

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

VOL. XXXIX. NO. 1614.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1900.

[PRICE 3D.]

CONTENTS.

LEADER—		PAGE
Approaching Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution	...	79
The Lodge Room	...	79
Supreme Grand Chapter (Quarterly Convocation)	...	80
Science, Art and the Drama	...	81
Nineteenth Annual Banquet of the Logic Club	...	82
Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Derbyshire	...	82
The English Education Exhibition and the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys	...	83
Craft Masonry	...	83
MASONIC NOTES—		
Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter	...	85
Monthly Meeting of the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution	...	85
Provincial Grand Chapter of Hertfordshire	...	85
Consecrations of the John Brunner and L'Entente Cordiale Lodges	...	85
Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria	...	85
The English Education Exhibition and the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys	...	85
The Logic Club	...	85
Moveable Grand Mark Lodge at Dukinfield	...	85
Correspondence	...	86
POETRY—		
Help, O, Help!	...	86
Craft Masonry	...	86
SCOTLAND—		
Grand Lodge (Quarterly Communication)	...	89
Ladies' Festival of the Molesley Lodge, No. 2473	...	90
Instruction	...	90
Obituary	...	90
Masonic and General Tidings	...	92

APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

Our readers will be pleased to hear that Bro. TERRY's efforts to enrol a strong and influential Board of Stewards for the approaching Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution have been most successful. Last year, the number of ladies and brethren who gave their services in this capacity was 487. On Thursday, when we made our last inquiry, over 450 had given in their names, and to judge from the rate of progress during the last three or four weeks, there are fair grounds for hoping that, as regards number, the Board will make as brave a show as it did in 1899. It does not follow, of course, that the donations and subscriptions will be as large. As we have remarked in our previous articles on the subject, there are far too many calls for subscriptions to all kinds of funds in connection with the war to justify such an expectation. But on the principle, "the more the merrier," we may reasonably hope that, the greater the number of Stewards, the greater the chance of a handsome total—at all events, of one that will set at rest all anxiety on the part of the Committee of Management as to ways and means for the expenditure of the current year.

As we have before pointed out, the annual expenditure of our Benevolent Institution amounts in round figures to £19,500. Of this sum, upwards of £16,500 is required for annuities, and the rest for expenses of management and the maintenance of the Asylum at Croydon. The permanent income, including the Grand Lodge grant of £1600, and the Grand Chapter grant of £150, is somewhere about £6000, so that the amount to be raised through the medium of the Festival—allowing a small margin for contingencies—is £14,000. It is a big sum, but see what an immense amount of good the Institution is doing. The present strength of the establishment is 477 annuitants, namely, 207 brethren at £40 a year each; 248 widows at £32 each; and 22 widows at £20 each, the total sum distributed among the widows and brethren in the three classes of annuitants being £16,636. The recipients of this money are either brethren who have lost their all and are too old or infirm to work, or the widows of brethren in similar circumstances. If money were more plentiful, we might perhaps do more for these poor old people, but our duty as Masons requires that we should do for

them what we can, and the £16,636 disbursed in annuities represents the present extent of our ability.

There is thus no need for us to emphasise our appeal in behalf of this Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows, but there is one important consideration that must not be entirely overlooked. There are not only annuitants to be provided for, but there are also candidates to be thought of, whose claims to be admitted to the benefits of the Institution, as vacancies arise, have been approved and sanctioned by the Committee of Management. Unfortunately the candidates are many, and the vacancies but few. Last year, on the recommendation of the Committee, the Governors and Subscribers at the annual meeting resolved on increasing the number of annuitants on the Male Fund by five, and on the Widows' Fund by three, but in spite of this increase there are at the present time about 108 or 109 Male and Widow candidates, while only about 20 or 22 vacancies have occurred. Add to these the three men and three widows who are elected to deferred annuities, and we find the number of brethren and widows to be elected in May next in proportion to the number on the lists is, roughly speaking, in the proportion of one to four. We trust these few figures will be well pondered, both by the Stewards and intending Donors and Subscribers.

The Festival will take place at Freemasons' Tavern on Tuesday, the 27th instant, under the presidency of the Right Hon. Lord ADDINGTON, Prov. G. Master of Buckinghamshire, and though the interval between now and then is short, it will not be too short for Bro. TERRY to enrol the names of additional ladies and brethren who are prepared to give their services as Stewards. "The more, the merrier," and the better for the Institution.

THE LODGE ROOM.

V. THE VOLUME OF THE SACRED LAW.

[COMMUNICATED].

In considering the importance of the V.S.L. as a part of the furniture of every Lodge Room, we will collect evidence to show that if there be one thing as to which there is no uncertainty in Freemasonry, it is this.

First of all, the landmarks. According to Mackey's list there are three, which lay down the presence of the V.S.L. as an indispensable article of furniture, a belief in God, as an indispensable qualification in every Candidate, and a belief in a future life.

The charges of a Freemason printed in the Book of Constitutions commence with a protest against atheism.

In our ritual, the person who desires to be made a Freemason is not even officially designated a candidate until he has declared his faith in a Supreme Being, and the first thing he sees in open lodge is the open page of the V.S.L.

The Grand Registrar, in 1877, at the December Communication, declared that up to 1813 the two Grand Lodges were not only Theistic but Trinitarian, and a study of the Ancient charges cannot but confirm us in the belief that up to that date Freemasonry in England was Christian in its basis, and Bro. Hughan points out that no record exists of any agreement to change that basis.

Certainly in 1836 a Mussulman was initiated, and in 1865 Bro. P. C. Dutt, a Hindu, was initiated in Bengal, after an expression of opinion by the then M.W.G.M., and his decision was officially forwarded to the District Grand Master of Bengal. But such decision did not create any law on the subject. In the absence of appeal, it was regarded as law however, and now

Parsis, Hindus, and Mussulmans are admitted freely into the mysteries of Freemasonry.

In 1878 a question was raised in an Indian Masonic Journal as to the propriety of introducing the Qur'an into lodges working under the E.C.

In the course of correspondence which followed, the initiation of the King of Oudh (referred to above) was mentioned. This took place in a London lodge (Friendship, No. 6) on April 14, 1836. On this occasion a volume of the Qur'an had been provided by the M.W.G.M., on which the illustrious candidate was obligated, the W.M. being a clergyman.

This settled the question *as to the propriety of the candidate being obligated on that particular written revelation he believed in*. But the volume in question was not presented to the candidate afterwards as the chief of the Three Great Lights.

The doctrine, italicized above, has been so far accepted that in the Grand Lodge of Scottish Freemasonry in India there are annually appointed Grand Qur'an Bearer, Grand Zendavesta Bearer, Grand Shastri Bearer, &c. These appointments were sanctioned by the Grand Lodge of Scotland in 1885.

All this goes to prove that a Volume of the Sacred Law is an absolute necessity in every lodge. But much confusion has arisen owing to the fact that in many lodges the Volume upon which the candidate is obligated, is the one and same volume which is afterwards presented to him as the chief of the Three Great Lights. No doubt can possibly exist as to the propriety of a candidate appealing to something in which he believes, when he takes the S.O., that is to say, if the custom of kissing a book be considered a necessary one.

But the Grand Registrar, not long ago, made a statement in Grand Lodge which unsettled a good many minds. The occasion was the action of the Grand Lodge of Peru in deposing the V.S.L. altogether, and substituting the Book of Constitutions. All that is happily past history, and need not be again referred to. But as regards the Grand Registrar's statement made in Grand Lodge, June 1st, 1898, he said, "It is not a question of the Bible being on the altar. It is the Volume of the Sacred Law we recognise. Among Christians it is the Old and New Testaments combined; among Jews it is the Old Testament alone: among Mahomedans it is the Qur'an which they believe to be the revelation of the will of the Great Architect; but whether it be a lodge of Christians, Jews, Mahomedans, or Hindus, it is their Volume of the Sacred Law which must be on the altar." Of course all this referred, as to its practical result, chiefly to India, and, therefore, it is interesting to notice how it was received in that country.

At a communication of the District Grand Lodge of Bombay, the Deputy District Grand Master said: "It does not matter what that Revelation may be called, whether it is the European Bible, or the Parsi Zendavesta, or the Qur'an, or the Bhutwat Git, or whatever book may, in the opinion of the Individual, be the Revelation of the Most High." (The italics are the writer's.)

This it will be observed is a considerable amplification of what Brother Strachan said. But just see what results. The writer knows of one lodge, the members of which are exclusively non-christian. Hitherto, they had two separate altars in lodge, at one of which the candidate was obligated according to his own faith, and on the other the Bible, together with the other great lights, lay exposed. Since the above *dictum*, the brethren have removed the latter altogether, and now the Three Great Lights are represented by the Rig Veda, the square, and compasses. And, logically, if the Grand Registrar be right, they are right also. But there is worse to follow. Much of our ritual, if not all of it, is extracted from the Bible. Biblical incidents form the foundation of nearly all we say or do. The Worshipful Master is still the humble representative of King Solomon, although he has just ordered out of the lodge room the only thing in it which told him anything about that monarch. He still narrates the history of the Holy Lodge, although now he possesses nothing which tells him what the Holy Lodge was!

Now notice the words italicized. The book, which *in the opinion of the individual!* If our Peruvian brethren who caused all the trouble had had the courage of their convictions, and boldly said, that, in their opinion, the Constitutions contained the Divine will, then they would apparently have put themselves in the right. This is, of course, absurd, but still it follows from the official pronouncements quoted. In fact, we are solemnly told that though no innovations are to be sanctioned in any detail of ritual, that, though the motto of the Freemason must be *Stare super antiquas vias*, yet, in the most important article of a Freemason's belief, that is what constitutes the First Great Light, individual opinion is to prevail.

Brother Whymper ("Religion of Freemasonry," p. 121) asks

why the Latter Day Saints should not be allowed to have the Mormon expositor of the Sacred Law in the place of honour. Had Brother Whymper lived to hear the exposition of Masonic law we have been describing, he would not need to have expressed any doubt on the subject. And in a cosmopolitan lodge including Jews, Christians, Mussulmans, Hindus, Parsis, and Buddhists, there might be half-a-dozen volumes of the Sacred Law all different, and the candidate might be asked to take his choice, and if he believed in none of them, to bring his own with him.

And this is what is actually happening. We feel sure, however, that Brother Strachan did not contemplate all that might be inferred from his interpretation of the law.

We close this article with an extract from Brother Whymper's book already referred to, and we may add, the reference to Brother Hughan is quite borne out by his introduction to that work:

"Brother Hughan holds with us that nothing should ever be permitted to stand on terms of equality with the English Bible. *To secure a satisfactory obligation* it is rightly conceded that any Sacred Volume should be permitted in the lodge, but there, as far as English Masonry is concerned, the use of that Sacred Volume ceases. We know that all cannot accept our Light in the way we should wish them to, but this affords no room for abandoning it *or treating it as one light amongst many* (the italics are the writer's), or as merely an abstract idea capable of any concrete interpretation which may appear convenient at a given moment."

* * * * *

It is futile trying to shirk the position; either our Volume of the Sacred Law, the Bible, must be treated as THE Great Light of English Freemasonry, or it must be relegated to our museum of symbols.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arc Masons of England, was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, London, when the following Grand Officers attended: Comps. Lt.-Col. R. Townley Caldwell, M.A., G. Supt. Cambridge, acted as the M.E.G.Z.; Thomas Fenn, Past G.S.N., as G.H.; W. E. Brymer, M.P., P.A.G. Soj., as G.J.; E. Letchworth, G.S.E.; the Rev. W. Gardiner, B.D., G.S.N.; John Strachan, Q.C., G. Reg.; Sir Joseph Dimsdale, G.P.S.; Rear-Admiral William H. St. Clair, 1st A.G. Soj.; Baron de Ferrieres, P.A.G. Soj., as 2nd A.G.S.; the Rt. Hon. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., G.J.; R. Horton Smith, Q.C., P.G.R.; J. T. L. Wilkinson, P.D.G.R.; Edward Beaumont, D.G.R.; J. M. McLeod, P.G.Std. Br.; Rev. A. W. Oxford, M.A., P.A.G. Soj.; Geo. Cowell, J. Stephens, P.G.S.B.; A. J. R. Trendell, C.M.G., P.G. Std. Br.; Thomas Jones, P.A.G. Soj.; Henry J. P. Dumas, P.G. Std. Br.; Henry Lovegrove, P.G. Std. Br.; Surgeon Lt.-Col. Henry Kiallmark, P.G. Std. Br.; James S. Eastes, P.G. Std. Br.; Sir George David Harris, P.A.G. Soj., President, Committee of General Purposes; Robert Grey, P.G.S.N.; J. Leach Barrett, P.G.S.B.; Thomas Henry Gardiner, P.G.S.B.; Edgar Goble, P.G. Std. Br.; Walter Ebbets, P.G. Std. Br.; Charles E. Keyser, P.G.S.B.; E. M. Money, P.G. Std. Br.; John Williams, P.G.S.B.; T. A. Bullock, P.A.G.D.C.; Capt. Robert Gresley Hall, D.L., P.G.S.B.; Clement Godson, M.D., P.G.S.B.; George Mickley, M.B., P.G.S.B.; Major John W. Woodall, P.G.T.; Alfred C. Spaul, P.D.G.D.C.; Richard Eve, P.G.T.; Lewis Lazarus, P.A.G.D.C.; Perceval A. Nairne, P.G. Std. Br.; C. F. Matier, P. Dep. G.D.C.; Major C. W. Carrell, P.G. Std. Br.; W. B. Fendick, P.G. Std. Br.; Lennox Browne, F.R.C.S., P.G. Std. Br.; H. A. Tobias, P.G. Std. Br.; George Gravely, P.A.G.D.C.; James Boulton, P.A.G. D.C.; S. V. Abraham, P.A.G.D.C.; Frank Richardson, P. Asst. G. Soj., G.D. of C.; J. Whittaker Burgess, P.G. Std. Br.; Hermann Klein, P.G. Org.; W. Fisher, A.G.D.C.; W. M. Bywater, P.G. Std. Br.; and Henry Sadler, G. Janitor.

After the minutes of November, 1899, Convocation had been read and confirmed, the report of the Committee of General Purposes was, on the motion of Comp. Sir G. D. HARRIS, President, seconded by Comp. FRANK RICHARDSON, G.D.C., taken as read, and then ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

On the motion of Comp. Sir G. D. HARRIS, seconded by Comp. FRANK RICHARDSON, charters were granted for the Salebeia Chapter, No. 566, Selby; the Southern Cross Chapter, No. 1315, Toowoomba, Queensland; the Guildhall School of Music Chapter, No. 2454, London; and the Grafton Chapter, No. 2347, London.

A charter of confirmation was granted to the Chapter of Hope and Unity, No. 214, Chingford, Essex, the original charter having been lost, and permission was given to remove the Elliot Chapter, No. 1164, from the Masonic Hall, St. Germains, to the Masonic Hall, Millbrook, Cornwall; the Chaucer Chapter, No. 1549, from the Bridge House Hotel to Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street; and the Derby Chapter, No. 1055, from the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, to Chester Bank, Prestwich.

A memorial having been received from the Principals and companions of the Andrew Chapter, No. 834, London, requesting that the name be altered to the Ranleigh Chapter, and the Committee recommending that the request be acceded to, Grand Chapter adopted the recommendation.

A memorial having been received from the Phoenix Chapter, No. 914, Jamaica, ordered by the last Grand Chapter to be removed from the roll of chapters, stating that the chapter had been resuscitated, prior to the action of Grand Chapter coming to their knowledge, that Principals had been installed and several candidates exalted, for whom fees had been remitted, and praying that the chapter might be restored to its position.

Grand Chapter, on the motion of Comp. Sir G. D. HARRIS, seconded by Comp. FRANK RICHARDSON, adopted the recommendation of the Committee of General Purposes, and restored the chapter to the roll.

Grand chapter was then closed in ancient and solemn form.

Science, Art, and the Drama.

ROADSIDE FRUIT IN EUROPE.

The cultivation of fruit trees along the high roads of France, to take the place of the interminable lines of poplars, so well known to all travellers, has proved so profitable to the revenue, that it has been encouraged by the Government, and is being extended each year. The communes have followed the example set by the Government, so that now roadside cultivation has become an important branch of national industry. It is not, however, only in France that fruit-tree planting has been turned to such profitable account. In Germany, Belgium, and the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg the system has been greatly developed, giving satisfaction to the respective countries and to local interests. On the Wurtemburg roads, for instance, the fruit harvest from this source produced over £40,000 in 1878, and last year the returns had more than trebled. The annual revenue derived from the national roads of Saxony, planted with fruit trees, rose from £1800 in 1880 to £8400 in 1892, furnishing a total sum of £68,000 for the 13 years. In Belgium, according to the statistics of 1894, over 21,875 miles of roads were planted with 741,571 fruit trees, which furnished the large sum of £400,000. In France the product of fruit trees is estimated at £12,000,000. In Westphalia, in the Duchies of Baden and Saxe-Weimar, in Alsace Lorraine, in Switzerland, &c., the *employés* of the Adminstration of Roads and Bridges, and the road supervisors, are instructed in fruit culture. In some of the southern departments of France the roads are bordered with cherry trees, producing the small fruit called *merisier* (wild cherry), much appreciated for making wine, *sui generis*, preserves, and even alcohol. In the Touraine, plum trees predominate, while in the Allier, the walnut trees transform the roads into shady walks. In Auvergne, the chestnut tree flourishes; while in Normandy, place is naturally given to the apple tree. Some 20 years ago the picturesque roads of the north-east of France were lined with stately poplars; but, although ornamental, their roots went far and wide, rendering the adjacent meadows sterile, and ploughs were continuously stopped by offshoots, lying almost at the surface of the soil. The farmers appealed in such strong terms that the communes decided upon the fall of the poplar, and soon axes and saws were brought into requisition, and the roads cleared of these trees in favour of the humble, but more useful *mirabelle* (small plum), to the great satisfaction of the villagers. Thousands of baskets of this fruit are sent to Paris daily. Some 30 years ago the distillation of the *mirabelle* was unknown in the country districts, the people plucked it as food for their pigs; but, to-day, they have learned to make more profitable use of it. They distil it in large quantities, and find a ready market for it. A quart of this alcohol, slightly perfumed, sold five or six years ago for only about 10d. or 15d., to-day it brings not less than 2s. or 2s. 6d., while in Paris the best kind cannot be obtained under about 4s. 3d.

GRAVES' GALLERIES, 6, PALL MALL, S.W.

EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES BY THE LATE W. BRO. WM. SIMPSON, F.R.G.S., P.M. QUATUOR CORONATI LODGE, No. 2076.

There is an interesting collection of water-colour drawings and sketches by our late Bro. Wm. Simpson, P.M. Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076. Our distinguished brother was well known in the Craft, and his valuable papers on Masonry are to be found in the recorded transactions of the Quatuor Coronati, of which he was a P.M. A well-written sketch of his busy life is the preface to the catalogue of his works now exhibited. To this we refer our readers. Our province is to consider his pictures in an artistic point of view. We cannot do better than quote the concluding passage of the preface—"The works of this extraordinary man, whose name is a household word in many parts of the world show wonderful drawing, exquisite colour, and the most careful attention to detail, and his tireless energy and indefatigable labour, combined with the excellence of his work, whether executed under conditions of temperature below zero, malarial climes, or the fire of an enemy, afloat or ashore, can only be a subject of admiration to those who knew him personally, or by his works." We subjoin a few of his pictures, which, especially by their artistic merit, attracted our attention: Nos. 4, Ujek Tepé, Troad; 6, Plan of the Battlefield of Sedan; 10, Massoolah Boats, Madras; 19, The Ganges, 1875; 26, Interior of Rock-cut Buddhist Temple, Ajunta; 33, Calvary in Brittany; 55, The Two Columns, Brindisi; 59, Praying Wheels, Himalayas; 62, The Acropolis, Mycenæ; 70, Pyramids of Geezeh; 94, The Kailas, Ellora; 76, View from the Palace Gardens, Athens; 81, A Funeral at Sea on board the P. and O. ss. Sumatra; 83, The Tomb of Raphael Pantheon, Rome; 86, Portrait of the Artist in Eastern Dress; 95, Menacs Carnge, Brittany; 101, The River Hooghly; 113, Bowlee, Allahabad; 116, The Gate of the Lions, Mycenæ; 118, Magdala, Abyssinia; 119, The Wailing Place, Jerusalem; and 127, The Yosemite Fall, Yosemite Valley, California. We heartily commend this fine exhibition to the attention of the brethren.

THE FINE ART SOCIETY, 148, NEW BOND-STREET, W.
WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS OF ENGLISH, SCOTCH, AND ITALIAN
GARDENS, BY G. S. EGOOD, R.I.

This collection of highly-finished water-colour drawings is not only charming in itself, evincing great artistic skill and taste in the exquisite harmonies of colour, but also serves to remind us how many beautiful spots there are in the world, with which the majority of us have little or no acquaintance. It is interesting to note the different styles of landscape gardening—how in the English and Scotch the arrangements are on more massive lines than those of the Italian, which go more into details than our own. Mr. Elgood's work gives evidence of careful industry, he seems to revel in colour, and, yet, brilliant as are his pictures, he in nowise sins against the canons of art. Amongst the beautiful pictures we notice those of Crathes, Scotland—Nos. 5, Autumn; 8, Phion; 44, The South Walk; 63, The Garden Gate; other places in Scotland—1, The Rose Garden, Balcaskie; 4, The Terrace Walk; 21, Kellie Castle. In England—23, The Pool,

Bramham, Yorkshire; 30, The Strid, Bolton Woods, Yorkshire; 38, Stepping Stones, Bolton Abbey; 55, Cottage Garden, Leicestershire. In Italy—6, Head of the Great Stair, Villa Gazzoni; 13, Florence, from St. Miniato; 15, Villa Imperiale, Genoa; 25, Como, from the Villa d'Este; 32, Villa Colonna, Rome; 46, Villa Castello, Florence. There are many other fine pictures. We would recommend a visit.

THE STRAND THEATRE.

There is a very amusing Farce now being played at the above theatre, entitled "The Wrong Mr. Wright." The title is a happy one. The author is Mr. Geo. H. Broadhurst, already well known by "What Happened to Jones," and "Why Smith left Home," which achieved great success, being thoroughly appreciated by the play-going public. "What Happened to Jones," has been revived at Terry's Theatre. "The Wrong Mr. Wright," relates the adventures of a Mr. Singleton Tites, who, under the assumed name of Wright, endeavours to trace and discover the locality of a Mr. Bailey, his cashier, who has levanted with a considerable amount of money by means of forged documents. The many difficulties he has to encounter, especially at the conclusion of the piece, of establishing his identity lead to awkward predicaments, which are brought before the audience in a ludicrous manner. Mr. Thos. A. Wise, who enacts the part of the hero, is gifted with a sense of dry humour, which carries him triumphantly through the bustling business of the piece. There are some good character sketches, well contrasted. Wayland Clingstone, the part of the unctuous hypocrite, is well conceived by Mr. Geo. Shelton. Lieutenant Crosby, Fredk. Bond, and Belmont Stuyvesant, jun., receive full justice at the hands of Messrs. Farren Soutar, Herbert E. Terry, and Sam Sothern. Miss Decima Moore, who, as Tillie Bird masquerades as her mistress; Ethel Bond, played by Miss Ellen Macbeth, has an opportunity of displaying her talent, of which she does not fail to render good account. The important rôle of Henrietta Oliver, the female detective, an important agent in the development of the plot, is ably undertaken by Miss Constance Collier. The continued success of "The Wrong Mr. Wright" is well deserved. We would strongly recommend all those who can enjoy a hearty laugh to pay a visit to the Strand Theatre.

GENERAL NOTES.

The question has often been asked of naturalists, whether vipers possess legs? The answers received have been of a conflicting nature. Some positively deny the fact, others affirm confidently that it is so. As it, therefore, seems doubtful in the minds of many persons whether the creatures have limbs or not, a few words on the subject may not be out of place. It may create surprise when we say that a decided "no" cannot be given as an answer to the question. This is owing to the fact that snakes sometimes bear towards the hind end of their body a pair of small tentacles, like protuberances, which, if not legs in the true sense of the word, are vestiges of what once were, as the internal arrangements of the bones in their neighbourhood sometimes show there being unmistakable leg bones. These legged snakes are not, as it is needless to say, very frequently met with.

* * * *

Mrs. Oscar Beringer has been discoursing to a feminine audience on the women dramatists of to-day, a subject with which she is obviously well acquainted, and on which she has every right to record her opinion. Women, happily, are progressing in intellectual capacity, and there is little doubt that ere long they will be able to hold their own. Every day they are acquiring a wider and deeper knowledge of life—a knowledge which has not always been within their reach. What we may reasonably expect is, that the lady playwright will always excel much more in comedy than in serious drama. It is only the exceptional woman who has the strength to conceive and represent tragedy. Miss Milford tried and failed; the only plays by women which can be called classics, take the form of comedies—"The Wonder a Woman Keeps a Secret," by Mrs. Centlivre, and so forth. In our own day, it is in this direction that women have succeeded most conspicuously—take for example, "John Oliver Hobbes," whose single effort in tragic drama, did not make a favourable impression.

* * * *

Tschaikowsky's "Pathetic" symphony, originally composed for, and produced by, the Philharmonic Society, will be performed at the first concert of the forthcoming season. The work has been played so often all over the world, that most musicians and amateurs are familiar with it, and some of them think it might be allowed to rest awhile. But it is quite easy to understand the Society's wish to repeat, with their own orchestra, a work which has become famous since they brought it out.

* * * *

At the War Concert to be given at the Albert Hall, under the auspices of the Colonial Society, a band of 500 performers upon mandolines, mandolas, lutes, guitars, and similar instruments, will be heard, conducted by Signor Marchisio. The Royal Academy of Music Choir, Madame Albani, Mr. Edward Lloyd, and Sir Alexander Mackenzie, will take part in the concert at which T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales have promised to be present.

* * * *

Our clever young English pianist, Miss Gertrude Peppercorn, is going to Berlin, where she has been engaged for recitals. From thence she goes to other German cities, and will be away several weeks.

* * * *

By the generosity of Mr. H. E. Bischoffsheim, the National Portrait Gallery has been enabled to acquire the portraits of Charles I. and his Queen, Henrietta Maria, from the Marquis of Normanby's collection, about which there was, a little while ago, an animated argument between the Treasury and the Gallery Trustees, Mr. Bischoffsheim having bought and presented to the gallery the picture of Henrietta Maria, the funds at the disposal of the Trustees proved to be sufficient to meet the cost of the other portrait. Both works are well worthy of places in the National collection, and such a satisfactory ending to a much discussed episode is a matter for congratulation.

NINETEENTH ANNUAL BANQUET OF THE LOGIC CLUB.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. J. P. FITZGERALD, P.M.

A large number of members and friends of the Logic Club—to the number of over 100—assembled at the Café Royal, Regent-street, on the 28th ult., under the presidency of the esteemed Preceptor, Bro. Robert Manuel, P.M. 1196, who was supported by Bros. R. D. Cummings, P.M. 2168, Treas.; J. J. Thomas, P.G. Std. Br., Treasurer of the Charities Association; Harry Nicholls, P.M. 2127; Nathan Robinson, P.M. 55; A. G. Duck, P.M. 898; C. J. Grove, P.M.; A. G. Neville, S.W. 2739; J. H. Barnes, J.W. 2127; Dr. Milsom Rees, S.W. 1584; Harry Manfield, G. Treasurer nominate; J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; C. O. Hass, W.M. 1777; R. G. Robinson, W.M. 1531; C. Isler, W.M. 1471; E. J. Gordon, W.M. 2319; Lionel Rignold, W.M. elect 2127; A. W. Watson, P.M.; S. Garcia, P.M.; W. G. Kent, P.M.; O. Barnett, P.M.; W. E. Haycock, P.M. 1196; W. Foxton, J. Seaman, W. Thomas, P.M.; M. J. Garcia, E. F. James, Gotthelf Greiner, J.W. 2076; J. R. Meyrick, M. Miroy, 19; E. Berg, E. Gatfield, John Le Hay, J. E. Hambleton, P.M.; J. Steiner, J. T. Murray, 2127; G. Hering, Dr. A. Keightley, G. H. Peters, W. Blanchette, 2427; B. McNeill, 2127; J. Carnaby, G. Paxton, 435; J. Madeley, 1716; and J. Percy Fitzgerald, P.M. 2168, and Secretary of the Logic Club, in the vice-chair.

The following visitors were present: Bros. Richard Eve, P.G. Treas.; G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C.; J. Fernandez, P.A.G.D.C.; W. Lestocq, P.M. 1319, Preceptor Genesius Club; W. H. Marler, Sec. Genesius Club; W. G. Smith, W.M. 1728; W. Curry, W.M. 435; E. Macbean, P.M. 2076; E. Greiner, P.M. 92; T. Butler, Sec. 1716; Sultan M. Khan, 2772; and W. W. Lee, P.M.; and Messrs. R. O. Barnett, W. Arthur Bruce, F. W. Capps, E. J. Mott, and many others.

Bro. Sam Johnson, P.M. 1319, for many years Treasurer of the Logic Club, and still a valued member of the Committee, was prevented attending by indisposition.

Letters of regret for non-attendance were read from Bros. the Earl of Euston, P.G.M. Norths and Hunts; G. Richards, Dist. G.M. Transvaal; Henry Neville, P.A.G.D.C.; Imre Kiraly, P.A.G.D.C.; and many others.

The most interesting feature of the proceedings was a presentation to Bro. J. P. Fitzgerald, P.M., of a handsome testimonial, consisting of a gold watch suitably inscribed, a gold chain and a gold bracelet for Mrs. Fitzgerald. The former bears the following inscription: "Presented to W. Bro. J. P. Fitzgerald, P.M., by the members of the Logic Club, in sincere and fraternal appreciation of his unremitting services as Secretary for 19 years. January, 1900."

After banquet, "The Queen" was first honoured, followed by "The Grand Officers."

Bro. R. Eve, P.G. Treas., responding for the latter toast, said he did not know of any club that had done so much good for Masonry. It was the first time he had been asked to reply for the Grand Officers on a Sunday, but they could not have a better day. Freemasonry gave them the opportunity of making themselves more extensively useful to their fellow creatures. That was a high position to attain, and every Mason should act for the benefit, not only of the Craft, but of their great humanity.

The CHAIRMAN proposed "The Logic Club," and said it was their practice at these social gatherings to propose, early in the toast list, the health of an ideal. That ideal was the reverent, earnest, and accurate rendering of their beautiful ritual, with close attention to its details. In the Logic Club they strove for that ideal. He thought that since he last had the honour of presiding progress had been made towards attaining their ideal. He was very gratified to be able to announce at this important and influential gathering one feature. They had added the graceful art of music to their rehearsals. In trying to effectively study the ritual of Freemasonry they found some differences of opinion as to the rendering of certain phrases, or the proper actions which should accompany certain stages in their ceremonies. In their club they had a working which seemed to have met with the approval of the members and also influential approval outside. Those were the thoughts that occurred in proposing this ideal. Of the three Masons who started that ideal 19 years ago, two had passed away, and their portraits hung behind him. The one in the place of honour was deservedly so. The older members would ever remember with regret he was no longer present and have reverent regard for the memory of that charming, hearty and kindly English gentleman and loyal Mason, John Maclean. With regard to George Buckland, he did not enjoy his acquaintance, but from all he knew, he was a worthy member of the triumvirate. One remained with them. For 19 years the one remaining had been the Secretary of the club. They knew what that meant. During the whole of that time he had always acted on the square, done his level best, and retained his perpendicular. This was a fitting opportunity for trying to convey to the surviving founder the sense of their appreciation of his loyal work for the club. He had stuck to the Club in its vicissitudes, never losing heart, and now when the sun of prosperity was shining they wanted to show him in a special manner their appreciation of his loyalty. This was their Bro. Jas. Percy Fitzgerald. On behalf of the club it was his privilege to ask Bro. Fitzgerald's acceptance of a slight token of their esteem and regard, which he hoped would be equally gratifying to Mrs. Fitzgerald. They hoped the two recipients would live for many years to wear the gifts with pride and pleasure, and that their children would look upon them as evidence of the high regard in which they were both held by the brethren. The toast was "The Logic Club," coupled with the name of its only surviving founder and 19 year-old Secretary, Bro. Fitzgerald.

Bro. J. PERCY FITZGERALD, P.M., said that after the kind remarks of the Chairman and their cordial reception of the toast, it left him "poor indeed." He felt that the year just closed was a record one in the history of the club. As the Preceptor had said, their early troubles had been serious, but they had stuck to it and, thank God, they had pulled through, and he hoped they would continue to be a factor in Masonry for many years to come. It was necessary for him to give them some particulars as to the progress of the Logic Club during the last year. It had always been the custom to place before them some figures. Thirty-six meetings had been held, the attendance reaching 1033, or an average of 27½. They had enrolled 49 new members. In the history of the club they had never had so successful a year. It was a record one. During the meetings they were visited by members of other lodges and these numbered 201 brethren. The Charities were a strong point with them, for Charity was the fundamental principle upon which the Club was founded. He hoped he was not encroaching on any remarks to be made by Bro. J. J. Thomas, who looked after that portion of their work, when he told them that 2773 guineas had been subscribed by the Club. He held a letter from Bro. Richards, Dist. G.M. Transvaal, acknowledging 20 guineas sent him for the benefit of brethren and families in South Africa in distress through the war; 105 shillings had been subscribed to the *Daily Telegraph* Fund; and £5 5s. to the City of London Imperial Volunteers. That showed they were doing their little best for Charity. He did not know what to say for their kindly recognition of his work, and could not find words to adequately express what he felt. He certainly did indicate to the Preceptor that 19 years was a long time, and that

a little retirement would be a good thing for him and probably a good thing for the Club. There were young members; he thought one of their number might take the work. He approached one member on the subject; but that brother said he would rather go to the front than take it. They had asked him to remain as Secretary, and he supposed he should have to do so. He felt there must be a time when that important office would be well held by a younger member, and when they felt they wanted such a change they could tell him. He said "God bless them" for all they had done for him, and if he could at any time be of assistance, as he hoped and trusted he had been to the younger members, his services were at their disposal.

The CHAIRMAN next gave "The Guest of the Evening, Bro. H. Manfield." The Mecca of all ambitious Masons was Grand Lodge—their guest had been elected by the Craft to the office of G.T., and had won golden opinions by the courtesy with which he had conducted his candidature.

Bro. HARRY MANFIELD, in reply, expressed his appreciation of the honour the Craft had conferred upon him, and his gratification that the distinction had this year been bestowed on a Provincial brother.

Bro. WILLIAM THOMAS, P.M. 2168, and Past Member of the Logic Club Committee, in proposing "The Chairman," congratulated the club on its increasing success, and invited the members and their guests to cordially drink the health of Bro. Robert Manuel, their Chairman and Preceptor, to whose untiring efforts much of the recent progress was attributable.

The CHAIRMAN (who was well received) thanked his old and valued friend Bro. Wm. Thomas for the kind manner in which he had proposed the toast of the chair. The duty of presiding over the Logic Club, either when it was engaged in labour or refreshment, had its responsibilities, but really the gratifying progress of the club was largely due to the earnestness and sympathetic co-operation of the members.

Bro. J. J. THOMAS gave "The Masonic Charities," to which Bro. J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B. responded; and Bro. Sultan MOHAMAD KHAN, Bros. FERNANDEZ, LESTOCQ, and MARLER, responded for "The Visitors," given by Bro. R. D. CUMMINGS.

During the evening the following artistes entertained the brethren, under the direction of Bro. J. S. Murray, Chairman of the Musical Committee: Miss Florence Daly (who sang charmingly), Bros. Herbert and Edward Gatfield, Arthur Faber, Will Edwards, and McCall Chambers; also instrumental solos by Bro. J. E. Hambleton (Cello), Bro. E. F. James (Bassoon), Bro. J. Steiner (Flute), and Mr. Harlow (Cornet). Miss Theresa Beney was an admirable accompanist.

Recitations were given by Bro. J. H. Barnes (Judas), Bro. Harry Nicholls (The Property Room), and Bro. John Le Hay (Entomology).

After spending an evening of unalloyed pleasure, the large and representative gathering, before separating, joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem.

Great praise is due to Bro. J. T. Murray for so ably organising the programme of Music, &c.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF DERBYSHIRE.

VISIT OF THE M.W. PRO GRAND MASTER, THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF EUSTON, AND HIS OFFICERS.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge took place on Friday afternoon, the 2nd instant, at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby, and proved to be the largest and most successful gathering held since the constitution of the province under the control of Provincial Grand Master Woodiwiss. Not merely was there a very influential attendance of Prov. Grand Officers and brethren from all parts of the shire, but the M.W. Pro Grand Master of England, Bro. the Earl of Euston, and a number of distinguished members of Mark Grand Lodge, honoured the meeting with their presence.

Bro. Woodiwiss opened the Provincial Grand Lodge, supported by the following:

Bros. J. H. Lawson, D.P.G.M.; Wm. Cooper, P.S.G.W.; G. R. Capes, P.J.G.W.; C. F. Wardley, P.G.M.O.; the Rev. C. W. Groves and the Rev. T. Orrell, P.G. Chaps.; Percy Wallis, P.G. Treas., Eng., P.G. Sec.; W. Whittaker, P.G. Reg.; F. Iliffe, P.G.D.C.; S. F. Rowan, P.A.G.D.C.; W. P. Hall, P.P.S.G.D.; R. A. Little, P.P.J.G.D.; W. Woodiwiss, P.G.I.G.; J. Walker, P.P.S.G.W.; W. J. Piper, P.P.S.G.W.; G. M. Bond, P.P.G.I. of W.; W. Beadon Woodforde, P.P.J.G.W.; J. E. Harrison, P.P.J.G.W.; G. Tarver, P.P.J.G.W.; E. J. H. Hoskyns, P.P.G.M.O.; C. Webster, P.P.S.G.O.; J. O. Manton, P.P.S.G.O.; W. H. Wright, W.M. 302; E. Stockton, W.M. 339, P.J.G.D.; T. B. Cull, W.M. 353; W. H. Bass, W.M. 373, P.G. Std. Br.; W. Hellier, W.M. 414; T. Shipton, S.W. 529; W. H. Edmunds, Sec. 529; T. Hearne, P.P.G.I.G.; G. Holderness, P.P.G.O.; J. Cook, P.P.G.M.O.; W. Salter, I.P.M. 339; W. C. Riley, Prov. G. Org.; C. D. Hart, P.P.S.G.O.; R. Lane, P.P.G.D.; A. Oram, P.P.G.S.B.; T. Oldham, P.P.G.I. of W.; J. T. Spalding, Prov. G. Sec. Notts; A. Page, Prov. S.G.W. Notts; F. Stone, 302; H. Offiler, 302; F. E. Leech, 302; J. Close, 302; and many others.

After the transaction of routine business, the M.W. Pro G.M., the Earl of Euston, entered the lodge accompanied by the following: Bros. C. Letch Mason, Prov. G.M. W. Yorks; Major J. W. Woodall, P.P.G.M. N. and E. Yorks; Sir Thomas Roe, G.J.W.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec.; C. Belton, P.G.M.O.; Thos. Cox, P.S.G.O.; Colonel Clifford Probyn, P.G. Treas.; Percy Wallis, P.G. Treas.; Rev. H. J. Mason, P.G. Chap., P.G. Sec. Leicester; R. Fitzhugh, D.P.G.M. Notts; E. C. Milligan, P.D.P.G.M.; Edgar Horne, G.S.D.; E. M. Kidd, P.G.D.; H. E. Cousins, G.D.C.; T. P. Dorman, P.G.I.G.; W. W. Jeudwine, W.M. 529; J. R. Eastwood, P.M. 353, and Isaac W. Woodiwiss, P.G. Stewards.

Having taken their seats upon the dais, the distinguished visitors were received with the honours due to their rank and station.

The Prov. Grand Master appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year in the following order:

Bro. J. H. Lawson, P.G. Std. Br. Eng.	... D.P.G.M.
" William Whittaker	... P.G. Sec.
" Holland Rowbottom	... P.G. Reg.
" A. W. Slack	... P.G. Chaps.
" W. H. Wright	... P.G. I.G.
" W. H. Salter	... P.G. G.O.
" Rev. C. W. Groves	... P.G. M.O.
" J. Thwaites Mumford	... P.G. S.B.

Bro. William Cooper, P.P.S.G.W. (elected)	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" T. Bishop Cull	...	Prov. G.R.
" Percy Wallis, P.G. Treas. Eng., P.P.S.G.W.	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" W. H. Bass	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" Thomas Shipton	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" W. Eaton	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" Frank Iliffe (re-appointed)	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" J. Burton Boycott	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" A. Butterworth	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" W. O. Plowright	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" R. H. Higgitt	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. H. Edmunds	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" Jno. B. Starbuck	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" W. Reid	...	
" Thos. Whittle	...	
" G. S. Smith	...	
" G. E. Carline	...	
" A. Slinn	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

{ Prov. G. Stwd.

The PROV. G. MASTER then delivered a brief address, in the course of which he congratulated the brethren on the progress the Order was making in that county. Mark Masonry did not advance by leaps and bounds, but it was, nevertheless, steady and sure in its movements. Having made feeling allusion to the removal by death of Bro. Alfred Schofield, one of the founders of St. Martin's Lodge, the Prov. G. Master eulogised the liberality with which the brethren had supported the Mark, Benevolent Fund, and mentioned that the Earl of Euston had intimated his willingness to preside at the next Festival of that Charity in July. When he remembered the great esteem in which Lord Euston was held by the brethren of that province, he entertained no doubt that they would make a special effort in order to assist those who wished to make this anniversary a record in regard to the amount of the subscriptions to the Fund. He was glad to know that an increase had been made to the number of Mark lodges in the province, and he was convinced that the Scarsdale Lodge, which he had recently the satisfaction of consecrating at Chesterfield, was in the hands of worthy brethren, who would conduct it honourably and successfully.

Subsequently the M.W. PRO G. MASTER, acknowledging the thanks of the brethren for his attendance, said it was perfectly true that many calls were made upon his time, but he none the less experienced a distinct pleasure in attending that meeting, because he had had many proofs of the zeal and liberality of Derbyshire brethren. The splendid gathering of Mark Masons he saw before him was a source of pride and encouragement to all who had the true interests of the Order at heart. He remembered when, upon the death of the venerable and respected Bro. Kelly, Prov. G. Master of Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Derbyshire, and Rutlandshire, Derbyshire was made a separate province, he (the Earl of Euston) had the honour of installing Bro. Woodiwiss as their Provincial Grand Master. On that occasion he took the opportunity of saying that the right man had been put in the right place, and events had fully confirmed that opinion. In Bro. Woodiwiss they had a brother of great ability, generosity, and tact, and one who did not count personal trouble whilst serving the interests of the Order. Whilst he congratulated the Provincial Grand Master upon being so loyally supported, he congratulated the province upon having such an able chief. (Applause.) Incidentally referring to the Mark Benevolent Festival, the Earl of Euston remarked that many special calls were being made upon their purses just now; but so far as the war was concerned, he reminded them that a number of their brethren were at the front, and they hoped to be able to assist the families of the Mark Masons who fell or were disabled whilst serving their Queen and country. (Applause.)

At the conclusion of the business, a very large company adjourned to the banqueting hall, where a sumptuous repast was served, after which the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

The healths of the M.W. Pro Grand Master and the Provincial Grand Master was received with the greatest enthusiasm.

THE ENGLISH EDUCATION EXHIBITION AND THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

On the 5th ult. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales opened an English Education Exhibition at the Imperial Institute. Among the bodies asked to exhibit was the Boys' School. The exhibition had its origin in the desire of the Royal Commission for the Paris Exhibition of 1900 that English education should be properly represented in the Educational Section of the coming Paris Exhibition. It was decided that the best way of securing this was to organise a preliminary exhibition in London, from the exhibits at which a selection might be made to be sent to Paris. We gather that some of the exhibits of the Boys' School are among those selected to go. The exhibition in London aimed at giving as complete a view as possible of the work of Education in England. The spaces allotted to the various bodies invited to take part were so grouped that the exhibits of institutions doing work of a similar character were to be found in close proximity to one another, e.g., the Universities, public schools, girls' schools, elementary schools, technical boards.

Among the public school exhibits was that of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. The invitation to the School came somewhat late, but in the few weeks given an attempt was made to show as clearly as possible the nature of the work done by it in all its aspects. On the table was a book containing the Laws, &c., of the Institution, and its history from the foundation in 1798. A large framed diagram showing the internal organisation of the School at the present day was a prominent feature on the allotted wall space. On this diagram were to be seen details of each form, such as the number of boys in it, their average age, and the programme of work for the term in the various subjects taken.

It is generally agreed that a large school, especially a boarding school, should be divided up into separate houses of not more than 50 boys each. With larger numbers than this, boys, as it were, feel lost, and the evils of barrack life, so universally condemned, become apparent. Perhaps the gravest disadvantage of the present buildings, happily to be remedied at Bushey, is the absence of adequate provision for such separation.

In the main building about 200 boys live together. It might be seen from this diagram that an attempt has been made to obviate, as far as bricks and mortar will allow, this disadvantage by dividing up the senior boys into divisions called "houses," containing each 35 boys under the charge of a house master. Under the heading "Monitorial System," the same diagram shows that the elder boys have a share allotted to them in the discipline of the School. It will be pretty generally agreed that the Prefectorial System has excellent results in the development of character and self-reliance.

The time-tables of three representative forms, coloured to show the number of hours allotted to each subject, were hung in another frame close by.

On the table lay three portfolios containing marked and annotated examination papers selected from those done by boys in the same three forms in the examination conducted by the Cambridge University Schools' Examination Board last autumn. These papers were selected, not with a view to showing the best work done, but to show the questions asked, the system of marking adopted, and the kind of notes and corrections inserted by those who marked the papers.

Two albums contained, one an account of the athletic life of the School, the other an account of other out-of-school occupations. In the former, by the Chairman of the Games Committee, we read how cricket, football, &c., are organised, how the services of the cricket professional are utilised, and under what conditions the inter-house competitions in cricket, football, fives, and hockey (for the three former of which silver challenge cups have been given) are conducted. Gymnastics form part of the regular school course in every form. Mention is made, too, of cross-country runs, athletic sports, and swimming. It will be seen that, despite the fact that the extent of the playing fields at Wood Green is inadequate for the present needs of the School, yet its athletic life is in a flourishing condition.

In the second album we get an account, by the President of the Natural Historical Society, of the work in the carpentry, printing, and bookbinding shops, of "The Masonian" (School Magazine), the Natural History Society, and the Photographic Club. The handicrafts mentioned are taken up by boys who volunteer to do so as out-of-school hobbies, under the charge of skilled teachers and under strict regulation and supervision. On the diagram previously mentioned it might be seen that, in addition to these voluntary occupations, a system of class teaching in manual work has been introduced into one of the lower forms, and that it will be gradually extended throughout the greater part of the School.

Specimens of the kind of work done in out-of-school hours lay on the table—copies of "The Masonian," largely printed by the boys; examples of printing and bookbinding; photographs printed from negatives taken in the School for a series of lantern slides to illustrate lessons on English history; specimens of carpentry; finally, the holiday collection of wild flowers that won the first prize this year.

The specimens of carpentry shown, viz., a carved walnut cabinet, a carved reading desk, and some joints, were, we think, of especial excellence, both in design and execution.

A third album contained photographs of the present buildings—a general view, big school, dining hall, a dormitory, class rooms, gymnasium, &c. Prominent features on the wall were a perspective drawing and ground plan of the new buildings now being erected at Bushey, together with a letterpress description of the same and small scale drawings.

We feel sure that all educational experts who may have taken the trouble to make a detailed examination of the plans will have been struck with the extreme suitability of their arrangements for the life and work of a big school, and that those of them who are schoolmasters will in most cases have looked at them with feelings of envy.

Craft Masonry.

Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Cannon-street Hotel, E.C., on Thursday, the 1st instant, when there were present Bros. John G. Robeson, W.M.; William Baker, I.P.M., D.C.; T. Stokes, S.W.; A. Fergusson, J.W.; Thos. Cohu, P.M., Treas.; Jas. Smith, P.M., Sec.; A. J. Rippin, J.D., acting as S.D.; A. F. Roche, I.G., acting as J.D.; Collins, I.G.; Chatterton, Org.; Hughes, P.M.; Mower, P.M.; Abbott, P.M.; Prevost, T. E. Fergusson, Tom Davies, Meers, Neil MacLarty, Willey, Jones, Grimsdale, Smirk, Hipwell, Bayley, Williams, Thomson, Farr, Lloyd, A. A. Jones, Cowdry, Lockett, Wetton, Fishleigh, A. P. MacLarty, Bamford, Ward, Crawshaw, and Leach. Visitors: Bros. Kemp, D.C. 1716; Jackson, 1421; Shingles, 79; and W. Brown, S20.

Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. Willey, Smirk, A. A. Jones, Grimsdale, and Neil MacLarty were duly raised to the Degree of M.M. Bro. Thomas Stokes was then unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Thos. Cohu, P.M., was unanimously re-elected as Treasurer. Bros. Collins, Farr, and Lloyd were unanimously elected as members of the Audit Committee. Notice of motion was then given by Bro. Jas. Smith that a Past Master's jewel of the value of £10 10s. be presented to Bro. John G. Robeson on his retiring from the chair, also by Bro. Cohu that the sum of 20 guineas be voted for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and that the same be placed on the list of Bro. Stokes, W.M. elect. The by-laws were then read.

Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 60.

A meeting was held on the 26th ult., at Freemasons' Hall. Among those present were Bros. C. Robinson, P.M. 780, 1149, 2523, P.P.G.R. Surrey, P.G. Stwd., W.M.; Slade, G. Stwd., S.W.; W. Ford, J.W.; J. T. Chancellor, P.M., P.G.S., Treas.; E. Rogers, P.M., P.P.G.D. Middx.; P.G.S., Sec.; Dr. Jackman, S.D.; Major T. C. Wallis, P.M., P.G.S., P.G. Std. Br. Eng., D.C.; H. Slade, P.M., P.G.S.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., P.G.S.; and A. II. Debenham, P.G.S., I.P.M. Among the visitors were Bros. James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., and Major C. S. Cassal, P.M.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Dr. G. A. S. Gordon, M.A., L.R.C.P., and he was impressively initiated by the W.M. Bro. Rodger, the candidate for raising, was too indisposed to be present. Bro. W. Ford, J.W., was unanimously elected to be recommended to the M.W.G.M. as G. Steward for 1900-1. He was elected as a Steward to represent the lodge for the R.M.I.G.

Apologies for non-attendance having been read, the lodge was closed, after which a banquet followed.

Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., replied most eloquently on behalf of "The Grand Officers." He also complimented the W.M. upon his working, and expressed his satisfaction that the Charitable Institutions were all to be represented. With regard to his own particular Institution, he trusted that Bro. Slade's list would be in every way worthy of the reputation of one of the oldest lodges in the Craft. The Peace and Harmony Lodge during its long career had had many notable brethren amongst its members, and at the present time it possessed Past Masters who had done good suit and service to the Craft at large, and to the Masonic Charities in particular.

"The Health of the W.M." was flatteringly proposed by the I.P.M. He said that Bro. Robinson that day had given them an excellent taste of his quality. He had performed the ceremony of initiation well, and he (the speaker) should look forward with pleasurable anticipation to see the W.M. perform the other ceremonies of Freemasonry.

The W.M. having briefly replied, gave the toast of "The Initiate."

Bro. Dr. Gordon, in reply, stated how impressed he had been with the ceremony that evening. He considered it to be a great honour to belong to a lodge of so distinguished a character as No. 60, and he hoped in due time to participate in all its privileges.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was coupled with the name of Bro. A. H. Debenham, I.P.M., who made a humorous speech in response.

In submitting the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. congratulated the lodge upon possessing two brethren so capable of discharging the duties of their respective offices as Bros. Chancellor and Rogers were. The lodge financially was in a good position, and he trusted that it would always be so.

The Treasurer and Secretary replied.

"The Health of the Officers," coupled with the names of Bros. Slade and Ford, terminated the proceedings.

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GRAND LODGE ROOM,

FREEMASONS' HALL,

ON FRIDAY, 2ND MARCH, 1900,

The Right Worshipful Brother The Right Honourable THE EARL OF WARWICK, Deputy Grand Master; Provincial Grand Master for Essex, &c., &c., &c., has kindly consented to preside.

LODGE will be opened at 6 p.m. precisely.

THE work will be the Second Lecture.

THE First Section by Bro. J. H. Jenks.

Second Section by Bro. W. R. Bennett.

Third Section by Bro. R. L. S. Badham.

Fourth Section by Bro. Chas. Lewis.

Fifth Section by Bro. T. W. Allsop.

SUPPLIER will be served in the adjoining Hall immediately after the Lodge is closed.

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To Correspondents.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1900

Masonic Notes.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, under the presidency of Comp. Col. R. Townley Caldwell, G. Supt. Cambridgeshire. There was, as usual, a somewhat sparse attendance; but the business was for the most part of a formal character, and did not occupy any great length of time.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will take place on Wednesday, the 14th instant. The chief business will be the settlement of the lists of candidates for the elections at the annual general meeting in May, and the declaration of the number of vacancies then to be balloted for.

* * *

A convocation of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Hertfordshire will be held at the Freemasons' Hall, Watford, on Wednesday, the 21st instant, under the auspices of the Watford Chapter, No. 404. The business that will be brought forward is of the usual character. There will, however, be the installation of a new Prov. Grand H. in the person of Comp. F. Sumner Knyvett, who has been chosen to succeed the late Comp. George E. Lake. The report of the Board of Finance shows that at the close of the year 1898-9 there was a balance in the Prov. Grand Treasurer's hands of close upon £35. The usual banquet will follow, and companions who may desire tickets—price 21s. each—are requested to make application to Comp. the Rev. O. C. Cockrem, London Orphan Asylum, Watford, on or before Monday, the 19th instant, so that the necessary arrangements may be made for their accommodation. The summons reminds the companions that the Province is in mourning for the lamented Comp. George E. Lake, Prov. Grand H.

* * *

Last week we had the pleasure of reporting the consecration of two new lodges, which start under such favourable auspices as to justify the belief that their future will be exceptionally prosperous. Of these the John Brunner Lodge, No. 2799, is located at Winsford, in the Province of Cheshire. It is thus named after Bro. Sir John Brunner, M.P., the principal founder and first W. Master, and most appropriately the ceremony of consecration, which was performed by his Honour Judge Sir Horatio Lloyd, P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M., took place in the beautiful Guildhall recently presented to the town of Winsford by Sir John. When the lodge was constituted, the W.M. was installed in office by Bro. F. Broadsmit, P.P.G.W., and the officers for the year having been appointed and invested, and the remaining business disposed of, the customary banquet followed. The proceedings throughout were satisfactory in all respects, the oration, which was delivered during the consecration by Bro. the Rev. C. R. Nunn, Prov. G. Chap., being a brief, but able exposition of the "Nature and Principles of the Institution." The new lodge has our best wishes for its success.

* * *

The other new lodge was inaugurated at the Regent Masonic Hall under the style and title of the Lodge L'Entente Cordiale, No. 2796, the ceremony being performed by the Grand Secretary, Bro. E. Letchworth, F.S.A., who subsequently installed Bro. Captain H. Mondehare as the first W.M. A banquet followed at the Cafe Royal, the proceedings giving every promise of a successful future. The new lodge may be considered as the necessary complement to Lodge La France, No. 2060, in which the work is conducted in French, while its membership is restricted to brethren of French nationality, who have fulfilled their military obligations in their own country. The La France Lodge, however, speedily became so popular that in order to meet the wishes of those numerous brethren who were debarred from joining its ranks, it was considered expedient to found a second lodge, the work of which should also be conducted in the French language, but the membership left open to brethren of all nationalities. Hence the new lodge, which has a numerous body of founders, and for whose success the omens are decidedly propitious. The members of L'Entente Cordiale, No. 2796, have our hearty good wishes for their success.

* * *

At the December Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria, Bro. Lord Brassey, M.W.G.M., announced his approaching departure for England, on the completion of his term of service as Governor of the Colony, and the severance of his connection with its prosperous Grand Lodge. In the course of his remarks, his lordship expressed the regret which he felt at leaving, complimented the Craft on the admirable manner in which Grand Lodge had been conducted whenever he had the opportunity of presiding, and thanked the members generally for the personal kindness he had always received from them. His lordship concluded by nominating as his successor the Pro G.M., Bro. A. J. Peacock, to whose valuable services to Victorian Freemasonry he paid a well-merited compliment. It being the only nomina-

tion, Bro. Peacock may be looked upon as virtually the Grand Master-elect, and, in thanking the brethren for the very great honour they had conferred upon him, he said "he only accepted the position in the hope that in the near future a member of the Royal Family would be occupying the position of Governor-General of their United Colonies, who would also fill the position of Grand Master of this Grand Lodge." In the course of the proceedings, the Grand Lodge adopted the recommendation of the Board of General Purposes to add a cottage to the Freemasons' Charitable Institution, to be known as the "George Baker Memorial Cottage," in honour of the late lamented Bro. George Baker, D.G.M.

* * *

It is in every way creditable to the Educational and Managerial Staffs of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, that the pupils should have acquitted themselves so well at the recent English Education Exhibition, at the Imperial Institute, which was opened by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales—who is President of the Institution—on the 5th ult., and was closed on the 27th ult. The School was invited to take part in the Exhibition, and though the invitation came somewhat late, we understand from the report which was furnished to us, and will be found on another page, that several of the Boys exhibits have been selected for the purpose of being included in the English portion of the Educational Section of the approaching Paris Exhibition.

* * *

In the old days—by which we mean nothing more formidable than some 15 or 20 years ago—when Mark Masonry, though a growing body, was by no means so strong and influential an organisation as it is now, its Grand Lodge was content with half-yearly communications and periodical meetings known as "Moveable Grand Lodges," which were held in the more active Mark Centres in the Provinces. Latterly, the Mark Grand Lodge has held quarterly communications, and we have heard nothing—or at all events, but little—of the "Moveable" gatherings. They have not, however, been abolished, as the announcement has reached us that such a grand lodge will be held at Dukinfield, Province of Cheshire, on Saturday, the 17th instant, at which the Earl of Euston, M.W. Pro Grand Master, will consecrate and re-constitute the Ashton District Lodge Time Immortal.

* * *

Our readers will no doubt remember that this was the lodge which caused such a rumpus in Mark Masonry last year. It had been working, some say for about a century, but certainly since 1830, in the old fashion, that is, under the sanction of a Craft warrant. It had been invited to place itself under the banner of the Mark Grand Lodge, but unavailingly. Last year, however, the latter body went for the Ashton Mark in grand style, and, knocking it completely out of time, declared it to be a "spurious and clandestine" body, with which no Mark Mason with a becoming sense of the duty he owed to his Grand Lodge, might, could, would, or should hold any communication whatever.

* * *

When the contest was on, the parties did what they should have done in the first instance. They met together, and, after a friendly chat, arranged for the restoration of the Ashton Mark Lodge to all its rights and privileges, but under the supreme authority of the Mark Grand Lodge, and ranking fifth among the T.I. Lodges on its Register. Hence this Moveable Grand Lodge that will be held in the Province of Cheshire on the 17th inst., when the "spurious and clandestine" of last year will be declared a legitimate Mark Lodge, and, as we most sincerely hope, will go on its way rejoicing. "All's well that ends well."

* * *

As will be seen from the full report on another page, the Logic Club continues to make great progress and its beneficial influence is extending far and wide, more especially so since increased facilities have existed for the study of Logic working. The rehearsals are conducted with solemnity and thoroughness, the attendances are large, and the members zealous and enthusiastic. The Preceptor, Secretary, and Committee are to be congratulated on the good work they are doing.

* * *

60.
MANY HAPPY RETURNS
TO LIEUT.-GENERAL
BRO. SIR CHARLES WARREN,
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH.

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.

28TH APRIL, 1875.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have waited week by week, so far this year, quite expecting some more influential brother would ask this question—On the above date our M.W. G.M. was installed; what is to be done to commemorate the 25 years of prosperity, now nearly completed, under a rule which has been kindly, impartial, and most beneficial to the Craft?

That we owe some acknowledgment must be patent to everybody, as must also be the fact that it can be the lot of few Grand Masters to fill that office for a quarter of a century.

We all know the M.W.G.M.'s unselfishness; but for that reason we cannot allow an opportunity like this to pass by.

Money, or money's worth, could not have purchased, nor can either pay for such services as his Royal Highness the M.W.G.M. has, without stint, freely rendered to the Craft at large, and, therefore, no such method could possibly satisfy my indebtedness as a Mason, and I am sure thousands share that feeling. Moreover, I trust those of "the powers that be" who are better qualified than myself, will be able to devise some better means, by which, at least, our Masonic Sovereign may be made to feel in his own Royal breast how strongly the great heart of Freemasonry throbs with gratitude. This would not be mere loyalty, but it is an imperative Craft duty.—Yours fraternally,

J. RAMSDEN RILEY.

February 5th.

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HELP, O HELP!

By PROF. F. W. DRIVER, M.A.

A Patriotic Poem.

I.

Our Mother England in her need
Calls on her children true and bold,
To render loving help to her,
And ne'er forget the days of old;
Those days of old though past and gone,
Their truthful records still remain,
However great the peril proved,
She never yet has called in vain.
No English son can Danger's fear appal
No coward base, who shrinks at Duty's call.
Help, O Help!

II.

All, all can help their country's cause,
All render aid, from far or near,
The prosperous merchant by his wealth,
The workman in his humble sphere;
Upon her Army, Navy too,
Great Britain fearlessly relies,
Both have before their courage proved,
United force each foe defies;
Let Soldier, Sailor, and brave Volunteer,
Fight for their country, which they love so dear.
Help, O Help!

III.

Dear woman, crown of earthly bliss,
Loved sharer of each anxious care;
Good son, fond husband, brother brave,
At country's call their absence spare;
True English wives, then let them go,
Part for awhile for Duty's sake,
Assured of this, that God Above
Will bless the sacrifice you make.
Brave mothers, sisters, wives, repress your tears,
Daunt not their courage by your loving fears;
Help, O Help!

IV.

Ye buds of promise, dearly loved
By fathers and by mothers true;
Even on you your country calls,
You have your little tasks to do.
Be good and gentle, kind to all,
No waywardness, nor temper show;
Willing obedience be your aim,
Thus will you all in goodness grow.
Dear little children, by your loving care,
Lighten the burdens which your parents bear.
Help, O Help!

V.

On all, alike, our country calls,
On rich or poor, on young or old,
The old by counsel can assist,
The young by manly courage bold;
Banish all party, creed, or sect,
One feeling actuates us all,
Our Mother country to protect,
Prompt to respond to Duty's call;
Let envious nations learn what we well know,
True to herself, Great Britain fears no foe!
Help, O Help!

VI.

When all is done that Man can do,
When Duty, Courage, yield their best,
Though incomplete may be our plans,
We humbly leave to God the rest;
He, in His Wisdom, will direct

Events, the future will unfold,
O! let us trust they'll work for good,
As in the glorious days of old;
Almighty Father, Saviour, Prince of Peace,
In Thy good time, let this sad conflict cease!
Help, Lord, Help!

31st December, 1899.

62, Lancaster-road, Notting Hill, W.

Craft Masonry.

Hemming Lodge, No. 1512.

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on the 25th ult. Among those present were Bros. C. Wheatley, W.M.; H. Gale, S.W., W.M. elect; C. F. Davis, J.W.; J. C. Jessett, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G. Std. Br. Eng., Sec.; H. Webster, S.D.; W. Hill, J.D.; C. Boyce, I.G.; G. Ransford, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., D. of C.; H. Wheatley, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., A. Z. Schultz, and R. S. Fox, Stwd.; W. Spearing, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; W. Fisher, P.M., P.P.G.T., A.G.P. Eng.; E. H. Trotter, P.M., P.P.G.P.; W. Hopkins, P.M., P.A.G.P. Middx.; and P. Cronin, I.P.M. Among the visitors were Bros. C. Ransford, W.M. 2432; J. W. Hinton, Mus. Doc., P.M. 1503, P.P.G.O.; H. Wood, P.M. 101; F. W. Ford, P.M. 901; J. A. Harvey, P.M. 1314; T. Hobley, P.M. 1320; J. Mayo, P.M. 1614; G. Moorman, P.M. 1638, P.G.P. Surrey; F. P. Hill, P.M. 2140; H. J. Brook, P.M. 2540; J. Norris, 15; W. R. Williams, 145; C. Cassie, 405; H. P. Clark, 1010; P. Hale, 1563; J. C. Bates, 1708; J. Brett, 1733; F. Fleemon, 1743; J. G. Emmett, 2395; C. Satno, 2424; E. Gratnert, 2432; J. Wheatley, 2540; and W. H. Grigg, 2644.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. Singer, Jaquier, and Hopkins were raised to the Third Degree, and Bros. Marchment, Wright, and Aspinall passed to the Second Degree. Bro. H. Gale, having been presented, was duly installed W.M. by the outgoing Master in a most admirable manner. The following officers were appointed and invested: Bros. Davis, S.W.; H. Webster, J.W.; Jessett, P.M., Treas.; Major Walls, P.M., Sec.; Hill, S.D.; Boyce, J.W.; Macchi, I.G.; G. Ransford, P.M., D.C.; G. S. Aspinall, Org.; H. Wheatley, P.M., Z. Schultz, F. Whicher, R. F. Ruff, and C. E. Page, Stwd.; and J. Gilbert, Tyler. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Master and he was presented with a Past Master's collar and jewel. Bro. H. Wetton, jun., having presented the lodge with an Alms Box, a vote of thanks was accorded to him. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. H. H. Room, P.G. Std. Br. Eng.; J. Small, P.G. Sec. Middx.; and R. W. Ferge, P.P.G.D.C. The name of a candidate for initiation having been handed in, the lodge was closed.

A banquet followed, which was excellently served under the personal superintendence of Bro. E. Beltramo.

Bro. William Fisher, A.G.P., responded for "The Grand Lodge Officers" in exhaustive terms.

Bro. W. Hopkins, P.A.G.P., replied on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Lodge Officers."

The I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M." In submitting the toast, he spoke of the interest taken in the lodge by the W.M. since his initiation. He had filled the subordinate offices, and had done justice to them all. In conclusion, the speaker hoped that the W.M.'s year of office would be in every way a highly successful one.

The W.M. having replied, gave "The Installing Master." In the course of his speech the W.M. said that Bro. Charles Wheatley's working in all the four ceremonies of Craft Masonry had been excellent. He could not call to mind any P.M. of No. 1512 who had done the work better. The I.P.M. had justly earned the collar and jewels that had been presented to him that evening.

The I.P.M. having modestly expressed his thanks, the toast of "The Visitors" followed.

Bro. Dr. Hinton expressed his acknowledgments, and congratulated the lodge upon its excellent working. The banquet had been great success. It was his first visit, but he hoped to be honoured some day with another invitation.

Bros. Wood, P.M.; Harvey, P.M.; and G. Moorman, P.M., also replied.

As the hour was late, the last toast was a comprehensive one—"The Past Masters, Treasurer and Secretary, and the Officers."

Bros. H. Wheatley, P.M.; Major T. C. Walls, Sec.; and C. F. Davis, S.W., responded.

"The Health of Bro. Brigadier-General F. W. Hemming," who is about to sail for Africa, was enthusiastically drunk with musical honours.

During the evening instrumental and vocal selections were given by Bros. G. S. Aspinall, F. P. Hill, C. Cassie, J. Chilcott, and others. Bro. Wall's poem, "Forward, ye sons of Albion!" was recited. The proceedings were in every way a great success.

Chine Lodge, No. 1884.

The installation meeting of this well-known lodge, famous for having promoted the great Masonic Exhibition held in 1886, took place on Thursday, the 25th ult., when Bro. Alfred Greenham, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., was installed in the chair for the third time. The Prov. G.M., Bro. the Right Hon. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., was prevented by illness from attending and installing Bro. Alfred Greenham in the chair. The ceremony was performed by the Prov. G.M. of West Aberdeenshire, Bro. Col. H. Lumsden. The meeting was said to be the largest gathering of Masons at an Isle of Wight installation, the number in the lodge exceeding 100, amongst them being over 50 P.Ms. Every lodge in the island was represented.

Amongst those present were Bros. R. R. Russell, W.M.; H. W. Daws, I.P.M.; Alfred Greenham, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., S.W., W.M. elect; Andrew Brown, J.W.; F. Cooper, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; E. Jefferd, Sec.; C. J. Carter, S.D.; F. Taylor, J.D.; W. T. Deeks, D.C.; A. Kent, I.G.; A. J. Cooper, Org.; W. J. Meu, Tyler; L. Colenutt, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; William Judd, P.M.; G. H. Matthews, P.M.; W. H. Willis, P.M.; John Bailey, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; R. Young, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; H. J. Osborne, S. J. Clark, H. J. Foreman, W. B. Chase, J. Collinson, P.M.; M. Gregory, F. Rayner, and A. F. Swayne, P.M. Visitors: Bros. E. Goble, D.P.G.M.; Col. H. Lumsden, P.G.M. of West Aberdeenshire; Commander H. G. Giles, P.G. Sec.; Major W. H. G. Gordon, P.M. 1869, P.J.G.D.; H. A. F. Smith, P.J.G.D.; A. Manistree, P.A.G.P.; W. Jenvey, P.G.S.; T. M. Taylor, P.M. 35, P.P.G. Stwd.; F. King, W.M., G. Brannon, P.M., P. G. Pickering, P.M., P.P.G.C., and J. G. Pincock, P.M. all of 151; A. Marlow, W.M., J. H. Down, I.P.M., J. W. Sargent, S.W., J. Hansford, P.M., A. E. Coombs, A.D.C., F. Farrand, I.G., C. A. Page, Stwd., H. Durrant, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., Ernest Groves, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., C. Sweetman, P.M., P.P.G. Stwd., G. G. Stroud, P.M., J. F. Harvey, E. R. Osborne, J. Ellery, P.M., P.G. Supt. of Works, and W. H. Long, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., all of 175; Wavell Knight, W.M., W. J. Knight, I.P.M., J. Jolliffe, S.W., Ernest Wetherick, Sec., H. F. Grant, S.D., J. Corbould, Org., W. D. Bidgood, P.M., F. Sheppard, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Geo. King, William H. Bull, Alfred Bromwich, Mark Lindfield, P.M., and H. Cloots, all of 551; Chas. Hy. Lloyd, I.P.M., R. Fox, P.M., H. G. Nutt, and A. T. Richardson, all of 698; Thomas Ford, P.M., T. E. Porter, P.M., Arthur Firth, P.M., P.P.G.O., G. Withers, P.M., P.P.A.G. D.C., W. Garland, Chas. Fox, P.M., Harvey Child, W. R. Gordon, P.M. (Ireland), and B. Frere, all of 1869; Chas. Brown, P.M. 35, W.M., W. H. Brading, I.P.M., H. W. Brading, S.W., G. Coles, A. E. Sargent, and C. W. Leight, all of 2169; H. Gross, 1314, P.G.D.C. Kent; and W. S. Salean, Treas. 257.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. R. R. Russell, the minutes confirmed, when a telegram was despatched to the P.G.M., conveying the deep regret of the members at his absence from illness. The Audit report showed in a marked manner the satisfactory position of the lodge, the debt on the building on mortgage being only £350. The W.M. elect, Bro. Alfred Greenham, P.M., S.W., was then presented by Bro. H. W. Daws, I.P.M., to the Installing Master, Bro. Col. H. Lumsden, P.G.M. of West Aberdeenshire, who very impressively performed the ceremony, and installed him in the chair. The W.M. then gave the addresses to his officers, who were appointed

and invested as follows: Bros. R. R. Russell, I.P.M.; Andrew Brown, S.W.; C. J. Carter, J.W.; F. Cooper, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; F. Taylor, Sec.; E. Jefford, S.D.; A. Kent, J.D.; H. J. Osborne, D.C.; W. T. Deeks, I.G.; W. B. Chase, Stwd.; and W. J. Meu, Tyler. The W.M., Bro. Alfred Greenham, then proposed the following resolution: "Whilst deeply regretting the absence through illness of the R.W. the Prov. Grand Master of Hampshire and Isle of Wight, Bro. the Right Hon. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., we place on record how highly we esteem the honour of his intended visit, and his expressed intention of installing Bro. Alfred Greenham, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., in the chair of Chine Lodge. We desire also to offer our congratulations on the great honour graciously bestowed on him by her Majesty the Queen in appointing him a member of the Privy Council. That we convey to the D.P.G.M., the P.G. Secretary, and Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge assembled here to-day—that the honour of their visit is sincerely appreciated by every member of Chine Lodge." He said when he announced to the brethren that the Prov. G. Master would visit the Chine Lodge and instal him in the chair they would imagine how sincerely they appreciated the honour, and how pleased they all were, and perhaps they could also realise the consternation caused and the deep regret when he made known to them the fact of his inability to be present from illness. They had been looking forward to his visit, which would have been a memorable one for the lodge and for him, and it was with some difficulty that he expressed how deeply the disappointment was felt by every member of the lodge. There were many older lodges in the province, lodges that age had surrounded with renown, but Chine Lodge had also much to be proud of, and was particularly associated with the Prov. G. Master, for he had laid the foundation stone of the lodge, consecrated the building, and, later on, dedicated it to Freemasonry. Then, in 1886, he paid another visit, and opened the Masonic Exhibition, which proved to be the largest ever held. Therefore, the history of Chine Lodge was bound up with their Prov. G. Master, and the honour of his visit to instal him one of unusual pleasure to him. It was a singular coincidence, but it was exactly 10 years ago that day that the Prov. G. Master was to have laid the foundation stone, but was prevented by the great snowstorm of 1881, and he was to have been proposed as one of the first initiates. He



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

well remembered that day, but little did he think that 10 years hence he would be installed in the chair for the third time. There was, however, a part of the resolution he must allude to, and that was congratulating the Prov. G. Master on the New Year's honour conferred by her Majesty. It was an honour which every Hampshire man and Mason were proud to see bestowed, for their chief was not only a distinguished Mason, but in the House of Commons he had the distinction of being called the "Father" of it. The distinction itself was not the honour, the honour lay in the fact that for nearly 50 years he had held the love and esteem of one constituency, and that constituency was part of the Province of Hampshire. Few, indeed, had been the men in the 19th century, that was fast closing in on them, that had enjoyed that distinction, and he ventured to assert that not one among the members of the House of Commons was more universally beloved and esteemed than their Prov. Grand Master. In the letter which the Prov. Grand Secretary wrote him, he said that the Prov. Grand Master would yet pay them a visit on a day to be arranged. This act showed the kindness so characteristic of him, and they, one and all, would see that he would be received with befitting honour. In conclusion, he thanked the Dep. Prov. Grand Master and his officers for the honour of their visit that day, a day which Chine Lodge members would love to think of, and he should always remember. Bro. Goble, D.P.G.M., said he should convey to the Prov. Grand Master how highly esteemed his intended visit was regarded, and he could assure them that the Prov. Grand Master deeply regretted his being unable to fulfil his engagement. They were all aware of his devotion to the province and to Masonry, and he could assure them that the Prov. Grand Master had been advised that it would be more than imprudent to attempt the journey. Although the resolution would be sent by the Secretary, he should personally tell the Prov. Grand Master of the reception accorded to him and his officers that day, and their expression of regret at his absence. The W.M. proposed that "The thanks of the lodge be given to the R.W. Prov. Grand Master of W. Aberdeenshire for performing the installation ceremony." He spoke in very eulogistic terms of the Prov. Grand Master of Aberdeenshire undertaking the ceremony and how gratified he felt to be present, for he believed there was no previous record of a Prov. Grand Master under the Scottish Constitution installing a Worshipful Master of an English Lodge. He said he had undertaken the duty with only about 24 hours' notice, and with some natural reluctance, but on his assuring him that the brethren

would generally appreciate the honour not only in the lodge, but in the island, of a Scottish Prov. Grand Master performing the ceremony, especially after the disappointment of their own Prov. Grand Master being unable to be with them he consented to do it, and one and all would remember the unique distinction, and the impressive ceremony that day was one, which in the annals of Chine Lodge, would be remembered. The Provincial Grand Master of West Aberdeenshire, Bro. Colonel H. Lumsden, thanked the brethren for the reception they had given him; it was, indeed, as the W.M. had said, but 24 hours of preparation for him, but he was pressed by the W.M. to undertake the duty, and although perhaps he had not followed their ritual in every particular word, he was gratified to know from what had been said in lodge that day by the D.P.G.M. and the W.M. that the small service which he considered he had rendered to the lodge was valued so highly. Letters of apology were read from about 30 brethren, also one from Bro. F. Newman, P.M., P.G. Std. Br., regretting his absence from illness, also from Bro. Gen. the Hon. Somerset Calthorpe, P.G.W., saying illness alone prevented him from attending, alluding to a former visit to Chine Lodge on the installation of the W.M. for the first time in 1881; also from Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D., the historian, who said: "I congratulate Bro. Greenham on being elected for the third time as W.M.—a very special compliment, and what is more still, I know it to be well deserved. His enormous labours on behalf of the Masonic Exhibition at Shanklin—the largest of the kind ever held—proved his immense capacity for work and management, and its triumphant success will not only stand on his name to successive generations as the real head and mainspring of that great feat, but it has also given the lodge a publicity and position far beyond the usual." Bro. Bailey, P.M., then said: Bro. Past Master Cooper, the members of Chine Lodge desire to recognise your zeal for Freemasonry and interest in Chine Lodge, and have entrusted me, as the senior P.M., to present you with this jewel. I can trace back your zeal in Freemasonry for nearly a quarter of a century. Well I remember when we drove to Newport together to be initiated, also passed and raised, and ever since then we have worked hand in hand in the Craft, and to-day I feel proud to be the medium of Chine Lodge in presenting you with this jewel. May the Great Architect of the Universe bless you with health and strength for many years to wear this jewel with pleasure to yourself and an ornament to Chine Lodge. I assure you I feel it a great honour to pin this handsome jewel on your breast. Bro. F. Cooper, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., said he was completely taken by surprise. He had no idea such a presentation was contemplated, and thanked the members very sincerely for the handsome jewel, which he should always be proud to wear. Bro. H. W. Daws, P.M., presented Bro. R. R. Russell, I.P.M., with a Past Master's jewel for services rendered to the lodge during the past year. The I.P.M. thanked the brethren in a suitable response. The W.M. having given notice of his intention to deal with the mortgage debt on the hall during his year of office, which he was sanguine enough to believe would be cleared off by loan and otherwise, the lodge—which was a record one in Island Masonry—was closed, and the brethren adjourned to Hinton's Royal Spa Hotel, where a *recherche* banquet was afterwards served, when Bro. Greenham again presided over a large gathering.

The loyalty of brethren to Queen and civic Masonic chiefs was amply exemplified in the reception accorded to the leading toasts, eloquently introduced by the W.M., who enlarged on the appropriate quotations appearing on the menu—"Thanks be to God for such a Royal Lady," "The hope and expectations of our time, it is the Prince of Wales," and in connection with the Masonic chiefs "Men endowed with worthy qualities." The W.M. also dwelt on the close connection the Prov. G. Master had always maintained with Chine Lodge, and again referred in fitting terms of regret to his illness. He was glad to say, however, that Bro. Giles, in a letter to himself, had intimated that the Prov. G. Master would be pleased to visit the lodge later on in the year if it could be arranged, and the brethren of Chine Lodge would see to it that their Prov. G. Master would be received with befitting honour.

Bro. Capt. Giles, R.N., Prov. G. Sec., in responding for "The Prov. G. Officers," joined in the regret expressed at the absence of the Prov. G. Master, whose officers, perhaps more than others, were in a position to feel the loss of their pilot at such a splendid gathering as they had there that day. He pointed out that Grand Lodge in recently giving 1000 guineas to the Transvaal War Fund had formally associated all Masons with that excellent object. Local lodges would, therefore, be justified in husbanding their resources, for they would undoubtedly have heavy claims made upon them in the case of widows and orphans as the result of the war. He also pointed out how desirable it was that lodges in this province should secure a larger interest in the great Masonic Charities, so as to better ensure the election of candidates.

Bros. Durrant, P.P.G.W., the Rev. P. G. U. Pickering, P.G. Chap., and the Rev. A. T. Richardson, P.G. Chap., also responded.

In proposing "The Worshipful Master," Bro. Giles paid a high tribute to his Masonic services, especially alluding to the magnificently arranged Masonic exhibition held some years ago at Shanklin, the success of which was so largely due to Bro. Greenham's energy and powers of organisation, with other members of the Chine Lodge, and he was sure the destinies of the lodge would gain fresh lustre during his further year of office. He cordially wished him success in his laudable endeavours to clear off the building debt. (Cheers.)

The W.M., in responding, again referred to the scheme he had so much at heart for marking the closing year of the century by clearing off the debt, and said that when that was accomplished, the lodge would be in a position to do very much more in support of the Charities than hitherto. Whatever credit had been gained during his previous occupancy of the chair was very largely due to the splendid manner in which all the members had supported and assisted him.

In proposing "The Installing Master," the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master of Aberdeenshire, Bro. Col. H. Lumsden, the W.M. expressed his deep sense of the unique distinction and honour conferred on him and the lodge by the P.G.M. of Scotland installing him as Master in an English lodge.

Bro. Col. Lumsden, in response, expressed the pleasure it had afforded him to be privileged to be present and said that what he had seen exemplified there of the working of English Masonry had created in him a desire to see more of them, and he hoped to be allowed to become a member of their lodge. (Applause.)

The visitors were cordially welcomed by the S.W., Bro. A. H. Brown, who submitted the usual toast in their honour, and Bros. Frank King, W.M. 151; Marlow, W.M. 175; Major Lloyd, I.P.M. 698; and Garland, W.M. 1869; responded.

The W.M. proposed "The I.P.M., Bro. R. R. Russell."

Bro. Young, P.M., submitted the toast of "The Masonic Charities."

Bro. C. J. Carter, J.W., proposed the toast of "The Past Masters," which was acknowledged by Bros. Young, P.M.; Daws, P.M.; and the W.M.

The W.M. then gave "The Officers of the Lodge," after which the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Muswell Hill Lodge, No. 2728.

The installation meeting of this young lodge was held at the Frascati Restaurant on Saturday, the 4th instant. There were present Bros. Henry W. Parker, P.P.G. Std. Br. Middx., W.M.; W. Syckelmore, P.M., acting I.P.M.; Jas. H. Wilson, S.W., W.M. elect; A. L. Sargood, J.W.; C. L. Hranda, I.P.M., Treas.; W. H. Pocklington, P.M., Sec.; G. H. Butterworth, S.D.; W. D. Ovens, J.D.; J. W. Ryder, P.M., I.G.; G. G. Honour, D. of C.; F. Partington and D. Y. Lorimer,

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SAMPLES AND PRICE LIST SENT ON APPLICATION.

Stwds.; Thos. Edmunds, P.M., Tyler; W. J. Batho, P.M.; P. C. Walker, P.M., P.S.G.W. Essex; W. Bean, P.M.; G. Rogers, A. Gifkins, Wm. Paine, Edgar Robins, E. A. Richardson, E. Underwood, W. C. Hazel, G. G. Forster, J. Dunmore, H. A. Gilson, W. J. S. Becket, E. Slatter, G. V. Montague, W. Preble, W. A. Sargent, J. Redding, and J. Hedgehorn. Visitors: Bros. J. Jack, 163; E. White, 1212; W. T. Evans, S.D. 1605; Prof. F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M. 45; Jas. Jacobs, 163; W. Frampton, W.M. 204; A. Hammond, 1559; A. C. Smith, 1366; G. Paine, 204; R. Smith, 2043; W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas.; F. W. Goldby, W.M. 22; and others.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last regular meeting read and confirmed. Bros. Joseph James Redding and James Joseph Hedgehorn, candidates for passing, were examined and entrusted. The candidate for initiation was not present. Bro. Jas. H. Wilson, S.W., W.M. elect, was presented to the Installing Master, the W.M., by Bro. W. Syckelmore, P.M., acting I.P.M., and placed in the chair. The newly-installed W.M. then invested his officers as follows: Bros. Henry W. Parker, I.P.M.; A. L. Sargood, S.W.; G. H. Butterworth, J.W.; Carl A. Hranda, P.M., Treas.; W. H. Pocklington, P.M., Sec.; Wm. D. Ovens, S.D.; J. W. Ryder, P.M., J.D.; W. Syckelmore, P.M., I.G.; Geo. G. Honour, D. of C.; Francis Partington, P.M., and Arthur Gifkins, Stwds.; David J. Lorimer, Org.; and Thos. Edmonds, P.M., Tyler. The Installing Master gave the three addresses in an able and impressive manner. The Report of the Audit Committee was received, adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. A communication from the G. Secretary, *re* Hiram Lodge, under the Grand Orient of France, was read by the Secretary. There was a proposition relative to a ladies' night, and it was decided that it should be held, the details to be arranged.

After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet hall.

After a well-ordered banquet, the customary toasts followed.

In giving "The Queen and the Craft," the W.M. said the Queen had endeared herself to all her subjects, especially Freemasonry.

"God save the Queen" was sung by Bro. Syckelmore, P.M.

"The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" followed.

"God bless the Prince of Wales" was sung by Bro. W. H. Pocklington, P.M.

The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," said they were giants in the Craft. He stated that he had been initiated into the Craft by Bro. W. Stiles, P.G. Treas.

Bro. W. Stiles, P.G. Treas., responded on behalf of Bro. Jas. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., and himself. He regretted that Bro. Scurrall was compelled to be absent from the effects of an accident, but from which he was pleased to say he was rapidly recovering. He spoke highly of the Pro G.M. and Dep. G.M., and said they had done good work in the past and would doubtless distinguish themselves in the future. He was proud to say that their present P.M. was his pupil, and that he had not only initiated him, but the I.P.M. He thanked the brethren for their welcome.

The I.P.M. gave the toast of "The W.M." He said he was deservedly popular. He spoke of his personal acquaintance with him. He was a worthy competent Freemason, and would fill the chair of W.M. with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the brethren of the lodge.

The W.M. replied. He thanked the brethren for their hearty welcome and assured them that he should do his best to uphold the dignity and interests of his lodge, over which he had the honour to preside.

The W.M. gave the toast of "The Installing Master, the I.P.M." He was well-known to the brethren as the Preceptor of the Muswell Hill Lodge of Instruction. He (the W.M.) had been most forcibly impressed by the imposing ceremony of the installation, so admirably rendered by the I.P.M., Bro. H. Parker. It was now his pleasing duty to present to him a P.M. jewel, voted to him by the lodge, for his efficient services, as the first W.M. The jewel would always remind him of his happy and successful year of office—he trusted he might be spared to wear it for many years to come.

The toast of "The Masonic Charities" then followed.

Bro. Terry replied. He said, he most certainly approved of the order in which the W.M. mentioned the Charities, viz., Girls, Boys, and Old People. He gave some interesting facts relative to each of them; urged most earnestly the claims they had on the kind generosity of the brethren, and trusted they would support the brother of their lodge, who would act as Steward at the next Festival of the Benevolent Institution.

"The Visitors" toast having been given,

Bros. Lewis, Goldby, White, and Warden briefly responded.

The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" was afterwards proposed.

The Secretary responded for the Treasurer and himself.

The toast of "The Officers" was duly acknowledged.

The Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

Rose Lodge, No. 1622.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. JOHN T. LOADER, P.M., SECRETARY.

The regular meeting of this highly flourishing lodge took place at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, on Saturday, the 3rd inst. The meeting was most unique in character, inasmuch as to do honour to the occasion and be the means of further cementing fraternal feelings, the W.M., Bro. Potter, invited the whole of the Worshipful Masters who held sway at the same place of meeting, viz., the Surrey Masonic Hall, to the number of about 20. This cordial invitation was accepted by most of the reigning Kings with feelings of gratification. There were present Bros. H. Potter, W.M.; G. Thompson, P.M., S.W.; R. Bramblebury, J.W.; Isaac Dunn, P.M., Treas.; J. T. Loader, P.M., Sec.; F. E. Chaveaux, Org.; S. J. Cohen, S.D.; W. McKay, J.D.; C. H. Mayo, J.G.; S. J. Derham, P.M., D.C.; J. Parr, Stwd.; J. Whiteman, Tyler; W. E. Jeffery, I.P.M.; D. Rose, P.M.; T. Pickett, P.M.; Wm. Dawson, P.M.; S. W. Ballard, P.M.; Wm. Jeffery, P.M.; J. H. Pullen, P.M.; W. J. Nethrop, H. Tolley, A. Searle, J. Wiggins, J. H. Higgs, A. Bradgate, J. Johnson, J. Muttett, T. J. Smith, C. B. Ryan, J. J. Dryner, W. Shaw, R. Wren, H. A. Potter, H. Arkell, C. H. Talbot, O. Henke, G. F. Sigman, W. J. Frampton, W. J. Snodgrass, F. W. Wright, J. Hight, W. G. Kirby, A. C. Crisp, J. F. W. Morris, W. Wisdom, F. A. Sahl, J. H. Reap, R. Sobel, A. Brown, P. C. Hanisch, A. H. Gask, and Chase Isaacs. The visitors were Bros. Major T. C. Walls, P.G. Std. Br. England; Geo. Parsons, W.M. 1669; H. Broughton, W.M. 1260; B. T. Whitehead, W.M. 1329; H. Lewis, W.M. 1558; G. Mills, jun., 705; C. Harris, 87; F. Hall, S.D. 158; J. H. Curnet, P.M., Sec. 2182; H. Cornford, I.P.M. 1922; R. Harris, 11; S. H. Martin, 1625; R. Langford, 1597; T. R. Caas, P.M. 1320; A. G. Powell, 1922; F. Wint, P.M. 101; C. H. Lawson, P.M. 1973; G. Ferdean, 2699; Thos. Grumman, P.M. and Sec. 1559; H. C. Turner, P.M. 1662; R. Elgar, P.M. and Sec. 1329; G. Mash, W.M. 1539; W. Rogers, W.M. 1339; A. H. Rimbaul, W.M. elect 1441; J. Earle, W. Reeves, S.D. 901; G. Harrison, 101; R. J. Richards, J.D. 1056; J. B. Kelton, 87; W. Monk, 1381; E. J. S. Ware, W.M. 1922; W. W. Owen, 901; W. C. Hobbs, 901; W. H. Webb, 185; G. Richards, 1056; R. Cobley, 87; E. Miles, J. T. Moore, 1441; S. Isaacs, S.D. 2589; and Chas. Hy. Stone, W.M. 1641, and P.M. 507.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, after which Bros.

H. Tolley, H. A. Potter, R. C. Wren, and C. H. Talbot were passed in an exemplary manner by the W.M. A ballot was taken for Messrs. A. R. Gask, A. Brown, and C. Isaacs, which proved unanimous, and they were initiated in a masterly and impressive manner. The W.M. announced his intention of representing the lodge at the forthcoming Festival of the R.M.B.I. The sum of 10 guineas was voted upon the list from the lodge and 21 guineas subscribed from the brethren, also the sum of 10 guineas was made up from the lodge funds to be forwarded to the *Daily Mail* fund for soldiers, &c., in South Africa. Such liberal support to the various Charities is very characteristic of the lodge and deserves to be more emulated.

The business ended, the lodge was closed with outbursts of hearty good wishes to the W.M.

An excellent banquet had been provided by Mrs. Venables, the proprietress, in her usual very capable style.

Upon rising, the W.M. gave the toast of "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and the Craft," which he had the honour and pleasure of submitting. It was never more honoured than at the present time, for her sympathy as the head of the nation had gone forth to her brave soldiers, and to the widows and children of those who were bravely doing their duty to their country, which had endeared her to all her subjects. Her name was revered in all her Colonies, and their brethren abroad reverence and honour the sovereign who had so long reigned over them.

In proposing the toast of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M." the W.M. said he was a good Englishman and a most worthy Mason. As the G.M. the brethren wished him long life and every success. He had given his whole heart to Masonry in the past, and it was their earnest belief he would continue to do so in the future.

The toasts were drunk most loyally.

The W.M. next presented the toast of "The Pro G. Master, Earl Amherst; the Dep. G. Master, the Earl of Warwick; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," among whom were men of the highest station in life, and yet they were proud to wear the badge of equality, and carry out their respective duties in Grand Lodge second to none. He also paid a high tribute of respect to Bros. Lord Methuen, Lord Roberts, Lord Kitchener, and Sir Chas. Warren, who were most distinguished Masons, and now doing their duty in upholding the honour of their country. It was their earnest desire that their mission would soon be accomplished, and that they would safely return to their native land. He would couple with the toast the name of Bro. Major Walls, who for many years had been associated with the Volunteers of the City, and had much to do in the raising of the force now gone to the front. He had no doubt that he himself would have volunteered, but, like many other brethren, he was suffering from "Anno Domini." He asked the brethren to drink with enthusiasm the toast of "The Grand Officers."

In reply, Bro. Major Walls paid a high tribute of respect to the Grand Officers who were so nobly to the fore in defending their country for their loyalty and patriotism, especially to Bro. Sir Chas. Warren, who had by his indomitable will raised himself to be one of the most capable of officers. He also spoke of the illustrious ancestors of Bro. Earl Amherst, who were more historical, as also of Bro. the Earl of Warwick, who, but for advanced years, would have answered to the call, as he also was a capable military officer. Of the W.M. and that distinguished lodge, the Rose, he could not speak too highly, for he had witnessed that day a circumstance unique in his experience in Freemasonry—that of the W.M. inviting the W.M.s. of all the other lodges meeting there, which showed the cosmopolitan spirit that captivated him. His work was splendid, and he was also supported by very capable officers, and everything carried out in the most rosy manner. He most heartily thanked the W.M. for his very able remarks of the G. Officers, and to the brethren for giving the toast such a cordial reception.

Bro. W. Jeffery, I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The W.M." said it gave him very great pleasure. They had worked together for many years in the lodge, and all knew his excellent working, he having given such convincing proofs. They would have a great difficulty in finding a better president. The toast had a most cordial response.

The W.M. acknowledged in feeling terms the hearty way the toast had been received, and thanked the I.P.M. for his congratulatory remarks. He realised more and more that the badge with which he was invested when he was initiated was indeed a bond of friendship. He rejoiced with all his heart at the true brotherhood which existed in the Rose Lodge, and he trusted the close friendships he had there formed would be life long. He had thought it a fitting occasion, it being their first meeting in the year 1900 to invite the W.M.s. of the 17 lodges meeting at the Surrey Masonic Hall, and he thanked those brethren for their hearty response, and he believed the result would be to bring all the lodges into a fuller sympathy with each other.

Bro. H. Potter, P.M., next proposed the toast of the evening, and stated that Bro. J. Loader, P.M., had been their Secretary for 20 years, and the brethren felt it would be a good opportunity to present him with some fitting recognition of his valued services; but before doing so he would ask Bro. D. Derham, P.M., D.C., the mover of the resolution; Bro. W. Jeffery, I.P.M., the seconder; and Bro. Wm. Dawson, P.M., the Secretary of the fund, to speak.

Bro. S. Derham, P.M., said he felt very grateful to be called upon to propose the resolution to his dear old friend, Bro. J. Loader, as their friendship had existed for 35 years, and it was through him he had joined Freemasonry. He felt it was doing the act of one dear old friend to another, and he hoped he might live for many, many years to enjoy it with his wife, children, and grandchildren. Nearly every brother in the lodge had contributed, which showed the worth of their esteemed brother, who was a most devoted and indefatigable Secretary. He was worthy of such a testimonial not only as Secretary, but as a man and a brother, and was loved and admired by every brother in the lodge.

Bro. W. Jeffery, I.P.M., ably seconded the resolution, and he thanked the brethren who so nobly responded, and had enabled them to bring the same to such a successful issue. He hoped that Bro. J. Loader, P.M., might live many years to be the Secretary of the lodge.

Bro. Wm. Dawson, P.M., replied that after the eloquence which had preceded him, it was only necessary for him to give some account as to the transaction. Nearly every brother had subscribed without asking, one and all expressing their great love and esteem and enclosing the amount which was fixed. On one or two occasions he had to return money, it being in excess, and he had received letters from brethren who had not attended the lodge for many years, but who, to mark their appreciation, had contributed to the fund. Bro. Loader was held in high esteem by him, was one of his best friends (no one could have a truer), and there could not be a better Mason. He expressed the hope that he might live for many years to enjoy their friendship, and to hand down to his children the very handsome testimonial, which he so richly deserved.

The W.M., again rising, said that nothing in his whole Masonic career had given him more pleasure than that of being asked to present the testimonial to their most worthy Secretary. He spoke in glowing terms of the special qualifications of Bro. P.M. Loader for that position. His warm heartedness, combined with his great administrative faculties, his love of work and the enthusiasm he had always shown for Freemasonry, and he had largely contributed to the present prosperous state of the lodge. He had been the living embodiment of the five points of fellowship, and every member felt that in him they had a true brother and friend.

The testimonial consisted of a solid silver salver and loving-cup. The inscription on each was as follows: "Presented to Bro. John Thomas Loader, P.M., P.Z., by the brethren of the Rose Lodge, No. 1622, as a token of esteem and appreciation of his valuable services as Honorary Secretary from 1880 to 1900."

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Bro. J. T. Loader, P.M., who on rising received an ovation, said: W.M., P.Ms., officers and brethren, in acknowledging the toast it was impossible for him to adequately express the deep sense of gratitude he felt at such a manifestation of their kindness, and he did not feel worthy of such eulogistic and flattering remarks as had fallen from the W.M. Nevertheless, he thanked the W.M. and brethren for the invariable kindness and consideration shown him during the many years he had been connected with the lodge. He loved the Rose Lodge, and he was delighted at the unanimity and fraternal feeling which existed among the brethren. He was also proud at being one of the P.Ms. of the lodge, P.Ms. who had an excellent record, and it had been his privilege and pleasure to witness each succeeding Master instal his successor nearly since the consecration. Among the P.Ms. and brethren he had cemented many valuable and dear friends, who had proved themselves steadfast and true, and he assured the brethren that some of his most happy hours had been spent at Masonic gatherings, but none more so than in the Rose Lodge when performing his duties as Secretary. The W.M. on a previous occasion referred to Freemasonry as a religion; he ventured to think it was a grand and beautiful religion. It enforced no creed, it taught us to put our whole trust in God, the eternal welfare of man was considered in every part of its ineffable mysteries. There were no bounds to its Charity save those of prudence. As brethren we were taught to be linked together in one indissoluble bond of fraternal affection and brotherly love, and, finally, it instructed us how to die. Those were some of the grand principles and tenets of the noble Institution. He further stated he wished to most heartily thank them for the handsome testimonial so generously given in appreciation of his services, but words failed him to convey fully what his heart truly dictated. He prayed the brethren to accept his earnest and sincerest thanks for the loving kindness ever shown him. Such a testimony would stimulate him to further exertions in the cause of Freemasonry and the Rose Lodge in particular; and, he added, that he was sure it would be received with pride and joy by those nearest and dearest to him. That day would be held in remembrance as long as he lived, and he devoutly hoped that T.G.A.O.T.U. would spare him for years to come to remain among them, and that when it pleased Him to call him hence, he trusted he should be received into the Grand Lodge above, and that it might be said of him that he lived respected and died regretted. He again thanked the brethren for the cordial reception of the toast, and for their loving kindness towards him.

In presenting the toast of "The Visitors," the W.M. said the response to his invitation to the W.M. of each of the lodges meeting in their temple, had been most warm and unanimous, and it gave him great pleasure to welcome them to the Rose Lodge. He rejoiced in the prosperity of their lodges, they worked in the same building, and now met face to face. They had also many other distinguished brethren present, who had come specially to do honour to their worthy Secretary, and he asked the brethren to drink to the toast with enthusiasm.

Bros. Broughton, W.M. 1269; Whitehead, W.M. 1329; and Rogers, W.M. 1339, most forcibly and cordially responded.

The toast of "The P.Ms." was most ably presented by the W.M., and duly replied to by Bros. J. Dunn, P.M., Treas., and W. Jeffery, P.M.

The toast of "The Officers" was given in complimentary terms by the W.M., and ably responded to by the Wardens.

The Tyler's toast closed a highly intellectual and happy meeting.

An excellent programme of music was arranged, the following artistes conducting to the perfect harmony: Bros. J. Hornastle, W. H. Webb, S. J. Derham, P.M. (flautist), H. A. Potter, R. C. Wren, S. Isaacs, and F. Rains (humorists), and W. J. Frampton (reciter). The accompanists were Bros. C. H. Mayo and F. E. Choveaux, Organist of the lodge.

Royal Savoy Lodge, No. 1744.

The installation meeting of this well-known lodge took place at the Criterion, Regent-circus, on the 22nd ult., when there were present Bros. A. B. Fox, W.M.; Major C. J. Knightley, P.M., Sec.; J. Pratt, P.M., J.D.; Geo. Thompson, I.P.M., D.C.; H. S. Scott, Org.; A. George, W.M. elect; A. Ramsden, H. Ward, C. P. Coles, E. P. Waymouth, J. H. Adcock, T. Nicholson, W. Sparks, A. J. Tapling, R. J. T. Ward, T. J. Ash, A. J. Pratt, H. Fuller, W. T. Lawrence, W. Javens, T. A. J. Gorniot, J. Staples, and R. Whiting, P.M., Tyler. Visitors: Bros. J. Irvine, P.M. 862; J. Seaman, I.G. 247; R. Mills, W.M. 2029; F. O. Tubby, S.W. 907; M. Powell, W.M. 2206; W. H. Hawtrey, I.G. 957; A. Mills, S.D. 704; W. Adcock, P.M. 2202; P. Cariello, 1559; E. Robinson, 1559; F. Herbert, 2206; E. Rouard, 1559; W. Yeo, 2743; H. Miller, J.W. 2501; T. G. Pemberton, 2206; W. Dawson, P.M. 1622; T. Hobley, P.M. 1320; G. C. Tegetmeier, 1929; C. B. Penn, 187; C. E. Squire, 2730; J. D. Morgan, 1509; R. T. Rosenberg, 862; W. J. Clark, J.D. 1531; G. White, 975; and R. T. West.

The lodge was opened, and after the minutes of the previous meeting were read Bro. G. Thompson, I.P.M., passed Bro. J. Staples to the Second Degree. Bro. James Irvine, P.M. 862, then occupied the chair, and Bro. A. George, the W.M. elect, was presented, and installed in an exemplary manner, the usual addresses, which Bro. Irvine gave after the officers were invested, being impressive. Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G.T., was to have performed the ceremony of installation, but nearly at the last moment he had to decline that honour, as his health did not permit, and Bro. James Irvine, P.M., at a little over an hour's notice, undertook that duty. The newly-installed W.M. appointed and invested his officers, and he addressed them in appropriate terms as to their respective duties, they were as follows: Bros. A. B. Fox, I.P.M.; E. P. Waymouth, S.W.; J. H. Adcock, J.W.; W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas., Treas.; Major C. J. Knightley, P.M., Sec.; W. Sparks, S.D.; H. F. W. Poole, J.D.; C. P. Coles, I.G.; Geo. Thompson, P.M., D.C.; H. S. Scott, Org.; T. Nicholson, S.W.; and R. Whiting, P.M., Tyler. All the new officers were in attendance with the exception of Bros. W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas., and H. E. W. Poole. The Secretary read a letter from the Grand Secretary as to the spurious lodge named Hiram, and three gentlemen were proposed for initiation at the next meeting. Other business followed, and the lodge was closed.

After a sumptuous banquet, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M., Bro. George.

The W.M. proposed "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," and said that those who had attended Grand Lodge knew the good work done by the Grand Officers. They had [Bro. Stiles, P.G.T., whose great services to the Craft were honoured and appreciated — he was one of the best. He regretted that his health did not permit him to be present as they missed his most jovial face.

Bro. A. B. Fox, I.P.M., in proposing "The W.M., Bro. George," remarked that he hardly knew what to say about him as they were all well aware that he was a grand worker of the ritual and a good fellow, and he hoped he would have a more successful year of office than he (Bro. Fox) had had.

Bro. A. George, W.M., on rising to respond, had a most enthusiastic reception. He thanked them for their hearty greeting, and observed that that was the proudest moment of his life, and if he was spared he hoped at the end of his year of office they would be able to say that he had carried out his duties as well as they had expected, and he would be satisfied, and rest contented on the old fossils' shelf.

The W.M. gave "The Installing Master, Bro. J. Irvine, and Past Masters." He stated they knew that Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G.T., who was to have performed the ceremony of installation was ill, and they were very much indebted to Bro. Irvine for filling up the breach by acting at very short notice. The Past Masters present were Bros. Major Knightley, J. Pratt, and Geo. Thompson, who had rendered good service to the lodge, and their efforts were much appreciated.

The toast was drunk with acclamation, and

Bro. J. Irvine, P.M., on rising to respond, was received with much warmth. He said he did not know why he had been called upon first to respond, as he was only a

visitor. The first song they had that evening was "Trafalgar," and they would remember that Nelson said every Scotchman would do his duty. At five o'clock that day he received a telegram from their indefatigable Secretary, Bro. Major Knightley, asking him to act for Bro. W. M. Stiles as Installing Master, and he readily consented, as he was glad to be able to do anything for his old friend Bro. Stiles, and as a Scotchman he was proud to do his duty, and he hoped he had done his best that day, and if such small service was appreciated he was happy. He had been there many times, he would not like to say how many, but it was not his fault that he was not a joining member.

Bro. A. B. Fox, I.P.M., also responded.

Bro. Major Knightley, P.M., also acknowledged the toast, and said that at half-past two that afternoon he received a wire from Bro. Stiles, P.G.T., that he could not attend, through illness, and he telegraphed to Bro. J. Irvine, P.M., and W. Dawson, P.M.—as he thought it best to have two strings to his bow—to act as Installing Master, and both had turned up, and they were very glad to see them. They all, he was certain, regretted the cause of Bro. Stiles' enforced absence, but they appreciated the grand working, at so short a notice, of Bro. Irvine, P.M., as Installing Master, and he came as one of their very best friends.

Bro. J. Pratt, P.M., said he hoped the good old Royal Savoy Lodge would go on, as it had years ago, in an amicable manner. He felt that all the present members wished to make it a big success. While he had life he would never desert the lodge, and he trusted new blood would come along. The new officers invested were excellent, and might it be a good omen for the lodge.

Bro. Geo. Thompson, P.M., also responded, and said that although a P.M. he would not acknowledge that he was an old fossil because he had been appointed D.C. Anyway, he would do his best to promote the interest of that his mother lodge.

In giving "The Visitors," the W.M. stated that the lodge was always glad to receive and entertain their guests. They were honoured that evening with the presence of a great many visitors, and on behalf of the members he extended to them a hearty welcome, and he associated with the toast the names of Bros. J. Seaman; M. Powell, W.M. 2206; Wm. Adcock, P.M.; Geo. White, W. Dawson, P.M.; and T. Hobley, P.M.

Bro. J. Seaman responded, and said that he was greatly honoured by his name being coupled with the visitors, because he was only a young member and that was his maiden speech as a visitor. He came there not quite as a stranger because he had met the W.M. and the two Wardens in a lodge of instruction. He congratulated the lodge in having a thoroughly earnest W.M., who was a Mason in every detail, and he would not be surprised if his year of office was a record one in the annals of their good lodge, as he felt he would do his duty, and the lodge would go well to the front under his reign.

Bro. M. Powell, W.M. 2206, also responded, observing that the W.M. was a very old friend of his and it was a very great pleasure to be his guest and to see him installed in the chair which he would ably fill.

The toast was also acknowledged in some excellent speeches from Bros. Wm. Adcock, P.M., P. Cariello, E. Rouard, G. White, W. Dawson, P.M., T. Hobley, P.M., and G. C. Tegetmeier, all testifying to the grand working of the Installing Master, Bro. Irvine, P.M., congratulating the W.M., Bro. George, and his officers, wishing the lodge every success, and thanking the members for the very kind manner the visitors had been received and entertained.

In proposing "The Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. stated that they all regretted the cause of the absence of their esteemed Treasurer, Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G.T. Then as to their indefatigable Secretary, they all knew the Major, and in reappointing him to his office he was certain he could not have done better, and it had the unanimous approval of all the members, and they were all proud of him as he was ever willing to do everything to promote the interests of the lodge and the happiness of the brethren.

Bro. Major Knightley, P.M., Sec., on rising to respond was received with much enthusiasm. He said that he was sorry Bro. Stiles was not there to acknowledge the kind words of the W.M. As to himself, as Secretary, he would do, as he hoped he had done in the past, his very best for the lodge, and he earnestly trusted that the coming year, under the W.M., Bro. George, would be one of the most successful in the history of the good old Royal Savoy Lodge.

The next toast was "The Officers," the W.M. remarking that a Master however able he might be, could not be a success without good officers. His S.W., Bro. Waymouth, was a good Mason and would do everything to assist him and promote the interests of the lodge, and when he was installed W.M. he would not be found wanting in anyway. He also referred to all the other officers in terms of eulogium.

Bros. Waymouth, S.W.; Adcock, J.W.; Coles, Poole, Nicholson, and Scott made suitable responses.

The W.M. proposed "The Masonic Press," coupled with the name of our representative, Bro. R. T. West, who responded.

The Tyler's toast brought to a close a highly satisfactory and very happy meeting, for which the W.M. is to be congratulated.

The musical entertainment, under the able direction of Bro. Sydney Scott, was of superior quality, in which the following took part: Bros. Emlyn Jones and Geo. Thatcher, Professor Lenton, and Miss Maude Altord.

Scotland.

GRAND LODGE.

A Quarterly Communication of the above Grand Lodge was held in Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on the 1st instant. This being the meeting for the election of members to vacancies in the Grand Committee, there was a large attendance of brethren from all parts of the country. The chair was occupied by the Grand Master, Bro. the Hon. J. Hozier, M.P. Bro. the Hon. C. M. Ramsay was in his place as S.G.W., and Bro. Major F. W. Allan acted as J.G.W.

Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of 17 members of Grand Committee. There were 21 candidates, and the following were elected with the votes mentioned: Bros. the Hon. C. Maule Ramsay, 334; Major F. W. Allan, Glasgow, 312; Dr. George Dickson, Edinburgh, 296; A. A. Spiers of Elderslie, 296; J. MacNaught Campbell, Glasgow, 277; James Orr Sinclair, Stevenston, 252; John Carruthers, Glasgow, 250; Allan Mackenzie, Edinburgh, 239; ex-Bailie M'Naught, Glasgow; Bailie Dugald M'Innes, Greenock; William Inglis, Leith, 201; Robert Gibson, Glasgow, 199; William Black, C.E., Falkirk, 194; John G. Stewart, Glasgow, 189; R. H. Inches, Edinburgh, 187; ex-Provost Liddell, Dalkeith, 179; and C. Arthur Forstoun, Edinburgh, 173.

A motion was proposed by Bro. the Hon. C. MAULE RAMSAY, and seconded by Bro. J. O. SINCLAIR, Stevenston, to amend Rule 186 of the



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Constitution to the effect of requiring lodges to pay to the Benevolent Fund, not one-half of the annual subscription of each member, but only the sum of one shilling.

The previous question was moved by Bro. PHILLIPS, Glasgow, and seconded by Bro. JAMES TAYLOR, and was carried by 130 against 110.

The annual accounts, which were submitted, showed that the income for the year ending 30th November had amounted to £6466, and the expenditure to £2710, leaving a surplus of £3736. This brought the funds up from £41,033 last year to £43,103. The Scottish Masonic Benevolent Fund amounted to £7918, and the Annuity Fund to £27,814, and it has to receive one-half of the income of the Grand Lodge, or £1868. The annuities paid last year (114) amounted to £1180. The Grand Treasurer submitted a statement for the past quarter, which showed that the income of the Grand Lodge had been £2319, being £1092 in excess of the expenditure.

Grand Committee recommended that Bro. John L. Officer, W.S., be associated with his father, Bro. W. Officer, S.S.C., as joint law agent for Grand Lodge in consideration of the long and valuable services rendered by the latter through several Committees to Grand Lodge.

This was adopted by Grand Lodge.

Bro. Lieut.-Col. JOHN CAMPBELL, Prov. G. Master Perthshire West, reported that he had visited the nine effective lodges in his province. The books, which were carefully kept, showed that all the lodges were in a prosperous condition. All lodges in his province met in their own or rented halls, with one exception, and there was an excellent fraternal feeling amongst the lodges and brethren in the province.

It was agreed to issue charters to the new Lodge Kildrummy, Methven, Perthshire East, and to four new lodges in Queensland and Western Australia.

LADIES' FESTIVAL OF THE MOLESEY LODGE, No. 2473.

This annual fixture took place at the Hotel Windsor, Victoria-street, S.W., on the 27th ult., and, like its predecessors, proved an unqualified success. Bro. H. J. Keen, W.M., and Mrs. Keen cordially welcomed the members and guests on their arrival. These included Bros. C. J. Sherwood, I.P.M.; C. Stewart Walker, S.W.; C. Morrell, J.W.; F. W. Buxton, P.G.S. Wks. Berks, Treas.; E. Parsons, Sec. (*pro tem.*); C. O. Burgess, P.P.G.W.; J. R. Cleaver, P.P.G.D.; S. Hewett, P.M.; W. J. Harvey, A. Bray, T. A. Mitchell, H. A. Lewis, E. L. Berry, P.P.G.D., P.M.; W. Greaves, P.M., and many others.

At the conclusion of a well-served banquet, the toast of "The Queen and Royal Family" was heartily honoured.

Bro. C. O. BURGESS, P.P.G.W., in the absence of the I.P.M., who had been obliged to leave owing to indisposition, proposed "The Health of the W. Master." In proposing this toast to Bro. Keen's personal friends, he would not dwell upon his personal qualities. Bro. Keen was the 7th W.M. of this lodge, and it might be of interest to know he was about to be installed in another lodge—the Covent Garden. It was always a pleasing thing to see any man rising to a place of dignity that his elders had aspired to. The W.M. was a young man, and, by diligent application to the science of Masonry, he had risen to the position of the head of the lodge.

Bro. H. J. KEEN, W.M., thanked Bro. Burgess for the very handsome and kind way in which he had proposed the toast. Some 10 years ago, when he joined Masonry, he never thought he should attain his present position, and, as stated, he hoped to be W.M. of another lodge in a few weeks. He wished to thank the ladies for their presence, and also thank Bro. Parsons, the Secretary *pro tem.*, for the energetic manner in which he had carried out his duties. Bro. Parsons stepped into the gap caused by the illness of Bro. Gilbert, who had gone South in search of health. He likewise thanked the Stewards who had assisted in making the affair a success. As a treat was in store for them in the musical programme provided by Bro. Stuart Walker, he would simply thank them.

Bro. E. L. BERRY, P.P.G.D., proposed "The Ladies and Visitors." The members considered it their duty to entertain the ladies, and were always pleased to see them, for they were happier men when the ladies were present. They therefore thanked the ladies for having graced their board, and hoped for many years to come they would do so. "The Visitors" was always received in this lodge with heartiness. A Molesey member only invited visitors who were "Hail fellow, well met," and whom he could meet in public or private.

Mr. CHAMPION replied for "The Ladies," and Bro. GREAVES, P.M., for "The Visitors."

The health of the absent Secretary was drunk, and an excellent entertainment followed, which reflected the greatest credit upon all concerned. The artistes included Miss Florence Machin, Miss Clarice Harvey, Messrs. Alex. Prince (Concertina), Jno. Warren (Ventriloquist), and R. A. Roberts (Humorous Sketches), and Bros. W. E. Goodwins, Ambrose Thorne, and Stuart Walker. Mr. Eustace Wallis was accompanist.

Instruction.

PROSPERITY LODGE, No. 65.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 7th inst., at the Whittington, 5 and 7, Moor-lane, E.C. Present: Bros. P. O'Doherty, W.M.; Hillman, S.W.; J. G. Robeson, J.W.; D. Harlow, I.M., Preceptor; William Baker, P.M., Asst. Preceptor; C. Butcher, P.M., Asst. Sec.; T. Stokes, S.D.; Rix, J.D.; Barker, P.M., Org.; Weiss, I.G.; Hamilton, P.M.; Brown, P.M.; Roberts, P.M.; Meurice, Gernon, Whetstone, Lockett, Fishleigh, Collins, Farr, Williams, and Bamford.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Lockett acting as the candidate, the W.M. giving the charge. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The W.M. then vacated the chair in favour of Bro. J. Brown, P.M., when Bro. Whetstone, answering the usual questions, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Whetstone was raised to the Degree of M.M. by Bro. Brown, who rendered the ceremony in his very best style. Bro. Brown then vacated the chair

in favour of the W.M., and the brethren went through Masonic drill, after which the lodge was resumed in the First Degree. On the second rising of the W.M., the Preceptor proposed—"That a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to the W.M., and recorded on the minutes, for the able manner in which he had worked the ceremonies for the first time." This was carried unanimously. The musical portion of the ceremonies was greatly enjoyed by all present, Bro. Barker most ably presiding at the American organ; in fact, it so adds to the beauty of the working that a P.M. and other brethren, who had been unable to attend since its introduction, and were strongly opposed to the idea, stated they had changed their minds, and thought it a great improvement. Bro. Hillman, W.M. 569, was unanimously elected to occupy the chair on Wednesday, the 14th instant. The lodge was then closed.

Obituary.

BRO. J. KNOWLES HODGES, P.M., P.Z.

The funeral of Bro. J. K. Hodges, whose death is lamented by a numerous circle of friends and the brethren of the lodges of which he was for many years a member, took place in Norwood Cemetery on Monday, the 22nd ult., there being a full attendance of those who were anxious to pay the last tribute of respect to our deceased brother. Bro. Hodges, who was in his 64th year, was a Gentleman of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal, St. James's, and also of St. Paul's Cathedral. He was initiated in the Asaph Lodge, No. 1319, was a founder and P.M. of the Orpheus Lodge, No. 1706, a founder of the Sterndale Bennett Lodge, No. 2182, and a founder and P.Z. of the chapter attached to the last-named lodge. He had also been perfected Rose Croix, 18°, and for many years had been the musical director of the Orpheus and Sterndale Bennett Lodges. Thus he was almost as well known in the Masonic as in the musical world, and was highly esteemed and respected in both.

BRO. THOMAS TAYLOR, J.P., C.A. BUCKS.

Early on Sunday morning, the 21st ult., news was circulated through Newport Pagnell that Bro. T. Taylor, who had been ill for a short time had passed away suddenly. The distressing intelligence caused a gloom amongst a very large section of the community, for Bro. Taylor was widely known and universally respected, and much sympathy was expressed for Mrs. Taylor and family. His life for nearly half a century has been one of continual work for the good of his native town, he having been on all the public bodies, and was at the time of his death a County Alderman for Bucks and a Justice of the Peace. As a man and a citizen it will, indeed, be difficult to fill his place. As an individual he possessed urbanity in a considerable degree, and to this was added chivalrous conduct and a genuine sympathetic disposition. In religion he was a Churchman, and was ever ready to further the prosperity of the Church and its welfare. The sacred edifice of St. Peter and St. Paul is a standing memorial to his endeavours and generosity in its beautiful interior. As a Freemason he was a brother of sterling merit. He was initiated in St. Peter and St. Paul Lodge, No. 1410, at Newport Pagnell on September 24th, 1872, installed W.M. in 1879, and was appointed its Secretary in 1883, to which office he died in. He was appointed P.S.G. Warden for Bucks and Berks in 1881. He was exalted into Royal Arch Masonry, St. George's Chapter, No. 840, in January, 1876, and was installed M.E.Z. in 1883; was elected Treasurer in 1878; Scribe E. in 1896, and continued in office. When the Province of Berks and Bucks was divided in 1890, he was appointed P.G.J. of Bucks, and, in 1896, was elevated to P.G.H., which he held to his decease. He was advanced in the St. Peter and St. Paul's Mark Lodge, No. 163, in 1873, and was installed W.M. in 1881, he was appointed Secretary in 1883, which he continued to hold, was appointed Prov. S.G.W. of Bucks in 1883, Grand Steward in 1883, Grand Standard Bearer in 1886, and was D.P.G.M. of Bucks from 1892. He was a founder of the Brownrigg Ark Mariner Lodge, and was a P.C.N. and its Scribe. He was perfected a Rose Croix in the Adoniram Chapter, and was installed M.W.S. in 1896, and was a member of the 30°. Was W.M. of the Stewart Council, No. 16, and A.G.D.C. He was a Vice-President of all the Masonic Charities and a Life Governor of the Mark Benevolent Fund. The funeral took place at Newport Pagnell, on Thursday, the 25th ult., and was attended by a vast concourse of friends and sympathisers. The officiating clergy were Bro. the Rev. C. M. Otley, the Vicar, assisted by Bro. the Rev. V. P. Wyatt, P.G. Chap. Eng., the musical portion of the ceremony being conducted by Bro. O. H. Bull, the Organist. The Masonic part of the followers assembled in the Masonic Hall, and consisted of the brethren of the Lodge, Chapter, and Mark, and many distinguished Masons from all parts of the province. The coffin—of polished oak and massive brass furniture—bore the following inscription: "Thomas Taylor, born March 22, 1832; died January 21, 1900." Besides the friends of the family and the Masonic friends, there also followed members of the County Council, as also Messrs. W. W. Carlisle, M.P., J.P., Tarver, and Levi, of the Magistrates' Court; members of the Odd Fellows' and Foresters' Clubs—Urban District Council—and the Conservative Association. The large concourse of followers was due to the deceased being associated with every public institution in the town and of his great personal influence and generous disposition.

IN MEMORIAM.

His hand is still'd, his voice is hushed,
For the calm of Death is there,
And all is silent as the grave,
Except for a murmuring prayer.
His eyes are closed, which lustre shed,
And his spirit has taken its flight
To realms beyond our mortal ken,
And far removed from sight.
His Masonic radiance—like a sun—
Has ceased its beaming light,
And his bright and glorious noon-day work
Is o'erclouded in darkness of night,
It came—like a sudden eclipse,
And shadowed his brilliant sun,
Casting a gloom of mournful sadness,
In that sphere where his work is done.
But that life's work still remains,
And beckons us on to that goal
Which he sought, and truly obtained—
Just reward for a faithful soul.

HER MAJESTY HAS, through Sir Arthur Bigge, intimated to the Newcastle-on-Tyne City Council, that she will be unable to visit Tyneside to lay the foundation-stone of the new infirmary there, but that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales will perform the ceremony on her behalf, on a day in the week commencing June 18. The exact date is to be fixed by the Prince later.