

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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ROYAL ARCH MASONRY IN WEST YORKSHIRE.

There is invariably something pleasant and instructive to read in the reports of meetings of the Provincial Grand Chapter of West Yorkshire. For some time past, the Grand Superintendent of the Province—Comp. the Right Hon. W. L. JACKSON, M.P.—and his second in command—Comp. RICHARD WILSON—have made it their business to instil into the minds of our West Yorkshire companions the importance of doing all in their power, both by precept and example, to enlarge the borders of Royal Arch Masonry. They take a serious view of the declaration and pronouncement in Article 1 of our Book of Constitutions, "that pure Antient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more, viz., those of the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, and the Master Mason, including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch." They are enthusiastic in their love of Masonry. They point out that the Province has a muster roll of more than 80 Craft lodges, and that these Craft lodges show amongst them an aggregate subscribing membership of upwards of 4000 brethren; and they argue, naturally enough, that if the Royal Arch has been declared by the "Solemn Act of Union" of December, 1813, to be part and parcel of "pure Antient Masonry," there ought not to be such a disproportion as is known to exist between the chapters—in which alone a knowledge of the Royal Arch can be acquired—and their members and the Craft lodges and their membership. Yet even in this favoured Province of West Yorkshire—in which the Royal Arch is more firmly established than in any other of our English Provinces—there are only 45 chapters to 81 lodges, and but 1600 R.A. Masons to over 4000 Craft Masons. They say, in effect, What is the good of laying it down in the very first Article of our Book of the Law that the Royal Arch is part of "pure Antient Masonry" if this indifference to its claims upon our attention and respect is allowed to continue? What advantage have we gained by the action of the Supreme Grand Chapter in sanctioning the greater facilities for the exaltation of Master Masons if the brethren do not avail themselves of these facilities? It is pointed out in our review of "Freemasonry in 1900" in the Christmas number of the *Freemason*, under the head of "Royal Arch Masonry," that while it is quite possible there may have been during the year an in-

crease of membership in the private chapters previously constituted, there has been a decided falling off in the number of new chapters for which warrants have been granted—from 18 in the previous to 12 in the present year. Again, if we turn to the Provincial Calendars, of which so many are now published annually, we shall find that in the majority of our Provinces the disproportion between the Craft and the Royal Arch, which is the complement of the Craft, is very marked, notwithstanding those further facilities to which we have just alluded. Some time ago we published a letter in which it was estimated that under the English system there were some 26,000 Royal Arch to about 130,000 Craft Masons—we are writing from memory, but we think the figures were Bro. HUGHAN'S, or based on his calculations. It follows, then, that while there is about one Royal Arch chapter to every three Craft lodges, only one out of every five Craft Masons has been exalted to the Royal Arch. Hence as regards these several facts and figures, while Grand Chapter is fully alive to the importance of encouraging as far as possible the study and practice of Royal Arch Masonry, the Craft Masons, at all events up to the present time, have not responded either very readily or very generally. The Grand Superintendent of West Yorkshire and Comp. WILSON boldly advise their Royal Arch companions to invite Craft brethren to enrol themselves as members of chapters, and we see no reason why the advice should not be followed. It is against the laws of Masonry for members to ask outsiders to join the ranks of the Craft; but there is no law that we wot of against one who has taken "the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch" from inviting his friends who are already Master Masons from completing their curriculum as "pure Antient Masons," according to the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England. But excellent as is the advice of these distinguished brethren and companions, we are of opinion that something further is needed in order to place the Royal Arch on a proper footing; and he will deserve well of the Supreme Order who shall offer one or more practical suggestions to this end.

In the meantime, we commend to our readers' attention the very able address which Comp. WILSON, as acting Grand Superintendent, delivered at the recent half-yearly meeting at Halifax of the Prov. Grand Chapter of West Yorkshire, and which is reported in full in another column. They will find it contains much valuable information, some of which it is not unlikely may be new to them—unless they should happen to have enjoyed special facilities of access to a good Masonic library—while the whole is certain to create in their minds a favourable impression as to the claims of the Royal Arch on their consideration.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence—the last meeting of the century—was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, when the three presiding officers were Bros. James Henry Matthews, President (re-appointed and invested December 5th); D. D. Mercer, Senior Vice-President; and Henry Garrod, Junior Vice-President (re-elected December 5th).

Bros. E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; W. Lake, Asst. G. Sec.; W. Dodd, G. S. Recknell, and H. Sadler, G. Tyler, represented the official department of Grand Lodge.

The other brethren who attended were—
Bros. Charles J. R. Tijou, E. W. Nightingale, Felix Kite, W. Fisher, James Block, S. H. Goldschmidt, R. W. Ker, W. M. Bywater, F. W. Hancock, S. J. Notley, E. M. E. Hamilton, W. Kipps, Lieut.-Col. G. E. E. Bunt, G.S.B.;

Now Ready.—The Freemasons' Calendar & Pocket Book for 1901, Price 2/-, by Post 2/1½.

Henry W. Kiallmark, P.G.D.; W. H. Caton, Edward Terry, P.G.T.; Major Henry Wright, Charles Henry Stone, E. W. Pillinger, James Ellinger, William Pannell, George Gray, Frederick Hunt, James Robert Whittle, James W. Burgess, Albert E. Purkis, James D. Graham, Lorenzo Faull, W.M. 619; Edwin George, P.M. 1489; John Hoig, J. V. Vesey Fitzgerald, H. Massey, J. S. Pointon, Charles Atkins, Robert D. Cummings, George J. Dunkley, William H. Stocks, Walter Gripper, F. W. Golby, W.M. 22; Alfred G. Moring, P.M. 538; Frank V. Catt, S. C. Kaufman, A. Duret, William Humphrey, F. Sear, William Lipscombe, P.M. 507; F. W. Downes, P.M. 1138; W. Lovel Bonnett, W.M. 905; and Robert H. Gowan, P.M. 1929.

The brethren first confirmed recommendations made at last November meeting, which the Grand Master had since approved of, to the amount of £280. The new list contained names of the enormous number of 47 petitioners who were qualified through lodges in the London district, and at Bellary, Rawtenstall, Halifax, N.S., Sheerness, Liverpool, Twickenham, Jarrow, Lancaster, Amble, Barrow-in-Furness, Prestwich, Poona, Rhyl, Rugby, Church, Saltash, Murree, Bromley (Kent), Windsor, Witney, Wymondham, Middlesbrough, Grand Lodge of New South Wales, Umballa, and Cambridge. One of these was dismissed, and five were deferred. The remainder were voted a total of £1240. Grand Lodge was recommended to sanction £100 each in two cases, and £50 in one case. The Grand Master was asked to sanction £40 in nine cases, and £30 in 15 cases; £20 was voted to each of six petitioners, £10 to each of four petitioners, and £5 each to four cases.

The following is a comparative statement of the grants made each month in the last three years by the Board of Benevolence with the number of cases relieved:

Month.	1898.		1899.		1900.	
	No. of Cases.	Amount.	No. of Cases.	Amount.	No. of Cases.	Amount.
January	30	£850	18	£460	20	£535
February	29	850	22	530	28	830
March	38	1125	39	930	38	1125
April	28	715	24	515	25	785
May	40	1155	25	785	37	1070
June	29	755	15	515	21	570
July	19	555	24	690	13	410
August	14	435	13	395	17	420
September	13	315	13	313	13	360
October	29	725	25	895	38	1015
November	44	990	42	1075	26	720
December	24	615	26	700	41	1240
	337	£9105	286	£7803	317	£9080

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

A meeting of the above Provincial Grand Chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax, on Wednesday, the 28th ult., under the banner of the Sincerity Chapter, No. 61, Halifax, when there were present—

Comps. Richard Wilson, P.Z. 289, H., Past G. Soj., as Grand Superintendent; William Gaukroger, J.P., P.Z. 61, Past J., as Prov. G.H.; Jno. A. Godwin, J.P., P.Z. 387, Prov. G.J.; Thos. Richd. Vaux, P.Z. 208, and George Buckley, P.Z. 61, P.P.G.Js.; Major H. G. E. Green, P.Z. 154, Prov. G.S.E.; Thos. Brayshaw, P.Z. 265, Prov. G.S.N.; Jno. Wm. Balme, P.Z. 61, P.P.G.S.N.; Charles Stokes, P.Z. 139, Prov. G. Treas.; J. Corrin Bell, P.Z. 1283, P. as Prov. G. Reg.; Geo. Hy. Robinson, P.Z. 275, P.P.G.R.; Geo. Hoyle, P.Z. 61, Prov. G. Prin. Soj.; Wm. Barrow Wall, P.Z. 290, Prov. 1st A.G. Soj.; S. A. Bailey, P.Z. 302, Prov. 2nd A.G. Soj.; John Seed, P.Z. 448, John Shoemith, P.Z. 521, Alfred Robertshaw, P.Z. 61, J. W. Monckman, P.Z. 600, Wm. Watson, P.Z. 304, and T. Ibbetson Walker, P.Z. 448, P.P.G. Sojs.; Henry Marsh, P.Z. 289, Prov. G.S.B.; Joseph Bradbury, P.Z. 337, Prov. Dep. G.S.B.; Abm. Armitage, P.Z. 521, P.P.G.S.B.; Alfred Cocker, P.Z. 1283, Prov. G. Std. Br.; F. W. Turner, P.Z. 408, W. D. Shoebridge, P.Z. 448, Hy. Beaumont, P.Z. 1283, and J. P. Browne, P.Z. 600, P.P.G. Std. Brs.; John Dawson, P.Z. 521, Prov. G.D.C.; James Parker, P.Z. 264, Prov. A.G.D.C.; Walter Davey, P.Z. 1000, Prov. G. Org.; E. Rowe Dickinson, P.Z. 308, P.P.G. Org.; J. R. Barton, P.Z. 306, P.A.G.S.E.; Thos. Leighton, Jan. 139, P.G. Janitor; Joseph France, P.Z. 904, F. Smith, P.Z. 837, Henry Harrison, P.Z. 458, and J. B. Mays, P.Z. 1042, P.G. Stwds.; and acting Principals, Past First Principals, and Companions of the following chapters, viz.: 61, 139, 154, 208, 242, 258, 264, 265, 275, 289, 290, 302, 304, 306, 308, 337, 387, 408, 448, 458, 521, 600, 603, 837, 904, 974, 1001, 1042, 1214, 1239, 1283, 1645, 2069, and 2201. Unrepresented: 296, 307, 380, 495, 652, 827, 910, 1917, 1402, 1513, and 2491.

Apologies were received from Comps. the Right Hon. W. L. Jackson, M.P., Grand Superintendent; W. H. Stacey, P.Z. 296, Prov. Dep. G. Reg.; Wm. Varley, P.Z. 307, Prov. Asst. G. Std. Br.; Martin Eismann, P.Z. 827; and Joseph Barber, P.Z. 652, Prov. Asst. G.D. of C.; John C. Malcolm, P.Z. 306, Past G. Soj., P.P.G.H.; Henry Smith, P.Z. 302, Past G. Soj., P.P.G.H.; Wm. Blackburn, P.Z. 306, Chairman of the Charity Committee; and about 40 other Zs., P.Zs., and companions.

Comp. Richard Wilson, P.Z. 289, Past G. Soj., Prov. G.H., acting Grand Superintendent, accompanied by the Prov. Grand Officers, entered at 4.10, and Prov. Grand Chapter was opened in due form.

The acting Grand Superintendent, the Prov. Grand H. and J., and the Prov. Grand Officers were saluted.

The roll of chapters and of Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers was then called.

The Prov. G. SCRIBE E. presented the minutes of the half-yearly meeting, held at Bradford, on Wednesday, 16th May, when it was moved, seconded, and resolved: "That the minutes be taken as read and confirmed."

The ACTING GRAND SUPERINTENDENT remarked that the Grand Superintendent had fully intended to preside at the meeting which was fixed for that day. In order that he (the speaker) might also be able to attend, he had put off the meeting to the latest day he possibly could in November. On Friday night, however, he received a letter from the Grand Superintendent stating that he would not be able to be present. The acting Grand Superintendent proceeded to read the letter.

Owing to the death of Comp. Ellis Pickersgill, P.Z. 495, the Prov. G. Reg., since the last meeting of the Prov. G. Chapter, the acting Grand Superintendent invested Comp. Robert Moffat Kerr, P.Z. 91, with the collar of the office.

The ACTING GRAND SUPERINTENDENT, in an address to the companions, said:

I have made no preparation personally to address you to-day beyond this: that I was thinking the other day that the pleasure of meeting at Halifax for the Grand Superintendent and for those those who care to come, would not be because of the business on the agenda. But, thinking it over, I don't think it would be wise to forego those half-yearly meetings on the ground that we have not sufficient business. I am certain that if we did so, the Grand Superintendent and myself would take the opportunity of remaining away; and directly we entertain such feelings with regard to these meetings, it would be a loss to the province. I would ask, if the business has been so purely formal, that our meeting and greeting of each other should be all the more cordial; and if we have little business, let us compare notes, telling each other what good we are doing in our several chapters and lodges, saying how we trust they are doing similar work, and to add that we will do anything to advance their interests. We have at Leeds a remarkable library connected with the province, and I wish it were made more use of by the members than it has hitherto been. Those, however, who wish to find out for themselves matters of interest with respect to Masonry, know where to go to look for them. Although the companions cannot be expected to make deep researches into all that there is to be known with respect to these matters, they will find ample material for 10 minutes' or a quarter-of-an-hour's address, which would be a great advantage to those who would not take the trouble, or had not the opportunity, of studying the subject for themselves. I have obtained some facts which, I think, will be of interest to the companions. We do not, as in the case of Ancient Craft Masonry, find traces of Royal Arch Masonry in the far distant past, and there is a singular contrast as to the "nature" of the earliest evidence extant in each case. We have traditions of Craft Masonry, more or less shadowy, handed down to us from remote periods of time, but our actual and more substantial evidence rests upon ancient MSS. (such as those with which West Yorkshire is now so richly endowed), minutes of old lodges, whose origin is lost in the mists of time, and sundry other records. But it is not until A.D. 1686 that we have mention, in "print," of Freemasonry. Now, our first known record of Royal Arch Masonry is a "printed" one, and is not heralded by tradition or a gradual succession of written allusions. It has recently been brought to light by that indefatigable worker and eminent author, Dr. Crawley, of Dublin. He states that the first mention of the Royal Arch is in a paragraph contained in the leading Dublin newspaper, of the year 1743—"St. John's Day, celebrated by the Lodge in Youghall, No. 21. Imprimis, the first salutation on the Quay of Youghall, upon their coming out of their Lodge Chamber, was the Ships firing their Guns with their Colours flying, &c., &c." Then follows an interesting description of the procession through the streets, of which one portion only immediately concerns us to-day. "Fourthly, The Royal Arch carried by two Excellent Masons." Thus is disposed of the conjecture that the term "Arch" was used in the sense of "chief"—such as archbishop, &c.—and derived in that way, for here the arch was represented in its "material" and "architectural" form. Allusions to the arch are made illustratively earlier, both in the English and the Irish Books of Constitutions, and the figure of an arch with keystone is shown in the background of their respective frontispieces. But we have no earlier direct evidence, at present, of the actual use of the Royal Arch in our ceremonial, than in the above quotation. The Third Degree, or Degree of a Master Mason, was known to have been practised at an early period after the constitution of the Grand Lodge, A.D. 1717, putting then into dramatic form what was possibly an old and secret legend of the Craft, confined to a few who were privileged to receive it. We can, therefore, easily believe that the construction and working of the Royal Arch Degree, containing, as it does, the esoteric sequel of the Third Degree, would quickly follow, if not having already really formed a section of the original Third Degree. The next known reference to the Royal Arch is contained in that exceedingly rare volume known as Dr. Dassigny's "Enquiry," published at Dublin in 1744. Of this work but three copies are known to be in existence, viz., an imperfect copy each in the respective libraries of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, U.S.A., and the Rosicrucian College at Newcastle-on-Tyne; the one copy perfect (save for lack of frontispiece) being the property of the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire. Our Librarian has had prepared a reproduction in facsimile of the three most interesting portions of the work, and a copy will be presented to each member of the Sincerity Chapter in attendance here to-day. The next really well authenticated allusion is that contained in the Records of 1752, appertaining to the "Ancients" or "Atholl" Grand Lodge, the powerful London rival to the parent Grand Lodge. But the first minute of real work in a Royal Arch chapter (or lodge as it was then called) is, singular to say, found in the Records of Fredericksburg, U.S.A., dated December 22nd, 1753. Then we have the celebrated Dunckerley's statement of having been exalted at Portsmouth in 1754, and the minutes of meetings at Bristol in 1758. In the minute books of the old Grand Chapter at York, now extinct, there is an entry of 1762. Coming nearer home, our lamented Bro. Herbert Crossley gives an extract from the minutes of Probity Lodge "Jan. 9th, 1765, Resolved that the 1st proposition for establishing a Royal Arch Lodge be adopted." The first meeting, Bro. Crossley tells us, was held 30th January, 1765. This is the earliest known record of a Royal Arch chapter in West Yorkshire or elsewhere in the North of England, save that of York. Other districts have also records of the same year, but it is unnecessary to quote them. In 1780 we have the record of the opening of a chapter at Rotherham under the authority of the now extinct Grand Chapter at York, and this event is especially interesting, as the chapter is the only one known to have been established in West Yorkshire by that body. It has been erroneously stated that no records of that chapter survive, but copies of the petition signed 25th February, 1780, by Josiah Beckwith, John Hassall, and James Simes, of the warrant dated 6th July, 1780, and of a number of minutes are, however, still extant. Of the rival organisations of the last century, but two survived until 1813, the York Grand Lodge and Chapter having previously disappeared. In 1813 took place the great historical Union of the "Ancients," or "Atholl," Grand Lodge and the "Moderns," or parent, Grand Lodge, founded respectively in 1751 and 1717, their respective Royal Arch organisations being absorbed into one Grand Chapter in 1817. Previous to this every chapter had a separate and detached existence, with its own number on the roll, but each of them was now required to attach itself to some lodge and take its number. Henry Sadler, the G. Lodge Sub-Librarian and eminent author, in speaking of the ceremonial of these two Grand Chapters, says: "In my opinion, there were, at least, two distinct systems of Royal Arch working. . . . In substance I have no doubt but the Royal Arch of both 'Ancients' and 'Moderns' were pretty much alike, although in detail they probably differed materially. . . . It was not until 5th February, 1834, that a Committee of Nine was appointed by Grand Chapter to take into consideration and report upon the ceremonies for the installation of Principals of chapters, as well as the various other ceremonies of the Order. This Committee made a report to G. Chapter on the 5th November, 1834, and in May, 1835, the Duke of Sussex issued a warrant for a Chapter of Promulgation, and added 18 fresh members to the original Committee, viz., nine Grand Officers and nine Zs. or P.Zs. The object of Grand Chapter in appointing these Committees is stated to have been a desire 'to establish a uniformity of practice and working throughout the Order.'" During last century a curious ceremony existed, called "Passing the Chair." Many chapters required the candidate for exaltation to prove himself as a preliminary an Installed Master. To have refused admission to any but

actual Masters or Past Masters of lodges would have been a serious check on the vitality of a chapter, so the obstacle was surmounted by going through a fictitious installation, several brethren sometimes passing the chair of the lodge in one evening. This practice extended into the present century, until very properly stopped by Grand Lodge. Now for a word of caution to Boards of Installed Masters and Installed Principals. Although long ago abolished from our English Constitution, this practice has not been discarded everywhere. Therefore, Installed Masters and Principals are enjoined to be careful in the admission of strange visitors, and to ascertain that such visitors have been duly installed into the office of Master in a regular lodge, and are not claiming to be present under a fictitious qualification. The Grand Chapter in August, 1826, resolved that no one should be eligible as Principal unless the actual Past Master or Master of a Craft lodge. In 1817 there were 21 West Yorkshire chapters on the roll. Of these the following are now on our books: Nos. 61, 139, 242, 265, 275, 289, 290, 302, 307, 308. Our Provincial Grand Chapter was opened at Dewsbury, May 5th, 1858, the late Dr. Fearnley, of No. 208, being the first Grand Superintendent. Of the many distinguished companions invested on that day but two survive—Comps. Dd. Salmond and Henry Smith, of No. 302. Though these venerable companions have travelled far on the road of life, and the dust of time has whitened their hair, yet their hearts beat warm and true to the principles of the Craft they have loved and served so well. May their departure from our midst be long delayed! Time will not permit, otherwise it would be interesting to give a sketch of many important events, and to mention many zealous workers by name worthy to fill the page of history appertaining to this great and successful province, now consisting of 45 chapters, with a (last recorded) membership of nearly 1600 companions. Without wishing to forestall the future historians of Sincerity Chapter, No. 61—and we know that the four walls of this chapter contain not only valuable material, but skilful and zealous workmen to deal with it—we may mention, beyond the quotation already given as to the first chapter meeting having been held in 1765, that (by the courtesy of several of the present members) we learn, the minute book containing this interesting entry is still preserved, and I am thus also enabled to tell you that a new or confirmation warrant was granted in 1790, the chapter continuing in a prosperous condition in 1815. The name of Charles Whiteley, the grandfather of the present respected member, appears on the minutes of this latter year. On the 29th October, 1818, a fresh charter was granted, and, under the rules of the newly United Grand Chapter, the chapter had to attach itself to some lodge and take its number. It therefore naturally elected to come under the wing of its mother lodge, Probity, with the then number 84 on the roll. We regret to learn that between the years 1840 and 1859 there is an unfortunate gap in the minutes which at present stands in the way of documentary proof being adduced of the centenary of the chapter's existence. I am sure the companions present will all join with me in fervently hoping that this disqualification may be removed at an early date. It would be almost invidious to single out names from the many faithful and distinguished members of the chapter still living, but we may all congratulate Excellent Comp. W. Stott, who joined in 1860, and was Z. in 1866, as still heading the roll, and Comp. B. W. Jackson, as being a good second, having joined in 1865. We are not likely to soon forget the names of Thomas Perkinson, Isaac Booth, and our distinguished Comp. Sir Henry Edwards, who was installed Grand Superintendent of this province in 1878. They have all passed away, but their memories are still dearly cherished by many of us here to-day. Nor let us overlook the late Comp. J. T. Horton, an honorary member, who died in 1895, whose association with the chapter was specially interesting, seeing that he was a direct descendant of the oldest recorded member of Probity Lodge, namely, William Horton, Esq., of Coley, Halifax, who was appointed Provincial Grand Master for the West Riding of the County of York in 1738, the year of the constitution of the Lodge of Probity. Before closing this address, let me, on behalf of this province, express our deep obligations, not only for valuable data given on this occasion, but for inestimable assistance for many years back, to West Yorkshire, by Comps. William James Hughan, of Torquay, and Henry Sadler, Sub-Librarian to Grand Lodge in London. These distinguished companions have, as you know, a world-wide reputation as Masonic Authors and Pioneers in the research for Masonic knowledge, and are deservedly held in the highest esteem by the whole band of Masonic students in both hemispheres. Companions, to fully appreciate the beauties of Freemasonry, we must gaze beyond the details of organisation or the attainment of office and rank. We should realise that a Degree, however fascinating its ceremonial may be, or beautiful the rhetorical power by which it may be exemplified, yet, unless there is within it a vital and living principle from which its surroundings and accessories are evolved, it is but as a stately fabric, gorgeous and noble in appearance from without, but bare and empty within. On our entrance into Freemasonry, the practice of Charity towards all men was the great principle inculcated by the First Degree. As Fellow Crafts, we were taught the mortal equality of mankind, and to cultivate our hearts and minds by the study of science and the practice of moral truth and virtue. As Master Masons, we received the injunction to be faithful unto death, even as our Grand Master, and that the descent into the Tomb of Transgression is but the passage to the Gate of Life. In this Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch, we are summoned to contemplate and approach, and to bend before, with awe and reverence, "the most Sacred and Ineffable Name of Him who is the Great I AM, the Eternal Ruler of the Universe, the Eternal Life, the Premordial Source of all its Principles, and the spring and fountain of every virtue."

No invitations were received for the half-yearly meeting in May, 1901. The ACTING GRAND SUPERINTENDENT moved a vote of thanks to the members of Sincerity Chapter, No. 61, for the arrangements they had made for the meeting of Prov. Grand Chapter. Comp. J. A. GODWIN, J.P., Prov. G.J., seconded the motion, which was carried.

Comp. R. POTTER, Z. 61, briefly replied. Comp. W. WATSON, Hon. Librarian, remarked that photographic copies of all the warrants of the Craft lodges in the province had long ago been obtained, and great advantage had accrued in various ways from having them preserved at the Prov. G. Secretary's office for reference. In one case, where a warrant had been destroyed by fire, an enlarged copy was made on behalf of our late Bro. Tew, and was now hanging in the lodge-room, and equal to the original in appearance. The photographs of a number of the chapter charters had not, however, been received, and he was about to make an appeal to have them sent in. Many of the companions were aware that a communication was being sent out to the lodges in the province, inviting them to subscribe towards the publication of the "H. F. Beaumont MSS." He might also state that they had many valuable treasures in the library, which were practically inaccessible to the brethren of the province generally. With the facilities now afforded for reproductions, the brethren could have placed before them facsimiles in every respect as good as the originals. Those, however, could not be produced without expense, and if sufficient support were accorded—a guinea or two from each lodge occasionally would meet the case—the publication of those valuable curios could be carried out.

The Prov. Grand Chapter was closed at 4.55 p.m. Fifty-two companions sat down to tea, the acting Grand Superintendent presiding.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF NORTH WALES.

RETIREMENT OF BRO. COLONEL GORDON WARREN.

A meeting of this Provincial Grand Mark Lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, in one of the ancient towers of Carnarvon Castle, on Thursday, the 6th instant. There was a considerable number of brethren present from Rhyl, Llandudno, Amlwch, Bangor, Carnarvon, Menai Bridge, and other parts of North Wales, and the province was well represented by Provincial Grand Officers, whilst several Grand Officers of England attended. Among these were the Rector of Llanllyfni, Bro. Rev. Thomas Edwards, P.G. Chap. Eng.; Bro. T. Westlake Morgan, P.G. Org. Eng.; and Bros. G. L. Woodley and Robert Owen, P.G. Stwds. Amongst the Provincial Grand Officers were Bros. Edward Roberts, H.M.I.; Rev. J. Fairchild, R. G. Thomas, W. Walton, J. A. Rodway, P.P.S.G.O.; W. A. Foster, and other brethren.

The Elffin Lodge, No. 321, presided over by Bro. Edward Roberts, H.M. Inspector of Schools, P.P.S.G.W., W.M., was opened at three o'clock, and shortly afterwards received the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Col. Hunter, with his Deputy, Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Gordon Warren, and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers.

Provincial Grand Lodge was then opened in due form by the Prov. Grand Master.

After the usual routine business had been disposed of, the Prov. G. Master appointed and invested his officers for 1901. They were as follows; Bro. the Rev. Thomas Edwards, rector of Llanllyfni, Dep. Prov. G. Master.

On making the appointment, Bro. Col. HUNTER said that for very many years the reverend brother had taken the deepest interest in Mark Freemasonry and in Masonry generally. He was an old Past Master, and had the honour of being a Past Grand Chaplain of England; he had also served the province as their Chaplain.

On Bro. Col. Gordon Warren handing the Prov. G. Master his chain of office, which he had worn for nearly 13 years,

Bro. Col. HUNTER told the brethren how highly he had appreciated (as they all must have done) the valued services of the retiring Deputy. As they all knew, he was a most distinguished Mason, not only in this province, but in other parts of the country, and made yearly many special journeys from Shropshire to attend his duties as Deputy of the province. It was impossible for him to say enough as to Bro. Col. Gordon Warren's Masonic services generally, and on his retirement they would all be glad to hear that the colonel trusted still to be sometimes with them, although he felt his other duties compelled him to tender his resignation as Deputy Prov. G. Master of North Wales.

- Bro. the Rev. John Fairchild, P.M., P.P.G. Chap.... Prov. S.G.W.
- " James Porter, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. ... Prov. J.G.W.
- " T. Westlake Morgan, P.P.G. Org., P.G. Org. England ... Prov. G.M.O.
- " W. Henry Wright, P.P.G.I.G. ... Prov. G.S.O.
- " F. Fisher Jones, W.M. 324 ... Prov. G.J.O.
- " the Rev. Pugh Evans, Rector of Llanddoget, near Llanrwst ... Prov. G. Chap.
- " Capt. Douglas Jones ... Prov. G. Treas.
- " Dr. Kenrick Davies ... Prov. G. Reg.
- " Major G. R. Ashley, P.P.S.G.W.... Prov. G. Sec.
- " W. H. Lloyd Griffith ... Prov. S.G.D.
- " Philip E. Jones ... Prov. J.G.D.
- " Frank Bellis ... Prov. G.I. of W.
- " Owen Rowlands, P.P.G.D. S. Wales ... Prov. G.D.C.
- " W. Walton... Prov. A.G.D.C.
- " W. W. Walton ... Prov. G.S.B.
- " J. A. Hornby ... } Prov. G. Std. Brs.
- " W. Bulkeley Hughes Hunter ... } Prov. G. Org.
- " Joseph Arthur James ... } Prov. G.I.G.
- " Richard Pritchard ... } Prov. G. Stwds.
- " John Owen ... } Prov. G. Tyler.
- " Edward Eustance ... } Prov. G. Tyler.
- " Samuel Evans ... } Prov. G. Tyler.
- " John Vincent ... } Prov. G. Tyler.

Touching reference was made to the death of the late Bro. W. D. Henderson, Prov. G. Secretary.

It was further resolved to make a presentation to Bro. Colonel Gordon Warren on his retirement.

"Hearty good wishes" from the Grand Lodge of England, the Prov. G. Lodges of South Wales, Shropshire, and Staffordshire having been given, the Prov. G. Lodge was closed.

A banquet subsequently took place at the Sportsman Hotel, where Bro. Armstrong catered for the occasion, and at which Bro. Colonel Hunter presided.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

The Craft Abroad.

THE NEW CHURCH AT WOODBROOK

LAYING OF FOUNDATION STONE WITH MASONIC HONOURS.

The foundation stone of the new church at Woodbrook, Trinidad, was laid on Thursday, November 8th, at 4.30, by the acting Governor, Bro. Sir Courtenay Knollys, K.C.M.G., P.M., and Past Dep. District Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, Barbadoes. To the west of the spot where the stone was to be laid, and on the site of the proposed building, seats were provided for the choir and a large number of guests, among whom were noticed: Lady Knollys, Miss Knollys, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Bourne, Dr. Doyle, Messrs. Hancock, M.A.; W. Burslem, M.A.; Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Clarke, Hon. D. B. Horsford, Mrs. and Miss Horsford, Mrs. Fahey, Mr.

Cochrane, Mr. Drury Wake, Mrs. J. H. Moore, and the Misses Moore, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Collens, Miss Collens, Mrs. Holt, Hon. R. G. Bushe, M.A.; Mrs. H. C. Bourne, Inspector Norman, Major C. J. Rooks, and Mr. E. R. Smart.

The members of the Masonic Fraternity, of whom there were 34 present, assembled in a newly and nicely-built cottage (the tasty work of Mr. J. H. Moore), close to the site of the coming church, and the clergy and choristers assembled in a similar structure near by. His Excellency was received by Bro. Captain Wood, Garrison Adjutant, and a member of the Royal Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 867, the police band, under Bandmaster Grainger, playing the National Anthem.

The procession shortly afterwards formed. The band led, playing the Austrian Hymn, and was followed by the white-robed clergy and surpliced choristers. The ministers present were the Venerable Archdeacon Trotter, the Very Rev. Dean Smith, the Revs. C. Image, J. Knight, H. Melville, and A. Hombersley. The Masonic body, in regalia, filled up the rear. Arriving at the spot where the ceremony was to take place, His Excellency, the Worshipful Master, and Wardens took their places on the platform directly east of the site, and the clergy and choristers on the north and west. On the platform were, besides His Excellency, Major Todd, Bro. Captain Wood, Deputy-Inspector General Owen, Messrs. Tripp, Montrichard, Wainwright, Huggins, Alf. Stewart, S. Ford, and Rev. Holt. Among the other Masons present were: Bros. Justice T. Baynes, Police Band-sergeant Elliott, Hon. J. H. Archer, Davies, and Valverde. Bro. the Rev. Holt, Chaplain, read a prayer, and Bro. Stewart, Secretary, read the following inscription on the scroll to be deposited in the stone:

"By the favour of Almighty God the foundation stone of this Church was laid with Masonic honours by Brother His Excellency Sir Clement Courtenay Knollys, K.C.M.G., Past Master, Past Deputy District Grand Master of Barbadoes, Acting Governor of Trinidad, assisted by the Brethren of the 'Royal Prince of Wales' Lodge, No. 867 (E.C.), on Thursday, the 8th day of November, in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred, and in the era of Masonry, Five Thousand Nine Hundred, being the sixty-fourth year of the Reign of Our Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. Minister: Rev. Arthur Hombersley. Architect: Rev. Arthur Hombersley. Builder: J. H. Moore."

One verse of "The Church's One Foundation" was then sung, and the Secretary and Treasurer, surrounded by the brethren who now left the platform, placed the scroll and coins in a phial, and deposited them in a cavity in the stone. Mortar was roughly spread by a workman, and Bro. Sir Courtenay smoothed it over with a trowel. The upper stone was then lowered with three distinct stops, the band playing a voluntary in three parts. Bro. Sir Courtenay then tried the stone with the square, plumb rule, and level, and declared it "true in all its parts," and that it had been skilfully laid, and implored T.G.A.O.T.U. to look down upon it and crown it with every success. Special honours of unknown significance to the uninitiated were then given, and Bro. Sir Courtenay emptied corn, wine, and oil as a signification of peace and unanimity.

The brethren then returned to the platform. The clergy conducted a short service of prayer and praise, at the conclusion of which the ACTING GOVERNOR said he was glad to have an opportunity of saying a few words on the principles of Freemasonry. Freemasonry was an Order of high standing, built upon a solid foundation of trust and belief in God and the immortality of the soul, and the solemn signs and symbols tended to impress these truths. No one was initiated in its mysteries until he had been certified to be of good moral character. It was a mistake to suppose that Freemasonry inculcated a doctrine of supporting a brother in every case of trouble. If a brother broke the law he was expelled from the Order. Benevolence, brotherly love, and Charity—Charity in so far as not thinking evil of one another—were the principles practised. He thanked the clergy—brothers in Christ—for having invited him, and for having given the Masonic body an opportunity of practising its peculiar rites.

The Very Rev. Archdeacon TROTTER, in the course of an address, said he had been asked, in the regrettable absence of the Bishop, who would have been more than glad to be present, to say a few words upon the dedication of the new church to the cause of Christianity. The meaning of the laying of the foundation stone of the new church in the parish was that the Church of Christ was making a great effort to preach Divine truth to the people, to meet the needs of a growing district. The rev. gentleman then gave figures supplied by the Government Statist indicative of the tremendous increase of the population of Port-of-Spain during the last 50 years. He referred to the new churches built to provide for the spiritual needs of the suburbs and characterised such efforts as the visible appeals of men of invisible truths. The new church was to be called St. Crispin's Church, in commemoration of St. Crispin, a Roman noble who determined to give up his riches for Christ's sake and went to France where he lived, not actively preached, Christ in a shoemaker's humble sphere of life. Woodbrook was a part of the town principally occupied by the artisan class. The clergy, in inviting Sir Courtenay, did so because, like St. Crispin, he would come from the highest position in the land to set an example to those of humbler walks. He next dealt with the great blessing the new church would prove to the people of that part of the parish.

A collection was taken up, and the Benediction was pronounced by the Venerable Archdeacon.

The procession then re-formed, while hymn 379 was sung, and an interesting ceremony was brought to a close.

A large and orderly crowd, who were not admitted to the immediate presence, viewed the proceedings.

As His Excellency drove off the band played the National Anthem.

Scotland.

GRAND LODGE.

At a special *pro re nata* meeting of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, held in the Music Hall, George-street, Edinburgh, on Thursday, the 13th inst., about 700 brethren assembled for the purpose of electing a Grand Secretary. Bro. the Hon. James Hozier, M.P., M.W. Grand Master, occupied the throne.

After opening Grand Lodge, the G. MASTER said that two of the six

candidates selected by Grand Committee had retired, which left four candidates to go to the poll, either one of whom would receive his hearty and loyal support.

The vote was taken by a show of hands, when Bro. David Reid was declared duly elected by a large majority, and on the suggestion of the M.W.G. Master his election was carried unanimously. The result was announced to Bro. David Reid, who was received with great acclamation.

Bro. REID thanked the brethren for the confidence they had given him, and promised to devote his best services, as he had done in the past, to the interests of the Craft.

He was then installed into office by the M.W.G. Master, and the most memorable meeting was closed in ample form.

Craft Masonry.

Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held at Cannon-street Hotel on Thursday, the 6th instant. Present: Bros. T. Stokes, W.M.; J. G. Robeson, I.P.M.; A. Fergusson, S.W.; A. J. Rippin, J.W.; T. Cohe, P.M.; Treas.; James Smith, P.M., Sec.; R. F. Roche, S.D.; W. J. Lockett, J.D.; William Baker, P.M., D.C.; W. J. Fishleigh, I.G.; E. Chatterton, P.M., Org.; Garton, P.M.; Hughes, P.M.; Mower, P.M.; H. Williams Bamford, T. E. Fergusson, Adams, Brough, Farr, Lloyd, Hipwell, Wetton, Collins, Bayley, Francis, Cashman, Browse, J. W. Fishleigh, Grimes, Mein, Mills, Durrant, and Hamlett. The visitors were: Bros. C. J. Skinner, J.D. 1728; H. C. Holdup, I.G. 1728; and A. C. Gooding, P.M. 1818.

The lodge having been duly opened, Bro. Adams was passed to the Degree of F.C. The ballot was then taken for Messrs. H. W. J. Browse, T. W. Cashman, T. G. Hanks, J. W. Fishleigh, F. W. Grimes, W. H. Allerton, and A. Mein for initiation, and Bros. G. K. Durrant, J. M. Barclay, and F. F. Hamlett as joining members, all of which proved unanimous. Messrs. Browse, Cashman, Fishleigh, Grimes, and Mein being in attendance were then initiated into Freemasonry. The report of the Bye-laws Committee having been read, it was proposed that a rough proof of the same should be sent to each member before the next meeting. Four candidates were proposed for initiation. There being no further business, the lodge was closed.

An emergency meeting was held on Tuesday, the 11th inst., at Cannon-street Hotel, for the purpose of initiating Messrs. Hanks and Allerton, who had been already approved by ballot at the previous meeting. Present: Bros. Stokes, W.M.; J. G. Robeson, I.P.M.; A. Fergusson, S.W.; A. J. Rippin, J.W.; Thos. Cohe, P.M., Treas.; J. Smith, P.M., Sec.; J. Collins, acting S.D.; W. J. Lockett, J.D.; William Baker, P.M., D.C.; W. J. Fishleigh, I.G.; Garton, P.M.; Mower, P.M.; and Hughes, P.M. Visitors: Bros. Brown, P.M. 1446; Harlow, P.M. 65; King, P.M. 211; Fisher, J.W. 2411; Cook, S.D. 784; Skinner, J.D. 1728; Holdup, I.G. 1728; Gibbs, 753; Dweiley, 2411; Fiddy, 1716; Earle, 1716; Carter, 2411; Sawyer, 142; Andead, 1472; and Percival, 15; and Bros. Adams, J. W. Fishleigh, Mills, Durrant, Browse, Grimes, Cowderoy, Ward, Mein, Bamford, Bayley, Messrs. Lloyd, Francis, Farr, T. E. Fergusson, Leach, Bassett, Hamlett, Barclay, Cashman, Grimsdale, Auckland, S. Rippin, Brough, Williams, Hanks, A. A. Jones, Allerton, Crawshaw, Hipwell, and Prevost.

After the ceremony of initiation had taken place, the W.M. delivered the charge in a most impressive manner to the brethren who were initiated at the previous meeting as well as the two who were initiated that day, and, there being no further business, the lodge was closed.

Supper was served in the Pillar Hall, and during the evening a very enjoyable programme was provided for the brethren through the kindness of the Misses Harlow (mandoline), Miss Collins, Miss Baker, Mr. Crook, and Mr. Baker.

Farringdon Without Lodge, No. 1745.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. WALTER WELLSMAN, C.C., P.M., P.A.G.D.C.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Viaduct Hotel, on the 26th ult. Among those present were Bros. J. D. Webb, P.M. 1314, W.M.; W. Wellsman, C.C., P.M. 858, P.A.G.D.C., S.W., W.M. elect; F. P. Weinel, P.M. 1828, J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., P.G.S., Treas.; W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; Dr. J. W. Hinton, P.M. 84, P.P.G.O. Middx., Asst. Org.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S., P.G. 5th Br., acting D.C.; T. Simpson, P.M.; N. P. Lardner, P.M.; C. Bachoffner, P.M.; Witt, P.M.; Evans, P.M.; and Sir John Monckton, P.G.W. (Hon. Member). Among the visitors were Bros. E. S. Lardner, P.M., P.G.S.; T. W. Ockenden, P.M., P.P.G.D.; Brock, P.P.G.D.; G. Boulton, P.M.; O. Moore, P.M.; G. Newell, P.M.; and W. Crombie.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a candidate for initiation was duly balloted for and inducted into Craft mysteries by the W.M. in a most admirable manner. Bro. W. Wellsman, S.W., W.M. elect, having been presented, was installed into the chair of K.S. by the W.M. in an impressive manner. Among the officers appointed and invested were Bros. F. P. Weinel, P.M., S.W.; J. W. Gaze, C.C., P.M. 1768, J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., Treas.; W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; H. B. Marshall, M.A., J.P., P.M. 1777, P.P.G.W., S.D.; J. W. Fuller, J.D.; P. Waldvogel, P.M. 1828, D.C.; T. L. Pewtress, A.D.C.; L. Killick, I.G.; E. M. Lott, Mus. D., P.M., P.G.O. Eng., Org.; J. W. Hinton, M.A., P.M., P.P.G.O., Asst. Org.; F. Melhuish, W. H. Hayward, W. G. Kent, and T. J. Hampton, Stwds.; and H. Martin, P.M. 211, Tyler. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Master, and he was presented with a Past Master's jewel. Apologies for non-attendance were received from many brethren notably from Bros. T. Fenn, P.G.W.; E. Letchworth, P.G.D., G.S.; R. Loveland, O.C., P.B.G.P.; Baron de Ferrières, P.G.D.; Dr. Lott, P.G.O.; and H. B. Marshall, P.P.G.W. Previously to the lodge being closed, the W.M. announced that Bro. J. D. Webb, I.P.M., as a souvenir of his year of office, had presented the lodge with a handsome set of ivory and silver working tools. This handsome and useful gift was received with acclamation, and a vote of thanks was passed and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

A banquet followed, and was well-served in the large hall of the establishment.

Bro. Sir John Monckton, P.G.W., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers" in a neat and humorous speech.

"The Health of the W.M." was given by Bro. Sir John Monckton. He congratulated the lodge upon having at its head a brother who had worked so well and worthily in Freemasonry for so many years as Bro. Wellsman had done. The lodge during the coming year would have, no doubt, plenty of opportunity of witnessing his fitness for the position. It must also be very gratifying to them as a lodge to know that the Grand Master had conferred upon Bro. Wellsman the distinguished position of P.A.G.D.C. In conclusion the speaker congratulated the lodge upon its strength and prosperous condition.

The W.M. having replied, submitted, in pleasing terms, the toast of "The Initiate," who briefly responded.

The toast of "The Visitors" followed, and was warmly received and responded to.

In proposing the toast of "The I.P.M." the W.M. alluded, in graceful terms, to the handsome gift that Bro. Webb had presented to the lodge. He also, as an old Mason, expressed his appreciation of the excellent way in which the I.P.M. had carried out his duties in the lodge and at the banquet-table during the past year. In conclusion he trusted that Bro. Webb would for many years be associated with No. 1745 as one of its most prominent and popular Past Masters.

This toast having been received with great enthusiasm, the I.P.M. made an emotional reply.

The toasts of "The Past Masters," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers" terminated the proceedings, which were greatly enhanced by the respective instrumental, vocal, dramatic, and ventriloquial abilities of Bros. Dr. Hinton, John Warren, and the Misses Eva and Maud Wellsman, the latter lady's singing of "The Promise of Life" and "There's a Land" being very greatly admired. The whole of the proceedings reflected great praise to the caterer and to the executive members of the lodge.

Science, Art, and the Drama.

LOCAL DAINTIES.

(Continued.)

Cornwall and the Scilly Isles send many delicacies in the way of vegetables; and formerly Deptford onions, Battersea cabbages, Mortlake asparagus, Chelsea celery, and Charlton peas were in high repute. At one time the neighbourhood about Bath was noted for its strawberries; and Kent still maintains its superiority in the flavour of its cherries, some of its chief orchards being in the parishes on the borders of the Thames, the Darent, and the Medway. According to Busino, Venetian Ambassador in the reign of James I., it was a favourite amusement in the Kentish gardens to try who could eat most cherries. In this way one young woman managed to eat 20 lbs., beating, by 2½ lbs., her opponent. The merits of certain local articles of confectionery have long been undisputed, and Banbury cakes are still much sought after, being shipped to most parts of the world. It is noteworthy that "Banberrie cakes" are mentioned in a *Treatise on Melancholie*, published in 1586, among the articles that carry with them melancholy; and Ben Jonson, in his *Bartholomew Fair* (1614), introduces a Banbury man who "was a baker, but he does dream now, and sees visions: he has given over his trade out of a scruple he took that inspired conscience; those cakes he made were served in bridalls, may poles, merrises, and such profane feasts and meetings." There are the Richmond "Maids of Honour," delicious cheese cakes peculiar to Richmond, and, in all probability, named from its regal days, when there was kept up here a Royal Palace and a Court. George III. seems to have been an admirer of this delicacy, his tables at Windsor Castle and Kew being regularly supplied with it. It is stated that the large sum of £1000 was once paid to the fortunate possessor of the recipe for making this cheese-cake, with the good-will of the business, said to have been originally established in Hill-street, Richmond, Surrey. Shrewsbury too, has long been noted for its Grinnel cakes, which are also made at Coventry, Devizes, and Bury, in Lancashire. Mention should be made of Congleton, which has gained distinction for its cakes and gingerbread. These cakes are locally known as "Court cakes," from being eaten at the Quarterly Account Meetings of the Corporation. They are of a triangular form, with a raisin inserted at each corner, representing the Mayor and its justices, who were the governing body, under the charter of James I. Referring to fish dainties, Sussex seems to have been specially favoured, having been renowned for a "Chichester lobster, an Arundel mullet, a Pulborough eel, a Selsey cockle, an Amberley trout, and a Rye herring." There is an amusing rhyme to this effect—

"Arundel mullet—stinking fish,
Eats it off a dirty dish."

which is said by the people of Offham to the folk of Arundel; but the retort is

"Offham dingers Church-bell ringers,
Only taters for your Sunday dinners."

Few local industries are of older standing than the Colchester oyster fishery, and the annual oyster banquet is a well known institution, the finest British oysters are said to be spawned in the Colne. The Christchurch and Severn salmon have long had a high repute, and the salmon, at Killarney, boiled, toasted, or roasted, on arbutus skewers, is inimitable. The Dublin haddock is another delicacy, peculiar to the sister island, some of the finest being also caught on the Cornish coast. The herring and pilchard pies of Cornwall have been proverbial, and the herring industry of Great Yarmouth is one of the most important centres of our fishing trade. Then there are the Whitstable oysters, and the finest smelts were formerly considered to come from the Medway, at Rochester. A Norfolk rhyme speaks of "Cromer crabs and Ronton dabs," and Quin thought the inhabitants of Plymouth ought to be the happiest of mortals, from their supply of dories. Plymouth was noted for its red mullet; and Greenwich whitebait, are still an attraction. Pope long ago spoke of

"The Kennet swift, for silver eels renowned;"

but, as it has been often observed, the Kennet is a slow river; there are no eels at all in the upper part, and those in the lower part are too large; but eels in perfection may be eaten at Salisbury, Anderton, or Overton. Local dainties of one kind or another might be further multiplied, for there has always been a certain amount of rival emulation in this respect, although in some cases they seem to have been largely influenced by fashion. Thus, according to an old proverb, "He who hath breams in his ponds, may bid his friends welcome;" but this fish nowadays is rarely seen.

MINOR ARTISTS IN THE REIGN OF ELIZABETH.

(Continued.)

The Richard Stevens before mentioned was a Dutchman, and no common artist. He was a statuary painter and medallist. The figures on Lord Sussex's tomb were his work, and in a good style. In the family of Lumley are some portraits painted by him, and, among other accounts, some of his receipts, as there are, too, in the possession of the Duke of Devonshire, which makes it highly probable that the curious portraits at Hardwicke of Queen Elizabeth in a gown, embroidered with sea monsters, the Queen of Scots, both at full length, and others were painted by this Richard Stevens. But his best performances seem to have been his medals, which are bold and in good taste. Mr. Bryan Fairfax had one, with a lady's head in the dress of the times, and this legend:

"Anna Paines, uxor Thomæ Heneage," under the bust 1562. "St. H. F.," that is, "Stevens Hollandus fecit." Dr. Meade had two more: one of William Parr, Marquis of Northampton, the other of Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, engraved in Evelyn's *Discourse on English Medals*. The author says that when Leicester quitted Holland he caused several medals to be engraved, which he gave to his friends there. The medal in question is remarkable for the impertinence of the reverse: Sheep grazing, and a dog turning from them: under his feet, "Inertus desero—round, Non greges sed ingratos." The more eminent artists of 16th century practised the arts, *universally* and equally excelled in painting, sculpture, and architecture. Richard Stevens deserves to be enumerated among them. The Earl of Sussex had bequeathed £1500 for his sumptuous funeral and

monument, but Stevens was paid for the figures only. It is probable that he was extensively employed, and that monuments which partook alike of the three arts of vast size and magnificence (of which Westminster Abbey is the chief repository), composed of alabaster, and various marbles, were finished or contracted for by Stevens. Another subject of his art were the magnificent chimney-pieces, similar to the sepulchral monuments, both in composition, dimensions, and ornament, of which grand specimens remain at Hatfield, Burleigh, Kenilworth, Audley End, and other palaces of that age. Robert Adams, surveyor of the Queen's buildings, seems to have been a man of abilities. We cannot specify his works in architecture, but there are two plans extant that he published; one is a large point of Middleburgh, dated 1588; the other, of the same date, is a small parchment roll, drawn with the pen, and entitled *Thamesis Descriptio*, showing by lines crossing the river how far and from whence cannon-balls may obstruct the passage of any ship, upon an invasion from Tilbury to London, with proper distances marked for placing the guns. Valerio Belli, called Valerio Vicentino, was a celebrated engraver of precious stones. He engraved caskets and vases of rock crystal for Pope Clement VII., and performed an infinite number of other works.

(To be continued.)

BEER AND BREWERS.

Our forefathers protected themselves from the possibility of deleterious ingredients in beer by official inspection. The "Ale-conner" was a public servant. He was the national taster, and his fees were paid in kind. Only upon one occasion in our time have the great brewers been attacked for dishonest dealing in their brews. It was said they put strychnine in their vats. On investigation this was proved to be quite unfounded. Indeed, in brewing honesty seems to be the best policy. Recently an inventor claims that he has been able to concentrate the genuine ingredients of fine ale into a kind of treacle that will stand any climate, and, with the addition of yeast, may be brewed within a few hours anywhere and by anybody. Nevertheless, there is no doubt brewing will always continue to be a difficult and delicate operation. Within the present century farmers and many private families brewed their own beer. In some of the old country houses and ancient halls there are still in the cellars old ale as strong and clear and powerful as the lustiest wine. In the old ballads there was no pale ale; it was always nut brown, and pungent with real flavours of hops and malt. It inspired villagers with love and townsmen with courage—

"Merry swains who quaff the nut brown ale,
And sing, enamoured of the nut brown maid."

In the old days ale was so prevalent a drink that many feasts were named after it, and with reverence. Dr. Paris, in his now more or less unknown book on "Diet," says the liquor called ale was originally made of barley, malt, and yeast alone. Andrew Boorde, one of the oldest writers on medical subjects, declared that to put in any other ingredient sophisticated the liquor. "It is," he says, "the natural drink of Englishmen; but beer, on the other hand, which is made of malt and hops and water is the natural drink of Dutchmen, and of late it is much used in England, to the great detriment of many Englishmen. Lat er this prejudice against hops was found to be a mistake. Independent of the flavour and tonic virtues of hops, they precipitate, by means of their astringent properties, the vegetable mucilage, and thus remove from beer the active principle of fermentation; without hops we must either drink our beer new and rosy, or old and sour. Before 1730 the malt liquors in general use in London were called ale, beer, and two-penny. Half of ale and half of beer, or half of ale and half of two-penny became popular. Then came in a kind of extension of half and half a combination of a third of all three, and this was called "three threads." The publican had to go to three different barrels for every call for a tankard of three threads. An ingenious brewer named Harwood introduced a brew that combined the flavour of all three, and it was called "entire." This was supposed to be a good drink, and especially nourishing for porters and other working people—hence the name of "porter."

GENERAL NOTES.

A report that the Italian Government intend to abolish the military bands has proved untrue, but it has caused a good deal of discussion here as to the wisdom of accustoming soldiers in times of peace to what they are never likely to hear in war. As far back as the Crimean War, bandmen on service left their instruments at home. The well-known conductor and composer, Gwyllym Crowe, was a hornplayer in the 31st (Manchester) Regiment, and wore the Crimean medal, with clasps for the Alma, Inkerman, and Sebastopol. But he used to declare that he was chiefly employed in cooking, as were his fellow bandmen. We do not think the abolition of our splendid military instrumentalists would be approved of by the general public.

* * * *

Don Perosi has nearly completed his new oratorio, "Moses," and it is in three parts. The first deals with Moses meeting with Zipporah in the Midianate country, and the command to Moses by Jehovah from the burning bush. The second part depicts the plagues of Egypt, and, in the third part, Moses is represented praying by the Red Sea. The young abbé composer's latest composition is said to be fully equal to his former efforts, the choruses and interludes being particularly good.

* * * *

It is touching to learn that almost the last work written by the late Sir Arthur Sullivan, is a "Te Deum," to be sung on the day when we celebrate, with a national thanksgiving, the proclamation of peace in South Africa. The work is, of course, as yet unpublished, and it is in charge of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's Cathedral, where the celebration will take place.

PROPOSED MONUMENT TO BRO. SIR ARTHUR SULLIVAN.—A proposal is on foot among eminent musicians and the authorities of St. Paul's Cathedral to place a statue of the late Bro. Sir Arthur Sullivan in the cathedral, in which the body of the famous composer is interred, as a national monument to his genius. The proposal, which, it is understood, was initiated by Bro. Sir George Martin, organist of St. Paul's, Sir Hubert Parry, and other friends of the late composer, is highly popular among Bro. Sir Arthur Sullivan's contemporaries, and has the full approval of the Dean and Chapter. It is, therefore, highly probable that the project will reach a practical conclusion.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1900.

Masonic Notes.

The great function in Cheshire has passed off, as we anticipated, with brilliant success, and on Monday, the 17th instant, the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., Past G.W., was installed in office with the customary pomp and ceremony, as Prov. G. Master of Cheshire, in succession to his brother, Earl Egerton of Tatton, who has resigned after holding the position for 14 years. The ceremony was performed by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., in the absence through illness of Lord Egerton, and we have good reason to hope that under the auspices of the new chief the Craft in Cheshire will go on prosperously. He has already won the esteem and respect of the Province as Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Masonry and Prov. G.M. in the Mark Degree, nor will it be one of the least of the advantages he will enjoy that the government of Craft, Royal Arch, and Mark Masonry will be entrusted to him.

It is a great distinction, and an enviable one, that has thus been conferred upon the new Provincial Grand Master. Cheshire is about the oldest of our Provinces, the deputation granted to Bro. Col. F. Columbine bearing date—see our Grand Lodge Calendar—in 1725. Moreover, from the very earliest years of our Grand Lodge era, it seems to have taken kindly to Masonry. A glance at the early lists of lodges shows that there were lodges in the city of Chester and elsewhere of 1724 creation, and though these have passed away, there are still lodges on the roll—such as Unanimity, No. 89, Dukinfield, and others—which date from the 18th century. There are now 55 lodges in the Province, of which some 15 were warranted during Earl Egerton's Provincial Grand Mastership. Moreover, under his lordship's rule Cheshire has done great things in the way of Charity on special occasions, both locally and generally, so that all things point to a continuance, and it may well be also an increase, of that good fortune which has attended it during the 19th century.

There is one circumstance in connection with Cheshire as a Masonic Province to which it may be worth while drawing attention. During the present century there have been—excepting, of course, the one installed on Monday—only four Prov. Grand Masters. In 1801 Sir John Egerton—doubtless an ancestor of the present and past rulers—was appointed, and in 1830 was succeeded by Field-Marshal Viscount Combermere. In 1865 the late Lord de Tabley was appointed, and on his retirement in 1886, Earl—then Lord—Egerton of Tatton was chosen to succeed him. There are not many of our Provinces that can point to so limited a succession of rulers whose tenure of office endured for such a time.

We note with pleasure that Bro. Sir Horatio Lloyd, P.G.D., has been re-appointed to the important post of Deputy Prov. G. Master. In the discharge of his duties he has shown all the qualities that are looked for in a Deputy, and with Sir Horatio's knowledge and experience and the example of his brother, the Past P.G.M., the new chief cannot fail, apart from his own merits and ability, to have a successful career, and for his own sake, as well as in the interests of Cheshire, we trust that career may be prolonged for many, many years.

Bro. Lieut.-Col. Charles Hunter had the pleasure, not only of being able to preside in person at the recent annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of North Wales, but also of hearing highly favourable reports as to the position and prospects of the Province over which he has presided with so much ability for the last 11 years. It is not by any means one of the strongholds of the Degree as regards the number of its lodges and their membership, but it was in evidence at the meeting that the work is being well done and the funds at the disposal of the Provincial Grand Lodge are ample for all needful purposes. There was, however, one drawback from the satisfaction which was generally felt by the brethren. The

Prov. Grand Master found himself under the necessity of announcing that his able Deputy, Bro. George Gordon Warren, who has held the office since 1886, had expressed a wish to be relieved of his duties and responsibilities, and Bro. Lieut.-Col. Hunter had no alternative but to acquiesce in that wish and select a successor. He has found one in the person of Bro. Rev. Thomas Edwards, P.G. Chap. Eng., whom we congratulate on his appointment as heartily as we do the retiring Deputy on the manner in which he carried out his work.

We congratulate the Prov. Grand Chapter of Essex on the success of its recent annual meeting at Colchester. It has but 13 chapters on its roll, with an aggregate membership of 357, as compared with 341 the preceding year, but it is a Province that is well administered and prosperous. This is not surprising when we mention that its Grand Superintendent is none other than Comp. his Honour Judge Philbrick, Q.C., who has held the office for not far short of 18 years. His Honour delivered a very feeling and eloquent address, in the course of which, after pointing out that success was not to be gauged by mere numbers, he congratulated the companions on the manner in which their duties had been carried out, and the harmony and goodwill which prevailed everywhere amongst them. He paid them a very great compliment when, in describing his high sense of the responsibilities devolving upon him as their chief, he remarked that "his duties became a pleasure, and his anxieties were reduced to nothing, on account of the true Masonic spirit which pervaded the whole Province." We trust that future annual meetings of our Essex companions may pass as pleasantly as this did at Colchester on the 27th ult.

We have much pleasure in announcing that our usual Christmas Number has been issued this week, and we can only hope that its contents will be as favourably received as those of its predecessors have been. They include the review of "Freemasonry in 1900" and the Table of Occurrences from 1st December, 1899, to the 30th November, 1900, together with papers by "J. T. L.," Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D., and Bro. Crowe, and some light literature contributed by our evergreen Bro. Major T. C. Walls, P.G. Std. Br., and Bro. Professor Driver. It is more numerously illustrated than previous Christmas numbers.

The Chine Lodge, No. 1884, Shanklin, has done good work during the 20 years that have elapsed since its consecration by Bro. the Right Hon. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G. Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Within a few years of its birth it ventured on holding a Masonic Exhibition, and that Exhibition, considering that it was organised, not by a Province or band of lodges, but by a single lodge of only a few years' standing, was a great success, and far beyond what might have been anticipated. To-day we publish a report of another remarkable gathering held under its banner on Friday, the 30th ult., at which Bro. Beach unveiled a tablet commemorative of the freedom of the lodge ownership of the Hall in which it holds its meetings. The Hall was erected for the use of the lodge, but the members were unable to do this entirely out of their own funds, and the property was mortgaged. But the mortgage has been cleared off, and Chine Lodge is in possession of a hall which is free of all encumbrance. It is a great thing for a new lodge to have accomplished all this in so short a space of time as 20 years, and the Prov. G. Master has shown that he recognised the greatness of the achievement by personally attending on this occasion, and unveiling the tablet which commemorates this particular event.

Nor must we overlook the claims which Bro. A. Greenham, the W.M., has established upon the respect of all our Hants and the Isle of Wight brethren. It is he who has been the prime mover in all the good work which the Chine Lodge has done during its brief career. It was he who took the chief part in organising the Masonic Exhibition held under the auspices of the lodge in 1886. He it was who led the way in promoting the erection of the lodge hall, and it is chiefly through his instrumentality that the hall is now the absolute property of the Chine Lodge. He has thrice been elected to the chair of the lodge, and it is bare justice to the splendid work he has taken the principal part in doing that we should say these few words of commendation, and congratulate him, as we do most sincerely, on the success of all his plans for advancing the prosperity of the Chine Lodge.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondent but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.

NATIONAL ORTHOPÆDIC HOSPITAL (FOR THE DEFORMED).

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir,

May we ask you to kindly make known to your readers the critical financial position of the National Orthopædic Hospital?

The present year commenced with a heavy deficit, owing to the lack of annual subscriptions and donations, which has placed the hospital in such a position that unless the sum of £1000 is speedily forthcoming, the Committee feel they will be unable to proceed.

The work of the hospital, which covers all cases of deformity, has quietly proceeded, with the result that during the last 60 years upwards of 76,810 patients have been cured or relieved in its wards.

In order to deal with the increasing list of applicants waiting for admission the Committee in 1892 almost rebuilt and greatly extended the hospital, at a cost of £8200, of which sum £1000 remains unpaid—thus making provision for 60 beds as against the original number—35.

These additions were no sooner completed, and the new wards opened than every bed was filled; and the demands have been so continuous that an average of 50 patients waiting for admission has been registered during the last two years.

This condition of affairs is all the more to be regretted when it is remembered that the majority of applicants are children, whose deformities require special attention before their limbs become set, which in some cases impedes, and in others entirely prevents, relief.

The Committee feel it their duty to make known the present position of the hospital, with every confidence that the public will not allow the institution to close any of its wards, or otherwise curtail its good work, through lack of financial support.

Any donation can be sent to the Hospital, 234, Great Portland-street, London, W., and cheques can be made payable to the Treasurer, and crossed "Sir S. Scott, Bart., and Co."—Yours faithfully,

MARLBOROUGH, President.
FARQUHAR, Treasurer.

234, Great Portland-street,
Regents Park, W.
December 5th.

OUR RICHARD EVE LODGE REPORT.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In your issue of the *Freemason* of the 15th instant, reporting the installation of the Grand Treasurer to the chair of the Richard Eve Lodge, among the proceedings is a report of a supposed speech by Bro. Gerard. Your representative at the gathering has unfortunately misconceived what Bro. Gerard really said; if left uncorrected what he is supposed to have said according to your report, might lead to serious trouble and difficulty.

I enclose you Bro. Gerard's speech, and remain, yours faithfully and fraternally,

WILLIAM R. BENNETT.

58, Moorgate-street, London, E.C.,
18th December.

"W.M., Grand Officers, Officers, and Brethren: I think every member ought to do something to mark the unique event of the Grand Secretary installing the Grand Treasurer as our Worshipful Master, and I commenced by looking round me what I could do in my humble way as a proud member and founder of the lodge, and I saw no better way than to mark this event by some kind of record, and the best way I saw for doing so was to dust up subscriptions for the excellent Institutions, our Charities. I commenced with my firm, Spiers and Pond, Ltd., and made it my business to see what we had done in the past towards these Institutions and I found that we had not done over much, as a matter of fact we had not given any systematic or regular donation. I do not know whose fault this was, perhaps the Secretaries of these excellently managed Charities were lax in looking us up and bringing us up to the scratch. However, I am pleased to inform you, Worshipful Sir, this evening I have handed to Bro. Terry a cheque for 25 guineas as our subscription, Spiers and Pond, towards the Old People's Institution. I understand you are, as our Master, representing the lodge as Steward for the next Festival, and I shall have pleasure in crediting your list with 15 guineas of the amount handed to Bro. Terry. Unfortunately, I was not aware you were going up as Steward for the Old People, otherwise I should have postponed going up myself as Steward for another year; under the circumstances, I must take 10 guineas of that amount of 25 guineas on to my own list. I have, however, the pleasure to announce that my firm have given me authority to state that they have decided to subscribe regularly every year 10 guineas to each of the three Charities, and through the instrumentality of the Richard Eve Lodge as long as they have officers or members going up as Stewards for the Institutions. I am aware that the Immediate Past Master is going up as Steward for the Boys, and I shall be pleased to hand him a cheque for 10 guineas; and if any member of the Richard Eve Lodge should go up for the Girls, let him remember that I have 10 guineas at his disposal. I thank you."

DEFAULTERS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Rules 210, 212, and 213 Book of Constitutions are clear as to the course to be observed, in certain events, with respect to a brother who is excluded or resigns from the *only* lodge to which he belongs without having complied with its bye-laws; but if he be a member of two lodges—say A and B—at the same time (A being his mother lodge and B one which he has joined), and is excluded or resigns from B without paying his subscriptions, what is to prevent him from being elected a joining member of Lodge C, after referring the brethren thereof to Lodge A, of which he is still a subscribing member, and from which he (having fully complied with its bye-laws) is entitled to a clearance certificate, as per Rule 189 Book of Constitutions?

It might be suggested that the W.M. or Secretary of Lodge B should inform the corresponding officer of Lodge A (which they would know to be his mother lodge) of the brother's exclusion or resignation, and of the nature and extent of his default, so that his admission into Lodge C might be prevented, by means of

his clearance certificate, from Lodge A, when applied for, being accompanied by a statement of the circumstances which prevailed concerning him at the determination of his membership of Lodge B. He may possibly, however, be a subscribing member also of one or more other lodges without the brethren of Lodge B being aware of it, in which case Lodge C would, on application to either of such other lodges, readily obtain the requisite clearance certificate.

The difficulty might, perhaps, be surmounted by the laying down of a rule in the *Book of Constitutions* making it incumbent on the Secretary of Lodge B to report, immediately, to the Grand Secretary the brother's exclusion and the cause thereof, or his resignation, with particulars of his arrears, in order that the Grand Secretary may ascertain from his register what other lodge or lodges the defaulting brother is a member of, and repeat to the W.M. or Secretary of each of them the information conveyed to him, so that Lodge C may be enabled to discover, upon inquiry of the lodge given as a reference, that the candidate is not eligible for election, owing to his default. Or a step further might be taken in this direction, as a means of protecting lodges from defaulters, by the establishment of a rule making it imperative on every lodge of which the defaulting brother may still be a member to exclude him, on receipt of instructions to that effect from the Grand Secretary, and to decline to issue a clearance certificate in his favour to enable him to rejoin or join any lodge unless and until the Grand Secretary, upon being informed by the Secretary of Lodge B (in accordance with what should be a standing order) that the brother in question has at length satisfactorily complied with the terms of the bye-laws, issues an advice to each lodge concerned that the prohibition is removed.

This would be carrying out, in practice, what I conceive to be the spirit of the law with regard to defaulters, that no brother should continue to enjoy the privileges of membership of any one lodge whilst failing in his obligations to another.

Perhaps you, or some of your readers, will kindly enlighten me as to what is the usual practice in any such case?—Yours fraternally,

PERPLEXITY, P.M.

15th Decemb.r.

Reviews.

"DAILY MAIL Year Book for 1901. Published by Harmsworth Brothers, Ltd., London, E.C."—This very remarkable compilation is edited by Mr. Percy L. Parker. There are between three and four hundred closely printed pages, ably arranged, and admirably head-lined as respects the paragraphs, together containing fully 20,000 "Facts of the Day, Biographies, Tables, Diagrams, and Maps." Some idea may be formed of its scope and value from the statement, that it is a veritable *multum in parvo*, and, doubtless, will have an immense circulation at the price of one shilling per copy. Fortunately, there is an elaborate index, which adds much to the usefulness of the work. Needless to state it is up to date and practically is a volume containing something about everything.

CHRISTMAS.

Brethren, the Star shone brightly in the East,
One happy night long centuries ago;
Dispersing darkness till the Light increased
To shed on all its guiding, gladsome glow.
No wonder hearts were gay that Christmas morn,
That first blest Christmas now so long since fled;
For unto us the Prince of Peace was born;
Eternal shame!—a manger for His bed.
O! let us always perfect trust repose,
Although God's ways are oft beyond our ken,
With simple faith that doubting never knows,
Clasp hand in hand and say "Goodwill to men,"
Let "Peace on earth" our Yuletide message be,
And Love and Hope and blessed Charity.

CHAS. F. FORSHAW, LL.D.

Bradford.

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCE.

Grand Encampment Knights Templar, U.S.A.

Office of the Committee on Christmas Observance,
Portland, Maine,

November 15th, 1900.

Dear Frater,

The following sentiment has been prepared for the coming Christmas:
"To our Most Eminent Grand Master, Reuben Hedley Lloyd: A merry Christmas, and may the coming century fulfil the golden promise of Peace on Earth and Good Will toward men."

The Grand Master sends the following response:

"Templars: I wish you a happy and prosperous New Year. When all keep the new commandment of our Redeemer, the golden promise will be fulfilled. You are obligated to labour unremittingly to bring to pass that perfection of man's moral and intellectual development.

"In the Gospel of St. John, xiii. chapter, 34th verse, you will find the new commandment."

Will you join in these sentiments on Tuesday, December 25th, at noon Eastern Standard time (equivalent to 5 p.m. Greenwich), and will you extend the invitation to your command, as well as to all true Templars and their friends, wheresoever dispersed, on land or sea?

Courteously and fraternally yours,

STEPHEN BERRY,

Committee,
Portland, Maine.

Hawaiian Standard Time	...	165° W.	...	6 a.m.
Alaska	"	135° W.	...	8 "
Pacific	"	120° W.	...	9 "
Mountain	"	105° W.	...	10 "
Central	"	90° W.	...	11 "
Eastern	"	75° W.	...	12 m.
Greenwich	"	0°	...	5 p.m.
Philippine Standard Time	120° E.	1 a.m.	Dec. 26th.	

Craft Masonry.

Moira Lodge, No. 92.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. SIR NORMAN ROBERT PRINGLE, BART.

The anniversary festival of this lodge was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C., on Thursday, the 6th instant, when there were present Bros. Charles E. Russell, W.M.; John Webb, I.P.M.; Sir Norman R. Pringle, Bart., S.W.; J. Norman Noakes, J.W.; T. L. Wilkinson, P.M., P.D.G.R., Treas.; R. F. Gould, P.M., P.G.D., Sec.; C. A. Elgood, I.G.; Maurice A. Tweedie, P.M.; G. Greiner, P.M.; E. Greiner, P.M.; W. S. Horlock, W. S. Greves, Allan B. Walters, Arthur W. Smith, and Russell Ardagh. Visitors: Bros. Henry Times, P.M. 165; G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C.; J. Peeke Richards, P.M. 1584; W. B. Bohns, 2047; James C. Hayes, P.M. 619; F. Hallows, P.M. 1982; H. Whitney, P.M. 861; Louis Katz; Montagu S. Robinson, 174 (N.S.W.); Joseph Murray, 4 (N.Z.); Rev. J. Henry Smith, P.P.G.C. Leicestershire and Rutland; H. O. Yeatman, P.M. 1159; C. W. Skinner, 2000; E. Beaumont, D.G.R.; J. C. Nicholson, P.M. 12; W. H. Bourke, P.M. 1562; Luke Hansard, P.M. 1506; C. W. Kingzett, 1691; Colonel S. C. Pratt, P.M. 2076; W. Slark, 2095; and William Candy, 10.

The minutes of the preceding meeting having been duly confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. W. S. Greves was duly passed by the I.P.M. to the Degree of a Fellow Craft. The W.M. elect, Bro. Sir Norman Robert Pringle, Bart., S.W., was then presented by Bro. T. L. Wilkinson, P.M., and installed in the chair of King Solomon by Bro. R. F. Gould, P.M. The following are the officers for the year: Bros. J. Norman Noakes, S.W.; Stuart B. Noakes, J.W.; Rev. R. I. Woodhouse, P.M., Chap.; T. L. Wilkinson, P.M., Treas.; R. F. Gould, P.M., Sec.; F. A. Donnison, S.D.; C. A. Elgood, J.D.; A. B. Walters, I.G.; Wickham Noakes, P.M., Stwd.; and G. Couchman, Tyler.

Letters expressing regret at inability to attend were read from Bros. Sir Henry Harben, Rev. R. I. Woodhouse, and Sir Alfred Dent, Past Masters of the lodge; also from the following invited guests: Bro. Lieut.-Gen. Sir Charles Warren, P. Dist. G.M. Straits Settlement; Vice-Admiral A. H. Markham, P. Dist. G.M. Malta; John Strachan, G. Reg.; W. J. Hughan, P.G.D.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; W. M. Bywater, P.G.S.B.; W. H. Rylands, P.A.G.D.C.; Dr. Ralph Gooding, P.G.D.; Rev. E. Parr, P.G.C.; William Officer, P.G.D. (S.C.); G. Cowell, P.G.D.; T. H. Gardiner, P.A.G.D.C.; and T. B. Whythead, P.G.S.B. The lodge was then closed.

At the banquet which followed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given with effect by the W.M., and duly honoured.

In giving "The Queen and Craft," the W.M. said: This toast needs from me, I am sure, little to make it either more acceptable or to ensure it a more enthusiastic reception than it usually receives at the hands of British Freemasons. Our I.P.M. has had his year of office marked in the outside world by most stirring events—a most lamentable and costly war, the end and the result of which I think we can all rejoice in, namely, "Queen Victoria victorious"—also, and to my mind, and surely in the eyes of the whole world, one of the most wonderful and significant events in the history of this country. I allude to that wonderful and spontaneous feeling which, springing up in the hearts of our far distant colonies, led to that magnificent and priceless gift—the gift of men's lives to a common cause, that the maintenance of the might of the arms of their mother country might be upheld, and the authority of their Queen. This war, now, happily, a thing of the past, what more fitting sentiment can I express, or you, my brethren, join with me, than that of wishing that this new year we are about to enter upon may mark a year of peace—a year of peace both for her Majesty and for the Craft in general; for you may be sure that in that great army which has fought so well and gloriously in South Africa there are hundreds, I might say thousands, who are entitled to be called by us "brothers in Freemasonry." Brethren, I beg to give you the toast of the health of her Majesty the Queen and the Craft in general.

The W.M., in proceeding with the next toast, said: I can only tell you what, indeed, you already know, that amid the engrossing cares which devolve upon a person who fills the exalted position of heir to the throne, his Royal Highness still finds time to most worthily preside over the destinies of the Freemasons of England; and it must be apparent to all what advantage accrues to our Order from its being adorned in the person of our Grand Master by such a gentleman as the Prince of Wales. Brethren, I give you the toast of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the First Gentleman of Europe, and the M.W. the Grand Master of England."

"The M.W. the Pro G. Master, the Earl Amherst, the R.W. the Dep. G. Master, the Earl of Warwick; and the rest of the G. Officers, Present and Past," was then given from the chair in the following terms: Such, brethren, is the text of this toast, and it affords me the opportunity of pointing out that the beneficent rule of the Grand Master nowhere, I think, receives a better illustration than is afforded by his annual choice of Grand Officers. The Pro G. Master, Lord Amherst, has occupied for no less than 40 years the position of Prov. G. Master for Kent, and his works in the cause of the good of Freemasonry are known far and wide. The Dep. G. Master, Lord Warwick, has occupied for 18 years the office of Prov. G. Master for Essex. This nobleman, about three weeks ago, headed a deputation from the Grand Lodge of England which was nominated by his Royal Highness to attend the inauguration ceremony of a new Freemasons' Hall in Berlin. This deputation consisted of himself as Deputy Grand Master, Bro. the Hon. Alan Egerton, P.G.W., and also of a brother whom I had hoped to see here to-night, Colonel John Davis, A.D.C. to the Queen, and Prov. Grand Master for Surrey, and other brethren. Upon the good work always performed by the Grand Officers I need not dwell; you had an example to-night in the way some of the offices were filled at the installation, and in so far as the Moira Lodge is concerned let us remember we have two Grand Officers always with us in the persons of our Treasurer and Secretary, whom I am sure are as much esteemed by the Craft in general as they are by ourselves.

Bros. Edward Beaumont, D.G.R., and G. W. Speth, P.P.G.D.C., having replied for "The Grand Officers,"

Then followed the toast of the evening, "The Memory of Earl Moira, the Patron of the Lodge," which was given by the Treasurer, Bro. T. L. Wilkinson, with his customary eloquence, and made a deep impression on all who had enjoyed the privilege of being present and listening to the oration.

"The Health of the W.M." was then proposed by the I.P.M., and acknowledged in the following terms: I return you my very sincere thanks for the kind and cordial reception accorded to this toast. To all men there comes one, if no more moments in their lives, the present taste of which is very pleasant, and which may again live in a fond and happy memory. For one such moment I, my brethren, am indebted to you to-night, and I can only express the hope that my tenure of office in the chair may so meet with your approval that the memory of this night shall in my case be ever a pleasant one. To the records of a family of some little antiquity, and which in nearly every generation has given of its sons to the public service of the Army and Navy, I had wished to add my quota; but though debarred and disappointed in this, there are other records which, by being a Mason, I can add to—and to start with my father, it gives me much pleasure to fill the chair of the lodge in which he was both an initiate and a Past Master. But in this I am but following in the footsteps of another direct but far more distant ancestor, for it is recorded in the lodge records of Kelso, in Scotland, that Sir John Pringle was in succession to one John Faa, King of the Gipsy Tribe, deceased, elected Master in 1702. This was many years even before lodge records in South Britain. But Sir John Pringle was not the first Mason of his family, and here I wish to diverge for a moment by observing, as no doubt many of you have noticed, that Field-Marshal Lord Roberts is also a brother Mason, and that he accepted a few days ago the honorary membership of a very old, nay, of the oldest lodge in Great Britain—No. 1, Edinburgh—and, brethren, it was in this lodge that an uncle of the Sir John Pringle, I have already mentioned, one Walter Pringle, advocate, was passed to the F.C. Degree on the 24th June, 1670. Two hundred and thirty years is a long way to seek one's Masonic ancestor, and I hope that I may have inherited the zeal of my Masonic forbears, and that my years may be spared to devote my Masonic energy for the good of the Moira Lodge.

In introducing the toast of "The Visitors," the W.M. said since joining the Moira Lodge, at which, I may add, I received my first introduction to Freemasonry in England, the hospitality of a lodge or of an individual member of a lodge was not one of the most pleasing characteristics that struck me. My initiation to Freemasonry was in a lodge where, alas, the call from labour to refreshment was heard by me but once in three years and where the nearest visiting lodge was about 200 miles away, so that I feel

I have a good deal of Masonic hospitality to make up. Personally, I have been unfortunate to-night (one of my guests was too busy, another had to go recruiting for the Army, and yet another had to go recruiting from the Army, at least, from the effects of an Ashanti bullet), but I am glad to see that the lodge generally has been more fortunate. A good attendance of visitors is always most pleasant, for if our hospitality be largely given and largely accepted, I hope I may venture to suggest that it is also largely appreciated. I will now ask the Secretary to kindly read the names of our visiting brethren, which having been done, the W.M. coupled with the toast the names of Bros. John C. Nicholson, P.M. 12; Colonel Pratt, P.M. 2076; J. C. Hayes, P.M. 619; and Montagu J. Robinson, 174, Grand Lodge of New South Wales.

All these brethren having suitably responded, the W.M. gave "The Past Masters" as follows: I do not know whether the everyday expression, "So-and-so is a Past Master in the art of, &c.," has any reference to this toast, but if it has, I certainly think it is a very nice compliment to Past Masters, as I interpret that expression to mean that "So-and-so" is someone to be revered and looked up to as an authority, and, therefore, I approach this toast with all diffidence and humility. Bro. Past Master Gould has unearthed from the cellars of his knowledge several interesting items relative to our Past Masters, whose roll call I now propose reading you, commencing with the names of the honoured dead. Jacob Sarratt was one of the nine brethren selected by the Duke of Sussex from among the 640 lodges under his jurisdiction to serve on the Lodge of Reconciliation at the Union of the two Grand Lodges of England in 1813. Another Past Master, Isaac Walton, was the founder of the Masonic Benevolent Annuity Fund, which has now merged into the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons. A third Past Master was Bro. G. W. K. Potter. Of our living Past Masters I should like to say a great deal; but as time passes, I will only refer to one of them—Bro. Cornelius Thorne, P. Dist. G.M. of North China, the father of this lodge, who was an initiate of it so far back as 1852, and who, we all hope, will return from China within the ensuing year and a half, so as to be present with us when the period arrives for celebrating his Masonic jubilee, which will be early in 1902.

The I.P.M. having responded in a few well-chosen words, the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" followed. The W.M. said: Brethren, no excess of enthusiasm or cordiality can, I think, possibly be infused into this toast when one considers the onerous and responsible duties performed by these two officers. In these officers we members of the Moira Lodge can well congratulate ourselves. Bro. Wilkinson, P.M., whose oratory in the toast of the memory of the Earl of Moira, has again to-night, as on previous occasions, so pleased us, has consented to fill the office of Treasurer again. We are also to enjoy the advantage of the performance of the office of Secretary by Bro. Gould, P.M., and in this we are in no small degree indebted to him, to him whose name is to Freemasonry what Green's is to the History of England, and though again busy on the work so dear to his heart, has willingly given of his time to preserve to us, in his excellent manner, the records of our lodge.

The toast having been suitably acknowledged, the W.M. next gave "The Officers," which he introduced in the following words: It seems to me that there are three channels, so to speak, down which a Master can, on his installation, guide or direct his speech on his officers. He can dwell in a laudatory manner on the excellence of the work of the past, or he can make promise for the excellence of the work of the future, or he can, by holding up the excellence of the work of the past as a guide and an example for the work of the future, express the hope that the issue of the ensuing year shall by no means be eclipsed by, or fall short of, the work of the past. This is the channel I prefer to trust myself down, and I am sure, supported as I am by such excellent officers generally, and more especially by two such officers as the Senior Warden and Junior Deacon, with whose names I beg to couple this toast, that I can look forward with equanimity and pleasure to the forthcoming year.

After an eloquent response from the S.W., the Tyler's toast brought a most agreeable evening to a close.

An excellent musical programme was carried out; Bro. T. Merton Clark presided at the pianoforte. The vocalists were Madame Alice Lovenez, Miss Edith Blanchard, Mr. Walter Clyde, Mr. Broughton Black, and Bro. McCall Chambers, together with Miss Fanny Woolf (solo violin).

Enfield Lodge, No. 1236.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. W. HIBBERDINE.

The installation meeting was held at the George Hotel, Enfield, on Monday, the 10th inst. Among those present were Bros. J. M. Dexter, W.M.; W. Hibberdine, P.M., Sec. 2470, S.W., W.M. elect; G. Gange, J.W.; H. V. Clements, P.M., Treas.; A. G. Fidler, P.M., Sec.; H. E. Brown, S.D.; J. Marshall, J.D.; C. W. Offord, D. of C.; F. G. Lacey, Steward; H. B. May, P.M.; G. C. H. Jennings, P.M.; A. Monk, P.M.; W. Humphrey, P.M.; Dr. C. H. Penny, P.M.; H. W. Dexter, B. W. Binstead, J. H. M. Meyers, and E. W. Mackney, P.M. Among the visitors were Bros. T. A. Bullock, P.G.S.B.; J. W. Graham, P.G.D.C. Essex; J. W. Tacon, P.M. 1190; G. Richards, P.M. 1707; Gilbee Scott, P.M. 1579; and many other brethren.

Bro. W. Hibberdine, the W.M. elect, having been duly presented, the ceremony of installation was performed by the W.M., Bro. J. M. Dexter, in a most impressive manner. The following officers for the ensuing year were invested by the new W.M. in such a manner as to give an excellent foretaste of the way in which the duties of the chair will be performed during his term of office: Bros. J. M. Dexter, I.P.M.; G. Gange, S.W.; H. E. Brown, J.W.; H. V. Clements, P.M., Treas.; A. G. Fidler, P.M., Sec.; J. Marshall, S.D.; C. W. Offord, J.D.; F. G. Lacey, I.G.; H. Woodley, P.M., D.C.; H. W. Dexter, Org.; H. M. Meyers, Stwd.; and A. Bryant, P.M., Tyler.

The business of the lodge being ended, the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Marner, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given.

The toasts of "The Grand Officers" and "The Prov. Grand Officers" were responded to by Bros. Bullock and Jennings respectively.

Bro. Hibberdine, in response to the toast of "The W.M.," thanked the brethren for the honour they had conferred upon him in electing him to the chair of the lodge in which he was initiated nearly 10 years ago, and in which he had made many friends. He had always endeavoured to perform his duty honestly and to the best of his ability in every office he had filled, and trusted he should not be found wanting in that respect while he occupied the chair. He had, from unavoidable circumstances, been occasionally absent; but the brethren, knowing the cause of his absence, had always generously borne with it.

The W.M. then said he had to propose "The Health of the I.P.M." and to perform a most pleasing duty, which was to present him, on behalf of the lodge, with a Past Master's jewel as a small recognition of his valuable service; and he felt sure the lodge would agree with him in the opinion that from the excellent manner in which he had performed every duty connected with the Master's chair during his year of office, he was richly deserving of that honour, and he trusted he might be spared many years to wear it. He had, since his initiation, been a constant attendant at lodge of instruction, and shown the greatest zeal in everything appertaining to Freemasonry. In fact, their I.P.M. might be held up as a pattern for all those who were desirous of becoming really good Masons.

The I.P.M., Bro. Dexter, thanked the W.M. for the eulogistic terms in which he had spoken of him, and the brethren for the hearty manner in which they had responded to the toast of his health. The lodge would not meet again during the present century, and he feared he could hold out no hope that any of the brethren then present would be present at the last meeting of the next century, but he hoped the lodge would continue to flourish when they were all gone. The Enfield Lodge was consecrated in December, 1868, by the ever-youthful Bro. James Terry, Secretary to the Benevolent Institution. Of the 12 founders four were still living; 101 brethren had been initiated, and 42 had joined; many of these had since died, resigned, or been excluded, but they still had a goodly number of members, 21 of whom were Past Masters, a larger number than any lodge in the province. The first initiate was Bro. Thompson, the last his own son, whom he had the pleasure of initiating that year. The distinguishing character of a Freemason's heart—Charity, had not been forgotten, for since the consecration of the lodge upwards of £650 had been devoted to charitable purposes, and, as they all knew, there was a large sum in reserve for the same purposes. He trusted the lodge would continue to flourish.

In proposing "The Health of the Past Masters," the W.M. referred to the large

number on the roll, to the hearty support they always gave to whoever might occupy the chair, and to their zealous endeavours to preserve and uphold the prestige and usefulness of the lodge. He also referred in feeling terms to Bro. Woodley, P.M., absent from the lodge for the first time since his initiation through severe illness, and to Bro. Hicks, P.M., absent through recent domestic bereavement, and trusted they would both soon be with them again.

Bros. Clements and Fidler briefly responded on behalf of the Past Masters.

Bro. Graham, P.G.D.C. Essex, in an eloquent speech, responded on behalf of "The Visitors," and Bro. Gange, S.W., on behalf of "The Officers of the Enfield Lodge."

The musical part of the programme was excellently carried out by Bros. T. David, Parkinson, Offord, and that old veteran and universal favourite, Bro. E. W. Mackney, P.M. Bro. W. Davies presided at the piano.

The Tyler's toast closed a most agreeable and enjoyable evening.

Lodge of Truth, No. 1458.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. HERBERT HELLEWELL.

The annual meeting and festival of St. John in connection with this lodge took place at the Mitre Hotel, Manchester, on Saturday, the 1st instant. There was a very good attendance of members and visitors, including among others, Bros. C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds, P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M.; James Newton, P.G.S.B., Prov. G. Sec.; Thomas Threlford, P.P.G.P.; William Bee, P.P.A.G.D.C.; H. Powell-Jones, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Edward Roberts, P.G.T.; and others.

The lodge was opened at 3.15 p.m., when Bro. T. P. Cooper, P.M., assumed the chair, owing to the absence abroad of the W.M. (Bro. Leopold Hirsch), and was supported by the following: Bros. Hellewell, S.W., W.M. elect; Day, J.W.; Dewhurst, S.D.; Dean, acting J.D.; Doyer, I.G.; and Hebden, P.P.G.D.C., D.C. The minutes of the last regular meeting held on the 3rd ult., were read and confirmed, when the ballot was taken for Mr. Richard R. Philips, which having proved unanimous, Bro. Cooper vacated the chair in favour of Bro. G. P. Taylor, P.M., who initiated the candidate in a very able manner. Bro. Taylor having vacated the chair in favour of the Installing Master, Bro. R. Caldwell, P.P.G. Std. Br., Bro. Hellewell, the W.M. elect, was duly presented by Bro. Hebden, P.P.D.G.D.C., to receive the benefit of installation, and signified his assent to the ancient charges and regulations. The Installing Master having declared all the offices vacant, all brethren below the rank of Installed Master retired, after which a Board of Installed Masters was duly formed and Bro. Herbert Hellewell was placed in the chair of King Solomon in accordance with ancient tradition, the acting Prov. G.M., Bro. Beswicke-Royds, performing that part of the ceremony of investing and inducting Bro. Hellewell in K.S. chair as a special mark of favour. The brethren having been re-admitted, the new W.M. was proclaimed and saluted, the working tools in the Three Degrees being explained and presented by Bro. Cooper, and after having been addressed by the Installing Brother, the W.M. appointed his officers, viz.: Bros. Wm. Dewhurst, S.W.; J. J. Dean, J.W.; T. H. Hall, Treas.; Alfred Hebden, P.P.D.G.D.C., Sec.; J. Doyle, S.D.; W. Cottrill, J.D.; H. Flint, I.G.; Buckley Carr, P.P.G.D.C., D.C.; Burgess, Shaw, and Murray, Stwds.; and G. Holford, Tyler. The unanimous re-election of Bro. W. J. Herring, the Charity Representative, and a proposition of a Mr. Oliver as a candidate, completed the business, and the lodge was duly closed.

The installation banquet was held immediately afterwards when ample justice was done to the very excellent repast, provided by Bro. Powell Jones, the manager of the Mitre Hotel.

The toast list and excellent musical programme, including Bros. Hart, Jackson, Cooper, Herring, Barlow (solo euphonium), and others, being provided, the evening passed right merrily and pleasantly.

The W.M., on rising to submit No. 1 toast, said that the distinguished position in which they had placed him that evening gave him the privilege, as well as the first and pleasing duty, to submit "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and the Craft," who, during the long period of her successful and glorious reign, had greatly endeared herself to all her subjects at home and in the colonies, but specially so to the Freemasons of England, inasmuch as our beloved Queen was the Chief Patroness of our Institution, and by her gracious ruling, condescension, and sympathy with her people she had made herself dearly beloved by all classes, and rightly deserved all the respect that could be shown her, for we love our Queen, our Empire, and our Craft. At our social boards, for our Sovereign Lady, we cry "God bless her;" for our Craft, we pray "God prosper it;" therefore every true Mason must feel in his heart the value of the connection of the Queen and the Craft, and trusted T.G.A.O.T.U. may grant her health and strength to continue to rule over us.

The toast was received with great enthusiasm, as well as the National Anthem solo, rendered in such fine voice by Bro. Hart.

In submitting toast No. 2, the W.M. said that he felt sure no words of his were needed to ensure a very hearty reception of the name of H.R.H. the M.W.G.M., who was a true Mason in every sense, and whose noble qualities and the deep interest he takes in everything appertaining to the prosperity of the Craft was so well known to them all.

The toast was very heartily received, and followed by the solo by Bro. Jackson.

December 1st being H.R.H. the Princess of Wales's birthday, the W.M., in submitting the toast of "The Health of H.R.H. the Princess of Wales and the other Members of the Royal Family," stated that for the many services and support received from the members of the Royal Family we were greatly indebted, especially their assistance to our Charitable Institutions—which form the brightest gem in the diadem of Freemasonry—the success and prosperity attending the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was in a great measure due to its grand Patroness, H.R.H., and as Freemasons we felt proud to have so illustrious a lady connected with our Institution. The toast was very heartily received.

The toast to "The Pro G. Master, Earl Amherst; the Dep. G. Master Earl of Warwick; and the other Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past," was submitted, and responded to by the Dep. Prov. G. Master, Bro. Beswicke-Royds, P.G.D., and Bro. Newton, P.G.S.B., P.G. Sec.

The W.M., in complimentary terms, submitted the toast of "The Health of Bro. Beswicke-Royds, D.P.G.M., and the other Officers of Prov. Grand Lodge, Present and Past," and stated that no jurisdiction under the British Constitution held their Provincial Officers in higher estimation than they in East Lancashire, and appreciated the valuable services they had rendered to the province and the high position and prosperity in which East Lancashire stood to-day; and the uniformity of working was, in a very great measure, due to our Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Beswicke-Royds, his very deep interest in the welfare of the Craft, and his kind courtesy and assistance wherever called upon, and to whom, with those Worshipful brothers who assist him in the discharge of the important duties of his office, he tendered their sincere and hearty thanks.

The response was made on behalf of the P.G. Officers by Bro. Newton, P.G. Sec.

The toast of "The Health of the W.M." was submitted by Bro. Buckley Carr, P.P.G.D.C., in very appropriate terms, expressing in flattering terms the qualifications of the newly-installed W.M., and the best wishes for a very prosperous year.

The W.M., on rising to respond, was very enthusiastically received. He expressed the great pleasure it gave him to occupy so high a position as the Master of his mother lodge, and especially to observe present on the occasion Bro. Archdale, who initiated him in Masonry, and especially his tutor, Bro. Hebden, who instructed him in the early stages of Freemasonry. He sincerely thanked the brethren, one and all, for the favour and the confidence placed in him, and while he trusted to merit their confidence, would endeavour, to the best of his abilities, to prove a worthy Master and merit their esteem. Further, he was greatly indebted to the acting Prov. Grand Master for his kindness in investing and inducting him in the chair of King Solomon, for which he thanked him, and was glad to have so distinguished a brother present among them.

The toast of "The Visitors," proposed by Bro. Hebden, P.P.D.G.D.C., was responded to, on behalf of the visitors, by Bro. Threlford, P.P.G.P.

After all the toasts had been duly honoured, Bro. G. P. Taylor, P.M., presented, on behalf of the brethren of the lodge, a very handsome Treasurer's jewel to Bro. John Pearce for his past services as Treasurer.

The jewel bore the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. John Pearce by the brethren of Truth Lodge, No. 1458, for his zeal and valuable services as Treasurer, 1897—1900. Decr. 1st, 1900."

Bro. Pearce thanked Bro. Taylor and the brethren in a touching speech for the very handsome jewel.

The jewel was manufactured by Bros. George Kenning and Son, Manchester and London.

Chine Lodge, No. 1884.

UNVEILING OF THE COMMEMORATION TABLET BY THE RIGHT HON. W. W. BRAMSTON BEACH, M.P., P.G.M.

Thursday, the 20th ult., was a red-letter day in the history of Chine Lodge, No. 1884, Shanklin, Isle of Wight. Masons from every island lodge assembled to meet the Prov. G. Master of Hants and Isle of Wight and his officers on the occasion of his unveiling the Chine Lodge tablet erected to commemorate his association with the lodge, as well as to mark the important event of freeing it of its mortgage debt. The lodge room was crowded with members and visitors from all parts of the province.

Among the members of the lodge present were: Bros. Alfred Greenham, W.M.; R. J. Russell, I.P.M.; A. H. Brown, S.W.; C. J. Carter, J.W.; Rev. E. N. Lovett, M.A., Chap.; F. Cooper, P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; Frank C. Taylor, Sec.; E. D. Jefford, S.D.; A. Kent J.D.; H. J. Osborne, D.C.; W. T. Deeks, I.G.; W. B. Chase, Stwd.; John Chapman, P.P.G.D. Devon; Lewis Colenutt, P.M.; John Bailey, P.M.; Richard Young, P.M.; W. H. Willis, P.M.; John Collinson, P.M.; W. Judd, P.M.; H. W. Daws, P.M.; G. H. Matthews, P.M.; W. J. Mew, Tyler; Samuel Clark, W. G. R. Spencer, F. Rayner, C. H. Moorman, L. C. Scott, and Alf. J. Mew. The visitors included: Bros. the Right Hon. W. W. Beach, M.P., P.G.M.; Capt. H. G. Giles, R.N., P.G. Sec.; J. W. Gieve, P.G. Treas.; G. F. Lancaster, P.G. Reg., P.A.G. Sec.; W. Hawsey, P.G.D.C.; Rev. P. G. U. Pickering, P.P.G.C.; Alfred Millidge, 151, P.P.G.D.; Charles Brown, 35, P.P.G.D.; R. H. Woodman, 551, P.G.D.; J. S. W. Jordan, 1780, P.A.G.P.; Thomas George Dacombe, P.G.S.B.; Henry Durrant, P.P.G.W.; W. H. Long, P.P.G.D.; Fred H. Sheppard, 551, P.P.G.D.C.; Frank White, 1069 and 2068, P.G. Org.; Arthur J. Firth, 1869, P.P.G.O.; W. H. Brading, 2169, P.G.D.; Alfred Dashwood, 698, P.P.G.R.; G. M. Murray, P.M. 1; Frank Shepard, J.W. 35; Frank King, W.M.; F. Pinnock, P.M.; J. G. Pinnock, P.M.; G. A. Brannon, P.M.; E. F. King, S.W.; and W. D. Hutton, all of 151; Arthur Marlow, W.M.; J. H. Down, I.P.M.; J. A. Moxey, P.M.; E. W. Leonard, S.W.; A. E. Coombes, A.D.C.; F. Farrant I.G.; and E. R. Osborne, all of 175; Ernest Wetherick, J.W. 551; F. W. Chaine, 1159; George Humby and Hy. Blake, 1168; C. J. Apperley, 1361; and others.

The members assembled in the lodge room, and punctually at six p.m. the Prov. G. Master and his officers arrived. Having formed in procession, they entered the lodge, and were received in due form. The hymn, "Stand forth, O worthy Craftsman," having been impressively sung, the lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Alfred Greenham. The Prov. G. Master and his officers having been saluted, the minutes were read and confirmed, and business of a routine character transacted.

The W.M. then rose and said: R.W. Prov. G. Master, Officers, and Past Officers of Prov. G. Lodge, Bro. Wardens, and brethren—Once before in my life I have had the privilege and the honour to ask the R.W. Prov. G. Master of Hants and the Isle of Wight to do something for my lodge, viz., to open the Great Masonic Exhibition, held on September 9th, 1886, and on that occasion you used these words—"It was ill for the welfare of a nation when she tried to efface the memory of the past. It was by recounting noble actions of days long gone by; it was by recounting the prowess of those who had gone before, that men were incited to valiant deeds. Men have in all ages been incited to wonderful achievements by the recital of the actions of their forefathers." Those words are the text of my address, which, if you follow, I trust you will see that they apply to our commemoration to-day. To-day I have the honour to ask you, R.W. Prov. G. Master, to perform another ceremony, which, if not so important, is a source of great gratification to every member of this lodge. It is to ask you to unveil the Chine Lodge commemoration tablet. But before I do so, it is right that I should tell you that this tablet is erected to commemorate four great events or epochs in this lodge's history. Nigh on 20 years ago you fixed a day for the laying of the foundation stone of this building, and for the consecration of this hall to Freemasonry. But what is known as the great snowstorm of January, 1881, prevented your doing so. Telegrams were flying hither and thither on that day, and deep was the disappointment of that little band of founders who had assembled to witness the ceremony. It was then found necessary to postpone the ceremony until the following March, and on the 7th day of that month you laid the foundation stone and consecrated this lodge. That was, indeed, a memorable day, and from it all our history has flowed down the stream of time, represented it is true by only 20 years. Twenty years! it is a long time to look back upon, with its hopes, its expectations, its struggles, and its disappointments. As I look back upon them now they appear panoramaed before me, although some of them have shifted one to the other as quickly as a child would change the colours and forms in a kaleidoscope. Who among the founders here does not remember that day? It was, however, to me but a dimly understood event. I was proposed as candidate, and in the following month I took the First Degree, and I have been a subscriber ever since. The laying of the foundation stone was the first great event which is recorded on that tablet, and surely it is a worthy one—worthy of all remembrance, worthy of perpetuation. With what interest did we watch the raising of the corner-stone; the raising of this superstructure, perfect in its parts, and honourable to the builder. How proud we were when it was finished; how anxious we were to leave nothing undone as the second event, the second great epoch—the day of dedication—loomed nearer and nearer; and when the morning of the 25th October arrived we were all early astir. In the interval which elapsed we had been compelled to meet in the High-street, at Victoria House, kindly lent by W. Bro. John Bailey. On October 25th, 1881, we assembled here, and well do I remember the impressive ceremony of dedication, for I was I.G. of the lodge, and I feel more competent to speak of that event than I did of the former. My mind was then open to receive all the impressions which so memorable a day produced. Even at that early time in my Masonic career I had more than a passing interest for Masonry planted in my breast, and I listened attentively to every word of the eloquent address which you gave us. You held up to the members of this lodge the high privilege of Masonry, and you particularly impressed upon us that we should be careful in our admissions; you also placed before us the duty of upholding the prestige of the Order—and that that should be the paramount consideration when we were admitting candidates. Those words bore fruit in this lodge, they made a lasting impression, and when you are far away from here, and reflecting over the number of lodges which you have consecrated, you will, perhaps, remember with satisfaction and pleasure that since this lodge has been established we have never had occasion to put forward any child to the Charities, neither have we had but one solitary member in misfortune to solicit our assistance. If I may venture to say so, it was those members who founded this lodge, and those who listened to your address who have borne the burden and the heat of the day in bringing this lodge through its struggles in the early years of its career. It is not within the scope of my address, R.W. P.G. Master, to refer to all the members of the Chine Lodge who have helped me in my schemes, but I must mention those who were founders of this lodge and are present here to-day. Bro. George Humby may be said to be the pioneer of Masonry in Shanklin, he was the first of the founders to be initiated in the Albany Lodge. He took a very active part in establishing Chine Lodge by getting subscriptions and joining members. He was the first S.W. of the lodge, and his name as such is in the warrant, a very honourable position, and one which will as long as the charter is preserved, perpetuate his name, and hand it down to a distant posterity. My S.W., Bro. A. H. Brown, is a founder, in early days he stepped into the breach and rendered good service to the lodge, and has always been a supporter of all movements for its benefit. Our Financier, Bro. Francis Cooper, is another founder, he has been Treasurer 18 out of 20 years, and two years W.M.; he is always at his post, always willing to help others, and it may truthfully be said of him that the love of Masonry dwells within him. No work and no scheme finds his name omitted. There is one other founder here to-day, Bro. John Bailey, and of him I must speak in exceptional terms. He was the Secretary 20 years ago, and verily he has been one of the pillars of the lodge. I have brought forward many schemes in my time for the reduction of the debt on the lodge, schemes which like the Masonic Exhibition involved weeks, aye, even months of labour, and the brother who has stood at my right hand from start to finish has been Bro. John Bailey. He has helped me with his time, with his labour, and with his money. I mention these names because they are inseparably connected with the consecration and dedication of the lodge to Masonry. Whenever this lodge has had the opportunity of deviating from the principles of Masonry, which you so forcibly expressed at that time, and all lodges, I regret to say, have such opportunities, I have heard Bro. John Bailey remark, "Remember the words of the Prov. G. Master at the dedication." They have been remembered, R.W. Prov. G. Master, and you will, perhaps, be pleased to hear from my lips to-day that your address not only founded the prestige of the lodge, but it has done more than that—it has maintained it ever since. The third great event or epoch in this lodge is engraven on the tablet—the opening of the Great Masonic Exhibition on September 9th, 1886. Well do I remember that day, when in the presence of

Masons from all parts of the world you declared that exhibition opened. Twenty thousand pounds worth of exhibits were entrusted to my care, and we can say "we did not lose one exhibit." It was predicted at that time that this century would pass away before another would be attempted, and then it would probably not be surpassed, and that prediction was a true one. The Shanklin Exhibition is not only an epoch in our lodge, it is a landmark in the history of the Craft, worthy of the medal which was struck to commemorate it, and which experts pronounce to be the finest engraved medal of the century. I make no idle boast when I say that our exhibition will carry the name of this lodge down to distant ages, for the catalogue has become a text book of Masonry, which will add its renown as the years roll on. It should be remembered that all previous exhibitions were promoted by provinces or groups of lodges, whilst we can say, "Alone we did it." Thus have these three great events centred round your honoured name, R.W. Prov. G. Master. The last event, and an event which we are all proud of, is recorded on that tablet, and that is, the extinction of the mortgage debt in the closing year of the 19th century, and on it will be found the names of all who have assisted. When this lodge was built it became necessary to have trustees, who were also responsible for the debt, as also were their executors and assigns. Therefore, if it were a post of honour, it was also a post of responsibility. Ten years ago when I brought forward a scheme at a day's notice to reduce the debt when the mortgage was suddenly called in, the careful solicitor of this lodge, who represented the mortgage, had some doubts whether my manipulations of the debt had not impaired the personal liability of the trustees, and so a bond was given, which five of us signed. I have had a clearer perception of the dangers of this debt than some of the trustees, for at my installation it now appears not one member who has joined the lodge for the last 10 years has had any idea of the provisions of the Trust Deed, and, perhaps, not half-a-dozen here to-day know anything of the bond. After I had made my installation speech, when I declared my intention to clear this debt, I was told by some of my friends not to bother my head about it, but leave it to the next generation. Why should we relieve them of all responsibility? I will tell you why. The Trust Deed of the lodge contains a provision that so long as this building is used as a Masonic Hall, it is free of ground rent, but supposing days of adversity were to fall on this lodge, and we have instances of adversity in the Isle of Wight with lodges and chapters, who shall say that Chine Lodge, with a debt of £700 and £35 interest, would be safe for future generations. It was a very easy task for me to go round Shanklin and secure the signatures of the six remaining trustees to enable me to get possession of the title deeds, but supposing the debt had been left for 50 years, and the lodge then had decided to pay it off, would there have been no difficulty then, think you? Some of the trustees have passed to the Grand Lodge above, some are beyond the meridian of life and are passing thitherwards over the hills to their sunset, and if this debt had been left to future generations to clear off, you might have had to send to the four quarters of the globe to get the signature of the executors or the assigns before you would have got the title deeds handed over to you. Then you would have had the descendants of the bond holders to consider, and, perhaps, not one of them would be identified with this lodge or have any association with Masonry. Do not for one moment imagine that this tablet is erected that your names and my name should be on it, little shall we reckon, little shall we care a few years hence about the honour conferred on us there. But it is recorded there that we have gained our freedom, and who will ever dare to place this lodge in bondage again? This tablet will, I believe, have a far-reaching influence on this lodge, it will be cherished by future generations as one of the greatest heirlooms bequeathed by us to posterity. We hand it down free of debt and free of ground rent, and surely the man is not born who will cross that threshold as a Mason and rise up in this lodge and attempt to mortgage it again. Surely the young Masons, who will have some day to carry on this lodge, to preserve its honour, its traditions, and its prestige, will, when he reads what has been done in the days before him, strive to hold that charter, and hand it on pure and unsullied to his successors, and when time has dimmed that tablet, and dulled the names upon it, I am confident that a halo of renown will surround it and be the means of kindling in the hearts of those who shall succeed us, a greater love for Masonry and a greater love for my mother lodge. (Loud applause.)

After unveiling the tablet, which consisted of an engraved slab of white marble set in a handsome massive frame designed by Bro. L. Colenutt, the Prov. G. Master expressed the pleasure it had given him to attend and assist them on that interesting occasion, and complimented them on the attention to Masonic precepts and the spirit and energy which animated the members of the lodge, and had enabled such a comparatively small number to accomplish so much. The Worshipful Master had alluded with great force to the events in which the lodge had been concerned, the chief among which was the Masonic exhibition, held when he was before in the chair of the lodge, and which was crowned with such success. He heartily congratulated them all on clearing off their building debt.

The following is the inscription on the marble tablet:

"Chine Lodge, 1884, A.D. 1900. This tablet is erected to commemorate the laying of the foundation stone and consecration of this hall on March 7, 1881, and which on October 25, 1881, was dedicated to Freemasonry by the Right Hon. W. W. Bramston Beach, M.P., Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Hants and the Isle of Wight; who also opened the great Masonic exhibition on September 9, 1886; and further as a permanent record of the names of those who in the closing year of the nineteenth century, and during the third period of the Mastership of Bro. Alfred Greenham, assisted in entirely freeing the lodge of its mortgage debt."

The names recorded are as follows: A. Greenham, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., W.M.; R. Rowland Russell, I.P.M.; Andrew H. Brown, S.W.; Charles J. Carter, J.W.; F. Cooper, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; Francis C. Taylor, Sec.; Edward D. Jefford, S.D.; Alfred Kent, J.D.; William T. Deeks, I.G.; Henry Osborne, D.C.; W. Ball Chase, Stwd.; and William J. Mew, Tyler; Bros. G. H. R. Dabbs, P.M.; Francis Newman, P.G.S.B. Eng.; John Bailey, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; Lewis Colenutt, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; Richard Young, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; W. H. Willis, P.M., P.G.R.; John Marsh, P.M.; William Judd, P.M.; G. H. Matthews, P.M.; Herbert W. Daws, P.M.; J. Chapman, P.P.J.G.D. Devon; John Collinson, P.M.; T. H. Brooke Hitching, P.M.; Guillaume F. Coster, Leonard Scott, E. Neville Lovett, William G. R. Spencer, Samuel Clarke, James A. Wilson, Robert W. Greenham, Alfred J. Mew, and Charles A. Knapp.

Following the oration of Bro. Greenham, the W.M. called upon Bro. R. Young, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., to move a vote of thanks to the Prov. G.M.

Bro. Young rose to express the high gratification felt by the brethren at the presence of the R.W. Bro. W. Beach with the Grand Officers of the province. Another red-letter day was thereby added to those of the past, which had distinguished the history of Chine Lodge in its intimate association with the P.G.M. If only he (Bro. Young) had possessed the eloquence of their W.M., he might have spoken in terms worthy of the occasion, but, said he, "I am no orator as Brutus is;" being only "a plain, blunt man, I speak right on, and tell you that which you yourselves do know"—our sincere sense of obligation to the R.W. Prov. G.M. With a courage and confidence, all his own, W. Bro. Greenham had invited the venerable head of the province to attend this interesting Masonic function. And the R.W. Prov. G.M., with his inherent courtesy and good nature, notwithstanding various and pressing engagements, had promised to be present to-day in this remote corner of his province of Hampshire and Isle of Wight. All the greater was the honour conferred, and all the deeper the appreciation of the brethren of Chine Lodge. The excellence of the purpose, no doubt, commended itself as evidence of the indomitable energy and successful effort of the W.M. and the associated brethren in freeing the lodge from serious debt, and thereby inaugurating an era of greater freedom in which to exhibit the beauty of the Masonic principles of fraternal helpfulness and Charity. The brethren, one and all, desired to evince the liveliest gratitude for favours received, and he (Bro. Young), therefore, moved—"That the best thanks of the lodge be given to the P.G.M. for the honour of his presence in Chine Lodge, and for his kindness in unveiling the tablet."

The brethren responded with warm enthusiasm.

Bro. John Chapman, P.M., P.P.J.G.D. Devon, seconded the vote of thanks, expressing the pleasure it was to him to be present on such a memorable day.

The Prov. Grand Master having briefly responded,

Bro. G. H. Matthews, P.M., proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Lewis Colenutt for his services in drawing the plan of the tablet. He said that the ritual spoke of Masons as not being "all operative, but rather free and accepted or speculative." This supposed that some were "operative," and he was glad to say that Chine Lodge possessed more than one skilful operative. "With the pencil the skilful artist draws draft or plan of the intended structure." It was to the skill of Bro. Lewis Colenutt in using his pencil to design the beautiful tablet that had just been unveiled he wished to draw their attention. It was needful for the artist to work out the plan before the structure could be proceeded with; and that beautiful tablet they were gazing upon

would be a perpetual memorial to carry down to posterity the ability and generosity of Bro. Colenutt. The whole design was, and always would be, "a thing of beauty and a joy for ever." It gave him much pleasure to propose a hearty vote of thanks to Bro. Colenutt for his able services.

Bro. C. J. Carter, J.W., seconded the proposition in a suitable speech.

Bro. T. Cooper, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., proposed, and Bro. A. H. Brown, S.W., seconded that a vote of thanks be accorded to Bro. Alfred Dashwood, P.M., P.P.G.R. for his kindness in transferring the mortgage free of cost to the lodge.

Bro. A. Dashwood having responded, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to Daish's Hotel, where a *recherche* banquet was served. The W.M., Bro. Alfred Greenham presided, and was supported by the Prov. G. Master and Prov. G. Officers, most of those already named being also present.

The loyal and Grand Lodge toasts having been given, Bro. C. J. Carter, J.W., sang "The Toreador."

The W.M. proposed "The R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Hants and the Isle of Wight, the Right Hon. W. B. Beach, M.P." It is said that out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh. I have no doubt that is true as a great fundamental principle of human life, but to-day, whilst my heart is very full of gratitude, and of love for our revered chief, I find some difficulty in giving utterance to a tithe of what I feel. There is not one among you here to-day who is not looking to me to interpret not only my own feelings, not only the feelings of every member of Chine Lodge, but the feelings of every member of every lodge assembled here. The honour conferred by the P.G.M. on me to-day is great inasmuch as I am the W.M., but I know that the honour is intended for my lodge, but, nevertheless, it is also an honour to all Isle of Wight Masons. The P.G.M. has had a long association with this province, which in its history will be remembered and remembered for his impartiality, his firmness, and his loving qualities. There are, doubtless, in the United Kingdom many P.G.Ms. who do their duty to the Craft, and who rule over it wisely and well, but not one, I venture to say, could establish that he was so universally loved and esteemed as our P.G.M., and I am going to quote two great public features to support that assertion. On the other side of this province, on the other side of this county, live thousands of men of all sorts and conditions in life, of all shades of thoughts, who, by their love for him, and their admiration of him for nearly half a century, have created for him a distinction so honourable, so majestically grand, in the Parliament of this Realm not surpassed in any previous century. What greater honour can a man have in this world than the honour which is founded on love? Can any P.G. Master in England lay claim to so much public esteem, so much love? No, brethren, they cannot. (Loud applause.) The other great feature is the hold which our P.G.M. has over the hearts of Isle of Wight Masons, evidenced by this fact, that when a few years ago the agitation commenced and ended in the municipal life of our island being severed from the mainland, no murmuring sound was heard from us, for our allegiance to him rests on that indissoluble foundation, our love for him. (Applause.)

The toast was received with much enthusiasm.

Song, "The Maid of Malabar," by Bro. E. G. Wetherick.

The Prov. G. Master, in the course of his reply, said the W.M. had alluded to his Mastership over the province, and to his acceptance of the additional responsibility of the amalgamation of the Isle of Wight and Hampshire, but this was done by the G. Master of England, who believed that a large province was more easily managed. If he had failed in any particular it was not from want of an endeavour on his part to act fairly to every part of the province. There were now more than 50 lodges, having nearly doubled since that time. He was deeply sensible of the love and regard shown to him by the brethren all over the province. He was also sensible of the kindly and fraternal spirit which existed between the lodges, and the love they showed to one another. This was largely due to the care exercised in admitting only those whom they were convinced would act up to the principles of the Craft. He could not but be indebted to those worthy Masons who had helped him to rule over the province. Referring to the Past Masters, he remarked that the brethren who had passed the chair should remember their duty as Past Masters did not cease. It was the zeal of the Past Masters to keep up the credit of the Order. This was the third time their present Master had accepted the office, and it was his desire to benefit the lodge that had induced him to accept the office this time, and the object for which he was there to-day was sufficient evidence of the wisdom of their choice in again placing him in that position. It gave him great pleasure in being there to-day to congratulate them on the success of freeing Chine Lodge from debt, and he felt a pride and pleasure if he could in any way promote the interest of the lodge. They had spoken of their affection for him, and if he could do anything to deserve that love, it would give him infinite satisfaction. (Applause.)

Bro. John Chapman, P.M., P.P.J.G.D. Devon, proposed the toast of "The Dep. P.G.M., W. Bro. E. Goble, P.G.S.B. Eng., and the Officers of Prov. G. Lodge, Present and Past." He remarked that he had had considerable correspondence with that worthy brother, but never the pleasure of meeting him. The lateness of the train at Fareham the previous evening prevented him calling on him, nevertheless, he was conscious that the Prov. G.M. had a very able and zealous Deputy, and Bro. Chapman very eloquently submitted the toast, coupling with it the name of Bro. Willis, Prov. G. Reg.

Song by Bro. King—"Off in the stilly night."

Bro. Willis said he was placed in a somewhat awkward position in being called upon to respond for the D.P.G.M., so ably put by Bro. Chapman. He did not know he should be called upon, as he had occupied his position such a short time, and he did not think he should do it justice. At present his duties had not been very onerous, but he hoped, before his term of office expired, he should be called upon to do more work. He was very proud to be a Grand Officer of the province. Bro. Willis eulogised the Prov. Grand Master, and thanked the brethren for the way in which the toast had been received.

Song, "De coming of de king," Bro. Firth.

The Prov. G.M. proposed "The W.M.," and in a very able speech remarked that he had already alluded to the benefit of the experience of Past Masters in the chair. He was sorry he was unable, through ill-health, to attend his installation, but he was glad he was able to be there that day. Bro. Greenham was not only able to voice the ritual in an exceptionally effective way, but he had a firm grip of all other details.

Recitation—Bro. Hutton—"Jim Smiley."

In reply, the W.M. said he deeply appreciated the kind words expressed by the Prov. G. Master. He had laid before them the qualities a Master should possess, but he did not think he possessed all these qualities. He did know he had occupied the chair of Chine Lodge three times. The cause of Freemasonry he had had at heart for many years, and he was proud to occupy the position he did that day, and he should look back on that day in future years with pride and pleasure at the honour done him by the Prov. G. Master. It was a day he should treasure all his life. He had been loyally supported by the members in all the schemes he had advanced and carried through during the existence of the lodge, and he could say that on no occasion had the harmony of the lodge been broken.

Bro. Capt. Giles, R.N., Prov. G. Sec., proposed "The Masonic Charities" in an earnest and vigorous speech, in the course of which he expressed the hope that Masons belonging to the province would rally this year to the support of the Boys' School, at the Festival of which their Prov. G. Master would preside in June next. He also urged the desirability of the scheme for the purchase of a Perpetual Presentation to the Boys' School, with which the name of the Prov. G. Master would be associated, and which it was proposed should be secured by means of a contribution of not less than 20 guineas from each lodge in the province.

Bro. Chapman suitably responded.

Other toasts were "The Visitors," proposed by Bro. Young, and coupled with the names of Bros. Gieve and Lancaster; and "The Past Masters" and "The Founders," proposed from the chair.

The Tyler's toast brought this memorable evening to a close.

Mozart Lodge, No. 1929.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. JAMES ALFRED CHALK.

The installation meeting of this distinguished and well-known musical lodge was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, on the 1st instant, when there were present: Bros. H. E. Francis, P.P.S.G.D. Surrey; Fredk. Flood, P.P.A.G.D.C. Surrey; C. H. Howlett, P.M.; H. J. Macfarlane, P.P.G. Org. Surrey; J. A. Chalk, Walter Salmon, Trefelyn David, J. J. Kern, W. F. Oxley, J. J. Lamigeon, P.M.; C. W. Freeman, F. Whately, Augustus Toop, S. E. McLewin, J. Sinclair, A. J. Stoper, W. H. Bartlett, C. W. Lloyd, W. Carter, J. B. Sterehx, S. F. A. Donnelly, F. Ash

plant, J. G. Parker, G. C. Tegetmeier, and Geo. Harrison, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. H. Bué, P.G.S.B.; W. Rogers, W.M. 1861; C. F. Weller, S.D. 2181; A. E. Pullan, 1107; G. T. Atkinson, S.W. 2191; G. S. Stainton, 2191; W. Brill, 2060; J. J. Wright, 879; G. H. Kitson, P.M. 548; G. S. Jinman, 2434; W. Wills, P.M. 1001; S. C. Newson, 1107; E. E. Salt, 45; A. E. Chaloner, 1069; and R. T. West, 1744.

In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Edward Branscombe, P.P.G. Org. Surrey, the chair was occupied by Bro. J. J. Lamigeon, P.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Lamigeon vacated the chair in favour of Bro. C. H. Howlett, P.M. The W.M. elect, Bro. J. A. Chalk, was then presented by Bro. Lamigeon, P.M., and installed into the chair of King Solomon by Bro. C. H. Howlett, P.M., who subsequently gave the usual addresses in a manner that made it impossible for them to have been better rendered, for which he received the hearty congratulations of the brethren. The following were appointed officers: Bros. Edward Branscombe, I.P.M.; Walter Salmon, S.W.; J. J. Kern, J.W.; H. J. Macfarlane, P.M. Treas.; Fredk. Flood, P.M., Sec.; Augustus Toop, S.D.; John Sinclair, J.D.; Trefelyn David, D.C.; Harry Dearth, Org.; C. W. Freeman, I.G.; F. Whatley, S. E. McLewin, W. H. Bartlett, and C. W. Lloyd, Stwds.; and George Harrison, Tyler, which was the 20th time he had been invested in the lodge, and the Tyler from its consecration. The Secretary, Bro. F. Flood, P.M., said: I have received news of the death of a member of the lodge, who, though unknown personally to the present generation of members, deserves to be kindly remembered by us all. Bro. Leresche became a country member many years ago, when he removed to Birmingham, and has not since visited the lodge, though right up to the day of his death he took the liveliest interest in our welfare and doings, was most punctual in his payments, and ever kept a warm corner in his heart for the Mozart brethren. Whenever I have appealed to the brethren for subscriptions for any object, Bro. Leresche's name was never missing from my list. On more than one occasion he has permitted me to act as his almoner, entrusting me with sums of money to be used in the cause of Masonic Charity. He always desired that his name should be kept secret; but now that he has gone, I think it due to his memory to mention it. By profession Bro. Leresche was an artist; more than once he has placed his pencil gratuitously at the service of this lodge. But he was many sided—scientific author, poet, collector—a man of cultured taste for art in all its forms, and, above all, a devout Christian, who had done battle with his pen for his faith. He has left us in the illness of his age, having passed his 70th birthday some time since. A vote of condolence was passed to the deceased brother's family. Letters were read from the Prov. G.M. and Prov. G. Sec., regretting their inability to attend through illness. It was unanimously resolved that Bro. Lord Onslow be asked to accept honorary membership of the lodge as a slight recognition for his great efforts while he was P.G.M. of Surrey.

The lodge was then closed, and an excellent banquet followed, prepared by the proprietor, Bro. J. H. Anderson, in a manner that gave every satisfaction, which was openly expressed by those present.

"The Queen and the Craft" and "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" were proposed from the chair, and duly accorded Masonic honours.

The W.M. gave "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," and he coupled with the toast the name of Bro. H. Bué, P.G.S.B.

The toast was received with enthusiasm, as was Bro. Bué on rising to respond. He said he felt proud to acknowledge the toast in such a good lodge as the Mozart. The G. Officers had the interest of the Craft at heart, and he was indebted to many of his colleagues for his advance in Masonry.

In giving "The R.W. Prov. G. Master of Surrey, Brigadier-General John Davis, A.D.C.," the W.M. stated that he was everything a Prov. G. Master should be.

The toast of "The Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past," followed, and with it the W.M. associated the name of Bro. Augustus Toop, Prov. G. Org.

Bro. Toop said the honour to respond had been thrust upon him without any warning, and he was surprised to be called upon in the face of the veteran Prov. G. Officers who were present, but he appreciated the honour, and he thanked them for the hearty manner in which they had received the toast.

Bro. J. J. Lamigeon, P.M., said that in the absence of the I.P.M., Bro. Edward Branscombe, the pleasure had fallen to his lot to propose "The Worshipful Master, Bro. J. A. Chalk," which was without any doubt the most important toast of the evening. They had seen the W.M.'s work both in the lodge and at that festive board, and it augured well for his being a great success as Master. He knew the work of the ritual because he had it at his fingers' end, and in the words of the motto of the lodge, "Let Harmony prevail" during his year of office, which he felt would be a glorious one, and successful in every way.

The W.M., Bro. Chalk, on rising to respond, was enthusiastically received. He stated that he much appreciated their reception, and he was gratified with the kind things Bro. Lamigeon had said of him, but he could not find words to adequately express his feelings. Perhaps he could do the work of the ritual, but he was not a speechmaker. He was honoured to be installed Master of the Mozart Lodge, but it was not the ordeal he thought it would be, as he was surrounded by so many happy faces, which gave him courage; and might he say that as Master he would do his very best to promote the interests of their good lodge.

The W.M. gave "To the memory of Bro. S. J. Leresche and the Musician Mozart," which was drunk in silence.

In submitting the toast of "The Visitors," the W.M. stated that they were honoured with the presence of a good few, and many of them were distinguished and well known in the Craft. They were all welcome, and he joined with the toast the names of Bros. W. Rogers, W.M. 1861, and G. T. Atkinson, S.W. 2191.

In response, Bro. Rogers said that the very kind way the toast had been proposed and received afforded him the greatest pleasure to be there to witness the good working, and that pleasure was enhanced because originally he intended to be initiated in the Mozart Lodge.

Bro. Atkinson also acknowledged the toast, observing that what they had seen that evening made it apparent that the W.M., with the assistance of his good officers, would have a life of pleasure during his term as the ruler of the lodge.

The W.M. gave "The Installing Officer, Bro. C. H. Howlett, P.M.," remarking that he thought they would all agree with him that the ceremony was performed as well as it could possibly be done, and they were all indebted to him for his great services that evening.

Bro. Howlett, who was well received, stated that it was a great pleasure to him to act as Installing Master and his best thanks were due to the other Past Masters for allowing him to do so. He was gratified to instal the W.M. because he had watched him the last two years with much interest, and he felt that it went without saying that he would be one of the most witty and painstaking W.M.s the lodge had ever had.

In giving "The Past Masters," the W.M. made special mention of those who were present, and the great things they had done for the lodge, and said the members were proud of the Past Masters, with the toast of whom he coupled the name of Bro. J. J. Lamigeon, P.M.

Bro. Lamigeon responded, and said he would do in the future as he hoped he had in the past, his very utmost for the lodge, which was next to his heart after his mother lodge. In the new Prov. Grand Master, they had a worthy successor to Lord Onslow, and he hoped it would be the good fortune of the lodge to see him there.

In eulogistic terms the W.M. gave "The Treasurer and Secretary," observing that they were two good ones, and they both responded in eloquent terms, and to the point.

"The Officers of the Lodge" having been duly honoured, the Tyler's toast ended a most enjoyable evening.

The musical entertainment was, as it always is in the Mozart Lodge, of superior quality, in which the following well-known artistes took part: Bros. Trefelyn David (who was in splendid voice), S. F. Donnelly, J. J. Kern, Stamford E. McLewin, and Miss Dorothea Walenn (solo violin), who was doubly encored, and deservedly so. This was, we understand, her first appearance in Masonic circles, and we hope to hear her again on many occasions. Bro. Augustus Toop presided at the pianoforte with his well-known ability.

St. Ambrose Lodge, No. 1891.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. DAVID F. NORRINGTON.

The installation meeting was held at the St. James' Restaurant, Piccadilly, on the 7th inst., when there were present Bros. George May, W.M.; D. F. Norrington, S.W. and W.M. elect; P. P. Perry, P.M., Treas.; W. F. Bates, P.M., Sec.; E. J. Rix,

J.D.; F. W. Buxton, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W. Berks; W. Hoggins, P.M.; L. Lichtwitz, P.M.; J. C. Conway, P.M.; W. Ham, P.M.; R. W. Jones, P.M.; G. B. Spicer, P.M.; Dr. Ivor Davis, I.P.M.; H. J. Thwaites, Sydney Scott, Org.; A. Meo, R. Root, G. Gelardi, F. J. Read, F. Buck, R. H. Willis, J. Shrubbs, R. Sandland, J. T. Rowland, F. P. Buxton, F. W. Garnham, B. Gerald, S. J. Ling, J. Latter, Rev. T. J. Filmer Bennett, M.A., Chap.; G. Thatcher, F. Leeks, J. A. Calfe, H. Hudson, W. McCutcheon, A. E. Earle, G. A. Flèche, A. R. Godrich, R. Tyndall, F. A. Storey, A. E. Gadd, D. T. Davies, T. Hare, H. Smith, W. Worville, J. Butler, H. C. Parke, W. J. Downes, A. Barnes, D. Bianco, S. Bianco, and G. A. Ball, P.M., Tyler. The visitors were Bros. T. H. Nesbitt, P.A.G.D.C.; W. Vincent, P.G. Std. Br.; J. W. Moorman, P.P.A.G.D.C. Surrey; T. Oldroyd, P.M. 1050; H. J. May, 511; S. P. Tettamants, 1681; J. Freer, W.M. 1681; H. S. Moses, 511; H. Day, 2636; W. J. H. Denslow, 2766; T. Porter, 1681; W. T. Humphrey, 2512; H. R. Harding, 1524; J. May, 1767; G. W. Turner, 858; T. Smith, 407; C. Garrett, 1321; S. Blackstone, 2824; and R. T. West, 1744.

The W.M., Bro. George May, opened the lodge, and raised Bros. R. Root and F. J. Read to the Third Degree. Then followed the installation of Bro. D. F. Norrington by the outgoing Master, the work being performed in a finished and perfect style, which called forth the approbation of those present. The new W.M. next appointed and—with the exception of some absentees—invested the following brethren as his officers: Bros. Geo. May, I.P.M.; P. Whicher, S.W.; A. Strutt, J.W.; Rev. T. J. Filmer Bennett, M.A., Chap.; P. P. Perry, P.M., Treas.; W. J. Bates, P.M., Sec.; E. J. Rix, S.D.; H. J. Thwaites, J.D.; F. Percy Buxton, I.G.; F. W. Buxton, P.M., H. Smith, S. Ling, Geo. Thatcher, and F. Buck, Stwds.; W. Hoggins, P.M., D.C.; W. A. Hudson, M.D., and W. McCutcheon, Asst. D.Cs.; Sydney Scott, Org.; and G. A. Ball, P.M., Tyler. The usual addresses were eloquently given by Bro. Dr. Ivor Davis, P.M., which stamped him as a master of the art. The W.M., Bro. Norrington, initiated Messrs. D. Bianco, S. D. Bianco, W. J. Downes, and A. Barnes, performing the ceremony with care and efficiency. A Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. George May, I.P.M., on behalf of the lodge, by the W.M., who remarked that it was a slight return for his able services as W.M., and in appreciation of the great interest he took in the lodge. Bro. George May, in a few well-chosen sentences, feelingly tendered his thanks for the honour the members had paid him. The Report of the Audit Committee, showing a good balance in hand, was received and adopted.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a superb banquet, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed.

In giving that of "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. stated that the G. Officers had worked hard for the Craft, and to attain Grand honours it was essential that all should work. That evening the lodge was honoured with the presence of two G. Officers, who had done good service, and he had much pleasure in associating the names of Bros. T. H. Nesbitt, P.A.G.D.C., and W. Vincent, P.G. Std. Br., with the toast.

In response, Bro. Nesbitt said that he was glad to renew his acquaintance with the lodge, which he first visited three years ago, and he was pleased it was going forward and that it would continue to do so while they had such a good W.M. in the chair, and he thanked them for the very hearty manner the toast had been received.

Bro. Vincent also acknowledged the toast, which he did in a very eloquent speech, observing that if anyone deserved grand honours for what he had done for the Craft, their genial and energetic Secretary, Bro. Bates, did, as his efforts for Masonry were well known.

Bro. George May, I.P.M., then gave "The W.M., Bro. D. F. Norrington," and said it was a great honour as well as a duty to propose the toast of the evening. (Applause.) The W.M. had been with them for some years; they had seen him go through all the offices, and they were delighted to have him now in the chair. He was a hard working Mason, and well able to do everything in the ritual, and, in conclusion, he wished him every happiness and prosperity.

The W.M., Bro. Norrington, responded, and in thanking them said that he was of a rather retiring nature, and at first he did not like to take office, but being surrounded by so many friends, he could not resist the chair, and he hoped the result of his efforts would be that at the end of his year they would not have occasion to regret that they elected him to that high office.

In proposing "The Initiates" the W.M. stated that the Craft could not progress without initiates. They had four that evening, who were proposed by good members of the lodge, and he felt they were all excellent men, and would prove themselves good Masons. The lodge was strong and could afford to wait for the best men, but they could not be too careful as to whom they admitted.

Bro. D. Bianco responded, and said it was a great pleasure to him to be a Mason, as all the Masons he knew were gentlemen and honest men, and he was glad to join the Order. He was a foreigner, and they must forgive him not making a speech, but they were all brothers—(applause)—and he thanked them for their kindness in accepting him as one of them.

Bro. S. D. Bianco also responded, remarking that he was very much surprised with the grand ceremony of his initiation, and he hoped to be able to carry out all the things that would be expected of him, and would do his utmost to be an honour to the Craft.

Bros. W. J. Downes and A. Barnes also acknowledged the toast in brief, but happy, speeches, and to the point.

Bro. W. F. Bates, P.M., at the request of the W.M., proposed "The Visitors," and, on behalf of the lodge, he accorded them a very hearty welcome, coupling with the toast the names of Bros. W. J. H. Denslow, J. W. Moorman, T. Oldroyd, P.M., and J. Freer, W.M. 1681.

These brethren responded in very appropriate terms, congratulating the W.M., the I.P.M., and Bro. Dr. Ivor Davis, P.M., on their excellent working, and thanking the members for the hearty manner the visitors had been received and lavishly entertained.

In submitting "The I.P.M. and Past Masters," the W.M. said that no words of his were necessary to extol their great services, as the prosperity of the lodge was the result of their efforts, and he hoped to be able to follow in their footsteps, so that the lodge might further prosper.

Bro. G. May, I.P.M., responded, thanking them for the way the toast had been given and received, and said he should never forget the kindness he had always received at their hands, and especially during the time he occupied the chair.

Bro. F. W. Buxton, P.M., also responded, and said they might congratulate themselves in having a W.M. who would be able to do everything asked of him, as he was a most able Mason. He (Bro. Buxton) had the honour of introducing the W.M. to the lodge, and he was proud of it. The W.M. was fond of work, and he hoped he would have plenty, and when he installed his successor he would leave the chair with a greater number of members than when he was installed, and at the end of his term of office they would all be able to say "well done."

Bro. J. C. Conway, P.M., also acknowledged the toast, remarking that after the able speech of Bro. Buxton it left him very little to add, except that those who had gone before the W.M. were all excellent workers, with the result that the lodge had earned the repute of being one of the best in the metropolis.

Bros. L. Lichtwitz, P.M., and W. Hoggins, P.M., also responded in happy terms. Bro. Dr. Ivor Davis, P.M., stated that it was a very great pleasure to him to support the W.M., and to assist in the installation ceremony by giving the three addresses, and he appreciated their kind remarks for the little he had done that evening.

In eulogistic terms, Bro. L. Lichtwitz, P.M., at the request of the W.M., proposed "The Treasurer and Secretary," making special reference to their past services, which all the members appreciated.

Bro. F. W. Bates, P.M., Sec., responded. "The Officers of the Lodge" followed, to which suitable responses were made by Bros. E. J. Rix, S.D.; H. J. Thwaites, J.D.; and F. Percy Buxton, I.G.

The Tyler's toast brought the happy proceedings to an end, which was considerably enhanced by an excellent programme of music, in which the following took part: Madame Clarie Doram, Miss Elsie Steadman, Bros. G. W. Turner, George Thatcher, Alphonso Meo (violin solo), and T. Oldroyd. Miss Steadman was in splendid voice, and sang with marked effect, gaining enthusiastic plaudits of the company present, and for one of her encores she gave, by special request, "Hello, ma Baby." Bro. Sydney Scott ably presided at the pianoforte.

MESSRS. TOM SMITH AND CO. have again forwarded 25,000 crackers to be distributed among the juvenile inmates of the London hospitals and workhouses participating in the distribution of toys by the proprietor of *Truth*.

MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, December 29, 1900.

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23.

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24.

RAFT LODGES.

706, Florence Nightingale, Royal Mortar Hotel, Woolwich. 1017, Montefiore, Trocadero Restaurant.

LOGGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Blackheath, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8. Brondesbury, Earl Derby Hotel, High-road, Kilburn. Commemoration, Star and Garter, Arbour-square, Commercial road, E., at 8. Dalhousie, Greyhound Hotel, Kensington, at 8. Duke of Cornwall, Bristol Room, Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate-street, E.C., at 7. Eleanor, Red Lion, High Road, Tottenham, at 8. Friars, The White Horse, 94, White Horse-lane, Mile End-rd., E. at 8. Hyde Park, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terr., Bishop's-rd., Paddington, at 8. Italia, Fumagalli's Restaurant, 13, Wilton-road, Victoria, 9 to 11.30. Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30. Marquess of Ripon, Weaver's Arms, London Wall, E.C., at 6.45. Metropolitan, Moorgate Tavern, 15, Finsbury-pavement, at 7.30. Neptune, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, S.W., at 7.30. North London Chapter, Cock Hotel, Highbury, at 8. Perseverance, Ridler's Hotel, Holborn, E.C., at 7. Queen's Westminster, Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8. Regent's Park, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8. Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hotel (opposite Wimbledon Railway Station), at 8. Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, Putney, at 8. Royal Savoy, Earl Russell, 2 Pancras-road, King's Cross, at 8. Scots, Holborn Restaurant, Holborn, at 7.30. St. James's Union, St. James's Restaurant (Piccadilly entrance) St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road. St. Michael's, Richmond Hotel, Shepherd's Bush Road, W., 8. Sincerity, Blackwall Railway Hotel, Fenchurch-street, at 7. South Norwood, Goat House Bridge Hotel, Fenge-rd., at 8. Stockwell, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 6. Tyssen Amherst, Amherst Club, Amherst-rd., Rectory-rd., N., 7.30. United Military, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich, at 7.30. Upton, Great Eastern Hotel, Bishopsgate-street, at 8. Walthamstow, Lord Brooke, Shernhall-st., Walthamstow, at 8. Wellington, New Cross House, New Cross, at 8. Woodrow, Stone's, 24, Pantom-street, Haymarket, S.W., at 3. Zetland, "The Falkland," Falkland-road, N.W., at 8. Joric Chapter, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 6. Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25.

RAFT LODGE.

1728, Temple Bar, Frascati Restaurant.

LOGGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Alfred Newton, Royal Palace Hotel - Kensington, at 8. Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, S.E., at 8. Capper, City Arms, St. Mary Axe, at 6. Clarence and Avondale, Green Man Hotel, Leytonstone, E., at 8. Constitutional, "Apple Tree and Mitre," 30, Cursitor-street, Chancery-lane, W.C., at 7. Chaucer, Grapes Tavern (Slee & Pike's), 121, Borough High street, at 8. Corinthian, George Hotel, Cubitt Town, Poplar, at 8. Croydon Lodge of Concord, King's Arms, Katherine-street, Croydon, at 8. Dalhousie, Lord Truro, Dalston-lane, at 8. Egyptian, Salvation, Newgate-street, at 7. Emblematic, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8. Enfield, Rose and Crown, Church-street, Edmonton, at 8. Excelsior, Fumagalli's Restaurant, 12 and 13, Wilton-road, Victoria-station, S.W., at 8. Euphrates, Ye Old Greyhound, Balaam-street, Plaistow, E., at 7.30. Faith, Fumagalli's Restaurant, 13, Wilton-road, Victoria-station S.W. Finsbury, The Bell Hotel, Old Bailey, at 7. Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-street, Woolwich, 2nd and 4th Fues., at 7.30. Hendon, Railway Hotel, West Hampstead, N.W., at 8. Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 7.30. Joppa, "The Moorgate," 15, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30. Kensington, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8. Kirby, Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras Station, at 7.30. Mount Edgcombe, Rockingham Arms, Newington Causeway S.E., at 7.30. Nelson, Star and Garter, Powis-street, Woolwich, at 8. New Cross, Kennels' Head, Long Acre, W.C., at 8. New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tav., Finsbury Park. Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, Greenwich, at 8. Richmond, The Freemasons' Club, Richmond, at 8.30, and on Sundays at 11.15. Robert Burns, Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W. Rose of Denmark, Brunswick House, Wandsworth-road, at 8. South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Walliam Green, S.W., at 7.30. St. Kew, Masonic Hall, Weston-super-Mare, at 8. St. Leonard's, Bedford Hotel, Victoria Park-road, South Hackney, at 8. Strand, The Salisbury, 91 & 92 Strand, at 7. Temple, Upland Tavern, Crystal Palace-road, S.E. Victoria Park, George Hotel, Stratford, E., at 7.30. Southwark, White Hart Hotel, New Cross Gate, at 8. Wandsworth, St. Mark's School-room, Battersea Rise, S.W. at 8. Westbourne, Oliver Arms, Westbourne-terrace North, Harrow-road, at 8. Varborough, Mitre Tavern, Fish-street-hill, E.C., at 7.30. Industry Chapter, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, at 8. Metropolitan Chapter, White Hart, Corner of Abchurch-lane and Cannon-street, at 6.30.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26.

RAFT LODGE.

2687, Italia, Cafe Monico.

LOGGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Beach, London and South Western Railway Institute, Brunswick House, Wandsworth-road, at 8. Bromley St. Leonard, Bromley Vestry Hall, Bow-road, at 8. City of Westminster, Cafe Royal, "B" Room, at 8. Claremont, Newland's Hotel, Peckham Rye, at 8. Confidence, Bunch of Grapes, 14, Lime-street, E.C., at 7. Creaton, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8. Crouch End, Christ Church Schoolroom, Edison-road, Crouch End, at 8.30. Derby Alcroft, Midland Grand Hotel, at 8. Doric, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, at 8. Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, 8. Earl of Lathom, Station Tavern, Camberwell New-r. rd, S.E., 8. Eyre, Eyre Arms Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. Fidelity, Castle Hotel, 87, Holloway-road, N., at 8. Gallery, Press Club, Wine Office-court, Fleet-street, at 7.

Gueiph, Plough and Harrow, Leytonstone-road, E., at 8. Hammersmith, Wycombe House, 263, Hammersmith-rd., 7.45. Langthorne, Angel Hotel, Ilford, at 8. La Tolerance, Frascati Restaurant 32, Oxford-street, at 8. Londesborough, Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8. London Scottish Rifles, Albert Hotel, Victoria-street, S.W., 8.30. Merchant Navy, Town Hall, Limehouse, at 7.30. Mitcham, Vestry Hall, Mitcham, at 8. Mount Lebanon, Foresters' Arms, 294, Boro' High-street, at 8. New Concord, Farleigh Hotel, Amherst-road, N., at 8. Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7.30. Peckham, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8. Plucknett, Railway Hotel, Finchley, at 7.45. Prosperity, Manchester Hotel, 145, Aldersgate-st., E.C., at 7. Royal Jubilee, the Crown, Lambeth-road, S.E., at 8. Royal Oak, Lord Clyde, Wotton-road, Deptford, at 8. St. Leonard, Prince of Wales Hotel, Bishop's-rd., Victoria Pk., 8. Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 8. Strong Man, Blue Anchor, 164, Fenchurch-street, E.C., at 6.30. Temperance-in-the-East, Greenwich Pensioner, Bow-lane, Poplar, at 7.30. United Mariners, Duke of Albany, Kitto-road, Nunhead, at 7.30. United Strength, Hope Tavern, Stanhope-st., Euston-road, at 8. Wanderers, Fumagalli's Restaurant, 12 and 13, Wilton-road, Victoria-station, S.W., at 7.30. West Smithfield, City Scotch Stores, 27, Knight-rider-st., E.C. Whittington, Red Lion Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8. Zodiac, Denmark Hotel, East Ham, at 8. Andrew Chapter, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8. Clapton Chapter, Amhurst Club, Rectory-road, N., at 8. Domatic Chapter, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, W., at 8. Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 8. Camden Mark Lodge, Earl Russell, Pancras-road, King's Cross 8.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27.

General Commftee Girls' School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 5.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

157, Bedford, Mark Masons' Hall.

CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT.

1657, Aldersgate, Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 6.30.

LOGGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Burdett-Coutts, Swan Tavern, New Bethnal Green-road, at 8. Burgoyne, Coach and Horses, 348, Clapham-road, S.W., at 7.30. Caxton, Carr's, 265, Strand W.C., at 7. Covent Garden, The Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8. Duke of Edinburgh, Eastern Hotel, East India Dock Rd., E., 7.30. Earl's Court, Greyhound Hotel, Kensington-sq., W., at 8. Elliot, Railway Hotel, Feltham. Great City, Red Cross, Paternoster-square, at 7. High Cross, Red Lion, High-road, Tottenham, at 8. Highgate, Falkland Arms, Falkland-road, N.W., at 8. Hornsey, White Hart Masonic Rooms, Lewisham, S.E., at 8. Ivy, Half Moon & French Horn Hotel, East Hill, Wandsworth at 8. Justice, Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford, at 8. Kent, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, at 8. La France, Cafe Royal, Regent-street, at 8. Langton, Simpson's Restaurant, Bird-in-Hand Court, E.C., at 5.30. Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, E.C., at 7. Montefiore, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8. Priory, Berrymead Priory, Acton, at 8.15. Rose, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8. Royal Albert, White Hart Hotel, Abchurch-lane, at 7.30. Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.45. St. John's, Court House, Harlesden, N.W., at 7.30. St. John's, Queen Victoria Tavern, Exmouth-st., Stepney at 8. St. Luke's, Victoria Tavern, Gertrude-street, Chelsea, at 8. Sir Hugh Middleton, Star and Garter, Upper-st., Islington, at 8. Southern Star, Ship Tavern, Kennington Road, S.E., at 8. Stockwell, Salutation Tavern, Newgate-street, at 6.30. Tranquillity, Restaurant Frascati, Oxford-street, W., at 8. Tredegar, The Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars, E.C., at 7.30. United Waterloo, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-street, Woolwich. Highgate Chapter, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-rd., at 8. Kintore Mark Lodge, Montpelier Arms, Choumert-road, Peckham at 8.30.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28

Council Boys' School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 4.

LOGGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Albion, Essex Head, Essex-street, Strand, at 7. All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar, at 7.30. Chough, Forest Hill Hotel, Forest Hill, at 7.30. Citadel, Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst-road, Stoke Newington, (N Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, E.C., at 7. Coborn, The George Inn, High-road, South Woodford, at 8. Crusaders, Northampton Arms, 205, Goswell-rd., E.C., at 8.30. Earl of Carnarvon, Elgin Hotel, Ladbroke-grove, Notting-hill, 7. Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. Emulation, Freemasons' Hall, at 6. Gavel Club, Freemasons' Tavern, at 8. Harrow, Waterloo Arms, High-street, Marylebone, at 8. Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 8. Hugh Owen, Restaurant Frascati, Oxford-street, at 7.30. Kennington, Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, S.E., at 8. Lewis, Fishmonger's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8. Lewisham, White Hart, Lewisham, S.E., at 8. Loyalty, Private Rooms, 91, Church-st., Stoke Newington, at 8. Metropolitan (Victoria), Mail Coach, 60, Farringdon-street, at 7. Ranelagh, Six Bells, Queen-street, Hammersmith, W., at 8. Royal Standard, Castle Tavern, 81, Holloway-road, at 8. St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-road, S.E., at 8. Savage Club, Savage Club, Adelphi-terrace, at 6. Selwyn, Montpelier Tavern, Choumert-road, Peckham, at 8. Stability, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons'-avenue, at 6. Stanhope, Fox and Hounds Hotel, Upper Richmond-road, Putney, at 8.30. Temperance, Railway Tavern, New Cross-road, at 8. The Abbey, The Town Hall, Westminster, 7.30 till 9.30. United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road, at 7.30. Warner, Royal Forest Hotel, Chingford, at 8.15. Woodgrange, Princess Alice Hotel, Forest Gate, E., at 8. Dagmar Chapter, "Slee & Pike's," 121, Boro' High-street, at 8. Eastern Star Chapter, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, 2nd and 4th Friday, at 7. Hornsey Chapter, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace Bishop's-road, Paddington, W., at 8. Pythagorean Chapter, Dover Castle, Broadway, Deptford, at 8. Star Chapter, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-st., Camberwell, at 8. Westbourne Chapter, Town Hall Tavern, High-st., Kensington at 8. Grand Masters' Mark Lodge, Mark Masons' Hall, at 6 p.m. sharp.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29.

No Meetings.

LOGGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

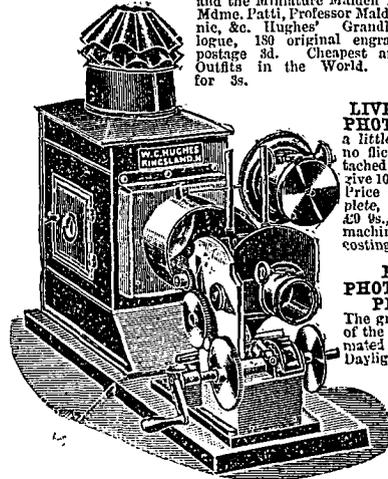
Alexandra Palace, Station Hotel, Camberwell News-road, at 7.30. Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hot., King-st., Hammersmith, at 7.30. Duke of Connaught, The Windsor Castle, 135, Lower Clapton-rd at 8. Ebury, The Rockingham, Newington Causeway, at 8. Eccleston, 12 and 13, Wilton-road, S.W., at 7.30. Evening Star, Rutland Hotel, Perry Hill, Catford, at 8. Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, at 8. King Harold, Four Swans, Waltham Cross, at 7. Manchester, Waterloo Arms, High-street, Marylebone, at 8. Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8. Star, New Cross House, Deptford, S.E., at 7. Vitruvian, Duke of Albany Hotel, Kitto-road, St. Katherine's park, Hatcham, S.E., at 7.30.

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Masonic and General Tidings.

TO-DAY (FRIDAY) is St. Thomas's Day, and the voters of the 26 Wards of the City will elect their representatives on the Common Council.

SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS entertained the aged poor of Holborn at a substantial tea at the Kingsgate-street Baptist Chapel Schools, Holborn, on the 17th instant.

GARDENERS' DINNER.—Bro. Lord Langatock has consented to preside at the 62nd anniversary festival dinner of the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Institution on Wednesday, May 22nd next.

THURSDAY was the anniversary of the formation of the City of London Imperial Volunteers, announced on December 20th, 1899. As the regiment was disbanded on the 31st ultimo, it had an eventful existence of 20 days less than one year.

BRO. WILLIAM DREWETT, P.M. and Secretary Dobie Lodge, Kingston-on-Thames, has been elected Chairman of the Surrey District of the Institute of Journalists. Bro. Drewett has been connected with journalism in Surrey for close on 40 years.

THE INDIAN FAMINE FUND.—The Mansion House Fund for the relief of the sufferers by the famine in India will close on Monday, the 31st instant. The amount received up to date is £390,100. The box outside the Mansion House, which has been the source of much anonymous charity, has within the last few days yielded £45s. 1d.

THE ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS for Lodge Killwinning, No. 90, for ensuing year is as follows: Bros. C. Brown, R.W.M.; J. Brown, P.M.; A. Bennie, S.M.; W. Watt, sen., D.M.; W. Watt, jun., S.W.; T. Shiel, J.W.; C. Robertson, Sec.; P. Craik, Treas.; Norman Craik, S.D.; R. Jack, J.D.; A. Duncan, Chap.; Alex. Gordon, G.S.; Wm. Johnston, A.G.S.; Wm. Moir, I.G.; D. Boath, O.G.; W. Taylor, G.J.; W. M'Lean, G.A.; and D. Meldrum, B.B.

MR. S. E. SHIRLEY presided at the annual meeting of the Kennel Club, in the Hotel Cecil, on Wednesday evening, when about 150 members were present, including 7 founders of the ladies' branch, the presence of the latter being quite an innovation. Among the guests were the Hon. Frank Curzon, Baron de Bush, the Hon. Maurice Gifford, Major Candy, Bro. J. C. Cuming Macdonald, M.P., Sir James Sievwright (president of the South African Kennel Club), Dr. George Hastings, Colonel Ward, and others.

ON THE 11TH INSTANT, at St. Gabriel's, Warwick-square, Count Dudley B. Gurovski was married to Hyacinthe, daughter of Lady Mary von Essen. Viscount Doneraile was best man. Among those present at the wedding, or who sent presents, were her Royal Highness the Crown Princess of Denmark, the Marchioness of Bristol, Countess Cawdor and Miss Turner, the Countess of Cavan, the Countess of Guildford, the Countess of Abingdon, the officers of the Kent Artillery, Mr. Wentworth Beaumont, the Earl of Leven, and many others.

LADY MARY ARKWRIGHT (sister of Bro. the Earl of Strafford and wife of Mr. Richard Arkwright, Bethune House, Farnham) opened the Ivy House Rifle Club, at that place, on Wednesday. It is one of the first in the kingdom for the use of the service weapon, and promises to have a successful career. After Lady Mary Arkwright had fired the first shot the company present adjourned for tea, during which votes of thanks were accorded to Lady Mary, Mr. Arthur Hart, the honorary secretary; Mr. Williams, the architect; and Major Richard Kingston, the inventor of the miniature ranges.

MR. G. PITT-LEWIS, Q.C., who has been acting as deputy judge to Mr. Commissioner-Kerr, writes a thoughtful letter to *The Times* on the dilatory manner in which the business of the House of Commons is conducted. His "seven years' hard labour" in the "Imperial bakehouse" has taught him, he says, that with our present arrangements there it requires all that time to bake one small loaf into an Act of Parliament. One realises, he adds, how difficult it is to get even a little cake turned out as law, and how hopelessly impossible it is for anyone, save the Government itself, to ever get through "a large and nutritive batch."—*City Press*.

THE QUEEN, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Henry of Battenberg and their Highnesses Princess Victoria Eugénie, the Princes Alexander, Leopold, and Maurice of Battenberg, and the ladies and gentlemen in attendance, arrived at Osborne on Tuesday afternoon at half-past three o'clock, crossing over from Gosport on board her Majesty's yacht *Alberta*, Vice-Admiral Sir John Fullerton, A.D.C. Her Majesty was received at Clarence Yard by Admiral Sir Charles Hotham, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, and Lieut.-General Sir Baker Russell, G.C.B., Commanding the Southern District. The *Australia*, Captain G. Neville, dressed ship upon the approach of the Royal yacht.

DOWN TO WEDNESDAY EVENING the fund now being raised at the Mansion House for the relief of the sufferers by the war amounted to £1,035,400. Of that sum £438,185 had been contributed specially for the widows and orphans, £99,832 for the sick and wounded at the front, £110,100 for permanently disabled soldiers and sailors, £193,880 for the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, and £197,406 to a discretionary fund administered by Bro. Sir Alfred Newton, the late Lord Mayor, of which sum £104,500 has already been disbursed among charities and objects connected with the war, including a special grant of £50,000 to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association. Recent donations include a second and final instalment of £5278 2s. from Tasmania, of which £3000 has been given to the Widows and Orphans, and £2278 2s. to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association.

MAJOR LORD EDWARD CECIL, D.S.O., of the Grenadier Guards, who has returned from South Africa, after rendering notable service during the memorable siege of Mafeking, arrived at his Hatfield home on Wednesday afternoon, and received a hearty and enthusiastic welcome. When Lord Edward, who was accompanied by his wife, arrived at the station, cheers met them on every side, and the gallant officer was greeted most cordially by the leading people of the town and neighbourhood. Mr. A. I. Stride presented him with an address of welcome on behalf of the inhabitants, which he warmly acknowledged. Then the horses were taken from the carriage, and Lord and Lady Edward were drawn in triumph to the portals of Hatfield, where on the steps to welcome his son was the Prime Minister, several members of his family, and the Marquis and Marchioness of Lansdowne, the Earl and Countess of Dudley, Bro. the Right Hon. Gerald and Lady Balfour, Countess Grosvenor, and the Right Hon. George Wyndham, the Earl of Hardwicke, and others. Subsequently Lord Edward addressed the townspeople from the steps of Hatfield House, expressing the gratitude which he felt at the reception they had accorded him, but taking their cheers, not as due to him only, but as a tribute to the whole of her Majesty's troops in South Africa. The Marquis of Salisbury also thanked the people of Hatfield for their welcome and for the kindness they had shown his son, who had gone through many tribulations and trials in South Africa. Later in the evening a bonfire was lighted in the park by Master George, son of Lord and Lady Edward Cecil, and subsequently the Marquis of Salisbury entertained the reception committee at supper.

WE HAVE very great pleasure in announcing that Bro. W. J. Batho has been nominated Worshipful Master of the Paviers' Company, of which his family have been members since 1730.

WE REGRET TO ANNOUNCE that Bro. Sir Charles Warren was seized with a sudden illness while distributing the prizes at Wem Grammar School, Salop, of which he is an "old boy," on Wednesday. He had hardly given away more than half a dozen of the awards when he was seized with a fainting fit, and had to be carried from the platform. Medical aid was quickly summoned, after which Sir Charles rallied. The incident naturally caused some sensation in the hall.

SHIPWRECK AND LIFE-BOAT RESCUE.—The life-boat *Albert Edward*, stationed at Clacton-on-Sea, rescued the crew of six men from the Brigantine *Nina*, of Tynemouth, which was totally wrecked on the Gunfleet Sands, about three and half miles from the lighthouse. This life-boat is one of two life-boats presented to the Royal National Life-boat Institution by the United Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England, in commemoration of the safe return from India of the M.W.G. Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, now President of the Institution.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 12th instant, Bro. the Rev. Reginald W. Williams, Ph.D., Vicar of Minsterley, was unanimously elected W.M. of Salopian Lodge of Charity, No. 117, and of which lodge he is Chaplain. Our reverend brother is a distinguished and enthusiastic Mason, having passed the chair in several lodges, and holding also several provincial honours—Craft and Mark—and was just recently appointed Prov. G. Chap. for Shropshire. He is not only the first Chaplain of this ancient lodge (an office he has held for the past three years), of which he may be justly proud, but he is the first clergyman that has ever filled the Master's chair in that lodge. "Floreat 117."

THE COMMITTEE OF THE BETHNAL GREEN FREE LIBRARY appeal at this season on behalf of the institution, which has now been in existence about 25 years. Situated in a densely-populated East End parish of 130,000 inhabitants, Bethnal Green is the seat of many industries, but one-room homes and extreme poverty prevail to a great extent. The main library consists of a fine collection of books, and in the general reading room these are made use of by large numbers who enjoy no facilities whatever for reading at home. As manufactures abound, care is taken to afford opportunities for the acquisition of technical knowledge, which would otherwise be quite inaccessible to such readers. A lending section has been added to the main library, and this attracts a large and evergrowing number of readers. Free lectures and concerts, courses of which are given every season, are also much appreciated by thousands of hearers. Evening classes, for learning languages, music, shorthand, first aid, &c., are growingly popular. The institution is supported entirely by voluntary contributions, which are most urgently needed, and may be sent to F. A. Bevan, Esq., treasurer, 54, Lombard-street, E.C.; to the bankers, Messrs. Barclay and Co., Ltd., same address, or to the Librarian at the Bethnal Green Free Library, London, E.

Instruction.

KIRBY LODGE, No. 263.

The annual business meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Midland Grand Hotel, on Tuesday, the 11th instant, when a most satisfactory statement of accounts was presented by the Secretary, Bro. F. W. Ward. The lodge has held 51 meetings during the year and nearly 200 members have attended the meetings. The gross attendance is close upon 1200, which gives an average attendance of over 20 for every meeting, though in July and August the numbers fell below 20. Seventy-eight new members have joined the lodge during the year, and after paying working expenses the funds will allow of 20 guineas being paid into the Masonic Charities. The programme of work gone through under the Preceptorship of Bro. George Rankin is full and comprehensive. Each of the three lectures has been worked through in its entirety at least three times in the course of the year; the three ceremonies have been rehearsed each 16 times; and the installation ceremony six times. The statement of accounts was received, adopted, and entered on the minutes. The election of Committee then followed. Two of the old Committee withdrew their names from nomination—Bro. W. Baker, who has been Secretary from the foundation of the lodge, 11 years ago, and Bro. Chas. Lewis, who was formerly Preceptor of the lodge. Both explained that their interest in the lodge was unabated, but that they found it difficult to attend the meetings regularly, and they considered that the members of Committee should be in close and constant touch with the work of the lodge. Bro. W. H. Oldham, J.W. 2818, was nominated to serve with Bro. F. W. Ward, S.W. 2508, as joint Secretary, and Bro. J. H. Jenks, P.M. 8, P.G. Stwd., was nominated to take the place of Bro. C. Lewis. With these two alterations the Committee was re-elected. The detailed programme of work for the new year has been issued, and it will be found to be of the same comprehensive character as that of last year. The regular meetings of the lodge are held at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, on Tuesday evenings at 7.30, and copies of the programme of work may be obtained on application to either of the Secretaries or from any member of the lodge.

HYDE PARK LODGE, No. 1425.

A meeting was held on the 17th instant, at the Prince of Wales' Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, Bishop's-road, Paddington, W. Present: Bros. F. Spink, W.M.; A. Toop, P.G.O. Surrey, S.W.; H. C. Marten, J.W.; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, P.P.S.G.D. Essex, Sec.; A. R. Taylor, S.D.; W. Smith-Rose, J.D.; H. H. Bagnall, I.G.; E. Spink, Stwd.; H. Foskett, P.M. 1642, D. Preceptor; W. H. Handover, P.M. 1642; L. J. Powell, W.M. 2246; W. Hallett, P.M. 733; W. Daniell, F. J. Middleton, J. P. Hindley, and A. J. Taplin.

The lodge was opened. The minutes were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees. The ceremonies of raising and passing were rehearsed after the usual preliminaries, Bros. Powell and Middleton being candidates respectively. The lodge was called off and on. Bro. Toop was elected W.M. for the next lodge meeting. After "Hearty good wishes" the lodge was closed.

Marriage.

ALLCROFT—RUSSELL.—On the 15th instant, at St. Stephen's, Rochester-row, by Bro. the Ven. Archdeacon Sinclair, assisted by Rev. W. Twining, vicar of St. Stephen's, and Rev. J. Allin, rector of Oulbury, Salop, Bro. Herbert J. Allcroft, of Stokesay Court, Salop, to Margaret Jane (Cissy), only daughter of the late General Sir W. Russell, Bart., C.B., of 2, Ashley-place, S.W.

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