

# 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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### ATTRACTIVE LODGE MEETINGS.

Many and valuable are the suggestions which have been thrown out from time to time by the Grand Masters of American Grand Lodges in their annual addresses, in the columns of our American contemporaries, and elsewhere with a view to making Lodge meetings more attractive. It is held that where the lodge work is almost invariably restricted to the initiation, passing, and raising of candidates, with, once a year, the installation of a new W. Master, and the subsequent investiture of his officers, the constant repetition of the same ceremonies must in time become irksome, and if the members are not as regular in their attendance as in duty they are expected to be, that it is not necessary they should go very far afield for an excuse. Hence in the United States, where, as a rule, the members of a lodge meet on the stated evenings and separate when the work is done, it has of late been not unfrequently urged by Masons of experience that on these occasions the brethren should make themselves acquainted with what is here known as the "fourth degree;" or in cases where there are but few facilities for such an arrangement, that the monotony of the work in lodge should as often as possible be relieved by the delivery of an address or lecture, either in elucidation of our ceremonies or of the history of Freemasonry. In lodges under the English jurisdiction the "fourth degree" is already a recognised item in the evening's programme, but every now and then it happens that there is no ceremonial work to be done, and on such occasions a short address or lecture of the character we have indicated would not be unwelcome. At all events the experiment has been made and lectures of a most interesting and instructive kind have been delivered by such able Masons as Bros. W. J. HUGHAN, R. F. GOULD, G. W. SPETH, H. SADLER, and others in many of our lodges, which have always been appreciated. This example has been followed by brethren of lesser note, not always, perhaps, successfully, but with such an evident desire to enlighten their hearers, that no one has the heart to criticise their efforts in an unkindly spirit, much less in anything approaching to severity. Yet it seems desirable to remind brethren who may be desirous of adopting this mode of enlightening their fellow members, that the present

facilities for obtaining an insight into the history of our Society are great in comparison with what they formerly were. Thanks to the untiring and successful labours of the distinguished brethren we have mentioned, of the late Bros. the Rev. A. F. A. WOODFORD and JOHN LANE, and of others, it has become possible to trace the progress of English Masonry in all matters essential since the establishment of our Grand Lodge in 1717. We may not, as yet, be able to determine how many Degrees were worked in the early days of our Grand Lodge, or what were the causes that led to the schism in English Masonry which broke out about the middle of the 18th century. But it is not difficult to distinguish what is merely legendary in our history from what is fairly capable of demonstration. Hence we strongly advise brethren who may think of delivering an historical address at a lodge meeting to consult the works of the brethren we have named, with a view to their becoming better acquainted with Masonic history as it is now set forth in those works rather than as it was in the pages of those who wrote a generation or two ago, when the spirit of historical inquiry was not so rife amongst us and had not produced such splendid results as have now been ascertained. Had the author of the lecture which was delivered at the recent 500th meeting of the Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 877, Jersey, and which appeared in our columns last week, adopted this course, we feel sure his early effort as a lecturer on Masonic history would have proved more successful.

### MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

#### II.—THE GRAND LODGE (Continued).

[COMMUNICATED.]

Besides the Board of General Purposes, there existed until 1895, a Colonial Board, nominated and elected in the same manner. The two Boards exercised concurrent powers, each making its reports directly to Grand Lodge. In March, 1895, the President B.G.P. moved, in Grand Lodge, that his Board be requested to consider the question of unifying the two Boards and restoring the condition of things that existed up to 1856, when the Colonial Board was formed. This was agreed to, and in June certain proposals were brought up, but it was felt that Colonial opinion ought to be elicited on the proposed change, and the question was accordingly deferred till December. In December it was stated that nearly 550 communications had been sent out to the Colonies, but only five replies had been received. It was then decided that the Board of General Purposes should appoint from among its members, a committee of seven, to consider all Indian, Colonial, and Foreign matters; this committee to consist, as far as could be, of W.Ms. or P.Ms. of Colonial, Indian, or Foreign lodges, working under the English Constitution. Other changes were made in the Book of Constitutions in order to keep them in line with the new proposal. The question of Colonial representation on the committee was discussed at length, but nothing was done towards solving the difficulty that would arise if no Colonial, Indian, or Foreign worshipful brother were to be elected or appointed on the Board, as in such a case the committee would be composed entirely of brethren without the requisite experience.

In March, 1897, some very important additions were proposed to be made to the Book of Constitutions regarding the procedure to be adopted when brethren in foreign parts desired to form themselves into a Sovereign Grand Lodge. After reference to a small sub-committee, these were passed at the next communication.

Previous to the adoption of these rules there was no law on

the subject, and everything said and done by Grand Lodge on the subject was full of inconsistencies.

What used to happen was something like this. The question was first of all discussed by the brethren in the colony concerned. Sometimes it was discussed in open lodge, and resolutions arrived at; sometimes it was discussed at informal meetings, whose resolutions had, of course, none but moral weight. Discussions of this description in open lodge involved nothing short of treason to that Grand Lodge, to whose warrant the lodge owed its very existence.

In course of time the new Grand Lodge was formed, and began to issue warrants and certificates. Every brother concerned in these proceedings necessarily became subject to the penal provisions of Article 204, which deals with "clandestine" initiations and "forming new lodges without the Grand Master's authority;" and was, *ipso facto*, under suspension.

The next step in the proceedings was that an application came to this Grand Lodge (doubtless among others) demanding recognition. The consistent course for Grand Lodge to pursue was, of course, to read Article 204, and then to say it would hold no communication with these brethren until "they had made due submission and obtained grace."

As a matter of fact nothing could be imagined less submissive than the attitude of "the body styling itself, etc." What Grand Lodge generally did, however, was to ignore Article 204, and discuss the question on its merits (practically giving away the whole thing.) Then it would be ascertained that the body styling itself, etc., was not qualified to speak for the great majority of the brethren, and recognition would be denied. The natural inference was, that to be successful, the agitation must be more complete, and thus the "disloyal" section were encouraged to spread disaffection among the "loyal." Grand Lodge certainly did not say so in so many words, but the extent of the inference may be judged from the fact that one lodge actually inserted the question in its printed summons, and the Worshipful Master brought a complaint to Grand Lodge, when the Deputy District Grand Master ordered it to be expunged. It will thus be seen that the action of Grand Lodge was most illogical all through.

Bro. Philbrick's proposals remedy this. It is now enacted that the District Grand Master may issue a dispensation to allow the subject of autonomy to be lawfully discussed at a lodge meeting. Should he decline to do so an appeal lies to the Grand Master.

The rules which follow, pre-suppose that a new Grand Lodge has been formed in a regular and constitutional manner, that recognition has been applied for, that it appears that the prevailing Masonic opinion in the colony has been voiced, and that recognition has been granted. Then it is enacted that within six months of such recognition every lodge which still holds under an English warrant shall be specially convened to decide whether or not it will throw in its lot with the new Grand Lodge. The question can only be resolved in the affirmative by two-thirds of the members present.

All this necessitated a new enactment in place of Article 219, which would have been very troublesome, as it would have enabled an insignificant minority to retain the lodge warrant and go on working. The minimum minority was raised to five, and the clause about the majority of members retiring from the lodge was deleted.

The first case under the new proposals is the Grand Lodge of Western Australia, which has just been accorded recognition, and the rules are found to have worked well. It has been asked, however, and the question has not been answered—Suppose there are 50 lodges of, say, 40 members each; 35 members of each lodge are in favour of forming themselves into a sovereign Grand Lodge—in other words, 1750 Masons out of 2000. Recognition could not be denied to such an influential and imposing majority, but could the five brethren in each lodge retain the warrant and go on working? If so, the new Grand Lodge would at the outset have to contend against the formidable competition of 50 lodges belonging to what had become an alien jurisdiction.

When recognition is granted, certain geographical limits are always understood. It would not do, for instance, for the Grand Lodge of Victoria to warrant lodges outside of that colony. A sovereign Grand Lodge, which practically emanated from the Grand Lodge of England, has a relationship to it somewhat different from that enjoyed by a Grand Lodge which did not so emanate. They are, in other words, "daughter" Grand Lodges, not "sister," and, although recognised as sovereign, still a sort of *suzerainty* is tacitly claimed by the mother Grand Lodge.

It has usually occurred that when a new Grand Lodge has been formed, it has had the support of the lodges of all Constitutions working on the same ground. That fact has usually been adduced as an argument in favour of recognition being accorded.

In strict Masonic law, however, the support and coalition of foreign lodges has not the slightest bearing on the question which is decided solely with reference to the English lodges joining in the movement.

In the case just quoted, that of Western Australia, the writer has the authority of the *Freemason* of April 7th, for stating that Scotch and Irish lodges have held entirely aloof from the movement.

Under these circumstances, the new Grand Lodge may probably have to wait some time before it can call itself the *United* Grand Lodge of West Australia, and Masonry in that Colony will be on somewhat the same footing as Masonry before the Union.

We have now discussed at sufficient length the nature of the highest courts of Freemasonry and we only need to add that behind all the Grand Lodges which exercise jurisdiction, there are the landmarks which no Grand Lodge dare transgress on pain of excommunication by all the rest. Every Grand Lodge draws up its own Book of Constitutions, and these differ from one another, often in what appear to be most vital particulars. Thus, some Grand Lodges recognise the Mark and other extraneous Degrees. Some enjoin a line of conduct, which others would consider to be deserving of censure, or even of suspension. But in certain important particulars, such as the modes of recognition, right of appeal, necessity of the V.S.L., qualifications necessary in candidates, and several others, there is no possibility of variation.

Although the finances of Grand Lodge do not claim to be considered under the present heading, there are several statements, involving financial questions, in the Book of Constitutions which require explanation. It is stated in several places that lodges withholding payment of dues of various kinds "shall be rigorously proceeded against for withholding moneys the property of Grand Lodge." Many brethren have asked of what nature such vigorous proceedings would be, being apparently under the impression that they would take the form of a County Court summons. As a matter of fact, Grand Lodge has no charter of incorporation, and is not recognised as a corporate body, and, therefore, would not sue as such. The property of Grand Lodge is the property of every individual member, and, therefore, the rigorous proceedings described in Article 237 and elsewhere can only take the form of Masonic punishment.

In our subsequent articles we shall discuss Masonic law in detail, and with particular reference to those contingencies which are of frequent occurrence in lodges, and which, when they arise, occasionally find the Worshipful Master unprepared to deal with them.

#### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

There was an unusually large attendance of brethren at the annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, which was held on the 11th instant in the Harrison-road School, Carlton-terrace, Halifax. The meeting was under the banner of St. James's Lodge, No. 448 of which Bro. George Tinker is W.M. The Prov. G. Master, Bro. the Right Hon. William Lawies Jackson, M.P., presided, and he was supported by a large number of Past Prov. G. Officers, including Bros. Henry Smith, Past G.D., P.D.P.G.M., and J. C. Malcolm, Past G.D., P.D.P.G.M., and the following members of Prov. G. Lodge: Bros. Richard Wilson, Past G.D., D.P.G.M.; Francis Fleming, Prov. S.G.W.; Charles Crabtree, Prov. J.G.W.; the Rev. S. C. Walley, Prov. G. Chap.; Thomas Woods, Prov. G. Treas.; W. H. Hewson, Prov. G. Reg.; H. G. E. Green, Prov. G. Sec.; W. Crowther, Prov. S.G.D.; H. Holmes, Prov. S.G.D.; Dr. G. Hoyle, Prov. S.G.D.; J. P. Hewitt, Prov. J.G.D.; J. P. Browne, Prov. J.G.D.; C. W. O. Smith, Prov. J.G.D.; C. Scriven, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; W. Watson, Prov. G. Librarian; C. H. Crowther, Prov. D.G.D. of C.; J. J. Parker (Batley), Prov. A.G.D. of C.; E. Mackay, Prov. A.G.D. of C.; W. Gudger, Prov. G.S.B.; J. Firth, Prov. G. Std. Br.; J. Niven, Prov. G. Std. Br.; J. R. Barton, Prov. A.G. Sec.; J. T. Robinson, Prov. G. Purst.; G. M. Marchant, Prov. A.G. Purst.; C. F. Bennett, Prov. G. Stwd.; C. Lingard, Prov. G. Stwd.; W. E. Gray, Prov. G. Stwd.; W. C. Fox, Prov. G. Stwd.; C. Middleton, Prov. G. Stwd.; and T. Leighton, Prov. G. Tyler.

The roll call disclosed that of the 81 lodges of the province only six were unrepresented: Nos. 401, 1462, 1542, 1779, 2259, and 2491.

In his address, the Prov. G.M. expressed his gratification at seeing so large a gathering, and alluded to the fact that it was the 13th meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge in Halifax, and the third meeting under the banner of St. James's Lodge, which celebrated its jubilee in 1888, and was one of the most energetic and prosperous lodges of the province. On Saturday last a successful meeting was held in Halifax of the Charity Committee, of which Bro. W. C. Lupton, who had been chairman for several years past had found it necessary, owing to the pressure of his business engagements, to resign his position. Bro. Lupton, than whom no more competent chairman could be found, might, said the P.G.M., regard 1900 as a red-letter year of his life. The inhabitants of Bradford had conferred the highest municipal honour upon him by electing him to the Mayoralty, and the M.W. Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, had

selected him for office in Grand Lodge, a distinction in which the province enjoyed a reflected honour. Bro. Wm. Blackburn, who for some years had filled the vice-chair, had been appointed as Bro. Lupton's successor on the Charity Committee, and with Bro. Child as vice-chairman, the brethren might rest assured that the highest traditions in the province in the great cause of Charity would be maintained. Coming to the annual returns, the P.G.M. expressed satisfaction that these had been made with less delay than ever previously in the history of the province, and that they showed the highest number of initiations and joining members for the past 31 years, indicating the harmony that prevailed, and that the Order was growing in importance and numbers. Harmony and good order prevailed throughout the province, which at no previous time had been so prosperous. Personally he owed a deep debt of gratitude to his Deputy, Bro. Richard Wilson, who had visited a large number of the lodges. Referring to the appointment of Provincial Grand Officers, the P.G.M. emphasised the difficulty under which he laboured in making a selection when he had only 26 collars for disposal among the 81 lodges, and said the effort was made to cover in a term of years the whole of the widespread districts of the province. Under the auspices of an energetic Committee, an effort was being made to build a new Masonic Hall in Leeds for the use of the whole of the lodges of the city, and possibly to provide some accommodation for Provincial Grand Lodge. Out of the total of 10,000 shares, representing the capital of £10,000, over 7000 shares had already been subscribed for. It was intended to mark the occasion of the laying of the foundation-stone by a Masonic function, and he was sure the brethren of the province generally would support their Leeds brethren in their effort to provide a home worthy of the Fraternity. In conclusion, the P.G.M. asked the brethren to sanction a grant towards the South African Masonic Relief Fund, instituted by the Prince of Wales, for the relief of brethren impoverished by the existing war. This fund is entirely independent of the ordinary war funds, towards which Freemasons have been liberal contributors—Grand Lodge having voted 1000 guineas, while—to take two instances only—the brethren in Leeds have raised about £400, and in Bradford over £600. The fund is designed to render assistance and to in some measure express sympathy with the hard lot of Freemasons in the Orange Free State and the South African Republic who have suffered severely in consequence of their loyalty to this country.

The P.G.M. moved that a sum of 20 guineas be contributed from the funds of Provincial Grand Lodge towards this object; to which Grand Lodge has already assigned 1000 guineas.

The motion was seconded by Bro. HENRY SMITH, P.D.G.M., and supported by Bro. W. C. LUPTON, who suggested that a larger grant might have been made, and carried unanimously.

Bro. Wm. BLACKBURN, P.G.D., in presenting the annual report of the Charity Committee, expressed regret that the subscriptions to the three great Masonic Charities had fallen below the average of the last 20 years, and in view of the fact that West Yorkshire, against a subscription of £1520, had received £2800 in benefits, urged the brethren to adjust the balance. He drew special attention to the West Yorkshire Benevolent and Educational Fund, towards which £130 was subscribed during the year, and invited every brother in the province to establish the fund on a solid basis by qualifying for a Life Governorship by a contribution of one guinea annually for the next five years.

The balance-sheet of the accounts of Provincial Grand Lodge was adopted, on the motion of Bro. T. WOODS, P.G. Treas., who proposed as his successor in office Bro. W. H. Wilson, P.M. 1102.

Bro. J. BARKER, P.P.G.S. of W., seconded the proposition, which was carried.

The P.G.M. proceeded to invest the following Prov. G. Officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. F. Cleaves, 904	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" H. G. Blackburn, 1311	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" the Rev. Canon Glendinning Nash, 974	...	...	} Prov. G. Chaps.
" the Rev. G. Ford, M.A., 2558	...	...	
" W. H. Wilson, 1102	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Major C. F. Bennett, 2608	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Major H. G. E. Green, 1019	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Lieut.-Col. E. S. Tozer, 139	...	...	} Prov. S.G.Ds.
" R. Hcdgsan, 448	...	...	
" P. McGregor, J.P., 290	...	...	
" W. E. Gray, 296	...	...	} Prov. J.G.Ds.
" T. Mallinson, 1645	...	...	
" J. W. Foster, 289	...	...	
" J. L. Fox, 208	...	...	
" W. Watson, 61, P.P.G.W.	...	...	Prov. G.S. of Wks.
" J. Millington, 1221	...	...	Prov. G. Librarian.
" S. Mortimer, 603	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" W. C. Fox, 2263	...	...	} Prov. Dep. G.D.C.
" C. Middleton, 2069	...	...	
" J. Sykes, 1514	...	...	} Prov. A G.Ds. of C.
" W. J. Morris, 1736	...	...	
" C. Lingard, 1513	...	...	
" H. G. E. Ashlin, 2259	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" J. Dunnill, 1019	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" H. Banks, 1042	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. Townsend, 750	...	...	Prov. Asst. G. Sec.
" W. Ackeroyd, 971	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" Edw. Newsum, 242	...	...	} Prov. A.G. Purst.
" W. E. Turner, 1108	...	...	
" Geo. Williams, 139	...	...	
" E. R. Dickinson, 308	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.

Lodge Friendly, 1513, Barnsley, tendered an invitation to Prov. Grand Lodge to meet under its banner on the occasion of the half-yearly meeting in October next.

Before the proceedings were closed the Provincial Grand Master was requested to tender to the M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales, in the name of the brethren, heartfelt congratulations on his recent providential escape.

A number of visiting brethren subsequently dined with the brethren of the St. James's Lodge in the Masonic Hall.

THE LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND and Countess Cadogan have been entertaining a number of guests at Dublin Castle this week, among them being the Earl and Countess of Mayo, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Arran, the Earl and Countess of Rosse and Lady Muriel Parsons, Earl and Countess Annesley, the Countess of Huntingdon, Bro. Viscount and Viscountess Powerscourt, Lord and Lady Maurice Fitzgerald, Lord and Lady Farnham, Baron de Roebeck, and Mr. Napier.

## Ireland.

### LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF A NEW MASONIC HALL AT LIMAVADY.

Limavady is one of those ancient Irish towns where advance is gradual and decorous, but the Masonic body, numerically strong in proportion to the population, have taken the progressive step of erecting a Masonic Hall, which should furnish accommodation for the increasing local membership of the Craft during many years to come. The idea originated with Bro. Hugh Henry, and was enthusiastically taken up by the brethren of the St. Alban's Lodge, No. 719. Previously the 56 members had met in a somewhat confined area, their lodge room being situated in the upper storey of business premises in Main-street. Rather more than 12 months ago it was decided to furnish Limavady Freemasons with a more commodious and a worthier home, and there was eventually obtained from Mr. S. M. Macroy, J.P., at a reduced figure, a site at the end of Main-street, which is central, picturesquely surrounded, and suggests, in point of prominence, the position to be occupied by the new Belfast City Hall. Bro. Henry consented to discharge the duties of honorary secretary, with Bro. James Donaghy as honorary Asst. secretary, and a building committee consisting of Bros. Jas. Donaghy, P.M., S. Hanna, John Connell, Rev. G. W. Hamill, W. Gault, Marcus E. Walker, P.M.; J. O. Irwin, H. J. Phillips, J. A. Long, P.M.; H. Hazlett, and H. Henry. These brethren, of course, had the active co-operation of the officers of the lodge, principal among whom are Bros. W. J. Swann, W.M.; H. Hazlett, S.W.; A. Campbell, J.W.; H. Henry, J.D.; John Connell, J.G.; Robert Simpson, P.M., Secretary; and Marshall Gault, Treasurer. It is intended to spend £1000 upon the new structure, which will be of red brick, with red sandstone facings, and of Gothic style, with Ionic front, roofed with red tiles. The architect is Bro. W. J. Given, of Coleraine, and the builder Mr. James Wray, of Limavady.

The foundation-stone of the new hall was laid on the 10th instant by Bro. Sir J. Creed Meredith, LL.D., the Deputy Grand Master of Ireland, and the ceremony attracted nearly every dweller on the banks of the Roe who had a possibility of attendance.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was opened by the Deputy Grand Master shortly after noon, and on this occasion Bro. Dr. Thomas M'Laughlin was installed Deputy Prov. Grand Master, in succession to Bro. Sir Wm. Miller.

A procession was then formed by the Prov. G.D. of C., Bro. J. Steele Hanna, and proceeded to the site through the principal streets of the town in the following order: Tyler, with drawn sword; the Stewards, with wands; Master Masons, according to seniority of lodges; Past Masters, according to seniority of lodges; Past and Present Provincial Grand Officers of other provinces; Past Provincial Grand Officers of Derry and Donegal; Provincial G.I.G., with drawn sword; two Provincial Grand Stewards, with wands; the architect, with square, level, plumb rule, and plan of hall; the Provincial Grand Organist; the Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works; the Orders of Architecture, borne by three Past Provincial Grand Officers; the trowel, borne by a Past Provincial Grand Officer; the mallet, borne by a Past Provincial Grand Officer; the Book of Constitutions, borne by the Worshipful Master of the senior lodge present; the Three Lesser Lights, borne by three Past Provincial Grand Officers; the Three Great Lights, on a velvet cushion, borne by a Past Provincial Grand Officer; the Provincial Grand Chaplains; the Provincial Grand Secretary, with great seal; the Provincial Grand Treasurer, bearing phial containing coins to be deposited in the stone; the Provincial J.G.W., carrying silver vessel with corn (wheat); the Provincial S.G.W., carrying silver vessel with wine; the Provincial D.G.M., carrying golden vessel with oil; the R.W. Provincial G.M.; the Grand Sword Bearer, with sword; and the two Grand Deacons, with wands, supporting the R.W. D.G.M. of Ireland.

The procession marched three times round the site of the proposed building, and then formed a hollow square, inside which stood the Grand Officers, Provincial Grand Officers, and office bearers. The hymn, "Genius of Masonry, descend," having been sung, and prayer offered by the Provincial Grand Chaplain, the ceremony was proceeded with. The ritual commanded close attention by reason of its impressiveness, literary grace, and emblematical significance. According to custom, square, level, and plumb-rule were first applied to the stone, over which were then distributed wheat as the emblem of plenty, wine as the emblem of joy and gladness, and oil as the emblem of peace. These practices were followed by the Chaplain's eloquent invocation.

Underneath the foundation stone a cavity was formed, and in it were placed by the Secretary several current coins of the realm, also a parchment roll bearing the names of the members of the lodge for whom the building is being erected, together with those of the architects and builder, and that of the brother who laid the foundation stone, and the date of deposit, the roll being placed inside a bottle or jar, which was hermetically sealed. The stone, hitherto suspended beneath a tripod by a rope, was lowered into its place with three distinct pauses or checks, and the Deputy Grand Master having received the trowel, proceeded to spread the corn, saturated with the wine and oil, over the stone. He then struck the stone three times with the maul, and the public honours of Freemasonry were given.

After the Deputy Grand Master's address, and the Masonic anthem, "Hail, Masonry Divine,"

Bro. Sir J. C. MEREDITH, D.G.M., said he wished to make a few remarks before the brethren dispersed. They were assembled for the purpose of commencing a work which he trusted would be of lasting blessing, not merely to the members of their own Fraternity who would assemble within its walls, but to the people of the town and district. He believed the precepts taught to them as Masons must be of lasting benefit to the communities within which Masonic lodges assembled. They as Masons had been taught their duty to the great God who rules over the universe, and that they should never mention His name but with all the awe and

reverence which were due from the creature to the Creator. They had been taught also to reverence and revere their Sovereign who reigned over them, and he was quite sure that all Masons, wherever dispersed throughout the globe, revered, respected, and venerated the illustrious Sovereign of the United Kingdom. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) They as Masons had been taught further their duty to their fellow-men and to themselves. To their fellow-men they had been taught to be tolerant of the opinions of those who differed from them, and that they were not to allow anything political to interfere with the love, peace, and harmony which are the true jewels of Masonry. As individuals they were entitled to entertain their political opinions as strongly as ever they pleased, but the Masonic body knew no politics, and welcomed into its ranks those who differed widely in such matters. They only stipulated that none should come amongst them save those who believed in the existence of the great God, and who respected and venerated their Sovereign. To every one of the brethren was entrusted the honour of the Masonic Order, and if any of them took part in anything that disturbed peace, harmony, and that friendship which ought to exist between man and man, he thereby committed an offence against Masonry itself. He hoped and trusted there would not be anything in the proceedings of any of the brethren in that part of the country that would interfere in the smallest degree with the duty of all of them as members of the Masonic Order. They all knew that that day week her Majesty arrived in Ireland, and he did not think they would like that that vast assemblage should separate without their asking God Almighty to bless the Sovereign whom He had allowed to reign over them for so many years. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.)

The National Anthem was then enthusiastically sung by the brethren and onlookers, while a contingent of well-wishers belonging to the Orange Institution, whose hall is hard by, honoured the occasion with an artillery salute.

The closing benediction having been pronounced, the procession reformed and returned to the lodge-room, where the Provincial Grand Lodge was called on and closed.

Luncheon was afterwards served in the Town Hall, Bro. Wm. E. Scott, D.L., Prov. G. Master of Derry and Donegal, presiding. Among those present, in addition to the chairman and Deputy Grand Master, were: Bros. Dr. Thomas M'Laughlin, D.P.G.M.; Wm. Gault, P.J.G.W.; Joseph Deane, P.G.T.; J. Roden, P.G.S.; Rev. Michael Shea, P.J.G.C.; J. M. Parkinson, P.S.G.D.; David Wray, P.S.G.W.; J. Steele Hanna, P.G.D.C.; E. J. Simmons, P.J.G.S.; John A. Long, P.G.S.B.; and Jas. Barr, P.G.I. Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were received from Bros. F. H. Miller, P.S.G.W.; Rev. Robert Smyth, P.S.G.C.; C. S. Caldwell, P.J.G.D.; W. J. Threlfall, P.S.G.S.; George Taylor, P.G. Org.; John S. Hamilton, P.G.I.G.; and William Colhoun, P.P.J.G.D.

After luncheon, the CHAIRMAN, in proposing "The Queen," said that at the present moment they could feel nothing but admiration for her conduct in enduring the fatigue of coming over to Ireland, in spite of her years, in order to show her great sympathy with the widows and orphans of those who have fought so nobly for Great Britain. (Cheers.)

The toast having been loyally honoured and the National Anthem sung, the CHAIRMAN submitted the toast of "The Grand Lodge of Ireland and the Grand Masters in Fraternal Communication with it." He coupled with the toast the name of the Deputy Grand Master, to whose kindly services and eloquent words he paid a high tribute.

Bro. Sir J. C. MEREDITH, in reply to the toast, which had been cordially received, said it had been the greatest pleasure to him to have the privilege of taking part in what he hoped and believed would prove a most important epoch in the history of Masonry in that town. He had been deeply touched by the too kind reception extended to him. He was himself an Irishman from the South, but he knew that in the North the hearts of Irishmen beat as warmly and truly, and the hearts of Irish Masons beat as loyally and fraternally as those of any people on the face of the globe. (Applause.) He regretted very much that the function which had fallen to his lot had not been performed by the Grand Master, his Grace the Duke of Abercorn—(applause)—who had written to him expressing his disappointment at inability to attend owing to the shortness of his visit to Ireland. His Grace came of a Masonic family, the first Duke of Abercorn, when Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, having been installed Grand Master. (Applause.) In the present day it was their proud privilege to have included in that toast the name of one who in the future—they all prayed it might not be the too near future—would be called upon to rule the destinies of this mighty empire. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He thought he could not say more than that to assure those who were not members of the Order of the loyalty and true manhood of Masons. (Hear, hear.) That toast referred not merely to the United Kingdom or the vaster dominions constituting the British Empire, but included the representatives of all the great nations, at any rate, of the North of Europe, and he was not quite sure that even far beyond the bounds of Europe itself there were not to be found Grand Lodges working in unison with their own Grand Lodge. (Applause.) Before resuming his seat, the speaker mentioned that he had received from Bro. R. B. Andrews, of Belfast, a letter expressing his deep regret at inability to attend, and conveying his fraternal greetings and wishes for a successful ceremony. (Applause.)

Bro. Sir THOMAS LECKY then proposed, in very cordial terms, "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master of Derry and Donegal," which was cordially received by the brethren.

The CHAIRMAN suitably replied, mentioning the steady progress of Masonry in the province, and then proposed "The Provincial Grand Lodges of Ireland, and all the subordinate lodges."

Bros. PARKINSON, WRAY, HANNA, and BARR responded. Bro. SAMUEL BELL, J.P., then toasted "The St. Alban's Lodge, No. 719, Limavady."

This was acknowledged by Bros. Rev. GEORGE W. HAMILL, G. G. MORIARTY, Dr. WATSON, and H. HENRY, the last-named gentleman mentioning that his Grace the Duke of Abercorn intended, if possible, to open the new hall next autumn. (Applause.)

The proceedings concluded with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SHROPSHIRE.

On Thursday, the 5th instant, an especial communication of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Music Hall Buildings, Shrewsbury, by Bro. Sir Osley Wakeman, Bart., Prov. Grand Master, and at which there was a good attendance of brethren representing the various lodges in the province.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, before commencing the routine of business, referred, in feeling terms, to the attempt on the life of the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and expressed, on behalf of the Provincial Grand Lodge, gratitude to the Great Architect of the Universe on so fortunate an escape.

It was agreed that a contribution of 25 guineas be made from the funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge towards the South African War Masonic Fund.

## Mark Masonry.

### Florence Nightingale Lodge, No. 44.

The installation meeting of the above excellent lodge took place on Monday, the 9th inst., at its habitat, the Royal Mortar Hotel, Beresford-square, Woolwich, and was a most successful and pleasant affair. Bro. John Oliver Cook W.M., opened the lodge, and, after the usual business upon such occasions, proceeded to install his successor—Bro. George R. Nichols, S.W., W.M. elect. It was a fine piece of work, absolutely faultless, the subsequent addresses being eloquently and impressively delivered. The following were invested as officers: Bros. J. O. Cook, I.P.M.; S. Horton, S.W.; Dr. J. Clarke, M.D., J.W.; B. Hammond, M.O.; W. Busbridge, S.O.; Capt. George Fishenden, J.O.; W. Campbell-Taylor, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; F. G. Nichols, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Sec.; A. W. Orwin, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., R. of M.; C. Kitley, J.D.; the Right Hon. Lord Pirbright (by proxy), D.C.; G. W. Mitchell, P.M., P.P.G.D., Steward; and J. Lackland, Tyler. Bro. J. O. Cook was presented with a handsome and suitably-inscribed Past Master's jewel, and a vote of thanks for his services that day as Installing Officer, for which he thanked the brethren, and, after other lodge business had been transacted, the lodge was closed.

The banquet was one of Bro. George Hall's best efforts—it was simply delightful and thoroughly enjoyed.

Among the other brethren present were Bros. W. Sanders, R. J. Cook (Unattached); I. Turton, P.M. 309, P.P.G.I. of W.; C. Jolly, P.M. 226, P.P.J.G.D.; C. H. Canning, W.M. 226; J. D. Brooks, W.M. 309; J. H. Roberts, P.M. 226, P.P.G. Org.; W. Crowdey, S.W.; J. Sanderson, W. Lawson, and G. Hall, of 226; W. Moulds (Unattached), and others.

The usual loyal toasts were honoured, and drunk with that hearty enthusiasm that they deserve.

Bro. Cook, I.P.M., then, in his own witty and expressive manner, proposed the toast of "The W.M." There is not an ounce of rotundity about Bro. Cook—we do not mean in his personality, which there is—but in his quaint and at the same time genial manner of going straight for his object. He had no hesitation in stating that their W.M., Bro. George Nichols, was not only an excellent and distinguished Mason, who had achieved distinction in the Province of Middlesex, and had, at the hands of its Prov. G. Master, received Provincial honours, and had served with distinction as the W.M. of one of their own lodges in the Craft Degree (the Nelson), but in his private capacity was as popular as he was good looking. (Cheers and laughter.) He (Bro. Cook) and Bro. Jolly were the acknowledged "Poets Laureate" of the district, and he had been trying to bring in a rhyme to the W.M.'s name, but the nearest he could get to it was "pickles"—that would not do. However, he felt sure their W.M. would prove worthy of their appreciation, and discharge the duties of his important office to their satisfaction and to the credit and honour of the Florence Nightingale Lodge.

The toast was drunk with honours, and in rising to respond, the W.M. was greeted with hearty cheering. He said: Past Masters, Officers, Bro. Visitors, and Brethren, I thank you most heartily for your kind reception of the toast of my health, and I thank Bro. Cook for his rather too flattering remarks about myself. I am sure that I shall not be able to do the work so well as he has done it, but I will endeavour to carry out the duties of the office to which you have elected me, so that at the end of my year of office you may say of me, as you have of my immediate predecessor, you have "marked well." (Applause.)

Bro. Cook, in response to a hearty and, indeed, enthusiastic reception of his health and toast as "The Installing Officer," spoke for him in rather a serious strain. He believed in outgoing Masters installing their successors; he looked upon it as their duty to do so. He did not claim any "kudos" for having simply done his duty. He knew that it had been the custom for many years past for their old and esteemed Past Master Fred Nichols to perform the ceremony of installation, but, as he had expressed his opinion in open lodge as to the responsibilities of the W.M., so he now repeated it, that, as retiring from the chair, it was his duty to install his successor. If he had performed that service to their satisfaction, he was amply repaid for any effort he had made, and he thanked them most heartily for their kind reception of the toast.

The solemnity with which dear Bro. Cook "elocuted" made not the slightest impression on the brethren, as he did not finish with the accustomed anecdote that he generally winds up his speeches with. *O tempora! O mores!*

The W.M. then proposed the toast of "The Past Masters," and it was delightful to hear Bro. Fred Nichols say that so well was their W.M. known and respected in the district, that the brethren of the Florence Nightingale Lodge ought to congratulate themselves upon having such an esteemed and popular Mason for their Master. Their W.M. might depend upon the continued support and assistance of the Past Masters, as had been rendered to his predecessor.

Bro. F. Nichols, who is not only a splendid Mason, a splendid musician, and a fairly good speaker, quite blushed at the applause that followed his words.

Then Bro. Will Campbell-Taylor had his say, and spoke highly of the assistance that had been rendered him by the Past Masters when he was W.M. He congratulated the lodge on having Bro. G. Nichols as its W.M., spoke, as Treasurer, of the excellent position the lodge had held, not only numerically, but financially, among the lodges of the Province of Kent; and felt sure that in the year coming, under the rule of Bro. George Nichols, the prestige and influence of the lodge would be materially increased.

Bro. George Mitchell said but very little, but said it well. He is an earnest and good brother, a Vice-President of all the Charities, and his few remarks were to the purpose.

Bro. Canning, W.M. 226, had the honour of his name being first coupled with the toast of "The Visitors." He is a good honest speaker, and has a good delivery. He expressed the pleasure it had afforded him to be present that night amongst his brethren of the Florence Nightingale Lodge. It was very gratifying to him as Master of the Excelsior Lodge to "mark well" that there were no less than nine members of his lodge present that night, while he also remembered with pleasure that at the recent meeting of his lodge some seven members of the Florence Nightingale Lodge were there. He made admirable reference to the fact that the Excelsior Lodge of Instruction had for its Preceptors two distinguished brethren of the Florence Nightingale and Sele Lodges in the persons of Bros. J. O. Cook and Brooks, and concluded an admirable speech by saying he was proud and delighted at the harmony and good feeling that existed between the Mark lodges above named.

Then Bro. Brooks explained the difficulty he felt in suitably responding, as it was his first visit to the lodge. He asked the W.M. to visit the Saye and Sele Lodge, where he promised him some good working and a hearty welcome.

Bro. R. J. Cook was pleased to notice that there was not a note of discord amongst them, and congratulated them upon the harmony and unanimity that united that and the Excelsior and Saye and Sele Lodges, in one bond of brotherhood and good fellowship with the Florence Nightingale Lodge.

The other toasts were "The Officers," "The Masonic and Local Press," the latter coupled with the name of Bro. Jolly, and the Tyler's toast.

Bro. Fredk. Nichols presided at the piano, and sang one or two pretty ballads. The wonderful voice of Bro. Capt. George Fishenden, of the "Marguerite," in a sea song was greatly admired. Bros. Saunders and J. O. Cook also warbled, and Bro. Jolly recited, and so, with brotherly love and harmony, the happy hours sped on their way. *Ah di mi!!!*

PRINCESS VICTORIA OF WALES, who was accompanied by Sir Richard and Lady Musgrave, left Euston on Saturday morning last for Edenhall, Langwathby, Cumberland, where her Royal Highness will stay for a week or 10 days.

## Science, Art, and the Drama.

### OYSTER CULTURE IN FRANCE.

Artificial culture has for some time been largely depended upon in Europe and America, for a supply of oysters. The chief breeding ground in France is the Bassin d'Arcachon, a triangular tidal bay, about nine miles on each side, entirely land-locked and opening out of the Bay of Biscay, into the Department of the Gironde, by a narrow channel about three miles in length. The coast is sandy and deserted. A solid forest of pines, planted during the present century, has checked the inland march of the sand dunes, and protects the basin from the south-west winds, which blow fifty out of the fifty-two weeks of the year. According to the United States Consul at Bordeaux, the shallow bay is worked with navigable channels, between which at low tide rise the half clay, half sand flats, utilised for breeding the mollusc. During the low spring tides, the flats are covered with quantities of a cheap variety of ordinary roofing tile, which has been previously coated with a sort of coarse whitewash. The spawn brought in by high-water, catches on these tiles, and the lime of the whitewash helps the little mollusc to form his first shell. Towards winter these tiles are taken up and carefully scraped. The oysters, as large now as one's thumb nail, are spread in flat covered trays or baskets of closely woven osier, to protect them from the starfish, crabs, and other enemies, and moved nearer the salt marshes, on the east side of the basin to grow. When they have become a little accustomed to an independent existence, they are placed in trenches a little below water level, which are provided with sluice gates, by which they can be flooded at will. They are thus prevented from being chilled in winter, or dried up in summer, and are easily protected from enemies, the gates being covered with wire netting of fine mesh, but the primary object of the gates is to accustom them to being deprived of water, that is, teach them to keep their valves tightly closed when out of it. In about 18 months, their education in that respect is complete, and they are raked up, placed in barrels, and sent on a journey of several days to Marennes, and other places, to fatten and assume the green tint and delicate flavour demanded by European epicures. About 250,000,000 are shipped annually. The work on the beds is done by barefooted men and women, both clad in bright crimson knee breeches and vests, which render the sexes quite undistinguishable. The regular trenches and dykes, kept in place with spikes interlaced with wattles, look like a Dutch garden.

### THE WORLD'S GOLD PRODUCTION.

Notwithstanding the stoppage of gold supplies from South Africa, in the closing months of last year, the *Economist* reports that there was a considerable increase in the output of the precious metal. No complete details are available, but several of the large producers obtained augmented quantities of gold during the 12 months. In the United States, for example, according to the estimate of the *Engineering and Mining Journal* of New York, the production of gold in 1899 amounted to nearly £14,500,000, showing an increase of close upon £1,500,000. From Canada, the increase is estimated at £870,000; from Australasia, the expansion in the output amounted to about £3,250,000; and from India to about £100,000. On the other hand, the available supplies from South Africa were reduced to the extent of about £1,500,000, so that, on balance, there would appear to have been from these five among the leading producers, an increase of something like £4,220,000. There were smaller increases from some other directions, and allowing, roughly, £1,000,000 for these, we arrive at a total expansion of about £5,200,000 for the year. According to the final estimate of the director of the United States Mint, the world's production of gold in 1898 amounted to £57,500,000, and if the increase just mentioned is added, we have an aggregate of £62,700,000 for last year, which compares with previous estimates of the same authority, as follows:

1899	...	£62,700,000	1894	...	£36,200,000
1898	...	57,500,000	1893	...	31,500,000
1897	...	47,000,000	1892	...	29,300,000
1896	...	40,600,000	1891	...	26,100,000
1895	...	39,900,000	1890	...	23,800,000

In six years, therefore, the production of gold has rather more than doubled, while as compared with the first year of the decade, the increase has exceeded 160 per cent. The present outlook is, of course, a good deal clouded by the uncertainty of the war in South Africa, but apart from that, there is every reason to assume that production will continue to expand at a rapid rate.

### OUR EARLY ENGLISH ARCHITECTURE.

It is unlucky for the world that our earliest ancestors were not aware of the curiosity which would inspire their descendants, of knowing minutely everything relating to them. When they placed three or four branches of trees across the trunks of others and covered them with boughs or straw to keep out the weather, the good people were not informed that they were discovering architecture, and that it would be learnedly agitated some thousand of years afterwards who was the inventor of this useful science. In complaisance to our inquiries they would undoubtedly have transmitted an account of the first hovel that was ever built, and from that patriarch hut we should possess a faithful genealogy of all its descendants; yet such a curiosity would annihilate fables, researches, conjectures, and blunders, so common to humanity in general. Necessity and a little common sense produced all the ordinary arts, which the plain folks who practised them were

not idle enough to record. Their inventions were obvious, their productions useful, but clumsy. Yet the little merit there was in fabricating them being soon consigned to oblivion, we are bountiful enough to suppose that there was design and system in all they did, and then take infinite pains to digest and methodise these imaginary rudiments. No sooner is any era of an invention suggested, but different nations begin to assert an exclusive title to it, and the only point in which any countries agree is, perhaps, in ascribing the discovery to some other nation, remote enough in time for neither of them to know anything of it. Whoever has thrown away his time on the first chapters of general histories, or of histories of art, must be sensible that this reflection is but too well grounded. Several curious persons have taken great pains to enlighten the obscure ages of our English architecture; they find no names of architects; nay, little more than what they might have known without enquiring—that our ancestors had buildings. Indeed, Tom Hearn, Brown, Wallis, and such illustrators, did sometimes go upon more positive ground; they did now and then stumble upon an arch, a tower, nay, a whole church, so dark, so ugly, so uncouth, that they were sure it could not have been built since any idea of grace had been transported into the island. It was difficult to ascertain the period when one ungracious form jostled out another, and this perplexity at last led them into such refinement, that the term *Gothic Architecture*, inflicted as a reproach on our ancient buildings in general, is now considered but as a species of modern elegance.

(To be continued.)

### CRITERION THEATRE.

At the above theatre has been revived the farcical romance entitled "His Excellency the Governor." Its author is Mr. R. Marshall, who is well known in the theatrical world as having contributed much to the amusement of playgoers by the interesting pieces he has written. "His Excellency the Governor" first appeared some time ago at the "Royal Court Theatre," where it achieved such a success as to justify its present revival at the Criterion. Two or three of the characters are represented by their original interpreters. "His Excellency" is taken by Mr. Arthur Bourchier, who invests the part with an interest which it would certainly fail to receive if it were in less competent hands. He is well supported by Mr. Marsh Allen as Captain Carew, and Mr. Dion Boucicault as Mr. John Baverstock, Private Secretary to the Governor. Mr. Eric Lewis represents the Right Hon. Henry Carlton, M.P., the Colonial Secretary, on a visit to the Amandaland Island to recruit his health. The adventuress, Stella de Gex, who is so essential to the development of the story, has been entrusted to Miss Ellis Jeffreys, who by her great artistic talent succeeds in rendering full justice to the character. The young American actress, Miss Gertrude Elliott, shows by the charming unaffected way in which she plays the heroine how interesting she can be made. The comedietta, "A Pair of Knickerbockers," precedes the principal piece, and Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald and Miss Lilian Manely hold up to well deserved ridicule the principles and teachings of the "New Woman" craze. A very pleasant evening may be spent with the fare now submitted by the Criterion Theatre.

### GENERAL NOTES.

The waxwing, so named because of the curious flattened red tips to some of the shafts of its wing, is not an indigenous British bird, but one that only pays us an occasional winter visit. Consequently it is not very well known in this country. It is a very handsome bird, with a plumage of cinnamon brown above, passing into grey towards the tail. Some of the wing feathers are black-tipped, with white and with yellow fringes. The tail is grey, and the older birds sometimes possess wax-tips to one or two of the feathers, like those of the wing. The front part of the face and throat are black, and the head, with full crest upon it, chestnut brown. In length it measures about 7½ inches from beak to tip of tail. The home of the waxwing is in the Arctic regions, but it comes south in the autumn and winter months, and is met with, sometimes in considerable numbers, in many parts of Europe and Asia. Although a well-known bird to ornithologists since very early times, all attempts to find its nest were fruitless until 1836, when the bird was found to be breeding in Lapland by Mr. G. D. Rowley, who secured some of its eggs for his famous collection. The chief food of the waxwing consists of insects in the summer months, but in the winter it gorges itself with berries and becomes so fat that it forms quite a marketable commodity in several of the European towns. It is a very silent bird, and does not make a good cage pet, on account of its habit of stuffing itself with food and becoming lazy and dirty.

\* \* \* \* \*

It is curious that not one of the many hundreds of war songs, issued during the present war, has seized the public ear. "The Absent-Minded Beggar" is, of course, a charity ditty—not a patriotic ballad. When our gallant sailors from Ladysmith march through London, there will be only the old tunes that were popular before they went to fight so gallantly, and the sturdy British tars will probably be welcomed with the refrain of "Soldiers of the Queen," "The British Grenadiers," and similar martial airs.

\* \* \* \* \*

Some of the engagements for the Birmingham Festival are still pending, but the principal vocalists have now been secured. Mr. Lloyd will, at Birmingham, take his farewell of the English musical festivals, with which he has been so closely associated for so many years. The other artists for the festival include Madame Albani, Miss Clara Butt, Miss Ada Crossley, Mr. Ben Davies, and Mr. Andrew Black.



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the Mediaeval Operative Lodges as they existed through-out  
Britain.

By JOHN STRACHAN, O.C.,  
GRAND REGISTRAR OF ENGLAND.  
(P. Prov. G. Warden and P. Prov. G. Secretary of  
Northumberland.)

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and by interesting old Records and Correspondence collected by  
the Author while in the North, and now published for the first  
time, including the Masonic portion of the famous "Delaval  
Papers," Minutes of extinct Lodges, &c. There are also in the  
Appendix, extracts from the Masonic Orations of V.V. Bro.  
CANON TRISTRAM, F.R.S., Past Grand Chaplain, the Historian  
of the Holy Land, revised by their Author for this work.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1900.

**Masonic Notes.**

On Wednesday next, being the Wednesday following St. George's Day (23rd April), Grand Lodge will, as usual, hold high Festival; his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will be proclaimed for the 26th time M.W. Grand Master; and the Grand Officers for the ensuing year will be appointed and invested. In addition, brevet rank as Past Grand Officers will be conferred upon a number of distinguished brethren, in commemoration of the completion of a quarter of

a century of the Prince's Grand Mastership. Only two of his Royal Highness's predecessors—H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, G.M. 1813-43; and the Earl of Zetland, G.M. 1844-70—have presided over Grand Lodge for a longer period, and having regard to the amazing progress, both in numbers and popularity, which the Craft has made during the years the heir to the British throne has been at its head, there is, we imagine, no more fitting way of marking so auspicious an event than by increasing the number of Past Grand Officers.

We understand that, at the outset of the proceedings there will be proposed from the chair a vote of congratulation to his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master on his recent providential escape from assassination. The resolution thus passed will express the heartfelt thanks of the whole English Craft, and hence there will be no need for Provincial Grand and private lodges to adopt a similar motion.

By the way, much has been said of late about the apathy of Englishmen in reference to their patron saint. Every loyal Scotsman looks upon it as a sacred duty to celebrate, in accordance with ancient custom, the 30th November, the day set apart to commemorate the virtues of St. Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland, and similarly all good Welshmen observe St. David's Day (1st March), and Irishmen all over the world St. Patrick's Day (the 17th March); but Englishmen appear to treat the claims of St. George with indifference, and the 23rd April, which is dedicated to his memory, and has the further merit of being the anniversary of Shakespeare's birth and death, is allowed to pass for the most part unheeded. It is the more honourable to the English brethren that the day appointed for our annual Grand Festival, if not St. George's Day itself, is made dependent on its occurrence.

But how is it that amidst all this talk about our national apathy with regard to St. George we hear nothing of the "Society of St. George," which was started three or four years since, with its headquarters in Shaftesbury Avenue. We have before us a pamphlet in which are set forth the Society's objects, and in which occurs the following passage: "We seek to rehabilitate him (St. George) in the affectionate regard of our countrymen, and to revive his festival only so far as it may stimulate the patriotism of Englishmen, and cause them ever to remember the glorious past and the responsibilities devolving upon them as the fortunate citizens of the greatest of all countries, celebrating the grand fast of their nationality as in times gone by, upon each recurring 23rd of April."

On the next page of the same pamphlet is a quotation from an article which appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* on the 23rd April, 1896, and reads as follows: "So, if it be feasible, let this day be more and more every year cultivated and celebrated as the name-day and festival of England. Let Britons by all means—as far as they can—stick English roses, red and white, in their button-holes, and hold in mind to-day not the Empire, not the United Kingdom, not this or that outlying corner or fringe of the Realm, but England herself—the 'predominant partner'—the immensely powerful, important, and patient part of these islands, which really makes the rest of them rich, safe, and respected, and from her vast capital the City of London rules the World of Commerce, the Ocean, and the Dominions of the Queen."

After mentioning that the Society is already in accord with "the St. George's Societies of Canada and America," the pamphlet goes on to say "May we not hope, judging from recent events, that at no distant day our brethren in the United States, descendants of the Pilgrim Fathers—the names of whose very Counties and Towns must ever remind New Englanders of that Old England beyond the Seas, whose language they speak—kindred of our blood—and sharers with us in the deeds and glories of the past, may we not hope in the near future to see the universal observance throughout the world of St. George's Day—sacred to the unity and fraternity of the great Anglo-Saxon race, and notable, as the birthday and death-day of that greatest of men, Shakespeare."

We came by the merest chance upon the pamphlet from which the foregoing passages are taken, nor have we the slightest idea if anything ever came of the scheme it outlined. But the events of the last few

months have brought the subject to the fore still more prominently, and it there is still a Society of St. George, now is the time for it to make its influence felt.

The Board of Stewards for the approaching Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls recently held their first meeting at Freemasons' Hall, when the following were elected officers, namely, Bro. Sir J. B. Monckton, P.G.W., Chairman; Bros. H. E. Idris Ragheb Bey, M.W.G.M. Egypt, P.G.W. Eng., J. B. Ashworth, P. Prov. G.W. Staffs, and Thos. Taylor, P. Prov. G.W. Staffs, Honorary Presidents; Bro. Col. G. W. Walker, P.G.S.B., D. Prov. G.M. Staffs, Hon. Treasurer; Bro. Daniel Mayer, Chairman of Ladies' Stewards; and Bro. F. R. W. Hedges, P.G.S.B., Secretary of the Institution, Hon. Secretary. We have been requested to state that the services of brethren who are willing to act as Ladies' Stewards are earnestly invited.

As this number will be in the hands of most of our readers in good time, we gladly avail ourselves of the opportunity of reminding them that at the Girls' School Election, which takes place at the Freemasons' Tavern, to-morrow (Saturday), there are six children placed at Nos. 1, 3, 6, 7, 12, and 16 on the list of approved candidates who have this one and only chance left them of securing admission into the Institution; and to appeal to those of them who may still have their votes and influence unpledged to give all the support they are able to these girls. We know nothing whatever of the merits of their claims, whether they are greater, equal to, or less than the claims of the rest of the candidates. But they have been declared entitled to the benefits of the School, and as they are *last* cases, we make this earnest appeal on their behalf.

It is evident from the report we published last week of the recent annual meeting of the Devon Masonic Educational Fund that the past year has been a prosperous one. Including a balance of £584 brought forward from the previous account, the total receipts amounted to £1059, of which £441 was in the form of Donations and Subscriptions. The sum expended on the children's education was £370, the only other item of expenditure being one of about £30 for Printing and Postages, so that the balance to be carried forward to the next year's account is close on £660. The number of children now on the Fund is 25, for the education of each of whom the sum of £15 is spent annually. Great credit is due to the brethren of the Province for maintaining so useful a Fund, but more especially to the Committee in charge for the admirable manner in which they administer it.

In the Dominion of Canada, as in the United Kingdom and other parts of the British Empire, the members of our Society unite with their fellow citizens in the support they are giving to the funds that are being raised in connection with the war in South Africa. Thus among the bodies that have contributed to the National Relief Fund are the Grand Lodge of Canada (Province of Ontario), which has voted 1000 dollars, and the Grand Chapter of Canada 300 dollars, while the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Quebec have voted 300 and 100 dollars respectively. St. Andrew's Lodge of Toronto, No. 16 on the Canadian Register, has also voted 100 dollars, and other private lodges have also made grants according to their means. The *Canadian Craftsman* thinks the Grand Chapter of Canada should have given 500 dollars; but we imagine the latter must be the better judge of what it can afford to do.

Summer and winter appear to be the favourite seasons for the meetings of the Masonic Grand Bodies in the Dominion, and while the Grand Lodges of Canada, Manitoba, British Columbia, &c., hold their annual communications in summer-time, the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Quebec and the Grand Chapter of Canada favour the winter. All these latter bodies met in January last, and among the subjects to which the Grand Master of Quebec gave the greatest prominence was that of the three lodges in Montreal, which still decline to place themselves under the Quebec banner. The remarks of the Most Worshipful G. Master, Bro. B. Tooke—who, before the proceedings were brought to a close, was re-elected to the chair—were couched in the politest and most temperate language, and it is evident that he, at all events, recognises that the Grand Lodge of England, so far from interposing any obstacle to the union of all lodges under the Grand Lodge of Quebec, has of late years done many things which indicate a desire on its part that such a union should be effected.

It is a pity that Bro. Tooke did not go a step further, and make it clear to the members of his Grand Lodge that our United Grand Lodge has no voice in the matter, and that while the members of the three English lodges in Montreal remain of the same mind, it is not in the power either of the Grand Lodge of England or that of Quebec to force them into a union with the latter. We think Bro. Tooke will be well advised if he lets things remain as they are; at all events, it will be far better that he should do so than that he should adopt measures that may have the effect of renewing the strife which for some time past has been chiefly "conspicuous by its absence."

## 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.

### CEREMONY OF LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE AT BUSHEY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I shall be glad if you will make known to your readers that the Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys entrusted with the arrangements on the occasion of the visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught on Saturday, 12th May, have extended the time fixed for making application for tickets for the ceremony to the 21st instant.

The Committee have made this extension with a view of meeting the wishes of brethren who, not being subscribers to the Institution, have only just heard of the arrangements for the day.

The price of tickets, including railway fare London to Bushey and back, seat to view the ceremony, and luncheon with light wines, is one guinea, and tickets may be had on application to me.

The full band of the Royal Artillery has been engaged for the day.—Believe me, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

J. M. McLEOD.

6, Freemasons' Hall,  
April 11th.

## Masonic Notes and Queries.

1124]

### AN OLD PAMPHLET.

A curious pamphlet was printed and published at Plymouth-Dock (since named *Devonport*) late last century, which is very rare, and is not to be found in local or general Bibliographical Works. The following is the elaborate title (8vo pp. 16):

"The  
Holy or Sacred Masonic Service,  
&c.;

FOR ST. JOHN'S

(The Evangelist of Masonry, 5787; of Christ, 1787).

BY EDWARD SPRY,

M.A.—Candidate of Divinity—Bachelor of Music—Doctor of Philosophy; Laws; and Medicine—of the Royal College of Physicians, London and Edinburgh; of Oxford, Cambridge, &c.

R.A.:

KNIGHT TEMPLAR, and of the ORIENTAL STAR:

&c. &c. &c.!

And by him (*God willing!*) performed

At 6 A.M. in *James's-Chapel*, James's Street, Plymouth-Dock,

Let us sing unto the Lord a new Song!

Plymouth-Dock:

Printed and sold by E. HONLAND, Printer, Bookseller and Stationer,

No. 48, Fore-Street; and sold by all Booksellers.

PRICE ONE SHILLING."

The copy before me, is the only one I have ever seen or heard of. It is not of any value or importance as a Masonic publication, but for the year 1787, it is an early instance of Knight Templary. What the "Oriental Star" was I know not.

W. J. HUGHAN.

1125]

### THE SACKVILLE MEDAL.

My friend Bro. W. T. R. Marvin, in his valuable work on "Masonic Medals" (Boston, U.S.A., 1880), speaks of the "Sackville Medal" of 1733, as being "probably the oldest Masonic medal extant," and rightly so. It was struck in silver, and is exceedingly rare. Dr. Merzdorf, in his work relating to Masonic medals (1853) declares that but one specimen is known, which was then in the "Hammerstein Collection." As doubts have been suggested as to its genuineness, the following brief article by the well known Masonic expert, Dr. W. Begemann, which was printed in the transactions of my lodge for 1899, will be read with interest and be a welcome confirmation of the *bonafide* character of the celebrated piece.

W. J. HUGHAN.

"ARS Q.C., No. 2706, 1899."

This medal has sometimes been stated to be a forgery of a much later date than 1733, but there is printed evidence that the medal was already known in 1738. In that year appeared a German book, entitled "Gründliche Nachricht von den Frey-Maurern, nebst argehängter historischen Schutz-Schrift. Franckfurt am Mayn, In der Andreänschen Buchhandlung, M.D.CCXXXVIII." A second edition followed in 1740. On the title page the two sides of the Sackville Medal are to be seen in print, and in the book itself, on pp. 137, *et seq.*, we read the following account, which I give in English:—"From Florence we learn that Lord Charles Sackville, Duke of Middlesex, a son of the Duke of Dorset, has founded a Lodge and Society of Freemasons, and that a medal has been struck there. On the obverse is his bust in the Roman fashion, with the inscription: CAROLUS SACKVILLE, MAGISTER FLORENTINUS. On the reverse we have Harpocrates, the Heathen God of Silence, as a nude male

figure with a flower on his head, one finger of the right hand laid on his lip, and in his left hand a horn of plenty, filled with flowers and fruit. On one side of him are all sorts of masons' working tools, and on the other side, the chest of mystery and the snake." Looking to the reproduction of the medal we find that the word "Florentinus" is abbreviated, being represented only by the letters "FL." Under the bust appears in small letters "L. Natter 1733." The obverse shows the legend "AB ORIGINE," and under the platform whereon Harpocrates stands, we see, once more in small letters, "L. Natter, | F. Florent:" (in two lines, *i.e.*, L. Natter Fecit Florentinus. Harpocrates leans his left arm on a pillar, to his right are a perfect ashlar, mallet, compasses, square and level. The objects on his left side are not easily made out: there is something like a basket with a pickhammer leaning against it, something like a ladder leans against the pillar, and something like a thyrus lies across the basket; but there is nothing to be discovered of a snake or the like, only a knot of ribbon on the staff. Now, inasmuch as the *St. James' Evening Post*, in 1738, also states that there were lodges in Florence at that time, which had been interdicted some years previously (*v. Mas. Mag.* iv., p. 421), we are forced to concede that Sackville was Master of a lodge at Florence in 1733, and that the medal is not a forgery of a more recent date.

W. BEGEMANN, Dr. Ph.

## BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, when the President (Bro. J. H. Mathews), the Senior Vice-President (Bro. D. D. Mercer), and the Junior Vice-President (Bro. Henry Garrod) occupied their respective chairs. The Assistant Grand Secretary (Bro. William Lake), Bros. William Dodd and G. S. Recknell, and the Grand Tyler (Bro. Henry Sadler) represented the Grand Secretary's Department.

The other brethren present were

Bros. E. W. Nightingale, W. M. Bywater, R. W. Ker, Charles J. R. Tijou, W. Kipps, F. W. Hancock, James Block, S. H. Goldschmidt, Henry A. Tobias, Charles Henry Stone, Thomas Jones, John Ellinger, George Graveley, W. H. Caton, H. Massey, Henry Smith Syer, James W. Luff, James Wheatley, Henry Jacobs, J. W. Burgess, James J. Mackay, 1st. John, George R. Langley, Mihill Slaughter, Edwin Gamman, A. B. Butt, John Nixon, J. R. Johnson, W. B. Cossam, C. M. Molney, R. W. Forge, J. W. Reddell, George Simonds, G. H. W. Grace, George Herbert Burns, R. W. Foskett, George Shawcroft, W. Stephens, T. B. Homewood, A. G. Duck, H. Hayward Gandy, S. G. Bonner, and Walter Smith.

The brethren first confirmed recommendations made at the March meeting for the Grand Master to approve of grants to the amount of £385. The new list contained the names of 34 petitioners who hailed from lodges in the Metropolitan district and at Pontypool, Milford Haven, Brixham, Durham, Norwich, Hyde, Croydon, Hull, Plymouth, Gloucester, Tywardreath, Karachi, Hong Kong, Ilkeston, Wymondham, Liverpool, Twickenham, Hampton Court, and Tiverton. Eight of these were dismissed, and one was deferred. The remainder were voted a total of £785. Two were recommended for the approval of Grand Lodge for £75 each, and two for £50 each. The Grand Master's approval was asked to six cases being relieved with £40 each, five with £30 each, and one with £25. Four petitioners were awarded £20 each, three £10 each, and one £5.

The Board sat nearly two hours and a half.

## Craft Masonry.

### Harrogate and Claro Lodge, No. 1001.

There was a large gathering at the above lodge on Tuesday, the 10th inst., the occasion being the installation of Bro. George Musgrove as W.M. The visitors present included Bros. W. H. Cockerlyne, P.P.G.O.; Z. Wright, P.M.; W. B. Smith, J. Sidney Jones, P.M.; J. Dyson, P.P.G.D.C.; and others.

The W.M. was installed by Bro. W. Davey, and Bro. G. Musgrove invested his officers as follows: Bros. A. I. Spinks, I.P.M.; J. Croft, S.W.; J. W. Norton, J.W.; J. W. Holt, Chap.; G. Thompson, P.M., P.P.G.P., Treas.; C. Walker, Sec.; A. Harrison, S.D.; T. Blackburn, J.D.; E. F. F. G. Kellner, D.C.; J. H. Marlow, Org.; H. Ainsworth, I.G.; J. H. Nottage, W. Tidd, and A. W. Cobb, Stwds.; and H. A. Holmes, Tyler.

The banquet was held at the N.E. Station Hotel, Bro. George Musgrove, W.M., presiding.

The following toast list was submitted: "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen," proposed by the W.M.; "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of England," proposed by the W.M.; "Bro. the Right Hon. W. Lawies Jackson, Prov. G. Master, Bro. R. Wilson, P.G.D., Dep. G. Master, and the rest of the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past," proposed by the W.M., and responded to by Bros. J. Dyson, J. Richardson, and W. Davidson; "The W.M. of the Harrogate and Claro Lodge, No. 1001," proposed by Bro. A. I. Spinks, I.P.M., and responded to by the W.M.; "The Visiting Brethren," proposed by Bro. T. Lawrence, and responded to by Bros. W. Davidson, F. H. Ingle, W.M. 2695, Z. Wright, and W. Petty, 2695; "The Installing Master," proposed by Bro. A. I. Spinks, and responded to by Bro. W. Davey; "The I.P.M., Bro. A. I. Spinks," proposed by Bro. Linskill, and responded to by Bro. A. I. Spinks, I.P.M.; "The Past Masters of the Harrogate and Claro Lodge, No. 1001," proposed by the W.M., and responded to by Bro. Davey; "The Officers of the Harrogate and Claro Lodge, No. 1001," proposed by the W.M., and responded to by Bros. Croft, S.W., and Norton, J.W.; "The Masonic Charities," proposed by Bro. Thompson, and responded to by Bro. W. H. Turner; and the Tyler's toast.

There was a heavy programme of music, &c. Songs, duets, quartettes, violin solos, recitations, and bone solos being rendered by the following brethren: Bros. Cockerlyne, Swan, J. W. Holt, E. Cooper, G. Buckley, J. Dryden, A. Holmes, Gonizzi King, J. W. Norton, J. H. Marlow, and W. Tidd.

The talented young organist, Master W. Musgrove, second son of the W.M., accompanied in a most artistic manner.

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SAMPLES AND PRICE LIST SENT ON APPLICATION.

**Hemming Lodge, No. 1512.**

The last meeting of this lodge for the season was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on the 22nd ult., when there were present, among others, Bros. H. Gale, W.M.; C. F. Davis, S.W.; H. Webster, J.W.; J. C. Jessett, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; W. Hill, S.D.; Boyce, J.D.; G. Ransford, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., D. of C.; A. Z. Schultze, R. Ruff, and R. Fox, Stwds.; C. Wheatley, I.P.M.; W. Spearing, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; W. Fisher, P.M., P.P.G. Treas., A.G. Purst. Eng.; and John Gilbert, P.G.T., Tyler.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary read communications from brethren unable to be present. There being no work the lodge was then closed.

Refreshment followed labour. Upon the removal of the cloth the customary toasts received full justice. The toast of "The Grand Officers" was submitted by the W.M. in flattering terms. After speaking of the merits of the two distinguished brethren who respectively occupied the important positions of Pro and Deputy Grand Master, he said that in Grand Lodge there were other brethren who occupied deservedly high offices. The Hemming was fortunate in possessing two members of the Grand Lodge, one Present and the other Past. He should couple the toast with the name of Bro. William Fisher, P.M., Asst. Grand Pursuivant. Some years ago that brother had the honour of being elected unopposed as the Treasurer of the Province of Middlesex. That was a great compliment, but to be appointed an officer of the Grand Lodge was a distinction that few brethren could attain.

This toast having been heartily received, Bro. W. Fisher replied, in brief, but pertinent terms.

Bro. Ransford responded on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers." "The Health of the W.M." was given by the I.P.M.

The W.M., in reply, briefly said that he hoped when the session re-opened that the brethren would find him some work to do. The Hemming Lodge was a large body but there was room for any number of eligible candidates in it. Death and other untoward circumstances made sad havoc in the ranks of all lodges; No. 1512 was no exception, and therefore new members was an absolute necessity.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was coupled with the name of Bro. Charles Wheatley, I.P.M.; "The Treasurer and Secretary" with the names of Bros. Jessett and Walls; and "The Health of the Officers" with the names of Bros. Davis and Webster.

The members then separated.

**Galen Lodge, No. 2394.**

The installation meeting of this successful lodge—which is so closely identified with the pharmaceutical profession—was held at Freemasons' Hall, W.C., on the 9th inst., and attracted a good attendance of members and visitors. The former included Bros. F. Bascombe, W.M.; Pelham C. Maitland, I.P.M.; M. Carteghe, P.M., Treas.; J. B. S. Lancaster, Sec.; A. W. Gerrard, S.D.; W. J. Rogerson, P.M., D.C.; J. J. Arrow, I.G.; H. W. Roach, P.M., Stwd.; B. H. Paul, P.M., P.G. Stwd.; Col. Clifford Probyn, P.M., P.G. Treas.; J. Hodgkin, P.M.; Rev. F. Peel Yates; and many others. Visitors: Bros. Richard Eve, P.G. Treas.; R. Gresley Hall, P.G.S.B.; J. Stephens, P.D.G.D.C.; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; G. Smith, P.G. Org.; T. Jones, J.W. 2385; H. Nuding, P.M. 1924; W. H. Glazeir, P.M. 34; W. B. Fendick, P.M. 2455; W. Thomas, P.M., Treas. 2168; W. H. Gardener, P.P.S.G.W. Berks; H. E. Pohen, P.M. 4, P.G.S.; F. J. Hunt, W.M. 194; G. Clarke, 2603; W. H. G. Morris, 1673; G. C. L. Fry, 2427; J. C. Dunningham, D.C. 174; H. Scudham, 1415; F. J. Chaffer, 1563; J. E. Lane, W.M. St. Maria; S. Spiller, 2395; W. W. Lee, P.M.; and others.

The minutes were confirmed, and Bro. W. Gibbons, 2554, was elected a joining member. Mr. R. Hazelwood Jones was impressively initiated into Freemasonry. Bro. Col. Clifford Probyn, P.G. Treas., W.M. elect, was presented for installation, and in the presence of a representative Board of Installed Masters was duly installed into the chair. The I.P.M., Bro. Bascombe, was invested and presented with a Past Master's jewel as a slight recognition of his valuable services. The officers appointed and invested were Bros. A. W. Gerrard, P.M. 1415, S.W.; E. J. Eastes, J.W.; F. Peel Yates, Chap.; Michael Carteghe, P.M., Treas.; J. B. S. Lancaster, P.P.G. Std. Br. Surrey, Sec.; T. H. W. Idris, S.D.; C. J. Strother, J.D.; W. J. Rogerson, P.P.G.D.C. Notts, D.C.; J. J. Arrow, A.D.C.; R. Lang Sims, Org.; W. Judd, P.M. 1884, I.G.; H. W. Roach, P.M., and J. H. Arrow, Stwds.; and George Harrison, Tyler. Several letters of regret for non-attendance were announced, and lodge was closed.

After a banquet at Freemasons' Tavern, the usual toasts were heartily honoured. "The Queen and the Craft" having been given, the W.M. proposed "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M." He said he was not astonished at the overwhelming reception given the toast when they thought of his Royal Highness having been subject to the dastardly outrage, which happily failed. His Royal Highness was foremost in all good works, and no other prince ever occupied in the hearts of the people so distinguished a position.

"The Grand Officers" was the subject of the next toast given by the W.M., who referred to the enormous amount of work done by the G. Officers which the rank and file of the Craft knew not of. Although they had not that evening such an array of G. Officers as he should like to have seen, they were honoured by having as honorary members that Nestor of Masonic life, Bro. Fenn, also Bros. Sir John Monckton, Frank Richardson, and Purchas. Letters of regret had been received from Bros. Sir J. Dimsdale, Strachan, O.C., Sir Geo. Harris, F. West, Major Carrell, Welford, and last, but not least, Bro. Letchworth, G. Sec., sent his apologies. They were pleased to see Bro. Eve, who had done so much for the Craft; and all those who had been identified with Bro. James Stephens knew his marvellous capacity for Masonic work, and knew that he possessed all those attributes of Masonic life which were characteristic of a good Mason. There were also present Bros. Gresley Hall, Smith, P.G. Org., and Sadler, also Bro. Fendick, who would be invested as a G. Officer on the 26th inst.

Bro. R. Eve, P.G. Treas., in reply, said the G. Officers were officers of a grand Institution, not to be equalled by any other in the world—civil or religious. It endeavoured to advance everything that was good, true, honourable, and beautiful, and the only thing was to voice it throughout the world. They were conscious of good in it, and although many of them might fall below par, the Institution remained the same. Nothing could be more cosmopolitan, nothing more beautiful, than the blending together of the sons of Adam. It mattered not whether they were white, red, black, or yellow—they were all brethren. They had trust in their great Institution, sublime in its construction and in its trust of the Great Cause of All. It was a moral Institution—not rent by civil or religious disquisitions—and stood high in this respect, for it diffused those great principles of morality which were the mainstay of life. The G. Officers represented all classes of society, and were united to uphold the prestige of G. Lodge, which would not suffer at their hands.

Bro. F. Bascombe, I.P.M., then rose and proposed "The W.M.," for whom no words could express their admiration. The lodge ought to feel greatly honoured in

having such a distinguished brother to preside. Bro. Col. Probyn was not only a very distinguished member of the Craft, but a member of their own calling, who had distinguished himself in the great Metropolis by holding high office in it. Speaking as one who had known the W.M. for 20 years and more, he could say that the more they saw of Bro. Probyn the more they loved him. As the I.P.M., he was exceedingly gratified at being allowed to instal him. There were few lodges presided over by a W.M. holding Grand Lodge rank, and he came to fill a breach at short notice for which they owed him their thanks. They would all join in drinking the W.M.'s health and in wishing him health, prosperity, and happiness.

Bro. Col. Clifford Probyn, P.G. Treas., W.M., who met with an enthusiastic reception, said he came to the conclusion, after he had consented to occupy the chair, that he had made a mistake, and when he explained his reason they would probably concur. He knew how disheartening and discouraging it was for brethren who had worked year after year to perfect themselves in the ritual, if they did not receive the promotion they reasonably expected. He thought he might stop promotion, but he was pleased and proud to say he was told that this would not be so. There was one thing which he might venture to recommend to young members—for they all had ambition and he himself had amply realised his hopes in the Masonic world. He would not yield to any man in true and proper Masonic principle, and he had tried his best to inculcate and practise those principles which were taught by the Order. He felt honoured at the compliment paid him in asking him to become their W.M., but they knew that when a brother received the purple—and no small purple, too, being the purple of election, not of selection—it was very gratifying to be told that he had given a lot of time to the work and ought to be recognised. In his early days he strove to do the work. He remembered in the old days a small tavern in Glasshouse-street, kept by Mrs. Adams, where they delighted to congregate at the Robert Burns Lodge of Instruction, and where Bro. Baker took such trouble and pains to teach them. When he was elected W.M. of the Queen's Westminster Lodge he initiated 16 or 17 candidates during his year, and that meant a good deal of work. As he belonged to many Degrees and Orders which involved a great deal of time, he made a stipulation, in accepting the Mastership of the Galen Lodge, that he must not be expected, if he could not do it conveniently, to do all the work. He would endeavour to the best of his ability, and hoped they would be as satisfied as they were that evening.

The W.M. then proposed "The Installing Officer," and said he had never known a young Mason do the work better. It was one thing to know the ritual and another to deliver it in a room full of critical brethren. The I.P.M. not only submitted to the ordeal, but astonished them with his success. They had a splendid example in Bro. Bascombe, and they hoped he would continue to set an example for many years.

Bro. F. Bascombe, I.P.M., said he should long remember the honour he had had of installing a Grand Lodge Officer as his successor. He had had a fair amount of work, having initiated five candidates, one of them the present Chaplain of the lodge. He thanked those who had supported his list for the Girls' School, which now stood at £123 17s. He hoped his working of the installation ceremony had given them satisfaction, and he thanked the Past Masters and officers for their support.

"The Initiate" was next honoured. Bro. J. E. Lane, W.M. 2684, replied for "The Visitors." Other toasts were given, and the proceedings terminated.

Bro. G. F. Smith, P.G. Org., presided at the piano, and the artistes included Miss Annie Swinfen, Miss Annie Wilson, Bro. Ager Grover, and Mr. Musgrove Tufraill.

**Brondesbury Lodge, No. 2698.**

The installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 11th inst., at the East Derby Hotel, High Road, Kilburn, when an exceptionally fine treat in the form of Masonic working was provided for the brethren. Bro. W. F. Hardyment, whose term of office as Worshipful Master came to a close on that evening, is the Preceptor of the Brondesbury Lodge of Instruction, which meets at the Earl Derby, every Monday evening, at eight o'clock, and is known to be a perfect Masonic ritualist, and Bro. Edwin George, who succeeded him in the chair, has an equally good reputation in the same capacity in the Marquess of Ripon Lodge of Instruction, No. 1459. The lodge almost bristles with first class Preceptors, as the J.W., Bro. Benjamin Stocker, holds the Preceptorship of the High Cross Lodge of Instruction, No. 754, and with such component items, there can be no surprise that the work on Wednesday week was perfection.

The brethren who attended were Bros. A. F. Hardyment, W.M.; R. J. Campbell, I.P.M.; Charles Goodman, S.W.; B. Stocker, P.M., J.W.; G. Coxen; Edwin George, P.M., Sec.; W.M. elect; C. W. Paine, J.D.; W. G. Coxen, D.C.; J. M. Goodwin, I.G.; John Brittan, Org.; H. Coxen and J. H. Crook, Stewards; J. W. Smith, P.M., Tyler; F. Crocker, H. J. Dunaway, W. H. Pearce, Jas. Stephens, P.D.G.D.C.; C. A. Peach, A. R. Greaves, Isaac Aylett, George Wheeler, E. G. Line, Edward J. Lillie, Edwin R. Davies, Wm. Grover, James Grover, T. G. Palmer, C. J. Greaves, T. Segar, F. C. Oldrey, M. Symonds, S. A. Marks, H. Willsmer, and John Luxton. The visitors present were Bros. William Yer, S.D. 2743; T. E. George, Steward 1489; Jess Saxby, 2361; J. Dale Cooke, 1489; Alfred Rusby, I.P.M. 2511; Walter Hancock, P.M. 2191; F. Ruthven, W.M. 754; George E. Thompson, 2742; Louis E. Wilson, P.M. 754; W. R. Walker, 177; A. Wyatt, 1585; A. E. Horstead, 1897; F. Moscati, 1418; P. N. Goodman, 1445; William Colman, 1445; Thomas Bole, 1275; James Gawthrop, P.M. 1706; J. S. Goldstein, W.M. 2265; W. Parsons, P.M. 753; W. J. Stratton, P.M. 753; J. N. Sparrow, P.M. 1489; W. H. Norris; J. G. Sebere, 57; G. Symonds, 57; M. Spiegel, P.M. 59; H. J. Bonner, 754; M. E. Swan, I.G. 753; H. Trask, P.M. 2743, P.P.G. Supt. of Works Herts.; Edwin Isaacs, 2265; J. H. Wood, P.M. 145; J. S. Matthews, 2786; D. C. Thutham, 754; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; and Robert Grill, 1399.

After the opening ceremonies Bro. Hardyment had presented to him by Bro. R. J. Campbell, P.M. and P.Z., the first Master of the lodge, Bro. Edwin George, P.M. and P.Z. 1489, one of the founders of the Brondesbury Lodge, and its Secretary since its formation. Bro. Hardyment accepted the presentation, and installed Bro. George as Worshipful Master of the lodge for the ensuing twelve months. Bro. Gawthrop, P.M. 1706, during the obligation rendered in beautiful style Mendelssohn's anthem "Be thou faithful," at the special request of the W.M. who was being obligated. Bro. Hardyment was invested as I.P.M., and was complimented in very graceful terms by Bro. George on the admirable manner in which he had discharged the duties of W.M. during the past year. The following brethren were invested as the other officers of the lodge during the ensuing year, viz., Bros. Charles Goodman, S.W.; Benjamin Stocker, P.M., J.W.; G. N. Coxen, Treasurer; A. J. Dunaway, Secretary; A. H. Oldrey, P.M., S.D.; C. W. Paine, J.D.; J. M. Goodwin, I.G.; R. J. Campbell, Permanent Director of Ceremonies; W. G. Coxen, D.C.; H. Coxen, and J. H. Crook, Stewards; and J. W. Smith, P.M., Tyler. On the motion of Bro. Hardyment, I.P.M., seconded by Bro. Campbell, P.M., D.C., the Auditors' report was taken as read, was adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. It disclosed a net balance in favour of the lodge of £63 17s. 9d.

The adoption of the report finished the business of the lodge, and after the closing the brethren adjourned to a very nice banquet.

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The usual toasts were afterwards honoured, and, under the direction of Bro. James Gawthrop, an entertainment was given in the intervals by Bros. Gawthrop, Robert Grice, and Wallis Arthur, with Bro. John Britton as accompanist.

In giving "The Health of the M.W.G.M.," Bro. Edwin George, W.M., said the late dastardly attempt on the life of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was a most wicked act—one which was reprobated not only by all Masons, but by all the world.

Bro. James Stephens, P.M., P. Dep. G.D.C., in the course of his reply to the toast of "The M.W. Pro G. Master, Earl Amherst: the R.W. Dep. G. Master, the Earl of Warwick; and the rest of the G. Officers, Present and Past," referred to the part he bore in the formation of the lodge, and said he was proud of the result. At the end of the first year the lodge wound up with a balance of £55, and that, too, after discharging the lodge's duties to the Masonic Charities. When attending the meetings of the brethren preliminary to the obtaining of the warrant of the lodge he exhorted the brethren to act on sound bases financially. They had taken his advice. There were some new lodges even of a longer standing than this lodge which were not yet out of debt. But the Brondesbury Lodge had been so creditably conducted during its first year that it had come out with a balance of £55. The lodge was not dormant, or stagnant, or withering away, but was progressing, because in its second year it had increased its balance to £63. As a Grand Officer he was delighted at the success which had attended a lodge so young. The W.M. had said some good things of him, and in his turn he could say he never in all his experience had seen any brother more devoted to Masonry than the lodge's first Master, Bro. Campbell, its I.P.M., Bro. Hardyment, and above all its Secretary and now W.M., Bro. George. The very kindly and courteous letters he received from Bro. George he should never forget. The excellent prospects of the lodge were not to be wondered at when brethren considered what work they had seen that evening by those three brethren.

Bro. Hardyment, I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," said it was the first time in his Masonic career of 23 years that he had had the proud privilege of proposing the toast, and, therefore, after all that he had done in trying to mount the ladder that seemed to be a red-letter day with him. Bro. George had been for 20 years the Secretary of the Marquess of Ripon Lodge, and if any brother wanted a thing done he had only to go to Bro. George. The Marquess of Ripon Lodge highly esteemed him. At the end of his year there would be a still further increase in the balance, although the lodge would still do its duty by giving 10 guineas to one of the Charities.

(The Charity-box was here announced to have yielded £1.)

Bro. Edwin George, W.M., in reply to the toast which had just been honoured, said he felt somewhat in a nervous position in making a speech, as he had not occupied the chair of a lodge for 13 years. He was always nervous about making a speech; he could do the ceremonies with confidence; but he did not shine as an orator. However, he could say he was much pleased to see how the brethren appreciated him. He thanked Bro. Hardyment for his kind allusions to him in connection with the Marquess of Ripon Lodge, for he had not said too much of how he was there appreciated. His connection with the Brondesbury Lodge had been very short; but he had done his best to make himself one of the brethren, and he thought he would have the esteem and regard of every member of that lodge as well. He had done his best to further its interests, and he should always do his best to make the Brondesbury Lodge successful and prosperous. It was one of the objects of his life to do all he could to the best of his ability. He could not be expected to do more; but he hoped to discharge his duty not only to the brethren's satisfaction, but to his own—which was much to him.

Bros. Rookwood, Goldstein, Hancock, and Reynolds responded to the toast of "The Visitors."

Bro. James Stephens, P. Dep. G.D.C., took the present opportunity of informing the brethren that on the 24th inst. he was to preside at the annual festival of the Prince Frederick William Lodge of Instruction, No. 753, to be held at the Crown Hotel, Aberdeen-place, Maida Vale, and he would take it as a personal favour and honour to himself by any brother coming to support him.

Bro. Edwin George, W.M., in proposing "The Installing Master and I.P.M.," presented Bro. Hardyment with a Past Master's jewel and a Past Master's collar, and said that brother was the present W.M. of the Walpole Lodge, No. 1500, Norwich. Bro. Campbell was a P.M. of many years' standing of the Marquess of Ripon Lodge, No. 1489, and was one of the best of Masters; Bro. Hardyment was of incomparable excellence, one of the best of men he had ever come across in the world.

Bro. Hardyment, replying, said that after having been 23 years a Mason he was very proud of having a Past Master's jewel; he had often wished to have it. Brethren had often said to him "Why have not you gone higher up in the world?" well, he thought that was derogatory to him. There were many difficulties in men's lives, but they could live their difficulties out. With regard to the kind remarks of Bro. George, he knew he meant them, and he accepted them in that spirit. He tried to get to the top of the tree, and he had to thank Bro. Hancock for his instruction, for it was through him he had been able to do anything. Five years ago he knew very little; but he kept up his payments to his lodge where he was made at Norwich. They were pleased to elect him W.M. He was very proud of being a member of the Brondesbury Lodge, and he was its first S.W. Bro. Campbell sat him a good example by leaving him a balance of £50 in hand; he showed him how to do the work. He followed in Bro. Campbell's footsteps; if he had failed no one would have been more sorry than Bro. Campbell. He (Bro. Hardyment) was going up as Steward for the Walpole Lodge, No. 1500, for the Girls' Institution, and he would be glad to add to his list the name of any brother who would subscribe to it.

Bro. Edwin George, W.M., being obliged to leave at this part of the proceedings to catch his last train, the chair was thenceforward occupied by Bro. Hardyment, I.P.M. An enlarged photograph of the first Worshipful Master of the lodge, Bro. R. J. Campbell, which had been executed by Bro. Harold Coxen, was presented by that artist to the lodge. The gift was received with cheers.

The toasts of "The Treasurer and the Secretary," and "The Officers of the Lodge," were afterwards proposed and acknowledged, and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

A TELEGRAM has been received at Warwick Castle to the effect that Lord Brooke, eldest son of Bro. the Earl and Countess of Warwick, has reached Bloemfontein and joined General French's staff. His lordship will not be 18 until next August, and is one of the youngest officers in the Army.

## Royal Arch.

### Moirra Chapter, No. 92.

A convocation of this chapter was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, on Tuesday, the 3rd inst. Present: Comps. J. M. Mitchell, M.E.Z.; W. H. Hooper, P.Z., as H.; G. Greiner, P.Z., as J.; E. D. Oppert, I.P.Z.; T. L. Wilkinson, P.Z., Treas.; R. F. Gould, P.Z., Scribe E.; Charles Wells, Scribe N.; J. N. Noakes, P.S.; F. A. Donnison, A.S.; G. I. Goodhart, and William Stark.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, Grand Chapter certificates were handed to Comp. Goodhart and Stark, and signed by them in the usual way.

A message from the "Father" of the Moira Lodge and Chapter, Comp. C. Thorne, P.Z., who for many years has resided in Shanghai, announcing his hope of shortly being again present in No. 92, was communicated to the companions, after which, there being no further business, the chapter was closed. The customary banquet followed.

### Era Chapter, No. 1423.

A meeting of this chapter was held at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, on the 17th ult. Among those in attendance were Comps. R. Poore, I.P.Z., P.P.G.A.D.C., as M.E.Z.; F. Foulger, H.; J. Masters, J.; Major T. C. Wall, P.D.G.D.C., P.Z., S.E.; A. Collins, S.N.; E. H. Thiellay, P.P.G.D.C., P.Z., Treas.; H. Higgins, P.P.G.D.C., P.Z.; Dr. B. Ryley, P.P.G.J., P.Z.; G. L. Wingate, P.Z.; and W. Fisher, P.P.G.P.S., A.G.D.C., P.Z. The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bros. H. Bright, W.M. 1503; E. P. Luke, S.W. 1853; C. J. Taylor, 1853; H. Sanion, P.M. 1423; and it being unanimous they were duly exalted by the acting M.E.Z. Comp. H. Higgins gave the historical lecture, and the S.E. acted as P.S. The chapter then voted a sum of money to the William Fisher Testimonial Fund. The S.E. reported that Comp. B. Grant, M.E.Z., had joined the Imperial Yeomanry, and was en route for South Africa. The chapter then passed a resolution expressing a hope that the M.E.Z. would return unhurt to England, and praising his patriotic action. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. B. Grant, M.E.Z.; C. H. Kohler, P.P.G.S.B., P.Z.; F. W. Robinson, P.Z.; S. Holt, and others.

The chapter was then closed.

A banquet followed.

Comp. W. Fisher, A.G.D.C., responded on behalf of "The Grand Chapter." In the course of his interesting remarks, he called attention to the fact of there being at the present time so many members of the Craft and Arch in South Africa. Duty had called many Masons to the front, but there were others who had voluntarily left good social positions to serve Queen and country. He could only hope—which he felt sure every one present would endorse—that they might weather the storm of battle and return home safely.

Comp. Dr. Ryley, P.P.G.J., responded in an eloquent speech on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Chapter." After dealing with the subject toast, he expressed his justification at being present to witness the exaltation of an old friend and member of the Era Lodge. He had had the pleasure of initiating Comp. Sanion, and had watched with interest his steady progress in Freemasonry. The work that evening had been well performed by the acting M.E.Z.

The Treasurer and father of the chapter proposed in neat terms "The Health of the M.E.Z. and I.P.Z." In submitting this toast he expressed a fervent hope that Comp. Grant, with the blessing of Providence, would escape harm. He said that the chapter owed a debt of gratitude to Comp. Poore for his zeal in its cause. He always did his work well, but he (the speaker) thought that the acting First Principal that evening had performed the work better than ever.

The I.P.Z. having briefly replied, then gave "The Exaltees." In giving this toast he expressed a hope that every one of the companions exalted that evening would continue active members of the Era, and would in due time occupy the First Principal's chair. The Era was one of the largest chapters in the province, and long might it continue so. Its meetings were always enjoyable, and he personally felt it to be his duty to enhance its prosperity in every possible way.

The four exaltees having respectively replied, the toast of "The H. and J." followed, and this pledge was acknowledged by Comps. Foulger and Masters.

The toast of "The Past Principals, and the Treasurer an I.S.E." were coupled with the names of Comps. Higgins, Walls, and Thiellay, who replied.

"The Health of the Officers" was responded to by Comp. A. Collins.

The proceedings then terminated.

## Obituary.

### BRO. W. E. PARRY.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. W. E. Parry, solicitor, of Bristol, which recently took place at his residence, St. John's-road, Clifton. The deceased brother was well known and much respected in his profession and in the Craft. He was the senior partner in the firm of Messrs. Plummer, Patchett, and Parry, but for some months, owing to ill-health, he had been unable to attend to business. Bro. Parry was a Welshman, being a native of Denbigh, North Wales, and he was instrumental in resuscitating the Society of Antient Britons, under the name of the Bristol Cambrian Society, for promoting friendly intercourse among the Welsh residents of Bristol and for general benevolent purposes. He remained Secretary of the Society up to the time of his death. The deceased was also a prominent Freemason, and held high office in the Fraternity, having at one time been Master of the Jerusalem Lodge, No. 686, in the Province of Bristol.

# ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

## THE 112<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

Will be held on WEDNESDAY, the 16th MAY, 1900,

# THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH,

R.W. PROV. GRAND MASTER STAFFORDSHIRE,

IN THE CHAIR.

Brethren willing to act as Stewards are earnestly solicited to send in their names to the Secretary, as early as convenient. Stewards are much needed, and their services will be gratefully received.

Office—5, Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

BRO. H. W. GREEN.

We regret to learn of the death, on Friday, at his residence, Glengail, Wanstead, of Bro. Henry W. Green. Deceased was educated at Christ's Hospital, and was best known as the Secretary of the Infant Orphan Asylum, a position he had held for over 42 years. By his death the institution has sustained a severe loss, for Bro. Green evinced great ability in the conduct of the affairs of the Asylum, and displayed wonderful kindness and attention to the children, with the result that during his term of office the institution has increased greatly in scope and usefulness. Bro. Green was an earnest Churchman of the old evangelical type, and had for many years been a lay reader in the diocese of St. Albans. He was a hard-working Freemason, and was the senior Past Master and Secretary of the London Lodge. Bro. Green was a Royal Arch Mason and had passed the chair of the Rose Croix. The funeral took place at Highgate Cemetery, on Wednesday, and was preceded by a service in the chapel of the asylum at Wanstead.

## Masonic and General Tidings.

THE CROWN PRINCE OF SIAM has left St. Petersburg for London.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE will attend the athletic sports at Wellington College, and distribute the prizes on the 18th May.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF FIFE visited the Comedy Theatre on Wednesday evening to witness the performance of "Tess."

A PATROL of the Royal Irish, with whom was Bro. Lord Rosslyn, has been taken prisoner. The Earl has been sent to Kronstadt.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL will preside at the festival dinner of the Goldsmiths' Benevolent Institution at the Whitehall Rooms of the Hotel Metropole on Monday, the 30th inst.

THE DUKE OF YORK was present on Monday at the West Norfolk Hunt Club Steeplechase at East Winch. His Royal Highness drove over to the meet from Sandringham.

SIR CHRISTOPHER FURNESS will preside at the Hotel Metropole on Monday, the 23rd inst., at the festival dinner of the Shipbrokers and Custom House Agents' Benevolent Society.

BRO. SIR J. BLUNDELL MAPLE, M.P., will preside at the festival dinner in aid of the Asylum of St. Anne's Society Schools at Redhill, to be held at the hall of the Salters' Company on Wednesday, the 23rd prox.

ACCORDING to present arrangements the Queen and Court will leave Dublin on the termination of her Majesty's visit to Ireland, on Friday, the 27th instant, and will arrive at Windsor on the evening of the following day.

BRO. THE LORD MAYOR and the Sheriffs will be the guests of Mr. Deputy T. C. Harris (the Chairman) and the members of the Library Committee at a dinner at the Hotel Metropole on Saturday, the 28th instant.

AT THE BANQUET of the Cheerybles Lodge, No. 2466, a sum of 210 shillings was raised for the Daily Telegraph Fund. The Treasurer, Bro. J. N. Stephens, 2, Milton-buildings, Walling-street, has accordingly forwarded a cheque for that amount to the fund.

ON BANK HOLIDAY a picturesque refreshment pavilion was formally opened in Queen's Wood, Highgate. It has been erected by the Hornsey District Council at a cost of £1300. In the turret is a handsome eight-day clock presented by Mr. C. F. Cory-Wright, J.P., the chairman of the Council.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS.—A Special Grand Lodge is to be holden in Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, on Friday, the 27th inst., at four for five o'clock punctually, to consider and resolve upon addresses of congratulation on the providential escape of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., from the dastardly attack of an assassin.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, the Crown Prince of Denmark, Prince Christian of Denmark, and Prince John of Glucksburg, dined on Monday night with the members of the Royal Shooting Society, a Copenhagen club of which his Royal Highness has become a member. The Prince met with a very hearty reception from the members, who sent a telegram of greeting to the Princess.

ART IN THE CITY.—The popularity of the exhibition of living British artists at the Guildhall Art Gallery is assured. Since its opening by Bro. the Lord Mayor a few days ago it has been visited by over 15,000 persons. On Easter Monday nearly 3000 visitors, or, to be exact, 2844, passed through the turnstiles. The attendance on Tuesday, when the weather was most unpropitious, was also large, nearly 2000 visitors attending to admire the many art treasures with which the walls of the gallery are lined.

MEDICAL RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS.—Three medical research scholarships, each of the value of £250, and open only to British subjects, have been instituted by the Grocers' Company as an encouragement to the making of exact researches into the causes and prevention of important diseases. At the next election two of the present scholars, if they renew their applications, will be entitled to a preference. Applications may be made at any time by letter, addressed to the Clerk of the Company, Grocers' Hall, Princes-street.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the hospital ship Maine, have received a further cable from Lady Randolph Churchill, dated the 17th instant, in which she reports the unfortunate death of one of the patients, named Grantham, belonging to Bow, E., adding that the Maine had consequently been delayed in Madeira, where his remains had been interred with full military honours. The cable further added that the Maine expected to reach Southampton about midday on the 23rd inst. Gifts intended for those on board the Maine should be addressed "Hospital Ship Maine," care of Embarkation Staff Officer, Empress Dock, Southampton, carriage paid, when they will be stored free of charge and delivered to the ship on her arrival.

THE QUEEN drove out on Tuesday afternoon, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, and attended by the Dowager Lady Southampton. Her Majesty stopped at the Adelaide Hospital, Peter-street, where Mr. W. E. Ormsby and other officials of the hospital had the honour of being presented by the Lord-in-Waiting. A bouquet was offered to the Queen by Miss FitzPatrick, the matron of the hospital. Her Majesty then drove to the Convent and School of the Sacred Heart at Mount Anville, where the Reverend Mother Stuart, Mother Superior, and the Right Rev. Doctor Donnelly, Bishop of Canea, together with other officials of the convent and school, had the honour of being presented by the Lord-in-Waiting. Bouquets were offered by Miss Eileen Kelly and Miss Bessie Duff, pupils. In the evening, Bro. the Right Hon. Gerald and Lady Betty Bal'our had the honour of joining the Royal circle. Their Royal Highnesses Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein and Princess Henry of Battenberg were present at a concert given by their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught at Farmleigh.

THE KING OF SWEDEN arrived at the Victoria Station of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway on Wednesday evening, shortly after eight o'clock, but owing to the fact that his Majesty is travelling incognito as Count von Haga, there was no official reception. Several Swedish and Norwegian ladies and gentlemen resident in London were present, and when the train halted at the platform they raised cheers for the Royal visitor. His Majesty was received by a few personal friends, including Countess Lewenhaupt, M. de Bille, the Danish Minister, Bro. the Marquis and Marchioness of Breadalbane, and Baron Emil Ramel, Secretary of the Swedish Legation, with whom he conversed for some time. Count Carl Lewenhaupt, the Minister of Sweden and Norway in London, arrived with King Oscar, having gone to Queenborough to meet his Majesty. Cheers were again raised as the Royal carriage left the station for Grove House, Roehampton, which the King has rented for a few months, and where the Queen of Sweden and Prince Eugene, their youngest son, whom we regret to learn, is in ill-health, arrived on Saturday last, from Paris. King Oscar will visit Queen Victoria at Windsor on her Majesty's return from Ireland.

BRO. JOHN AIRD, M.P., has consented to be nominated as the first Mayor of Paddington.

BRO. THE DUKE OF PORTLAND left Grosvenor-square, on Sunday evening last, for Speanbridge.

BRO. THE REV. J. STEPHEN BARRASS, the Lord Mayor's Chaplain, preached at the morning service at St. Paul's Cathedral on Good Friday.

THE LONDON MATRICULATION.—The half-yearly matriculation examination of the University of London will commence on Monday, June 11th.

THE FIFTEEN SECTIONS will be worked on Friday next by the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1056, at the Mail Coach, Farringdon-street, E.C., commencing at 6.30 p.m.

THE NEXT stated meeting of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, will be held at Freemasons' Hall on Friday, the 4th prox. The brethren will afterwards dine together at the Holborn Restaurant.

IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE that Mr. K. J. Key, who has just retired from the captaincy of the Surrey Cricket Eleven, is a grandson of the late Sir John Key, Bart., a former Lord Mayor and Chamberlain.

COUNT VON BREDOW represented his Imperial Majesty the German Emperor at the funeral of the late Field-Marshal Sir Donald Stewart, Bart., G.C.B., G.C.S.I., C.I.E., and deposited a wreath from his Imperial Majesty.

BRO. R. D. M. LITTLE, Q.C., C.B., the chairman of the Middlesex County Council, states that since 1891 32,000 houses have been built in the county, and that the population has increased during the same period from 559,392 to 723,000.

DEAN FARRAR and Admiral Field, C.B., M.P., will speak at Exeter Hall on Tuesday afternoon, the 24th inst., on the occasion of the 57th annual meeting of the National Refuges and Training ships Arethusa and Chichester. The Earl of Jersey will preside.

ART IN THE SUBURBS.—The Hampstead Vestry will consider a recommendation at its Easter meeting from the Public Libraries and Works Committee to reserve a space in the Vestry Hall for the exhibition of pictures. The vestry have determined on the establishment of a permanent art gallery, and invite donations of works of art from artists and others.

A COMMITTEE, with H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as president, has been formed for the purpose of placing a memorial of the late Duke of Westminster in Westminster Abbey. The members include Bro. Earl Carrington, L.C.C., the Bishop of London, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Sir Richard Nicholson, the Dean of St. Paul's, Canon McColl, Rev. B. Waugh, Mr. W. H. Collingridge, and others.

ROYAL OAK LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 371.—At the usual weekly meeting, held at the Lord Clyde, Wotton-road, New Cross, on Wednesday, the 11th instant, Bro. W. W. Wright, W.M. 371, on behalf of the brethren, presented to Bro. R. E. Barnes (an old Masonian), a very handsome oak case of cutlery, as a mark of their esteem and appreciation of his valuable services as Secretary of the lodge.

BRO. THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE will preside at the British Empire League dinner to be held on Monday, the 30th inst., at the Hotel Cecil, in recognition of the services rendered by the Colonial troops in the South African War, and to welcome the presence in this country of the delegates from Australia. The following will be among the guests to meet H.R.H. the Prince of Wales: The Duke of York, Lord Salisbury, Lord Lansdowne, Bro. Lord Wolseley, and Mr. Chamberlain.

THE QUEEN will shortly have under consideration designs for the South African War medal, as the ribbon is already being discussed at the War Office. On these occasions the patterns are usually drawn in water colours, or made up on cards with narrow strips of real ribbon. These are submitted to the Queen by Lord Wolseley, and her Majesty makes a selection. In this judgment she usually consults the taste of the Princesses. Designs for medals are approved in the same way from drawings submitted by the Commander-in-Chief.

RAGGED SCHOOL UNION.—The preliminaries of the fortnightly holiday in connection with the Ragged School Union and Shaftesbury Society having been decided, the council are making an appeal for funds to carry out their projects. There are over 5000 cripples on the register, and these get the benefit of seaside homes throughout the year. The larger number of run-down ailing children look forward to a "change of air," and the management confidently anticipate contributions sufficient to cover their expenses from sympathisers of their laudable object.

AN APPEAL is made to the public to help the promoters of the National Bazaar, to be held at the Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, on the 24th, 25th, and 26th prox., by donations in money or kind for any of the 70 stalls, which will represent all the regiments at the front. The object is to raise not less than £50,000 for the relief of sufferers in the present war. The Chairman of the General Committee is Bro. Lord Arthur Hill, the Countess of Bective presides over the Ladies' Committee, and the Hon. Secretary is Mr. Arthur J. Coke, with whom those wishing to assist should communicate at the offices of the National Bazaar, Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, W.

ALDERSGATE PAST OFFICERS' CLUB.—The monthly meeting took place last week, Bro. Thomas Briggs, C.C., president, occupying the chair. There were also present Bros. W. T. Roberts, T. Murray James, V. I. R. Longman, C.C., and J. Mayhew, Hon. Secretary. The Rev. R. F. Hosken, 12a, Charterhouse-square, was balloted for and unanimously elected. The late secretary, Bro. Thomas Murray James, was cordially welcomed after a long absence through ill-health. The suggestion that the summer outing should be by four-horse coaches was favourably entertained, and it was left in the hands of the president to submit some definite suggestions at the monthly meeting in May.

THE EXECUTRIX AND EXECUTORS of the will, dated March 29th, 1899, of Bro. Robert Hill Crowden, of Sydenham, who died on February 21st last, aged 54 years, and whose estate has been valued at £47,649 12s. 7d. gross and £44,799 12s. 7d. net, are his widow, Mrs. Alice Crowden, and Billinghurst Wilson Baggs and Frederick John Prior, probate having been renounced by the testator's brother, James Crowden. He bequeathed to his wife, Mrs. Alice Crowden, £250, his plate, pictures, and household effects, and the use and enjoyment during her life of Fairlawn, which, subject to her life interest, is left in trust for sale, and the proceeds thereof are to be held in trust in equal shares for all his children. Mrs. Crowden is to receive the income of £25,000 during her widowhood, or in the event of her re-marriage the income of one-half that sum for the remainder of her life, the other half being held in trust for his children. The testator left £5000 in trust for his son Herbert Garrod Orange Crowden; in trust for his daughter, Madeline Alice Mary Ellison, £400, in trust for his daughters Dora Violet Crowden and Ida Nellie Scott, £3000 each; and he left the residue of his property in trust in equal shares for his said wife and four children.

THE BRITISH HOMES' ASSURANCE CORPORATION.—We have now before us the second annual report and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1899, which is in every way satisfactory, and shows that it has largely participated in the increased interest taken in insurance by the public, and developed remarkable progressive features. The receipts for the year from the several departments are as follows: £4406 in Life Assurance premiums; £38,948 in endowment certificates, premiums, and £1023 in accident insurance premiums; making a total premium income for the year of £44,378, or £7,475 more than the previous year. The life department now has funds to the amount of £1774, or nearly one-third the total previous receipts since the beginning, in March, 1896. In the endowment certificate department, the premiums, £38,948, were over £4000 more than in the previous year, but it appears that the expenditure was considerably reduced, being for the whole business about £1000 less than in the previous year. Claims in the life department £691, and £1244 in the endowment certificate department, and £534 in the accident department, or £2470. Altogether this sum, as the report remarks, gives an early indication of the usefulness of the Corporation. Last year an aggregate sum of £23,760 was advanced in mortgage to borrowers, making the total amount so invested £52,516. The directors have been instrumental in securing for borrowers from other sources advances for £53,930, making the total advanced through the medium of the Corporation £106,446. The Corporation retains an interest in all these advances, a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum upon the preferred shares for 1899, and also a reversionary bonus to the participating certificate holders and policy holders equal to 10 per cent on the amount of the subscriptions or premiums paid up during the year 1899. The summation of the report is a grand record of work well done, and of a prosperity which, judging from all standpoints, bostokens developments in all departments, and holds a decidedly popular place—the reward of zeal, energy, and enterprise, and administration and outdoor enterprise.

SOUTH AFRICAN MASONIC RELIEF FUND.

A FUND from which the several DISTRICT GRAND LODGES under the English Constitution in SOUTH AFRICA may be assisted to RELIEVE THE DISTRESSES OF THEIR LOYAL MEMBERS, occasioned directly by the War in that quarter.

Table listing contributions to the South African Masonic Relief Fund, including entries for United Grand Lodge, W. Bro. Geo. Richards's Fund, and various lodges like Kent Lodge, Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, etc.

Table listing contributions to The Mansion House Transvaal War Fund, including entries for Old Boys' Lodge, Perseverance Lodge, Savile Lodge, etc., and a section for The Mansion House Refugees Fund.

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

Table listing contributions to The Daily Telegraph Soldiers' Widows' and Orphans' One Shilling Fund, including entries for Lodges, Chapters, Mark, Knights Templar, etc.

LORD PROVOST FUND.

Table listing contributions to Lord Provost Fund, including entries for Masonic Service in St. Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh, and The Mansion House Refugees Fund.

THE MANSION HOUSE TRANSVAAL WAR FUND.

Table showing amount previously acknowledged for The Mansion House Transvaal War Fund, including entries for Lodges, Chapters, Mark, Instruction, etc.

MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, April 28, 1900.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries for Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Rose Croix Chapters, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place, day, or month of meeting.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22. Logic Club, Cavendish Rooms, Mortimer-street, W., at 11.15 a.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 23. CRAFT LODGES. 4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS. 12, United Prudence, Albion Tavern. 25, Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.

MARK LODGE. 3, Keystone, Ship and Turtle Tavern.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24. CRAFT LODGES. 92, Moira, Albion Tavern. 141, Faith, Anderson's Hotel.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS. 7, Royal York Chapter of Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall.

ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES. 7, Four Kings Council, Mark Masons' Hall.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25. GRAND FESTIVAL. CRAFT LODGES. 201, Jordan, Freemasons' Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS. 13, Union Waterloo, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26. General Committee Girls' School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 5.

CRAFT LODGES. 66, Grenadiers, Freemasons' Hall. 99, Shakespear, Albion Tavern.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS. 534, Polish National, Freemasons' Hall. 538, Vane, Holborn Restaurant.

ROSE CROIX. 97, Rose and Lily, 33, Golden-square.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27. Council Boys' School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 4.

CRAFT LODGES. 171, Amity, Ship and Turtle Tavern. 197, Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS. 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle Tavern. 1216, Macdonald, Surrey Masonic Hall.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28. CRAFT LODGES. 1541, Alexandra Palace, Holborn Viaduct Hotel.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER. 1320, Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall.