

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
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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INSTALLATION OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT AS M.W.G. MASTER.

It will be welcome news to our readers that His Royal Highness the Duke of CONNAUGHT, K.G., has been pleased to direct that his installation as M.W.G. Master shall take place at the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, on Wednesday, the 17th July. A circular has accordingly been addressed to the W. Masters of lodges by the Grand Secretary with a view to obtaining from them lists of brethren who are qualified to attend Grand Lodge. The answers to this circular are requested to be made to the Grand Secretary on or before the 1st June, so that arrangements for the accommodation of the brethren may be made as soon and as completely as possible.

The Royal Albert Hall is capable of accommodating a vast concourse of people, and the Masonic meetings that have been held within it have been marvels of success as far as the completeness and regularity of the arrangements have been concerned; nor have we any reason to doubt that what has been accomplished with such brilliant success in the past can be repeated. But Masters of Lodges must bear in mind that there are now nearly twice as many private lodges on the register as in 1875, and consequently that the number of those qualified to be present has been proportionately increased. We trust, therefore, that they will lose no time in making their replies to the circular.

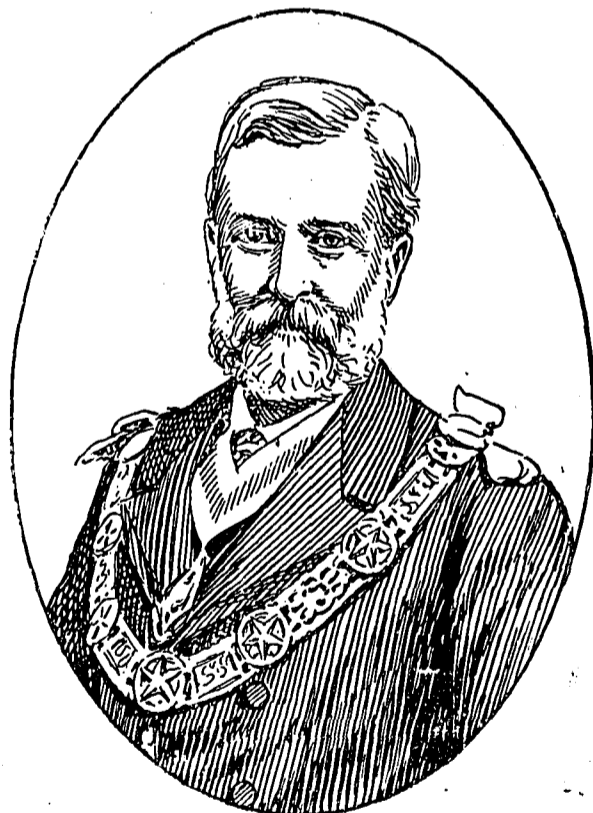
THE GIRLS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

The second of the great anniversary gatherings of the year was held on Wednesday under the presidency of the Right Hon. Earl AMHERST, M.W. Pro G. Master, Prov. G. Master of Kent, and, marvellous to relate, with even greater success than attended the first in aid of the Benevolent Institution in February. A grand total of upwards of £25,000 such as was subscribed for the Old People between two and three months since is not easily surpassed, but it was surpassed on this occasion by more than £1000. In these circumstances we offer our sincere congratulations in the first place to Earl AMHERST on the brilliant success of his first Chairmanship on behalf of the Girls' School, and his Province of Kent for the amount of support they gave to his Chairmanship—the total of their contributions, including the Perpetual Presentation founded as a memorial of the event, being in excess of any previous

Provincial total at one Festival. We also congratulate the other Provinces that furnished Stewards, and the contributing London Lodges for the handsome part they took in the proceedings. Lastly, we congratulate the Institution itself on this accession to its funds, and particularly the Secretary and his Staff and the House Committee, to whose earnest and combined efforts the result achieved on Wednesday is principally due. This, with the exception of the Centenary Festival, is the most successful that has been held in aid of "Our Girls," but we trust it will not retain for long the premier place among its ordinary Festivals.

FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The 113th anniversary festival of this Institution was held on Wednesday evening at Freemason' Tavern. Earl Amherst, M.W. Pro Grand Master, Prov. G. Master for Kent, presided, and among others there were present: Bros. F. W. S. Cornwallis, J.G.W.; Sir John B. Monckton, E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Robert Grey, P.G.D.; Peter de Lande Long, P.G.D.; J. S. Eastes, D.P.G.M. Kent; Daniel Mayer, P.G.O.; E. Roehrich, D.G.D.C.; H. Brooks Marshall, G. Treas.; Edward Terry, P.G.T.; H. Heap Bailey, P.G.T.; Lt.-Col. C. R. Lyne, S.G.D.; Thomas Taylor, J.G.D.; Surgeon Lt.-Col. H. W. Kiallmark, P.G.D.; W. C. Lupton, P.G.D.; James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; John Williams, P.G.S.B.; A. W. Duret, P.D.G.S.B.; J. W. Elvin, James Speller, M. Le Cronier, Rev. H. A. Hebb, P.G.D.; H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B.; R. Clay Sudlow, P.G. Std. Br.; H. Percy Smith, Capt. Powell, and W. Russell, Prov. G.T. Kent.



THE CHAIRMAN.

Bros. Frank Richardson, C. E. Keyser, and James Stephens, presided respectively in the rooms where the ladies dined.

Earl AMHERST, in proposing the first toast said: Brethren, no words are required to herald the first toast, "The Health of King Edward—the King and our Grand Protector."

Earl AMHERST next said they had on two occasions had the advantage of having the presence of Queen Alexandra at their Masonic Charity Festivals, first to inaugurate the hall in which they met last Monday, the other when she distributed the prizes at the Centenary of the Boys' School, and he asked them now to drink her health coupled with that of the Duke

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of Cornwall and York, the Duchess of Cornwall and York, and the other members of the Royal Family.

Earl AMHERST then said the next toast, naturally in due order, he had the honour of proposing was that of "The Health of his Royal Highness the Grand Master." They had not yet had experience of his Royal Highness in Grand Lodge. They knew his Royal Highness had filled many eminent positions in Freemasonry with great advantage to the Craft and in a manner which testified to his devotion to the Order and his great Masonic abilities as Provincial Grand Master of Sussex, and he would be installed as Grand Master in July.

Earl AMHERST, in proposing the next toast, said he had now to ask the brethren to drink "The Health of the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Warwick, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past." All these representative brethren who had given their time to Freemasonry had done good service to the Craft. They hoped that the Grand Officers whom he recently invested in the Temple would have a pleasant year in the Craft and be of the same service to it as those who had gone before, and that those Past Grand Officers would have pleasant reflection that they had done their duty to the Craft.

Bro. CORNWALLIS. J.G.W., in reply said the country was shortly to be revolutionised if they referred to the latest educational proposals, but he ventured to make this statement, that all the resources of scientific or technical education would never enable the Grand Officers adequately to respond to the toast of "The Grand Officers." He would venture to go deeper still, seeing those who were around him that evening, and say he hoped the Grand Officers would always remember it as the happiest day of their lives when they had Grand Rank conferred upon them, and for himself he could say "Thanks, and for ever Thanks."

Earl AMHERST said hitherto he had disposed of the toasts, consulting the brethren's convenience he thought, with considerable brevity, but they would all agree with him that the toast of the evening "The Health of the Institution," on whose behalf they were meeting, required a somewhat longer share of their attention. The Institution on whose behalf they were assembled boasted of some antiquity. They could not say that King Solomon was consulted as to the plans, or that Hiram Abif had much to do with the building; but they went back to 1788, when it arose in the mind of a brother of the Order when the first Masonic School was started with £71 a year and 15 girls were educated. In 1795 new schools were found to be necessary, and the number of inmates was increased to about 30. The Charity went on, and these new schools met with varying success, but still increasing. In 1838, 70 girls were provided for, and the brethren collected at the Jubilee of the Institution, the sum of £1000. He had no doubt that the Masons, who were fewer in number than they were now congratulated themselves on the result, and that those who kept the light of Masonry alive in those days put their hands in their pocket liberally, but still the sums were small compared with those we had to record in the present day. In 1852 the old building had to be left and a new one had to be sought, and the present Institution was erected at Wandsworth Common. In those buildings an increased number of girls were educated, and the Institution still prospered. In 1888, at the Centenary Festival, no less a sum than £51,900 was raised, and 200 girls were obtaining the benefits of the Institution. Well, it had not stood still, for the number of 200 had been gradually increased, until he thought now 274 girls including the permanent inmates and those girls who were kept in for six months extra instruction—they had now 274 girls in the Institution. (Applause.) Well, that was the history briefly sketched of the Institution. But he thought far more important to the brethren to-day was what was the present state of affairs. If the Craft had found a good deal of money at the Festivals, what had the managers done? what was the present condition of the Girls as regarded their education and their health and comfort? Let him ask the brethren's patience while he told them. At the meeting last Monday it was found that 49 certificates had been won at the Cambridge Local Examinations, and it was announced with considerable glee that 305 certificates were awarded out of 355 candidates entered. (Applause.) At the examination of the College of Preceptors 47 Girls passed out of 50 candidates, 29 with honours. For the College of Music there were six certificates given, three of them with honours, and for shorthand qualification 14 certificates were given. In the department of Science and Art, Kensington, the School won 31 certificates, and in the Royal Drawing Society the School gained 31 certificates. (Hear, hear.) He thought that showed that mens sana of the girls had been well attended to. Next came another important consideration—he meant the corpus sanum of the girls. How were the girls fed, how were the girls exercised? He thought all who saw them would agree with him—all who had the pleasure of going down to the School on Monday, and saw the girls receive their prizes, saw their evolutions, their marches and their counter-marches, that there was very little to say as to the corpus sanum of the girls. (Hear, hear.) But he thought women were better judges than men on these matters, and he would give them a woman's opinion. He asked his wife when they were driving away what she thought of what she had seen that afternoon, and she said, "Well, I think they were as nice-looking, about as healthy, and about as happy a lot of English girls as one would wish to see. They were all neatly turned out, and conferred the utmost credit on those who had anything to do with them." Well, he thought they did, "and so say all of us." (Applause.) The brethren had supplied money, but they could not have achieved that result which had been attained without the efforts of various brethren who had given their attention to the Institution. The Board of Management had been unremitting in their efforts on behalf of the Masonic body, and they might congratulate all those who might respond to the toast upon the flourishing condition of the Institution. (Applause.) Only one thing suggested itself to him when he read the prize list on Monday, and that was it might have been as well, in addition to the prizes for swimming, if the Board had given prizes for skating and sliding on Derby Day. (Laughter.) He thought the brethren had to give their thanks to Miss Buck, the Matron, and they had to remember in this toast the head mistress and the assistant mistresses, and last, but not least, they had to remember the exertions of Bro. Hedges, the Secretary of the Institution—(applause)—whose exertions on behalf of it were so well known to all the brethren that he need not dwell upon them. All these had worked well together, all these had done their best. The Craft was liberal in its support, and the result was that the Girls' School stood where it did to-day—a credit and an honour to the great brotherhood in which they all believed. He gave "Health and success to the Girls' School." (Applause.) Bro. HEDGES then read the following

STEWARDS' LISTS.

Table of Stewards' Lists for LONDON, listing names, lodge numbers, and financial contributions in pounds, shillings, and pence. Includes names like Bro. Ralph Clutton, Bro. John R. Reep, Bro. Wm. F. Roberts, etc.

Table listing members and lodges with columns for Lodge, Name, and £ s. d. amounts.

Table listing members and lodges under categories: LADIES, THE PROVINCES, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, CORNWALL, DERBYSHIRE, DEVONSHIRE, DURHAM, ESSEN, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Table listing members and lodges under categories: HANTS AND ISLE OF WIGHT, HERTFORDSHIRE, KENT, LANCASHIRE (EAST DIVISION), LANCASHIRE (WEST DIVISION), LINCOLNSHIRE, MIDDLESEX, MONMOUTHSHIRE, NORFOLK, NORTHANTS AND HUNTS, NORTHUMBERLAND, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Table listing members and lodges under categories: LADIES, LEWISES, LANCASHIRE (EAST DIVISION), LANCASHIRE (WEST DIVISION), LINCOLNSHIRE, MIDDLESEX, MONMOUTHSHIRE, NORFOLK, NORTHANTS AND HUNTS, NORTHUMBERLAND, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Lewis, while of the rest 13 were grouped together as the House Committee, and 188 hailed from 147 lodges, nine chapters, two lodges of instruction, one Mark lodge, and the General Committee Dinner Club. The number of lists ranging from £100 upwards was 29, and comprised the following:—A veteran, in the person of Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W., who, in the course of his long and distinguished Masonic career, has played many parts, and played them all well, and who on Wednesday, as a member of the House Committee and representative of the Fellowship Lodge, No. 2535, and the Regent's Park Lodge, No. 2202, had the satisfaction of compiling a list of £420, and was followed, but *longo intervallo*, by Bro. Samuel John Frigout, W.M. of the Tredegar Lodge, No. 1625, who is entered for £200, Bro. J. R. Pakeman, with the assistance of eight brethren, being next with £186 5s., Bro. H. J. Drane, of the Old Boys' Lodge, No. 2500, with the help of four others, being close up with £180, and Bro. A. C. Spaul, of the House Committee, at Bro. Drane's heels with £178 10s. Bro. F. C. Thompson, S.W. of the Telegraph Cable Lodge, No. 2470, returns £175, and is followed by Bro. E. Roehrich, W.M. of L'Entente Cordiale Lodge, No. 2796, who has marked his appointment as an officer of Grand Lodge by raising for this Institution the sum of £160 13s. Bro. Robert W. Carter, S.W. Tyssen-Amherst Lodge, No. 2242, has to his credit a list of £158 0s. 6d., and Bro. David Hills, representing the General Committee Dinner Club, £153 6s. Bros. George F. Brooking, W.M. Wanderers Lodge, No. 1604, and H. J. Thomas, W.M. Maida Vale Lodge, No. 2743, tie for next place, each having succeeded in raising £150, while Bro. C. J. R. Tijou, P.A.G.P., who represented the Coborn Lodge, No. 1804, and the recently-consecrated Aldersbrook Lodge, No. 2821, returned two lists amounting together to £147 15s. 6d. Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G.D., of the House Committee, is entered for £136 10s., and Bro. F. L. Bevan, of the Friends-in-Council Lodge, No. 1383, £133 15s., in which is included £105 to complete his Patronship. Bro. W. Vincent Jull, I.P.M. Past and Present Lodge, No. 2665, raised £132 10s. 6d.; Bro. Jeffrey Stewart, W.M. Woodgrange Lodge, No. 2409, with the help of three others, £125; Bros. E. A. Smith, Verity Lodge, No. 2739, and A. Walter Ramsey, Deputy Master London Irish Rifles Lodge, No. 2312, each £122 17s.; and Bro. Lewis Beale, W.M. Kensington Lodge, No. 1767, and J. North, W.M. Earl's Court Lodge, No. 2765, each £120. Bro. Charles Norrington, P.M., Sec. Beadon Lodge, No. 619, is returned with £117 1s. 6d. to his credit; and Bro. A. Collins, W.M. London Rifle Brigade Lodge, No. 1902, with the help of four Stewards, with £116 to his credit. Bros. Robert Grey, P.G.W., of the House Committee, and William M. May, W.M. Southwark Lodge, are bracketed together as returning each £115 10s., and Bro. G. H. Bartleman, W.M. Kilburn Lodge, has raised £110. There is a Return of £108 13s. 6d. from Bro. E. F. Debenham, who represented the Old King's Arms Lodge, No. 28, one of £107 5s. 6d. from Bro. James Johnstone and two others, of the Richmond Lodge, No. 2032; while Comp. James G. Vigo, M.E.Z. Mizpah Chapter, No. 1671, figures for £105, and Bro. J. A. Tharp, W.M. Beacontree Lodge, No. 1228, with the help of three other Stewards, for £103 8s. 6d.

Among other lists which seem worthy of mention are those of Bro. Charles Hammerton, P.G.S.B., of the House Committee for £85; Bro. John F. Roberts of Lodge and Chapter, No. 63, and Lodges, Nos. 2650 and 2693, for £86 2s. Bro. H. Hudson, Faith Lodge, No. 141, for £89 5s.; Bro. John R. Reep, John Hervey Lodge, No. 1260, for £88; and Bro. F. W. Levy, Golden Rule Lodge, No. 1261, for £76 13s.; Bros. T. W. Bastin, of the Hyde Park Lodge, No. 1425, and Fred. G. Joy, of the Great City Lodge, No. 1426, for £72 14s. and £84 respectively; Bro. F. Norton Garrard, St. Peter Westminster Lodge, No. 1537, for £89 5s.; Bro. Alfred George, Royal Savoy Lodge, No. 1744, for £74 11s.; Bro. Harry Godwin, Southgate Lodge, No. 1950, for £90 8s. 6d.; Bro. Thos. Robinson, Bishopsgate Lodge, No. 2396, for £76; Bro. Geo. May, Fulham Lodge, No. 2512, for £70 7s.; Bro. the Rev. F. J. Greenwood, of the Hugh Owen Lodge, No. 2593, for £89 5s.; and Bro. James Speller Unattached, for £85 1s. It should be noted that the amount raised by the members of the House Committee was £1103 10s.

Passing on to

THE PROVINCES,

we note with satisfaction that 35 out of the 46 on the roll were represented by 410 Stewards, and that the efforts made by those ladies and brethren resulted in the compilation of £16,252 19s. 9d. Last year as many as 38 Provinces took part in the Festival, and the 433 Stewards representing them and a few Foreign Stations returned a total amounting to £12,578 18s., so that those who had part in Wednesday's proceedings have good cause for congratulating themselves on the work they accomplished.

We have said that 35 out of the 46 Provinces were represented on this occasion, the 11 that were unrepresented being as follow: BEDFORDSHIRE (seven lodges), which figured in the Boys' School Festival of last year for £52 10s., and at the Benevolent Festival in February for £40 19s.; BRISTOL (nine lodges), which by the medium of Bro. F. S. Bolt as its sole representative which raised £732 7s. for the Old People last February; CHESHIRE (55 lodges), which was entered for £68 5s. in the Boys' School Festival Returns last year, and for £21 in those of the Benevolent Institution in February; CUMBERLAND & WEST-MORLAND (23 lodges), which figured for the modest sum of £15 15s. in the recent Benevolent Returns, and at the Boys' School Festival for £187 2s. 6d., and that of "Our Girls" for £10 10s. in 1900, while at the Boys' Festivals in 1897 and 1898 respectively it raised £1250 for the former in support of the Chairmanship of its Prov. G. Master, Lord H. Cavendish-Bentinck, M.P., and £222 1s. for the latter year. HEREFORDSHIRE (five lodges), with the exception of contributing £15 15s. to the Boys' Festival in 1900, has been an absentee from all the Festivals since the Boys' Centenary in 1898, for which it raised £330 15s.; LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND (14 lodges) raised £429 19s. 6d. for the Old People in 1899, and £362 5s. for this Institution in 1900, so that this year it is entered for the Boys' School Festival next month, and we understand its representative is working hard to secure a sum that shall be worthy of the Province; SOMERSETSHIRE (26 lodges) raised £262 12s. 6d. for the Benevolent Institution in February, but otherwise has done but little since 1899, when Viscount Dungarvan, Prov. G. Master, presided at the Girls' School, and was supported the lodges and brethren under his charge to the extent of £219 17s., while in 1898 it raised £1187 19s. for the Boys' Centenary. SOUTH WALES (E.D.), with its roll of 23 lodges, had three heavy years in succession, namely, in 1897, when it subscribed £1050 to the Festival of this Institution, at which its P.G.M., Lord Llangatock, was Chairman; in 1898, when it gave £605 6s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary; and in 1899, when Lord Llangatock was Chairman for the Old People, and his Province contributed £631. The far smaller Province of SOUTH WALES (W.D.), with only 10 lodges on its roll, raised £161 7s. for the Boys' Centenary in 1898; £141 15s. for the Old People in 1899; and £75 12s. for this Institution in 1900, while the principal contributions from WILTSHIRE (12 lodges) during the past three years have been £194 5s. to the Old People in 1900, with a supplementary £39 7s. in February last; £288 to this Institution in 1899; and £539 to the Boys' Centenary in 1898, supplemented with £71 to "Our Girls." The ISLE OF MAN (nine lodges) contributes from time to time, and the subscriptions are always welcome, but it is too remote from the centre of Masonry to be looked for as a regular contributor. The number of lodges contained in these 11 Provinces is 193, which thus had no part in the work done for "Our Girls" at this meeting.

The first in order of the represented Provinces is that of

BERKSHIRE,

which during its whole career as a separate Province has proved itself a most generous and, at the same time, a consistent supporter of all three Charities. Even in 1891, when it had had barely time to realise its position, it distributed no less than £385 10s. among the three, while the following year its total reached £945 11s. 6d., of which £660 9s. 6d. was subscribed to the Benevolent Jubilee. In 1895 and 1896 it raised respectively £935 6s. 6d. and £1019 19s. 6d., while in 1898—the year of the Boys' Centenary—its aggregate amounted to no less than £1697 5s., of which £1436 17s. was in respect of the favoured Institution. Notwithstanding this famous total, it subscribed in all £1226 8s. 9d. in 1899, and about two-thirds of that amount last year. In February four of its 17 lodges, with two brethren and a Lewis Unattached, together returned £323 6s., the principal item being Bro. C. E. Keyser's £105, while on Wednesday eight Stewards, representing seven lodges, compiled a sum of £320 5s., Bro. C. E. Keyser, as Steward for the Aldermaston Lodge, No. 2760, of which he was the principal founder and first W.M., being entered for £73 10s., in addition to what he returned as the representative of one of the Hertfordshire lodges.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,

like its neighbour and associate of former days, has also acquitted itself most satisfactorily as a separate Province. In 1891, when Lord Carrington was installed P.G.M., and took the chair at the Festival of this Institution, it raised during the year as much as £511 1s., of which £300 was subscribed to this School. But its successful years were 1898, when it raised £1143 18s. 6d. for the Boys' Centenary out of a total during the year of £1323 9s. 6d., and 1900, when Lord Addington, the present P.G.M., presided at the Old People's Festival, and the Province backed up his lordship with £1495 10s., a further contribution of £111 6s. to "Our Boys" placing the year's Return at £1606 19s. In February half-a-dozen Stewards from four of its 22 lodges compiled a total of £122 7s. 6d., and on Wednesday the Province followed this up by subscribing £375 3s., the number of Stewards from six lodges and a chapter and five Unattached being 17, and the principal lists those of Bro. W. Yeo, Carrington Lodge, No. 2421, for £105, and Bro. F. S. Priest, W.M. of the Bowen Lodge, No. 2816, for £101 17s.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

is a small Province, with only seven lodges on its roll, but its tale of contributions is a highly creditable one. It only occasionally finds itself in the absentee list, and, as a rule, may be looked upon as a contributor of £300 and upwards to the three Institutions. In February three of its lodges were included in the Benevolent Returns, and the lists of two of the Stewards amounted to £102 19s. 6d., the list of the third being placed in London to the credit of a chapter, for which he also acted as Steward. On Wednesday two of the same brethren representing two of the lodges were again elected, and their lists amounted together to £31 10s. Last year the total distributed among the three Charities was £284 15s., and in 1899 £222 12s.; but in 1898 it stood at £759 13s. 6d., of which £707 3s. 6d. was raised for the Boys' Centenary. In 1897 the Returns reached £323 10s. 3d., and in 1896 £364 5s., so that the average for the five preceding years is a good one, and, so far as we have gone, we may fairly hope that it will be maintained during the present year.

There are 31 lodges in

CORNWALL,

and though, as regards the number of its Stewards, it rarely makes a formidable show, its contributions are often on a creditable scale. Thus in February last it showed up well. There were only two Stewards, of whom Bro. G. M. Melford, for the Province, returned £396 18s., and Bro. Sholto A. Hare, acting for Lodge No. 1954, £37 5s. 6d., making the total from the Province £434 3s. 6d. On Wednesday there were also two Stewards—Bro. Richard Faul, for the Province and Lodge No. 510, and Bro. Sholto H. Hare, Unattached—the sum they together raised being £131 5s., for £115 10s. of which Bro. Faul accounted. Last year the figure was £378, of which all but £21 was subscribed to the Boys' School; while in 1899 it reached £516 6s., of which the Boys' School received £47 5s., and the rest was pretty evenly divided between this Institution and the Old People. In 1898 the total was £924 5s., of which £854 19s. was raised for the Boys' Centenary.

There can be no doubt that

DERBYSHIRE

has a very fine record in respect of the contributions it makes to our Charities. In 1892 it subscribed in all £1738 14s., of which £1362 was in support of the Benevolent Jubilee; in 1894, £1025 8s. 6d.; in 1896, when its Prov. Grand Master—the Duke of Devonshire—presided as Chairman at the Boys' Festival, its donations reached £1642 2s.; while in 1898 they amounted to no less than £2784 10s. 6d., of which £2410 2s. was subscribed to the Boys' Centenary, £335 to this Institution, and the small remainder to the Old People. In 1899 it confined its attention to the Schools, the total raised in their behalf being £650 12s., of which £399 8s. was subscribed to this Institution; while last year the Schools again secured the chief share of its support, receiving between them £540 1s., while only £10 10s. was raised for the Benevolent Institution. In February the same Charity was only favoured with a similar amount; but on Wednesday the Province made a brave show, Bro. Joseph A. Arnold doing duty for the whole body, while 10 out of the 27 lodges and a Rose Croix chapter were represented, the number of Stewards, including Bro. Joseph H. Lawson, Unattached, being 20. The total they had the pleasure of compiling amounted to £764 6s. 6d., the most important items being £75 from Bro. A. Thompson, Lodge of Repose, No. 802, Derby, and £64 5s. from Bro. H. Ofler, Hartington Lodge, No. 1085.

DEVONSHIRE

now has 60 lodges on its roll, and as it has increased in numerical strength, so also has its support of our Central Institutions become more pronounced notwithstanding that it has an Educational and Annuity Funds of its own to provide for. In February, it raised £779 2s. for the Benevolent Institution, and of this handsome amount £746 11s. was placed on the list of Bro. John Stocker, Prov. G. Sec., as the representative of the whole Province, while the rest was handed in by one of the two lodge Stewards, the number of brethren who gave their services being six. On Wednesday, Bro. J. R. Wilson did duty for the Province as a whole and three of its lodges, while Bro. F. B. Westlake was Unattached, the total raised being £31 10s. Last year the Old People secured £246 15s. out of £519 15s., the rest being equally divided between the Schools. In 1899, the Returns aggregated only £274 11s., but this is not to be wondered at, for the Province subscribed £1875 2s. 10d. to the Boys' Centenary in 1893, out of a total for the year of £1961 4s. 10d.

DORSETSHIRE

has two Stewards, one representing one of its 15 lodges, and the other being Unattached, the sum of their lists being £52 10s. In February, Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, acting independently, figured in the Benevolent Returns for £105. Last year the Province subscribed in all £263 15s. 6d., of which £148 10s. 6d., per Bro. Whadcoat, was raised for the Old People, and £82 19s. for this Institution, while in 1899, the total was somewhat higher, and reached £337 1s., the bulk of which was pretty evenly apportioned between the Benevolent and Girls' Institutions. In 1898, the Returns amounted to £2127 10s. 6d., and of this £2054 0s. 6d. was subscribed for the Boys' Centenary.

The Province of

DURHAM,

with its roll of 38 lodges is one of the most regular contributors and dispenses its favours with commendable impartiality among the three Institutions. In February, Bros. E. S. Cockell and John T. Purdy, of the Stranton Lodge, No. 1862, West Hartlepool, returned a joint list of £189, while on Wednesday, Bro. Walter N. Cochrane, acting as Steward for the whole Province, returned £283 15s. In 1900, the three Institutions had £332 7s. distributed amongst them, and in 1899, £157 10s., the smallness of the total being explained by the effort made by Durham in behalf of its own Educational and Benevolent Funds, for which it raised some £2500 at a Special Festival arranged for the purpose. In 1898, it contributed in all £643 7s. to the Central Charities, the Boys' School receiving as its share in respect of its Centenary £533 2s. In 1896, it distributed amongst them £566 10s., while in 1892, its returns amounted to £1034 5s., the Benevolent Jubilee being supported to the extent of £720 5s.

What

ESSEX

did for the Benevolent Institution in February, when its Prov. Grand Master, the Earl of Warwick, Dep. G.M. of England, presided at its annual Festival, is so fresh in the minds of our readers that it is hardly necessary for us to say much as to the loyalty of the Province towards our Institutions. Such readiness to support a Charity was not arranged at 24 hours' notice, and the records of past years show that Essex has always been most willing to do all in its power to promote the welfare of our Institutions. Under the auspices of its present ruler this has been specially noticeable. In 1884, the Earl of Warwick—then Lord Brooke—presided at the Girls' Festival, and his Province, which was then only about half its present strength, subscribed £1000. At the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892, it contributed £2258 3s. towards that Institution, and the following year, when his lordship presided at the Boys' Festival, it raised £2155 6s. At the Boys' Centenary in 1898, it figured for £4122 12s. 6d., while in February, when its Prov. G. Master acted as Chairman at the Old People's Anniversary, it compiled a total of £4000, including his lordship's own personal donation of 50 guineas. After such an effort we are agreeably surprised to find that eight of its brethren, of whom two are Unattached and the others did duty for three of its 44 lodges, raised amongst them the sum of £359 7s. We congratulate the Province on this further evidence of its goodwill.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

is a medium-sized Province with only 17 lodges on its Register, but it acquires itself at these anniversaries in a manner which cannot be too highly commended. In 1892, when Bro. the Right Hon. Sir M. E. Hicks Beach, M.P., Prov. Grand Master, presided as Chairman at the Boys' School Festival, it contributed to that anniversary £1645 11s. out of a total for the year of £1729 11s., while in 1898, when the same Institution celebrated its Centenary, it figured for £2723 12s. out of £2860 2s. for the whole year. It has also given freely to the other Institutions, the latest instance being in February, when half-a-dozen Stewards from five of its lodges together raised £242 16s. On Wednesday there were eight Stewards from this Province, two of them being Unattached, while the others acted for four lodges, the amount they had the satisfaction of raising being £219 9s., the list of Bro. R. P. Sumner, Unattached, for £89 5s., being the most important item.

As Bro. the Right Hon. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Provincial Grand Master of

HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT,

has very kindly consented to preside at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys on the 26th prox., it cannot in reason be expected that the Province should show to any great advantage at the Festivals of the Benevolent and Girls' Institutions. There can be little doubt that it has been holding itself in reserve for the great event of next month; but, notwithstanding this, it has taken part in the two anniversaries which have been held during the year—in that of the Benevolent Institution in February, when four of its 48 lodges subscribed £99 16s. to the Old People, and on Wednesday, when the representatives of five lodges and two Stewards Unattached compiled a total of £329 17s. 6d., Bro. Alex. Howell's list of £211 1s.—in which is included £189 to complete his Patronage—being the largest individual amount. Its performances in the past have been worthy of all praise. In 1892, including £1345 19s. 7d. to the Benevolent Jubilee, it raised no less than £1650 17s. In 1897 the total was £1149 12s. 6d., and in 1898 £3343 13s. 6d., of which £3238 13s. 6d. was subscribed towards the Boys' Centenary. From such figures as these we augur well for the result of the Boys' Anniversary next month.

There can be no doubt that

HERTFORDSHIRE,

albeit there are only 24 lodges on its roll, is a stronghold of Freemasonry, at all events, as far as our Institutions are concerned. In 1888 it subscribed £649 19s. out of a total of £795 14s. 6d. raised during the year, to the Girls' Centenary. In 1892 it contributed £1883 6s. 6d. to the Benevolent Jubilee out of a year's total of £2135 6s. 6d., while in 1898 it was entered for £1614 5s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary, the amount raised during the year being £2126 3s. It also took a prominent part in the Benevolent Festival of 1893, and that of the Boys' School in 1899, at both of which Bro. C. E. Keyser, who is a distinguished Hertfordshire Mason, occupied the chair, raising £1455 18s. 6d. for the former and £1151 4s. 6d. for the latter. Last year it distributed £1323 10s. among the Charities, of which £566 14s. was raised for the Old People, £329 14s. for this Institution, and £427 2s. for the Boys' School. This year it has done admirably, its 27 Stewards in February, of whom 17 represented 12 of its lodges and a chapter, and 10 were Unattached, compiling a total of £1170 9s., while on Wednesday 15 Stewards, of whom 13 were lodge representatives and two Unattached, had the pleasure of returning amongst them £458, the principal list being that of Bro. C. E. Keyser, of the Watford Lodge, No. 404—who was also a Berkshire Steward—for £142 16s.

The Province that next claims our attention is that of

KENT,

over which Earl Amherst, the Chairman of the day, has presided for upwards of 40 years. It is an influential Province as well as a strong one. It has the longest roll of lodges in the South of England, and what is more to the point, it is second to none in the support it gives to all our Institutions. Lord Amherst has shown his goodwill towards our Charities by presiding twice for the Boys' School and twice for the Old People, and so far as the records enable us to judge, his Province of Kent has shown itself but too ready and willing to support his lordship's advocacy. There have also been other special Festivals, such as the two School Centenaries and the Benevolent Jubilee, in which Kent has shown to advantage, while generally it may be cited as an out-and-out support of the three Central Institutions. It was the chief contributing Province at the Girls' Centenary in 1888. In 1891, when its Prov. G.M. presided for the second time at the Benevolent Festival, it subscribed in round figures £3484, while the following year it gave £1858 15s. 6d. to the Jubilee of the same Charity, out of a total of upwards of £3000. In 1893, it distributed £2103 12s. 6d., and in 1895, within a fraction of £2400. Its greatest achievement hitherto was in 1898, when it raised

£5542 3s. 6d. for the Boys' Centenary, out of a total for the year of £5671 16s., while in 1899 and last year it showed up exceedingly well, though the figures were on a smaller scale. In February, its Returns to the Benevolent Festival reached the comparatively trifling sum of £94 10s., but this is not to be wondered at seeing that it was holding itself in reserve for this occasion, and had made up its mind that Lord Amherst's first appearance as Chairman at a Girls' School Festival should be a memorable event in its annals. Hence the Perpetual Presentation as a memorial of his lordship's Chairmanship, for which the prescribed sum of £1627 10s. has already been paid over; and hence, too, the array of 84 Stewards from the Province as a whole in the person of Bro. J. S. Eastes, P.G.D., Dep. P.G. Master; from the bulk of the lodges: from some half-dozen chapters; and others, who together compiled the sum of £464 13s. 6d., making together with the sum paid as above for the memorial Presentation, a total of £6275 3s. 6d., which is the highest amount ever raised by a single Province at a single Festival. The following are the principal lists, namely: the CHAIRMAN'S personal donation of £84, and £26 5s. from the Countess Amherst, which are included in the contribution from the Province; £120 from No. 20, Chatham, per Bro. H. Whyman; £100 from Bro. I. Turton, No. 615, Belvidere; £160 from Bro. H. Syer Smith, Sydney Lodge, No. 829; £105 per Bro. Daniel T. J. Lyte, Malling Lodge, No. 1063; £110 per Bro. H. J. Mogridge, from Acacia Lodge, No. 1314; £246 15s. per Bro. J. W. Elvin, Graystone Lodge, No. 1915; £126 per Bro. Col. F. W. Frigout, West Kent Volunteer Lodge, No. 2041; £275 per Bros. F. M. Wright, W. P. Dickinson, and H. Whyman, Robinson Lodge, No. 2046; £154 7s. per Comp. Bergmann, from Colne Valley Chapter, No. 2147; and £125 per Bro. Chas. Sheath, from Shirley Woolmer Lodge, No. 2530. Such a record as this needs no laudation. Still, we heartily congratulate the Province on this great result, and Lord Amherst more especially, on this further evidence of the love and respect which are entertained for him by the lodges and brethren over whom he so worthily presides. It is not the first time, and, we are confident, will not be the last, that these feelings have been exhibited towards his lordship; but whatever the future may have in store for us, we are satisfied that no stronger proof of the kindly relations existing between a Province and its chief can ever be forthcoming.

LANCASHIRE (E.D.)

is a large Province with a muster roll of 113 lodges, and there are those perhaps who may express surprise at the smallness of its representation, the number of its represented lodges being only two, and the number of its Stewards four. But it has already been announced in our columns that on the 26th June Lord Stanley, M.P., Prov. G. Master, will preside at a Festival which will be held in Manchester in aid of the Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution, which is so generously maintained by the Province, and that it is proposed to set aside out of the proceeds of that Festival 1550 guineas (£1627 10s.) for the purchase of a Perpetual Presentation to the Benevolent Institution as a memorial of the late revered Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, Prov. G.M. Hence the total on Wednesday of £273, of which Capt. John Barlow, Unattached, was responsible for £220 10s., but moderate totals have not always been the order of the day with East Lancashire, which, to mention only one instance, raised over £6000 in the year 1898, of which £5772 7s. 6d. was subscribed to the Boys' Centenary.

Almost the same remarks apply to

LANCASHIRE (W.D.),

which, with its 127 lodges and upwards of 8000 subscribing members, is far and away our strongest Province. Here there are four Provincial Institutions, which are generously supported and which have a large amount of invested capital. Yet in 1891, when the late Earl of Lathom presided as Chairman at the Boys' School Festival, the Province raised the then unprecedented sum of £6126 14s. 6d. In 1894, when his lordship's son, the present Earl, occupied the chair for his father at the Festival of this Institution, West Lancashire returned £2500, while at the Boys' Centenary in 1898, it raised £4451 15s. Thus the small contribution of £131 15s., obtained by the efforts of five Stewards, of whom three were lodge representatives and two Unattached, passes muster.

There are 25 lodges in

LINCOLNSHIRE,

and for several years past the Province has taken a more or less regular part in these anniversary gatherings. On Wednesday a member of the Pelham Pillar Lodge, No. 792, Grimsby, handed in a list of £54 12s., and as it was not among the represented Provinces at the Benevolent Festival in February, we must hope that it will make a show that is worthier of its record at the Boys' School Festival next month. Last year the Province was represented on a modest scale at the School Festivals; but in 1899 it raised £399 7s. for the Old People and £10s. 10s. for the Boys' School; and in 1898 it was entered in the Boys' Centenary Returns for £1384. In 1895, when the Earl of Yarborough, Prov. G.M., presided at the Festival of this Institution, his lordship was loyally supported by his Province to the extent of £1500.

Of the 42 lodges on the roll of the Metropolitan Province of

MIDDLESEX,

there were as many as 12 that were represented, the number of brethren acting for them and for a chapter attached to one of them being 24. The principal Returns were those of Bro. W. Hill, Harmony Lodge, No. 1512, for £100; Bro. C. G. Hall, Dalhousie Lodge, No. 805, for £116 11s.; and Bro. W. J. Rowbotham, Staines Lodge, No. 2536, for £145. In February 12 Stewards, of whom three were Unattached and the others lodge representatives, compiled a total of £399 5s. 6d., so that the Province has well maintained its prestige in the opening year of the new century, and no doubt it will take an effective part in the remaining Festival that will be held next month. Last year, Middlesex acquitted itself well, notwithstanding there was no greater call than usual for support, the total among the three Institutions reaching £145 4s. 6d., of which the lion's share in the shape of £1010 16s. 6d. fell to this Institution. In 1899 the total was £876 5s., the bulk of which was shared between the Old People and this Institution in the proportion of about three to five, but in 1898 it made a grand show, subscribing £273 17s. to the Benevolent Institution, £507 13s. 6d. to the Girls' School, and £2835 16s. to the Boys' Centenary. In 1896, when Lord George Hamilton, M.P., Prov. G. Master, took the chair at the Old People's Festival, the Province subscribed to that Institution £3705 15s. 6d. out of a total for the year of £3967 15s. 6d.

An Unattached Steward in the person of Bro. Lieut.-Col. C. R. Lyne, D.P.G.M., did duty for the Province of

MONMOUTHSHIRE

and its 11 lodges, his list of £10 10s. being evidently a personal donation. In February a brother hailing from one of the lodges was entered for £10 10s., so that we must look to the Boys' School Returns next month for the bulk of the contributions which the Province makes a point of raising yearly for one or other of the Charities. Last year, for instance, this Institution received £128 15s. In 1899 the Old People were supported to the extent of £177 15s., while in 1898 the sum of £1088 8s.—including £525 as a Life Presentation as a memorial of the late Bro. Capt. Honfray—was raised for the Boys' Centenary. It is thus the Boys' School turn to receive the contributions from this Province.

Of the 18 lodges on the roll of

NORFOLK

three sent up Stewards, of whom one did duty for the chapter attached to his lodge as well. The sum of their lists was £226, of which £100 was raised by Bro. F. Havers, of Social Lodge, No. 93, Norwich, and this, so far as the present year is concerned, represents the work done by the Province. We must, therefore, hope that it will enter an appearance and give a good account of itself at the Boys' Anniversary next month. Last year, Norfolk took part in two of the three Festivals, subscribing £73 10s., per Bro. G. W. G. Barnard, to the Benevolent Institution in February, and £254 16s., per Bros. Eversley and Hardyment, to this Institution. In 1899, it raised £122 13s. 6d., per Bro. S. F. Stackhard, for the Old People, but beyond all question its greatest achievement was in 1898, when it raised £818 8s. for the Boys' Centenary, its highest previous Return having been in 1892, when it gave £516 10s. to the Benevolent Jubilee.

There were nine Stewards from

NORTHANTS AND HUNTS,

of whom six did duty for as many lodges—the number on the roll being 16—while three were Unattached. The total from these nine brethren amounted to £230 7s., and as £62 16s. 6d. was received from two of the lodges in February, the total thus far during the present year is £293 3s. 6d. Last year the Province raised £42 for the Old People, £36 15s. for this Institution, and £200 for the Boys' School, making a total for the year of £278 15s. In 1899 the Returns were far higher, and amounted to £539 1s. 6d., and this, notwithstanding that in 1898 the total reached £1784 2s., in which was included £1521 7s. to the Boys' Centenary. In 1893, when the Earl of Euston, Prov. G.M., presided at the Festival of this Institution, the Province supported his lordship to the extent of £1050, the total for the whole year being £1107 10s.

NORTHUMBERLAND,

with its 33 lodges, has a representative for the whole Province in Bro. Charles Pulman, who has just been appointed to office in Grand Lodge, and who, moreover, is doing duty in the same capacity for the Oriental Lodge, No. 687, Constantinople, while St. Cuthbert Lodge, No. 1902, Bedlington, has as its own particular Steward Bro. Aug. E. Burdon. The lists of these two brethren amounted to £47 5s., and as the Province was unrepresented at the Benevolent Festival in February, this is the total it has thus far contributed to our Charities in the present year. Let us hope, therefore, that it will figure next month in the Boys' Returns and thereby enlarge the amount of its contributions in 1901. Last year's total was £148 1s. 6d., made up of £68 5s. to the Old People, and £79 16s. 6d. to this Institution, while in 1899 the sum was still smaller, and only reached £77 5s., the same two Institutions being the recipients in the proportion of two to three. In 1898, it was included in the Boys' Centenary Returns for £1290 10s., while in 1895 it raised £2315 5s. for this Institution and £186 18s. for the Boys' School. Its previous best was in 1891, when, including £1050 for a Perpetual Presentation, it contributed £1364 4s. to the Boys' School.

Of the 20 lodges in

NORTH WALES,

one had a Steward of its own, while Bro. Edward Roberts, M.A., Past Dep. G.S.B., Prov. G. Secretary, and another did duty as Unattached. The sum raised by the brethren was £51. In February the veteran Bro. C. K. Benson for the Province and a lodge Steward together, raised £79 16s., and, no doubt, we shall hear still further from North Wales when the Boys' School celebrates its 103rd Anniversary. In 1888, including £674 17s. 6d. to the Centenary of this Institution, it raised £792 9s. 6d.; in 1892, £493 12s., of which £222 14s. formed part of the Benevolent Jubilee Returns; while in 1898 its total amounted to £1394, of which £1089 10s. was subscribed to the Boys' Centenary, £294 to the Old People, and the balance of £10 10s. to this Institution. Alter such an effort it was only natural that the subscriptions in 1899 should be on a very moderate scale, but last year there was a fair recovery, and the sum of £325 3s. 6d. was apportioned between the Schools, this Institution having a slight advantage over "Our Boys" in the apportionment.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE,

with its 18 lodges, raised £210 for the Old People in February, and was represented at the three Festivals in 1900, its contribution to the Boys' School reaching £71 6s., while the other Institutions were favoured with £10 10s. each; On Wednesday, a Steward from one of its lodges is entered for what we take to be a personal donation of £10 10s.

We are afraid we have pretty well exhausted the pretty little sayings in our phrase-book in respect of

OXFORDSHIRE,

which, albeit there are only a dozen lodges on its roll, is a regular and generous contributor to all our Institutions, and for this reason deserves all the compliments that have been or can be paid to it. Thus in 1898—beyond which there is no need for us to carry our researches—this small Province raised no less than £917 13s. 6d., of which the Old People, at whose Festival the Earl of Jersey, Prov. G.M., presided as Chairman, obtained £505 12s. 6d., this Institution £73 14s., and the Boys' School at its Centenary £338 7s. In 1899 the Province came up smiling, as usual, with a total of £516 14s. 6d., made up of £141 4s. to the Benevolent Institution, £209 4s. 6d. to this Institution, and £166 6s. 6d. to the Boys' School; and yet again last year, when the total, if less considerable, was still worthy of such Province, the Benevolent Institution receiving £178 10s. in support, this Institution £41 7s. 6d., and the Boys' School £160 17s. 6d., placing the year's total at £380 15s. In February eight of the 12 lodges, by the medium of 10 Stewards, raised £208 13s. 6d. for the Old People, while on Wednesday nine brethren, hailing from five of the lodges, compiled a total of £258 10s., of which the three representatives of the Alfred Lodge, No. 340—Bros. Jas. Gould, J. F. Griffith, and Jos. Freeman, raised £127 12 6d.

SHROPSHIRE

like the preceding Province, has only a dozen lodges on its roll and, like it, is a regular and impartial supporter of our Central Charities. In 1887, almost at the outset of its career as a separate Province, when its Prov. G. Master, Bro. Sir Offley Wakeman, presided at the 99th Festival in behalf of this Institution, the Province contributed no less than £1022, and the very next year raised £770 15s., out of a total for the year of £807 10s. for its Centenary. In 1892, it subscribed out of all £615 16s. 6d., of which £456 15s. was in respect of the Benevolent Jubilee. In 1898, its total Returns, including £1199 18s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary, amounted to £1325 18s. 6d. In 1899, it took a well-earned rest, making a small contribution to the Benevolent Institution, but last year it figured at the three Festivals and raised in all £357, of which £288 15s. was given to the Boys' School, and the rest was shared between the other two Charities. In February, a lodge Steward, and Bro. W. Lascelles Southwell, returned £31 10s. to the Old People, and on Wednesday, the representatives of three lodges, of whom the same Bro. Southwell was one, together raised £73 10s.

STAFFORDSHIRE,

notwithstanding the heavy duties and responsibilities it incurred last year as "Chairman's Province," and the brilliant manner in which it acquitted itself by raising £3800 14s. in support of the Earl of Dartmouth, Prov. G. Master, who

presided at the 112th Anniversary of this Institution, has not been unmindful of the claims of our Charities. In February five Stewards, of whom Bro. W. H. Bailey, Past G. Treasurer, was Unattached and the other four acted as Stewards for three of the 34 lodges, succeeded in raising £178 7s. for the Benevolent Institution, and on Wednesday 14 brethren gave their services as Stewards, one being Unattached and 13 acting for four lodges, St. Bartholomew Lodge, No. 696, Wednesbury, furnishing seven of the number, and the Gordon Lodge, No. 2149, Hanley, as in February, two. The total obtained by the efforts of those 14 brethren is grouped in one sum as £525. Its greatest success was at the Boys' Centenary Festival in 1898, for which it had the satisfaction of compiling £3845 8s. out of a total subscribed during the year of £4028 8s. This big sum still holds the field as the record Return from the Province.

There is no need to lay any particular stress on the work done by

SUFFOLK

in behalf of our Institutions. For very many years past it has been justly held as their well-wisher and generous supporter, and though there may have been seasons in which it has shown to less advantage than usual, this has invariably arisen from a previous exceptionally strong effort it has put forth in respect of one of the Schools or for the Old People. In 1888 the year's contributions amounted to £1105 12s., of which £451 10s. was subscribed to the Benevolent Institution, £517 12s. to the Girls' Centenary, and £136 10s. to the Boys' School. The following year, when Lord Henniker, its Prov. G.M., took the chair—or, rather, was represented in the chair by his respected Deputy, the late Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn—the total was £1048 17s. 6d., of which £577 19s. 6d. was received by this Institution. In 1892 the sum of £1291 14s. was subscribed to the Benevolent Jubilee, out of a total for the year of £1449 14s. In 1898 it compiled a still larger sum, and £1510 17s. 6d. was raised for the Boys' Centenary out of £1563 7s. 6d. In 1900 the total was £841 16s. 6d., made up of £518 15s. to the Old People, £139 12s. to this Institution, and £183 9s. 6d. to the Boys' School. As regards the present year the outlook is most promising, the 1900 total having been exceeded in February, when the representatives of 10 of its 23 lodges and two chapters together returned £1003 11s. On Wednesday 12 Stewards, of whom one was Unattached and the rest acted for 10 lodges, compiled a total of £886 4s., the principal items being £162 15s. per Bro. W. J. Wilton, from Unity Lodge, No. 71; £125 from Bro. E. Hills, Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 959; and £168 per Bro. A. E. Smith, of Lodge No. 1983.

SURREY

has a strong muster roll of 45 lodges, and under successive rulers has done good service to our three Institutions. The latest evidence of this fact will be found in the following Returns: In 1894, when the late Bro. Col. G. Noel Money, C.B., P.G.M., occupied the chair at the Benevolent Festival, it raised £1399 2s. for that Institution and £1673 4s. 6d. In 1898 it gave £3499 16s. to the Boys' Centenary, its contributions to the other Festivals placing the year's aggregate at £3968 2s. The product of 1899 was £1288 5s. 6d., of which the Old People secured £49 4s. and this Institution £531 6s. 6d., while the balance fell to that of the Boys' School. Last year the Old People received £196 14s., this Institution £737 3s., and the Boys' School £494 12s., making a total of £1428 9s. In February 18 Stewards, of whom 17 did duty for 14 lodges, and one was Unattached, compiled a total of £643 19s. 6d.; and on Wednesday half-a-dozen brethren, five of whom acted for as many lodges and one independently, together raised £264 7s. 6d., which, with the contribution to the Old People in February, places the amount therefore obtained at £908 7s.

Turning to the contiguous Province of

SUSSEX,

which, however, numbers only 33 lodges, we find the same readiness to support the three Institutions. It makes a point of contributing to each of them, and on special occasions its contributions are on a scale commensurate with its goodwill. In 1892, after raising £1155 6s. for the Benevolent Jubilee, it supported the Duke of Connaught, its Prov. G.M., as Chairman at the Festival of this Institution, to the extent of £1026 5s. In 1897, when his Royal Highness presided at the Benevolent Festival, it subscribed £1263 2s. 6d. out of a total during the year of £1497 5s. 6d., and in 1898, including £2869 15s. to the Boys' Centenary, it raised a total of £2932 15s. In 1899, it subscribed £442 8s. to the Old People, £391 7s. to this Institution, and £135 19s. 6d. to the Boys' School, making in all £969 15s. Last year, when the Duke of Connaught arranged to preside at the Boys' School Festival—though at the last moment his Royal Highness was unable to fulfil his engagement and Earl Amherst, M.W. Pro G.M., presided in his stead—it raised in all £1945 2s., of which the Old People received £409 10s., this Institution £170 12s. 6d., and the Boys' School £1365. In February, 22 Stewards, two of whom were Unattached and the rest hailed from 11 lodges, together compiled £436 3s. 6d., and on Wednesday 19 Stewards, of whom 15 acted for 13 lodges and the chapter attached to one of the number, while three were Unattached, made up £435 19s. 3d., the most important list being that of Bro. J. R. Newman, Lodge No. 38, for £65 4s. 6d.

Seven of the 34 lodges in

WARWICKSHIRE

were represented by 11 brethren at the Benevolent Festival in February and together raised £162 15s., of which £84 was furnished by the five Stewards from the Bedford Lodge, No. 925, Birmingham. On Wednesday there were 18 Stewards from 10 lodges, of which the Athol Lodge, No. 74, Birmingham, sent up four; the total from all sources being £309 4s. 6d. Last year only £141 15s. was subscribed among the three Charities, and the Boys' School received out of this £73 10s., but this is to be accounted for by the Province having held a Festival in aid of its own Benevolent and Pupils' Aid Fund, towards which it contributed some £3150. In 1899 its total, including £467 5s. to this Institution, was £572 5s., while in 1898 it raised £5079 14s. 6d. for the Boys' Centenary, and gave small donations to the other Institutions.

Bro. W. T. Page, Deputy Prov. G.M. of

WORCESTERSHIRE,

acted as Steward for the whole Province, and handed in a list of £63, which added to the £266 16s. 6d. raised by the nine Stewards from six of the 15 lodges, gives a total thus far for 1901 of £329 16s. 6d. Last year the Province contributed £210 to the Old People, £908 to this Institution, and £42 to the Boys, making, in all, £1160 10s. In 1899 it raised £415 16s., of which all but £38 15s., which fell to the Boys' School, was subscribed to the Old People. In 1898 it contributed in all £1231 13s., of which £1136 2s. was subscribed for the Boys' Centenary.

YORKSHIRE (N. AND E. RIDINGS)

has been represented at both the Festivals that have been held during the present year. In February it subscribed, by the medium of seven Stewards, £197 8s. Bro. W. H. Cowper, for the Province, handing in a list of £87 3s., and the two Stewards from Lodge and Chapter No. 230, York, a joint list of £73 10s. On Wednesday Bro. the Rev. E. Fox-Thomas did duty as the Provincial Steward, and two of the 34 lodges had Stewards of their own in Bros. J. G. Wallis and A. G. Stevenson, their and an Unattached Brother's combined Returns amounting to

(Continued on page 252).

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THE
ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT
INSTITUTION.

ANNUAL ELECTION, MAY, 1901.

To the Governors and Subscribers of the Institution:—
Your VOTES and INTEREST are kindly solicited on
behalf of BRO.

FREDERICK WILLIAM DRIVER,

M.A. Cambridge; P.M. Strong Man Lodge, 45;
P.Z. and Scribe E. Crystal Palace Chapter, 7-12;
(Ex.) Professor, Lecturer, Examiner and Private Tutor;
who from his advanced age (73) is unable to obtain any
Professional Engagement. He has been an active Member
of the Craft up to the present time, 31½ years. He is now
a Country Member, and Father of his Lodge. Served as
Steward at the Jubilee Festival, 1892, of this Institution.

The following Brethren have kindly promised their support:

R.W. Bro. Sir JOHN B. MONCKTON, P.G.W., Guildhall, E.C.
V.W. Bro. DORABJEE P. CANA, P.G. Treasurer, 3, Great
Winchester Street, E.C.
V.W. Bro. EDWARD LETCHWORTH, G. Sec., Freemasons'
Hall,
W. Bro. F. E. POCKOCK, M.D., P.D.G.D.C., St. Mark's Road,
N. Kensington,
W. Bro. Major T. C. WALLS, P.G. Std. Br., Temple Cham-
bers, E.C.
W. Bro. H. J. LARDNER, P.G. Stwd., Clements' House, E.C.
W. Bro. GEORGE KENNING, P.P.G.D. Middlesex, Upper
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W. Bro. THOS. JOHN BURGESS, W.M. Strong Man Lodge,
No. 45, 118, Milton Avenue, East Ham, Essex.
W. Bro. WM. BRIGGS, M.A., LL.M., P.M. 45, 12, Queen
Anne Terrace, Cambridge.
W. Bro. S. H. PARKHOUSE, P.M., 9, Upper Highlever-road,
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Votes will be thankfully received by any of the above, or
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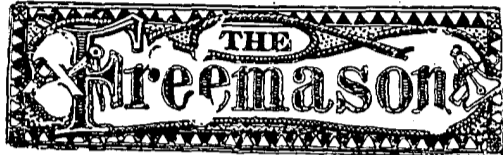
**INSTALLATION OF
H.R.H. THE
DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, K.G.**

URGENT AND IMPORTANT!!!

MASTERS OF CRAFT LODGES,

who will be at once Communicated with, at the respective
meeting places of their Lodges, are requested to apply at
such places of meeting for an important Circular from the
Grand Secretary, with reference to the approaching

INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE DUKE OF
CONNAUGHT, K.G.,
as Most Worshipful Grand Master.



SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1901.

Masonic Notes.

On Friday, the 17th instant, will be held in the
large hall of Freemasons' Tavern the Annual General
Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of the
Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and at one p.m.,
or as soon as the ordinary business has been trans-
acted, there will be an election to fill the vacancies,
immediate and deferred, which were declared on the
Male and Widows' Funds at the Committee of
Management in February last, and, if the meeting so
decides, any other vacancies that may have occurred
since the declaration in February.

For the Male Fund there are 49 candidates and 13
vacancies, including the three deferred, to be filled,
London being responsible for 15 candidates and the
Provinces for the remaining 34. It is also worthy of
remark that 22 candidates remain from last year's
election, having all of them taken part in one or more
ballots, the No. 1 on the list being about to make
trial of his fortune for the 18th time, while 27 are
new cases, whose names have since been placed on the
list. For the Widows' Fund there are 54 candidates
and only eight vacancies, including the three deferred,
available. Of the former 25 remain from the election
in May, 1900, the No. 1 in this case being about to try
her fortune for the 18th time, and 29 are newly-
approved cases, whose names have been placed on the
list during the past 12 months. In the case of this
Fund London sends up 14 and the Provinces 40
candidates.

It cannot be denied that the outlook, so far as the
number of vacancies declared in February are con-
cerned, is most unpromising, and even if we assume
that half-a-dozen more vacancies have been reported
since that declaration and are ordered by the meeting
to be filled up, there will still be between 70 and 80 Old
People, who must, in the order of things, fail to win
places, and of whom it may be truly said that in their
unhappy plight "hope deferred maketh the heart
sick."

But while we must all sympathise with and wish success
to any well-considered scheme which will prevent
candidates for the benefits of the Benevolent Institu-
tion from having their hopes of success deferred year
after year owing to their inability to obtain the sup-
port necessary to secure their election, we demur
entirely to the statement of Bro. W. C. Parsons,
which appeared in his letter of last week, that to
permit such candidates to remain on the lists for a
long series of years "is a disgrace to those who nomi-
nated them, and is certainly not to the credit of the
Institution or the Craft which allows such a contra-
diction to continue." There is, in the first place, no
difficulty in obtaining what Bro. Parsons calls "a
nomination." All the intending candidate, whether a
brother or brother's widow, is required to do is to
furnish the certificates required by Law 111—"Quali-
fications, &c., for the Male Fund," and do do. "For
the Widows' Fund," and if these are found to be in
order, the case is accepted, and the name of the
brother or brother's widow is placed on the list; and

there it remains until removed by election or death.
But there is no "disgrace" in this to those who
furnish the required certificates, which are, in truth,
mere statements of fact and nothing more.

As for the Institution and the Craft, whose conduct
Bro. Parsons has seen fit to impugn in this matter, we
think they are quite able to take care of themselves.
Still, we take the liberty of pointing out, firstly, as
regards the Institution that it is governed by certain
Rules and Regulations which have been sanctioned and
approved by the Governors and Subscribers at their
regular or a Special Meeting, and that those Rules
and Regulations have not the necessary legal force
until they have been accepted by Grand Lodge.
Secondly, as regards the Craft, it is only those
members of it that have qualified as Governors or
Subscribers that have any voice in the government of
the Institution. Thus the Governors and Subscribers
have nothing further to do with the ballot than to
secure that it is carried out in accordance with the
Rules and Regulations they have framed and Grand
Lodge has sanctioned, while those members of the
Craft who are not Governors or Subscribers have no
voice whatever in matters with which they have no
concern.

We have said that all must sympathise with the poor
brother's widow, who year after year, goes in for a
ballot which is always unsuccessful. But if a candi-
date's claims are not supported—or rather we should
say, are not pressed—by the Province or lodge which
may be supposed to know most about his or her merits,
the other Provinces and lodges, who may have cases
of their own to press, are not to blame, neither is the
Institution or the Craft to blame because it cannot
frame or sanction rules which will cover every class of
case that may be accepted and approved by the
Committee of Management.

There are other circumstances which we take leave
to commend to the attention of Bro. Parsons and
those who with him appear to think that the Benevo-
lent Institution must frame its rules so as to allow of
every class, whether well or ill supported by the voters
being accepted, and more especially the following.
At the election in May, 1875, that is to say, within a
month after his Majesty, then Prince of Wales, was
installed M.W. Grand Master, there were on the two
Funds of the Institution 130 Men receiving £36 per
annum each, and 100 Widows receiving £28 per
annum each; the total sum required to provide these
annuities being £7480. Now, there are 210 Men
in receipt of £40 per annum each, and 253 Widows in
receipt of £32 per annum each, and the total sum
required to meet these payments is £16,496. Thus in
the brief space of a quarter of a century—for the
figures we have last quoted were settled at the annual
meeting in May, 1900—the Benevolent Institution has
considerably more than doubled its outlay on
annuities, and yet there appear to be brethren like
Bro. Parsons, who, even in the face of this splendid
this amazing increase of usefulness, somehow seem to
have persuaded themselves that the Institution or the
Craft is to blame because a few cases remain long
on the lists of candidates.

We omitted to mention last week that the fifth line
of "J.R.R's." Sonnet in Memoriam G. W. Speth,
which appeared in our issue of the 27th ult., should
read:

"True Friend! true Mason! Say then ye who can."
and not as it was printed—
"True Friend! true Mason! Say thou you who can."

The stated meeting of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge,
No. 2076, which was appointed to be held on Friday,
the 3rd instant, was held but only for the transaction
of formal business and to enable the members to
express their deep sorrow at the severe loss which the
lodge had sustained through the death of its beloved
and respected Secretary, Bro. G. W. Speth. The
banquet was also dispensed with and the proposed
summer outing will not take place. We have
been asked to state that until a definite arrange-
ment has been come to as to the appointment of a perma-
nent Secretary in succession to the late Bro. Speth,
Bro. W. H. Rylands, P.M., P.A.G.D.C., has very kindly
consented to undertake the duties.

The Committee of Management of the Royal
Masonic Benevolent Institution held its meeting for
the month at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday.
Bro. J. A. Farnfield, P.A.G.D.C., the Treasurer,
occupied the chair, and there was a full attendance of
members. The Secretary reported sundry deaths and
the draft Report of the Committee's proceedings
during the past year was submitted and adopted, and
the meeting shortly afterwards adjourned.

£86 16s. Last year and in 1899 the figures were on a moderate scale; but in 1898 the total, including £563 13s. to the Boys' Centenary, reached £642 8s. In 1896 it raised altogether £1022 10s., out of which £900 was contributed to the Benevolent Institution. It has, moreover, an Educational Fund of its own, which is doing good work, and for which it raised £1054 at a special Festival last year. There is, as we have frequently remarked in previous articles of this kind, no need to enlarge on the help rendered by the Province of

YORKSHIRE (WEST RIDING)

to our three Central Institutions. Last year, the sum distributed among them was £2875, of which £1800 fell to the share of the Old People, and the balance was pretty evenly apportioned between the Schools. In 1899, the total was £1413 10s., but in 1898, it stood at £7956 3s., of which £6136 3s. 6d. was subscribed to the Boys' Centenary. This year the Province began with a contribution of £715 to the Benevolent Institution, the number of its Stewards being 35. On Wednesday, there were 100 Stewards, and the amount of their contributions £1650.

The two divisions of the Channel Islands always experience a hearty welcome whenever they enter an appearance at these gatherings. On Wednesday,

GUERNSEY AND ALDERNEY,

which now numbers seven lodges, was represented as a Province by Bro. the Rev. Arthur H. Henley, whose list amounted to £76 9s.; while in February the Prov. G. Secretary for the Province and Bro. Thomas Pengelley for the Mariners Lodge, No. 168, returned lists amounting to £94 10s., of which Bro. Pengelley was responsible for £84.

For the Province of JERSEY

and its array of seven lodges, Bro. M. Le Cronin did duty as Steward, and has to his credit a capital Return of £183 15s. We congratulate both these Provinces on the help they have given to the Old People and this Institution during the present year.

There remain the FOREIGN STATIONS,

of which three furnished Stewards, Bro. Pulman, as before mentioned, being included also under "Northumberland," while Bro. C. W. Spriggs, who represented Lodge No. 1026, Hong Kong, was also included among the "Kent" Stewards. The Returns under this head amounted to £31 10s. from Bro. Pulman, and our only remark is that Bro. Hedges would no doubt have gladly had the pleasure of entering a larger sum.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

It only remains for us to express the hope that in what we have said we have succeeded in steering clear of any comment that could in the slightest degree wound the susceptibilities of the Provinces, lodges, and brethren on the result of whose efforts we have been offering these criticisms.



STEWARDS' JEWEL.

Designed and Manufactured by Bros. George Kenning and Son, London.

The Badge of Silver Gilt is composed of the Arms of the Chairman enamelled in correct Heraldic Colours, mounted on a foundation representing Kentish Cob-nuts, Hops, and Oak-leaves. On the ribbon (the colour of the Institution) appears the White Horse of Kent and motto, and the whole is suspended from an Enamelled Bar with the Initials of the Institution, Steward Scroll, and Date.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AT THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

In the presence of a very large assemblage of supporters of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, Clapham-common, Countess Amherst distributed on the 6th instant the prizes gained by the pupils during the year. The ceremony took place in the beautiful Alexandra Centenary Hall, which her present Majesty opened just 10 years ago. The young ladies, who number about 200, looked very nice in their dresses of blue cloth and smart little pinafores, and they gave a capital display of calisthenic exercises. This was followed by some remarkably good marching, in much closer formation than is usually adopted, and in conclusion the girls formed into a series of groups representing the letters and figures "E.R.I., 1901," in honour of the fact, subsequently announced, that the King has become Grand Patron of the School.

A short musical programme was given, and Lady Amherst then gave away the awards. The gold medal for general proficiency, with an accom-

panying purse of £5, was adjudged to Miss Doris Eagle, who distinguished herself also in German and history, and took honours in the Senior Cambridge Local Examinations. Miss Mary Jowett, also with a long list of successes to her name, took the silver medal; and the good conduct prize given by the Supreme Council went to Miss Ethel Corner.

In a charming speech, Countess AMHERST advised the winners to go on and succeed again, not only in the School, but to make up their minds to win success outside. Those who had not obtained prizes were not to despair, for all were not equally gifted, and very often the girl who stood low in the list had worked as hard as those above her, and it was a fact that the prizes of life fell not always to the most brilliant, but to the most persevering. If they had thought yet of what they would make of life, she would remind them that it should have length, breadth, and height, and the former she regarded as just the common homely life of woman, which consisted of doing a number of small things well. Among the noble qualities of the Queen, whose loss they so deeply mourned, her virtues as wife and mother were ever conspicuous; and, so far as her exalted position permitted, she not only attended to, but thoroughly enjoyed her domestic duties. Homeliness might be an old-fashioned recipe, but it was a real good one to make a nation strong and successful. The breadth should lie in a wide sympathy for their fellows, and in such an Institution the idea of the brotherhood of man was constantly before them, to teach them to be tender hearted and kindly disposed, while for height they should look above. With some thoughtful words to the older girls on the "white pages" of life's unfolded book before them, her ladyship concluded amid hearty cheers.

Bro. Sir JOHN MONCKTON proposed a vote of thanks, to which Earl AMHERST, M.W. Pro G.M., replied, congratulating the teachers as well as the girls on all they had seen. He laughingly admitted a preference for the graceful exercises they had performed to the recently-discussed and more violent ones of skipping, for he would confide to them that when the right young man came in their direction it was the mate he was looking for an not the skipper!

After tea had been served to the visitors, the girls gave a short concert.

PRIZES PRESENTED BY THE INSTITUTION.

Gold Medal for Proficiency (with £5 by the late Bro. William Winn)—Doris Eagle.

Silver Medal for Good Conduct (with £5 by the late Bro. William Winn)—Mary Jowett.

Cambridge Local Examinations (31 entered, 49 passed).

Senior—Agnes Robinson (Gold Medallist, 1900), Doris Eagle. Class III. Honours. Catherine Castle (Silver Medallist, 1900), Marjorie Pavey.

Junior—Mary Jowett and Ida Day (with £2 10s. by Bro. D. P. Cama). Class III. Honours.

Preliminary—Christina Day (distinguished in English), Julia Collingwood, and Katherine Powell. Class II. Honours.

College of Preceptors' Examination (50 entered, 47 passed).—Dorothy Minns (Distinguished in Scripture, Geography, Arithmetic, French, Drawing), Margaret Callender (distinguished in Scripture, Geography, History, Drawing), and May Brine (Distinguished in English and Arithmetic).

Proficiency in Lower Classes—4th, Gladys Wheatley, Mabel Woodward; 5th, May Downes; and 6th, Alice Cross.

Needlework—Hilda Woodbridge, Gladys Harding, Winifred Watkins, and Mary Edmeston.

German—Doris Eagle.

PRESENTED BY FRIENDS OF THE INSTITUTION.

Religious Knowledge (Bro. Robert Grey)—Jessie Hicks and Lillian Grylls.

English Subjects (Bro. A. C. Spaul)—Doreen Cox and Christina Day.

Mathematics and Arithmetic (Bro. T. G. Bullen)—Bertha Sanders and Ida Davey.

Mental Arithmetic (Bro. G. W. Kentish)—Alice Cain and Dorothy Sackett.

History (The "Lady Leigh Warwickshire")—Doris Eagle.

Music—First Prize (Bro. J. H. Matthews)—Lilian Major (distinguished in Higher Division, School Exam. of Associated Board of Music).

Music—Second Prizes (The "Wentworth Little")—Agnes Robinson and Gertrude Firkin (both distinguished in Lower Division, School Exam. of Associated Board of Music).

Music—Third Prizes (The "Wentworth Little")—Mabel Abbott-Smith and Maud Brinjes.

Singing (Mrs. Robert Brown)—Rosalie Sherman and Pattie Caron.

French (The "Thomas Fenn")—Doreen Cox.

French (Bro. Oscar Philippe)—Dorothea Roberts.

Drawing—First Prizes (The "John Boyd")—Muriel Cranfield and Kathleen Pecklington.

Drawing—Second Prizes (The "John Boyd")—Ethel Corner and Dorothy Minns. Shorthand and Typewriting (Bro. R. Loveland Loveland, K.C.)—Nora Floyd (distinguished in Cambridge Exam.), and Dora Gallott.

Writing (the Misses Tobias)—Dorothy Roof and Agnes Weatherill.

Good Conduct, First Prize (the Supreme Council 33rd)—Ethel Corner.

Good Conduct, Second Prizes (Bro. Frank Richardson)—Bertha Sanders, Dorothea Roberts, and Mabel Rouse.

The Best Prefect (Bro. E. Letchworth)—Jessie Richards.

Order and Attention (Bro. Ralph Clutton)—Dorothy Harris and Anna Birkenfeld.

Domestic Economy (the "Lady Leigh Warwickshire")—Agnes Robinson.

Cookery, First Prizes (Bro. Henry A. Hunt)—Dorothy Haly and Barbara Middleton.

Cookery, Second Prizes (Lady Crawford)—Emily Caudwell and Evelina Loewenthal.

Usefulness in Domestic Duties (The "Yates"), St. James' Lodge, No. 842—Evelyn Underwood and Hilda Woodbridge.

Calisthenics and Department (Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart.)—Viola Roach.

Fancy Work (Mrs. Henry A. Hunt)—Nell Platt.

Swimming (Lady Monckton)—Evelyn Underwood and Doreen Cox.

Swimming (Special Medal for Endurance, one mile, Miss J. Humphrey, Swimming Mistress)—Evelyn Underwood.

JUNIOR SCHOOL.

General Proficiency (Bro. Frank Richardson)—Mildred Harrop.

Arithmetic (The "Henry Levander")—Winifred Shierson.

CONSECRATION OF THE WHITE ROSE OF YORK LODGE, No. 2810.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. SIR ALFRED J. NEWTON, BART.

As the name implies, this lodge draws its members from Yorkshire, the premier county. Indeed, nearly all the founders are members of the Yorkshire Society. The lodge was consecrated on Friday evening, the 3rd inst., at the Holborn Restaurant by the Grand Secretary, Bro. E. Letchworth, assisted by Bros. Rev. Canon Brownrigg, P.G.C., as Chap.; H. J. Adams, P.G.S.B., as S.W.; M. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B., as J.W.; and Frank Richardson, G.D.C., as D.C. Amongst the distinguished visitors were

Bros. Geo. W. Liningen, P.G.M. of Nebraska, Grand High Priest, &c.; Alphonsius J. Naughton, D. F. Norrington, Dr. W. Benjafield, E. G. Steers, Rev. A. E. B. Sanders, Richard Wilson, D.P.G.M. of W. Yorks.; Dr. Warren, and F. Scanlan.

In addressing the brethren, the Consecrating Officer congratulated the lodge in having as its first Master so distinguished a Yorkshireman as Sir Alfred Newton, whose ability and experience would prove of the utmost value. The warrant of the lodge was one of the first to be granted and signed by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, the newly-appointed Grand Master. The very name of this Yorkshire lodge had a fragrance about it, and he trusted it would have a career of usefulness before it.

Bro. Canon BROWNRIFF delivered a most eloquent oration, pointing out to the brethren the grand aims of Masonry and fervently appealing to them to carry those objects out.

After the consecration ceremony, which was done in the most admirable and impressive manner conceivable, Sir Alfred was installed as the Worshipful Master, and he appointed as his officers, Bros. J. J. Fretwell, acting I.P.M.; James Graham, S.W.; H. W. Dobb, J.W.; Geo. Russell, Treas.; Henry J. Barker, Sec.; Wm. Metcalfe, S.D.; Dr. T. Halliwell, J.D.; T. Chadwick, I.G.; Dr. Wm. Briggs, D.C.; J. Briggs, T. Oldroyd, R. Pattison, and W. D. Forsdike, Stwds. Bro. Geo. Rowe was elected Tyler.

In addition to the several toasts eloquently proposed by the WORSHIPFUL MASTER: Bro. RICHARD WILSON proposed "The Consecrating Officers;" the GRAND SECRETARY "The Worshipful Master;" and Bro. Dr. BRIGGS "The Masonic Charities."

Bros. JAS. GRAHAM and HY. J. BARKER appropriately responded for "The Officers;" and Bro. Geo. W. LININGEN, P.G.M. of Nebraska, in a most interesting and instructive speech, responded for "The Visitors."

The dinner was admirably served, and the musical arrangements were in the able hands of Bro. Wharton Wells, F.C.O., and the Lyric Quartette.

CONSECRATION OF THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL LODGE, No. 2843.

The consecration of the above lodge took place at the Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday, the 7th instant. The ceremony of consecration was most impressively performed by Bro. E. Letchworth, F.S.A., G. Secretary, assisted by Bros. Clement Godson, M.D., P.G.D., as S.W.; Alfred Cooper, F.R.C.S., P.G.D., as J.W.; Sir Borradaile Savory, G. Chap.; the Rev. Canon Brownrigg, P.G. Chap.; F. Tower, as D. of C.; and Surg.-Lieut.-Col. H. W. Kiallmark, P.G.D., as I.G.

The founders of the new lodge are Bros. his Grace the Duke of Portland, K.G., Prov. G. Master Notts.; the Most Hon. the Marquis of Breadalbane, K.G., P.P.G. Master Perth East; the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, Prov. G. Master W. Lancs.; T. J. A. Burns, P.M., P.P.G.D. Surrey; Wm. Duncan, 2410; F. J. Wethered, 2033; H. Morris, 1591; F. C. Melhado, F.I.S., 143; E. J. Humphery, P.M., P.G. Stwd.; A. G. R. Foulerton, 1174; F. P. Lightwick, 3; H. E. Ormerod, 357; Wilhelm Ganz, P.G. Org.; and Hadyn McClelland, 2226.

There was a large attendance of the brethren at the ceremony of consecration, numbering about 80, after the Grand Secretary had entered the lodge room in procession, including several Prov. Grand Officers and Past Masters.

The CONSECRATING OFFICER having appointed his officers *pro tem*, opened the lodge in the Three Degrees, and then delivered an address on the motive of the meeting. The Middlesex Hospital he observed was one of those noble institutions of which, whether regarded from a philanthropic or educational point of view, they were so justly proud. The hospital had been in existence for 157 years, and numbered among its patrons George IV., William IV., Queen Victoria, and His Majesty, the present King, and it had seemed most fitting to those who had been associated with it in the alleviation of human suffering that a lodge should be formed in connection with the Middlesex Hospital.

The petition and warrant were read by the D.C., and a brief but eloquent oration was delivered by Bro. Rev. Sir Borradaile Savory, after which the ceremony of consecration was proceeded with, the musical portion of the ceremony being supplied by Bro. Wilhelm Ganz, P.G.O.

The new lodge having been dedicated and constituted, the Grand Secretary installed Bro. T. J. Burns, P.P.G.D., as the first W.M. of the newly-consecrated lodge.

The W.M. invested the following to act as his officers for the ensuing year; Bros. Right Hon. Earl of Lathom, Prov. G.M., I.P.M.; Wm. Duncan, S.W.; F. J. Wethered, J.W.; Henry Morris, Treas.; F. Clare Melhado, Sec.; E. J. Humphery, P.G.S., D. of C.; A. G. R. Foulerton, S.W.; F. P. Lightwick, J.D.; C. Vincent Cotterell, P.P.G.D., I.G.; Wilhelm Ganz, P.G.O., Org.; R. A. Young, Steward; and Joseph Taylor, Tyler.

A Committee consisting of the W.M., I.P.M., S.W., J.W., Treasurer, and Secretary was appointed to frame the bye-laws of the new lodge.

Eleven candidates for initiation and nine joining members were proposed, and a vote of thanks having been accorded the Grand Secretary and the Grand Officers assisting him, on the motion of Bro. BURNS, W.M., seconded by Bro. Wm. DUNCAN, S.W., the lodge was closed.

At the banquet to which the brethren subsequently sat down, Bro. Ganz, P.G. Org., directed the music, and was ably assisted by the Westminster Glee Singers, viz., Bros. Chas. May, Harper Kearton, Chas. Ackerman, and W. H. Brereton.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured.

Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of LATHOM, in replying on behalf of "The Grand Officers," impressed upon his hearers the uselessness of the Grand Officers doing their duty unless they were loyally and constantly assisted by the brethren generally, ever remembering that they had one object and end in view. He congratulated the founders on the formation of the Middlesex Hospital Lodge, and expressed his pleasure at having been invited to join the lodge and at being present at its consecration.

The W.M., in proposing "The Health of the Consecrating Officers," coupled therewith the names of Bros. Letchworth, Dodson, Cooper, Brownrigg, and Kiallmark, and expressed the gratitude of the lodge to them for the impressive manner in which they had rendered the beautiful consecration ceremony, and to Bro. Ganz for the manner in which he had performed the musical portion of that ceremony.

The W.M., at the conclusion of his speech, presented the Consecrating Officer with a founder's jewel as a memento of the occasion.

Bro. LETCHWORTH, replying on behalf of himself and the Grand Officers who had assisted him in the consecration ceremony, observed that they had been compelled to hear his voice a good deal in the lodge, so it would be ungenerous on his part to inflict a long speech on them. ("No, no.") He tendered them the warmest thanks of the Consecrating Officers. It was always a pleasure to consecrate a new lodge, especially one which appeared to have such a career of usefulness before it as the Middlesex Hospital Lodge. He was grateful to them for the way in which the toast had been honoured, and also for the gift bestowed on him. He would take that opportunity of thanking Bro. the Rev. Sir Borradaile Savory for the admirable oration he had given them, and Bro. Tower for the manner in which he had discharged, at short notice, in consequence of the unavoidable absence of Bro. Frank Richardson, the duties of D.C.

Bro. Right Hon. the Earl of LATHOM, proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master." He had met him first years ago in the Rahere Lodge, and had met him as P.G.D. of Surrey, and in many other districts, and had now the satisfaction of meeting him as a founder and first Master of a new lodge.

The W.M. in reply, thanked Bro. Lord Lathom for the kind reference he had made to himself, and proceeded to speak of the advisability of forming lodges, the members of which had some other bond in common besides that of Masonry. There were four other medical lodges in London, the Esculapius and three connected with hospitals, viz., the Charing Cross, the London, and St. Thomas' Hospitals.

The toasts of "The Visitors," and "Officers of the Lodge," were proposed and responded to, the proceedings terminating with the Tyler's toast.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

At the annual meeting of this Prov. G. Lodge, which was held in the Town Hall, Dewsbury, on Wednesday, the 17th ult., there were present:

Bros. Richard Wilson, P.M. 289, P.G.D., Dep. Prov. G. Master, acting Prov. G. Master; John C. Malcolm, P.M. 306, P.G.D., P.D.P.G.M., as Dep. Prov. G. Master; Henry Smith, P.M. 302, P.G.D., Past D.P.G.M.; Frederick Cleaves, P.M. 904, Prov. S.G.W.; H. Gaskell Blackburn, P.M. 1311, Prov. J.G.W.; W. F. Smithson, P.M. 1001, P.G.D., Cornelius Wheawill, P.M. 290, and Wm. Watson, P.M. 61, Hon. Librarian, P.P.G.Ws.; the Rev. Geo. Ford, P.M. 2558, Prov. G. Chap.; the Rev. T. N. Greenhalgh, Chap. 275, the Rev. W. H. Stansfield, Chap. 1221, and the Rev. E. Fox-Thomas, P.M. 1311, P.P.G. Chaps.; Wm. Henry Wilson, P.M. 1102, Prov. G. Treas.; Thos. Harrison, P.M. 296, Thos. Richards, P.M. 258, Major G. Bolton, P.M. 154, and William Smith, P.M. 1211, P.P.G. Treasurers; Major Chas. F. Bennett, P.M. 2268, Prov. G. Reg.; D. Allison Shaw, P.M. 827, John E. Craven, P.M. 308, Hy. Slade Childe, P.M. 154, J. T. Last, P.M. 2321, and A. H. J. Fletcher, P.M. 275, P.P.G. Regs.; Major H. G. E. Green, P.M. 1019, Prov. G. Sec.; Lieut.-Col. E. S. Tozer, P.M. 2268, Richard Hodgson, P.M. 448, and Peter McGregor, P.M. 290, Prov. S.G.Ds.; W. E. Gray, P.M. 296, Prov. J.G.D.; C. E. Rhodes, P.M. 208, T. I. Walker, P.M. 1231, J. W. Balme, P.M. 61, Alfred Scarth, P.M. 289, W. B. Wall, P.M. 290, W. E. Smithies, P.M. 1231, Walker Dyson, P.M. 290, Alfred Robertshaw, P.M. 448, Hy. Telford, P.M. 387, Wm. Flockton, P.M. 1042, J. Lund Brayshaw, P.M. 2091, W. Blackburn, P.M. 306, C. H. Robinson, P.M. 275, Theo. Bates, P.M. 303, Francis Smith, P.M. 837, Joseph Jackman, P.M. 139, Lewis Lee, P.M. 827, J. P. Brown, P.M. 1648, and Dr. Geo. Hoyle, P.M. 1231, P.P.G.Ds.; Jno. Lane Fox, P.M. 208, Prov. G. Supt. of Wks.; John Barker, P.M. 1102, T. W. Roope, P.M. 904, Reuben Castle, P.M. 750, Jas. Lawton, P.M. 337, J. W. Cocking, P.M. 2035, and J. N. Bolton, P.M. 1736, P.P.G. Supts. of Wks.; Jas. Millington, P.M. 1221, Prov. G.D. of C.; Sidney Mortimer, P.M. 603, Prov. G. Dep. D. of C.; Joe Sykes, P.M. 1514, Prov. Asst. G.D. of C.; Austin Roberts, P.M. 307, J. W. Monckman, J.P., P.M. 1018, T. J. Pickles, P.M. 258, Edmund Lord, P.M. 910, W. D. Quarby, P.M. 208, Thos. Norfolk, P.M. 600, Thos. Uttley, P.M. 307, Wm. Hy. Dawson, P.M. 1108, G. P. Sunderland, P.M. 1736, Thos. Heaton, P.M. 265, Daniel White, P.M. 149, J. R. Fawcett, P.M. 1214, J. Wigglesworth, P.M. 1783, Edward Mackay, P.M. 650, and Charles Rayner, P.M. 380, P.P.G.Ds. of C.; Wm. J. Morris, P.M. 1736, J. J. Rutherford, P.M. 1545, and Wm. Gudger, P.M. 149, Prov. G.S.Bs.; A. Fawthrop, P.M. 1302, P. as Prov. G. Std. Br.; J. Constable, P.M. 2259, P. as Prov. G. Std. Br.; Wm. Laycock, P.M. 1108, T. M. Holmes, P.M. 1545, Robert Fisher, P.M. 1221, John Hey, P.M. 387, Wm. High, P.M. 1283, Jno. Spencer, P.M. 408, Geo. Illingworth, P.M. 258; Hy. Beaumont, P.M. 1301, and John Niven, P.M. 2321, P.P.G. Std. Brs.; Jeremiah Dunnill, P.M. 1019, Prov. G. Org.; Joshua Marshall, W.M. 275, Geo. F. Carr, P.M. 1542, and Tom. Buckland, P.M. 1231, P.P.G. Orgs.; Henry Banks, P.M. 1042, Prov. Asst. G. Sec.; J. Matthewman, P.M. 1019, and J. E. Barton, P.M. 306, P.P. Asst. G. Secs.; Wm. Townsend, P.M. 750, Prov. G. Purst.; Will Akeroyd, P.M. 971, Prov. Asst. G. Purst.; John Sead, P.M. 1302, Thos. Gaukroger, P.M. 1283, Jno. Shoemith, P.M. 1783, Chas. Shaw, P.M. 337, Edwin Billington, P.M. 1462, and J. A. Heastie, P.M. 652, P.P.G. Pursts.; W. E. Turner, P.M. 1108, Geo. Williams, P.M. 139, and F. Rowe Dickenson, P.M. 308, Prov. G. Stwds.; Thos. Leighton, Tyler 139, Prov. G. Tyler; T. F. Wheeler, Tyler 289, as Prov. Asst. to Tyler; together with the Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and brethren of the lodges.

The acting Prov. G. Master, Bro. Richard Wilson, P.G.D., Dep. Prov. G. Master; the acting Dep. Prov. G. Master, Bro. J. C. Malcolm, P.G.D., P.D.P.G.M., P.P.G.R.; and the officers of Provincial Grand Lodge having entered, and Prov. G. Lodge having been opened, the roll of lodges and that of Present and Past Grand Officers were called.

Apologies were announced from the following brethren: Bros. the Right Hon. W. L. Jackson, M.P., Prov. G. Master; W. C. Lupton, J.G.D., P.P.G.W.; Wm. Harrop, P.P.G.W.; and about 50 Past Prov. G. Officers, W.Ms., P.Ms., and brethren.

The minutes of the half-yearly meeting, held at Barnsley, on Friday, October 26th, 1900, were presented for confirmation.

Proposed by Bro. J. T. LAST, P.P.G.R., seconded by Bro. J. R. FAWCETT, P.P.G.D.C., and resolved, "That the minutes be taken as read and confirmed."

The ACTING PROV. G. MASTER, addressing the brethren, said: Our first thoughts are with our absent Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, and as if the head suffers so must the body suffer, we are in sorrow to-day because he has been plunged into the greatest sorrow of his life.

We have a great interest in everything that affects our Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master, because we have seen and felt his unselfish labours to promote the interests of his country and of our Fraternity. On that account we claim to have, and we desire now to express our affectionate sympathy with him and with his family in their great loss by the death of Mrs. Jack-

son. May I ask the brethren to express their sympathy, not by a formal vote, but by rising in their places now.

The whole of the brethren silently rose in their places.

The acting Prov. G. Master continuing said: I will now read a letter from the Provincial Grand Master, which I received this morning. It is from Beaulieu, South of France, and says:

My dear Deputy,

I am greatly obliged to you for taking my duty on Wednesday.

May I ask you to be good enough to allow me to take this means of conveying to the Charity Committee, and to the various lodges in the province my grateful appreciation of the many expressions of sympathy with my family and me in our great sorrow.

Again thanking you,

Believe me, yours very truly and fraternally,
W. L. JACKSON.

Worshipful Bro. Richd. Wilson,
Deputy Prov. Grand Master.

It will also be our duty to place on record in our minutes our sense of the loss we have sustained by the lamented death of her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, and our loyalty to King Edward VII. Personally, I regret that every lodge was not allowed to give feeling expression of its sorrow at the time of the death of our beloved Queen, and of its loyalty to our King, who was the head of the Craft, because it is only by the exercise of such feelings that we can strengthen and perfect them, and it is too cold for the nature of a Yorkshireman to simply place his feelings on record. We will later express our gratification that H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught has been unanimously elected, and has accepted the office of Most Worshipful Grand Master. You will have the report of the Charity Committee presented to you, and it is very full of instructive information. As you know, we possess three magnificent Institutions in London, and our own West Yorkshire Charity for emergencies. The Earl of Warwick presided over the last Festival for the Old People's Institution in February, when the splendid sum of £25,542 was announced, the largest amount ever given for the Old Folk except at the Jubilee in 1892. Outside these and in every town, we have hospitals, infirmaries, convalescent homes, and other most excellent charities which strongly appeal to us, and there are now so very many ways offered by which to dispense our charity that we are often led to decide which, by our opinion of the care with which the money is expended and economy exercised in administration. Our desire, therefore, is that knowing our own Charitable Institutions to be the finest in the world, we shall be able to assure all our brethren that these large sums of money are spent in the Charity, and that the expenses are no more than are necessary. We have a petition for a new lodge at Barnsley which meets with our approval, and will be forwarded to Grand Lodge. By the death of Bro. W. H. Cowper, Past Grand Std. Br., of Middlesbrough, this province has lost one known and esteemed by many of us. He attended our meetings and took great interest in all our affairs. The new Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds, has made great progress, and it is expected it will be ready for occupation in July next. The directors have so earnestly tried to arrange suitable rooms for offices for Prov. Grand Lodge that we shall have to consider their proposals. Although the Prov. Grand Lodge has met at Dewsbury a dozen times, this is the first time we have met solely under the banner of St. John's Lodge, No. 827. Formed in 1860, it is now one of the most successful lodges in the province, with 73 members. It resides on its own property, and by a recent purchase it has considerably enlarged and beautified its premises. As to the returns of the province, I have to report a decrease in the initiations of new members of 66, an increase of 16 resignations, 11 exclusions, and of 25 in arrears. As there are 35 lodges without any in arrears, 46 lodges with 143 in arrears calls for your attention. If the decrease in new members arises from greater caution in the admission of brethren, the Craft as a whole will not be the worse for it. If it be that we are getting too exclusive, I say it is a bad sign. The resignations are chiefly governed by removals, but with regard to the exclusions I have not looked to see how they arise. With respect to the arrears I would call the attention of the Worshipful Masters, Treasurers, and Secretaries of the lodges in which they occur to the matter. In the appointment of officers the Prov. Grand Master has made it his endeavour not only to do right, but also to avoid doing a wrong to any lodge or brother, and collars have been given in 20 different towns. In expressing my pleasure at being with you to-day at a meeting which is a record one, inasmuch as every lodge in the province has been responded for, and thanking you for your attendance, allow me to remark that neither in the individual, the lodge, nor the province can there be any great result except by work, and it is for us individually to see that we work in the right direction. Nothing tends to keep the heart young, and therefore the outward appearance young, as a mixture of kindly feelings, help in the sorrow of others, and the practice of doing good. Let us, therefore, try to so spend our lives that the world will be better and brighter for us.

Bro. W. BLACKBURN, P.P.S.G.D., Chairman of the Charity Committee, in moving the adoption of the annual report of the Committee, said: R.W. Sir and brethren, I do not intend to take up much of your time, as nearly all I wish to say is contained in the annual report which was drawn up and adopted by the Charity Committee at Wakefield, on Saturday, the 30th March. I strongly recommend that the Charity members of the various lodges should read the report in open lodge for the information of the brethren. During my travels throughout the province I have heard a great many complaints that the brethren do not understand the nature of the Charities. It is, therefore, necessary that the report should be read in order that the brethren may become acquainted with our position with regard to these Charities. Last year we elected all the cases nominated, viz., seven. At the Boys' and Girls' Elections, on April 11th and 12th, we had one girl and three boys, which we succeeded in electing at a cost of 19,619 votes. The father of the boy Curtis was a member of Britannia Lodge, No. 139, Sheffield, and Dramatic Lodge, No. 1609, Liverpool, and West Lancashire assisted us in carrying this with a gift of 2450 votes. We have four candidates for the elections on May 17th next, viz., two men and two widows. I think I can say that although there are so few vacancies those four old people will be elected. We have also to face the elections in October, for which we have already five candidates—four boys and one girl. When the brethren take into consideration that we have already elected four for this particular province, besides having assisted other cases, that we have four old people to elect in May, and five cases for election in October, the brethren can understand that the votes of the province will not be sufficient to do anything like it. The Committee will,

therefore, have to depend upon their ability to borrow votes from other provinces. The Province of West Yorkshire possesses 35,000 votes, but to elect all the cases already before the Committee this year we shall require upwards of 65,000 votes. The Charity Committee will, therefore, have to ask from other provinces for tokens of kindly feelings towards them and that they will reciprocate the favours which have been extended to them in the past. In order to keep ourselves to the front—for several years we have prided ourselves that we are to the front—I shall have to ask the brethren to be this year a little more generous towards the Charities than at present the list indicates. Last year the brethren subscribed £3535. So far they have subscribed towards the annuitants £810. The Earl of Warwick asked you (when at Leeds last July) to support him, and the brethren have done so loyally. Towards the Girls' School you have so far contributed £1386. This is the Girls' year; while towards the Boys there is only the pittance of £170. I, therefore, ask the brethren to consider more favourably the Boys' Festival. For the West Yorkshire Fund you have contributed £303, which I think hardly sufficient, considering it is a home Charity. The West Yorkshire Educational and Benevolent Fund will, I believe, in the years to come prove to be one of the best Charities connected with this province. The Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master has invested the sum of £500 in 3½ per cent. Wakefield Corporation Stock, and I should like him to be placed in the position of being able to invest another £500 in the purchase of similar stock. If the brethren who have not already done so would become Life Governors of their home institution, the Treasurer would soon be placed in that happy position. It was suggested that Bro. Green should give fuller information with regard to our position, with respect to the work of the Charities in London and at home, to the brethren, who are only too anxious to give their money if they are assured it is well spent. This he has done most ably, and I will add that those who know most about the Charities to which I have referred are highly satisfied that they are managed as well as modern Charities can be managed. I thank the acting R.W. Prov. G.M. for his kind references to the Charities.

Bro. H. S. CHILDE, Vice-Chairman, C.C., seconded the resolution. He said it was his pleasant duty particularly to thank the Charity Stewards of the different lodges for the efforts they had made on behalf of the Charities, and also to thank the brethren who had so well supported them. The Charity Committee wished to accentuate the paragraph in the report that, wherever possible, the subscriptions of the brethren should be given in the name of the Master's chair. They would be more enduring, and help the Charity Committee a great deal more than if given in the names of the brethren. With regard to the West Yorkshire Fund, they were living on the interest—not on what they owed, like some absentee landlords, but on the interest of what was due to them. They had never made a call upon the brethren. He hoped when a call was made a hearty response would be given to it. He concluded by remarking that, at any time, Bro. Blackburn, himself, or the Secretary would be happy to give any information respecting the Charities to the brethren.

The report was adopted.

The following resolution was moved by the acting P.G.M., seconded by Bro. W. BLACKBURN, P.P.G.D., and resolved:

That this Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire desires to place on record its profound grief at the death of her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, Grand Patron of our great Masonic Charities, which sad event took place at Osborne House, Isle of Wight, on Tuesday, 22nd January, at 6.30 in the evening.

This Prov. Grand Lodge offers its sincere and respectful condolences to his Majesty King Edward the VII., and their homage on his accession to the British Throne. It is sensible of the many great benefits conferred on the Order by his Majesty during the 27 years that he had occupied the chair of M.W. Grand Master.

Whilst expressing our natural regret at the unavoidable resignation of the Grand Mastership of England by the King, we wish to record our great gratification that his Majesty's brother, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, K.G., has been unanimously elected Most Worshipful Grand Master, and that he has accepted the office.

The Prov. G. Treasurer, Bro. W. H. WILSON, in presenting the accounts for the past year, remarked that the province was in a worse position at the close of the year than at the commencement. They began with a balance of £787, and left with one of £762. There had, however, been two special grants which more than made up the deficiency, namely, a grant of £25 to the library, and £21 to the South African War Masonic Relief Fund.

Bro. C. F. BENNETT, Prov. G.R., in moving the adoption of the balance-sheet, said that the accounts had been properly and faithfully kept. No one could help being pleased with the way in which they had been kept and the vouchers and different papers required by the Auditors produced by the Prov. Grand Secretary. He kept the accounts generally, and the careful, satisfactory, and clear manner in which he had done so was highly creditable to him.

The acting Prov. G. MASTER formally seconded the resolution, which was carried.

Bro. J. LANE FOX, Prov. G. Supt. of Wks., reported that he had inspected the regalia and property of the Prov. Grand Lodge, and had found all in perfect order. He had made an inventory of the same.

On the motion of Bro. W. H. WILSON, Prov. G. Treas., seconded by Bro. J. MARSHALL, P.P.G.O., Bro. Robert Potter, P.M. 275, was unanimously elected Prov. G. Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Bro. POTTER briefly thanked the brethren.

The acting Prov. G. Master proceeded to invest the officers for the ensuing year.

Bro. John Lee Walker, J.P., 290	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Henry Chalker, 154	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. Evan Morris Young, 302	...	...	} Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. Hugh Doig, 337	...	...
" Robert Potter, 275 (elected)	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" John Tweedale, 827	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Major H. G. E. Green, 1019	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Arthur Wm. Chapman, 289	...	...	} Prov. S.G.Ds.
" Hugh Kershaw, 2330	...	...
" Richard Wilkinson, J.P., 837	...	...
" John Barraclough, 304	...	...	} Prov. J.G.Ds.
" Edward, Holmes, 1779	...	...
" George Williams, 439	...	...
" William Towers, 306	...	...	Prov. G.S. of Wks.

Bro. Wm. Watson, 61, P.P.G.W.	...	...	Prov. G. Lib.
" Tom Twivy, 1018	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" Ellis Foulds, 910	...	...	Prov. D.G.D. of C.
" A. W. Fretwell, 242	...	...	} Prov. A.G.D.Cs.
" Chas. E. Bygrave, 2091	...	...
" Wm. Harrison, 265	...	...	} Prov. G.S.B.
" John Haley, 1034	...	...
" Ben Child, 258	...	...	} Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" Wm. Edward Turner, 1108	...	...
" E. Rowe Dickenson, 308	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Geo. Hy. Schofield, 1542	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" Richard Loynd, 401	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" Elias Heaton, 387	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" Jno. T. Goodall, 1301	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" Arthur Alderson, 1302	...	...
" Wm. Senior, 1513	...	...
" Alfred Leach, 495	...	...
" Walter Davey, 1001	...	...
" George Stones, 1462	...	...	} Prov. G. Tyler.
" Thomas Leighton, 139	...	...
" Thomas Chester, 914	...	...	Asst. to P.G. Tyler.

Bro. J. T. LAST, P.M. 2321, P.P.G.R., gave notice that at the next meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge he should call attention to the mode or method of election of the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of England, and move a resolution thereon.

The ACTING PROV. G.M. proposed a vote of thanks to the W.M., officers, and brethren of St. John's Lodge, No. 827, for the ample provision made for the accommodation of Prov. G. Lodge on that occasion.

Bro. H. SMITH, P.G.D., P.D.P.G.M., seconded the motion, which was carried with acclamation.

No invitation was given for the half-yearly meeting in October, 1901.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was closed in due form, and with solemn prayer.

About 90 brethren afterwards dined together in the Banqueting Hall at five o'clock, the acting Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Richard Wilson, presiding.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

As we have had occasion from time to time to point out, Mark Masonry in West Yorkshire has established for itself a position of great respect and importance. It is ever progressive, and year by year increases both in numbers and influence. The annual meeting of the province took place on Wednesday, the 1st instant. It was held at Castleford, under the banner of the *Legiolium* Lodge, No. 457, and was a thoroughly representative and successful gathering. Castleford can scarcely be considered attractive as a place to visit. Standing at the junction of the rivers Aire and Calder, once limpid streams, but now, alas! how changed, this busy little town devotes itself chiefly to coal mining. It has, however, an extensive pottery manufacture, and is also much given up to glass bottle making. Its atmosphere is murky, not to say depressing, but the heartiness of its welcome to the Provincial Grand Lodge on this, its first visit, was unmistakable. The rooms occupied by the Masonic community of Castleford are, of course, quite inadequate to an occasion of this kind. The meeting was therefore held in the Assembly Rooms, which were found very suitable and convenient.

What may be called the business of the day began at 2 30 p.m. with the meeting of the Charity Committee. This body, consisting of elected representatives from all the lodges as well as life and *ex-officio* members, conducts the Mark Charity business of the province, and since its formation has done immense service in aid of the Mark Benevolent Fund. A report for presentation at the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge was submitted by the Secretary and adopted. From this document it appears that West Yorkshire has at present only two annuitants on the Fund, one man and one widow. Its donations have been of a very substantial nature, and, in fact, the condition of affairs was described as highly satisfactory. Bro. W. E. Smithies, the very popular Chairman, was re-elected to that position with unanimity, as was also his equally genial Vice-Chairman, Bro. Thomas Rowbotham. A list of donations promised for the coming Festival was read by the Secretary, from which it seemed probable that West Yorkshire would give satisfactory account of itself at the coming Festival. Other routine business followed.

The meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge took place at 4.15, when the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. C. Letch Mason, accompanied by his Deputy, numerously attended, entered the Hall, and Prov. Grand Lodge was opened with solemn prayer.

The officers present comprised

Bros. T. Rowbotham, P.M. 53, Prov. S.G.W.; William Flockton, P.M. 111, Prov. J.G.W.; E. Billington, P.M. 127, as Prov. G.M.O.; C. E. Rose, P.M. 58, Prov. S.G.O.; Thomas Norfolk, P.M. (T.I.), as Prov. J.G.O.; the Rev. J. L. Brereton, I.P.M. 127, Prov. G. Chap.; B. S. Bailey, P.M. 374, Prov. G. Treas.; J. P. Hewitt, P.M. 53, as Prov. G. Reg.; Joseph Matthewman, P.M. 110, Prov. G. Sec.; Alfred Wilson, P.M. 457, as Prov. S.G.D.; A. G. Mabin, P.M. 457, Prov. J.G.D.; W. H. Kingswell, P.M. 110, as Prov. G.I. of W.; R. J. Smith, P.M. 111, Prov. G.D. of C.; R. Bridge, P.M. 398, Prov. G.S.B.; T. Pickies, P.M. 127, as Prov. G. Std. Br.; Joe Sykes, J.W. 137, Prov. G. Org.; Joshua Hill, P.M. (T.I.), Prov. G.I.G.; Tom Ashworth, P.M. 14, S. Krakauer, P.M. 127, Theo. Barber, P.M. 398, and W. B. Smith, W.M. 352, Prov. G. Stwds.; and T. F. Wheeler, 111, Prov. G. Tyler.

There were also

Bros. H. S. Holdsworth, P.M. 58 and 535, P.P.G.W., P.G. Std. Br.; W. E. Smithies, P.M. 137 and 493, P.P.G.W., Past G. Stwd., Chairman of Charity Committee; Charles Woolons, P.M. 110, P.P.G.W.; John Reed, P.M. 398, and G. F. Carr, P.M. 457, P.P.G. Treasurers; Wm. Langbridge, P.M. 398, P.P.G. Reg.; F. Smith, P.M. 352, J. J. Martin, P.M. 110, and T. G. Howell, P.M. 137 and 493, P.P.G.Ds.; G. H. Schofield, P.M. 457, P.P.G.I. of W.; A. Leach, P.M. 110, J. F. Dyson, P.M. 137, and T. B. Wilson, P.M. 457, P.P.G.Ds. of C.

There was a considerable muster of brethren from all parts of the province including:

Bros. J. T. Thompson, W.M. 53; Geo. Greenwood, W.M. 58; H. Bonser, W.M. 111; J. L. Sykes, W.M. 137; W. B. Smith, W.M. 352; J. B. Corbett, W.M. 457; G. Hoyle, M.D., W.M. 493; E. Foulds, W.M. 335; W. Dyson, W.M. 545; also Bros. W. Postlethwaite, P.M. 574; J. H. Dyson, P.M. 137; Wm. Varley, P.M. 501; Geo. Whitaker, S.W. 535; John Cromack, M.O. (T.I.);

Wright Wagstaffe, S.O. 535; Thos. Beach, S.O.; Thos. Beevers, J.O.; A. Shuttleworth, Sec. 457; J. E. Cawthorn, S.O. 111; and many others.

After salutations the roll of lodges was called, and the acting Registrar, Bro. J. P. Hewitt, P.M. 53, announced that every lodge was represented. This gave much satisfaction.

After announcing a long list of apologies, the PROV. G. SECRETARY presented minutes of the last meeting, held at Ripon, which, having been printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed, after proposition duly made and seconded to that effect.

The report of the Prov. G. Registrar was then read. It briefly stated particulars of the addition of the *Dartmouth* Lodge, No. 545, to the roll, making 17 in all, the steady increase in the members, and the almost entire absence of arrears.

The balance-sheet was adopted on the proposition of the Dep. Prov. G. Master (Bro. JOHN BARKER), seconded by the Junior G. Warden (Bro. FLOCKTON).

The PROV. G. MASTER then gave his annual address. He said—

Brethren,—On referring to what I may call the annals of the province I find that it was on the 8th day of February, 1893, that it was my privilege to consecrate the *Legiolium* Mark Lodge. I was on that occasion accompanied and supported by 21 Provincial Officers. The petition for the warrant was signed by 14 brethren, every one of whom was a member of my mother *Copley* Lodge. Of these 14 brethren, nine have already passed through or reached the honourable position of W.M. of the lodge. The brother who was nominated to fill the responsible part of first W.M. was Bro. G. F. Carr, who was well fitted to discharge that duty as he had only recently at that time left a similar position in *Copley* Lodge. He, at the same period, was Prov. Grand Treasurer, having received the appointment the previous year. Bro. Carr brought active interest and valuable experience to bear in the working of the lodge, and *Legiolium* will, I am sure, cheerfully and gratefully acknowledge the important services which he has continued to give to it since its formation. I notice that amongst the officers appointed by Bro. Carr after his installation were Bros. J. E. Mann and J. B. Corbett, your present I.P.M. and W.M. I congratulate those brethren upon having worked their way from the low but still useful positions of Stewards to the high and honourable posts they now so worthily fill. *Legiolium* was the 12th lodge of Mark Masons formed in this province. On the 16th January last I consecrated the 17th on our list. Thus in the short interval we have added five new lodges, which shows satisfactory progress, and, what is more, we have just about doubled our membership. I don't want us to advance too rapidly; let us progress cautiously. We are told that in "this world the evil is ever mingled with the good," and it is so in all societies. There are Freemasons and Freemasons; and because a man joins the Craft it does not necessarily follow that he should enter the Mark. Accept him by all means if you are assured of his worthiness, but be assured of it, and don't try to increase your numbers or improve your finances at the expense of the moral well-being of your lodges. *Legiolium* has not a very extensive field from which to draw recruits, and the inaccessibility of Pontefract prevents brethren from that town from enjoying the privileges of the Mark Degree to the same extent to which, were communication easy and continual, they might be disposed to avail themselves. But you have no cause for despondency; add a good man when you can find him; work away at the ritual so as to qualify yourselves for any emergency, and the result will be not only satisfactory to the province, but also to your own sense of what constitutes Masonic duty. Of course, lodges individually have their vicissitudes: sometimes the tide of progress and success rises abnormally high, at others it seems almost perpetual low water; but however it may vary in individual lodges, the gradual though increasing popularity and influence of the Mark Degree are shown by unmistakable evidences. One of these is the growing interest in, and success of, the Mark Benevolent Fund. In the report which the Chairman of the Charity Committee will call your attention to very shortly it is shown that West Yorkshire has taken a most creditable share during the past seven years in adding to the finances of this most valuable Charity, and thereby, of course, largely increasing its power for good. Last year this province did nobly, and there are indications, I am told, that this year we shall not do badly. The point in this relation that I would especially emphasise is *let every lodge do something*. A small subscription all round, an alms-box at supper, will easily raise a nice little amount, which can be put upon the W.M.'s chair. I want us to show to the Masonic world that this province is imbued with a spirit of unanimity and concord, and that though we may not subscribe a very large amount per annum *we all give something*. Brethren, I am not pressing this point; I do not wish to do so; your response last year was so generous that it would be unreasonable to expect a repetition of it, but all the same give a trifle, and let me have the proud satisfaction of knowing that each of the 17 lodges under my jurisdiction has helped to swell the total when the Festival comes round in July. I am pleased to hear that in this particular *Legiolium* Lodge is becoming more awake not to its responsibilities only—but to its privileges. I use the word advisedly, brethren, and I repeat that to a brother who can afford it—not otherwise—but to him who can afford it, it is distinctly a privilege to be able to help on so noble a Charity; inasmuch as you have the comforting conviction not only that the money is judiciously bestowed, but that its administration does not involve enormous expenses in distribution and management. May the day be far distant when the motto, said to be Bismarckian—"Do ut des," "I give that thou mayst give" may be applied to the Mark Masons of this or any other province. We give because we know—first, that it is needed; secondly, that it is judiciously and economically expended, and thirdly that it is gratefully received. May that spirit ever prevail amongst us, and may our needs be as few as our donations are many! Brethren, it is usual on these occasions to call attention from time to time to the vacancies which are constantly occurring in our ranks. Of course, we close up and go steadily on, shoulder to shoulder, but that does not prevent the sigh of regret for the fallen comrade and the tear of sympathy for his beloved ones who have survived him. Our death roll for the past year contains the names of several very old Mark Masons, some both old in years and old in Masonic service. We have lost Bro. Thos. Hodgson, *Prince Edward*, 14; Bro. R. V. Allison, *Copley*, 111; Bros. J. A. Thornton and E. Pickersgill, *Integrity*, 110; Bro. Chas. Lingard, *Portal*, 127; Bro. F. Smith, *Prince Leopold*, 352; Bro. Alfred Maude, *Eland*, 493; Bro. J. W. Rayner, *Truth*, 137; and Bro. Lewis Crossley, *Old York* (T.I.). Some of these brethren, now gone to their eternal rest, filled in their day useful and distinguished positions in our Order; others only needed opportunity, which, alas! they failed to obtain, in order to show to the full the excellent Masonic qualities they possessed. All were worthy of our esteem and respect, and have, doubtless, left voids in home circles which will long be associated with tearful memories. May the life's work which these brethren present be able to stand the test of the Great Overseer's square, and may they be permitted joyfully to say that they have their reward. And now I come, brethren, to a matter which is distinctly personal to myself. If you refer to item 14 on the agenda for to-day you will see that it is the duty of this meeting to nominate for the approval of the M.W.G. Master some brother to occupy the position of Prov. G. Master for the ensuing three years. For 18 years I have enjoyed the privilege and incurred the responsibility of directing the destinies of Mark Masonry in West Yorkshire. I have taken the deepest interest in the work which such a position involves, and I have been proud of the confidence which you have placed in me. It is possible that some of you may consider

that I have filled the chair quite long enough, and that it is only right and seemly that I should give way to some one else. I am in your hands, brethren, absolutely and unconditionally—tell me clearly and distinctly what you would have. Assure me that you think, in the interest of the province, it is desirable that you should find some other brother to take this position, and I will at once stand aside and loyally carry out your suggestion. On the other hand, if you say that you have continued confidence in me and that you are satisfied with the administration of the province under my *regime*, that, in fact, you still wish to retain me as your Provincial Grand Master, then I will gladly comply with your wishes and permit myself again to be nominated. But, let us have unanimity and concord, let there be no grudging half-hearted, consent to such a course. If I felt or thought that your allegiance was divided, your confidence incomplete, or your loyalty shaken, no inducement would influence me to retain the position. Anything I may have done for the province in the past must not count on this occasion—all I ask is that you will do your duty to the province and to yourselves, that you will so arrange matters that a prosperous future may be assured. The characteristic feature in Mark Masonry in West Yorkshire, a feature the possession of which has always caused me genuine pride and pleasure, has been the sense of unanimity and harmony we have experienced; we have dwelled together in unity. Let that happy condition of affairs continue, and when we part to-day may we carry away the blessed feeling that there is no restraint amongst us; that we can meet again with the same whole-hearted fraternal affection, and that, sinking personal considerations, we have acted in the best interests of the Order, to which we owe generous allegiance.

The Prov. Grand Master was most attentively listened to and frequently applauded.

The DEPUTY was then invited to address the brethren. This he did in the following terms—

Brethren, our Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master has called our attention this afternoon to the steady progress which the Mark Degree is making in the Masonic world. Let me add that it is not only the Mark Degree that is advancing in numbers and influence; all the Degrees and Orders associated with Freemasonry are showing wonderful vitality and activity, and Freemasonry is becoming a great power amongst us. There is, I fear, however, a tendency in these days to depart somewhat from the lines of procedure (not perhaps in main principles, but in apparently unimportant details) upon which our Institution was founded and has flourished. Such departure you may take it, brethren, bodes no good to our Order. Innovations, seemingly simple and even convenient, are the thin ends of what may prove destructive wedges, and, therefore, I say beware of them. This is too large a subject to dwell upon on an occasion of this kind, for it cannot justly be dealt with in the space of time allotted to me. I will not, therefore, further discuss it, but will call your attention to other matters which are not without connection with it. True Freemasonry avoids publicity and is disinterested. It is much too common now-a-days to see accounts of Masonic meetings in the ordinary daily or evening newspapers; we are too much infested with what is called the "enterprising reporter." I should designate him the inquisitive busybody. Give him and all his kind, Masonically, a wide berth. We have no desire to advertise ourselves in the public journals, still less to see our proceedings commented upon by ignorant, sometimes impertinent, paragraphists. We have our Masonic papers, and they suffice for all the publicity we need. There are certain, both London and Provincial sheets which make a strong point of Masonic news, and sad grief they come to in their so-called authenticity; but let them blunder on, we are indifferent, only take care not to help them in any way. My second point is disinterestedness. I have more than once been consulted by men who have, they tell me, been recommended to join our Order because of business advantages or other interests, which they calculated or were informed might result therefrom. Now, I need not point out to you that that is not the spirit which animates our Order, and it is not such influences which have generated its power for good. The man who seeks to enter Freemasonry with such motives is the very man whom we must carefully exclude. The advantages of becoming a Freemason I will not discuss here—they are known and experienced by all of you, but even if our Institution lacked the numerous privileges it confers, it at any rate enables us to become acquainted with men whom we should not otherwise perhaps ever meet. By its means we form intimate associations, often dear and lifelong friendships. It teaches us to see the good in a man, and to learn to exercise and profit by that excellent gift of Charity spoken of by the Apostle. I don't mean giving only, but the Charity which suffereth long and is kind, the Charity which thinketh no evil, the Charity which inspired the divine words of the Saviour, "Neither do I condemn thee; go, and sin no more." Let us then jealously guard the landmarks and also the outworks of our Institution, and let us for ever class all newspaper busybodies as Cowans and intruders. And now, before I sit down, it is my duty and pleasure to propose a vote of thanks to Bro. J. B. Corbitt, W.M., and all the brethren for the care they have bestowed upon the arrangements for our comfort to-day. It is the first visit of Prov. Grand Lodge to Castleford since the consecration of the *Legiolium* Lodge, and I know that great desire has been shown by the brethren of Lodge 457 to prove themselves worthy of the occasion. If you agree with me that so far they have certainly done so, you will join with me in this very necessary and well-deserved acknowledgment.

This was seconded by Bro. T. ROWBOTHAM, S.G. Warden, and carried with enthusiasm.

Bro. J. B. CORBITT replied, and said that the Castleford brethren had worked very hard to make the meeting a success, and that they were all much pleased that their efforts had been appreciated.

Bro. B. SYKES BAILEY, P.M. 374, Prov. G. Treas., proposed as his successor in that office Bro. Francis Smith, P.M. 352, P.P.G. Deacon.

This was seconded by Bro. J. E. CAWTHORN, supported by the Prov. G.M., and carried unanimously.

Bro. F. SMITH thanked the brethren for the honour conferred upon him.

The Prov. Grand Officers for the year were then appointed and invested as follows:

Bro. T. G. Howell, 137 and 493	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Thos. Pickles, 127	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" J. Parkin Hewitt, 53	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" Joshua Hill (T.I.)	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" Jas. Milligan, 58	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. J. L. Brereton, 127	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" F. Smith, 352	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" J. A. Godwin, J.P., 374...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Joseph Matthewman, 110	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Theo. Barber, 398	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" Wm. Varley, 501	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" W. B. Smith, 352	...	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" R. J. Smith, 111	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" S. Krakauer, 127	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" Tom Ashworth, 14	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" J. E. Mann, 457	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" J. Nicholson, 457	...	...	Prov. G. Org.

Bro. E. Foulds, 535	...	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" J. T. Thompson, 53	...	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" H. Bonser, 111	...	...	...
" Jas. H. Dyson, 137	...	...	...
" Geo. Hoyle, M.D., 493...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" T. F. Wheeler, 111	...	...	...

Two or three of these brethren were absent, and collars were received by their proxies.

The Chairman of the Charity Committee, Bro. W. E. SMITHIES, called upon the Prov. G. Secretary to read the sixth annual report of that body.

On this being done, Bro. SMITHIES proposed its adoption, which was seconded by the VICE-CHAIRMAN, both expressing satisfaction.

This was carried.

The two Wardens and three Overseers were chosen to act on the Board of General Purposes.

The next business was to nominate some distinguished brother to occupy the position of Prov. G. Master for the next three years. This duty was warmly undertaken and gracefully performed by Bro. H. S. Holdsworth, P.M. 58 and 535, P.P.G.W., P.G. Std. Br.

Bro. HOLDSWORTH, as one of the oldest Mark Masons present, could claim to have some knowledge of this province and its work. He could, he said appreciate the immense progress that had been made under the rule of Bro. C. L. Mason; and that if, as Bro. Mason had said, he was willing to serve for another period of three years, they ought all to be glad indeed, and to congratulate themselves upon the continuance of his most successful and harmonious government. He was, therefore, proud to nominate in that Prov. G. Lodge Bro. Charles Letch Mason to occupy the position of Prov. G. Master for the three years ensuing, and he felt sure their new G. Master would gladly approve of their nomination, and would be pleased to accede to their wish.

The feeling amongst the brethren was very strong as to this course, and all most cordially assented.

An invitation was given by Bro. HAROLD BONSER, W.M. 111, on behalf of *Copley* Lodge, No. 111, to hold the autumn meeting of Prov. G. Lodge in Leeds, when it was hoped they would have entered upon occupation of the new Masonic Hall.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER promised to give Bro. Bonser's invitation full consideration.

After some other business had been discussed, the Prov. G. Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to dinner in the Queen's Hall. About 60 sat down, and the proceedings passed off very pleasantly.

There were the usual toasts, and songs were given by Bros. Buckland, Beach, and others.

The *Legiolium* brethren may be congratulated upon the complete success of their arrangements, as from beginning to end there was not a hitch. All worked smoothly, and to Bros. J. B. Corbitt, W.M.; J. E. Mann, I.P.M., and those who ably assisted much praise is due for their forethought and arrangements.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF DURHAM.

INSTALLATION OF THE REV. CANON TRISTRAM, D.D.

A special convocation of the officers and members of the above Prov. Grand Chapter was held on Saturday afternoon, the 4th instant, in the Masonic Hall, Durham, for the purpose of installing the Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., LL.D., F.R.S., as Grand Superintendent of the Province of Durham. The honoured and respected Canon was appointed by H.R.H. the Grand Z., then Prince of Wales, in November last, but, owing to indisposition, the ceremony of his installation was deferred until Saturday. There was a large and representative gathering from all parts of the province.

Prov. Grand Chapter was opened by Comps. John Holt, acting Grand Superintendent; A. S. Fowler, as Prov. G.H.; and W. E. Moffett, Prov. Grand J.

Other Past Provincial Grand Principals in attendance were Comps. Babington Boulton, P.P.G.H.; Richard Luck, P.P.G.H.; Robert Hudson, P.G.S.E.; Canon Kynaston, P.P.G.H.; F. H. Bennett, P.P.G.H.; William Logan, P.P.G.H.; H. J. Turnbull, P.P.G.H.; C. H. Backhouse, P.P.G.J.; J. C. Moor, P.P.G.J.; George Harland, P.P.G.H.; and Thos. Coulson, P.P.G.H.

Amongst the Past and Present Provincial Grand Officers were Comps. J. R. Cutter, Thomas Harrison, B. S. Beckwith, J. E. Nelson, Dr. L. Booth, Charles Cox, Wm. Barlow, J. W. B. Heslop, G. F. Allan, R. Stewart, E. Lauterbach, A. Grundy, R. Hauxwell, E. H. Tilley, John Walton, Rev. Thomas Lawson, S. Fenny, Nicholas Lee, W. J. Dobson, Thomas Robinson, as P.G.P.S.; T. R. Jobson, R. H. Holme, D. Whitehead, G. S. Shaw, W. McBride, H. Sodeberg, M. A. Lax, J. N. Taylor, G. B. Hall, Henry Brown, and J. F. Hillier.

While among the Principals and officers of chapters were Comps. John Robinson, John Joel, R. R. Ferguson, W. T. Tate, A. Dodds, T. A. Moffat, John Armstrong, T. A. Pragnall, W. J. Anderson, T. O. Todd, J. M. Thompson, H. Havelock, T. Grieve, A. Gourley, W. Brown, and others.

The patent of appointment of the Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., as Grand Superintendent having been read by Comp. R. Hudson, P.G.S.E., the Grand Superintendent designate was introduced by Comps. R. Luck, H. J. Turnbull, F. H. Bennett, A. S. Fowler, S. Fenny, and C. H. Backhouse, the collar and insignia of office being borne by Comp. R. Hauxwell.

The duties of installing chief were performed in an able and dignified manner by Comp. Babington Boulton, P.P.G.H., who, in the name of all the R.A. Masons in the Province of Durham, offered the Rev. Canon Tristram their hearty congratulations on the honour conferred upon him by his Majesty the King, now Grand Patron, and until recently Grand Z. of the Order, in selecting him for the high office of Grand Superintendent of a Province, and he was sure they might also congratulate themselves on having such a distinguished Mason to preside over them. They would be delighted to serve under him with unflinching loyalty, and they trusted he might be long spared to rule over them. (Applause.)

The Grand Superintendent, Rev. Canon TRISTRAM, D.D., having been duly installed and proclaimed according to ancient custom, briefly addressed the Prov. Grand Chapter. In the first place, he expressed his extreme regret at the circumstances which resulted in his being appointed to that high position, in the departure hence of his old friend Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart. The Prov. Grand Chapter had only been formally constituted since 1866, but the chapter had existed and they had had Grand Superintendents for about 120 years. Among the Grand Superintendents

were Comps. the first Earl of Durham, John Fawcett, the late Marquis of Londonderry, and the late Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart. This had come to him as the climax of high Masonic honours which had been conferred upon him, and so long as God gave him health and strength he should fill the duties of his high office, so that Royal Arch Masonry might continue to flourish as it had done during the past decade, during which it had increased from 372 to 554 in the province. (Applause.) He thanked them for their presence, and again referred to the distinguished honour which his Majesty had been pleased to confer upon him. (Loud applause).

Apologies for absence were read, and the proceedings then concluded.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

By direction of the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, P.G.S.N., Grand Superintendent of the Prov. G. Chapter of West Lancashire, a convocation of the Order within the division was held on the 22nd ult., at the Co-operative Hall, St. Mary's-road, Garston, for the transaction of the important business usually attaching to these yearly gatherings of the Masonic Order.

There was a numerous gathering from all parts of the division, the business of the day being conducted under the presidency of the Grand Superintendent, Comp. the Earl of Lathom, and there were also present Comps. R. Wylie, Prov. G.H.; the Rev. T. B. Spencer, Prov. G.J.; John Houlding, P.P.G. Soj., P.G.J.; W. Goodacre, Prov. G.S.E.; J. E. Williams, P.P.G. Soj.; W. H. Dennis, P.P.G. Soj.; P. Chambers, Prov. G. Std. Br.; J. G. Holmes, P.P.G.S.B.; A. Pickford, Prov. A.G.S.E.; J. D. Murray, P.P.G. Treas.; W. B. Sweetman, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. Milne, P.P.G.S.; T. Buxton, P.P.A.G. Soj.; and others.

The Prov. G. Chapter was opened in due form, after which the roll of Prov. G. Officers and chapters were called, when it was found that all were represented with only few exceptions.

The minutes of the previous meeting, taken as read, were approved, and the Prov. G. Treasurer's statement of accounts was likewise passed.

Comp. T. R. Parker was re-elected Prov. G. Treasurer.

The following Prov. G. Officers for the ensuing year were invested :

Comp. J. W. Wearing	...	...	Prov. G.H.
" C. H. Beaver	...	...	Prov. G.J.
" W. Goodacre (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" J. H. Marsh	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" T. R. Parker	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" T. J. Smith, jun.	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" A. Brierley	...	...	Prov. D.G. Reg.
" R. Rawlinson	...	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" T. Hayward	...	...	Prov. A.G.Ss.
" A. Cornett	...	...
" A. Smith	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" J. Matthews	...	...	Prov. D.G.S.B.
" J. Phelan	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" T. Ormond	...	...
" J. Proctor	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" G. Burslem	...	...
" G. W. Hughes	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.Cs.
" J. B. Yonge	...	...
" J. Hargreaves	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" J. Dawber	...	...
" T. Burrows	...	...	Prov. A.G.S.E.
" W. J. Doran	...	...	Prov. G. Janitor.

On the motion of Comp. WYLIE, seconded by Comp. J. HOULDING, it was unanimously resolved that the sum of 20 guineas be voted for the benefit of such Soldiers' Fund as the Grand Superintendent may decide.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Prov. Grand Chapter should be held at Prescott.

The Prov. Grand Chapter was then closed.

The May Magazines.

We have received the following magazines for review in addition to those noticed in our last issue :

The Century Illustrated Monthly Magazine, one of the very best of the American magazines, commences a new volume this month. American views of the older peoples and countries of the world are always interesting, because taken from a different standpoint, and our readers will find instances of this in "A Hamlet in Old Hampshire," "Breakfast in Naples," "Along the Paris Quais," and, changing the venue from Europe to Asia, "A Recovered City of Alexander the Great" (Priene, in Asia Minor, founded about the year 1000 B.C.), "A Visit to Nepal," "The Deserted Capital of Rajputana," "The Defiles of the Irrawaddy," and "A Missionary Journey in China." There is a most readable word portrait of M. Emile Loubet, President of the French Republic; and "The Broken Necklace; a Lesson on the Government of Distant Colonies," is an article of profound interest to all who wish well to our sugar-producing Colonies in the West Indies, though the political opinions of the writer may not be generally endorsed in this country. The fiction in this month's number comprises the conclusion of the serial "The Helmet of Navarre," the continuation of "D'ri and I," and the complete tales "A Mistake in the Count," "Jasmine Court and a High Ranger," by Ian MacLaren, "A Japanese Illusion," "An Unnecessary Story," and "A Yankee Teacher in the South." The humorous sketches, verse, and illustrations are as good as ever.

MacMillan's Magazine contains the opening chapters of what promises to be a most entertaining serial, entitled "Princess Puck," also the complete tales, "What is Truth?" and "When the Cholera came to Santa Cruz." The reader will find a fascinating article in "History at Play," which reveals as it were at a glance the kaleidoscopic revolution in Scottish thought and character which took place during the century between the Jacobite rising of 1845, and the Free Church schism in 1843. Amusing papers on "The art of fiction made easy," and "The House of Commons; its methods and its temptations," are found side by side with a character study of the Free State Boer, by an Imperial Yeoman, lately a prisoner of war, and a paper on stage presentations of Coriolanus, more especially those of Kemble, Kean, and Macready. There is not a single dry paragraph in the whole of this number.

Temple Bar this month is as voluminous as ever, but we think its readers will agree with us that not one of its 144 pages could well be spared. Further chapters of the current serials, "The Firebrand," by S. R. Crockett, and "The Secret Orchard," by Agnes and Egerton Castle, are accompanied by the following excellent complete tales by various authors: "The Rolandstein Duel," "Nature's Step-child," "Concerning an Indian Fort," "A Roman Haunting," "On a little Music," "A Drawn Bet," and "The Key of the Door." Lady Georgiana Bathurst's "Recollections of Queen Adelaide's Coronation," are of interest in view of the approaching coronation of Queen Alexandra. There are also scholarly articles, one by May Byron, entitled, "The Burden of the Song," which deals with the ancient folk-songs, and another by R. C. Witt, on the immortal artists Gorgione and Veronese.

NEW GRAND CHAPTER OFFICERS.

DEPUTY GRAND DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES.

Comp. FREDERICK ATKINSON POWELL, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.I., appointed Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies, was initiated in the Loyal Monmouth Lodge, No. 457, in 1884, became Master in 1887, and was appointed G. Senior Warden for the Province of Monmouthshire in 1895. He is a founder and P.M. of the Hiram Lodge, No. 2416, and a member of the Globe Lodge, No. 23. He was exalted in the Royal Arch in the Mount Edgcombe Chapter, No. 1446, and was M.E.Z. in 1890. He is a founder and P.Z. of the Loyal Monmouth Chapter, No. 457; founder of the St. Stephen's Chapter, No. 1802; founder and P.Z. of the Hiram Chapter, No. 2416; Scribe E. and M.E.Z. elect of the Panmure Chapter, No. 720. In the Mark Degree he is a P.M.M. of the Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 4, and Grand Steward designate; a P.C.N. of the Prince of Wales Ark Mariners' Lodge, No. 4; a founder and P.W.S. of the Alleyn Chapter Rose Croix, No. 139, and a member of the 30°; a member of the Bard of Avon Preceptory, No. 127, and a Knight of Malta. Received into the Allied Degrees in 1897, and is W.M. of the Four Kings Council, No. 7, and A.G.D. of C. for this year. He was elevated into the Plantagenet Conclave, No. 2, of the Knights of Rome and Re I Cross of Constantine; received in the Constantine Council of Royal and Select Masters; a member of the Metropolitan Council of Rosicrucians, and a member of the Royal Order of Scotland. He is a Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys with seven Stewardships, a Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution with four Stewardships, and a Life Governor of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls with two Stewardships.

ASSISTANT G. DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES.

Comp. J. J. SIMCOX was initiated in the Wycombe Lodge, No. 1501, in January, 1888, and was appointed Prov. G. Org. of Bucks in 1894. He was W.M. of the same lodge in 1897. He was a founder and St. of Victoria Lodge, No. 2671; a founder and first I.P.M. of Marlow Lodge, No. 2752; a founder and first I.P.M. of Bowen Lodge, No. 2819; and was elected Prov. G. Treasurer of Bucks in 1899. He was exalted into R.A. Masonry in 1891 in the Buckingham Chapter, No. 591, and was M.E.Z. in 1898. He was a founder of the Wycombe Chapter, No. 1501, of which chapter he is a P.Z., and at the present time holds the office of H.; a P.Z. of Herschel Chapter, No. 1894; and a P.S. of Chapter No. 771. He received the collar of Prov. G. Organist in the Prov. Grand Chapter in 1892, which office he served for several years. He has been P.A.G.S., and is now Prov. G.P.S. of the same province. He is a P.M. of Wycombe Mark Lodge, No. 480, a P.M. of Windsor Castle Lodge, No. 519; S.W. of Jersey Lodge, No. 235; and J.W. of Herschel Lodge, No. 376; and has held the office of Prov. G. Org. in the Prov. G. Mark Lodge of Bucks for several years, and has held the offices of Prov. S.G.D. and Prov. S.G.O., and is now Prov. J.G.W., of the same province. He is a member of the Four Kings' Council, Royal and Select Masters, and a member and J.D. of the Veran Council, Allied Degrees. He is Dir. of Cer. of the Leopold Lodge, Royal Ark Mariners, and Prelate of the St. John the Baptist Rose Croix Chapter. He is a Life Governor of, and has served once as Steward for, the Girls' School; a Life Governor, with three Stewardships, of the Boys' School; and a Vice-President, with five Stewardships, of the Benevolent Institution.

Craft Masonry.

Faith Lodge, No. 141.

There was a meeting of this ancient lodge at Anderton's Hotel on the 30th ultimo. This lodge dates from 1774, and there are many interesting details connected with it. Originally founded at Woolwich, in course of time it migrated to London, holding its meetings for many years at the Gun Tavern, Pimlico. For some time up to the present it has been at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. It need hardly be said that the lodge holds its centenary warrant. The furniture, ancient and massive, is its own; it formerly possessed a complete set of officers' jewels, but the only ones now in existence are those of the I.P.M. and Treasurer; they are of silver, massive and handsome. It is worthy of note that in the working of the Third Degree after the raising there is a transparency exhibited showing the defeat of Death (impersonated) and the delivery of the soul from earthly fetters, and its entrance into regions of eternal bliss.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Harry Hudson, and amongst those present were Bros. G. C. Hudson, P.M.; A. F. Salmon, I.P.M.; A. C. White, P.M.; R. F. Jordan, P.M.; S. N. Isaacs, P.M.; J. Moss, P.M.; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M. 45; and G. Thomas, P.M. 1194.

Bros. D. C. Marriott and Chas. Hull, candidates for raising, were examined, and raised by the W.M. in a most impressive manner to the Third Degree. Bros. William James Holledge and Richard Gilson, candidates for passing, were examined and passed to Second Degree by the W.M., who afterwards gave the lecture on the tracing board Second Degree. The W.M. reported the death of the wife of the Secretary, Bro. R. T. Godfrey, P.M. A vote of condolence on the brother's domestic affliction was proposed by W.M. and unanimously carried by the brethren. The lodge was closed by W.M.

After an excellent banquet in the Pillared Hall, the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts.

The toast of "The W.M." was given by Bro. A. F. Salmon, I.P.M. He said the ability of their excellent W.M. was too well known by the brethren of the lodge to need any eulogium on his part. The W.M. had well maintained the reputation and dignity of the Faith Lodge, which was renowned for the perfect manner in which the ceremonies were worked.

The W.M. replied. He thanked the I.P.M. and the brethren of the lodge for their warm welcome and kind appreciation of his efforts. That Masonry was a labour of love with him. If he had been so fortunate as to merit their approbation, he was sufficiently repaid for any trouble he had taken.

The W.M. gave "The Visitors," assuring them of a hearty welcome from the lodge.

Bro. the Rev. C. P. Marriott spoke of some of the lodges he had visited. He alluded to the fact that one of the candidates raised that evening was his son. He had already begun to have ambitious longings to worthily occupy the chair of his lodge. He the Rev. brother, hoped he might be spared to witness it.

Bro. T. G. Balls also replied.

Other customary toasts were proposed and responded to, and several songs and recitations were given by brethren present.

St. Thomas's Lodge, No. 142.

There was a regular meeting of this venerable lodge at the Hotel Cecil, on the 3rd instant, when there were present Bros. James Herbert Booty, W.M.; Neville D. Hart, I.P.M.; A. V. Haines, P.M., Treas.; John T. Hiscox, P.M. 1420, F.P.G.R. Cambs., Sec.; S. W. Yockney, P.M., D.C.; R. Sebastian Hart, P.M. 2146; F. G. Knight, P.M.; Chas. Mason, P.M.; H. M. Ellis, P.M.; Walter Denny, P.M. 1448; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M. 45; P. M. Bannatyne, P.M. 216, 2076, 2433; and W. C. Moore, P.M. 2655, 142.

The lodge was in mourning owing to the death of Bro. Wm. Santo Crimp, S.W. The lodge was opened by the W.M., and Bros. Trehella John and Fredk. G. Fletcher were examined. The candidates were ably raised by the W.M., who gave the traditional history in full. The Secretary reported to the lodge the death of Bro. Wm. Santo Crimp. Bro. F. G. Knight, P.M., proposed a vote of sympathy to be sent to the widow of the late brother, which was seconded by the W.M., and carried unanimously. The lodge was closed by the W.M.

The brethren adjourned to an elegant banquet, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed. There was no musical programme on this occasion. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Neville D. Hart, I.P.M., in a few felicitous words.

The W.M. replied with expression of thanks to the brethren generally. He observed that since their last meeting he had visited three lodges, and had been able to pick up a few useful hints re working, of which he hoped to avail himself hereafter. He bade the brethren farewell for the next six months, and wished them, one and all, enjoyable holidays.

Bro. F. G. Knight, P.M., proposed "The Visitors," to whom, on behalf of the lodge, he extended a hearty welcome.

Bros. F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M. 45 (Freemason); R. M. Bannatyne, P.M. 216; F. G. Rice, 1194; and W. C. Moore, P.M. 2655, replied.

The other toasts customary were drunk before the Tyler's toast brought the evening to a close.

A few details of this ancient lodge may prove of interest. It appears to have undergone many vicissitudes in its Masonic career. Its original charter, carefully preserved, is very curious, and it has some most valuable massive silver jewels of antique work. Six of the officers have handsome silver chains on their collars, and each one has ornaments symbolical of the office. These chains were the gift to the lodge of one of its early Masters. A history of this lodge would be worth compiling.

Lily Lodge of Richmond, No. 820.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. R. E. MASKALL.

The installation ceremony and annual banquet of the above lodge was held at the Inns of Court Hotel, High Holborn, on Thursday, the 2nd instant. Bro. Walter Ellis, W.M., presided, and was supported by the following: Bros. C. Godwin, P.M.; S. Peake, P.M.; C. Hubbard, P.M.; H. Meyer, P.M.; H. R. Williams, P.M.; W. Western, P.M.; C. M. H. Swan, P.M.; and A. P. Oliver, P.M. A large number of visiting brethren accepted the hospitality of the lodge on this occasion, among whom were the following: Bros. W. F. Jones, P.M. 2715 and 2029; E. Lucas, P.M. 834; A. White, P.M. 1693; Handover, P.M. 1642; J. Birks, P.M. 195; W. Hancock, P.M. 2191; W. Wilkinson, P.M. 167; and H. Sprake, P.M. 2192.

The principal business transacted after the lodge had been opened was the election of the following five members on the Committee of the Benevolent Fund: Bros. Godwin, P.M.; Swan, P.M.; Ellis, P.M.; Willans, P.M.; and Maskall, W.M. elect. Bro. R. E. Maskall was then installed in the chair of K.S., the ceremony being performed by Bro. S. Peake, P.M., and on its completion the newly-installed W.M. invested the following officers for the ensuing year: Bros. Walter Ellis, I.P.M.; W. Weiffenbach, S.W.; E. W. Lindsay, J.W.; C. Godwin, P.M., Treas.; C. M. H. Swan, P.M., Sec.; H. Nash, S.D.; E. Mortlock, J.D.; W. H. Barbey, I.G.; C. Hubbard, P.M., D. of C.; Stannard, Org.; P. Erbach and J. T. Naden, Stwds.; and J. Gilbert, Tyler. Mr. Frank S. Hollis was then balloted for, and the ballot proving favourable, was initiated by the W.M.

On the lodge being closed, the brethren and their visitors sat down to a banquet, at which the following toasts were proposed and honoured.

The W.M., in proposing "The King and the Craft," referred to his Majesty's connection with the Craft, and his evident determination to follow in the footsteps of the late Queen.

The National Anthem having been sung, "The Health of the M.W.G.M. Elect, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught," was drunk.

The toast of "The M.W. Pro G.M., the R.W. Deputy G.M., and the rest of the G. Officers, Present and Past," was proposed by the W.M., and coupled with the name of Bro. Lovegrove.

Bro. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B., in reply, referred to the well known excellences of the present heads of the Craft, and anticipated the forthcoming installation of the G.M. elect in the Albert Hall, which was calculated to seat 8000 persons, but would on that occasion have to accommodate 10,000. Personally, he had worked hard for Masonry and for the Masonic Charities, and there were three things he had done that no Mason there could ever do—one year he had attended every meeting of his Craft lodge, chapter, and of the Colonial Board, but the last named had now been abolished. At Edinburgh he had received a jewel that could not be worn south of the Trent, and he had once borne a sword which was now only borne by the Marquis of Cholmondeley. No young Mason should be disheartened because only one in a thousand Masons could be a Grand Officer, but should learn the ritual and work for the Charities, and show the world that the tenets of the Craft had done them good.

Bro. Ellis, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," complimented him on the way he had done the work that evening, but he thought he had "a bit up his sleeve," and would do it better still before long.

The toast having been most cordially received, the W.M., in reply, expressed the wish that he might do as well as the Masters who had preceded him in that chair, and if he succeeded in giving them satisfaction he himself would be more than satisfied.

The W.M. proposed the toast of "The I.P.M. and Installing Master," to which Bros. Ellis and Peake responded in suitable terms.

The toast of "The Initiate and Joining Member" was next on the list, and was responded to by Bro. Hollis and by the joining brother, Bro. Parker. The latter observed it was not the first occasion he had been present with them. On the former occasion he was so impressed by their enthusiasm and their working that he had asked the W.M. to propose him as a joining member, and he trusted he would prove worthy of their selection.

"The Visitors" were next toasted, Bros. Lovegrove, Pantom-Jones, Spinke, Hancock, Oliver, and Williams responding to the toast.

"The Treasurer and Secretary and the Past Masters" and "The Officers of the Lodge" having been proposed and replied to, the proceedings terminated with the Tyler's toast.

An admirable programme of music had been arranged for the occasion, and was

carried out under the efficient direction of Bro. Louis Honig, Bro. P. M. Hambleton acting as violoncellist.

Miss Mabel Reeves, an established favourite as a vocalist with the Lily Lodge of Richmond, sang "The Swallows" and "Love the Pedlar," and Miss Mary Horton "Kathleen Mavourneen," while Bro. Arthur Court sang "Down the Vale" and "The Carnival." Mr. Will Deller was applauded for his humorous songs, and Mr. Fred Wilson for his rendering of "The Huntsman," "Tom Bowling," and "The Irish Garçon," Miss Maggie Honig being enthusiastically encored for her melodious cornet playing.

Devon Lodge, No. 1138.

Brethren of the above lodge recently held a most enjoyable conversation in the Masonic Hall, Newton Abbot. It was under the patronage of the Acting Prov. Grand Master of Devonshire, Bro. Major G. C. Davie, P.G.D. Eng., Bro. the Right Hon. Earl of Halsbury, Lord Chancellor, P.G.W. Eng., and the best-known West country Masons. The arrangements were in every way admirable, as they always are at Newton Abbot, and the programme was carried through with much spirit. There was a large attendance of brethren and lady friends from the town and district, including Bros. the Rev. R. Peek, M.A., P.G. Chap. of England; F. B. Westlake, P.D.G.D. of C. Eng.; Colonel R. Edyvean, Prov. S.G.W. Devon; and others. The proceeds were to go to the W.M.'s chair, the surplus to be applied to the Devon Aged Widow Fund.

Proceedings commenced as early as 6.30, with a lecture on the "Old Charges" of the Cathedral builders in relation to the Free and Accepted Masons of Great Britain and Ireland from 1300 to 1900. It was delivered by Bro. W. J. Hughan, of Torquay, P.S.G.D. Eng., P.P.G. Sec. and P.P.S.G.W. Cornwall. The lecture had special reference to the continuity of Freemasonry during the last five centuries, and was illustrated by a number of facsimiles of Old Charges dating from the 14th century. Some of these were in book form, while others were in rolls, as originally used by the building fraternity. Bro. Hughan stated that when he began the study of these curious MSS., nearly 40 years ago, there were only about a dozen copies known to be in existence. Since then, with the aid of other diligent students, he had traced something like 70 of them. All of them had been reproduced, and more than half he had copied. The oldest minutes known were dated 1599. From that date to the present time there was abundant evidence of the activity of lodges, either under Grand Lodges or working separately. The Grand Lodge of England, which was the oldest, largest, and most charitable under the sun, had been in existence nearly 200 years. Until recently it was presided over by his Majesty the King, who, since his accession to the throne, had graciously consented to become Protector. His Majesty had been succeeded by his brother, the Duke of Connaught, who was to be installed in the third week in July in the Royal Albert Hall, London. Bro. Hughan mentioned that that morning he received information that his Majesty had accepted a copy of the latest reproduction of one of the old charges recently discovered, viz., the "Beaumont MS.," edited by Bro. William Watson, of Leeds.

In an ante-room there was an interesting exhibition of Masonic curios, lent by Bro. F. J. W. Crowe, of Torquay. The exhibits included a collection of jewels, aprons, and diplomas. Some of the aprons were extremely elaborate and curious, having been collected from all parts of the world. The collection of diplomas was also very fine, this branch of research being one in which Bro. Crowe holds a unique position, no other collection in the world being so complete.

A concert followed the lecture, and the corridors and refreshment-room were prettily decorated by Miss Martin, and flowers were lent by Messrs. W. Vicary, C. G. Vicary F. Watts, and Dr. Grimsby.

Richmond Lodge, No. 2032.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. C. G. GRUNHOLD.

The installation ceremony and banquet in connection with the above lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Richmond, on Wednesday, the 1st instant. Bro. Jas. Johnstone, F.R.C.S., presided, and was supported by Bros. Abell, Sapsworth, Aldin, Cavill, Robinson, and Keyes. There was a very large attendance of visitors, including the following Past Masters: Bros. Crowhurst, 1894; Blackburn, 1365; Tucker, 1365; Austin, 1732, P.P.D.G.D.C. Middx.; Manger, 1017; Morris, P.G.T.; Bennett, 976; Birch, 2323, P.P.J.G.W. Herts; James, 15; Grettin, 108 and 1969; and Garnham, 946.

Prior to entering the lodge, the Hon. Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. E. L. Walsh, announced to the brethren that, after consultation with the W.M. elect, it had been decided that for the future the brethren should always enter the lodge in procession, as was done in church, and for a similar reason—to mark the great solemnity of the ceremony in which they were about to engage. It was not a matter of form doing this, but a matter of reality. The D.C. accordingly marshalled the brethren in procession, M.Ms. leading, followed by the officers of the lodge, then the P.Ms., then Prov. G. Officers, and finally G. Officers.

The lodge having been opened and routine business transacted, the ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Johnstone, Bro. Robinson acting as D.C. The W.M. elect, Bro. Carl Grunhold, having been duly installed, invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year: Bro. Jas. Johnstone, I.P.M.; G. E. Whetman, S.W.; H. E. Hornby, J.W.; B. E. Blasby, P.M., Hon. Treas.; Rev. E. L. Walsh, Hon. Chap.; G. E. Rowland, Sec.; W. Fairley, S.D.; Bowler-Godbold, J.D.; C. A. A. Ewin, I.G.; F. Hampton, Org.; F. G. Holland, D.C.; S. Abell, P.M.; E. J. Partridge, and A. Seal, Stwds.; and F. G. Mitchell, Tyler. The following candidates for initiation were then balloted for, and the ballot proving favourable, they were duly initiated by the newly-installed W.M.: Messrs. R. G. H. Peryn, B.A. (Oxon); H. C. Hancock, W. T. Taylor, and R. A. Daniels. Bros. G. E. Whetman, S.W., and H. E. Hornby, J.W., were elected to serve on the Benevolent Fund Committee. The following motion, of which Bro. Abell, P.M., had given notice, was carried unanimously, viz.: "That a sum of 15 guineas be voted to Bro. Johnstone, I.P.M., from the lodge funds, and ten guineas from the Benevolent Fund, on his going up as Steward to one of the Masonic Charities."

The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the dining hall where a *recherche* banquet had been prepared, which was done full justice to by all present.

The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured, the W.M. prefacing the toast list with a request for short speeches in view of the elaborate musical programme that had been arranged.

Bro. Johnstone, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the Worshipful Master," mentioned that he and the W.M. had been initiated together on the same night, in May, 1894, and since then he had watched with interest the progress of the W.M.'s successful Masonic career.

The toast was most enthusiastically honoured, and the W.M. having briefly acknowledged the compliment paid him, proposed "The Health of the Installing Master."

Bro. Johnstone, I.P.M., in response, stated that at the conclusion of his year of office he relinquished the chair with feelings that were not unalloyed with pleasure. He felt it was a relief to be free from the yoke once more, but there were duties to be per-

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formed by himself and the other officers of the lodge in support of the W.M. To the officers and the younger members of the lodge also he recommended an increased study of the ritual, which could not fail to be reflected in their daily life and conduct. Personally he was happy to say that during his year of office he had cemented many friendships, which he had formed in the lodge.

The W.M. then pinned a Past Master's jewel, which had been unanimously voted him by the lodge, on to the breast of the I.P.M.

The next toast was that of "The Initiates," to which each of the newly-made brethren responded briefly.

Quite half-a-dozen of the visiting brethren responded to the toast of "The Visitors," the remaining toasts being "The Past Masters, Secretary, and Treasurer," "The Officers of the Lodge," and the Tyler's toast.

The principal feature of the musical entertainment with which the proceedings were enlivened was the exquisite violin playing of Mr. William Henley, who was loudly encored for each of the following numbers: "Chansons Russes," "Chant Religieux," and "Nightingale Song," by Sarasate. Miss Hannah Jones sang "Darby and Joan" and "Going to Kildare," and Miss Gertrude Hughes "Vainka's Song," "The Fairy's Lullaby," and "Japanese Love Song." Bro. Tom Bowley was deservedly applauded for his singing of "Toreador" (from "Carmen") and "Off to Philadelphia."

Hartington Lodge, No. 1085.

The installation banquet of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby, on the 1st inst. The function would ordinarily have taken place on the occasion of the annual festival in February last, but it was postponed until after the period of national mourning ordered on the death of Queen Victoria. The W.M., Bro. R. W. Richards, presided, and there was a capital attendance.

After a very excellent repast, the usual list of toasts was gone through.

"The Health of the W.M.," proposed in fitting terms by Bro. C. E. Birch-Thorpe, S.W., was drunk with much heartiness, and suitably acknowledged. Bro. J. A. Arnold, P.M., P.S.G.W., responded to the toast of "The Provincial Grand Lodge," and other responses were made by Bro. Percy Wallis, P.M., P.S.G.W., on behalf of "The Charities"; Bro. A. A. Greig, W.M. 253, R. A. Thompson, W.M. 802, T. J. Beck, I.P.M. 731, and J. Bland, P.M. 731, on behalf of "The Sister Lodges of Derby"; Bro. C. D. Hart, P.M., P.G. Treas., E. Partridge, P.M., and H. Offiler, P.M., P.G.D.C., on behalf of "The Past Masters of the Hartington Lodge"; and Bro. T. Jordan, J.W., and J. W. Gandy, Sec., on behalf of "The Officers of the Lodge."

An admirable musical programme was submitted, contributed to by the following vocalists: Bro. F. B. Wilby, H. M. Haywood, A. J. Eggleston, W. Village, C. E. Birch-Thorpe, and F. H. Haslam, the accompaniments being played by Bro. S. Neville Cox, P.P.G. Org., and A. Derry, D.C.

Æsculapius Lodge, No. 2410.

The last meeting for the present Masonic year was held at the Hotel Cecil, Strand, on the 24th ult., Bro. Montague Cheale, M.R.C.S. Eng., D.P.H. Cantab, W.M., being in the chair. Bro. Ernest Clarke, M.D., F.R.C.S. Eng., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. G. Danford Thomas, M.D. Brux., Coroner for London and Middlesex, was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Thomas Dutton, M.D. Durh., M.R.C.P. Edin., was re-appointed Secretary. The Secretary was instructed to send a letter of congratulation to Bro. Captain Percy J. Probyn, R.A.M.C., D.S.O., and W. Washburn, M.D., C.B., on the very distinguished and gallant services which they have rendered to their country in South Africa. Five guineas were voted to the British Medical Benevolent Fund.

After all business had been transacted, the lodge was closed, and 33 of the members afterwards dined together.

Travellers' Lodge, No. 2609.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. W. H. DAVIES.

The Festival of St. John was celebrated by the above lodge on the 27th ult., at Chester, when Bro. W. H. Davies, one of the founders, was installed W.M. in succession to Bro. D. P. Morgan. The visiting brethren included Bro. His Honour Judge Sir Horatio Lloyd, Dep. Prov. G. Master; Newhouse, Prov. G. Sec.; P. H. Lockwood, W.M. 425; Dr. Harrison, J.W. 425; D. L. Hewitt, W.M. 721; E. Johnson, W.M. 2386; P. Harding Roberts, P.M. 1477; J. Moyers, P.M. 1576; Sumnal, W.M. 1336; A. H. Ward Jones, 823; C. Rees, 823; H. Stonely, P.M. 721; A. G. Collins, P.P.G.D.C. W. Lancs.; T. Simmond, W.M. 1323; John Mayers, P.M. 1576; F. Covey, J.W. 721; J. Bithell, J.W. 2386; W. Leah, 721; Chas. Hibbert, 721; R. Dean, 721; James Strong, 721; and E. Robinson, 721.

The installation ceremony was impressively conducted by Bro. Thos. Owen, P.P.A. G.D.C., assisted by Bro. Wm. Peers, P.P.G. Treas., and D. P. Morgan, I.P.M. The W.M. invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year: Bro. T. Wooliscroft, S.W.; T. Mayo Johnson, J.W.; F. J. Duck, Treas.; T. Ryde Jones, Sec.; G. T. H. Lodge, S.D.; M. Calvert Sunter, J.D.; R. Butterworth, Org.; Evans Williams, I.G.; W. T. Adams, George Davies, and J. Wright, Stwds.; and J. H. Doughty, Tyler.

At the conclusion of the lodge business, the brethren and visitors adjourned to the banqueting-room, the newly-installed W.M. presiding.

A lengthy toast list opened with "The King, Protector of our Order," after which "The M.W.G.M., the Pro G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and "The Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., R.W.P.G.M. of Cheshire," were toasted.

The W.M. next submitted "The Health of Sir Horatio Lloyd, W.D.P.G.M., and the rest of the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past," and referred to the fact that Sir Horatio Lloyd that year celebrates his jubilee as a Freemason.

Bro. Sir Horatio Lloyd, in responding, said he pleaded guilty to having been 50 years in Masonic life. He had many pleasures to look back upon in that time. In conclusion, Sir Horatio referred in complimentary terms to the newly-installed W. Master.

Bro. D. F. Morgan gave "The W.M., Bro. W. H. Davies, and mentioned the fact that he was the third Welshman to be W.M. of the lodge.

The W.M., in reply, referred to the founding of the Travellers' Lodge, at which there were some brethren of the older lodges who were not sanguine that an additional lodge in Chester would be a success. He thought the Travellers' Lodge had amply justified its existence, for there were now 54 members, many of whom had previously found it impossible to attend any other lodge, because they were absent until the weekend, and Saturday was their only available evening.

Bro. Dr. H. Harrison, 721, and other brethren responded to the toast of "The Visitors."

The other toasts were "The I.P.M. and Past Masters," "The Newly-invested Officers," and "The Masonic Charities."

The musical enjoyment of the evening was contributed to by Bro. A. M. Proctor, E. Robinson, Dr. Harrison, J. H. Laybourne, Loui Parry, D. P. Morgan, T. M. Johnson, T. Ryder Jones, and F. J. Duck, and Bro. R. Butterworth accompanied and acted as musical director.

Alston Lodge, No. 2794.

This young and thriving lodge held its third business meeting at Alston, on Friday, the 3rd inst., when there was a goodly gathering and abundance of work. The W.M., Bro. Wm. Brown, presided, and was supported and assisted by the following officers and brethren: Bro. Robt. Whitfield, I.P.M.; H. Jackson, P.M., S.W.; J. J. C. Ferman, J.W.; J. Armstrong, P.M., Sec.; Wm. Cowell, Treas.; P. Cash, S.D.; J. Saunders, J.D.; J. T. Pragnell, P.M., D.C.; Wm. Laws, Asst. Sec.; Havelock Bell, Org.; Wm. Carr, as I.G.; J. Lightbown and J. V. Henderson, Stwds.; J. T. Stark, P.M., Tyler; J. Swindle, J. Robinson, T. Henderson, E. Schreier, J.W. 1481; and others.

Messrs. Wm. Thompson and R. Clifton Lee, previously elected, were duly initiated by the W.M. The tools were explained and the usual charge delivered by the J.W., after which Bro. John Bell, John Railton, and Jas. Vipond were passed to the Second Degree by the W.M. The S.W. explained the working tools, and the lecture was given by Bro. J. T. Pragnell, D.C.

Instruction.

ROYAL ALFRED LODGE, No. 780.

A meeting was held on the 3rd instant at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge. Present: Bros. F. M. Ridley, W.M.; Larkman, P.M., S.W.; R. J. Williams, P.M., J.W.; A. H. Bridger, Sec.; C. E. Dowling, S.D.; E. C. St. Aubyn, J.D.; Town, I.G.; C. Humble, Stwd.; H. Waspe, and R. E. Barron.

After opening the lodge, the W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Justin Allen, P.M., who then installed Bro. F. M. Ridley. The Installing Master gave the addresses in an excellent manner, and Bro. Bridger acted as D. of C., after which the lodge was closed.

BLACKHEATH LODGE, No. 1320.

ANNUAL SUPPER.

This very happy event took place on the 4th instant at the Florence, Rupert street, Haymarket, when a goodly number of brethren attended to support the worthy President, Bro. Hy. Cornford, P.M. 1922, and W.M. 1320. Among those present were Bro. Wm. Dawson, P.M., Preceptor; T. R. Cass, P.M., Treas.; Chas. Hy. Stone, P.M., Sec.; Arthur Taylor, Asst. Sec.; J. Loader, P.M.; Geo. Thompson, P.M.; T. Grummant, P.M.; Harry Wood, P.M.; Wm. Hill, J. T. Audy, J. Higgs, Theo. Block, Wal Jeffery, P.M.; W. Conquest, W. Chapman, E. J. S. Ware, P.M.; R. Brown, J. P. Bliss, C. Taylor, H. A. Stunt, P.M.; H. J. Newnam, C. J. Willoughby, Ernst Nauen, F. Swin. Smith, P. Prov. G. Org. Middx.; Costello, and Hill, P.M.

An excellent dinner was supplied by Bro. L. Azario, the proprietor, and personally superintended by Bro. Bonaldi and E. A. Abre (manager), the viands being of the best quality, and to which ample justice was done.

The cloth removed, Bro. H. Cornford presented the loyal and Masonic toasts right royally, and remarked of his Majesty that while Grand Master he had endeared himself to the hearts of every Freemason, and now he had graciously announced himself as Protector of the Order; and of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught—all were looking forward to his installation in July, for he was most popular among the brethren, having done excellent service as Prov. G. Master for Sussex for many years.

"The Health of the President" was next proposed by Bro. Wm. Dawson, P.M., Preceptor, who remarked in the absence of the I.P.M. of the mother lodge it fell to his lot, which, he was confident, would be received with acclamation. It needed no words for him to expatiate on the many virtues of Bro. Cornford, who was W.M. of the Blackheath Lodge, No. 1320, P.M. of a very noted South London lodge—the Earl of Lathom, No. 1922, and also Preceptor and Dep. Preceptor in lodges of instruction; in fact, his name was Legion for the many valuable services he rendered in the cause of Freemasonry. All held him in the highest estimation, and valued him as a friend indeed. No distance was too great, nor did he spare any trouble in rendering assistance to the younger brethren in the lodges of instruction at which he was most constant in attendance. He was W.M. of the Blackheath Lodge, and his work in the chair was quite equal to any of his predecessors, although only a very young Mason comparatively. It gave them great pleasure to see him in the best of health, which they hoped would continue with him in order to enable him to carry on his good work, and they were all proud to see so worthy a brother as President upon so auspicious an occasion.

In reply Bro. Cornford, who was most cordially received, said he thanked Bro. Dawson for the manner the toast was proposed, and also the brethren for their hearty reception of the same. It was to him a very proud moment to preside over such a meeting, and he heartily thanked the brethren for their attendance. All knew his love for Freemasonry, and it was always his endeavour to carry out the duties to his utmost. He was proud of being Dep. Preceptor in the Blackheath Lodge of Instruction, and assist the younger brethren in whatever duties that fell to their lot, but still more so in being the W.M. of the mother lodge. For so cordial a greeting he tendered his hearty thanks, and hoped the same feelings would exist for many years to come.

In proposing the toast of the evening, that of "Success to the Blackheath Lodge of Instruction," Bro. Cornford said it was one of the best in South London, and no wonder, when it had for Preceptor so able and distinguished as Bro. Wm. Dawson. It was their wish that he might remain at the helm for very many years. He had been connected with the lodge for many years, when it was first held at the Milkwood Tavern, Loughborough Junction, and had always evinced the deepest interest in its welfare. He would couple with the toast Bro. W. Dawson, Preceptor; T. R. Cass, P.M., Treas.; Chas. Hy. Stone, P.M., Sec.; and Arthur Taylor, Asst. Sec.

In reply, Bro. Wm. Dawson, Preceptor, most cordially thanked the Bro. President for his kind words, which were most heartily re-echoed by him in the prosperity of the lodge of instruction. It had been his privilege of precepting for the last six years and had met with kindness and courtesy from the brethren during that time, and had made many personal and lasting friends, and no enemies. He was proud he had gained his Masonic knowledge from one who had precepted for nearly 30 years and was one of the most capable instructors that he knew in London, that was Bro. David Rose, P.M., whose name was a household word in South London. During seven or eight weeks in the year his business engagements took him (to the western world, and he paid a high tribute to the Bro. President, who conducted the affairs of the lodge of instruction with such ability during his absence. On his own behalf he most heartily thanked the brethren.

Bro. T. R. Cass, P.M., Treas., in eloquent terms, also expressed his thanks for the continued trust reposed in him as Treasurer from the commencement of the lodge in its pre-historic age at Loughborough Junction, and so long as he was entrusted with the funds he should most earnestly endeavour to faithfully serve the lodge.

Bro. Chas. Hy. Stone, P.M., Sec., also thankfully responded, and said a few facts were demanded from him which showed the lodge to be in a most flourishing condition. The acme of Freemasonry was most fully exemplified in the lodge. The fourth Charitable Association was in existence and had with the three previous ones sent up a very substantial sum to the various Charities. During the past year a ballot of £5 5s. was drawn from the subscriptions in favour of Bro. Cass, Treas., and also a guinea presented from the funds to the late Bro. Tyler. The average for the year was 16, which was most satisfactory, and an increase on the previous year. The 15 Sections were worked once during the year under the able presidency of Bro. H. Cornford who received very hearty support, and was most cordially thanked for his services. In his duties as Secretary, he had most hearty assistance from Bro. Arthur Taylor, Asst. Sec., for which he tendered him most cordial thanks.

Bro. Arthur Taylor also most ably and suitably responded.

The toast of "The Visitors" was most cordially presented by the President, and duly responded to by Bro. Newnam, Nauen, Costello, and Harry Wood, P.M. 101.

A very enjoyable meeting was spent, greatly enhanced by some excellent harmony from Bro. Frank Swinford Smith, Costello, Willoughby, Stunt, Arthur Taylor, and T. Grummant, P.M. (reciter). Bro. F. S. Smith very ably presided at the piano.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bro. H. J. Dunaway, W.M.; A. Williams, S.W.; C. Nicole, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; A. F. Hardyment, P.M., Asst. Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, Treas.; J. Duncan, P.M., Sec.; A. E. Turner, S.D.; J. Horsted, J.D.; S. Cload, I.G.; W. G. Brisby, A. Noel, E. Richards, F. M. Wemborn, A. L. Langton, H. J. May, E. Lucas, R. E. Maskall, A. Weston, J. Birks, P.M.; A. C. Allen, A. Staples, F. H. Johnson, T. Feistel, and W. R. Corfield.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Maskall being the candidate. The ancient charge was given. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Feistel, when the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Brisby being the candidate. Bro. Evan Richards, W. R. Corfield, and T. Feistel were elected members of the lodge. Bro. was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed the officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

PENLEY'S THEATRE.—Mrs. T. P. O'Connor has arranged with Bro. Penley to produce at his theatre a comedy of modern manners, at the close of the Whitsuntide vacation. Bro. Penley will take advantage of the opportunity to definitely give his name to his theatre in Great Queen-street, which in future will be known as Penley's Theatre.

Masonic and General Tidings.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent will be held at Dover on the 12th prox, Lord Amherst, Prov. G.M., will preside.

KENTISH MEN IN LONDON.—The Council of the Association of Men of Kent and Kentish Men are arranging an outing to Chislehurst in June, and another to Whitstable in September.

THE monthly meeting of the Board of Governors of the Masonic Female Orphan School will be held at the School House, Ball's Bridge, Dublin, on Tuesday, the 27th inst., at 8.30 o'clock a.m.

THE SUMMER OUTING of the Kingsland Lodge, No. 1693, will be taken in July next. The W.M., Bro. Lewis Cully, and Bro. Arthur White, P.M., are making full arrangements for another thoroughly enjoyable day for all.

BRO. THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE, as Lord President of the Council, has nominated Lieutenant-Colonel E. Pryce Jones, M.P., to be a member of the Council of the University College of Wales, Aberystwith, for a further period of three years.

THE ROYAL LITERARY FUND.—Among the speakers at the Literary Fund dinner on the 17th instant, at which the Archbishop of Canterbury is to preside, will be Sir William Anson, M.P., the Bishop of Ripon, Colonel Sir James Willcocks, and Mr. Gilbert Parker, M.P.

THE MEETINGS of the Kintore Mark Lodge of Instruction are held at the Montpellier Hotel, Choumert-road, Peckham, on the second and fourth Tuesdays in each month, at 8 p.m. Bro. W. Dawson, P.S.G.W. Kent, is the Preceptor. All Mark Masons will be most cordially welcomed.

THE CORDWAINERS' COMPANY have recently made the following donations: 100 guineas to the Queen's Memorial Fund; £100 to the Princess of Wales's Fund (Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association); 30 guineas to the Boot Trade Benevolent Society; 20 guineas to the East London Hospital for Children; 10 guineas each to the City Mission, Sheriffs' Fund Society, Edmonton Parochial Charities, and Merchant Seamen's Orphan Asylum; five guineas to the London Rifle Brigade (Cordwainer, H company); and £5 to the National Refuge for Destitute Children (Prize Fund).

DAILY SUMMER TRIPS TO THE UPPER THAMES.—The popular excursions from London to Henley by the Great Western Railway, and thence by steam launch to Pangbourne or Cliveden Woods, will commence on Saturday, the 18th instant, for the season. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays the launch will run from Henley to Cliveden Woods, and on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Sundays from Henley to Pangbourne. The charge will be as previously (21s.), and will include first class railway journey to and from Henley, the launch trip with luncheon on board, and table d'hôte dinner at the Red Lion Hotel, Henley-on-Thames.

SPEAKING at a meeting at Leamington recently, at which it was decided to form a local committee in support of the National Lifeboat Institution, Bro. the Earl of Warwick said in this country a great deal too much was left to voluntary effort. Lifeboats should be supported and controlled by Government, and not left simply to private enterprise and charity. There was too much calling upon public assistance and support in moments of difficulty, and we frequently undertook, as private individuals, obligations which ought to be undertaken by Government. However, until a change of opinion caused the Government to control the lifeboats, he exhorted them to support these admirable institutions to the utmost. The Countess of Warwick also spoke.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of "Irish Masonry Illustrated," which has just made its appearance, and is designed as the organ of the Masonic body in Ireland. Ireland is the only country in which Freemasonry flourishes which has not hitherto possessed a Masonic journal, and it is to supply that deficiency that "Irish Masonry Illustrated" has been founded. The number before us is illustrated, and should it maintain a high standard ought to prove a most successful venture. The frontispiece, which has as a heading views of the Masonic Hall, the Girls' School at Ball's Bridge, and the Boys' School at Clonskeagh, is an excellent photograph of the M.W.G. Master of Ireland, the Duke of Abercorn, K.G.

TORQUAY AND THE CRAFT.—Torquay ought to be a famous town in the Masonic world. It was the home of the historian of Freemasonry, the late Mr. John Lane; and it is still the home of Mr. W. J. Hughan, the founder of the authentic school of Masonic writers, and of Mr. F. J. W. Crowe, whose Masonic researches have enabled him to obtain a collection of certificates that [is] absolutely unique. There is probably no other town in the country possessing three Masons so widely known in the Masonic literary world. Mr. Hugoan put an end to a lot of fiction written about Masonry by refusing to accept any statement that could not be proved by authentic documents; and his researches have been most valuable. Mr. Crowe has made researches concerning Masonic diplomas of all Degrees and countries, and Masonic clothing and jewels entirely his own. Torquay is also the only town in the provinces that has two members of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge.—*Western Morning News*.

TRAGIC TERMINATION OF A MASONIC MEETING.—A painful sensation was caused at Eastbourne on the 7th instant, by the sudden death of Bro. Frederick Samuel Schreiner, of New College, Eastbourne. The deceased, who was an elder brother of the ex-Premier of Cape Colony, was about 60 years of age. As W.M. of the Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 2676, he attended the meeting at the Grand Hotel. The lodge had only been opened a few minutes when Bro. Schreiner, appearing to stoop to pick up a paper, fell forward. Bros. Dr. Harding (the deputy mayor) and Dr. Ewart at once went to his assistance and endeavoured to restore animation. After several minutes of painful suspense it was announced that life was extinct. Bro. the Rev. H. G. Jameson, Past Master of the lodge, spoke a few words of regret and the members dispersed, the banquet, at which 50 were to have sat down, being abandoned. The deceased was born in South Africa, but had spent most of his life in England. He leaves a widow, but no family, his only son having died a few weeks ago.

THE COMMITTEE of Our Dumb Friends' League, in their last annual report, referred to the piteous scenes of horses overcome by heat in the streets last summer, and the never-ceasing occurrences of horses meeting with accidents and being taken sick while at work. They suggested the purchase of horse ambulances, with the idea of relieving so much pain and misery. This idea was supported at a drawing room meeting of the friends of the League, which was held recently, by kind permission of Bro. Lord and Lady Llangattock, at South Lodge, Rutland Gate, when a resolution was adopted, proposed by Lady Pender, seconded by Mr. R. Somerville Wood, and supported by Colonel C. Colville, approving of the objects and aims of the League, and heartily sympathising with the movement for placing horse ambulances upon the streets. Bro. Lord Llangattock, who presided, said the League sought as its object to encourage humanity to animals by education, co-operation, and, where possible, by grants of money, and especially to obtain employment for any working man who lost his position by being humane to animals.

AS THE holiday season is not a great distance from realisation, we may be excused for reminding our readers of one of those little bits of forgetfulness to which the majority of us are prone at times. Many men go away and in the hurry scurry of departure forget to take with them a smokable cigar. Cigars of any merit are few and far between at the majority of holiday resorts, so the man who is wise and enjoys a good smoke, should make it his business to see that a supply is one of the first things to pack. Seeing that the difficulty of obtaining a really good cigar at anything like a reasonable price is becoming more and more acute now-a-days, we would like to direct the attention of our readers to a brand of cigars which are exceptionally good at a cost of 28s. per 100. We refer to to the "Manuel Murias," the speciality of the Borneo and Havana Cigar Co., of 13, Billiter-buildings, E.C. Finer cigars than these at anything like the price it would be impossible to find; they are very sweet to the taste, have a grand aroma and are just now in the very "pink of condition," to use a sporting phrase. There are few of what we may call cheap luxuries, that is, luxuries within the reach of the average purse, but so far as cigars go, we certainly have a luxurious smoke at a very small cost in "Manuel Murias."

ANGLO-INDIANS AND OTHERS seeking genuine Indian-manufactured condiments, currie stuffs, chutnees, preserves, poppidams, Bombay ducks, Nepaul pepper, &c., send to the original firm. C. Stemberge and Co., 18, Green-street, Leicester-square, London; and Calcutta. Established 1821. Write for price list. R removed from 33, Leicester-square).

THE King of Sweden and Norway has created Bro. Wilhelm Ganz, P.G. Org., a Knight of the Royal Order of Wasa, 1st Class.

PORT GLASGOW.—The Dean of Guild, on the 6th instant, passed plans of a new Masonic temple which Lodge Doric Kilwinning, No. 63, propose building in Brown-street. The new building is estimated to cost £2500.

BRO. G. W. CUTTS has been installed W.M. for the ensuing year of the Gordon Lodge, No. 1726, Bognor. The ceremony was performed by the retiring W.M., Bro. A. Seymour, and was followed by the customary banquet.

THE SOCIETY OF ARTS.—The Society's conversazione will take place at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, on Friday evening, the 28th prox., from 9 to 12 p.m. Light refreshment (tea, coffee, ices, claret cup, &c.), will be supplied.

THE music at the Newspaper Press Fund dinner on Saturday, the 18th instant, will be under the direction of Bro. Wilhelm Ganz, P.G. Org. Mdle. Evangeline Florence, Madame Alice Gomez, and Mr. Gregory Hast have kindly volunteered their services.

INVENTORS OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—An addition of considerable interest will be made to the many attractions announced in connection with the Naval and Military Exhibition at the Crystal Palace. A section will be devoted to inventions, patents, and design connected more or less with naval military matters, which will show the progress made since the days of the 1851 Exhibition. This should be interesting alike to inventors and the general public.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—The first meeting of Stewards for the 103rd Anniversary Festival was held at Freemasons' Hall to-day (Friday) at 4 p.m.; when the various Officers of the Board were elected, and the locality for holding the Festival decided upon. Mrs. W. W. Bramston Beach has kindly consented to distribute the prizes to the Boys, and the Annual Speech Day and Stewards' visit has been fixed for Monday, the 24th prox. The annual athletic sports of the Boys will be held at the Wood Green School on Saturday, the 1st prox., at two o'clock p.m.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—The following reply to the Address passed at the April Quarterly Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys has been received from the Home Secretary: "Home Office, Whitehall, 6th May, 1901.—Sir,—I am commanded by the King to convey to you hereby His Majesty's thanks for the loyal and dutiful Address of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys expressing sympathy on the occasion of the lamented death of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, and congratulation on His Majesty's accession to the Throne.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, (Signed) CHAS. T. RITCHIE.—The Chairman of the Governors, Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, 6, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C."

HORTICULTURAL EDUCATION.—An Educational Flower Show is to be held at the Crystal Palace on August 16th and 17th, in connection with the National Co-operative Festival, "One and All" Industrial Flower Show, and Surrey Bee-Keepers' Exhibition. The Countess of Warwick is giving a challenge trophy, besides other prizes at the show. Lady Algernon Gordon-Lennox and the Countess of Bective also offer prizes. The Countess of Warwick, in a circular letter, states that by such a show an immense impetus will be given to the rural educational movement throughout the kingdom. She appeals for contributions in money and in kind to the prize schedule, and annual subscriptions to maintain and develop annual gatherings.

BRO. ALDERMAN TRUSCOTT AT HATCHAM.—On the 30th ultimo a local trades exhibition was opened at St. Catherine's, Hatcham, by Bro. Alderman Truscott. The exhibition has for its object the extinction of the debt of £600 which remains upon the hall. The vicar, the Rev. H. J. Truscott, cousin to the Alderman, made a few prefatory remarks. The Alderman, in opening the exhibition, said he took a very great interest in the work of the parish. He was glad to know that the exhibition was being well-supported by the trade of the neighbourhood, and trusted that the exhibitors would gain a great deal by showing those residing in the locality that there was no necessity to go to London for what they required.

A SOCIETY paper declares that the horror of appearing in public in the King's uniform amounts almost to a disease with some men. It is amusing to notice the shyness with which officers employed at the War Office go about in the daytime since Lord Robert's order that they are to wear uniform during office hours. One occasionally sees them getting out of cabs and darting furtively into shops and offices with the collars of their greatcoats turned up and the side-long air of a man about to commit a crime. As a matter of fact, they are merely making business calls on behalf of the War Office. There is reason to believe that in some cases a fear of being mistaken for "Tommy" is at the bottom of these officers' coyness, the appearance of an officer in undress and wearing his overcoat not being easily distinguishable from that of one of the rank-and-file.—*Life*.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.—When presiding at the annual meeting of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, which took place at the Lyceum Theatre on Tuesday afternoon, Bro. Edward Terry had the satisfaction of presenting the affairs of the corporation in what he aptly described in a very "rosy" light. Her late Majesty Queen Victoria had been patron of the fund since 1848, and now King Edward had graciously consented in this respect, as in so many others, to follow in her footsteps. The chairman announced with intense gratification that the annuities had been increased to £95 per annum, and that the directors hoped shortly to be able to raise that amount to £120, which is the maximum they aimed at. The balance-sheet was adopted unanimously. The honorary officers were afterwards re-elected, and thanked for their past services. The number included Bro. Edward Terry, as treasurer, who will preside at the annual dinner on the 23rd instant.

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