

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;
HON. JAMES HOZIER, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

VOL. XXXIX. NO. 1616.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1900.

[PRICE 3D.]

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NEXT WEEK'S FESTIVAL.

At no previous Festival in behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution have the prospects—so far as the Board of Stewards may be taken as a criterion—appeared so encouraging as for that which will be celebrated at Freemasons' Tavern on Tuesday, the 27th instant, under the presidency of Lord ADDINGTON, Provincial Grand Master of Buckinghamshire. We mentioned in our "Notes" of last week, that the number of ladies and brethren whose services as Stewards Bro. TERRY had succeeded in enlisting was in excess of 500. Since then many additions have been made to the list and the number, roughly speaking, may now be set down as about 560 or 570. Last year, when a special effort was made in behalf of the Girls' School and the Old People, whose returns in 1898 had been of necessity unfavourably affected by the Boys' Centenary, the Board of Stewards at the Benevolent Festival mustered in all 483 ladies and brethren. Then there was anxiety as to the relations that might prevail in the future between this country and the Transvaal, but no war. Now, and for several months past, there has been waging a tremendous struggle not only with the Transvaal, but likewise with the Orange Free State, in which it has been found necessary to dispatch to South Africa a larger British army than has ever previously left our shores. This and the serious nature of the contest in which we are engaged has resulted in the establishment of all kinds of War Funds and Refugees Relief and other Funds, and yet in spite of all these various claims that have been made upon the benevolence of the brethren, a Board of Stewards of the strength we have mentioned has been organised for the first of the three great anniversary gatherings of the present year. It would appear as if the Craft had made up its mind that, notwithstanding the generous response made by lodges and brethren to these war Funds, the claims of its own Institutions should not be allowed to suffer, if, in the case of the Old People, a larger body of willing helpers than has ever before worked for any one of its ordinary Festivals could prevent it. Bro. TERRY and his staff are to be congratulated on the success which has attended them in this essential part of the arrangements for Tuesday next.

The additional amount of help that has been forthcoming must not be taken to indicate that the donations and subscriptions will be proportionately increased. They may, and we and everybody else must hope they will, be. People cannot subscribe as liberally to the Charitable Institutions which look

to them regularly every year for support, when calls are being made upon them which as loyal Englishmen they are eager to meet. But the more numerous the Board of Stewards, the greater are the chances of a big total, and if any inducement is needed to make the sum as large as possible—over and above the natural claims of the Institution upon the Craft—we think it will be found in the resolution taken by the Committee of Management at its meeting on the 14th instant, when without waiting to hear the result of next Tuesday's gathering at the Freemasons' Tavern, it determined to increase the number of annuitants on the Male Fund from 207 to 210, and the number on the Widows' Fund from 248 to 256. We sincerely hope this confidence in the generosity of the brethren will meet with the return it deserves.

THE LODGE ROOM.

VII.—MASONIC CLOTHING.

[COMMUNICATED]

Up to a very recent date there scarcely seemed to be any place or any occasion where, subject to an easily procured dispensation, it was not fit and proper to appear clothed as a Freemason. What with Masonic funerals, church parades, foundation-stone layings, banquets, and balls, Masonic clothing and jewels were becoming quite common spectacles to the profane. A wise edict of the Most Worshipful Grand Master has, however, stopped all this, and it is entirely owing to the recent enactment that we are justified in considering Masonic clothing as an exclusive property of the lodge room. The fact that the abuse had attained such dimensions as to call for special legislation was not altogether the fault of the rank and file however. The rulers of the Craft had gradually acquired the habit of using far too liberally the powers with which they were entrusted. If it was understood that dispensations for all the purposes above quoted might be had for the asking, private lodges could not be blamed for profiting by such laxity. That laxity existed can be inferred from the fact that the writer has before him a set of the by-laws of a District Grand Lodge—duly approved by the Most Worshipful Grand Master—in which it is laid down that in the case of a Masonic funeral occurring at a distance too great from headquarters to permit of the dispensation being received in time, the required permission to appear in clothing might be taken for granted. In the District in question, it ought to be added, climatic considerations compelled very hasty burial. If Masonic funerals be permitted at all, the provision in the by-laws was, of course, a very reasonable one, and it is only quoted to show that public appearances in Masonic clothing used to be regarded almost as matters of course.

All that is now altered, and we may be allowed to hope that the Freemason will now be chiefly conspicuous in the eyes of the profane, not by reason of the brilliance of his apparel, but by his exhibition of those moral and social virtues which Freemasonry alone exists to illustrate and upon which it is founded.

Masonic clothing, according to ancient history, comprises aprons and gloves. The latter may be left out as it is probable that the reference to them in the legend of the Third Degree, is an interpolation. We are thus reduced to the primitive covering of our common ancestors. Let us then commence by looking at the apron, the first gift of Freemasonry to the initiate. In bestowing it the Senior Warden describes it as the badge of innocence and the bond of friendship, and he usually goes on to say that if the candidate never disgraces it, it will never disgrace him. This statement is open to criticism as the inference is that under certain circumstances, it is possible for the badge to disgrace him. A man may disgrace the badge, but under no

conceivable conditions can it disgrace its wearer. The subsequent remarks of the Worshipful Master convey the first moral lesson which Freemasonry has to impart, and, coupled with the address in the north-east and the charge, they form as grand and exalted a series of moral teachings as may be found outside the Gospels.

The apron is a lamb-skin, and to make it, the life of an animal looked upon as the symbol of innocence has had to be taken.

When the candidate first entered the lodge room it was with the accompaniment of certain adornments—derived doubtless from the ancient *Vehmgerichte* of Westphalia—and these are now replaced by the emblem of modesty, industry, innocence, equality, and thrift. We might add that the apron has not always been of lambskin. Bro. Crowe, in Part I. *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum* for 1892, proves conclusively that linen used to be employed quite as frequently as leather; and Bro. D. Murray Lyon, Grand Secretary of Scotland, whilst not going so far as Bro. Crowe, draws attention to old linen aprons which he has come across. St. Mary's Chapel, No. 1, Edinburgh, possesses an inventory, dated so recently as 1866, in which mention is made of twilled cotton aprons. In many lodges holding under the Grand Lodge of Ireland leather aprons are only used on dress occasions. Whatever, however, has been the custom in other Grand Lodges, lambskin has always been the English use, and, in fact, Article 310 of the Constitutions defines with exactitude not only the material, but the dimensions and ornaments of the apron.

The apron is a very ancient symbol, and this mode of investiture is found even in the old Pagan rites. The Essenians clothed their candidates with a white robe reaching to the ground and bordered with a blue fringe. Something answering to the apron is found in the Persian rites of Mithras. The sacred thread of the Brahmin may also be mentioned in this connection, and an apron composed of the three Masonic colours, blue, purple, and crimson, was used in the investiture of the Jewish priesthood, while Mackey says that all the statues of heathen gods which have been dug up are decorated with superb aprons. The remark of the Senior Warden that it is more ancient than the Golden Fleece or the Roman Eagle is not, therefore, so very far wide of the mark.

The plain white apron is restricted to the Entered Apprentice, and is generally the property of the lodge. As it is left behind at the conclusion of the ceremony, the candidate has no opportunity of moralising upon it, and practically all he ever knows about it is comprised in the imperfectly remembered words of the Senior Warden and the Worshipful Master when he was invested.

It is often erroneously described as the badge of an Entered Apprentice. This is wrong. It is the badge of a Freemason, and whatever ornamentation and colour be superimposed, let it never be forgotten that underneath all, is the plain white lambskin, and its lessons are as appropriate to the most exalted and be-jewelled Grand Lodge officer as they are to the initiate on his first entry into Freemasonry.

The various adornments which the apron undergoes as its possessor makes progress in Freemasonry are not important, nor do they convey valuable moral lessons, although doubtless such might be invented by fanciful brethren. The rosette possibly possesses Masonic significance, reminding the Master Mason of the "point within a circle." If such be intended, their applicability to a Fellow Craft's apron may be questioned. The colour of the riband and rosette is laid down in the Constitutions. Sky blue in private lodges, garter blue in Grand and Provincial Grand Lodges, and crimson and purple in the Arch. Lodges holding under the Grand Lodge of Scotland choose their own colour, green being that adopted by the Grand Lodge. In German lodges the aprons are bordered with white silk and white rosettes.

It is customary for the lodge to provide aprons for the officers bearing the device appropriate to the officer concerned, and it may be remarked that it is not good form for the officers of a private lodge to wear aprons suitable for Grand or Provincial Grand Lodge while engaged in their own lodge work.

Next in importance to the apron is the collar. This is a comparatively modern article of clothing. Like the stole usually worn by the clergy of both eastern and western churches, it is a badge of servitude, and has reference to the Divine command—"Take my yoke upon you." The collar is worn by all officers, from the Most Worshipful Grand Master down to the Tyler of a private lodge.

It symbolises the true relationship which should exist between officers and brethren. "He that would be chief among you let him be as a servant." The word *subjugate* is derived from *sub jugum*, and the collar therefore should be a continual

reminder to the brother who wears it of the necessity of self-control and self-mastery, and such qualities are in the highest degree essential in one who is appointed to rule over his fellows, whether in the lodge room or in the outer world.

Gauntlets are not necessary in a private lodge, Article 310, already quoted, prescribes their use in Grand and Provincial Grand Lodges, but says they *may* be used in private lodges. They have no special moral teaching. They are a relic of the gloves worn by the operative Mason to protect his hands during his work.

In some constitutions the gloves and the arm pieces are all in one, but in English Freemasonry they are distinct, the gloves being worn by all members of the lodge and the gauntlets or arm pieces by officers only. Dr. Plot tells us, in his *Natural History of Staffordshire*, that a couple of centuries ago every candidate was presented with *two* pairs of gloves, one for himself and one for his wife, and Mackey refers to a similar procedure still to be found on the Continent.

If the gloves have any significance at all beyond the fact of their being part of an English gentleman's evening dress, they should emphasise the lessons of the lambskin, and there may possibly be an allusion to the XVth Psalm, "Who shall ascend unto the hill of the Lord. Even he that hath *clean hands* and a pure heart."

We have now considered the usual articles of clothing, and just a reference may be made to the jewellery, which many brethren are fond of parading. To the wearing of presentation jewellery there can be no possible objection, but it is not considered good form for a brother to purchase jewels which might be mistaken for such. According to Article 289 no honorary or other "jewel, medal, device, or emblem, shall be worn . . . inconsistent with those Degrees which are recognised." This is held to include Charity jewels, and the more of such a brother displays, the more credit to him. In addition to the recognised Charity jewels there are those appertaining to Provincial Charities. From time to time jewels, or medals rather, have been authorised by the Most Worshipful Grand Master in reference to great public occasions, such as occurred in 1887 and 1897. Several private lodges also possess authorised jewels such as Lodge Quatuor Coronati, and the centenary medal is well known. Chapter jewels may be worn in the Craft, and *vice versa*, and in the higher Degrees there is no restriction.

When ought Masonic clothing to be worn? According to Article 228, in Grand Lodge and subordinate lodges. A good many brethren make an excusable mistake when entering Grand Lodge. Unless they are Grand Lodge Officers, Past or Present, they only attend by virtue of being past or present Masters and Wardens, and in either capacity they are required to wear a collar—not of provincial rank, garter blue, but the sky-blue representing their rank in the Craft. The only occasion on which a brother may appear in lodge unclothed, is when he is fighting for his Masonic existence, or in other words, showing cause why he should not be expelled.

CONSECRATION OF THE DUNGARVAN COUNCIL, No. 25, ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS.

The consecration of the above council took place at the Queen's Hotel, Leicester-square, W.C., on Monday, the 12th inst. It was an occasion of more than usual interest and moment, since no council of this Degree has been founded in London for 28 years. A preliminary meeting was held, when, by dispensation from the M.W.G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, the following brethren were received, greeted, and acknowledged in the several Degrees of the Order: Comps. W. J. Hiam, L. Verdier, C. de M. Franklyn, A. Marshall, E. Cutler, Q.C., G. Maxwell, Harry Nicholls, F. B. Townend, F. J. O'Brien-Hale, Courtenay-Luck, R. Marshall, and Brampton.

The ceremony was performed by Ill. Comp. R. J. Voisey, G. Lecturer, as T.I.M.; Comps. Howell, as D.M., V.T.U.; Rev. C. E. L. Wright, M.A., P.G. Chap., as P.C.W.; J. H. Roscoe, as Capt. of Guard; and Ill. Comp. W. Vincent, P.A.G.D.C., as C.C.

The ceremony of consecration then took place, the council being solemnly consecrated and constituted under the name and title of the Dungarvan Council, No. 25 on the roll of the Grand Council by R.M. Comp. C. F. Matier, P.D.G.W., G. Recorder, assisted by R.M. Comp. Charles Belton, P.P.G.W., as D.M.; Ill. Comp. Major C. W. Carrell, P.G. Std., as P.C.W.; V. Ill. Comp. Rev. C. E. L. Wright, M.A., P.G.C., as Chap. (in the unavoidable absence of V. Ill. Comp. Rev. W. Russell Finlay, G. Chap.); and V. Ill. Comp. W. Vincent, P.A.G.D.C., as D. of C.

A short extempore oration was delivered by the acting G. Chap., and the musical arrangements were under the direction of Comp. E. Cutler, Q.C. On the conclusion of the ceremony, R.M. Comp. C. F. Matier, D.C.M.C., Recorder, most ably installed the first T.I.M. of the council,

V. Ill. Comp. C. E. L. Wright, M.A., P.G. Chap., who afterwards appointed and invested his officers as follows: Comps. G. S. Howell, D.M.; and G. P. Parker, P.C. of W.; Ill. Comp. C. S. Brewer, M.D., A.G.D.C., P.T.I.M.; Comps. W. J. Hiam, Treas.; L. Verdier, Recorder; J. W. S. Godding, Capt. of Guard.; J. H. Roscoe, Conductor of Council; C. de M. Franklyn, 1st Marshal; A. Marshall, 2nd Marshal; E. Cutler, Q.C., Org.; G. Maxwell and Harry Nicholls, Stwds.; and Fred. B. Townend, Inner Sentinel.

Comp. R. Young was unanimously elected as Tyler, and a Committee appointed to frame the by-laws.

The W.G.M.R., Ill. Comp. Viscount Dungarvan, the Consecrating Officers, and also Ill. Comp. R. T. Voisey, for his kindness in coming to confer the Degrees, were unanimously elected honorary members of the council.

Numerous apologies were received from Comp. Capt. N. Philips, P.D.J.M.; V. Ill. Comp. the Rev. A. W. Oxford, P.G. Chap.; R. Ill. Comp. R. Loveland-Loveland, D.G.M.; R. Ill. Comp. F. Richardson, D.J.M.; Ill. Comp. C. S. Brewer, M.D., A.G.D.C.; and many others.

The T.I.M. then presented R. Ill. Comp. C. F. Matier with a founder's jewel, and thanked him and the other Consecrating Officers for their kindness in attending to perform the ceremonies.

R.T.M. Comp. MATIER having suitably replied, the council was duly closed, and the companions adjourned to the Grand Salon, where an excellent banquet was supplied, at which 21 companions sat down.

After dinner, the toast of "The Queen" was given by the T.I.M., and heartily responded to by the companions.

The toasts of "The M.W.G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, and the Grand Officers" and "The Consecrating Officers," were then proposed by the T.I.M.

R. Ill. Comp. C. F. MATIER, P.D.G.M., G. Rec., responded, expressing his satisfaction on the excellent manner in which the council had been consecrated, and stated that he felt no anxiety as to the ultimate success of the Dungarvan Council. He regretted the unavoidable absence of the M.W.G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, and it was a great moment in the history of Cryptic Masonry to be present this evening to consecrate this council, and he felt that he was expressing the feelings of all other companions when he wished it every success and congratulated the founders and all the companions connected with the council.

Comp. Viscount DUNGARVAN, P.D.G.M., also responded, stating that it was the first time that a council or any Masonic Body had borne his name and arms, and it was very gratifying to him to be present on this occasion because he felt that the council would be a great success.

After the toast of "The Visitors," which was proposed by the T.I.M., and suitably responded to by Ill. Comp. Colonel PROBYN, and Comps. Major WALLS and H. J. LARDNER, who all wished the council every success,

The toast of "The Officers of the Lodge" was given by the T.I.M.

Comp. G. S. HOWELL, D.M., replied on behalf of the officers of the council, and, in the course of his speech, stated that he felt proud of the occasion and more particularly as he knew that the council was officered by most excellent and tried Masons, and he assured Viscount Dungarvan that he would never regret the time he gave his permission for this council to use his name and arms, as this council, which was consecrated to-night, is a council which would flourish, and, he hoped, be a power amongst the other Cryptic councils.

Comp. COURTENAY-LUCK also replied.

Comp. R. Marshall rendered good service with his tenor voice, which was greatly appreciated by the companions present.

The proceedings, which concluded with the Sentinel's toast, proved not only interesting, but a most enjoyable evening.

BRO. CANON AND MRS. TRISTRAM'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

THE MASONIC PRESENTATIONS.

Bro. the Rev. Canon and Mrs. Tristram, of the College, Durham, on the 5th instant, celebrated their golden wedding, their marriage having taken place on the 5th February, 1850, at Cheltenham, and on the Saturday previous, the brethren of the province offered to Bro. Canon and Mrs. Tristram the handsome gifts which had been provided by the Mark Masons of Northumberland and Durham (of which the Canon is Prov. G. Master) and the Craft Masons of the Province of Durham. On the anniversary itself, the Canon was also the recipient of a handsomely illuminated address in the Chapter House of Durham Cathedral at the hands of about 400 subscribers, the presentation being followed by a special thanksgiving service in the Cathedral and an "At Home" at Canon Tristram's residence in the College.

The presentation on behalf of the Mark Masons of Northumberland and Durham was made at the Canon's residence in the College, whilst that for the Craft Masons took place at the Masonic Hall. The local committee having charge of the latter were Bros. John Smith, P.M. 124, P.P.S.G.D.; Isaac Burrell, P.M. 124, P.P.G. Std. Br.; H. Brown, P.M. 124, P.S.G.D.; S. Fenny, P.M. 124, P.P.G. Std. Br.; W. J. Goodenough, P.M. 124, P.P.G.P.; Joseph Rickerby, W.M. 124; T. J. R. Hindmarsh, W.M. 1334; W. Gray, 1334, P.J. G.W.; Geo. S. Shaw, 1334, P.A.G.D.C.; W. Sanderson, 1334, P.P.G.P.; I. Miller, 1334, P.P.G.O.; and Robert Hauxwell, 1334, P.P.S.G.B. (Hon. Secretary), Bro. R. Hudson, Prov. G. Sec., supervising the whole of the general arrangements.

At half-past two a deputation of the Mark Masons waited upon Bro. Canon Tristram, for the purpose of making the presentation. The deputation consisted of Bros. Col. Angus, D.P.G.M.M.; J. Whitehead, P.S.G.W.; Straker Wilson, P.P.S.G.W., Treasurer to the Presentation Fund; and John Heppell, P.G. Sec., Secretary to the Presentation Fund. The presentation took place in the large drawing-room, where the brethren were received by Bro. Canon and Mrs. Tristram, the other members of the family present being Mrs. Holland (eldest daughter), the Misses Tristram (daughters), Miss Tristram (sister), Miss Bowlby (Mrs. Tristram's sister), Mr. Herbert St. B. Holland (grandson), and Master R. S. Tristram Fleming (great grandson).

Bro. Col. ANGUS said he had the honour to head a deputation representing the Mark Master Masons of the province over which the Canon had for so long presided with such conspicuous ability and acceptance. They came to offer him

their hearty congratulations on an event in his life which it was given to few to celebrate. What they wished to say that day was just what they felt for him in their inmost hearts—love and affection for his own strong personality. The Canon was the head of their Order in that northern province, and he was not exaggerating when he said that from the least elevated brother to the highest officer in the Degree there was that day one universal sense of joy and thanksgiving. To say there how ancient was their Order might be to reveal their secrets; but, ancient as they were, they were not so ignorant as that ancient Latin poet who said—*Quem di diligunt adolescens moritur* (whom the gods love die young). They knew that was not true. No, they were yet modern enough to take their daily direction from the Great Overseer of the Universe, who does all things well, and in His infinite wisdom had given the Canon and his much-loved consort not only life and health, but grace and wisdom to sustain the high offices which had been conferred upon him. To speak as Masons, they would say that whatever the degree in which they found him, he was at once a pattern and a guide, and they could only hope that when the shadows began to lengthen, and when he was gathered to his fathers, men might not only rise up and call him blessed, but that there might also be men able and ready to take up the noble task which he had laid down. The loving cup they had to present would, they hoped, remind him of the love the brethren bore towards him, and the little ornament which they trusted Mrs. Tristram would accept, depicted somewhat fitly the union of two loving hearts. These, in the ordinary course of time, would be handed to their children; but what they felt still more thankful for was that Canon Tristram would leave to them, and to the brethren of the Order, the priceless heritage of an honoured name. Pope, he thought, in his "Essay on Man," said:

"Reason's whole pleasure, all the joys of sense,
Lie in three words—health, peace, and competence."

That these might fall to their lot for the rest of their days was the earnest wish of all the brethren.

Mrs. TRISTRAM, addressing the deputation, said: "So much love and affection savour more of heaven than earth. The gold of that land is good."

The Rev. Canon TRISTRAM, D.D., said that words failed him to express what he really felt on that occasion. He had for nearly half a century had the privilege of belonging to the Order of Mark Masons. He had found and tested its value not alone at home, but in other countries. He had found amongst the circle of its brethren true and thorough friends. Little as he had been able to do for Masonry—for it had done far more for him than he had ever been able to do for it—he could only say in the words of Wordsworth—

"They talk of hearts unkind, of hands
Good deeds with ill returning.
Alas! the gratitude of men
Hath oftener left me mourning."

With regard to Mark Masonry, the way in which he had been treated by the whole of that great body since it did him the honour of placing him in the chair of the Provincial Grand Mark Master had been one series of undeserved compliments and kindness. He could only say that, next to the bonds of Christianity and religion, next to the ties which bound one to one's country and one's church, there is none so close and valuable and so far-reaching as that other tie in which they and he were bound together, of which these valuable gifts reminded him that day. A native himself of Northumberland, as his wife was of Durham, they had an intense love second only to their love of country, to their native counties, and they were proud of Northumberland and Durham. Though these counties were on the outskirts of England, they knew how much of the history of the country was found in that of these two countries. However rough its exterior, there was no part of the whole world where there was such devotion to duty, such manly courage, such patriotism, such loyalty, and such devotion to order as were to be found among the Mark Masons of Northumberland and Durham. He thanked them most heartily for these magnificent gifts. (Applause.)

Colonel ANGUS afterwards read the inscriptions on the articles, which consisted of a fine antique two-handled silver-gilt loving cup, bearing the date 1800, with rich leaf chasing, and godroon edge; also a pair of fine antique silver-gilt Twirley fruit bowls—date 1789—with pierced and chased handles, and alternate chased and plain flutes. In addition a diamond brooch for Mrs. Tristram. The loving cup bears the following inscription: "Presented to the Rev. Canon Baker Tristram, D.D., LL.D., F.R.S., etc., Canon of Durham, Provincial Grand Mark Master of Northumberland and Durham, and to Mrs. Tristram, on the occasion of their Golden Wedding, with the love and esteem of the brethren of the province, 5th February, 1900."

The deputation were afterwards entertained to light refreshments, and subsequently withdrew.

The proceedings at the Masonic Hall, which took place at half-past three o'clock, were very largely attended by members of the Craft. At a few minutes before the appointed hour, Bro. Professor Philipson, P.S.G.W., who presided over the proceedings, in the absence of the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., escorted Mrs. Tristram into the lodge room followed by Canon Tristram, accompanied by his eldest daughter (Mrs. Holland) and other members of the family, including the Misses Annie, Katherine, and Louisa J. Tristram, and Mrs. Heawood (daughters), Miss Tristram (sister), Mr. F. E. Bowlby, Mr. Herbert St. B. Holland (grandson), and Master Geoffrey L. Heawood (grandson), and Master R. S. Tristram Fleming (great grandson).

The proceedings commenced by the singing of the National Anthem, led by Bro. D. Whitehead, P.M. 1334, Bro. Pilling presiding at the organ. Representatives were present from the whole of the lodges in the province.

Amongst the Provincial Officers there were Bros. Charles S. Lane, P.P. S.G.W.; Richard Luck, P.G.D. England; R. Hudson, P.G.S.B. England, Prov. G. Sec.; William Gray, P.J.G.W.; F. H. Bennett, P.P.J.G.W.; John Robinson, P.P.J.G.W.; John C. Moor, P.P.J.G.W.; John Joel, P.P.J.G.W.; B. S. Beckwith, P.P.J.G.W.; Rev. J. G. Ryles, P.G. Chap.; Rev. James Haworth, P.P.G. Chap.; Rev. A. D. Shaftoe, P.P.G. Chap.; Rev. Edward Sykes, P.G. Chap.; Rev. J. Lawson, P.P.G. Chap.; Robert Stewart, P.P.G. Treas.; John Readhead, P.G. Reg.; Wm. Logan, P.P.G. Reg.; Thomas Jones, P.P.G. Reg.; T. M. Barron, P.P.G. Reg.; W. E. Moffett, P.P.S.G.D.; Charles T. Johnson, P.G.D. of C.; John Heppell, P.P.D.G.D. of C.; John Smith, P.P.S.G.D.; Thomas Robinson, P.S.G.D.; Harry Brown, P.S.G.D.; J. H. Jackson, P.P.S.G.D.; L. W. Anderson, P.P.S.G.D.; William Barron, P.P.G.S.B.; Samuel Fenny, P.P.G. Std. Br.; W. J. Goodenough, P.P.G.P.; William Sanderson, P.P.G.P.; Richard Jack, P.P.G.P.; Isaac Burrell, P.P.G. Stwd.; James Lee, P.P.G.P.; George S. Shaw, P.A.G.D. of C.; R. Hauxwell, P.P.G.S.B.; Wm. Addison, W.M. 2019; W. J. Anderson, I.P.M. 2019; and others.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were received from Bros. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., Prov. G. Master; Sir Thomas Richardson, M.P., P.P.J.G.W.; Dr. C. D. Hill-Drury, P.P.S.G.W.; Col. Rowlandson, P.P.J.G.W.; Dr. Lionel Booth, P.P.S.G.W.; B. Boulton, P.P.S.G.W.; H. Palmer, P.P.G.D.; S. Feilden, P.P.G.R.; H. Turnbull, P.P.J.G.W.; J. Barker, P.P.G.O.; W. J. Malcolm, P.P.G.R.; M. Cohen, W.M.; T. Wallace, W.M.; L. Robson, P.G.D.; A. S. Fowler, P.P.J.G.W.; the Rev. W. C. Harris, P.P.G.C.; John Bailey, P.P.J.G.W.; D. Anderson, P.G.P.; and others.

Bro. Professor PHILIPSON, P.S.G.W., said that they as Masons of the Province of Durham were assembled in that Masonic Hall to do honour to their well-beloved Bro. Canon Tristram, who on Monday would celebrate the 50th anniversary of his marriage, his jubilee. Their Bro. Tristram had been a member

of the Order for nigh on to six decades. He was initiated into the Craft when he was at Lincoln College, Oxford, in the year 1844. In the year 1846, when he was chaplain at Bermuda, he was advanced to the Degree of a Mark Mason in the Minden Lodge, attached to the 20th Regiment, and in the year 1885 he received the distinction of being appointed Dep. Prov. G. Master of that province. On many occasions when he had occupied the chair at the festivals of the province he had delivered eloquent orations upon the history of Freemasonry, and had enforced the duties of Masons in a way which had always been most acceptable to his brother Masons. (Applause.) In Canon Tristram they had a true and loyal Mason, one who always observed the tenets of the Order, and who had been an example to Masons everywhere. Passing on to refer to other positions which Canon Tristram had occupied, Professor Philipson said he might speak of him as a divine, as a scholar, as an archaeologist, as a naturalist; but whatever position he had occupied he had made himself of use with all that he had been brought into association. Canon Tristram's fame was not only local, but national. The Masons present that day were representative of the 37 lodges and the 13 chapters of the province. In conclusion, Professor Philipson asked Canon Tristram's acceptance of the gifts with the heartiest and sincerest wishes of the donors, and the hope that both Canon and Mrs. Tristram would be spared for years to come. (Loud applause.)

The presentations consisted of a massive sterling silver tray, with heavily-chased mounts and handles, and richly engraved, with the following inscription: "Presented to the Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., F.R.S., Past Grand Chaplain, Very Worshipful Provincial Grand Master Durham, as a mark of regard and esteem by the Freemasons of the Province on the occasion of his golden wedding, 4th February, 1850-1900." Also a massive, tasteful, antique "shield" pattern tea and coffee service to match. The tray is engraved with the Tristram crest, the monograms "H. B. T. E. M. T. and 1850-1900" being on one side of each piece, and upon the other side the Masonic emblem—the square and compasses.

Canon TRISTRAM, who was loudly cheered on rising to reply, said words failed him to express his true feelings. They could well understand that they were too great for expression. He was simply overwhelmed by the overwhelming kindness of his brother Masons of every Degree. That was only the climax, the crowning point of a succession of affectionate demonstrations from his brother Masons, which it had been his privilege to enjoy ever since he was placed in a conspicuous position amongst them. It had been his attempt and earnest desire, though he had too often failed in it, to carry out the ideal of Masonry. (Cheers.) Masonry had, indeed, been to him one of the recreations of his life. He had not done nearly what he ought to have done, especially in the provincial visits to the private lodges of the province, simply because he could not get 36 hours into the 24. (Laughter.) It did not need those presents for him to value and regard with esteem and affection the Masons of the Province of Durham. He had felt that one of the great privileges of Masonry, unrivalled in any other organisation in the world, was not only the advantages it gave one of introduction in foreign lands and strange places, but the brotherhood it produced and developed amongst all classes of society at home. (Cheers.) When they all met on the level and on the square, and knew no distinctions whatever beyond those of Masonry, he felt that that was carrying out the true ideal of Christianity, the true equality, and the true socialism of man. He, therefore, loved Masonry, and would love it to the end of his days. He would not detain them longer except simply to tell them how he wished he could express to them the gratification and pleasure that that demonstration of affection and most undeserved regard and esteem—"No, no"—had given him. It was, indeed, a privilege allowed to few to complete half-a-century of happy wedded life, and to fewer still to see, as he saw in that room, his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren—(cheers)—sitting before them there, four generations, and to be able to thank God that in that time death had never entered their doors. It was, indeed, a precious, a wonderful, and almost unique privilege, and he hoped to be permitted on Monday to see around him all his children and grandchildren except two noble fellows—one of whom was serving his Master Christ in India, and the other who was going out to serve his Queen and country in South Africa. (Loud cheers.) When upon the top of such family and domestic blessings and privileges as those he was privileged to witness such a gathering as that of his brother Masons, and to receive such an expression as he had received from the Grand Master of the province, who was not able to be there, and also all the Masons of the province, they could well understand that it was utterly impossible for him to express adequately his sense of their goodness and fraternal affection. He thanked them from the very bottom of his heart, and he would never forget that day's gathering as long as he lived. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. W. LOGAN, P.P.G. Reg., then presented a gold bracelet to Mrs. Tristram. Mrs. Tristram, in stepping forward to receive the presentation, was loudly cheered.

In addition to the gifts already mentioned, a very handsome gold vase, richly chased and fluted, was sent by Bro. Sir Hedworth and Bro. Victor A. Williamson for Canon Tristram's acceptance, "with the hearty congratulations and sincere good wishes of Sir Hedworth Williamson and of Victor A. Williamson."

Through the hospitality of the officers and members of the Marquis of Granby and Norman Lodges, the loving cup was passed round, and subsequently light refreshments were served to visiting brethren in the Master's room, the kindness shown being subsequently suitably acknowledged by Bro. Hudson, the Prov. Grand Secretary.

Craft Masonry.

Benevolent Lodge, No. 303.

The installation meeting of the above lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, Teignmouth, when the W.M. elect, Bro. W. J. N. Burden, S.W., was duly installed by Bro. G. N. Burden, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., in the presence of the following Board of Installed Masters: Bros. J. Wotton, F. C. Hallett, J. U. Valentine, J. Beswetherick, A. T. Crossley, P. G. Dobson, J. J. O. Evans, E. Andrews, H. A. McBryde, and E. Silk, all of 303; W. A. Tolchard, 2595; C. Barrett, 2595; C. Jeffery, 2189; W. Yolland, W. Pengelly, 2189; and R. Musgrave.

There were also present Bros. J. Henry Jones, Chap. 2641; Alf. Burden, 450; J. Clymo, S.W. 2189; A. W. Cove, J.D. 2189; J. D. Dobbs, 2720; Thos. W. B. Hutchings, 2725; E. Hamilton, 447; and F. Bambury, W. H. Bonner, J.W., R. J. Jones, S.D., W. A. Onn, J.D., W. Thomas, Org., H. Marks, I.G., S. J. Furler, F. Mullis, W. G. Hole, F. Linter, R. K. Gilpin, T. Hill, F. W. Lockyear, A. E. Gunning, and A. Pragnell, all of 303.

The installation ceremony was impressively performed by Bro. G. P. N. Burden, father of the installed W.M., after which the W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. J. Wotton, I.P.M.; W. H. Bonner, S.W.; R. J. Jones, J.W.; F. C. Hallett, Treas.; J. U. Valentine, Sec.; W. A. Onn, S.D.; F. W. Warren, J.D.; A. T. Crossley, P.M., D.C.; F. Linter, I.G.; W. A. Thomas, Org.; F. Mullis and T. Hill, Stwds.; and W. Robbins, Tyler.

The Installing Master's family associations with Benevolent Lodge are a record in its existence and something to be proud of. In 1794 Bro. G. G. P. N. Burden's grandfather was installed the first W. Master of the lodge, and in 1817 his father was installed with the same position. He (Bro. Burden) was elected Master in 1870 and 1871, and at the beginning of the second century of the lodge, which was in February, 1894, he was again installed W.M., and being the oldest Past Master of the lodge he

was honoured with the collar of Prov. J.G.W. During that year it was his pleasure to initiate his son (Mr. W. J. N. Burden) into the mysteries of Freemasonry, and on Monday, the 12th inst., he was privileged to fill the Installing Master's chair to carry through the ceremony of raising his son to the high office of Worshipful Master, and in the presence too of his second son (Bro. Alf. Burden) who happened to be home from Johannesburg.

It was a unique occurrence that the grandfather of the Installing Master should have been one of the founders of the lodge, which had preserved a continuity of working under the date of the warrant, March 25th, 1794, the seal of which bore the words "Devon and Exeter Provincial Grand Lodge," under the constitution of the Grand Lodge of England.

The banquet was held at Bro. H. A. McBryde's London Hotel, and served in grand style. The large room was made very snug and comfortable by arranging screens and set scenes used on the stage, the background being a landscape piece as high almost as the ceiling. The table decorations were strikingly effective and admired. On snow-white damask cloth a strip of pale blue silk was laid in wavy folds, the same being studded with silver sparklets—glistening in the depths of the creases, but not with dazzling brilliancy, so as to avoid gaudiness. The extreme edge was finished off with a border of Farleyense fern in tiny sprays—a distinct and decidedly effective change from smilax, so often used. There was a plentiful set out of cut blooms—towering arums and white and pale blue hyacinths, all in keeping with the colours recognised by the lodge. The arrangement of the table did credit to the host and hostess, and the excellent menu was referred to in the highest terms.

Harmony and Industry Lodge, No. 381.

On Thursday, the 8th instant, the installation of the W.M. took place in the handsome and newly-decorated rooms of the above lodge at Darwen, East Lancs. The Installing Master was Bro. Franklin Thomas, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., P.P.G.R. Oxon. This is looked upon as a record event in the installation of any W.M., it being the 38th consecutive occasion on which Bro. Thomas performed the ceremony in this lodge. Although there are brethren, members of this, who are prepared to do the ceremony, they have invariably given way, and extended the invite to Bro. Thomas, and, notwithstanding his advanced age—over 82 years—the ceremony was performed in his usual admirable manner, his youthful vigour apparently unabated. Bro. J. Wardley, P.M. took his place as Investing Officer, a ceremony which has now been performed by him for near upon 20 years. Besides the members of the lodge eight other lodges were represented.

A painful reminder was visibly present in the investing ceremony through the absence of the late W.M., who would otherwise have been invested as I.P.M., to which Bro. Wardley alluded. Bro. J. H. Bury, the last W.M., a brother highly respected in the town of Darwen, and who had been head of the Overseer's office for many years, was elected W.M. on the 12th December, 1898, and died on the 12th December, 1899, the lodge being in mourning for the sad event. Bro. James Cocker, S.W., was elected and installed on the 8th instant as W.M. The new W.M. is an ex-Mayor of the town, and an Alderman. The following brethren were invested as officers for the coming year: Bros. Dr. Steele, S.W.; R. T. Lomax, J.W.; J. H. Ellison, Sec.; J. Wardley, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas. and D. of C.; C. H. Wood, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Works, Charity Commissioner; W. G. Procter, B.A., P.P.G. Chap., Chaplain; John Lightbown, S.D.; Wm. Kershaw, J.D.; G. G. Sames, Org.; A. Beswick, I.G.; J. Lowe, O.G.; and Hy. Leach and R. Rawlinson, Stwds.

The brethren afterwards celebrated the Festival of St. John. A few weeks ago the brethren of this lodge subscribed near upon £50 for Bro. the Mayor of Darwen's Reservists' Fund.

Ardwick Lodge, No. 2185.

The regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Mosley Hotel, Manchester, on the 12th inst., when the following were present: Bros. H. G. Walker, W.M.; W. Rostron, I.P.M.; J. C. Chapman, S.W.; E. Turner, J.W.; W. J. Melling, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; D. Ostara, S.D.; J. Whittaker, J.D.; W. E. Mowbray, Org.; K. Malies, I.G.; J. C. Tilley, P.M.; J. W. Atkinson, P.M.; C. Deakin, John Cook, W. Higginbottom, C. Taylor, W. Lindop, J. Leatherbarrow, O. E. Fowles, G. E. Griffiths, Geo. Thompson, J. H. Astall, H. R. Thomas, J. Grime, J. C. Grime, and S. Sheldermine. Visitors: Bros. M. Goth, J.W. 581; Geo. J. Critchley, 1161; A. Platt, I.P.M. 1011; Buckley Carr, P.M. 1161 and 1458, P.P.G.D.C.; J. L. Owen, 1459; and Rodgers, 1588.

The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, Bro. John Cook was passed to the Second Degree by the W.M., Bro. H. G. Walker, who also gave the working tools and the ancient charge, the whole of the work being rendered in a most able and masterful style. It being election night, this part of the business was proceeded with, Bro. J. C. Chapman, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M., and Bro. Rostron Treasurer. Three brethren were also elected Auditors. A sum of £20 was voted from the Lodge Charity Fund to be given to the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution.

After "Hearty good wishes" from the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and responded to at the social board which followed.

A large number of the brethren contributed to the harmony of the evening with song and recitation.

Horwich Lodge, No. 2324.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 13th instant, at the Bridge Hotel, Horwich, when there were present Bros. W. H. Howarth, W.M.; W. W. Glover, S.W.; Jas. Ryder, J.W.; the Rev. T. Storey-Bates, Chap.; H. R. Thornton, P.M., P.P.D.G. Reg., Sec.; F. Thornham, S.D.; Ralph Bates, D.C.; R. Harrison, I.G.; W. Baldwin, John Wood, R. Court, and J. H. Hadfield, Stwds.; W. M. Varley, P.M.; F. M. Palmer, P.M.; Z. Tellow, P.M.; John Evans, P.M.; J. Hopwood Howarth, P.M.; Parr, Jolly, Clarkson, Guthrie, Shawcross, Yates, Cunliffe, Jones, Barker, Stacey, Dickens, Compton, Hope, Booth, Buckley, and Sadler. Visitors: Bros. J. Dawber, Prov. G.O.; Brindle, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; H. Margison, W.M. 1126; J. E. Panter, S.D. 1032; and R. Fitzpatrick, 106 (S.C.).

The lodge was opened by the W.M., and after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, Bro. Compton was duly passed to the Second Degree. The next business was the raising of Bros. Barker, Buckley, Stacey, and Dickens, by Bro. W. M. Varley, P.M., assisted by the W.M. This took the form of a thorough musical ceremony, and as the same had not been attempted in the lodge for some years, it proved a rich treat for the members and visitors present. Bro. Varley moved in a most stirring manner that a subscription be sent from the Lodge Funds in aid of the "distressed brethren in the Transvaal." This was seconded and carried unanimously, and the W.M. promised to send it at once. The W.M. proposed, and it was carried unanimously, that a similar subscription be given to the fund in aid of the "Local Volunteers going out to South Africa." After "Hearty good wishes" the brethren retired to refreshment.

The customary loyal and Masonic toasts followed. During the evening the W.M. presented to each of the three newly-married brethren, Bros. Farquharson, Harrison, and Guthrie, a handsome marble timepiece subscribed by members of the lodge.

A most enjoyable evening was spent, the following brethren contributing to the harmony of the meeting, Bros. Dawber, Prov. G.O.; W. H. Howarth, W.M.; W. M. Varley, E. W. Buckley, Rev. Storey Bates, Baldwin, Glover, and Hadfield.

Rahere Lodge, No. 2546.

A meeting of this lodge was held at Frascati's Restaurant on the 13th inst., Bro. J. R. Reece, M.D., W.M., being in the chair. Bro. James Calvert, M.D., 1827, and Warden of the College, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, was elected a joining member, and Bro. E. H. Thompson was passed to the Second Degree. Bro. E. C. Cripps, P.P. G.D.C. Gloucester, delivered in a most impressive manner the 2nd Section of the Second Lecture. The brethren and their guests afterwards dined together.

Science, Art, and the Drama.

THE RESOURCES OF ASIATIC RUSSIA.

Siberia and the Amoor lands are rich beyond belief. Their 5,214,000 square miles are inhabited by only 4,000,000 souls. In recent years, however, the number of immigrants (400,000 in 1898) has been equalled only by the tide which poured into the United States in the past. The United States Consul at Chemnitz, says that this vast territory, long looked upon as a barren waste, is destined to be one of the world's richest and most productive sections. In northern France wheat ripens in 137 days; in Siberia in 107. Even severe night frosts do not injure the young seed. Oats require in Siberia and in the Amoor country, only 96 days, and in the region of the Yenisei, only 107 to ripen. The frost period lasts only 97 days in Irkutsk country. Transbaikalia lies entirely within the agricultural regions, so, too, almost the entire territory traversed by the Amoor, as far north as it runs. Efforts are being made to obtain along the Amoor, at least 116,000 square miles for the higher form of northern agriculture. Climatically, the best of Northern Asia's territory for planting purposes is the Usuri country, which, in spite of its vast tracks of wood and grazing land, has 75,000 square miles of arable land. The construction of the Trans-Siberian Railway has already added to the empire's wheat product. The mineral resources of Western Siberia are vast. Between Tomsk and Kooznesk lie 23,000 square miles of coal lands, which have never been touched. The coal is said to be excellent. In Eastern Siberia, with its 108,000 square miles of fruitful soil, there are 400 places yielding gold. Rich mineral deposits, graphite, lapis-lazuli, iron mines particularly rich in quality, hard and soft coal, await hands willing to work them. Russia's output in gold and silver is already very large and is constantly increasing. Three-fourths of all the silver found in Russia is obtained in the Altai Mountains. Exclusive of the Ural gold fields, there are 851 places in the empire where gold is found. Notwithstanding the number of places in which iron is found, there are only four large establishments for its production. The ores are rich—58 to 60 per cent. of raw iron. The industries of Siberia are in their infancy, still they are growing, and are bound to grow, so rich are the rewards promised. Chemical, sugar, and paper mills have been put up in several places, and are paying well. Even Manchuria is looking to Russia for its future development. The wealth of this province, like that of Siberia and all eastern Russia, is ripe for harvesting. The traffic in Siberia and eastern Russia is, according to Consul Monaghan, increasing faster than even the advocates of the Great Trans-Siberian road anticipated. The Obi, one of the world's great rivers, emptying through the gulf of Obi into the Arctic Ocean, has 102 steamers and 200 tugs running already. On the Yenisei 10 steamers carry the mails regularly. The mouths of both these rivers were visited last summer by English and Russian ships. This proves the practicability of connecting eastern and western Siberia with Europe by water. The mouth of the Obi is to be deepened, and wharves are to be built. On the coast of the Usuri country there is regular postal communication with Nicolajevsk, Vladivostock, and intervening places, as well as connection with Japanese ports and Port Arthur. From Odessa and St. Petersburg to various Asiatic ports runs the so-called volunteer fleet, established in 1878. It has 14 steamers, with 115,500 tons displacement. Siberia and the Amoor country possess advantages very similar to those of North America, Australia, and parts of Africa. The great gain to Russia at present in developing Siberia is the guarantee that her harvest will come nearer to supplying her wheat requirements.

THE INVENTION OF PAINTING IN OIL.

John Van Eyck, the supposed inventor of painting in oil, which he was said to have discovered in a search for varnish, died in 1441. Mr. Raspe, in his curious treatise, published in 1781, has proved that oil painting was known long before its pretended discovery by Van Eyck. *The oil painting "invented" by John, or rather Hubert, Van Eyck, was really varnish painting, and was incidentally discovered in experimenting for a good varnish for tempera pictures. In the life of Antonello da Messina, Vasari says, "At last, having tried many things, separately and compounded, he discovered that linseed and nut oils were the most siccativ; these, therefore, he boiled with other mixtures and produced that varnish which he, and indeed every painter in the world had long desired." Van Eyck, however, continues Vasari, found that by mixing his colours with these prepared oils (that is the varnish) instead of the common tempera vehicle, his pictures required no varnishing at all, or that they then were quite as brilliant without varnish as they had previously been with. There then is evidently no question of the mere immixture of colours with oil; this was an old practice and is mentioned by many old writers, but as Vasari says in the life of Agnolo Gaddi, even this simple method was not used in Italy for figure painting. The general term oil painting was therefore sufficiently characteristic to justify Vasari in using it in contradistinction to the common prevailing method of tempera painting, especially after the very particular explanation of Van Eyck's method given in the notice of Antonello da Messina. We have mention of the use of oil in varnishing as early as the fifth century. An old Greek medical writer of that period notices the employment of walnut oil by gilders and encaustic painters on account of its drying property and its long preservation of gildings and pictures. There is mention, also, of linseed oil varnish in the eighth century, and this was in common use in the 12th, and in the two following centuries linseed oil appears to have been abundantly employed at Westminster and Ely, even in painting.*

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

After a long successful run of "The Black Tulip," the management have wisely resolved to revive the evergreen comedy of "She Stoops to Conquer." This is one of the two comedies written by Dr. Oliver Goldsmith, the other being "The Good-Natured Man." In both plays Goldsmith aimed at producing a natural transcript of life as opposed to the affectations of the sentimental school of Steele and his followers, in which, apart from the narrow restriction of the scene to polite life, comedy was set the task of reforming the morals instead of imitating the manners of the age. "She Stoops to Conquer" was produced at Covent Garden Theatre in March, 1773, and ran for 12 nights. This was considered fairly good. Our modern custom of running pieces for 200 or 300 nights was a thing utterly unknown. Goldsmith is said to have received nearly £500 as

proceeds of the three "author's nights." The leading incident of the piece—the mistaking a gentleman's house for an inn—is said to have been borrowed from a blunder of the author himself, while travelling to Edgeworthstown, in Ireland; and the original title was "The Old House a New Inn." This famous old comedy in its plot and characters seems to have been drawn from life. Goldsmith revolted against the sentimental drama, though well aware of the risk he ran. "The undertaking a comedy," he says in his dedication to Dr. Johnson, "not merely sentimental, was very dangerous. However, I ventured to trust it to the public." His object was to raise a genuine hearty laugh, and in this he has certainly succeeded. In Tony Lumpkin he has not shrunk from giving us a faithful picture of an illiterate young scapegrace, with low tastes and impudent manners, who is, yet, a favourite with us, or to reproduce in all their comic rusticity the boorish ways of Mr. Hardcastle's farm servants, even though Horace Walpole condemned the piece as "the lowest of all farces," vulgar, not only in "the subject," but in "the execution," tending "to no moral, no edification of any kind." Mr. Hardcastle is a well-drawn portrait of the squire of those days, hospitable, straightforward, good humoured; his wife, what might be expected of one who has seen so little of life outside her own petty sphere, and whose mind, narrow and selfish, owes nothing to any cultivation; while the vivacity, quick intellect, and adroitness of Miss Hardcastle pleasantly show off the confusion into which Marlow (a somewhat shadowy character) is thrown by his mistake, and combine with Tony Lumpkin to make the piece irresistibly amusing, and to ensure for it now little less success than when, on its first representation, the audience from beginning to end of the performance were in a roar of laughter. In like manner is the present representation received by audiences to many of whom the well-known points are welcomed as old friends. How thoroughly is the comedy represented. Mr. Cyril Maude, as Hardcastle, not only in the dialogue, but also in the clever by-play, gives us a true representation of the hearty squire of the good, old times. Young Marlow, Mr. Paul Arthur, and Hastings, Mr. Graham Browne, well carry out the duties of their respective parts, the strange awkwardness of Marlow, who seems to be utterly abashed by his introduction to Miss Hardcastle, being well contrasted with the entire self-possession of his friend Hastings. Mr. S. Valentine well depicts the boorish eccentricities of Tony Lumpkin. The drilling of the rustic servants by their master is most amusing, especially that of Diggory by Mr. Dagnall. The heroine of the piece, in the various phases of the character she represents, has an admirable exponent in Miss Winifred Emery, who does not fail to do justice to the important part she undertakes. Miss M. A. Victor, as Mrs. Hardcastle, affords a living picture of the silly wife and the injudicious mother. Miss Neville is intelligently rendered by Miss Beatrice Ferrar. The minor accessories of the comedy are well attended to, and there is a completeness in the performance, which cannot fail to favourably impress those who pay a visit to the Haymarket Theatre.

GENERAL NOTES.

It is not generally known that a regular "goose market" is held at Warsaw during the month of October, through which some 3,000,000 geese pass, some for consumption at Warsaw, but most for export to Germany. One third of the geese come from the Government of Vilna, and many more have come long distances, which would ruin their feet, to prevent which they are "shod," as it is called, before setting out on their journey to Warsaw, that is, they are driven first through tar poured on the ground, and then through sand. After the operation has been repeated several times their feet become covered with a hard crust, which protects them during their long march on hard ground. Formerly almost all the geese were brought to Warsaw alive, but, latterly, thanks to quicker means of transport, comparatively few, as it is found cheaper to have them on the market ready killed. Enormous numbers of geese are also sent direct from various points in the country by road or rail to Germany; for instance, from one small station 300 railway waggon loads are sent yearly.

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The breeding of birds in the winter is not infrequent, but, as a rule, their nests are built in the mild weather, when the owners have been deluded into the supposition that the winter is over and spring has come. At a meeting of the Zoological Society at Hanover-square lately, the Secretary made the interesting announcement that during January a pair of black-headed buntings had bred in one of the aviaries in the Zoo, and had hatched a young one (which is now flying about the cage) towards the middle of the month. The birds appear not to have built a nest, but to have utilised an old one of a thrush, situated in the ivy covering the side of the cage. Of course, in a captive state, the artificial heat of an aviary would be an inducement for birds to nest, and amongst caged birds the laying of eggs in the cold weather is quite common, but unless the heat is constant and even it is not often that incubation is successful. The aviary in the Zoo where the bunting laid her eggs is not altogether protected from the cold, and it is remarkable that she was able to rear her young after it was hatched.

* * * *

A benefit concert is being arranged for Miss Susanna Cole, who was once a well known concert singer. Her professional career began some 50 years ago, and she sang at the popular concerts, the Crystal Palace, and in the choirs of many churches.

* * * *

The Parepa Rose Scholarship for female vocalists, the Sainton Scholarship for violinists, and the Sterndale Bennett Scholarship for male candidates, in any branch of music, are announced at the Royal Academy of Music, for competition, in May.

* * * *

Miss MacIntyre will probably make her first appearance this season at the Good Friday Concert, at the Crystal Palace, for which she has been engaged.

* * * *

The opera season at Monte Carlo has opened with an exceedingly fine performance of Mr. Isidore de Lara's "Messalina," which was produced at Covent Garden last summer.

* * * *

Mr. David Bispham has arranged to give a War Fund Concert in London, in May, when he hopes to obtain the assistance of some of the great opera singers.

Emulation Lodge of Improvement (FOUNDED 1823).

Held under the sanction of the Lodge of Unions, No. 256.

Meeting at Freemasons' Hall, every Friday Evening, at Six o'clock, except during July, August, and September.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL

has been appointed to take place at 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., has kindly consented to preside.

The Lodge will be opened at 6 o'clock p.m. precisely.

W. Bro. R. CLAY SUDLOW, P.G. Std. Br., as W.M.

The Work will be the Second Lecture—

- The First Section by W. Bro. J. H. Jenks, P.M. 8, P.G. Stwd.
" Second " " W. R. Bennett, P.M. 1965.
" Third " " R. L. S. Badham, 21.
" Fourth " " Chas. Lewis, P.M. 1706, P.P.G.D. Essex.
" Fifth " " T. W. Allsop, P.M. 88, P.P.G.D.C. Bucks.

W. Bro. E. CUTLER, Q.C., P.G. Organist,

will preside at the Organ, and play the following Selections as the Brethren assemble :

- 1. Fugue in D major.—F. S. Bach.
2. { a Andante Religioso } —Edward Cutler
{ b Minuet }
3. " Fixed in His Everlasting Seat." —Handel-Smart.
4. Intermezzo.—Edward Cutler.
5. Offertoire in E flat.—Lefebvre.
6. Finale, Second Symphony.—Widor.
7. March " Tannhauser."—Wagner.

STEWARDS.

- *V.W. Bro. Edward Letclivorth, F.S.A., Grand Secretary, Treasurer.
R.W. Bro. Sir John B. Monekton, P.G. W. Bro. Jas. S. Eastes, P.G.D.
" Thomas Fern, P.G.W. " Ralph Clifton, P.G.D.
" Robert Geay, P.G.W. " J. E. Le Feuvre, P.G.D.
" Judge Philbrick, Q.C. " Col. J. A. Hindley, P.G.D.
" P.G.W. " Lemnos Browne, P.D.G.
V.W. " Richard Eve, P.G. Treas. " J. A. Farnfield, P.A.G.
" R. Loveland, Loveland, " D. of C.
" Q.C., Pres. B.G.P. " E.M. Money, P.A.G.D.C.
" Jas. H. Matthews, Pres. " James Tertius Collins, P.G. Swd. Br.
W. " Peter de Lande Long, " W.M. Bywater, P.G.S.B.
" P.G.D. " F. Mead, P.G. Swd. Br.
" F. Richardson, P.G.D. " Maj. G.W. Carell, P.G.S.B.
" Ralph Gosling, M.D., " Gordon Smith, P.G.S.B.
" P.G.D. " C. F. Mator, P.G. Std. Br.
" Baronde Ferrieres, M.P., " R. Clay Sudlow, P.G. Std. Br.
" P.G.D. " A.C. Spaul, P.G. Std. Br.
" Sir Bruce M. Seton, Bt., " W. G. Kentish, P.G. Std. Br.
" P.G.D. " Sir G. D. Harris, P.G.D.
" H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D. " Henry A. Tobias, P.G. Std. Br.
" J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D. " C. E. Keyser, P.G.D.
" C. E. Keyser, P.G.D. " Wm. Lake, Asst. G. Sec
" W. F. Smithson, P.G.D. " Henry Sadler, G. Tyler

- W. Bro. Thos. W. Allsop, P.M. 88, P.P.G.D.C. Bucks.
" Charles J. Andrews, 165.
" G. Ackerman, W.M. 2734.
" A. C. Arnold, 8.
" A. Attwell, 1022.
" A. M. Barnard, P.M. and Sec. 1961.
" Henry W. Brooks, 21.
" James Boulton, P.M. 28, P.G. Purst.
" C. W. Blackland, P.M. 769, Prov. G. Reg. Kent.
" W. B. Berryman, 1263.
" Wm. Baker, W.M. 2267.
" R. L. S. Badham, 21.
" W. R. Bennett, P.M. 1965.
" Herbert Coward, 1193.
" F. H. Cullingham, 1769.
" Thos. Coakes, P.M. 1317.
" Joseph Carver, P.M. 2171.
" Patrick Collings, 1293.
W. Bro. George Pearson Carter, P.M. and Treas. 2322.
" W. J. Cornish, 1319.
" G. R. H. Clark, 1965.
" C. D. Catterson, 518.
" Lionel Cooke, P.M. 2108.
" A. F. Calvert, P.M. 28.
" E. P. Debenham, P.M. 1179, P.P.G. Reg. Herts.
" Frank Davies, 2721.
" Morris B. Evans, P.M. 8, P.G. Stwd.
" W. Shee S. Evans, P.P.M. 21.
" Edwin Fox, W.M. 58, P.G. Stwd.
" Geo. Graham Forster, 121.
" Elliott G. Fletcher, W.M. 1090.
" J. W. Freeman, P.M. 117.

- W. Bro. W. P. Fuller, P.M. 8, P.G. Stwd.
" S. G. Glanville, P.M. 8, P.G. Stwd.
" F. A. Hazzledine, P.M. 2088.
" G. B. Henning, P.M. and Sec. 256.
" L. Harfield, 2705.
" Frank Hughes, P.M. 182.
" Reginald Hughes, W.M. 2084.
" J. H. Jenks, P.P.M. 8.
" Chas. P. King, P.M., P.G. Supt. of Wks. Surrey.
" A. B. Kent, 163.
" Colerell E. W. B. Leigh, P.M. 839, P.P.G.D. of C. Camb.
" A. Leighton, P.P.M. 263.
" Chas. Lewis, P.M. 1706, P.P.G.D. Essex.
" Y. Codina Langlin, 2158.
" J. Lancaster, P.M. and Sec. 541.
" R. E. F. Lander, P.M. 2086, P.P.G.D. Herts.
" C. H. Le Maistre, 1581.
" C. McCobbold, M.D., 2629.
" C. W. Mapleton, P.M. 256.
" C. J. Marrian, P.M. 2189.
" Daniel Mayer, W.M. 2789.
" Chas. E. Masterman, 2683.
" Thos. W. Ockenden, P.M. 1512, P.P.G.D. Middx.
" W. J. Pullen, A.D. of C. 2901.
" Henry Pritchard, P.M. 115 and 263, P.P.G. Treas. Middlesex.
Bro. J. M. Payne, 2671.
" F. T. Rushton, P.M. and Sec. 8, P.G. Stwd.
" Geo. Rankin, 1611.
" Rev. G. L. Roberts, M.A., 2192, P.P.G.C. Bucks.
" John F. Roberts, 76.
" Joseph Russell, P.M. 8, P.G. Stwd.
" Hamilton Scott, 2711.
" B. H. Springett, 1681.
" Maurice Spiegel, P.M. 59.
" B. A. Smith, P.M. 523.
" P.P.S.G.W. Worcestershire and Rutland.
" Chas. J. Strother, A.D. of C. 2391.
" Percy Sloner, 8.
" J. W. Spalding, P.M. 329.
" P.G.D. of C. Notts.
" William Edward Sanger, W.M. 8.
" Rev. C. W. Servante, P.P.M. 1768.
" John Smith, P.M. 2190.
" Prov. G. Treas. Beds.
" G. W. Smith, W.M. 1929.
" J. Collett Smith, 1965.
" Arthur Frank Slew, 1115.
" G. Edgar Urch, 2595.
" F. C. Van Duzer, P.M. 1655.
" Leopold Weil, P.M. and Sec. 1510.
" Jas. Williams, 1501 and 1303.
" A. G. Welmore, W.M. 1791.
" H. S. Whelton, P.M. 3.
" J. R. Whitley, 2962.
" J. Woodhouse, W.M. 96.
" C. F. Wahl, W.M. 166.

TICKETS for the Supper, including admission to the Lodge, 5s. each, may be had from any of the Secretaries; of the Secretary, Bro. JOSEPH RUSSELL, 27 and 28 Milk Street, E.C. 4; and of Bro. W. G. KENTISH, The Glebe, Blackheath, S.E.

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THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

Will be held at THE FREEMASONS' TAVERN, LONDON, W.C., On TUESDAY, 27th FEBRUARY, 1900, Under the distinguished Presidency of THE RIGHT HON. LORD ADDINGTON, R.W. Prov. G. Master for Buckinghamshire.

Brethren are earnestly solicited to accept the Stewardship upon this most important occasion, and to kindly forward their names as soon as possible, with full particulars, to

JAMES TERRY (Pat., P.G. Swd. B.), Secretary, by whom the same will be gladly received, and who will thankfully acknowledge same. Office—4, Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

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The following Contributions to this Fund have been received, namely:—

Table with columns for donor name, amount, and currency. Includes entries like R.W. Bro. George Richards, Dist. G.M. Transvaal 100 0 0, Empire Lodge, No. 2103 21 0 0, etc.

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WANTED.—INFORMATION

of the whereabouts of ISIDOR WEIL, P.M., who was born at Schwerin (Germany) in 1842, and was some years since in business at Knightsbridge as a Cigarette Manufacturer.—Apply, J. P., 16, Great Queen-street, W.C.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1900.

Masonic Notes.

The Annual Festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement will be held in the Grand Lodge Room, Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 2nd prox., when R.W. Bro. the Earl of Warwick, Dep. Grand Master, Prov. Grand Master for Essex, has kindly consented to preside. Lodge will be opened precisely at 6 p.m. The work selected for the edification of the brethren present will be the Second Lecture, the Sections of

which will be worked as follows: 1st Section by Bro. J. H. Jenks; 2nd, by Bro. W. R. Bennett; 3rd, by Bro. R. S. L. Badham; 4th, by Bro. Chas. Lewis; 5th, by Bro. T. W. Allsopp.

* * *

There is no doubt a great treat in store for those who may be able to attend, whether they be brethren to whom "Emulation Working" is familiar, or those to whom it is but slightly known or only by repute. We have no official School of Instruction, but this is the nearest approach to one we are likely to have for many and many a year. It has had no rival since the Stability Lodge of Instruction ceased to exercise its former influence. It commands the enthusiastic support of the most eminent exponents of our ritual. Several lodges of instruction have latterly been formed at which "Emulation Working" is carried out most strictly, and as this becomes better known, the more generally it will be appreciated and adopted.

* * *

When the work of the lodge is over, and those who have contributed to the evening's instruction have received their due meed of praise and thanks, an adjournment will be made, as usual, to the adjoining hall, where the brethren will partake of supper, under the presidency of the R.W. the Deputy Grand Master; tickets 5s. each, inclusive of lodge dues, but exclusive of wine, to be had of the Stewards, or from Bro. J. Russell, Secretary, 27 and 28, Milk-street, E.C. Here, again, a treat will await those who may be able to stay for refreshment in the shape of a far higher order of after-dinner oratory than is commonly heard in the Masonic banqueting-room. We have no doubt that in the ordinary course of things it will be our privilege to report that next Friday's Festival in honour of Emulation working has proved, as it has done for many years past, a signal success in the three essential elements of labour, refreshment, and oratory.

* * *

We reiterate the regret to which we gave expression in one of our "Notes" last week at the extremely moderate amount of support thus far accorded to the Transvaal Masonic Relief Fund, and we trust that the appeal of Bro. Richards, District Grand Master, for the further and more generous aid which is so urgently needed, will be responded to. It was in the month of December last that Bro. Richards addressed us his first letter, setting forth the position of our Transvaal brethren. The list was opened in the *Freemason* of the 13th January, Bro. Richards himself heading the contributions with a personal donation of £100. Yet the total received as published last week was only a little over £250, or not very much more than the brethren in the single District of Natal have given. The Masons in Natal now have to make provision for the support of their own suffering brethren, so that the Masonic Refugees from the Transvaal must look elsewhere for the help that is needed for themselves and their families.

* * *

In our earliest remarks on the subject, we stated, on the authority of Bro. Richards, that about four-fifths of the members of the lodges in the Transvaal—say, in all about a thousand—were of English nationality and had been compelled to leave their homes, and that the majority of these were at the time, and still are, in the direst distress. From the statement made by Bro. Richards last week, it appears that he is in receipt of advices from his District Grand Secretary of the 20th January to the effect that at that date "the funds raised there"—at Durban—"at the commencement of the war for the relief of our distressed brethren are now nearly exhausted, although every possible care has been exercised in the distribution, and the Local Relief Committee fear that unless aid is speedily forthcoming operations will have to be suspended, and thus many a loyal and deserving brother will be deprived of the aid which is sorely needed at the present moment."

* * *

It must be remembered that these brethren are only about one out of many thousands of people who are placed in the same position, but their particular claims to the sympathy and help of the English Craft rest on the fact that they, too, are Masons under the English Constitution. Our lodges and brethren throughout the whole of England have nobly responded to the calls made upon them for contributions to the different War and general Refugee Funds, and donations of two or three guineas each from a few hundred lodges would not be missed, while the total of such gifts would materially help the poor and distressed Transvaal brethren to tide over their present difficulties.

It is given to few married couples to celebrate their golden wedding, and to fewer still to receive such marks of the esteem and affection in which they are universally held as were exhibited to our respected Bro. the Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., Past Grand Chaplain, Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Durham and Provincial Grand Master of Northumberland and Durham, and Mrs. Tristram, early during the present month on the 50th anniversary of their marriage. The very full report which appears in another column mentions in particular that among the gifts which were received by Bro. and Mrs. Tristram were an antique silver-gilt loving cup, with a pair of antique silver-gilt fruit bowls, and a diamond brooch for Mrs. Tristram, which were presented by the brethren of the Mark Province of Northumberland and Durham; and a massive silver tray, with a shield pattern tea and coffee service to match, and a gold bracelet for Mrs. Tristram, presented by the members of the Craft Province of Durham; while a gold vase was given by Bro. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., Prov. G. Master—who, through unavoidable circumstances, was denied the pleasure of being present—and Bro. Victor A. Williamson, Past G.W. Suitable inscriptions, commemorative of the circumstance in which the gifts were presented, engraved on the principal articles, while the speeches that were made show how deep and affectionate are the relations that exist between the Canon and the brethren in the Craft and Mark Provinces in which he has figured prominently for so many years. It will be remarked with interest that four generations of the Tristram family were represented at both presentations.

* * *

There appears to be much sound sense in the remarks of "Ex-Secretary, P.M.," in his letter as published this week on the prices charged for banquet tickets at the different Provincial Grand Lodge and Chapter meetings held in different parts of the country. Why in some Provinces the price should be fixed at 5s.—exclusive, of course, of wine—and in other Provinces at one guinea, it is out of our power to explain. We imagine there must be a reason for it, and if any of our readers are able to enlighten us upon the subject, we shall willingly find space for any communications they may be pleased to send. We think "Ex-Secretary, P.M.," is quite right in calling attention to the matter, nor can the slightest exception be taken to the manner in which he has done so.

* * *

The Forward Lodge, No. 1180, Birmingham, would seem to have been particularly fortunate in its installation meeting on the 5th instant, not only in respect of the function itself, which was admirably carried out, and the attendance of members and visitors, which was very numerous, but also because Bro. G. Beech, Dep. P.G.M., took advantage of the opportunity which presented itself of referring at some length to the Festival it is proposed to hold this year in aid of the Warwickshire Benevolent and Pupils' Assistance Fund. From his remarks it appears that the meeting is likely to take place during the first week in July and that Lord Leigh, the Provincial Grand Master, has not only placed the Stoneleigh Abbey grounds at the service of the Committee in charge of the arrangements, but in the event of his health permitting, will himself preside on the occasion. Under these circumstances there can be very little doubt as to the success of the Festival.

* * *

As regards a remark of Bro. Tolladay's suggestion made later during the after-dinner proceedings—that the Festival in aid of the above Warwickshire Fund should be held triennially, and that they should do more for their own Charity, we take leave to point out that the "London Charities"—so called because they are located in or near London—are as much at the service of the Craft in the Provinces as in the Metropolis.

* * *

Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, will hold a stated meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 2nd prox. Considerable interest attaches to the proceedings, which will include a paper by Bro. Hughan in memoriam of his intimate and respected friend, the late Bro. John Lane, P.A.G.D.C., and the eighth in order of Bro. R. F. Gould's "Masonic Celebrities," the subject chosen being "The Chevalier Burnes." We are also glad to see that a motion for a grant of 10 guineas from the lodge funds to the "Transvaal Masonic Relief Fund" will be brought forward by Bro. G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C. Lodge will be opened at five p.m. precisely, and the brethren will afterwards dine together as usual in the Gordon Room of the Holborn Restaurant.

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.

A GRAND LODGE FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I think you have struck the keynote, when you suggest a postponement of the recognition of the new Grand Lodge of Western Australia, formed as it is out of 33 lodges belonging to the English Constitution only.

I imagine, however, you will agree with me that the situation is accentuated, when I adduce some additional facts, with which you do not appear to be acquainted.

At the last quarterly communications of the United Grand Lodges of New South Wales and Victoria, application for recognition was made by the newly-founded Grand Lodge of Western Australia. In both instances also there were a protest and a "warning" from the brethren of the lodges holding under the Scottish Constitution in the colony, against recognition. There was therefore more of the "sympathy" of the Scotch lodges for the new movement which you mention in your article.

The Scottish lodges in Western Australia, I would explain, are quite two-thirds the number of the English lodges that have started the new sovereign body, which I take it is a very important matter for consideration. By the way, I am not aware of there being any Irish lodges in the colony.

Apart from the foregoing facts, however, it is singular that on the very same occasions the new Grand Lodge of Western Australia was seeking recognition from New South Wales and Victoria, there was a similar application from another section, professing to be the supreme body in the former colony. This, I may mention, was started about a year ago by certain brethren, with, strange to say, not a single constituent lodge behind them. The claims of the latter body may consequently not be deemed worthy of serious thought.

But the upshot of the application for recognition by the regularly-formed Grand Lodge of Western Australia, so far as New South Wales and Victoria are concerned, is significant, inasmuch as it was agreed in both cases to take no action for the present.

Surely, then, as New South Wales and Victoria are both on the spot, so to speak, they may be credited with knowing more of the local surroundings than we can possibly know, situated as we are some 10,000 miles away.

It is, therefore, to be hoped that the advisers of the M.W. the G. Master of England will carefully look at the advisability of taking a leaf out of the book of the sister Grand Lodges of New South Wales and Victoria, with the view of delaying recognition until such time as the opposing elements join their forces into one homogeneous whole. This judicious step will be the means of promoting union and preserving harmony. Besides, is not the Grand Lodge of Scotland entitled to some little consideration on so momentous a question?

To conclude, I have a vivid remembrance of the unhealthy rivalry, the heated discord, and the altogether generally regrettable state of affairs that prevailed in New South Wales and Victoria prior to the establishment of the present Grand Lodges in those colonies, and we ought certainly, I think, at this end of the world to pause ere we contribute to a similar and possible source of strife in the western colony.

Let us, therefore, be in no haste over this matter, and when the day arrives—as no doubt it must eventually—the Grand Lodge of England can then cheerfully and unhesitatingly acknowledge, not the present hurriedly conceived institution, but what it ought to be, a United Grand Lodge of Western Australia.—Yours fraternally,

W. F. LAMONBY.

February 17th.

A NEW MARK LODGE IN NORFOLK.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The Mark Masons of King's Lynn and neighbourhood on the 14th inst. signed a petition praying for a warrant to be granted for a new Mark lodge to be named the Philanthropic, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, King's Lynn, the third Thursday in March, September, and December, and recommended Bros. Harry James Sparks, 32°, as first W.M.; William Patrick, 30°, as first S.W.; and R. H. Oldham, 18°, as J.W. Bro. Chas. E. Ward, 18°, was appointed Secretary *pro tem.*, and the petition has gone forward to Wilpole Mark Lodge, No. 92, Norwich, for its approval, the founders signing the petition in addition to the above were: Bros. Hamon le Strange, P.G.M.O. England, 33°; J. S. B. Giasier, 18°; Chas. W. Smith, 18°; A. G. Russell, 18°; Thos. H. Hodd, and H. C. Brown, 18°.

Founders' fees, &c., were all fixed and a Committee appointed to make arrangements for consecration should the prayer of petition be granted.

Several members of the Craft, including two members of the 30°, will be candidates for advancement.—Yours fraternally,

CHAS. E. WARD, Sec. *pro tem.*

LODGE BANQUETS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

As a constant reader of your paper I am interested in the doings and customs of the Craft in different parts of the country, and have frequently observed that the banquets following Masonic meetings in London and the south of England apparently are far more costly than in the northern provinces, where the modest suppers are simply designated "refreshment" after labour, which is decidedly too mild a term to apply to the London banquets after lodge meetings. As an illustration permit me to refer to one of the "Masonic Notes" on page 85 of a recent number of the *Freemason*, where it was announced that at the convocation of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Hertfordshire, to be held at Watford, on the 21st inst., the price of the tickets for the banquet for the companions who desire them will be £1 1s. each! Why make the banquet at a meeting where all the companions in the province are invited to attend so exclusive? Surely the price named to a majority of the companions who attend the meeting would be prohibitive.

In the provinces in the north of England the desire of the officials is to have as many of the brethren or companions, as the case may be, stay to the dinner after provincial meetings, and the price of tickets seldom, if ever, exceeds 5s. each, and in many instances I have known the price to be less. Why should the brethren or companions, who have often to pay railway fares and travel considerable distances to attend provincial meetings, be practically debarred from the banquet, when they need refreshment, by the exclusive and prohibitive charge of one guinea for the privilege of dining with the Provincial Grand Master or Grand Superintendent, after sitting with him in the lodge or chapter? I commend this to the consideration of the worthy Grand Superintendent of Hertfordshire and his officials.—Yours fraternally,

EX-SECRETARY, P.M.

FREEMASONRY AND JESUITRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Relying upon an advertisement in your columns I purchased and have carefully read a pamphlet entitled "The Pith and Marrow of the Closing and Coming Century and related position of Freemasonry and Jesuitry." And for the good of trade and of truth, I may say that I hope it will have a large sale, but I certainly think that the Craft ought to utterly repudiate any responsibility for such a publication, for it is quite certain that in certain quarters the publication will be put forward *ex cathedra* as being more or less promoted and endorsed by the Craft.

The pamphlet is, I find, issued by "The Theosophical Society," and the writer is anonymous, and pretends to be a Mason, but in my opinion he is a Jesuit of a very ignorant and bigoted type, and America would appear to be the home of this extraordinary latter-day prophet and seer.

According to this anonymous scribe, Freemasonry is responsible for the war in Cuba, for the Crusades, the American Revolution, the war between Greece and Turkey, for in this last, page 11, we read, "The Masons put arms in the hands of the people (Greeks) and precipitated the war." We are also told, page 11, "Masons planned, precipitated, and successfully prosecuted our American Revolution against tyranny and oppression." According to this sapient writer, in France, Germany, Sweden, and Spain, in Canada, in fact, all over the world, mankind is supposed to be on the verge of grappling together in a deadly war, a veritable Armageddon in fact, and divided into two forces or camps, viz., those of Freemasons and Jesuitry, and yet poor little sleepy England is urged in the shape of the M.W.G.M. to "arouse himself, and follow in the footsteps of Sweden's King and Mexico's warrior-statesman President." (Page 13.)

Having conjured up this terrible bogey of a world-wide war we are treated to this spread-eagle utterance, "The cyclic operation of this great universal law has again brought the cumulative results and forces of 50 centuries—good and evil—face to face for final combat under the white flag of Masonry and the black flag of Jesuitry." (Page 14.)

The whole tendency of this high falutin cryptic pamphlet is bad and immoral, because it makes anonymous and unfounded and unverifiable charges of promoting insurrections, wars, and bloodshed against the Craft; not an atom of proof is given for the libellous statements made, and yet it hypocritically urged that the tenets of the Craft tend to uplift humanity, and promote equity, brotherliness, and peace. It equally as mischievously and wickedly states, without an atom of real proof, that Jesuitry and members of that society are opposed to liberty, progress, and humanity, and guilty of tyranny and injustice.

This is not a time to create jealousy, illwill, and suspicion and distrust between man and man. Whatever his creed or belief, it is our duty to conciliate, promote friendly intercourse and mutual change of opinions in any and all quarters, not to impute bad motives or evil intentions to others who think differently to ourselves, not to smell out and discover the minor evil points in our opponent's character, but to first purge out our own and in any case to seek peace and pursue it. Much more might be said but I do most strongly protest against the absurd statements that wars, insurrections, and national tumults have all been inspired, and promoted, and engineered by Masons.

I suppose some literary genius will next have the audacity to assert that Cain was a Freemason, and of course all murderers since have been Masons. There would be as much ground for this assertion as all the absurd farrago of nonsense recorded in above pamphlet.—Yours fraternally,

T. MAY, 754.

Tottenham, February 20th.

GENERAL COMMITTEE OF GRAND LODGE AND BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The quarterly meeting of the General Committee of Grand Lodge, and the monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence, was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, London. Bro. J. H. Matthews, President of the Board of Benevolence, took the chair, Bro. D. D. Mercer, Senior Vice-President, and Bro. Henry Garrod, Junior Vice-President, were in their customary positions, while Bros. Edward Leitchworth, G. Sec., William Lake, Asst. G. Sec., William Dodd, G. S. Recknell, and Henry Sadler, G. Tyler, represented the official department. The other brethren who attended were Bros. Col. James Davis, P.D.G.D.C.; W. M. Bywater, P.G.D.; E. W. Nightingale, R. W. Ker, James Block, F. W. Hancock, Charles J. R. Tijou, W. Kipps, S. H. Goldschmidt, Lewis Lazarus, George Graveley, Henry W. Kiallmark, John Ellinger, Charles Henry Stone, W. H. Caton, Lieut.-Col. G. E. E. Blunt, John Nixon, William Radcliffe, George R. Langley, Frank Ruthven, J. Dorton, J. W. Burgess, Money Marsland, C. W. Mapleton, H. Thomson Lyon, Frank Evans, W. J. Mason, F. A. Guimrams, C. J. Harland, H. Broughton, E. H. Bassett, H. T. Read, George Simonds, John Trude Fripp, Rev. S. J. Roco, W. Digby Ovens, F. Buscombe, C. J. Homewood, J. Carey, Henry J. Moxon, R. Parish, A. Bullard, G. M. E. Hnmilton, C. J. Grove, Walter Webber, Edgar Green, Samuel Jones, George May, Henry James Weston, Edward Radclyffe, F. Toten Willcox, Henry Stiles, F. W. Downes, A. J. Swarth, George Symons, W. E. Hale, George Herbert Burns, and H. Massey.

At the Board of Masters the paper of business for Grand Lodge Quarterly Communication of March 7th was read to the brethren, and when the Committee was closed the Board of Benevolence was opened. The brethren first confirmed to the extent of £225 grants of over £20 each, which were referred at the last meeting to the Grand Master for his approval, which approval his Royal Highness had given. The new list of cases contained 33 names, and the petitioners were qualified through lodges in the London district and at Cheshunt, Old Swindon, Sittingbourne, Framlingham, Secunderabad, Bradford, Rangoon, Beccles, Rochester, Aldershot, Lowestoft, Enfield, Bristol, Newport (Isle of Wight), Exeter, New South Wales, Sunderland, and Aberavon. One of these was dismissed and four were deferred. The remainder were voted a total of £830. Two cases were recommended to Grand Lodge for confirmation for £100 each and two for £50 each. The Grand Master's approval was asked for two grants of £40 each and seven for £30 each. Nine grants were made of £20 each and six of £10 each.

DEDICATION OF A MASONIC TEMPLE AT ILFRACOMBE.

The new Masonic Temple at Ilfracombe was recently dedicated by Bro. G. C. Davie, P.A.G.D.C. Eng., Dep. Prov. G.M., assisted by Bros. F. B. Westlake, P.D.G.D.C. Eng., P.S.G.W.; Rev. T. Russell, P.P.J.G.W.; Rev. R. W. J. Smart, P.P.G. Chap.; and Jno. Stocker, P.G. Sec. The following members of the lodge were present: Bros. R. M. Rowe, W.M.; A. H. Fisher, I.P.M.; C. H. Browning, S.W.; H. Braund, J.W.; W. Walters, P.S.G.D., Treas.;

J. W. Lugg, P.M., Sec.; J. Chadder, S.D.; J. Kelly, J.D.; J. P. Huxtable, I.G.; E. J. Tamlyn, P.M., D.C.; J. T. Gardner, P.P.G.O., Org.; G. Kevern Batten, Asst. Org.; W. H. Huxtable and J. H. Macey, Stwds.; A. Jeffery, Tyler; M. W. Tattam, P.M.; W. Day, P.M.; W. Rees, P.M.; J. C. Clarke, P.M.; S. Jones, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; D. Guilding, P.M.; H. R. Grover, P.P.J.G.D.; E. Henshall, Lockwood; F. Beer, A. G. Huxtable, G. K. Batten, J. Watts, G. Southcombe, R. Barnett, J. Moore, J. Nairn, H. Wood, J. Parrett, W. M. Carter, E. D. Percival, F. Jones, M. C. Dukes, F. C. Tuck, and W. J. Moon. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. G. Edgveare, W.M. 2685; E. C. Atherton, P.M. 328, P.P.G.C.; H. Brooks, P.M., D.C. 251; H. Ascott, P.M., D.C. 251; W. H. Puddicombe, I.P.M. 489; A. J. Lawman, I.P.M. 1885; R. J. Morrison, P.M. 251, P.P.G.D.; R. J. Morrison, P.M. 251, P.P.G.D.; T. R. Seldon, W.M. 251; G. W. Lindsley, 251, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; W. Drew, P.M. 9; J. Sanders, 1429; F. W. Twiss, I.P.M. 251; T. Lee, S.W. 251; B. T. James, J.D. 251; H. J. Hancock, T. 251; E. G. B. Skinner, 2086; W. J. Lord, 251; H. Shooter, 112; W. Ascott, 489; W. M. Jones, 251; J. Gordon Ede, 707; A. F. Clark, 1891; C. J. P. Huxtable, 2306; E. J. Butt, 251; C. Lock, 251; F. Elliott, 251; H. W. Sly, 251; J. Marler, 237; and F. W. Chown, 710.

The temple is situate in Northfield-road, and its front of Bath stone ashlar work is classic in design, with the five orders of architecture intermixed. The four main columns supporting the entablature are of the Tuscan and Doric orders, and the six smaller columns which flank the doorway and windows are of the Ionic, Corinthian, and Composite orders. In the tympanum of the massive moulded pediment is carved the emblem of the square and compasses, with date of erection. The lodge is entered by a lobby with black and tesselated pavement. A large ante-room is inside the front hall, from which the lodge is entered by two elaborately-decorated doors, whose top panels contain in faithful colours the coats-of-arms of Devon and Ilfracombe. The ceiling, which is arched and divided into panels, is of a pretty shade of sky blue, on which are represented the constellations of the Zodiac, while in the triangular panels near the dome are the northern crown, Herschell's telescope, Medusa's head, and the Dolphin constellation. In the east end of the lodge is depicted Saturn, Jupiter, Mars, Venus, and Mercury. The walls are surmounted by a large cornice neatly painted in cream, blue, and salmon. The frieze underneath is ornamented with various Masonic emblems. Around the lodge is a dado in red, with black panel lines and fluted uprights dividing same. In the centre of each panel, in blue and black, are tastefully painted the insignia of the respective offices. In the east of the handsome hall is an elaborate representation in gold of the rising sun, while in the south it is at its meridian, and setting in the west.

The decorations of the temple, which are of a high order, were designed and executed by Bro. J. C. Clarke, and the whole work reflects on him the greatest credit. He has exhibited in it much skill and ability. The portraits of the P.Ms. hung around the walls are the gift of Bro. E. D. Percival. The beautiful carving of the front is the work of Bro. J. P. Huxtable, I.G., and the richly-ornamented capitals are evidence of his delicate and expert workmanship. The temple cost about £1500.

After the dedication a banquet took place at the Ilfracombe Hotel, where Bro. H. R. Grover, P.P.G.D., catered. The foundation-stone of the temple bears the inscription that it was laid by W. Bro. G. C. Davie, P.M., P.A.G.D. of C. England, on May 10th, 1899, during the office of W. Bro. A. H. Fisher, W.M.

Craft Masonry.

Lodge of Tranquillity, No. 185.

A very large gathering of brethren visited Frascati's Restaurant on Monday last on the occasion of the installation of Bro. Joseph Gerson as the new Worshipful Master of the above famous lodge, which dates back as far as 1787. The outgoing Master, Bro. Philip Ornstien, presided at the opening of the lodge and during the preliminary business, and there were also present in the course of the evening Bros. Alexander Levy, P.D.G.T. Kimbrley (who was the Master of the lodge in 1851); A. E. Sydney (1862); J. D. Barnett (1876); W. D. Bayley (1880 and 1886); A. E. Staley, P.Z. (1883); S. Barnett, P.Z. (1884); H. Tipper, P.A.G.P. (1887); J. M. Levy (1889); S. Rosenfeld (1892); J. Eisenman, P.Z. (1893); Isaac Lazarus (1895); David Hills, P.Z. (1896); W. Hinds (1897); J. A. Witthaus (1898); A. F. Pengelly, H. M. Kruszinski, J. Susman, J. Cohen, E. Levy, S. H. Davids, S. Davis, E. Grossbaum, T. Morris, G. Schlesinger, W. Bailey, W. Barnett, M. M. Kruszinski, Ernest Joseph, Gustave Michael, C. D. Hills, H. Franks, Maurice H. Hyman, Maurice Weinalt, Philip Joseph, Maurice Joseph, J. H. Stone, J. Schwann, Charles D. Jonas, D. S. Woolf, Alfred Rosenfeld, C. R. James, S. Goss, F. Skelsey, A. H. Roeg, Marcus Fisher, A. Phillips, T. Alexander, S. Schwesee, H. Charig, M. Kosminski, H. Braham, H. Barrett, M. H. Marks, J. P. Hyman, Laurence Levy, L. Rosenthal, J. G. Fless, M. Harris, A. Rosenfeld, H. Chetham, P.M. 1017; W. S. Lyon, A. E. Sydney, P.M.; D. Lebl, G. B. Fisher, and J. W. Taylor. The following were the visitors present: Bros. Robert Reid, P.M. 1275; T. F. Hellyar, 2512; G. Stubbs, 771; G. Rees, J.D. 1732; S. J. Cohen, S.D. 1622; H. W. Schartau, P.M. 1261, P.P.G. Org. Middx.; Frank Tebbutt, 2098; William Fell, 1706; Bernard Dukes, I.G. 1017; A. S. Gardiner, 2707; F. Jones, P.M. 548; W. Digby Owens, W.M. 1017; Joseph Penner, W.M. 205; Joseph Levy, P.M. 235; T. M. Lambie, W.M. 1668; Charles W. Cole, I.P.M. 2105; Moss Chapman, P.M. 619; J. Wouth, W.M. 834; H. J. Phillips, P.M. and Secretary 205; I. Gundel-finger, P.M.; Thomas Chamberlain, 2099; J. Henry Richardson, W.M. 1828; Sidney M. Cohen, 1017; F. Heilbronn, I.P.M. 1017; Ernest Cowper, 1507; Alphonse Abraham, 2265; L. Byng Hill, 33; Harry Day, 2686; H. Massey, P.M., P.Z. 619 and 1028; Alfred Felling, W.M. 879; Rev. S. J. Roco, P.M. 188; J. Citrese, W.M. 1540; Walter Clark, I.G. 2579; E. W. Miller, 753; A. Kaufman, W.M. 1766; C. Robinson, S.W. 1541; Charles F. Sach, 1541; N. J. Nathan, 1668; M. Siegenberg, P.M. 2455; W. H. Fenton, 357; Samuel Sasserath, 1017; Isaac Levy, 1349; Edward Lazarus, 2488; Elias Armstrong, 188; Rev. G. J. Emanuel, P.M. 1474, Prov. G. Chap. Warwickshire; S. Pollitzer, P.M. 1017; J. Hall Roberts, 993; H. Warren, S.D. 2090; H. Phillips, 704; S. F. Feldman, 183; Louis Harfeld, 2705; S. Mycels, 2265; G. L. Cohen, 43; Jas. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; and I. D. Woodhouse, 704.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Bro. J. Cohen, P.M., passed Bro. E. Levy to the Second Degree, and Bro. J. A.

Witthaus, P.M. (the Steward of the lodge for the Benevolent Institution's Festival of next Tuesday), raised Bros. S. H. Davies and G. Kauffmann to the Third Degree, with accompanying choral service by Bro. Schartau. The W.M., Bro. Philip Ornstien, then installed Bro. Joseph Gerson, J.W. and W.M. elect, who was presented to him by Bro. J. Eisenmann, P.M., D.C., as W.M. for the ensuing 12 months. Bro. Ornstien was invested as I.P.M., and the following were invested as the other officers: Bros. L. Franklin, S.W.; B. Cohen, J.W.; Harry Tipper, P.M., P.A.G.P., Treas.; David Hills, P.M., P.Z., Sec.; J. Mortimer, S.D.; M. Winkel, J.D.; H. Allen, I.G.; J. Eisenmann, P.M., P.Z., D.C.; J. A. Witthaus, P.M., M.E.Z., Alfred Rosenfeld, M. Fisher, and H. M. Kruszinski, Stewards; and J. Rawles, Tyler. The performance of the installation ceremony and the investiture of officers reflected the highest credit upon Bro. Ornstien and the W.M. Bro. Ornstien, I.P.M., was presented with a valuable Past Master's jewel.

On the motion of Bro. David Hills, P.M. and Secretary, seconded by the S.W., a vote of thanks was passed to the W.M. for his handsome gift of new collars for the lodge officers.

Bro. Eisenmann, Director of Ceremonies, gave notice that at the next meeting he should move a gift of 20 guineas to the Indian Famine Relief Fund, and then the lodge was closed.

A banquet followed.

The toasts which were afterwards honoured were interspersed with vocal music under the direction of Bro. Schartau by Miss Annie McBride and Bros. Frank Tebbutt, Wm. Fell, and George Stubbs, and humorous American stories by Miss Helen Mar.

Bro. P. Ornstien, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said it had frequently occurred to him that one of the prettiest features in Masonic customs was that the outgoing Master had to propose the health of one who had taken his place, to congratulate his successor, and that he should himself head the cry—"The King is dead; long live the King." The installation of a new W.M. opened a new chapter in the history of the lodge, and it might not be out of place on such an occasion for the brethren to ask themselves whether they had been true to the traditions of the past and striven to maintain and uphold the noble and unselfish principle with which the founders of Tranquillity Lodge were imbued. Neither the time nor the place was perhaps appropriate for dwelling in detail on that; that might be left for an historian of the lodge; but, speaking in general terms, he thought they might honestly plead that they had been faithful to their charge, and that they had been true to the best of their skill and ability to inculcate the true principles of Freemasonry. Looking back to the good men and true who had passed the chair of the lodge they could reckon among them the names of many who in public life had been engaged in work of a noble and humanitarian character, and who had carried into their other life those principles of the lodge which had caused the name of Freemason to be held in high esteem. The W.M. would appreciate the responsibilities which now devolved upon him since he had been installed in the chair of this important lodge, and the brethren were sure that their honour was in safe keeping in his hands. Bro. Gerson had been known to the brethren many years for the conscientious manner in which he had discharged the duties of the lodge, and his straightforward character and brotherly regard had endeared him to the hearts of every brother of the lodge. He had now a golden opportunity; he would remember the lines

"There is a tide in the affairs of men
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune."

The tide was now all in his favour; he started on his Masonic career accompanied by the hearty good wishes of every brother. The first step denoted the ultimate destination of his journey; he knew the principles which should animate a W.M.; the head and the heart should unite in promoting the cause of truth and justice. The brethren were confident he would be true to the principles of Masonry, and fill the important office of Master of the lodge with honour to himself, the lodge, and the noble Institution as a whole, and when his year of office had expired it would be said of him as had been said of one of England's greatest men, "He did his duty." (Applause.)

Bro. Joseph Gerson, W.M., in acknowledging the toast, said Bro. Ornstien had much too high an opinion of the new W.M.'s capabilities; he did not think he should be quite up to Bro. Ornstien's level, but, as he had told the brethren before, the will was there, and he always tried to do his best. Bro. Ornstien had used the phrase, "The King is dead: long live the King." It would take a long time to make a king equal to the one who had gone out that day; the new king would be hardly so robust for some time to come, or capable of following in his footsteps—still he would do his best.

Bro. David Hills, P.M., Sec., proposed "The Charities."

Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., responded. The Benevolent Institution had for its festival next Tuesday the largest number of Stewards it had ever had with the exception of at its Jubilee Festival. At the last meeting of the Committee of the Institution they placed eight extra annuitants on the funds in addition to the eight formerly placed. That entailed a further expenditure of £600 a year. The Institution was paying now £16,000 a year in annuities. When he first joined the Institution it was £1800 a year. He trusted that the lodge would well support Bro. Witthaus and make his list £185, which figure was the number of the lodge on the English roll.

Bro. Joseph Gerson, W.M., proposed "The I.P.M.," whose year of office had been singularly successful in every respect, both as regarded himself and the lodge. Every brother of the lodge had the highest feeling of regard, esteem, respect, and love for him. In addition to the Past Master's jewel he had already presented to Bro. Ornstien he had now to present him with a handsome spirit service and candlesticks, together with an illuminated address, which had been subscribed for by those brethren who had been initiated and those who had become joining members of the lodge during his year of office, as a practical token of their love and esteem. (Cheers.)

Bro. Philip Ornstien, I.P.M., in thanking the brethren, said he had no idea when he came to the lodge that night with a light heart that he was to form the central figure of a surprise party. He had often heard of American surprise parties, one of which took the bread and the other the cheese, but this surprise party actually took the cake. (Laughter.) The secret had been well kept, and although, as he had said, he was the grateful victim, yet he must admit he was glad to see that the lesson of secrecy had been so well taken to heart by his initiates even with regard to the fix in which they had placed the W.M. who had inculcated that lesson. When the W.M. opened his "Long Tom" on him in making this presentation he really felt he was hit below the belt and he could not now collect his thoughts adequately to the expression of his feelings. Many thoughts crowded themselves upon him as he stood there. When the heart was full the tongue often failed to give expression to what was uppermost in one's mind. That was his position. His year of office had been full of surprises—pleasant surprises—but even in the highest flights of his imagination—and he had had many such flights—no such honour as that which had been done him that night ever entered his mind. To say that he was gratified with his initiates—to say that he appreciated the great compliment and valuable presentation given to him, did not adequately express all he felt. The brotherly regard which had been evinced to him by the brethren in general and by his initiates in particular, and the joining members, as testified by the handsome presentation would never be effaced from his memory; he should always regard that testimonial as a precious jewel, and it would remind him of one of the happiest years of his life. He thought this was the first time the outgoing Master had been so honoured in this lodge. After all he had only done what he undertook to do, endeavour to the best of

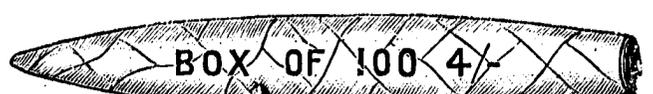
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SAMPLES AND PRICE LIST SENT ON APPLICATION.

his skill and ability to maintain and uphold the traditions of their mother lodge. If he had succeeded he was more than amply repaid by the kind consideration and friendship which had been extended to him by every brother of the lodge. With regard to the very handsome jewel given in the name of the lodge, he could only say he valued it not only for its intrinsic worth but for the excellence of the workmanship and design, the kindly words inscribed thereon, and the accompaniment of the hearty good wishes and sincere regards of the brethren of the lodge. He should always wear and consider it as such. He had also to thank the officers for the presentation of the P.M.'s collar. Altogether his lines had been cast in pleasant places. He had had good officers, and with that he associated the success of the lodge. That was the tenth anniversary of his joining the lodge; he had spent 10 pleasant years among the brethren, and if his humble services should be of any further use to the lodge the brethren might count upon them. He should always be glad to render service to his mother lodge, which had treated him with motherly care and affection. (Applause.)

Bro. the Rev. George Joseph Emanuel, Prov. G. Chap. Warwick, responding to the toast of "The Visitors," proposed by Bro. Eisenmann, P.M., D.C., recalled the time 40 years ago when he was initiated in that lodge. He saw many brethren present who were in the lodge at that time. He left London with regret, but he felt he had a mission elsewhere. He never forgot the Lodge of Tranquillity. He was one of the founders of the Lodge of Israel, Birmingham, and he felt he did not leave Masonry behind when he departed from London. Masonry was not solely a London possession; it was universal.

Another visitor, from Johannesburg, hoped for a speedy termination of the war in South Africa. His sympathies were entirely British; but he longed for the time when British and Boer Freemasons would again meet on the same happy terms as before.

The other toasts were honoured before this very successful meeting was brought to close.

Southampton Lodge, No. 394.

The brethren of the above lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John at Southampton on Thursday evening, the 15th instant, when Bro. James Lemon, who filled the chair of the lodge exactly 30 years ago, and has now come forward to fill a temporary gap in the order of succession of officers, was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year in the presence of a numerous gathering. The Board of Installed Masters was composed of Bros. R. R. Linthorne, P.G. Reg.; C. J. Sharp, P.M., W.M. elect 130; Martin, W.M. 359; Simpson, W.M. 1112; J. Martin, P.M. 1416; J. C. Burbage, P.P.G. Std. Br.; and A. W. Harris, W.M.; H. P. Aslatt, P.P.S.G.D.; H. W. Bull; H. Lashmore, P.P.S.G.D.; F. A. Dunsford, P.P.G.S.; W. Bates; J. Hollis; A. Doggrell; and F. Fairweather, P.P.G.S. (all of the lodge). The installation ceremony was performed by Bro. H. Lashmore. The officers were invested as follows: Bros. A. W. Harris, I.P.M.; W. J. M. Berry, S.W.; W. Paul, J.W.; H. Lashmore, P.M., Treas.; R. R. Linthorne, P.M., Sec.; the Rev. S. W. Stevens, M.A., P.G. Chap., Chaplain; J. E. Maffey, S.D.; E. R. Ensor, J.D.; J. H. Blizard, I.G.; F. A. Dunsford, P.M., D. of C.; A. Doggrell, P.M., A.D. of C.; W. B. G. Bennett and W. Matthews, Stwds.; and W. Vane, Tyler. The retiring W.M., Bro. Harris, was voted a Past Master's jewel for his services during the past year.

The brethren afterwards partook of an excellent banquet served by Mr. Etheridge.

Aldersgate Lodge, No. 1657.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C., on Monday, the 19th instant. The W.M., Bro. Rupert Smyth, was supported by Bros. Ralph Langton, S.W., W.M. elect; Dr. C. E. Milnes Hey, J.W.; George Kenning, P.P.G.D. Middx., Sec.; H. F. Woodward, S.D.; T. H. James, J.D.; J. V. Sherrin, I.G.; A. B. Hudson, P.M., D.C.; George Rawlinson, P.M., Stwd.; Septimus Croft, P.M.; T. Briggs, P.M.; A. G. Barnes, A. Clarke Williams, J. Gordon Langton, P.M.; J. C. Hayes, P.M.; H. Blennerhassett, and others. The visitors were Bros. Hamilton Scott, J.W. 2744; A. M. Hughes, Org. 2744; A. W. Harris, 2744; C. D. Lupson, 2744; R. G. Minton, I.P.M. 1708; W. I. Roberts, S.W. 1827; C. Norrington, P.M., Sec. 619; W. Hewitt, R. Ellis, P.M. 2242; G. A. Pickering, P.G.S.; J. Dives, I.G. 2739; H. C. Heard, P.M. 449; G. E. Grimes, I.P.M. 1321; E. Loder, I.P.M. 179; H. G. Thompson, P.P.S.G.W. Surrey; O. Newling, P.M. 873; W. W. Lee, P.P.G.D. Middx.; and others.

Lodge was opened, the minutes confirmed, and the Audit Committee's report adopted. Mr. H. Blennerhassett was then impressively initiated. Bro. R. Langton was presented as W.M. elect, and was duly installed by Bro. Rupert Smyth, who performed the ceremony in an able manner. The sacred 510 "Be thou faithful unto death" was effectively rendered. The following officers were invested: Bros. Rupert Smyth, I.P.M.; Dr. C. E. Milnes Hey, S.W.; H. F. Woodward, J.W.; George Kenning, P.M., Sec.; T. H. James, S.D.; J. Vaughan Sherrin, J.D.; A. Clarke Williams, I.G.; A. B. Hudson, P.M., D.C.; G. Rawlinson, P.M., and A. A. Barnes, Stwds.; H. Blennerhassett, Org.; and C. Plant, Tyler. Bro. Saml. White, P.M., Treas., was unable to be present. The W.M. presented his banner to the lodge, which was accepted with thanks.

The lodge was then closed, and after banquet the usual toasts were honoured.

Bro. G. A. Pickering, P.G.S., replied for "The Grand Officers," and congratulated the I.P.M. on his rendering of the installation ceremony.

Bro. Rupert Smyth, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." There was an instance in the present arrangement of that continuity in Masonry which they had been always taught to respect. It was that after one had climbed to the apex of the W.M.'s position, before drifting down into the usefulness of a Past Master, he was allowed a brief space, and had the great privilege of proposing the toast of the evening—the health of the W.M. Resting in that little niche, he asked them to join him in drinking the health of their very excellent W.M. He had known Bro. Ralph Langton privately better than the majority of the members, and those who knew him Masonically would endorse everything said in his favour. It would perhaps be the greatest compliment to say that their W.M. was the rarest of good fellows any of them could wish to see in the chair of the Aldersgate Lodge.

Bro. Ralph Langton, W.M., said he really did not know what to say after the kind remarks of the I.P.M. The I.P.M. had himself set a good example in the lodge that evening as the P.G. Steward who had spoken had referred to. Having been placed in the chair it would be his endeavour to do what he could for the lodge. He was following one whom he might call a glutton in Masonry and one of the best, and was afraid therefore he could not altogether follow his footsteps. He had next a very pleasing duty to perform in proposing "The Health of the Installing Master and I.P.M." After the reception accorded the announcement of the toast, he felt he need say nothing. Bro. Smyth, I.P.M., had been a true and worthy servant of the lodge and his work had been done in a most admirable manner. The I.P.M. had set an example to the officers following him which he only hoped would be followed. It had been their custom to give a little present to their outgoing Master, which took the form of a jewel. If any brother was worthy of receiving the Past Master's jewel it was Bro. Smyth. He asked the I.P.M. to accept the jewel and the brethren to heartily drink the toast.

Bro. Rupert Smyth, I.P.M., thanked the W.M. for his kind references, which he feared were too flattering. He looked upon them as evidence of kindly regard for the

way in which he had attempted to do his work rather than for the way in which he had accomplished it. He thanked them for the extremely nice jewel, which he should highly prize. Whatever form the jewel had taken he should have esteemed it as a mark of their regard. He should like to express to the members of this lodge the extreme pleasure it had given him to occupy the chair, and his full appreciation of the excellent manner in which all had so kindly supported him in everything he had suggested. There had been several instances of the excellent spirit pervading the members. He should like to refer to Bro. Rawlinson, P.M., to whom he was indebted for his introduction to the lodge. Bro. Rawlinson also introduced Bros. Woodward and James, and others who had joined the Grand Lodge above. He thanked all the Past Masters for their kindly assistance and knew the present W.M. could count upon similar support during the coming year. The W.M. had kindly permitted him to draw attention to the introduction of the initiate. They welcomed the initiate and trusted his introduction to Masonry might be the prelude to a long series of years in Freemasonry, and that he might experience all the joy this life afforded.

Bro. Blennerhassett responded, and referred to the impressiveness with which Bro. Smyth conducted the ceremony. He should remember it for some time and hoped to uphold the reputation of the Order to which they had so kindly admitted him.

For "The Visitors," Bros. Heard, Dives, Scott, and Gordon Langton, made due acknowledgment.

The toasts of "The Past Masters," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers," were afterwards duly honoured.

Bro. A. M. Hughes presided at the pianoforte, and the English Glee Singers contributed several enjoyable part songs. Bros. Loder, Lupson, Ottewell, and Harris also assisted.

Etheldreda Lodge, No. 2107.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Subscription Rooms, Newmarket, on Thursday, the 15th instant. Bro. T. Leader, P.P.G. Supt. of Works, W.M., was in the chair, and the attendance included Bros. Colonel R. T. Caldwell, Prov. G. Master; Oliver Papworth, P.G. Sec.; F. Dewberry, P.G.D.C.; F. J. Moden, W.M. 88; W. James, S.W. 88; H. S. Davison, I.P.M. 88; J. H. Moyes, P.M. 88; F. W. Miller, W.M. 441; H. Kempton, W.M. 2727; Dr. Streeten, I.P.M. 1295; J. Kirby, W.M. 1295; and others.

The lodge elected Bro. Oliver Papworth, P.P.S.G.W., P.G. Sec., as an honorary member. Mr. W. C. L. Goodwin was balloted for, and unanimously elected. Bro. John Walter Carr, P.P.A.G.D.C., S.W., was then installed as W.M. for the ensuing year by Bro. H. N. Price, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., at the request of the outgoing W.M.; and Bro. Fred Dewberry, P.P.S.G.W., P.G.D.C., acted as D. of C. The following officers were then appointed and invested: Bros. C. H. Davey, P.G. Treas., S.W.; F. H. Potts, P.P.A.G.D.C., J.W.; W. H. Sheppard, Chap.; W. Hutchinson, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Works, Treas.; Geo. Simpson, Sec.; A. F. Briggs, P.P.G. Stwd., S.D.; J. W. Metcalfe, J.D.; J. Watson, D. of C.; C. F. Moody, I.G.; H. M. Martin, Org.; C. B. Bosworth and G. Barrow, Stwds.; and J. Arnold, Tyler.

Cowper and Newton Lodge, No. 2244.

The 12th anniversary of the above lodge was held in the new lodge room at the Bull Hotel, Olney, on Friday, the 10th instant, under the most favourable auspices. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, Bro. H. G. Hipwell, P.M., D. of C., presented Bro. F. Wayne Taylor to the Installing Master, Bro. John Whitmee, W.M. After obligating the W.M. elect, a Board of 18 Installed Masters was opened by Bro. Oliver C. Coombs, P.M. 2343, and Bro. Wayne Taylor was placed in the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom. The W.M. then invested his officers as follows: Bros. J. Whitmee, I.P.M.; W. S. Wilford, S.W.; W. A. Swannell, J.W.; C. W. Guille, P.M., Treas.; Leavidge Cooper, P.M., Sec.; Alfred W. Smith, S.D.; W. H. Smith, J.D.; Oliver C. Coombs, P.M. 2343, D. of C.; H. H. Booth, P.M., Org.; W. G. Eyles, I.G.; Oliver L. Mobbs and G. B. Whitworth, Stwds.; and W. Huddle, Tyler. Besides the officers invested there were present Bros. J. C. Hipwell, P.M.; H. G. Hipwell, P.M.; C. J. Whitlock, P.M.; A. E. Billing, P.M.; Geo. Whitlock, P.M.; John Billing, P.M.; S. E. Hipwell, P.M.; Pebody, and W. Hope-Johnstone. Visitors: Bros. F. Thompson, P.M. 540; H. Thompson, P.M. 540; H. Ball, 540; C. Hall, 540; C. Stafford, 540; B. Wilford, P.M. 1410; J. Odell, P.M. 1410; G. H. Sampson, P.M. 1410; Wolstencroft, 1410; Frank Hughes, 74; Higgs, 1639; W. E. Fent, 2343; A. R. Lindley, 2343; F. S. P. Saunders, 2343; J. Skikethorpe, 2343; and Bransom, 2663.

After lodge was closed, the brethren, numbering 40, adjourned to banquet, provided by the genial hostess, Mrs. Yorke, which was very highly appreciated by all who had the pleasure of being present.

After dinner, the W.M. gave the loyal toasts, which were most enthusiastically received and right royally responded to.

The National Anthem and "God bless the Prince of Wales" were sung by Bro. Oliver Coombs, D. of C.

The usual Masonic toasts were each suitably acknowledged, and altogether the proceedings passed off with true Masonic harmony, the vocal contributions of various brethren adding much to the pleasures of the evening.

Covent Garden Lodge, No. 1614.

There was the usual large attendance of members and visitors at the installation meeting held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, on the 13th instant. Bro. Hy. G. Walker, after a very successful year as W.M. was succeeded by Bro. H. J. Keen, who is also the present W.M. of the Molesey Lodge, and for several years took an active part in the work of the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction. The members present included Bros. H. G. Walker, W.M.; H. J. Keen, S.W.; Thomas Middlewick, P.M., J.W.; G. Coleman, P.M., Treas.; Geo. Reynolds, P.M., Sec.; J. A. Kellaway, S.D.; M. Citrean, J.D.; W. J. Thrussell, Organist; Homer Price, P.M.; G. H. Foan, P.M.; J. Mayo, P.M.; S. Hewitt, P.M.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. J. R. Cleave, P.P.G.D. Surrey; E. L. Berry, P.P.G.D. Surrey; G. J. Humphreys, 1369; J. C. Leather, 2423; A. E. Walker, 2473; P. T. Cochran, Glasgow; C. A. Seaton Buist, 167; J. W. Dring, S.D. 1277; F. Turner, 2346; E. Hubbard, 879; E. Percy Champion, 2473; E. Parsons, 1627; H. A. Lewis, 2473; E. H. Dring, 229; H. Jay, 174; W. F. Westwood, J.D. 1790; A. E. Reade, P.M. 166; E. A. Pickering, 1507; J. H. Mayo, P.M. 2222; H. J. Gibbs, 753; E. J. Day, S.D. 1641; C. J. Stacy, 1365; S. A. Marks, 1563; A. W. Weston, P.M. 1278; H. E. Churchill, 172; W. W. Lee, P.M.; and others.

The lodge was opened, and Messrs. A. F. Mather and B. Barnett were duly initiated into Freemasonry. A dispensation was read enabling Bro. H. J. Keen to be installed as W.M., he being the present Master of the Molesey Lodge, and he was installed into the chair by Bro. Homer Price, P.M., who was heartily congratulated upon his able rendering of the ritual. The officers invested were Bros. T. Middlewick, P.M., S.W.; J. A. Kellaway, J.W.; G. Coleman, P.M., Treas.; Geo. Reynolds, P.M., Sec.; M. Citrean, S.D.; T. McIntyre, J.D.; G. H. Foan, P.M., D.C.; W. J. Thrussell, Org.; C. J. Giles, I.G.; Homer Price, P.M.; A. Sarsons and E. J. Coleman, Stwds.; and R. Potter, Tyler. A handsome Past Master's jewel was pre-

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sented to Bro. H. G. Walker, in recognition of his efficient services as Master, and the lodge was closed.

After banquet the usual loyal toasts were enthusiastically honoured.
 Bro. H. G. Walker, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M." He felt sure that in Bro. Keen they had a W.M. of whom they would all be very proud. Their W.M. also occupied the chair of another lodge—the Molesey—which he filled with great credit to himself and advantage to the lodge. Bro. Keen was, therefore, well known, and the members would say he had done well when his year was over. Having worked through the various offices step by step, they could rely upon their W.M. to do his best during the coming year. He was letter-perfect in the ritual, having been for many years Secretary of the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction.

Bro. H. J. Keen, W.M., thanked the I.P.M. for proposing the toast so heartily, and the brethren for drinking to his good health. He was sorry to say he wanted good health. In thanking them, he felt grateful he was a Mason and especially in this lodge. It was because of his connection with this lodge that he became a founder of the Molesey Lodge which was a particularly good summer lodge. He was introduced by a dear old friend whom they all regretted had gone to the great majority—Bro. Herbert Reynolds. He hoped Bro. George Reynolds would forgive the allusion. He thanked them for the kind and enthusiastic manner in which they had received him, and assured them he would do his very best to maintain the traditions of the Covent Garden Lodge.

The W.M. then proceeded to propose "The I.P.M., Bro. H. G. Walker," who had done good work in the lodge. After a good year, with a number of joining members and initiates, Bro. Walker left the chair with credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren. Their appreciation had been shown by the presentation of a Past Master's jewel, and whilst the lodge was conducted on the lines of the past year the members would have no cause for dissatisfaction.

Bro. H. G. Walker, I.P.M., expressed his thanks for their boisterous reception. He had had a good year, and hoped he had been amiable, and that they were satisfied with his work. He did not instal his successor, knowing he should not do it in the same manner as Bro. Homer Price had rendered it. Anything further he could do for the lodge would be done in a willing manner. He thanked them for the jewel, which his children would treasure in the same manner as he did. He also thanked them for their kind donations to his list for the Boys' School, which now amounted to £52 14s. He thought this was very handsome considering the many calls on the brethren, but had no doubt the amount would be considerably increased.

The W.M. proposed "The Installing Master," referring in eulogistic terms to the manner in which Bro. Price had performed the ceremony.

Bro. Homer Price, P.M., said he had performed the ceremony at the command of Bro. Walker, who was of a retiring disposition. He (Bro. Price) had done his best, and was grateful to the brethren for their acknowledgment of his success.

"The Initiates and Joining Member" was followed by "The Visitors," to which Bros. Reed, Humphrey, and Berry replied.

"The Past Masters" and other toasts were afterwards duly honoured.

Bro. Stuart Walker provided a first-class entertainment, and was ably assisted by Miss Florence Machin, Mr. Harry Hudson, Mr. R. A. Roberts, and Bros. W. E. Goodwins, Prof. Monti, and A. Jorden.

Agriculture Lodge, No. 1199.

The installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Assembly Rooms, Yatton, on Monday, the 19th inst., when Bro. W. A. Lyddon was installed in the chair. The meeting was well attended by brethren from other lodges in the district, amongst those present were: Bros. C. L. F. Edwards, P.M., P.G.T., Prov. S.G.D.; J. Mountstevens, P.M., P.P.A.G.P.; T. A. Smith, P.M., P.P.G. Org.; E. Thatcher, P.M., P.P.G. Org.; W. Reece, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; L. P. G. Cox, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.; H. W. Collins, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; G. W. Knowles, P.M.; R. W. Statham, P.M.; J. W. T. Evans, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; J. W. Pitts, P.M., P.P.G. Stwd.; J. R. Curtis, W.M. 1222; W. C. Thomas, P.M. 1222; A. E. Jefferies, 1222; E. Baker, 1222; Major J. P. Capell, P.M. 2222, P.P.G.S.B.; W. E. Perrett, jun., P.P.G.D.C.; C. E. Hagon, P.M. 135; E. G. Boulting, W.M. 135; and A. W. Stock, 187; and J. Saunders, 1637.

The Audit report showed a satisfactory position of the lodge. The W.M. elect, Bro. W. A. Lyddon, was then presented by Bros. Edwards and Collins to the Installing Master, Bro. R. C. Else, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Somerset, who impressively performed the ceremony. The W.M. then invested his officers as follows: Bros. A. W. Metcalfe, I.P.M.; R. W. Mattock, S.W.; A. Powell, J.W.; R. W. Statham, P.M., Chap.; C. L. F. Edwards, P.M., P.P.G.T., Prov. S.G.D., Treas.; T. A. Smith, P.M., P.P.G. Org., Sec.; E. H. Openshaw, S.D.; E. J. Davcy, J.D.; W. Reece, P.M., P.P.G. D.C., D. of C.; E. Thatcher, P.M., P.P.G.O., Org.; C. Winter, I.G.; H. C. Bristowe and J. Savage, Stewards; and J. Ball, Tyler. The W.M., Bro. W. A. Lyddon then proposed a vote of thanks to the Installing Master, Bro. R. C. Else, which was carried unanimously.

After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed, and the brethren afterwards adjourned to an excellent banquet, served by Bro. J. Mountstevens, P.M., P.P.A.G.P. When the cloth was removed, the W.M. gave the loyal and Masonic toasts, which were loyally responded to—"The Queen and the Craft;" "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., M.W.G.M.;" "The M.W. Pro G. Master, Earl Amherst;" and the R.W. Dep. G. Master, the Earl of Warwick; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Bro. A. W. Metcalfe, I.P.M., gave the toast of "The W.M." The W.M., on rising, was received enthusiastically, proving the high esteem in which he is held by the brethren.

The toast of "The Visitors" was responded to by Bros. C. E. Hagon, 135; Major J. P. Capell, and W. C. Thomas, 1222.

The toast of "The Officers" was responded to by Bro. A. Powell, who wished the W.M. plenty of work during the coming year.

The Tyler's toast brought a most enjoyable evening to a close. The musical programme was under the supervision of Bro. Cap. Keen, 1222.

Instruction.

STAR MARK LODGE, No. 499.

The monthly meeting was held at the Six Bells Hotel, Queen-street, Hammersmith, on Wednesday, the 14th inst. Among those in attendance were Bros. W. Vincent, P.M., P.A.G.D.C., W.M.; C. Woolmer Williams, P.M., P.G.S., I.P.M.; T. H. Watts, P.P.J.G.D., S.W.; G. J. Thomas, P.M., J.W.; C. Meierhoff, M.O.; Robt. Reid, S.O.; P. Trickett, P.M., J.O.; W. T. Ridgway, Sec.; E. Nash, Treas.; T. Bore, S.D.; E. Salt, J.D.; E. A. Nash, I.G.; H. Tipper, P.M.; Jewson, P.M.; E. Fox, W.M. 499; T. Woodbridge Biggs, W.M. elect 499; Tomes, P.M.; M. D. Wills, S.O. 451; C. Jacob, and several other well-known Mark Masons.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the following brethren were unanimously elected as officers of the lodge for the ensuing year: Bros. G. J. Thomas, P.M. 357, Preceptor; E. Nash, Treasurer; and W. T. Ridgway, Secretary. Bros. Tipper, Jacob, Wills, Meierhoff, and Bore were elected as joining members. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. C. Woolmer Williams, P.G.S., the same to be recorded on the minutes, for the creditable manner he had acted as Preceptor during the past 12 months, the great success of the lodge being in a large measure due to his untiring efforts. Bro. T. H. Watts, P.P.J.G.D., was elected to act

as W.M. at the next meeting on the second Wednesday in March. Communications regretting inability to attend were received from Bros. Churcher, P.M.; Crowhurst, P.M.; Hillier, P.M.; W. Hide, F. Payne, Willis, Nichols, and others.

This being the first anniversary of its formation, the lodge was then closed, and an excellent dinner followed, at which Bro. C. Woolmer Williams presided.

The toasts were ably submitted and most cordially received, especially that of "The Preceptor."

Bro. Thomas responded in apt and well-chosen remarks. A varied programme was provided of instrumental, vocal, and dramatic selections, which gave great satisfaction to everyone present, Bros. Woodbridge Biggs, Tomes, Nash, and Turner being in fine voice. Bro. Salt greatly amused the brethren by one of his original sketches, and Bro. Jewson, by request, played a pianoforte solo of his own composing. Mr. W. T. George presided at the piano in his usual masterly manner, a most pleasant evening terminating at a late hour.

WESTBOURNE CHAPTER, No. 733.

A meeting was held on the 20th instant at the Greyhound Hotel, Kensington-square, W. Present: Comps. J. Cox, M.E.Z.; S. C. Montague Austin, H.; J. R. Francis, J.; C. G. Hatt, Treas.; M. Mathews, S.E.; F. Leete, S.N.; B. Bridman, P.S.; H. May, 1st A.S.; W. Lewis, 2nd A.S.; M. Spiegle, Preceptor; and several other companions.

The chapter having been opened, the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The M.E.Z. rehearsed the ceremony of exaltation, Comp. T. Leete being the exalte, the Principals rehearsing the Lectures. Comp. S. C. Montague Austin was duly elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting, and the chapter was closed.

DALHOUSIE LODGE, No. 865.

A meeting was held on Monday, the 12th instant, at the Greyhound Hotel, Kensington-square, W. Present: Bros. P. H. Howard, W.M.; J. Worth, W.M. 834, S.W.; Webster, J.W.; A. Williams, P.M., Preceptor; J. Cox, P.M., Sec.; Von Donat, S.D.; Dyer, J.D.; Spring, I.G.; Johnson, Stwd.; F. Craggs, P.M.; J. W. Facey, P.M.; S. W. Keene, P.M.; W. Flack, P.M.; S. Isaacs, P.M.; H. Cousins, P.M.; Kench, H.G. Cox, J. Cox, Harris, Davis, Sellick, Dormon, Lilly, Willby, Serjeant, Leete, Jones, Judd, and several others.

Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Sellick acting as candidate. Lodge was called off and on. Bro. Keene answered the questions leading to the Second Degree, and was entrusted. Lodge opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Keene acting as candidate. Lodge then resumed to the First Degree, and the W.M. rose for the first time. Bro. Judd was elected a member. The W.M. rose for the second time. Bro. J. Worth, W.M. 834 was duly elected W.M. for the next meeting. The W.M. then rose for the third time, and after many propositions of thanks to brethren for presents of furniture, &c., to the lodge was closed, and "Hearty good wishes" were given, the lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 20th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. F. N. Beningfield, W.M.; C. Nicole, S.W.; J. E. Thomas, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, Treas.; J. Duncan, P.M., Sec.; F. Henderson, S.D.; J. Horstead, J.D.; A. Noel, I.G.; D. Taylor, H. B. Harding, P.M.; W. J. Townsend, H. J. Kimbell, jun., R. E. Maskall, M. Relph, F. H. Johnson, H. G. May, D. Meredew, Schneider, J. Campbell, H. King, and H. J. Kimbell, sen.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Taylor being the candidate. The ceremony of passing was also rehearsed, Bro. Maskall being the candidate. Bros. H. King and J. Campbell were elected members of the lodge. Bro. Nicole was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Beningfield for his services in the chair for the first time. The lodge was then closed.

EARL'S COURT LODGE, No. 2765.

The first meeting of the above lodge was held on Wednesday, the 14th inst., at the Greyhound Hotel, Kensington-square. There were present Bros. Lieut.-Col. G. E. E. Blunt, P.P.S.G.W. Middx., as W.M.; T. C. Dyer, as S.W.; P. Howard, as J.W.; J. Worth, as Preceptor; J. Cox, Prov. J.G.D. Middx., Dep. Preceptor; J. W. Facey, Treas.; Albert J. Taylor, Sec.; S. W. Keen, P.P.G.P. Middx., S.D.; J. H. King, J.D.; E. Johnson, I.G.; H. S. Cox, Stwd.; W. R. Flack, P.M.; T. Leete, J. Davis, W. James, J. May, H. O. Sanders, J. B. Gilbeart, T. M. Ross, R. M. Fleming, J. Harris, J. E. Gentle, R. Dixon, E. W. Tucker, H. Webster, and W. S. Lyon.

The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the preliminary meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary read a draft of the proposed by-laws which were all approved of by the brethren. The W.M. proposed a vote of thanks to the members of the Dalhousie Lodge for their kindness in lending their furniture to this lodge, seconded by Bro. J. H. King, and carried unanimously. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. J. Worth, Preceptor, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Harris being the candidate. The W.M. rose for the first time. Bro. J. Cox, Dep. Preceptor, proposed that Bro. Dyer, S.W., be elected to occupy the chair as W.M. on Wednesday, the 21st instant, seconded by Bro. Howard, and carried unanimously. The W.M. rose for the second time. Bro. Facey proposed, and Bro. Leete seconded, that the Secretary have 500 cards of invitation printed to circulate among Masonic brethren inviting them to this lodge of instruction, which was carried unanimously. The W.M. rose for the third time. The Secretary informed the W.M. and brethren that he had received several letters from brethren expressing regret at being absent through illness, and sending their heartiest wishes for the welfare of the lodge. There being no other communications, a great number of brethren were elected members of the lodge, and a very successful first meeting was brought to a close.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Caer Daff Chapter, No. 118.

The spring meeting of the above chapter was held at the Masonic Temple, Cardiff, on the 15th instant. Bro. H. Bryon Crouch, M.W.S., in the chair, was assisted by Bros. Henry Frazer, H.P.; Isidore Leon, 1st Gen.; and Dr. De Vere Hunt, 2nd Gen.; Hl. Bros. J. H. Taylor, 31st, Recorder; and Lewis Morgan, 30th, Marshal; Bros. Joseph Stanfield, Herald; J. Whitley, Almoner; and J. Nicholas, Capt. of Guard. Among others present were Bros. W. Best Ferrier, P.M.W.S.; Fred Martin, Dyer Lewis, and Capt. W. H. Williams, M.W.S. 34.

The chapter having been opened, the ballot was taken for Bro. Robert Redford, Manchester Dramatic Lodge, No. 2387, and, proving unanimous, he was perfected by Bro. J. Shaw, I.P.M.W.S., the third point being fully given.

The chapter having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the supper room, where the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

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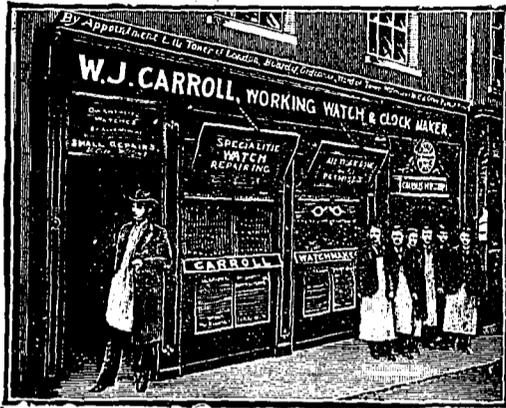
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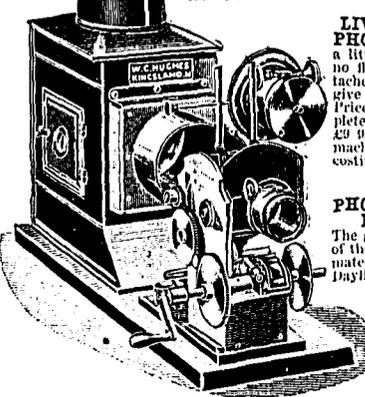
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 - Wor. Bro. Walter Driver, P.M. 100 & 305, P.P.S.G.W. Norf., Napier House, Gt. Yarmouth.
 - Wor. Bro. H. S. Foster (M.P.), P.M. 101, Treasurer London School Board Lodge, 46 Finsbury Circus.
 - Wor. Bro. E. T. Bond, P.M. 85, P.P.G.D. Norf., Pulham Hall, Harleston, Norfolk.
 - Wor. Bro. H. Buckingham, P.M. 85, P.P.G. Asst. Sec. Norf., Harleston, Norfolk.
 - Wor. Bro. T. A. Woodroffe, P.M. 305, P.P.G.S. of Works Suff., Beccles, Suffolk.
 - Wor. Bro. Walter Brown, P.M. 313, P.P.S.G.D. Norf., Albert Square, Gt. Yarmouth.
 - Wor. Bro. R. H. Johnston, P.M. 929, I.P.M. 1421, 2 Marlborough Hill, London, N.W.
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 - Bro. F. Kendall Chapman, S.W. 388, Halesworth, Suffolk.
 - Bro. John Temple Scriven, 1383, 107 Lancaster Gate, London, W.
 - *Wor. Bro. W. H. Mann, W.M. 929, P.P.G.D. Suff., Bungay, Suffolk.
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- *Proxies will be thankfully received by the above Brethren or by the Petitioner, JAMES FREW, Wenhamston, Halesworth, Suffolk.

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