

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.

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APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

Now that the Benevolent Festival has been held and has proved such a splendid success, we are encouraged to hope that the 112th Festival in behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will be similarly successful and that some two months hence, we shall be in a position to congratulate the House Committee and Secretary on a big Return, either actually or proportionately, such as was announced in the hall of Freemasons' Tavern on the 27th February last. The celebration of this notable annual event has been fixed for Wednesday, the 16th May, and will take place, as usual, at Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of the Earl of DARTMOUTH, Prov. Grand Master of Staffordshire. The last occasion on which the ruler of this Province presided at one of our anniversary gatherings was in 1877, when at 24 hours' notice the late Earl of SHREWSBURY and TALBOT took the place of the late Prince LEOPOLD, Duke of Albany, as Chairman of the Benevolent Festival, while in 1875, his lordship occupied the chair on his own account, having some time previously consented to do so in the interests of the same Institution, and Staffordshire played the part of the "Chairman's Province." But in those days our Festivals were only just beginning to assume the importance which has since been their lot. The preparations were not on the same extensive scale as now, nor were the Boards of Stewards as numerous. Moreover, Staffordshire, as a Masonic Province, has grown in strength and influence, the lodges having since then increased from about 20 to 34, while what Staffordshire, as a whole, can effect, when it has made up its mind to do a thing handsomely, was made manifest in 1898, when, with a contingent of 204 Stewards, it raised the large sum of £3845 for the Boys' Centenary. Again, Lord DARTMOUTH, as a Festival Steward, has more than once shown himself to be an able and willing supporter of our Charities, and we are, therefore, strongly inclined to hope that he and his Province together will approximate very closely to, if they do not beat, the record of 1898. At all events, it is a distinct advantage for the Girls' School to have the head of such a Province presiding as Chairman at one of its Festivals; and if London and the other Provinces give as generously as we hope they will, there may not after all be a very marked difference between the total announced in May next and that which it was the privilege of Bro. HEDGES to announce in May of last year.

Already we believe there are upwards of 300 ladies and brethren who have volunteered their services as Stewards, and in the two months that remain for the work of preparation, we have no reason to doubt that the number will be substantially augmented.

It is, indeed, very necessary that the success of last year should be repeated. The record total of £21,000 in 1899 was obtained because the Craft considered it was its duty to make good the deficiencies of 1898, and a supreme effort was made in order to bring about this consummation. But much of the benefit derived from that effort will be sacrificed if, under the auspices of such a Chairman as Lord DARTMOUTH, loyally supported as he is certain to be by such a Province as Staffordshire a resolute attempt is not made to emulate the success of the preceding Anniversary.

There are several reasons why we should address this appeal to our readers and the Craft generally in behalf of our senior Institution, one of the most important being that its permanent income, including the modest grants from Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, of £150 and 10 guineas respectively, amounts only to about £2500, while the expenditure it stands permanently committed to for educating, clothing, and maintaining over 270 girls falls not very far short of £14,000; for the deficiency of £11,500, it has only its annual Festival to look to. Another and equally valid reason is that the money obtained at these gatherings is certainly well spent. There is no better managed scholastic Institution of its class in the United Kingdom, none at which the children are more carefully tended or better trained mentally, morally, and physically than at our Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. A visit to the School at Battersea Rise will show this, while the results of the different public examinations at which "Our Girls" are entered in competition with the girls of other Middle Class Schools confirm it. It was only a fortnight since that we were able to announce that at the Cambridge Local Examinations in December last out of 45 girls who presented themselves—two in the senior Division and 43 in the junior and preliminary Divisions—there were only three who failed to satisfy the examiners, certificates being granted to the two seniors, to 20 juniors, and 20 at the preliminary. In addition, nine honours were awarded and several distinctions in one or more subjects. Nor is it the least instructive feature of our School that all the members of Miss REDGRAVE'S staff of governesses, herself included, as well as of the Matron's, are former pupils, who are thus able as governesses to turn to account the training they received as children. We trust, therefore, that this appeal of ours will not be made in vain, and that it will be found when the eventful 16th May comes round that last year's total, if not equalled, has been very closely approached.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

It will have been seen from our report of the proceedings in Grand Lodge on the 7th instant that the brethren present were practically unanimous in according recognition to the Grand Lodge of Western Australia, as formed by the lodges constituting the District Grand Lodge of that Colony under the English Constitution, and, if possible, still more unanimous in refusing the application for recognition "from an irregular body styling itself the Grand Lodge of Western Australia." Of the latter body we know little or nothing. No one appears to be

able to trace its origin. Like Topsy in Mrs. Beecher Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin," it seems to have "grow'd," while as regards the extent of its organisation we have read a statement in one of our Australasian Masonic contemporaries to the effect that it has under its control five private lodges. We remark, also, that in the report of the District Grand Lodge meeting in October last, at which the brethren resolved to form themselves into a Grand Lodge—as it appeared in the *West Australian Freemasons' Magazine* for November—Bro. J. W. HACKETT, Dep. District G. Master, referred in the course of his speech to "the unfortunate step" which had been taken by "several brethren who have attempted to claim recognition as a Grand body." But, as will be seen from the words we have quoted, the reference was a vague one, nor did the Dep. District G. Master furnish any particulars as to who the "several brethren" were, and whether they were held in high estimation among our West Australian Craftsmen of the legitimate organisations previously established in the Colony. The point, however, is not a material one. We have refused them recognition as an independent Grand Lodge, and what may happen afterwards concerns the Grand Lodge of Western Australia, which we have agreed to recognise as soon as it has been properly constituted.

As regards the step taken by Grand Lodge in resolving to recognise the new body, no objection whatever can be taken to it on constitutional grounds. The conditions laid down in our Book of Constitutions appear to have been complied with strictly, the result being that of the 34 lodges at the time on the roll of the English District Grand Lodge, 33 pronounced in favour of independence and only one against it. But leaving the irregular Grand Lodge and its five private lodges out of the question, we must not ignore the fact that there are some 28 or 30 lodges on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Scotland and two on that of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. We have heard it stated that the Scottish and Irish lodges in the Colony have held themselves aloof from the movement under instructions received from their respective Grand Lodges that the subject must not be discussed. On the other hand, Sir GERARD SMITH, District Grand Master, and now Grand Master elect of the proposed Grand Lodge, stated in his speech at the meeting of District Grand Lodge before referred to, that though "Unfortunately our esteemed and loving brethren of the sister Constitutions were precluded by their loyalty to their own laws and regulations, from joining hands" with them, he was able to assure the brethren present "that they had the best wishes of the R.W.D.G.M. of the S.C., Bro. G. E. ROWE, for the success of the important advance they were about to make." The District Grand Master further told them that "he would be visiting Great Britain early in the next year, and he knew he would bear their unwritten mandate to do all that was in his power and influence to weld ourselves and our brethren of the S.C. and I.C. into a lasting union." Under these circumstances, would it not have been a wiser policy if our Grand Lodge had postponed recognition until, or at least made it conditional upon, the acceptance of the new order of things by the lodges of the Scottish and Irish Constitutions? In the more recent cases of South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania, we have recognised the Grand Lodges in those Grand Lodges, mainly on the ground that the brethren were practically unanimous in favour of the movement; but the practical unanimity was not that of the brethren of one Constitution only, but of those of all the Constitutions existing at the time in those Colonies. The course taken by our Grand Lodge is probably the simplest that could have been adopted, but it does not say much for its consistency.

GRAND IMPERIAL CONCLAVE OF RED CROSS OF ROME AND CONSTANTINE.

An assembly of the Grand Imperial Conclave was held at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on the 5th inst. The Earl of Euston, M. Ill. G. Sovereign, presided, and was supported by Sir Knights Major C. W. Carrell, Rev. A. W. Oxford, R. J. Voisey, W. A. Scurrah, Major T. C. Walls, Powell, H. J. Lardner, A. H. Bateman, E. M. Money, J. W. Woodall, Lewis, Mason, and many others.

The minutes were confirmed and the following annual report of the Executive Committee was received, adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes:

5th February, 1900.

Your Committee report they have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer for the year ending 31st January, 1900, and find there is a balance to the credit of the Imperial Grand Conclave—

On the General Account	£116 14 11
On the Grand High Almoner's Fund	65 3 1

which balances are in the London and Westminster Bank, Limited (Bloomsbury Branch).

There are no liabilities on account of the Imperial Grand Conclave.

Your Committee have great pleasure in reporting the steady increase of the Order. The Grand Recorder and Registrar-General has issued during the past year—

Red Cross Certificates	56
K.H.S. and St. John the E... ..	40

The Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign was pleased to grant a warrant for a new conclave in Leeds, named the Loidis Conclave, No. 157, and on the 28th March his lordship, accompanied by many of the Grand Officers, attended to consecrate the conclave with all the customary ceremonial of the Order. The Illustrious Knight Comp. Charles Letch Mason, I.G., was installed as the first M.P.S., and the Illustrious Knight Comp. John Barker, P.G. Historiographer, as the first Viceroy E. At a special meeting 11 brethren were installed Knights of Rome and of the Red Cross of Constantine, and the new conclave has every favourable augury of prosperity and success.

The Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign has been pleased to appoint the Illus. Knight John Bolland Wheelwright to be Intendant General for Cape Colony, in succession to Illus. Knight R. M. Roberts, I.G. for Northern Division, S.A., deceased, and Illus. Knight Guy Weir Hogg, I.G. for Southern Division, S.A., resigned.

The Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign has been pleased to appoint the Illus. Knight Harry Courtenay Luck to be Intendant General for Queensland, Australia, and it is confidently expected that a large accession to our ranks will take place.

The unfortunate dispute between the two Grand Bodies which profess to rule the Red Cross and appendant orders in the United States of America still continues, but your Committee strongly advise that no action should be taken by the Grand Imperial Conclave. It is most earnestly to be hoped that our American brethren may find some *modus vivendi* which will happily terminate a difficulty which must be prejudicial to the best interests of the Order.

The last edition of the Statutes is almost exhausted, and the Committee recommend the appointment of a small Committee with power to revise a new edition.

Your Committee have voted the sum of 50 guineas to the Mark Benevolent Fund, in support of the Chairmanship of the M. Illus. Grand Sovereign, and they have again to record with much satisfaction their deep sense of the obligation which the Order of the Red Cross owes to him. His distinguished services are ever at its command, and they have the great pleasure to again recommend him for re-election, and to hope he may long be spared to see its further increase and prosperity.

Your Committee also desire to thank the Grand Recorder and Registrar-General for his services in the cause of the Order, and have unanimously voted him an honorarium of 15 guineas, and an allowance of 10 guineas for office expenses.

All the conclaves in England and Wales have made the returns enjoined by the statutes, with the exception of the Saye and Sele and the Doyle.

The following conclaves abroad are in arrear:

McLeod Moore, New Brunswick	1 year.
Roman Eagle, Bombay	2 years.
La Vallette, Malta	1 year.
Natal, S.A.	1 year.
Excelsior	1 year.
Lanka, Ceylon	1 year.
Jubilee, Jamaica	1 year.
Ninnis	1 year.

(Signed)

T. C. WALEs.
H. J. LARDNER.
C. W. CARRELL.
GORDON MILLER.
C. F. MATIER.

On the motion of Sir Knight LEWIS, seconded by Sir Knight CARRELL, the G. Council approved of the expenditure voted by the Executive Committee, and also endorsed the votes of thanks.

Sir Knight WOODALL proposed, and Sir Knight VOISEY seconded, the re-election of the Earl of Euston as Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, and it was carried with acclamation.

The Earl of EUSTON thanked the sir knights for again electing him to the post of G. Sovereign. He had been happy to do what little he could for the Order in the past, and would serve it as far as lay in his power in the future. He could not succeed without their help, and he was sure they would support him during the ensuing year.

The Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign was then proclaimed and saluted.

Viscount Dungarvan was re-elected G. Viceroy E., and the Most Illustrious G. SOVEREIGN explained that Viscount Dungarvan was on the high seas on his way to South Africa.

Sir Knight LEWIS proposed Sir Knight R. Berridge for the office of G. Treasurer. He was sorry to say that Sir Knight Gordon Miller had considered it advisable to relinquish the office owing to the pressure of business, and could not give the duties the attention they deserved. Sir Knight Berridge was a P.G. Officer, and would make a good Grand Treasurer.

Sir Knight CARRELL seconded the proposition, which was unanimously carried.

The Acting G. RECORDER read the following appointments:

Sir Knight Major C. W. Carrell	G. Sen. Gen.
" A. H. Jefferis	G. Jun. Gen.
" Rev. A. W. Oxford	} G. High Prelates.
" Rev. R. C. Fillingham	
" J. Binney	G. High Chancellor
" Robert Berridge	G. Treasurer.
" C. F. Matier	G. Recorder.
" W. F. Carmon	G. High Almoner.
" C. S. Brewer	G. Chamberlain.
" W. D. Grant	G. Architect.
" A. H. Baird	G. Marshal.
" R. J. Voisey	G. Orator.
" W. A. Scurrah	G. Historiographer.

Grand Senate—

Sir Knight Thomas Paget ...	...	...	G. Preceptor.
" J. Kenyon ...	...	...	G. Examiner.
" T. M. Bichard ...	...	...	G. Prefect.
" Rev. H. Vernon Pigot ...	...	...	G. Sub-Prelate.
" Harold Thomas ...	...	...	G. Vice-Chan.
" W. Briggs ...	...	...	G. Asst. Recorder.

The following sir knights were elected Grand Senators, and were by command of the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign appointed to the following offices:

Sir Knight B. R. Bryant ...	...	...	G. Sub-Almoner.
" E. K. Corbin ...	...	...	G. In. of Regalia.
" W. H. Barrow, Mus. Doc. ...	...	...	} G. Std. Br.
" F. K. Stevenson ...	...	...
" H. J. Rølls ...	...	...	G.S.B.
" W. Campbell Taylor ...	...	...	G. Org.
" W. T. Wiggins ...	...	...	G. Preceptor.
" Col. C. S. Dean ...	...	...	G. Vice-Cham.
" W. Gillman ...	...	...	G. Asst. Marshal.
" W. J. Armitage ...	...	...	} G. Heralds.
" Charles Gowan ...	...	...
" J. B. Nickolls ...	...	...	G.D.C.

The Most Illustrious GRAND SOVEREIGN announced the appointment of Sir Knight Baron de Ferrieres as President, and Sir Knight Frank Richardson as a member of the Executive Committee.

Five sir knights only having been nominated for election on the Executive Committee they were declared unanimously elected.

The M. Illus. G. SOVEREIGN declared the following sir knights elected: Sir Knights T. C. Walls, C. W. Carrell, J. W. Woodall, A. Woodiwiss, and H. J. Lardner.

Three Sir Knights only having been nominated for election on the Grand High Almoner's Committee they were declared duly elected: Sir Knights C. W. Carrell, J. W. Woodall, and Frank Richardson.

The Acting GRAND RECORDER read the following appointments made by the Grand Sovereign to the Patriarchal Council of K.H.S. and St. John:

Sir Knight Major C. W. Carrell ...	...	...	G. Seneschal.
" Rev. A. W. Oxford ...	...	...	G. Prior.
" Rev. R. C. Fillingham ...	...	...	G. Sub-Prior.
" A. H. Jefferis ...	...	...	G. Capt. of Guards.
" J. Binney ...	...	...	G. Chancellor Gen.
" R. Berridge ...	...	...	G. Treas. Gen.
" C. F. Matier ...	...	...	G. Reg. Gen.
" W. F. Carmon ...	...	...	G. Hospitaller Gen.
" C. S. Brewer ...	...	...	G. 1st Lieutenant.
" W. D. Grant ...	...	...	G. 2nd Lieutenant.
" A. H. Baird ...	...	...	G. Guardian S.V.
" R. J. Voisey ...	...	...	G. Standard Br.
" W. A. Scurrah ...	...	...	G. Torch Bearer.
" Thomas Paget ...	...	...	G. Verger.
" J. Kenyon ...	...	...	G. Harbinger.
" T. M. Bichard ...	...	...	G. Warder.

On the proposition of Sir Knight VOISEY, seconded by Sir Knight MASON, Sir Knight E. J. Mills was unanimously re-elected G. Sentinel.

The M. ILLUS. G. SOVEREIGN said he was sorry to say he had received a letter from their G. Recorder, Sir Knight Matier, saying he was laid up with gout, and could not be present; but hoped to attend Mark G. Lodge the next day.

The Executive Committee was instructed to undertake the revision of the statutes.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded Sir Knight Gordon Miller for services as G. Treasurer.

The G. Imperial Conclave was closed, and the Orders of K.H.S. and St. John were afterwards conferred upon several candidates.

CONSECRATION OF THE ROSE (MARK) LODGE,
No. 534.

This highly interesting and happy event took place on Thursday, the 8th instant, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E., a circumstance unique in Freemasonry, at the least in South London, inasmuch as the Rose Lodge, the chapter, and now the Mark lodge are constituted (with a few exceptions) of the same brethren, and held in the same temple.

The W.M. designate and his officers designate, instructed by Bro. the Earl of Onslow, Prov. G. Master for Surrey, opened the lodge in due form.

The Prov. G. Master (Consecrating Officer) and the rest of the Prov. G. Officers entered the lodge, and Bro. the Earl of Onslow, Prov. G. Master, assumed the chair, and appointed his officers as follows: Bros. J. A. Braik, Prov. S.G.W., as S.W.; Ralph Nevill, J.G.W., as J.W.; and Major G. H. Newington Bridges, G.D.C., as D. of C. Bro. Arthur J. Bowles, Prov. G. Sec., in the unavoidable absence of the Prov. G. Chaplain, officiated as Chaplain, Bro. Arthur Jackson, Prov. G.I.G., as I.G., and Bro. Robert Potter, Prov. G. Tyler, as Tyler.

There were also present Bros. Frederick West, Dep. Prov. G. Master; Wm. Hill, S.O.; Fred Leckett, J.O.; S. W. Lambert, R. of M.; Sydney F. Mackway, S.D.; F. Dowse, J.D.; R. G. M. Coffin, A.D.C.; Alf. W. R. Sowman, Asst. Sec.; E. J. Packington, Prov. G. Org. Surrey; J. L. T. Implowsky; Vincent T. Murché, P.M. 22; Major C. J. Knightley, P.G.S.B. Eng.; R. J. Voisey, P.G.I.G. Eng.; G. W. Fortescue, Prov. G. Std. Br.; E. Miles, Prov. G. Sec.; Robt. Elgar, P.M. 22; R. Millikin, P.M. 253; and J. Whiteman, Tyler.

The PROV. G. MASTER addressed the brethren on the motive of the meeting, and called upon the Acting Chaplain to give the prayer.

The D. of C. addressed the Consecrating Officer, Bro. the Earl of Onslow, who replied.

The brethren of the new lodge were then arranged in order, the Prov. G. Secretary read the petition and warrant, and the Prov. G. Master in-

quired of the brethren if they approved of the officers named in the warrant. Upon their assenting in Masonic form, the oration on the nature and principles of the Institution was given by the Acting Chaplain.

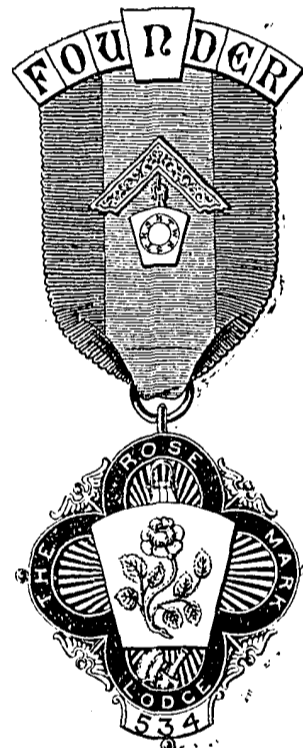
After the dedicatory prayer the Prov. Grand Master gave the invocation, and after the various perambulations the lodge was dedicated and constituted. The Patriarchal Benediction having been given, the Worshipful Master, Bro. Wm. Dawson, P.M., was inducted into the chair by the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Earl of Onslow; Bro. S. J. Derham was unanimously elected as Treasurer.

The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. Jas. J. W. Morris, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Kent, I.P.M.; John Thomas Loader, P.M., Prov. G.S. Kent, S.W.; Thos. R. Cass, J.W.; Henry Cornford, M.O.; Rudolf Sobel, S.O.; Henry C. Turner, J.O.; Samuel J. Derham, Treas.; Geo. Thompson, Sec.; W. G. Kirby, Reg. of Marks; Walter E. Jeffery, S.D.; Jas. B. Higgs, J.D.; Henry Potter, I.G.; and Jas. Whiteman, Tyler, he having been unanimously elected.

A Committee was formed to frame the by-laws. The Prov. Grand Master and the Grand Officers who officiated at the consecration were elected honorary members. Twelve brethren were proposed for advancement. The Consecrating Officers then retired from the lodge, which was duly closed by the W.M. and his officers.

An excellent banquet was supplied by Mrs. Venables, the proprietress, for which she received special congratulations.

The customary loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, The W.M. presented the toast of "The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Mark Master, the Earl of Euston; the R.W. Dep. Grand Master, Viscount Dungarvan; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and remarked that the brethren were, honoured as in the other Degrees of Freemasonry, to have such distinguished noblemen to rule and guide them in Mark Masonry. At the coming Festival in July the M.W. Pro G. Master, the Earl of Euston, was to preside, and the W.M. hoped upon that occasion to stand as Steward, and he heartily desired the brethren to generously support the list and prove themselves worthy of the name.



FOUNDER'S JEWEL.

With respect to the Dep. G. Master, Viscount Dungarvan, most of the founders were well acquainted with him, he being a member and Past Master of the Temple Mark Lodge and Prov. Grand Master of Kent. He (the W.M.) had to personally thank the Deputy Grand Master for being honoured with the Provincial Grand collar that he was now wearing as Past J.G.W. There were also present a goodly array of Grand Officers who had done good suit and service in Mark Masonry, and the lodge was honoured by their presence. He would couple with the toast the names of Bros. Major C. J. Knightley, P.G.S.B. England, and R. J. Voisey, P.G.I.G. England.

Bros. KNIGHTLEY and VOISEY in very able speeches suitably acknowledged the toast.

The toast of "The R.W. Prov. G. Mark Master, the Earl of Onslow," was next proposed by the W.M., who said that it was indeed a great honour to have such a distinguished member of her Majesty's Government and a nobleman who had filled so many important positions in various parts of the world, as their Prov. Grand Master, and their great indebtedness to him for his great kindness in consecrating the lodge, especially knowing how many important functions he had to perform.

The toast was drunk most enthusiastically.

The Prov. G.M. replied in an exhaustive and highly-intellectual speech, congratulating the province on adding another lodge to its roll, and one, too, which started under such propitious and favourable circumstances. He most heartily thanked them for their cordial reception.

The W.M. next presented the toast of "The W. Dep. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Fredk. West," and referred to the very many services he rendered to the province, in assisting the Prov. Grand Master in his very important duties, and likewise to the able assistance ungrudgingly given by the rest of the Grand Officers.

Bro. FREDK. WEST, in very complimentary terms, suitably acknowledged the toast on behalf of himself and the rest of the Grand Officers.

Bro. J. W. MORRIS, P.M., I.P.M., next proposed the toast of "The W.M." in eulogistic terms, remarking especially upon his efficiency and affability, which won for him their highest esteem. He should think for a Mason of not many years' standing his career and Masonic status was almost a record, being P.M. in the Craft of Nos. 788 and 1622; P.Z. No. 1022; M.E.Z. Henry Levander Chapter, No. 2048; P.M. of Temple Mark

Lodge, No. 322; P.P.J.G.W. Kent; Allied Degrees, King's Council, No. 4; Cryptic Degrees, Matter Council; R.A. Mariners, No. 333; and 18°, Cœur de Lion Chapter. With such a Masonic record the lodge had done well in selecting its first Master. He asked the brethren to drink to the toast in bumpers.

In reply, Bro. W. DAWSON, W.M. (who was received most cordially), very suitably acknowledged the very kind remarks of the I.P.M., and also the hearty reception given by the brethren. It was a happy coincidence, and he felt the proud honour indeed, for when he was elected M.E.Z. of the Rose Chapter he was absent in America, and at the first meeting of the founders he was elected their first Master, and was again absent through illness. It showed their feelings towards him, which he should never forget. All knew the deep interest he took in Freemasonry in general, and Mark Masonry in particular, and he hoped that at the end of his year of office the brethren would entertain the same fraternal feelings which had hitherto been extended him.

The W.M. next proposed "The Visitors," and gave them a most hearty and cordial welcome.

Bros. J. A. BRAIK, S.G.W.; MILLIKIN, and Major KNIGHTLEY responded.

The Tyler's toast closed a most eventful meeting.

An excellent programme of music was arranged by Bro. E. J. Packington, P.G. Organist Surrey, who was ably assisted by a quartette and Bro. S. J. Derham (flautist).

The jewels were manufactured by George Kenning and Son.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HEREFORDSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge took place at Ledbury, under the banner of the Royal Eastnor Lodge, recently. Business was transacted in the Mansion Hall (kindly lent by Lady Henry Somerset), when Bro. Lord Glanusk, Prov. Grand Master, presided, and other brethren present were:

Bros. H. C. Beddoe, Palladian Lodge, Hereford, Deputy Prov. Grand Master; the Hon. and Very Rev. J. W. Leigh, Palladian, Past Grand Chaplain of England; James W. Lloyd, P.M. Royal Arrow, Kingston, P.P.G.S.B.; C. Wellington Lloyd, Royal Arrow, P.J.G.D.; J. A. Dags, Royal Edward, Leominster, P.P.G.S.B.; Alfred Parker, Royal Arrow, P.P.A.G.D.C.; W. Cecil Gethen, Palladian, Hereford, P.S.G.D.; A. Maddox, Eastnor, Ledbury; Henry Morgan, Eastnor, P.P.G.R.; T. V. V. Tuson, Royal Edward, P.S.G.W.; L. U. Wooler, P.M. Vitruvian, Ross, P.P.A.G.D.C.; John Marchant, P.M. Palladian, P.P.J.G.W.; Henry Gosling, P.M. Royal Edward, P.G.S.B.; W. W. Robinson, P.M. Palladian, P.S.G.D.; Charles H. Ramsden, Palladian; Tom L. Snow, Palladian; A. Tooth, Vitruvian; J. H. Hall, W.M. Vitruvian; J. H. Bussell, I.P.M. Vitruvian; S. Passey, S.W. Royal Arrow; L. F. Roese, Org. Royal Arrow; W. Margrett, S.W. Palladian; J. Davies, P.M. Palladian, P.P.G.S.B.; T. E. Hall, J.W. Royal Arrow, P.P.G.D.; Thomas Blinkhorn, P.M. Palladian, P.J.G.W.; Rev. Robert Harrington, Chap. Vitruvian; C. H. Bastow, Eastnor; Frederick Russell, J.W. Eastnor; Thomas Matthew, P.M. Vitruvian, P.S.G.W.; R. W. Griffiths, Royal Arrow, P.G.S.; George William Starr, P.M. Eastnor, P.A.G.D.C.; F. W. Mills, I.G. Eastnor; Rev. Wilfrid G. Buckle, Royal Edward, P.P.G.C.; Parker, Eastnor; George Best, P.M. Eastnor, P.P.G.D.; F. W. Wade, Sec. Eastnor; W. S. Hankins, P.M. Eastnor; Albert C. Baker, 1204; Rev. R. Burges-Bayly, Eastnor; A. T. Waters, Stwd. Eastnor; W. C. Baxter, Vitruvian; and C. A. Stephens, Palladian, P.G.T.

In the course of the business, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master was re-appointed, as was also the Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. Stafford, and the Prov. Grand Treasurer, Bro. Hewett.

The Prov. Grand Master appointed and invested as follows:

Bro. John Marchant, Palladian	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" S. Gratex Yates, Vitruvian	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. R. Burges-Bayley, Eastnor	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" J. E. S. Hewett, Vitruvian	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" W. S. Hankins, Eastnor	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" W. R. Stafford, Palladian	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" W. F. Tuson, Royal Edward	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" A. D. Small, Vitruvian	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" F. Parker, Royal Arrow	...	...	Prov. G.S. of Wks.
" G. W. Starr, Eastnor	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" J. H. Russell, Vitruvian	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" J. A. Dags, Royal Edward	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" Woodward	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" R. W. Griffiths, Royal Arrow	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" W. Margrett, Palladian	...	...
" Hall, Vitruvian	...	...
" Harrison, Eastnor	...	...
" Dowding, Royal Edward	...	...
" Passey, Royal Arrow	...	...
" C. A. Stephens, Palladian	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

On the proposition of Bro. ARCHER WHITE a sum of 10 guineas was voted to the War Fund (widows and orphans).

Light refreshments were provided by Bro. A. Maddox, Tyler.

Bro. Lord Glanusk afterwards presided at the banquet, which was served in the assembly room of the Feathers Hotel, where Mrs. Edmunds (the hostess) had provided a *recherche* repast.

The toast list was as follows: "The Queen and the Craft;" "The M.W.G. Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales;" "The Pro G. Master, the Dep. G. Master, and the rest of the G. Officers, Present and Past;" "The R.W. Bro. Lord Glanusk, Prov. G. Master;" "The Visitors;" "The Dep. Prov. G. Master, and the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past;" "The Lodges in the Province;" "The Masonic Charities;" and the Tyler's toast.

Craft Masonry.

Henley Lodge, No. 1472.

The installation meeting of the above prosperous and influential lodge took place on the 6th instant at the Three Crowns Hotel, North Woolwich, some 146 of the brethren of the lodge and visitors of neighbouring and London lodges being present to witness and assist at the ceremony.

The lodge was opened soon after three p.m., and the ballot for four candidates proving successful, Bro. A. T. Ives, P.M., acting as D. of C., presented Bro. David Ross, S.W., W.M. elect, to the W.M., Bro. T. Havelock Lait, to receive at his hands the benefits of installation. The W.M. having been duly installed and saluted, he invested his officers as follows: Bros. T. H. Lait, I.P.M.; Samuel Chaplin, S.W.; T. Welsh, J.W.; C. H. Canning, P.M., P.M. and Treas. 2184, P.P.J.G.D. Essex, Treas. (12th year in succession); C. Jolly, P.M., P.M. and Sec. 2184, P.P.A.G.D.C. Essex, Sec. (13th year); W. Turvey, P.M., Asst. Sec.; W. Carter, S.D.; W. Turvey, jun., J.D.; Joseph Andrew, I.G.; R. Alabaster, D.C.; G. Richardson, A.D.C.; W. Dodge, Org.; A. T. Ives, P.M., C. Davis, F. Andrews, T. W. Smith, E. McNicoll, and C. Hodgson, Stwds.; and J. Lackland, Tyler. The Installing Officer, Bro. Lait, then gave the addresses admirably, and the whole of the ritual created a rare impression upon the many aspirants to office present and the brethren generally. The new W.M. commenced his reign by initiating the candidate—his own son, John Ross, being one of them—in a manner worthy of the lodge and its traditional excellence, for which service he was subsequently highly commended and congratulated. Bro. Lait was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his services as Installing Officer, "the same to be entered on the minutes of the lodge," and a copy to be emblazoned on vellum, mounted, and framed, at a cost not exceeding five guineas, and presented to him at the next lodge meeting. He was also presented with the "Henley" jewel, especially manufactured by George Kenning and Son, of London, suitably inscribed, for his valuable services as W.M. during the preceding 12 months, and further, with a Past Master's collar with solid silver square, also inscribed, for which and all, he returned his sincere thanks. The report of the Audit Committee and balance sheet was received and adopted, the sheet showing an income of some £445 9s., 5d. guineas of which were given in Charity; no liabilities, and a reserve of nearly £100 in hand; the Secretary being highly complimented on the admirable manner in which the books were kept, and the Treasurer on the accuracy with which the vouchers were checked and presented.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a capital banquet served in the fine hall of the establishment, under the direct supervision of the host, Bro. W. Richardson.

During the banquet a portion of the Royal Artillery Band performed selections of operatic, national, and dance music as they can do. The hall was handsomely and artistically decorated, and the *menu* and wines were a revelation.

The usual loyal and Grand Lodge toasts were honoured, that of "The Queen and Craft Masonry" being eloquently proposed by the W.M., and most loyally and enthusiastically responded to, "God Save the Queen" (solo by Miss Edith Kingsford) shaking the very roof by its volume of sound. Nor was "Our G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," received with less fervour.

"Earl Amherst, Pro G.M.; Earl of Warwick, Dep. G.M.; and the rest of the G. Officers, Present and Past," was duly honoured.

The I.P.M. spoke highly of the W. Master's abilities, his constant attention to his duties in the subordinate offices of the lodge; predicted for him a happy and prosperous year of office, and the approval of the brethren at the end of it, and the brethren having honoured the toast,

The W.M. evinced his gratification by feelingly and deeply expressing his thanks for their continued kindness to him, and promised to render himself worthy of their hearty approval and good wishes. He had a clever way of "pouring the balm of consolation into the bosom of the afflicted," and while sympathising with the I.P.M. on his having now to play second fiddle in the "Henley" Masonic orchestra, generously consoled him by assuring him that the brethren all would remember with pride and pleasure the admirable lessons he had taught them, and the humility with which he had given up the chair to his successor. The W.M. spoke of the wonderful impression made on him by the splendid, yet solemn, ceremony he had that afternoon gone through, and of the faultless and grand manner, as far as he at present knew, in which Bro. Lait had performed the whole ceremony of installation. "I propose the health of our excellent Bro. Lait as Installing Officer," concluded the W.M., "and I ask you to drink it with your best wishes for his future happiness and prosperity," and they did, too.

Bro. Lait, who is as modest as he is eloquent, at once poured out his whole soul in grateful thanks for the brethren's kindness to him all through his year of office, and especially that day, which had made an epoch in his Masonic history and career. Their handsome and costly jewel he should always treasure as the most valuable of his possessions, while their testimonial would be honoured amongst his "household gods," and become the pride of his family and the comfort of his old age; and so he went on till after assuring them that his work as Installing Officer was a "work of love," he resumed his seat amidst a storm of applause.

The P.M.s were severally alluded to by the W.M., and their distinctive "points and paces" portrayed for the admiration of the brethren, who took it all in good part, while the unfortunate exhibits tried to look as if every word the W.M. said was perfectly true.

To the toast Bros. Jolly and Lait responded, after which the brethren had a rest for a time, which they sorely needed after listening to the two brethren above mentioned. "The Initiates" were toasted and severally responded.

"The Visitors" were cheered to the echo and some pithy and pretty speeches were made in reply, "but the song which touched their heart" was the excellent working of the W.M. and the brilliant service of the Installing Officer, while the generous and unstinted hospitality of the lodge evoked a chorus of grateful praise and commendation.

"The Officers" toast followed, and was responded to by the Senior and Junior Wardens, and the Treasurer and Secretary; Bro. Canning being proud to be Treasurer of a lodge with such a splendid lot of paying brethren and such a happy balance in hand, and so with such happy surroundings the hours sped along in a dlight of harmony and good fellowship that will long be remembered by all present.

The singing was entrusted to Miss Edith Kingsford, Miss Ella Johnson, Bros. W. T. Spencer, J. J. Berry, and Tom Burgess, the latter, "a comical beggar," making everybody laugh exceedingly. The fanner quartette sang a number of pretty ballads, &c., and were applauded for their efforts. Bro. Malcolm Johnson was at the piano, and Bro. Berry was the Musical Director.

During the evening Bro. J. Savage, P.M., drew the attention of the brethren to the case of Dorothy Curtis, one of the nine little orphans left by our late lamented Bro. Curtis, P.M., and it was unanimously resolved to use every possible exertion to secure her return at the forthcoming election of the Girls' School. "So mote it be."

Among the other brethren present, and not above mentioned, were Bros. Dr. W. Vance, M.D., P.M.; A. Knight, P.M.; C. Powling, P.M.; J. Delo, P.M.; T. Reeve, P.M.; J. Palmer, P.M.; W. Hudson, E. McNicoll, J. B. Reavel, D. Blevins, D. Jones, G. Crump, F. Hall, J. Gemmill, J. Brown, F. Francis, W. Bailey, T. Terras, J. Franklin, C. West, N. Foster, A. Wren, T. Barr, H. Woodward, W. Pope, J. Redwood, A. Brown, C. Davidson, T. Jeavon, A. Silk, A. Kettle, W. Baker, W. Hady, W. Derbyshire, W. Deacon, G. Dawson, E. Hornsey, C. Parker, G. Catchpole, W. Pugh, R. Reynolds, A. Passmore, J. Ward, J. Howe, G. Carter, E. Newman, H. Jackson, F. Charlton, A. Horton, V. Horton, J. Orford, A. Bailey, T. Wells, F. Maude, W. Redman, H. Buck, E. Gyngell, C. Freeland, and G. Richardson, all of the lodge; and among the visitors were Bros. H. S. Syer, P.M. and Treas. 13, W.M. 829, Bd. of G.; H. Jacobs, W.M., W. H. Turton, P.M., G. Gable, S. Saunders, and L. Green, of 13; W. Long, W.M., W. Chambers, S.W., G. Porter, P.M., F. Folkes, and A. Clamp, of 700; A. Simmonds, W.M., and J. Howie, S.W., of 1536; J. Wheatley, W.M., R. Kenshaw, S.W., and W. Steer, J.W., of 399; C. D. Oyley Mears, P.M. 1076; W. Bowyer, P.M. and Sec. 1679; Dr. J. D. Rhodes, M.B., 615; Dr. J. Hill, M.B., F. Ward, A. Field, and G. Douglas, of 2615; E. Vallon, S.W., R. Dipple, and W. Marshall, of 665; A. Field, 2664; J. Start, 650; E. Foster, D.C. 1816; and W. Day, 898.

Science, Art, and the Drama.

THE KID GLOVE AND KID SKIN INDUSTRY IN FRANCE.

(Continued).

The skins of kids which are bought by the butchers in the towns, and used as a substitute for lamb skins, are sold to the skin merchants or their agents. The skins of kids which are butchered by the peasants themselves, are sold to country pedlars who wander through the region from cabin to cabin collecting them in order to finally dispose of them at a town fair, to the skin dealers, or to the agents of the glove manufacturers, or skin merchants. Formerly, the regular fair or market, brought together all the dealers in the neighbouring district, who exhibited in the market place their lots of kid skins, varying in number from 5, 10, and 20 to several hundreds, and sometimes thousands. These fairs were watched with the greatest interest by those who were in the skin business, as the prices obtained there for skins were an indication of the probable prices for the entire season. This is, to a certain extent, true to-day, but the town fairs no longer play the important part that they did 20 years ago. The railways, the press, and general education, as well as the enormous importation of skins from the Argentine Republic, Chili, the Cape of Good Hope, Arabia, Mexico, Russia, and Asia Minor, have brought about a revolution in the skin business. The leading fairs, where kid skins are particularly in evidence, are held at the following places: Romans (Drôme), Anneyron (Drôme), St. Marcellin (Isère), Valence (Drôme), Clermont (Oise), Tours (Indre et Loire), Poitiers (Vienne), Lusignan (Vienne), Riom (Puy de Dôme), Aurillac (Cantal), Chalons sur Saône (Saône et Loire). At one time, the annual fair at Valence was considered by kid skin dealers to be the most important of all those held in France, because the prices obtained there regulated the year's price for France, and probably for other countries as well. Its great importance in this business was due to the fact that Valence is situated in the centre of a large fine kid skin producing country, and its fair was held at the beginning of the season, for the southern central portion of France. These conditions brought many fine lots of raw skins, several thousand dozens to the Valence fair, which fact was sufficient to draw thither the big purchasers or their agents from Grenoble, Annonay, Paris, and other places. This fair still exists, and its prices are quoted every year, but it has lost its former importance, because, its importance being recognised, speculators have manipulated the market in order to bring about fluctuations to their own advantage. In Italy the finest kid skins, many of them equal to the best French skins, come from the north, above the line from Turin to Venice. A heavy, coarse skin is found in the neighbourhood of Genoa, and a finer, smaller skin in Tuscany. In Rome the kid skins are very small, and the market unimportant. Naples, a great centre for the manufacture of cheap gloves, is noted for a low grade skin, as well as Sicily, Sardinia, and Corsica. Those that come from the Abruzzi district, north-east of Naples, are very much better. Switzerland stands next to France in the high quality of skins produced. Spain and Portugal both produce large quantities; but, as a rule, they are far inferior even to those of southern France. The best Spanish skins are to be found in Taragossa and the surrounding country. Germany produces a large number of kid skins, of which the best come from Saxony, Bavaria, Baden, Thuringia, and Silicia furnish large quantities. The best Austrian skins are to be found in the Tyrol and Styria; those from Bohemia, Hungary, and Transylvania are not so good. Kid skins from Eastern Europe, Northern Africa, Southern America, and Mexico are used principally in the manufacture of Suede gloves.

HANS HOLBEIN.

(Continued).

Holbein went to England with recommendatory letters from Erasmus to Sir Thomas More. Holbein was kindly received by him, and was taken into his house at Chelsea. There he worked for nearly three years, drawing the portraits of Sir Thomas, his relations and friends. The King, visiting the Chancellor, saw some of those pictures, and expressed his satisfaction. Sir Thomas begged him to accept whichever he liked, but he inquired for the painter, who was introduced to him. Henry immediately took him into his own service, and told the Chancellor that now he had the artist he did not want the pictures. An apartment in the palace was immediately allotted to Holbein, with a salary of 200 florins besides his being paid for his pictures. He drew the King several times, and all his Queens, though no portrait of Catherine Parr is certainly known to be of his hand. He painted, too, the King's children and the chief persons of the Court. It is related that one day as Holbein was privately drawing some lady's picture for the King, a great lord forced himself into the chamber. Holbein threw him downstairs; the peer cried out; Holbein bolted himself in, escaped over the roof of the house, and running directly to the King, fell on his knees, and besought his Majesty to pardon him, without declaring the offence. The King promised to forgive him if he would tell the truth, but soon began to repent, saying he should not easily overlook such insults, and bade him wait in the apartment till he had learned more of the matter. Immediately arrived the lord with his complaint, but sinking the provocation. At first the monarch heard the story with temper, but broke out, reproaching the nobleman with his want of truth, and adding, "You have not to do with Holbein but with me; I tell you of seven peasants I can make as many lords, but not one Holbein. Begone, and remember that if ever you pretend to revenge yourself I shall look on any injury offered to the painter as done to myself." Henry's behaviour is certainly the most probable part of the story. After the death of Jane Seymour, Holbein was sent to Flanders to draw the picture of the Duchess Dowager of Milan, widow of Francis Sforza, whom Charles V. had recommended to Henry for a fourth wife, but afterwards, changing his mind, prevented him from marrying. Among the Harleian MSS. there is a letter from Sir Thomas Wyatt to the King, congratulating his Majesty on his escape, as the duchess's chastity was a little equivocal. Were it so, considering Henry's

temper, it seems that the duchess had the greater escape. It was about the same time that it is said she herself sent the King word, "That she had but one head, if she had two one of them should be at his Majesty's service." Holbein was next despatched by Cromwell to draw the Lady Anne of Cleves, and by practising the common flattery of his profession, was the immediate cause of the destruction of that great subject. He drew so favourable a likeness that Henry was content to wed her, but when he found her so inferior to the miniature, the storm which should really have been directed at the painter burst on the minister, and Cromwell lost his head because Anne was a "Flanders mare," not a Venus, as Holbein had represented her. We have only further to relate of this great painter that he remained in England until his death, which was occasioned by the plague, in the year 1534, in the 50th year of his age. The spot of his interment was as uncertain as that of his death. Who his wife was or what family he left we are not told.

WYNDHAM'S THEATRE.

There has lately been a revival of one of Mr. Pinero's early comedies, "Dandy Dick," at Wyndham's Theatre. This was originally played, many years ago, at the Court Theatre. It comes to us again with all the freshness of its first representation. Dramatic works of this kind are not destined to be forgotten or to sink into utter oblivion. There is smart clever writing, strong contrasts of character, and opportunities of good acting which will always commend themselves and justify its periodic revival. On the present occasion, although we miss the unctuous manner in which Clayton personified the Dean of St. Marvels, yet still Mr. Alfred Bishop is a worthy representative—he seems to most thoroughly appreciate the chief points of the character and bring them into prominent notice. Georgina Tidman, the sporting widow, the original part of Mrs. John Wood, has been entrusted to Miss Violet Vanburgh. This is a character that requires to be played with great discretion. Were the sporting tendencies made too obtrusive, disgust would certainly ensue; but Miss Violet Vanburgh, by her clever and judicious acting, attains the happy medium, being piquant without being offensive. Blore, the butler at St. Marvels, is in the hands of Mr. Geo. Giddens, who manages, in a quiet manner, to render the part very amusing. Mr. Denny, as Noah Topping, the village constable, has the opportunity of a fine piece of character acting. He is well supported by Miss Annie Hughes, who, as his wife, Hannah Topping, renders most efficient aid in the scene of "The Strong Box." The other characters—Sir Tristram Mardon, Bart., Major Tarver, and Lieut. Darby—are efficiently played by Messrs. Maurice, Vane Tempest, and Stanley Cooke, whilst Salome and Sheba, the daughters of the Dean, are intelligently rendered by Misses Hoffman and Lane. "Dandy Dick" will well repay a visit.

GENERAL NOTES.

After reading in the press of the many instances of the destruction of bird-life in our islands, it is a pleasure to note the report of the Society for the Protection of Birds, at its annual meeting, held at the Westminster Palace Hotel, recently. In spite of the difficulties experienced in many of our provinces, the convictions obtained under the Wild Birds' Protection Act, mainly by members of the society, show that the society is doing excellent work, and making energetic movements on behalf of the creatures that add so much to the pleasure of both town and rural life. Not only, however, are the operations of the society being carried on in our own country, but they extend to our Colonies, and even to foreign countries. Petitions have been sent to various parts, urging the prevention of the wholesale slaughter and exportation of the lovely birds of paradise, humming birds, and various other species, assistance also has been offered to a similar society, recently inaugurated in China, in checking the traffic in the skins and feathers of the many beautiful game birds and other species peculiar to that country. It should not be forgotten that the plumage of birds is always brightest and best in the breeding season, and that, at this period, the collectors of, and traders in, their skins are unusually busy. The cruelty of killing birds at this time is increased by the death of a victim often causing suffering and starvation to a nest of little ones. We are sure, if the misery endured by these nestlings, through their parents' feathers being required for ornamentation, could be pictured to the leaders of ladies' fashions, the use of feathers would be, to a large extent, discontinued, but it may be that the reports of these sufferings are looked upon by many of the great ladies, as so many exaggerated tales, and as such are dismissed from their minds. There is reason to hope, however, that through the exertions of the Bird Protection Society and of its several thousands of members, this state of affairs will not much longer exist.

* * * * *

The grand opera season at Covent Garden will commence on Monday, 14th May, and extend to 30th July, 67 performances being given during that period. The opera season generally closes about the middle of July, but the Goodwood week is usually the most fashionable in London, and this year the great race meeting falls later than usual, the cup day occurring on 2nd August, hence, the late date of the final representation at Covent Garden. Most of the great artists, who have appeared during recent seasons, will again be heard, although neither Madame Calvé nor M. Jean de Reske have finally decided at present. Mesdames Melba (who will probably sing in the production of "La Tosca"), Susanne Adams, Edith Walker, Ternina, Gadski, Belce, and Schumann Heink; M.M. Tinbart de la Four, Suleza, De Lucia, Edouard de Reske, Journet, Scotti, Plancon, Lieban, Van Rovy, and Slezar, and Herr Strauss, are all on the list. Two cycles of "Der Ring des Niebelungen," are promised early in June, and it is a pleasure to know that Herr Felix Molk has been engaged as conductor of the German operas.

* * * * *

British choirs and bands are being cordially invited—at their own expense—to the Paris Exhibition, where concerts may be given, on specified dates, in the Grand Hall, but at the risk and expense of the concert givers; moreover, numerous deductions will be made from the receipts. We do things more liberally in London. When any of the great bands are invited to play here all their expenses are paid, and they receive a handsome fee as well. However, there will probably be some special concerts of British music by the band of the Exhibition, and these will, it is hoped, be conducted by Sir Arthur Sullivan or Mr. Cowen.

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To Correspondents.

S.G.B., P.M.—A Past Grand Officer of England has no power to take the Lodge Warrant from the W. Master's pedestal in open lodge and tell him that if he (W.M.) allows a certain discussion to take place, he (the Past G.O.) will take away the Warrant and immediately close the lodge.



SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1900

Masonic Notes.

The final meeting of the Board of Stewards for the recent Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, was held at Freemasons' Hall on the 9th inst., under the presidency of Bro. J. J. Thomas, P.G. Std. Br., The different accounts having been presented and examined were ordered to be paid, and then the Board having passed a vote of thanks to their officers and especially to Bro. Terry, the Honorary Secretary, and his staff for the great success which had attended their labours, gracefully went through the ceremony of "happy dispatch."

The Committee of Management of the same Institution held their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, the 14th inst., the chair

being occupied by Bro. Winkfield, P.A.G.D.C. The business for the most part was of the usual character, but in the course of the proceedings votes of thanks were passed with acclamation to Lord Addington, Prov. Grand Master of Buckinghamshire, Chairman at the recent Festival, and the late Board of Stewards, for the splendid result they had helped to achieve in aid of the Charity; in the case of Lord Addington, it was further resolved that the address of thanks should be engrossed on vellum, and presented, handsomely bound, in album form, on such day as his lordship might see fit to appoint. A special vote of thanks was passed with similar cordiality to Bro. Terry and his staff for the success of their arduous labours.

We tender our hearty congratulations to the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor (Bro. Alderman A. Newton) and the Sheriffs (Bro. Alderman Treloar and Bro. A. H. Bevan, G. Treasurer) of the City of London on the honours which her Majesty has been pleased to confer upon them in commemoration of her recent visit to the City. His lordship is now Sir Alfred Newton, Baronet of the United Kingdom, while the Sheriffs are Sir W. Treloar and Sir A. H. Bevan, and we sincerely trust they may long be spared to adorn the more exalted positions to which the Queen has appointed them. It is almost needless to say that the fact of their being, all three, members of our Society adds greatly to our sense of satisfaction at the bestowal on them of these honours. The Lord Mayor is a deservedly popular brother, who has made his mark among London Masons as principal founder and first W. Master of Lodge No. 2686, which bears his name, and Bro. Alderman Treloar is also much esteemed; while Bro. A. H. Bevan is on the eve of completing his year of office as Grand Treasurer of United Grand Lodge.

After the very lucid explanation given by the Grand Registrar at the recent meeting of Grand Lodge, in reply to Bro. General Laurie's inquiry, we think there can be doubt as to the intent and meaning of the letter addressed by Bro. Sir Albert Woods, G.D.C., to the Board of General Purposes on the subject of Masonic clothing and precedence. In his letter Sir Albert Woods drew the attention of the Board to certain irregularities committed by English brethren who held honorary rank in foreign jurisdictions, and not only appeared in Grand Lodge in the clothing of that honorary rank, but claimed a precedence in respect of it over other English brethren to which they are not entitled. This, says Sir Albert, is a distinct infringement of the prerogative of the M.W. Grand Master, and at the same time a violation of Article 282 of the Book of Constitutions; and accordingly he has given orders that English Masons, if not wearing the clothing prescribed by said Article 282, shall not be admitted.

This is clear enough, but the explanation of the Grand Registrar makes it clearer still. If, said that Grand Officer in effect, an English Mason, who is a Past Grand Master or Past Grand Warden of some foreign jurisdiction, visits our Grand Lodge, in his foreign capacity, he would wear the clothing to which his rank entitles him and be received with the honours that are his due. But if he takes his seat in United Grand Lodge as one of its Present or Past Grand Officers or as the W.M., P.M., or Warden of a private lodge, in that case he must wear the clothing of his rank as prescribed by Article 282 Book of Constitutions, nor does the fact of his holding rank under the jurisdiction of a foreign Grand Lodge, give him any precedence over his English brethren in respect of the positions which he or they may relatively occupy in the English order of precedence.

We have much pleasure in calling attention to the very interesting address delivered by Bro. R. F. Gould, P.G.D., at the installation meeting of the Lodge Fortitude and Old Cumberland, No. 12, on the 5th instant. It may not be generally known, certainly it is not as widely known as it deserves to be, that our lodge, No. 12, is by direct continuity of descent, No. 3 of the Four Old Lodges which founded the Grand Lodge of England. After the removal early in 1723 of this No. 3 from the Apple Tree Tavern, Charles-street, Covent Garden, to the Queen's Head, Knave's Acre, owing to some difference, its members accepted a new constitution, though as Dr. James Anderson, quoted by Bro. Gould, says in his Constitutions of 1738, "it needed it not." By so doing, it voluntarily abdicated its proud position of a Time Immemorial Lodge, and though some years later an attempt to recover that position was made, it proved unsuccessful. The demonstration of this fact was the purpose which

Bro. Gould set himself in this address, and one may be sure that in the members of our present No. 12, which is the lineal descendant of the Original No. 3, our respected brother had an absolutely sympathetic audience. The address is in every respect worthy of its author, and well deserves the close attention of our readers.

It is always a delicate matter to intervene in a question of taste. The writer of the interesting "communicated" articles, which appeared a few weeks since, on "Masonic Clothing," remarked that it was "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;" and we take it that "not good form" is merely a euphemistic mode of expression for "in bad taste." But as to what constitutes good or bad taste in a matter of this kind we must leave each and every of our readers to be his own judge. Our correspondent, "C. A. L.," whose letter on the subject appears elsewhere, tells us that, in reply to his inquiry, the Grand Secretary told him he was "perfectly in order in wearing a District Grand Lodge apron and the light blue W.M. collar." What is declared by so high an authority to be "perfectly in order" cannot be "bad form," but it does not necessarily follow that what is "perfectly in order" is always and in all circumstances in good taste. We think the Grand Secretary was wise in contenting himself with the answer he gave, and for the reason we have already stated—that every one must be his own judge of what is good or bad taste or "form"—we follow his example.

Royal Arch Freemasonry is not very strongly represented in Burma, but from the remarks of Comp. J. Copley Moyle, Grand Superintendent, at a convocation of the District Grand Chapter, held in the Masonic Hall, Rangoon, on the 26th December last, it would appear that during the preceding half-year there had been a slight increase in the number of companions on the register, and that all returns and dues had been received from the chapters. Unfortunately, there are but three on the roll that are working, a fourth being apparently in abeyance, and, consequently, the General and Benevolent Funds of the District Grand Chapter, though they both have balances in hand, are of no great strength. However, the G. Superintendent expressed a hope that this might in some measure be remedied when the new chapter—the Fort Dufferin at Mandalay—for which he had recommended a warrant should be granted, was constituted. We trust the hope expressed by Comp. Moyle may be realised.

The *Freemason* of Toronto, on the authority of the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, mentions the case of a Judge Thomas H. Boyd, of Carrollton, Ill., who was recently initiated into Freemasonry when he had "almost reached his 83rd birthday." Such cases are no doubt extremely rare, though we remember to have met with such a one in the returns of one of our lodges, who, if our memory serves us, was 85 years of age. We can, however, cite the case of Bro. William Harrison, Q.C.—who was Grand Registrar both of Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter in 1840-1—who was 71 years of age when, on the 21st September, 1836, he was initiated in the Salisbury Lodge, now No. 435, then No. 630, and meeting at Waltham Cross, in the Province of Hertfordshire. Bro. Harrison served as W.M. of the lodge for two years—in 1839-40 and 1840-41—and was M.E.Z. of Mount Lebanon Chapter, No. 435—then No. 630—at the time of his death—on the 4th October, 1841. Bro. Harrison was also Prov. Grand Registrar of Hertfordshire, so that during his five years of membership of our Society he took honours in his private lodge and chapter, Provincial Grand Lodge and Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter.

The friction at present existing in New South Wales, between the Supreme Grand Chapter and Mark Grand Lodge in that Colony on the one hand, and the Provincial Grand Chapter under the Scottish Constitution on the other hand, has arrived at a critical stage. Both of the local Grand Bodies have again sought recognition from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, which, having referred the matter to its Provincial Grand Chapter, the latter reply "declining to recognise these so-called Grand bodies." The Provincial Grand Chapter has further compiled and forwarded to Edinburgh an exhaustive report, which closes in the following terms: "The treatment of S.C., E.C., and I.C. Masons by the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales, has so disgusted the Scotch Royal Arch Masons that they decline recognition or amalgamation." This unhappy state of affairs, it may be stated, has prevailed ever since the inauguration of the present Grand Lodge of New South Wales, nearly 12 years ago.

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.

TRANSSVAAL BRETHREN RELIEF FUND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

May I once more trespass on your space to confirm the announcement I made in Grand Lodge on Wednesday, the 7th inst., that I propose to incorporate in the General Fund now about to be raised, the amounts which have been so generously subscribed to my Transvaal Fund by lodges and brethren in England.

This step, which I am glad to see, coincides with the views you hold, will, I am sure, meet with the cordial approval of each donor to my fund, for thereby we shall avoid any overlapping of funds, prevent any confusion arising in the minds of the brethren, and generally be better able to carry out the work of distribution.

I would take this opportunity of tendering my grateful thanks to all who have so fraternally given me assistance, and now that the cause of our loyal and distressed brethren in South Africa has been brought to the special notice of our Fraternity by the sympathetic message of our M.W. the Grand Master, I am content, for I feel sure that the magnificent response already made by Grand Lodge will be generously supplemented by the lodges and brethren of our English Constitution.

I thank you also for the valuable assistance of the *Freemason*, and remain,—
Yours fraternally,

GEORGE RICHARDS,
District Grand Master Transvaal.

3, Kensington Palace Gardens, W.,
9th March.

MASONIC CLOTHING, &c.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

As nobody answers the letter of your correspondent I will endeavour to do so. The clothing of a Past or Present Grand Officer should be worn at all meetings, and the clothing of a Past or Present Provincial Grand Officer can be worn at all Masonic meetings, but a blue collar should be worn in the Grand Lodge, and in private lodges the brother should wear the collar of his office in that lodge.

I have read the articles referred to with great interest. There is no doubt that the proper expression is "trestle" board, but the word "tracing" has crept in. The theory of setting out a building by cubes is not how the late Edmund Sharpe wrote about it years since.

When the writer of the article is describing the design of a building he wrongly uses the word perspective. As all working drawings are geometrical to scale, perspective drawings might be used to illustrate some difficult detail, and in competitions to give a more or less truthful delineation of the building.—
Yours fraternally,

HENRY LOVEGROVE, P.G.S.B.

Herne Hill, S.E.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Having regard to Rule 282 of the Book of Constitutions and to the letter of Sir Albert W. Woods, G.D.C., on the subject of Masonic clothing at the recent meeting of Grand Lodge, I have always understood that all the members of Grand Lodge who were not either present or "past" Grand Officers could only be admitted into Grand Lodge wearing their Craft lodge clothing, and that an officer of a Prov. Grand Lodge wearing Provincial Grand Lodge Rank clothing would not be admitted as such. How was it that an exception appears to have been made in this respect at the meeting of Grand Lodge referred to when General Laurie, who presided himself, admitted that he was at the very time wearing the clothing of the Prov. Grand Master of the Province of South Wales. For information, I desire to know how this can be justified, having regard to Rule 282, and if there are any exceptions to the Rule?—Yours fraternally,

J. T. LAST, P.P.G. Reg.

THE RIGHT OF VISITATION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have been much interested in the reading of the articles appearing under the heading of "The Lodge Room;" but I would be glad to have a little further information as to a statement appearing in the eighth article in your issue of the 10th instant. The statement is—"The right of visitation is a Masonic privilege not generally understood or taken advantage of as it ought to be." It should be understood clearly that, invited or uninvited, every Freemason has an unalienable right to visit any and every lodge he pleases."

I should be glad to know if this emphatic statement is quite correct, as, in my judgment, it is hardly borne out by the "Constitutions." Article 150 says—"No visitor shall be admitted into a lodge unless he be personally known to or," &c. Under this can a W.M. not refuse on the ground that, although quite able to pass a "due examination," the visitor is unknown to any of the brethren in the lodge? Again, in 151, it says—"It is within the power of the Master of every private lodge to refuse admission to any visitor whose presence he has reason to believe will disturb the harmony of the lodge." Is it not conceivable that this can be used to prevent a visitor exercising what the writer calls his "unalienable right to visit," even if the visitor is not "of known bad character?"

The matter is, I think, of considerable importance, and I would be glad if your correspondent "Lex Scripta" or other learned brother would give his views.—Yours fraternally,

March 13th.

P.M. 124.

THE MASONIC BANQUET.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother

In a recent number of the *Freemason* a correspondent called attention to the fact that tickets for the banquet following a recent meeting of one of our Prov. G. Lodges or Chapters were one guinea each, which was very properly stated to be prohibitive. I was also glad to observe a paragraph in the interesting article on "The Lodge Room" as applied to "The Brethren," which appeared

in the *Freemason* for the 10th instant, by which you ventured to discourage these costly banquets. I am sure from conversations and correspondence I have had with several worthy brethren that there are many Masons, especially in some of the London lodges, who would gladly have an alteration in this respect. I have been told that progress has been, and is, hindered in many lodges by the exclusiveness mainly caused by the costly banquet. May I add my experience of a large province in the North of England, where, repeatedly, the price of tickets for the banquet following Prov. G. Lodge was 3s. 6d. each, the brethren individually ordering and paying for such liquid refreshment as they desired to consume. In this way many of the brethren attend the banquet and support the Prov. G. Master and Prov. G. Officers who would otherwise obtain refreshment elsewhere if the price of banquet tickets was prohibitive.—Yours fraternally,

J. T. LAST, P.P.G. Reg.

Reviews.

"FREEMASONS' MANUAL AND OFFICIAL DIRECTORY FOR KENT, 1900" (Rochester: Rochester and Chatham Journal Co., Ltd.).—This most compact and well-arranged Annual has been ably edited by Bro. Frank Hitchens, P.M. No. 77, &c., who succeeded the lamented Bro. J. T. Warne, who was the originator of the work and the first Editor. The present issue runs to nearly 250 pages, and, undoubtedly, is one of the best of the kind published in this or any other country. Bro. Hitchens asks for corrections of any errors that may have crept in, but so far our endeavours to meet his wishes have been a failure. The abundant particulars concerning the 35 lodges with 4477 members (nearly 69 to a lodge), 29 Royal Arch chapters with 769 companions (fully 27 to each chapter), 20 Mark lodges, four Royal Ark Mariners, four Rose Croix chapters, three K. T. Preceptories, four Conclaves of the Red Cross of R. and C., and one Council of the Cryptic Degrees, leave nothing to be desired, for even the by-laws are appended of the Prov. G.L., the Mark Prov. G.L., and the Prov. G. Chapter, with Abstracts of the Accounts of these three very active and prosperous organisations. The Right Hon. the Earl Amherst, Pro G.M. of England and Pro Grand Z., is the Prov. G.M. for the Craft and Grand Superintendent for the Royal Arch, the Right Hon. Lord Dungarvan being the Prov. G.M. of the Mark Prov. G.L., who is Deputy Grand Master of England in Mark Masonry. Including the Mark Benevolent, the total of votes held in Kent for the Central Masonic Charities total 6211, the large sum of £14,756 9s. 6d. having been contributed by the province during the six years ending 1898. There is also a carefully compiled Calendar of all the Masonic meetings for 1900, involving considerable labour, and all we can say is that if the brethren in Kent are not very pleased and exceedingly grateful to Bro. Frank Hitchens for his invaluable services as Editor they ought to be. Bro. W. J. Hughan, of Torquay, as usual, sends a contribution to help the Editor, this one being his oration, delivered at the dedication of the Masonic temple of No. 1402 in 1899.

Craft Masonry.

Fortitude and Old Cumberland Lodge, No. 12. ADDRESS BY BRO. R. F. GOULD, PAST GRAND DEACON.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C., on Monday, the 5th instant, when the proceedings were of an unusually interesting character. The members present were Bros. S. Stuart Walker, W.M.; M. R. Creasey, I.P.M.; S. Walter Stephens, S.W.; J. J. Telfer, J.W.; R. Coombs, P.M., Treas.; A. H. Lilley, P.M., Sec.; M. J. Jarvis, S.D.; O. F. Peall, P.M., D. of C.; C. F. Leach, I.G.; J. W. Roy, P.M.; S. A. Stanger, P.M.; J. C. Nicholson, P.M.; T. E. Carey Bates, P.M.; F. P. Telfer, P.M.; J. W. Ryland, P.M.; J. B. Adams, F. D. Head, C. Rolfe, T. Howard, and K. S. Murray. Visitors: Bros. Hamon Le Strange, Prov. G.M. Norfolk; R. F. Gould, P.G.D.; H. Sadler, G. Tyler, G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C.; C. Martin, P.A.G.D.C.; Clement Godson, P.G.D.; E. J. Hawkins, 2530; F. Baddelin, J.D. 2530; G. Saunders, P.P.G.R. Kent; F. Leaver, P.P.G.J.W.; A. Watkin, P.P.G.S.B.; W. D. Church, P.M., Sec. 1365; L. Ferguson, P.M. 1097; H. G. Harper, P.M. 171; F. G. W. Wiggins, 3; J. Jorgenson, 2530; W. Scott McDonald, P.M. 2504; R. E. Stephens, 2721; C. Leonard, 2077; R. Cawley, W.M. 172; J. A. Angus, 2427; W. R. G. Emerson, 45; W. W. Lee, P.P.G.D. Middx.; H. W. Linery, P.M. 706; G. Hudson, P.M. 141, and others.

After the opening of the lodge and the confirmation of the minutes, Bro. S. Walter Stephens was presented as W.M. elect, and duly installed into the chair by Bro. S. Stuart Walker, who was invested as I.P.M. The other officers invested were Bros. J. J. Telfer, S.W.; M. J. E. Jarvis, J.W.; R. Coombs, P.M., Treas.; S. A. Stanger, P.M., Sec.; C. F. Leach, S.D.; C. Rolfe, J.D.; K. S. Murray, I.G.; O. F. Peall, P.M., D.C.; F. P. Telfer, P.M., Stwd.; and S. Ellis, P.M., Tyler. Bro. Stuart Walker, I.P.M., was presented with a Past Master's jewel in recognition of his valuable services as W.M., and appropriately acknowledged the gift. Bro. A. H. Lilley, P.M., was the recipient of a handsome Tantalus as a mark of esteem from the members upon vacating the office of Secretary, in which capacity he has served the lodge for many years.

The W.M. then called upon Bro. R. F. Gould, P.G.D., who delivered the following address:

Worshipful Master and Brethren,—In the foundation of the Grand Lodge of England—the mother of Grand Lodges—Four Lodges were concerned. One of these is dead, and three survive; but only two are shown in the official Calendar as possessing a higher antiquity than the Grand Lodge which they helped to create. The two lodges so described are the Antiquity, No. 2, and the Royal Somerset House and Inverness, No. 4. The third lodge, still existing, which was also a founder of the earliest of Grand Lodges, on St. John's Day (in summer), 1717, is composed of the brethren whom it is now my privilege to address, and the circumstances under which what is now the Fortitude and Old Cumberland, No. 12, occupies a position on the roll altogether incompatible with its undoubted antiquity it will be my business this evening to relate. Let me, however, commence by saying that a statement of facts, and by no means a series of conjectures, it is my purpose to lay before you. It may, and no doubt will, occur to your minds, as the narrative is unfolded, that while present No. 12, during its chequered career, has had on more than one occasion to face

"The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune;"

Nevertheless her misfortunes being wholly undeserved, ought not, therefore, to be regarded as irreparable. But, in the first place, I am disposed myself to regard the position of any lodge on the roll as a matter of very minor importance; and in the second, I am of opinion that an uninterrupted descent from the old lodge which met at the Apple Tree Tavern in 1717, is of itself such a distinction as not only to counterbalance, but to far outweigh any feelings of mortification you may have inherited from your direct Masonic ancestors, owing to the very arbitrary and unjust manner in which your lodge was deprived of its precedence in the Engraved Lists. The story I have to tell you will not be a long one, and I shall now proceed to relate it with all the clearness and conciseness I can command. I have already mentioned that the era of Grand Lodges dates from 1717. Before that period, whatever lodges there were, met by virtue of what is the fashion to term "Inherent Right." In 1716 (or possibly during the first quarter of 1717.) Four London lodges met respectively:

- Original No. 1 (now "Antiquity") at the Goose and Gridiron Ale-house, in St. Paul's Churchyard.
- " " 2 (now extinct) at the Crown Ale-house, in Parker's Lane, near Drury Lane.
- " " 3 (now Fortitude and O.C.) at the Apple-Tree Tavern, in Charles Street, Covent Garden.
- " " 4 (now Rl. Som. House and Inverness) at the Rummer and Grapes Tavern, in Channel-Row, Westminster.

These Four Lodges assembled at the Apple Tree Tavern, under the banner of Original No. 3 (now Fortitude and Old Cumberland), and constituted themselves a Grand Lodge. On the 24th of June, 1717, they took a further step, and meeting on this occasion at the Goose and Gridiron, the Masonic home of Original No. 1, elected as first Grand Master of Masons, "Mr. Anthony Sayer, Gentleman," a member of Original No. 3. It will be seen, therefore, that the first Grand Lodge was constituted at the place of meeting, and presumably at the instance of Original No. 3, also, that the first Grand Master of Masons was chosen from the same lodge. Anthony Sayer was succeeded by George Payne of Original No. 4 (now Royal Somerset House and Inverness), and the latter by Dr. J. T. Desaguliers, the learned natural philosopher, also a member of Original No. 4; after whom George Payne enjoyed a second term of office, and was followed on Lady-day, 1721, by John Duke of Montagu, the first of a long and unbroken series of Noble Grand Masters. The next event I have to record, had a very important bearing upon the subsequent fortunes of Original No. 3. In February, 1723, the lodge moved from the Apple Tree Tavern, to the Queen's Head, in Knave's Acre, and on this occasion the members came under a new "constitution," though they needed it not. In other words, instead of continuing to work, like the remainder of the Four Old or Original Lodges, by virtue alone of its Time Immemorial antiquity, it voluntarily accepted, what corresponds in these days with a warrant, but is best described, having regard to the customs prevailing in 1723, as an authorisation of its "Regularity" by the Grand Master. Certain consequences resulted from this act, as the sequel will disclose, and, in the meantime, it will be convenient to remark that with the exception of Anthony Sayer, the Premier Grand Master, who is cited on the roll of No. 3, all the eminent persons who took any leading part in the early history of Freemasonry, immediately after the formation of a Grand Lodge, were members of No. 4. In 1724, No. 1, had twenty-two members; No. 2, twenty-one; No. 3, fourteen; and No. 4, seventy-one. The three senior lodges possessed among them no member of sufficient rank to be described as "Esquire;" while in No. 4, there were 10 noblemen, three honourables, four baronets or knights, two general officers, 10 colonels, four officers below field rank, and 24 esquires. Payne and Desaguliers—former Grand Masters—together with the Rev. James Anderson (afterwards D.D.)—the "Father of Masonic History"—were members of this lodge. The lodges at this period were described by the signs of the houses where they met, and in the earliest Engraved List, nominally for 1723, but really for 1724, the Goose and Gridiron—Original No. 1—takes the first place; then come the Queen's Head, Knave's Acre—Original No. 3; the Queen's Head, Turn Stile (formerly the Crown)—Original No. 2; the Cheshire Cheese (of which nothing is known); and in the fifth place, or niche, the Horn (formerly the Rummer and Grapes)—Original No. 4. The same precedence was given to the Four Old (or Original) Lodges in the List for 1725, and as the Cheshire Cheese had then "dropped out," there was a vacant space in the Calendar between the third and the fifth places on the roll. From that date until 1728 the first four positions on the official list were occupied by the founders of the Grand Lodge, the three senior lodges taking the same places as in 1724 and 1725; but the Horn filling the fourth instead of the fifth niche, as it had previously done, prior to the disappearance of the lodge at the Cheshire Cheese. On December 27th, 1727, it was resolved by the Grand Lodge that a Committee, consisting of the succeeding Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Wardens, should inquire into the precedence of the several lodges; and accordingly when the lodges were arranged in order of seniority in 1729, Original No. 3, instead of being placed as one of the Four at the head of the roll, found itself relegated by the Committee of Precedence to the eleventh number on the list. This took the members by surprise, considering that the last time the Four were all represented at Grand Lodge—April 19th, 1727—before the scale of precedence was adjusted in conformity with the regulations enacted for that purpose, their respective Masters and Wardens answered to their names in the same order of seniority as we find to have prevailed when the first Book of Constitutions was approved by the representatives of the lodges in 1723, that is to say, the present Lodge of Antiquity, as No. 1, the Crown (now extinct), as No. 2; present Fortitude and O.C., as No. 3; and present Somerset House and Inverness, as No. 4. But although, to quote from the actual minutes of Grand Lodge, July 11th, 1729, "The officers of the lodge at the Queen's Head, Knave's Acre, represented that their lodge was misplaced in the printed book, whereby they lost their rank, and humbly prayed that the said mistake might be regulated. Bro. Chocke [or "Choke," Deputy Grand Master], acquainted the Grand Lodge that the several lodges stood in the list according to the date of their Constitution." The record goes on to say, "The said complaint was dismissed." We have here arrived at a very interesting stage in the career of the lodge, a fragment of whose early history I am laying before its present members. But a great many points on which a variety of arguments might be presented, both on the one side and on the other, will be best left to the speculative antiquary, as being of no practical importance at the present date. From an academical point of view, the gradual supersession of the operative by the speculative (or symbolic) Masons and the paramount position in the Craft attained by Original No. 4, offer very tempting themes, but I shall content myself with observing that if, instead of being merely a coterie of Grand Officers, consisting of the Grand Master, his Deputy, and the Grand Wardens (two of whom, the Deputy Grand Master, Alexander Choke, and the Senior Grand Warden, Nathaniel Blackerby, who succeeded Choke as Deputy, and presided in Grand Lodge on July 11th, 1729, were members of No. 4), the three senior lodges had been represented on the Committee of Precedence, it is not credible for an instant that the just claim of the old lodge at the Queen's Head, Knave's Acre, to retain the rank which the members had clearly brought with them on their removal from the Apple Tree Tavern, would have been so contemptuously disregarded. Moreover, if we look upon the matter as being virtually a struggle for priority between what are now Fortitude and Old Cumberland, and Somerset House and Inverness respectively, to be determined by a tribunal which was controlled by members of the junior lodge, the result might well have been anticipated. Of the Deputy Grand Master and Senior Grand Warden, who belonged to No. 4, it might have been confidently predicted that—to quote and adopt the expressive language of Swift, though used by the Dean in quite a different connection—"They will be sure to decide in favour of themselves, and to talk much of their inherent right." But this evening I am mainly concerned in placing before you, in a small compass, a narrative of events, and will therefore only make the passing observation before going on with my story, that whatever privileges were inherent in or to Original No. 3 when it met at the Apple Tree in 1717, it undoubtedly retained on the occasion of the members altering their place of meeting in 1723. There are numerous incidents on which I should like to dwell; but I pass to the 29th of January, 1739, on which date Viscount Kingston was succeeded as Grand Master by the Duke of Norfolk. The whole of the former Grand Masters, with the solitary exception of the Duke of Whar-ton, were present at this festival, and they entered the lodge room in order of juniority. Lord Colerane walked at the head of the procession, then followed the Earl of Inchiquin, Lord Paisley, the Duke of Richmond, the Earl of Dalkeith, the Duke of Montagu, Dr. Desaguliers, George Payne, Esq., and last of all, in the position of honour as the first Grand Master of Masons that ever existed, "Mr. Anthony Sayer," who was still a member of the old lodge which had been removed from the Apple Tree to the Queen's Head, in 1723. About the year 1736, Original No. 2, formerly at the Crown (1717), was dropped from the roll, and the lodges immediately below it each went up a step, Original No. 3, moving from the 11th to the 10th place on the list. This lodge—or it will be clearer if I say to our

hosts of to-night, *your lodge*—is next referred to by Dr. Anderson, who has been called the "Father of Masonic History," in his *Book of Constitutions*, published in 1738. This work contains the only account we possess of the proceedings of the Four Old Lodges, with respect to the formation of a Grand Lodge. The manuscript having been reviewed and corrected by many Past Grand Officers, was ordered to be printed "with their approbation" by the Earl of Darnley, and the other Grand Officers for 1737; and was published with the "sanction and recommendation" of the Marquis of Caernarvon, Grand Master, and the other Grand Officers for 1738. Here we have then, not merely an account of historical facts, of which no other description exists, but an absolutely conclusive testimony to the good faith of the compiler, in the approval and recommendation of his book by the Grand Master and Grand Officers for 1737 and 1738. In this work a list is given of the lodges in and about London and Westminster, and at the number 10 we meet with the following: "QUEEN'S HEAD in Knave's Acre. This was one of the four Lodges mention'd Page 109, viz. the APPLE-TREE, Tavern in Charles-street, Covent-Garden, whose Constitution is immemorial: But after they removed to the QUEEN'S HEAD, upon some Difference, the Members that met there came under a new Constitution, tho' they wanted it not, and it is therefore placed at this Number." Now I am going to put it to you, that the statements of students of history—Masonic or otherwise—like those of advocates in Courts of Law, are only to be relied upon, so far as they can be sustained by evidence. My own statement that there has been no break of continuity in your career as a lodge, from 1717 down to the present date, has already been laid before you, and I next come to the proof, by which I mean the actual evidence, bearing on the circumstances which took place when original No. 3 was removed from the Apple Tree to the Queen's Head in 1723. Dr. Anderson tells us in the plainest terms that the Masonic ancestors of your present lodge were members of one of the Four Old, or Original Lodges, which founded the Grand Lodge, and he goes on to say, "Whose Constitution is (not was) immemorial," and he explains the loss of their rank (while retaining their unbroken descent from the lodge at the Apple Tree) by the remark—"the members came under a new Constitution, tho' they wanted it not." What do these words mean? In my own opinion, they signify beyond the shadow of a doubt, first of all, that the constitution of the lodge in 1736, was regarded by Dr. Anderson, as being an Immemorial one; also, that the members of Original No. 3, required in 1723, no further authority than that which they already possessed; and that in consequence, a new constitution was wholly unneeded. The point, however, for our consideration to-night, has nothing whatever to do with the ancient privileges of the lodge. It is the simple question of its antiquity. If, instead of *accepting one* new constitution, it had accepted *fifty*, this would have involved no break in the continuity of its existence as a lodge. Now, unless words are to be divested of their real meaning, there would seem to me no other possible interpretation to be placed on the entry in the constitutions for 1738—than that in the opinion of the highest (and only) authority on the early status of the Four Old Lodges—the Lodge No. 10 in 1738 (present No. 12), was the lineal descendant (without a break) of the old lodge which met at the Apple Tree in 1717. In other words, instead of being merely an early, but yet Modern lodge created by the Grand Lodge, it is as truly at the present day a descendant of Original No. 3, as are Antiquity and Somerset House of Original Nos. 1 and 4, and is equally with them one of the Time Immemorial lodges to which the Grand Lodge owes its existence. No. 10 afterwards met at the Fish and Bell, Charles-street, Soho-square, for many years, and during its stay there an event occurred, which is thus related in the minute book of the George Lodge, No. 4, now the Lodge of Friendship, No. 6: July 22, 1755—"Letter being [read] from the Grand Secy.: Citing us to appear at the Committee of Charity to answer the Fish and Bell Lodge [No. 10] to their demand of being plac'd prior to us, viz., in No. 3. Whereon our Rt Wors! Mas' attended & the Question being put to Ballot was carr'd in favour of us." But, although this renewed protest against its loss of rank was again unsuccessful, the officers of No. 10 appear to have satisfied the Committee that their lodge was entitled to a higher number than would fall to it in the ordinary course, from two of its seniors having "dropped out" since the last revision of the list in 1740. Instead, therefore, of becoming No. 8, we find that it passed over the heads of two then existing lodges immediately above it, and appeared in the sixth place in the list for 1756. More than 20 years ago I observed in a little work which has long since been forgotten: "The supersession of Original No. 3 by eight junior lodges in 1729, together with its partial restoration of rank in 1756, has introduced so much confusion into the history of this Lodge, that for upwards of a century, its identity with the 'Old Lodge,' which met at the Apple Tree Tavern in 1717, appears to have been wholly lost sight of."

Of the meeting of the Four Old Lodges on St. John the Baptist's Day, 1717, a famous writer observes: "This day is celebrated by all German lodges as the day of the Anniversary of the Society of Freemasons. It is the high-noon of the year, the day of light and roses, and it ought to be celebrated everywhere." It seems to me that not only is the most momentous event in the history of the Craft worthy of annual commemoration, but that it is (or should be) the duty of the three surviving lodges who founded the earliest of Grand Lodges, to unite together for the purpose of carrying the idea of such celebration into effect.

All Four of the Time Immemorial lodges have had their mutations of fortune. Antiquity seceded, became a Grand Lodge, and eventually returned to the fold. Original No. 2 is dead. Fortitude and Old Cumberland has lost its rank; and the Royal Somerset and Inverness was erased from, but after the lapse of a few years, restored to the roll. Nevertheless, the three lodges I have last named, even if they were at the bottom of the lists of lodges instead of where they are, would always have connected with them associations which belong to no other lodge, so that if they have not priority of rank they stand in priority of estimation over all other lodges. It is somewhat remarkable that no histories of these lodges have been written. But the fame of the "Old Antiquity," the vicissitudes of Fortitude and Old Cumberland, and the galaxy of worthies who were members of Somerset House and Inverness, may yet, let us hope, serve as founts of inspiration from which future chroniclers may draw freely, and as freely record in lodge histories the eminent services rendered to Freemasonry by previous generations of distinguished Craftsmen, whose names adorn the rolls of either of the three still surviving lodges of Immemorial Antiquity; or, to vary the expression, the three living English lodges, of whose existence "the memory of man runneth not to the contrary." One such chronicler, in the person of Bro. W. H. Rylands (who hoped to be with us this evening), has, I am glad to say, undertaken to write a history of the Lodge of Antiquity. Somerset House and Inverness will, I doubt not, at the proper psychological moment, depute some competent brother to compile a record of its proceedings; and lastly I come to yourselves, the members of the lodge I am now addressing. Your lodge during its long span of life, since the dawn of accredited Masonic history (and for what period it was in existence before the era of the Grand Lodge it helped to found, cannot be determined), has, indeed, undergone vicissitudes of fortune, but there are glorious associations connected with its career of which nothing can deprive you. These, I think, it is your bounden duty to place on record for the benefit and information of the present members, as well as those who may come after them. The members of Fortitude and Old Cumberland may take a legitimate pride in the reflection, that their lodge was one of the Four that called into being the earliest of Grand Lodges; that the Grand Lodge of England was con-

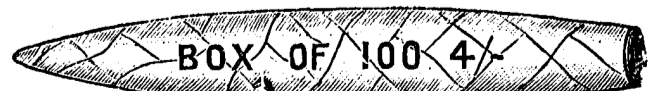
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stituted under the banner of their lodge; that the first Grand Master of Masons was one of their own members; that the lodge has preserved an uninterrupted continuity of existence from 1717 until the present day; and that of the three living lodges who now share the glory of having founded and established the Premier Grand Lodge of the world, it is the only one of them which has never ceased for a single instant to occupy a place on her roll.

Bro. O. F. Peall, P.M., proposed "That a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to Bro. Gould, P.G.D., for his able address on the antiquity of this old lodge, and that the same be entered on the minutes and printed in pamphlet form." Bro. John C. Nicholson, P.M., in seconding the resolution, said they must all recognise the enormous amount of work attaching to such an address. He had been associated just recently in this work of getting out the antiquity and history of their lodge. The I.P.M., Bro. Stuart Walker, took a good deal of interest in the matter, and they came to the conclusion that the Past Masters and brethren, like the brethren in the past, had considerably overlooked the importance attaching to the history of their lodge, and they determined to bring it forward so that the members might realise the fact. In asking Bro. Gould to address the brethren, they had no notion of raising issues that might be contested, and the way that Bro. Gould had put the case before them was so clear that no question would ever be raised. He believed that Bro. Gould was recognised as one of the greatest authorities in Masonic history, and they might, therefore, accept with great confidence what he had given them as the real history of the lodge. Bro. Gould had performed a service, not only to this lodge, but to the Craft at large. It was to the interest of the Craft that the real history should be known and appreciated. Bro. Gould had said that no history of this lodge had ever been written. When the I.P.M. discussed this matter with him (Bro. Nicholson) they took upon themselves the task of attempting such a work, but they found they had considerably under-estimated the work. It would have been impossible for them as business men to have got together the necessary information, and, therefore, they had much pleasure in relying upon Bro. Gould. He had much pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks. The resolution was carried unanimously, and Bro. Gould, P.G.D., in reply, said he tendered them his thanks in return for theirs. Bro. O. F. Peall, P.M., next proposed that concerted action should be taken with the Lodge of Antiquity and the Somerset House and Inverness Lodge to celebrate St. John's Day (24th June next), that being the date of the formation of the premier Grand Lodge of the World, and accordingly a Committee was formed with this object.

Bro. Peall again rose and stated that when he was in the chair the late G. Secretary voluntarily came to the lodge and stated "that he had found certain letters that proved that this lodge was originally No. 3; that we were renumbered as No. 12, but that he could give no justification for our being so renumbered, as he could not trace that we had ever done anything wrong. He also stated that from the books in Grand Lodge that we were the first to appoint a Grand Master. It was announced that several of the invited guests had from various causes been unavoidably prevented from attending, and among the number were Bros. Dr. W. J. Chetwode Crawley, P.G.D. Ireland; W. H. Rylands, P.A.G.D.C.; George Kenning, P.M.; T. B. Whythead, W.M. 2076, P.G.S.B.; G. B. Abbott, P.M.; W. M. Bywater, P.G.S.B.; and W. J. Hughan, P.G.D., from whom the following letter had been received:

"Dunstable, Torquay,
February 28th, 1900.

"Dear Bro. Lilley,

"I am very much obliged for the invite to the installation and annual festival of the 'Fortitude and Old Cumberland' Lodge, No. 12, and exceedingly regret my inability to attend.

"Please apologise for me to the W.M. and members.

"I am all the more sorry for my absence, as my old and esteemed friend and Bro. R. F. Gould, the *Masonic Historian*, is to deliver an address on the 'Early History of No. 12,' &c. No one is better qualified and few, if any, so well, to lecture on this subject, as he has made it a special study as the author of the celebrated work on 'The Four Old Lodges.'

"I have no hesitation in confirming in 1900 my opinion expressed in 1878—that Bro. Gould has identified No. 12 as the lineal descendant of original No. 3, so that under another name the members of to-day may fairly claim that their predecessors took part in the formation of the Premier Grand Lodge of the world."

"Dr. Anderson, in his 'Book of Constitutions,' 1738, informs us that on account of some difference amongst its members, the lodge was removed in February, 1722-3, and came under a new Constitution, though 'they wanted it not.'

"Now, what is it they did not want? I take it to be the new Constitution, i.e., being newly constituted, and hence, had they objected to that ceremony and not been newly constituted, but continued their assemblies as of yore, and Grand Lodge had agreed, the lodge would still be a 'Time Immemorial' organisation.

"Nothing, however, can alter the fact that as a lodge virtually, if not actually, it dates back to a *pre* Grand Lodge era, and through its continuity of members, if not as a lodge, it assisted to start the first Grand Lodge ever formed. I see from a table in my possession, in the handwriting of my lamented friend, Bro. Jno. Lane, your lodge attended the Quarterly Communications of Grand Lodge 31 times from 1727 to 1748.

"With all good wishes for the meeting,

"Believe me, yours fraternally,

"WM. JAMES HUGHAN.

"To the W. Bro. Alfred H. Lilley, P.M. and Sec. No. 12."

Bro. Attridge was proposed as a joining member, and a sum of 15 guineas was voted to be placed on Bro. Telfer's list for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. The lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, after which the customary toasts were duly honoured.

"The Queen and the Craft" was first proposed by the Worshipful Master, who said that at the present time this toast touched a chord of patriotism. For over 60 years her Majesty had reigned in that fierce light that beats upon a throne and had proved herself an example to every one of her subjects. To all men in the honesty and thoroughness of her work and to all women by her private life. She had won and enjoyed the love of all her subjects, and that love had probably been won more by her as a perfect woman and by the sympathy she had always shown for all her subjects—rich or poor—a sympathy they knew was extended to all in sorrow all over the land.

In giving "The M.W. the Grand Master," the W.M. said he could not find words more appropriate than those printed on the programme—"The Immediate heir of England, the hope and expectation of our time, it is the Prince of Wales."

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Grand Officers." He had read that Masonry in London was a system of dining clubs. He did not admit it was so, for Masonry was a serious bond of union amongst men. Perhaps it no longer occupied the position it did in times past, say in 1717 when Masonry in its present form was established. It had changed because it had no longer the great objects to serve it had then. It brought men together, to know each other and to learn to respect each other better. Dining clubs had their use in bringing about good fellowship, but Masonry fulfilled higher objects. Their ritual was like a religious service and with many, Masonry was a religious service, and perhaps stricter than denominational religion. It was a great

*"Freemasons' Chronicle," 12th October, 1878.

Society and therefore all honour to those who had built it up and who had held positions at the head of their Institution.

Bro. Hamon Le Strange, Prov. G. Master Norfolk, in response, said it was always a very high honour to answer for so comprehensive and exalted a toast. He certainly wished it had fallen to the lot of the distinguished historian of Freemasonry whom they had heard that evening to have done justice to this toast as a much older G. Officer. One's first duty, however, was obedience, and he would endeavour to express his thanks for the G. Officers. When he accepted the invitation which they were good enough to send him, he did so with great pleasure, but when he had sent in his letter he remembered one cause which might give him a reception the reverse of flattering. The object of the gathering was to show how and why this lodge had got out of its proper numeration, which had been effected in the most convincing manner by Bro. Gould. He did not reflect that he was a P.M. of No. 10—one of the interlopers who had got ahead of them. He must leave his Masonic predecessors to fight that matter out. He was not, however, conscious of having received the cold shoulder from them by the reflection that his lodge had wrongfully got ahead of theirs in numeration. This was a very honourable toast to answer for, and there were two good reasons on the present occasion why this was more than an ordinary toast. First, he was standing up to answer in the presence of so many G. Officers, many much older in G. Office, and, probably, much older in Freemasonry. The second reason was that it was a very exceptional occasion on which anyone should have to answer for the toast in a lodge which existed before the G. Lodge itself. He had listened to the interesting summary of its past history, and wished that every lodge had its history dug up and expounded as Bro. Gould had done. It was a good thing for the members in learning the annals of the past, and in getting, link by link, those steps which bound them to the past. There were few lodges which could go back so far, and all the more reason this lodge should look back with pride and pleasure. He thanked them for giving him the opportunity of attending on this more than interesting occasion, and hoped to receive a copy of the discourse when printed, so that he could look back with pleasure and satisfaction to the noble Masonic gathering they had had that evening.

Bro. S. Stuart Walker, I.P.M., briefly proposed "The W.M.," remarking that the brethren who had elected Bro. Stephens knew his good qualities, and also knew what a good Master he would make.

Bro. S. Walter Stephens, W.M., returned thanks. He felt it was a position of pride to occupy the chair of the Fortitude and Old Cumberland Lodge. They had heard that evening of the great antiquity of the lodge, and one could not help feeling that there was a great responsibility resting upon its W. Master. Perhaps his greatest pride was in the kindness and good fellowship with which every member had welcomed him in his new position. He was not a child of this lodge, having been first introduced to its hospitality by Bro. Roy, P.M. Although a fairly old Mason he was not then a good Mason, but in this lodge a different impression was made upon him, and he asked them to admit him as a joining member. He had learned to like Masonry and No. 12. He thanked them for so kindly receiving him.

The W.M. next proposed "The Health of the I.P.M.," than whom they had never had a harder working Master. Bro. Walker, I.P.M., had conducted the affairs of this lodge in such perfect harmony during the past year that they had all thoroughly enjoyed every meeting, summer and winter. The I.P.M. took them over new and classical ground, and all members had engraved on their memory their visit to Ann Hathaway's cottage. Bro. Walker had done much for their instruction, and it was to his initiative they really owed all the knowledge that Bro. Gould had brought before them.

Bro. S. Stuart Walker, I.P.M., in reply, said he hoped the little he had done for the lodge had been for its advantage. He thanked them for their kindness in the past, and would continue to do whatever he could for the lodge in the future.

Bro. G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C., acknowledged the toast of "The Visitors," and expressed his pride at having been selected to return thanks for so many distinguished visitors. He thanked the members for their bounteous hospitality. Lavish hospitality was, perhaps, one of the most familiar traits in the character of their race, and he thought this feature had been so crystallised in the Masonic Fraternity that it was not to be wondered at in one of the oldest lodges in existence—a lodge numbering close upon 200 years, perhaps more, behind its name. Although he and his fellow visitors were grateful for the hospitality they had received, they had reason to be grateful for a far greater favour. They had been privileged that evening to be present at the awakening to consciousness of a Time Immemorial lodge to the proud fact of its own antiquity. The matter which had been brought before them so ably by Bro. Gould was not strange to him (Bro. Speth) by any means. Twenty-five years ago, when he first took an interest in the archæology of the Craft, he was struck with the injustice done to an old lodge and they had that day been asked to be present at the awakening of consciousness, not only to the injustice meted out to this lodge, which they might consider a small matter, but to its distinguished position in the Craft. This lodge had not suffered alone, although, perhaps, in a superior degree. His own lodge dated from 1769. He had hoped to meet Bro. Bywater, P.G.S.B., who was a child of No. 19, which was warranted in the same year as his own lodge, No. 183. Until they came to about 600, the mere order of precedence was no indication of the age of a lodge. There was, he was sure, no intention of trying to recover their rightful place on the roll. There would be too many lodges who might make a similar claim and there might consequently be "confusion worse confounded." It mattered not where they were placed on the roll, they had the consciousness of their antiquity. There had been many songs written for Masonry—and they had heard one that evening—but he might say the only song that had ever "caught on" was the Entered Apprentice's Song. One of the verses in this ran—

"Antiquity's pride we have on our side,
To keep up our old reputation."

That should be their motto and that should be a solace to them for any feeling of disappointment at not being in their proper numerical place. He suggested that strong representations should be made to the Board of General Purposes to drop, in the Calendar, the date "constituted 1722" after this lodge. There were two lodges in the Calendar which had T.I. after their names, and if the matter was properly represented, especially with the authority of Bro. Gould, he had no doubt it would be set right. He believed they would see the next Calendar published with the date "1722" omitted, and the two mystic letters, T.I., substituted. It would be some slight acknowledgment of the superior antiquity of the lodge and would be a comforting thing for the members also. He thought he voiced the sentiments of the visitors, when he thanked the brethren rather more for the treat in listening to Bro. Gould's lucid exposition of the early history of the lodge, than for the great hospitality shown them.

Other toasts were given, including "The Past Masters" and "The Officers."

Bro. Emerson presided at the pianoforte, and the musical artistes included Miss Eleanor Nicholls, Miss Edie Ferris, and Messrs. Randell Jackson, and H. Turnpenny.

Royal Gloucester Lodge, No. 130.

The brethren of the above lodge assembled in considerable numbers at the Masonic Hall, Southampton, on the 8th instant, the occasion being the installation of Bro. C. J. Sharp as W.M. till January next, the function having been delayed beyond the usual

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time owing to unforeseen circumstances. Bro. Sharp filled the chair two years ago, and has also been W.M. of the Twelve Brothers Lodge, No. 785. The Board of Installed Masters included Bros. R. R. Linthorne, W.M.; J. Cole, R. F. Osborne, J. Fewings, C. T. Penny, B. Harfield, R. Boughton-Smith, A. J. Leach, Martin, W.M.; G. Cross, Dr. Harris, I.P.M.; H. Lashmore, A. Hewitt, S. Cooksey, I.P.M.; R. C. W. Dixon, Crane, W.M.; G. Ward, I.P.M.; T. G. King, W.M.; J. Martin, Richard Bell, R. Bencraft, W.M.; and Davy. The installation ceremony was ably performed by Bro. J. Cole, P.P.G. Reg., and the following were appointed officers: Bros. R. R. Linthorne, I.P.M.; A. J. V. Bagshaw, S.W.; J. Brierley, J.W.; G. J. Tilling, P.M., Treas.; J. Cole, P.M., Sec.; A. A. Burnett, S.D.; J. E. Dawe, J.D.; R. Boughton-Smith, P.M., D. of C.; C. A. Emanuel, I.G.; E. Alston and W. H. Stephens, Stwds.; and W. Vare, Tyler. The retiring W.M., Bro. Linthorne, was thanked for his services in the chair during the past 14 months, and a jewel was voted him. The Installing Master was also thanked for his admirable working.

A banquet was afterwards served, under the direction of Bro. Boughton-Smith, D. of C., and provided by Bro. Biggs. The newly-installed W.M. presided, and was the recipient of many hearty good wishes for a successful period of office.

The meeting concludes the installation meetings for 1900-1 in the Southampton district.

Stamford Lodge, No. 1045.

The annual celebration of the Festival of St. John and the installation of Bro. John Hawker, S.W., the W.M. elect, in connection with the above lodge, took place at the Town Hall, Altrincham, on the 5th instant. The Installing Master was Bro. Robert C. Whitelegg, W.M., assisted by Bros. Lindsell and Byrom. There was a large number of members and visiting brethren present. The members present were Bros. Robert C. Whitelegg, W.M.; John Hawker, S.W.; Wm. Hughes, J.W.; James Davenport, P.M.; F. R. B. Lindsell, P.M.; Joel Foden, S. Thompson, Rev. Dr. C. C. Atkinson, P.M.; John W. Byrom, P.M.; R. Newhouse, P.M., P.D.G.S.B. Eng., Prov. G. Sec.; T. Nicholson, S.D.; Wm. Dykes, J.D.; M. Stone, P.M.; J. Parker, Org.; H. H. Mainwaring, I.G.; J. Ferguson, Asst. Sec.; H. Holt, D. Morrison, C. Price, O. Thomas, G. H. Podmore, Wm. Allwood, A. Huxley, Tyler; Wm. Walkden, and W. K. Blunson, P.M. Visitors: Bros. G. J. Plimmer, I.P.M. 1565; C. D. Cheatham, P.P.G.W. East Lincs.; J. Armstrong, P.P.G.W.; Rev. C. Rushbrooke Nunn, P.G. Chap.; H. G. Small, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G.D.C.; Wm. J. Nash, P.M., P.P.G.D.; Rev. A. M. Hertzberg, S.D. 1357; Wm. Severs, W.M. 1565; T. H. Bebbington, W.M. 941; J. Rossen, W.M. 1126; W. B. Russell, P.M. 1219, P.P.A.G.D.C. East Lincs.; C. Duckworth, P.M. 204; J. B. Sutton, I.G. 1357; J. Okell, 428; John Lewis, P.M., P.P.D.G.D.C.; J. Cliff, P.M. 204, P.P.G.D.C. East Lincs.; E. Entwistle, P.M. 999; and W. Kelsall, 1565.

The W.M. invested his officers in the following order: Bros. R. C. Whitelegg, I.P.M.; W. Hughes, S.W.; F. Nicholson, J.W.; Rev. Dr. Atkinson, Chap.; J. W. Byrom, Treas.; R. Newhouse, P.D.G.S.B. Eng., Sec.; J. Ferguson, Asst. Sec.; W. Dykes, S.D.; D. Morrison, J.D.; A. Fray, I.G.; J. Parker, Org.; Martin Stone, P.M., Director of Ceremonies; W. Walkden, A. W. Boucher, H. Stanley, E. Wilcox, and J. Price, Stewards; and A. Huxley, Tyler. Bro. R. Newhouse, as an officer of the Grand Lodge of England, had much pleasure in greeting the W.M.—(applause)—and also in offering the congratulations of the Prov. Grand Master, the Right Hon. Earl Egerton of Tatton. He hoped he would have health and a pleasant year of office in the chair. They, as members, were glad to have him rule over them. Bro. Hawker had occupied every office in the lodge with credit. He could not let the meeting close without recording the great pleasure it had been to all to witness the way Bro. Whitelegg had installed the W.M. for the first time. (Applause.)

The lodge being duly closed, the brethren sat down to a banquet, presided over by the W.M.

During the evening the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly responded to, together with the toast of the evening, that of "The Newly-Installed Master," "The Masonic Charities," "The Visiting Brethren," and "The Officers of the Lodge."

The musical arrangements were in the hands of Bro. James Parker.

Bro. John Hawker, the W.M., was initiated in Stamford Lodge, No. 1045, in 1888. Appointed to Prov. G. Stwd. Cheshire in 1895. One of the founders of the Assheton-Egerton Lodge, No. 2793, and first Treasurer; also initiated into Mark Masonry in the Stamford Mark Lodge, No. 148, in 1895, appointed to Prov. Mark Rank in 1899. He was exalted in Royal Arch Masonry in the Caledonian Chapter, No. 104, in 1894.

Albert Edward Lodge, No. 1780.

The brethren of the above lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John at the Masonic Hall, Albion-place, Southampton, on the 6th inst., when Bro. T. G. King, the S.W. of the past year, was installed as W.M. in the presence of a large gathering of brethren. The Installed Masters present were Bros. R. R. Linthorne, P.G. Reg., W.M.; Martin, W.M.; J. E. Aldis, P.P.G.S. of Wks.; T. G. Dacombe, Kingman, Captain Berry, H. Lashmore, P.P.S.G.D.; S. Dacombe, P.A.G.D.C.; R. W. Rider, I.P.M.; A. H. W. Ritchie, R. W. Denness, W.M.; W. Berry, P.P.D.G.D.C.; G. Heathcote, P.P.G. Std. Br.; E. Warren, P.P.G. Std. B.; A. Algar, P.P.G.D.C.; H. Hussey, J. G. Jordan, W. Prowse, and E. W. Drysdall. The ceremony of installation was admirably worked by the retiring Master, Bro. Denness. The officers were invested as follows: Bros. R. W. Denness, I.P.M.; A. Curtis, S.W.; G. Woodford, J.W.; G. Heathcote, P.M., Treas.; T. Holmes, Sec.; S. Howland, S.D.; G. Beadle, J.D.; H. Hussey, P.M., D.C.; J. H. Crocker, Org.; J. Marchant, I.G.; and F. Brown and A. Harding, Stwds. At the conclusion of the ceremony the Installing Master was cordially thanked by the lodge, and was voted a Past Master's jewel for his service during the year. A Past Master's apron, subscribed for by the initiates during his year of office, was also given him by one of their number, incidental reference being made to the fact that to mark an interesting domestic event a "silver cradle" had also been given him during the year. The I.P.M. duly returned thanks for the presentations now made. The general lodge business included a vote of 20 guineas to the Royal Masonic Aged and Benevolent Institution.

The brethren afterwards sat down to a banquet, the company, which numbered fully 100, being admirably catered for by Bro. Biggs, under the superintendence of the D.C., Bro. H. Hussey. The newly-installed W.M. presided.

The usual Masonic toasts were honoured, and a programme of songs and concerted pieces was excellently interpreted by Bros. Lavington, Wareham, Conlan, J. A. Billett, and Finn; Bro. Andrews, Org. 359, presiding at the piano.

Fellowship Lodge, No. 2535.

The sixth installation meeting of this very flourishing lodge was held at the Fracati Restaurant, on Monday, 5th inst., when the lodge was opened by Bro. E. Rogers, P.M. 60, P.G.S., W.M. The attendance was, of course, very large, the popularity of the lodge and its members being general. Bro. James Stephens, P.D.G. D.C., the energetic Secretary, was one of the Grand Officers present, while others were Bros. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W.; Richard Eve, P.G.T.; William Heap Bailey, P.G.T.; Col. Clifford Probyn, P.G.T.; James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; W. A. Scurrah, P.G. Std. Br.; and J. Welford, G. Std. Br. The other brethren who attended were Bros. M. Thomas, I.P.M.; Benj. Carter, S.W.; W. H. Making, J.W.; W. H. G. Rudderforth, P.M., S.D.; Stephen Hussey, P.M., J.D.; W. S. Rubinstein, D.C.; W. J. Batho, I.G.; H. Carman, P.M., and B. A. Griffin, Stwds.; W. H. Bailey, P.M., P.G.T.; C. H. Ferguson, C. E. Schuler, George Miller, J.

Stevens, W. A. Grosutt, Henry Sams, J. E. Walne, Fred Morgan, Francis Kissel, J. W. Ward, J. M. W. Schuler, A. Maddison, G. J. Sibley, E. Gill, G. R. Jenner, A. Allistone, G. A. Batho, W. G. Dickinson, E. Walter, T. Richards, H. Briggs, Henry Schuler, A. R. Sheppard, J. F. Ayton, E. C. Phillips, H. W. Douglas, and R. H. Price. The visitors were Bros. W. H. Bradshaw, D.C. 2531; H. L. Cocks, 2095; E. M. Lander, P.M. 1642; C. B. Broad, W.M. 173; A. Perew, 2742; T. Eastham, P.M. 333, P.P.D.G.S.B. Sussex; Dyved Lewys, 1706; J. H. Bew, 1425; F. Neary, 2707; C. H. Cooper, J.W. 1382; C. Blake, 1708; J. Hobbs, 2743; C. Bevan, 2783; M. Parks, 1708; W. J. Rogerson, P.M. 1435, P.P.G.D.C. Norths and Hunts; R. Parker, 2528; C. W. Manns, 2150; J. J. Head, 1305; S. Hall, 2150; J. Wilson, 1708; L. Crowley, 2346; A. J. Fulljames, 1950; G. Samuels, P.M. 1708; J. S. Hammond, 1362; R. G. Minton, I.P.M. 1708; J. W. Wright, S.W. 1361; J. H. O. Bundy, 2625; J. H. Mills, 1614; W. Gruson, I.P.M. 2150; E. W. Hart, 2150; S. Chalkey, 8; T. Jefferies, P.M. 1744; A. H. Cole, P.M. 1744; F. Lennard, 907; R. H. Hawtrey, I.G. 957; Wm. Benjamin, 173; C. E. Lilly, W.M. 733; Chas. T. Brown, P.M. 733; C. A. Hardwick, P.M. and Sec. 1347; R. R. Banks, 1347; H. Taylor, P.M. 1347; H. W. Parker, P.M. 2048 and 2728; Tom Cooke, P.M. 1347; H. Gee Moore, P.M. 2045; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; C. W. Muslin, 2742; R. Cope, 2361; A. Yates, 2861; J. Townsend, W.M. 1563; R. Willock, 1689; Geo. A. Sims, P.M. 2420, P.P.G.S. of W. Bucks; Chas. H. Worley, 2271; K. W. Newman; G. A. W. Griffiths, I.P.M. 174; G. Gill, P.M. 1641; W. Laws, P.M. 720; F. E. Shedd, 507, Rochester, N.Y., U.S.A.; G. V. Wood, W.M. and P.M. 1608; H. Taylor, I.P.M. 2420; T. N. Thompson, 1418; T. Macintosh, 339; R. G. Hembrow (Unattache); T. Leeks, 1891; R. Bradley, P.M. 1694; H. Naylor, 73; and F. Mead, 212.

The installation ceremony was ably performed by Bro. James Stephens, who placed in the W.M. chair Bro. Benjamin Carter, S.W., and W.M. elect. Bro. E. Rogers was invested as I.P.M., and in the course of the evening was presented with a handsome jewel of a Past Master. The other officers of the lodge who were invested were Bros. W. H. Making, P.M., S.W.; W. H. G. Rudderforth, P.M., J.W.; J. Welford, P.M., G. Std. Br., Treas.; James Stephens, P.M., P.D.G.D.C., Sec.; S. Hussey, P.M., P.G. Stwd. Middx., S.D.; W. J. Batho, P.M., J.D.; M. S. Rubinstein, I.G.; H. Carman, P.M., D.C.; B. A. Griffin, P.M., and A. Flatman, Stwds.; H. S. Schuler, Org.; and T. C. Edmonds, P.M., Tyler. Bro. Carman, P.M., acted as D.C. throughout the ceremony. Twenty-five guineas were voted from the lodge funds to the list of the new W.M., who undertook the office of Steward for the 1901 Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Bro. James Stephens then said he had a fad for annually supporting the Girls' School. He went down to that Institution and the little girls in blue always attracted him. Ever since the Fellowship was founded it had contributed 25 guineas a year to that School, and he would ask that that sum should be again voted and that Sir John Monckton should be asked to place it on his list. The 25 guineas were then voted, and Sir J. B. Monckton said he should be happy to put it on his list for the next festival in May.

After some further formal business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a most liberal banquet.

The entertainment with which the subsequent toasts were interspersed was quite as liberal, and consisted of singing, under the direction of Miss Emily Foxcroft, by that celebrated artiste, and by Miss Annie Bartle, Bro. Dyved Lewys, Mr. B. Black, and Miss Lizzie Davies, violin solos by Miss Gertrude Collins, a recitation by Miss Lizzie Davies, sleight of hand by Mr. A. O. Clark, and humorous sketches by Mr. Quenton Ashlyn.

Bro. Sir J. Monckton replied to the toast of "The Grand Officers." Bro. E. Rogers, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said although the lodge had had good Masters in the past, the brother who had gone into the chair that night would equal any of them. Bro. Carter was associated with a family which had done great work in Masonry, and the way in which he had performed his duties that night all the brethren were delighted with as much as they were with all the brethren who preceded him. Bro. Carter had filled all the offices of the lodge, and now he had arrived at the height of his ambition ever since he came into the lodge to get into the W.M. chair.

Bro. B. Carter, W.M., replying, said he hoped he should carry out the brethren's expectations. Everything in his power he should do, and he hoped he should finish his year to the satisfaction of the brethren.

Bro. James Stephens, Sec., proposed "The Masonic Charities," and said he was somewhat handicapped because Bro. Terry would give the brethren every detail. But he was glad the brethren of the Fellowship Lodge did not want much teaching to learn the practice of Charity. From the time of the consecration of the lodge they had practised benevolence. On the night of the consecration they voted 25 guineas to each of the three Central Masonic Institutions, which might be designated the beacons of friendship, because no institution in the world could stand out equal to those three grand Institutions. It was done by a voluntary effort and £40,000 a year was necessary to keep up the charitable work of those Charities. It was characteristic of Freemasons that while enjoying themselves they were never unmindful of those who were in want. It was a source of infinite pleasure to them to reflect that they subscribed to the Charities. They had given 200 guineas to the Girls' School, but they also gave to the other Institutions. They had given to the respective Institutions nothing less than £2000 from this lodge. The Executive of the Institutions were not unmindful of their duty, and in the case of the Benevolent Institution, for which the W.M. was going to be a Steward at its next Festival, they took on eight additional annuitants last year, and they were going to do the same this year, so that now some 500 dear old men and women are on the books.

Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., replied. All the Institutions last year were most prosperous, (receiving over £80,000 amongst them. The Benevolent Institution at this year's Festival were £2000 over the year 1899. He hoped the other Institutions would turn out as good. There was no jealousy or rivalry between the Secretaries; each was only too glad to see the others prosperous. The Benevolent Institution had 109 candidates this year, but could only take on 43. Over 60 would have, therefore, to go empty away, and some of these were over 80 years of age, and they would have to wait another year.

The toasts of "The Visitors," "The I.P.M.," "The P.Ms., Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers" followed, before the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Lodge L'Entente Cordiale, No. 2796.

The first meeting of the above lodge after its consecration was held on the 5th inst., at the Regent Masonic Hall, Café Royal. There was a full attendance of brethren, and among the visitors were the following: Bros. Edmund A. Smith, D.G.D.C., Henry Neville, P.A.G.D.C., J. T. Murray, and G. Maxwell, P.M., all of Drury Lane Lodge; E. Crane, I.P.M. Columbia; Harry Tipper, P.A.G.P., and A. Lazarus, Tranquility; J. Adams, P.M. Universal; G. M. Verlick, Langthorne; and M. C. Hayward, Isaac Newton. Bro. Capt. Monchare, W.M., was in the chair, and ably supported by Bro. E. Roehrich, S.W.; Dr. Pocock, P.G.S.; and subsequently by Bro. Garrard, J.W.

After the minutes were read by the Secretary, Bro. Léon Clerc, P.M., and confirmed, the following brethren were admitted as joining members: Bros. J. K. Davis, P.M. 1159, P.D.G.D.C. Hong Kong; John Broad, 1364; W. Slingsby Ogle, P.M. 256; Edouard Sève, Consul Gen. of Belgium; Ph. Saillard, P.M. 2060; F. Ch. de Bonnair Haggard, P.M. 143; and E. Schultz, 1397. The principal item on the agenda however, was the initiation of the candidates, Dr. E. Lunge, George Hewett, and F. H. Adams. The whole ceremony of initiation, especially the addresses, was performed by the W.M. in a most remarkable impressive manner, so that the brethren could scarcely retain their applause in open lodge. A letter was then read from the Lodge



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Les vrais Amis de L'Union et du Progres Reunis of Brussels, under the obedience of the Grand Orient of Belgium, appointing Bro. E. Sève as *Garant d'amitié*, a friendly politeness which was replied to by the nomination of Bro. Mondehare, W.M., to a similar position at the Belgian lodge.

The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the sumptuous banqueting hall, where an excellent dinner was served.

After the dinner the usual loyal toasts were enthusiastically honoured, Bro. E. Cutler, O.C., P.G.O., leading at the piano the National Anthem. All other toasts, too, were heartily given and responded to.

In reply to the toast of "The Visitors," Bro. Crane said, in a very witty speech, that he, as an American, could realise what it was to be an alien; but as a Mason one could not feel it. Real Charity did not so much consist in collecting £ s. d. or dollars, as in bringing together aliens, individually, or nations. That precisely was the high aim of Freemasonry, and especially of the new "L'Entente Cordiale."

A varied programme was provided during the evening, to which contributed Mlle. Berthe Saverny in her repertoire "Chatnoiresque," the clever American actress, Miss Beverley Sitgreaves, of the Globe Theatre, the famous Spanish tenor, Senor Guetary, so well known to Covent Garden frequenters, and M. Jean d'Arc in his humorous French songs, whilst M. A. Rogers ably accompanied at the piano. Although not on the official programme, Bro. Maxwell, P.M. 2127, gave an excellent addition with his silver-bells, and Bro. Neville, in a recitation, proved again his splendid acting.

On the whole, if a work can be judged from its beginning, the Lodge L'Entente Cordiale, as viewed from its first meeting, is bound to become a prosperous and flourishing addition to the Craft.

Sir Francis Burdett Lodge, No. 1503.

A meeting of this lodge was held on the 14th instant at Twickenham. Among those present were Bros. H. Bright, W.M.; Tompsell, S.W.; the Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, M.A., P.P.G.C., Chap., as J.W.; J. T. Briggs, P.M., P.P.G.D., Treas.; Maj. T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; G. Dobson, S.D.; A. O. Hemming, J.D.; Fois, D. of C.; G. Hertslet and G. S. Hertslet, Stwds.; Dr. J. W. Hinton, P.P.G.O., I.P.M.; W. Fisher, P.M., G.A.P.; and A. B. Brown, P.M.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Kendrick was passed to the Second Degree. The ballot was taken on behalf of Mr. Howkins, and he, being in attendance, was duly initiated. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. F. F. Bonny, J.W.; W. H. Saunders, P.M., P.P.G.D.; W. Taylor, P.M., P.P.G.W.; E. W. Davis, P.M.; and others. The lodge was then closed.

A banquet followed.

Bro. W. Fisher, A.G.P., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers," and Bro. the Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, M.A., for "The Prov. Grand Officers."

The I.P.M. gave "The Health of the W.M." in flattering terms, who briefly acknowledged the compliment.

"The Health of the Initiates" followed. In submitting this toast the W.M. said that the lodge was under obligations to Bro. Dr. Hinton for the introduction, not only of the candidates that evening, but also for introducing Bro. Kendrick on a previous occasion. He trusted that both candidates would become worthy in due time of the highest honours that the lodge could bestow upon them.

This toast having been warmly drunk, Bro. Howkins responded. He said that he had to thank Bro. Dr. Hinton for his kindness in proposing him. He had for a long time desired to join the ranks of Freemasonry, and from what he had seen that night he congratulated himself in being so fortunate as to join a lodge of credit and renown.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was coupled with the name of Bro. Dr. Hinton, I.P.M., who responded.

In submitting the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. expressed his gratification that the first-named, Bro. Briggs, appeared to have thoroughly regained his health. He was a most zealous and painstaking Treasurer, and deserved every credit for the manner in which he discharged the duties of his office.

Bro. Briggs having, in modest terms, expressed his thanks, the toast of "The Officers," coupled with the names of Bros. Tompsell, Dobson, Hemming, Fois, and Hertslet, terminated the proceedings.

Acacia Lodge, No. 2321.

A regular meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Bradford, on the 1st inst. Bro. R. S. Iird, W.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. J. B. Fearnley, I.P.M.; F. Bettebridge, B.A., Chap.; S. A. Bailey, P.M., Treas.; J. T. Last, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., Sec.; Wm. Docksey, S.W.; C. H. Ellis, P.M., as J.W.; T. H. Bedford, S.D.; W. Shaw-Smith, as J.D.; R. H. Markham, I.G.; J. Wood, Org.; J. S. Cooper, Tyler; J. Morton, P.M.; and a goodly number of members. Visitors: Bros. Joseph Matthewman, P.M. 1019, P.P.A.G. Sec.; Henry Telford, P.M., W.M. 387, P.P.G.D.; J. Louis Baumann, P.M. 387; J. W. Holmes, 387; G. Shackleton, 387; A. Bagnall, 387; H. A. Johnson, S.W. 302; John E. Longdon, I.G. 302; John Hill, Tyler 302; F. Hall, 439; Wm. Foster, 600; J. E. Fawcett, W.M. 974; A. J. C. Stanfield, S.W. 974; E. R. Harling, P.M. 1309; W. H. Hudson, 03; John Pickles, D.C. 302; and S. H. Pettit, W.M. 1736.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been approved, on the motion of Bro. Bland, the sum of 15 guineas was voted from the lodge funds in aid of the Mayor of Bradford's (Bro. W. C. Lupton, P.P.G.W.) Masonic Fund for the relief of the wives and families of our reservist soldiers serving in South Africa. There being none of the Degrees to be conferred at this meeting, at the request of the W.M., Bro. Fearnley, I.P.M., gave the lecture on the first tracing board in a highly satisfactory manner, which was followed by an interesting paper by the Secretary on "The Grand Lodge of Kansas, U.S.A." Votes of thanks were accorded to Bros. Fearnley and Last for the interesting and instructive manner in which they had entertained the brethren.

Apologies were tendered for the absence of several of the members, and after "Hearty good wishes" from the numerous visitors, the lodge was closed, and the brethren afterwards dined together.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

Bro. J. Matthewman, P.P.A.G. Sec., in responding for the combined toast of "Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge," referred to the excellent manner in which the Grand Officers always did their duty, especially naming Bros. Lord Roberts, Lord Kitchener, and Sir Charles Warren, who were so nobly fighting their country's battles in South Africa. Referring more particularly to his visit to the lodge that evening, Bro. Matthewman congratulated the W.M. on the practice that prevailed in the lodge of providing lectures or papers on Masonic subjects at the meetings when there were no Degrees to be conferred. It had been his pleasure to visit the lodge on several such occasions, and he predicted that the lodge would continue to prosper so long as such members as Bros. Fearnley and Last were prepared to entertain the brethren as they had done that evening.

The W.M., in proposing "The Visitors," gave all a hearty welcome, making special reference to Bro. Harling, P.M. 1309, meeting at Hampton Court, who had come to reside in the City.

Bro. H. Telford, W.M. 387, F.P.G.D., responded, and expressed the gratification it had afforded him to attend the lodge that evening. He had been much interested by the lecture on the tracing board, as well as by the information afforded by the Secretary's paper on American Freemasonry. He had visited the lodge on many occasions, and his visits were always rendered enjoyable by the hearty reception accorded to the visitors.

Bros. Fawcett, W.M. 974, and Pettit, W.M. 1736, also responded for the visitors.

Other toasts that were subsequently duly honoured were "The W.M.," "The Past Masters," "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast.

Bros. Wood, Shaw Smith, Hall, Holmes, Last, and Durrancc contributed songs to the harmony and enjoyment of the evening.

At a quarterly communication of the Supreme Grand Royal Masonic Arch Chapter of Scotland held in Edinburgh on the 7th inst, office-bearers were elected for the next year. The Earl of Haddington was elected First Grand Principal.

THE GRAND TREASURERSHIP OF 1901.

A number of influential brethren have, we hear, asked Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall, who is as well known as his late father as a most liberal supporter of all the Benevolent Institutions of the Craft, to allow himself to be nominated for the office of Grand Treasurer next December. Bro. H. B. Marshall has had great Masonic experience, having initiated no less than 19 gentlemen while in his most recent chair, that of the Streatham Lodge, of which he was the founder. He also has the probably unique record of having served the office of Steward to each of the Charities every year since his initiation in the Royal Hanover Lodge, by his late father, in 1884.

Royal Arch.

Kennington Chapter, No. 1381.

The election meeting of this prosperous transpontine chapter was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington-park, on the 8th inst. Among those present were Comps. A. Lundie, I.P.Z., as M.E.Z.; H. J. Lardner, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B. Surrey, as H.; Major T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C. Eng., as J.; H. Higgins, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C. Middx., S.E.; George Everett, P.Z., P.G. Treas. Eng., Treas.; and C. H. Kohler, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B.

The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The S.E. reported that he had forwarded letters of condolence to Mrs. Lingley and Mrs. Salter. The election of Principals and officers then took place. Among those elected were Comps. Whitney, M.E.Z.; Gale, H.; Wolsey, J.; H. Higgins, P.Z., S.E.; Clay, S.N.; G. Everett, P.G.T., Treas.; and C. Patrick, P.Z., Janitor. A Past Principal's jewel was voted to Comp. W. Smith. An Audit Committee was elected to audit the accounts half an hour before the time fixed for the next meeting. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. Smith, M.E.Z.; Whitney, H.; Gale, J.; Wolsey, S.N.; Clay, P.S.; and others. The chapter was then closed.

A banquet followed.

Comp. George Everett, P.G. Treas., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers," and then gave "The health of the M.E.Z." In submitting this toast he regretted that their First Principal was again absent through indisposition, but his place had been worthily filled, both in the chapter and at the banquet table, by Comp. Lundie, who was always very genial and whose vocal abilities were always highly appreciated by the members of the Kennington Chapter. As he did not wish to speak that night again, he took that opportunity of thanking them all for re-electing him as Treasurer. The funds were in a highly satisfactory condition, but the chapter was sorely in need of candidates.

The I.P.Z., in reply, thanked the proposer of the toast for the kind manner in which he had mentioned his name as Comp. Smith's substitute. In looking round the room that evening he missed the genial faces of two old and worthy members. He alluded to Comps. Lingley and Salter. They were both good men and good Masons. A daughter of the first named would be a candidate for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls in October, when he trusted that the merits and services of the child's father would not be forgotten.

The toast of "The Past Principals," coupled with the names of Comps. Lardner and Kohler, and the toast of "The Officers," coupled with the name of Comp. Higgins, S.E., terminated the proceedings.

Zetland Chapter, No. 603.

A regular meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Cleckheaton, on Friday, the 23rd ult. In the absence of Comp. Saml. Law, M.E.Z., Comp. Last, P.Z., S.E., occupied the First Principal's chair, the other chairs being filled by Comps. Jas. Clough, H.; Sydney Mortimer, J.; George Blackburn, S.N.; C. F. Forshaw, P.S.; Alfred Woodhead and Wm. Parker, Asst. Sojs.; Saml. Halliday, Treas.; and W. H. Hudson, Janitor; also Comp. S. H. Stocks, P.Z., P.P.G.S. Treas. John T. Barras, P.Z. 600, was a visitor.

After the confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting, the ballot was taken for Bros. S. H. Pettit, W.M. 1735; Harry Thornton, and Geo. Feltow, I.G. 603, who were duly elected, and Bros. Pettit and Feltow being in attendance were duly exalted, the former by Comp. Barras, P.Z., and the latter by Comp. Last, P.Z., the work of the P.S. being done by Comps. Forshaw and Woodhead respectively. Two candidates were proposed for exaltation at the next meeting. The Treasurer's balance sheet for the past year was submitted by Comp. Mortimer, J., for the Treasurer, showing a balance in hand of over £ 10, it was adopted and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Attention was called by Comp. Mortimer, J., to the present inconvenient night of meeting and notice was given of a resolution at the next chapter meeting to change the time of meeting.

After the chapter had been closed, the companions dined together.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Mount Calvary Chapter, No. 3.

A highly successful meeting of this old chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Golden-square, on the 9th ult., when there were present, among others, Bros. A. Humphreys, M.W.S.; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M.W.S., as Prelate; H. J. Adams, 30°, General; H. J. Lardner, 30°, P.M.W.S., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M.W.S., Recorder; H. Hills, 30°, G.M.; Biggs, Herald; Capt. G. Carpenter, C. of Gds.; Dr. Hinton, M.A., Asst. Org.; and Dr. Victor Jagielski, P.M.W.S., W. Tyler. Ex. Bro. Walter Crombie was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The name of Ex. Bro. W. Crombie, of the Invicta Chapter, was proposed and seconded for joining at the next meeting. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. Biddlecombe, Prelate; Major A. E. Baldwin, General; Lieut.-Col. F. J. Stohwasser, 30°, P.M.W.S.; Major J. E. Anderson, 30°, P.M.W.S.; G. Graveley, 30°, P.M.W.S.; T. Carrick, F. F. Bonney, A. Calvert, Dr. Lott, 31°, Hon. Member; and others. The Recorder called the attention of the members to the fact that the second Friday in April would be "Good Friday," and that some other date would have to be chosen subject to the approval of the Supreme Council. The chapter was then closed.

The banquet was held at the Cafe Royal, Regent-street, and gave unqualified satisfaction.

The usual loyal toasts having been duly proposed, "The Health of the M.W.S." was given. In submitting this toast the proposer expressed his gratification that Ex. Bro. Humphrey had apparently recovered his wonted health. The M.W.S. was an excellent worker in other Masonic Degrees, and he (the speaker) doubted not that in the beautiful and impressive ceremony of perfection the M.W.S. would prove an adept.

The M.W.S., in reply, trusted that he should have some work to do in the chapter before he vacated the chair. He could not hope to perform the ceremony so well as some of their old Past Sovereigns had done, but he would do his best to merit their good opinion.

The toast of "The Past Sovereigns" was coupled with the names of Ex. Bros. Driver and Jagielski, who briefly replied.

"The Treasurer and Recorder," and "The Officers," terminated the proceedings.

During the evening Ex. Bro. D. Hinton gave some selections on the pianoforte, and Ex. Bros. Driver and H. Hills recited. The former's original poems on the "burning subject of the hour," were highly appreciated and applauded.