

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

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, K.G., ETC., 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

VOL. XL. NO. 1685]

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1901.

[PRICE 3r.]

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
LEADER—	
The Boys' School Festival	329
Masonic Jurisprudence	329
Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire	330
So Very Human	331
Board of Benevolence	331
Banquet given by the Empress Lodge, No. 2591	332
Science, Art, and the Drama	333
MASONIC NOTES—	
Distribution of Prizes at the Boys' School	335
Final Meeting of the Board of Stewards of Girls' School Festival	335
Ex-Pupils' Day of the Girls' School	335
Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent	335
Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex	335
Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076	335
Correspondence	336
Reviews	336
Craft Masonry	337
Instruction	338
Royal Arch	338
Improvements in the Summer Train Service of the Midland Railway	338
Obituary	338
Masonic and General Tidings	340

THE BOYS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

We are now within measurable distance of the day appointed for the third and last of the great Anniversary Festivals of the year—that of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys—which will be celebrated at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday, the 26th instant, under the presidency of Bro. the Right Hon. W. W. B. BEACH, M.P., Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. That the prospects awaiting us are encouraging we have already said, and nothing has happened since we first expressed that opinion to alter it. On the contrary, the number of those who are prepared to give their services as Stewards has gone on increasing steadily, if not in a very marked degree, and the Board now numbers considerably over 500 ladies and brethren, the result of whose efforts in behalf of our Boys' School it will be our privilege to record next week. Indeed, we fail to see how the prospects could be otherwise than as we have described. The Chairman is one of the most popular among our rulers, and has had a large experience in presiding at such gatherings. His Province, which he has ruled for more than 30 years, is a strong one, with 48 lodges on its roll, and not only loyal to the backbone to its chief, but also actuated by the sincerest goodwill towards our Institutions, while the numerical strength of the Board that will support him bears witness to the large extent of the support which will be forthcoming from London and the other Provinces. Thus we are justified in hoping that the total realised on Wednesday will provide not only the £12,000 that is needed to meet the year's expenditure, but also a further sum for investment and the resultant increase of the permanent income.

When the outlook is so promising there is little need for us to say anything in accentuation of our appeal for the necessary ways and means. It is recognised on all sides that our Benevolent and Scholastic Institutions do their work admirably. In February, the Benevolent Institution had a bumper Festival under the auspices of the Earl of WARWICK, Deputy Grand Master of England, and Prov. Grand Master of Essex. Last month the Masonic Institution for Girls; with Earl AMHERST, M.W. Pro G. Master, and Prov. G. Master of Kent, had still more of a bumper, and next week it will be the turn of the Boys' School, and we trust we shall have the good fortune of congratulating the Chairman, the Board of Stewards, and the authorities of the Institution on the total of the donations and subscriptions that is announced. There is need for a big result, notwithstanding the unprecedented success of the Centenary Festival

in 1898. The School maintains, clothes, and educates some 300 boys and thus fits them to earn an honest and honourable livelihood. How well they are trained physically was shown at the annual athletic meeting in the playing fields at Wood Green on the 1st instant. How excellent is the education is already sufficiently well known to our readers by the series of annual successes which are achieved at the Cambridge Local and other public examinations, and will be made still more apparent at the distribution of prizes by Mrs. W. W. B. BEACH on Monday. Thus the ladies and brethren who give their services as Stewards and the lodges and brethren who subscribe the funds are thoroughly well assured beforehand that their contributions will not only be gratefully received, but also—and this is the most important point of all—faithfully applied, and to good purpose. There is no need for us to say more; with such a Chairman, supported as he will be by so loyal a Province and a Board of Stewards gathered from all parts of the Metropolitan district and the country generally, the Festival of Wednesday cannot be otherwise than successful, though whether the result will be greater, equal to, or less than those of the other Anniversary Festivals is a matter which cannot be determined beforehand.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

[COMMUNICATED.]

THE ROYAL ARCH.

In all cases not specially provided for in the Laws and Regulations which govern the Order of the Holy Royal Arch in England, the Order shall be considered to be bound by the Book of Constitutions. This statement, which is prefixed to the Regulations, considerably simplifies the work of the Royal Arch jurist and narrows his field of investigation.

It is rather difficult to say exactly what the Royal Arch is. It is not a Degree, but it is the completion of one. It is an Order. According to Oliver it was introduced into this country about the year 1740. Kloss says it was imported from the Continent during the Austrian war of Succession in 1742. It was worked as a separate Degree by Dermott, but at the Lodge of Reconciliation, the Royal Arch was officially recognised as a part of pure and Antient Freemasonry, included in the three Degrees of Symbolical Freemasonry.

We are not, however, proposing at present to write a history of the Order, but rather to explain the Laws and Regulations under which it is worked at the present time.

The governing body is the Supreme Grand Chapter, presided over by the First Grand Principal or his Deputy. It is composed of officers, past and present, the three Principals of every subordinate, or private, chapter, and all Past First Principals of such chapters who have been subscribing members at any time within 12 months of the occasion on which they shall claim their right. Rulers of Provinces and Districts are, of course, included, but the principles of nomenclature differ somewhat from those which obtain in Grand Lodge. Whilst the head of the Order is officially described as Grand Z., there is no such term as Provincial or District Grand Z. Such officers are described as Grand Superintendents of Provinces or Districts (as the case may be).

It may be added that whilst the term Grand Z. may sometimes appear in the printed reports of the Supreme Grand Chapter, the abbreviations Z., H., and J. appear in the Royal Arch Regulations in only one place, that is, in the form of petition to be sent up when it is desired to form a new chapter. Certain officers of the Grand Lodge hold corresponding appoint-

ments in the Royal Arch *ex officio*. These are the Grand Master, Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Secretary, the Grand Treasurer, and the Grand Registrar, that is, if they are Royal Arch Masons.

It will be useful at the outset of our investigations to note these points of procedure, which differ from corresponding procedure in Craft Masonry; and for facility of reference we will take them in the order in which they occur in the Regulations. The relative precedence of officers in Grand Chapter is virtually the same as in Grand Lodge *mutatis mutandis*. But there is an important proviso regarding the appointment to office which does not obtain in the Book of Constitutions. In Grand Lodge it is provided that the Grand Registrar must be an Installed Master, and the Grand Tyler must be a Master Mason, but it does not appear that any other officer need have any special qualification. But in Article 32 of the R.A. Regulations it is provided that none but First Principals may be appointed to office. In the case of the Grand Principals, companions appointed to those offices may be specially installed as First Principals without undergoing the year's service as such,

Whilst the Craft permits the formation of District Boards, the R.A. Regulations are silent on the subject, but silence is generally taken to mean consent, and District Boards—or committees they are generally called—perform functions corresponding with those of District Boards.

The list of officers, Grand and Provincial, contains no mention of any Chaplain. The reason is that the Third Principal represents the sacerdotal element. It has been contended that the order of precedence, J., H., and Z., is incorrect, and that it should be H., J., Z. Our Lord began His career by exercising prophetic functions. He consummated the priestly function on Calvary, and he attained the regal rank when he ascended from Olivet. Moreover, the combination of offices is always read "prophet, priest, and king." In the Old Testament the prophetic office was always held to be inferior to the priestly, and, moreover, J. was the most active colleague of Z.

The precedence of a private chapter is determined by that of the lodge to which it is attached. In the event of such lodge being removed from the list, the chapter does not necessarily dissolve, but it may be attached to another lodge.

A petition for a warrant to form a new chapter must be signed by *nine* Royal Arch Masons, and it must contain the names of the three companions whom it is proposed to instal in the Principals' chairs.

There are many who regard the three Principals as being analogous to the Master and Wardens. But the analogy is not good. The three are, conjointly, regarded as a Master, and each severally is so regarded.

In the Craft the officers (Treasurer and Tyler excepted) are appointed by the newly-installed Master. In the chapter all officers are elected and the officers thus elected may be invested and may enter upon the discharge of their duties the same evening.

As an extreme case, the writer has known a companion to be exalted, elected, and passed through the chairs of J. and H. to that of Z. all in the same evening. It is right to say that this took place abroad, and the circumstances were highly exceptional. All companions elected to the Principals' chairs must be Installed Masters in the Craft, and must have served for a year in one of the subordinate offices—Scribe or Sojourner.

In Districts abroad this latter proviso is waived, and a further concession is made, which allows the Master or Past Master of a lodge holding under a foreign Constitution (in communion, of course, with Grand Lodge) to be installed as a Principal. In England a companion must serve a year in each Principal chair, but abroad, as pointed out above, the companion who is elected Z. may be installed in the third and second chairs successively without any qualifying period of service. The rule is also waived in the case of a chapter at the time of its constitution. A Master of a lodge may not serve for more than two years in succession, but a First Principal may serve for three. In the Craft not more than five candidates may be initiated on one occasion, but in the Royal Arch there is no limit to the number of exaltations.

Failure to meet for one year may lead to the erasure of a lodge, but Supreme Grand Chapter is more long suffering than Grand Lodge, and permits two years to elapse before putting the law in motion. All penal proceedings affecting the status of a Royal Arch companion in the Craft have corresponding effect in the chapter.

In 1893, an important alteration was made in the Regulations. Previous to that year, Article 73 provided that no Freemason should be exalted unless he had been a Master Mason for at least 12 months. This period might be abridged, in foreign parts, to four weeks, subject to dispensation. In 1893, it was

enacted that a brother might be exalted within one calendar month.

The reason assigned for the change was presumably that the popularity of the Order might be extended. Brethren were debarred from acceding to its ranks by reason of losing heart through the delay. Whilst it is in the highest degree un-Masonic to ask a person who is not a Freemason to offer himself as a candidate, to ask a brother to join the Royal Arch has been regarded as meritorious rather than otherwise and it was considered as good business, therefore, to secure candidates for the Order whilst in the first flush of their Masonic enthusiasm. Such enthusiasm it was considered might wear off and the brother be inclined to ask "Cui bono?" if so long a period as a year were allowed to elapse.

Eight years have elapsed since the change was made, and the thoughtful Royal Arch Mason may ask himself "Cui bono?" and may have to wait for an answer. If it had resulted in numerous accessions to the Order such fact might have sufficed for an answer. But even then it would be required to be known whether such accessions were for the good of the Order, or whether it was desirable that it should be popularised to such an extent.

But the truth is that the new legislation has failed even in this elementary respect. No doubt new chapters have arisen and membership has increased. But is the rate of increase greater than can be accounted for by the rate of increase in the Craft?

Or on the other hand, has the Order been cheapened for nothing? And if the increase had been such as to justify the change, from that particular point of view, the next question is whether mere numerical increase is desirable. If a brother's Masonic enthusiasm was worth anything at all, surely it would last over a year. And at all events the delay would ensure that only such were exalted into the Royal Arch as had proved that they possessed more than a superficial interest.

We shall refer to the clothing and other insignia in a future article, and only refer to it here to mention that all jewels and decorations recognised by the Grand Lodge may be worn in a chapter together with such as are recognised in the chapter, and similarly Royal Arch jewels and decorations may be worn in a lodge.

We shall continue our remarks on the Royal Arch with reference to the officers of a chapter and their duties, then with reference to the form and decorations of the chapter, and, lastly, the clothing and regalia.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 12th instant, at the Co-operative Hall, Leigh. Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, Prov. G.M., presided over a large attendance of the brethren. Amongst those also on the platform were Bros. J. J. Lambert, P.G.D.; J. Houlding, P.G.D.; Rev. T. Barton Spencer, P.G. Chap.; Robert Wylie, D.P.G.M.; W. Goodacre, Prov. G. Sec.; Jas. R. Spurgeon, LL.B., P.G.W. of Liberia, and Present G. Lecturer; and T. Shaw, Mayor of Leigh.

The Prov. Grand Lodge having been opened, Lord LATHOM greeted Bro. Spurgeon, who returned his thanks to the Prov. Grand Master, and conveyed to the brethren the greeting of the Craft in Liberia.

The roll of lodges was then called, and, with one exception, all were found to be represented.

Apologies were read from a number of brethren, including the Earl of Derby, P.G.W.

The minutes of the Prov. Grand Lodge held in June last having been adopted, the accounts of the Prov. G. Treasurer were presented and unanimously approved.

The Prov. G. Sec., Bro. W. GOODACRE, in his annual report, referred to the death of her Majesty Queen Victoria, which had led to the severance of the intimate connection that had been continued through so many years between their late Grand Master and the Craft. When his Majesty the King, then Prince of Wales, succeeded the Marquis of Ripon as Grand Master, there were about 1500 lodges under the English Constitution; when his Majesty surrendered the Grand Mastership that number had nearly doubled. The great progress made during the past quarter of a century had been largely participated in by this province, for, whereas in the year 1875 the province had 69 lodges with a roll of 4400 members, in 1885 there were 82 lodges and a roll of 4600 members, and they had at the present time 127 lodges with a membership roll exceeding 8500; so that during the last 15 years the lodges in West Lancashire had increased by 55 per cent., and the roll of members by 85 per cent. He was glad to be able to report that all returns had been made and all dues paid. The Lord Lathom Memorial Fund had resulted in the raising of over £3500, which had been allocated to the Benevolent Institutions of the province, and presentations by the Prov. G. Master had been granted in return for the sums given. Referring to the purposes of the Charities in the province, Bro. Goodacre said that 20 years ago the Educational Institution had an income of £1280 a year, educating 93 children at a cost of £671, with invested funds amounting to £15,900. The income last year was £3044, with 210 children on the foundation, at a cost of £1580 for the year; while the invested funds had increased to £25,600. The Hamer

Institution 15 years ago had an annual income of £490, and paid out to distressed brethren £45 for the year. Last year's income was £1374, and 21 distressed brethren received in grants and annuities £408, whilst the capital account stood at £6800. The Alpass Institution, which was formed in 1885, had last year an income of £3250, and paid in grants and annuities to 70 widows £1120, and had invested funds of £5900. In 1897, the Victoria Fund of Benevolence was founded for the assistance of those near and dear to deceased brethren, and who were not eligible to receive benefits from previously existing funds. From this fund grants amounting to £100 had been made to 13 daughters of Freemasons. An instance of the breadth of platform on which Freemasonry was based was afforded by the very generous response made to an appeal for help to build a church at Skelmersdale, and which had been of great assistance to a district which had had a somewhat bitter experience.

The Prov. G.M. thought they could all congratulate themselves most heartily on the report, and that everything was so flourishing at the beginning of the new century. He would thank them once again for the testimonial of the work of his late father which they had given him; and, in addition, he had to thank them all for the hearty support, amounting to £350, towards the building of a new church at Skelmersdale. When the time came he hoped they would assemble to see the foundation stone laid. He trusted that as the years went by their happiness, their prosperity, and their strength might increase, always remembering that strength did not consist in numbers, but in loyalty to the Craft.

Bro. J. J. LAMBERT paid a high compliment to Bro. Thomas Edwards for his able discharge of the duties of Prov. Grand Treasurer during the past year, and proposed as his successor Bro. A. Pickford, Architect Lodge, No. 1375, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

Bro. THOMAS EDWARDS seconded the nomination, which was supported by Bro. J. Slyman, P.P.G.D., and unanimously agreed to.

Bro. LAMBERT next proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Bro. Thomas Edwards, and it was heartily accorded.

On the motion of Bro. R. WYLIE, seconded by Bro. JOHN HOULDING, Bros. J. J. Lambert, P.G.D.; J. Platt, P.P.G.D.; T. Callow, P.P.G.T.; G. A. Harradon, P.P.G.T.; and Thos. Edwards, P.P.G.T., were elected Auditors.

Bro. JOHN HOULDING moved that the allowance to the Prov. G. Secretary be increased by £60 per annum to enable him to provide assistance in the clerical work of his office.

Bro. LAMBERT seconded, and Bro. WYLIE supported the motion, which was carried unanimously.

On the proposition of the D.P.G.M., the sum of £100 was voted to the funds of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, and 150 guineas to be divided equally between the Alpass, the Hamer, and the Educational Institutions.

At this point a collection amounting to £26 was taken, and was devoted to the funds of the Leigh Nursing Institution.

The Prov. Grand Master then invested the officers as follows:

Bro. R. K. Fenton, 1314	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" W. Pierpoint, 148	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" T. J. Preece, 155	...	...	} Prov. G. Chaps.
" T. Stoney Bates, 1032	...	...
" A. Pickford, 1375	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" W. H. J. Jenkins, 1050	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" W. W. Jones, 786	...	...	Prov. D.G. Reg.
" W. Goodacre (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov G. Sec.
" Thomas Baxter, 1561	...	...	} Prov. S.G.Ds.
" A. J. Cunliffe, 1032	...	...
" Edward Wilson, 1061	...	...
" G. R. Johnson, 216	...	...	} Prov. J.G.Ds.
" H. D. M'Laughlin, 2514	...	...
" John Clayton, 2714	...	...	} Prov. G.S. of W.
" Robert Green, 2708	...	...
" T. Bush, 2270	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" H. Bouchier, 1335	...	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" E. Bradshaw, 613	...	...	} Prov. A.G.D.Cs.
" J. Plumpton, 1570	...	...
" W. M. Bailey, 2324	...	...	} Prov. G.S.B.
" J. Matthews, 1384	...	...
" J. T. Bradley, 2631	...	...	Prov. D.G.S.B.
" J. Hargreaves, 1398	...	...	} Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" Thomas Bell, 1213	...	...
" J. Birchall, 897	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" R. Knowles, 178	...	...	Prov. Asst. G. Sec.
" John Bell, 2525	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" Jas. Iddon, 2376	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" Edmund Taylor, 2349	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" J. A. Muir, 2042	...	...
" T. W. Travers, 1354	...	...
" R. Shacklady, 249	...	...
" W. H. C. Trense, 594	...	...	} Prov. G. Tyler.
" J. Dickenson, 1354	...	...
" W. J. Doran (re-appointed)	...	...

Bro. the Mayor of LEIGH subsequently, on behalf of the Leigh Nursing Institution, thanked the Prov. G. Master for the handsome collection, which, he said, would come as a very happy and very welcome surprise.

This concluded the business.

SO VERY HUMAN.

There are some transforming processes in nature and art which are wonderfully rapid and radical. By the skilful employment of certain chemical agents the dyer gives his fabrics the richest and most varied colours, and after these colours have been fixed, he can as readily change red to black, or yellow to green. True, he has been styled the "devil's agent," and some of his dyes "food for the devil," for in Queen Elizabeth's reign an Act of Parliament prohibited the use of indigo as a "pernicious, deceitful, eating, and corrosive dye." His art, indeed, shows how white may be made black, if not black white. So in the Church of God it is claimed that conversion and participation in certain ordinances work a material change in the spiritual character of a man. Now Freemasonry is neither a dyer of men's characters, nor has it any theological power to

cleanse from sin. Masters of lodges are no necromancers, nor masters of the "black art," nor divinely commissioned agents. They are only men, and although educated, more or less, as Masons and Masters, after all they are—so very human. Besides, every rough ashlar placed in their hands for shaping is at least as human as themselves. Freemasonry is a human institution. It claims no origin higher than that of King Solomon—which is high enough. But some appear to fancy that it is not only a mystic, but a magic, society; that everyone who is made a Mason is at once transformed by it into—we will not say an angel of light, but a pure-hearted right-minded, and self-sacrificing brother. They forget the material whereof we are made. In the language of Coleridge: "As there is much beast, and some devil in man, so is there some angel and some God in him. The beast and the devil may be conquered, but in this life never wholly destroyed." Certainly Masonry cannot destroy them. It is not a reformatory institution. It is merely an aggregation of men who claim to have a moral likeness and kindred aspirations. If a mistake is made in the admission of improper material, no power that Masonry possesses can radically change its character. Masonry's power consists primarily in *rejecting*, subsequently in *expelling*, but never in *renovating*. The black-ball is the only omnipotent weapon possessed by every individual Craftsman, and even its use has been so modified by modern Masonic legislation, by increasing, in some jurisdictions, the number of black-balls necessary for rejection, or by multiplying, in others, the opportunities for the rejected to present a new petition, that even its power is sometimes materially abridged.

No one in the Craft needs to be told that Freemasons are not perfect men; but then they are not, or should not be, very imperfect. Although they are human, like other men, it is fair to presume that the large majority of them were actuated by proper motives in seeking affiliation with the Fraternity, and that the lessons of initiation have not been taught them in vain. Certainly no *true* Freemason will ever be guilty of the heartless calumny of making defamatory accusations against a brother. He who has only the wet blanket of uncharitable words to throw around a brother Mason; he who traduces and maligns him not only does a gross injustice to himself, and places a stain on the escutcheon of Freemasonry, but he restrains the zeal, chills the affection, and, it may be, effectually banishes from the Craft one who, it may be, is in every way his superior in moral worth, in mental ability, and in general Masonic usefulness. The brother who is honest, earnest, and ambitious, although his zeal may at times outrun discretion, and his enthusiasm lead him to exceed propriety, should never be treated as a serious transgressor. There are not so many who at once have Masonry at heart, and habitually uphold it with their *voice* and *hands*, that their number can be presumptuously and carelessly lessened. The baseless is always graceless. No brother should be driven out, or kept out, of the Temple of Masonry by the lash of a misjudged evil report. Masonry is nothing if not charitable, and the place for charity is *first in words*, and afterwards in deeds. We wish none to come to us, as Wolsey did to his friends, saying:

"An old man, broken with the storms of state,
Is come to lay his weary bones among ye;
Give him a little earth for charity!"

O! that is the most empty, painful charity of all! One kind word in life is worth a volume of mortuary eulogy. One gentle act to a brother when he is misrepresented is worth a whole graveyard of earth when he is food for worms.

Dickens introduces his "uncommercial traveller" by saying he "travels for the great house of Human Interest Brothers." Freemasons should represent not only his house, but also that other and greater house, "Masonic Interest Brothers." Every brother encircled by the mystic tie is a member of this firm and entitled to the kindest consideration. But then we all are—so very human. Too true. Yet we may remember, and remembering practise, the admonition in those touching lines of Bro. Robert Burns—who himself, no doubt, was deeply conscious of the need of the charity he invoked for others:

"Then gently scan your Brother man,
Still gentler, sister woman;
Though they may go a kennin' wrang,
To step aside is human."

—Keystone (Philadelphia).

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. J. H. Matthews, President of the Board, was in the chair. Bro. D. D. Mercer, Senior Vice-President, and Bro. Henry Garrod, Junior Vice-President, were in the respective seats. Bros. W. Lake, Asst. G. Sec., W. Dodd, and G. S. Recknell, represented the Grand Secretary's department, and there were also present—

Bros. E. W. Nightingale, W. Fisher, Charles J. R. Tijou, F. W. Hancock, James Block, R. W. Ker, Thomas Jones, S. J. Noble, W. Kipps, W. M. Bywater, S. H. Goldschmidt, G. M. E. Hamilton, J. S. Pointon, John Ellinger, J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; E. W. Pillinger, Charles Henry Stone, C. H. Webb, Lorenzo Faull, W.M. 619; Alfred Collins, Arthur Thompson, William H. Stocks, Alfred H. Trewinnard, Richard Poore, J. W. Burgess, A.G.D.C.; H. Massey, T. T. Dibley, W. D. Child, Arthur S. B. Sparling, Frank Evans, A. W. Moore, F. Stotzer, G. J. B. Thompson, H. J. Leroy, S. J. Cowley, Thomas Powell, and Thomas Wood.

The brethren first confirmed grants above £20 which were recommended at the May meeting for the Grand Master's approval, to the extent of £740, and they then proceeded with the new list, which consisted of 30 cases qualified through lodges in the metropolitan area and at Liverpool, Derby, Sidmouth, Horsham, Norwich, Southwold, Penarth, Exeter, Luton, Exmouth, Harleston, Mossley, Halifax, N.S., Colchester, Yokohama, Klerksdorp, Tientsin, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Calcutta, Frome, Romford, Plymouth, Ilminster, Hong Kong, and Hull.

Two of these were dismissed, and one was deferred. The remainder were relieved with a total of £760. Two cases were recommended to Grand Lodge for £100 each, three recommended for the Grand Master's approval for £40 each, and eight for £30 each; seven cases were granted £20 each, one £15, four £10 each, and one £5.

BANQUET
given by
THE EMPRESS LODGE,
No 2581,
to Commemorate
THE INAUGURATION
of the
**COMMONWEALTH
OF AUSTRALIA.**
June 13th, 1901.

An emergency meeting of the above lodge was held at the Café Royal, Regent-street, on Thursday, the 13th instant, and was followed by a banquet held in commemoration of the inauguration of the Commonwealth of Australia.

The lodge having been opened, a ballot was taken for Mr. Isidore Spielmann, F.S.A., A.M.I.C.E., and on its proving favourable, the candidate was initiated.

The lodge having been closed an adjournment was made to the banqueting-hall, where a large and distinguished company, including members of the Empress Lodge and their visitors, very many of whom were connected in some way with India or the Colonies, were royally entertained.

The W.M., Bro. G. D. Coleman, presided, having on his right hand Bro. the Right Hon. Earl of Halsbury, P.G.W., Lord Chancellor of England. The company present also included: Bros. Viscount Templeton, S.G.W.; Sir John Monckton, P.G.W.; Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap.; Rev. H. W. Turner, P.G. Chap.; Sir J. C. Dimsdale, M.P., P.G.T.; E. Letchworth, Grand Sec.; R. Berridge, P.G.D.; C. E. Keyser, P.G.D.; C. J. Kiralfy, I.P.M.; G. Richards, Dist. G.M. Transvaal; A. M. Simpson, P. Dep. G.M. South Australia; Dr. Byrne, P. Dist. G.M. Queensland; D. P. Cama, P.G.T.; Major Woodall, P.G.T.; J. Strachan, G. Reg.; W. R. McConnell, K.C., P. Dep. G. Reg.; F. Richardson, P.G.D.; T. P. Griffin, P.G.D.; T. Mold, Dist. G.M. Argentine; J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C.; H. Neville, P.A.G.D.C.; Imre Kiralfy, P.A.G.D.C.; T. Catling, P.A.G.D.C.; H. R. Hoyles, Dist. G. Sec. Bombay; R. J. Maitland-Coffin, F.R.C.P., P.M.; Dr. Khory, P.M. (Bombay); Dr. Lennox Browne, P.D.G.D.C.; T. H. Gardner, P.A.G.D.C.; J. W. Matthews, W.M. St. Asaph Lodge (New Zealand); A. M. Hooper, P.G.S.; W. Lowndes, J.P., P.P.G.W. Herts; W. A. R. Bilby, P. Prov. S.G.W. Herts; J. A. Formey, W.M. 28; J. H. Dimsdale, P.M.; Hon. H. Copeland, Agent-General for New South Wales; B. Marks, P.M. Australia Felix Lodge, No. 1, Melbourne; C. P. Clarke, P.M.; Bergman, P.M.; Lestocq, P.M.; C. P. Carter, P.M.; Dr. Wells, P.M.; R. M. Meyer, P.M.; J. Bartlett, P.M.; W. S. Hooper, P.M.; Hon. Sir Horace Tozer, K.C.M.G., Agent-General for Queensland; Sir John Cockburn, M.D., K.C.M.G., Agent-General for South Australia; Sir Montagu Nelson, K.C.M.G.; Sir M. Bhowagree, K.C.I.E., P.M.; T. Fraser, W.M. 2488; R. O. Cooper, P.M.; W. J. Fisher, P.M.; L. F. Gowing, W.M. 1928; A. J. Thomas, G. Swd.; also many others of inferior Masonic rank, including the following principal lodge officers: Bros. G. C. Bruce, S.W.; J. S. Bhumgara, J.W.; G. R. Blades, S.D.; G. G. Kischner, J.D.; and P. Dixon, Sec.

Apologies were received for the unavoidable absence of Bros. Right Hon. Lord George Hamilton, Prov. G.M. Middx.; Hon. Sir Gerard Smith, K.C.M.G., P.G.M. West Australia; Hon. Sir Andrew Clarke, K.C.M.G. (Victoria); and Hon. Justice Hodges (Victoria).

Copies of a clever souvenir cartoon, from the talented pencil of Bro. Maitland-Coffin, F.R.C.S., P.M., were distributed among the guests.

At the conclusion of the banquet the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured, the W.M. calling upon the Lord Chancellor to respond to the toast of "The Grand Officers," and expressing the gratitude of the lodge that he should have found time among his multifarious duties to come among them.

Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of HALSBURY, P.G.W., Lord Chancellor, said he could hardly imagine a more appropriate celebration of a great national event over which the country rejoiced than a meeting of the brethren of the Craft. There was a time which he was, unfortunately, old enough to remember, when it was supposed the sooner we got rid of the Colonies the better, as they were a drag upon the national prosperity. He was happy to believe that that stage had long passed away, and later experience had shown what the Colonies could do for us, and what we felt towards them. The experience was a lesson for the civilisation of mankind in showing how much could be done by a spirit of unity and real fraternity towards each other. It might be that the federation of our Colonies would be the first stepping-stone to a federation of mankind, as when war with its loss of life, property, and happiness to so many would cease, and the poet's dream be realised, when

"The blast of War's great organ,
No longer rends the skies,
But beautiful sounds of love,
And holy melodies arise."

(Applause.)

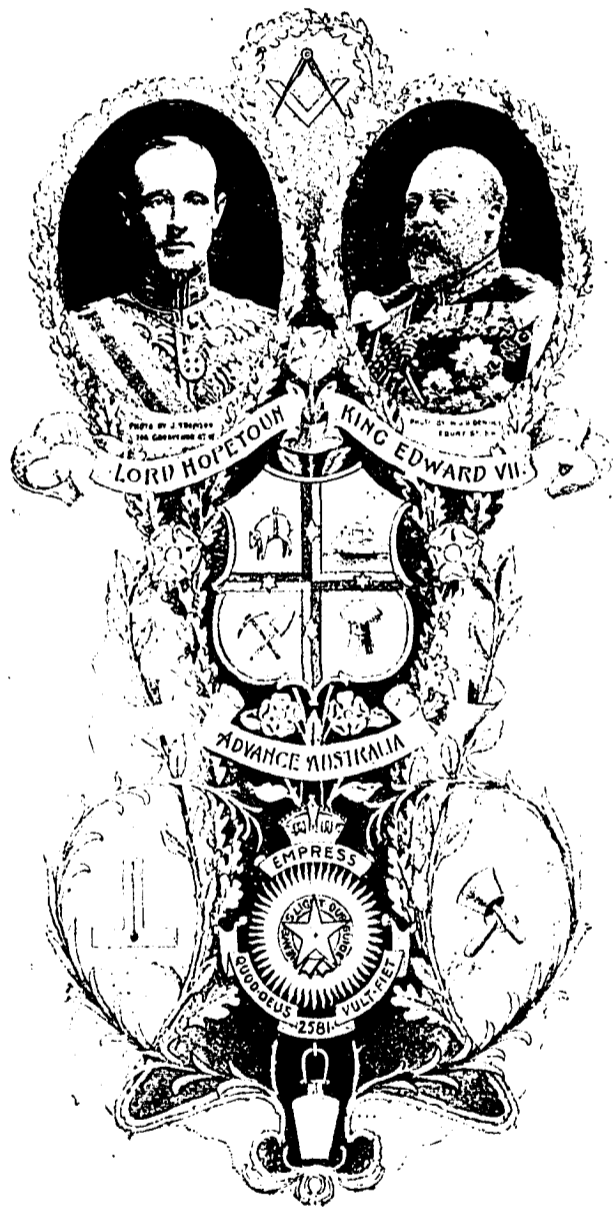
The W.M. proposed the toast of "The Commonwealth of Australia," coupling therewith the name of Bro. Sir John Cockburn.

Bro. the Hon. Sir JOHN COCKBURN, M.D., K.C.M.G., Agent-General for South Australia, in responding to the toast, said it was one of the proudest moments in his lifetime to be called upon to respond to such a toast at a gathering at which representatives of every part of the British Empire were present to join in good wishes to that empire's youngest daughter. The Federation of the Colonies of the Australian Commonwealth had been the supreme ambition of Australia's greatest statesmen, and it was now felt that the inauguration of the Australian Colonies was but the prelude of a grand federation of all the scattered dominions of the British Empire. As to how great that empire was might be seen from the months it had taken a fast steamship such as the Ophir to visit only a few of its many ports; it was an empire indeed that might almost be described as "in length from east to west, in breadth between north and south and even as high as the heavens." The empire might also be described as having three great lights—India in the East, Africa in the West, and the newly-federated Commonwealth in the South. The speaker referred also to the increase in harmony

throughout the empire during recent years and the formation of separate Grand Lodges in most of the Australian Colonies, and those who had occupied the vice-regal position in those Colonies had not disdained to exchange the sceptre for the trowel, among whom he might mention Lord Carrington, Lord Brassey, and the Earl of Kintore. He also eloquently referred to the blood spilt in South Africa by Colonial soldiers in defence of the rights of the empire at large.

Bro. Sir J. C. DIMSDALE, M.P., P.G.T., proposed "The Health of India and the other portions of the Empire." They felt that a great source of pride and honour to the Empire was the homogeneity of the vast population of India, which included so many different races and creeds. They had now arrived at a momentous crisis in the construction of their Empire, but he felt that while they had been striving to maintain their rights in the present unfortunate war, they were acquiring in the conquest of the Transvaal and Orange Free State, another India. The speaker then referred in graceful terms to the work done by Masonry in general and by such lodges as the Empress Lodge in particular, to cementing peace and harmony in India and other dependencies of the British Empire, and in more firmly knitting together its various countries. He referred to the fact of the lodge having been named in honour of their late Queen and Empress, who had ordained the visit to the Colonies now being paid by the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall.

Bro. Sir M. BHOWAGREE, K.C.I.E., P.M., responded to the toast in the absence of Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P. Australia, he was sure, would long recall what it owed to the statesmanship of that great statesman, Mr. Chamberlain, and on behalf of their brethren of India, he heartily congratulated their Australian brethren on their national existence and independence. The speaker then dwelt on the prejudices that Masonry had been the means of removing in India. Forty years ago natives of India ambitious of seeing the light had been denied admission, till one



DESIGN OF FIRST PAGE OF MENU.

of them had come purposely to Europe, and been made in France; since then their English brethren in India had never had any cause to regret the admission of the natives but rather to rejoice. When the integrity of the Empire had been threatened India had risen as one man anxious to take part in its defence, and envying those who from other colonies beyond the seas had shed their blood for the Empire.

Bro. G. RICHARDS, Dist. G.M. Transvaal, acknowledged the kindly sympathies of the brethren with his district during its two years' war, and he hoped the time was not now far distant when England would realise that the blood of its sons was the seed of its Empire.

Bro. C. I. KIRALFY, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master," which was most cordially received, and gracefully acknowledged by Bro. G. D. COLEMAN, W.M.

The toast of "The Visitors" was responded to by Bro. A. J. THOMAS, P.M., G.S., and the proceedings were brought to a close with the Tyler's toast.

During the evening an exceptionally good programme of songs, recitations, &c., was rendered under the efficient direction of Bro. Jas. Kift, in which Miss Edith Serpell, Miss Florence Venning, Bros. H. Horsen, Jno. Josey, and Walter Churcher took part.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—The 147th annual meeting for the purpose of receiving the Council's report and Treasurer's statement of receipts, payments, and expenditure during the past year, and also for the election of officers and new members, will be held in accordance with the bye-laws on Wednesday, the 25th inst., at 4 p.m.

Science, Art, and the Drama.

A BUNDLE OF PARADOXES.

(Continued).

Giving reins to our fancy in the close connection between the organs of vision and hearing, we quickly have a symphony in blue and silver or a nocturne in black and gold. After such a startling paradox as the above, we may be pardoned for being somewhat sceptical of anything connected with a pair of organs which we are accustomed to call our eyes. And rightly so, for paradox once more confronts us here. Of having two eyes most of us are tolerably assured. It seems, however, that our remote ancestors were credibly possessed of three, the third being situated at the back of the head! Unfortunately, all that remains to us of this doubtless highly useful organ is represented by the pineal gland, a soft body, about the size of a pea, situated at the base of the brain. This rudimentary structure, however, in some lower forms of life—notably in one kind of lizard—has an opening to the light, and is, undoubtedly, susceptible of visual impressions. Passing by some curious paradoxes connected with the phenomena of "colour blindness," a much more complicated affair than it is generally supposed to be, we find the reign of paradox to extend far beyond the range of human vision, into the realms of space. Not long ago the popular mind was much exercised by the discovery of some curious rectilinear markings on the surface of the planet Mars, which were conjectured by some to be canals—a conclusion, perhaps, scarcely justified by the facts. Professor Delbœuf, however, availing himself of this hypothesis, framed some elaborate calculations, based on the density and force of gravitation on the Martian planet as compared with our own, conclusively showing, if Mars were really inhabited by human beings, they must be entirely different from ourselves in many respects, the conditions of life there, owing to the laws of gravitation alone, being perfectly irreconcilable with our mode of living. Amongst other things, Professor Delbœuf demonstrated that the Martians, *ceteris paribus*, would ascend six of our ordinary steps; and that, owing to his power of levitation, they would require to have their windows barricaded against the burglar up to the second storey of their houses. His conclusions are too numerous to be here detailed, but it may be added that hammers in Mars, in order to drive a nail with the necessary force, must needs be 16 times heavier than ours. In fact, that planet, judging by our own ideas, must be the very home of paradox, and in marvels far surpass Lilliput or Brobdingnag. Even space itself—empty space, as we are accustomed to call it—is no longer a void; it literally teems with paradoxes. A 22-ton Armstrong gun hurls a solid shot a distance of 12 miles, the highest point in the arc described by the shot being 17,000 feet above the earth's surface. Imagine, now, that the projectile, instead of returning to the earth, in a gradually descending curve, were to continue its flight into what is commonly called infinite space, what would be the ultimate result? We might naturally conclude that its prolonged flight would lead it ever further and further away from the point of departure. This, however, is by no means so certain as it at first sight appears. The refinements of mathematical investigation have led several inquirers to question whether the shot might not, in course of time indefinitely great, return to the place from which it was fired, from precisely the opposite direction, just as a vessel circumnavigating the globe might sail eastward round the Cape of Good Hope returning from the westward *via* Cape Horn. It all depends upon the essential nature of space, whether its "curvature" be "zero" or otherwise, and that is a moot point. For the benefit of the curious it may be added that the matter mainly hinges upon the still undecided question whether the three angles of a triangle are greater than, equal to, or less than two right angles!—a point which most persons believe to have been settled long ago. When paradox thus invades the enclosure hitherto sacred to Euclid, and the older mathematicians, it is not very surprising to learn that it is not necessarily true, in all cases, that "the whole is greater than its part," that venerable axiom, obtaining in the case of finite, but not in that of infinite collections of numbers. After this shock to our early prepossessions we should not really be startled to hear that there is some underlying fallacy, some secret paradox, even in that time-honoured conclusion that twice two are four. When paradox may be said to be in the very air, even numbers themselves are ticklish things to deal with. Take the following as an example. Put down any sum of pounds, shillings, and pence, under eleven pounds, taking care that the number of pence is less than the number of pounds. Reverse this sum, putting pounds in the place of pence, and subtract from the original amount. Again reverse the remainder, and add. The result, in all cases, will be £12 18s. 11d., neither more nor less, whatever the amount with which we start.

Example ... ..	...	...	...	8 11 4
Reverse and subtract ...	...	...	...	4 11 8
Remainder ... ..	...	...	...	3 19 8
Reverse remainder and add	...	...	...	8 19 3
				£12 18 11

PAINTERS AND OTHER ARTISTS IN THE REIGN OF JAMES I.

(Continued.)

Nicholas Stone, the second son, was of a promising genius; and while abroad modelled after the antiques so well, that his works have been mistaken for the best Italian masters. Mr. Bird, the statuary, had the Tascoon and Bernini's Apollo and Daphne in terra-cotta by this Nicholas Stone, and Vertue saw a book with many of his drawings of palaces, churches, and other buildings in Italy. He returned to England in 1642, and died the same year as his father. Henry, the eldest son, who erected the monument for his father, mother, and brother, carried on, in conjunction with John, the business of statuary after his father's death, though Henry addicted himself chiefly to painting, and was an excellent copyist of Vandyck and the Italian masters. He is generally known by the name of Old Stone, to distinguish him from his brother John. Henry wrote a book, a thin folio, entitled *The Third Part of the Art of Painting*, taken mostly from the ancients. It is uncertain whether the two former parts were composed by Stone or by some other author. The accounts of Nicholas Stone, senr., quoted above, were continued by John, while he and Henry worked in partnership. Among other articles are the following:

"In 1639, my brother and I made a tomb for the Lord Ashley, for which we had £60."

"Formerly I made a little tomb of white marble, being an eagle with an escutcheon upon his breast, sett up at Tunning in Berkshire, for £7."

"In 1656, I sett up a little tomb in the Temple Church for Sir John Williams, and had for it £10. It was an eagle of white marble."

There are but 15 monuments entered in this account, the prices of none of which rise above £100. Consequently the sons, we may suppose, never attained the reputation of the father. In the *Diary* Nicholas Stone, junr., speaks of being employed at Rome upon a monument for Lady Berkeley. Lysons describes "the figure of the lady in a shroud, well-executed in *alto rilievo*, in white marble." She died in 1635, and was buried at Cranford. It was probably his earliest performance in the school of Bernini. A head of Sir Jonas Moore, with a scroll of paper in his hand, was engraved by T. Cross in 1649, from a painting by Henry Stone, whose house, garden, and workyard in Long Acre, the same that had been his father's, were rented from the Crown at £10 a year, as appeared when surveyed in 1650 by the Commissioners appointed to inspect the lands that had belonged to the King. Henry Stone died in 1653, and was buried near his father, where a monument was erected in his memory by his brother John.

(To be continued.)

LONDON GHOSTS.

What ghosts of the London midnight—if there be ghosts they must haunt the Inns of Court and all the region round about Clement Dines and St. Mary-le-Strand. Once upon a time it was so intersected with streets and passages, with ancient Inns, and mysterious alleys—every house with low projecting eaves and arched doorways—that it was as difficult for a stranger to find his way as it is for a novice to discover the exit of the maze at Hampton Court. You realise something of what it is, even now, by a survey of what still remains of the stews and human nests of Drury Lane, that are being swept away for the Strand to Holborn improvement; human rabbit warrens, that presently will be things of the past, all over London, not excluding the great City's worst slums. The East end is not the East end of 20 years ago. Whitechapel-road is one of the finest thoroughfares in London. It has wicked off-shoots, and there are back streets about the sceres of the "Ripper" murders, that are bad enough, but they are better than they were, and in every direction there is promise of a healthful progress. If the East end were not burdened with all kinds of impecunious foreigners, Polish, Russian, and Christian Jews, paupers from every Continental country, and Asiatics with all their wretched belongings, there would be a better chance for clean and wholesome living. Soon among the ghosts of the past will be the old taverns which are rapidly disappearing. They are being replaced by gorgeous hotels, cafes, and restaurants, where the bar parlour of the old days is replaced by an "office, with ledgers and clerks and official pigeon holes." It is not necessary to go back to the days of Dr. Johnson and Oliver Goldsmith when one is chatting about old taverns. Think of young Alfred Tennyson and Thackeray hob-nobbing with acquaintances and friends at the Cock, which, until the other day, held its own bravely in the shadow of Temple Bar.

GENERAL NOTES.

The death is announced of Mr. Eliot Galer, a favourite singer in English opera of 30 years ago.

* * * * *

At the Lyceum, the "Lyons Mail" is to be staged on the 26th instant. Meanwhile, "Madame Sans Gene" will be played on other evenings.

* * * * *

Mrs. Langtry's Imperial Theatre will be closed early in July, in order that the house may be fitted with hot water apparatus. "A Royal Neck-lace" will go on tour towards the end of August.

* * * * *

Miss Julia Neilson will temporarily conclude her season at the Globe Theatre on Friday, the 28th inst., when "Sweet Nell of Old Drury" will be represented for the last time.

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The Committee have the pleasure of announcing that CHARLES EDWARD KEYSER, Esq., M.A., J.P., D.L., will preside at the 143rd ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL, on FRIDAY, the 28th of JUNE, 1901, at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole (entrance Whitehall-place).

PATRON—HIS EXCELLENT MAJESTY THE KING.
PRESIDENT—
H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, K.G.
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Gentlemen desirous of becoming Stewards, or furthering the cause of the Charity, are kindly requested to immediately send in their names to the Secretary.

Ladies' dine at this Festival.
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His Majesty's Secretary of State for India,
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

The ANNUAL MEETING of the Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at the
PUBLIC HALL, HARROW-ON-THE-HILL,
on SATURDAY, the 29th inst., when the R.V. Provincial Grand Master will be in the Chair.

The Provincial Grand Lodge will be opened punctually at 3.45 o'clock p.m.

By command,
HENRY F. BING,
Provincial Grand Secretary.

N.B.—DINNER will be provided at the KING'S HEAD HOTEL, for those only who have taken tickets (price 6s., exclusive of wine), for which application must be made not later than Friday, the 21st June, to the Prov. G. Secretary, W. Bro. HENRY F. BING, 28, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SURREY.

COLONEL JOHN DAVIS, A.D.C.,
R.V. PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

June, 1901.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at THE COUNTY AND BOROUGH HALLS, GUILDFORD, on FRIDAY, the 28th day of JUNE, 1901, at 4.15 o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

By command,
CHARLES T. TYLER, P.M.,
Prov. Grand Secretary.

N.B.—Morning Dress.
2, Bank Buildings,
Woking.

BUSINESS BEFORE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

To read the Minutes of the last two P.G. Lodges.
To call over Roll of Lodges in the Province.
To receive the Report of the Audit Committee.
To receive the Report of the Charity Committee.
To elect a Provincial Grand Treasurer.
The appointment of Provincial Grand Officers.
General Business.

Banquet at 6 p.m. punctually at the COUNTY AND BOROUGH HALLS, GUILDFORD.

N.B.—Banquet will be provided for those only who have taken tickets, for which application must be made to the Asst. P.G. Secretary, W. Bro. W. A. LATHAM, at 179, Blackfriars-road, S.E.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF SURREY.

COLONEL JOHN DAVIS, A.D.C.,
M.E. GRAND SUPERINTENDENT.

June, 1901.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Provincial Grand Chapter will be held at THE COUNTY & BOROUGH HALLS, GUILDFORD, in the County of SURREY, on FRIDAY, the 28th day of JUNE, 1901, at 3.15 p.m. in the afternoon precisely.

By command,
CHARLES T. TYLER, P.A.G.D.C., P.P.G.J.,
Prov. Grand Scribe E.

Morning Dress.
2, Bank Buildings,
Woking.

BUSINESS BEFORE PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER.

To read the Minutes of the last P.G. Chapter.
To call over the Chapters in the Province.
To receive the Report of the Audit Committee.
To elect a Provincial Grand Treasurer.
The appointment of Provincial Grand Officers.
General Business.

Banquet at 6.30 o'clock punctually.

N.B.—Banquet will be provided for those only who have taken tickets. The Companions will banquet with the Provincial Grand Lodge.

FOR SALE.—TWO ENGRAVINGS

in splendid condition, dated 1854, of Bro. JOSEPH ASHLEY, Past Provincial Deputy Grand Master for Kent, presented in testimony of their high esteem of his long and valuable services in Masonry.—Bro. S. JACOBS, 117, Usbridge Road, W.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1901.

Masonic Notes.

The Distribution of Prizes in connection with the 103rd Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys is fixed for Monday, the 24th instant, and will take place in the large Hall at Wood Green. The proceedings will commence at 3 p.m. precisely, and the prizes will be distributed by Mrs. W. W. Brampton Beach. At 4 p.m. a musical entertainment and recitations will be given by the Boys, and after tea, which with light refreshments will be served in the Gymnasium at 5 p.m., a series of gymnastic exercises will be gone through. Frequent trains will be run by the Great Northern Railway Company between King's Cross (suburban) and Wood Green, and the Great Eastern Railway Company between Liverpool-street and Green Lanes Station, special return tickets being issued by both companies to intending visitors on the production of their invitation tickets.

The final meeting of the Board of Stewards for the 113th Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held at Freemasons' Hall on Monday, the 10th instant. Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W., occupied the chair, and the accounts having been examined and ordered to be paid, gratuities were voted to the clerks in the Secretary's office for their arduous labours in connection with the Festival, and the usual amount for defraying the visit of the children to the Crystal Palace, with 10 guineas for lawn tennis and other games. After making this provision, there still remained in hand a balance of no less than 325 guineas, which the Board unanimously agreed to present to the Institution, and thus brought its labours to a most satisfactory conclusion.

Saturday, the 29th instant, will be ex-Pupils' Day, and, as usual, the House Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will be pleased to see as many ex-pupils as can make it convenient to attend between the hours of 3 and 8 p.m. The Committee, however, wish to impress upon ex-pupils that the day is set apart for them, and them only, and that visitors are not invited or expected to attend.

Among the important Masonic functions of the year there are few that pass off more successfully or are more thoroughly enjoyable than the annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Kent. In saying this we are very far from suggesting that the relations existing among the lodges are more harmonious than in other Provinces or that the brethren are worthier or more capable of being entertained by one another. There are happily few Provinces in which the relations among the lodges are not of the friendliest character, and the brethren both ready and willing to give and receive entertainment from their fellows. Kent, again, is a strong and influential Province, and both on general and special occasions the annual meeting invariably furnishes an opportunity for the interchange of congratulation, both between the ruler and those he rules over and among the general body of members. But there are other Provinces that are numerically stronger, and to that extent more influential, and the rulers and members of which, both generally and particularly, have equal reason for the interchange of mutual congratulation. In short, we are satisfied to record the existence of this thushness without attempting to account for it.

But if in ordinary years this annual meeting is successful and enjoyable, a fortiori must have been the meeting which was held at Dover, on Wednesday, the 12th instant. Seldom has such a gathering taken place during the 40 years that Earl Amherst has been the ruler of the Province, but there has been some more or less particular cause for rejoicing among our Kentish brethren. But last week the cause was greater than ever. The Prov. Grand Master had occupied the chair at the recent Festival in behalf of the Girls' School and not only was the total of donations and subscriptions far in excess of the total at any previous ordinary Festival, but Kent had contributed towards the result a larger sum than had ever previously been subscribed by even the strongest of our English Provinces. This moreover had been done not

merely in proof of its goodwill towards our Institutions, the existence of which has never been in doubt, but at the same time to give as wide publicity as possible to the fact that among the Masons of Kent none is more fully or more worthily possessed of their affection and respect than the noble brother under whom they have fared so prosperously for the last 40 years and upwards.

One thing happened in Prov. G. Lodge which may be more particularly referred to. In the course of the the proceedings Lord Amherst mentioned that H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, M.W.G.M., had acceded to his request that the Kentish brethren who had given their services as Stewards at this Festival should be permitted to wear their Stewards' badges for so long as they should continue members of a lodge or lodges in the Province. The only two occasions on which such a privilege has been granted are the School Centenary Festivals in 1888 and 1898 respectively, and then it was granted to the whole body of Stewards. No doubt this will be taken as a precedent, and that in future a more than usually successful "Chairman's Province" at a more than usually productive Festival will desire to have a similar privilege accorded to the brethren who represented it on the Board of Stewards; but be this as it may, the Stewards at the recent Girls' Festival are to be congratulated on their good fortune.

We notice also with pleasure that his lordship made it very clear to those present that an application for a warrant for a new lodge in the Province would not be considered worthy of recommendation by him to the Grand Master unless he were able to satisfy himself that there was really a need for the formation of such lodge. No new lodges created in the Province in his time had interfered with the older lodges, and it was only on the likelihood of that condition being fulfilled that he should consider he was justified in recommending the grant of a warrant.

The regular meeting of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, will be held at Freemasons' Hall, on Monday, the 24th instant, at 5 p.m. Among the announcements on the paper of Agenda is one to the effect that papers entitled "Naymus Grecus," by the late Bro. G. W. Speth, and "Marcus Grecus eversus," by Bro. Dr. Chetwode Crawley, will be read, but it is possible and by no means improbable that owing to the death of Bro. Sir Walter Besant, a founder and the first and only Treasurer of the lodge, the proceedings may be merely of a formal character, and that only such business as is absolutely necessary will be transacted. We notice that our late Bro. Sir W. Besant is included among the officers of the lodge and the arrangements, therefore, for Monday's meeting must have been made prior to the lamented death of that brother.

We notice also with pleasure that steps are being taken to erect a suitable monument "to commemorate the great services Bro. Speth had rendered to Masonry in general, and to the members of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge in particular." This is as it should be. There can be no question as to the services—the invaluable services—rendered by our late brother in promoting the cause of Masonic literature through the Quatuor Coronati Lodge. He was the heart and soul of the movement which resulted in the establishment of the lodge on a sure and certain foundation, and there can be no doubt as to the propriety of the step which the lodge is taking with a view to perpetuating the memory of his signal services. We trust the movement, whatever form it may assume, will be worthy of the lodge and of our late lamented brother.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex will be held under the presidency of Bro. the Right Hon. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., Prov. Grand Master, at the Public Hall, Harrow-on-the-Hill, on Saturday, the 29th instant, at 3.45 p.m. The business on the Agenda is of the usual character, and when Prov. Grand Lodge has been closed, the brethren will adjourn to the King's Head Hotel, where dinner will be served. Those desirous of taking part in the festive portion of the proceedings must apply to the Prov. Grand Secretary—Bro. Henry F. Bing, 28, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C.—for tickets, price 6s. each (exclusive of wine), as early as possible, in order to ensure the comfort and convenience of the brethren.

It is hardly necessary to state with reference to the meeting of Grand Lodge in the Royal Albert Hall on Wednesday, the 17th July, for the installation of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught as M.W. Grand Master, that the applications of brethren to be present at so important a function are far in excess of the number which the Hall, capacious as it is, will accommodate—in excess, indeed, of the number which the largest hall in the world is capable of accommodating. However, the Committee in charge of the arrangements is doing all in its power to meet the demand, and will allot the seats at its disposal with the strictest impartiality.

Correspondence.

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

INQUIRY AS TO OWNER OF A "MASONIC SACHEL."

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

It is possible that your paper may assist me to find the owner of a Masonic sachel, with the name of "Brother E. Martin, Bushey Park Lodge," stamped on it, which has come into my possession under rather uncommon circumstances. The sachel contains certificates of Master, Mark Master, and Ark Mariner, sundry private documents, and a private letter signed only with a Christian name.

The packet was sent me by my son, a captain in the 17th Lancers, and was found, amongst other things, in a sack under a bed in a farm-house near Smithfield, in Cape Colony, where my son was searching for arms. The owner of the farm was away with a rebel commando, and his wife said that he found the sachel on a battlefield in Natal. On being further questioned, the woman contradicted herself, and, her replies being considered unsatisfactory, my son appropriated the sachel, and sent it to me in the hope that I might be able to trace the owner, which up to the present time I have failed to do.

It has occurred to me that if you are good enough to print this letter it may lead to the discovery of the owner.

Some of the papers appear to relate to the transfer of property in Bethulie.

—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN GLAS. SANDEMAN, 33rd, E.

Cavalry Club,
127, Piccadilly, W.

A MOST UNIQUE EVENT.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I was present at the installation meeting of the Rose of Raby Lodge, No. 1650, Staindrop, in April, 1892, when Bro. Alderman Joseph Kimber Wilkes, ex-Mayor of Darlington, was installed into the chair by his two sons—Bro. Alderman John James Wilkes, also an ex-Mayor of Darlington, P.M. of Restoration Lodge, No. 111, Darlington, and Bro. Richard Minikin Wilkes, M.A., P.M. of Restoration Lodge, No. 111, P. Prov. G. Registrar of the Province of Durham.

This, I think, will beat the record.—Yours fraternally,

JOHN ROBINSON,
P.M. 111 and 1650, P.P.G.W. Durham.

33, High-row, Darlington,
June 17th.

THEN AND NOW.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The article in the last issue of the *Freemason*, under the above heading, has led me to call to mind similar changes in the Province of Cumberland and Westmorland, with which I have now been connected 36 years.

At the installation of his present Majesty the King, in 1875, as Grand Master, the province in question was represented by a "deputation"—as they say in Scotland—of 43 members, headed by the following Grand Lodge Officers: Bros. the Earl of Bective, M.P., P.G.M.; Colonel John Whitwell, M.P., P.G.W., D.P.G.M.; the Rev. Dr. Simpson, Grand Chaplain; and Edward Busher, P.G. Swd. Br., not one of whom is now alive. Nineteen others of the total have also left the busy scene, and at the present time there are only a score of us left, most of whom, I trust, will be able to say, on the 17th of next month, that they have witnessed two Grand Masters of England installed.—Fraternally yours,

June 17.

W. F. LAMONBY.

ILLINOIS MASONIC VETERAN ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Referring to the article in your issue of the 8th instant, regarding the Address from the Masonic Veteran Association of Illinois to his Majesty with which I was entrusted by Bro. General John Corson Smith, the Venerable Chief of that body, the enclosed copy of the acknowledgment from Lord Lansdowne has just been sent to me by General J. C. Smith, who writes to me that our brethren in Illinois are extremely proud of the King's acknowledgment.—Yours faithfully,

THOMAS FRASER,
W.M. Eccentric Lodge, No. 2488.

2, Princes-street, E.C.,
June 19th.

[COPY.]

Foreign Office,
London,
May 13th, 1901.

Sir,

I duly laid before the King my Sovereign your letter of the 2nd ultimo transmitting an Address which the Masonic Association of Illinois desired to present to His Majesty, as a token of their respect for Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, and in which they also express their good wishes on the occasion of His Majesty's Accession to the Throne. And I have received the King's commands to request you to be good enough to convey to the Members of the Masonic Veteran Association of Illinois His sincere thanks for their message of sympathy and goodwill which His Majesty has received with high appreciation.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,
LANSDOWNE.

General J. C. Smith,
65, Sibley-street, Chicago.

Reviews.

The Pictorial French Course, edited by M. Paul Barbier, lecturer in French language and literature at Cardiff University College. (The Modern Language Press, 49, Fleet-street, E.C.) Price 2s. 6d. The object of this useful little work is to enable the learner to converse in French in the most natural and interesting way. The course includes conversation, grammar, and exercises, illustrated by a large number of beautiful half-tone descriptive pictures, the objects in which are numbered, the numbers corresponding to equivalent numerals attached to the French words which denote them in the conversations and exercises. The lessons are eminently practical, dealing with the actual circumstances of daily life in the family circle, the home, the street, at school, by the seaside, the theatre, post office, railway station, and shop. All the pictures are illustrative of French life.

Catalogue and Bye-Laws of the Coombe Masonic Library. This is a catalogue of Masonic books collected by the late Bro. Jno. Coombe, P.M. of the Cornubian Lodge, Hayle, Cornwall, Prov. J.G. of Cornwall, Past Z. of the Hayle Chapter, &c., &c. Bro. Coombe who was a great lover of Masonic literature, intended to bequeath the valuable Masonic library he had collected to the Cornubian Lodge, but dying suddenly before altering his will, the brethren purchased the works and forming the Coombe Masonic Library, which they value not only for their intrinsic worth, but as a lasting memorial of an esteemed student and craftsman. The catalogue comprises over 240 volumes, including the standard works by the best-known Masonic authors, and also many very rare and valuable books and MSS. There is an appropriate introduction at the beginning of the catalogue from the pen of our valued contributor Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.M., &c., &c.

Weymouth: a Guide and Souvenir is a useful handbook, published by the Health Resorts Development Association, 21, St. Bride-street, Ludgate-circus, E.C., for the Mayor and Corporation of Weymouth. Price 1s., or free on application to the Town Clerk, Weymouth. The history and attractions of Weymouth and neighbourhood are eloquently set forth in letterpress of considerable descriptive power, illustrated by handsome reproductions of photographs of the town and district.

The Indian Freemasons' Almanack and Diary for the Year 1901.—This large and very useful volume is now in the 33rd year of publication, and is still edited by Bro. P. C. Dutt, Past Dep. Dist. G.M. of Bengal, &c. The work concerns all India, and is exceedingly rich in details as to the Craft in that great dependency. All Degrees are duly attended to in this remarkable compilation, and there is also a mass of information respecting the Society in days gone by, as well as numerous facts relative to present day Freemasonry. England and Scotland have a considerable number of lodges working side by side in honourable and most fraternal rivalry, the Grand Master of All Scottish Freemasonry in India, Lord Northcote, Governor of Bombay, being also District Grand Master of that province for the Grand Lodge of England. Everything that can reasonably be expected in such a publication will be found carefully noted, excepting as to statistics, which Bro. Dutt may yet attempt in a later issue.

The Private Life of the King.—By one of his Majesty's Servants.—(London: C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd., Henrietta-street. 1900.)—This is a wonderfully interesting volume, pleasantly written in a chatty manner, lavishly illustrated, and cannot fail to be one of the most popular books of the season, because evidently the work of one familiar with the doings of Royalty, discreetly communicated, and free from mere gossip, undue familiarity, or obsequiousness in any

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THE 103RD ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

WILL BE HELD AT THE

CRYSTAL PALACE SYDENHAM, S.E., on WEDNESDAY, at Six o'clock, 26th JUNE, 1901,

UNDER THE DISTINGUISHED PRESIDENCY OF

The Right Hon. W. W. BRAMSTON BEACH, M.P.

(Prov. G.M. Hampshire and Isle of Wight), Trustee of the Institution.

The Services of Ladies and Brethren as Stewards on this important occasion are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

The Brethren and ladies will dine together at the same tables, à la table d'hôte.

Visitors' Tickets, including Rail (First-class Return), London to the Palace High Level Station and Admission:—

Brethren 25/- Ladies 20/-

The Royal Naval and Military Exhibition and other Special attractions will be open to the Visitors at this Festival.

J. MORRISON McLEOD (Vice-Patron), Hon. Sec. to Board of Stewards.

way. The 18 chapters have all fitting and suggestive headings, one of the latest having the title *Our Lord Protector*, and devoted to Freemasonry. The pages relating to the King as a Craftsman are ably written and unusually correct for such a work, fuller also as to detail than could reasonably be expected in a popular volume, and quite appreciative of the Society over which, as Prince of Wales, his Majesty presided so genially for many years. In it we are told that

"The ruling spirit of Freemasons' Hall is the Grand Secretary, Mr. Edward Letchworth, who strongly resembles the bust of the Duke of Kent on the staircase,"

and that there is "a fine Library of some 7000 volumes, and a museum of objects of historical and antiquarian interest" in connection with Freemasons' Hall. Also that

"For the past 160 years the Royal Family of England has honoured Freemasonry by identifying itself with the Craft. . . . All the sons of her late Majesty Queen Victoria have occupied a very high position in the Order, with the single exception of the Duke of Edinburgh."

We are also glad to read, what is the truth, but well put, "There is not, in the whole of his Majesty's dominions a more loyal or devoted body than the Freemasons of England." We hope we have said enough to induce many brethren to subscribe for this tasty and opportune volume, which may be ordered from any bookseller for a few shillings.

The Insurance Register. (London: Charles and Edwin Layton, 56, Farringdon-street).—This Insurance Annual is in its 33rd year of publication, and is a marvellous compilation, costing only one shilling. It is not only a record of the yearly progress and the present financial position of British Insurance Associations, but contains a mass of valuable information on insurance subjects generally, which makes the publication one of the best of its kind. In the summations we find that the British Life Offices which reported in 1900 had a revenue account of fully 32 millions, and that the total assets for the same year amounted to over £306,000,000. The three American offices doing business in this country are still more prosperous in funds, their total assets being more than half as much as all the British offices put together (viz. £169,000,000), so that there is evidently plenty of room for the expansion of our own societies. The volume is as useful in its way for amateurs as experts, and is a boon for all who desire reliable information as to insurance organisations of all kinds.

Craft Masonry.

Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 6th instant at Cannon-street Hotel. Present: Bros. A. Fergusson, W.M.; A. J. Rippin, S.W.; R. F. Roche, J.W.; T. Cohn, P.M., Treas.; Jas. Smith, P.M., Sec.; W. J. Lockett, S.D.; W. J. Fishleigh, J.D.; T. Stokes, I.P.M.; William Baker, P.M., D.C.; J. Collins, I.G.; Chatterton, P.M. 879, Org.; F. H. Farr and W. Lloyd, Stwds.; Robson, P.M.; Mower, P.M.; and Hughes, P.M.; Thomson, J. W. Fishleigh, Ellis, Press, Allerton, Purbrook, Dearsley, Robinson, Uilmann, T. E. Fergusson, Mein, Durrant, Bamford, Grimes, Adams, Prevost, Brough, Bassett, R. W. Jones, Hipwell, Cashman, Hamlett, Preston, and Crawshaw. The visitors were: Bros. J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; Jones, J.D. 754; Jackson, I.G. 1421; Poupard, 87; and Leete, 2411.

The minutes of the last regular meeting, as well as the report of the Audit Committee, having been read and confirmed, Bros. Ellis, Press, Dearsley, and Robinson were duly passed to the Degree of F.C. The ballot was then taken for Mr. T. H. Preston, and, proving unanimous, he was duly initiated into Freemasonry. Bro. Thomson then very kindly offered to present the lodge with a Charity box in memory of his late grandfather Bro. Peter Thomson, a Past Master of this lodge, and a well-known Mason. Messrs. F. E. Stevenson and A. G. Back were proposed for initiation at the next meeting.

West Ham Abbey Lodge, No. 2291.

MASONIC DINNER AND PRESENTATION.

The brethren of the above lodge entertained at dinner their Chaplain, Bro. the Right Rev. the Bishop of Barking, D.D., P.G.C. of England, on the 10th instant, at the Langthorne Rooms, Stratford, and made him a presentation on his appointment as Bishop.

The dinner was presided over by the W.M., Bro. W. G. Stone, who had the Bishop sitting at his right hand. Those present included Bros. J. Boulton, P.M., Treas.; F. C. D. Fenn, P.M., Sec.; A. Govier, P.M.; G. W. Kidd, P.M.; R. Fielder, P.M.; A. Reed, P.M.; J. Byford, jun., P.M.; W. G. Norman, P.M.; C. Mansfield, P.M.; G. Bush, P.M.; G. Hay, J.P.; H. Barrow, S.W.; T. Threlford, J.W.; W. Maggs, J. J. Richardson, A. Single, E. J. K. Savage, Turner, Spencer, Mowbray, Retalack, Moloney, Batsford, Phillips, Stollery, J. N. Woodward, Robin, Graves, Watts, Cundy, J. V. Rockley, A. Bothwell, McDowall, Dacksey, and others.

The W.M. proposed the health of their guest. He said that they all knew some months ago their Chaplain was appointed to high honour in the Church, and amongst the many hearty congratulations he had received none were more sincere or given with greater pleasure than those from his brothers in Masonry. On behalf of the members of the lodge he had the pleasing duty of presenting the Bishop with a small token of their esteem. He expressed the hope their Chaplain might be spared a long time to fill the high position to which he had been called. (Applause.)

The gift was a very handsome album, containing portraits of the members of the lodge. Stamped on the morocco cover was an inscription stating what it was, and the fly leaf inside bore the following address, beautifully engraved: "The brethren of the West Ham Abbey Lodge, No. 2291, gladly avail themselves of this opportunity to convey to their Chaplain, Bro. the Right Rev. Thos. Stevens, D.D., Bishop of Barking, Past Grand Chaplain, their hearty congratulations upon the well-deserved honour and dignity which has been bestowed upon him, and give assurance that they rejoice greatly thereat. The success and happiness in life of one who holds so fast a tenure in their esteem and appreciation will long be a matter of pride and pleasure to them. June 10th, 1901."

Bro. Fenn, P.M., Sec., having read the address, said they all knew the Bishop so well that they were sure he would not regard the gift for its intrinsic value, but for the true spirit in which it was given. When it was known that a public testimonial was to be given to the Bishop he was asked to join the Committee organising it. A desire was expressed that the testimonial should be a fitting one, and one worthy the Bishop's acceptance, and when the speaker told the members of the lodge of this, they all most willingly consented to their subscriptions being given to the public testimonial. It would be very gratifying to the Bishop to know that in no single instance was a subscription asked for or a letter written; all were given voluntarily. Apart from their subscriptions to the public testimonial fund, the members of the lodge thought they would like to give something to him personally, and this album was the result. After humorously describing his experiences in compiling the album, the speaker maintained that the memory of Thomas Stevens would live when all other memories had died. In presenting the Bishop with that album, they thought it would be a gift he would value as a means to remember them by, and that when the time came—as in the course of nature it must come—for him to obey a higher call, it would enable those whom he would leave behind to say "these portraits were those who loved our dear one, who honoured him as a divine and as a man, and who respected him as a Mason." He had not said one half what the brethren felt, and he expressed the hope that they would see the Bishop as often as his duties would permit. Every brother would rejoice to hear of the continued well-being of their Chaplain. (Loud applause.)

Bro. J. Boulton, P.M., said their Chaplain had won the goodwill and the esteem of everyone. He hoped he would live long to carry on the good work he had so well and ably carried on in the past.

The Bishop, who on rising to respond was loudly cheered, said he could not tell them how greatly he valued their gift. He valued it as not merely the giving of a subscription—anyone could do that—but for the trouble and interest they had taken in compiling it. He thanked them for the good feelings which had prompted them to make him the present of that book, which he felt sure could not have been arranged without a deal of work and thought. He regarded it not only for its value, but as a work of art. He thought it a most artistic work and a wonderful collection of photographs. He would value it for the donors' sake, as well as for its artistic value, and his association with them in so many pleasant gatherings in lodge. He hoped to keep up his connection with the Abbey Lodge, which he considered was conducted in the true spirit of Freemasonry and of brotherly love—to be happy themselves and to endeavour to make others happy. Speaking of the gratification it was to know that after 12 years' work amongst them it had been highly appreciated by everyone, he said he thought the secret of it was that he had always endeavoured to do his duty. When he saw an opportunity of doing anything he simply did it. The great aim in life should be to help others, and the greatest happiness to be found was in trying to make others happy. He hoped they would be spared many years to meet together to carry on the good work which had been so well done in the past for the good of others. (Applause.)

During the evening several of the brethren contributed songs. The Secretary, Bro. F. C. D. Fenn, P.M., is to be congratulated upon the complete and happy arrangements he made.

Wear Valley Lodge, No. 1121.

On the 14th instant the meeting of the above lodge was visited by the officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, at the Masonic Hall, Bishop Auckland. The W.M., Bro. T. W. Craig, presided, and was supported by the following Past Masters and officers: Bros. R. Walker, I.P.M.; W. Wilkinson, S.W.; S. Dickinson, J.W.; Rev. J. G. Ryles, P.G. Chap.; Thos. Youngs Tack, P.A.G.D.C.; W. H. Underwood, Sec.; E. W. Sant, S.D.; C. Johnston, J.D.; G. E. Waldron, D. of C.; J. W. Fletcher, Org.; W. H. Wilson, I.G.; Jos. Bowman, Tyler; Thos. Banks, P.P.A.G.D.C.; T. H. Thompson, P.M.; John Lidster, P.P.A.G.D.C.; Jos. R. Dixon, P.M.; and Alex. Guthrie, P.M. The provincial officers from other towns were: Bros. R. Hudson, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., P.G.S.; G. W. Hudson, P.G. Supt. of Wks. N. and E. Yorkshire; V. J. Anderson, P.G.L.; T. Harrison, P.S.G.D.; J. C. Moor, P.P.G.W.; G. Emerson, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Thos. Wood, P.P.G. Supt. of Wks.; C. T. Johnson, P.G.D. of C.; and J. M. Chisholm, P.P.G.S.

The meeting was very numerously attended, and much interest was shown in the proceedings.

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.—In the House of Commons on Friday last the Bill to enable St. Bartholomew's Hospital to purchase part of the site of Christ's Hospital was read a second time.

MASONIC CHARITY.—The sum of £157 10s. which was raised as the result of the recent Masonic Charity banquet has been forwarded by the Hon. Treasurer of the fund to the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the total has been divided among Southampton brethren who will be Stewards at the forthcoming Boys' School Festival, at which the R.W. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G. Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, is to take the chair. In addition to the Stewards' lists, which it is hoped will aggregate at least £2000 from the whole province, a Perpetual Presentation to the School is to be purchased at a cost of £1500. This will be called the "Beach Presentation," in compliment to the Prov. G. Master, but the nomination will be vested in the Provincial Grand Lodge Charities Committee. A special meeting of Prov. G. Lodge has been convened for the 22nd instant (to-day) at Eastleigh, when a proposition will be made to vote 500 guineas to the Prov. G. Master's list, in addition to the amount necessary to complete the Presentation Purchase Fund.

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The Management submit that there is no other day's entertainment to compare with the above programme, and the excellence of the cuisine and other arrangements is confidently guaranteed.

APPLY TO MANAGER.

Instruction.

KINTORE MARK LODGE, No. 333.

This lodge held its fortnightly meeting on Tuesday, the 11th instant, at Bro. F. E. Pow, the Montpelier Hotel, Choumert-road, Rye-lane, at 8 p.m., when there were present Bros. Wm. Dawson, P.M., W.M.; J. Loader, P.M., S.W.; E. Gange, J.W.; Hy. Cornford, I.P.M.; De Whalley, Sec.; E. J. S. Ware, S.D.; James Higgs, J.D.; Thos. Grummant, M.O.; R. Sobel, S.O.; J. Carpenter, J.O.; J. Dunn, I.G.; S. J. Derham, Geo. Thompson, Crisp, A. Taylor, and Blewett Faulk, Organist.

The ceremony of advancement was rehearsed, Bro. Geo. Thompson being the candidate. Bro. Thos. Grummant was elected W.M. for Tuesday, the 25th instant, at 8 p.m.

The lodge meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays in each month at 8 p.m., Bro. Wm. Dawson, P.G.W. Kent, Preceptor. Brethren will be heartily welcomed and their cordial support is solicited to so excellent a lodge of instruction.

ROYAL ALFRED LODGE, No. 780.

A meeting was held on the 13th inst., at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge. Present: Bros. C. E. Dowling, W.M.; F. M. Ridley, S.W.; Wilcox, J.W.; R. H. Williams, P.M., Preceptor; A. H. Bridger, Sec.; Le Seuer, S.D.; E. C. St. Aubyn, J.D.; Arthur Williams, P.M., I.G.; Barron, Stwd.; H. T. Johnson, P.M.; R. J. Williams, P.M.; and H. Worth. Bro. Isaac Ward was a visitor.

The lodge having been opened, the ceremonies of initiation and passing were rehearsed.

HORNSEY CHAPTER, No. 890.

A meeting of the above chapter was held on the 14th inst. at the Prince of Wales' Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, Bishop's-road, Paddington, W. Present: Comps. J. Bailey, P.Z. 1602, M.E.Z.; A. F. Hardyment, J. 1489, H.; E. Lloyd, H. 890, J.; H. Dehane, P.Z. 890, P.P.G.P.S. Essex, Scribe E.; W. J. Lewis, N. 890 and 173, Scribe N.; H. Foskett, M.E.Z. 185 and 890, Treas.; H. J. Dunaway, 59, P.S.; W. Smith-Rose, 1st A.S. 890, 1st A.S.; W. Cleghorn, P.Z. 185, P.G.S.B.; C. M. Challenger, P.Z. 1024; R. N. Larter, H. 186; A. L. Butters, J. 890; F. Marchant, P.S. 890; and E. Stevens, 733. Comp. F. Spink, 733, was a visitor.

The chapter having been opened, the companions were admitted. Due respect was paid to the Grand Office. The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Larter being the candidate. Comp. Cleghorn expressed his approval of the way the ceremonies had been carried out. Comp. Spink was elected a member, and acknowledged the compliment in very suitable terms. The M.E.Z. having risen as usual, "Hearty good wishes" were accorded, and the chapter was closed.

Royal Arch.

Hayle Chapter, No. 450.

INSTALLATION OF COMP. JAMES RICHARDSONS.

The 27th annual convocation of this chapter was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Hayle, on Thursday, the 13th instant, and was one of the most successful meetings held for many years. The I.P.Z., Comp. T. A. Taylor, presided, and exalted a companion, assisted by Comp. W. Wagner, P.Z., and Comp. W. L. Chegwidden, who very ably explained the pedestal. The First Principal elect, Comp. James Richardsons, was installed by Comp. W. Veal, Comp. W. K. Baker, P.Z., P.P.S.N., invested Comp. W. L. Chegwidden, P.Z. 1006, Second Principal, who installed Comp. H. Stephens Third Principal. The following were appointed officers for the year: Comps. J. G. Osborn, P.Z., P.P.G.S, Scribe E.; T. H. Menadue, S.N.; T. Turner, P.S.; E. A. P. Broad, 1st A.S.; T. Docton, 2nd A.S.; and J. V. Bray, Janitor. Comp. G. B. Pearce, P.Z., P.P.G.J., was re-elected Treasurer, and his report showed a balance in favour of the chapter. There were several visitors from the neighbouring chapters. The P.G.H., Comp. P. Colville Smith, intended to be present to instal the First Principal, but was prevented at the last moment.

The companions afterwards dined in the spacious dining hall, and spent a very pleasant evening.

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE SUMMER TRAIN SERVICE OF THE MIDLAND RAILWAY.

With the view of introducing material improvements in the train service between England and Scotland, the Midland Company has had under review the whole time-table of express and subsidiary trains between St. Pancras and the North, and largely recast it for the coming summer. In revising the service the following objects have been kept in view, viz.: (1) To give an efficient service of express trains between London and other parts of the Midland line, and all parts of Scotland, and afford passengers selecting the Midland route at least equal advantages in respect to through carriages and infrequent changes as they can obtain by any other route at the present time; (2) to materially improve and accelerate the service between London and Yorkshire, and between London and other Midland towns and the Lake District; (3) to afford an improved and quicker service between the West and North of England.

In order to carry out these alterations longer uninterrupted runs have been arranged for the express trains, and on the northern section of the line now express passenger engines will be placed in the service.

Some alteration has been found necessary in the time fixed for the departure of some of the express trains, and in one or two instances slightly earlier departures have been decided upon. These, however, will be fully compensated for by the earlier arrivals at the North and South capitals, which will admit of connections being established with the North of Scotland and the South and West of England.

Obituary.

BRO. GEORGE BROWN, P.M., P.Z.

We regret to have to announce the death of Bro. George Brown, P.M. and P.Z., and for many years the esteemed Secretary of St. George's Lodge, No. 140, who died at his residence, 28, Shardeloes-road, New Cross, on Saturday, the 8th instant, after a very short illness. Bro. G. Brown was a native of Deptford, his father having held a post in the Royal Victualling Yard, Deptford, and he himself having only recently retired from the Admiralty on a well-earned pension. He was initiated in St. George's Lodge (which was founded in 1765) in 1875, and became Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction connected with it in 1878, being mainly instrumental, in conjunction with Bros. Nuding, Loughborough, Dennant, Jurdin, Spark, Johnson, and others, in introducing Emulation working in the ceremonies. He held the position of President and Preceptor of the lodge of instruction until the time of his death, with great benefit to the lodge and to the entire satisfaction of the brethren. He was installed in the chair of King Solomon in 1882, after having filled successively and successfully the junior offices, and he also stood as Steward for the various Charities. On the resignation of Bro. Tattershall in 1883, Bro. G. Brown was appointed Secretary of the lodge, an appointment which has been ratified by every succeeding W. Master. His unexpected death at the age of 66 is a great loss to St. George's Lodge, as it will not be easy to find a successor to carry out the duties in the admirable and genial manner which so much endeared him to the members of the lodge. The funeral took place at Brockley Cemetery on Thursday, the 13th instant, the chief mourners being the immediate relatives of the deceased, and a large number of Freemasons attended to pay the last sad tribute of respect to departed merit. Among them we noticed: Bros. C. E. Spark, J. Warcap, E. Hales, W. C. Dixon, J. Shepherd, H. Richardson, T. J. Smith, and G. R. Grant, Past Masters of the lodge; E. Johnson, Treas.; W. Shepherd, W. C. Holland, J. D. S. Boyle, and H. B. Sewell, officers of the lodge; and P. Milnes, H. H. C. Ball, F. G. Lee, and C. Huntley, all of 140; also Bros. W. Morley, P.M., and F. W. Braysi, P.M. 1924; F. J. Simpson, W.M. 2332; A. Godfree, Chapman, Carl, Fredericks, J. P. Watts, and others. Letters of regret at their inability to attend were received from the W.M., Bro. W. E. Holding; Bros. W. Bradley, H. Howard, M. Hollis, C. Clark, D. Houston, H. Winter, H. Apsley, A. Roberts, H. Castell, and C. Chadwick, and W. Williams, H. Nuding, P.M.; T. Igle, P.M.; W. C. Burney, P.M.; and W. F. Dennant, P.M. At the conclusion of the ceremony the brethren dropped a sprig of acacia on the coffin.

NEWSVENDORS' DINNER.—At Stationers' Hall, on Tuesday next, the 25th instant, Bro. the Lord Mayor will preside at the 62nd anniversary festival in aid of the funds of the Newsvendors' Institution.

ROSES IN THE TEMPLE.—The great rose show under the auspices of the National Rose Society will, by kind permission of the treasurer and Benchers of the Inner Temple, be held in the Temple Gardens, Thames Embankment, on Thursday, July 4th, and will be open from noon till 7.30 p.m.

MADAME ALBANI, who has been away the greater part of the spring and summer on a concert tour through her native Canada, made her first appearance for some months on the 19th instant, at a special performance organised at the Guildhall in aid of the National Lifeboat Fund. Bro. the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs attended in civic state, and a very large number of City people were present, for the concert was organised by gentlemen who represented the Fishmongers' and other Guilds, as well as the Stock Exchange, Lloyds', the Baltic, the Mint, the London Chamber of Commerce, and other City institutions. Of course, Madame Albani was the centre of attraction. The Canadian prima donna was altogether in excellent voice.

THE MASONIC PIC-NICS, which are always important events of the summer season, are to be held by the Hatherton Lodge on the 26th instant, and the St. Matthew's Lodge on the 4th prox. The former will be at Stone Bridge, Maxtoke, and Coleshill, and the latter at Hopwas Hayes Wood. The itinerary in each case has been prepared by Bro. Dr. Willmore, and the arrangements promise the greatest amount of pleasure possible, with the maximum of interest—and both districts are certainly very interesting ones.

MASONRY.—Mr. J. W. Spiers has shown us an interesting souvenir of the laying of the foundation stone of St. Crispin's Church, Woodbrook, last year. It is the horn which was used on that occasion. It has been beautifully polished and mounted in solid silver. The supports are composed of a miniature square and compass. The mounting is exquisitely chased and altogether it makes a very handsome ornament. The silver work was made by Messrs. George Kenning and Son, the well-known Masonic jewellers and furnishers of London and Glasgow. The horn was originally prepared for the ceremony by Mr. J. W. Spiers. It bears a silver plate with the following inscription: "This horn was used as a Cornucopia at the laying of the foundation stone of St. Crispin's Church, at Woodbrook, with Masonic honours, by Brother His Excellency Sir Clement Courtenay Knollys, K.C.M.G., P.M., P.D.D.G.M. of Barbadoes, Acting Governor of Trinidad, assisted by the brethren of the 'Royal Prince of Wales' Lodge, No. 867 (E.C.), on Thursday, 8th November, A.D. 1900, A.L. 5900."—*Mirror*, Trinidad.

BRO. SIR J. WHITTAKER ELLIS, who has called attention to the threatened destruction of the world-famous view of the Thames from Richmond Hill, has now taken steps, which, it is to be hoped, will ultimately lead to its preservation. Three administrative bodies are directly interested in the classic scenes which Turner painted and Sir Walter Scott described; namely, the London County Council, the Surrey County Council, and the Middlesex County Council. Each of these authorities Bro. Sir Whittaker has now approached, in the hope of arresting the destructive march of the builder through the glades of Marble Hill. Not to leave his endeavour incomplete, he has also placed himself in communication with the owners of Marble Hill and of the historic Orleans House and the adjoining property of Lebanon, the two latter estates being as essential to preserve as Marble Hill itself; and he has little doubt that arrangements could be made with the several owners whereby they would covenant not to build upon the properties, and would assign to the public the right of purchase whenever the estates became no longer desirable of retention.

TO CIGAR CONNOISSEURS.

THE MAJOR in "TO-DAY," March 7th, 1901, says—"It becomes more difficult every year to know where to obtain a good smoke at a reasonable price. Those who experience this difficulty may like to know where they can obtain a very good Cigar at 28/- per 100. These are the 'MANUEL MURIAS,' sold by the BORNEO AND HAVANA CIGAR CO. Make a note of the address."

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MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, June 29, 1901.

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

MONDAY, JUNE 24.

CRAFT LODGES.

1910, Shadwell Clerke, Mark Masons' Hall.
2076, Quatuor Coronati, Freemasons' Hall.
2614, Household Brigade, Prince's Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

820, Lily of Richmond, Holborn Restaurant.
1319, Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.
1745, Farringdon (Without), Anderton's Hotel.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Blackheath, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8.
Brondebury, Earl Derby Hotel, High-road, Kilburn.
Commemoration, Star and Garter, Arbour-square, Commercial road, E., at 8.
Dalhousie, Greyhound Hotel, Kensington, at 8.
Duke of Cornwall, Bristol Room, Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate-street, E.C., at 7.
Eleanor, Red Lion, High Road, Tottenham, at 8.
Erkenwald, Railway Hotel, Barking, at 7.45.
Friars, The White Horse, 94, White Horse-lane, Mile End-rd., E., at 8.
Hyd. Park, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terr., Bishop's-rd., Paddington, at 8.
Italia, Fumagalli's Restaurant, 13, Wilton-road, Victoria, 9 to 11.30.

Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30.
Marquess of Ripon, Weaver's Arms, London Wall, E.C., at 6.45.
Metropolitan, Moorgate Tavern, 15, Finsbury-pavement, at 7.30.
Neptune, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, S.W., at 7.30.
North London Chapter, Cock Hotel, Highbury, at 8.
Perseverance, Ridley's Hotel, Holborn, E.C., at 7.
Queen's Westminster, Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8.
Regent's Park, Frascati Restaurant, 39, Oxford-street, at 8.
Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hotel (opposite Wimbledon Railway Station), at 8.
Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, Putney, at 8.
Royal Savoy, Earl Russell, 2 Pancras-road, King's Cross, at 8.
Scots, Holborn Restaurant, Holborn, at 7.30.
St. James's Union, St. James's Restaurant (Piccadilly entrance) St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road.
St. Michael's, Richmond Hotel, Shepherd's Bush Road, W., 8.
Sincerity, Blackwall Railway Hotel, Fenchurch-street, at 7.
South Norwood, Goat House Bridge Hotel, Penge-rd., at 8.
Tyssen Amherst, Amherst Club, Amherst-rd., Rectory-rd., N., 7.30.
Upton, Great Eastern Hotel, Bishopsgate-street, at 8.
Walthamstow, Chequer's Hotel, High-st., Walthamstow, at 8.
Wellingham, New Cross House, New Cross, at 8.
Woodrow, Stone's, 24, Panton-street, Haymarket, S.W., at 3.
Zetland, "The Falkland," Falkland-road, N.W., at 8.
Zoric Chapter, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 6.
Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8.

THE MASONIC CLUB.

The Salisbury, 91, Strand, 5.30.

TUESDAY, JUNE 25.

CRAFT LODGES.

14, Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall.
1158, Southern Star, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
2108, Empire, Criterion.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

95, Eastern Star, Queen's Hotel, Leicester-square.
1339, Stockwell, Holborn Restaurant.
1365, Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel.
2021, Queen's Westminster, Holborn Restaurant.

ROSE CROIX.

132, Camden, Anderton's Hotel.

ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES.

7, Four Kings, Mark Masons' Hall, at 6.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Alfred Newton, Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, at 8.
Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, S.E., at 8.
Capper, City Arms, St. Mary Axe, at 6.
Clarence and Avondale, Green Man Hotel, Leytonstone, E., at 8.
Constitutional, "Apple Tree and Mitre," 30, Cursitor-street, Chancery-lane, W.C., at 7.
Chaucer, Grap. Tavern (Slee & Pike's), 121, Borough High street, at 8.
Corinthian, George Hotel, Cubitt Town, Poplar, at 8.
Croydon Lodge of Concord, King's Arms, Katherine-street, Croydon, at 8.
Dalhousie, Lord's, Dalston-lane, at 8.
Egyptian, Salutation, Newgate-street, at 7.
Emblematic, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.
Enfield, Rose and Crown, Church-street, Edmonton, at 8.
Excelsior, Fumagalli's Restaurant, 12 and 13, Wilton-road, Victoria-station, S.W., at 8.
Euphrates, Ye Old Greyhound, Balaam-street, Plaistow, E., at 7.30.
Finsbury, The Bell Hotel, Old Bailey, at 7.
Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-street, Woolwich, and at 4th Tues., at 7.30.
London, Railway Hotel, West Hampstead, N.W., at 8.
Linton, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 7.30.
Joppa, "The Moorgate," 15, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30.
Kensington, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.
Kirby, Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras Station, at 7.30.
Mount Edgcombe, Rockingham Arms, Newington Causeway S.E., at 7.30.
Nelson, Star and Garter, Powis-street, Woolwich, at 8.
New Cross, Kemble's Head, Long Acre, W.C., at 8.
New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tav., Finsbury Park.
Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, Greenwich, at 8.
Richmond, The Freemasons' Club, Richmond, at 8.30.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26.

103RD ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS AT CRYSTAL PALACE at 6 p.m.

CRAFT LODGES.

2, Antiquity, Freemasons' Hall.
898, Temperance-in-the-East, Assembly Rooms, Poplar.
2626, Leyton, Technical Institute, Leyton.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

1155, Excelsior, Holborn Restaurant.

ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES.

16, Stewart, Mark Masons' Hall.

THURSDAY, JUNE 27.

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

CRAFT LODGES.

65, Prosperity, Holborn Restaurant.
858, South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Walham Green.
1523, St. Mary Magdalen, Cafe Royal.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

179, Manchester, Anderton's Hotel.
1602, Sir Hugh Myddelton, Agricultural Hall.
1614, Covent Garden, Criterion.

CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT—

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

MARK LODGE.

322, Temple, Green Dragon Assembly Rooms, Blackheath.

FRIDAY, JUNE 28.

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

CRAFT LODGES.

60, Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall.
171, Amity, Ship and Turtle Tavern.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

2454, Guildhall School of Music, Holborn Restaurant.

MARK LODGE.

100, Egerton of Tatton, Mark Masons' Hall.

ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES.

A, Metropolitan, T.I., Mark Masons' Hall.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29.

CRAFT LODGE.

2647, Alieyn, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.

MAYO'S CASTLE HOTEL,
EAST MOLESEY, HAMPTON COURT STATION.

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Masonic and General Tidings.

THE KING has been pleased to extend his patronage to the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria Park.

THE SPANISH ART LOAN EXHIBITION.—Since its opening the exhibition has been visited by 15,1,000 persons. The daily attendance is between 3000 and 4000 persons.

NORTH-EASTERN HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN.—This Hospital, in Hackney-road, has received a donation of £100 from Mr. F. C. T. Gascoigne towards the building fund.

BRO. DR. TURTLE PIGOTT, of the Turners' Company, who, since his sudden bereavement in March last, has been dangerously ill, has left Tunbridge Wells for Karlsbad to take the "cure."

TEN WEEKS from the day on which the census was taken the country is in possession of the preliminary report of the Registrar-General. The total population of the British Isles is given as 42,005,177.

BRO. LIONEL MONCKTON, the son of the Town Clerk, Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, has written the greater part of the music for the play which succeeds "The Messenger Boy" at the Gaiety Theatre.

BRO. THE LORD MAYOR AND THE GLASGOW EXHIBITION.—Bros. the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs have received cordial invitations from the Corporation of Glasgow to visit the exhibition and to accept the hospitality of that city early in August.

BY PERMISSION OF Bro. Alderman Sir Whittaker Ellis, Bart., and Lady Ellis, an Oriental fête will be held on Saturday, the 29th instant, at Buccleuch House, Richmond, in aid of the branch of the Children's Ministering League working in the North-West Provinces of India.

THE DIRECTORS of the Dore Gallery had the honour of submitting "The Real Stone Face" (Nature's portrait of the Man of Sorrows) to their Majesties the King and Queen and other members of the Royal Family at Marlborough House on Thursday, the 13th instant, by command.

GENERAL H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT AND STRATHEARN, Commanding the Forces in Ireland, on Tuesday commenced his 34th year of Army service. His first commission, in the Royal Engineers, was granted on the 19th of June, 1868, when his Royal Highness was in his 19th year.

BRO. LORD ROBERTS, who has consented to open the fête at Portsmouth on the 24th prox., has intimated that in consequence of the prolongation of the war he will not receive Portsmouth's sword of honour on the 23rd, as arranged, nor the congratulatory address from pensioners. Both presentations are indefinitely postponed.

BRITISH AND GERMAN FIREMEN.—The British delegates to the Firemen's Congress at Berlin laid a wreath on the tablet at the Berlin Central Fire Station, commemorating firemen killed in execution of their duty. The wreath bore the inscription: "In memory of their fallen German comrades, from the officers and men of the London Fire Brigade."

THE ALDERSGATE PAST OFFICERS' CLUB.—The monthly meeting was held at the Manchester Hotel last week. Among those present were Bros. V. I. R. Longman, C.C., President; Deputy Goodinge, Thos. Briggs, C.C., and J. Mayhew, Hon. Secretary. This was the last meeting of the session, the club now adjourning till October. It was decided to abandon the summer outing for this year. Bro. Longman was heartily thanked for his presidency throughout the year.

ROYAL FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.—At the half-yearly court of the guardians of the Royal Female Orphan Asylum, held last week at the Cannon-street Hotel, Bro. Sir John B. Monckton presiding, it was announced that on Tuesday, the 2nd prox., Lady Beatrice Pole-Carew, who would be accompanied by Major-Gen. Sir R. Pole-Carew, would attend at the institution to distribute the prizes. The committee regretted to state that they had been obliged to realise £325 Bank of England stock, in order to meet the current expenses, and an urgent appeal was made for new annual subscriptions.

A DEMONSTRATION OF MEMBERS of the various trade, benefit, and friendly societies, clubs, &c., having branches in South London, will be held on the occasion of the opening by Bro. the Duke of Fife on Saturday, the 29th instant, of the Horniman Museum and Park, when an address will be presented to Bro. F. J. Horniman, M.P., thanking him for his valuable gift to the people of London. The demonstrators, wearing the regalia of their various orders, will assemble at Peckham Rye, and, accompanied by banners and bands, will march to the museum, where, after the official ceremony of taking over the building by the London County Council, the address will be presented.

BRO. SIR J. BLUNDELL MAPLE has undertaken to preside at the annual festival dinner of the Royal Eye Hospital at the Hotel Metropole on the 8th prox. This institution, which is doing a vast amount of good in one of the poorest neighbourhoods of London, benefiting as many as 18,000 persons last year alone, is worked and conducted on the most efficient and at the same time economical lines; while, unlike many other charities, it never gets into debt. Thanks to the services of the honorary medical staff the patients have the advantage of the most skilled and expert opinions in the metropolis. Great anxiety is felt as to funds for carrying on the work during the current year, and as many of our readers as can conveniently do so are requested to forward their donations immediately to the institution's bankers, Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand, and the treasurer, Major-General Sir Francis de Winton, G.C.M.G., C.B., or to Bro. Sir J. Blundell Maple himself.

IN OUR advertisement columns we draw attention to the facilities offered for Masonic Summer Banquets on the Upper Thames by the proprietors of the historic hostelry at Henley, known as the Red Lion Hotel. A spacious banqueting room has now been added to the accommodation with windows and balcony overlooking the river and far-famed regatta course, and nothing can be more delightful on a warm summer evening than an after-dinner prospect from this point of vantage of the beautiful scenery of the Berks shore to the accompaniment of the murmur of the rippling river and of the cool breezes wafted over the surface of the water. The splendid fleet of steam and electric launches, equipped in every way in a manner equal to the craft of private owners, is at the disposal of visitors at reasonable prices, and the new express service of the Great Western Railway from Paddington to Henley in 50 minutes with return trains in corresponding quick time affords the facilities so much desired nowadays by the travelling public. It will be noticed that the management are prepared to quote terms per head inclusive for railway journey in saloon carriages, launch trip on the river, returning to town by the 9.15 express, arriving at Paddington at 10 p.m.

THE KING AND THE SOCIETY OF ARTS.—The Council of the Society of Arts attended last week at Marlborough House to present the King with the Albert Medal of the Society, which had been awarded to his Majesty "in recognition of the aid rendered by his Majesty to arts, manufactures, and commerce during 38 years' Presidency of the Society of Arts, by undertaking the direction of important Exhibitions in the country, and the executive control of British representation at International Exhibitions abroad, and also by many other services to the cause of British industry." The medal was presented to the King by the present President of the Society, Sir Frederick Bramwell. In receiving it, his Majesty said that he accepted the interesting medal, founded in memory of his lamented father, with much pleasure, because, during his long association with the Society of Arts as its President, he had always taken a warm interest in its proceedings and its success. A special reason which enhanced the gratification with which he accepted the medal was that not many years ago he had himself, as President of the Society, presented it to his beloved mother, her late Majesty Queen Victoria. His Majesty added that, although he had retired from the active duties of the Presidentship, he would continue to take a warm interest in the Society as its Patron.

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

IN OUR REPORT of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent last week Bro. H. F. Whyman was inadvertently described as P.M. of Lodge No. 1050 instead of 2046.

THE PRINTING AND ALLIED TRADES CHARITY SPORTS.—Bro. the Lord Mayor distributed the prizes at the conclusion of these sports at the Crystal Palace on Saturday last.

THE HONORARY DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LAWS has been conferred upon Miss Weston, of the Royal Sailors' Rest, by the University of Glasgow, at the celebration of their 450th anniversary, in token of their warm appreciation of the great work carried on by herself and her coadjutors in the British Navy.

THE ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR INCURABLES, PUTNEY.—The annual sale of the work of the inmates was held at the Hospital, Putney, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday last week. On the first day the opening ceremony was gracefully performed by Mrs. Allcroft, who was accompanied by Bro. H. J. Allcroft, the treasurer. Mrs. Allcroft was received by the president, the Marquis of Northampton.

TO THOSE who want a good cigar at a reasonable price, we can recommend the cigars of the Borneo and Havana Cigar Company, whose address is 13, Billiter-buildings, E.C. The "Repeto" cigars are decidedly good, and several smokers consider them equal to Havana tobacco. The price is from 15s. to 28s. per 100. The company's "Manuel Murias" at 28s. per 100 (a box of 50 cost 14s., post free) are also excellent cigars, and in fine condition.

THE EPPING FOREST GOLF LINKS.—The Epping Forest Committee have decided to take over on Monday, the 1st prox., the management and maintenance of the Chingford golf course, which has been hitherto under the control of the Royal Epping Golf Club. The Chingford course cost about £4000. In future no play will be allowed on Sundays or Bank holidays, or during the months of July and August, owing to the large number of children and other persons who visit the Forest during that period.

DURING LAST MONTH the officers of the Fishmongers' Company condemned as unfit for human food 85 tons 15 cwt. 3 qr. of fish at Billingsgate Market, representing one ton in about 215 tons; 2 tons 10 cwt. at Shadwell, representing one ton in about 114 tons; and 3 tons 7 cwt. 3 qr. at Portman Market. The weight of fish delivered during May at and near Billingsgate Market was 18,637 tons, of which 14,671 tons arrived by land and 4016 tons were delivered by water; and at Shadwell the total delivery, 286 tons, was by land.

THE MOORISH MISSION.—The Marquis of Salisbury, after presiding at the Cabinet Council last week, received the special mission from the Sultan of Morocco. The envoys, who had already paid a visit to the Foreign Office to see the Marquis of Lansdowne, arrived shortly after 3.30. They spent some time in the Premier's private room. In the evening, Bro. Lord Roberts, the Commander-in-Chief, drove to 94, Lancaster-gate, was received by Kaid Maclean and Captain James, and was presented to the Special Ambassador, who handed to him a jewelled sword of honour, a gift from the Sultan.

SAVED BY MASONRY.—Freemasonry once saved the life of Mr. Conger, the American Ambassador, who was with the besieged in the Legations at Peking. At the age of 19 he was fighting in the Union Army. In the forced marches across Tennessee many men, overcome by the intense heat, fell out. Conger was among them. Weak and delirious with fever, he was left by the wayside in the enemy's country, with only a comrade, who was to wait for the end and then rejoin the regiment. With scarcely anything to eat and no shelter the situation was appalling. Finally a plan suggested itself to the watcher. He went as quickly as possible to the nearest village, and approaching the first group of men, said: "I am a Mason; is there a Mason among you or near at hand?" One of the most prominent citizens of the village stepped forward and warmly greeted him, and in a few minutes Conger was removed to the village and given the best of treatment.—*Sun*.

AN AMUSING and perfectly true story comes from Tientsin. The Masonic Hall was very much damaged by shells last summer, and after the bombardment was over it was occupied by Japanese troops. It appears that in the Third Degree in Masonry a skull and cross-bones are employed; and these horrifying properties were in a chest in the hall, with a pall. The Japanese soldiers found them, and knowing nothing of Masonic secrets or ceremonies, came to the conclusion that they were the ghastly evidence of a murder, which they duly reported to their colonel, who ordered the relics to be reverently buried. This was done, and now the Freemasons of Tientsin, who have recovered and repaired their hall, cannot find where their precious properties were deposited, and have to do the best they can with the cast-off skeleton of a Boxer.—*Rangoon Gazette*.

THE GOLD AND SILVER WYRE DRAWERS' COMPANY.—The annual dinner of the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' Company took place on Monday last, at the Cannon-street Hotel. Under the presidency of Bro. M. R. Webb, J.P., F.S.A. (the Master), a numerous and distinguished company assembled. Bros. the Lord Mayor, Alderman and Sheriff Vaughan Morgan, and Sheriff Lawrence, M.P., were the principal civic guests, while his Majesty's Judges were represented by Lord Justice Vaughan Williams, Bro. Mr. Justice Kennedy, and his Honour Judge Bacon. The presence of several members of the Court of Aldermen and a number of Royal Academicians made up a highly interesting company. Under the direction of Bro. Wilhelm Ganz some delightful songs were contributed by Mlle. Aurélien Récy, Mlle. Kirkby Lunn, Mr. Penderel Price, and Mr. Richard Green. Several violin solos were brilliantly rendered by Mlle. Inez Jolinet.

AN IMPORTANT EXHIBITION will be opened at the Holland Fine Art Gallery, 14, Grafton-street, Bond-street, W., on the 26th instant. It will consist of the original drawings which have been specially made by the leading artists of Europe and America for the new Illustrated Bible, shortly to be published by the Illustrated London News and Sketch, Limited, on behalf of the Illustrated Bible Society. Amongst other artists the work of the following will be represented: Mr. E. A. Abbey, Sir L. Alma Tadema, R.A.; Sir E. Burne-Jones, Mr. Walter Crane, Mr. Frank Dicksee, R.A.; Mr. J. M. Swan, A.R.A.; Mr. Britton Rivière, R.A.; M. J. L. Gérôme, M. Benjamin-Constant, M. J. Israels, M. Jean Paul Laurens, M. Puvis de Chavannes, M. J. J. Tissot, Mr. Fritz von Uhde, Professor Max Liebermann, Signor Franco Paulo Michetti, Signor Giovanni Segantini, and M. G. Rochegrosse.

THE LONDON AND MIDDLESEX ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—The members of the London and Middlesex Archæological Association had a very enjoyable outing on Saturday last, a visit being paid to the ancient Cinque Ports of Rye and Winchelsea. On reaching the Town Hall at Rye the visitors were welcomed by the Mayor (Mr. Alderman Jarrett), who occupies the position of Speaker of the Cinque Ports, and at whose direction many municipal antiquities of special interest were displayed. A visit was paid to the ancient church, and Mr. Walton Dawes delivered an address on the architectural history of the building. Conveyances then took the party to Winchelsea, where a cordial welcome awaited the members from the Mayor (Major Stileman). Luncheon having been partaken of at the New Inn Hotel, an adjournment was made to the old parish church. In the absence of the Vicar, the visitors were conducted through the building by the Rev. G. N. Godwin. The next place of interest visited was the ancient Court House, which was purchased and presented to the town some time ago by Dr. Freshfield. "The Priars," the beautiful and historic residence of Major Stileman, was also visited, and its interesting monuments were inspected. The party was entertained at tea by the Mayor, and afterwards had a ramble round the town.

LA MARGUERITE.—After a most successful trial trip which took place on Wednesday, the above steamer of the New Palace Steamers, Limited, will commence her season's sailings on Wednesday, the 26th instant, when she will leave Tilbury at 7.10 a.m., special train from Fenchurch-street Station at 6.15 a.m. for Margate and Boulogne and back in a day. A new feature will be introduced into the programme this season in the shape of a special sailing to Calais and back every Thursday, leaving Tilbury at 8.30 a.m., special train from Fenchurch-street Station at 7.30 a.m., and this arrangement will allow passengers about two hours ashore at the popular French port. La Marguerite has been thoroughly overhauled during the winter months, and on her trial trip fully maintained her high reputation for speed, accomplishing some what over 21 knots an hour. With the advent of La Marguerite on the station the company have also arranged to supply a long-felt want, namely, a Saturday afternoon boat to Margate, and the Koh-i-noor will, on and after the 29th instant, leave Old Swan Pier, London Bridge, every Saturday at 10 minutes before two o'clock as the Husbands' Boat, calling at Tilbury 3.45 p.m., special train from Fenchurch-street Station 2.40.