

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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THE APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The two Anniversary Festivals of the year which have already been held—that of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, in February, and that of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, on the 16th ult.—have proved marvellously successful, the total realised at the two gatherings being in round figures £45,000, while the total of the three Festivals in 1899 only to a slight extent exceeded £50,000. There now remains to be celebrated the 102nd anniversary meeting in behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and we are all hoping that it will be a success that, whether its results be greater, equal to, or less than those of its predecessors, shall be at least found worthy of his Royal Highness the Chairman; the Institution which is doing such admirable work in training up the orphan sons of our poor deceased brethren in the way they should go; and of the Craft itself, which is so generously supporting it with the funds required for the purpose. The Duke of CONNAUGHT, K.G., Past M.W.G.M., Prov. G.M. Sussex, and Dist. G.M. Bombay, has graciously consented to preside on the occasion. As regards the preliminary arrangements in organising the Board of Stewards, we believe we are justified in announcing that, thanks to the very urgent appeals of the Secretary, considerable progress has been made, and that already some 400 ladies and brethren have volunteered their services; and as there are still upwards of five weeks to elapse before the arrival of the day appointed, we doubt not that the Chairman will find himself well supported by a numerous as well as a trusty band of workers who will spare no effort in order to ensure the success of the gathering.

As for the claims of the School upon the generosity of the Craft, they have been again and again described in these columns. But we repeat them for two principal reasons—firstly, because the benefits conferred by the Institution are being extended to a greater number of children, and its need for additional funds necessarily keeps on increasing; and, secondly, because there must always be a very large number of newly-made Masons to whom these said claims are not as familiar as the proverbial “household words.” Thus only 10 years ago, the

number of boys on the establishment for whom provision was made was 260; now there are 290; and this addition of 30 children carries with it an additional outlay of over £1500 per annum. But if we set aside that portion of the invested capital which is being held in reserve in order to meet the cost of the new buildings at Bushey, we shall find that the permanent income has not been increased *pari passu*. Roughly speaking, this permanent income may be set down at about £2500, the dividends received in respect of the funds held in reserve for the new premises being, in the very nature of things, merely a temporary addition, which will cease when the buildings have been erected. Against this must be set a permanent expenditure of some £14,500, so that, in order to redress this very marked inequality, there must be raised by the voluntary subscriptions of the brethren and their friends the large sum of £12,000, and, needless to say, the Festival is the main source from which we look to obtain this amount. But this is not all. What the Institution is doing, it is doing well. Thanks to the great ability of our Rev. Bro. HEBB, P.G.D., and his staff of masters, our Institution for Boys is steadily acquiring increased fame as an Educational establishment. Those who carefully read the reports annually presented by the examiners appointed by the Cambridge University Syndicate to test the progress made by the pupils from year to year can have no doubt upon this point. But even if we can imagine it possible for any of them to regard these independent reports—in which the praise and dispraise that may be due are impartially distributed—as being too favourable, the successes achieved by the boys at the various public examinations for which they are entered, and at which they are placed in competition with boys from other schools of similar standing, cannot fail to have a reassuring effect. Thus, as we had the pleasure of reporting in our issue of the 3rd March last, during the last 10 years 50 of “Our Boys” have passed the Senior Cambridge Local Examinations, 244 the Junior, and 180 the Preliminary, as many as 102 out of the total of 474 being awarded honours, and 44 distinctions. At the latest of these annual tests in December, 1899, there were 15 passed—three of them with honours—out of 16 entered for the “Seniors;” 30—of whom six took honours—out of 35 entered for the “Juniors;” and all the 33 who entered for the “Preliminary,” three “distinctions” being also awarded. Successes have also been won at other public examinations, but these University Locals are justly looked upon as the most valuable of these tests of the progress made by our Middle-class Schools. At all events, they are the principal evidence forthcoming as to the value of the system of education and training adopted by the Head Master and his staff, and we believe that so long as such results are producible and so long as they have good reason to believe that the School is being economically as well as efficiently administered, the general body of English Masons will cordially support the School Executive in its laudable work. And hence it is that we appeal with the greater confidence to the brethren for such a generous measure of support on the 10th of July as will redound to the credit of his Royal Highness the Chairman and his Board of Stewards and to the advantage of the School.

TIME IMMEMORIAL LODGES.

By BRO. R. F. GOULD, P.G.D.

II.

(Continued from page 258.)

The Grand Lodge of Scotland was established in 1736; but for a great many years it stood on a very anomalous footing with regard to the private lodges in that kingdom. There were

several lodges which never joined the Grand Lodge at all, while others did so and retired, though of the latter some renewed their allegiance. For example, the Haughfoot Lodge (1702) never resigned its independence; Glasgow St. John (1628) only did so in 1850; and the Lodge of Melrose (1598) until so late a date as 1891 refused to recognise any superior authority to its own. The "Company of Atcheson Haven" (1601-2) retired from the Grand Lodge in 1737, and only returned to the fold in 1814. The "Ancient Lodge, Dundee" (1628), appears not to have definitely joined the new organisation until 1745, while other lodges accepted charters of constitution in the following order: Dumfries Kilwinning (1687), 1750; St. John's, Kelso (1701), 1754; St. Ninian's, Brechin (1714), 1756; the Lodge of Dunblane (1696), 1760; and St. John, Jedburgh (1730), in 1767. The Lodge of Scoon and Perth (1658), which received a charter of confirmation in 1742, was, in 1807, "upon a memorial to that effect, re-admitted into the bosom of the Grand Lodge, from which for some years past she had been estranged."

There were other old lodges which seceded (for longer or shorter periods) from the Grand Lodge, notably "Mother Kilwinning," and the Lodge of Edinburgh, and their cases present many points of similarity with that of the premier English lodge, upon whose status, when disjoined from the Grand Lodge of South Britain, I have commented at some length in the present article.

The following table is derived from "The Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Scotland" (edit. 1896), and the only additions by myself are the description of Sanquar Kilwinning, No. 194—which, being dormant, was off the roll in 1896—and the asterisk that is prefixed to the name of every existing lodge which was either present or represented at the inauguration of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, on St. Andrew's Day, November 30th, 1736.

ORIGINAL NUMBER	PRESENT NUMBER	NAMES OF LODGES.	WHEN INSTITUTED OR DATE OF CHARTER.
2	0	*Mother Kilwinning	Before 1598
1	1	*The Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel)	Before 1598
	12	Melrose St. John	Before 1598
39	13	*Aberdeen	Before 1670
4	2	*Canongate Kilwinning, Edinburgh	Dec. 20, 1677
6	3	Scoon and Perth	Before 1658
	3 ^{bis}	The Lodge of Glasgow, St. John	Before 1628
7	4	*Glasgow Kilwinning	April 1, 1735
8	5	*Canongate and Leith, Leith and Canon-gate	1688
9	6	*Old Kilwinning St. John, Inverness	1678
10	7	*Hamilton Kilwinning	1695
11	8	*Journeyman, Edinburgh	1709
12	9	Dunblane St. John	1709
13	10	*Dalkcith Kilwinning	1724
14	11	Maybole	1726
15	12	*Greerock Kilwinning	1728
16	13	Torphicken Kilwinning, Bathgate	1728
17	14	St. John, Dunkeld	1737
18	15	*Montrose Kilwinning	1745
19	16	*St. John, Falkirk	1736
	17	*Ancient Brazen, Linlithgow	1737
20	18	St. John Kilwinning, Dumbarton	1726
21	19	*Coupar-of-Pife, Cupar	1736
22	20	*St. John, Lesmahagow	1736
23	21	*Old St. John, Lanark	1736
24	22	St. John Kilwinning, Kilmarnock	1734
25	23	*Dunse	1736
26	24	*Peebles, Kilwinning	1736
27	25	St. Andrew, St. Andrew's	1730
28	26	*St. John, Dunfermline	1736
29	27	*Glasgow St. Mungo	1736
30	28	*St. John Kilwinning, Kirkintilloch	1735
32	30	Ancient, Sirling	1703
34	31	St. Mary Coltness, Wishaw	1736
35	32	*St. John, Selkirk	1736
	35	St. John, Falkland	Oct. 12, 1737
52	47	*Operative, Dundee	Feb. 6, 1745
54	49	Ancient, Dundee	May 2, 1745
60	52	St. Andrew, Banff	1749
61	53	Dumfries Kilwinning	Feb. 7, 1750
68	57	St. John Kilwinning, Haddington	Before 1630
69	58	Kelso	Feb. 6, 1754
79	66	St. Ninian, Brechin	Nov. 15, 1756
86	72	*Kirkcaldie	May 15, 1758
130	104	St. John, Jedburgh	1707
118	118	*St. Bride, Douglas	May 2, 1769
222	167	*Biggar Free Operative	Nov. 6, 1786
195	194	*Sanquar Kilwinning	1777
283	215	St. Andrew, Strathaven	Dec. 4, 1836

The preliminaries relating to the formation of the Grand Lodge of Scotland were arranged by the delegates of Four Lodges—Mary's Chapel, Canongate Kilwinning, Kilwinning

Scots Arms, and Leith Kilwinning (the two latter of which were constituted in 1736 and are now defunct), on the 15th of October, 1736, and a form of circular was agreed upon to be sent to all the Scottish lodges, inviting their attendance either in person or by proxy for the purpose of electing a Grand Master.

The election took place in Mary's Chapel on Tuesday, November 30th, 1736, and 33 of the 100 or more lodges that had been invited, were found to be represented.

To the names of the survivors of the "Thirty-three"—28 in number—an asterisk has been prefixed in the "Roll" given above. The remaining five, which, in Scottish phrase, have been "cut off," were Kilwinning Scots Arms, Kilwinning Leith, Athcheson's-Haven, Strathaven, and Maryburgh. But the task of identifying either the living or the defunct lodges which were present or represented on November 30th, 1736, is envired with many difficulties. Some of these may be briefly related.

For example, the younger Laurie in his well-known work (p. 374) has the following note: "The Lodges Hamilton and Strathaven Kilwinning [orig. Nos. 164 and 187], both now extinct, were among those represented in 1736."

The present Hamilton Lodge, No. 7, has been long on the roll, but only one lodge of that name was present at the formation of the Grand Lodge. Laurie says it was Orig. No. 164. Both "Hamilton Lodges" have "Kilwinning" added to their names. Which of them is it that should be numbered among the Thirty-three? As will have been seen, however, the inclination of my own opinion is in favour of present No. 7 being entitled to the distinction. Then, again, Strathaven Kilwinning, orig. No. 187, was struck off the roll in 1843, but there is a living St. Andrew, Strathaven, No. 215, having a constitution (which may have been a charter of confirmation) dated December 4th, 1806.

The lodge at Maryburgh I have been unable to trace. It is not mentioned in the Constitutions of 1836, 1848, and 1852, or by Lawrie in 1804; but is shown among the founders of the Grand Lodge by Laurie in 1859, and David Murray Lyon (*Hist. L. of Edinburgh*) in 1873.

(To be continued.)

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following is the business to be transacted on Wednesday next, the 6th inst.:

- The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 7th March for confirmation.
- The minutes of the Grand Festival of the 25th April for confirmation.
- Communication from the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, in response to the Address of Grand Lodge, conveying the expression of their congratulations to his Royal Highness on his merciful preservation upon the recent attempt on his life.
- Appointment and investiture of President of the Board of General Purposes.
- Election of Members of the Board of General Purposes.
- Election of Grand Lodge Auditor.
- Election of Members for the Committee of Management of the "Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons."
- Report of the Board of Benevolence for the months ending March, April, and May, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz.:

A brother of the Harlesden Lodge, No. 2098, London ...	£ 50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Royal Naval College Lodge, No. 1593, London ...	50 0 0
A brother of the Amity Lodge, No. 137, Poole ...	200 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Sincerity Lodge, No. 428, Northwich ...	100 0 0
The widow of a brother of the St. David's Lodge, No. 366, Milford ...	50 0 0
A brother of the Blackheath Lodge, No. 1320, London ...	75 0 0
A brother of the Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, No. 7, London ...	50 0 0
A brother of the Papyrus Lodge, No. 2562, London ...	75 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Westminster and Keystone Lodge, No. 10, London ...	150 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Earl of Clarendon Lodge, No. 1984, Watford ...	50 0 0

- REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.
To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board begs to report that it has been under the necessity of summoning two lodges to answer charges of permitting toasts of a Masonic character to be proposed and responded to in the presence and hearing of ladies and other non-Masons at Masonic banquets held after lodge meetings.

The Board deemed it its duty seriously to admonish the several lodges for the irregularity they had committed, and it desires to point out that at recreation banquets, when lodges entertain ladies and others who are not Masons, it is most improper and irregular to introduce anything whatever of a Masonic character into the speeches or proceedings.

In acknowledging the following presentations, the Board takes the opportunity to report that the capacious and handsome room for the reception of the Library and Curiosities belonging to Grand Lodge, is now completed, and the Board will



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be most happy to receive any additions thereto, which the generosity of members of the Craft may place at its disposal.

TITLE OR OBJECT.	BY WHOM PRESENTED.
A Short Sketch of Freemasonry in Antigua, 1737-1899 (MS.)	R. H. K. Dyett, P.M. 492.
Oil Portrait of Col. H. S. Burney, P.G.D.	E. H. Grant, 834.
Freemasonry in Faversham, 1763-1899	Francis F. Giraud, P.P.G.W., &c.
Two Glass Goblets, engraved with Masonic emblems	George Graveley, Past G. Purst.
Jewel of Grand Representative of New York	George Kenning and Son.
Masonic Register for India, 1869	Isaac M. Shields, D.D.G.M. Bombay.
Medal of the Duke of Wellington	Harry N. Price, Past G. Std. Br.
Jewish Coin (King David)	Walter L. Phillips, 188.
Legal Episodes in the History of Freemasonry	W. J. Chetwode Crawley, LL.D., P.G. Deacon Ireland.
Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, 1868-188, and R.A. Regulations, 1891	The Grand Secretary of Iowa.
Transactions of Grand Lodges (Seven Volumes)	Alex. A. Clark, G. Librarian, New York.
Sundry Masonic Relics and Working Tools	J. M. McLeod, P.G. Std. Br.
Engraved Masonic Lamp-Shade	Lewis Lazarus, P.G. Purst.
Portuguese Masonic Medal	Judge Philbrick, Q.C., P.G.W.
Robertson's History of Freemasonry in Canada, 1899, two volumes	The Grand Chapter of Canada.
Records of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, 1869-1899	The G. Sec. of Connecticut.
Proceedings of Grand Chapter of Colorado, 1875-1899	The Grand Sec. of Colorado.
Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Colorado, 1861-1889	
South African Freemasons' Directory, 1891-92, 1896, 1897, 1898-99	Osborne H. Bate, P.D.G. Warden, &c.
Board of General Purposes, brethren nominated for election, 1900-1901	

NAME.	NOMINATED BY.
*Bro. William John Batho, P.M. 1708	Bro. Wm. Heap Bailey, P.G.T.
* " Arthur Blenkarn, P.M. 2381	" G. R. Langley, P.M. 2381.
* " James Whittaker Burgess, P.M. 1325	" Robert Wylie, P.G.D.
" Joseph Cohen, W.M. 72	" James Terry, P.G.S.B.
* " William Cleghorn, P.M. 1287	" C. Kempster, P.M. 1287.
* " Arthur George Duck, P.M. 898	" George Graveley, P.G.P.
* " John V. Vesey Fitzgerald, Q.C., P.M. 502	" F. Everest, P.M. 10.
" Bernard Groner, P.M. 1613	" J. W. Redden, W.M. 1613.
" Thomas Henry Hobbs, P.M. 177	" J. J. Thomas, P.G. Std. Br.
* " Major Charles J. Knightley, P.M. 174	" W. M. Stiles, P.G.T.
" Henry Kemp, P.M. 862	" James Terry, P.G.S.B.
* " William F. Lamonby, P.M. 952	" Richard Eve, P.G.T.
" Robert Manuel, P.M. 1196	" Richard Eve, P.G.T.
" Frederick Atkinson Powell, P.M. 2416	" Henry Lovegrove, P.G.S.B.
* " Charles Pulman, P.M. 720	" Henry Lovegrove, P.G.S.B.
" Charles J. Wilkinson Pimbury, P.M. 1997	" Henry Lovegrove, P.G.S.B.
" John Robertson Reep, P.M. 2241	" Henry Lovegrove, P.G.S.B.
* " Henry W. Roberts, M.D., P.M. 1293	" T. H. Gardiner, P.A.G.D.C.
* " James Beresford Ryley, M.D., P.M. 1423	" Chas. E. Keyser, P.G.D.
* " Arthur G. Sandberg, M.D., P.M. 3	" R. C. Sudlow, P.G. Std. Br.
* " James Speller, P.M. 1677	" J. Stephens, P.D.G.D.C.
" Edwin Styles, P.M. 704	" Ebenezer C. Mulvey, P.G.P.
" John Sulley, P.M. 1804	" George Graveley, P.G.P.
" Joshua Taylor, P.M. 534	" James Terry, P.G.S.B.
" Frank P. Telfer, P.M. 12	" W. A. Scurrah, P.G. Std. Br.
" Japheth Tickle, P.M. 1196	" Sir John Monckton, P.G.W.
* " Arthur Williams, P.M. 834	" William M. Stiles, P.G.T.
* " James Willing, jun., P.M. 1987	" William M. Stiles, P.G.T.

Note.—* Brethren who have during the past year served on the Board.
† Past Master of a Colonial Lodge.

The Board also submit a statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 11th day of May, 1900, showing a balance in the Bank of England (Law Courts Branch) of £11,787 13s. 5d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for Petty Cash £100, and for Servants, Wages £100.

(Signed) RICHARD LOVELAND-LOVELAND, President.
Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
15th May, 1900.

This being the last meeting of the present Board, it was resolved unanimously:

"That a most hearty and cordial vote of thanks be accorded the President, V.W. Bro. Richard Loveland-Loveland, Q.C., for the skill, ability, and courtesy displayed by him while presiding over the meetings of the Board during the past year.
(Signed) WILLIAM JAMES MASON, Vice-President.
15th May, 1900."

10. The Annual Report of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, dated 18th May, 1900, will be laid before Grand Lodge.

11. NOTICES OF MOTION.

- By Bro. JOHN A. FARNFIELD, P. Asst. G.D. of C.—
"That the sum of £70 be given from the Fund of General Purposes, and that the money be placed in the hands of the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, to supply the inmates of the Institution at Croydon with coals during the winter season."
- By Bro. JAMES WHITTAKER BURGESS, P.M. No. 1325, &c.—
"That for the greater convenience of the Craft, and especially that of the provincial brethren, the Quarterly Communications of Grand Lodge be in future held at six o'clock instead of seven o'clock as heretofore."

12. APPEAL.

By Lodge Palm, No. 2645, Bassein, Burma.
Against an alleged ruling of the District Grand Master of Burma.

List of brethren nominated for the Committee of Management for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons: Bros. Thomas Jones, P.G.D.; John T. C. Winkfield, P.A.G.D.C.; Thomas H. Nesbitt, P.A.G.D.C.; Henry A. Tobias, P.G. Std. Br.; Major Henry Wright, P.G.S.B.; William Barnes Fendick, P.G. Std. Br.; Samuel V. Abraham, P.G.P.; C. J. R. Tjijou, P.A.G.P.; Felix Kite, G.P.; and Walter S. Whitaker, Asst. G.P., nominated by Walter Gladding, Vice-Patron.

List of lodges for which warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge.
2804, The Seymour Lodge, Redditch, Warwickshire.
2805, The Balfour Cockburn Lodge, Guernsey.
2806, The Lodge of the Three Pillars, Cockington, Devon.

- 2807, The Paddington Rifles Lodge, London.
- 2808, The Erkenwald Lodge, London.
- 2809, The Capital and Counties Lodge, London.
- 2810, The Abiff Lodge, Saxmundham, Suffolk.
- 2811, The St. John's Lodge, Coventry, Warwickshire.
- 2812, The St. Martin's Lodge, Fenny Stratford, Bucks.
- 2813, The Hope Lodge, Savannalamar, Jamaica.
- 2814, The Fleetwood Lodge, Liverpool.
- 2815, The Southport Temperance Lodge, Southport, Lancashire.
- 2816, The Bowen Lodge, Chesham, Bucks.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASONS.

The following is the business to be transacted on Tuesday next, the 5th instant:

- Read and, if approved, confirm minutes of Quarterly Communication of 6th March, 1900, and Special Grand Lodge of 27th April, 1900.
- Report of the General Board.
- A motion will be made that the Report be taken as read.
- A motion will be made that the Report be received and entered on the minutes.
- Recommendation arising out of the Report—
That the sum of £26 be voted to a brother of the Canynges Lodge (T.I.).
- A motion will be proposed that the Report be adopted.
- Installation of the M.W. Grand Master.
- Appointment and investiture of Grand Officers.
- Nomination by the M.W.G.M. of six members to serve on the General Board.
- Election, by Grand Lodge, of five members to serve on the General Board. (Five only are nominated.)

LIST OF BRETHREN NOMINATED FOR THE GENERAL BOARD.

Masters and Past Masters.	Nominated by
*Richard Clowes, P.G. Overseer	J. Balfour Cockburn, P.G. Overseer. H. E. Cousans, P.G.D., G.D.C. J. C. F. Tower, P.G. Steward.
*Frederick West, Dep. Prov. G.M. Surrey	
*T. P. Dorman, Dep. Prov. G.M. Norths, Hunts, and Beds	
*Alfred F. Church, P.G. Overseer	
*Col. Clifford Probyn, P.G. Treasurer	

*Are present Members of the Board.

LOGIC CLUB.

The excellent work done by the Logic Club was fully demonstrated on Sunday morning, the 27th ult., when the last meeting of the session, at the Cavendish Rooms, W., was attended by about 80 brethren. In the *resumé* of the past session given by the Preceptor, Bro. Manuel, P.M., the great interest taken in the club by the members is clearly evinced, whilst the figures quoted by Bro. J. J. Thomas, P.G.S.B., Secretary of the Charity Association attached, proves the continued and valuable support given to the Masonic Institutions.

The lodge was opened, and a telegram despatched to Bro. R. Eve, P.G. Treas., regretting his absence through ill-health. Bro. R. Manuel, P.M., Preceptor, then proceeded to install Bro. J. P. Fitzgerald, P.M., the Secretary of the Club, as W.M., and once more justified his position as one of the foremost Preceptors by the accuracy of his working, and the sincere and sympathetic manner in which the beautiful ritual was rendered. Bro. Llewellyn sang "Be though faithful unto death," in first class style, and the Board of Installed Masters was attended by 30 Masters and P.Ms.

Bro. R. MANUEL, P.M., Preceptor, then gave a brief *resumé* of the past session, since October, 1899. At the opening there were under 100 members and two Grand Officers. There membership was now 162 and eight Grand Officers. There were 13 Worshipful Masters actually in the chair, and seven or eight Wardens who were anxious to become Masters. They had met 35 times during the season—with the exception of December 24th, known in the Club as Oyster Sunday—had rehearsed 34 ceremonies, eight installations, eight Third Degree, four Second Degree, and 12 initiation ceremonies. The other two Sundays were occupied in interchange of visits with the Genesis Club, a sister institution. One most interesting feature was the fact that five Wor. Masters occupied the chair for the first time in their Masonic experience. As far as his memory served, they were Bros. Dr. Keatley, Meyrick, Masters, Barnes, and Gatfield, who all discharged their trying duty very efficiently. Some of them were so much encouraged that they rehearsed the Second Degree. The record of the year was taken by Bro. Sleeman, who had occupied the chair three times, and had given in one morning the First Degree, the charge, and the first tracing board. During the session they had not been unmindful of others having given five guineas to the *Daily Telegraph* Fund, 20 guineas to the South African Masonic Relief Fund, and 90 guineas equally distributed between the three great Masonic Institutions. The Treasurer had sent out what he liked to see in so numerous a club—a frank statement of receipts and expenditure. Their finances were managed by three distinguished brethren, Bro. J. J. Thomas looking after the Charity section and Bro. Duck after their comforts. They could fairly congratulate themselves on the past session, and there was one other point he wished to mention. Two or three brethren had shown not only their interest in the club but a desire that it should be well furnished. A great deal of their comfort was due to individual enthusiasm, and seeing some detail wanting, these brethren at once presented it. He should like these brethren to feel that their little kindnesses had not been overlooked.

Bro. J. P. FITZGERALD reminded the brethren that Bros. Manuel and Duck were both candidates for election to the Board of General Purposes on June 6th. The sub-committee appointed to consider the summer outing announced that it would take place on Sunday, June 24th, from Boulter's Lock, by electric launch, to Henley, concluding with a banquet at the Red Lion Hotel.

Bro. J. J. THOMAS, P.G.S.B., referred to the Masonic Benevolent Association in connection with the club, and reminded the members that in order to complete the Preceptor's list of 100 guineas to the Girls' and Boys' School, one subscriber was wanted for the former and six for the latter.

Bro. J. P. FITZGERALD, P.M., introduced to the brethren Bro. Sultan Mohamad Khan who was shortly leaving England for Afghanistan.

Bro. Sultan MOHAMAD KHAN expressed his delight with the working and his regret that he had not had the pleasure of attending before. He hoped that very soon he would be able to return to England and again visit this club, of which he had a high opinion. He hoped the members would prosper and that the Logic Club would be very prosperous when he came back to England.

On the proposition of the PRECEPTOR, seconded by Bro. J. P. FITZGERALD, P.M., Bro. Sultan Mohamad Khan was elected an honorary member, the only other honorary member of the club being Bro. Alfred Bishop.

Bro. Sultan Mohamad Khan, Mir Munshi of Afghanistan, acknowledged the compliment. He considered Freemasonry the most noble Institution in the world, as it endeavoured to unite the various peoples of various countries. He assured them that the balance of the peace of the world appeared in the far East. If the great Powers would remain friendly, there would be peace as long as they were united on the question of the East, and if there should be any great war it would be only on the disputes about questions in the far East. The balance of peace was the kingdom of Afghanistan, which was a barrier and strong wall between the two great empires of England and Russia. He could assure them he hoped it would be by means of Freemasonry—that noble Institution in which the Logic Club had taken so great a part—that Afghanistan and Great Britain would be more closely united. His earnest desire was to open the first lodge in Afghanistan, and if its future ruler could be initiated by the M.W.G.M., it would be another bond of union between the Queen and the Ameer. They must not judge by a few gutter papers that the Queen was not being devotedly worshipped by all her subjects, for all foreign emperors looked upon her as an example of a virtuous lady, and the most virtuous of all sovereigns, a pride to her friends and a terror to her enemies.

Lodge was then closed, and the club adjourned until October.

The large number of brethren included Bros. R. Manuel, P.M., Preceptor; J. J. Thomas, P.G.S.B.; J. P. Fitzgerald, P.M.; J. M. McLeod, P.G. Std. Br., Sec. R.M.I.B.; Guy Repton, G.D.; Harry Nichols, P.M. 2127; A. Craddock, P.M. 2150; H. G. Danby, P.M. 1056; W. J. Rowle, P.M. 2021; W. Hancock, P.M. 2191; C. F. Quicke, P.M. 1531; T. H. Hobbs, P.M. 177; E. Gilbert, P.M. 173; E. J. Gordon, P.M. 2090; E. Gerson, W.M. 2427; A. Watson, P.P.G.S.B.; W. E. Haycock, P.M. 901; L. Foppoli, W.M. 2687; G. F. Goldstein, W.M. 2265; J. R. Meyrick, W.M. 2146; C. J. Miller, P.M. 1672; H. Times, P.M. 165; W. H. Latham, W.M. 1962; H. Saumion, P.M. 1423; Nathan Robinson, P.M. 85; W. W. Woods, P.M. 1986; R. D. Cummings, P.M.; Sultan Mohamad Khan, Trehawke Davies, W. W. Lee, and many others.

N. AND E. YORKSHIRE MASONIC EDUCATIONAL FUND.

TRIENNIAL FESTIVAL IN YORK.

The half-yearly meeting of the Charities Association of North and East Yorkshire was held on the 21st ult., by the kind invitation of the Lord Mayor in the State Room of the Mansion House. Lord Bolton, Dep. Prov. G. Master, presided, supported by the Marquess of Zetland, R.W. Prov. G. Master, the Lord Mayor of York (Bro. Alderman Sykes-Rymer), and a large number of Charity Representatives from the various lodges in the province.

It was shown that since the establishment of the fund annual grants, varying from £8 to £10, had been made to children of deceased brethren to the total amount of £1762, and that there were 25 children now on the books. Three children were elected on the fund. Lord Bolton was re-elected Chairman, the Lord Mayor of York Vice-Chairman, and Bro. M. C. Peck, Hon. Secretary.

The Marquess of ZETLAND proposed a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor of York for placing the room at their disposal.

Lord BOLTON seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation.

The LORD MAYOR said it was a pleasure to him to receive the brethren there, and as he thought they would like to inspect the unique plate belonging to the Corporation, he had had it put out for them to see. (Applause.)

A vote of thanks to Lord Bolton for presiding closed the proceedings.

The Lady Mayoress subsequently received the brethren at afternoon tea. The festival banquet of the Educational Fund was held in the evening at Harker's Hotel, under the presidency of the Marquess of Zetland, and there was a large attendance of leading members of the Craft from York and other parts of the province.

The Marquess of ZETLAND, in proposing "Her Majesty the Queen," said that from the earliest days of Freemasonry in this country all those connected with the Craft had been conspicuous for their loyalty. (Applause.) Although peace and harmony were noticeable features connected with Freemasonry, Freemasons were second to none in their devotion to their country and loyalty to their Queen. (Applause.)

The next toast was "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl Amherst, M.W. Pro. Grand Master, and the Right Hon. the Earl of Warwick, R.W. Deputy Grand Master," and in proposing it the noble CHAIRMAN said that the Craft was proud of its Grand Master—(applause)—and they were all sincerely thankful that his Royal Highness had providentially escaped assassination. (Loud applause.) He had no hesitation in saying that Freemasonry had flourished under the rule of the Prince of Wales, and long might he live to reign over them. His lordship spoke in eulogistic terms of the services rendered by the Earl Amherst, the Earl of Warwick, and other Grand Officers.

Bro. the Lord Mayor of York (Alderman SYKES RYMER) proposed "The Most Hon. the Marquess of Zetland, K.T., R.W. Prov. G.M. of North and East Lancashire, and the Right Hon. Lord Bolton, P.G.W. Eng., R.W. Deputy Prov. G.M. of North and East Yorkshire," and said that it was a great pleasure to him to submit the toast of the evening. They were always pleased to see the Marquess of Zetland amongst them, and they knew that he was so loyal to the Order and the province that if his lordship possibly could he always put in an appearance. (Applause.) He congratulated the noble marquess on looking so well after his yachting cruise in the Mediterranean. Nothing would rejoice the heart of their Prov. Grand Master more than to know that this festival was a success. (Applause.) There had been no failure since it had been established, and he hoped that this year's progress would induce more lodges and members to join, and that they would never let the fund flag. They ought to be upon the up-grade so that they might be prepared for any emergency. (Applause.) So far they had been able to meet all claims on the Educational Fund, and he expressed the hope that the fund would be enlarged so that it might launch out in the direction of relieving distressed Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons. He hoped that Lord Zetland would long be at the head of the Craft in the province. (Applause.) The Lord Mayor spoke in eulogistic terms of the services rendered by Lord Bolton to all branches of Masonry.

The Marquess of ZETLAND, in reply, said that he had had the honour for a number of years of filling the position of Provincial Grand Master, and in reply to the kind remarks of the Lord Mayor with regard to his looks, he might say that he never felt better than during the moments that he was passing in the company of his brother Freemasons. (Loud applause.) It was, he said, a great pleasure to him to see such a large and representative gathering that evening, and his lordship went on to deal with the charges made against Freemasons by those who were uninitiated in the mysteries of the Craft. He fully admitted that Freemasons did enjoy the opportunities given to them for social intercourse, but at the same time he had only to point to the Masonic Charities, and these would give an emphatic answer to the assertion that Freemasons were not mindful of the wants of others. (Applause.) He had been reminded that during the past year £50 207 had been subscribed for the three great Charities, and that fact alone pointed out to the outside world that they had formed an inaccurate estimate of the objects of Freemasons. (Applause.) The Educational Fund was another proof that Freemasons were generally mindful of the needs of others, and were ever ready to give assistance to those who were worthy of it. (Applause.) It was established in 1877, and since the day of its earliest infancy it had been engaged in good and useful work. The first festival was held in York in 1889, when he had the honour of presiding, and was supported by H.R.H. the late Duke of Clarence. Since then the Fund had been well supported, and had been admirably administered. He spoke of the valuable assistance rendered by Bro. W. H. Cowper, Charity Representative of the province, and the interest displayed in the matter by the charity representatives of the various lodges in the province. The results of the last Festival, in 1897, induced the committee to increase the grants £2 per child. Since the institution of the Fund grants have been made towards the education of 58 children, nine had been elected to the Masonic Schools, 23 have ceased by age, and 26 children received benefit from the Fund to the amount of £271 per year. Their income from investments was only £98, yet every application brought before the committee had been entertained, and since the Elementary Education Act of 1891 the Fund had enlarged its scope so as to include maintenance and clothing of children when occasion requires. (Applause.) He had always taken a great interest in the Fund, and he hoped that it would continue to prosper. He proposed success to the Fund.

Bro. A. FARMER replied to the toast, and said that Bro. M. C. Peck, the Prov. Grand Secretary, had worked up the Charity Association in a wonderful manner, and he trusted that they would be as successful in the future as they had been in the past. (Applause.) He would like to say that as the Association advanced he thought they should not restrict their help to only one of a family of orphans.

The PROV. GRAND SECRETARY announced the result of the festival as £1054 3s. (Applause.) Last festival the amount was £1051 14s.

Bro. W. R. HUDSON, Prov. G. Sec. Durham, proposed "The Great Masonic Charities," and spoke of the kindness his province had always received from the province of N. and E. Yorkshire. He said that 280 girls were being educated in the Girls' School and 260 boys in the Boys' School, whilst a very large number of old people were receiving annuitants from the Benevolent Fund. (Applause.)

Bro. W. H. COWPER responded, and alluded to the kindly feelings which existed between the three provinces of North and East Yorkshire, Durham, and West Yorkshire. During the past 10 years this province had elected five girls, 10 boys, four widows, and six old men to the different Charities, and that was a fact which they should be proud of. (Applause.)

The remaining toast was "The York Lodge, No. 236," which was proposed by the PROV. G. SECRETARY.

Bro. F. W. LAUGHTON, I.P.M. 236, replied.

Bro. A. Sample, P.P.G.O., officiated at the piano, and during the evening some excellent songs added to the enjoyment of the assembled brethren.

CONSECRATION OF THE DUNMOW MARK LODGE, No. 527.

The first lodge to be added to the roll of Essex Mark lodges since the formation of the county into a separate province about a year ago, was consecrated at Dunmow on Wednesday, the 23rd ult., by Col. Lockwood, M.P., D.P.G.M., acting on behalf of the Earl of Warwick, the Prov. G.M., who is abroad recruiting his health.

The gallant colonel reached Dunmow about one o'clock, and was met at the station by the Master-Designate of the new lodge—Bro. J. P. Lewin, P.M. 145, 342, P.G. Std. Br., &c., and the Prov. S.G.W., Bro. Claude E. Egerton-Green, and was conducted to the Saracen's Head Hotel, where, with the other Provincial Grand Officers, he was entertained at luncheon by the local brethren.

Subsequently lodge was opened by the Provincial Grand Secretary (Bro. T. J. Ralling, P.G.D.), and Col. Lockwood having entered, accompanied by his officers, took the chair, and was received with the honours due to his rank. He then addressed a few words to the brethren of the new lodge. After expressing regret at the absence of the Provincial Grand Master, the gallant colonel congratulated the brethren on being the first fruits of the new Mark Province of Essex, and trusted that in other parts of the county an impetus might be thereby given to the Mark Degree, and that before long the officers of the province might be called upon to consecrate another lodge.

Bro. the Rev. Canon QUENNEL, Prov. G. Chap., in the course of an eloquent address traced the development of the Masonic life of a man from his entrance into the Craft; how gradually, as he advanced in Masonic knowledge, he realised that the foundations on which the Order rests are laid broad, deep, and strong, and combine reverence to God, obedience to authority, charity to man. And when they came to the honourable Degree of Mark Master, to which it was the privilege of some Masons to be advanced, they saw in it a further adornment and equipment of the Masonic structure, and in the principles it taught a further illustration of the perfect character to which both as men and as Masons they should all aspire. They would all, he felt sure, agree that in this Degree the original principles of the Craft were still recognised and, indeed, emphasised, though, no doubt, further graces springing from them were developed and illustrated in the ceremony. The first was industry—to every man his work—his own especial stone to be fashioned according to the plan and pattern given him from

above; with the mark of his own individuality stamped upon it—with a certain reward from One who was just and exact, but who was merciful. A second was patient continuance and perseverance, notwithstanding the disappointment of what at first seemed to be failure. For as an encouragement to resource and effort, the teaching of this honourable Degree was that no real and true work was ever lost. It might be misunderstood by our fellow men. It might for a while, as it appeared, be unproductive and unobserved, but it was not lost. It was under the observance of the Eye that oversaw all, it would be brought to light, purified from all its imperfections, and so far as it was honest and pure would be admitted to the high dignity of being approved for the Master's work.

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, those assisting the D.P.G.M. being Bros. Claude E. Egerton-Green, Prov. S.G.W., as S.W.; Col. London, Prov. J.G.W., as J.W.; Rev. Canon Quennell, Prov. G.C., as Chap.; T. J. Ralling, P.G.D., Prov. G. Sec., as Sec.; R. Clowes, P.G.O., Prov. G.D.C., as D.C.; and John J. C. Turner, P.M. 145, P.P.S.G.W., as I.G.

The lodge was then regularly constituted by Bro. Col. Lockwood, and the Benediction having been pronounced by the Prov. G.C., this portion of the proceedings closed.

The D. Prov. G.M. then invited Bro. Claude E. Egerton-Green, Prov. S.G.W., to take the chair, for the purpose of installing the W.M. designate, Bro. J. P. Lewin, P.M. 145, 342, P.P.G. Std. Br., &c. This he did in a most impressive manner, and at the conclusion of the ceremony, the new W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Fred. J. Snell, P.M. 342, S.W.; James E. Pegram, P.M. 342, J.W.; J. G. Mackenzie, P.M. 342, Sec.; John Wright, P.M. 342, M.O.; Edmund Piper, S.O.; Arthur Livermore, J.O.; Charles Livermore, S.D.; and William Turner, J.D.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the D.P.G.M. and other Consecrating Officers for their services, and they were elected honorary members, while the W.M. invited the Prov. G. Sec. to act as I.P.M. for the first year of the lodge.

In the evening a meeting of the new lodge was held, when six brethren were received into the Order.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF EAST ANGLIA.

The annual meeting of the above Prov. G. Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Corn Exchange-street, Cambridge, on the 22nd ult. In the absence of Bros. Lord Henniker and Sir Francis G. M. Boileau, Bro. H. J. Sparkes, P.D.G.M. Bengal, presided. The lodge was held under the banner of the York Lodge, No. 334, which meets at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge, the W.M. being Bro. G. R. Barnes.

After the usual transaction of business the following officers were appointed:

Bro. G. W. G. Barnard, 92	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" W. Fawssett, 334	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" R. H. Adie, 112	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" W. J. Nunn, 105	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" W. Kent, 70	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. Dr. Cunningham, 112	...	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. A. O. Brown, 112	...	...
" A. J. Wells, 317 (elected)	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" G. R. Barnes, 334	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Major C. D. Leech, 105	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" H. E. Greef, 334	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" C. H. Rust, 92	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" W. Briggs, 112	...	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" R. J. Carthew, 70	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" W. Patrick, 105	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" F. H. Potts, 334	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" C. Laceley, 334	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" A. H. Mann, 92	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" E. Sparke, 105	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" F. W. Miller, 334	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" J. Hewitt, 105	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

In the absence of the D. of C. and Asst. D. of C., Bro. Major Papworth, acted as D. of C. during the day.

There was a luncheon at the Lion Hotel, at which Bro. H. J. Sparkes presided.

After the meeting the brethren visited the Museum (thanks to Dr. James), and were shown over it by Bro. H. A. Chapman. At King's College Chapel, Bro. Dr. H. A. Mann gave a short organ recital. Among other places visited were Trinity College and St. John's hall and combination room.

The brethren were afterwards entertained to tea and refreshments by the members of the York Lodge at the Lion Hotel.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Royal Military Chapter, No. 89.

The first annual meeting of the above chapter since its reconstitution in 1899 was held at the Masonic Hall, Aldershot, on Wednesday, the 21st ult. The business on the agenda of the summons was to confirm the minutes of last regular meeting, to ballot for Alfred B. Bedford, a candidate for perfection, and to install the M.W.S. for the ensuing year. Owing to the war in South Africa, a number of its members were on active service, and, in consequence, the chapter found itself in some considerable difficulty. However, on appealing to Ill. Bro. Capt. Portlock Dadson, 33, the G. Secretary of the Supreme Council, for aid, he suggested that the Recorder should represent and explain the case to the Ill. Bro. John Read, 30, and he speedily decided, and kindly consented to go down to Aldershot and carry out the duties of installation. The chapter having been opened, and the preliminary business disposed of, Bro. John Read proceeded to install E. and P. Bro. John Youd, the M.W.S. elect, into the chair in a most able and impressive manner, who appointed his officers as follows: E. and P. Bros. the Rev. G. F. Cartwright, Prelate; H. G. Marshallsay, 1st General; A. H. Smith, 2nd General; Richard Eve, P.G.T. Eng., Treasurer; Major Napier-Clavering, Recorder; A. John Colledge, Marshal; H. Llewellyn Allen, Raphael; Henry Lehmann, P.M. W.S.,

D.C.; Norman Clinton, Herald; G. H. Atkinson, C. of G.; and W. Burns, Outer Guard.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the alms were collected, and the newly-installed M.W.S. proceeded to move that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to the illustrious Bro. John Read, 30, for his kindness in coming down at such short notice to do the work, and also in recognition of the able manner which the installation ceremony had been performed. This was seconded by Bro. H. G. Marshallsay, the 1st General, and carried with acclamation, and was ordered to be entered on the minutes.

The brethren then adjourned for refreshment, after which the usual loyal toasts were given, and an earnest desire was expressed that the acquaintance thus made with the Installing Master would be resumed at future meetings.

The chapter, which has just resumed work after being in abeyance for some 14 years, bears amongst its P.M.W. Sovereigns, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, 33; Ill. Bro. G. S. Kirchhoffer, 32; and Ill. Bro. Colonel A. S. Knight Prescott, 31; and it was principally owing to the support given by the two last-named brethren that the charter was re-issued by the Supreme Council; now everything points to a flourishing future being in front of the chapter.

Royal Arch.

Fidelity Chapter, No. 3.

A meeting was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 4th ultimo. Among those present were Comps. Col. W. Hart, M.E.Z.; H. J. Lardner, I.P.Z.; P.P.G. Std. Br., as H.; H. E. Birch, J.; W. J. Collens, P.Z.; P.P.S.G.W., S.E.; J. Heming, P.Z., Treas.; Cooper, 1st A.S.; F. McDougall, P.Z.; Weeks, P.Z.; J. Birch, P.Z.; W. Ratcliffe, P.Z.; Mapleton, P.Z.; and Major T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C. Comp. H. Sheriff was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. Apologies for non-attendance were read from Comps. S. Cochrane, P.G. Treas.; H. C. Pratt, S.N.; Spawforth, P.S.; Campbell, 2nd A.S.; and others.

The chapter was then closed. A banquet followed. "The Health of the M.E.Z." was duly proposed, after the customary loyal toasts had been duly honoured. The I.P.Z., in proposing the toast, dwelt at length upon the genial qualities of the First Principal. He said that Comp. Col. Hart in the Craft and Mark had won distinction. His working in the minor offices in the Arch had been creditably done, and having mastered the arduous ritual of the First Principal's chair, he was only waiting an opportunity to display his capabilities. It was to be hoped that that chance might yet be his.

The M.E.Z. having briefly replied, gave "The H. and J." He regretted that the Second Principal's (Comp. S. Cochrane) absence was caused through indisposition. He was one of the most popular companions in the chapter, and, as one of its exaltees, the members were proud of the great position he had attained in Freemasonry. Comp. Birch was a Past Master of some years' standing in the Craft, and would doubtless in time achieve distinction in the Royal Arch.

The toast having been warmly received, the Third Principal made a humorous response in reply.

The toast of "The Visitors" was coupled with the name of Comp. Sheriff; that of "The Past Principals" with Comp. H. J. Lardner; and that of "The Officers" with Comps. W. J. Collens, S.N., and Cooper, 1st A.S.

The proceedings then terminated.

Kennington Chapter, No. 1381.

The installation meeting of this chapter was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, on the 10th ult., when there were present Comps. W. Smith, M.E.Z.; H. Whitney, H., M.E.Z. elect; Hale, J., H. elect; W. Wolsey, S.N., J. elect; George Everett, P.Z., P.G. Treas.; Clay, 1st A.S.; W. Hopkins, Org.; Major T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C.; H. J. Lardner, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B.; C. H. Kohler, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B.; and Dennis, P.Z.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, Comp. Major Walls installed Comp. Whitney as M.E.Z., and Comp. Lardner installed Comp. Hale as H., and Comp. Wolsey as J. Among the officers invested were Comps. G. Everett, Treas.; Clay, 1st A.S.; Hopkins, 2nd A.S.; and C. Patrick, Janitor. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Principals. Communications regretting inability to attend were received from Comps. H. Higgins, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C., S.E.; A. Lundie, P.Z.; W. W. Westley, P.Z., and others. The chapter was then closed.

An excellently served banquet followed. The toast of "The Grand Officers" was coupled with the name of Comp. George Everett, who made a fluent speech in response.

"The Health of the M.E.Z." was given by the I.P.Z. The First Principal, in reply, expressed himself as being highly gratified in being installed that day as M.E.Z. He had gradually worked up from the most minor office, and although he could not claim to have achieved great success, yet he had done his best. As M.E.Z., he would endeavour to carry out the best traditions of No. 1381, a chapter which had had and still possessed some of the best workers in the Royal Arch Degree.

The toast of "The H. and J." followed, and was briefly acknowledged by Comps. Hale and Wolsey.

"The Health of the Past Principals" followed, and was coupled with the name of Comp. W. Smith, I.P.Z., who was also the recipient of a handsome Past Principal's jewel.

In giving "The Installing Principals," the M.E.Z. paid a very high compliment to those companions, and he coupled the toast with the name of Comp. H. J. Lardner, who modestly responded.

The next toast submitted was that of "The S.E. and Treasurer." The M.E.Z. enlarged upon the merits and good qualities of Comp. Henry Higgins, S.E., who, at that time, was *en route* for Rome. He hoped that the change of air and scene would benefit their respected and venerable friend and companion. The services of Comp. George Everett to No. 1381 could not be too highly commended. He was the father of the chapter, and a most indefatigable Treasurer, and long might he be spared in conjunction with Comp. Higgins to hold his important trust.

Comp. George Everett briefly replied, but in his speech endorsed the remarks of the M.E.Z. as to the services of his colleague, the S.E., whose holiday he trusted would be in every way enjoyable and beneficial.

The toast of "The Officers" terminated the proceedings.

Mark Masonry.

Prince of Wales' Lodge, No. 4.

The installation meeting was held at Mark Masons' Hall, Gt. Queen-st., W.C., on the 28th ult. The W.M., Bro. J. R. Reep, was present, but through recent indisposition Bro. John Smith, A.G.I.G., was requested to undertake the ceremonies, which he did in his able and perfect manner. After the reading of the minutes, Bros. T. W. Churchill and R. G. Young were advanced to the Mark Degree. Bro. H. Lovegrove, P.G. Insp. of Works, presented Bro. J. Campbell Johnstone, and he was duly installed into the chair of A., and invested his officers as follows: Bros. A. E. Mullins, S.W.; Major F. Larner, J.W.; J. R. Reep, I.P.M.; H. J. Vinden, M.O.; Gordon Hills, S.O.; W. Lawrance, J.O.; H. Lovegrove, Treas.; C. Braby, R. of M.; Chas. Pulman, Sec.; T. D. C. Leverett, S.D.; T. W. Churchill, J.D.; R. G. Young, I.G.; J. Read, Org.; and E. J. Mills, Tyler. In addition to the officers there were present: Bros. C. J. Axford, P.G. Std.; A. Lowe, P.M.; and W. F. Butes, P.M. The visitors present were: Bros. C. F. Hughes-Hallett, A. Edwin Green, J. Alfred Clarke, George Clark, P.G. Std., G. M. E. Hamillon, and others. A jewel of the usual design was presented to Bro. Reep, J.P.M.

A banquet followed. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. J. Read, P.G. Org., assisted by Mrs. Read, Miss Sexton, and Bro. Llewellyn.

THE MANCHESTER HOTEL,

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EVERY THURSDAY MIDNIGHT (commencing June 14th).—To CHESTER, BIRKENHEAD & LIVERPOOL, for a week, a fortnight, &c.

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT.—To ENETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, PLYMOUTH, Bodmin, Wadebridge, Fowey, Newquay, TRURO, FALMOUTH, St. Ives, PENZANCE, &c., for a week, a fortnight, &c.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 1900.

Masonic Notes.

The business entered on the Agenda paper for transaction at the Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge on Wednesday, the 6th instant, is for the most part of the usual character, the most notable exception being the receipt of a communication from the M.W. Grand Master acknowledging the Address expressing the congratulations of Grand Lodge to his Royal Highness on "his merciful preservation upon the recent attempt on his life." We had looked forward to seeing included in the programme a recom-

mendation from the M.W.G. Master to vote a grant of money to the Indian Famine Fund, but there is nothing of the kind, and the business is restricted to the elections usual at this time, and the Reports of the Boards of Benevolence and General Purposes.

* * *

The Report of the latter mentions that it had found itself under the necessity of summoning before it two lodges on the charge of permitting toasts of a Masonic character to be proposed and responded to at banquets in the presence of ladies and non-Masons, and that it has felt it to be its duty to seriously admonish them for so grave an irregularity. It points out emphatically that it is "both improper and irregular to introduce anything whatever of a Masonic character" into the proceedings at banquets at which ladies and others who are not members of the Craft are being entertained as guests.

* * *

The Board makes the further and very acceptable announcement that the large and handsome room intended for the reception of the Library and Museum is completed, and they express the hope that the members of the Craft will generously place at their disposal such additions as they may be able to furnish. We trust that, as time goes on, our Grand Lodge Library and Museum may become, between purchases and gifts, in every way worthy of the mother Grand Lodge of the world.

* * *

Of the 13 new lodges for which his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to grant warrants of constitution since the March communication of Grand Lodge, three, namely, the Paddington Rifles Lodge, No. 2807; the Erkenwald Lodge, No. 2808; and the Capital and Counties Lodge, No. 2809; are located in London; and one—the Hope Lodge, No. 2813, Savannalamar—in the District of Jamaica. The other nine are located in the Provinces: the St. Martin's Lodge, No. 2812, Fenny Stratford, and the Bowen Lodge, No. 216, Chesham, in Buckinghamshire; the Fleetwood Lodge, No. 2814, Liverpool, and the Southport Temperance Lodge, No. 2815, Southport, in the Province of West Lancashire; and the Seymour Lodge, No. 2804, Redditch, and the St. John's Lodge, No. 2811, Coventry, in the Province of Warwickshire; the Balfour Cockburn Lodge, No. 2805, Guernsey, in Guernsey and Alderney; the Lodge of the Three Pillars, No. 2806, Cockington, in Devonshire; and Abiff Lodge, No. 2810, Saxmundham, in the Province of Suffolk.

* * *

The result of these additions is that Buckinghamshire will now have 22 lodges on its roll; West Lancashire, 124 lodges, Warwickshire, 34 lodges; Guernsey and Alderney, 7 lodges; Devonshire, 60 lodges; and Suffolk, 23 lodges. The number of lodges for which warrants of constitution have been granted since the publication, early in December last, of the Grand Lodge Calendar is 23.

* * *

The Quarterly Communication of Mark Grand Lodge will be held at Mark Masons' Hall on Tuesday, the 5th instant, and when the Grand Officers for the ensuing year have been appointed and invested, and the other business on the Agenda paper transacted, the Grand Festival will be held at the adjoining Freemasons' Tavern.

* * *

The Report of the General Board which will be laid before Grand Lodge shows that during the quarter to 31st March, 727 Mark certificates were issued, raising the number of registered Mark Master Masons to 41,483. There have also been granted since the March communication warrants for five new lodges, of which Philanthropic, No. 538, King's Lynn, belongs to East Anglia, and the North Devon Union, No. 540, Ilfracombe, to the Province of Devonshire; while Friendship, No. 536, and Union, No. 537, are added to the roll of the District Grand Lodge of North Africa; and Bundaberg Lodge, No. 539, to that of Queensland. Royal Ark Mariner certificates to the number of 79 were issued during the March quarter, raising the total number registered to 6205.

* * *

This (Friday) afternoon the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will again be honoured by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, M.W. Past G.M., Prov. G.M. Sussex, Dist. G.M. Bombay, who, with the Duchess of Connaught, will drive down to Wood Green and inspect the School, her Royal Highness having very graciously consented to distribute the prizes to those

of the pupils who have been awarded class and other distinctions during the past year. We have no doubt that those who are fortunate enough to receive their prizes from the hands of the Duchess will in after life look upon the event as marking one of the brightest of the red-letter days of their boyhood.

* * *

We have been requested to announce that Thursday, the 7th instant, is the last day on which petitions for the October Election of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls must reach the offices of the Institution, 5, Freemasons' Hall, W.C. It is, however, very desirable that they should be forwarded as much before that date as possible.

* * *

We are glad to see that the "South African Masonic Relief Fund" is gradually mounting up, and that the total to the close of last week, inclusive of the £256 4s. from the Province of Durham, substantially exceeded £6000, and we trust that before many weeks are over we shall be in a position to record that the round sum of £10,000 has been recorded in our columns. In addition, however, to the £6000 already acknowledged by us, there is a further sum of between £6000 and £7000 that has been subscribed to the "Mansion House, the *Daily Telegraph* Shilling," and other War and Refugee Funds, so that the Masonic body may fairly claim that it is doing its duty.

* * *

The half-yearly meeting of Great Priory of the Order of the Temple on Friday, the 11th ult., appears to have been a more than usually successful one. The Supreme Grand Master, the Earl of Euston, presided, and there were present, not only a numerous gathering of Great Officers and Sir Knights, but there were also deputations from the Great Priory of Ireland and the Chapter General of Scotland, to whom a hearty greeting was extended. The Report of the Council was a very favourable one, and as the Great Treasurer was in a position to show balances in the General and Benevolent Funds amounting together to upwards of £850, it was unanimously agreed to vote a sum of 100 guineas to the Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund, at which the Earl of Euston has consented to preside.

* * *

We unfortunately omitted the name of V.E. Knight Charles Fendelow, G.C.J., from those present at the meeting of the Great Priory reported in our last week's issue.

* * *

With reference to Bro. J. S. Cumberland's motion at the recent annual meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for removing from the lists of candidates the names of those who fail to secure election after four applications, when it first came under our notice, we expressed ourselves as unfavourably inclined towards it, but it was certainly not a motion meriting the description given of it by Bro. E. W. Nightingale as being "the most unMasonic resolution" ever heard of. There is nothing unMasonic in proposing time limitations to candidature any more than there is in fixing limits of age for candidates. If there is anything of the kind—which we fail to realise—it must be in recommending people as candidates, who have not the shadow of a chance of being elected.

* * *

A short while since a friend very kindly forwarded us a cutting from a Roman Catholic organ on the subject of "Catholics and Freemasonry," in the belief that it might interest us. And so it would have done had we not read the same statements in well-nigh innumerable cuttings from similar newspapers. Whence the writer of the communication obtained his information is not very material; he says: "from members of the Craft, both Protestants, and, I am sorry to say, Catholics." According to the writer's informant, there is a superior kind of lodge, whose behests all other lodges are bound to obey under the most tremendous penalties. There is, of course, nothing new, as we have said, in these assertions, and, of course, there is nothing to be gained by repeating for the hundredth, or it may be, the thousandth time that the statement is erroneous.

* * *

We are pleased to find, from the letter we published last week from Bro. Capt. W. Portlock Dadson, 33°, G. Secretary-General of the Supreme Council, 33°, of the A. and A. Rite, that that body declines to grant dispensations to its members to wear the clothing of the Degrees at church parades.

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.

"ENGLISH LODGES" IN MONTREAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have been very much interested in reading your brief introduction to Bro. David McCord's excellent circular respecting the three lodges that assemble in Montreal, though on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England. You remark that, coming as it does "from a well-known Mason, it seems to be entitled to some weight." My opinion is that Bro. McCord's letter, and most opportune communication as to the subject, is entitled to great weight, as he is a P.M. of one of the three lodges concerned (viz., St. Paul's), and, in recommending that the members throw in their lot with the Grand Lodge of Quebec, he loyally promises to abide by the decision of the brethren; so that his motives and aims are truly Masonic.

He states that the three lodges hold in their hands the happy solution—

"We are in a position to obtain any fair terms we like to ask, but, what is of far more value, in a position to give a practical object lesson in the principles of the Craft which are dear to us—peace and unity."

It is quite true that should the brethren decide to unite with the local Grand Lodge—the governing Body of the Province—they will be no less English in their views, and, for my part, I hope and pray most fervently that, for the sake of Masonic fraternity and good fellowship, and to present a united front as one undivided Brotherhood in Quebec, the members of the trio of "English lodges" will unanimously and heartily agree to return their warrants, and become an integral part of the Grand Lodge of the Province.

As to terms, they need not fear but that more than justice even will be done them, for their adhesion will be a source of joy and delight to the governing Body; and as to England, the members may rest assured that we under our own Grand Lodge will bid them "God-speed" in their new relationship.

I fail to see any reason why the Board of General Purposes of England should take steps in the matter "to assist in bringing these three lodges into the fold of the Grand Lodge of Quebec," for neither it nor have we, as members, any right to interfere in the slightest degree. It is purely for the brethren of the lodges immediately affected. They have demonstrated their right to keep on our roll, and now I trust they will exercise the privilege to join the Grand Lodge of Quebec. They can do either as they please; but I hope they will choose "the more excellent way."—Yours fraternally,

WM. JAMES HUGHAN
(Formerly Hon. Past S.G.W. of Quebec).

"Dunscrope," Torquay,
May 26th.

THE PROPOSED ROSE CROIX SERVICE AT SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

It may interest your readers to know that only three names were sent in so that if the consent of the Supreme Council had been obtained the meeting could not have been held.

I simply write as requested, as I am not much in favour of public parades of Masons.—Yours fraternally,

H. LOVEGROVE.

MEETINGS OF GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I hope that the proposed alteration in the time of meeting will be carried out without a dissentient voice, as the present arrangement has been grumbled about for years.

The present early hour of five for the Grand Officers' mess is very inconvenient, and keeps many away from the meetings. It will, I think, be found that meeting at six the Grand Lodge will be over by half-past seven, and if at times the proceedings are prolonged, there is nothing unusual, as many installation banquets are half-an-hour to an hour behind the time fixed by the summons. Let every member of Grand Lodge be prepared to support the motion.

I conclude that the alteration has the approval of the authorities.—Yours fraternally,

PAST GRAND OFFICER.

Reviews.

AMERICA ABROAD.—The Annual Handbook for American Travellers, for 1900. Tenth year of Publication, Edited by J. W. Cundall, London; Published for the Proprietor, 8 and 9, Essex-street, Strand, London, W.C.; and Lawrence Greening and Co., Limited, 20, Cecil Court, Charing Cross-road, W.C. Americans visiting this and the different continental States in Europe will find "America Abroad" an invaluable guide to all the places of interest in London and the other capitals and most important provincial cities. Churches, public buildings of every kind, theatres, museums, art galleries are all accurately located and sufficiently described, and the fact of the handbook having reached its 10th year of publication is ample proof of its popularity. Moreover, every alternate page contains an illustration of a building or street and there is, to crown all, a very good map of London. We have, therefore, very great pleasure in recommending it to intending American visitors. The price is only sixpence per copy.

BAT V. BALL.—The Book of Individual Cricket Records, &c. 1864-1900. Compiled by J. H. Lester, Nottingham: Published by Boots, Wholesale Printing and Stationery Department. London: Simpkin Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co., Limited.—The issue of such a book as this must have entailed upon the publisher as well as upon the compiler an enormous amount of labour and anxiety, but both appear to have done their part admirably. Mr. Lester has accumulated an amount of statistical information relating to cricket extending over some 35 or 36 years, which can only be realised by those who dip into the pages of the Handbook; while, as regards accuracy in the details, so far as we have tested it, there appears to be nothing wanting. Lovers of cricket, and especially those who take pleasure in keeping records of matches, will do well to invest a shilling in the purchase of a copy; we are certain they will declare it to be money well and usefully spent.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

102ND ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL.

The first meeting of the Board of Stewards for this Festival, which is to be held on the 10th prox., was held at Freemasons' Hall on Friday, the 25th ultimo. Bro. Charles E. Keyser occupied the chair. Amongst others present were Bros. E. L. Berry, J. Block, C. E. W. Boughton-Leigh, R. C. Blundell, T. A. Bullock, J. W. Burgess, W. C. S. Burne, C. W. Carrell, H. Carman, R. Clowes, G. Corble, W. A. Dawson, C. J. Dillnutt, P. Dodd, W. S. Emden, G. Everett, J. W. Elvin, H. Ensell, V. P. Freeman, J. K. Frost, H. Homer, C. H. Jackman, R. W. James, E. L. Keates, G. T. Langridge, C. H. Le Maistre, T. S. Lec, J. Lonsdale, R. Manuel, W. J. Mason, T. S. Melville, W. Metcalfe, W. C. Parsons, J. M. Reed, J. W. Spedding, J. Speller, J. Stephens, J. T. Sweet, W. Short, W. A. Scurrah, A. J. Thomas, J. J. Thomas, H. Thorpe, H. A. Tobias, J. H. Whadcoat, and J. W. Woodall.

Bros. Evc, Keyser, Manfield, Woodall, Everett, and Dr. Cooper Smith were elected Honorary Presidents; Sir W. T. Marriott, D.P.G.M. Sussex, President; R. Clowes, and T. A. Bullock, acting Vice-Presidents; J. M. Reed, P.G. Treas. Sussex, Honorary Treasurer; and J. M. McLeod, Secretary of the Institution, Honorary Secretary of the Board of Stewards.

The SECRETARY reported the number of Stewards to date was 386, and informed the meeting that H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught had fixed Tuesday, 10th July, as the day for holding the Festival. It had originally been intended to hold the Festival in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Sussex at Brighton on that day; but circumstances had since arisen which in all probability would prevent the conjunction of these two events.

Correspondence with the Brighton Railway Company was read showing that the privileges extended in former years for the return tickets of visitors to this Festival being available for two days beyond the date of issue, had been withdrawn, and that the Railway Company proved obdurate on this point.

Having made enquiry, the Secretary reported that the Freemasons' Tavern, Hotel Cecil, and the Crystal Palace were available for the day fixed. After considerable discussion it was ultimately resolved that H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught be requested to allow the Festival to be held in London at the Freemasons' Tavern.

A Festival Committee, consisting of the President, two Vice-Presidents, Honorary Secretary, and nine elected members, was appointed to make all arrangements for the Festival.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

At the annual convocation of the above Prov. G. Chapter, held in the Church Institute, North-parade, Bradford, on Wednesday, the 16th ult., under the banner of Charity Chapter, No. 302, Bradford, there were present:

Comps. Richard Wilson, P.Z. 289, Past G. Soj., Prov. G.H., as G. Superintendent; Henry Smith, P.Z. 302, Past G. Soj., P.P.G.H., as Prov. G.H.; C. L. Mason, P.Z. 304, and John Wordsworth, P.Z. 158, P. Prov. G.Hs.; Thomas R. Vaux, P.Z. 208, P.P.G.J., as Prov. G.J.; W. C. Lupton, J.P., P.Z. 302, A.G. Soj., P. Prov. G.J.; Major H. G. E. Green, P.Z. 1019, Prov. G.S.E.; Wm. Laycock, P.Z. 1001, P.P.G.S.N., as Prov. G.S.N.; Thomas Woods, P.Z. 448, Prov. G. Treas.; Wm. Smith, P.Z. 289, P. Prov. G. Treas.; Wm. Hy. Hewson, P.Z. 304, Prov. G. Reg.; J. Corrin Bell, P.Z. 1283, P. Prov. G. Reg.; Geo. Hy. Robinson, P.Z. 275, P.P.D.G.R., as Prov. Dep. G. Reg.; Edwin Billington, P.Z. 1462, P.P.G.D. of C., as Prov. G. Prin. Soj.; Dr. Isaac Mossop, P.Z. 974, Prov. G. 1st Asst. Soj.; John Seed, P.Z. 448, John Shoemith, P.Z. 521, Alfred Verity, P.Z. 208, J. W. Monckman, J.P., P.Z. 600, Cornelius Wheawill, P.Z. 290, Wm. Flockton, P.Z. 1042, Thomas Riley, P.Z. 600, Hy. Blackburn, P.Z. 827, Wm. Watson, P.Z. 304, Wm. Haigh, P.Z. 1283, T. I. Walker, P.Z. 448, F. C. Robinson, P.Z. 302, and Jas. Wm. Tanner, P.Z. 337, P. Prov. G. Sojs.; F. W. Holden, P.Z. 1462, Prov. Dep. G.S.B.; Wm. Bingham, P.Z. 1042, and Wm. Harrison, P.Z. 265, P. Prov. G.S.Bs.; Jas. Pelham Brown, P.Z. 600, Prov. G. Std. Br.; F. W. Turner, P.Z. 408, Joseph Hartley, P.Z. 495, Joseph Wilson, P.Z. 302, W. D. Shoebridge, P.Z. 448, Wm. Cockcroft, P.Z. 307, and C. W. O. Smith, P.Z. 974, P. Prov. G. Std. Brs.; Walker Dyson, P.Z. 1645, Prov. G.D. of C.; Fred. G. Dimery, P.Z. 2069, Prov. A.G.D. of C.; Thos. Gaukroger, P.Z. 307, John R. Fawcett, P.Z. 1214, Wm. Metcalfe, P.Z. 600, Thos. Lawrence, P.Z. 1001, J. K. Blakey, P.Z. 1214, W. D. Quarby, P.Z. 208, and F. S. H. Wilson, P.Z. 139, P.P. G.D.Cs.; E. Rowe Dickenson, P.Z. 308, Prov. G. Org.; Simeon Whiteley, J. 302, P.P.G. Org.; Wm. Towers, P.Z. 306, Prov. A.G.S.E.; Alfred Leach, P.Z. 495, P.P.A.G.S.E.; T. Chester, Janitor 904, Prov. G. Janitor; Charles Stokes, P.Z. 139, and Alfred Cocker, P.Z. 1283, Prov. G. Stewards; and acting Principals, Past First Principals, and companions of all the chapters, except Nos. 242, 264, 458, and 910.

Apologies were received from Comps. the Right Hon. W. L. Jackson, M.P., Grand Superintendent; W. F. Smithson, Past G. Soj.; and others.

Comp. Richard Wilson, P.Z. 289, Past G. Soj., acting G. Superintendent, accompanied by the Prov. G. Officers, entered, and Prov. G. Chapter was opened.

The Principals and Prov. Grand Officers having been saluted, and the roll of chapters, as well as of Present and Past Prov. Grand Officers, called, the Prov. G.S.E. presented the minutes of the half-yearly meeting, held at Milsbridge on Wednesday, 22nd November, when it was moved, seconded, and resolved—"That the minutes be taken as read and confirmed."

The ACTING GRAND SUPERINTENDENT, in a brief address to the companions, remarked—

That he did not like to begin with an apology, but under the circumstances he had to do so on behalf of the Grand Superintendent. They were all aware that he had been appointed Chairman of the War Office Contracts Committee, which had sat the previous day and was again sitting that day. Then there was a Bill coming before the House of Commons with respect to the passing of which E. Comp. Jackson was required to take an active part. The Grand Superintendent had written stating that he might perhaps have slipped away from the Committee, but, under the whole circumstances, he found it an impossibility to meet the companions as he should like to have done. That was the ninth time they had met at Bradford since the formation of Provincial Grand Chapter in 1858. He was glad to be able to state that all the chapters in Bradford were in a flourishing condition. While he thus congratulated the chapters, in order to mark the advance of time, he thought it was wise to draw attention to an important fact, which was that they had to regret that during the period since Provincial Grand Chapter last met at Bradford many active members had passed away by death, the memory of whom was still fresh amongst them—E. Comps. Benjamin Broughton, Sir John Cass, G. Pearson, and J. G. Hutchinson. Many more had passed away whom they could

not banish from their minds when they met again at that great gathering. His first duty was to thank the members of the Charity Chapter for their cordial invitation. He had also at the same time to thank the Mayor of Bradford for his hospitality in declining to allow them to meet there and pay any expenses towards the chapter, but had freely offered them hospitality as the Mayor of that important city. At the same time, although he might be going a little out of his way, he wished to express his thanks to the chapter at Cleckheaton, who had given them an invitation to hold that P.G. Chapter there, but whose invitation he had declined on the ground, after consultation with a great many officials of the Royal Arch in the province, who objected to Cleckheaton because of the difficulty of getting there. The Cleckheaton companions had assured him that there were circular-trains going from morning to night; but he found some difficulty in getting away. The opinion was, however, that those half-yearly meetings should be held in some of the chief towns of the province. He was extremely sorry to disappoint the Cleckheaton companions, for he knew they were disappointed at what he had done, but it was after due consideration, and in the best interests of the Royal Arch chapters of the province. He would strongly exhort the companions to take notice of the returns. On looking at those for 1899, it seemed to him that he should exhort the companions to recruit their ranks from the Craft. There was not so many forwarded from the Craft as the year before, and although there was an increase of 44, and an increase in the fees that have been paid, still he saw that unless the companions exerted themselves, and tried to persuade the members of the Craft to join that Degree—as they had a full right to do, for it was not like endeavouring to induce people to enter into Masonry—it would not make the headway it should do. They should exert their influence in that direction, because by resignations, removals, and death, the members were constantly decreasing, and these must be replaced. He must therefore ask them, wherever they possibly could, to impress upon the members of the Craft the importance and the necessity of joining the Royal Arch. Only one-third of the members of the Craft are members of that Degree, and he thought they would agree with him that they ought to have at least one-half of the members of the Craft as Royal Arch Masons. He was not taking a doleful view of the position, because, after all, they were stronger in Arch Masonry than any other province. All the 44 chapters were in good order, but if they were to increase in strength and usefulness, it could only be done by the companions pressing their claims upon the brethren in the Craft. There was the South African Relief Fund in progress, which had received the satisfactory support of the brethren. It was not expected to be a great fund; it was entirely for the benefit of the brethren of the Masonic fraternity who had been loyal to this country throughout, and who, in consequence, had sustained great losses, and had probably been ruined. He had been informed that up to the previous Friday night the sum of £4500 had been subscribed towards that fund. In that province 40 lodges had subscribed to the fund amounts ranging from £1 to £25, and he hoped every lodge in the province would subscribe something. He was aware there had been great claims upon the liberality of the brethren on account of the various war funds and the Indian Famine Fund, but he thought it was still possible for them to aid their brethren in South Africa. Then came the appointment of Provincial Grand Officers, and the question was a very difficult one. The Grand Superintendent had tried to recognise as many towns and chapters as possible. There were 453 companions in the province eligible for, and deserving of, office in Provincial Grand Chapter, and there were only 20 collars at their disposal, and these they had distributed as they thought would be best for the province.

The ACTING GRAND SUPERINTENDENT proposed that a sum of £10 10s. be voted towards the South African Masonic Relief Fund.

Comp. E. BILLINGTON, 1652, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Comp. THOS. WOODS, the Treasurer, presented the balance sheet for the year, stating that the chapter commenced the year with £272 in the bank, and ended with £278. He thought it was unnecessary that such a large sum should remain in the bank, and suggested that they should take that opportune time to invest at least a portion of it. He added that the duties of a Provincial Grand Treasurer were exceedingly light while they had such a Prov. G.S.E. as E. Comp. Green, who kept the books so well and everything in such good order.

Comp. J. WORDSWORTH proposed that the accounts be received and adopted.

Comp. F. S. H. WILSON seconded, which was carried.

The ACTING GRAND SUPERINTENDENT asked if a portion of the sum was not withdrawn during the year and was afterwards replaced? If that were so, all the money could not be taken for investment.

Comp. T. WOODS replied that that was the case, but he thought £50 at least could be invested.

Comp. T. WOODS proposed the election of Comp. C. Stokes, P.Z. 139, Sheffield, as Prov. G. Treasurer.

Comp. C. L. MASON seconded, which was carried.

The newly-elected PROV. G. TREASURER briefly acknowledged the compliment.

The acting Grand Superintendent invested the following officers for the ensuing year:

Comp. Richard Wilson, P.Z. 289	...	Prov. G.H.
" Jno. A. Godwin, J.P., P.Z. 387	...	Prov. G.J.
" Major H. G. E. Green, P.Z. 154	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" Thos. Brayshaw, P.Z. 265	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" Charles Stokes, P.Z. 139 (elected)	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Ellis Pickersgill, P.Z. 495	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Wm. H. Statey, P.Z. 296	...	Prov. Dep. G. Reg.
" Geo. Hoyle, P.Z. 61	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" Wm. B. Wall, P.Z. 290	...	Prov. 1st A.G.S.
" Samuel Arthur Bailey, P.Z. 302	...	Prov. 2nd A.G.S.
" Henry Marsh, P.Z. 289	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" Joseph Bradbury, P.Z. 337	...	Prov. Dep. G.S.B.
" William Sharp, P.Z. 603	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" Alfred Cocker, P.Z. 1283	...	Prov. A.G. Std. Brs.
" Wm. Varley, P.Z. 307	...	
" John Dawson, P.Z. 521	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" Martin Eismann, P.Z. 827	...	Prov. A.G.D. of Cs.
" Joseph Barber, P.Z. 652	...	
" James Parker, P.Z. 264	...	
" Walter Davey, P.Z. 1001	...	Prov. G. Org.
" J. R. Barton, P.Z. 306	...	Prov. A.G.S.E.
" Joseph France, P.Z. 904	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" Francis Smith, P.Z. 837	...	
" Henry Harrison, P.Z. 458	...	
" J. Basil Mays, P.Z. 1042	...	
" Thomas Leighton, Jan. 139	...	Prov. G. Janitor.

The ACTING G. SUPERINTENDENT moved a vote of thanks to the members of the Charity Chapter, No. 302, for the arrangements they had

made for the meeting of Prov. G. Chapter, and to the Mayor of Bradford (Comp. W. C. Lupton), for his hospitality in inviting the companions to tea.

Comp. J. WORDSWORTH seconded the motion, which was carried.

Comp. LUPTON briefly replied.

Invitations for the half-yearly meeting in November having been received from Sincerity Chapter, No. 61, Halifax, and from Harrogate and Claro, No. 1001, Harrogate, Prov. G. Chapter was closed.

About 140 companions accepted the kind invitation of the Worshipful the Mayor, Comp. W. C. Lupton, Grand Soj. England, and adjourned to the Masonic Hall, Rawson-square, where an excellent tea had been provided.

Craft Masonry.

Lodge of Honour and Generosity, No. 165.

The installation meeting of this old and famous lodge was held on Tuesday, the 22nd ult., at the Inns of Court Hotel, Holborn. The W.M., Bro. F. Howard Rosher, was unable to be present at the working of the lodge, and his place was taken by Bro. Alfred T. Crabb, who was supported by the following brethren: Bros. F. Howard Rosher, W.M.; J. Woodhouse, S.W.; Godfrey Sykes, J.W.; Walter Herbert, S.D.; Henry W. Clarkson, Org.; Alfred P. Crabb, I.P.M.; Alfred W. Bush, P.M.; F. S. Rosher, P.M.; Richard Bush, P.M.; J. R. Drake, P.M.; Frank Baggally, P.M.; J. W. H. Thompson, P.M., Treas.; Henry Times, P.M., Sec.; J. Harris Stone, J. A. Dugdald, W. H. Burt, Charles Olden, Harry Bearman, H. C. Tocock, F. B. Thompson, W. C. Hulbert, Frank S. Gaylor, Joseph W. Ellis, H. J. Strudwick, E. H. P. Francis, C. J. Andrews, and W. M. Thompson. Visitors: Bros. E. Beningfield, S.W. 2278; D. R. Bancroft, 2253; H. Massey, P.M. 619, 1928; J. Gordon Langton, P.M. and Sec. 96; J. F. Beck, P.M. 1853; H. Culman, P.M. 1853; Ald. W. Vaughan Morgan, P.G. Treas.; R. L. Franks, P.M. 96; W. G. Kentish, P.G. Std. Br.; Percy Sloper, J.W. S. G. Stwd.; Lionel W. Harris, I.P.M. 2488; C. Harrison Townsend, S.D. 2751; A. S. Neville. M.-elect 2739; T. Nedderwick, 96; Henry Pocock, 569; R. V. Somers-Smith, P.M. 1110; S. P. Smith, 2769; W. R. McConnell, 1610, D.G. Reg.; A. J. Thomas, S.W. 91; J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C.; Harry Machin, P.M. 231; R. Stephen Ayling, I.G. 2128; Francis Wilton, P.M. 95; F. J. Terry-Horsey, P.M. 1861; Sir W. H. Quayle Jones, W.M. 1871 and 1008; D. F. Wilson, P.M. 1615; E. R. Bartley Dennis, W.M. 2771, P.P.G.W.; Horace B. Marshall, 2729, P.G.W. Middx.; J. P. Wedgwood, P.M. 2397; W. R. Bennett, P.M. 1965, W.M. 2705; Charles King, 2589; J. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; A. Love, 1791; W. W. Morgan, 177; Lovett King, 2190; the Archdeacon of London, P.G. Chap.; J. H. Ford, 2032; Baron de Bush, P.M. 1827; Hugh Fraser, 58; Alex. Bush, 1827; J. A. Harrison, P.M. 2941; G. C. Mason; George Racke; H. B. Bolus, J.D. 2347; and Dalgety Henderson, 2190.

Lodge being opened, Bro. Crabb, P.M., raised to the Third Degree Bros. John Harris Stone and Sir William Robert Murray. Bro. Woodhouse, S.W., who is W.M. of No. 96, then went into the chair and initiated Lieut. Herbert Cheyney Pocock, R.N., and Capt. W. Gordon Renton. When these ceremonies were concluded, the Secretary, Bro. H. Times, P.M., read a telegram from Bro. Richard Eve, P.G. Treasurer, who was to have performed the installation ceremony, apologising for his non-attendance, which was occasioned by illness, and on this announcement, Bro. Howard Thompson, P.M. and Treas., was requested to perform the installation. Bro. Thompson then installed Bro. John Woodhouse as W.M. for the ensuing year. The following brethren were appointed officers for the year: Bros. Godfrey Sykes, S.W.; W. de B. Herbert, LL.B., J.W.; the Rev. H. G. Rosher, M.A., Chap.; J. W. Howard Thompson, P.M., Treas.; H. Times, P.M., Sec.; C. J. Adreus, S.D.; A. Spencer Ellam, J.D.; Bertram B. Van Praag, I.G.; H. W. Clarkson, Org.; H. Bearman, Steward; and R. H. Goddard, P.M., Tyler. After the addresses had been delivered, the W.M. proposed a vote of congratulation to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales on his providential escape from the hand of an intended assassin. The motion was seconded by Bro. J. Howard, the oldest P.M. of the lodge, and carried unanimously. Bro. Howard Rosher, I.P.M., had now arrived, and he was invested as I.P.M., and presented with a Past Master's jewel, which gift he acknowledged.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a choice banquet. This was followed by the usual toasts, and a programme of singing, under the direction of Bro. Dalgety Henderson (Bro. Sidney Hill at the piano), the performers being Bro. Dalgety Henderson, Miss Florence Venning, Miss Elsie Mackenzie, Bros. W. Churcher, W. L. Cockburn, and Arthur Melrose.

Bro. John Woodhouse, W.M., in proposing "The Queen-Empress, and the Craft," said it was his first and pre-eminent duty as well as his high honour to do so and it was the brethren's high born privilege to receive and acknowledge it. He did not think he would be adequately discharging his duty in the happy times in which we lived if he passed over the toast without further comment. The extraordinary demonstrations of loyal enthusiasm which we had been witnessing and were still witnessing, and in which the whole world had happily participated was a display of honour and love of the Sovereign. Her pure, simple, and blameless life had endeared her to her subjects and made her the admiration and veneration of the world, and the march of her victorious army in a just and righteous war must tend to the good of her great and glorious Empire, which it was the happy and great inheritance of us all to belong to.

Bro. Woodhouse, W.M., in giving the toast of "The M.W.G.M.," said the brethren of the lodge had that night carried a resolution expressive of their feelings on the happy escape of the Prince of Wales from the hands of an assassin.

Archdeacon Sinclair, P.G.C., in responding to the toast of "The M.W. Pro. G.M., &c.," said it would not have escaped the memory of the brethren that when the Goths entered Rome they found an assembly of venerable persons seated in the forum gazing vacantly, and watching the proceedings, but taking no part in them; and he thought the Officers of Grand Lodge were like them. In their year of office they had a certain amount of work to perform, but they had no longer to endure the dust and turmoil of everyday life. Nevertheless, they were greatly pleased to pay visits on these installation nights, and see how well the work was done by loyal-hearted and enthusiastic bodies of brethren. (Hear, hear.) He wished the W.M. had asked some other Grand Officer to respond to the toast, some one more experienced—for instance, Bro. James Terry, whom he looked upon as a sort of Archbishop of Canterbury in Masonry, who had done everything in Masonry, and bore his honours bravely. Alderman Vaughan Morgan and Under-Sheriff Langton probably would have addressed the brethren with some loftiness, as he understood they had been luncheon in company with the Duke of York and the Elder Brethren of the Trinity House with the Lord Mayor. (Laughter.) But these little things apart, he must say that there was for the benefit of the initiate an exhibition of Fraternity and Equality in the Craft of Masonry which he only wished was seen exhibited in a stronger degree in the members of his (the Archdeacon's) own profession, who might with advantage have summoned to their side many members of the Craft. That might lead to more unanimity among members of his profession. But he must mention that once he received some loyalty on the part of a member of his profession which struck him very much. A member of that profession came to him in great agitation on one occasion to his room and said he desired to make a confession to him and unbosom his grief. He said that he had thought him a very pompous man, and that when he was walking about he looked very much like a butler. (Laughter.) That confession was quite genuine, and it showed great confidence in his office, and it pleased him very much. (Laughter.)

Bro. F. Howard Rosher, I.P.M., proposed the toast of "The W.M." Every brother who attended that evening would congratulate Bro. Woodhouse on having attained the chair of that ancient and honourable lodge. It was a post which every member of the lodge was anxious and proud to fill. Bro. Woodhouse had that evening filled it in an exceedingly creditable manner, and had added to the lustre of the lodge. He congratulated Bro. Woodhouse on the manner in which he had acquitted himself, and also on the distinction he enjoyed by being Master of two lodges at the same time. (Cheers.)

Bro. John Woodhouse, W.M., responding, said he could not deny that he was proud to occupy the Master's chair of the Lodge of Honour and Generosity. Looking

at the long line of distinguished predecessors, no one could view the office without being actuated by such a feeling. He would endeavour to justify the choice of the brethren, and to maintain according to the powers that in him lay the traditions of the lodge as they had been upheld hitherto. He thanked the brethren for their reception of his health. He now came to "The Healths of the Installing Master and the Past Masters of the Lodge." He owed a debt of gratitude to Bro. Howard Thompson, P.M., for undertaking the work of installation. They were all overwhelmed with feelings of regret that Bro. Richard Eve, P.G. Treas., who had undertaken the office was unable to be present. But Bro. Howard Thompson stepped into the breach and performed the ceremony in a manner that was worthy of emulation, and he also had added to the lustre of the lodge for good work. To the I.P.M., Bro. Rosher, also honour was due, for he had done his work well during his year. The brethren had seen the presentation in the lodge to Bro. Rosher of a Past Master's jewel. The lodge had voted it unanimously as a testimony of their appreciation of his services. (Cheers.)

Bro. Howard Thompson, P.M., Treas., replying, said it was with feelings of dismay he heard that evening that Bro. Eve was unable to attend. That feeling of dismay bordered on "funk;" it was a serious position to occupy the place of understudy to Bro. Eve. For half-an-hour he walked up and down the dining room, rehearsing in his mind the ceremony of installation. He never had such a half hour in his life, and he hoped it would never occur again. As far as the other P.Ms. were concerned, he was afraid his working was not up to their standard, but, still, he did his best. He thought they were all much indebted to a P.M. who was very shy and modest—Bro. Times, the Secretary. Others did the talking, but Bro. Times did the work; he had been working for years thoroughly and well for the lodge. The different arrangements at the Inns of Court Hotel for the convenience of the brethren of the lodge and visitors were due to Bro. Times. There had been a time when brethren found fault with the banquet, but Bro. Times waged an unrelenting war with the proprietors, and everything now was as good as any one could wish. What he wanted to mention was the true Masonic spirit with which the P.Ms. of this lodge tried to carry on their work. During the last year the lodge funds subscribed 50 guineas to the Masonic Charities, and one was a double-barrelled—one for the old men and one for the old women. Thanking the W.M. for the way in which he had proposed this toast, he said it was an encouragement for the future work of the P.Ms.

Bro. Rosher, I.P.M., also replied. He was late in arriving at lodge that evening, but it might be looked upon as a blessing in disguise. Bro. Crabb had done his work well, and so had the W.M. and Bro. Howard Thompson. He thanked the brethren for the beautiful jewel he had received, and for the indulgence they had shown him during his year. Now that he had joined the select assembly of the P.M's., he wished the W.M. a very happy and successful year of office.

Bro. Lieut. Pocock responded to the toast of "The Initiates," and said there was no word to convey his experience of the impressive ceremony he had gone through. He never saw anything like it in his life. He should never be satisfied until he sat in the chair where the W.M. was now sitting. (Applause.)

The toast of "The Visitors" and "The Officers of the Lodge" and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Acacia Lodge, No. 1309.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton-court, on the 15th ult., and was well attended. There were present Bros. J. A. Cory, W.M.; Fredk. Robinson, S.W., W.M. elect; D. Irvine, J.W.; Jno. Proffitt, P.M., P.P.G.R., Treas.; Bagot Read, P.M., Sec.; H. L. Harrison, I.G.; A. C. Hawkins, Org.; R. Palmer Tebb, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; R. C. Read, P.M., P.P.G.D.; J. T. Allingham, P.M., P.P.A.S.; J. Nodder, P.M.; Dr. T. Gurney, P.P.J.G.D.; N. Fauquembergue, J. Lambert, G. P. Bambridge, T. J. Cox, R. J. Quisted, A. Carter, E. F. Gyles, A. B. Thomas, Y. N. Yager, W. T. Imbrey, Habell, and J. Gilbert, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. F. Small, W.M. 2242; W. J. Everett, E. W. Gandy, A. Parmenter, W. Standerwick, 917; W. H. Turner, J. Edge, I.P.M. 1608; J. Prentice, P.M. 1185; H. Peirce, P.M. 1599; H. F. J. Handley, H. J. Harper, P.M.; L. de Whalley, R. C. Goodwin, W. H. G. Morris, E. J. Jones, P.M. 134; and R. T. West, 1744.

Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meetings having been read and confirmed, the W.M., Bro. J. A. Cory, passed Bros. Lambert, G. P. Bambridge, and H. F. J. Handley to the Second Degree. Bro. Richard C. Read, P.M., P.P.G.D., then occupied the chair and raised Bros. T. J. Cox and N. Fauquembergue to the Third Degree. The W.M. elect, Bro. Fredk. Robinson, was then presented and installed into the chair by Bro. R. C. Read. The new W.M. afterwards appointed and installed his officers. They were as follows: Bros. J. A. Cory, I.P.M.; D. Irvine, S.W.; G. E. Skerry, J.W.; J. Proffitt, P.M., Treas.; Bagot Read, P.M., Sec.; H. L. Harrison, S.D.; J. T. Allingham, P.M., J.D.; A. Carter, I.G.; R. C. Read, P.M., D.C.; A. C. Hawkins, Org.; W. T. Imbrey and S. T. Hall, Stwds.; and J. Gilbert, Tyler. The installation ceremony was most ably performed by Bro. R. C. Read, who gave the usual addresses in a manner that made it impossible to have been better rendered, for which he received the hearty congratulations of the brethren. On the motion of Bro. R. Palmer Tebb, P.M., seconded by Bro. Davies, P.M., it was unanimously resolved that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to Bro. R. C. Read, P.M., for the very excellent way he had carried out the ceremony of installation. Bro. R. C. Read, P.M., acknowledged the vote, remarking that if his small efforts met with their approbation he was very much pleased.

After other business, the brethren adjourned to the lawn, when a photograph of the happy gathering was taken by Mr. J. G. Williams, of East Molesey, and from a copy which we have, was very successful, and will be an interesting souvenir for those who took part in the auspicious proceedings.

A *recherche* banquet followed, which reflected the highest possible credit on the establishment, which is well known for Masonic repasts, and it was admirably served under the personal superintendence of Bro. Sadler, who was most assiduous in looking after the comfort of all.

In eloquent terms the W.M., Bro. Fredk. Robinson, gave "The Queen and the Craft," which was duly honoured.

In submitting the toast of "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," the W.M. remarked that he was a splendid worker in the Craft, and everything he took in hand he did well.

The W.M. proposed "The M.W. the Pro G. Master, Earl Amherst; the R.W. the Dep. G. Master, the Earl of Warwick; and the rest of the G. Officers, Present and Past," and said they have patronised our mysteries, and joined in our assemblies.

In giving "The R.W. the Prov. G. Master and the other Grand Officers of the Province, Present and Past," the W.M. observed that they were promoters of the art. They were honoured with the presence of six Prov. G. Officers, who were all members of the lodge, and they hoped to have the pleasure of their company and colour for many years to come, and he had much pleasure in associating the name of Bro. R. Palmer Tebb, P.P.G. Supt. of Works, with the toast.

Bro. R. Palmer Tebb said he believed he was the oldest Prov. G. Officer present, but he was sorry the response had not been placed in more able hands, as he felt he could not do it justice in adequate words. The Prov. G. Officers were always most

anxious and ever willing to further the interests of Masonry. He was present at the laying of the foundation stone of the new School buildings at Bushey, which was a grand ceremonial, and he was pleased to see several members of the lodge who were present on that occasion. The site selected was originally his own property, and one of the most beautiful round London. He formed the opinion years ago that it was the best site, and he communicated with the Secretary of the Boys, who replied that they had 300 sites to select from, but ultimately his property was selected, and when the School was erected it would be an ornament to the country.

Bro. Dr. Gurney, P.P.J.G.D., also responded in very appropriate terms. Bro. J. A. Cory, I.P.M., said it was his very pleasant duty to propose "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Fredk. Robinson." (Applause.) They could all see from his excellent work that day that he was perfect in the ritual, and they had in him a Master second to none, and one it would be difficult to excel.

The remarks of Bro. Cory were received with enthusiasm, and the toast was drunk with musical honours.

The W.M., Bro. Fredk. Robinson, on rising to respond, had a great reception. He said his sincere thanks were due to them for the kind manner they had received him, and he was grateful to Bro. Cory for his earnest but too flattering words in proposing the toast. He had done his best in the different offices he had held in the lodge, and his aim was to do everything possible to promote the interests of their good lodge and the happiness of the brethren.

In proposing "The I.P.M., Bro. J. A. Cory," the W.M. said "Rest after labour," and he hoped he would have that rest. He then presented him with a Past Master's jewel, in return for his services as W.M., with wishes from them all that he would live for very many years to wear the jewel and adorn the lodge with his presence.

The jewel bore the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. J. A. Cory by the Acacia Lodge, 1309, in appreciation of his services as W.M., 1899-1905."

In brief but earnest terms Bro. Cory, I.P.M., acknowledged the jewel, remarking that he had not been well during his year of office, but he had done his best, and he appreciated the kindness he had received from them all.

The W.M. gave "The Installing Master, Bro. R. C. Read, P.M., P.P.G.D.," and said the installing ceremony was done to the very letter, and in a most able manner. Bro. R. C. Read had introduced him (the W.M.) to the lodge, and he was honoured to have been installed by him.

Bro. R. C. Read, on rising to respond, was received with acclamation. After thanking them for their manifestation, he said that he felt it a great honour to instal the W.M., who was a very old friend of his, and would be a great credit to the lodge, and he hoped he would have a very happy and successful year of office.

The W.M. proposed "The Visitors," and said that the many present that day was a record in the annals of the lodge, and they were always pleased and honoured to have a large number of guests. He read out a list of those who were there, giving a kind word to each, and he associated the name of Bro. J. Prentice, P.M., with the toast.

Bro. Prentice responded, stating that he had often been a visitor there, where the visitors were always received with much warmth. He had watched the progress of the lodge with interest, and he thought it was becoming the lodge of the province. All the visitors had enjoyed the good working and the members' hospitality.

Bro. H. J. Harper, P.M., also acknowledged the toast, and said that he was glad to have seen the W.M. installed, as he was one of his pupils, and he had no doubt he would perform his duties with every satisfaction to the members.

The hour being now late, and as time and trains wait for no one, the W.M. was reluctantly compelled to give as one toast "The Past Masters, Treasurer and Secretary, and Officers of the Lodge," remarking that the Past Masters were the trainstay of the lodge, the Treasurer and Secretary both excellent, and he was proud of them, and the other officers were most efficient, and would render him every assistance. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. G. E. Skerry, J.W.

Bro. Skerry responded in a very happy speech.

The Tyler's toast brought to an end a very successful meeting.

The excellent musical programme was under the able direction of Bro. A. C. Hawkins, assisted by Miss Maggie Edge, who has a sweet voice, and her efforts were much appreciated, Mr. Tom Sheaf, Miss Lily Farrow, and Miss May Loftus, a charming little lady, aged 12, who recited beautifully, for which she received a well-deserved encore, and we hope to see more of her in Masonic circles.

The W.M., Bro. F. Robinson, was initiated in the Cosmopolitan Lodge, No. 917, on the 14th February, 1893, of which he is now the J.W., and he joined the Acacia Lodge in May, 1895. He is a Life Governor of the three Institutions, and has served as Steward for each—twice for the Boys—and is an officer in the Royal Arch. A worthy Mason he!

Hiram Lodge, No. 2416.

The last meeting of the session of this class lodge of architects and surveyors was held at Freemasons' Hall, on the 23rd ult. Bro. W. Henry White, W.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. H. J. Pain, S.W.; S. Jackson, I.P.M.; F. R. Farrow, Treas.; H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B., Sec.; F. W. Pearce, J.D.; F. Tapper White, I.G.; C. A. Bassett-Smith, D.C.; W. Lawrance, Stwd.; A. Wrightson, P.M.; G. Austin, Tyler; R. G. Young, A. Oliver, F. Morfu Walsh, W. A. Haskins, H. A. Worthington, J. Rush Dixon, A. G. Coyle, and W. Herring.

Cordwainer Ward Lodge, No. 2241.

The last meeting of the season was held at the Cannon-street Hotel, London, E.C., on the 16th ult. Bro. W. Bauer, W.M., opened the lodge, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. J. G. Breen was passed. Bro. James Dangerfield was presented, and duly installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. C. J. Wilkinson-Pimbury. The other officers were appointed as follows: Bros. W. Bauer, I.P.M.; A. T. Walmisley, S.W.; P. Braby, J.W.; H. J. Adams, P.G.S.B., Treas.; H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B., Sec.; R. A. Love, S.D.; Chas. Johnson, J.D.; G. L. Johnson, I.G.; J. R. Reep, P.M., D. of C.; H. G. Longdon, A.D. of C.; W. T. Buck, P.M., C. E. Ferry, and M. B. Adams, Stwds.; and J. Rawles, Tyler. Bros. Alderman V. Morgan, P.G.T., and Fred. West, P.G.D., were present, and there was a good attendance of members and the following visitors: Bros. T. A. Bullock, P.G.S.B.; A. Buck, P.G.W. Essex; Salmon, Val, Brenwell, Gutrie, Perkin, Clements, Yeoman, Kift, Dangerfield, P.M. 1262, Lockwood, and Purday.

A banquet followed, when an excellent musical programme was carried out under the direction of Bro. J. Kift.

"In the Ranks" has been revived at the Princess's, with Mr. Charles Warner in his original character of the sorely-abused soldier, with his daughter, Miss Grace Warner, sustaining the part of the heroine. The performance has proved a great attraction, filling the theatre nightly.

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Gwent Preceptory, No. 115.

The inauguration meeting of above was held at the Masonic Hall, Newport, on 26th April. The knights having formed the arch of steel, Sir Knight Captain W. H. Williams entered and took his seat. The officers present were: Sir Knights S. T. Homfray, I.P.E.P., Prov. 1st Constable; E. L. Newby, 1st Constable; R. A. Forsyth, 2nd Constable; E. Whitley, Chap.; S. Dean, Treas.; T. P. Garrett, Reg.; F. J. Roberts, Marshal; J. H. Taylor, P.E.P., Almoner; and Dr. De Vere Hunt, Std. Br., who acted as Capt. of Gds.

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed. The ballot having proved favourable, Comps. W. H. Le Grand Chambres, W.M.; H. J. Pillinger, W.M.; J. Morgan, W.M.; A. S. Morgan, H. G. Mason, Adolphus Fowler, and S. O. Williams, P.M., accepted at a previous meeting, were ably intalled by Sir Knight S. G. Homfray, P.E.P. After which Sir Knight J. Henry Taylor inaugurated E. C. Newby, 1st Constable, in his usual impressive way. The E.P. then invested his officers. Sir Knights R. A. Forsyth, 1st Constable; E. Whitley, 2nd Constable; Sam. Dean, Prelate and Treas.; T. P. Garrett, Reg.; F. J. Roberts, Marshal; E. W. Schofield, Almoner; P. L. Atkinson, Herald; Dr. De Vere Hunt, 1st S.B.; F. Martin, 2nd S.B.; and C. Carlson, C. of G. A cablegram was sent to the front from the members of the Gwent Preceptory to the V.E. Prov. Prior, Col. Thrale Perkins, wishing him safe return.

The preceptory closed, the knights adjourned to the Westgate Hotel, where the usual banquet was held.

The usual loyal and Knight Templar toasts were duly honoured, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

Instruction.

HORNSEY CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT, No. 890.

A meeting was held on the 25th ult., at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, Bishop's-road, Paddington, W. Present: Comps. M. Spiegel, P.Z. 834, M.E.Z.; A. L. Butters, S.N. 890, H.; J. M. Huish, J. 185, J.; H. Dehane, P.Z. 890, P.P.G.P.S. Essex, S.E.; H. Foskett, 185, S.N.; F. Marchant, 2nd A.S. 890, P.S.; W. Hillier, P.Z. 834; H. Tomsitt, and E. Stephens, 733.

The chapter having been declared opened, the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Tomsitt being the candidate. After the M.E.Z. had risen the usual number of times, "Hearty good wishes" were accorded, and the chapter closed.

HYDE PARK LODGE, No. 1425.

A meeting of the above lodge was held at the Prince of Wales's Hotel, Eastbourne, terrace, Bishop's-road, Paddington, W., when there were present Bros. A. Collman, W.M. 1425, W.M.; W. H. Handover, W.M. 1642, S.W.; C. S. Mote, P.M. 1732, J.W.; W. J. Ferguson, P.M. 177, Dep. Preceptor; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, P.P.S.G.D. Essex, Sec.; L. J. Powell, W.M. 2246, S.D.; B. R. Thomas, J.D.; J. R. Beardon, I.G.; F. Spink, Stwd.; W. J. Mason, P.M., G.S.B. Eng.; T. M. Lambie, P.M. 511; J. Cuff, P.M. 511; C. B. Broad, I.P.M. 173; W. Hallett, P.M. 733; A. Leclair, W.M. 1003; J. Chubb, W.M. 1637; B. D. Barnett, P.M. 1668; A. L. Butters, P.M. 2163; T. S. Franklin, H. C. Martin, S. Fonkensenstein, F. Marchant, G. E. Harris, W. H. Smith, E. Stephens, A. Toop, and T. H. Watts. Visitors: Bros. Sir G. D. Harris, P.G.D. Eng.; Sir G. Fardell, M.P., P.J.G.D. Oxford; H. A. Harben, 2408; S. B. Goldhill, 1668; and T. W. Muzzell, 753.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge opened in the Second and Third Degrees and the Grand Officers saluted. Lodge resumed to the First Degree and called off and on. The ceremonies of initiation and passing were rehearsed, Bros. Leclair and Chubb candidates respectively. The following were elected members: Bros. Sir G. Harris, Sir G. Fardell, H. A. Harben, S. B. Goldhill, and T. W. Muzzell, all of whom acknowledged the compliment. Bro. Sir G. Harris, in the course of his reply, expressed his satisfaction to the Preceptor and brethren on the excellence of the work he had listened to and with the other brethren who had just become members promised to attend again. A vote of congratulation was passed to Bro. W. J. Mason on the honour conferred upon him by H.R.H. the Most Worshipful Grand Master, this compliment was also acknowledged. The W.M. having risen the usual times, "Hearty good wishes" were accorded, and the lodge closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 22nd ult., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. H. J. Dunaway, W.M.; J. E. Thomas, S.W.; D. Taylor, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; A. F. Hardymont, P.M., Asst. Preceptor; C. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, Treas.; J. Duncan, P.M., Sec.; R. E. Maskall, S.D.; A. Williams, J.D.; A. C. Smith, I.G.; H. J. May, W. A. Evans, C. S. Hind, C. Nicole, E. Lucas, C. C. Renaud, D. Meredith, A. R. Greaves, F. H. Johnson, and A. Oliver, P.M.

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

A meeting of seven Installed Masters was afterwards held.

A meeting was also held on Tuesday, the 29th ult., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. J. E. Thomas, W.M.; D. Taylor, S.W.; J. Birks, P.M., J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; A. F. Hardymont, P.M., Asst. Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts; J. Duncan, P.M., Sec.; C. C. Renaud, S.D.; C. Nicole, J.D.; D. Meredith, I.G.; H. J. May, E. N. Beningfield, and A. Oliver, P.M.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. May being the candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Renaud. A portion of the ceremony of installation was rehearsed, and Bro. Beningfield as W.M. elect invested the officers.

The lodge was then closed, and the meetings will be discontinued until the first Tuesday in September.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

The weekly convocation was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E., on Friday, the 25th ult. Present: Comps. T. Grumman, P.Z., M.E.Z. and Preceptor; Stanley, H.; Everett, J.; C. H. Stone, P.Z., S.E.; J. H. Cureton, P.Z., S.N.; W. F. Frampton, P.S.; W. Dawson, P.Z.; T. R. Cass, M.E.Z. 1622; J. Higgs, and F. Swinford Smith.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. J. Higgs personating the candidate. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Comp. Stanley, H., for rehearsing the ceremony for the first time in so able a manner. Expressions of deep sympathy were sent to Comp. W. H. Harper, who had undergone a serious operation, with the earnest hope for his speedy recovery.

The chapter adjourned during the months of June, July, and August, and resumes the first Friday in September, at eight p.m.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. G. W. PIERREPONT HARRIS.

On Monday last, the 28th ult., at the banquet held for the installation of the W.M., Bro. Thos. Buxton, of the Powell Lodge, No. 2257, Bristol, advantage was taken of the occasion to present to Bro. G. W. Pierrepont Harris, Prov. G. Sec., P.P.S.G.W., with a very handsome silver salver, beautifully engraved, and weighing about 150 ounces, as a memento of the honour conferred upon him by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., by appointing him to the office of P.A.G.D.C.

The presentation was made in felicitous terms on behalf of the members of the lodge by Bro. DAVID ROSE, P.P.S.G.W.

Bro. PIERREPONT HARRIS, in accepting the presentation and returning thanks, said he was exceedingly proud of the honour conferred upon him by H.R.H. the G. Master. As one of the founders of the Powell Lodge he had always taken an especial interest in its welfare, and would continue to do so. He expressed his gratitude to the members for such a great mark of their kindness; the presentation came as a pleasant surprise, and it gave him great pleasure. He felt under an obligation to the lodge, and assured the members that the present would be highly valued, not only by himself, but by his wife and children, to whom such kindly reference had been made.

The distinguished guests present included the District Grand Master of the Transvaal, Bro. GEO. RICHARDS, who, in thanking the brethren for their vote of 20 guineas towards the relief of distressed Masons in South Africa, expressed the pleasure he had, as an old Bristolian, in being present on such an interesting occasion. He spoke at some length upon the Transvaal district, and hoped that, when peace was proclaimed, he might have the privilege and pleasure of entertaining some of the Bristol brethren should they visit the Transvaal.

Bro. Col. ROGERS, P. Prov. G.D. of Glos., in returning thanks for "The Visitors," said that although the recipient of the honour was taken by surprise, it was no surprise to him (the speaker), knowing as he did the high esteem held of Bro. Harris. Everyone knew of his excellent qualities and good character as a man and a Mason, and he complimented the members on having such a matured and experienced P.M. to guide them in their duties.

Bro. W. H. T. BOLT, P.P.J.G.W., in responding for "The Prov. Grand Lodge," thanked the members for having qualified Bro. J. C. Gilmore as a candidate for Provincial Grand honours. Everyone must admit that his advice, sound judgment, and excellent work would be much valued. He congratulated the lodge on having appointed Bro. Gilmore to the office of Treasurer, and on his acceptance, as it would make him a member of the Board of Governors, in succession to their highly-esteemed old friend, Bro. W. R. Chandler, who had filled the office of Treasurer for five years, and everyone felt grateful to him for the most careful and conscientious discharge of the duties appertaining to that office.

Other toasts and congratulations concluded a most enjoyable evening.

Obituary.

BRO. THOMAS ELLIS, No. 68.

The funeral of the late Bro. Thomas Ellis, who for upwards of 40 years was a well-known pilot for the ports of Bristol and Cardiff, took place on Saturday last at St. George's churchyard, Easton-in-Gordano, Somerset. A preliminary service was held in the Baptist Chapel, Pill, conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, co-principal of the Baptist College, Bristol, who also took the service at the grave. A large congregation assembled, including many members of the Court Loyal St. George of the Ancient Order of Foresters, of which deceased had been a member almost since its formation. He was also an old member of the Royal Clarence Lodge of Freemasons, No. 68, and a late member of the Bristol Pilotage Board. Our deceased brother was a well-known figure amongst the shipping coming to the port, he being much associated with the captains and others representing the principal lines trading there, and was much respected. The late Bro. Ellis leaves a widow and seven sons and one daughter, all of whom are grown up, and a unique circumstance in the mournful event was that his seven sons were present at the obsequies.

TWELVE PENSIONERS will be admitted to the benefit of the London General Porters' Benevolent Association at the election to be held at the Guildhall Tavern, on Thursday, the 14th inst.

THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY announce that the first of the weekly excursions will leave Paddington Station on Thursday, June 7th, to Weston-Super-Mare, Bridgwater, Taunton, Lynton, Barnstaple, Ilfracombe, Exeter, Torquay, Plymouth, Launceston, Wadebridge, Newquay, Falmouth, Penzance, &c.; on Friday midnight and Saturday morning, June 8th and 9th, to Douglas (Isle of Man); on Monday, June 11th, to Bath Bristol, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Frome, Yeovil, Weymouth, &c.; on Wednesday, June 13th, to Shrewsbury, Oswestry, Aberystwyth, Barmouth, Rhyl, Llandudno, Carnarvon, &c.; on Thursday midnight, June 14th, to Chester, Birkenhead, and Liverpool. On Saturdays, return tickets will also be issued to Guernsey and Jersey, at 24s. 6d. by the day service from Paddington. The boat express leaves at 9.20 a.m.



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BAMBOO AND ITS USES.

A museum or an exhibition arranged for the sole purpose of illustrating the innumerable and varied uses to which the bamboo is put would be neither a small nor an uninteresting one. Exterminate the bamboo, and the poor Chinaman is deprived of his big sun hat, and the wealthier one of the soles of his shoes. But although we are inclined to associate bamboo chiefly with the Chinese, yet it is hardly, if at all, less important to the natives of India, the Malays, the Dyaks of Borneo, and the Japanese. The gracefulness and beauty of its foliage renders it an irresistibly attractive subject to the Japanese artist. And, indeed, hardly a fitter frame could be desired to any outline of Fusyama, the Peerless Mountain, than a cluster of slender bamboos, gracefully arching the foreground. Hardly a screen, fan, vase, or lacquer tray but probably owes more or less of its decoration to the feathery leafage of the bamboo. And if some invisible power were suddenly to abolish all trees and suggestions of it, many a Kensington drawing-room would become surprisingly modified. The Chinese cultivate it in plantations. They have a method of keeping the shoots cut down, close to the ground, for three years, not allowing them to grow until the fourth. These young shoots, besides being boiled and serving as fresh vegetables, are also preserved by different methods, being either candied or pickled. One of the medicines of Chinese physicians, called *tabachir*, is extracted from the bamboo, being developed from a fluid secreted in the joints. But if the leaves possessed the wonderful properties claimed for them, there would be no need to extract *tabachir*. A charm against sickness or misfortune has only to be written on a bamboo leaf, the leaf burnt, and the ashes mixed with tea and drunk. Whilst speaking of it as food and medicine, a more direct application may be mentioned; administered, externally, in the form of bastinado, bamboo has extinguished the life of many an unhappy wretch, depriving him of the existence which it might also have been the means of supporting. A most barbarous form of punishment consists in tying down the victim over several growing bamboo stumps, cut down close to the ground, and sharpened to a point. In "pidgin-English" "bamboo chow-chow" is a term expressing the application of the rod. In some places bamboo forms the only material in the construction of a house. The framework consists of poles, lashed together with long strips of the outer fibre; the roof is thatched with the leaves, the walls are of matting, and for flooring the largest poles are split into narrow strips. In Borneo the houses are built thus, and there also the same material is exclusively used in the construction of pathways round the faces of precipices, and of bridges spanning the streams and gorges. Some of these native bridges are formed of a single bamboo for a footway and a smaller one for a handrail—the very simplification of a bridge. These bridge builders smoke tobacco pipes, which are a kind of a large hubble-bubble, formed of the same material as their houses and bridges. More than 13 centuries ago, in the year 550, a small hollow bamboo cane, so it is said, formed the packing case in which the first silkworms' eggs were smuggled from China to Constantinople by two Persian monks in the service of the Emperor Justinian.

(To be continued.)

CATERPILLARS IN PROCESSION.

The extensive pine forest which covers the dunes of South-western France, stretching from the "Bassin d'Arcachon" on the north, for many miles southward towards Biarritz, is the home of a very curious caterpillar (*Bombyx Pythiocampa*), of the same family as the silkworm. These insects possess a few interesting characteristics. They pass the winter in nests, at the pine-tree top—very snug nests, woven around a bunch of pine needles, and large enough to accommodate a family of from 50 to 200. Spring having arrived, each community leaves its winter home and prepares to set out into an unknown world. On leaving the nest, they form a procession in single file, each caterpillar in immediate communication with the one preceding and the one following it. In this manner they descend the tall pine and reach *terra firma*. From this habit, they acquire the local name of "Chenille Processionaire," or Processional Caterpillar. Their principal object now is to bury themselves in the sand; and to achieve this, some distance has often to be travelled before a spot suitable for the purpose can be found. Especially is this so when the pine trees happen to be situated in the streets or gardens of Arcachon; and in such a case, an interesting and rather amusing sight may be seen, when a procession consisting of some hundreds of the insects, and perhaps 15 or 16 yards in length, wends its way slowly along the road. Let us detach two or three from the middle of the line—thus dividing it into two parties—and watch the result. The last of the foremost portion, feeling the loss of his neighbour, immediately stops, and this action is communicated all along the line, until the vanguard is at a stand-still. Meanwhile, the leader of the rear portion redoubles his speed, and in a short time has caught up the foremost party, and the touch being communicated the whole procession resumes its march with as little delay as possible. When a suitable place has been found, the party forms into a group, and by a gentle wriggling motion, digs a hole in the soft sand, in which the chrysalis state is attained. Care must be taken not to touch these caterpillars with the hand, as the hairs create a stinging rash on the skin. So poisonous, indeed, are they, that sensitive skins feel the rash during the spring, although unconscious of any direct contact with the insect. In appearance, these caterpillars are of a dark brown or neutral colour, with orange-coloured spots and about an inch and a half in length. They are much disliked by the people of towns and villages which they infest, who destroy them in large numbers.

DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE UNDER HENRY VII. AND VIII.

In endeavouring to supply a certain amount of information on the subject, the instances to be described must be confined to the whole of the 15th and the first part of the next century, which preceded the appearance of Holbein and John of Padua, by adducing the examples built by sovereigns and others of the nobility in England. The castles which were formerly erected, after they had ceased to be entirely military in their plan and dimensions, had usually a spacious court, accommodated to the purposes of domestic habitation, and which consisted of large and even splendid apartments. As the necessity of defence and seclusion abated, with the exigencies of the times, the palaces and great manor houses were constructed with more

ornaments, which were engrafted upon, or mixed with, the ancient military manner of building towers placed at the angles were retained, but now richly parapeted and embattled—superb portals and gateways rose from the centre-wide windows were perforated through the external side walls, and the projecting, or bay, windows were worked into forms of most capricious embellishment. About the reign of Edward IV. a mode of building of a new character, as applied to palatial structures, was introduced into our own country. In the middle of the 15th century (for there are no satisfactory proofs of an earlier date), under the auspices of Philip, the good Duke of Burgundy (1419—1497), a peculiar invention of civil architecture appears to have originated, and was certainly much practised within his dominions. It may fairly be considered as a distinct mode, and denominated the "Burgundian." In that prince's palace at Dijon, its features and discriminations were first exhibited, and these were carried to a higher degree of excellence in the hall of justice at Rouen, and likewise in similar edifices at Bruges, Brussels, and Ghent. The "Maison de la Pucelle" at Rouen is an admirable specimen of the Burgundian domestic architecture. Our English architects soon adopted, in part, the Burgundian style, aided probably by the increasing intercourse between Flanders and England. When any memorable change in the construction or ornament of any considerable castle or mansion-house took place, the novel mode of building was adopted by others. Such a transition, from rude and massive strength to light and picturesque decoration, may be traced, with scarcely less certainty than in sacred architecture; and although so few instances remain, they are equally to be referred to their own era. The "Burgundian" may be therefore considered as the true prototype of our "Tudor" style, and as being merely confined to the two first reigns of that dynasty. Speed, the historian, observes concerning Henry VII., "Of his building was Richmond Palace, and that most beautiful piece, the chapel at Westminster, which forms of more curious and exquisite building he and Bishop Fox first, as is reported, learned in France, and thence brought with them into England." This, the Tudor style, was effectually promoted by Henry VII., whose enormous wealth enabled him to undertake the most sumptuous buildings, and, in most cases, his avarice directed that they should not be paid for till after his death. By his executors, in the early part of his son's reign, the chapels of Westminster, King's College, Cambridge, and Windsor were completed.

(To be continued.)

ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Another opera season has commenced, and everything points to its proving an eminently successful one. We are promised by the directors the best that can be provided in the way of operas and their exponents. The opening performance included a disappointment and a surprise. Mme. Melba was unable to take her promised part in "Faust," but Mme. Suzanne Adams, who appeared as Marguerite, revealed quite new sources of strength as an actress, and an added freshness in her always delightful voice. M. Cossiva was acceptable, if not altogether so, as Faust, M. Plancon was as stagey as ever, in the rôle of the Tempter, but his magnificent singing won hearty appreciation, and the "Veau d'Or" song had to be repeated. Signor Scotti did well as Valentine, and Mlle. Maubourg, a new-comer, gained favour as Siebel. There was a brilliant audience for the initial performance. We shall from time to time notice the operas and their exponents.

GENERAL NOTES.

In ordinary life "dancing" among the Red Indians prevails at weddings and funerals. Old squaws and young children dance till they can stand no longer, but "medicine" dances are quite another thing. Females are never allowed to take part, and men have been murdered for trying to pry into one of these sacred orgies. Last year the "headman" called upon Miss Dawson, our Government teacher (says *Travel*), and told her that as there was going to be a dance she must lock herself in the house until it was all over; whilst at another Pueblo the teacher is notified what he shall do. If an ordinary occasion, he is locked in his room; if the dance is of a deeply religious character they compel him to leave the town entirely. The snake dance, which has been much written about, is really a symbolic prayer for rain to the rain gods, who dwell in the clouds. There is also a dance to ward off all diseases, another for thanksgiving, one for the dead, one for the sun and moon; but, probably, the most useful is one expressly to frighten the children and keep them good. Then, figures of fearful goblins who come to devour and carry off the children are taken round the town, and as they approach the houses the parents conceal their little ones, and pretend to fight the demons and defend their offspring.

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Mr. Guy Waller, stage manager of the Globe Theatre, having acquired the provincial rights of the farcical comedy "Nurse," has arranged for two companies to start on tour. Mr. Waller has sub-let his No. 1 rights to Miss Jennie Maynard, who brings from the colonies a well-established reputation, and who will play the title rôle, now so ably sustained by Miss Lottie Venne at the Globe.

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Miss Olga Nethersole has entered an action at Washington in which she claims 20,000 dollars (£4,000) as damages from a Presbyterian minister, for denouncing her from the pulpit as a "lewd actress," in respect of her assumption of "Sappho" in the play of that name. It is understood that other suits will follow against persons or papers which have made similar attacks upon the lady.

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The Department of Art at the Paris Exhibition is taking a lively interest in the forthcoming appearance of Mr. F. R. Benson with his company of players at the Gymnase Theatre, the directors of which are about to visit London in order to settle details of the enterprise.

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Mr. Murray Carson is another aspirant for managership, upon which he will enter in the autumn, provided he can get a suitable West End theatre. Mr. Carson has secured for his venture, a new romantic play, by the adapter of "Tess,"

Masonic and General Tidings.

IT IS understood that the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Essex is to be held at Brentwood on Tuesday, the 13th inst.

THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE will be held on the 23rd inst., in the Town Hall, Altrincham. Bro. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., Dep. G. Master, Prov. G. Master, will preside.

THE CONSECRATION of the Wythenshawe Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 532, will take place at the Tatton Arms Hotel, Northenden, Cheshire, on the 16th inst. Bro. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., Prov. G. Master, will consecrate.

THE ART LOAN EXHIBITION.—The exhibition of the works of the best British artists continues to attract a large share of public patronage. The attendance last Sunday afternoon was a small one, only 774 persons passing through the turnstiles. The total attendance since the opening stands at 118,500.

SIR WALTER BESANT is inclined to the opinion that his great historical survey of London will run to nine volumes. There are five or six volumes now running through the press, but it is uncertain when a beginning will be made with the publication of the work. In any case its publication will not be commenced until the work is so far advanced as to permit the various sections appearing at short and regular intervals.

MASONIC PRESENTATION.—At their meeting previous to the vacation, held on the 23rd ult., the members of Saint Clement Lodge, No. 688, Aberdeen, presented to Bro. Alexander H. Hogg, S.W., on the occasion of his marriage, a massive marble timepiece, with bronze ornaments to match; also a gold brooch and finger ring for Mrs. Hogg. Bro. William Walker, P.M., made the presentation in open lodge, and in a kindly speech wished Bro. and Mrs. Hogg much happiness during their wedded days.

BRO. C. TOD PULLEN, formerly of the Bear Hotel, Esher, and known to many as connected with various catering enterprises, figured in the port rait gallery of *The Caterer and Hotel Keepers' Gazette*. It was at the "Fisheries" and the "Healtheries" that Bro. Pullen chiefly distinguished himself, and at the Royal Aquarium, Westminster, he also displayed administrative power of the highest order. Soon after disposing of the business at Esher, Bro. Pullen was engaged as manager of the Royal Hotel, Henley, which concern he ran most successfully last summer, and is still in command of.

WHITSUNTIDE ARRANGEMENTS.—The New Palace Steamers, Limited, commence their sailings to Southend, Margate, and Ramsgate to-morrow (Saturday). The Royal Sovereign will run daily (Fridays excepted) to Margate and Ramsgate and back, leaving Old Swan Pier at 9.20 a.m., and the Koh-i-noor will run to Southend and Margate and back from Old Swan Pier at 8.50 a.m., on June 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th, and will regularly sail on and after June 30th. In connection with these steamers trains depart from Fenchurch-street and St. Pancras Stations and meet the boats at Tilbury. Further particulars can be had at the offices, 50, King William-street, E.C.

THE LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY has just issued for the second time an Illustrated Guide and Official List of Hotels, Boarding Houses, and Apartments on their extensive system in the south and west of England, as also in the Isle of Wight, the Channel Islands, and on the coasts of Normandy and Brittany. Many new features have been introduced in the Guide, including an article devoted to the golf links on the South-Western system, and this will, it is certain, be appreciated by many people who wish to add the pleasure of golf to their holiday tours. Illustrations and descriptive notices are given of some of the most attractive resorts reached from Waterloo, and particulars are printed relating to a still larger number of places on the line. The book is issued by Messrs. Spottiswoode and Co., of 54, Gracechurch-street, and the first edition each year consists of 50,000 copies.

A MEETING of the Old Masonian Association, composed of ex-scholars of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, will be held at Exchange Restaurant, Stephenson-place, near New-street Station, Birmingham, on Monday next. Bro. Sir A. F. Godson, M.P., P.G.D., P.G.M. Worcester, Patron of Inst., Past Pres. of Assoc., has kindly consented to take the chair. The gathering has been arranged in order that Old Boys living in different parts of the country may have an opportunity of meeting one another, and promote the aims of the Association. Birmingham was selected owing to its central position, and Whit Monday, because the majority are free from business duties on this day. The early hour of 5 p.m. has to be fixed in order that members from London, Cardiff, Manchester, Liverpool, &c., &c., may catch return trains to their homes. Full particulars can be obtained from Mr. S. C. Dawson, 61, Bristol-street, Birmingham, or the Secretary, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.

MUTUAL OF AUSTRALASIA.—The Mutual Life Association of Australasia's actuarial investigation report for the period ending 31st December last shows that 18,307 policies were in force for £5,172,048, and that out of the funds—£1,359,362—at that date there existed a gross surplus of £124,372 on a 4 per cent. pure premium valuation, but in view of the possibility of a still further decline in the value of money it was recommended to pass to the most stringent 3½ per cent. valuation and make other special reserves absorbing £65,485 of the gross surplus, reversionary bonus certificates being issued to members at as nearly as possible the same rate as at the 1894 investigation. Interest realised on the mean amount of funds for last year was at the rate of 4½ per cent. The Quinquennial Investigation Reports clearly set forth the position and enable you to say, in the words of the general manager, that the course adopted "ensures what ought to be the first consideration with everyone interested in the welfare of the Association, viz., absolute security for the due fulfilment of the contracts under all policies, even should the value of money still further retrograde;" while the actuary affirms "this will not only secure the absolutely unimpeachable financial position of the Association, but will increase its bonus-yielding power in future years."

BETHNAL GREEN FREE LIBRARY.—This institution was founded in 1876, and is supported entirely by voluntary contributions. It consists of the Reference Library, News Rooms, Patent Department (where a copy of all specifications for inventions issued from her Majesty's Patent Office may be consulted), and the use of the Lecture Hall, in which lectures are delivered of a scientific, educational, and popular character, and first-class musical entertainments are given. In addition to these, the Committee organise from time to time concerts on a large scale. A Free Lending Department for the use of the inhabitants of this vast district has been opened with the most gratifying results. The maintenance of this branch has caused an increase in the expenditure, to meet which an earnest appeal is now made. A valuable course of illustrated science lectures for the people, by men of the highest ability, secured from the "Gilchrist Educational Trust," has been delivered with unprecedented success. Evening classes for the youth of both sexes are also held, and hitherto have proved very advantageous. A work of this character is the more needed in this neighbourhood on account of the extreme poverty of the inhabitants. Her Majesty the Queen and other members of the Royal Family have at various times shown active sympathy with the institution. Among eminent personages who have testified to its value may be noted Sir George Faudel Phillips, Bart., also Bro. the Ven. Archdeacon of London, who speaks of the delight he feels in knowing that there exists "in the poorest part of his district so enlightened and beneficent an institution as the Bethnal Green Free Library." The Bishop of Stepney says that from statistics he had obtained it was clear that in Bethnal Green the demand for immoral literature was steadily decreasing, while that for good books was increasing. And yet another (Professor Prout) says: "This institution is an oasis in the desert, and doubtless is the means of lifting many a boy and girl from the gutter, and starting them for a good position in life." Upwards of 27,000 persons attended the course of the Gilchrist Lectures, while the number who have attended the place since its foundation approaches one million. In the midst of streets remarkable for their squalor, the Bethnal Green Library stands a veritable light-house. The need for the present year is not less than £2500, comprising the maintenance and general funds, and new annual subscriptions. It would also greatly help the committee if some generous friend would give a sufficient sum to provide a Boys' Reading Room away from the present building. This would relieve the congested state of the Reference Department, and would furnish a place of refuge from the temptations of the streets for the thousands who seek admission but are turned away for want of room. Aid may be sent to the Treasurer, Mr. F. A. Bevan, 54, Lombard-street, E.C.; or to the Secretary and Librarian, Mr. G. F. Hilcken, Bethnal Green Free Library, London-street, E.

HER MAJESTY'S JUDGES will hold their annual whitebait dinner at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, on Monday, the 18th inst.

BRO. Lord and Lady Blythwood have returned to town from Newton Park, Bristol, where they have been on a visit to Earl and Countess Temple.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK, with their three elder children, leave York House, St. James's Palace, to-day, on a visit to the Queen at Balmoral.

THE HONORARY SECRETARIES of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund have been informed that a legacy of £1000 (free of legacy duty) was bequeathed to the fund by the late Madame Rosa Ann Deleglise.

THE DEATH is announced, at the age of 95, of Bro. George Swanson, builder, of Thurso, believed to be the oldest Freemason in the world. He became a member of St. Peter's Lodge, No. 284, on February 7th, 1823.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE WHITE, V.C., who takes up the Governorship of Gibraltar from Monday, the 4th inst., has selected Major W. E. Fairholme, C.M.G., Royal Artillery, now on special service in South Africa, for service on his Staff as Military Secretary.

T.R.H. THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES are expected to leave London to-morrow (Saturday) for Sandringham, and her Royal Highness is likely to remain there for the present. The Prince will be back in town on the 3th inst., in order to be present at Ascot.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, Commander-in-Chief in Ireland, has, it is said, rented for the summer season, Castle Blayney, co. Monaghan, the residence of Lord Francis Clinton-Hope, who is at present in Australia. His Royal Highness's Military Secretary has visited the demesne, and will probably arrange for a five years' lease, should that period suit the Duke of Connaught's requirements.

DURING the Military Tournament on Wednesday afternoon, while the arena was occupied by troops showing the costume worn by soldiers at different periods of our history, the performance was stopped for a moment in order to allow the announcement to be made that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had won the Derby with Diamond Jubilee. The news was received with great cheering by the large audience, and the band played "God Bless the Prince of Wales."

INFANT ORPHAN ASYLUM.—The annual meeting and half-yearly election of this asylum was held on Thursday at the Cannon-street Hotel, Bro. Capt. Portlock-Dadson presiding. The report, which was adopted, stated that the health of the children had been good during the past year, and that the education of the children had been tested by some of the usual Government examinations, and had been reported upon favourably. Reference was made to special expenditure for machinery and the completion of the gymnasium. An urgent appeal was made for new annual subscriptions. The election of 25 children was afterwards proceeded with.

THE NEWS of the serious illness of Bro. Richard Eve will be received with sincere regret throughout Masonic circles. For some weeks past Bro. Eve had not been well. In fact, he was taken seriously ill about a fortnight ago at a friend's house in London. However, within a few days he was about again attending to his many public duties, and keeping different social engagements. On Saturday last he attended the council meeting at Aldershot to pass a vote of condolence with the family of the late Mr. J. Lazarek. There he seemed alert and vigorous, but during the last few days it was evident that he was far from well. On the 25th ult., on his housekeeper going to his room, she found him unconscious. Dr. Gibson was summoned, and his friend, Dr. Cassidy arrived from London, and remained during the day. We now learn that Bro. Eve's condition is somewhat improved.

A CAPITAL PORTRAIT of Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, and an appreciative article on his services as the Town Clerk of the City of London, appears in the current issue of the *Clerks' Gazette*. The writer states that Bro. Sir John's "habit has been, throughout life, to devote his leisure to such hard work of the body as has been to him mental relaxation. Cricket and shooting, among other forms of sport, together with swimming competitions, of which he was in his earlier days intensely fond, were to him acceptable amusements, and when, in 1859, the present phase of volunteering began, Bro. Sir John then a solicitor in large practice, threw himself into the movement with great ardour, and commanded, before his retirement under the pressure of official duties, a smart battery of the 1st Middlesex Artillery."

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES gave a dinner-party to members of the Jockey Club on Wednesday evening, at which there were present T.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, the Duke of York, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Christian, H.S.H. Prince Soltykoff, Bro. the Duke of Devonshire, Bro. the Duke of Portland, Bro. the Marquis of Zetland, the Comte de Bertheux, Bro. the Earl of March, the Earl of Coventry, the Earl of Ilchester, Earl Cadogan, Bro. the Earl of Cork and Orrery, the Earl of Harewood, the Earl of Bradford, the Earl of Ellesmere, the Earl of Feversham, the Earl of Crewe, Viscount Falmouth, Lord Colville of Culross, Bro. Lord Suffield, Lord Rendlesham, Lord Penrhyn, Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Brampton, the Hon. H. W. Fitzwilliam, the Hon. F. Lambton, the Right Hon. J. Lowther, the Right Hon. H. Chaplin, Sir W. Throckmorton, Sir Reginald Graham, and others.

IMPOSING ON MASONIC CHARITY.—At Ashton-under-Lyne Police-court, on the 28th ult., Walter Banks Atherton, a man of superior education, was charged with getting money by false pretences from the Treasurer of the Benevolent Fund of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. It was stated that the prisoner, who had been in a good position, was tramping the country living on Freemasons. He said he was a member of several lodges, but, on Bro. Pownall, the Treasurer of the Ashton fund, writing, he found the statements were untrue. The prisoner had been calling at Ashton since last year. He tramped 1737 miles from one Masonic Treasurer to another. There were, Bro. Pownall said, about 200 such impostors tramping about. A letter was read from prisoner's brother promising to allow him 10s. weekly if he would give up such a life, and on this understanding he was sentenced to one day's imprisonment.

BY THE COURTESY of the Great Western Railway to inaugurate "the new combined rail and water trip," the members of the Press had a most pleasant day on the Upper Thames. Leaving Paddington at 10 a.m. in a special saloon attached to the rear of the train Henley was reached by 10.45, and in less than an hour we were on board the launch. An appetising luncheon and other refreshments were partaken of on board. After a stay of some duration at Pangbourne we returned to Henley where an excellent dinner served hot was partaken of at the Red Lion Hotel, a fine old-fashioned hostelry covered with wisteria, and now under the management of Bro. C. Tod Pullen, who has a very good record in the catering business and who personally superintended all the arrangements of the trip and the refreshments. Mr. Wilkinson, the General Manager of the Great Western Railway, accompanied the party, and Mr. W. C. Simpson was indefatigable in looking after the comfort of everyone. Freemasonry was well represented, and more particularly in the person of Bro. Edward Letchworth, the Grand Secretary. We can heartily recommend this outing to the Secretaries of summer lodges who want to have a good day's enjoyment at a reasonable figure, the inclusive charge for train, launch, lunch, and dinner being only 21s.

BRIGHTON AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.—Whitsuntide Holiday Arrangements.—8 or 15 days' cheap tickets will be issued from London, Thursday, May 31st, to Seaford, Eastbourne, Bexhill, and Hastings; Friday, June 1st, to Littlehampton, Bognor, Chichester, Havant, Southsea, Portsmouth, and the Isle of Wight. The week-end cheap return tickets issued on June 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, to and from London, will be available for return June 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th. Special Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday to Wednesday tickets will be issued from London to Dieppe. To Caen for Normandy and Brittany, special cheap tickets will be issued on Wednesday and Saturday, available for return on the following Monday, Wednesday, or Friday. On Saturday, June 2nd, a 14-day excursion to Paris by the picturesque Newhaven, Dieppe route, through the charming scenery of Normandy, will be run from London by the special day express service, and also by the night express service on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, June 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. Special Saturday to Tuesday tickets will be issued from London to Portsmouth, Southsea, and the Isle of Wight. On Whit-Sunday and Monday day trips at excursion fares will be run from London to Brighton, Hove, Worthing, Midhurst, Portsmouth, the Isle of Wight, Lewes, Tunbridge Wells, Seaford, Eastbourne, Bexhill, St. Leonards, and Hastings. Extra trains will be run from London, as required by the traffic, to the Crystal Palace on Whit-Monday, Tuesday, and following days, returning in the evening at frequent intervals. On Whit-Tuesday, cheap day trips will be run from London to Brighton, Hove, and Worthing.