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ELECTIVE OFFICERS.

ONE of the greatest divergences existing in English Freemasonry, as compared with its practice under some of the Foreign Constitutions, is to be found in the method adopted for the appointment or election of Lodge Officers. In this country we elect our W. Masters, Treasurers and Tylers, and all other appointments in the Lodge are vested in the ruler for the time being. He has absolute power in this respect, and although it is usual for him to recognise the principle of seniority to a very great extent, there is no law which compels him to do so, or anything to prevent his making an entire change in the Officers, from Senior Warden down to Junior Steward, should he feel disposed to do so. In some parts of America, and elsewhere, a different system prevails, and the members of the Lodges exercise the right of choosing the Wardens, and, occasionally, some of the minor officials in addition. Under such conditions we can well imagine that the work of the election night of the Lodge is surrounded with far more excitement than is usual in our own country, although even with our small number of elective Officers it occasionally happens that election night is the most exciting gathering of the year.

While Freemasonry is conducted on the amicable and satisfactory lines that have hitherto characterised it in this country there can be no object in even suggesting an extension of the principle of election of Lodge Officers. The appointments made by the Worshipful Masters of our Lodges are almost universally popular, and there are very few brethren among us who would care to see any alteration made in existing arrangements. Besides this, there is the evil—and many regard it as a growing one—which surrounds an elective office when it is eagerly sought after by more than one candidate. The elections of Lodge Officers are, for the most part, carried through with good feeling and unanimity, but it is in the natural course of events that in some cases differences of opinion should make themselves manifest, and it has occasionally happened that competition over a Lodge appointment has led to dissension and ill-feeling amongst the members of the body concerned. Such being the case then, it would seem to be courting disaster to urge any departure from existing rules, but on the other hand it is pointed out that the general body of members of the Craft have no means of showing their appreciation of any particular brother unless there are a few appointments open to the practice of election, and on that ground alone—if for no other—the question is one of public importance, and has lately been pushed prominently forward in various parts of the country.

It is not only in Private Lodges, but just now more particularly in Grand and Prov. Grand Lodges, that this question is calling for consideration, the one office of Treasurer there receiving attention. It has always

been recognised that appointment to this office lay in the votes of the members, but it is only within the last few years that the electors have taken any steps to secure their full advantages, or exercise their proper rights. Up to within a very short period the same brother was elected, year after year, to the office of Grand or Provincial Grand Treasurer; indeed, in most of the counties that principle still holds sway, and probably will do so until death or some special cause removes the brother who has long enjoyed the confidence of his companions. This system has had the effect of virtually robbing the Craft of its power of filling the much-prized elective office, as anything like an opposition was regarded with disfavour, and, plainly speaking, practically rendered impossible. Now, however, things are changing, and it is no longer regarded as disloyal, or at all out of place, to propose the election of a different brother as Treasurer year by year, when the office has to be filled up. Grand Lodge has set the example in this respect, many Provinces have followed it, and there is every probability that within a few years the new system will be universally adopted. In time we may expect to see it introduced into private Lodges, and if it is found to work satisfactorily in Grand and Provincial Grand Lodges, we can see no reason why it should long remain unknown in minor ones. Englishmen are not usually anxious for change in such matters, and Freemasons are no exception to the rule in this respect. We are not, therefore, surprised when we have to record that in some quarters differences of opinion on the matter have been expressed, and strong action has been necessary to secure the recognition and adoption of the principle which undoubtedly exists as one of the privileges of Freemasons. It is not so much that the members of a Provincial Grand Lodge object to an annual change in the appointment of Treasurer, as it is that they regard the periodical vacation of the office as a departure from existing custom, and there is no question that to suggest the election of a Brother in place of one who has, year after year, received the suffrages of the district, is not wholly devoid of risk that one's motives may be misunderstood and dissension aroused. Notwithstanding this, the principle has been fought for and successfully carried into effect in many quarters, and an annual change in the holder of the office is now regarded as much a natural event as, in years gone by, unopposed election was looked forward to. There are numerous advantages attached to this new condition of affairs, not the least among which is the possibility of conferring the honour of Grand or Provincial Grand office on popular Masons—men who are regarded by their fellows as worthy of something more than the honours of their own Lodge, and which, without such an elective office as that of Treasurer, it would be impossible to bestow on them. As, then, we must admit that great and popular advantages have arisen from the change that has been made, it is but fair the men who have brought

about the change should be thanked, or otherwise recognised by those for whom they have acted. We have already spoken of the difficulty of suggesting a change in an office held for many years by the same brother—a distinguished Mason in his own locality, and against whom no cause of complaint is possible, and it will at once be recognised that the Mason who puts himself forward to contest the office so long enjoyed by the one brother runs a very great risk of being misunderstood. Still some one must come forward to champion the cause of his fellows, and if he does not always meet with success it must not be assumed he acted unwisely, or that any slur is cast upon him by his rejection. The time may not have been ripe for the alteration, or a large number of his supporters may have been frightened to vote, lest by so doing they might upset existing harmony, and offend a section of those with whom they were in friendly and perhaps daily communication. But even if the brother who came forward to champion the cause was not personally successful in inaugurating a new condition of affairs, it not unfrequently happens that his action really aroused the brethren to a knowledge of their privileges, and led to the early adoption of the system worked for. But how often is the brother who championed the cause overlooked when the principle he worked for is firmly secured? We do not wish it to be understood that we regard Freemasons as behind their fellows in recognising the actions of those who work on their behalf, but it is all but natural to forget the difficulties which surrounded a certain course when that line of action has come to be regarded as a natural every day event; while it is even possible for men to approve a certain principle among their fellows, and yet disapprove of the actions of those who brought those principles into effect. This may appear a somewhat strange line of argument, but the old adage tells us that truth is often stranger than fiction.

Having said thus much in favour of the system of promoting an annual change in the office of Treasurer, as opposed to the old principle of re-electing, year by year, the same brother to the honour, we will for a moment consider what is probably the only drawback associated with it. With an annual change, opinions are more likely to be divided as to who is best entitled to the votes of the brethren, and in their anxiety to secure the return of their favourite the supporters of one candidate may work strenuously and zealously—perhaps actually antagonistic—to the supporters of another. It does not follow that the differences of opinion expressed in the heat of an electioneering campaign must of necessity be permanent sources of disagreement, but it not unfrequently happens that strange things are said, and much stranger things are done under such circumstances, with the result that misunderstandings do arise, and permanent differences are created. We can never discover what considerations influenced the mind of perhaps our staunchest friend, who, either justly or unjustly, had the credit of voting against us, and many men find themselves in most awkward positions when the time arrives for the filling of an elective office. They may be, and in a large majority of cases are, entirely free to give their support where they choose. On the other hand, a brother may find himself pledged to one party, and opposed to the one he considers the better candidate, or for whom he would vote if he were wholly free to act; while the opposite dilemma may force itself upon him, and he finds himself pledged to support a candidate who is not the one his Lodge or personal friends are working for. Some people would very strongly censure the Mason who voted in opposition to his convictions on such an occasion, but in every walk of life events arise which have to be regarded from views very far removed from those of a strictly personal character. The good fellowship and comfort of a Lodge or large number of

Masons is of far greater importance than the exercise of a man's personal whim or fancy, and we cannot believe that the brother who at times acts in opposition to his own ideas, in the hope that he may cement friendship and promote general good fellowship, is guilty of any crime. He is rather to be commended for sacrificing self in the hope of benefiting the larger number of his fellow creatures.

It must not be thought our present remarks have special application to any particular brother or district. We have striven to generalise our comments, and if by chance they appear to specially apply to any individual case, it will rather prove that the subject is one of actual existence than that we have singled out any particular spot for attention. While we ask our readers to dismiss anything like personalities from our discussion of this topic, we think a little space may profitably be devoted to one particular case, as a few facts may perhaps prove much more than three times the quantity of argument addressed to our readers in the ordinary way. We will take the Province of Essex, as being near us, and because it just now supplies a practical illustration of many of the points we have considered in the course of our remarks. Up to within the last few years the office of Treasurer of this Province, although annually filled by the vote of the members, was virtually a close appointment, the same brother being re-elected year after year, and his appointment giving general satisfaction. Then came the new idea of things, and a periodical change was advocated by a strong section of the membership of the district. A brother was put forward to contest the office—not out of any ill feeling, but, as we have already pointed out, to champion a principle which was then beginning to secure attention. To show how equally opinions were divided on the point, we have only to refer to the fact that Bro. E. J. Acworth—who was the member selected to test the point—failed to secure election by only two votes, and when we bear in mind the many considerations that may have influenced the voters against him, as the inaugurator of a new system, the result may fairly be described as a moral victory; but it failed to secure the coveted purple, and Bro. Acworth is again seeking the suffrages of his district, not unopposed, as some would imagine, but as one of two well recommended candidates. The friends of his opponent have sent out a circular, in which they ask for an expression of opinion as to the desirability of persevering with the candidature of their nominee, who, they say, is above all things anxious not to create any dissension in the Province. It is very difficult for us to advise one way or the other, but in this case an unopposed election would probably meet favour in the eyes of a large section, and we almost think unanimity will be regarded as due to the brother who stepped forward at the outset of the movement which has resulted in the adoption of the new order of procedure, generally approved of in the district. We are pleased the Mason who has been selected to compete with Bro. Acworth for this appointment recognises that his doing so may lead to dissension, as it may be assumed he will not, in consequence, press matters to extremes; but even if he sees a fair prospect of success, would it not be gracious on his part to stand aside for a twelvemonth, in favour of his rival? Although he may succeed in this case, he runs the risk of raising up a storm of disapproval of his actions. If this view does not find favour in the eyes of the friends of Brother Acworth's co-candidate, then we would ask if the matter is not one worthy of consideration from the ruler of the Province himself, who, as has been done in other quarters—even in Grand Lodge itself—might see his way to prevent a contested election by placing one of the candidates in a suitable office at the approaching annual meeting. We do not presume to dictate, but in such cases as this unfortunate

results sometimes happen, and injustice is done, not from want of heart, but rather from want of thought.

In conclusion we can but express the opinion that in England we have quite enough elective offices. We think it will be better when it is generally conceded that the collar of Treasurer is not a permanent honour, but at the same time we regard it as undesirable that any more offices should be thrown open to competition, for fear the evils we have hinted at may prove more troublesome than is compensated for by the advantages which might accrue from the adoption of foreign practices.

REPRINTS No. 2076.

By Bro. R. F. GOULD.

WITH the issue of the second volume of this series—the first and seventh having already appeared—the total number of the Quatuor Coronati publications is brought up to five, of which three are antiquarian reprints, and two comprise the ordinary *Transactions* of the Lodge.

Volume II. of the Reprints, just issued, contains:—

1. A lithographed facsimile in three colours of the Matthew Cooke MS. (Addl. MS. 23, 198, Brit. Mus.), which is believed to date from the first quarter of the 15th century; together with a transcript of the document and a commentary thereon by Bro. G. W. Speth.

2. A facsimile and transcript of the Lansdowne MS. (No. 98, Art. 48 in the Brit. Mus. Collection of the same name). The date of this has been estimated on high authority at about the year 1600, though reasons are not wanting from which a slightly higher antiquity might be claimed for it.

3. A facsimile and transcript of Harleian MS. 1942 (Brit. Mus.), which dates, according to Mr. Bond and others, from the beginning of the 17th century.

Nos. 2 and 3 are copies or versions of the Manuscript Constitutions, and No. 1 a history of or disquisition upon Masonry, though also distinguished by features which, in the opinion of the latest commentator upon it, render it almost “a typical roll of the Constitutions.”

Of the Manuscript Constitutions, and I shall in the first instance speak of them in their collective form, it is not too much to say that these ancient writings have been strangely and unaccountably neglected by our historians—though I am by no means forgetting the labours of a few brethren in what may be termed the parent stem of our antiquities, and upon which I shall presently dilate.

But my meaning is, that no serious attempt to trace our early written traditions to their source, or sources, of origin has been attempted by Preston, Oliver, or any other Masonic writer of a previous generation.

The first step of any importance was taken by Brother Hughan, who brought out, in 1872, an exhaustive collection—so far as then known or identified—of these ancient manuscripts, and bestowed upon them the title, by which they are still frequently described, of the “Old Charges of British Freemasons.” To this volume the late Bro. Woodford contributed a preface, which was a masterpiece of its kind, and even after the lapse of so many years, and the great multiplication of the class of documents, he then passed in review, will be found both interesting and instructive by the general reader.

But before and after the publication of this work, and indeed throughout the whole of his career as a Masonic student, Bro. Hughan has exhibited a singular liking for the Manuscript Constitutions. Whatever versions or “forms” turned up from time to time, he straightway copied and printed, thus making them common property.

The idea was then suggested of dividing the different versions into groups or families, but though attempted, and with some slight measure of success, on a small scale, by Bro. John Yarker, the project ultimately fell through, and was not revived until the appearance on the scene of Dr. Begemann, a German student, by whom—up to a certain point—it has been carried into effect with very great ability.

In my commentary on the Regius MS., I have been more concerned with the points of agreement between the several forms of the Manuscript Constitutions, than their specialties or singularities, as these can only be fully under-

stood by a limited number of experts, until the publication of the entire series of these remarkable documents, in a collective form.

This task our indefatigable Secretary is now engaged in carrying out, and as the number of copies we shall print of each volume of our publications will depend, to a great extent, upon the subscription list, the names of Brethren and Lodges who are desirous of supporting this feature of our special work, will be gladly welcomed by Bro. Speth.

Volume I. of our Reprints can, indeed, no longer be acquired, as the edition is exhausted, and copies now command a high premium, but all the remaining publications of the Lodge are at present available to intending purchasers, though the supply of some of them is running low.

The selection of materials for the volume of Reprints which has just appeared (II.) leaves little to be desired. Lansdowne MS. 98 is a very typical representative of the Manuscript Constitutions, and as a more archaic form of the reading or version peculiar to the Antiquity and Probity MSS. (both of which are still in Lodge custody), constitutes an important link between the present and the past.

Harleian MS. 1942 contains a remarkable text, which, together with that of the Roberts *print*, has exercised the minds of many successions of Masonic students.

If these two forms of the MS. Constitutions are to be depended upon, a General Assembly of the Craft was held in December 1663, when a variety of most important Regulations were passed, but with regard to which, however, the remaining versions of the Old Constitutions are provokingly silent. Dr. Anderson, indeed, believed in their authenticity, or affected to do so, as he inserted them in Part iii., Chapter II., of his “New Book of Constitutions” (1738). Though as he garbled them freely in the process of reproduction, changing the date of 8th December to 27th December (St. John’s Day); “Master” into “Grand Master,” and so on, his exact feeling with regard to the sources of authority he made such a singular use of, must remain to a considerable extent a mystery.

The *Pocket Companion* for 1754 points out “great defects” in the edition of the “Constitutions” (1738) published the year before his death (1739), and attributes them either to his want of health, or trusting [the MS.] to the management of strangers. “The work,” it goes on to say, “appeared in a very mangled condition, and the Regulations, which had been revised and corrected by Grand Master Payne, were in many cases interpolated, and, in others, the sense left very obscure and uncertain.”

The doctor, to use homely language, seems to have gone out of Masonry in 1724, and returned to it in 1731, as within the period embraced by these dates, *i.e.*, from St. John’s Day (in harvest) 1724, to the recurrence of the same festival in 1731, he was not present at a single meeting of Grand Lodge. During this interval many things had happened. The privilege of working the “Master’s Part” had been restored to the Lodges, but this degree had been labelled with a new name (Master Mason), while its old one (Fellow Craft) bore an altered signification. In other words, the old “Entered Apprentice’s Part” had become subdivided, the 1st and 2nd steps thereof becoming the degrees, as we now have them, of E. A. and F. C. respectively.

The foregoing will explain in a measure why discrepancies are met with in the two publications (Constitutions of 1723 and 1738) from which Dr. Anderson derives his title of “the Father of Masonic History.” These discrepancies he had to reconcile as best he could, and the result is not unfairly summed up in the extract already given from the *Pocket Companion* of 1754.

But during the doctor’s retirement, or, at all events, between the years 1723 and 1738, additional copies of the Manuscript Constitutions appear to have fallen in his way, beyond those with which he was presumably acquainted with when his first Masonic book saw the light.

Among these, it is probable, was Harleian MS. 1942—but even if his fount of information with regard to the alleged “General Assembly,” of A.D. 1663, was the “Roberts” *print*—published in 1722—the importance of Harl. MS. 1942 in this connection is not lessened, as without arguing that it was the original from which the compiler of the *print* (1722) copied—upon which English and German students differ—it will be sufficient to lay stress on the fact that the Harleian MS. is the only document extant of earlier date than the Grand Lodge itself wherein there is any

reference whatever to the "General Assembly" and the "Regulations" passed thereat—which constitute one of the greatest puzzles in Masonic history.

The Cooke MS. (Addl. MS. 23, 198) is the remaining Reprint with which I have to deal, and my friend Brother Speth will, I am sure, not misunderstand me when I say that the excellent commentary he has written on this ancient document imposes much additional labour on the reviewer. To quote from it approvingly, or the reverse, without in the one case expressing the grounds of my assent, or in the other my reasons for withholding it, would be viewed with equal disfavour by the writer, who, possessing to the highest extent the courage of his own opinions, always looks, and not unnaturally, for a similar display of intrepidity on the part of any fraternal critic whose mission it may be—either willingly or unwillingly—to confront him in the arena of letters.

But, as Swift well remarks, in the Apology prefixed to his "Tale of a Tub"—

"To answer a book effectually, requires more pains and skill, more wit, learning and judgment, than were employed in writing it."

Now, the commentary in the Cooke MS. plainly shows us that the writer has at least his fair share of those endowments, which must be possessed in a still higher degree by any one who is anxious to confute him.

Hence, while I shall go so far as to express a doubt or two, whether in every instance the inference of the commentator is borne out by the premises, I hasten to state that I am only carrying out—albeit somewhat perfunctorily—the task he has himself allotted me, of criticising a very luminous exposition on an ancient text, the thoroughness of which will stand out, I fear, in agreeable contrast to the characteristics of the present article.

Bro. Speth says, "It [the Cooke MS.] is undoubtedly the purest, least altered copy of these Constitutions that has at present come down to us, and, therefore the most valuable; far exceeding in intrinsic value the metrical version of it preserved to us in the Regius MS.; *because less altered by poetical license*" (italics mine).

Here I join issue with the commentator. The laws in ancient times were embodied in verse, with the object of ensuring a fidelity of transmission, which was deemed incompatible with the fluctuations of prose language, either oral or written. The commentary concludes with a series of conclusions. These are sixteen in number, and the 14th reads:—"That a Grand Master existed in fact, though not known by that name, and for the duration of each Assembly only.

This, if sustainable, will comfort those brethren who are believers in the "inherent prerogatives of Grand Masters," a doctrine which is much favoured in the United States. But I am quite unable to agree with Bro. Speth in the conclusion which he seeks to enforce, or to bring my mind at all round to his way of thinking. The "Assembly," in my opinion, was by no means limited to the members of a single handicraft. I believe it comprised the members of all handicrafts, and the statement in the MS. that the meeting was presided over by a Master—if by this we are to understand a Master of the Building Art—I regard as a Masonic fiction, inspired—it may well have been—by a desire to exaggerate the importance of the Mason's trade?

The arguments that could be submitted in support of these conjectures, are more numerous than can be found room for at the end of an article. But Bro. Speth is well aware that my mind has long been exercised by the problem of the "Assembly," and that an attempt to solve it was made by me a year or two ago—which attempt, however, I am fain to record, remains as yet an unfinished study.

The chief merit of a commentary lies, as it seems to me, in the degree of interest with which it inspires the reader of the text. Judged by this standard, the latest deliverance of our Bro. Speth must be pronounced to be a most satisfactory and meritorious performance. With the opinions of the writer one may agree, or the reverse, but no reader will lay down the commentary without having had his attention forcibly directed to numerous points of great interest, lying scattered in the text, which without the fraternal guidance of Bro. Speth he would probably have overlooked.

It only remains to be stated that the fac similes have been executed with much care and dexterity, and that neither the printing or binding of the volume leave anything to be desired.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

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CONSECRATION OF THE BLOOMSBURY RIFLES LODGE, No. 2362.

THE consecration of the above Lodge took place on Wednesday, the 11th July, at the magnificent Headquarters of the Bloomsbury Rifles (19th Middlesex), Chenies Street. The officers' mess room was devoted to the use of the Lodge. It is a lofty and interesting room, containing, in addition to the portraits of bygone military celebrities, panelling with the arms thereof of officers past and present of the regiment, old arms and armour. One interesting relic is the colours of the Bloomsbury Trained Band, pioneers of the present Volunteer movement, which were paraded before King George III. in Hyde Park in 1790. The consecrating Officer was V.W. Bro. Col. Shadwell Clerke G.S., assisted by R.W. Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston Prov. Grand Master Norths and Hunts as S.W., R.W. Bro. Sir Lionel Darel, Bart., P.G.D. as J.W., V.W. Bro. the Rev. the Dean of Battle Grand Chaplain as Chaplain, Bro. Frank Richardson P.G.D. as D.C., and Bro. Lt.-Col. Arthur B. Cook P.A.G.D. of C. as I.G. The founders were Bros. Claude Scott P.M., Matthew H. Hale, G. E. Grimes, J. Miller, W. H. Faircloth, James Jackson and Harry Sillis. Visitors present:—Bros. J. W. Vrooman M.W. Grand Master New York, Thomas Fenn Pres. B. Gen. P., F. A. Burnam Chief Commissioner and P.D.D.G.M. New York, Theodore Tilton P. Dep. G.M. New York, E. B. Harper Pres. Board of Trustees New York, W. A. Scurrah P.P.G.S. of W. Middlesex, Henry Sadler P.M. Grand Tyler, F. G. Fur P.M. 1306, W. B. Scott P.M. 822, William Vincent P.M. 1194, J. H. Price W.M. 1321, J. Greenway 1310, E. Daker 1306, W. Wills 1901, Frank C. Joseph 2048, A. W. Gerrard 1415, J. Jackson 1287, T. Powell 2182, H. Reynolds 2182, E. Smith 2182, Arthur Scurrah 2206, G. Goddard 933, H. J. McFarlane 1929, W. H. Sillis 127, W. O. Welsford 1321, Henry White 167, C. A. Murton, and others. The Consecrating Officer, in his opening address, remarked upon the difficulty of procuring warrants for London Lodges, and the rule to grant none save where exceptional reasons for same could be proved, which had satisfactorily been done in the present case, and they were about to add another Lodge to the present roll of London Military Lodges, which already number twelve. At the outset he congratulated the founders upon the honour conferred upon them by the presence of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of New York and three of his principal Officers; he believed it was the first time in the history of the Grand Lodge of New York that the Grand Master had ever waited on English Lodges. The Grand Chaplain then delivered an appropriate oration on the principles of the Order, in the course of which he compared the steady gradual rise and progress of Freemasonry to the orderly and stately rearing of King Solomon's Temple. He also spoke in a very feeling manner of the loss the Craft had sustained in the death of the Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master the late Earl of Carnarvon, and pointed to his Masonic life as a noble pattern to us all. The Lodge was then consecrated in due form and ceremony. A. B. Claude Scott P.M. was installed W.M., and the Consecrating Officer invested the following brethren:—Bros. M. H. Hale S.W., G. E. Grimes J.W., J. L. Miller Secretary, W. H. Faircloth S.D., J. Jackson J.D., Harry Sillis I.G. The Worshipful Master stated his first and most pleasing duty was to propose to the members that, in order to show their deep sense and appreciation conferred upon the Lodge by the M.W.G.M. of New York and his Grand Officers being present at this consecration, they should vote them first honorary members of their Lodge; this was carried unanimously. The M.W. Grand Master of New York, replying on behalf of himself and his colleagues, expressed the great pleasure and gratification it gave them to be present at the consecration of an English Lodge, especially one of a Military character,—which was of particular interest to him. In his own jurisdiction, which in size was second only to the Grand Lodge of England, there were at present no Military Lodges, but at the time it was founded six of the nine were Military, and it was founded on the warrant of a Lodge which was granted over a hundred years ago by the Duke of Athol, and when the War of Independence was over, and the English evacuated New York, to the lasting credit of English Masons—for Englishmen were and are honourable men—they left the warrant in the sacred precincts of the Lodge room for their American brethren, who have worked under it ever since. This fact alone would cement the bond of brotherhood between Masons on both sides of the water. He and his colleagues would ever remember and appreciate the truly fraternal manner in which they had been received, and ever value the honorary membership that had been conferred upon them. Honorary membership was also conferred upon the Consecrating Officers. The Lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to an excellently served banquet, prepared for them in the Sergeants' Mess, which reflected great credit upon the catering of the regimental club steward. The usual loyal toasts were given and duly honoured. In giving the toast of the Grand Officers the W.M. touched briefly but feelingly upon the death of the late M.W. Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon. Lord Euston said, on behalf of myself and the other Grand Officers, I thank you for the hearty manner in which you have received this toast. It is a labour of love to assist you on the road of prosperity, and a great pleasure to us all. I have never before visited a Military Lodge, and it is a singular coincidence that the first I do visit, and assist in at its consecration, should be the 6th Volunteer Battalion, attached to my old regiment the Rifle Brigade. You wear the same uniform, with a slight difference only in the badge. I sincerely trust and believe that, as there seems to be the same go and energy in the Lodge as in the regiment you are named after, you will continue to prosper in numbers and proficiency, and show as good a record and be as smart in your working as the regiment is in drill. The W.M. in giving the toast of the Consecrating Officers said it was the toast of the evening. The way in which they had worked the ceremony was

an example which the Lodge would do well to emulate. He trusted the Lodge would follow the example of the regiment, which had gained and maintained a reputation in the field; and it was his wish, as an Officer in both regiment and Lodge, that it should do credit to the regiment which had received them as the representatives of Masonry under its colours. Without further comment he would give the toast of the Consecrating Officers; this was drunk with great enthusiasm. V.W. Bro. Colonel Clerke in reply said—As I have been talking for a considerable time I am afraid you will be tired of my voice, but I can assure you it has been a particular pleasure. I am, like Lord Easton, an old soldier, and our hearts warm to see military men going so thoroughly into Masonry. It is a delight to see discipline and brotherhood combined in the double bond of the Soldier and the Mason. If you keep the attributes of both before you the Lodge cannot be otherwise than successful, and we have launched this new ship on the ocean of Masonry without any doubts upon those grounds. I sincerely thank Lord Easton and the other distinguished brethren for the assistance they have afforded me. In proposing the toast of the Worshipful Master, V.W. Bro. Col. Clerke congratulated him on being appointed first Worshipful Master, and stated that upon him would depend the Lodge's future prosperity; also upon the honour to be conferred him by his first candidate for initiation being the colonel of the regiment. The toast was duly honoured. The Worshipful Master, in response, expressed himself hopeful for the future, having the confidence and cheerful assistance of the Officers. The next toast was the Visitors. The W.M. coupled with this popular toast the names of his respected father, a Founder and P.M. of the Victoria Rifle Lodge, and Bro. Sourrah. Bro. Scott P.M., in reply, gave a brief history of the foundation of the Victoria Rifle Lodge, thirty-three years ago, of which he is the only Founder still living, and added that as his son was a P.M. of that Lodge, and first Master of this, he might almost consider himself its grandfather. He wished it might flourish as the old one had done. Bro. Sourrah also replied. The toast of the Officers was given and received. Brother Hale P.M. S.W., responding for the Officers, related how the difficulties of founding a new Lodge had been surmounted, and of their intention to support their W.M. on all occasions. The musical portion of the ceremony, under the direction of Bro. H. J. McFarlane, as well as an excellent programme after the banquet, was efficiently rendered by Bros. Smith, Reynolds and Powell, under the direction of Bro. H. J. McFarlane, for which a hearty vote of thanks was tendered to them on behalf of the Lodge by the W.M. This was suitably acknowledged by Bro. McFarlane. The Tyler's toast brought to an end a successful and enjoyable evening.

CONSECRATION OF THE VICTORIA LODGE, No. 2360.

THE members of the Masonic body in Southport have witnessed the consecration of three Lodges in their town in the same number of years, viz., the Scarisbrick, No. 2295, the Rose of Lancaster, No. 2325, and the Victoria, No. 2360. The ceremony of consecration of the last-named was performed on the 7th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Eastbank Street, by Bro. E. H. Cookson Prov. G.S.W. (ex-Mayor of Liverpool), in the presence of a large number of brethren representing many Lodges in the Province of West Lancashire. The consecrating Officers were:—Bros. E. H. Cookson W.M., James De Bels Adam S.W., Robert Foots J.W., J. Kirby Turner P.M. P.G.C. (Hesketh, 950), W. Goodacre P.G. Stand. B. Secretary, John C. Robinson D.C., G. A. Harradon I.P.M. I.G., and Ralph Betley P.A.G.S. The Worshipful Master Designate, Bro. Jos. Kilby P.M. 1313, was afterwards presented for installation by Bro. Robinson, and was duly installed by Bro. Goodacre. The Officers of the new Lodge were subsequently installed, as follows:—Bros. Joseph Kilby W.M., C. T. Porter, D.D., LL.D., S.W., A. B. Battrick J.W., Wm. F. Scarlett Secretary, Thomas M. Horsburgh I.P.M., John Hyde S.D., J. McKinnell J.D., J. F. Roberts D.C., T. Ormrod Organist, F. Oliver I.G., J. Sykes and W. Lewis Stewards, and G. Rockliff Tyler. The installation ceremony concluded, Bro. Betley delivered and explained the working tools, and addressed the Officers. Among the visitors were Bros. J. H. Sillitoe, C. T. Webster, James Hesketh, F. Wood, Sydney Fane, Samuel Bryce, T. E. Chambers, J. W. Dewhurst, R. Sharrock, W. Watson, R. H. Johnson, Wm. Lewis, Joseph Sykes, G. G. Smith, T. Hanson, Wm. Scott, P. J. Whitehead, Joseph Ashby, Warwick Wood, J. F. Gale, John Wainwright, G. A. Harraden, C. E. Austin, C. Duxfield, C. E. Bryan, J. Bellinar Margerison, A. J. Charlack, and Wm. Platt. The brethren wore mourning rosettes, out of respect to the memory of the late Earl of Carnarvon, an old and valued Officer of the Craft. At the close of the business of the Lodge they adjourned to the banqueting room, where the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given, the catering of Bro. George Rockliff giving every satisfaction.

MARINERS' LODGE, No. 249.

THE annual installation ceremony in connection with this Lodge, the charter of which dates as far back as the year 1783, was held on the 3rd inst., at the Masonic Temple, Hope Street, Liverpool, when Bro. William B. Bridge was elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, the Officers invested by the W.M. being as follows:—Bros. W. Hewson I.P.M., R. Shacklady S.W., H. F. Neale J.W., J. Hayes Treasurer, T. Irwin Roberts Secretary, Alfred B. Ewart Organist, T. Bush S.D., H. Brown J.D., Edmund Routledge I.G., Frank S. Saunders, T. Amos, G. Wiggins, and W. Spencer Stewards, R. G. Bradley D.C., and W. H. Ball Tyler. The W.M. elect was presented for the benefit of installation by Bros. John Whalley and Morris Davis, the ceremony of installation being most efficiently performed by Bro. Hewson, the retiring W.M. There were no fewer than thirty-four installed Masters present, including Bros. John Whalley, R. G. Bradley, Joseph Janaway, Horace Davis, James White, H. J. Pye, and David Caughley, Past Masters of the Lodge. The brethren subsequently partook of a banquet, catered for by Bro. James Casey, the house steward.

RURAL PHILANTHROPIC LODGE, No. 291.

THE annual Festival in connection with this Lodge was held at Kelaway's Railway Hotel, Highbridge, on Friday evening, the 4th inst., when Bro. Dr. Peskett was installed as W.M. of the Lodge for the ensuing year, as successor to Bro. T. F. Railton. The ceremony was performed with his accustomed ability by Bro. R. C. Elso D.P.G.M., and the W.M. appointed and invested his Officers for the ensuing year, as follow:—Bros. J. B. Sincock S.W., John Tyler J.W., J. Burnett P.M. Treasurer, Rev. E. Sandford Chaplain, T. F. Norris Secretary, C. Lott S.D., A. E. Burnett J.D., Dr. Kemmis Dir. of Cers., F. W. Bishop I.G., C. Lucette P.M. Organist, J. Wall and W. Sailing Stewards, W. Woodman Tyler. The customary banquet was afterwards partaken of, under the presidency of the Worshipful Master, who was supported by several visiting brethren from various parts of the Province, and a large number of members of the Lodge.

CAMBRIAN LODGE, No. 464.

THE last meeting of this Lodge, previous to the summer recess, was held at the Masonic Hall, Picton Place, Haverfordwest, on Wednesday, the 2nd inst. The W.M. Bro. Howell-Walters, of Harroldstone Hall, St. Bride's Bay, opened Lodge in due form, and after the confirmation of the minutes proceeded to examine the four candidates for passing, viz., Bros. Mumford, J. Phillips, W. Thomas and J. Evans. Lodge having been opened in the second degree, they were regularly introduced and passed to the degree of Fellow Craft by the W.M., assisted by Bro. Hood-Williams P.M. P.P.G. Superintendent of Works W.D. of South Wales. At the termination of Lodge business Bro. Hood Williams rose, and congratulated the W.M. upon the very successful and happy completion of their first session under his presidency, and reminded him that at his election four gentlemen were proposed for initiation, and since his election four others had been proposed, accepted and initiated. Masonry was progressive, and although he held that it were better for a Lodge to lose its charter than that one unworthy person should be introduced into our ancient and honourable fraternity, yet it was most desirable that a succession of "good men and true" should be added to our ranks. With this laudable object in view he submitted to them the name of a gentleman whose Masonic sponsors were brethren held in very high estimation both inside and outside their Lodge, viz., Bro. P.M. John Jones their excellent Prov. Grand Secretary, and Bro. P.M. Thomas Gwynne Mortimer, one of their oldest and most respected members, P. Prov. Grand Chaplain of this Province, and also of the Province of Oxfordshire. He had very great pleasure in handing over to the Secretary the usual deposit. The Secretary Bro. E. H. Ellis, in reply to a question from the W.M., gave the brethren some information respecting the Provincial Grand Fund of Benevolence, and stated that he would be pleased to receive donations from the brethren toward that very excellent Fund before the next Provincial Grand Lodge. The W.M. thereupon promised a sum of £5, and we trust many of the brethren will see their way to follow so generous an example. Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the smoking-room, where the W.M. gave the toasts of the Queen and Craft, and the Most Worshipful Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, which were received with musical honours, all the brethren most heartily joining in "God Save the Queen" and "God bless the Prince of Wales." The toasts of the Past Masters, the W.M., and the Officers were proposed, warmly received and heartily responded to. Songs were sung by P.M.'s Rule Owen, Levi Harris, and Hood-Williams, also Bro. W. J. Jones and John Evans. The singing of the National Anthem brought this most enjoyable evening to a close.

DOWNSHIRE LODGE, No. 594.

BRO. H. Dunkel was, on the 26th ult., at the Masonic Temple, Hope Street, Liverpool, duly installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. There was a numerous attendance of Officers and members of the Lodge, and an equally numerous and influential assembly of visiting brethren. Having been installed in excellent style by Bro. E. R. Latham, the new Worshipful Master Brother Dunkel proceeded to invest the Officers, as follow:—Bros. E. R. Latham I.P.M., B. Allenby S.W., J. Phelan J.W., I. Turner P.P.G.S.B. Treasurer, J. Edwards Secretary, E. Smart S.D., H. P. Cowell J.D., J. D. Haughton P.M. D.C., J. Bellingham I.G., J. Howley S.S., E. Jefferies J.S., C. Trense A.S., F. Wilkinson A.S., W. H. Parkinson A.S., J. S. Buck A.S., W. Hudson Organist, and A. Pedersen P.M. Charity Representative. The annual installation banquet was subsequently held, being catered for in the usual satisfactory manner by Bro. J. Casey, the house steward. A most enjoyable musical programme was gone through in the course of the evening.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 673.

BRO. ROBERT RAWLINSON was, on the 1st inst., at the Masonic Temple, Hope Street, Liverpool, duly installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. There was a large attendance of the members of the Lodge and visiting brethren. The W.M. elect was presented for installation by Bros. J. T. Callow and Dr. Clarke, and the ceremony of installation was most efficiently performed by Bro. J. B. Parker I.P.M. Having been installed, Bro. Rawlinson proceeded to invest his Officers, as follow:—Bros. J. O. Mallabar I.P.M., W. E. Morton S.W., James Williams J.W., D. Jackson Treasurer, John Wylie Secretary, J. T. Callow D.C., A. E. Workman Organist, Rev. W. H. Harpur Chaplain, W. R. Roberts S.D., John Morgan J.D., John Teed I.G., Dr. Follows, J. Clarke, F. Jenkins, A. Workman Stewards, and W. H. Ball Tyler. The brethren subsequently partook of the annual installation banquet, and a pleasant evening was spent, the musical programme being contributed to by Bros. Thomas Shaw (violin), S. Kirkham, J. Hegenbotham, W. E. Williams, A. Workman, and A. E. Workman (accompanist). A Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. J. O. Mallabar, the retiring W.M.

ELLESMERE LODGE, No. 730.

THE members celebrated the Festival of St. John on Wednesday, the 2nd inst., at their Lodge Room in the Chorley Town Hall. Bro John Monks was installed W.M. by Bro. W. Goodacre, the investing Officer being Bro. J. Slyman. The following Officers were appointed:—Bros. C. Richmond S.W., S. Widdows J.W., George Tootell Treasurer, John Sharples Secretary, T. F. Brace S.D., R. G. Anderson J.D., James Leigh I.G., P. Yates D.C., and H. Jolly Tyler. The brethren afterwards adjourned to the Imperial Hotel, where the hostess, Mrs. Stansfield, had provided a sumptuous banquet, and after partaking of the bounteous fare, the usual *Loyal and Masonic toasts* followed.

BEAUREPER LODGE, No. 787.

THE 31st anniversary was held at the Lion Hotel, Belper, on Thursday, the 26th ult., when Bro. John Wheatcroft was installed W.M. by Bro. E. J. H. Hoskyns. A banquet was prepared by M. Keyl, about 50 brethren being present. The Officers appointed were:—Bros. C. W. Southern I.P.M., J. T. Lee S.W., F. Handley J.W., E. E. Hillyard Chaplain, S. Stone Treasurer, John Hunter Secretary, Maurice Hunter J.D., T. R. Hibbert S.D., E. J. H. Hoskyns D.C., W. Neam Organist, W. W. Windle I.G., J. Stauhope Tyler.

ST. AUBYN LODGE, No. 954.

THE annual meeting was held on the 1st inst., at the Ebrington Masonic Hall, Granby Street, Devonport, when Bro. H. Nicholls, the W.M. elect, was installed. The ceremony was ably performed by Bro. Lieutenant R. O. Polwhele, R.N., the retiring W.M., and Bros. C. Watson, J. Jolliffe, and J. R. Dugdale P.M. 954, assisted by a Board of Installed Masters. The meeting was held by dispensation in consequence of the regular meeting falling last week, or there would probably have been a larger attendance. The Board of Installed Masters having been closed, the Officers appointed and invested were:—Bros. Lieutenant R. O. Polwhele, R.N., I.P.M., T. Lander S.W., A. Willcocks J.W., J. S. Allingham Treasurer, J. Osborn P.M. Secretary, R. Govier S.D., W. G. Watson J.D., R. T. Parsons D.C., F. Huxham A.D.C., C. Newton Organist, C. Farthing A. Organist, G. J. Ellis I.G., H. Worth, T. Maynard, T. Ellis and J. Jones Stewards, W. Henderson Tyler. The brethren afterwards adjourned to the Royal Hotel, to their annual banquet. The W.M. presided. On account of ill-health the W.M. had to leave at an early hour, and the brethren expressed their sympathy with him in consequence. The I.P.M. then took the chair. A very pleasant evening was spent, Bros. W. H. Gillman, A. W. Spinney, W. L. Lavers, T. B. Tresise, W. Watson and C. Newton contributing to the success of the same.

ROYAL VICTORIA LODGE, No. 1013.

BRO. W. H. THORNTON was, on the 2nd inst., at the Masonic Temple, Hope Street, Liverpool, installed as Worshipful Master. There was a large attendance of members of the Lodge and visiting brethren. Having been duly installed in the chair of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Thornton proceeded to invest his Officers, as follow:—Bros. F. Evans I.P.M., W. M'William S.W., W. Warburton J.W., G. Broadbent S.D., E. Barnett J.D., T. P. Bethell I.G., T. K. Hughes D.C., Squire Chapman Treasurer, J. W. Glendinning Secretary, John B. Jones Organist, A. E. Griffiths Assistant Organist, G. Proudman, W. H. Outram, R. Woods Stewards, and Peter Ball Tyler. An excellent banquet was subsequently supplied by Bro. James Casey, the house steward, the evening's proceedings being pleasantly enlivened by the musical contributions of Bros. Edwards, Proudman, Broadbent, Howard, Salisbury, Jack, Outram and Bethell, the accompaniments being supplied by Bro. J. B. Jones.

MARWOOD LODGE, No. 1244.

ON Tuesday, the 1st inst., the annual festival and installation of Bro. John Featherstone, the W.M. elect, took place at the Masonic Hall, Redcar. There was a good attendance of brethren, including several visitors from Lodges at Middlesbrough, Stockton, Saltburn, &c. The Lodge was opened by Bro. G. Hood W.M., after which the ceremony of installation was impressively performed by Bro. James Hogg.

FERMOR LODGE, No. 1313.

THE regular meeting was held on the 26th ult., in the Freemasons' Hall, Southport, Bro. the Rev. Joseph Ashby W.M. presiding. After the transaction of the routine business, Bro. Richard Sharrock W.M. elect was duly installed in the chair by Bro. the Rev. J. Ashby J.P.M. Subsequently the several Officers of the Lodge were invested with their respective insignia, and addressed by Bro. Roberts. The Officers invested were as follows:—Bros. the Rev. J. Ashby I.P.M., Boyce D.C., Megson S.W., Ripley J.W., T. Whitehead Secretary, J. F. Roberts Treasurer, Woods S.D., Lough J.D., Wooler Organist, Emmson I.G., Rockliff Tyler, F. Gresswell and S. Fane Stewards, R. Ault Assistant Steward.

FALCON LODGE, No. 1416.

ON Wednesday, 25th ult., the annual picnic in connection with this Lodge was held, when a goodly number of members and friends visited the Hambleton range of hills, and spent an enjoyable day, starting at 9.30 from Thirsk. Breakfast was partaken of at Brook House, Sutton, the residence of the W.M., Bro. F. R. Hansell, after which the party journeyed in waggons to Rievaulx, had dinner at Hawley, and returned to Thirsk via Arden and Kewick.

ISLE OF AXHOLME LODGE, No. 1482.

ON Tuesday, the 1st inst., a large number of brethren assembled at Crowle, to do honour to the newly-elected Worshipful Master (Bro. Constable), who was duly installed by Bro. T. Stanforth P.P.G.P. The ceremony was most ably performed. He was also

assisted in the duties by Bros. Walker, Bell, Rand and Horobin, and also by Bro. Peace W.M. The Officers, who were invested by the W.M., were:—Bros. Bartonshaw I.P.M., Behrendt S.W., R. N. Brunyee J.W., Stanforth Chaplain, Watson Treasurer, Wood Secretary, Horobin Charity Steward and Almoner, Fox S.D., Faulkner J.D., Peace D.C., Bartonshaw Organist, Drury Standard Bearer, Pickering I.C., Petch and Scholey Stewards, Naylor Tyler. After the Lodge duties, the W.M. invited the brethren to assemble on Bro. Brunyee's garden lawn, where Bro. Books, from Messrs. Wellsted's, Hull, was prepared to take a group picture of the brethren, as a memento of the occasion. After this was done, the brethren assembled in the Market Hall, where dinner was prepared for them by Mrs. Chafer, of the Darby and Joan Hotel. The usual *Loyal and Masonic toasts* were ably gone through, directed by Bro. Peace D.C., while Brothers Rickard, Webb, and several brethren from Goole, &c., added to the pleasure of the evening by their delightful vocalisation.

BURRELL LODGE, No. 1829.

THE members of this Lodge, having recently removed from Shoreham, held their first meeting in their new home at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, on the 3rd inst. The Lodge was opened in the King's Apartments, by the W.M. Bro. W. Gill, who was supported by his Officers. There was a numerous assemblage of visitors. The ordinary business having been transacted, the brethren adjourned to the banqueting-room, where they sat down to an excellent banquet, supplied by Bro. Sayers, of Western Road. The W.M. Bro. W. Gill presided, and was supported by the Past Masters and the Provincial Grand Officers. The usual Masonic toasts were honoured. The W.M. proposed the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge Present and Past. He said they had present with them a worthy representative of the Provincial Grand Lodge in Bro. E. Clowes, the Senior Grand Warden—one whose geniality and sterling abilities had won him the esteem of all Freemasons in Sussex. Bro. Clowes, in acknowledging the toast, thanked those present for the cordial manner in which they had received the kind remarks of the W.M. Speaking of the Government of the Province, he alluded to the interest the Duke of Connaught had taken in Sussex Freemasonry when absent in India, and now that he had returned it was hoped he would visit the Province in the autumn. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master Sir W. T. Marriott was unable, from his Parliamentary engagements, to be present, but had written to him (Bro. Clowes) wishing the Burrell Lodge every success, and expressing his regret at being absent. Bro. Clowes then proposed the W.M. and the Burrell Lodge. The brethren, it was evident, were proud, he said, of their W.M., and, for his own part, he felt, after the excellent manner in which he had carried out the ceremony that afternoon, that he was one of the best Worshipful Masters in the Province. He (Bro. Clowes) heartily welcomed the Burrell Lodge to Brighton. The name of the Lodge reminded them of one who had greatly advanced Freemasonry, and the brethren would be interested to know that Bro. C. J. Corder, who was present, had initiated the late Sir Walter Burrell into Freemasonry. The Brighton Lodges wished the Burrell Lodge every success, and he trusted its members would introduce into their midst none but true and trusty brethren. The W.M., on rising to respond, was warmly received. He alluded to the growth of the Lodge and the inconvenience it experienced at Shoreham from lack of accommodation. They were reluctant to leave their old quarters, though the majority of their brethren lived at Brighton. It had been rumoured that the Provincial Grand Lodge would not grant the change, but such rumours had been groundless. The Lodge was one of the largest in Sussex. He did not attach the highest importance to numbers, but was proud to say they did strive to carry out the principle of Freemasonry. It gave him great pleasure to see the representatives of so many Lodges of the Province present, and he trusted that emulation, and not rivalry, would always characterise their association with other Lodges. The W.M. proposed the Visitors, to which Bros. C. J. Corder and J. C. Backwell responded. Bro. T. Packnam next gave the Royal Masonic Charitable Institutions, the toast being acknowledged by Brother A. J. Carpenter. Bro. E. New gave the Past Masters, to which Bros. R. B. Higham and T. Packnam responded, the latter gracefully alluding to Bro. Higham as the founder of the Lodge. Bro. J. Harrison proposed the Officers of the Lodge, Bros. H. Packham and E. A. Buchanan responding. The Tyler's toast completed the list. During the evening an excellent programme of vocal music was ably sustained by Miss Maud Bond, Miss Edith Welling, Bros. G. Cole, W. Norman Roe, W. P. Bolingbroke, and H. Dyer; the duties of accompanist being efficiently carried out by Bro. W. Norman Roe P.P.G.O.

PRIORY LODGE OF ACTON, No. 1996.

THE business meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 7th inst., in their old and historic building, the Berrymead Priory, Acton. After despatch of Masonic business, the brethren journeyed to Hampton Court, where a banquet had been prepared by Bro. C. Sadler, of the Mitre Hotel. It was much enjoyed, after the cold drive down. Owing to the unpropitious weather, the brethren did not muster in such force as is their wont.

Camden Lodge of Instruction, No. 704.—Held its usual weekly meeting at the Masonic Rooms adjoining the White Hart Hotel, 116 High-street, Lewisham, E.C., on Thursday, the 3rd inst., at 8 p.m. prompt. Bro. H. R. Traut presided as W.M., and was supported by Bros. R. W. Cartwright S.W., J. T. Axford P.M. J.W., James Stevens P.M. P.Z. Preceptor, Walter Robins Secretary, George Pickering S.D., S. Lancaster P.M. J.D., C. Thomas I.G., Geo. Browne, H. Don, White, Horace T. Banner, A. Wimbruch, W. Fieldson P.M., E. Leaphard, and others. The Lodge was worked in the first degree, and considerable interest was taken in the endeavour of Bro. Traut, who was initiated into the Craft so recently only as the 3rd of May last, to rule the Lodge and perform the initiation ceremony in a perfect manner. It may be truthfully stated that he was most successful in such an endeavour, and thoroughly deserved the

cordial approbation of the brethren, and their subsequent vote of thanks for his services for the first time as W.M. in this (or any other) Lodge. Instead of section-working a period of the evening was devoted to the discussion of interesting points of ceremonial, in respect of which the Preceptor answered the questionings of the brethren and afforded much useful information. After the election of joining members, Bro. R. W. Cartwright was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. On the 17th inst. the Lodge will work in the M.M. degree; on the 24th the evening will be devoted to the Preceptor, and on the 31st the ceremony of installation will be rehearsed. We commend this Lodge of Instruction to such of our readers as desire to make progress in the art of Freemasonry.

Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, No. 1614.—The weekly meeting was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, S.W., on the 26th ult., when there were present:—Bros. Evenden W.M., R. C. Carsons S.W., W. Hoggins J.W., W. Brindley Preceptor, J. Greenway Deputy Preceptor, G. Reynolds Treasurer and Secretary, F. Cracknell S.D., F. W. Buxton J.D., J. Thrussell Organist, E. J. D. Rymer I.G., T. E. Weeks Tyler, W. Hancock, R. Kirke, W. Williams. After preliminaries, the Preceptor worked the second section of the first lecture. Bro. W. Hancock offered himself as a candidate for raising. Lodge was opened in third degree, and the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony. Bro. R. C. Carsons was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The W.M. elect appointed his officers in rotation and announced his intention of working the third ceremony. Bro. Preceptor proposed that a cordial vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. H. Evenden for the able manner in which he had carried out the duties of the chair for the first time in this Lodge of Instruction. Nothing further offering the Lodge was closed and adjourned.

THE THEATRES, &c.

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Avenue.—Is there to be a revival of the poetic drama? If so, one thing, at least, was proved on Friday, the 27th ult., at the matinée of Mr. Alfred C. Calmour's "Cyrene," and it was that there are actors and actresses now on the stage fully competent to do justice to any blank verse plays that are likely to be written. Before, however, saying what we have to say of those who, by their playing of their various characters in the drama, did so much to make "Cyrene" please, we will speak of the play itself. For some time past much has been heard about a new play by the author of "The Amber Heart," and those who were supposed to know talked of "Cyrene" as Mr. Calmour's masterpiece. "The Amber Heart" was pretty, but lacked power, and we have no hesitation in saying that in "Cyrene" Mr. Calmour has made a distinct step forward; but good as is the blank verse and pretty as is the story, we hope and expect to have from Mr. Calmour—who is a young man—something as far in advance of "Cyrene" as that is in advance of "The Amber Heart." The story was correctly described upon the programme as a "Dramatic Fancy." "Cyrene"—a maiden fair, alike by inward nature and in outward form—has, by her loving gentleness and care, tamed the somewhat savage nature of Fantea, the blind Prince of Andorra. She has a foster-sister, Ciprissa, who is dark, alike by inward nature and in outward form. Why are the bad characters on the stage always dark? As in "King René's Daughter," a marvellous physician, or magician, cures the blindness of the Prince. Before, however, the necessary operation is performed, Cyrene, in a merry mood, thinking to surprise Fantea when she sees her, describes herself as dark of skin and hair, and eyes, unlike herself, but like Ciprissa. His sight restored, he claims Ciprissa for his bride, and Cyrene is broken-hearted. This is how the first act ends. A year elapses between the first and second acts. In the second act Ciprissa is Princess, but all the same she keeps her former lover Brancho, a fosterer, and raises him to a high position about the Court. She, by her brutal wickedness, leads the Prince a wretched life, and he, having found out his mistake, longs for Cyrene. Cyrene—Viola like—comes to him dressed as a boy, pretending to be her own brother, and that she herself is dead. It somehow seems that the restored eyesight of the Prince will only last so long as he is happy. His belief in Cyrene's death, and the treatment he receives from Ciprissa makes him miserable, and he is blind again. Then once more Cyrene leads him about, and sings to him the songs he loved. Ciprissa, having found out Cyrene's secret, tries to make Brancho jealous of the boy (?) and thus secure his death; but she has schemed, not wisely, but too well, and is herself stabbed by her lover Brancho. Cyrene and Fantea are left to roam through life together, and thus is justice done, and this poetic "fancy" ended. Mr. Calmour's blank verse is correct and in many passages tuneful, albeit it lacks at times the true ring that carries conviction to the heart. The story, although not very powerful or original, is pretty and the moral good. Much praise is due to Mr. Calmour for the construction of his play, which shows a knowledge and appreciation of the playwright's craft. His "curtains" are most effective. As to the acting, the performers for the most part proved not only that they could speak blank-verse, but also deal with poetry. Mr. H. Neville and Miss Marion Terry, as Fantea and Cyrene, were all that could be desired, and we only wish that they could be seen in such parts more often. Miss Terry looked most charming in her boy's dress. Mr. Arthur Stirling's elocution was effective in the part of Morctus. Mr. F. Hamilton Knight and Miss Clara Jecks, as Gastrell and Nina, played extremely well the difficult, semi-comic, semi-pathetic parts of two lovers, and we should have been very sorry to miss them, although their work did little to help the action of the play. We have left to the end the Ciprissa of Miss Lilian Kingston. This character was to have been taken by Miss Vane, but we found a slip in our programme containing this

notice, "In consequence of the sudden illness of Miss Vane, Miss Lilian Kingston has, at very short notice, kindly consented to appear as Ciprissa." Great was our surprise to find that Miss Kingston was an actress who could play the difficult part of Ciprissa in so perfect a manner that we could not conceive it being better acted. This lady will, we feel sure, take a high position in the profession to which she belongs. Other parts were played by Mr. Edmund Garney, Brancho; Mr. John Carter, Zembra; and Mr. P. J. Kirwan, Drega. We must not forget to mention the dance at the opening of the second act, which was tastefully arranged by Miss Sylvia Grey, and gracefully executed by four young ladies. Rumour says that "Cyrene" will shortly be in the regular evening programme at an important London theatre. We trust rumour is correct, and if so, that it will be played by as powerful a company as it was on this its first production.

Toole's.—Astute managers, like good chefs, vary their theatrical menus according to the seasons, and at the present time the popular dramatic dish in full favour is farcical comedy. Miss Violet Melnotte, wise in her generation, has taken advantage of the opportunity offered by securing this popular little theatre, and has produced Mr. J. H. Darnley's amusing farce "The Solicitor," which, judging by the roars of laughter with which it has been received, promises to be as successful as "The Barrister." "The Solicitor," having already been in practice in the country, comes to London fully prepared to extend his business, and owing to the admirable manner in which all his staff work together, there is little doubt as to the result. The piece is brightly and effectively written, the complications are capitably contrived and naturally elucidated, and it is performed with a briskness and high spirit that is quite exhilarating. Mr. John Tresabar sustains the part of the unfortunate hero in a highly diverting manner, and is ably assisted by Mr. L. D'Orcay, Mr. F. Kaye, Mr. Graham Wentworth and Mr. A. B. Francis, who represents the military part of the farce. The ladies are also fully up to the mark, and it can be easily imagined what fun is caused by Miss Rutland, Miss Blanche Wolsely and the experienced Miss Susie Vaughan. We must congratulate Miss Melnotte upon her fortunate start on her new venture.

St. James's.—Mr. Arthur Bouchier started his managerial career on the 26th ult., with a farcical comedy, adapted from the French by Mr. Justin Huntly McCarthy, entitled "Your Wife." We are afraid we cannot give either author or manager unequalled congratulation. The play, although in the first act decidedly lively, suffers considerably in the last two acts for want of situations. Jack Daryll, barrister (Mr. A. Bouchier), falls in love with the daughter of his uncle, Mr. Appleton Crabbe (Mr. Everill), an African explorer. The uncle will not hear of the match, and, whilst away in Africa, insists on his nephew marrying another lady—he does not care whom—threatening to stop his allowance if he does not. Jack pretends to comply, and forwards to his uncle the photograph of his friend's wife, Lucy Verity (Miss Edith Chester). The uncle returns unexpectedly, accompanied by one Arminius Pappenburg (Mr. H. de Large), a fellow explorer, who turns out to be a German adventurer, to whom he has pledged his daughter. Jack, in despair, explains his dilemma to his friend Tom Verity (Mr. Ernest Lawford), whose life he has once saved, and asks for the loan of his wife. Tom reluctantly agrees. The complications that ensue from this arrangement are expected to amuse the public for one hour and three-quarters. This they do not do, for, as we have stated, the last two acts drag terribly, and we are afraid irreparably. The acting is certainly above the average, especially the Jack Daryll of Mr. Bouchier, which is a striking picture of a lively, scatterbrained young man, full of animation and vivacity. Miss Edith Chester, and Miss Annie Irish, who takes the part of the niece, also do their best with the rather feeble materials with which the author has supplied them. "Your Wife" was preceded by a pretty little one-act play, by Lady Violet Greville, called "Old Friends," in which Miss Annie Irish does excellent service as the self-sacrificing sister, who, in order to secure the happiness of her youngest sister, renounces all claim to the sailor sweetheart, who returns after a prolonged absence to claim her, from a sense of duty alone.

Notwithstanding the great success of "New Lamps for Old," it will now only be played a few nights longer, owing to an arrangement entered into by Miss Grahame to produce Mr. Arthur Law's new play during her tenancy at Terry's. The play is in three acts, entitled "The Judge," Mr. Penley playing the title rôle, supported by Messrs. Mark Kinghorn, W. Lestocq, W. Herbert, F. H. Fenton, George Belmore, Mesdames Emily Thorne, Helen Leyton, Elsie Chester, and Miss Grahame. The date of production is not yet definitely decided on.

"New Lamps for Old" commences a long tour of the provinces on August Bank Holiday, under the supervision of Mr. H. T. Brickwell, and the personal management of Mr. S. H. Austin, Mr. Jerome having made arrangements with these gentlemen to look after his interests.

Mme. Madeline Schiller, the pianiste who, on the occasion of her Orchestral Concert at Prince's Hall, on the 7th May last, won such favourable press notices, announces a pianoforte recital at St. James's Hall, on the afternoon of the 14th inst. The recital will be under the direction of Mr. N. Vert. The programme will consist of selections from Beethoven, Schumann, Chopin, Mendelssohn, Liszt, and Hummel.

COLEMAN'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT and MALT WINE.—A 2s 9d bottle of this celebrated wine sent free by Parcel Post for 23 stamps. Over 2,000 testimonials received from medical men. COLEMAN & CO. LIMITED, NORWICH. Sold everywhere.

SURREY.

Prov. G. Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

W. Bro. **FREDERICK WEST**, P.G.D. (Eng.)
Deputy Prov. Grand Master, in Charge.

THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE will be held at the St. Nicholas Parish Hall, Guildford, on Tuesday, the 22nd day of July 1890, at 3.30 o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

By Command,

CHARLES GREENWOOD, P.M., P.P.G.R.
Prov. Grand Secretary.

N.B.—Morning Dress.

Albert Institute Chambers, Charles Street, Blackfriars Road, S.E.

Dinner at 6 o'clock punctually.

The entertainment of Provincial Grand Lodge has been entrusted to the Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 777.

For Dinner tickets apply to Bro. Percy Smeed, Angel Hotel, Guildford, enclosing 5s, which will not include wine.

N.B.—Dinner will be provided for those only who have taken tickets, and no ticket will be issued after 18th July.

The Wor. Deputy Prov. G. Master, in Charge, requests the attendance of the brethren at Divine Service, at the Parish Church of St. Nicholas, at 4.30 p.m. Brethren are to appear in Craft Masonic costume at Divine Service, and are to clothe in the St. Nicholas Parish Hall.

Down trains from Waterloo 9.30, 9.45, 11.35 a.m.; 12.45 p.m.

Up trains from Guildford to Waterloo 5.10, 6.34, 7.26, 8.38, 9.30 p.m.

PROVINCE OF SURREY.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER

OF

ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

The Ex. Comp. **FREDERICK WEST**, Prov. G.H. in charge.

THE PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER will be held at the St. Nicholas Parish Hall, Guildford, in the County of Surrey, on Tuesday, the 22nd day of July 1890, at Half-past Two o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

By Command,

CHARLES GREENWOOD, P.Z.
Prov. Grand Scribe E.

N.B.—Morning Dress.

Albert Institute Chambers, Charles Street, Blackfriars Road, S.E.

Dinner at 6 o'clock punctually. For tickets apply to Comp. Percy Smeed, Angel Hotel, Guildford, enclosing 5s, which will not include wine.

N.B.—Dinner will be provided for those only who have taken tickets, and no ticket will be issued after 18th July.

The P.G.H., in Charge, requests the attendance of the Companions at Divine Service at the Parish Church of St. Nicholas, at 4.30 p.m. Companions are to appear in Craft Masonic Costume at Divine Service, and are to clothe in the St. Nicholas Parish Hall.

Down trains from Waterloo to Guildford 9.30, 9.45, 11.35 a.m., 12.45 p.m.

Up trains from Guildford to Waterloo 5.10, 6.34, 7.26, 8.38, 9.30 p.m.

GENERAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S SERVICES.

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EDINBURGH.—Wednesday and Saturday. Saloon 22s; fore-cabin, 16s. Return, 34s or 24s 6d.

HULL.—Every Wednesday, at 8 a.m. Saloon, 10s; fore-cabin, 7s. Return, 15s and 11.

HAMBURG from LONDON DIRECT.—Every Thursday. Saloon, 30s; fore-cabin, 20s. Return, 45s or 31s.

Also from Liverpool Street via Harwich, Wednesday and Saturday, at 8 p.m.

OSTEND.—Wednesday and Saturday.—Saloon, 10s; fore-cabin, 7s 6d. Return 15s and 11s 3d.

ANTWERP every Saturday, at 4 p.m. Saloon, 15s; fore-cabin, 11s. Return, 21s and 17s. Excursion, 18s.

BORDEAUX.—Every Friday. Saloon, 50s; fore-cabin, 35s. Return, 80s and 60s. Excursion, 70s. Through Tickets to Arcachon, Biarritz, Pau, &c.

From London Bridge Wharf.

MARGATE.—Every Sunday, at 9 a.m.—There and back same day, 5s.

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FOR PARTICULARS apply to the G. S. N. Co., 55 Great Tower Street, or 14 Waterloo Place, London.

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EAST MOLESEY,
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(Adjoining the RAILWAY, and facing the RIVER and PALACE).

BRO. JOHN MAYO has ample accommodation in the new wing of this old-established and noted Riverside Hotel for Banquets for any number up to 100. Every convenience for Ladies' Gatherings. Spacious landing to river, whence Steam Launches can start. Specimens of Menus, with prices, sent on application. Three Lodges meet at the Castle Hotel, and refer once may be made to the respective Masters as to the catering, &c.

FUNERALS properly carried out and personally attended in London and Country, by Bro. G. A. HUTTON, 17 Newcastle Street, Strand, W.C. Monuments erected. Valuations made.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

To the Patrons, Vice-Patrons, Vice-Presidents, and Life Governors of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

BRETHREN desirous of assisting and supporting Bro. GORDON SMITH (M.A.), P.G.S. Eng., P.M. 14 and 2041, Member of the Board of General Purposes, &c., &c., in his Candidature for the Secretaryship of the Institution, are requested to kindly send their names to Bro. EUGENE MONTEVUIS, P.M. 14, 2060, 2213, P.G.S., G. Sword B. Eng., &c., &c., Hon. Sec. to the Committee.
11th April 1890. 2 Paper Buildings, Temple, E.C.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

ELECTION OF SECRETARY.

The favour of your Vote and support on behalf of

Brother EDWIN STORR, P.M., P.Z., &c.

(whose Candidature has been Specially approved by the Provisional Management Committee of the Institution), is earnestly requested and will be gratefully appreciated.

N.B.—No. 26 on the Voting Paper.

INSTALLATION
OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES
As the M.W.G.M. of England,
AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,
28th APRIL 1875.

COPIES of this BEAUTIFUL ENGRAVING by Brother HARTY P.M., consisting of Artist's Proofs, Proofs before Letters, and Lettered Proofs, India Prints, and Plain Prints may be had at Cost Price by applying to

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FOR SALE.—The First Three Volumes of the 4to Series, issued from July 1859 to December 1860. Bound in Cloth, as published; Vols. 2 and 3 gilt edges. In fine condition, with splendid portrait of the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M. Price £2 10s. Address M. M., c/o Publisher FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, Belvidere Works, Hermes Hill, London, N.

MASONIC LITERATURE.

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ODD VOLUMES of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE and MASONIC MIRROR. The Volumes for 1863 especially wanted. Address, stating price asked, W., Office of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, Belvidere Works, Hermes Hill, Pentonville, London, N.

WANTED.—To Purchase, for Cash, OLD BOOKS ON FREEMASONRY State full Title, Date, and style of Binding; with prices required Address F. W., 41 Thornhill Square, Barnsbury, London, N.
Four days' silence a negative.

DANCING.—To Those Who Have Never Learnt to Dance.—Bro. and Mrs. JACQUES WYNMAN receive daily, and undertake to teach ladies and gentlemen, who have never had the slightest previous knowledge of instruction, to go through every fashionable ball-dance in a few easy lessons.

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BRO. JACQUES WYNMAN WILL BE HAPPY TO TAKE THE MANAGEMENT OF

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M.W.G.M. OF THE FREEMASONS OF ENGLAND.

(Established by Act of Parliament 2 and 3 William IV., 1832.)

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Office Hours from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays 9 to 2.

THE public are admitted to the Cemetery on week days from 8.30 a.m. till 6.45 p.m., and on Sundays and Good Fridays from 2 p.m. till 6 p.m., from the 1st April till the 30th September, inclusive. On week days from 8.30 a.m. till sunset, and on Sundays, Good Fridays, and Christmas Days from 2 p.m. till sunset, from the 1st October till the 30th March inclusive, also on Bank Holidays, till 12 o'clock noon.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is also invited to the Ground (22 acres) recently laid out at the New Western Entrance of the Cemetery, also to the New Organ recently placed in the Western Chapel.

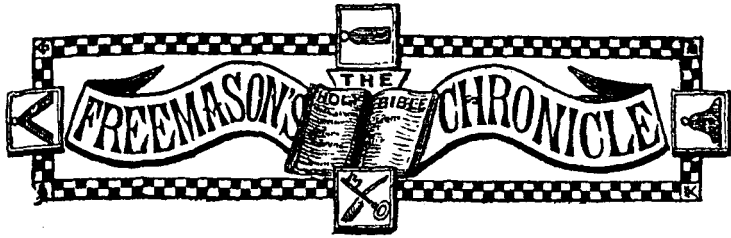
Certificates of Burial can only be obtained at the Offices, 95 Great Russell Street, where also Scale of Charges and all particulars may be had. To meet the requirements of the public, the Directors have adopted the system of separate interments, at the following rates:—

Adults.	Children under 10 years.	Children under 2 years.
£2 5s	£1 10s	£1 5s

with the option to friends to purchase the plot within three years, for a further sum of £3 3s.

HENRY J. CROFT, Secretary and Registrar.

N.B.—A Tent is provided for Mourners, if desired.



SATURDAY, 12TH JULY 1890.

P.G. LODGE OF MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Monmouthshire was held on Thursday, the 3rd inst., at the Masonic Hall, Newport, under the banner of the Isca Lodge. A large number of the Provincial Grand Officers and members assembled to support the Grand Master, Col. Lyne, and the Deputy Grand Master, Captain S. G. Homfray. The Lodge having conducted the usual business incident to the annual session, proceeded to elect Officers for the year, as follow:—

Bro. C. L. Gouch	...	Senior Warden
H. Haskins	...	Junior Warden
Rev. W. L. Bidwell	...	} Chaplains
Rev. — Theophilus	...	
W. Pickford	...	Treasurer
W. G. Flanders	...	Registrar
A. Taylor	...	Secretary
J. Jewel Williams	...	Senior Deacon
D. Bowen	...	Junior Deacon
D. Pritchard	...	Supt. of Works
R. A. Forsyth	...	Dir. of Cers.
J. G. Thomas	...	Assistant Dir. of Cers.
George Whalley	...	Sword Bearer
B. Isaacson	...	Organist
Major Lindun	...	Parsuivant
J. Dixon	...	} Stewards
D. M. Llewellyn	...	
R. Edington	...	
W. T. Garrett	...	
N. L. Willbutte	...	} Tyler
S. L. Preece	...	
H. Fletcher	...	Assistant Tyler

The annual banquet afterwards took place, at the Westgate Hotel, where there was a large gathering. Host Dean catered successfully.

ROYAL ARCH.

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CONCORD CHAPTER, No. 223.

THE annual meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Princess-square, Plymouth, on the 3rd inst., to instal Comps. P. H. Bridgman as Z., A. Trout as H., and William Stenlake as J., for the ensuing year. The Installing Principals were Comps. J. R. Lord P.P.G.T., W. Allsford P.G.P.S., J. M. Hifley P.P.G.S.B., James Gidley. Among the Installed Principals present were Companions James Hoyten, T. Lewarn, R. Blight, F. R. Goodyear, J. W. Cornish, W. Browning, the Rev. T. W. Lemon, D.D., P.Z. 189 P.P.G. 3rd Principal, Samuel Jew, R. Pike, C. Dunsterville, S. Hearle, W. H. Williams, E. Aitken-Davies, and W. J. C. Hannaford. The Officers were invested, as follow:—Comps. James Hoyten I.P.Z., J. M. Hifley Scribe E., J. Jermyn S.N., T. Lillierap P. Sojourner, G. W. Bell 1st Assistant Sojourner, C. H. Tozer 2nd Assistant Sojourner, W. Browning Treasurer, A. E. Bridgman Standard Bearer, Parnell Hannaford D.C., T. A. Stephens A.D.C., W. T. Hoare Organist, J. A. Court and William Blight Stewards, and W. H. Phillips Janitor. The Companions afterwards adjourned to the Club, where they sat down to an enjoyable supper. The I.P.Z. (Comp. Hoyten) presided, and a pleasant hour was passed.

HUYSHE CHAPTER, No. 1099.

THE members held their annual convocation on the 2nd inst., at the Hall, Home Park, Stoke. The Principals-elect were Comps. E. Aitken Davies Z., S. Panter H., W. H. Pengelly J. Comps. J. R. Lord 70, J. Gidley, 1205, were the installing Officers. Comps. W. H. Gilman, W. J. Stanbury, and W. H. Williams were also present. The Officers invested were Comps. H. Rogers I.P.Z., W. H. Gillman S.E., S. J. Page S.N., W. J. Stanbury Treasurer, W. H. Dillon P.S., J. W. Foster 1st A.S., W. S. Staton 2nd A.S., J. Rashbrook Janitor. The proposition of Companion S. J. Page, that the regular days of convocation of the Chapter should be changed from the first Wednesday to the first Tuesday in the first month of each quarter was unanimously adopted.

MARK MASONRY.

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PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE

LEICESTERSHIRE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE,
DERBYSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

THE annual meeting was held at Leicester, on 3rd July, the R.W. Bro. W. Kelly presiding, supported by the D.P.G.M. W. Bro. Cox and a large attendance of brethren. The Reports given by the Worshipful Masters of the ten Lodges in the Province showed steady progress. The Registrar's return gave an increase during the year of 17 members. The R.W. Prov. Grand Master, in his annual address, referred to the fact that a Warrant had been granted for a new Lodge at Alfreton, Derbyshire, making the sixth Lodge in that county since 1879. Bro. Kelly alluded in a few touching words to the death of Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon. The Committee of General Purposes referred with great regret to the loss the Province was about to sustain by the removal of Bro. Miles J. Walker, who since 1886 has filled the office of Grand Secretary with marked efficiency. On the motion of the D.P. Grand Master (Bro. Cox), seconded by W. Bro. Woodiwiss P.P.G.S.W., a suitable address was to be prepared and presented to Bro. Walker, and a sum of £10 10s was voted to the Testimonial Fund. A sum of £5 5s was voted to the Benevolent Fund. The R.W. Prov. Grand Master accepted the invitation of the Northampton brethren to hold the Prov. Grand Lodge next year in their new Hall. The Officers for the ensuing year were then appointed and invested by the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, W. Bro. Miles J. Walker being invested as Prov. Grand Senior Warden, in the place of W. Bro. Woodiwiss (Ex-Mayor of Derby). The usual banquet was then held.

CHELMER LODGE, No. 342.

A MEETING of this Lodge was held on Tuesday night, the 24th ult., at the White Hart Hotel, Chelmsford, Brother J. P. Lewin presided, in the absence of the W.M. Bro. T. R. Jarvis. Brothers G. D. Dixon and F. J. Snell were advanced as Mark Master Masons, Bro. T. J. D. Cramphorn Senior Warden was unanimously elected as W.M., and Bro. G. W. Pascall as Treasurer for the ensuing year. Supper was afterwards served, by Mr. A. M. Hipkin.

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.

THE yearly meeting of this Order took place on Friday last, the 4th inst., the anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn. The Provincial Grand Master Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, as usual, presided, and was supported by Capt. Philips the Deputy, Bros. Frank Richardson Grand Secretary, Charles Belton Grand Treasurer, C. F. Matier Grand Marischal, the Earl of Easton, W. B. Williamson, Frederick Lawrence, Charles E. Keyser, J. Balfour Cockburn, F. Sumner Kayvett, &c. The degree was conferred upon the Earl of Dungarvan and Horatio Ward, Sir Lionel Darell being unable to attend, from unavoidable circumstances. At the conclusion of the proceedings the brethren dined together at the Café Royal.

The brethren of the province of East Lancashire have arranged to hold a garden party on the 26th July, at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Old Trafford. The first meeting of the Organising Committee has been held, under the presidency of Bro. J. H. Sillitoe. It was announced that the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, had consented to become a patron, and other distinguished brethren have already added their names to the list. Bro. Thomas Black, W.M. St. George's Lodge, was elected Chairman, Bro. W. Jaffrey Treasurer, and Bro. John E. Lees Hon. Secretary of the Executive Committee. The managers of several of the Provincial Theatres, the Manchester Arts Club, and other musical and dramatic societies are rendering assistance in arranging concerts, entertainments, &c., and at least two military bands will take part in the proceedings. The chairman and curator of the Botanical Society—Bros. J. R. Hampson and Bruce Findlay—are also giving most valuable aid, so that there is every prospect of the undertaking being one of the most successful and enjoyable gatherings ever organised by the Craft in the North of England. The net proceeds of the garden party will be handed over to the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Benevolent and Educational Institution.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—In complaints peculiar to females these Pills are unrivalled. Their use by the fair sex has become so constant for the removal of their ailments that rare is the household that is without them. Amongst all classes, from the domestic servant to the peeress, universal favour is recorded to these renovating Pills; their invigorating and purifying properties render them safe and invaluable in all cases; they may be taken by females of all ages for any disorganisation or irregularity of the system, speedily removing the cause and restoring the sufferer to robust health. As a family medicine they are unapproachable, for subduing the maladies of young and old.

THE NEBRASKA SQUABBLE.

(Continued from page 6).

"Transactions," 1860, p 49, speaking of the Latin Constitutions of 1786, Brother Pike states:—

"The assertion of our Illustrious Brother that these Constitutions 'disclaim all control over the first three degrees, wherever organizations of those degrees exist'; that the framers of these Constitutions 'prohibit their successors from meddling with the Symbolic degrees'; and that 'their action was to be confined to the Lodges of Perfection, and to the degrees above and including the 4th or Secret Master,' are *strangely incorrect*.

"It is true that Art. XIII. provides that the Sovereign Grand Inspectors, Deputies of the Supreme Council, may delegate to Deputy Inspectors of at least the 30th degree, so much of their powers as may enable them to establish, regulate and superintend Lodges and Councils in any of the degrees, from the 4th to the 20th inclusive. *But this is a mere affirmative provision, that does not at all negative or surrender the power of the Supreme Authority of the Rite over the first three degrees.*"

"Official Bulletin," August 1870, p 106, Brother Pike states:—

"On the 21st of December 1860, the Illustrious Brother Charles Laffon de Landebat, active Member of, and with plenary authority from the Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, established in the Valley of Vera Cruz, in Mexico, the Supreme Council of the 33rd degree for Mexico and the States of Central America, of which Illustrious Brother Gen. Ignacio Comonfort became the Sovereign Grand Commander." Again, referring to this matter in "Official Bulletin," April 1871, p 223, he states:—
"Continued disturbances and dissensions scattered the members of the Grand Council shortly after the commencement of their labour: they chartered a few Lodges, however, among them, one in Tamaulipas."

"Official Bulletin," December 1871, p 451, Bro. Pike states:—

"Tamaulipas Lodge was regularly chartered by the Supreme Council for Mexico and Central America, at Vera Cruz, of which the Illustrious Brother Comonfort was Sovereign Grand Commander. The Supreme Council was regular and legitimate, being established by the Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, and having ample power and perfect right to establish Blue Lodges of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. The Lodge in question was, and is, as regular a Lodge as any in Texas."

In a letter written to the Supreme Council at Peru, 7th February 1877, Brother Albert Pike writes:—

"And when, in 1801, vitality and operation was given to the Grand Constitutions by the organisation of the Supreme Council at Charleston, jurisdiction over the symbolic degrees was expressly waived in favour of the Grand Lodge, but was not entirely ceded or relinquished; and we have always held our right to administer them to be undiminished, and that if necessity should require, it could be resumed. * * * * *

"The doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction has grown up in the United States, and been accepted here as politic and in the interest of harmony and unity. It does not prevail in Europe, and is not a part of Masonic organic law; and its zealots here have not been content to stop when they had pushed it to the very verge of absurdity."

Brother Albert Pike, Grand Commander Supreme Council Southern Jurisdiction Ancient and Accepted Rite, says, in "Foulhouzeism," page 108: 1st, That a person who has received the three Symbolic degrees in a regular lodge of either the English, French, or Scottish Rite is a regular Master Mason, and every regular body of Masons in the world is bound to consider, recognise and receive him as such. 2nd, That a Master Mason who has regularly received the third degree in one Rite, does not need to receive it in another in order to be admitted to visit in Lodges of that Order."

Hoping that by this letter I have placed our position as a Supreme Council Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite properly, fully and clearly before the brethren of our obedience in Nebraska, I am,

Courteously and fraternally,

JOHN J. GORMAN 33°,

Grand Commander.

John Yarker, Past Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Greece, who is recognized as an eminent English Masonic authority, writes as follows:—

WITHINGTON, Manchester, 3rd April 1890.

ALEXANDER ATKINSON,—

Omaha, Neb., U.S.A.

You put to me four questions upon Masonry, which I will answer in short by saying that the action of your Grand Lodge and its Grand Master is opposed to all the laws of lawful Craft Masonry as transmitted to us through the centuries, and that I consider it to be the duty of every honest man to protect the ancient fabric of the Craft by every lawful means with tongue and pen. Justice and Masonic platitudes, as I have learned by long experience, pass for nothing and weigh nothing with ninety-nine Masons out of every hundred: they do not study to fulfil their obligations. I will therefore adopt a different course in considering the matter with you, and to that end will leave out of the question altogether the rites foreign to our Ancient Craft, and show what genuine Masonry is as it has been transmitted to us for above two thousand years.

What then was the Ancient Craft? Did it ever meddle with matters beyond it? We have in England two precious MSS. The older is the Constitution of Euclid, sanctioned by Athelstan, transmitted in rhyme, and committed to writing about the year 1370. It has recently been named the Regius MS. The other is a collection of various charges from ancient Masons and chronicles, and closing with

the same Euclid charge, which it equally asserts was sanctioned by King Athelstan. It was committed to writing not later than 1450, and is called the Cooke MS. The account is practically the same in both MSS. Our traditions fix upon Edwin, King of Northumbria, in A.D. 626, as the earliest known Masonic organizer, and all make Athelstan the great lawgiver of the Craft Guild. York was especially Roman, and one Euclid was an Archon of the mysteries (about 400 B.C.), and another was a Platonist, and master of a school of geometricians; it is probable that the assertion of these MSS. that Euclid re-organized the ancient Egypto-Greek Craft, is founded upon fact.

The account says that having taken for instruction the free-born children of the land—"bi a certyn time they were not all ilyke abull for to take of the forseyd art, wherefore that the forsayde Maister Englet ordeynet thei were passing of conynge should be passing honoured. And did to call the conynge Maister to inform the lesse of conynge Maisters of the wich were called Maisters of nobilite of wytte and conynge of that art. Nevertheless they commanded that thai that were lesse of witte scholde not be called seruaute nor sogette but felaus for nobilite of their gentyll blode."

We find it, therefore, stated that Euclid constituted the qualified or accepted Masons into two classes, as in the "lesser" and "greater mysteries"—the masters and fellows; and that there may be no mistake about it, there is a class of laws called "articles" for the Masters, and a class called "points" for the Fellows. The Apprentice was not called to the assembly, though his duties are defined, and if he was sworn at this early period, as is most probable, it was in private Lodges. The first English Assemblies, Congregations or Chapters (for they were known by all these names) are alleged to have been upon the ordination of Euclid, and had the swearing of Fellows and the passing of Masters. It is clear also that the Assembly (or Grand Lodge, as it is now called) was dually constituted, for the following is what appears upon the subject in the Cooke MS., and equally in the Regius:—"Congregacons scholde be made by Maisters of all Maister Masons and Fellows in the aforesaid art. And so at such congregacons they that made Maisters scholde be examined of the articuls after written and be rausakyed whether thei be abull and kunnyng to the profyte of the lordys them to seruo and to the honour of the aforesaid art."

But the "points" of the Craftsman make a second call to them also, the law being similar in both MSS. I will quote from the Regius:—

12th point—Thor as the sembli yholdo schal be.

Ther schal be maystres and felows also

And other gret lordes many mo.

15th point—A good trew oath he must ther swere

To his mayster and his felows that been there.

There is a final article for "new men that never were sworn before" (presumably Apprentices).

Now, these two books embrace all the known laws of Masonry, but there is not one single word to prohibit the Mason from joining any other association or guild. Yet there is evidence that they did associate themselves freely with the Hermetic societies of the period, for we read in the "Ordinall of Alchemy," compiled by Thomas Norton, "in this year of Christ 1477," as follows:—

But wonder it is that weavers deal with such works,

Freemasons and tanners with poore Pissch Clarkes.

Stayners and glasiars will not thorfere cease,

And yet seely tinkers will put them in preso.

The Masonic assemblies fell into disrepute, laws were passed against them, and their legality finally abolished in 1517. Masonry took refuge in small independent town coteries, of which we have many on record. Anderson found an old tradition that an assembly was held at York, about the year 1560, and an armed force was sent to disperse it, but friends were made of its leaders, and the assembly was allowed to continue its deliberations. It seems a genuine tradition, for from this time a new form of constitution comes into use and is found in the possession of all the private town Lodges, and each asserts (for the first time) that Edwin or Athelstan held the assembly at York. It is clear that a re-arrangement had become necessary, for the form of proceedings is modified; the first series of charges is for Masons in general, the second to Masters and Fellows, and the documents are addressed to the "Good Brethren and Fellows."

In or about 1633 an attempt was made to revive the authority of the ancient Grand Assembly. It was enacted that for the future the whole Craft should be under one Grand Master. The object of these new regulations (which are added to a copy of the charges preserved amongst the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum) was to regulate the abuses into which the Craft had fallen for want of a ruling centre, and to get back some of its operative control. It is probable that these "new regulations" were a York arrangement, for they added a copy of a new charge, to which Apprentices were to be sworn, and this charge is found in use chiefly, if not entirely, in Yorkshire, Durham and Northumberland. It would seem that the private Lodges had usurped the functions of the Assembly, yet there is quite sufficient to show that these bodies preserved three classes of secrets—for Apprentice, Fellow and Master, as now—neither more nor less.

Yet still in all these centuries no Masonic pope arose, either to anathematise outside societies or prohibit Masons liberty of conscience. On the contrary we find they still continued to join the hermetic and mystic societies. The Freemasons Murray and Ashmole were Rosicrucians, and the "Wise Man's Crown," 1664, has the following passage:—The late years of tyranny admitted stocking weavers, shearmakers, millers, masons, carpenters, bricklayers, gunsmiths, hatters &c., to write and teach astrology.

The next period of Masonry was the revival of a ruling centre in London, in 1717. It was practically the old assembly, for its first laws enacted that they only had the power of making Masters and Fellows.

It did not there, nor has it ever since, assumed the Nebraska Masonic Popedom, yet they were not ignorant of other claimants, for Robert Samber, in 1722, addressed them in the Rosternian language, alluding to higher degrees. As it is the parent of all Masonry in the world, it is the only body that has the right to define what Craft Masonry is. Its laws and ceremonies from 1717 onwards have enacted that pure Craft Masonry consists of three degrees and that it is not in the power of any man or body of men to make innovations therein. Nor has it ever passed laws to advance or prohibit anything outside of its own legitimate three degrees. It never will.

The reliability of this account of 2,000 years' policy can be ascertained by every one. If the Grand Lodge of Nebraska has departed from it, then it has ceased to be a genuine Grand Lodge of the Craft, and it would become the duty of genuine Masons to establish against it, and in spite of it, a genuine Grand Lodge. If the Grand Master has become a Masonic Pope he should be met by a Masonic Luther, able to expose his insane pretensions. That is a legitimate course. Some, after paying their money, will become expelled, and be dishonestly deprived of their money's worth and privileges, for which they paid hard cash, but what matters it? Few people care to associate with liars, perjurers and rogues, even if a little money is forfeited.

Very un-Masonic language, you will say. It is not addressed to those who admit of being called Masons. Real Masons can only be men of honour to whom a promise is sacred.

Fraternally yours,

JOHN YARKER, F.S.Sc., &c.

P.M., P.S.G.W. Greece, and Hon. Member of several Grand Lodges.

BRETHREN,

From the numerous inquiries made regarding the arrest of Charter of Nebraska Lodge, No. 1, I am constrained in a true Masonic spirit, and without the least intention of insubordination, to place before the representatives of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska the history of the case, together with a few of the many criticisms from eminent Masons on the question, that we may come together understandingly, and judge with candour, and adjudicate with equal and exact justice to all concerned, as this Virtue is one of the Corner Stones of the Masonic Institution.

Fraternally yours,

ALEXANDER ATKINSON,

Master Nebraska Lodge No. 1, A. F. and A. M.
In Abeyance.

HAPPY PEOPLE.

THERE are certainly many happy people in the world. One may safely say as much as this, even if those he is accustomed to meet seem to him unhappy, and he seldom or never meets with any others. Perhaps the number of the truly happy will be admitted to be large, if we consider that the human race is counted up to many millions; if, too, we think how many children there are who never know any settled grief, how many school-girls trip along the street with arms at one another's waists, how many boys rush out of school, to whom the world is an infinite field for pleasure; when we think again of aged people, waited upon with assiduous love, and even think of those who would be accounted sufferers in sicknesses and bereavements except that they laid up in earlier days an immense capacity for resignation and sweetness. Our humble friends of the lower orders give for the most part wonderful tokens of being satisfied with life. The great Redeemer did not hesitate to observe the mother hen and her chickens; and every day that one lives in the country he may feel deeply impressed with some lesson of wisdom and religion by seeing in his own or his neighbour's yard the various fowls pecking in the grass or on the ground, or calling to one another to come to the bounteous table and join in the feast. And is there any pleasanter picture than that of the cows browsing in the pasture or chewing the cud? And these examples are not selected carefully from the races of birds and brutes: they are most familiar examples. Can it be that the human race, unspeakably more highly endowed with means of good, has been denied the additional ability of using its means, without which ability all other means are felt to be useless?

But why do we feel so acutely concerning the various forms and degrees of unhappiness that men endure? They pass away, and many of them are nothing when they have passed. Nobody recalls his cries as a child. Nobody recalls the sickness of some past years; and that there should be mysteries or misery even in the course of our experience is what is absolutely essential to us, as having been made somewhere near to angels in capacity. If one thinks that at least some degree of unhappiness he might have been spared, then we should or might have been spared the next degree. If we could wipe off the largest spots from the sun, we should then be troubled by the next largest, and so on till the face of that brilliant luminary was made all bright; but no one knows what

those spots mean, and how our abundant harvests and our beautiful days might all be spoiled if we had not this kind of veil to shield ourselves and the earth. One need not ask why so much of misery is brought to afflict the human race. The subject is too deep, too large for human comprehension. But one can say, at least, the opposite idea is an absurdity.

But, when one has in his family or his immediate acquaintance some one or more of the happiest youths that nature ever exhibits, he cannot but ask himself on what their happiness rests, if their days of brightness will never be clouded over, if it is within their power to prevent some silver cord from being loosed, some golden bowl or pitcher from being broken at the fountain, or clouds from returning when once they have all been cleared away. As a candle may begin a conflagration and spread ruin over beautiful homes, small contingencies may interfere between the heart and its continued enjoyments. A little flame may be fed from the thousands of cubic miles of oxygen with which we are surrounded, and a word spoken in thoughtlessness may multiply its influence through life to the most painful destruction. It is unnecessary to recount temptation, disappointments, and other forms of ill that creep in upon the unguarded heart, or rush upon it to break it down. The happiness of youth is the happiness of nature; and human nature cannot be preserved in its strength and in its beauty, it is thought, except by knowledge of its dangers and of its means for security. There are many persons who will, whenever they are led to see the finer examples of happiness, be saddened with the thought of its frailty, as, in the spring of the year, some cannot prevent themselves from the vision of its changes and its close.

But shall we tell these young and beautiful people what evils we possibly see upon their pathway, to assail them at some earlier or later day? Yet would it be wise or consistent with the sincerest action to lift a warning voice, to present the vision of evils that may never come? It would rather be an artificial proceeding, an affectation, to withhold ourselves from clearer sight of a present happiness, because we can turn the picture of life, if we will, and show bare canvas, which it was never intended should be seen.

But shall we never guard the young? Yes; but, in building your house, would you make the observer stop, and tell him, "This corner-stone here will some time crumble, timbers and rafters will fall, and the ground will present by and by a sightless ruin?" No: we build as well as we can at the beginning, with beams and rafters well fitted to their places, with corner-stone well levelled, so that even the power of gravitation, which makes all things fall to their centres, only adds to its security. In our own moral endeavours, we always look up more than we look down. The inspiration derived from the knowledge and love of excellence is more effectual than even the contemplation and abhorrence of evil. Give to the young their happiness. Enjoy it with them to the full. Only give them such a beautiful example that they cannot fail to love goodness for its own sake. Impressed by the constant example, their hearts will grow clear in knowledge, strong in principle.—*Freemasons' Repository.*

The Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution held its regular meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, Bro. Dr. Jabez Hogg in the chair. He was supported by Bros. C. A. Cottebrune, W. Smith, S. C. Haslip, A. H. Tattershall, E. West, Henry Garrod, C. J. Perceval, C. Kempton, Alex. Mullord, W. H. Hubbert, A. Forsyth, W. J. Marlis, Jas. Percy Fitzgerald, Thomas Cubitt, C. F. Hogard, and James Terry (Secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and verified, the Secretary reported the death of six annuitants—two men and four widows. The Warden's report for the past month was read, and the report of the Finance Committee read, adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Five petitions (four men and one widow) were considered and accepted, and the names of the petitioners having been directed to be placed on the lists of candidates for the election in May 1891, the proceedings terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman.

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R.A. 1471 North London, Northampton House, Canonbury, 8
M.M. 199 Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Dalston, 8

Friday, 18th July.

Emulation, Freemasons' Hall, 6
General Lodge, Masonic Hall, Birmingham, 8
167 St. John's, York and Albany, Regent's Park, 8
453 Chigwell, Pub. Ha, Station Rd., Loughton, 7-30
507 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell, 7-30
740 Belgrave, Harp Tavern, Jernyn Street, W. 8
765 St. James, Princess Victoria, Rotherhithe, 8
766 William Preston, St. Andrew's Tav, Baker St., 8
780 Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, 8
834 Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith

1056 Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet Street, 7
1185 Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms, Wood Green, 7-30
1228 Beacontree, Green Man, Leytonstone, 8
1293 Royal Standard, Builders' Arms, Canonbury, 8
1365 Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, 7-30
1381 Kennington, The Horns, Kennington, 8
1393 Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, 8
1642 E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, 8
1901 Selwyn, Montpelier, Choumont Rd., Peckham, 8
1993 Wolseley, 74a King Street, Manchester, 8-30
2030 Abbey Westminster, King's Arms, S.W., 7-30
R.A. General Chapter, M.H., Birmingham, 5-30
R.A. 820 Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, 8
R.A. 890 Hornsey, Porchester, Cleveland Sq., W.
R.A. 1275 Star, Stirling Castle, Camberwell, 8
M.M. Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall

M.M. 355 Royal Savoy, 15 Finsbury Pavement, 7-30

Saturday, 19th July.

87 Vitruvian, Duke of Albany, St. Catherine's Park, near Nunhead Junction, 7-30
179 Manchester, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.C. 8
198 Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tav, Southgate Rd., N. 8
1275 Star, Dover Castle, Deptford Causeway, S.E. 7
1288 Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, 8
1364 Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Hackney, 7
1524 Duke of Connaught, Lord Stanley, Hackney, 8
1624 Eccleston, 13 Cambridge Street, Pimlico, 7
2012 Chiswick, Windsor Castle, Hammersmith, 7-30
R.A. Sinai, Union Tavern, Air Street, W., 8

ROSE CROIX.

—:0:—

ROYAL ALFRED CHAPTER.

THE ceremony of installation in connection with this Chapter of the Order of Rose Croix was performed at the Masonic Hall, Taunton, on the 26th ult., when Bro. T. H. Chaffin was duly installed M.W.S. of the Chapter for the ensuing year, by Bro. T. G. Williams, the retiring W.M.S. Bro. Chaffin afterwards appointed and invested the following Officers:—Bros. Rev. H. S. Hume Prelate, C. H. Samson 1st General, J. Lewis 2nd General, J. G. Vile G.M., T. G. Williams R., J. Gill Herald, T. A. Hnssey C. of S., Rev. R. Bailey Recorder, F. T. Elworthy Treasurer, H. Read Organist, H. Powell D.C. The brethren afterwards sat down to a banquet, presided over by the newly-installed M.W.S., and the usual Masonic toasts were proposed.

KNIGHT TEMPLARS.

—:0:—

GWENT PRECEPTORY.

ON Wednesday, the 2nd instant, the brethren of this Preceptory met at the Great Western Hotel, Cardiff, for the purpose of presenting their P.E.P. with a souvenir in the shape of a valuable Knight Templars' scarf pin, with a suitable inscription, as a tribute of their esteem. A very excellent dinner was provided by Brother George Bowden; and after the loyal toasts had been duly honoured the Chairman (Bro. A. P. Fabian P.E.P.S.W.), in a genial and hearty speech, made the presentation on behalf of the brethren of the Preceptory. Bro. Gerhold acknowledged the honour in a most feeling speech, and a very enjoyable evening was spent by the brethren.

Obituary.

—:0:—

BRO. JAMES DUNSFORD.

FREEMASONS throughout East Anglia will regret to hear of the death of a distinguished member of the Craft in the person of Bro. James Dunsford, which occurred at his residence, on Monday, the 30th ult. Bro. Dunsford was initiated in Social Lodge, No. 93, on the 9th April 1861, and became its W.M. in 1869. He joined the Perseverance Lodge, No. 213, on 15th December 1863, and was made W.M. in 1866. In the same year Bro. Dunsford filled the office of Provincial Grand Pursuivant. He devoted the best part of his life to promoting the interests of the Masonic Charities, for many years served the Province as Charities' Steward, and was instrumental in placing several candidates in the Schools. On 20th November 1887, he was appointed to the rank of Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden (Jubilee appointment), "in recognition of the valuable services rendered by him to the Craft, and of the zeal manifested by him in the cause of the great Masonic Charities." Bro. Dunsford also served as Preceptor to Lodges of Instruction. In the Royal Arch Degree he was also a very active and zealous member, having passed the 1st chair in Royal George Chapter, No. 52, and also in Perseverance Chapter, No. 213. As Past Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies he had installed the Principals of every Chapter in the Province, and was ever ready to assist in the working of the degree.

We understand H.R.H. the M.W. the Grand Master the Prince of Wales will not be able to attend at Reading for the installation of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale during the present month of July, but hopes his visit may take place towards the end of October or beginning of November.

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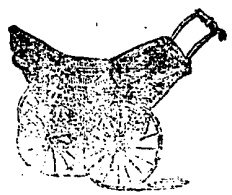


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