

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

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FESTIVAL PROSPECTS FOR 1902.

Last week we had the pleasure of announcing that R.W. Bro. Sir A. F. GODSON, M.P., Prov. Grand Master of Worcestershire, had very kindly undertaken to preside as Chairman at the Anniversary Festival which will be held towards the end of February, 1902, in behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Thus as the lodges have only recently resumed their meetings after the summer recess, the three Institutions may be said to start fairly on a level as regards the work of enlisting the services of brethren as Stewards and canvassing for the donations and subscriptions on which they rely for the wherewith to meet their annual outlay. In the order of time the Benevolent Festival takes precedence of the others and it happens that in this particular campaign it is the last for which a chairman has been obtained. Still, between the day usually appointed for the celebration and the announcement of Sir A. F. GODSON'S chairmanship, an interval of five clear months intervenes in which to work the oracle in behalf of our "Old People," and Bro. TERRY, as his successful labours of the last quarter of a century have shown, is not the man to let the grass grow under his feet while there is anything to be done which is calculated to prosper the cause of the Benevolent Institution. Moreover, Worcestershire though, as far as we have been able to trace, it has never hitherto fulfilled the rôle of "Chairman's Province," has borne its part bravely at the Boys' Centenary and other Festivals, and is well known to be as generously disposed towards our Charitable Institutions as its respected chief. Thus, so far as the Chairman and his Province are concerned, the success of next year's Benevolent Festival may be looked upon as a foregone conclusion. But Worcestershire is not a strong Province. It has but 15 lodges on its roll, and such efforts as it is able and prepared to put forth will need to be generally and freely supported by London and the other Provinces. This we have every reason to hope will be forthcoming and it will be Bro. TERRY'S chief care that as much of it as is possible may be enlisted.

Our Scholastic Institutions are more fortunately circumstanced. Their respective Chairmen were announced earlier in the year, and, what is of far greater importance, those Chairmen are at the head of Provinces, of which one is more than eight

times as large as Worcestershire, and the other three times as large, while both have distinguished themselves as "Chairman's Province" at several of our anniversary Festivals. The 114th Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will be held about the usual time in May, and will have for its Chairman the Earl of LATHOM, Prov. G.M. of West Lancashire. The name of LATHOM is sufficient by itself to conjure the guineas out of brethren's purses. The services impartially rendered to all our Institutions by his lordship's lamented father still remain, and are likely to remain, a cherished memory throughout the whole English Craft, and as this will be the first occasion since his installation as Prov. G. Master on which the present Earl has occupied the chair at any Festival on his own account—when he presided at a former Girls' Festival, it was as the representative of his father—we may be sure that his Province of West Lancashire, with its formidable array of 127 lodges and over 8000 brethren, will be only too anxious to demonstrate its loyalty by contributing a handsome total of donations and subscriptions. It has done so at previous Festivals, when the amount of its Returns has exceeded £2000, £3000, £4000, and in 1891—when the late Earl of LATHOM did what he could to restore confidence in the administration of the Boys' School by presiding as Chairman at its Festival that year—upwards of £6000. And the example which we are anticipating will be set by the "Chairman's Province" of West Lancashire, will no doubt be followed by London and the sister Provinces. At all events, we may rely upon Bro. HEDGES, as Secretary of the Institution, to leave no stone unturned in order to bring all possible grist to the Girls' School mill.

The 104th Festival in behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will be held about the usual date in June, and will have for its president Bro. Colonel DAVIS, A.D.C., Provincial Grand Master of Surrey. The Surrey chief, like his colleague of West Lancashire, has his spurs to win in this particular branch of Masonic duty, but, like Lord LATHOM, he is an earnest Mason, and will put his shoulder to the wheel in furtherance of any cause he has undertaken to promote, and more especially of such a cause as Charity. If, however, Colonel DAVIS himself is new to this kind of experience, his Province is not. Under the guidance of the late General BROWNRIGG and Colonel MONEY it loyally performed its part whenever one or other acted as Festival Chairman; while in 1898—during the presidency of its then Prov. Grand Master, the Earl of ONSLOW—it stood high among the contributing Provinces to the Boys' Centenary. It has 45 lodges and a corresponding roll of members. It is, moreover, a Home Province, and twice during the present year we have had evidence of what such a Province is capable of doing when it has resolved on doing honour to a popular chief, and at the same time promoting the sacred cause of Charity. Here, again, we may rely on the Secretary—Bro. MCLEOD—doing all in his power to ensure success.

For these reasons we consider—so far as it is possible to form an opinion while the events we are looking forward to are still distant—the Festival prospects for 1902 are decidedly encouraging. The real work of organising the Boards of Stewards has just about begun in earnest, and, as we have already remarked, those who know what Secretaries TERRY, HEDGES, and MCLEOD have succeeded in doing in the past in organising these Boards look forward with confidence to their present efforts being similarly successful.

THE ANCIENT & ACCEPTED RITE.

The ever welcome "Red Book" of the "Ancient and Accepted Rite for England, Wales, and the Dependencies of the British Crown," has just been published for the financial year 1901-2, and corrected to 30th June, 1901, and, as usual, may be had from the courteous Secretary to the Supreme Council 33° (Captain W. Portlock-Dadson), 33, Golden-square, London, W., at *one shilling* each (postage, 2½d. extra). Every member of this most flourishing Rite should obtain one of these most useful, instructive, and ably edited annuals, and especially all who are officers of subordinate Bodies at Home or Abroad.

The Rite began in this country, by warrant of 26th October, 1845, but several of the Degrees had been worked long before then, in England, under the wing of the K.T. and otherwise, from the later part of the 18th century, and as an Organisation of Thirty-three Degrees will this year celebrate its centenary at Washington; the Mother Supreme Council having been formed in the year 1801.

The original Founders for this country were Dr. Thomas Crucefix, the Rev. George Oliver, D.D., and Henry Udall. All the S.G. Commanders since the first two, have held that distinguished position in my time, viz., Dr. Henry Beaumont Leeson, Charles John Vigne, Lieut.-Col. Henry Atkins Bowyer, the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., and Captain Nathaniel George Philips, the present esteemed Head of the Rite in England.

On starting the "St. Aubyn," Devonport, in 1865, we had the honour of receiving the Degrees from Dr. H. B. Leeson, who constituted us into a chapter. The only member of the present Supreme Council, who was then one of the *nine*, is Captain Philips. Some idea of the extraordinary growth of the Rite since then may be obtained from the facts that 126 warrants have been granted from that year (1865); there has been a considerable accession of Craftsmen, of distinguished positions Masonically and generally; the Supreme Council have a fine Hall and offices of their own at Golden-square, a very valuable Library and Museum of Curiosities, and other properties and investments, the whole amounting to some £25,000 (of which there was practically *nothing* when I was "perfected" in 1865); and never was this Organisation more, or so prosperous, respected, and vigorous as at the present time, the Charitable donations alone during the last 35 years exceeding £6000, and everything concerning its condition, financially and otherwise, is on the firmest and most solid foundation.

The Supreme Council for 1901-2 consists of Bros. Captain N. G. Philips, the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, Frank Richardson, the Rev. Canon J. S. Brownrigg, M.A., James Henry Matthews, Richard Loveland-Loveland, K.C., Lt.-Col. the Right Hon. the Earl of Dartrey, Col. the Right Hon. Viscount Duncarvan, and Major the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, all of whom hold high rank in the Grand Lodge of England and other Masonic Governing Bodies. The same also may be said of nearly all the Grand Inspectors General of Districts and those who are Unattached, from Bro. James Percy Leith, who obtained the 33° in 1870, to Bro. Ralph Clutton, the last so honoured.

The "Red Book" furnishes every detail, as previously, as to the members of all the Degrees, particulars as to the chapters, the Rules and Regulations, &c., and is indispensable as an unerring guide to the Rite.

W. J. HUGHAN.

SONNET FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER.

Now grey October his dull garment weaves,
By stripping all the monarchs of the wood;
His garb is sombre, for 'tis made of leaves,
Abjct, forlorn, bereft of motherhood.
See yon bare branches, listless, gaunt, and grim,
Their Springtime splendour has no glory now;
Fugged and eerie seems each lonely limb,
Spectral, dejected, each deserted bough!
Mark how the tempest—pitiless and wild—
Scatters the once gay offspring of the trees;
I st their low wail! Spurned, tossed, and still reviled,
Wafted at will by every passing breeze.
No canopy of grandeur now we form,
For home we seek the flood, for shelter find the storm.

Bradford.

CHAS. F. FORSHAW, LL.D.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF SOUTH WALES.

The above Provincial Grand Mark Lodge was held at the Park Hotel, Cardiff on the 25th ult. Bro. Col. Sir Edward S. Hill, K.C.B., P.G.M., presided supported by Bros. Robert Lock, D.P.G.M.; the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., Dep. G.M. Eng.; the Rev. J. D. Marsh, P.G.M.

Monmouthshire; N. D. Marks, P.M., P.G. Std. Br., Prov. G. Sec.; W. H. Williams, P.M. 28, P.P.S.G.W.; S. O. Williams, P.M. 28, P.P.J.G.W.; Henry Frazer, jun., P.M. 28, P.P.J.G.W., P.G. Stwd.; T. P. Kerman, P.M. 28, P.P.S.G.W.; J. R. Ingram, P.M. 28; B. D. Jenkins, W.M. 28; Isidore Leon, I.P.M. 28, P.J.G.W.; and others.

The business transacted included the following appointments:

Bro. Lionel Richard Wood, W.M. 256...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Ben. D. Jenkins, W.M. 28	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" F. H. Simpson, J.W. 28	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" W. T. Holt, J.W. 256	...	Prov. G.S.O.
" Arthur Llewellyn Lewis, P.M. 116...	...	Prov. G.J.O.
" A. G. P. Lewis, 28 and 256	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Dr. De Vere Hunt, 28	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" N. D. Marks, P.M. 28, P.G. Std. Br. Eng.	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" J. R. Ingram, P.M. 28, P.P.G.M.O.	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" James John, 116	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" H. J. E. Price, 297	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" W. T. Hall, 28	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" T. P. Kerman, P.M. 28, P.P.S.G.W.	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Thomas J. Comley, 28	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" W. Thomas, 297	...	Prov. G. S.B.
" Robert Walter Ward, 116	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" J. T. Jones, 28	...	Prov. G. Org.
" John Rees, 28	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" George D. Thomas, 28	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" J. T. Whitter, 256	...	
" Amos Jenkins, 28	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

The annual festival was afterwards held, Bro. E. T. Roberts presiding efficiently over the musical arrangements.

CONSECRATION OF THE POLYTECHNIC LODGE,
No. 2847.

The consecration of the above lodge, which, as the name implies, is in connection with the well-known technical and general educational establishments, took place at the Polytechnic headquarters at Regent-street, on Saturday last, when a large number of brethren assembled to witness the ceremony, which was performed by Bro. E. Letchworth, Grand Secretary, with all his usual impressiveness, ably assisted by Bros. Clement Godson, M.D., P.G.D., as S.W.; J. W. Dawson, A.G.D.C., as J.W.; Rev. Canon Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., as Chaplain; F. Richardson, P. Dep. G. Reg., as D.C.; and J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B., as I.G.

The following founders were present:

Bros. E. A. Beckett, W. A. Daniel, A. J. Stait, F. J. Hubbard, P.P.G.T. Bucks; W. A. Evans, R. M. Beachcroft, P.M.; J. Fettes, W. Brown, E. J. C. Etheridge, R. Whitworth-Mitton, T. Gardiner, S. Coke, T. Pescod, P.M.; A. C. Cross, F. W. Heale, F. W. Barton, H. W. Payne, W. J. Cattle, F. Short, J. H. Finch, and F. B. Smith, P.M.

Among the many visitors were—

Bros. J. Stephens, P.D.G.D.C.; T. W. Burgess, P.G.S.B.; S. M. Austin, P.M.; W. J. Carroll, P.M.; S. Tonkin, H. R. Capes, E. O. Bake, F. Harold Hankins, Coulthard, W. Waring, and G. E. Harris.

W. Bro. A. G. Lee was subsequently installed as first Master, and appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. J. Stait, P.P.G.S.B. Bucks, I.P.M.; L. H. Harris, S.W.; the Rev. C. E. Roberts, M.A., P.G.C. Bucks, J.W.; E. R. Alexander, Treas.; C. Cronin, Sec.; R. G. Margetson, S.D.; H. Elliott, J.D.; R. F. Pearce, I.G.; G. R. Egerton, Org.; and R. E. Wrenn and G. F. Payne, Stwds.

A Committee was elected to frame the bye-laws.

Several propositions were received for initiation and joining members, after which the lodge was closed.

Bro. Lee, in conducting the business of the evening, gave all present every reason to place trust in his skill and ability to conduct affairs during his year so as to ensure a successful beginning for the new lodge.

The banquet was held at the Frascati Restaurant, during which the I Zingari Orchestra played some well-chosen selections.

Following the usual loyal toasts of "The King and the Craft" and "The M.W. Grand Master,"

Bro. his Honour Judge PHILBRICK responded to the toast of "The Grand Officers."

The toast of "The Consecrating Officers" was responded to by Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, G. Sec.

Bro. J. STAIT, acting I.P.M., then said he had the greatest pleasure in proposing the toast of "The Polytechnic Lodge," coupled with the name of the W.M. He was afraid his words would be inadequate to the importance of his task. He was particularly pleased to think that he (Bro. Stait) had had the pleasure to introduce the W.M. into Freemasonry, and all those present who had noted the favourable auspices under which the lodge had started, and seen the W.M.'s working in the lodge, would rely on the certainty that the warrant would be handed to his successor unsullied, and he felt no hesitation in saying that the Polytechnic Lodge would be ranked as one of the first in London.

Bro. LEE, who on rising to reply met with most flattering applause, said he thanked the brethren most heartily for the manner in which they had received the toast. He was assured that the Polytechnic Lodge would make itself felt; it was, as they knew, connected with the largest technical college in the world, extending almost as universally as Freemasonry itself. As there were 15,000 members and students of mental and physical abilities, it would be seen readily the large field they had to work on. Great care would be exercised in whom they admitted, and good solid work insisted on. He felt after the gratifying start, and considering there were some 40 initiates anxious to join, he might safely share the anticipation of continued success.

The other toasts were "The Visitors" (for whom Bros. HARRY MARTIN, P.P.G.W. Bucks, and BERESFORD RYLEY responded), "The Acting I.P.M.," "Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers," the Tyler's toast concluding a most happy meeting.

The musical arrangements were in the hands of Bro. Schartau, assisted by Misses Gertrude Macaulay and P. Allen, Messrs. Archdeacon, Ballard, and Bro. Whitworth-Mitton.

OFFICERS OF THE POLYTECHNIC LODGE, NO. 2847.



BRO. A. G. LEE, W.M.



W. BRO. J. STAIT, P.M., P.Z., P.P.G.S.B. BUCKS, ACTING I.P.M.



BRO. L. H. HARRIS, S.W.



W. BRO. C. E. ROBERTS, M.A., P.M., P.G.C. BUCKS, J.W.



BRO. E. R. ALEXANDER, TREAS.



BRO. C. CRONIN, SEC

Science, Art, and the Drama.

CHARLES I.—ART PATRON AND COLLECTOR.

Charles is said not only to have loved painting, but to have practised it. It is affirmed that Rubens corrected some of his Majesty's drawings. It is known that the king's mother-in-law, Mary de Medicis, designed well. It was immediately after his accession that Charles began to form his collection. The Crown was already in possession of some good pictures. Henry VIII. had several. What painters had been here had added others. Prince Henry, as we have before said, had begun a separate collection of paintings and statues. All these Charles assembled, and sent commissioners into France and Italy to purchase more. Cross was sent into Spain to copy the works of Titian there, and no doubt as soon as the royal taste was known many werebrought over and offered for sale at Court. The ministers and nobility were not backward with presents of the same nature. Various are the accounts of the jewels and baubles presented to magnificent Elizabeth. In the catalogue of King Charles's collection, are recorded the names of several of the court who ingratiated themselves by offerings of pictures and curiosities. But the noblest addition was made by the King himself. He purchased, at a great price, the entire cabinet of the Duke of Mantua, then reckoned the most valuable in Europe. But several of those pictures were spoiled, owing, no doubt, to carelessness in packing them up. The list, valuable as it is, notwithstanding all its blunders, inaccuracy, and bad English, was, it is said, never completed, which might be owing to the sudden death of the composer. There are accounts in MS. of many more pictures, indubitably of that collection, not mentioned in the printed catalogue. Cross, of whom we have spoken, is called by Vincentio Carducci Michael de la Crux; others say it was Henry Stone, jun., who was sent to Spain. When Charles was at that Court, the King of Spain gave him a celebrated picture by Titian, called the Venus del Pardo; and the Cain and Abel, by John of Bologna, which Charles afterwards bestowed on the Duke of Buckingham, who placed it in York House. From Whitlock we have the following information: "In December the Queen was brought to bed of a second daughter named Elizabeth. To congratulate her Majesty's safe delivery, the Hollanders sent hither a solemn embassy and a noble present, a large piece of ambergris, two fair china basins, almost transparent, a curious clock, and four rare pieces of Tintoret's and Titian's painting. Some supposed that they did so to ingratiate them the more with our King, in regard his fleet was so powerful at sea, and they saw him resolved to maintain his right and dominion there."

SEA WEEDS.

The nature of the fructification of the lower class of plants has been, until comparatively recent times, entirely misunderstood. It was supposed that they were reproduced solely by a kind of budding process from the parent stem; that the minute spores, which are the only obvious form of fructification in the cryptogamia, differed essentially from the seeds of the flowering plants; and that the beautiful fertilising apparatus of stamens and pistils in the latter class, had no representative in the former. Hence, indeed, their scientific name—Cryptogamia (hidden marriage). But the researches of several eminent naturalists in this very interesting department of science, have shed a flood of light on this, hitherto, one of the most dark and untrodden of the by-paths of nature; and, as in every other instance when the age of man is permitted to observe her secret operations, surpassingly wonderful and beautiful, are the processes and results thus brought to view. Those who, even, only feel but a passing interest in natural history cannot fail to be entertained by the novel and beautiful phenomena, which are constantly presented almost before their eyes, in some of the commonest plants, which they pass heedlessly by. In no instance is this singular mode of flowering and seeding more worthy of attention, or more within reach of observation, than in the common seaweeds of our shores. Every one who has passed any time by the sea-side is familiar with the common bladder wrack daily left on the beach in heaps by the retreating tide; so common, indeed, is it, that in many parts of the coast it is used as a manure. We cannot do better than introduce this familiar plant as furnishing a good example of the nature of the process of reproduction, in all the lower class of plants; being, indeed, a member of a tribe which stands at the very portals of the vegetable kingdom. The researches of Messrs. Decaisne and Thuret, especially the latter, which have been made public, can be confirmed by any intelligent persons desirous of seeing for themselves, who will readily attain the same results by following a few easy directions. A simple microscope is the only requisite for the purpose, with a magnifying power of from 50 to 100 diameters. A good Stanhope lens will do well. The dark greenish-black fronds of the bladder-wrack (*Fucus vesiculosus*), if examined in winter, are seen to be studded at their extremities with little egg-shaped hard prominencies, consisting of nearly spherical cavities under the epidermis or skin, opening at the surface by a minute pore. These are the receptacles. Those containing the male elements are on separate plants from those containing the female; the latter are of the same colour as the frond; the former yellowish brown. They must not be confounded with the air cells, which also covers the tops of the fronds. If a section be carefully made vertically, through a male receptacle, and the section be examined by a magnifying power of 40 or 50 diameters, the cavity will be seen to be nearly filled with branching jointed hairs, bearing numerous little ovoid sacs or cells, of an orange colour, each containing a number of minute bodies, with an orange speck or granule in the centre. These minute bodies are the *antherozoa*, or pollen animalcules, the cells in which they are contained corresponding to the anthers of flowers, and hence named *antheridia*. When fully formed these cells are expelled, and collect around the orifice of the receptacle in the form of an orange jelly; and when exposed to moisture they burst, discharging their contained antherozoids, which swim rapidly in water by the motion of a pair of long cilia or hairs attached to one extremity. If a female receptacle be prepared in the same way and examined, it will be seen to have a similar lining of jointed hairs, among the leaves of which are seen several large vivid olive-coloured bodies, attached by a short pedicle to the wall of the cavity. These are the germ cells or *sporangia*. When completely developed, each consists of a transparent coat formed of two thin membranes, and a central opaque olive-brown body presenting marks of division into eight parts, hence called an *octospore*. When ripe the sporangia burst, and set free the octospores, which are expelled like the antheridia, and collect also into jelly-like green

masses round the orifice of the receptacle. The outer membrane of their coat is seen to remain behind, the inner one still surrounds the octospore. If now a portion of this green jelly be collected on a needle, and placed in a few drops of sea-water, and examined by a microscope, the spore in each octospore will be seen to become spherical, and in half an hour or so the membrane bursts. The spores, however, are enclosed in a delicate transparent bag, attached to the ruptured outer coat—the spot at which a spore is attached. In a few minutes this last envelope gives way, and the naked spores now float about freely in the water. Now, let a minute portion of the orange-coloured jelly from the male receptacle be introduced into the water where the spores are. The antheridia speedily burst, and discharge their contents; the liberated antherozoa swim with vivacity by their cilia or arms, and are soon seen to settle on the spores in great numbers. The rapid vibration of their cilia causes the large spherical spores to revolve rapidly, and presents a very droll and unique appearance; the great spheres spinning round and round, by the lashing and splashing of the little animalcule-like bodies for full half an hour, at the end of which time the antherozoids seem to get tired, and drop away, one by one, leaving the spores at rest. Now, this strange progress is precisely analogous to the well-known mode of fertilisation in flowering plants, by the action of the pollen from the anthers upon the pistil. Let these spores be examined after a lapse of 24 hours, and we shall see that each one is clothed by a transparent membrane, instead of being nude, as we left them. And next day we shall find the *internal sphere split into hemispheres* by a transverse division, and a little rudimentary rootlet has begun to bud out at right angles to the division—soon other divisions appear; the little bud is now evidently a long transparent rootlet. Watching it, we see it continues to elongate, by multiplication of its case contents; puts out fresh rootlets, which adhere to the glass and fix it firmly; and after a few days a bundle of transparent hair-like sprouts shoots from its summit. The whole plant now presents the appearance of one of the young sprouts which we find on rocks and stones to which growing seaweeds are attached, and if placed in a glass of sea water it will continue to vegetate for months, though it will not live very long under such circumstances. If the plant were removed to an aquarium it would grow and thrive.

CONTINENTAL GALLERY.

There is now exhibiting at the above gallery selected pictures from the Paris Salons, 1901. We have, as usual, works good, bad, and indifferent. There is one artist who stands out pre-eminently from the others—Gustave Surand. "Caius Caligula," No. 212, is a large powerful, yet horrible, picture of great artistic merit. Another, by the same artist, is "Temptation," No. 213—which we much prefer—thoroughly French in style. We would direct attention to Nos. 3; 10, painful, yet effective; 16, pathetic; 31; 70, "The Virgin's Vision;" 95, A Card Party—the light effect is well managed; 107, Dans le jardin potager—this is a pretty water colour; 132, 140, 173, 175, well painted Norwegian scenes; 177, amusing; 260, 271, good sea pieces; 290, 291. Taken as a whole, the exhibition will repay a visit.

THE EMPIRE THEATRE.

We paid a visit last week to this theatre of varieties. First there was an overture, "Zanetta," from the prolific pen of the French composer, Auber; another selection was from "San Toy," which is at present in the full tide of its success at Daly's Theatre; there was also a portion from the last act (Prison scene) of the old, yet still popular, opera of "Il Trovatore," by Verdi. Then Jackson and May showed their skill as sensational cyclists. The Perez Family (two) did some daring things in their ladder act. Little Fred, with his acrobatic dogs, afforded much amusement. The great attraction, however, was the Ballet Divertissement entitled "Les Papillons." This is prettily and effectively mounted; there are some beautiful harmonious effects of colour in the extended wings of the butterflies. The chief part is taken by Mlle. Adelina Genée, whose dancing is graceful and pleasing. The ballet is the great feature of the evening's entertainment.

GENERAL NOTE.

Madame Auguste Christensen, of Copenhagen, is to attempt to totally abstain from food for 30 days at the Royal Aquarium, commencing on the 10th instant. During the whole period nurses will be in attendance, day and night, and it is intended to have a ladies' committee to watch her.

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Telegrams—"MIDOTEL."

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Chief Patroness—
HER MAJESTY QUEEN ALEXANDRA.
President—H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT AND STRATHEARN, K.G., &c., &c., M.W.G.M.
A GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held in the Large Hall of the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C., on THURSDAY, the 10th October, 1901, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution, and to Elect 16 Girls into the School. The Election will commence at One o'clock or immediately after the conclusion of the General Business, and close at Three o'clock precisely.
F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.
5, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C., 3rd October, 1901.

** The 114th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will be held in MAY next, under the Distinguished Presidency of THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF LATHOM, R.W. Prov. G.M. Lancs, W. Div. Brethren willing to act as Stewards on this important occasion are earnestly solicited to send in their names to the Secretary as early as convenient.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS,
WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

Grand Patron—HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
President—H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, K.G., M.W.G.M.
A QUARTERLY COURT of the Governors and Subscribers will be held at FREEMASONS' TAVERN, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on FRIDAY, the 11th day of October, 1901, at Twelve o'clock noon precisely, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution, and to Elect 20 Boys from an approved list of 47 candidates, reduced to 46 by the withdrawal of—[No. 37 on List] DARBY, Leonard. (Withdrawn for Presentation).
The Ballot for the Election of Boys will be open at One o'clock, or so soon as the General Business of the Court shall have terminated, and will close at Three o'clock precisely.
By order,
J. M. McLEOD, Secretary.
Office—6, Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C., 3rd October, 1901.

** The 104th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL is due to be held on 25th JUNE, 1902, under the distinguished Presidency of Col. JOHN DAVIS, A.D.C., R.W. Prov. Grand Master for Surrey, Vice-President of the Institution. The services of Ladies and Brethren as Stewards on the occasion are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1901.

Masonic Notes.

We are pleased to be able to announce that the vacancy caused by the lamented death of the Right Hon. W. W. B. Beach, Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, has been filled by the appointment to that office of Bro. Sir Augustus Webster, Bart., P.G.D. Eng.

By the end of next week the anxieties of the last month as to the results of our School elections will be set at rest, not again to be renewed in the case of those whose candidates are successful, while as regards those who fail and are still eligible to compete, their friends and supporters will have to put forth fresh efforts for better luck next year. For the Boys' School contest there will doubtless be a keen struggle for places as the number of candidates is more than double the number to be elected, but for the Girls' election the outlook is more promising, there being about three candidates for every two vacancies.

Thursday, the 10th instant, is the day fixed for the Girls' School Election, which will take place at the Quarterly General Court of Governors and Subscribers, which will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern at 12 noon, when, as soon as the ordinary business has been disposed of, the poll will be opened for the election of 16 from an approved list of 25 girls. London is responsible for four of the latter, of whom one has no other chance than this of securing admission into the School, and has a joint interest with Malta in the success of a fifth girl, who brings forward 430 votes towards the last ballot which she is eligible to take part in. The other 20 candidates are Provincial, one of the two girls from Essex having 3229 votes to the good, and the Hants and Isle of Wight girl 1206 votes. No. 9, from West Yorkshire, in the very unlikely event of her failure to win a place, will have her name removed from the list on the score of age.

The Quarterly General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of the Boys' School will be held in the same place and at the same hour on Friday, the 11th instant, when in due course the poll will be opened for the election of 20 from an approved list of 46 candidates—reduced from 47 by the nomination of the Hants and Isle of Wight candidate at No. 37 under the "Beach" Presentation. Here London furnishes 11 candidates, and has a joint interest with one or more Provinces in the success of four others, one of the latter at No. 41 having only this one chance of winning admission into the School. There are thus 31 boys hailing from the Provinces and Stations Abroad, Warwickshire and West Yorkshire being accountable for three each, and Bristol, Hertfordshire, and West Lancashire for two each.

As usual, we renew our earnest appeal of three weeks since in behalf of the children on the two lists who, if they fail at this election, will have their names removed, on the ground that between now and next April they will attain the age of 11 years, and be no longer eligible to compete. There are five such children, namely, Nos. 5, 9, and 20 on the Girls' list, and Nos. 16 and 41 on the Boys' list. We trust that all who have not promised their votes and influence to any candidate or candidates will generously lend a helping hand to these five children, so that, having been adjudged worthy to receive the benefits dispensed by our Schools, they may not be sent empty away.

On Wednesday, the 9th instant, the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will hold their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall and transact the business on the paper of Agenda. This will include the consideration of the Finance Committee's Report for the September Quarter and of such petitions from Brethren and Widows as may have been received at the offices of the Institution.

We have much pleasure in announcing that Bro. R. Loveland Loveland, K.C., has been appointed Prov. Grand Mark Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, in succession to the late lamented Bro. the Right Hon. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., who had held the office since 1889. The new Prov. Grand Master, who will be installed in office at Portsmouth on Saturday, the 26th instant, is a brother of the highest distinction. He is President of the Board of General Purposes of United Grand Lodge, President of the General Board of the Grand Mark Lodge, Great Chancellor of Great Priory and Knight Grand Cross in the Order of the Temple, and Grand Chancellor in the Supreme Council, 33°, of the Ancient and Accepted Rite.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, M.W.G. Master, has been pleased to grant a warrant for the constitution of a new Royal Ark Mariners Lodge, which will be attached to the Dramatic Mark Lodge, No. 487. The date for the consecration of the new body has not yet been fixed, but the Principal Officers designate are Bro. Charles Cruikshanks, W.C.N., and Bros. Harry Nicholls and the Rev. C. E. L. Wright S. and J. respectively.

It is to be regretted that the Pope of Rome and his priesthood cannot be brought to see the absurdity of the course they pursue in denouncing Freemasonry and all its works. No one claims that all Masons are without blemish, but the Romish priest, when he declares that the Freemasons are Anarchists, irreligious libertines, and everything else that is bad morally, socially, and otherwise, knows perfectly well that his declarations are false. Moreover, they have been made so often, and to so little purpose, that it is only the most ignorant among the ignorant classes of the community who are gulled by these statements, just as they would be gulled by any other false statements that might be made by responsible persons in whom they had implicit confidence. We, as Masons, are in the same position as the big navy who, according to the fine old chestnut, let his little wife beat him on the ground that it amused her and did not hurt him. Now and then, perhaps, we wax a little impatient when they are uttered frequently, but, as a rule, we laugh at them as the silly vapourings of a body of men who seldom, if ever, forgive those outside the pale of the Romish Church who are continually becoming more and more prosperous and influential.

However, it is satisfactory to know that, though we may not concern ourselves greatly about these Romish attacks on Freemasonry, there are those who are

willing to take up the cudgels in our behalf, and call attention to the indecency and absurdity of such denunciations. Last week we reproduced some remarks by the *Western Morning News* which are very much to the point. Some time since, it seems, a Romish canon, of small calibre, when preaching in the Roman Cathedral, Plymouth, denounced "Anarchists, Socialists, Freemasons, and all such, under whatever guise they conceal their real aims, which he claimed to be subverting obedience, respect, and loyalty due to the authority appointed by God." *Apropos* of this our worthy contemporary points out that "there is nobody, not even the Roman Church itself, in which loyalty to God and to lawfully constituted authority, is more strongly inculcated than in the Masonic body, and to class them with Anarchists and subverters of social order is simply absurd to any one who has any knowledge on the subject at all."

We are greatly obliged to our worthy contemporary for its voluntary defence of our Society. We are afraid, however, that it will not carry much weight with the Plymouth popgun. The late Queen Victoria was the Patroness of our Charitable Institutions; the present King was our Grand Master, and is now our Protector; the Bible may have the place of honour in our lodges, and the brethren may attend Divine Service in Anglican and other Christian Churches. We may even point out that it was an Anarchist who foully murdered Bro. William McKinley, President of the United States. None of these things are allowed to have any weight in our favour with either the major or the minor Canons of the Romish Church, who throw aside all regard for decency, as they have long since subverted the truth, when it is a question of reviling our Order.

There are few of the class lodges located in London whose addition to our Grand Lodge Register is more cordially welcomed than those which are formed for the convenience of brethren hailing from different counties, whom business or pleasure frequently calls to the Metropolis, or who find it necessary to reside there for a considerable part of the year. We do not know who originated the idea, but we are inclined to think that it must have been conceived by those brethren of the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, Oxford—of whom the late Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., was one—who, about the year 1855, finding the memorable Westminster and Keystone Lodge, No. 10, in a moribund state, with only about four or five members on its roll, set themselves to the task of reviving its fortunes by making it principally, though not entirely, a kind of London Masonic home for Oxford University brethren. The scheme was so successful that, in a few years, No. 10, which had with difficulty maintained a precarious existence, became, and has ever since remained, one of the strongest and most influential lodges in the Metropolitan district.

Some 10 years later—in 1866—was founded the Oxford and Cambridge University Lodge, No. 1118, for the convenience of our two great Universities—the Isaac Newton University Lodge, No. 859, Cambridge, having been successfully launched into being under the late Duke of St. Albans as its first W. Master, in 1861. Other lodges of a somewhat similar character will be found in the United Service Lodge, No. 1361, dating from the year 1871; the Northern Bar Lodge, No. 1610, for the convenience of barristers going the Northern Circuit, warranted in 1876; and the Kaiser-i-Hind Lodge, No. 1724, for the convenience of Anglo-Indian brethren, in 1877.

Then, as London Associations formed of men connected with different counties began to be established in the Metropolis, it was quite in the order of things that lodges hailing from particular counties should be formed. Hence the United Northern Counties Lodge, No. 2128, constituted in 1885; the Cornish Lodge, No. 2369, of the year 1890; the Lancastrian, No. 2528, of 1894; and, still more recently, the Devonian, No. 2834, and the Norfolk, No. 2852, which was consecrated not very long since, with Bro. Hamon le Strange, Prov. G. Master of Norfolk, as its first W. Master. The most recent addition is the Welsh Lodge, No. 2867, which was consecrated by the Grand Secretary on Monday, the 30th ult., and has started on its career under the auspices of Bro. Sir J. H. Puleston as the W. Master. A full report of the proceedings will be found in another column, and in common with all who were present at the ceremony on the day mentioned, we cordially wish the new lodge a long and prosperous career.

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.

THE CRAFT IN NORTH LONDON.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

It has often been expressed by the brethren in the North of London that the time has arrived when a Masonic temple and club house for that district should be inaugurated so as to avoid having to resort to licensed houses. I feel quite sure that the matter only needs to be mentioned to meet with liberal support. If it is possible to have such a place, it would be a very great boon to all concerned. I shall be very pleased if you will kindly publish this in your next issue, and shall be glad to receive any communications from brethren residing in North, North-West, or North-East London.—Yours fraternally,

WALTER BEAN,

P.M. 902, Founder 2728, S.E. 179.

40, Aldersgate-street, London, E.C.

September 30th.

CLONFERT CATHEDRAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir,

Some 20 years ago it was my lot to pay a visit to the ancient shrine of St. Brendan of Clonfert. I had heard and seen pictures of its matchless doorway, and understood that there were other features of interest connected with the building. I found that I had not been misinformed, and that the beautiful Romanesque east window and quaintly-carved chancel arch would alone have repaid me for a longer journey. But the state of the church as a place of worship—discoloured plaster, mouldering woodwork, and the damp mephitic atmosphere of a vault—these were the features which irresistibly impressed themselves upon the most casual visitor. An attempt had indeed some time before been made to commence the renovation of the chancel, but as this was chiefly evidenced by the painting red of the mouldings of the chancel arch, I could not regret that it had not proceeded further. Last month, being in the neighbourhood, I had the good fortune to re-visit the cathedral once more, and though I expected much from what I had heard of the restoration inaugurated by Canon M'Larney, and carried out by Mr. Fuller, architect, my expectations were far surpassed by what I saw. As very full descriptions of the work have from time to time appeared in the public Press, I need only add that the work, even in its incomplete state, has transformed the cathedral from a fitting abode of owls and bats into a temple worthy of the house of God. This has been done without in any way depriving it of its ancient and venerable character, and I can heartily recommend all who are interested in ecclesiastical antiquities, who love the picturesque, or who wish to see an old church well restored and well appointed, to proceed to Banagher, and from thence, mounting car or bicycle, ride out some five miles of good road to Clonfert, and they will not be disappointed.—Yours, &c.,

E. D. ATKINSON.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DURHAM.

The gathering of Freemasons which assembled at the Victoria Hall, Sunderland, on Tuesday, the 24th ult., on the occasion of the annual meeting of the above Prov. G. Lodge, the first held under the presidency of Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Barnard, Prov. G. Master, was a very large and imposing one. The brethren of the Sunderland lodges had formed a special committee under the presidency of the Mayor (Bro. J. G. Kirtley) and the secretaryship of Bros. E. J. Willis and T. Harrison, in order to give a fitting reception to the Prov. G. Master and the members of the Prov. G. Lodge. The Victoria Hall was suitably decorated, and the platform enlarged and covered with red cloth. The Prov. G. Officers occupied the dais, and the brethren occupied the area and a portion of the dress circle.

The Fund Committee held its meeting at the Masonic Hall, under the presidency of Bro. C. S. Lane, P.P.S.G.W.

The Prov. G. Master, Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Barnard, P.G.W., presided, and the Wardens' chairs were filled by Bros. C. de Pledge, P.P.S.G.W., and W. N. Cochrane, Prov. J.G.W.

Supporting the Prov. G. Master were

Bros. Victor Williamson, P.G.W., as Dep. Prov. G. Master; R. Hudson, Prov. G. Sec.; Dr. C. D. Hill Drury, P.P.S.G.W.; C. S. Lane, Babington Boulton, and Thos. Coulson, P.P.S.G.Ws.; C. H. Backhouse, F. H. Bennett, D. S. Beckwith, J. C. Moor, and John Joel, P.P.J.G.Ws.; Wm. Brown, Prov. G. Treas.; W. J. Anderson, Prov. G. Reg.; Walter Beattie and J. R. Cutter, P.P.G. Treas.; J. G. Kirtley, P.P.G.D., Mayor of Sunderland; and J. T. Dodd, T. Robinson, G. Harland, R. Hauxwell, and S. Fenny, P.P.G. Officers.

Bro. C. T. Johnson officiated very efficiently as Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies.

Among the Prov. G. Officers present were

Bros. R. Hauxwell, P.P.G.S.B.; W. J. Goodenough, P.P.G. Purst.; Samuel Fenny, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Geo. Rutherford, P.P.G. Std. Br.; the Rev. W. M. Wadsworth, W.M.; the Rev. W. Bowker, P.P.G. Chap.; Ed. Milburn, P.P.S.G.D.; T. A. Moffit, P.P.J.G.D.; W. Watson, P.P.A.G.D.C.; Fred. S. Cowper, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; C. F. Sutcliffe, P.P.G. Treas.; Jos. Pringle; George Harland, P.P.S.G.D.; John Bennison, P.D.G.D.C.; Charles W. Anderson, P.P.S.G.D.; Jos. Armstrong, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; J. D. Fodd, P.P.G.S.B.; J. J. Wilson, P.P.G.S.B.; J. G. Kirtley, P.P.J.G.D.; R. Walker, P.P.G. Stwd.; T. R. Short, P.P.S.G.D.; Wm. Brown, P.G. Treas.; E. Lautback, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Thos. Harrison, P.S.G.D.; J. Thompson, P.P.G. Treas.; David Cameron, P.P.J.G.D.; J. H. Jackson, P.P.S.G.D.; J. Howe, P.P.G. Stwd.; W. J. Oldfield, P.G. Stwd.; John Smith, P.P.G.S.B.; H. W. Emerson, P.P.A.G.D.C.; John G. Marshall, P.P.S.G.D.; John Coulthard, P.S.G.D.; J. Ridley Barker, P.P.G.S.B. Northumberland; W. N. Cochrane, P.J.G.W.; William Gray, P.P. J.G.W.; Lemuel R. Davies, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Geo. Porteous, P.P.G. Org.; Babington Boulton, P.P.S.G.W.; C. H. Backhouse, P.P.J.G.W.; W. E. Brown, P.P.G.D.; W. J. Brown, P.P.S.G.D.; James Lee, P.P.G. Purst.; Joseph Lawson, P.P.G. Chap.; Thos. Coulson, P.P.S.G.W.; Robert Farmer, P.P. G.S.B.; L. Winstone, P.P.G. Org.; James Robinson, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; William Mitford, P.P.G.S.B.; W. E. Moyshe, P.P.S.G.D.; Isaac Burnell, P.P.G.S.B.; Joseph Gillis, P.P.G.S.; John Black, P.P.J.G.D.; Robert Stewart,

P.P.G. Treas.; W. A. Lax, P.P.G. Purst.; H. Soderberg, P.P.G. Purst.; J. Rigby, P.G. Std. Br.; F. H. Bennett, P.P.J.G.W.; J. Mitchinson, P.P.D.G.D. of C.; John Holt, P.P.S.G.D.; G. F. Allan, P.P.G.S.B.; John C. Moor, P.P. S.G.W.; J. R. Cutter, P.P.G. Treas.; John, Joel, P.P.J.G.W., Prov. A.G. Sec.; Thomas Robinson, P.P.S.G.D.; Richard Brown, P.P.G.D. of C.; W. J. Anderson, Prov. G. Reg.; John Johnson, P.P.A.G.D.C.; T. Younge Tuck, P.A.G.D.C.; E. G. Watson, P.P.D.G.D.C.; A. S. Fowler, P.P.S.G.D.; W. Hodgson, P.P.S.G.D.; W. A. Priestly, P.P.G.S. of W.; Nicholas Lee, P.P.G.P.; W. J. Jobson, P.P.D.G.D.C.; R. Tinkler, P.J.G.D.; Thomas G. Garrick, P.P.G.R.; James Ross, P.P.S.G.D.; John Robinson, P.P.G.R.; T. C. Jones, P.P.G. Stwd.; R. Jack, P.P.G.P.; Thomas Grieve, P.G. Tyler; F. E. Campbell and H. Havelock, P.Ms. 2039; John Deans, P.P.G.P.; John S. Roy, P.P.G. Std. Br.; William Barlow, P.P.G.D. of C.; Julian Jacobs, P.G. Stwd.; Josiah Curry, P.P.G. Tyler; Thomas James, W.M. 97; John Cameron, W.M. 80; Henry Darling, W.M. 1970; H. T. Halfpenny, W.M. 94; A. P. Stainton, W.M. 2418; Thos. B. Watson, W.M. 2104; Robert Scott, W.M. 949; David D. Smith, W.M. 1389; E. J. Willis, W.M. 2039; E. Atkinson, W.M. 661; T. Piper, W.M. 1230; John W. Simpson, W.M. 2462; John F. Purdy, W.M. 1862; W. Arnett, W.M. 764; Ed. T. Mason, W.M. 897; Thos. Putnam, I.P.M. 1397; Dr. Middlemas, S.W. 1379; W. M. Robinson, W.M. 1650; Walter J. Davidson, W.M. 424; Robert Stewart, W.M. 2694; H. H. Richardson, W.M. 124; R. W. Salkeld, W.M. 1334; J. A. Fleming, W.M. 1932; J. W. Daniels, W.M. 2315; R. R. Ferguson, W.M. 2019; Tom Pidd, W.M. 1418; W. H. Pye, W.M. 1119; Alexander Craig, W.M. 1643; T. W. Craig, W.M. 1121; Seymour Bell, P.S.G.W. Northumberland; and other visitors were in attendance.

Bro. W. BROWN, P.G. Treasurer, gave his financial statement, and moved its adoption, which was seconded by Bro. J. D. TODD, and adopted.

Bro. C. S. LANE, P.P.S.G.W., proposed the adoption of the Fund Committee's report, which was seconded by Bro. BABINGTON BOULTON, P.P.S.G.W., and approved.

The Committee recommended that sums be voted from Provincial Grand Fund to the Hudson Benevolent Fund (£52 10s.), Durham Masonic Education Fund (£52 10s.), Royal Masonic Institution for Aged Freemasons, Royal Masonic Boys' School (£52 10s.), and Royal Masonic Girls' School (£42).

These recommendations were agreed to.

Bro. C. S. LANE, P.P.S.G.W. proposed, and Bro. D. HILL DRURY, P.P.S.G.W., seconded, the report of the Charities' Committee, who stated in the course of their report "that the year 1902 will be the 25th of this Charity, and your Committee desire to recommend that a festival be held early in the year, it also being the first year of our Provincial Grand Master, and the first year of our Grand Master presiding over the Craft."

It was stated that if a similar sum was raised to what was obtained by the festival of two years ago, at Durham, the two Durham Funds would be placed in a position to meet all applicants without recourse to voting, and free from precarious subscriptions.

Bros. F. H. BENNETT, P.P.J.G.W.; ROBT. HUDSON, P.G.S.; and W. GRAY, P.P.G.W., supported the recommendation; and the Prov. G. MASTER also spoke to the proposal, and offered to place such resources as were at his disposal at Raby Castle and Park to the aid of the proposed festival. (Applause.)

The report was adopted.

The Prov. G. MASTER thereafter presented to the Prov. Grand Lodge two new standards for use in the Prov. Grand Lodge, and Bro. VICTOR WILLIAMSON, P.G.W., afterwards intimated his intention to present a banner in remembrance of the Prov. Grand Mastership of his late brother, Sir Hedworth Williamson, such banner to be hung alongside of that presented to the Prov. G. Lodge by the late Marquis of Londonderry.

Bro. VICTOR WILLIAMSON, P.G.W., accepted the standards on behalf of Prov. G. Lodge which were presented by Bro. Lord Barnard.

A deputation representing the Sunderland brethren, consisting of the Mayor (Bro. J. G. Kirtley), Bros. J. D. Todd, J. C. Moor, H. J. Turnbull, Thomas Robinson, and E. J. Willis, then presented at the hands of the Mayor, Bro. Councillor J. G. Kirtley, an illuminated address in album form, bound in purple morocco leather, and engrossed in a very magnificent manner.

An illuminated title page bore the inscription "To the Right Honourable Henry De Vere Vane, Baron Barnard of Barnard Castle, in the Bishopric of Durham." The illuminated address on the next page was as follows: "Sunderland, 24th September, 1901. Right Worshipful Sir and Brother,—On behalf of the six Masonic lodges working in the county borough of Sunderland, we beg to tender you a cordial greeting to our town on the occasion of your visit to-day, to assume the duties of presiding, for the first time, over the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham. Your association with the brethren in the province, and the eminent position you have occupied as an honoured officer of the Grand Lodge of England, have hitherto been a source of pleasure to us, a pleasure which has been enhanced by the gratification with which we hailed your designation and subsequent installation as the Grand Master of our province. In bidding you this joyful welcome we are actuated by motives of the sincerest regard for yourself personally, and of staunch loyalty to the higher Masonic powers represented by the M.W. Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of England, and also to the Provincial Grand Lodge, by whom the ancient landmarks of Freemasonry have been so faithfully preserved in the province, and under whose beneficent regime we are proud to labour. That the G.A.O.T.U. may continue to inspire you with wisdom and zeal, and grant you health and strength to perform the duties of your high office for many years to come, is the heartfelt aspiration.—Yours fraternally, J. G. Kirtley, chairman; J. D. Todd, vice-chairman; John Cameron, W.M. 80; H. T. Halfpenny, W.M. 94; Thomas James, W.M. 97; R. Scott, W.M. 949; David D. Smith, W.M. 1389; E. J. Willis, W.M. 2039."

Lord BARNARD, in acknowledging the presentation, said that he could hardly find words to express his thanks for the handsome presentation made to him. He could assure them that they need have no apprehensions as to the memories he should take away with him of his first Provincial Grand Lodge in the great and splendid county borough of Sunderland. (Applause.) It assured him of the loyalty and the kind friendliness which they had so cheerfully accorded to him, coming amongst them more or less a stranger, and also assured him that the true spirit of Freemasonry permeated the lodges of that town as well as the more formal part of the business which they conducted. He, therefore, thanked them most heartily, and he assured them that he reciprocated from the bottom of his heart the kind words which they had used in making the presentation. (Applause.)

At a subsequent period of the meeting Lord BARNARD further addressed the Prov. Grand Lodge. In the first place he said he desired to express his sincere regret at the absence of Bro. the Rev. Canon Tristram from their midst that day. Canon Tristram had filled the office of Deputy Prov. Grand Master for many years with very much dignity and honour to the province, and if the Grand Lodge would allow him, he would write in his own name and their own to express to him their deep sympathy, and the hope that he might be speedily restored to health, and that before long they might have him amongst them again. Before proceeding to speak of matters in general, he desired, on behalf of the Grand Lodge generally, to tender his most hearty and cordial thanks to the brethren of West Hartlepool for their kindly invitation to hold their next annual meeting in that town, an invitation, he could assure them, which would receive the very careful consideration of the Grand Lodge, and at present he saw no reason why it should not be accepted. With regard to the position of Freemasonry in the province, he had had every opportunity and reason of satisfying himself that the position of Freemasonry upon his taking up the reins of office, was due to a great extent to the tact and efforts of his late predecessor, as well as to the extreme zeal and energy with which the duties were performed, by what he might term the permanent staff of the Provincial Grand Lodge. It was interesting to note how steadily Freemasonry had increased in the province. When the late Bro. John Fawcett took office in 1847 there were 13 lodges, when the late Lord Londonderry succeeded in 1880 there were 25, and when the late Sir Hedworth Williamson assumed the reins of office in 1885 there were 30. During Sir Hedworth's career there were consecrated eight lodges, at which number they stood at the present moment. In 1880 the membership was 929, and at the present time it was 3492, there having been an increase on the previous year of 150, and he thought they were entitled to assume that during the present year there would be a corresponding increase. He trusted that during the coming year he would be able to pay many visits to the lodges in the province. He had every reason for believing that the lodges were extremely well worked, and from what he had seen himself he could safely confirm that statement. He was happy to think that Past Masters retained their close connection with the lodges, for he could assure them that nothing so strengthened the hands of the younger brethren as to find that their older brethren took an interest in the work, and nothing could do more to improve the work of the younger brethren than the knowledge they derived from the older ones. (Applause.) Their charitable subscriptions had been well maintained during the year. In addition to their own local Charities, the sum of £750 had been sent up to their three Central Charities. During the year they had had to mourn the death of several distinguished brethren, brethren whose services to Freemasonry they had very highly appreciated. In conclusion, Lord Barnard said he could only repeat what he had said at Durham—that nothing should be wanting on his part to do what he could for Freemasonry in that province. (Applause.)

The Prov. Grand Master then appointed the following officers:

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| Bro. Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D. (re-appointed) ... | Dep. Prov. G.M. |
| " John G. Kirtley, 949 (Mayor of Sunderland) ... | Prov. S.G.W. |
| " G. Middlemiss, M.D., 1379, 2352 ... | Prov. J.G.W. |
| " Rev. W. M. Wadsworth, 124 ... | Prov. G. Chaps. |
| " Rev. Alexander Dunn, 1274 ... | |
| " R. H. Harkness, 764 (elected) ... | Prov. G. Treas. |
| " R. W. Graham, 2418 ... | Prov. G. Reg. |
| " R. Hudson, P.G.S.B. Eng. (re-appointed) ... | Prov. G. Sec. |
| " W. J. Robinson, 97 ... | Prov. S.G.Ds. |
| " J. Luther Green, 1418 ... | |
| " James Burrell, 424 ... | Prov. J.G.Ds. |
| " R. E. Beveridge, 1389 ... | |
| " John Lamb, 509 ... | Prov. G.S. of W. |
| " C. T. Johnson (re-appointed) ... | Prov. G.D.C. |
| " E. H. Tilley, 94 ... | Prov. D.G.D.C. |
| " Charles Scurr, 1932 ... | Prov. A.G.D.C. |
| " T. Coates, 1650 ... | Prov. G.S.B. |
| " David Murray, 80 ... | Prov. G. Std. Brs. |
| " J. T. Henderson, 240 ... | |
| " Joseph Henderson, 2415 ... | Prov. G. Org. |
| " John Joel, P.P.G.W. (re-appointed) ... | Prov. A.G. Sec. |
| " Henry Lamb, 1274 ... | Prov. G. Purst. |
| " Samuel J. Cockburn, 661 ... | Prov. A.G. Purst. |
| " W. J. Young, 661 ... | Prov. G. Stewards. |
| " T. A. Forslind, 764 ... | |
| " W. Cochrane, 1121 ... | |
| " R. J. Robson, 1862 ... | |
| " R. S. Fell, 2019 ... | |
| " J. G. Bainbridge, 2791 ... | Prov. G. Tyler. |
| " Thomas Grieve (re-appointed) ... | |

Subsequently, upon the proposition of Lord BARNARD, it was decided to forward votes of thanks to the Dean and Chapter of Durham, the Durham University authorities, to Lord Amherst, the Pro Grand Master, the Durham brethren, and all others who assisted in making the meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge at Durham such a signal success.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was afterwards closed.

THE ANNUAL BANQUET.

The annual banquet was afterwards held in the Reception Room at the Town Hall, Lord Barnard in the chair, supported by Bro. Victor A. Williamson, C.M.G., as Dep. Prov. G. Master, in the absence, through indisposition, of Bro. the Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., Dep. Prov. G. Master; Bros. R. Hudson, Prov. G. Sec.; John Joel, P.P.G.W.; W. M. Wadsworth, Prov. G. Chap.; Capt. De Vine; Seymour Bell, P.P.S.G.W. Northumberland; and others. The vice-chairs were occupied by the Mayor of Sunderland, Bro. J. G. Kirtley, P.S.G.W., and Bro. D. Middlemiss, P.J.G.W.

The loyal toast was proposed by the Prov. G. Master, Lord BARNARD, and also the toast of "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, and the Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past."

Bro. VICTOR WILLIAMSON, P.G.W. Eng., responded, and proposed the toast of "The R.W. Prov. G. Master, Lord Barnard." They had heard his kind offer to the province for the Festival next year. It was a project which would be very successful. He could not conceive a more delightful outing than the invitation to Raby Castle for the Festival which it had been resolved to hold next year in aid of the Durham Masonic Education Fund and the Hudson Benevolent Fund. (Applause.)

Bro. Lord BARNARD, Prov. G. Master, responded, and expressed the great pleasure it had been to him, to preside that day, and how he had been struck by the cordial reception which had been extended to him by the Sunderland brethren. He proposed "The V.W. Dep. Prov. G. Master and Officers of the Prov. G. Lodge," and specially acknowledged the efforts of the Mayor of Sunderland, Bro. J. G. Kirtley, P.S.G.W., in making with the committee the local arrangements for the gathering of that day. Bro. J. G. KIRTLEY, P.S.G.W., acknowledged the toast in a suitable manner.

Bro. R. HUDSON, Prov. G. Sec., proposed "The Masonic Charities," and coupled with the toast the name of Bro. J. C. MOOR, P.P.J.G.W., who responded.

The Prov. G. MASTER proposed "Success to the Sunderland Lodges," and Bros. JOHN CAMERON, W.M. 80; H. T. HALFPENNY, W.M. 94; THOS. JAMES, W.M. 97; ROBT. SCOTT, W.M. 949; D. D. SMITH, W.M. 1389; and E. J. WILLIS, W.M. 2039, responded.

The National Anthem was sung, and the most successful proceedings terminated.

Royal Arch.

St. Luke's Chapter, No. 225.

INSTALLATION OF COMP. CHARLES S. BROWN.

The installation meeting of this highly-successful and flourishing chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Soane-street, Ipswich, on the 25th ult. Present: Comps. H. C. Rance, M.E.Z.; Chas. S. Brown, H., M.E.Z. elect; Geo. Wm. Senton, J.; Geo. Powell Price, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N., S.E.; Chas. Byford, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; I. Girling, S.N.; Walter Rumsby, P.S.; S. Skerritt, 2nd Asst. S.; W. Parker, Org.; George Gould, Janitor; H. J. Wright, P.Z., P.P.G.J.; John Talbot, P.Z., P.P.G. Std. Br.; George Abbott, P.Z., P.P.G.S.; Fred. T. Cooper, Wm. Phillips, C. E. Barfoot, H. H. Burgham, C. A. Cundall, and W. H. Bloemfield. Visitors: Comps. the Rev. J. Holme Pilkington, M.A., G. Supt. designate; James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; H. C. Montieith, P.Z. 376, P.P.G.N.; S. R. Anness, P.Z. 376, P.P.G.H.; R. H. Unsworth, P.Z. 959, P.P. 1st A.G.S.; Alma Cocks, P.Z. 959, P.A.G.D. of C.; E. Hills, P.Z. 959, P.G. Std. Br.; J. B. Harrison, P.Z. 1331, P.G. Std. Br. Hants; H. E. Brown, 1237; Thomas F. Thwaites, H. 376; G. L. Oxborrow, J. 376; J. R. Butler, H. 959; O. Bendall, J. 959; R. Tidbury, 376; H. E. Leach, 396; and J. E. Pierre, 952.

The minutes of the previous convocation and convocation of emergency were read and confirmed. The report of the Auditors was presented and adopted, which showed the chapter to be in a very sound financial position. A conclave of Installed First Principals was formed, and Comp. Chas. S. Brown, H., was installed into the first chair. The conclave of First Principals was closed, and the conclave of Installed Second Principals was formed, and Comp. Geo. Wm. Senton, J., was installed into the second chair. The conclave of Installed Second Principals was closed, and a conclave of Installed Third Principals was formed, and Comp. Walter Rumsby was installed into the third chair. The three installations were carried out in a most impressive manner by Comp. James Terry, P.Z., P.G.S.B. Eng. The conclave of Installed Third Principals being closed, the companions were admitted, and the M.E.Z. invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Comp. Geo. Powell Price, P.Z., P.G.S.N., S.E.; I. Girling, S.N.; S. Skerritt, P.S.; W. J. Christie, 1st A.S.; F. T. Cooper, 2nd A.S.; C. Byford, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; H. J. Wright, P.Z., P.P.G.J., D.C.; Walter Parker, Org.; and Geo. Gould, P.G.J., Janitor. The business of the chapter being ended, it was closed.

The companions adjourned to the dining hall and partook of the usual light banquet, after which the customary loyal and Royal Arch toasts were proposed by the M.E.Z., and enthusiastically received.

PERFECT
DIGESTION

Is the keynote of contentment. Both are insured
by the regular use of

SEIGEL'S
SYRUP.

"For thirty years I suffered from indigestion—chest
pains and extreme heaviness after meals—and had to
rigorously diet myself. I am now 64 years of age,
and, thanks to Seigel's Syrup, enjoy better health than
since I was 28 years old. JAMES MYERS, 175, New Hey
Road, Wakefield Road, Bradford, 21/2/00.

CONSECRATION OF THE LONDON WELSH LODGE,
No. 2867.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. SIR J. H. PULESTON.

It has been said truly that there are more Roman Catholics in London than there are in Rome, more Jews than there are in Palestine, more Irishmen than in Dublin, more Scotchmen than in Edinburgh, and more Welshmen than there are in Cardiff. In view of the last-named fact, it is not surprising that such of the London Welsh as belong to the Craft should form a lodge which should be more than one of the now popular "class" lodges; a lodge that indeed may be considered a national lodge, in which compatriots may meet together to practise the sublime art of Masonry.

Some such consideration doubtless influenced the following founders of the London Welsh Lodge in applying for a warrant for a new lodge: Bros. Sir John H. Puleston, P.M. 235; W. W. Woosnam, W.M. 2022; E. R. Cleator, I.P.M. 2077; T. J. Harries, 3; T. Davies, P.M. 1381; D. H. Treharne, 2606; J. Hinds, 1671; D. L. Thomas, 65; J. J. Lewis, 3; Col. E. Pryce-Jones, M.P., P.G. Stwd.; T. Hinds, 1671; C. Davies, 1632; Herbert Emlyn, 1348; J. W. Foulkes-Jones, 2077; Edward Roberts, P.M. 606, P.P.S.G.W., Prov. Grand Secretary North Wales, P.D.G.S.B. Eng.; John C. Davies, 1658; J. Owain Evans, 1604; E. Edward Jenkins, 1632; Thos. Jones, 1668; David Lewis, 1585; David Lewis, 1559; Thomas Lloyd, 3; Thos. Mathias, 201; Evan Richards, 1716; John Roberts, 201; Jno. W. T. Rowland, 1446; and David Williams, 1585.

The ceremony of consecration was performed at Freemasons' Hall, on Monday evening, the 30th ult., by Bro. Edward Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Sec., assisted by Bros. Geo. Everett, P.G. Treas., as S.W.; Alderman and Sheriff Walter Vaughan Morgan, P.G. Treas., as J.W.; Rev. Canon Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., as Chap.; Frank Richardson, P.D.G. Reg., as D.C.; and Wm. Lake, Asst. G. Sec., as I.G.

The brethren, including a very large number of invited guests, having assembled in the lodge room, the Consecrating Officer, accompanied by the Grand Officers, entered in procession, and the former having taken the chair, appointed his officers *pro tem*.

The lodge having been opened, the ceremony of consecration was ably and impressively performed by the Grand Secretary. The musical portion of the ceremony was under the direction of Bro. Herbert Emlyn, and the Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. Canon Brownrigg, delivered an eloquent oration on the nature and principles of the Institution.

The lodge having been duly dedicated and constituted, the installation of Bro. Sir John H. Puleston, P.M. 235, as W.M. was proceeded with, the Grand Secretary acting as Installing Master. During an interval in the ceremony Bro. Herbert Emlyn sang "Be thou faithful," from Mendelssohn's "St. Paul."

Bro. Sir John Puleston having been duly installed in the chair of K.S., appointed and invested the following officers for the ensuing year: Bros. W. W. Woosnam, W.M. 2022, as I.P.M.; E. R. Cleator, P.M., S.W.; T. J. Haines, J.W.; T. Davies, P.M., Treas.; D. H. Treharne, Sec.; John Hinds, S.D.; D. L. Thomas, J.D.; John T. Lewis, I.G.; Col. E. Pryce-Jones, M.P., P.G. Stwd., D. of C.; Thos. Hinds, A.D.C.; Cyril Davies, Org.; Herbert Emlyn and J. W. Foulkes-Jones, Stwds.; and Chas. Plant, P.M., Tyler.

A Committee to frame bye-laws was elected, and a proposition for membership received, the lodge being then closed.

An adjournment was then made to the banquet, which had been prepared in the Cambridge Room, the brethren present, including members of the lodge and visitors, numbering 105.

At the conclusion of the banquet the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured.

In proposing the toast of "The Grand Officers," Bro. CLEATOR, S.W., paid an eloquent tribute to the ability displayed by the Consecrating Officer in performing the ceremony of consecration, and expressed regret that the state of his health prevented Bro. Letchworth from being present at the festive board.

Bro. Rev. Canon BROWNRIFF responded on behalf of the Grand Officers, and in a humorous speech deplored the fact that the Welsh brethren were that night weighed down by a Saxon majority. (Laughter.) He was glad to know, however, that they formed a strong minority. The Welsh Saint Cylog had said that the strength of the Saxon lay in his cunning; the strength of the Irish—well, perhaps he had better not repeat what the saint said of them; but the strength of the Welsh, he averred, lay in their impatience, and London would never have been built but for the Welsh—(laughter)—and it would not have gone on but for them; by their impatience they had kept the others up to the mark.

In proposing "The Health of the Consecrating Officers," the W.M. observed that the consecration of the London Welsh Lodge was an event to evoke all the Welsh patriotism and fervour of the members; and it was an event that would be remembered by their children after them. No one could possibly have added more grace and dignity to the ceremony than Bro. Letchworth, but in his absence he would couple the name of Bro. Everett with the toast.

The W.M., before sitting down, took the opportunity of presenting the Consecrating Officers with jewels commemorative of the occasion, similar to those with which the founders had been previously presented. The jewels all bore a representation of the red dragon of Wales, which also appeared on the banner with which the lodge had provided themselves.

Bro. EVERETT, in response, expressed regret at the absence of Bro. Letchworth, and assured his hearers of the pleasure always experienced by Grand Officers in assisting at the consecration of a new lodge. It was the first evening he had spent among so many "Tallies," but he hoped it would not be the last.

Bro. Alderman and Sheriff MORGAN also, on behalf of the G. Officers, briefly responded in Welsh.

Bro. WOOSNAM, I.P.M., then proposed the toast of the evening, viz., that of "The W.M." Sir John had identified himself with the welfare of the Welsh in London for the last 30 years, and for 20 years he had been an active Mason. He was the first Welshman who had been Constable of the Royal Castle of Carnarvon.

Bro. SIR JOHN PULESTON, W.M., in reply, stated that he had accepted the Mastership of the lodge in the interests of Welshmen and the Welsh people, and hoped the London Welsh Lodge would be the means of bringing many young Welshmen in London together—young men who would be

proud to become Freemasons under the banner of a Welsh lodge. Referring to his position at Carnarvon Castle, he said the best room in that historic building was occupied by a Masonic lodge. Nothing would give them greater pleasure than to entertain the members of the London Welsh Lodge within those historic walls. True, Welsh fire had been put into all the proceedings in connection with the lodge. He ventured to think it had been started with greater enthusiasm than any other lodge of any nation.

The toast of "The Visitors" was responded to by Bros. BYERS, Rev. E. JONES, Vicar of Llanidloes, DAVIES, POTTER, P.M.; and Colonel MENZIES, P.M.

The toast of "The Officers" was acknowledged by Bros. CLEATOR, S.W.; HARRIES, J.W.; DAVIES, Treas.; and TREHARNE, Sec.

A selection of music was rendered during the evening by Miss Maggie Davies and Miss Lizzie Tivy Davies, both of whom delighted the audience with their Welsh songs; Bros. Herbert Emlyn, Jno. Sandbrook, J. Powell, P.M.; and W. E. Edwards. Bro. Fountain Meen, P.M., P.G. Organist, acted as accompanist.

A most enjoyable evening was brought to a close with the time-honoured Tyler's toast.

LONDON'S NEW CIVIC CHIEF.

On Saturday, in accordance with annual custom on the day preceding the festival of Michaelmas, the ceremonial of admitting the new Sheriffs of the City of London—Bro. Alderman John Charles Bell and Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall—was observed at Guildhall, in the presence of a large body of the citizens. Bro. the Lord Mayor, attended by his Chaplain, the Sword and Mace bearers, and the City Marshal, and accompanied by the outgoing Sheriffs—Bros. Alderman Vaughan Morgan and Joseph Lawrence, M.P.—went in State from the Mansion House to attend the proceedings, and were met at Guildhall by the Aldermen and the high officers of the Corporation, all wearing their distinctive robes, and carrying nosegays. The Sheriffs elect, who were accompanied by their Under-Sheriffs (Mr. F. R. M. Phillips and Bro. J. D. Langton) and their Chaplains (Rev. J. W. Pratt and the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes), drove in their splendid new equipages, and were first conducted to the Aldermeu's Chamber, escorted thither by the Masters and Wardens of the Glovers', Fanmakers', and Stationers' Companies, to which one or the other of them belongs.

A procession being formed, the civic dignitaries went to the hustings in the great hall, which was strewn with sweet herbs. The Common Crier (Major Ker-Fox) called upon the Sheriffs-elect by name to come forward and take upon themselves the office of Sheriff. Bro. Alderman Bell and Bro. Marshall presented themselves, amid loud cheers. Bro. Sir John Monckton, the Town Clerk, then administered to each the quaint oaths and declarations of office.

Later in the day the Liverymen assembled in Common Hall at Guildhall to elect the Lord Mayor for the year ensuing, which commences on the 9th prox. Prior to the election, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and high officers of the City, wearing their robes of office, and carrying bouquets, walked in procession from Guildhall to the neighbouring Church of St. Lawrence Jewry, to hear Divine service. The officiating clergy were Bro. the Rev. Stephen Barrass, Rector of St. Lawrence Jewry, and the Rev. G. A. K. Finlay, Priest-in-Charge of St. Katherine Coleman, Fenchurch-street. The sermon was preached by the Rev. H. D. Macnamara, Priest-in-Ordinary to the King, and Chaplain to the Lord Mayor, from the text, Psalm cxxviii, verse 1, "Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."

Returning to the Guildhall, the ceremony of election commenced.

Bro. Alderman Sir JOSEPH DIMSDALE expressed his thanks for his election, remarking that they were proud of their City—they were proud of their square mile, which, after all, was the heart of the Empire. (Cheers.) In order to assert their privileges, he thought it right to move the following resolution, which he would ask them to pass: "That, in view of the approaching Coronation of our Sovereign Lord the King and his Gracious Consort, all due and proper claims be made for preserving the ancient rights and privileges of the City of London, and that the Town Clerk, as the Clerk of this Common Hall, be directed to sign the same."

Alderman Sir MARCUS SAMUEL seconded the resolution, and it was agreed to unanimously.

The retiring Lord Mayor and Sheriffs having been accorded the thanks of Common Hall for their services, the Lord Mayor and the Lord Mayor elect drove back in the same State carriage to the Mansion House, preceded by trumpeters.

Bro. the Lord Mayor elect (Alderman Sir Joseph Cockfield Dimsdale, M.P.), is the eldest son of the late Mr. Joseph Cockfield Dimsdale, head of the firm of Messrs. Dimsdale, Fowler, and Co., bankers, Cornhill, and was born in Cornhill in 1849. He was educated at Eton, and is the first Old Etonian who has filled the civic chair for 130 years. He served the office of Sheriff in conjunction with Sir John Voce Moore in 1893-4, and received the honour of knighthood in commemoration of the opening of the Tower Bridge and the birth of an heir to the Throne in the direct line (Prince Edward of York). He is a leading member of the Grocers' Company, of which he has been Master. For six years he represented the City of London on the London County Council, and last year at the General Election he was unanimously elected Member of Parliament for the City.

Bro. Sir J. C. Dimsdale is a P.M. of the Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1, which he represented on the Board of Grand Stewards in 1892. He was also a Founder and the first W. Master of the Empress Lodge, No. 2581, which was consecrated early in the year following that of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. He is also a P.Z. of the Grand Masters Chapter, No. 1, a Life Governor and Festival Steward of our three Institutions, and for some years was a member of the House Committee of the Girls' School. In 1894 he was a candidate for the office of Grand Treasurer, and was elected by a moderate majority of votes over his chief competitor, Bro. W. M. Stiles, who was, however, elected to the same office in 1895. As Sir Joseph did not possess the necessary Royal Arch qualifications, he was unable to take office, as he would otherwise have done, as Grand Treasurer of Supreme Grand Chapter, but in 1899 he had the honour of being appointed Grand Principal Sojourner.

DISABLED SOLDIERS.

COTTAGE HOMES FOR REGIMENTS.

The following statement is issued by the Hon. Secretary on behalf of the Committee of the Prince Christian Victor Memorial Fund:

It is unnecessary to dilate on the wreckage of war. Besides actual loss of limbs, sight, or hearing, many must be left with shattered nerves, hearts strained by forced marches and over-exertion, health broken down as a result of enteric or from exposure and hardship. It is inevitable that thousands who have fought our battles in South Africa will become more or less objects of charity. They

will certainly require sympathy and assistance. Large numbers will be discharged with small pensions which will be a help to them if they are strong and able to work. Others will have completed their Reserve service; others, again, will have to go back to the Reserves to complete their time at a retaining fee of 6d. a day; and the men absolutely disabled and incapable of supporting themselves at all will receive a pension of about 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d., or a maximum of 3s. a day. Some of these are married men with wives and families to support; and, of course, there will be an immense amount of suffering among them unless something more can be done for their relief.

The most practical form of help seems to be the provision of homes rent free in accordance with the Princess Christian Cottage Homes scheme for disabled soldiers, and efforts are now being made to found and endow one or more of these for the crippled men of each regiment, in memory of the late Prince Christian Victor, who died in the service of his country in South Africa. The scheme of each regiment having this provision for its own disabled men meets with the warm approval of the Commander-in-Chief, and separate funds are now commenced for cottage homes for 76 regiments, in which are included regiments of Cavalry and Royal Artillery and Engineers. Each of these cottages will be located, as far as possible, in the county or neighbourhood where the regiment for which it is established is mainly recruited. In common with those already sheltering disabled men, it will be a Princess Christian Cottage Home, and a tablet will be placed in it bearing the name of the regiment or corps for which it is reserved, and stating that it is founded and endowed in memory of the Prince.

The cost of endowment of such a cottage in perpetuity, with yearly repairs, may be roughly estimated at from £400 to £500. The maintenance of the occupant is another matter which necessarily varies according to his condition and the pension he is receiving. Take, for example, the case of a man shot through the spine, paralysed from head to foot. He has a pension of half-a-crown a day and no rent to pay, and he is in one of the Princess Christian Cottage Homes; but expenses, including nurse, doctor, and nourishing food, amount to £3 per week, and as long as life lasts he needs an allowance. But any disabled man in a Princess Christian Home is well looked after by the Soldiers and Sailors' Help Society, and when necessary his pension is supplemented by periodical grants or by a yearly allowance. It will thus be seen that the Cottage Homes for Regiments are not convalescent homes, nor are they in any sense hospitals. The present plan is based on the assumption that the truest charity is to enable a permanently disabled and necessitous man to remain in comfort with his family. The rent-free cottage, with its attendant benefits, meets the need without fear of pauperisation, as all supplementary assistance can be adjusted to the precise requirements of each sufferer. The occupant is selected by the regiment for which the cottage is endowed, and when the man dies, or a vacancy from any cause occurs, the regiment nominates another to fill his place. If this scheme meets with general approval and receives the full support of the nation, enabling every regiment to have not one but several cottage homes for its disabled men, there ought never again to be the scandal of an old soldier, for no fault of his own, ending his days in the workhouse; and a corresponding impetus should certainly be given to recruiting.

Contributions have already been received from a large number of regiments, including many battalions in South Africa, and it is impossible to doubt that it is an encouragement to the soldier to know that some provision is being made for him by his countrymen at home should he, through wounds or disease contracted in the war, be discharged invalided and unable to earn his own livelihood. All the Commanding Officers who have been communicated with, without exception, expressed themselves warmly in favour of the scheme.

The administration of the fund, of which Bro. Lord Brassey is Hon. Treasurer, is in the hands of a General Committee, consisting of Bro. the Lord Mayor of London, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Lord Lieutenants of Counties, and principal collectors, under the presidency of Bro. Field-Marshal Earl Roberts, with a strong Executive Committee, of which Bro. General Sir Redvers Buller is Chairman. Though the collection is being carried on gratuitously without the employment of salaried officers, and expenses are minimised through the kindness of Bro. Lord Roberts in lending his room at the Horse Guards as an office, further help is urgently needed to enable the cottage homes to be established in time for the damaged men now returning, and it is hoped that the friends of the various regiments in their territorial districts and elsewhere may assist, by collections and donations, to complete the required sums for the several homes, or by soliciting from landowners gifts of suitable cottages.

When forwarding contributions it should be stated for which regiment's cottage home each donation is to be reserved. Cheques and postal orders should be crossed "Lloyds' Bank, and made payable to the Hon. Secretary, Prince Christian Victor Memorial Office, Horse Guards, Whitehall.

Craft Masonry.

Liverpool Dramatic Lodge, No. 1609.
INSTALLATION OF BRO. HENRY C. ARNOLD.

More than usual interest was attached this year to the installation of Master of the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge, No. 1609, a ceremony which took place on the 24th ult. at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street. The W.M. elect was Bro. Henry C. Arnold, of the Lyric Theatre, who, besides being hailed as a popular favourite by the members of his own lodge, is widely known and respected in the dramatic profession generally. There was consequently a numerous attendance of brethren belonging to the lodge and of visitors, many of the latter having travelled long distances in order to take part in the proceedings. Of Present and Past Provincial G. Officers there were upwards of 30 in attendance.

Bro. Arnold was presented by Bros. H. W. Sandbrook, P.P.G.D., and W. Savage, P.P.G.T., and during the installation Bros. E. R. Latham, P.P.G.T., acted as S.W.; J. Fineberg, P.A.G.D.C., as J.W.; and John Scott, P.P.G.S. of W., as I.G. The ceremony was impressively conducted by Bro. W. H. Dutton, I.P.M., and Bro. Harry Round, P.P.G.D. The newly-installed Worshipful Master subsequently invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. T. R. Robertson, S.W.; W. G. Hargrave, J.W.; J. J. Hewson, Sec.; Wm. Savage, P.P.G.T., Treas.; H. Round, P.P.G.D., D.C.; Jas. Brown, S.D.; A. T. Parr, J.D.; W. J. Sanderson, I.G.; Wm. Gill, R. B. Had-dock, R. T. Palmer, W. D. Jones, R. G. Parkinson, and W. J. Watmough, Stwds.; A. Workman, Org.; and J. Witt, Tyler. Bro. L. Peake, P.P.A.G.D. of C., was elected Charity Representative.

At the close of the lodge a banquet was held, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

"The Health of the W.M." was drunk with much cordiality. In this connection it is worthy of mention that the lodge has just completed an existence of a quarter of a century, and Bro. Arnold, in taking over the duties of the 26th year, was assured of the loyal support of officers and members, and consequently of a prosperous term of office.

During the evening the I.P.M., Bro. W. H. Dutton, was presented with a Past Master's jewel and clothing, and also with a gold watch, suitably inscribed, as a token of the respect in which he is held by his fellow-members.

In keeping with the traditions of this lodge, the musical programme was of a very high standard, and afforded the utmost pleasure to the company. Among those taking part in it were Bros. Hartwell Jones, T. Jackson, Cliff, J. Scott, Wm. Paull, C. Wood, J. T. Dewhurst, G. Platt, S. Kirkham, W. Lewis, H. Fairfield, J. Thompson, D. H. Griffiths, A. Weber, and A. Workman (accompanist).

St. Leonard's Lodge, No. 2263.
INSTALLATION OF BRO. A. HOWE.

On the 28th ult., the W.M. of the above lodge, Bro. Albert Howe, was installed in the office to which he had been unanimously elected, at the Masonic Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield. There was a large attendance of members of the Grand Lodge, Provincial Grand Lodge, visitors from Sheffield, and other lodges, and nearly the whole of the members of the lodge were present.

The W.M. invested the following officers for the ensuing year: Bros. A. L. Phillips, I.P.M.; R. E. Ariel Wright, S.W.; G. G. Watts, J.W.; Albert Holmes, Chap.; H. T. E. Holmes, Treas.; T. Jeffery, Sec.; C. H. Smith, Asst. Sec.; W. C. Fenton, S.D.; T. S. Fenton, J.D.; J. Sutton, D.C.; J. M. Moulson, A.D.C.; G. A. Shipman, Org.; E. Howarth, I.G.; S. Smith and J. R. Hill, Stewards; and C. Birch, Tyler. Bro. Howarth was absent at Brussels, and Bro. J. W. Shipman acted as his deputy.

The lodge having been closed, a banquet followed, at which about 100 brethren were present.

The musical programme was very interesting, and was contributed to by Bros. W. C. Newton, E. G. Needham, R. C. Honey, P. B. Brown, Frank Harrison, G. A. Shipman, and L. G. Reynolds. Bro. T. S. Fenton was musical director.

An interesting link between the new Master and the guests of the lodge was mentioned by Bro. Muir Wilson, who suggested that in the profession to which all three belong Bro. Binney was grandfather, he (Bro. Wilson) father, and Bro. Albert Howe the son. That referred to the article of the two latter brethren.

Bro. Howe pointed out, amid laughter, that the place of "father" and "son" are reversed in Freemasonry—that is, Bro. Binney came first, Bro. Howe second, and Bro. Wilson third.

A suggestion which has interest outside Masonic circles, and which, we think, was made for the first time, came in the speech of Bro. H. T. E. Holmes. Bro. Holmes is the doyen of the St. Leonard's Lodge, and is a very old and much respected Freemason. Speaking of presentations which had been made to Past Masters of Grand Lodge, he mentioned that in the case of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales no such acknowledgment was possible. But it would be a graceful compliment for the Freemasons of the United Kingdom to subscribe sufficient to erect a statue to King Edward VII. Bro. Holmes suggested that the balance of the funds raised might be placed at the disposal of her Majesty the Queen for Charitable purposes. No statue of the former Prince of Wales has yet been suggested; and if the Masonic lodges hear of the idea which comes from Bro. Holmes, of St. Leonard's, they will not be slow in giving effect to such a timely and appropriate memento of the King's service as Grand Master.

Obituary.

FUNERAL OF BRO. W. WATKINS.

Amidst general signs of regret the remains of Bro. W. Watkins, known to thousands of people throughout the country, passed on the 25th ult. out of the ancient portals of Carnarvon Castle, in which as custodian he had taken a most lively interest during the last 37 years. The deceased went to Carnarvon some 40 years ago as instructor of the Artillery Volunteers, having previously served in the Royal Artillery in this country and abroad. He became Tyler of the Segontium Lodge, No. 606, almost immediately upon his advent to the town, and remained in that office till his death. He was 79 years of age. By the townspeople generally, and especially by his Masonic brethren, he was held in the highest esteem. The funeral was of a public character, and was largely attended, there being present the Mayor, and several members of the Town Council, together with a number of borough magistrates. At the head of the procession were the local corps of 1st Cheshire and Carnarvonshire Artillery Volunteers and its band, followed by the hearse, carriages, general public, and about 30 members of the Segontium and neighbouring lodges. The home lodge was represented by Bros. H. Jones-Roberts, W.M.; Evan Evans, I.P.M.; W. H. Wright, S.W.; Tom Armstrong, J.W.; W. Lloyd Griffiths, S.D.; W. Ellis, J.D.; E. J. Paghe, Stwd.; R. W. Newton, D. of C.; Colonel Owen Thomas, R. J. Davids, John Williams, Caradoc Rowland, J. G. Jones, Colonel C. H. Rees, D. W. Davies, D. T. Edwards, Owen Lewis, W. Iamer, G. E. Humphreys, J. R. Morgan, J. K. Crispin, Alwyne Carter, Dr. John Evans, H. Coleman, T. Newey, and Miller. The visiting brethren were Bros. W. Tegarty and S. T. Harris, 384, and Bro. R. D. Jones, 1113. Large crowds of people were assembled along the streets to Llanbeblig Churchyard, where the interment took place, and *en route* the band played the Dead March in "Saul." The usual Burial Service was conducted by the vicar (Rev. J. W. Wynne Jones, M.A.), after which the impressive oration of the Masonic Order was delivered by Bro. H. Jones-Roberts, W.M. A number of beautiful wreaths had been sent by Sir Llewellyn Turner (Deputy-Constable of the Castle) and Lady Turner, the Segontium Lodge, Working Men's Conservative Club, and others.

Instruction.

HORNSEY CHAPTER, No. 890.

A meeting was held on the 27th ult., at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, Bishop's-road, Paddington, W., when there were present Comps. A. F. Hardyment, J. 1490, M.E.Z.; H. Foskett, M.E.Z. 185, H.; C. Webster, J. 1642, J.; H. Dehane, P.Z. 890, P.P.G.P.S. Essex, S.E.; Walter Hancock, P.Z. 91, 1614, S.N.; H. Foskett, 890, Treas.; H. J. Dunaway, 59, P.S.; A. L. Butters, 1st A.S.; J. M. Huish, H. 185, 2nd A.S.; W. Hillier, P.Z. 834; E. Stevens, 733; and F. Marchant, P.S. 890. Comp. J. W. Smith, 177, was a visitor.

The chapter was opened in ancient form, and the companions admitted. The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Smith being the candidate. The officers were elected for the ensuing two weeks—Comp. Foskett, M.E.Z. Comp. J. W. Smith was elected a member, and acknowledged the compliment. Comps. Hardyment and Dunaway were complimented on their excellent work. After "Hearty good wishes," the chapter was closed.

METROPOLITAN LODGE, No. 1056.

A meeting of the above lodge was held at the Mail Coach, Farringdon-street, E.C. on Friday, the 27th ult.

The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees. The popular and much respected Preceptor, Bro. Weinel, occupied the chair, and afforded a very large assemblage of brethren a great Masonic treat by his excellent rendering of the Three Degrees, and concluded with the installation ceremony. He was ably supported, and at the conclusion a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him. The lodge was then closed.

Bro. Radford will occupy the chair this (Friday) evening.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 1st instant, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., when there were present: Bros. E. Lucas, W.M.; H. Coxen, S.W.; M. Relph, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; A. F. Hardyment, P.M., P.G.D.C. Norfolk, Asst. Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, Treas.; J. Duncan, P.M., Sec.; D. Taylor, S.D.; G. Mortlock, J.D.; E. Richards, I.G.; J. Birks, P.M.; C. Nicole, H. J. Dunaway, G. A. Hopkins, J. A. Reid, H. C. Kerly, H. B. Ranger, W. E. Ranger, F. M. Wenborn, Dr. C. M. Simpson, W. G. Brisby, E. Morris, J. Horstead, E. P. Fischer, T. E. Newman, A. Berliner, Wilson, W. H. Barbey, R. E. Maskall, and C. Weston.

The lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Fischer being the candidate. The ceremony of initiation was afterwards rehearsed, Bro. Kerly being the candidate. Bros. J. A. Reid, W. Wilson, H. B. Ranger, and A. Berliner were elected members of the lodge. Bro. H. Coxen was elected W.M. for the ensuing week and appointed the officers in rotation. The Treasurer's accounts having been audited, were received and adopted. This showing a sufficient balance, a ballot for a Life Subscribership to one of the Charities will take place at the next meeting in accordance with the bye-laws. The permanent officers of the lodge were unanimously re-elected. It was unanimously resolved that the subscription to the *Freemason* be continued. The lodge was then closed.

Masonic and General Tidings.

THE GUILDHALL ART GALLERY.—The permanent collection of pictures was re-opened at the Guildhall Gallery on the 3rd instant.

SIR ARTHUR ARNOLD is unable to resume his duties at the London County Council, as Lady Arnold is lying seriously ill at their country house, Hyde Hill, Dartmouth.

SOUTH KENSINGTON SKETCHING CLUB opens its annual exhibition of holiday sketches on the 14th instant, for a fortnight, in buildings at the back of the Natural History Museum.

VISCOUNT CRANLEY, elder son of Bro. the Earl of Onslow, has been appointed an attache in the Diplomatic Service. He is 25 years of age, and distinguished himself at Oxford.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.—The harvest thanksgiving service will be held on Monday evening next, the preacher being the Rev. G. Hodges, M.A., vicar of St. James, Bury St. Edmunds, and Hon. Canon of Ely.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY.—The company have earned the thanks of the travelling public for the promptitude with which they have issued the time tables announcing their winter train service.

ST. LAWRENCE JEWRY.—The harvest thanksgiving services will be held on Sunday next, Bro. the Rev. J. Stephen Barrass being the preacher. The offertories will be devoted to the general repair, lighting, and decoration fund.

BRO. THE LORD MAYOR has forwarded to the Trades' House of Glasgow a letter of thanks for the casket presented to him with the certificate of freedom. The gifts will be regarded, he says, as a valuable possession of his family.

ADDRESSES WERE DELIVERED at several of the metropolitan hospitals in connection with the opening of the winter session of the medical schools. Professor J. Risien Russell pointed out that there were 1600 fewer practitioners now than eight years ago.

AT A GATHERING of medical men and public officials at Cardiff last night (Thursday) it was resolved to form a branch of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, and a committee was formed to arrange lectures and promote the establishment of an open sanatorium.

FOURPENNY TELEGRAMS.—A North London resident, having recently addressed a letter to Lord Londonderry advocating the introduction of fourpenny telegrams for inland transmission, has received a reply intimating that the Postmaster-General is not able to hold out any prospect of reduction in the present charge.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY'S WILL.—Bro. McKinley's will has been granted probate. He bequeaths his estate to his widow, with the exception of an annuity of 1000 dollars left to his sister, Helen McKinley. The late President's estate is valued at between 225,000 and 250,000 dollars, including life insurance to the amount of 67,000 dollars.

WHITE SPARROWS IN THE CITY.—The unusual sight of several white sparrows may be seen any day in Smithfield Gardens. White sparrows appear in these gardens about the same time every year, and then disappear. During their stay they arouse no little interest, and many people visit the gardens to look upon these singular birds.

RAILWAYS AND BICYCLES.—At a meeting of the General Committee of the National Cyclists' Union, held at the Union offices in Lonsdale Chambers, Chancery-lane, it was reported that legal proceedings were being taken in reference to the loss of two bicycles which had been entrusted to the care of railway companies for conveyance by rail, and for which loss the companies refused to give any compensation.

PREPARATIONS are already being made for the homecoming of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York. The *Ophir* is due at Portsmouth on the 1st of next month, and it is understood that the Navy and Army will participate in the reception. The Royal vessel will be met off the Irish coast by the Channel Squadron and escorted to Spithead, where a flotilla of destroyers, it is anticipated, will lead the way through lines of saluting men-of-war to the harbour. It is expected that the King and Queen will be present.

THE BISHOP OF PETERBOROUGH (Dr. Carr-Glynn) has been turning his knowledge of agriculture to account. Recently his head gardener fell ill, and his lordship was unable to get the grass in the palace-grounds properly cut. He forthwith ordered about 30 sheep to be bought in the local market and put to pasture, and after three weeks' grazing they cleared the episcopal park as clean as if it had been cut with a grass-mower. This work having been accomplished, the bishop sent his flock back to market and sold them at a profit of 3s. a head.

THE ALFRED MILLENARY.—At one of the closing meetings in connection with the celebration of the Alfred Millenary, the Mayor of Winchester, Mr. Alfred Bowker, declared that the success of the commemoration was due largely to the national executive committee, of which Bro. the Lord Mayor of London was the chairman. The time and labour devoted to the movement by, amongst others, Lord Avebury, Sir Arthur Arnold, Sir E. Maunde Thompson, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Mr. R. K. Causton, M.P., Mr. J. K. J. Hitchens, and Mr. William W. Portal, he especially recognised.

THE HOSPITAL SATURDAY FUND.—The committee of the fund met at the offices, Gray's-inn-road, on the 29th ult. The secretary reported that the receipts from the workshops and business houses from January 8th to September 14th, amounted to £1865, being an increase of £737 compared with the total for the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure since January was £1343. During that period 19,550 letters of recommendation to the various participating medical charities (including 928 for convalescent homes) had been issued upon application of the collectors. The annual "special" collection in the industrial establishments (in lieu of the abandoned street collection) will be held on Saturday, the 12th instant.

ON THE 1st instant the Corporation of London inaugurated a public golf course, a novelty in the neighbourhood of the Metropolis. The course is situated at Chingford, and is that played over by the Royal Epping Forest Golf Club during the last 12 years; and the first tee is within three minutes' walk of Chingford Station, which is but 30 minutes' rail from the heart of the City. The course, which was formally opened by the Epping Forest Sub-Committee playing a foursome over it, is in excellent condition, and fully justifies the amount of labour that has been expended on it. The committee is also about to lay out a number of artificial hazards, which should make the ground one of the best round London.

SATURDAY LAST was a busy day with all interested in the municipal government of the City. Michaelmas Day falling on Sunday it became necessary for the inauguration of Sheriffs and the election of a successor to the present occupant of the Civic chair to take place simultaneously. The Common Hall throughout was marked by a unanimity that has seldom been exceeded. The new Sheriffs were inaugurated in the presence of a large gathering of their fellow-livermen, and there was even a more representative assembly at the proceedings connected with the election of the Lord Mayor for the year ensuing. The proceedings were singularly uneventful from first to last; and Sir Joseph Dimsdale had the satisfaction of being returned to the much-coveted position of Lord Mayor without being called upon to give a single pledge, or to answer a single question. Below will be found a full report of the several ceremonies that were observed in the time-honoured fashion.—*City Press*.

BRO. COLONEL T. DAVIES SEWELL returned to town from Cromer last week.

MUCH-NEEDED RAIN has fallen in the north of England, and that parched and thirsty district is hopeful that the oppressive drought has definitely given way.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA has sent a subscription of £10 to the funds of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, of which her Majesty is patron.

MR. WILLIAM WALDORF ASTOR has contributed £10,000 as the nucleus of a fund for providing new and permanent headquarters for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

EARL JERSEY last night (Thursday) inaugurated the extension of Hounslow Polytechnic, which has been established as part of the Middlesex County Council scheme of technical education.

SOCIETAS ROSICRUCIANA IN ANGLIA.—The quarterly convocation of the Metropolitan College will be held at the Restaurant Frascati, Oxford-street, on Thursday, the 10th instant, at 5.30 p.m. precisely.

THE challenge cup given by Major W. H. Greenfell, M.P., for the best shot in the Wycombe detachment of the 1st Bucks Rifle Volunteers has been won by Colour-Sergeant Johnson, with a total score of 507 points (including drills).

FINAL arrangements have been completed for the Leeds Musical Festival, the full rehearsals for which begin at the Town Hall this (Friday) evening. The 358 chorus singers are to be presented with medals, no outsider being allowed this decoration.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Court of Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution will be held at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, this (Friday) evening, at 7 p.m., for the election of children on the several funds and other business.

MR. A. M. TORRANCE, Chairman of the London County Council, opened on the 29th ult. the Battersea Borough Council's central electric generating station. The system has been laid down by the council's own workmen at a cost of upwards of £150,000.

GREAT PREPARATIONS are being made in Manchester to ensure the successful opening of the Royal Military Tournament by Bro. Earl Roberts on Wednesday next. All branches of the Auxiliary Forces in the City and district are being organised to give a fitting reception to the Commander-in-Chief.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR (Bro. the Earl of Halsbury) and Mr. R. W. Hanbury, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, were the chief guests at the Cutlers' Feast at Sheffield last night (Thursday). The newly-elected Master Cutler (Mr. A. R. Ellis) presided over a company which numbered 400.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR (Bro. the Earl of Halsbury) will receive his Majesty's Judges, King's Counsel, Benchers of the Inns of Court, and others at breakfast at the House of Lords on Thursday, the 24th inst., at 12.30, on the occasion of the reopening of the Law Courts for the Michaelmas sittings.

FOUNDERS' DAY at Christ's Hospital is to be celebrated this year on Wednesday, the 23rd instant, by a banquet in the Great Hall, where 500 "Old Blues" will assemble, under the presidency of the Duke of Cambridge, who has been the president of the hospital since 1854. The school will, it is expected, be removed to Harefield next spring.

BRO. LORD ROBERTS has promised to preside over the festival dinner of the Victoria Hospital for Children on November 20th. This engagement is the fulfilment of a pledge given before the gallant Commander-in-Chief was aware that his services would be required in South Africa. The object of the banquet is to raise £25,000 in order to rebuild the wards of the hospital.

BRO. THE LORD MAYOR presided over a Court of Common Council on Thursday, which was occupied for several hours in disposing of an apparently short paper of business. A letter from the Lord Mayor elect, Bro. Sir Joseph Dimsdale, agreeing to accept the office of Lord Mayor, was received with applause, as were the new Sheriffs on their entering the court.

ONE RESULT of the unusually fine and warm weather lately has been an extraordinary crop of mushrooms and fungi. Observant passengers on the London and North Western Railway round Rugby and Tamworth, for instance, this week have been amazed at the quantities to be noted in the rich meadows, and, in the case of the mushrooms, at their noticeable size and symmetry of shape.

SHAMROCK II. again succumbed to the *Columbia*, which has thus won the first two of the five races which decide the possession of the America Cup. Thursday's contest took place in a stiff breeze. The American yacht, after a magnificent struggle, crossed the line 1 min. 34 sec. ahead of her rival; but her actual margin of superiority, after making allowances for the handicap and the difference between the starting times, was 3 min. 15 sec.

QUEEN VICTORIA MEMORIAL.—Following the precedent of previous occasions when a national fund was being raised, the London School Board recently authorised the collection of subscriptions from school children for the memorial to Queen Victoria. The result is now announced, and is highly creditable to the youthful subscribers. Altogether 199 schools contributed, and the total is £105 9s. 1d., made up entirely of copper coins of the realm.

IN THE INTERESTS of higher commercial education the London Chamber of Commerce has organised a course of lectures and classes. The Michaelmas term commences on Monday next. The lectures arranged include commercial geography, banking and currency, commercial and industrial law, machinery of business and commercial history. Spanish classes will be conducted under the direction of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce.

AFRICAN AND CANADIAN POSTAGE STAMPS (the property of a well known foreign collector) fetched high prices yesterday (Thursday) at Pattick's, and upwards of £1000 was realised for the 200 lots disposed of. A Mauritius 21. dark blue, of 1859, with large fillet, went for £27 10s.; an unused 1851 Canadian 121. black for £61; a New Brunswick 1s. mauve, no gum, for £36; a 1s. purple of Nova Scotia, in Mint state, but no gum, for £36; and a Newfoundland 21. scarlet, with part gum, for £49.

AN OPPORTUNITY of communicating with Tristan d'Acunha will be afforded by his Majesty's ship *Beagle*, which will proceed to that island from St. Helena after the arrival there of the mail to be despatched from this country on the 12th instant by the steamship *Ilford*. Correspondence and parcels for Tristan d'Acunha should be posted in time to reach the General Post Office, London, on the evening of the 11th instant. The rate of postage for letters is 1d. per half-ounce and that for parcels 3d. per pound up to 11 lb.

THE LORD MAYOR ELECT (Bro. Sir Joseph Dimsdale, M.P.) has appointed Bro. William Jameson Soulsby, C.B., C.I.E., of the Middle Temple, to be his private secretary during his year of office. Bro. Soulsby has filled the same position in the 26 preceding mayoralties. The Lord Mayor elect has invited his brother, the Rev. Henry C. Dimsdale, Vicar of Christ Church, Watney-street, to be his official chaplain; but, having regard to the pressure of work in his large and populous East-end parish, Mr. Dimsdale has been reluctantly obliged to decline the appointment.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING, who is patron of the Royal South Bucks Agricultural Association, showed his interest in the prosperity of that useful society by giving a silver cup for competition at the annual ploughing match and exhibition of farm and garden produce which took place on the 2nd instant, and also a prize of five guineas for the best ploughman in the field. The exhibition and contests proved very successful, and a gratifying part of the proceedings was the evidence of good feeling existing between farmers and servants, shown by the long periods in which the latter had remained with their employers.

ANGLO-INDIANS AND OTHERS seeking genuine Indian-manufactured condiments, currie stuffs, chutneys, preserves, poppidums, Bombay ducks, Nepaul pepper, &c., send to the original firm, C. Stenbridge and Co., 15, Green-street, Leicester-square, London; and Calcutta. Established 1821. Write for price list. (Removed from 33, Leicester-square.)