND.

No.	LOGGES.	Shillings
2488	Eccentric ...	1460
2409	Woodgrange ...	1102
1563	City of Westminster, after sending round the Hat, it was sold by Auction and bought by Bro. Giles ...	1050
65	Prosperity, Collected from Members ...	693
65	" Lodge ...	210
65	" Instruction ...	63
1821	Atlingworth ...	600
357	Apollo and Isaac Newton University, proceeds of a Ball ...	580
1673	Collected at a Banquet ...	570
766	William Preston, Collected by Members and Friends, Installation Banquet ...	525
781	Merchant Navy ...	525
1602	Sir Hugh Myddleton ...	525
733	Westbourne ...	500
1563	City of Westminster ...	500
2789	Royal Warrant Holders, Collected at the Consecration Banquet ...	500
1673	Welcome, Sale of Charity Box and its contents to Under-Sheriff J. D. Langton ...	465
1614	Covent Garden ...	463
1668	Samson ...	450
2397	Columbia Lodge, Members and Friends ...	420
534	Polish Lodge ...	420
720	Nelson ...	420
1539	Surrey Masonic Hall... ..	420
1604	Wanderers ...	420
1767	Kensington ...	420
2107	Etheldreda (per The Freemason) ...	420
2361	Cricklewood ...	420
2742	Eyre ...	420
1541	Alexandra Palace ...	378
2472	Walthamstow Lodge and Lodge of Instruction, Subscribed by the Members ...	365
1910	Shadwell Clerke ...	356
179	Manchester ...	345
393	Benevolent ...	315
862	Whittington and Chapter ...	315
1524	Duke of Cnnaught ...	315
192	Lion and Lamb ...	292
157	Bedford ...	280
1426	Great City ...	280
2060	La France ...	280
1227	Upton ...	255
2632	Byfield ...	252
19	Royal Athelstan ...	250
180	St. James' Union (per The Freemason) ...	245
917	Cosmopolitan, Collected at a Meeting ...	245
1076	Capper ...	240
1815	Penge ...	240
2489	Willesden, and Chapter ...	230
1597	Metropolitan ...	228
95	Eastern Star, do. do. ...	220
975	Rose of Denmark ...	213
2308	Viator ...	213
28	Old King's Arms, Collected from Members and Visitors ...	210
33	Britannic ...	210
87	Vitruvian, Collected from Members and Visitors ...	210
794	Camden ...	210
905	De Grey & Ripon, Collected at the Banquet ...	210
920	Burgoyne, Collected at Dinner ...	210
1110	Tyrian ...	210
1348	Ebury ...	210
1364	Earl of Zetland ...	210
1693	Collected by the Brethren ...	210
1093	Kingsland ...	210
1922	Earl of Lathom ...	210
2006	Tilbury ...	210
2347	Grafton ...	210
2348	Lombardian ...	210
2394	Galen ...	210
2404	Lord Charles Beresford ...	210
2502	Gatwick ...	210
2743	Maida Vale, collected at the Banquet Table ...	210
2332	Borough of Greenwich ...	205
89	Temperance in the East, Members of ...	203
43	Idris, Cairo, Egyptian Constitution ...	200
165	Honour and Generosity ...	200
1421	Langthorne ...	200
1635	Canterbury ...	200
2455	St. Martin's, Collected by Members ...	200
2466	Cheerybles, Collected at Banquet ...	200
2671	Victoria ...	190
1348	Ebury, Collected at the Dinner ...	170
2128	United Northern Counties, Collected at the Installation Banquet ...	168
2721	Lodge of Light ...	168
792	Pelham Pillar ...	165
1662	Beaconsfield ...	163
188	Joppa, a few Members ...	150
1328	Granite ...	150
34	Mount Moriah, Members of ...	155
25	Robert Burns ...	154
1805	Bromley St. Leonard, and Commemoration Lodge of Instruction ...	150
2676	Quatuor Coronati ...	150
1381	Kennington, Members of ...	147
2765	Earl's Court ...	147
1704	Anchor ...	140
771	G.S. (Masonic), per Major Walls Windsor Castle, collected at Supper ...	140
2417	Bolingbroke ...	136
141	Faith ...	132
238	Pilgrim ...	127
2090	Hammersmith ...	120
2217	Windermere ...	120
2569	St. Trillo ...	120
2589	Borough, Collected at a Banquet ...	115
1687	Rothesay ...	113
1707	Eleanor ...	110
1686	Paxton ...	110
1766	St. Leonard ...	110

No.	LOGGES—continued.	Shillings
87	Victorian ...	108
73	Globe ...	105
144	St. Luke's, Collected at ...	105
177	Domatic ...	105
772	Pilgrim ...	105
813	New Concord ...	105
898	Temperance in the East, Collected at Supper ...	105
920	Burgoyne ...	105
920	Charity Fund ...	105
1056	Victoria ...	105
1381	Kennington ...	105
1464	Erasmus Wilson ...	105
1598	Ley Spring ...	105
2150	Tivoli ...	105
2206	Hendon ...	105
2589	Borough ...	105
2738	Army and Navy ...	105
754	High Cross (per The Freemason) ...	105
2499	North Kent ...	102
35	Medina ...	100
55	Constitutional ...	100
554	Yarborough ...	100
1471	Islington ...	100
1658	Skelmersdale ...	100
1901	Selwyn ...	100
2426	Wood Green (per The Freemason) ...	100
2549	Benevolentia ...	100
2668	Sancta Maria ...	100
2764	St. Clair ...	100
951	Prince of Wales ...	84
30	United Mariners, Collected at Supper ...	80
1319	Asaph, Collected at a Meeting ...	80
45	Strong Man, 75 Members ...	75
2694	Justinian ...	73
1204	Royd's ...	70
1744	Royal Savoy, Collected at Dinner ...	65
49	Gihon, Collected at a Meeting ...	64
228	United Strength ...	63
1044	Wansdown ...	63
1541	Alexandra Palace ...	63
1632	Stuart, Collected after reciting the "Absent Minded Beggar" ...	63
2283	Euston ...	63
1366	Highgate, Collected in Charity Box ...	60
2361	Cricklewood, Collected at a Meeting ...	60
2399	Ordnance ...	60
2528	Lancastrian, Collected at a Meeting Residents of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Croydon ...	60
2477	Colne ...	57
1627	Royal Kensington, Collected at a Banquet... ..	54
511	Zetland ...	53
1512	Hemming ...	52
2728	Muswell Hill ...	52
548	Wellington ...	50
861	Finsbury ...	50
1829	Burrell ...	50
2163	Jersey ...	47
2661	Mendelssohn ...	45
182	Old Masonians, Members and Friends of the ...	43
72	Royal Jubilee ...	42
77	Freedom, Collected at the Monthly Supper ...	42
1599	Skelmersdale ...	42
1986	Hiram (Grand Orient of France) ...	42
2647	Honor Oak, Charity Fund ...	42
183	Unity, Collected at Supper ...	41
698	Ryde ...	40
27	Egyptian, Charity Box ...	37
2147	Cray's Valley ...	35
1589	St. Dunstan's ...	34
1475	Peckham ...	33
1110	Seven Kings, Masonic, Members of ...	31
2754	Tyrian ...	30
1805	Thomas-a-Becket ...	28
1996	Bromley St. Leonard, Personal Contribution ...	23
1805	Priory Lodge of Acton ...	25
1805	Bromley St. Leonard ...	21
2540	Ember ...	21
1328	Granite (additional amount) ...	15
1694	Fifteen Brethren Imperial ...	15
13	Masons Spaten Restaurant ...	13
2579	Lewisham, Collected at Supper ...	168
1585	Logic ...	105
1044	Royal Commemoration ...	100
1922	Wandsworth ...	88
198	Earl of Lathom ...	70
2709	Percy ...	63
1541	Old Masonians ...	63
2184	Canning Town ...	63
2168	Alexandra Palace ...	60
1677	Royal Victorian Jubilee ...	60
189	Derby Allcroft, Collected at the Annual Supper ...	56
781	Crusaders ...	43
1227	Citadel ...	42
1381	Merchant Navy ...	42
1503	Upton ...	42
1563	Kennington ...	42
1901	Southern Star ...	42
2441	City of Westminster ...	42
548	Selwyn ...	42
765	Clarence and Avondale ...	42
1559	Hugh Myddleton ...	41
538	Wellington ...	40
1599	St. James' ...	34
538	New Cross ...	34
1677	La Tolerance ...	30
1658	Bournemouth ...	30
73	Skelmersdale ...	25
1076	Mount Lebanon ...	21
1348	Capper ...	21
1489	Ebury ...	21
1901	Marquess of Ripon ...	21
1446	Selwyn, Second Instalment ...	21
2030	Mount Edgcumbe ...	20
538	Abbay ...	16
1891	La Tolerance, 4th contribution ...	13
862	St. Ambrose ...	10
862	Whittington ...	8

No.	CHAPTERS.	Shillings
10	Grand Chapter ...	1050
8	Westminster and Keystone ...	500
2108	British ...	210
2410	Empire ...	210
73	Æsculapius ...	205
9	Mount Lebanon ...	200
1437	Albion, Collected at Banquet ...	120
125	Lorne ...	107
291	Hengist ...	105
1604	Vale of Jehoshaphat... ..	105
1839	Wanderers ...	105
938	Duke of Cornwall ...	105
1623	Doric ...	100
172	West Smithfield ...	66
1489	Old Concord ...	50
1589	Ezra ...	42
1589	St. Dunstan's ...	21
MARK.		
16	Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund ...	2100
451	Onslow, Collected in Charity Box ...	148
238	Bolingbroke, Collected at a Meeting ...	40
238	Leopold, Collected at a Meeting ...	34
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.		
	Faith and Fidelity ...	210
A. & A. RITE.		
	Supreme Council ...	2100
ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES.		
	Grand Council ...	210
RED CROSS OF ROME & CONSTANTINE.		
	Premier Conclave ...	42
GREAT PRIORY OF ENGLAND & WALES		
		2100
ROSE CROIX.		
	Sovereign Chapter Mount Calvary ...	42
SECRET MONITOR.		
8	Cleve Fast, Collected by a few Members ...	30
INSTITUTION.		
	Royal Masonic Institution for Girls ...	120
THE MANSION HOUSE		
REFUGEES FUND.		
	Grand Chapter ...	105 0 0
	Supreme Council ...	105 0 0
2535	Fellowship Lodge ...	26 5 0
	Prov. Grand Lodge of Surrey ...	10 10 0
	Unity Lodge ...	5 5 0
1677	Crusaders Lodge ...	3 13 0
1426	Great City Lodge ...	2 2 0
1386	St. Hugh Lodge ...	0 0
CHAPTER.		
192	Lion and Lamb ...	10 10 0
ROSE CROIX.		
4	Weymouth Chapter ...	4 4 0
	Invicta ...	2 2 0
LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.		
1275	Star... ..	2 10 0
THE MANSION HOUSE		
TRANSSVAAL WAR FUND.		
LOGGES.		
1613	Cripplegate ...	80 0 0
1446	Mount Edgcumbe ...	28 18 0
11	Enoch ...	23 0 0
197	Jerusalem ...	21 0 0
720	Panmure ...	21 0 0
1017	Montefiore ...	21 0 0
2022	Haven ...	21 0 0
1707	Eleanor ...	21 0 0
2150	Tivoli ...	21 0 0
43	Croydon Lodge of Concord ...	16 5 0
1827	Alliance ...	15 15 0
2470	Telegraph Cable ...	15 15 0
1790	Old England ...	15 6 0
1278	Burdett Coutts... ..	14 5 0
1624	Eccleston ...	12 0 0
161	Universal ...	10 10 0
175	Phoenix ...	10 10 0
548	Wellington ...	10 10 0
1623	West Smithfield ...	10 10 0
1719	Evening Star ...	10 10 0
1820	Sir Thomas White ...	10 10 0
1928	Gallery ...	10 10 0
2140	Huguenot ...	10 10 0
2612	Navy ...	10 10 0
2686	Alfred Newton ...	10 10 0
60	Peace and Harmony ...	10 0 0
63	St. Mary's ...	10 0 0
172	Old Concord Benevolent Fund ...	10 0 0
2371	Felix ...	10 0 0
1677	Crusaders ...	8 10 0
2562	Papyrus ...	8 2 6
1155	Excelsior ...	8 0 0
386	Unity ...	7 2 6
1042	Earl of Carnarvon ...	7 0 0
2398	Holborn ...	7 0 0
2715	Midland and Oxford Bar ...	6 10 0
140	St. George's ...	6 6 0
2183	Royal Hampton Court ...	6 0 0
2400	Brentford ...	5 13 0
143	Medina ...	5 6 0
30	United Mariners ...	5 5 0
194	St. Paul's ...	5 5 0
502	Rectitude ...	5 5 0
1139	South Norwood ...	5 5 0
21	1382 Corinthian ...	5 5 0
21	158 Adams ...	5 0 0
2414	Wychwood ...	5 0 0
2552	Stoke Newington ...	5 0 0
1672	Mornington ...	5 5 0
879	Southwark ...	4 10 6
56	Howard, Lodge of Brotherly Love ...	4 1 0

TRANSVAAL WAR FUND—continued.

No.	LODGES—continued.	£	s.	d.	
435	Salisbury	...	3	13	6
1196	Urban	...	3	13	6
457	Monmouth	...	3	3	0
1321	Emblematic	...	2	2	0
1817	St. Andrew's	...	2	2	0
2087	Electric	...	2	0	0
CHAPTER.					
3	Fidelity	...	5	5	0
5	Royal Somerset House and Inverness	...	5	5	0
MARK.					
132	Amity	...	3	3	0
	West Sussex	...	1	1	0
INSTRUCTION.					
483	Sympathy	...	5	5	0
2030	Abbey	...	4	10	0
	Feltham, Collected at Annual Supper	...	3	10	0
101	Temple	...	2	2	0
907	Royal Albert, some Members	...	1	5	0
CRYPTIC MASONRY.					
3	Matier	...	10	0	0
889	Dobie (County Fund, per Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart, Treasurer)	...	10	10	0

PRINCESS OF WALES' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

LODGE.	Amount
1259 Duke of Edinburgh	25 Guineas

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND, FOR WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF SCOTTISH SOLDIERS killed in the present Campaign

...	100 Guineas
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LORD PROVOST FUND.—LODGE OF EDINBURGH (Mary's Chapel), No. 1

...	£10 10 0
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PROV. GRAND LODGE OF EAST LANCASHIRE, on behalf of the MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT AFRICAN RELIEF FUND

...	60 Guineas
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MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, December 16, 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, DECEMBER 11.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 5, St. George's and Corner Stone, Freemasons' Hall.
- 29, St. Alban's, Albion Tavern.
- 59, Royal Naval, Freemasons' Hall.
- 93, Confidence, Anderton's Hotel.
- 193, Leigh, Freemasons' Hall.
- 197, St. Marglebone, Criterion.
- 1305, Adelphi, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1670, Town Hall, Westminster.
- 2030, Abbey, Town Hall, Westminster.
- 2394, Galen, Freemasons' Hall.
- 2454, Guildhall School of Music, Holborn Restaurant.
- 2505, Royal Rose, Head Quarters 3rd Volunteer Battalion Royal Fusiliers, Edward-street, Hampstead-road.
- 2632, Byfield, Great Eastern Hotel.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 22, Mount Zion, Guildhall Tavern.
- 58, Felicity, Prince's Restaurant.
- 1118, Oxford and Cambridge University, Cafe Monica.
- 1789, Ubique, Criterion.

MARK LODGE.

- 410, Eclectic, Mark Masons' Hall.
- Rose Croix.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Blackheath, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8.
- Broad-bury, Earl Derby Hotel, High-road, Kilburn.
- Commemoration, Star and Garter, Arbour-square, Commercial road, E., at 8.
- Dalhousie, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.
- Duke of Cornwall, Whittington Hotel, Moor-lane, Fore-st., at 7.
- Eleanor, Red Lion, High Road, Tottenham, at 8.
- 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.
- Italia, Fumagalli's Restaurant, 13, Wilton-road, Victoria, 9 to 11.30.
- Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30.
- 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.
- Perseverance, 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.
- Royal Savoy, Earl Russell, 2 Pancras-road, King's Cross, 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, Lord B. Cole, Shernik-st., Walthamstow, at 8.
- Wellington, New Cross House, New Cross, at 8.
- Woodrow, Stone's, 24, Panton-street, Haymarket, S.W., at 3.
- Zetland, "The Falkland," Falkland-road, N.W., at 8.
- Doric Chapter, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 6.
- Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 96, Burlington, Albion Tavern.
- 180, St. James' Union, Freemasons' Hall.
- 198, Percy, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
- 211, St. Michael's, Albion Tavern.
- 228, United Strength, Guildhall Tavern.
- 235, Nine Muses, Grand Hotel.
- 781, Merchant Navy, Town Hall, Limehouse.
- 834, Ranelagh, Criterion.
- 933, Doric, Anderton's Hotel.
- 1196, Urban, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1571, Leopold, Bridge House Hotel.
- 1593, Royal Naval College, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
- 1604, Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1693, Kingsland, Holborn Restaurant.
- 1769, Clarendon, Guildhall Tavern.
- 1906, Waldeck, Freemasons' Hall.
- 2546, Rabere, Frascati Restaurant.
- 2022, Beach, Horns Assembly Rooms.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
- 145, Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.
- 185, Jerusalem, Frascati Restaurant.
- 2395, Avondale, Anderton's Hotel.

MARK LODGES.

- 223, West Smithfield, Mark Masons' Hall.
- 433, Britannic, Mark Masons' Hall.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Alfred Newton, Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, at 8.
- Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, S.E., at 8.
- Capper, 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.
- Chaucer, 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 7.
- Dalhousie, Lord Truro, Dalston-lane, at 8.
- Egyptian, Salutation, Newgate-street, at 7.
- Emblematic, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.
- Enfield, Rose and Crown, Church-street, Edmonton, at 8.
- Excelsior, Fumagalli's Restaurant, 12 and 13, Wilton-road, Victoria-station, S.W., at 8.
- Euphrates, Ye Old Greyhound, Balaam-street, Plaistow, E., at 7.30.
- Faith, Fumagalli's Restaurant, 13, Wilton-road, Victoria-station, S.W.
- Finsbury, The Bell Hotel, Old Bailey, at 7.
- Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-street, Woolwich, 2nd 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.
- Keensington, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.
- Kirby, Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras Station, at 7.30.
- Langton, The Eastcheap, Eastcheap, E.C., at 5.30.
- Mount Edgumbe, Rockingham Arms, Newington Causeway S.E., at 7.30.
- Nelson, Star and Garter, Powis-street, Woolwich, at 8.
- New Cross, Kenble's Head, Long Acre, W.C., at 8.
- New Finsbury Park, Hornsey 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, Waiham 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.
- Victoria Park, George Hotel, Stratford, E., at 7.30.
- Industry Chapter, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, at 8.
- Southwark, White Hart Hotel, New Cross Gate, at 8.
- Wandsworth, St. Mark's School-room, Battersea Rise, S.W. at Westbourne, Oliver Arms, Westbourne-terrace North, Harrow-road, at 8.
- Varborough, Mitre Tavern, Fish-street-hill, E.C., at 7.30.
- Metropolitan Chapter, Eastcheap Restaurant, Eastcheap, at 6.30.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13.

- Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 4.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 3, Fidelity, Freemasons' Hall.
- 11, Epoch, Freemasons' Hall.
- 13, Union Waterloo, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.
- 15, Kent, Freemasons' Hall.
- 136, Good Report, Albion Tavern.
- 548, Wellington, Cannon-street Hotel.
- 1228, Beacontree, Guildhall Tavern.
- 1269, John Hervey, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1538, St. Martin's-le-Grand, Holborn Restaurant.
- 1586, Upper Norwood, White Hart Hotel.
- 1700, St. Leonard, Great Eastern Hotel.
- 1815, Penge, Clarence Hall.
- 1900, Montague Guest, Inns of Court Hotel.
- 2410, Esculapius, Cafe Royal.
- 2581, Empress, Cafe Royal.
- 2620, Cavendish, Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington.
- 2698, Brondesbury, Earl Derby, Kilburn.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

- 205, Israel, Holborn Restaurant.

MARK LODGE.

- 489, United Service, Mark Masons' Hall.

ROSE CROIX.

- 138, Grafton, 33, Golden-square.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 19, Royal Athelstan, Cannon-street Hotel.
- 238, Pilgrim, Freemasons' Hall.
- 236, Bank of England, Albion Tavern.
- 534, Polish National, Freemasons' Hall.
- 809, Dalhousie, Anderton's Hotel.
- 1076, Capper, Guildhall Tavern.
- 1559, Duke of Connaught, Surrey Masonic Hall.
- 1708, Plucknett, Woodside Hall, North Finchley.
- 1791, Greaton, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1804, Coborn, Bow Vestry Hall.
- 1820, Sir Thomas White, Cafe Royal.
- 1987, Strand, Criterion.
- 2047, Beckenham, Public Hall.
- 2509, Barnet, Assembly Rooms.
- 2722, Edward Terry, Cleveland Hall, Barnes.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern.
- 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hotel.
- 907, Royal Albert, White Hart Tavern, Abchurch-lane.
- 1321, Emblematic, Criterion.
- 1381, Kennington, Horns Tavern.
- 1942, Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Netting Hill.
- 1901, Selwyn, Montpellier Hotel, Peckham.

MARK LODGE.

- 80, Samson and Lion, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue.

SECRET MONITOR.

- 29, Earl of Warrwick, Great Eastern Hotel.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 2243, Argonauts, Frascati Restaurant.
- 2346, Warrant Officers, Freemasons' Hall.
- 2712, Jubilee Masters, Hotel Cecil.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

- 1538, St. Martin's-le-Grand, Guildhall Tavern.

MARK LODGES.

- 251, Mount Moriah, Mark Masons' Hall.
- 469, Savage Club, Mark Masons' Hall.

ROSE CROIX.

- 10, Invicta, 33, Golden-square.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

- 6, St. George's, Mark Masons' Hall.
- 165, St. Michael's, Mark Masons' Hall.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 1139, South Norwood, The Pavilion.
- 1641, Crichton, Frascati Restaurant.
- 1732, King's Cross, Anderton's Hotel.
- 2513, Sir Walter St. John, Holborn Restaurant.

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Masonic and General Tidings.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, it is understood, will go to Osborne about the 19th or 20th instant.

BRO. SIR FORREST FULTON, Q.C., has joined the Board of the Absolute Life Assurance Company.

THE STATIONERS' COMPANY.—Bro. Alderman Frank Green has been admitted a liveryman of this company.

BRO. LONGMAN, of Gresham-street, will be a candidate, on St. Thomas's Day, to represent the Ward of Aldersgate-street on the Court of Common Council.

WE UNDERSTAND that Bro. J. M. Klenck, who for many years has sat upon the City of London Board of Guardians as a representative of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, intends seeking the suffrages of the electors of the Ward of Bishopsgate.

BRO. LORD VALENTIA, speaking at Oxford, said his nephew, who was aide-camp to Sir George White, had written to him saying they meant to defend Ladysmith to the last, and had sufficient ammunition and supplies until reinforcements arrived.

THE LORINERS' COMPANY.—Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Treloar has received a handsomely emblazoned congratulatory address from the Masters, Wardens, and Court of Assistants of the Loriners' Company on his election as one of the Sheriffs of the City.

A GRAND PATRIOTIC SMOKING CONCERT, in aid of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, is to be held at the Town Hall, Epsom, on the 18th instant, Sir Thomas Bucknill in the chair. The talent is to be of the best, several leading singers and music-hall artists having promised their services.

THE 25th anniversary festival of the Royal Scottish Corporation was held on the 30th ult., at the King's Hall of the Holborn Restaurant, under the distinguished presidency of Bro. Lord Wolsley. The guests numbered nearly 400. The subscription list for the evening amounted to the large sum of £4759 14s., including £1200 from legacies, &c.

IN VIEW of the war in South Africa, the Oxford Press has just issued a "Knapsack Bible," which is selling by thousands. Bro. Lord Wolsley, the Commander-in-Chief, has expressed his wish "that every soldier carried one in his knapsack." It is printed on India paper and bound in khaki. It weighs only 4½ ounces, and measures 4½ x 3 x ½ inches. To others, besides soldiers, such a compact, light and strong edition will be welcome.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES has sent a photograph of himself, bearing his autograph signature, to the Grand Master of the Virginian Freemasons, in recognition of the invitation to take part in the Masonic ceremonies at Mount Vernon on the occasion of the hundredth anniversary of Washington's death. The Earl of Lonsborough and the officers of the Constitutional Lodge at Beverley, East Yorkshire, have sent a wreath of evergreens to be placed on Washington's tomb, and Canon Weeton has sent some verses to be read at the celebration.—*Reuter.*

OWING TO ILL-HEALTH Bro. Sir Albert Altman has announced his intention of retiring from the representation of the ward in the Court of Common Council. For upwards of 20 years Bro. Sir Albert has been identified with the municipal work of the City, and in that period he has acted as the chairman of the leading committees. It will be remembered that he received the honour of knighthood to commemorate his chairmanship of the Bridge House Estates Committee at the time the Tower Bridge was opened by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales on behalf of her Majesty.

DISCOVERY OF ROMAN REMAINS.—A series of discoveries has been made at Valle Crucis Abbey, Llangollen, where excavations have been proceeding for some time under the direction of Rev. Trevor Owen. While excavating along the south cloistera Roman bath was discovered, with remains of a hypocaust and Roman pottery. An ancient Celtic cross was also found and a tombstone of the 12th century. The restoration of the Roman bath has been decided upon, and the Duke of Westminster, Sir Watkin William-Wynn, Lady Morgan, and others have taken the matter in hand.

AT ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH, WESTMINSTER, on Wednesday, the wedding took place of Bro. William Ernest, Baron de Bush (a Baron of the Duchy of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, with Royal licence to use the title in this country, a well-known authority in the chemical world, and Miss Pauline Joran, the American prima donna and violinist. Bro. the Rev. J. H. Smith, headmaster of Alleyns School Dulwich, officiated. The church was crowded. A reception was afterwards held in the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole. Later Baron and Baroness de Bush left for Paris en route for Rome, Naples, and Sicily, where they will spend the winter.

DISCOVERY OF A NOTABLE BIBLE.—A Florentine antiquary, Signor Leo Olschki, has found a beautiful Bible in the library of a Venetian patrician, perfect specimens of which are extremely rare. It is in five large quarto volumes, and was printed at Rome in the years 1471-72, 11 years before Martin Luther was born. The value of this Bible lies in the fact that it contains the quaint and beautiful commentary of Nicolas of Lyra. Complete editions of this Bible are so rare that the last copy sold brought 30,000 francs. It contains a large number of coloured illustrations, plans, sketches of sacred buildings, animals, views of Palestine, &c.

SINCE THE FORMATION of the central board in connection with the Arsenal Reservists' Relief Fund the amount received has exceeded £300, and the weekly contributions are still going on. An interesting suggestion has been brought under the Committee's notice, and entered in their agenda as "Santa Claus and the Children." The idea is that of presenting a useful little present to each child at Christmas, accompanied with the words "With Father's Love," it being pointed out that the hearts of the children would be gladdened, and they would remember through future years that the Arsenal men had manifested their love for their brothers on the battle-field. Fathers would be remembering their little ones at Christmas, and would be cheered by the thought that they were not forgotten by their fellow-workers.

REDUCED RATES FOR CHRISTMAS PARCELS.—In connection with the Christmas and New Year traffic, the Midland Railway Company will make special arrangements for the collection, quick transit, and prompt delivery of Christmas parcels in all the chief towns on their system, and for their conveyance at the reduced rates. Through vans will be attached to the principal express and mail trains to accommodate the exceptional parcels traffic concomitant upon the Christmas season, and which, in view of the low rates, applicable to both English and Scotch towns (now in some cases less, and in no instance higher than the parcel post rates), will, it is anticipated, be much heavier than before. As a timely reminder to many sending parcels at the "owner's risk" rates, such as game, poultry, tobacco, cakes, cheese, &c., it may be stated that the minimum as to weight has been abolished, and the charges are now based upon the actual weight of the packages.

THE CANCER HOSPITAL (FREE), FULHAM-ROAD, LONDON, S.W.—We desire to draw the attention of our readers to the claims of this valuable special hospital on their support. Founded in 1851, its work has gone on increasing year by year. During last year there were 835 new in-patients and 1612 new out-patients, whilst some 13,803 visits of new and old out-patients were made during the same period. The all-important feature in connection with this Institution is that it is absolutely free to poor persons suffering from cancerous disease—no letters of recommendation being required—the disease itself being a sufficient qualification for admission or treatment irrespective of nationality or creed. There are also a number of beds provided for the use of patients who may remain for life. The average length of time which beds have been occupied by patients is necessarily longer than at hospitals which have not to deal with such a terrible and chronic disease as cancer. Unfortunately, the continually increasing number of patients treated each year involve a large expenditure, to meet which the Hospital has to rely upon the generosity of the public. The Secretary, Mr. Fred. W. Howell, will be glad to receive contributions, and we would strongly urge those benevolent persons who may be disposed to help in this good work to send their donations to him.

ANNEXING THE TRANSVAAL.—What will be the fate of the Transvaal after the war it is difficult to foresee, but one thing may be considered certain, and that is that every one who can will take care to annex a case of that delicious liqueur, Grant's Morella Cherry Brandy, which is so great a favourite at home and abroad. Sold everywhere; also Grant's Cherry Whisky.

THE *Daily Telegraph* Soldiers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund now stands at 1,443,903 shillings, of which £1083 9s. was received on Thursday.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN has forwarded, through the Lord Steward, 60 pounds of cast linen to the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn-road, of which institution her Majesty is Patron.

IN OUR REPORT last week of the La France Lodge, No. 2060, we stated that Bro. J. W. Woodall was fighting in the Crimea, which has proved incorrect, he at that time was serving in the North York Militia in England, but subsequently visited the Crimea.

MESSRS. H. S. PERSSE (Limited), the well-known distillers, have, under competition, obtained the sole supply of Irish whiskey at all the bars and refreshment rooms of the Crystal Palace. The whiskey in age and quality is exactly the same as the firm supply to the House of Commons.

AN EXHIBITION OF WORK, manufactured by the pupils of the School for the Indigent Blind, St. George's-circus, Southwark, will be held in the concert room of the School, from 7-8 p.m., on Wednesday next, followed by a concert under the direction of Mr. Herbert Hodge, F.R.C.O., A.R.C.M.

BRO. H. H. CRAWFORD, the City Solicitor, has been elected an honorary life governor and a member of the Council of Management of St. Mark's Hospital, City-road, in succession to his father, the late Mr. John Crawford, J.P., who was for a great number of years closely associated with that institution.

A CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY EXCURSION will be run on Friday evening, the 22nd inst., to Newcastle, Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, and Aberdeen, leaving King's-cross (G.N.R.), 6.30 p.m. The excursion, for five, six, or 10 days, has been arranged by the Voluntary Early Closing Association, of 64, Cheapside.

AT A MEETING of the Old Masonians Lodge, No. 2700, held on the 27th ult., it was proposed by the W.M., seconded by the Treasurer, and carried unanimously, "That the sum of two guineas be voted from the lodge funds and given as a special prize (subject to be hereinafter named) to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys."

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES has accepted the presidency of a congress to be held in London during the spring of 1901 by the National Association for the Prevention of Consumption and other Forms of Tuberculosis, and has expressed his intention of opening the proceedings in person. A preliminary meeting will take place on the 18th inst., at Gray's Inn Hall, with the Earl of Derby in the chair, at 3.30 p.m.

AT THE MONTHLY MEETING of the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association, 53, Lancaster-gate, Mr. C. J. Stevens presiding, it was decided to render help in the laying out of a children's playground in Summer-road, Camberwell, and take steps to oppose any bill that might be introduced for enabling the Battersea Latchmere allotment land to be used as a building site, as it was formerly part of a common, and, if no longer required for its present purpose, should, it was considered, be utilised like other metropolitan commons for public recreation.

EXCELLENT REPORTS have been issued by the officers in command of the Shoeburyness Camp during the last meeting of the National Artillery Association. Colonel Barron, however, thinks "it is high time the practice of providing hairdressers in camp for officers and men was done away with. Many came to parade unshaved, and this would probably not be the case if the men had to shave themselves." He also thinks that the cuisine should be looked after by the Volunteers themselves, who would receive very valuable instruction under an experienced master-cook."

IT WOULD APPEAR from the reports in the daily papers that at the Grand Mark Lodge on Tuesday last, a statement was made that the "Patriotic Fund" did not recognise the claims of the widows of our soldiers who had married "without leave." Bro. J. M. McLeod writes: "Will you permit me to say that I hold a letter dated 20th November, 1899, from Mr. W. T. Soulsby, the private Secretary to the Lord Mayor, in which he states: 'The Patriotic Fund helps the widows and orphans of sailors as well as soldiers. The widows and families of soldiers and sailors who have married without leave will participate equally with the others.' As considerable misapprehension appears to exist on the point, and may prove detrimental to the good cause all are so justly ready to help, I shall be glad if this authoritative announcement may be made known to the Craft through your columns."

THE QUEEN drove out at Windsor Castle on the 6th inst., accompanied by her Grand Ducal Highness Princess Louis of Battenberg and Princess Alice, and her Majesty went out on Tuesday morning, accompanied by Princess Louis of Battenberg, H.R.H. Princess Henry of Battenberg, attended by Miss Bulteel and Colonel Lord William Cecil, went to London on Wednesday and opened the annual winter sale in connection with the Working Ladies' Guild at Grosvenor House. In the evening her Royal Highness, accompanied by her Highness Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, was present at a patriotic concert in the Royal Victoria Hall, Waterloo Bridge-road, in aid of the Fund for the Wives and Children of the reservist soldiers serving in South Africa. Miss Bulteel and Lord William Cecil were in attendance. The Hon. Horatia Stopford has arrived at the Castle.

CHRISTMAS PARCELS TRAFFIC.—The Great Northern Railway Company have made special and complete arrangements for the collection, quick transit, and prompt delivery of Christmas parcels traffic to and from all towns on their system. Through vans will be attached to many of the express trains, and special parcels trains will also be run to meet the additional demands made upon the company at this period of the year. The reduced rates which are now in operation for the conveyance of parcels traffic are in no case higher than the rates by parcels post, while in some cases they are lower than the latter. The "minimum" weights formerly charged on packages of perishables at "owner's risk" have been abolished, and these parcels are now charged at actual weight. Special frequent collections of parcels will be made from receiving offices in London by the company's vans, and the traffic will be despatched from King's Cross by first trains after receipt. Full particulars as to charges, which will in no case exceed those in force by any other route, can be obtained on application at any Great Northern station or receiving office.

THE NEW GRAND MASTER MASON.—On the 1st inst. the Grand Master Mason of Scotland (Bro. the Hon. James Hozier, M.P.) paid his official visit to the Lodge of Edinburgh Mary's Chapel, No. 1. Previous to this function he was entertained at dinner in the Board Room, and meantime the members of the lodge and deputations from other lodges assembled in the Grand Hall in large numbers. At the visitation to the lodge the Grand Master was accompanied by a deputation of Grand Officers, including the Depute and Substitute Grand Masters and the Grand Secretary and Treasurer. The chair was occupied by the Master of the lodge (Bro. P. L. Henderson), and Bros. J. T. Sturrock, S.S.C., and Officer, Stwd., were in their places as Senior and Junior Wardens. In the course of the evening the Chairman proposed the toast of "The Grand Lodge and Grand Master," and congratulated the lodge on the fact that the Grand Master had honoured it by making it the subject of his first official visitation. He said they could rely that Bro. Hozier would prove no mere figurehead. His aptitude for business and his courtesy of manners had distinguished him, and his popularity in his own province, and his diplomatic services had been appreciated by the country, and no doubt on the Masonic throne he would prove the right man in the right place. Bro. Hozier had been affiliated some time ago to their lodge, and he had now much pleasure in pinning a lodge jewel on his breast to keep him in remembrance of old Mother Mary. (Applause.) He expressed the hope that his reign in Grand Lodge would be one of great prosperity and unalloyed happiness to himself. (Applause.) The Grand Master, in reply, thanked the brethren for their cordial reception, and spoke of several matters interesting to them. He then proposed a toast to "The Prosperity of No. 1." Other toasts followed, and a pleasant evening was passed.

Marriage.

SILVER WEDDING.

GROSE—HOOK.—On the 6th December, 1874, by the Rev. Frances Savage, at St. James's Church, Dover, James Grose, of 4, Old Jewry, E.C., and 17, Mecklenburgh-square, W.C., youngest son of the late George Grose, of Falmouth, to Eliza (Lou) fifth daughter of the late Henry Hook, of Dover.