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Freemasonry in Dorsetshire.—History of the Province.

(By W. Bro. E. NEWMAN, P.M. 417, P.P.G. Organist.)

HAD the Secretaries of ancient Masonry in Dorset been only half as zealous, and had they displayed a tittle of the fidelity which animates the distinguished brother who now wields the goosequill, the history of that province would not be the fragmentary record it is. There are lodges in the county, as at Poole, where the minutes maintain a splendid continuity and where the brethren can point proudly to a list of members kept with scrupulous regularity since 1765, and yet the Provincial Grand Lodge of Dorset, constituted in 1780, can show no official minutes earlier than 1793. An effort has apparently been made to recover some of the lost history, for in the time-worn old minute book (now in the careful custody of W. Bro. Case, Prov. Grand Secretary) there are entries borrowed from the Poole Lodge minutes referring to a Prov. Grand Lodge being held at Poole in June, 1780. But of what took place prior to 1793, so far as Prov. Grand Lodge is concerned, with the exception of one or two fragmentary references in the Poole minutes, we know absolutely nothing. Worse still, the early minutes that do exist are not original, though their authenticity is beyond all doubt.

There are palpable evidences that the oldest minutes relating to Prov. Grand Lodge are copies from documents now non-existent, they being all in one hand-writing and devoid of signatures. But this regrettable fact notwithstanding, the history of the province is marked by considerable distinction, and the minutes that have survived the destroying hand of time are invaluable from the curious side lights they throw on the quaint habits and fraternal amenities of the period. The figure which looms largest in Dorset Masonry in the late eighteenth century is Thomas Dunckerley, whose life, labour, and letters have been so ably dealt with by Bro. Henry Sadler, Sub-Librarian of Grand Lodge. The impress of Bro. Dunckerley's influence upon early Dorset Masonry is clearly marked. He spent much time at Poole, and that he occasionally "worked" the lodge and chapter there is also clear. Dunckerley, it is said, owed his existence to the then Prince of Wales, but the "bar sinister"



BRO. COLONEL W. E. BRYMER, M.P., DEP. P.G.M.

does not seem to have affected his position among Dorset Masons. He was every inch a Prince. There was, in the words of the waggish, characteristic note which it was the habit of the London Prince of Wales Lodge to append to

the names of its members, "something royal about him," and the activity of Masonic life in this and the neighbouring counties at the time was largely due to his devotion to the Craft and the attraction of his own pseudo-royal personality.



BRO. WHADCOAT, P.P.S.G.W.

Masonry in Dorset has had its alternations of prosperity and decay, and the history of the province is the history of the various lodges. Some of them have at times expired from sheer inanition, but they have always risen phoenix-like from their ashes, and to-day the Prov. Grand Master, W. Bro. Montague Guest, presides over a province which, for its size and comparatively sparse population, is unexcelled for enthusiasm and devotion to sound Masonic principles.

There are evidences of Masonry being actively practised in Dorset very early in the eighteenth century, though the lodges were few. Probably the first lodge constituted was at Weymouth, in 1736. After a few years' struggle it ceased to exist. Lyme Regis had a lodge in 1764, but it was struck off the rolls in 1780; Poole has an unbroken record from 1765; Blandford had a lodge for ten years, from 1771; and Dorchester possessed a lodge, the extinct "Durnovarian," in 1775. As a matter of fact, in 1782-83 the only two regular lodges at work in the county were Poole and Dorchester.

But the history of the province began with the constitution of the Provincial Grand Lodge in 1780, though 1777 is the year assigned to it in the valuable roll of Provincial Grand Masters printed in the Grand Lodge "Calendar." The effect of the formation of Provincial Grand Lodge was to greatly stimulate the practice of Masonic work, and two new lodges were added to the roll in 1786, viz., Sherborne and Shaftesbury. Both unhappily fell into decay and died, the first in 1798 and the latter in 1828, though there are strong lodges in each town to-day.

Thomas Dunckerley spread himself over the Masonry, not only of this, but of the neighbouring counties, in a remarkable manner. But, though his name is associated with Dorset as early as 1777, he was not Provincial Grand Master at that time. He was Provincial Grand Master for Essex and Superintendent of the lodges in Wilts and Dorset. Dunckerley, however, petitioned Grand Lodge to allow him to resign the office of Superintendent and to make him Prov.

Grand Master for Dorset, Essex, Gloucester, and Somerset. This prayer was granted, but the evidence as to the exact date is conflicting. So far as we can ascertain, there is nothing in the possession of the authorities to afford the slightest information as to the original establishment of a Provincial Grand Lodge in Dorset.

Through the courtesy of Bro. Case, we have been afforded access to all the minutes that have come down to him, and which are now preserved with scrupulous care. The earliest record among the documents of the province is a minute of Provincial Grand Lodge held at Sherborne in 1793, Bro. Thomas Dunckerley being then Provincial Grand Master, though he was absent through illness. But, as before remarked, Provincial Grand Lodge was constituted much earlier. Lodge Amity (Poole) claims to have been honoured with the first appearance of the Provincial Grand Lodge, it being held in that town on St. John the Baptist Day of 1780. Bro. Dunckerley took the chair as Provincial Grand Master, and appointed Alexander Campbell, a Poole physician, as Deputy Prov. Grand Master. The Poole Lodge has minutes of the great day, from which we learn that there were "att dinner fifty at five shillings each tickett." Bro. Dunckerley was a man of parts, and his good songs contributed to the mirth, good humour, and jollity that prevailed. A Prov. Grand Lodge was also held at Blandford in 1789. The Acting Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Campbell, presided, and the minutes record that the officers and brethren proceeded "with music in due form" from the town hall to the church. The proceedings at church were not remarkable. Service was followed by "an elegant dinner," the whole concluding with "the order and harmony peculiar to Masonry." But despite these admirable sentiments, Provincial Grand Lodge does not appear to have met again till 1802, or, if it did, the Prov. Grand Secretary of those dim and distant days, has not chronicled the fact.

The Provincial Grand Master died in 1795, and it was probably his illness and decease which accounted for the slackness then existing. It was in 1789 that he began to feel the approach of his impending dissolution. He complained of rheumatism, and told the Deputy Prov. Grand Master that he was getting old and infirm, and he transferred much of his work to the Prov. Grand Secretary. He held a Provincial Grand Lodge at Blandford, however, in that year.

Had Dunckerley lived, the condition of suspended animation that followed would never have been tolerated. He had ruled his provinces with a Draconian severity, and in the Grand Lodge minutes there are entries of his having got one Dorset and one Wilts lodge struck off the list for "contemptuous conduct" in not answering his letters. But whatever the cause, Provincial Grand Lodge did not meet till 1802; and then, at Poole, Sir John Lester was duly appointed to succeed Dunckerley.

Then followed another gap, and we find Provincial Grand Lodge meeting next at Dorchester. A curious and rather pathetic little fact is noted on that occasion. "The case of Bro. Thomas Belcher, who was confined in the gaol at Dorchester as a debtor (so runs the old minute), was laid before the lodge with the strongest recommendations." Bro. Belcher was no criminal, but a debtor, and Prov. Grand Lodge made a subscription and procured his immediate release. The unhappy man came straight from gaol to Provincial Grand Lodge, and was duly introduced, and the minute states "he was completely overwhelmed with joy and gratitude, and was the more affected because he was, by his release, able to return home to his wife, who was confined by a dangerous illness." A dramatic example of the greatest of all Masonic virtues truly! It may not be generally known that it was in Dorchester gaol that Carlile wrote his notorious manual on Freemasonry, he at the time being incarcerated there for sedition.

Sir John Lester did not live long after his installation. On January 12th, 1805, he died, universally respected by the brethren of the province. They desired to attend his remains to the grave in due form which (quoting again from the quaint phraseology of the old minute book), was "only

prevented being carried into effect by the disapprobation of Lady Lester." Sir John was succeeded by another good Poole Mason in the person of Bro. John Jeffery. A fact of some interest to London Masons occurred at the Prov. Grand Lodge held at Bridport in 1807 in honour of the birthday of the Grand Master. It was the presentation of a petition from Lodge 113, held at the White Swan, Shoe Lane, London, for removal of the lodge to Weymouth. The London petitioners, in their prayer, meekly promised to "exert their best endeavours to promote the general principles of Masonry" in their new habitat, if their application was acceded to, but the Prov. Grand Master refused to countenance the admission of No. 113 into his province. It was, he said, his earnest wish to cultivate harmony in his province and not to do anything which, either immediately or remotely, might create jealousy or dissension. The Prov. Grand Master deemed it necessary to say that "Lodge 113 must get a recommendation from Weymouth lodge before their proposal could be entertained." Nothing more was heard of the London invasion.



BRO. R. CASE, PROV. G. SECRETARY.

Provincial Grand Master Jeffery died in 1809, but three years elapsed before his successor, Bro. William Williams, was installed. The latter's was a brilliant rule, his Mastership extending over a period of twenty-seven years. He owed his appointment largely to his friendship with the Duke of Sussex, and he contributed in no small degree to the "blessed union" of December, 1813. It may be said that prior to that happy event a good deal of confusion existed in Dorset, as elsewhere, and the union of the "Ancients" and the "Moderns" marked the commencement of the most prosperous era of Dorset Masonry. Bro. Williams's first Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Dorchester, when the brethren went in Masonic state to St. Peter's Church, and Bro. Richman read the prayers. This said Bro. Richman had always had a presentiment that he would meet a violent death of the very type that awaited him. He and his wife were killed in their bed by the fall of a chimney during the great gale in November, 1824.

At this Provincial Grand Lodge a letter was read from the Duke of Sussex, in which he alluded to the "harmony now fast approaching between the two fraternities." All Master Masons were re-obligated according to the form settled at the date of union. In 1816 Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Weymouth for the purpose of dedicating the new Masonic Hall. This was a brilliant ceremony, and the remarkable *penchant* of the Masons of that day for public parade and music was evidenced by the fact that the

23rd Light Dragoons attended the ceremony accompanied by their band. (The Dragoons in those days appear to have been no mean Masons. One of the earliest lodges was that attached to the 7th Dragoon Guards, meeting at Weymouth, which was erased in 1824.) The minutes gallantly add that "a number of fashionable ladies who attended were highly gratified by the speeches delivered by several distinguished Masons." The painful task of the Provincial Grand Master in dismissing the said ladies when the Masonic rites commenced is alluded to with quaint humour. But Bro. Williams's chair was no bed of roses. An attack emanating from Blandford was made upon him of "flagrant and un-Masonic conduct," which deserved expulsion from the Craft (as the terms of the motion made by the accusing brother put it). As to what the exact un-Masonic conduct was there is no entry, but at the next Provincial Grand Lodge at Shaftesbury an address was presented to Bro. Williams congratulating him on "defeating the attack." There is a good deal of obscurity about the matter, but it is at least certain that the Prov. Grand Master enjoyed the confidence of the province throughout his long career.

In May, 1819, Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Poole, when a familiar Masonic trouble cropped up. It was resolved that the Provincial Grand Master should propose in Grand Lodge a law to be applied to every province "that no person who resides in or near a town where there is a lodge shall be made a Mason in any other lodge without a certificate to his character from some lodge near to which he resides." There are few Masons who at some time or another have not wished that some such law as that now prevailed for the better government of Masonry and for the exclusion of undesirable members.

In 1829 Provincial Grand Lodge took place at Bridport, when the sermon was preached by the Rev. R. Broadley, the grandfather of Bro. A. M. Broadley, a distinguished Mason, who is now a member of the local lodge. The Provincial Grand Master found his health failing about this time, and he resigned, though he recovered sufficiently to resume his duties. In 1835 he was presented with a magnificent candelabra at the Provincial Grand Lodge at Sherborne.

Next year a remarkable incident occurred at Wareham, where Prov. Grand Lodge was held. It was no less than the refusal of the pulpit of the parish church for the Masonic sermon by the Rev. R. Fayle. The ancient minutes seem to breathe the wrath of the outraged Masons, who, in a resolution passed in Prov. Grand Lodge, uttered stately sentiments of protest against an act which cast so black a stigma on "a society so ancient and honourable, based on the Volume of the Sacred Law, whose characteristics are Faith, Hope, and Charity, and on the Sovereign of these realms, the Patron of the Order and the temporal head of the Church of which this person is a minister." With fine scorn Prov. Grand Lodge hoped and believed that "the feeling which prompted this extraordinary conduct was to be found only in the breast of the reverend gentleman."

In 1839 Provincial Grand Master Williams died, and a memorial to his memory was erected by the Craft in the church at Littlebredy, of which Bro. Colonel Williams, M.P., is the patron. He was succeeded by Bro. W. Eliot, who was installed in 1839 at Poole.

Masonry had reached a low ebb in Dorset, and dull and uninteresting are the records for some years. It is noteworthy, however, that the Provincial Grand Chapter was formed during Bro. Eliot's rule, and he was appointed Grand Superintendent of the Royal Arch in 1841, holding his first Provincial Grand Chapter on November 4th of that year. It must not be imagined, however, that Royal Arch Masonry received its inception at this time. Not only the Royal Arch, but other more select Degrees were practised in a more or less regular way in the eighteenth century. Prior to the Union of 1817, there were in all five chapters chartered. They were—"Amity" (Poole), 1780; "Durnovarian" (Dorchester), 1780; "Weymouth," 1783; "Philanthropy" (Shaftesbury), 1803-4; and "All Souls" (Weymouth), 1807.

We have it on no less an authority than Bro. Hughan that one of the first Knights Templar Encampments warranted in England, late in the eighteenth century, by Bro. Dunckerley himself, was the "Durnovarian" at Dorchester. In a letter written from Hampton Court on January 27th, 1792, Bro. Dunckerley, then nearly seventy years old, states that he had been selected to revive the latter Order in England, and he there alludes to the constitution of a conclave at Dorchester. It was held at the Royal Oak in that town, but its existence was very brief. It will thus be observed how imperfectly the existing official minutes record the real Masonic history of the province.

Returning to Provincial Grand Lodge, whose minutes reflect the steady increase of activity as we draw nearer our own time—even though they lack the picturesque details of the older documents—we learn that Bro. Eliot resigned in 1846, and was presented with a handsome piece of plate on his retirement. He was succeeded by Bro. W. Tucker, who continued to hold the office and summon a Provincial Grand Lodge yearly until 1854. He lost his office under extraordinary circumstances. He committed the grave Masonic offence of appearing at the Provincial Grand Lodge in the clothing of a Knights Templar, for which he was summarily dismissed by the Grand Master. The province lost by this act of indiscretion—so strange in so good a Mason—one of the best Provincial Grand Masters who ever ruled over it. He was presented with an address by Weymouth Lodge, and his reply, as set forth in the Weymouth Lodge minutes, is most touching in its character. The Grand Master appointed as his successor Bro. H. R. Willett, of Wimborne, then Prov. Junior Grand Warden. He held office until 1858, when he died. The province then remained under the control of the Grand Registrar for a year, and no Provincial Grand Lodge was held in 1858. In 1859 Bro. Gundry was appointed Provincial Grand Master, and was installed at a lodge held at Bridport in that year. A Provincial Grand Lodge has been held regularly ever since.

In 1867, Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Weymouth, when the centenary of "All Souls" Lodge was held. Poole had celebrated its centenary two years earlier. On February 9th, 1877, Bro. Gundry died, and was succeeded by the present Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Montague J. Guest. He was installed at a Provincial Grand Lodge held at Wimborne on May 12th, 1877, when the brethren were entertained at dinner in the splendid banqueting hall at Canford House by the noble brother of the new Provincial Grand Master, Lord Wimborne, then Sir Ivor Guest, Bart. Bro. J. P. F. Gundry was made Deputy Provincial Grand Master at that meeting, being succeeded in 1879 by Bro. Colonel Hambro, M.P. The latter, on his death, was succeeded by the present popular Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Col. Brymer, M.P. The great work of the existing *régime* under Bro. Montague Guest has been the constitution of the Dorset Masonic Charity. The by-laws of this splendid organisation were formally approved in 1881, and it commenced its career of benevolence and practical charity in that year with the late Bro. Budden as Secretary, Bro. H. Burt ("Charity Burt") as Chairman, and Bro. W. D. Dugdale, as Vice-Chairman. This Charity has ever since received the loyal support of the lodges and brethren of the province, and its invested funds now amount to over £4000. The present indefatigable Secretary is Bro. S. R. Baskett, Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden. On December 4th, 1883, the last Masonic funeral service sanctioned by Grand Lodge took place at Manston House, where Bro. Capt. Hanham, P.P.S.G.W., was cremated, a special crematorium being built for the purpose. A dispensation was granted to the province allowing brethren to attend the impressive rites in full Masonic clothing. A large concourse of Masons attended, and at night the remains were reverently cremated. The history of the province since Bro. Montague Guest's appointment has been one of steady and regular progress. The lodges are now fifteen in number, and the membership roll reaches the large figure of 881, with 251 Past Masters.

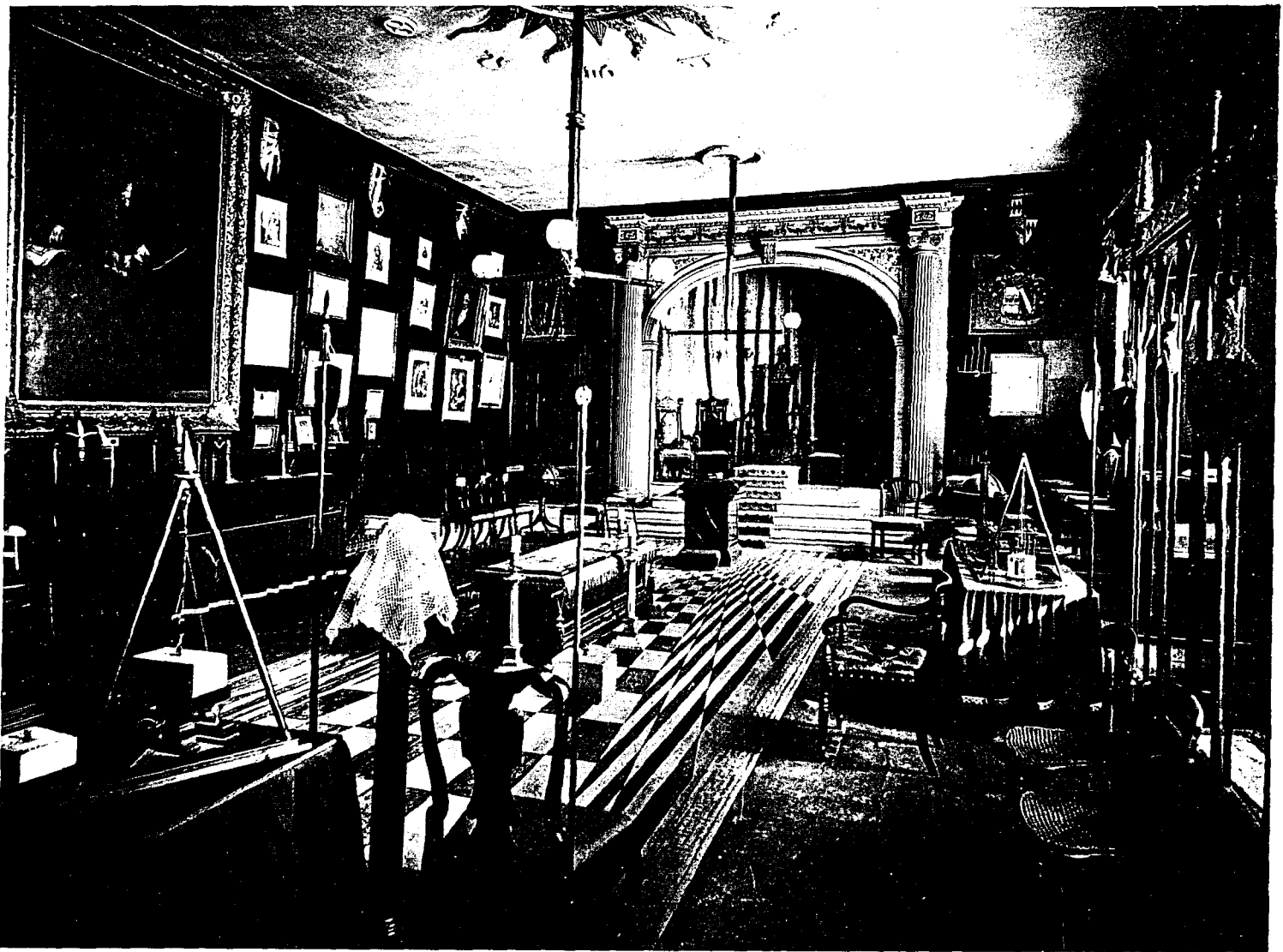
The Provincial Grand Chapter, dating it from its official organisation, is a comparatively modern institution. Comp. Eliot was appointed first Provincial Grand Superintendent in 1841, and Provincial Grand Chapters were held by him in that year, and in 1847, 1849, 1850, and 1851. He was succeeded by Comp. Willett, who held his first and only Provincial Grand Chapter in Weymouth on September 16th, 1857. He died soon after, and the chair remained vacant until 1861, when Comp. Gundry was appointed. He held his first Provincial Grand Chapter in 1862. Comp. Gundry was succeeded by Comp. Montagu (a most worthy Mason), who was followed by Comp. Montague Guest, who has filled the first chair of the province ever since. There are ten chapters at the present time, and all are in an exceedingly healthy condition. The oldest chapter is Poole, whose charter dates back to 1780.

The present P.G.S.E. is M.E. Comp. W. Barlow Morgan, whose conspicuous services were rewarded last year with Grand Chapter honours.

Beyond all question, the first lodge constituted in the province was at Weymouth in 1736, but it only existed for a few years, and was erased in 1754.

The history of these first beginnings of Masonry in Weymouth is lost in the mists of antiquity, and it is not even known where the first lodge met. Several others followed and had a fugitive existence, including the "Arimathea," a memento of which exists to this day in a cushion upon which the Volume of the Sacred Law reposes in the Dorchester Lodge! Needless to say, Weymouth Masons would like that cushion. The history of "All Souls," the present Weymouth Lodge, began on October 24th, 1767, and then not in Weymouth, but at the Vine Tavern, Tiverton, in Devonshire. It appears that a fire occurred at the Vine, and the Masons were burnt out and their warrant burnt.

There had been a "Weymouth" Lodge in 1776, which was erased in 1785, and the late Bro. Zillwood Milledge, in his admirable records, established beyond reasonable doubt the fact that the members of "Weymouth" Lodge were the



INTERIOR OF ALL SOULS LODGE (LOOKING EAST).

Mark Masonry is fairly flourishing in the province. Colonel Brymer, M.P., is Provincial Grand Mark Master, and five Mark lodges owe him allegiance.

There are only two Preceptories in the province, held at Weymouth and Wimborne. Sir R. N. Howard is V.E. Prov. Prior. The warrant of Weymouth Preceptory is dated 1847, and the Wimborne, 1867.

The Priory of the Order of Malta and the Rose Croix Chapter are held at Weymouth. The latter warrant has date 1852.

Coming to the records of the individual lodges, it may be stated, on Bro. W. J. Hughan's authority, that though there are now fifteen thriving lodges in existence, and two or three of them of great antiquity, the warrants of only two of them bear the eighteenth century date, namely, Poole and Weymouth. Between these two lodges not a little friendly rivalry exists as to pride of place, and after examination of the facts it will be admitted to be a case of *primus inter pares*.

founders of "All Souls" Lodge in Weymouth. On the petition of the members of the "Weymouth" Lodge, the warrant of "All Souls" was removed in 1803 from Tiverton to Weymouth, and the first meeting of "All Souls" Lodge, in Weymouth, was held in June, 1804, the furniture and jewels of the defunct "Weymouth" Lodge being used. For several years the lodge continued to meet at the King's Head; then at the Royal Hotel, and removed to the Masonic Hall in 1816. A warrant of confirmation was granted in 1866 and a centenary jewel in 1867.

That the first lodge was constituted at Weymouth, even the most ardent Poole Masons will not deny, but it is in its unbroken continuity that "Amity" Lodge, Poole, enjoys a proud pre-eminence. As a matter of fact, Poole was the third lodge constituted, both Weymouth and Lyme Regis preceding it, but Poole is not unwilling to give Weymouth whatever advantage it may be entitled to from its brilliant if broken history, so long as it is not denied the high title of

being the oldest lodge in Dorset at the present time. Lyme is out of the running, for it was erased after only sixteen years' troubled existence, and its present warrant is only forty-five years old.

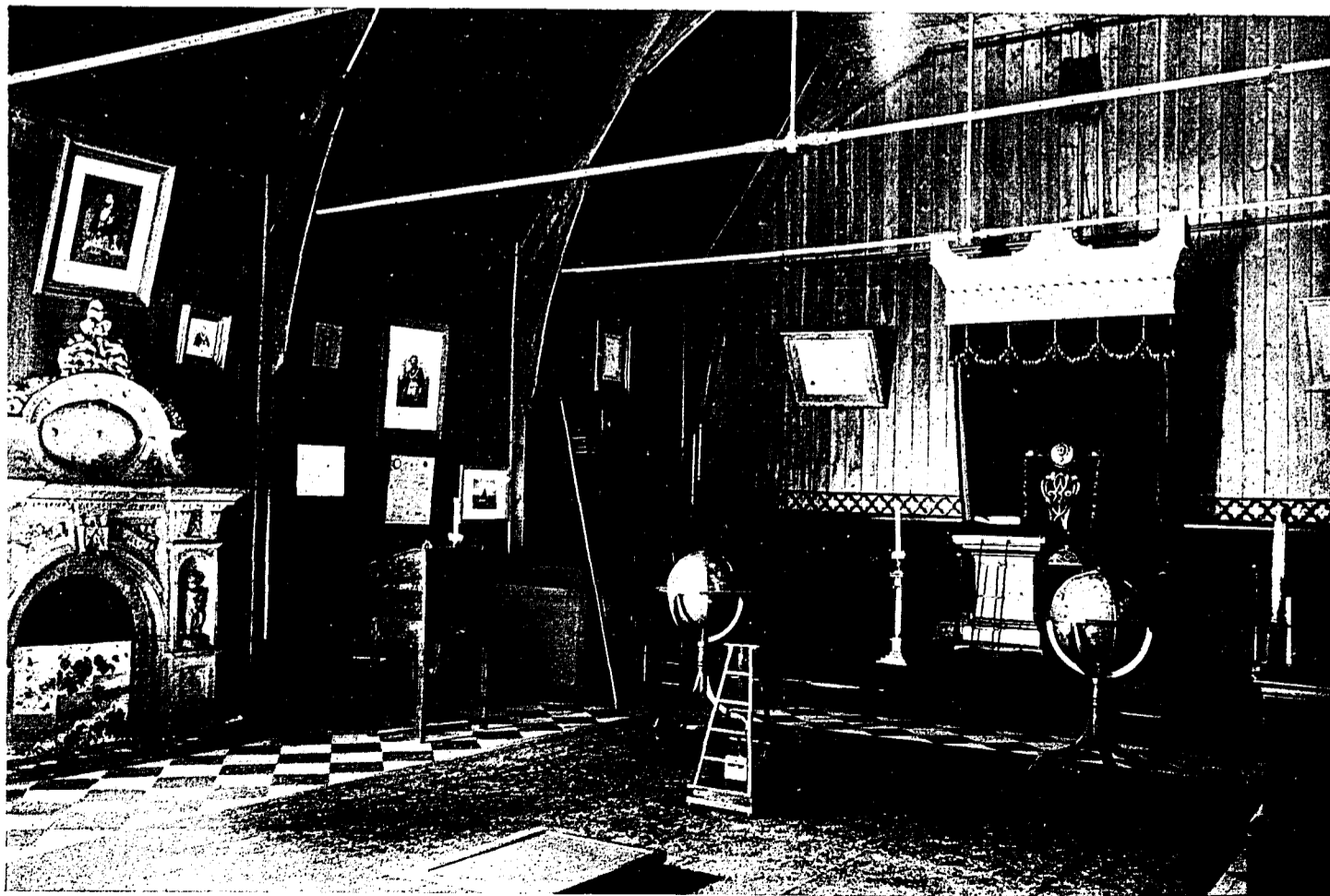
Poole has a splendid and uninterrupted record dating from 1765, receiving its centenary jewel two years before Weymouth. Its number has been altered six times, but its name, never. The number was originally 338; it is now 137. So far as we can learn, the Poole Masons did not choose their name till 1778. The earlier minutes are quaint and interesting, and the most remarkable feature is the severity with which those ancient Masons came down on offending brethren. In one case we read that an unfortunate brother, Nathaniel Brooks, "not having visited the lodge since his arrival this season" was summarily expelled; and another, Thomas Mercer, was similarly dealt with for being absent six nights in succession. There were Masonic giants in those days! "Amity" Lodge has had several meeting places in its long history, and did not settle in its present commodious habitat till 1881, when the premises were purchased and adapted and vested in trustees.

As already stated, the first Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Poole in 1780 by Bro. Thomas Dunckerley, Prov. Grand Master. Bro. Dunckerley was always a good friend to Lodge "Amity," and one of the most cherished of the lodge's possessions is that distinguished Mason's portrait, done by Bro. P. Van Dyke about 1785. Dunckerley frequently visited the lodge, and on one occasion (so the minute runs), August 12th, 1783, "the day was spent in good order and decorum by the brethren on the water with Bro. Dunckerley in honour of the Prince of Wales's birthday, and the evening was concluded with grand fireworks by Bro. Ford." Dunckerley often presided in the lodge, and we read of his initiating two brethren at least. It will at once be seen with what good reason Poole Masons cherish the memory of Thomas Dunckerley and prize his portrait. Bro. Philip Van Dyke, the painter, was initiated in the Caledonian Lodge, London, in 1777, and exalted in the "Durnovarian" Chapter at Dorchester about 1783. It is believed there is only one other portrait of Dunckerley extant, and that at Bristol. The picture was engraved, but there are only one or two copies in existence.

Dunckerley continued his patronage of Poole lodge until his death in 1795. Poole has supplied two Provincial Grand Masters to the province and three Deputy Provincial Grand Masters. Lodge "Amity" is rich in "furniture," the gifts by grateful brethren having been numerous and costly, but there is none more prized than the famous "biscuit," which is an object of interest to all who visit the lodge. There is a strong Royal Arch chapter, with warrant dated 1780, and a Mark lodge (consecrated 1871), which, after being in abeyance for several years, was revived in 1897.

"All Souls" Lodge, Weymouth, is one of the handsomest and best equipped lodges in the provinces. The lodge room is magnificently fitted up, and the richness of the furniture and the wealth of paintings give it an air of opulence and warmth of colour seldom seen. The oldest gift in the lodge is the cushion on which the Volume of the Sacred Law—a valuable Black Letter Bible, dated 1640—now rests. The cushion was given by Bro. Gould in 1776. The minutes of the lodge have revealed many interesting facts which we cannot from lack of space go into. The lodge is one of the strongest and perhaps the wealthiest in the province, and a glance at the illustration will indicate what a palatial home Masonry has in Weymouth. "All Souls" has supplied some of the best of Masons who ever saw the light, and the "Historical Notes," published a few years ago by W. Bro. Zillwood Milledge, is an unique record of splendid Masonic work. Bro. Milledge, we regret to say, died quite recently. Attached to "All Souls," besides the Royal Arch chapter and Mark lodge, is a Knights Templar preceptory, a priory of the Order of Malta, and a Rose Croix Chapter.

"Faith and Unanimity" Lodge, Dorchester, No. 417, is of comparatively recent origin, but behind it lies a history scarcely surpassed in interest by any lodge in the province. The first lodge of which any records exist, was the "Durnovarian," founded in 1774, being one of the four lodges existing at that time in Dorset. In 1782-8, there were only three lodges at work in the county, of which "Durnovarian" was one. There was also a chapter in existence here, and though scant records remain there are incidental references to it.



INTERIOR OF AMITY LODGE, POOLE.

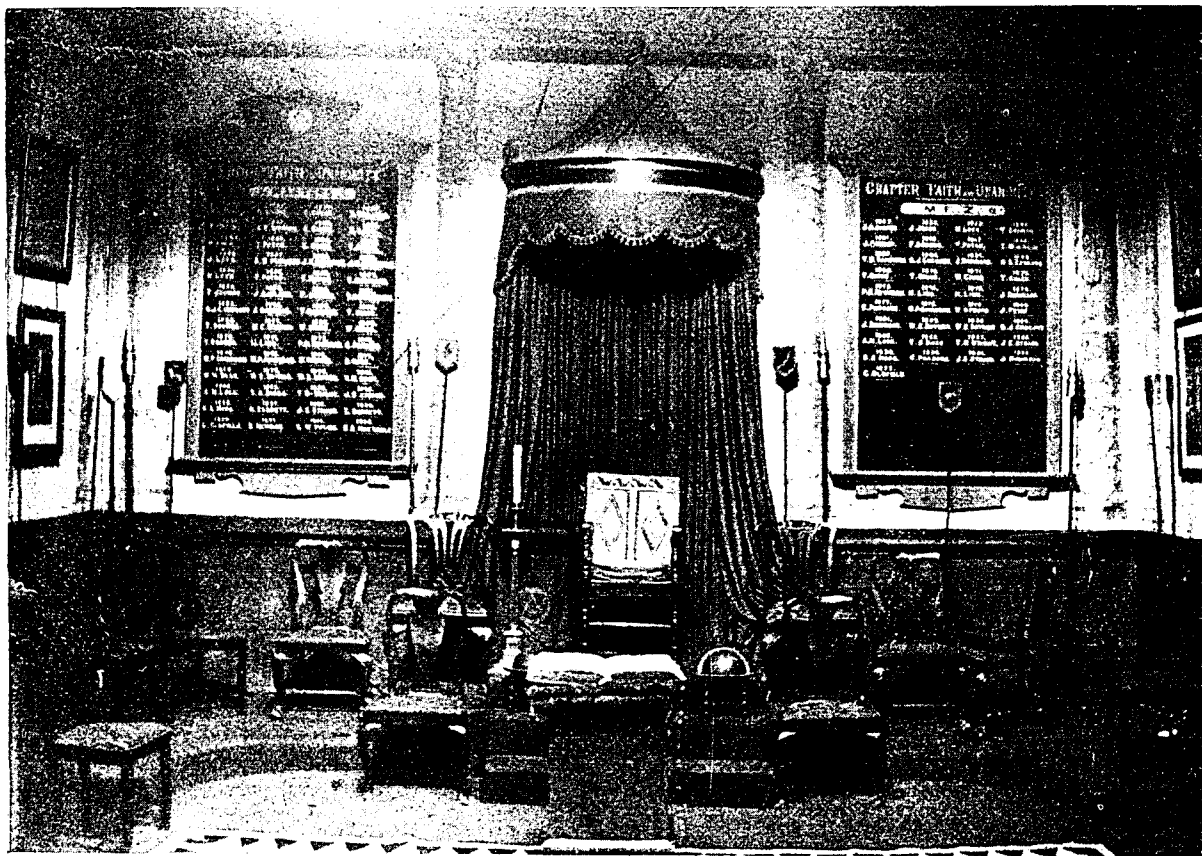
The first Knights Templar conclave in Dorset on record was held in Dorchester, for Dunckerley constituted one at the Royal Oak in 1792, and is known to have attended it. It will thus be seen that Dorchester's boast of antiquity is not vain. "Durnovarian" Lodge, however, suffered a melancholy fate, for continuing until 1830 as 395 it ceased to exist. For four years Masonry was dormant here, and in 1834, when it rose from its ashes, by some strange lack of wisdom, the brethren of the day revived the Craft under the less distinctive name of "Faith and Unanimity." The old chapter, Knights Templars, and Mark lodge perished with the ancient name, and a new era of Masonry was begun. The lodge, started on such pious principles sixty-three years ago, has continued to this day in various habitations, but since 1856 in the present Masonic Temple, of which an illustration is given.

Several years ago an effort was made to revive the old name, "Durnovarian," around which so many warm Masonic associations cluster, but, unfortunately, it failed to excite that sentiment of enthusiasm for "the old order" that might have been expected. Dorchester has both a strong lodge and chapter, and the fact that the present popular Deputy Prov. Grand Master first saw the light here, and is a fervent and zealous working member, lends to Masonry in the county town no little prestige.

there being a great similarity of visage throughout the sketches. Unhappily the old minute books, from 1771 to 1781 and from 1842 to 1851, have completely disappeared.

The old lodge struggled on till 1833, but at what precise date it stopped cannot be learnt, as the minutes of the final meetings were on loose sheets, and from such *disjecta membra* little authentic information can be gleaned. The lodge was closed by consent, and the furniture "lent" to various lodges. Shaftesbury has the old Master's chair, and there is a hope that some day Shaftesbury may be magnanimous enough to return it. On the authority of Bro. Hughan, there was another lodge constituted in 1842 as 714 and erased in 1851, but of this, alas! no records exist, or Bro. Turner would assuredly have found them. The date of the present warrant is 1869, and since that date "Honour and Friendship" has flourished abundantly. There is no Royal Arch chapter here, though there was one in existence as long ago as 1823. The lodge room, as our illustration shows, is a large and handsome chamber, and is embellished with many valuable Masonic engravings, the gift of Bro. Turner, who, as a recognition of his conspicuous services, received a P.M.'s jewel and an illuminated address in 1889.

One of the oldest lodges in the province is at Shaftesbury though its present warrant bears the recent date of 1840.



INTERIOR OF FAITH AND UNANIMITY LODGE, DORCHESTER.

The only other South Dorset lodge is at Portland, which, though less than forty years old, is numerically the strongest in the province. It is largely used by service brethren, both Naval and Military. Masonry in Portland has prospered abundantly of late years. A large and handsome Temple, erected a year or two ago, is an abiding symbol of the vitality of the Craft on this rocky "island."

Blandford, with a history of no mean degree, has the reputation of being one of the best-worked lodges in the province. As far back as 1771 a lodge was at work here, but ten years saw its end. According to the admirable history by W. Bro. G. E. Turner, Masonry was not revived here till the year of Waterloo. All records of the old lodge have disappeared, but in his search through the later minutes now in existence Bro. Turner found much quaint and interesting history. There appears also to have been a strong artistic faculty in the scribes of the times, for they had a curious habit of illuminating the pages of the minute book with pen and ink sketches. He thinks the exaggerated features of the "man in the moon" refer to some brother,

Dunckerley often alluded to the "Shaston" Lodge, and the old minute book gives particulars of the foundation in 1786 under the name it now bears, "Friendship and Sincerity." One of the earliest Provincial Grand Lodges was held here in honour of the birthday of the Royal Grand Master in 1792. There are two other lodges in North Dorset, namely, "Benevolence" (Sherborne) and "King's Court" (Gillingham). The latter is quite a new creation (1897). With regard to Sherborne, the warrant is dated 1867, but, as stated earlier, Masonry flourished here long anterior to that date. There was a lodge here in 1786—in fact, the earliest records now extant, refer to a Provincial Grand Lodge held at Sherborne in 1793. Unfortunately all the old minutes and papers are non-existent. There are very few brethren still on the rolls (of whom W. Bro. Louis H. Ruegg, P.P.S.G.W., is one) who petitioned for the revival under the new number, 1168.

Among the West Dorset lodges, Lyme Regis has probably the greater antiquity, though the brethren are apparently unaware of the fact. The statement of the local authority that "nothing pertaining to ancient Freemasonry

existed in Lyme previous to the opening of Lodge 'Montagu,' by the founder of that name in 1856," is obviously an error. Its history may be rather inglorious, but it has a history. In 1778, the Grand Secretary informed Grand Lodge that a complaint had been received from Bro. Dunckerley that "Royal Edwin" Lodge, Lyme Regis (*vide* Sadler's "Dunckerley"), had in a contemptuous manner neglected to answer his letters. For the said contempt, and the lodge remaining contumacious, it was struck off the rolls in 1780. Since 1856, Masonry has done better here, despite the inaccessibility of the place, and the members are still inspired by the memory of that good man, Bro. Montagu. Bridport's warrant is dated 1857, but there was an old lodge of which little is known, and the old Bible is witness to the fact. Its old title was "Royal George," and its constitution was dated 1804. Beaminster, the third of the trio of West Dorset lodges, is a young lodge (1871), but considering the smallness of the place, Masonry is vigorous there.

In East Dorset, besides Poole (already alluded to), there are several strong lodges. The old town of Wimborne has an admirable lodge, "St. Cuthberga," and under the shadow of the fine old minster Masonry thrives. The first minutes in existence are dated 1853. The present Provincial Grand Master, W. Bro. Montague John Guest, was initiated in this lodge in 1867, and filled the office of Worshipful Master in 1874. Several old engravings were presented to his mother lodge by him, amongst them one of the three extant of a Masonic procession in London. This is of great value, being

an original of the many copies seen in modern lodges. The lodge has had a successful career, and on more than one occasion the members have done useful work in connection with their neighbouring lodges. This has been especially the case in respect to the Wareham lodge, the chair of which several of the Wimborne brethren have filled from time to time.

"Unity" Lodge, Wareham, has however an older warrant, 1827, and an interesting history, though it is difficult to ascertain the facts. "De Moulham" (Swanage), is a young lodge, with some good and hard-working Masons on its roll. The other East Dorset lodge is at Branksome ("St. Aldhelm's"), formed in 1895 under good auspices.

We are able to give with this article, portraits of the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Whadcoat, Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden, and the Provincial Grand Secretary. It is worthy of special note that W. Bro. Case, who for so many years has been the trusted Prov. Grand Secretary, wears the Past rank collar of Grand Sword Bearer of England, which he received from the Grand Master at the Diamond Jubilee meeting at the Royal Albert Hall in 1897 in recognition of his conspicuous and zealous services. The year previously he received Past rank honours as P.S.G.W. The other Dorset brethren now living who have attained to Grand Lodge rank (besides the Provincial Grand Master and the Deputy Provincial Grand Master) are Lord Stalbridge, Rev. W. M. Heath, Sir R. N. Howard, and Colonel Chaloner.

Installation Meeting of the Royal Warrant Holders Lodge, No. 2789.

THE third installation of this highly prosperous lodge took place at the Café Royal, Regent Street, W., on October 24th, when W. Bro. Thos. Blewett Tipton, P.M. 2550, was installed as Worshipful Master in a very



BRO. THOMAS BLEWETT TIPTON.

dignified and impressive manner by W. Bro. Daniel Mayer, Past Grand Deacon, who was the first Master of the lodge, in the presence of a number of Grand Officers and dis-

tinguished brethren. The addresses were delivered by Bro. Heming, P.M.

At the banquet which followed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

Replying to the toast of "The Grand Officers," the Rev. Canon Brownrigg said that he had the full weight of this important toast upon his shoulders as his brother Grand Officers had deserted their posts, but as it happened, it was a particularly pleasing duty, as he took a special and serious interest in the Royal Warrant Holders Lodge, because at the consecration he had foretold a glowing future, and had not proved a false prophet so far. He felt strongly that such a lodge would become a factor for extending the high prestige and dignity of the Craft, and a pattern for other lodges by preserving its high tone and all that is sacred in Masonry. It was in such attributes that the lodge did and would hold its own.

The toast of "The Worshipful Master" was proposed by Bro. W. M. Wilson, P.M., D.C. He expressed his confidence that Bro. Tipton would prove a worthy successor to those good Masons who had preceded him. He had a good record as a boon comrade and excellent officer.

The Worshipful Master, in reply, said he was much gratified at having arrived at the high position of Master of a lodge so dear to his heart, and which had grown out of that important body, the Royal Warrant Holders Association. He felt sure all the members of the lodge would rally round him, and for his part he would endeavour to become worthy of the flattering things which had been said of him.

The other usual toasts followed, and the whole of the proceedings, as well as the excellently rendered programme of songs, sketches, and recitations, left no doubt in the minds of the visitors that the management of the lodge is in good hands, and that energy is one of their particular characteristics.

Death of Bro. George Kenning.

THE death of Bro. George Kenning, which took place suddenly on the 26th of October, removes from the Masonic world a name long familiar to the Craft at home and abroad; but it is something more than a name removed from the roll of members of our Fraternity. His was a strong personality—full of energy—far seeing in the view he took early in life of the future of Freemasonry, and of the increasing strength and popularity of the Order. This is evidenced by the fact that at a time when the Body numbered probably little more than a third of its present strength, he laid himself out with much enterprise, not only to provide the Craft with outward adornments, but perhaps more ardently, and certainly with a smaller prospect of pecuniary gain, to minister to their intellectual wants by inaugurating a series of Masonic publications which have contributed largely to the knowledge which the average Mason now possesses of the history and objects of the Fraternity.

So long ago as 1869, Bro. Kenning gathered around him the little Masonic coterie then existing in the persons of Bros. W. J. Hughan, the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, Wentworth Little, and one or two others, and commenced the publication of the *Freemason*, which was a second attempt at providing a weekly newspaper wholly devoted to the interests of the Craft; and considering the obstacles which beset the path of the Masonic journalist and the almost insuperable difficulties in the way of popularising and rendering of interest the records of a Body which does not seek advertisement, and whose real interests are largely of an esoteric character, it must be admitted that the attempt has met with a fair amount of success.

The *Freemason* was followed in 1872 by the *Masonic Magazine*, a monthly publication, of which nine annual volumes were issued, and which ceased to exist in December, 1882. The *Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar* was also commenced about the same time, and continues to provide useful information, mainly in relation to what are termed the higher Degrees at home and abroad.

Following the example of the late Bro. Richard Spencer, who may be justly considered the pioneer of Masonic publishers, and whose series of works by the late Dr. Oliver and other Masonic writers of that period date so far back as 1845. Bro. Kenning issued from time to time many works of interest by Bros. Hughan, Woodford, and others, notably Kenning's *Masonic Encyclopedia*, which was edited by the late Bro. Woodford and largely contributed to by Bro. Hughan. This was followed by many other works of interest to Masonic readers, and it may be truthfully asserted that no one has done more to foster a spirit of enquiry and an intelligent interest in Masonry than our departed brother.

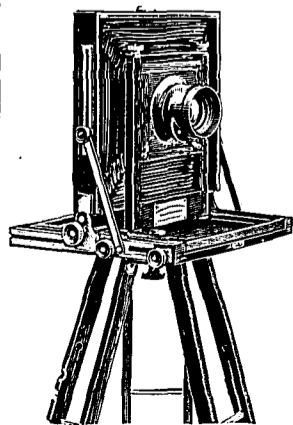
It need hardly be added that one so devoted to Masonry could not but be the recipient of many honours and appointments, but his Masonic career extended over so long a period, and the offices he held were so numerous, that our space will



THE LATE BRO. GEORGE KENNING.

not admit of even a short outline of his services in the various Orders and Degrees of which he was a member. We cannot, however, omit to record his many and generous gifts to the Masonic Charities. He had years ago qualified himself and other members of his family as Patrons of the three Institutions, indeed his name was rarely absent from the list of contributors to any public or private fund in connection with Freemasonry, and many recipients of his private bounty will lose in him a sympathetic and generous friend.

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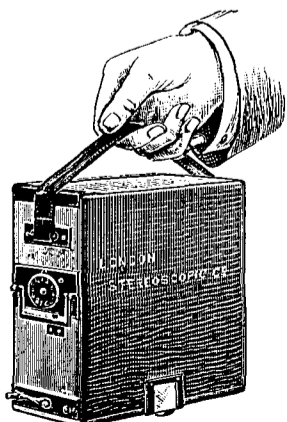


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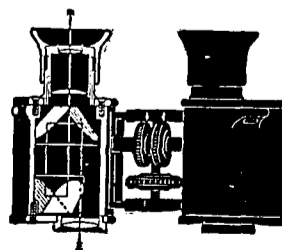
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The War.

IN the area covered by the military operations in South Africa there are no less than ninety-nine lodges which owe allegiance to the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, and whose numbers are borne on the register of the Grand Lodge of England, twenty-three under the Scottish Constitution, and four under the Irish, as well as lodges holding under warrants from the Dutch Grand Lodge. Thus there are 126 lodges wherein are meeting, in bond of Masonic brotherhood, our own kith and kin.

The English lodges are grouped, for purposes of local government, under five Districts. The Central Division contains eight lodges, the Eastern Division thirty-three, the Western Division (of which the Very Rev. the Dean of Cape Town is District Grand Master) fifteen, Natal has eighteen, and the Transvaal twenty-five. There are also sundry unattached lodges making their returns direct to the Grand Secretary. These meet for the most part in unannexed territories, or protectorates, as they are sometimes called.

Masonically, therefore, South Africa is by no means the least important part of the British Empire. It may be

visionary, but who knows whether or not in the future the Grand Lodge of South Africa is destined to accomplish what diplomacy and the sword have failed in doing in that unhappy country. The experiences of our brethren must be worth telling. Nothing apparently has been allowed to interfere with the performance of duty. Displaying neither rashness on the one hand nor fear on the other, lodges have met, candidates admitted, new lodges consecrated, and whilst Masonic Temples have been demolished by the enemy's shells in one town, the foundations of others have been laid with Masonic honours in another. District Grand Lodges have held their meetings and honour bestowed where honour is due, and were it not for the increasing gaps in the ranks it could not be imagined, from a purely Masonic point of view, that there was anything the matter with the country.

It is worthy of note that in the years 1899 and 1900 no less than eight new lodges have been consecrated, meeting at Braamfontein, Somerset, Doornfontein, Indwe, Buluwayo, Burghersdorp, Muizanberg, and Johannesburg.

One lodge, Ermelo, No. 2516, which was founded in 1894 and met in the town of the same name, was practically annihilated, every one of its officers and well-nigh every one of its members having been killed.

Many stories have come to hand illustrating the value of the Masonic tie even during the horrors of siege and battle. We all of us remember the words of the charge which was delivered to us at the opening of our Masonic career. "By an unwavering allegiance to the Sovereign of your native land, ever remembering that nature lies unplanted in the breast of every man, a sacred and indissoluble attachment to that country from which he derives his birth and infant nurture." These words, familiar to all, tell us of a duty which takes precedence even of Masonic obligation. And it has therefore unhappily occurred that brother has been compelled to turn his sword upon brother. Even those who have sat in the same lodge, and been summoned to their duties by the same Hiram, have found themselves in hostile camps.

But the stories that have reached us tell us how that once duty to Sovereign and country have been discharged, the Masonic obligation has asserted itself, and the true points of fellowship have again proved a rallying ground for the best and noblest human instincts. There is no need to quote any of these. Many have already appeared in this journal, and they all go to prove that there is something in the Masonic tie which will survive a good deal of hard wear and tear.

There is a grave question which will have to come into the arena of practical consideration before long.

Wherever Freemasons meet at a social board they always remember "all poor and distressed Masons wherever they may be, scattered over the face of earth or water." To us, now, these words are fraught with special significance. There will not only be the poor and distressed brother to be remembered, but the sick and wounded brother, and, worse still, the widows and the orphans of those who have sacrificed themselves on the altar of their country's need. *Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori.*

We may think, and not without pardonable pride, of the illustrious names in connection with the war, which are no less illustrious in the annals of Masonry. Among these are LORD ROBERTS, LORD KITCHENER, SIR GEORGE WHITE, GENERAL HUNTER, GENERAL RUNDLE, SIR CHARLES WARREN, VISCOUNT VALENTIA, and LIEUT. NORWOOD, who received the Victoria Cross for gallant conduct during the siege of Ladysmith. There will be many more no doubt. We have only selected a few at random, and we would suggest to our Most Worshipful Grand Master, himself a soldier of renown, whether or not some special order of merit or some special jewel or other insignia, could not be conferred on those brethren who have conferred such lustre on the Order. If the bare fact of attendance at a Masonic function in a jubilee year be deemed worthy of commemoration by a special jewel, surely the present circumstances call for a special tribute no less loudly. We commend this suggestion to the authorities.



We understand that the necessary preliminaries have been arranged for the formation of a new lodge to represent Shropshire men in London. This will be the sixth "County" lodge to meet in the Metropolis, the first being the United Northern Counties Lodge, the next the Cornish, No. 2360, which was followed by the Lancastrian, No. 2528, the White Rose of York, No. 2694, the Devonian, No. 2834, and the Norfolk, No. 2852. It is not unsafe to prophesy that many more counties will seek representation in this way, as from the list we have given above it may be seen that Grand Lodge has not regarded the formation of such lodges with an unfavourable eye.

The hearty congratulations of the Craft will be tendered to V.W. Bro. Charles Swinfen Eady, K.C., Past Deputy Grand Registrar, on his appointment as a Judge of the Chancery Division in the place of Lord Justice Cozens Hardy. Our esteemed brother, who was initiated almost at the commencement of his professional career, has been markedly successful in



BRO. CHARLES SWINFEN EADY.

all that he has undertaken. He was the first Worshipful Master of the Justinian Lodge, No. 2694, founded a short time since in connection with the law, and he is also a Past Master of his mother Lodge, No. 21, as well as a Life Governor of the three Institutions.

The absolute necessity for organisation in connection with the election of candidates for the Charity Institutions was strongly exemplified at the Boys' School election in October. It appears that although 26,000 votes were polled by the London brethren, not a single candidate was returned, the whole of the twenty vacancies being filled by Provincial brethren. Many attempts have been made to form associations in London similar to those so successfully organised in the Provinces, but whether it is that London is too large and unwieldy to be dealt with, or that it is lacking in that spirit of clanship which renders cohesion on the part of workers so difficult, it remains a fact that all attempts in that direction have for some cause or other resulted in comparative failure.

At the meeting of the Council of the Boys' School on the 26th October it was reported that a scholar, Harry D. A. Mattiment, had been awarded the Victoria Diamond Jubilee Scholarship and had entered at the Royal College of Science, South Kensington, to undergo a series of studies to qualify as a mining engineer. A grant of £20 was made to him for his assistance during the period of his scholarship. The Secretary also reported that Lodge Victoria, No. 2329, Buenos Ayres, had made a special donation of 75 guineas to the Institution in memory of its late Grand Patron, Her Majesty Queen Victoria, after whom the lodge was named.

Masonry in Port Elizabeth especially appears to be making rapid strides, a movement being now on foot to establish a third lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England, and what is a most gratifying feature of recent Masonic work is the increase in the funds of the Educational scheme, which has now reached £2000. In addition to this, three permanent scholarships are at the disposal of the Educational Committee. This is a branch of Masonic work which we venture to commend to the earnest attention of the Craft in South Africa, as it needs no gift of prophecy to foresee that the close of the war will bring many claims to be dealt with by this and similar funds.

As might have been expected, the new Editor of the Transactions of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, Bro. W. H. Rylands, has opened its pages to various sympathetic appreciations of the life and work of its former editor, the late Bro. G. W. Speth. A full report of the first meeting of the lodge after the sad event contains the address of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Condor, as well as an eloquent tribute by Bro. Rylands himself, whose long and close intimacy, both literary and personal, with our deceased brother, entitled him to speak with a knowledge and authority which few possessed. The speeches of Bros. Ross Robertson, Past Grand Master of Canada, R. F. Gould, Edward MacBean, W. F. Lamonby, and W. J. Chetwode Crawley are also fully reported, and together convey a vivid picture of a charming personality and a man of rare and varied attainments.

As indicating the cosmopolitan reputation acquired by Bro. Speth, the report of a meeting of St. Albans Lodge, Adelaide, may be taken as representing the views and opinions formed by the thousands of Masons beyond the seas, of the man to whose energy and zeal they owe a debt of gratitude for the knowledge they possess of the history and literature of the Craft. Bro. J. Edwin Thomas, the W.M., in a lengthy address spoke of our late brother in terms of the greatest admiration and regard, recalling his visit to Bro. Speth's home in 1895 as one of the most pleasant and memorable reminiscences of his visit to the mother country. Bro. Barlow on the same occasion referred to the irreparable loss which the Craft had sustained, and read several extracts from letters he had received all testifying to his sterling worth and invaluable services to Freemasonry, and amongst others he read a portion of the article by Bro. J. W. Chetwode Crawley, which appeared in the columns of "THE MASONIC ILLUSTRATED."

Referring also to Bro. Speth's cheery and light-hearted spirit Bro. Barlow went on to say: "I had written him in rather a doleful strain upon a critique which I had read exploiting Asser's 'Life of Alfred the Great,' and attempting to annihilate the traditional anecdote, which everybody loves, about Alfred negligently allowing cakes to be burnt on the fire and getting well scolded accordingly. Bro. Speth's characteristic treatment of the attempt exhibits the delightful tenacity with which he clung with all the strength of a strong nature to the precious heritage of the picturesque old faith, even if that faith should prove to be a baseless superstition.

"I don't care a little bit whether Alfred ever burnt the cakes, or whether there was a neat-herd's wife or not. The tale is a true enough one for me, whether or no. What I mean is this, it is an old tradition, and at the time it first obtained currency it evidently pictured the popular idea of the personal character of Alfred. As such, it is positively true, archaeologists notwithstanding. If it did not happen, it might have happened. Alfred's behaviour was such as would have happened had such a circumstance occurred, and as such, it forms a part of his history to the end of time. Wellington never said "Up Guards and at them," but it is just the sort of thing he would have said had there been any occasion for it. The anecdote therefore depicts his character, just as much as if it were true. If it were an unlikely thing for him to have said, it would never have been invented. Camborne never said "Le Vicil gurde meurt, mais ne se rends pas," what he really said was "Fautre," but that looked at closely, meant the same thing. I shall continue to teach my children the old tale about Alfred, no matter what the dry-as-dust's say. "Bad archaeology of course, but sound philosophy I trow."

The Derby Allcroft Lodge, No. 2168, held its installation meeting on the 14th November, and like all its predecessors it was in every way successful. It is fortunate in having for its Secretary Bro. Robt. Cummings, P.M., who has from the first devoted much time and energy to its affairs, with the result that it takes a front place among Metropolitan lodges. The brother elected to fill the Master's chair for the ensuing year was Bro. Sam. Garcia, and he was duly installed by the I.P.M., W. Bro. Nathan Robinson. At the banquet which followed the characteristic hospitality which is so marked a feature of the lodge was exhibited in a marked degree. An enthusiastic visitor describes the entertainment as a royal one, but does not omit to state that although lavish in its hospitality it is not unmindful of the wants of others, as its regular and consistent contributions to the Masonic Charities sufficiently indicates, at the same time instancing the fact that at the recent elections it had elected to the Boys' School the son of a brother who had been initiated in the lodge, but who was stricken down with a mortal disease before he could pass his Second Degree.

Bro. Dr. Davies, of the Fowey Lodge, No. 977, Cornwall, was the recipient, on the 14th November, of several presentations in recognition of his gallantry in saving two lives at imminent risk to his own, at Spit Beach Pier on the 19th of August last. The gallant doctor plunged into the water with all his clothes on and not only succeeded in bringing two lads to the shore, but successfully exerted himself for more than an hour to restore animation. A previous action of a similar character had resulted in saving a life from drowning. Bro. George White, of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 1151, had the honour of presenting an illuminated address on behalf of the lodge, and Major Polkinghorne, who presided at the meeting, also handed to the worthy doctor two handsome presents on behalf of the lads whose lives he had saved. Bro. Davis, who is much beloved in the neighbourhood, was very heartily cheered.

Freemasonry in Uxbridge has lost an energetic and devoted adherent in the person of Bro. J. Anderson, who at the time of his death on the 3rd November, occupied the Master's chair of the Royal Union Lodge, No. 382. He had been actually employed in his business as well as in public affairs up within a few days of his decease, and the event has caused universal regrets throughout the neighbourhood. Bro. Anderson was only thirty-eight years of age at the time of his death, but he had lived long enough to secure the respect and esteem of all with whom he was associated, both in his public and private capacity. The funeral, which took place on the 3rd November, was largely attended by the brethren of the Royal Union and other lodges, as well as by members of the Urban Council, Board of Guardians, and other bodies of which he was a member.

In the death of Bro. William Bull, the District of the Punjab has lost an active and useful officer, whose long Masonic career, especially for the last thirteen years as District Grand Secretary, has contributed in no small degree to the prosperity of the Craft in that presidency. It was only in July last that Bro. Bull was appointed to Grand office on the occasion of the installation of the Most Worshipful Grand Master at the Royal Albert Hall, an honour which he greatly appreciated. He will be remembered by his colleagues as a hard-working, consistent, and upright Mason.

The death of Bro. the Rev. W. J. L. Stradling, which took place early in the year, deprived the Province of South Wales of a very estimable man and a zealous and popular Mason, and even at this late hour we feel sure his numerous friends, both in the provinces and elsewhere, will be gratified at seeing a brief record of the many services he rendered to the Craft he loved so much. Bro. Stradling was initiated in 1868 in the Lodge of Perpetual Friendship, No. 135; joined St. David's Lodge, No. 366, in 1872, and became its Worshipful Master in 1874, and again in 1878. He was appointed Provincial Grand Chaplain in 1873, and received Grand Lodge honours



THE LATE BRO. W. J. L. STRADLING.

as Grand Chaplain in 1887. For several years, and until his death, he filled the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master of South Wales (Western Division). Bro. Stradling was also an active member of the Royal Arch, Knights Templar, Rose Croix, the Mark, and other Degrees, and was always ready to place his services at the disposal of the various lodges and chapters when needed. His brethren will long retain an affectionate and grateful memory of one who had proved himself so worthy a member of the Fraternity.

Lady Dimsdale, the new Lady Mayoress, states *M.A.P.*, is a handsome, kindly gentlewoman with well cut features, bright blue eyes, and a genial, unaffected manner. She was a Miss Holdsworth, and although a thorough Londoner, having been born and bred in London, she is very fond of the country. Latterly the Dimsdales have spent half the year at "Goldsmiths," their pretty country place at Langdon Hills, Essex.

Although you can get to "Goldsmiths" in less than an hour, the country round about is exceedingly primitive and rural, one of those strangely secluded spots often to be found comparatively near town. Here Lady Dimsdale plays the part of Lady Bountiful to the villagers and watches over the grounds, which, although newly laid out, are springing

into things of beauty. The commodious house has been evolved from a very quaint old farmhouse which had belonged to the family for generations, and is set in many acres of well-wooded ground. Lady Dimsdale has no particular hobbies, and is happiest in interesting herself most keenly in those things in which her husband is interested. There is so much cheery sympathy and kindness in her manner that she is sure to make a model mistress of the Mansion House.



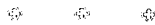
A story has reached us of a candidate for Freemasonry who was seeking admission into a lodge in the far East. During the progress of the ceremony there was a shock of earthquake, and columns and other lodge furniture began to fall about the ears of the brethren in a most alarming manner. Fearing that worse might come, they departed in disorderly haste, not waiting to be passed out in a regular manner—in fact, the Worshipful Master himself headed the flight. After the lapse of some little time the more courageous returned, and found the candidate, displaying neither rashness on the one hand nor fear on the other, but standing undismayed amid the ruins. He explained afterwards he thought it all part of the ceremony.



The official visitation of a lodge for the purpose of looking into and making it see the errors of its ways is happily a somewhat rare occurrence. All the more reason therefore for having everything done regularly and in order, when such necessity arises, as otherwise unexpected results accrue, as was the case we recently heard of in a Colonial lodge. The repute of the lodge in question had reached local headquarters, and there certainly was a sufficiently un-Masonic complexion about it to justify the District Grand Master in sending a District Grand Officer to look into things. The lodge heard of the proposed visit, and resolved to entertain the coming visitor in fitting style, and, in particular, impress him with a sense of their strict adherence to Masonic law and order.

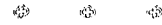


Arrived at the lodge, where unfortunately no one knew him by sight, the official visitor arrayed himself in the purple with swelling importance, but he was asked at the outset who vouched for him. The Worshipful Master deferentially explained that recent edicts of Grand Lodge compelled him to be very careful about the admission of visitors. The situation was complicated also by the fact that no Grand Lodge certificate was forthcoming. The Worshipful Master looked grave at this, and expressed his surprise that a District Grand Officer could so far have forgotten the Constitutions as to attempt to visit a lodge without that important document. In the absence of any one to vouch for him, the distinguished visitor, smothering his indignation, allowed himself to be led into an ante-room and put through his Masonic facings. But it was twenty years since his own admission, and he had so seldom visited his lodge since passing the chair that he made a most lamentable exhibition of himself, and was forthwith bowed out, and the Worshipful Master directed the Secretary to write to head-quarters stating that gross personation and imposture had been attempted.

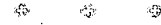


Sometimes, however, the visitor gets the best of things. A brother of independent spirit visiting a strange town found his way to the lodge and stated his wish to be present at the meeting. A brother was deputed to examine him, whilst the members, headed by the W.M., were leisurely filing their way into lodge. Hardly had the latter got to the dais, when the examining brother rushed in with dismayed countenance to say that the brother without declined to reply to any question whatever till he had seen the lodge warrant. Every officer present who had a Book of the Constitutions, turned it up to seek advice, but this was a case as to which no advice could be found, and finally the warrant was taken out and shown to the visitor, who then declared himself satisfied that a regular lodge was working there that evening.

But then the examining brother underwent a second collapse, for the visitor required to see his Grand Lodge certificate. Then a brother was found who happened to have his with him, and the examination was entrusted to him, and eventually the visitor found his way into lodge. The work of the evening was not conducted in that spirit of love and harmony which ought to characterise Masons, and, worse still to relate, the visitor was not asked to take any part in the Fourth Degree, which was subsequently worked.



The study of lodge by-laws will often cause the student a certain amount of amusement. The difference between "shall" and "may" is often very imperfectly understood. What, for instance, can be more meaningless than the following regulation:—"At the close of each meeting members shall deposit their *free-will* offerings in a box provided for the purpose." Where does the free will come in? Then again, only such laws should be inserted as there is some prospect or some possibility of being adhered to. Here, for instance, is one:—"All lodge monies over and above the sum of £100 shall be invested in Consols in the name of the lodge." A lodge, as such, cannot hold any Government securities or landed property unless it has been incorporated, not even Grand Lodge. What is meant, of course, is that the Consols should be in the names of certain trustees. Then again, there is the useless by-law conferring partial Masonic disability on brethren in arrears. This "closure by compartments," as it has been wittily called by a contemporary, is unconstitutional. The way to deal with a defaulting brother is clearly laid down, and it does not consist in lopping off his Masonic privileges bit by bit.

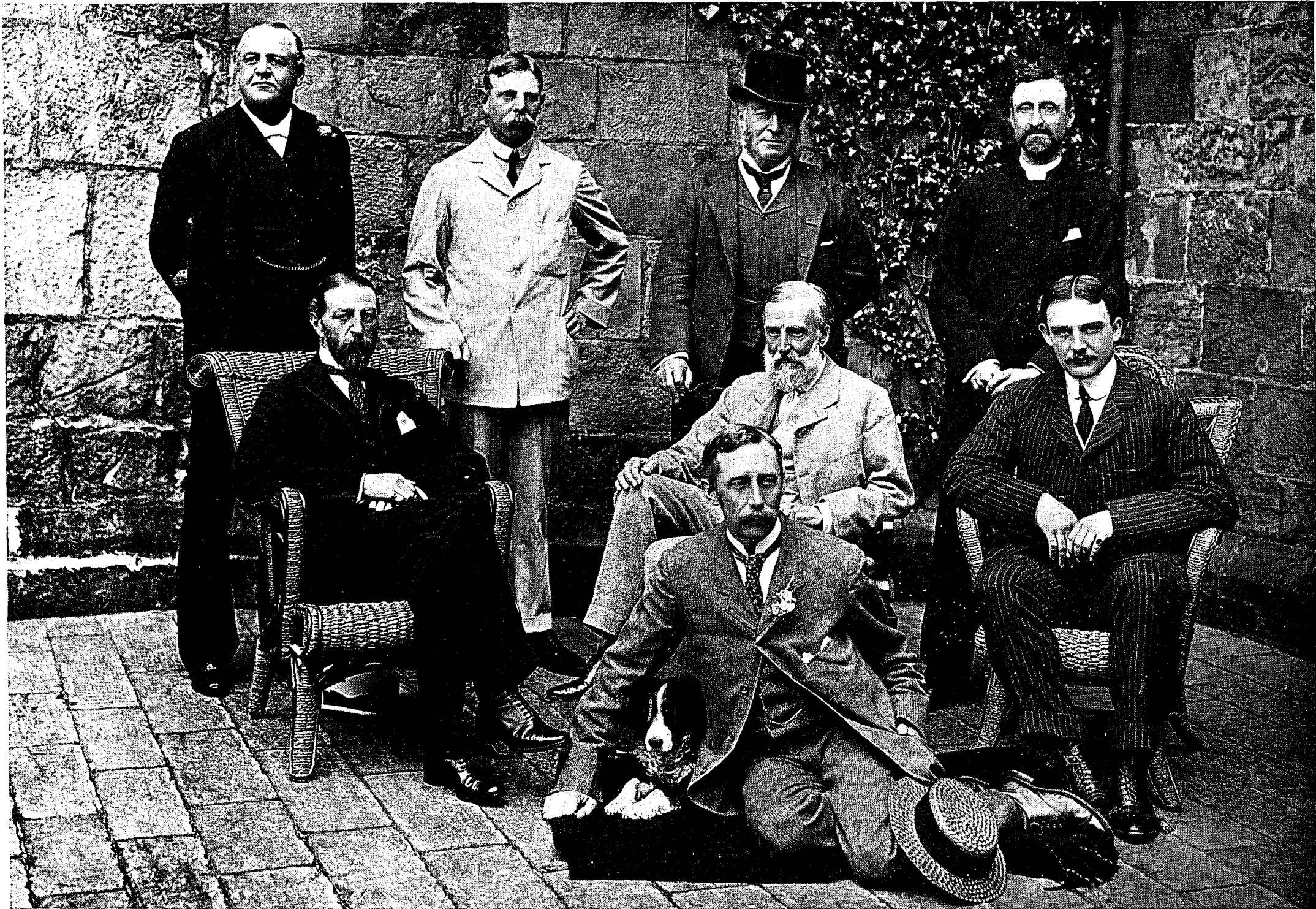


Bro. George Potter-Kirby, who was elected to the ancient office of Sheriff of the City of York on the 9th November, is a prominent member of the Craft and well known in the Province of North and East Yorkshire. He is a Past Master of the York Lodge, No. 236; P.Z. and Treasurer of the Zetland Chapter, No. 236; P.P.G.D.C. of Provincial Grand Lodge; and Past Prov. G. Registrar of Provincial



BRO. GEORGE POTTER-KIRBY.

Grand Chapter of North and East Yorkshire. He is also Treasurer of the York Lodge, and was recently the recipient of a handsome Treasurer's jewel, subscribed for amongst the brethren as a mark of their affection and esteem. Bro. Geo. Potter-Kirby also takes considerable interest in the various Charitable and other institutions in the district. We wish him a happy and prosperous tenure of office.



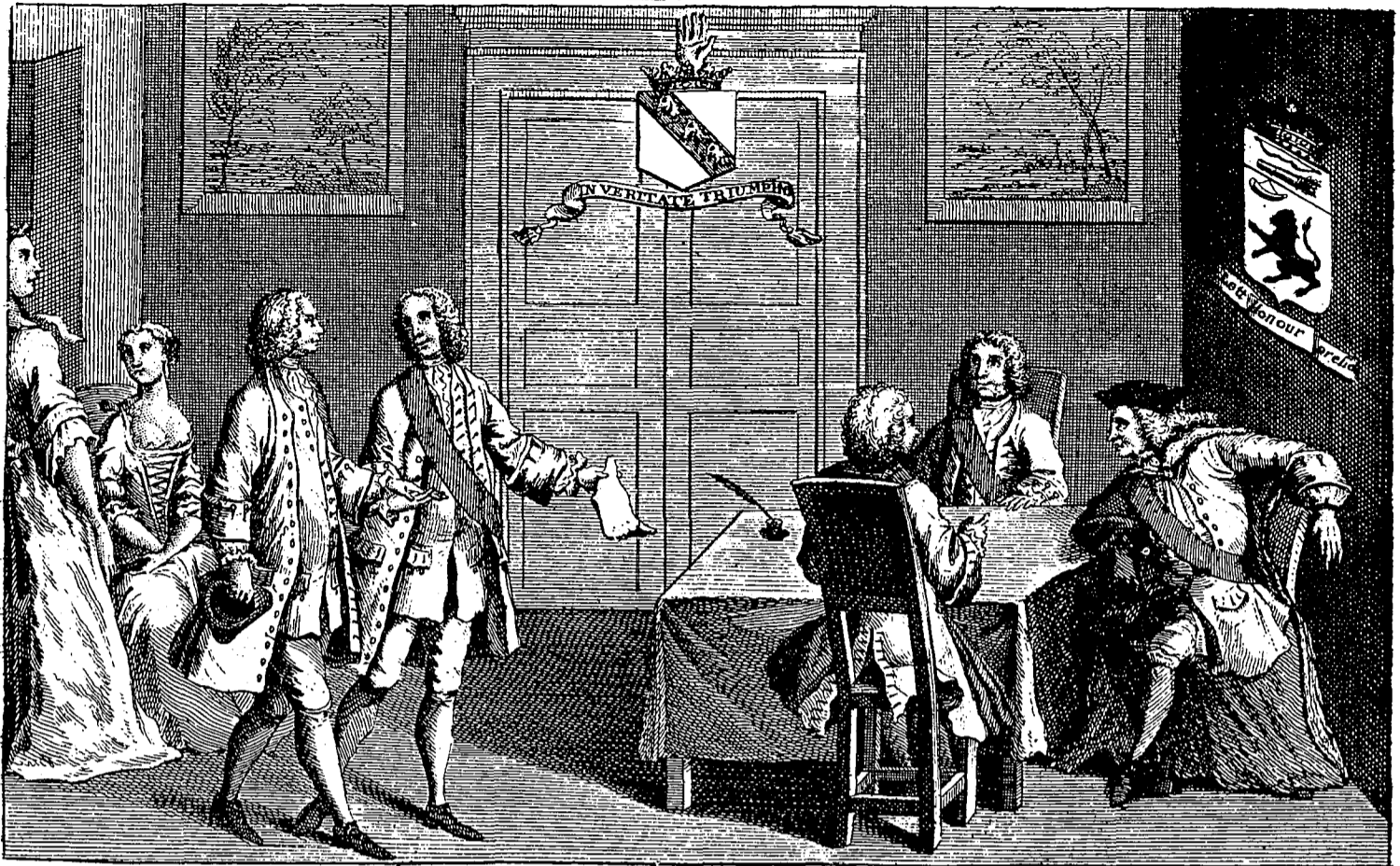
R.W. BRO. SIR OFFLEY WAKEMAN, BART.,
PROV. G.M. SALOP.

M.W. BRO. THE RIGHT HON. EARL AMHERST,
PRO G.M.
R.W. BRO. LORD BARNARD, PROV. G.M. DURHAM.

BRO. THE RIGHT HON. LORD HERSCHELL.

Group of distinguished Masons present at the recent Installation of Lord Barnard as Provincial Grand Master.

LIV.



B. Cole, Sculp

The Modern Masons

Let Ancient Masons boast their Stile, where all the Social Virtues join, While Monarchs on their Orders
 smile, to rival Them's not our Design, On Scenes of Mirth we build our Fame, Contented with a Modern's Name.

Chorus
 On Scenes of Mirth we build our Fame, Contented with a Modern's Name
 On Scenes of Mirth we build our Fame, Contented with a Modern's Name.

(2)

(4)

From Huntington's Great Cart, we take
 The Badge which our Grand Master wears
 Its sprightly Notes shall Echo wake
 While every Hill and Wood declares
Chorus Our Master leads us on to Fame
 And Dignifies a Mason's Name

With Him bedeck'd in rich Array
 His Bugle Horn around Him slung
 We'll to the Forest shape our Way
 While by each Brother this is sung
Chorus May Honour Wealth and lasting Fame
 Attend each Modern Mason's Name

Let every Sister too be there
 With gayest Form and Beautous Face
 Chaste as Matilda and as Fair
 Adorn'd with every Glistening Grace
Chorus Their Beauties thro' the World proclaim
 And Toast each Modern Sister's Name

While shafts we send from Bows full drawn
 As sure to wound as are their Eyes
 Let them in Dances on the Lawn
 Contend who best deserves the Prize
Chorus That Mutual Joys may crown their Fame
 And prove 'em worth a Modern's Name

Then to the Forest haste away
 There we'll the Hours in Mirth improve
 The Chase we'll Follow all the Day
 And revel all the Night in Love
Chorus Till all Mankind our Friendship damn
 And Own a Modern Mason's Name

Consecration of the Cheselden Lodge, No. 2870.

THE consecration of the above lodge took place in the Governors' Hall of St. Thomas's Hospital on Monday, November 4th. The most Worshipful Grand Master, the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, K.G., who is the President of St. Thomas's Hospital, had signified his intention of being present at the ceremony of consecration and of performing a most important part of the ceremony himself. Most unfortunately, however, for the founders of the lodge and their guests, a dense fog prevailed, which rendered it impossible for the Duke of Connaught to reach the place of meeting, and a message by telephone was received to say that he could not come. In his regrettable but unavoidable absence the ceremony of consecration was most impressively carried out by V. W. Bro. E. Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Secretary, assisted by the following Grand Officers:—W. Bro. Clement Godson, M.D., P.G.D., as S.W.; W. Bro. Alfred Cooper, F.R.C.S., P.G.D., as J.W.; V.W. Bro. Sir Borradaile Savory, Bart., Grand Chaplain; V.W. Bro. W. C. R. Bedford, Grand Chaplain; V.W. Bro. Frank Richardson, P. Dep. G. Registrar, as acting D.C., assisted by W. Bro. Fitzroy Tower; W. Bro. Woodhouse Braine, F.R.C.S., S.G.D., as I.G.; and W. Bro. W. Walsley-Little, Mus. Doc., Grand Organist.

There was a very large and distinguished gathering, both of Grand Officers and of well-known members of the medical profession and others interested in hospitals in general and St. Thomas's Hospital in particular, including R.W. Bro. the Lord Mayor, P.G.W.; R.W. Bro. the Earl of Templetown, S.G.W.; R.W. Bro. F. S. W. Cornwallis, J.G.W.; R.W. Bro. G. Richards, District G. Master Transvaal; R.W. Bro. Colonel John Davis, Prov. G.M. Surrey; Bro. Sir William MacCormac, Bart., K.C.B., K.C.V.O.; Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., P.G.W.; the Ven. Archdeacon Sinclair, P.G. Chaplain; and J. Strachan, K.C., G. Registrar. Doubtless the fog was responsible for keeping many others away, but despite the weather the attendance was very large.

The officers of the lodge are as follows:—W. Bro. Thomas Wakley, jun., L.R.C.P. Lond., P.P.G.D. Surrey, W.M.; V.W. Bro. Alderman W. Vaughan Morgan, P.G. Treas., I.P.M.; Bro. H. H. Clutton, F.R.C.S., S.W.; W. Bro. G. Crawford Thomson, M.D., J.W.; Bro. Sydney Phillips (Steward of St. Thomas's Hospital), Treasurer; Bro. Charles R. Box, M.D., F.R.C.S., Secretary; Bro. W. S. Colman, M.D., F.R.C.P., S.D.; Bro. T. G. Nicholson, M.D., J.D.; W. Bro. Samuel Hague, M.D., P.P.G.D.C. Middlesex, D.C.; W. Bro. L. A. Bidwell, F.R.C.S., I.G.; and W. Bro. H. J. Prangley, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Lond., and W. Bro. W. H. Lawrence Copeland, M.D., Stewards.

At the conclusion of the ceremony the brethren made their way as speedily as the fog permitted to the Trocadero Restaurant, where the banquet was held, the number of members and their guests amounting to about 120.

V.W. Bro. E. Letchworth, in responding to the toast of "The Consecrating Officers," mentioned that he had that morning seen the M.W. Grand Master, who had said that he was looking forward with pleasure to the meeting that evening; and it was most unfortunate that the density of the fog had rendered it impossible for His Royal Highness to reach St. Thomas's Hospital in order to carry out his intention of being present.

The Worshipful Master, in replying to the toast of his health, which was proposed by V.W. Bro. Vaughan Morgan, gave a few particulars concerning the name of the lodge. The hospital lodges which preceded it had, he said, followed no uniform plan with respect to their names. Some—St. Mary's practically and classically, and Middlesex and London absolutely and in the vernacular—had very naturally adopted the actual names of the hospitals. They had been precluded from following such a course, for they had found that there was already a St. Thomas's Lodge in existence—a St. Thomas's Lodge, moreover, which was very closely connected with St. Thomas's Hospital. This lodge held its

meetings at Tibshelf in Derbyshire, on an estate (in a colliery district) which was one of the hospital's most valuable properties, the hospital authorities being Lords of the Manor, and the greater part of their possessions there having been derived under a Charter of Edward VI., and having belonged to the ancient hospital of the Savoy. St. Bartholomew's, the pioneers of modern Hospital Lodges, had taken the name of their great founder Rahere, and Charing Cross had taken the very appropriate and pleasing name of "Chère Reine" in double allusion to Queen Eleanor, one of whose Crosses was erected at the village of Charing, and to our late beloved Queen Victoria, who was their patroness. The Founders of the lodge, which had been that day consecrated, had called their lodge after the name of an illustrious anatomist and surgeon, William Cheselden, the introducer of the operation of lateral lithotomy, who was a member of the medical staff of St. Thomas's Hospital from 1718 to 1738. He (the W.M.) had been endeavouring to discover whether Cheselden was a



BRO. THOMAS WAKLEY.

Freemason, but was unable to arrive at any definite conclusion. He had, however, in the course of his enquiries, had his attention directed to a trustworthy record of Sir Robert Clayton, who was President of the hospital in 1691, having summoned a lodge of his brother Masters to meet at St. Thomas's Hospital in 1693, to advise the Governors as to the best design for rebuilding the hospital, and of a lodge in connection with the hospital having continued long afterwards. So they had done no new thing that day in holding a Masonic lodge in St. Thomas's Hospital. They had but renewed an association after the lapse of 200 years. Although Cheselden, perhaps, had not been associated with Freemasonry in the past, he hoped that they would be able to win for the Cheselden Lodge—and so for his name—a reputation as honourable in Freemasonry as he won for himself in surgery and anatomy.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing the toast of "The Officers," took the opportunity, having previously referred to the great assistance that had been so willingly given by the Immediate Past Master, V.W. Bro. Vaughan Morgan, of calling attention to the invaluable services that had been rendered in the foundation of the lodge by Bros. Clutton, Crawford Thomson, Sydney Phillips, C. R. Box, Colman, and Nicholson, the work of the Secretary being particularly arduous and responsible, though all had lent themselves devotedly to the work.

An excellent programme of music under the superintendence of the Grand Organist, W. Bro. Dr. Walmsley-Little, enhanced greatly the pleasure of the evening, the only regret being that owing to the length of the proceedings and the delays due to the fog some of the items had unavoidably to be omitted.

It should be added that H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught was graciously pleased to honour the Cheselden Lodge by becoming its first honorary member.

Devonian Lodge, No. 2834.

THE first installation meeting of the Devonian Lodge, which was only consecrated twelve months ago, was most successfully held at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel on the 14th November, when W. Bro. Walter Wellsman, P.A.G.D.C., who is also the Worshipful Master of Farringdon Without Lodge, No. 1745, was duly installed in the chair of King Solomon, a special dispensation being obtained from Grand Lodge. The ceremony of installation was performed and addresses given by R.W. Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W., whose regrettable absence at the subsequent proceedings, owing to a previous engagement, was much deplored by the Worshipful Master, and a vote of thanks for his kind offices were unanimously passed by the brethren. W. Bro. the Rev. W. Whittle, P.G.D., P.P.S.G.W. Devon, as S.W.; Bro. Geo. Lambert, M.P., as J.W., and the remainder of his officers for the ensuing year, upon completion of which and after the closing of the lodge the brethren adjourned to the banqueting hall, where a most sumptuous repast was given.

V.W. Bro. Hamon Le Strange, P.G.M. Norfolk, in returning thanks to the toast of "The Grand Officers," spoke of the Norfolk Lodge being founded in imitation of the Devonian Lodge, which he stated was the sincerest form of flattery.

The Worshipful Master, in replying to his own toast, which was given by the I.P.M., R.W. Bro. the Earl of Halsbury, P.G.W., mentioned that there was only one way of showing himself worthy of the lodge, and that was to do his work well during the forthcoming year and to endeavour to make it one of the premier lodges of the country. He felt, he stated, the greatest possible honour had been his in having his toast proposed by the Lord High Chancellor of England.

The Worshipful Master then proceeded to propose "The I.P.M.," and remarked upon the great honour the lodge had had in securing the Lord High Chancellor as its first Master, whose kind interest in the lodge was most fully appreciated by himself and all the brethren. He trusted his lordship would accept the little memorial of his past year of office which the brethren had prepared for him in the shape of a Past Master's jewel, which he had much pleasure in therewith investing him.

Bro. the Earl of Halsbury, in returning thanks, said he was somewhat abashed, but that in all sincerity he most heartily thanked the brethren for the jewel they had presented him. He had been delighted to have been their Worshipful Master, and spoke of the great pride he had in Masonry. He would also, he said, use his efforts to attend the lodge again to share their kind hospitality.

The Worshipful Master, in giving the toast of "The Visitors," said there were so many distinguished brethren present that it was a most difficult matter to know upon whom he could call to respond, but he would couple with the toast the names of Bros. H. Nicholls, Hobrow, and Home, who in turn replied thereto.

The remainder of the toasts were duly given and responded to.

During the evening a most delightful musical entertainment was provided, including some humorous piano sketches and sleight-of-hand tricks, all most admirably performed.

Lodge of Asaph, No. 1319.

THE above lodge, which is composed principally of members of the dramatic and musical professions, held its installation meeting at the Freemasons' Hall, on the 4th November, when Bro. Algernon Syms was installed as W.M. by Bro. James W. Mathews, the retiring Master. Several Grand Officers and a large number of members and guests were present.

An excellent banquet was afterwards served, and a musical entertainment was provided under the very able direction of W. Bro. Charles E. Tinney, P.M., Organist.



BRO. ALGERNON SYMS.—(Photo Elite Portrait Co.)

The usual loyal toasts having been given, that of "The Grand Officers" was responded to by W. Bro. James Weaver, P.M., P.G., Std. Br. The W.M., replying to the toast of his health, was commendably brief, and concluded by assuring the brethren that he would endeavour to emulate the Masters who had preceded him.

The toast of "The I.P.M." was accompanied with the presentation of a P.M.'s jewel, for which the I.P.M. tendered his hearty thanks, and said the past twelve months had been the most fully appreciated of any in his life, and personally thanked the Secretary, W. Bro. Weaver, for his hearty co-operation during his year of office.

St. Luke's Lodge, No. 144.

THIS ancient lodge, whose existence dates from 1765, held its installation meeting at the Holborn Restaurant on the 28th October. In addition to the installation, the Worshipful Master, Bro. W. H. Royle, conferred the Second and Third Degrees on the several candidates, and the proceedings were characterised by that thoroughness for which the lodge has long had the reputation. Bro. Austin acted as D.C. The officers were appointed as follows:—Bros. Winsborrow, S.W.; F. J. Ingram, J.W.; C. J. White Price, Treasurer; F. Stutfield, Secretary; H. Hayward, S.D.; G. S. Ellis, J.D.; and C. L. Wright, I.G.

The Worshipful Master then delivered the addresses, and afterwards initiated three candidates in such a manner as to give excellent promise of good work during his year of office. The interest in the ceremonies was much enhanced by a musical accompaniment of a small choir formed of members of the lodge, under the direction of Bro. Austin.

At the subsequent banquet the chair was taken by the W.M., and upwards of 120 brethren were present.

The usual loyal toasts were enthusiastically drunk and that of "The M.W.G. Master, the Duke of Connaught," received a specially cordial reception.

The names of Bros. Burgess and H. Carman, P.G.Std. Brs., were coupled with the toast of "The Grand Officers," and these brethren fittingly responded.

For "The Visitors" Bro. Berry responded, complimenting the lodge on its working, and referring especially to the position of St. Luke's Lodge as a "Vice-President" of each of the three Institutions.

The musical arrangements formed a special feature in the evening's proceedings, an excellent programme having been provided by the D. of C., Bro. Austin. The vocalists were Miss Kate Thomas, Mr. S. Masters, Miss Greta Williams, and the Choristers Part Singers, Messrs. Bread, Saddler, Moore, and Bro. Pollard, Bro. H. Wharton Wells, P.M., L.R.A.M., accompanying.

Ethelbert Lodge, No. 2099.

THE installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Beach Street, Herne Bay, on Tuesday, the 8th October last. The W.M., Bro. E. W. E. Blandford presided, and there were present Bros. J. S. Keen, S.W.; T. Wiffin, J.W.; F. H. Barwood, P.M., Secretary; J. L. Moone, S.D.; M. Oldfield, J.D.; Henry C. Jones, P.M., P.P.J.G.D. Kent, D.C.; E. Ayre, P.M., P.P.G.P. Kent; E. C. Fenoulter, P.M., P.P.J.G.D. Kent; W. Seaman, P.P.G.D.C. Kent; W. J. Flower, P.M.; A. J. Perridin, P.M.; P. E. Iggulden, P.M.; P. Turner, R. Quickenden, S. P. Seymour, S. Bible, C. Hammond, T. R. Young, J. R. Brabazon, and R. Griggs, Tyler.

Amongst the visitors were Bros. J. W. Elvin, P.M., P.A.G.D.C. England, P.P.J.G.W. Kent, 1915; A. W. Anderson, W.M. 972; E. Tomlin Budger, W.M. 127; G. Boorman, S.W. 133; E. von Bibia, P.M. 1669; Harold Court, 972; H. L. Diprose, P.M. 1853; G. Gasken, W.M. 1449; R. Gilliams, 1515; W. H. Hughes, W.M. 2753; H. Hemsby, W.M. 1915; W. Jones, P.M. 420; E. T. Kennett, W.M. 31; I. Minter, W.M. 133; J. Plant, P.M., P.P.G. Org. Kent, 31; F. W. Rawlings, W.M. 1658; Sibert Saunders, P.M., P.P.G.R. Kent, 972; and J. W. Turner, J.D. 858.

The Worshipful Master installed his successor, Bro. J. S. Keen, in an impressive manner, an innovation in the Ethelbert Lodge being introduced by the singing of the anthem, "Be thou faithful," which was very effectively rendered by Bro. J. W. Turner, Bro. H. Court presiding at the organ.

The Worshipful Master then appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. E. W. E. Blandford, I.P.M.; T. Wiffin, S.W.; J. L. Moone, J.W.; P. E. Iggulden, P.M., Treasurer; F. H. Barwood, P.M., Secretary; W. Oldfield, S.D.; A. H. Bass, J.D.; R. Quickenden, I.G.; Henry C. Jones, P.M., D.C.; S. Bible, Organist; and R. Griggs, Tyler.

At the conclusion of Masonic business, the brethren adjourned to the Dolphin Hotel, where the banquet was partaken of, and a most enjoyable social evening was spent. The harmony of the evening was contributed by Bros. J. W. Turner, Noakes, Nott, Moone, and W. H. Hughes. Bro. H. Court presided at the piano.

NOTICE.

We have much pleasure in announcing that the "History of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement," from the able pen of Bro. Henry Sadler, Sub-Librarian to the Grand Lodge of England, will commence in our next issue.

Whittington Lodge, No. 862.

A very successful meeting of the above lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall on November 18th. Bro. Frank Heywood was installed as Worshipful Master, after having filled all the offices in the lodge. The ceremony was ably performed by Bro. T. H. T. Jarvis, P.M. The officers appointed were Bros. J. T. Southgate, S.W.; P.



BRO. FRANK HEYWOOD.

Driver, J.W.; James Irvine, Treasurer; James Weaver, P.G. Std. Br., Secretary; A. H. Chamberlain, S.D.; G. Geen, J.D.; and R. W. C. Palmer, I.G. Nearly sixty brethren sat down to the banquet which followed

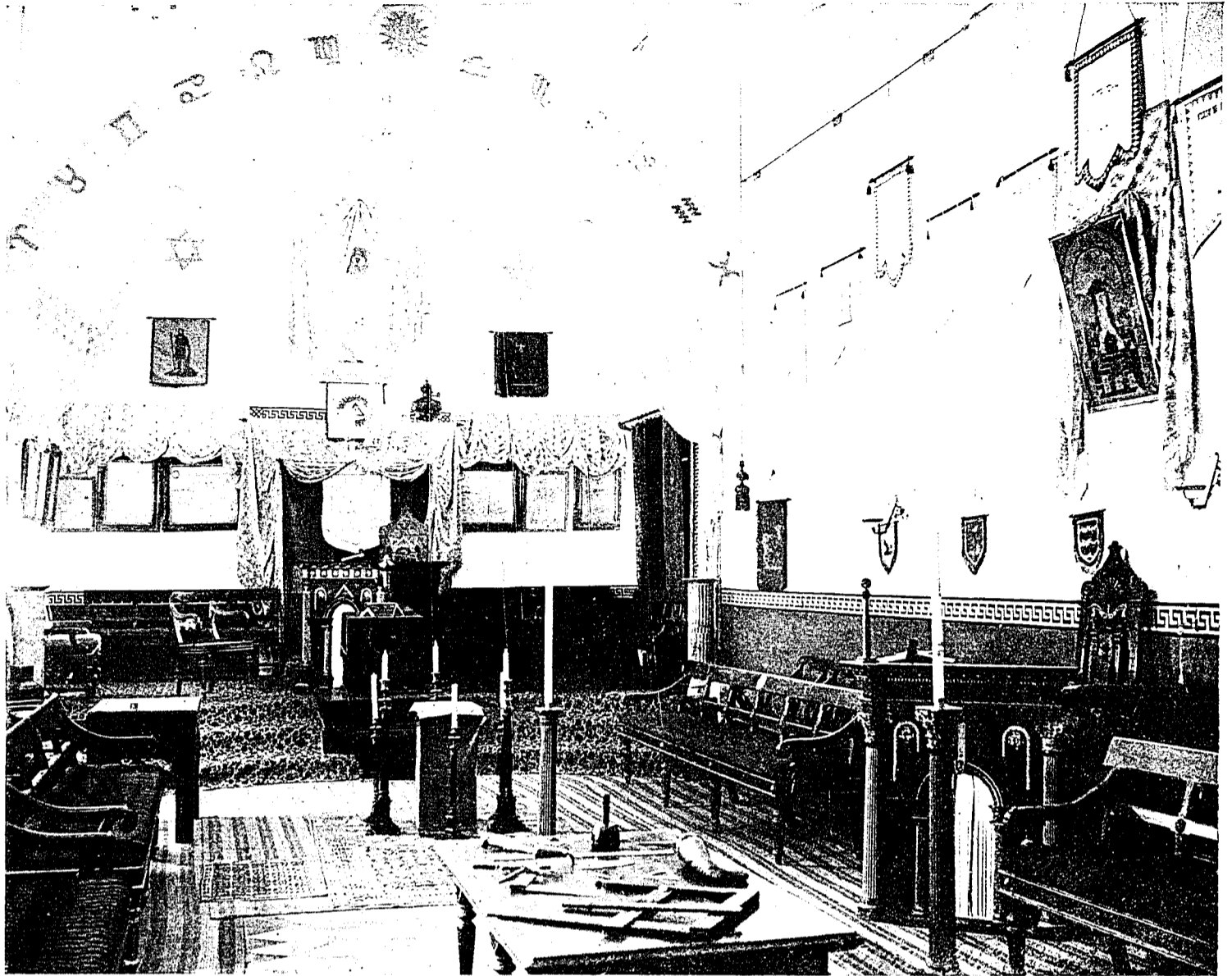
The action recently taken in Jersey with regard to the proposed settlement of monks in that place, cannot, we think, be viewed with feelings other than of satisfaction by the Craft. In view of the antagonism which has for so long existed between the Papacy and our Order, it is, we believe, for the best that the proposed immigration should not have been allowed to have taken place in an island where Freemasonry flourishes, and where the names of its chief inhabitants are enrolled amongst its lodges.

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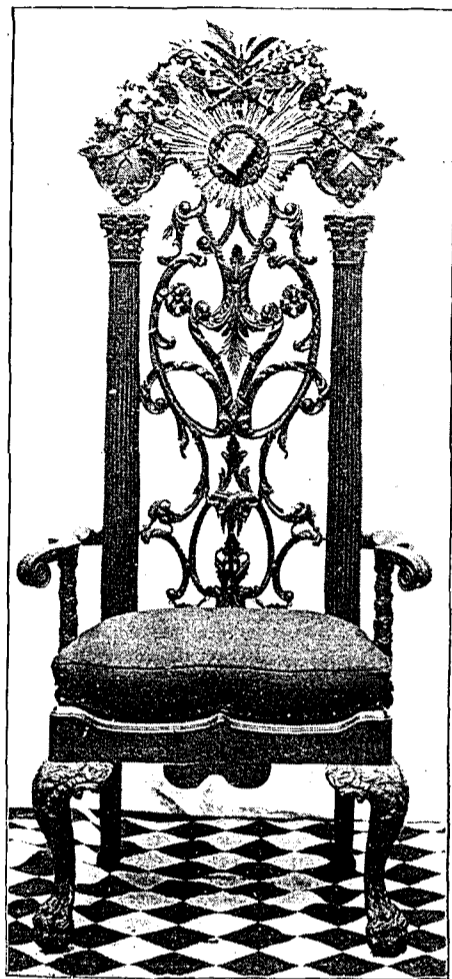
FREEMASONS' HALL, LAHORE (LOOKING EAST).



FREEMASONS' HALL, LAHORE (LOOKING WEST).

The Chairs of No. 39, Exeter.

THESE three chairs, now used by the lodges assembling in the Freemasons' Hall, Exeter, were originally the property of the "St John the Baptist Lodge," Exeter, formed in the year 1732, about which particulars were

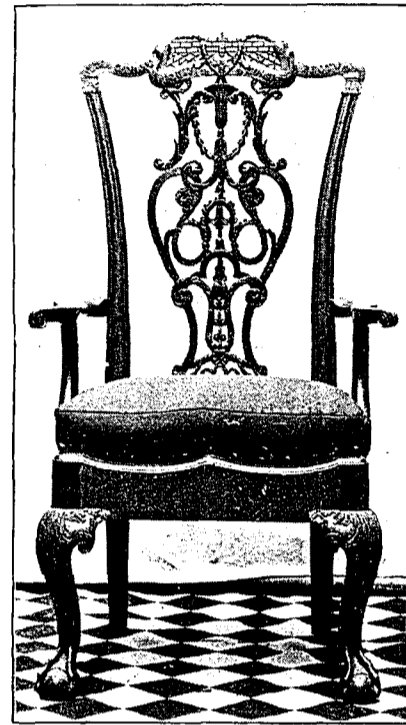
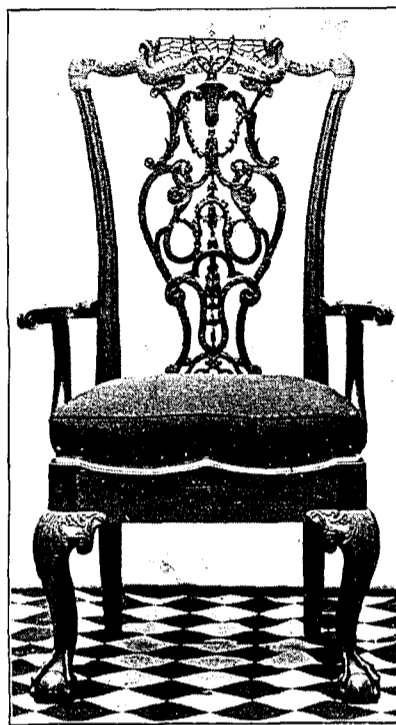


afforded in "THE MASONIC ILLUSTRATED," for October, 1901. They are for the W.M. and Wardens, and were manufactured during the 7th decade of the 18th Century, being now "black with age, and the gilding on the mottoes and other parts is dim from the same cause." The illustrations are to be found in the Transactions of the "Quatuor Coronati" Lodge, No. 2076, London, for 1893, consent having been kindly given for their reproduction herein.

An interesting description of these relics of the Craft, occurs in Bro. Andrew Hope's able History of the Lodge (1894). They bear the following inscriptions respectively, in Latin, which have thus been freely translated, the first being apparently an adaptation from Horace, while the remainder are also quotations from the same author:—

W.M.: "Here we mutually give and receive Peace by turns."

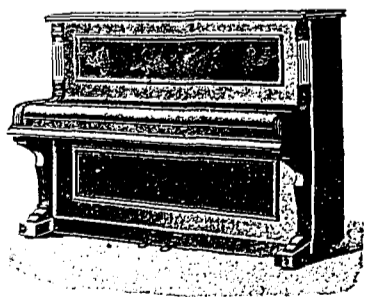
S.W.: "It divides the highest and lowest by the law of Justice."



J.W.: "Beyond and within which bounds Propriety cannot step."

Around the Bible on the W.M.'s chair is the motto *Deo duce*, being the first half of that of the Society of Merchant Adventurers, Exeter, and under the same chair, written in ink, is the inscription "*Daniel Timpsin, Sculpsit, 1769.*" The chief of the trio stands nearly 6 feet high, the other two not quite reaching $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet each, and all are made of Spanish mahogany, delicately shaped and carved, as noted by Bro. James Jerman, F.R.I.B.A., who has furnished a technical description for the foregoing work.

T. & W. SILSBY, ✧ Pianoforte Manufacturers, EDEN PIANO WORKS, EDEN GROVE, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.

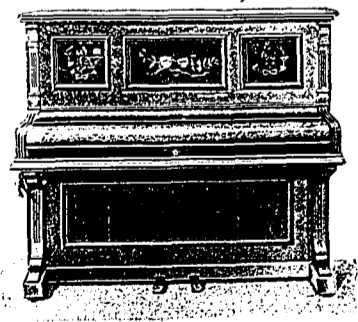


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at Medium Prices.

Best Materials.
Good Workmanship.



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Copy for Advertisements must reach the Office not later than the 14th of each month to be in time for the next issue.

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