

THE FREEMASON.

Reports of the Grand Lodges are Published with the Special Sanction of

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, THE M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND; HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND; THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF MAR AND KELLIE, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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THE question which is covered by the decision of the General Committee of the Girls' School, alluded to last week, is a most important one, inasmuch as it branches out into several subsidiary points. One is the grave tendency, too apparent just now, of regarding Freemasonry as a great benefit society. "So much subscription, so much return," in fact "a quid pro quo." But yet any such view is diametrically opposed to the genius, the Constitutions, the whole scope of Freemasonry proper. We give to poor, and distressed, and decayed brethren, who make a "fair claim" on our benevolence, what we are able to afford, what, in fact, constitutes a free gift of Masonic charity. We help the widows and orphans of our brethren, firstly, because they are the widows and orphans of our brethren; and secondly, because though they have no abstract right whatever to ask for or expect anything at all from us as "de jure," they have a great moral claim on our fraternal sympathies, efforts, and beneficence. And, therefore, it is that with hearty goodwill we endeavour year by year to keep up in thorough efficiency and good working order those noble Charities of ours which are the "decus columenque" of our common Order. Another point which "crops up" is the utter want of provision for their family, which too many of our brethren forget to seek to compass or arrange; even in the days of their prosperity they hardly ever appear to forecast the future, how much less in their hour of adversity? It is often lamentable to realize the distressing cases which come before us in our Charities and at the Board of Benevolence, but still more is it to remember how few ever apparently think of looking out for a rainy day, or while the sun shines, and the skies are blue above their heads, endeavour to profit by the fleeting moments of prosperity, and preparing for the possible eventuality of sickness or trial, decay or destitution. Has not the time come when some combined effort should be made to encourage among our Masonic Fraternity either a modest and moderate system of life insurance or deferred annuities, as a needful aid in sickness, temporary assistance in death? Otherwise we fear that we shall drift more and more into one great benefit system, and kept up too, though the words seem somewhat hard, for the reckless, the thoughtless, and the improvident. The original idea of Masonic relief, the aim and object of Masonic charity, was to provide for those who, through unforeseen contingencies, or by some mysterious visitation of T.G.A.O.T.U., have been reduced to a state of poverty or distress. But it never occurred to our benevolent forefathers that the time would arrive, either that Freemasons would make no provision for themselves and their families in prosperity, and then claim help from the Order in adversity; or that the material advantages of Freemasonry would be so great that some would "press into it," to give them and theirs a "claim" on its many "good things."

THE *Monde Maçonnique* alludes to the wishes of the Italian Freemasons to have an universal Masonic Congress at Rome, and states that this view has been combatted in England and in Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry. And most naturally so. The "cui bono?" instantly comes up to the practical Anglo-Saxon mind. We have neither in Great Britain nor America, nor Canada, any "burning questions" to solve, any "moot points" to decide. On the contrary, all we wish for are peace and quiet, and the simple liberty of moving on our allotted pathway, fulfilling our mission, and developing before our Brotherhood and the world the utility, the need, the good of Freemasonry. An Œcumenical Masonic Council would be, to our minds, a simple absurdity a "ridiculus mus;" in that it would probably attempt to solve questions which cannot be solved, and to prepose conclusions by which nothing could be concluded. The Italian Freemasons have two great grievances, as they think, pressing on them. (1.) What they term the Social Question,—whatever that may be; and, (2), the power, persecutions, and presence of the Roman Catholic Church. But these are questions which we, as Freemasons, are entirely incompetent to deal with, in which none else can help them except their "ain selves," and they are also subjects which Anglo-Saxon Freemasons would deliberately refuse to recognize, or even discuss. Such matters have nothing properly to do with Freemasonry, and are altogether outside Freemasonry, and *could not properly be entertained for one moment by any Anglo-Saxon Freemason.* So if this Universal Masonic Congress be held it must be held without the Anglo-Saxon family.

THE position of Freemasonry, as regards the Roman Catholic Church and community, is often misrepresented and seldom understood. Freemasonry, as a system, respects all religious bodies, and antagonizes none. But the Roman Catholic Church, since 1738, has placed Freemasons under a "ban and interdict," and all Freemasons, Roman Catholics and others, are, "ipso facto," "excommunicate;" and, without abjuration of Freemasonry and submission to the Church's edicts, Roman Catholic Freemasons cannot receive the rites of the Roman Catholic Church. Why is this? There are too many educated and high-minded men among the Roman Catholic Priesthood to heed the slanders of vulgar mendacity, or to believe in the absurd stories and the violent incriminations so recklessly propagated as now by the "Chanoine Segur" in France, or ALBAX STOLTZ in Vienna. But still the fact is so, that the Roman Catholic Church everywhere antagonizes and anathematizes Freemasonry. We, on the contrary, though we never attack, feel bound to defend our professions and our principles, our efforts and our labours. We should be "cravens" if we did not. But we hope in the controversy thus *forced* upon us, that we never lose either our sense of dignity, or our feelings of charity, and that we never shall do so, under any provocations, or any epithets. We must hope for calmer times, less unreasoning prejudices, and more true charity. To convince our readers how far malevolence will carry a writer against Freemasons, and in a country where the same intolerance since the Emperor JOSEPH's days has succeeded in suppressing the lodges, we propose in our next number, for the amusement, and astonishment, and sorrow combined of our readers, to give them one or two extracts from a new work by ALBAX STOLTZ, entitled "The Natural History of Freemasons."

WE hear that among the most successful "Etrennes" at Paris New Year's Day, 1882, was a small doll, styled "The little silent Deputy, the protection of Ministers, the peace of the Chamber, and the delight of the President." In these days of much talk and small results, "much cry and little wool," it is just possible, is it not, that such a New Year's gift might be a useful and valuable reminder to some distinguished "consumers of time" among ourselves? We see in some papers the term "noisy obstructionist," and without pausing to ask to whom such words may be fairly applied, or what they really refer to, we venture to think that the lessons of the "silent member" are ones not lightly to be disregarded or hastily ignored by us in England. The French, who derive their "Etrennes" New Year's gift, from the Roman "strewnes," are said in Paris to spend yearly a million of francs or £400,000 in "Bonbons" and sweetmeats alone. Happy Frenchman!

SOME writers complain, we think unreasonably, that English literature during the last two years has not been so productive as of yore, inasmuch as the new books of 1881 were less in number than those of 1880, and those of 1880 than those of 1879. But yet, surely, we have enough, and more than enough, to satisfy the greatest "gourmand" in books, considering especially the large number of books which are not worth reading, and which ought not to have been published at all, and are neither likely to improve our minds or our morals, to benefit our imagination or our humanities. 5406 books were, however, published in 1881, and of these 4110 were new works, and 1296 were reprints. In theology there appeared 915; educational and classical works numbered 682; fiction summed up 674, and juvenile literature was represented by 500; artistic, scientific, and illustrated works were 452; history and biography 437; year books and serials 359; voyages, travel and geographical works amounted to 291. Essays were 247; medical works 164; works on political economy and commerce were 162; poetry and the drama claimed 148; law 133. Miscellaneous works, pamphlets, &c., conclude the list, and yet people complain that literature is falling off!

WE are pleased to note that the popular attendance at museums in England is largely increasing; 1,017,294 persons visited the South Kensington Museum last year, and the Bethnal Green collection had 451,187 visitors. In the provinces 770,426 persons, exclusive of Edinburgh and Dublin, visited the permanent museums, while 253,269 persons at York came together to look at the PRINCE OF WALES'S presents; and 391,881 persons paid visits to forty-one local art exhibitions.

IT is not a little remarkable to observe that the position of the general charities of the metropolis very much resembles that of our Masonic metropolitan Charities in respect of provincial Charities. There are 1000 metropolitan charities, and their income to the close of 1881 was £4,121,546. But we have no account of provincial charities and provincial receipts. The "tottle" of general charity, like as of Masonic charity, must be very large indeed. We should like to obtain, if possible, a general summary.

Our readers may well note elsewhere the paragraph relating to the exploration of Palestine. All such matters have great interest for "Bright Masons."

THE resumption of a miracle play in Worcestershire, which we read of elsewhere, is noteworthy in itself, and reminds us of the mediæval mysteries and sacred plays. We think that such representations in moderation may do good, and are commendable, but, like a "great many" other good things to-day, there is such a thing as "overdoing it."

We call attention to a report elsewhere of the anniversary meeting of the Society for Biblical Archaeology. It seems that Professor MASPERO is now endeavouring to open out a hitherto inaccessible Pyramid, and which he believes may turn out to be the Pyramid of the Protomonarch MENES. All Egyptological students will be interested in the discovery.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

TWELFTH NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT.

The annual Twelfth Night entertainment to the pupils remaining in the Institution during the Christmas holidays was given on Thursday, the 5th inst., by the House Committee. There were thirty of the girls who did not go down home for Christmas, and the Twelfth Night entertainment was only one of several which had been given to them during the late festive season. On the 26th ult. an entertainment was given to them by Dr. Howell, when that worthy brother and his family amused the children for several hours. On Thursday the Twelfth Night entertainment was engaged in by many of the brethren and their families, and the enjoyment provided for the little pupils was of a most pleasing kind. Although there were only thirty of the children left in the School, there was a goodly company of visitors, all of whom thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment. Some of the visitors had not been at the Institution previously, and these were taken over the building and shown all the arrangements which were in common use at the Institution for the education, comfort, health, and happiness of the pupils. Miss Jarwood, the matron of the Institution, presided at the tea which was provided for the visitors on their arrival.

Among the brethren and ladies who were present and assisted were :

John Nunn, Frank Richardson, John A. Rucker, John Faulkner, A. H. Tattershall, Griffiths Smith, H. A. Dubois, Mrs. H. A. Dubois, Miss E. Dubois, Miss L. H. Dubois, Miss M. A. Dubois, Robert B. Webster, W. G. Weller, G. S. Peachey, Thomas Kingston, Mrs. Kingston, Miss Katie Kingston, Miss Louise Kingston, Mrs. W. Darke, H. Massey, Mrs. H. Massey, Miss Massey, Miss Alice Fowles, F. R. W. Helges, Mrs. Helges, Col. Peers, Rev. J. M. Ellison and the Misses Ellison, George Brown, W.M. elect 1879; E. J. Lamley, P.M. 1858 and 1868; Peter de Lande Long, and Bro. Dawson.

Unlike the proceedings at the New Year's Entertainment to the annuitants of the Benevolent Institution at Croydon, there were no speeches, although the proceedings were conducted with as much enthusiasm. Both visitors and residents thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and the question was, which of the two classes enjoyed themselves the most? The visitors entered heartily into the enjoyment of the pupils, and the latter seemed completely to reciprocate the feeling. After tea there was an excellent Punch and Judy performance, supplied by Mr. Cremer, of Regent-street, which was followed by plenty of dancing, in which the pupils joined with the visitors. Subsequently there was the great fun for the children of the Twelfth cake and the bon-bon, which were succeeded by an admirable prestidigitateur's marvels of sleight-of-hand, also given by Mr. Cremer. These amusements were followed by more dancing, which engaged the attention of the company till eleven o'clock, when all good Freemasons' children ought to retire for the night, if they want to preserve their health.

It is almost unnecessary to say, after the annual notices given in the *Freemason* of these entertainments, that everything was done by all concerned to render the evening, what it turned out to be—a thorough success. A little girl, of less than three years old, the daughter of Bro. Griffiths Smith and Mrs. Griffiths Smith, the youngest Life Governor of the Institution, was present on the occasion, and seemed to enjoy the entertainment as much as any one who was there.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this Institution met last Saturday at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. S. Rosenthal, in the chair. There were also present Bros. Don. M. Dewar, Frederick Adlard, Alfred Williams, William Roebuck, L. Ruf, Robert Berridge, Rev. Richard Morris, D.D. (Head Master), C. F. Matier, George Read, C. E. Soppet, W. H. Saunders, W. H. Perryman, A. J. Duff-Filer, Edward Baxter, F. Binckes (Secretary), and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, Bro. BINCKES reported the investment of £1000 in 3½ per cent. Stock of the Metropolitan Board of Works, as directed at the meeting in December, 1881.

Nine new candidates were placed on the list for election in April next.

One candidate who was accepted at last meeting, conditionally on its being proved that the rule of payment of five years' subscription to a lodge had been observed, was removed from the list, it being shown that there had only been four-and-a-half years' subscription.

Grants of £20 each were made to two former pupils, provided their friends found the additional sum which they alleged to be necessary for furnishing the means of their advancement in life.

The Committee recommended to the Quarterly Court of Monday, the 16th inst., that sixty-eight boys should be the number of candidates for the April election, and that fifteen should be the number of vacancies in the School.

The usual vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT.

The Christmas Entertainment to the forty boys remaining in the School during the holidays was given on Wednesday evening. The room selected was the gymnasium at the School, at Wood Green. This room, since the alterations is most commodious and comfortable; is roomy, well ventilated

and lighted, and admirably heated with hot water pipes. The visitors to the entertainment were more than 100 in number, and among those present were Bros. C. F. Matier, H. Goodall, Thos. W. C. Bush, W. S. Lyons, J. E. Ryan (Landmark Lodge, Chicago), John Constable, Rev. Dr. Morris (Head Master), F. Binckes (Secretary), W. W. Morgan, Edw. Baxter, Dr. Conolly, Charles Godtschalk, Alfred Durrant, George Motion, H. N. Taylor, P.M., and Mrs. Taylor, H. Tapley, P.M., G. H. Stevens and Miss Stevens, Mrs. Meyers and Miss Meyers, Miss Hall (Matron), and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

The entertainment was given by Bro. George Buckland, and was entitled "My Musical Budget," which was illustrated by characteristic songs, ballads, and vocal extravaganzas. Bro. Buckland was assisted by Miss Blanche Paige, Master Frank Tebbutt, and Miss Agnes Binckes, and, in addition to these, Bro. W. W. Morgan gave some recitations, and Bro. Binckes also added some recitations. The following is the programme:—

PART I.

Introduction ... Treatment of the Subject; an Anecdote of Real Life.
Descriptive Song ... "The Main Truck" (*Russell*) ... Mr. George Buckland.
Duet ... "The Keel Row" (*Arranged by Smith*) ... Miss Blanche Paige and Master Frank Tebbutt.
Recitation ... "Brought to Light" ... Bro. W. W. Morgan.
Solo Pianoforte ... "Le Revell du Lion" (*A. de Koufssi*) ... Miss Agnes Binckes.
Ballads of the Nursery ... "Spare the Rod and Spoil the Child" ... } *R. Coote* and }
"The Naughty Little Boy" } *F. Green*.
Song ... "Should he upbraid" (*Bishop*) ... Miss Blanche Paige.
Historical Romance "William Tell" (*M. G. Buckland*) Bro. George Buckland.
Selections ... The Band of the Boys.

PART II.

Instruction and Amusement—Humour and Harmony.
Duet ... "The Singing Lesson" (*Fioravanti*) ... Miss Blanche Paige and Mr. George Buckland.
Song ... "Cherry Ripe" (*Horn*) ... Master Frank Tebbutt.
Solo Pianoforte ... Selection from "Les Cloches de Corneville" (*Kuho*) Miss Agnes Binckes.
Recitation ... "William Tell" ... Bro. W. W. Morgan.
Extravaganza ... "Mrs. Somebody Swallowed a Fly" (Written by Frank Green, Composed by Alfred Lee) ... Bro. George Buckland.
Recitation ... "Macbeth and Othello" (*Shakespeare*) ... Bro. F. Binckes.
River Ditty ... "Twickenham Ferry" (*Marzials*) ... Miss Blanche Paige.
Characteristic Song ... "Sofa soleta Kianka" (*Bennett*) Bro. George Buckland.
Duet ... "I know a Bank" (*Horn*) ... Miss Blanche Paige and Master Frank Tebbutt.
Domestic Scene ... { "Little Binks"
"Mattimony"
"Let's Haste to the Wedding" } (*M.S.*) Bro. G. Buckland.
(National Anthem.)

The entertainment was a most interesting one, and as each executant sat down the applause was universal. At the conclusion, votes of thanks were given to the artistes, and hearty cheers for Bro. Binckes and Bro. Buckland. Over sixty of the visitors afterwards sat down to a cold supper, and then returned to town.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of this Institution met on Wednesday afternoon at Freemasons' Hall; Bro. Edgar Bowyer in the chair. There were also present Bros. Wm. Marsh, James Brett, C. H. Webb, Thomas Cubitt, J. A. Farnfield, Fredk. Adlard, Wm. Hilton, W. Hale, Raynham W. Stewart, A. H. Tattershall, Charles John Perceval, James Willing, jun., Jabez Hogg, M.D., James Terry (Secretary), and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

Bro. TERRY reported the death of two male annuitants and one female candidate.

The Warden's report, which was read, amongst other items, referred to the visit of the House Committee and friends on the previous Wednesday, and, on behalf of the inmates of the Institution, expressed their gratitude and delight at the entertainment which then took place.

Bro. TERRY reported that Bro. Cutbush had again sent about two bushels of bulbs as a present to the Institution.

A vote of thanks was thereupon passed to Bro. Cutbush.

Votes of thanks were also passed to Bros. Bowyer, Dr. Strong, Bro. and Mr. Terry, and others, for several valuable presentations towards the dinner provided for the old people.

The Finance Committee's Report showed a balance of £1144 7s. 5d. to the credit of the Male Fund, but an over-draught of £389 7s. 8d. on the Widows'.

Bro. TERRY informed the Committee of the great success of Bro. Mason, the Collector, in collecting the subscriptions and donations, which, during the past quarter, were £200 in excess of the previous quarter. He also stated that whereas £14,100 was announced at the Annual Festival in February, the receipts by the 31st December were £800 in excess of that amount.

The report of the Finance Committee was ordered to be received, and entered on the minutes.

The Chairman was authorised to sign the necessary cheques.

The petitions were then examined, and fifteen candidates were placed on the list for the May election.

A resolution was afterwards passed for the redemption of the land tax on property at Croydon.

A cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

PRINCE LEOPOLD AT PORTSMOUTH.

Another red-letter day for the Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar Lodge has been chronicled. At the regular meeting in December of the lodge, W. Bro. A. L. Emanuel, Hon. Sec., proposed, and Bro. J. Martyr, J.D., seconded: "That an address of congratulation should be forwarded to Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, on his approaching marriage." No time was lost, and a most magnificent address on vellum, handsomely illuminated by Mr. J. Robertson, of Portsmouth, and framed, surmounted with a crown and coronet, was prepared. It was anticipated that H.R.H. would have attended a lodge of emergency, but time would not permit, and, by the commands of H.R.H., the presentation took place at a quarter to one o'clock on Monday, at Government House.

Bro. H.R.H. left Osborne on Monday morning for Germany, crossing from Cowes to Portsmouth in the royal yacht, *Alberta*, Bro. Captain Balliston, accompanied by Bro. the Hon. Alexander Yorke, Equerry-in-waiting.

At the South Railway Jetty, where the yacht came alongside, H.R.H. was met by H.S.H. Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, Lord Albert Seymour, A.D.C., and Bro. Major Brunker, D.A.A.G. The royal party at once drove to Government House, High-street, where the following officers of the lodge had assembled to make the presentation:—W. Bros. H. W. Townsend, acting W.M.; Captain Haldane, acting I.P.M.; Bro. T. Page, S.W.; Bro. Colonel Bray, A.A.G., acting J.W.; W. Bro. J. Johns, acting Treasurer (on behalf of W. Bro. H. Threadingham, who was prevented from attending through sickness); W. Bro. A. L. Emanuel, Hon. Sec.; Bros. E. Davis, acting S.D.; J. Martyn, J.D.; Rev. P. H. Good, Chaplain; J. Lind, D.C.; J. McLeod, I.G.; and Sam. Knight and H. Long, Stewards.

After all the brethren had been introduced to the Duke of Albany, W. Bro. TOWNSEND said: May it please your Royal Highness, we, the officers of the Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar Lodge, desire to tender, in accordance with the unanimous vote of the members at the regular meeting in December, our heartfelt and sincere congratulations on your approaching marriage with H.R.H. Princess Helène of Waldeck. We regret that the W.M., Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Charles Beresford, is away on foreign service, and is thus prevented from doing a duty which we feel sure he would have most cheerfully and far more efficiently performed than is in my power to do. But we trust your Royal Highness will be pleased to receive the address of congratulation with the same generous and true Masonic feeling as if presented by a brother of exalted position. Permit us to express the hope that your approaching union with the estimable lady, who for the future will be sharer of your fortunes, may be characterised with the same amount of real domestic felicity which so eminently distinguished that of your late lamented father and Her Majesty the Queen. That this may be so, we trust the noble qualities of your royal mother—viewed either as a queen, a wife, or the head of a household—will be copied by the Princess we hope shortly to hail as the Duchess of Albany. In conclusion, we desire heartily to thank your Royal Highness for this interview, and, in presenting the address, we pray the Most High to grant you a long, happy, and prosperous life.

The address, of which the following is a copy, was then presented to H.R.H. "At a meeting of the Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar Lodge, held on the 7th December, 1881, it was unanimously resolved that the brethren of this lodge, having learned of the approaching nuptials of the R.W. Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, K.G., K.T., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., Prov. G.M. of Oxfordshire, with H.R.H. Princess Helène of Waldeck, beg to offer to H.R.H. the expression of their most respectful congratulations on the happy event, and they pray that the Most High may grant to His Royal Highness and his august bride very many years of domestic felicity and happiness. Certified as a true extract, H. W. Townsend, acting W.M., A. L. Emanuel, Honorary Secretary."

PRINCE LEOPOLD, having accepted the address, read the following reply: Acting W.M. and brethren of the Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar Lodge, from my heart I thank you for your address of congratulation and for the sentiments expressed therein towards me and my future bride. Being now on my way to visit her in her German home, I shall bear with me the expressions of your good will. I can wish for no greater happiness than that, on her coming to this country, she may find a new home in the hearts of the English people. H.R.H. subsequently expressed a desire to become an honorary member of the lodge, and also stated his sincere regret for his unavoidable absence from the constitution in May last.

The deputation then withdrew, and, in the course of the afternoon, Bro. H.R.H., accompanied as before, proceeded to the town railway station, and left by special train for London.

CONSECRATION OF THE BRIXTON LODGE, No. 1949.

This new lodge was consecrated on Saturday last, at Brixton Hall, Acre-lane, Brixton, by the Grand Secretary, V.W. Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, assisted by V.W. Bros. Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, M.A., G.C.; Sir John Monckton, P.G.D., President of the Board of General Purposes, as S.W.; W. Bros. H. C. Levander, M.A., J.G.D., as J.W.; H. G. Buss, Assist. G. Sec., as D.C.; and Bro. H. A. Dubois, P.P.G.W. Middlesex, as I.G. Besides the founders of the lodge there were present:—

Bros. J. A. Farnfield, P.M. 226, 607, 1464; F. W. White, 890; W. R. Russell, 72; C. J. Vincent, 1641; T. T. Murché; C. J. Hill, 1707; W. Lucas, J.D. 1669; J. Hicks, 607; F. J. Hentsch, S.D. 211; A. Martin, J.W. 188; H. M. Appleton, 861; W. Farrington, Org. 1589; G. J. Dawson, W.M. 1853; R. R. Johnston, 1777; C. J. Haines, 1679; H. Turner, P.M. 1589; G. Clark, jun., I.P.M. 1777; J. Colyer, 1589; C. H. Phillips, 1580; G. Moss, W.M. 1201; C. J. Axford, 1777; J. Johnson, 154; C. F. Pardon, 1541; W. Day, 205; G. S. Dane, 1158; A. Mullord, I.P.M. 1288; H. Mullord, 1288; G. H. Wilkins, 1578; W. Hulis, 1777; H. M. Williams, 1669; G. Edwards, J.D. 1597; H. Massey, P.M. 619, W.M. 1928 (*Freemason*).

The usual ceremony of consecration was performed by the Grand Secretary and his assistants in a very able and impressive manner, the musical portion being under the direction of Bro. Seymour Smith, who was assisted by Bro. G. T. Carter.

The Grand Chaplain, M. W. Bro. AMBROSE W. HALL, M.A., besides rendering the prayers and scripture readings in a very able manner, delivered an oration, as follows: As years roll on, and as lodge after lodge is added to the register of the Grand Lodge of England, it seems to follow that the principles and tenets of our Order must become more increasingly known and developed, and that the office of a Consecrating Chaplain, so far as his address upon the nature of the science concerned might be omitted; that a society so widely extended as ours, through every land and amongst so many people, can require little to be said as regards any explanation of its merits. But brethren, amidst the many thousands that range under our banner, how comparatively few there are who properly realize the nature of their responsibilities; and, therefore, I still think it an excellent institution for some brother to be called upon on such interesting, though grave, occasion as the consecration of a new lodge, to remind its founders that a work of no light importance falls upon them. I am to-day selected for that purpose, and I approach the task with pleasure, because I see before me a number of brethren, with many of whom I have been long associated in Freemasonry, and who, I feel, are forming the Brixton Lodge upon the rules and principles of what I may call the Philosophy of our Order, as embodied in the Three beautiful Degrees of initiation, passing, and raising, which are, so to speak, the text book of a good Mason for improvement and research. But whilst your new lodge brings together another society for the promotion of social intercourse, remember that you have

a higher and holier purpose to fulfil, viz., to fulfil the promulgation of those great truths which it is mine to-day to bring under your notice—those three grand precepts which beautify the sacred edifice, and embody the nature and principles of Freemasonry. As regards the first of these, "There was One who nearly two thousand years ago gave us this new commandment," "That ye love one another." And may the bright beams of this virtue be infused into your hearts. For if Freemasonry is an institution of brotherly love, let its fruits appear in discharging the duties of life. Our Third Degree points to a day of responsibility, when the concerns of time shall pass away, and when the world and all its pleasures shall vanish like a morning dream. As regards the Second of these principles—endeavour to render every kind office in your power where required; relieve distress; soothe affliction; sympathise with sorrow. All must admit that there is no body of men more famed for liberality than Masons. The charitable establishments, of which we may justly boast, prove that we are ever ready to succour and support those who are in poverty and distress. And here let me exhort you, in the working of your new lodge, not to forget the noble Institutions supported by the members of the Order; whether it be the Girls' School, where the daughters of our brothers who have passed away are trained up as sacred charges committed to our care; or the Boys' School, where the sons of Masons are so excellently prepared for the battle of life; or the Asylum for the Aged, where old men and women find a resting place after the burden and heat of the day—all noble and well-ordered Institutions! Brethren, support them in your lodge by diligence in sending up Stewards at their respective festivals, and by possessing a "Benevolent Fund" among yourselves; the better to assist those who accept that office. As regards the Third of these principles, I think I need only say that it points out the necessity of adhering strictly to truth, in all places and on all occasions, as the one great means of living respected by the world, and dying under the pleasure and with the blessing of the Great Architect. Brethren, it is to me a great privilege to be permitted to speak to you on these important subjects, and to be present to-day at the consecration of your lodge; figuratively speaking, to see the passive bud break into the opening flowers, the dormant chrysalis into living existence; and as these during their short lives have to contend with many enemies, so will your lodge. Breaking to-day into a happy and, I trust, prosperous career, it will meet no doubt with much to impede its progress in its more extended usefulness; and you will have need, as in the second Dedication prayer, to ask for wisdom to guide and instruct your brethren in all their duties, so that the Brixton Lodge may hold its own, and at last, when all your work is finished, with God's approbation, you may arrive at that temple where you will enjoy light, and bliss, and glory. You have, brethren, my earnest wish for success. As you guide your bark, so will it sail, unscathed or not, amid the billows of temptation and the storms of opposition; be careful to man the vessel well, with good brethren and true—admit no one to share your privileges or to become a member of your lodge until after strict enquiry, and a full assurance that he will not mar your love and harmony. Remember, you bear a precious charge—the light of wisdom, the light of truth, the *Urim* and *Thummim* of brightness and perfection. This you have to foster; this you have to preserve and hand down to your successors in the lodge as pure as you receive it; your lamp is never to go out; so that when the invisible world shall be disclosed, and the Grand Lodge opened above, you may be able fully to receive and appreciate that bright glory which forms the true Freemasonry of heaven. I cannot do better than conclude in the spirit of one of the most beautiful liturgies ever compiled, and invoke the Most High to inspire you continually with a spirit of truth, unity, and concord, that you may live in unity and godly love: That the Great Architect may give His grace to all, especially to the members of this new lodge; that your hearts may be disposed to comfort and succour all those who in this transitory life are in sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity; that you may follow the good example of holy Masons departed in faith and fear, and may with them be partakers of God's heavenly kingdom. You, my brethren, are opening your new lodge at the opening of a new year, and I wish you all health, strength, and the good of this world—happiness in your homes, prosperity in your undertakings, good hearts to carry on your Masonic work, kind faces to greet you, and a good conscience wherewith to end your days. At the beginning of this New Year look to the bright side of things, it will do you good and cheer you in your difficulties. We are, of course, a year nearer to the bourne from whence no traveller returns. But we have no reason to repine, for we know that we have been treated well, and that we are serving a good master. Look then to the bright side till you are sure there is a dark one; and receive from me on this, your opening day, for yourselves, for those who are near and dear to you, and for your lodge, every sincere wish for many years of happiness and health.

At the completion of the consecration, Bro. H. Lovegrove, P.M., P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works Middx., was presented by Bro. Buss, and duly installed by the Grand Secretary.

The newly-installed W.M. then invested all the founders of the lodge as officers in the following order: Bros. H. B. Marshall, C.C., V.P. of all the Masonic Charities, as S.W.; W. E. Farrington, as J.W.; A. J. Cox, as Secretary; H. J. F. Groves, as S.D.; H. Baldwin, as J.D.; C. G. L. Kipling, as I.G.; and Daly, as Tyler.

The W.M. proposed that a vote of thanks to the Consecrating Officer and his assistants be recorded on the minutes, and that they be elected honorary members of the lodge.

This motion was seconded by Bro. MARSHALL, S.W., and carried by acclamation, the GRAND SECRETARY acknowledging the same.

A number of names were handed in for initiation and joining, and letters of apology for inability to attend were read from Bros. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Sir Francis Burdett, Thos. Poore, Wm. Stiles, Thos. Woodbridge, W.M. St. Dunstan's; and others.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren were conveyed in carriages which were waiting for them, to the Horns' Tavern, Kennington, where the banquet was provided. After the banquet the usual toasts were proposed.

The Rev. AMBROSE W. HALL, G.C., in replying for the Prov. G.M. &c., said he only regretted there were not more officers present, because he felt that under the auspices of Bro. Lovegrove, as W.M., and those brethren who were to follow him, the Brixton lodge must be a success. It was by selecting a number of good men like Bro. Lovegrove to form a lodge that the Grand Officers hoped to have proper persons to support them as members of Grand Lodge.

The W.M. proposed "The Consecrating Officer, Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G.S." In the name of the brethren of the lodge he thanked that brother very sincerely for consenting to consecrate the lodge, who, considering his many engagements had shown very great kindness and con-

sideration in denying himself the only evening he had in the week for himself.

Bro. Col. H. SHADWELL CLERKE, in reply, said he had to find fault with the W.M. for mentioning him only, when he would really have been unable to do his work if he had not had the assistance of the other brethren. Those brethren were very distinguished in the Order, and without their assistance he could have done nothing whatever. In that lodge he had mentioned how pleased he was to be present and take part in the consecration. Some years ago he believed there had been a desire to have a Brixton lodge, and a distinguished brother not a hundred miles away from him felt a little sore that a warrant was not granted. However, the popularity of Masonry and the number of the brethren increased, and therefore the present warrant was granted. Although a warrant was not granted for the lodge some years ago, he wished, most heartily, success to the Brixton Lodge. He knew that success was assured, because the lodge was started by good men and true, who had at their head a brother who had gone through the chair of another lodge. He would now leave a subject personal to himself and ask the brethren to drink "The Health of the W.M.," a Mason of much experience, who had already ably filled the W.M.'s chair. He was, therefore, well fitted to assume the direction of this lodge, and he would guide the ship to every possible success.

The W.M. replying, said the brethren of this lodge had come before the Craft to make a local lodge in the flourishing suburbs of Brixton. By the last returns of Lambeth parish the population of Brixton Ward was more than 62,000. It would take three or four provincial towns to make such a population. This, too, was only a district of London. He therefore did not think they were wrong in introducing to the gentlemen an opportunity of receiving the privileges of Freemasonry. Freemasonry was to most Masons what they made it, and to the Brixton Lodge it was what the founders made it. It depended on the brethren present what the future of the lodge should be. For his own part he never introduced into Freemasonry a gentleman whom he considered unfit to be introduced into his own house. He could look back on the members introduced by himself into Freemasonry, and he was not ashamed of them. He had never done it to increase the funds of the lodge but because he thought they would become true Masons and an honour to the Craft. This lodge was started with seven, every one of whom was a good man and a good worker of the Craft, and would introduce those only who were anxious to join such men, and would be willing to assist in the cause of charity, without which they were told their deeds were nothing worth. Starting as they did with such a S.W., they might be assured that charity would be the watchword of the lodge, and he would ask the founders, not in the first year only, but in future years, when they came on step by step to the chair of the W.M. to do their very best to select good men, not because they were what were called good fellows, but because they would carry out the principles of Masonry in and out of the lodge, that the world might see that Masonry was not merely a name. He trusted that on these principles the lodge would get into a flourishing condition, and that it would do all it could for the Charities of the Order.

Bros. H. MASSY, TENDER, and MALLOW replied to the toast of "The Visitors."

Bro. HORACE B. MARSHALL, S.W., in the course of his reply to the toast of "The Officers," said he was obliged to confess that he was not only a young, but a most incapable Mason, but he ventured to assert, on behalf of himself and the other officers, that what they lacked in ability they would endeavour to make up in application, and loyally support the W.M. in his desire to make the Brixton Lodge not only a success and a credit to Masonry, but a helper of the great Charitable Institution of the Order. Since he had become a Mason he had had nothing but honours showered on him. It had been a very great privilege to him to have to serve three times within three years to those three great Charities, but a still greater privilege to have the means entrusted to him to become three times Vice-Patron of those Institutions. This year, if he had the power to serve the office again three times by three in three lodges, he hoped the brethren would accept it as an earnest of his desire to observe the true principles of Freemasonry to the best of his humble ability.

The other officers also replied; and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

The lodge was furnished by Bro. George Kenning.

MASONIC HISTORY AND HISTORIANS.

BY MASONIC STUDENT.

I have often used the word "heepwalking," which was originally an expression of Sidney Smith's, and I venture to think that no truer descriptive epithet ever was invented for much of our normal Masonic history. It is simply a treading in the same steps—a repetition, "usque ad nauseam"—it sometimes with a few imaginative embellishments of the same statement, calmly and deliberately. In Smith's "Pocket Companion" for 1736 appears, in the list of lodges, "No. 67, a lodge at St. Rook's-hill, near Chichester, in Sussex, once a year, viz., the day in Easter week, constituted in the reign of Julius Cæsar."

The entry, on the face of it, has so much inherent absurdity that it is of course unhistorical, though, "per se," curiously enough, as often happens, there is probably some truth in it.

The annual meeting is probably the commemoration of an Annual Guild Assembly, and putting two and two together, such as the monumental inscription of the "Collegium Fabrorum" preserved at Goodwood, and illustrated and explained by the well-known Gale in the "Philosophical Transactions," vol. 32, p. 291, we know that it is no stretch of the imagination in crediting a relic in this entry of a Roman "Sodalitas," "Fraternitas," or "Collegium and Opificium," which afterwards was transformed into a mediæval guild, which, though it shared the fate of all such Guilds in their legal dispersion and plunder in 1 Edw. VI., yet, like others, lingered on in another form and under another name.

Anderson, in 1738, incorporated in his 1723 history a full account of the pre-1717 Masonry,—wherever he got it from; and he alludes to the Duke of Richmond, as Master of a lodge at Chichester, coming to the annual assembly and being chosen Grand Master. See also Constitutions 1784, Northwick p. 196.

The author of "Multa Paucis" gives the Grand Mastership of the Duke of Richmond at 1695. I may observe that in 1763 the lodge at St. Rook's-hill seems not in existence, unless, indeed, it be the same with the lodge which meets on the third Wednesday at the Dolphin, at Chichester. Now I mention these facts to point out the difficulty we are still in as regards

Masonic history. Alas, all is haze and doubt! If any contemporaneous records exist of this lodge at St. Rook's-hill, we might decide one or two important points; firstly, how in the beginning of the eighteenth century a mediæval, perhaps a Roman Guild lingered on; and secondly, how far the current history of English Freemasonry is correct at that period as to the Grand Mastership of the Duke of Richmond in 1695, 1697, or 1698, and the Deputy Grand Mastership of Sir Christopher Wren.

It is just possible that documents exist at Goodwood, or traces might there be found, of the Grand Mastership of the Duke of Richmond, which would lighten a very obscure chapter of our Masonic annals. It is noteworthy, to say the least of it, that notwithstanding the treatise of the learned Musgrave, the earliest evidence of the Roman Collegia is still to be found at Goodwood, which, as I said before, has been exhaustively treated by Gale, and an account of which is to be found in Mason's "Goodwood." Some of my ingenious student confrères may perhaps help in the elucidation of this interesting and historical question.

WHY MASONS DO NOT READ MASONIC LITERATURE.

"Masons, as a rule, do not read Masonic literature," said a prominent Mason to us some time since, and while there has been a decided advance within the last few years, yet it must be admitted, however disagreeable such an admission may be to the zealous, enthusiastic, earnest Mason, that there is much truth in the remark.

But why is it thus? The live physician who desires to keep up with the profession takes and reads the medical journals of the day. The lawyer who holds his position must read the reports, digests, decisions, and opinions of his time. The politician has to keep himself posted up on political economy, and the science of government as laid down by the great leaders of thought of the period, and in brief, each one who would keep pace with the times, no matter in what business or profession, must read the current literature bearing upon his particular business.

We are emphatically a reading people, and growing more and more so each year. The small cost of books and periodicals of the day has placed this luxury in the reach of the poor as well as the rich, so that now no man can plead poverty as an excuse for not keeping himself well informed. But to reach this point of general reading has required an effort, and right here is the secret why Masons do not read Masonic papers. There is comparatively no effort on the part of those whose duty it is to instruct their less informed brethren to urge upon them the necessity of reading Masonic journals. No Master of a lodge should consider his duty done until he has made an effort to induce the members over which he has been called to preside to take and read Masonic periodicals. Think how much more intelligently questions could be discussed and disposed of, and how interesting each meeting would be if each member were well up in the questions which continually arise in every lodge. The fraternity would increase in interest and build upon a solid, substantial foundation, and enter upon an era of prosperity never before known and hardly dreamed of. The decisions which Grand Masters are called upon to repeat year after year would rapidly diminish in number, and general harmony prevail. Will not the officers of the lodges in this jurisdiction make an effort in this direction? We hope so.—*Mystic Tie.*

MASTER MASON.—The 3rd degree of Symbolic or Craft Masonry, and as such, alike in its exalted position in Masonic ceremonial, and its interesting ritual, greatly regarded by all Freemasons. When we come to look into its history and archaeology, we are met by difficulties. Archaeologically much obscurity still rests on the earlier history of the Master Mason's degree. For some time in the last century the Master's Lodges were entirely separate from the Apprentice Grade, and Lodges seem to have had a Masters' Lodge attached to them, but entirely distinct, as Lodges of Instruction now are. In those days of careless minutes, in all probability no minutes at all were kept of the Masters' Lodges, and hence our paucity of details and information. Some have thought that Master Masons (the actual Master Masons) were originally those to whom were entrusted the secrets of the 3rd degree; others have held, like E. W. Shaw, and in which opinion we concur, that the Royal Arch Grade represents the peculiar secret of the actual Master Masons. Of course, we need hardly add that the present arrangement and terminology of our speculative ritual is not actually older than probably about 1720. If the Sloane MS. be a 17th century MS., as we believe it to be, it probably represents the ritualism of the societies of Freemasons mentioned by Plot and joined by Ashmole. If it be only early 18th, and which it is no doubt as to chirography, it at any rate sends us back to very early 18th century; its actual date being about 1715 as to handwriting and paper, but earlier as to phraseology. By that MS. the division of Apprentice, Fellow, and Master, was known. Our earliest actual recognition of the Master Mason is, we apprehend, the Charges so called, or General Regulations rather, of 1721-3. We reject the statement that the grade was concocted in 1719 by Désaguliers, just as we disavow the authority of Dermott. Indeed, Dermott's evidence proves too much, and so proves nothing,—because if no 3rd degree existed, how did he become in possession of one? The truth is, that his words are only the bombastic expressions of a charlatan vaunting his spurious wares. We leave out of the question here the actual evidence of the Constitutions, as the terms Masters and Fellows seem to be more generic terms than anything else, and we base our belief rather on the words of the Sloane MS., to prove a pre-eighteenth century existence, inasmuch as we believe that somehow the legend of Hiram is a legend of the operative Guilds. The Scottish minutes, in our opinion, to use a homely saying, "cut both ways," as while they give us minutes only of the First Degree (as now), they talk of "secrets," and seem to admit here and there separate meeting of "Masters," which was probably the case. We have so far no actual lodge minutes earlier than those of the Ahwick Lodge, and from them and the "Swalwell" Lodge, which go up to 1725, it is clear that we have to deal in England with great sparseness and carelessness, and irregularity of minutes. So late as 1730 the Master's Lodge was a distinct body, of which no known minutes exist, and we have in this, probably, the explanation of the difficulty which Archaeological students find in laying down any hard and fast line on the subject. As far as our studies have gone, we believe in the antiquity of the Third Degree, though we by no means shut our eyes to the fact that time and changes may have materially affected both the phraseology of the ritual and the corresponding features of the Third Degree.—*Kenning's Cyclopædia of Freemasonry.*

previously voted by the lodge for his very efficient services during the past year, which gift Bro. Hodson acknowledged in a most eloquent speech.

The brethren then adjourned to a *recherché* banquet, provided for them in the "Crown" room of the Freemason's Tavern. After the usual loyal toasts had been given, Miss Edith Samuel favoured the brethren with a brilliant pianoforte solo, entitled "Robert Burns' Selections," which had been specially composed for the occasion, and which was most enthusiastically received. The W.M., in proposing "The Health of the Grand Officers," remarked that it was not only an honour but a pleasure to be entitled to attend the meetings of Grand Lodge, because the Grand Officers, in addition to being most competent in the exercise of their duties, were most affable and courteous in manner; he believed that the G.M. was thoroughly well supported by his officers, and particularly by the Grand Secretary, Bro. Shadwell Clarke, who had honoured the lodge by his presence that evening. The Grand Secretary not only had the confidence of the G.M. in his Masonic capacity, but also enjoyed His Royal Highness's personal friendship, and this he considered must tend to enhance the prospects of Freemasonry. He was delighted to find that two Grand Officers had been able to spare time from their numerous duties to attend that evening, and in the name of the lodge he begged to thank them for so doing, and trusted that the lodge might be honoured by their presence on many future occasions. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Shadwell H. Clarke, in responding, observed that the W.M. had set them a good example in the brevity of his speeches, and he would lose no time in thanking them for the very cordial reception that had been accorded to himself. The toast just given was undoubtedly a very important one, comprising, as it did, so many brethren who had done good suit and service to the Craft. On behalf of the Grand Officers he might say that they were at all times pleased to visit various lodges, not only to watch the progress of Freemasonry, but because they invariably met with a similarly cordial reception to that which he had experienced that evening. It was not the first time he had visited the Robert Burns Lodge, and he trusted to be present at many future meetings. Of course the brethren must be well aware that from the numerous calls upon the M.W.G.M.'s time it was impossible that he could give much attention to Freemasonry; but he could not say that His Royal Highness took the greatest possible interest in the Craft, and inquired closely into all matters connected with it. In conclusion, he thanked the brethren for the hearty welcome accorded to himself and Bro. Lewis Thomas, and said that he should carry away with him a most pleasant recollection of the hospitality of the Robert Burns Lodge, and heartily congratulated Bro. Loewenstark upon the proud position to which he had that day arrived as W.M. Mrs. Loewenstark then sang, "Come, buy my flowers," in which she was accompanied by her sister, Miss Eugenie Samuel. Bro. J. S. Hodson then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," in very complimentary terms, and Bro. Loewenstark, in responding, said that he thanked the brethren for the hearty way in which they had received the toast, and Bro. Hodson for the flattering terms in which he had proposed it. If he deserved all the kind things that had been said of him he felt that it was because he had always endeavoured to do his duty conscientiously. Of course he had looked forward to the reward that had that day been given to him, and he felt that it was a great distinction to be the W.M. of such an ancient and honourable lodge, and it would be his earnest study to prove during his year of office that in electing him to be their W.M. the confidence of the brethren had not been misplaced. The W.M. then favoured the brethren with a violin solo, "Selections from Der Freischutz," accompanied on the piano by Miss Ida Samuel. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Visitors," which was responded to by Bro. Lewis Thomas and Bro. F. G. Baker, the able instructor of the R.B. Lodge of Instruction. Miss Eugenie Samuel sang "Some Day," accompanied by Miss Ida Samuel. This song was most enthusiastically received. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the I.P.M.," Bro. Hodson, and observed that it was most gratifying to him to have been installed by so able a Mason. Work in the R.B. Lodge was always well performed, but never in his recollection had the beautiful ceremony of installation been more ably rendered, and he should never forget the impressive manner in which Bro. Hodson had delivered the addresses to the brethren. Bro. Hodson, in returning thanks said that as brevity had been described as the soul of wit, so he felt it to be the essence of discretion, more particularly as on the present occasion. He was far from well, and indeed had had some difficulty (for that reason) in performing his duties that evening. He was gratified to think that his efforts had met with the approval of the brethren, and he should at all times be most happy to assist the lodge in any capacity. He thanked the W.M. for his flattering remarks, and the brethren for their warm reception of the toast. Miss Ida Samuel then played a pianoforte solo, Mendelssohn's "Capriccio." The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Past Masters," and particularly referred to Bro. Lindner, who had that day bestowed upon the lodge the handsome gift of a set of silver jewels, the value of which was enhanced by the fact that they were his own workmanship, and he hoped that the brethren having this in mind would give a specially warm reception to the toast. Mrs. Loewenstark then sang "Across the Ferry," accompanied by Miss Ida Samuel. Bro. Lindner responded on behalf of the Past Masters, and said that, with regard to the jewels referred to by the W.M., he was pleased to think that they met with approval. He did not require any thanks, for the gift was too trifling. He had found during his year of office that there was no jewel for the I.P.M., so it came into his head to make one, and having made it, he thought he might as well make jewels for the other officers. He was much more gratified by the lodge accepting the present than the brethren could be by the gift itself; and he thanked them cordially for the way in which the toast of the Past Masters had been received. Song by Miss Eugenie Samuel, "The Better Land." "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge" was then proposed, and ably responded to by the S.W. and J.W. Mrs. Loewenstark then played a pianoforte solo, selections from "Tambour Major." The Tyler's toast having been given, Bro. Hodson proposed a special vote of thanks to the ladies for the beautiful music with which they had favoured the brethren that evening. He observed that it was but seldom that Masonic lodge meetings were honoured by the presence of ladies, and the lodge ought to be specially gratified on this occasion when they bore in mind that the W.M.'s wife and

her two sisters had taken the trouble to visit the Robert Burns Lodge for the musical entertainment of the brethren. The toast was eloquently responded to by Bro. Dyer, P.M. and Secretary.

ST. ALBAN'S LODGE (No. 20).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, on which occasion there were present Bros. A. P. Everingham, W.M.; William Roebuck, S.W.; J. D. McK. von Dadelzen, S.D.; Nutt, Sec.; Edward Terry, I.G.; Mark Rimmer, Charles C. Black, G. Swinburn King, J. E. Dunlop, John H. Bott, T. F. Detmar, W. D. Robbins, 1207; A. R. Baldwin, 366; Col. W. F. Blair, R.E., S.W. 20; Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.; Col. Shadwell H. Clarke, G. Sec.; Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., P.G.W., Prov. G.M. Middlesex; Frederick Binckes, P.G.S.; Thomas Keene, 1415; and H. Massey, P.M. 610, W.M. 1025 (*Freemason*.)

Bro. Thomas Fenn, P.G.D., installed Bro. William Roebuck, C.E., Grand Steward, P.P.S.W. Middlesex, P.M. 46, as Master of the lodge for the year ensuing. The following brethren were appointed to office: Bros. Hunt, Senior Warden; von Dadelzen, Junior Warden; Brooks, Treasurer; S. W. Nutt, Secretary; King, S.D.; Charles C. Black, J.D.; E. Terry, I.G.; and Longstaff, Tyler. Bro. Everingham, I.P.M., initiated Mr. Thomas Detmar, of the Stock Exchange, and afterwards raised to the Third Degree Bro. Mark Rimmer. Bro. John H. Bott took the Stewardship of the lodge for the next festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; Bro. von Dadelzen, J.W., undertook to represent the lodge at the festival of the Boys' School; and Bro. Charles C. Black, J.D., took the office of Steward for the Girls' School.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to one of the Albion's choicest banquets. Bro. Roebuck presided. At the conclusion of the repast the customary toasts were proposed and honoured. In giving the toast of "The Pro G.M., &c.," the W.M. said that Colonel Burdett, as one of the Past Grand Officers and Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, had done what was unparalleled for that county. Col. Shadwell H. Clarke, Grand Secretary, was always obliging, and a most agreeable companion, and had done his duty as Grand Secretary to the satisfaction of all the brethren. Bro. Raynham Stewart had done his duty in Masonry as much as any man on earth, and had devoted a great deal of time and money to the Masonic Charities, which was one thing that all Masons ought to look to. Those who attended Grand Lodge knew what the Grand Officers did in looking after the interests of the Craft, and how long they sat in a heated atmosphere in Grand Lodge while the business of Freemasonry was being discussed. Col. Sir F. Burdett said that although some of the Grand Officers did not appear so much in public as some of the brethren thought they should, it must be remembered that they were engaged in different parts of the country, looking after their own provinces, and seeing that the lodges in those parts were doing their duty. They all knew that the Grand Secretary was always at his post, and it was hoped that he would continue for many years to come to perform the duties he at present so ably discharged. For the flattering remarks with regard to himself and the Province of Middlesex which the W.M. had made, he might say he was exceedingly obliged, for, although the province was very flourishing, there had been many difficulties to contend with during its progress. Bro. Everingham, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." They all knew Bro. Roebuck would make a splendid Master of the St. Alban's Lodge. They knew he could do the work, as he had been the Master of a lodge before. The W.M. said he should do his best to do the work of the lodge with credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren, and when his year had expired he trusted the brethren would have the same kind feeling towards him as they had at present. The W.M. then gave "The Health of the Initiate," who he could not but believe, from the attention he paid to the ceremony, would make a very good brother among them. Bro. Detmar replied, thanking the brethren for his admission among their number. In proposing "The Health of the Visitors," the W.M. gave those brethren a hearty welcome, and remarked that when the visitors once came to the St. Alban's Lodge they were always anxious to come again. He coupled with the toast the names of Bros. Col. Shadwell H. Clarke, G.S., and Kirk, P. Prov. G. Officer of Kent. Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clarke, G.S., said the lodge was an old and distinguished lodge, which had a history of its own in days gone by, and he was sure that in Bro. Roebuck's year it would lose none of the prestige it had gained. He congratulated Bro. Roebuck on becoming Master of such a lodge, which had a splendid future in store for it. He could not help referring to the princely hospitality which had been shown to the visitors. Bro. Kirk said that, coming from the country, he had been amazed at the vast amount of work that had been done in one evening; but that only showed that if the W.M. kept up the same spirit and go as had been shown by his predecessors, there must be a prosperous year before the lodge. The W.M. next proposed "The Charities." The next great desire to being a Mason was to support those who were distressed, and the children of those who died in distress. The Charities of the country were a great institution. In Masonry the Charities had in the last year received nearly £14,000. This filled Masons in other parts of the world with amazement. The money was raised by this great organisation, but the Secretaries of the three Masonic Institutions were mainly to be thanked for their efforts, which had produced such a result. They had there that evening a brother whom he esteemed very much, Bro. Binckes, the Secretary of the Boys' School, who was really the forerunner in obtaining the large subscriptions which had been given for the three Masonic Charitable Institutions. What he did for the Boys' School was taken up by the Secretary of the Girls' and the Benevolent Institutions, and unless either of them now got £14,000 or £16,000 they were dissatisfied. He hoped that the young Masons would follow in the footsteps of their predecessors, and contribute so much that instead of £14,000 or £16,000 to each of the Institutions they would make it up to £20,000 each. Bro. F. Binckes, in acknowledging the toast, said he should follow the example set in this lodge of old traditions of making a short speech. Another tradition in the lodge was support to the Charities. That was kept up that evening by the voluntary offers of Stewardship for the three Institutions, and whom had spoken in eulogistic terms of the merit and claims of the great charities of Masonry. They were doing a vast amount of good to those who needed assistance and

support. The claims were large and extensive, but he believed the day would never arrive when the brethren would slacken their support of the Institutions. Let all the brethren endeavour to make the Institutions their pride and objects of admiration, and he might also add, objects of envy to other institutions. The W.M., in proposing "The Health of the P.M.'s," said that as those brethren's services had been required in the past they might be required in the future, and as he had known them for many years he knew they would do all they could for the St. Alban's Lodge. Bro. Everingham replied, and said he had as great an interest now in the St. Alban's Lodge as he ever had had. That interest he hoped he should always feel. In giving "The Health of the Officers," the W.M. said he knew he had good officers and that their work would be satisfactory. The S.W. was an old P.M., who he had himself initiated, and the work of the Junior Warden had been such as to justify his promotion, and no doubt he would worthily fill the chair when he was elected to it. Bro. von Dadelzen, J.W., replied. The S.W., on account of family affairs, was absent, but he was only expressing that brother's feelings when he said that the ambition of all officers of the St. Alban's Lodge was to do well. He was extremely pleased with the position in which he had been placed, and he hoped to show that it would not be for the want of trying if he failed to perform his duties. The Tyler's toast was then given by Bro. Longstaff, and the proceedings of a most enjoyable evening were brought to a close. We were sorry to notice that Bro. Sir Francis Burdett had to leave at an early hour in consequence of indisposition.

LODGE OF CONFIDENCE (No. 193).

The installation meeting of this old and flourishing lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Monday last, the 9th inst., a large number of brethren being present, including Bros. Bedford Lemere, W.M.; John E. Fells, J.W., W.M. elect.; James Smith, J.W.; G. F. Warne, P.M. Treas.; J. Shackell, P.M. Sec.; Walter Wood, S.D.; Wm. Cubitt, J.D.; W. Saint, I.G.; Samuel Webb, P.M.; Henry Webb, P.M.; B. D. Kershaw, P.M.; Thos. B. Hiddle, P.M.; F. Bonney, P.M.; Frank Sylvester, Jno. Jas. Bayley, A. Freeman, S. Smither, B. P. Todd, H. D. Alston, C. H. Davis, F. J. Heall, Grand Masters; J. Williams, D. Macdonald, Isaac Passingham, J. D. Collins, E. W. Fithian, Richard Pye, H. Dicketts, C. H. Walden, W. Woodwell, James Roberts, F. H. Clemow, W. Rickell, J. E. Murray, E. J. Davey, Alfred Jay, F. Hewitt, George P. Nightingale, R. M. Presland, H. Doubleday, W. J. Hall, W. Kedge, W. C. Greaves and the following visitors: Bros. Robt. Candlish, 601, Past G.D. Durham; Smith, P.M. 1158; C. Harvey, P.M. 795; A. Love, 1387; A. F. Harrington, 975; C. Wise, P.M. 1158; A. G. Dodson, P.M. 188; J. K. Pitt, 493; R. Josey, J.W. 1838; F. Johnson, 933; H. Friedlander, 1440; W. H. Grave, 1685; J. Fidler, 1550; A. Parker, 901; C. G. Eastman, 179; H. J. Godolphin, J.W. 1349; W. B. Hurst, 901; A. H. Gogges, 1216; A. Eldridge, 1585; J. Turnbull, S.D. 1275; C. Clemow, 1744; W. Pierpoint, W.M. 813; J. Kifts, 1791; J. Cox, 1766; and F. A. Kelly, 1524 (*Freemason*.)

After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the W.M., Bro. Bedford Lemere, in a masterly manner, raised Bro. Henry Doubleday to the Degree of Master Mason, and subsequently passed Bro. John George Desave. Ballot was then taken for Messrs. Alfred Day and Charles F. Hewitt, which being unanimous in their favour, both gentlemen were properly prepared and impressively initiated into the mysteries of the Order, the ceremony being admirably performed by Bro. Bedford Lemere. The chair was then assumed by Bro. Samuel Webb, P.M., who, in a most able and efficient manner, installed Bro. J. E. Fells into the chair of K.S. The officers appointed by Bro. Fells were as follows: Bros. Bedford Lemere, I.P.M.; J. Smith, S.W.; Walter Wood, J.W.; G. F. Warne, P.M., Treas.; J. Shackell, P.M., Sec.; W. Cubitt, S.D.; W. Saint, J.D.; Frank Sylvester, I.G.; Saml. Webb, P.M., D. of C.; Henry Webb, P.M., W.S.; G. P. Nightingale, A.D. of C.; — Morris, A.W.S.; and S. G. Reinhardt, Tyler.

The lodge was shortly afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. Clemow. At its conclusion the usual toasts were proposed by the W.M., the first being that of "The Queen and the Craft," followed by the National Anthem, the solo being given by Bro. James Webb. The next toast was "H.R.H. the M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales," in giving which the W.M. remarked, that at that late hour it was unnecessary to expatiate on the good qualities of the Prince as they were so well known and appreciated. The toast having been heartily and loyally received, was quickly followed by that of "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, R.W. Deputy G.M.; and the rest of the Grand Officers Present and Past," which was duly honoured. In giving the next toast Bro. Bedford Lemere said, that after the Grand Officers, the toast of the W.M. was the next in importance. The popularity and success of a lodge depended mainly upon the W.M. and his officers, and he felt certain that in Bro. Fells they had a Master fully able and prepared to carry out his duties in an efficient manner, both to the advantage of the brethren and their continued success of the lodge. The W.M., in reply, returned thanks for the kind and hearty manner in which health had been proposed and received, and promised that his best exertions would always be used for the honour and welfare of the lodge. The W.M. then, in graceful terms, presented Bro. Lemere with a handsome Past Master's jewel, in token of the hearty appreciation of the brethren of his able and efficient services during his year of office. Bro. Bedford Lemere, in returning thanks for the jewel, expressed the great pleasure he had experienced in filling the chair of so old a lodge, and referred in feeling terms to the kind support and forbearance he had constantly received from the Past Masters and the brethren, which gave him confidence, and tended so much towards the successful discharge of his duties. He was fully persuaded that for a lodge to be carried on successfully and harmoniously they must all endeavour to be of one will and mind. He hoped to be spared many years to be among them and receive the kind support and fraternal feeling from the brethren. The next toast was that of "The Initiates," who each said a few words in acknowledgment. To the toast of "The Visitors," proposed in hearty and complimentary terms by the W.M., Bro. Candlish, who had come up from Sunderland to witness his friend's installation, and Bros. Wise and Hirst replied. Bro. Fells, in giving the toast of "The Installing Master,"

toast of "The M.W. Pro G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon, the R.W. Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Officers," mentioned that the toast must commend itself to them, as the Earl of Carnarvon had married a Cumberland lady. This toast was well received, and the Chairman gave "The Health of the R.W.P.G.M., the Earl of Bective, M.P.," which was drunk with all the honours. Bro. T. C. Robinson, I.P.M., gave the toast of "The W.D.P.G.M., Bro. J. Lindow Burns-Lindow, and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, Present and Past," in a neat address. Bro. Major Sewell, Provincial Grand S.W., replied. Bro. R. Robinson, P.M., gave the toast of the evening in an eloquent speech, that of "The Newly-Installed Master." He said: The toast which he had the honour to propose was a toast of no common order. It was the health of a gentleman who was not only the Worshipful Master of Skiddaw Lodge, but the representative of one of the oldest of our Cumberland families—indeed, he might say the representative of one of the oldest families of the Anglo-Saxon race. He believed their eminent brother in the chair could trace his descent from a date prior to the Norman conquest. And as locomotion at that time was not so rapid as it is in our day, they might fairly assume that the Dykes family was a power in Cumberland before the invasion of Julius Caesar. If so, they might claim their Worshipful Master as a lineal descendant of one of the ancient Britons. Through a long line of ancestors Bro. Dykes was connected with nearly all the ancient families in the northern counties, as well as with a considerable portion of the oldest of our English nobility. He was a collateral descendant of William the Conqueror, the royal houses of York and Lancaster, of Charlemagne of France, and the Royal Stuarts of Scotland. Four hundred and fifty years ago, one of his ancestors represented the county of Cumberland in Parliament; and from that time to this they read of members of this ancient family filling places of the highest dignity and trust. He was one of a few present who could remember the father of their Worshipful Master as Member for Cocker-moath and High Sheriff of the county. Yet, notwithstanding his ancient lineage, they saw no signs of decay. Their Worshipful Master was not a withered, dried-up, sapless stump, nor did he at all resemble the fossil remains of a bygone age, but, like the unchanging evergreen, he appeared that day in all his pristine vigour; and he was sure they all rejoiced that he had lately added another link to his long and illustrious chain. In connection with Freemasonry, he (Bro. Robinson) found it recorded in Bro. Lamson's excellent and interesting work on Freemasonry in Cumberland and Westmorland, that the father of their Worshipful Master was initiated into Masonry in the year 1824; appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Master for Cumberland in 1833, and Provincial Grand Master for Cumberland and Westmorland in 1862, which last high office he continued to hold until his lamented death in 1866; and the honour conferred upon their brother in the chair that day was, he trusted, the stepping stone to that exalted position so ably filled by his father, their late revered Provincial Grand Master. In the chair of King Solomon he ventured to say that he would discharge the regal duties with a dignity (combined with zeal and ability) equal to any of his predecessors, and he was equally sure that he would have the loyal support of those able and experienced officers whom he had been pleased to appoint. As one generation passed away and another came, he trusted their Worshipful Master might be blessed with health and long life to discharge the duties that might devolve upon him, and as years rolled on, he might endear to himself more and more the good will and esteem of his fellow-men. And when in the fulness of time, he, too, should have been gathered to his fathers, might it be said of him that he was a worthy descendant of William Del Dykes. The W.M., in reply, expressed his gratitude for the way in which the toast had been received. He was quite unable to reply to the toast so eloquently as Bro. Robinson had proposed it, but he trusted, with the assistance of the officers and brethren of the lodge, he should not be found wanting in performing the duties devolving on him. He was encouraged the more to try from seeing daily in his smoke room two addresses which had been presented to his father, one by the Provincial Grand Lodge and the other by the Skiddaw Lodge. He had that day worn the same apron his father had worn when Master of a Carlisle Lodge, and he trusted his son, who wore an apron now, but not a Masonic one, would wear it after him. He remembered many years ago, when a small boy, seeing his father in a very elaborate dress walk through the streets of Cocker-moath with two other gentlemen, similarly dressed, arm in arm, and at the time he thought, if it should ever be his lot to act in the same way, "his cup of happiness would be full." He hoped that time would come, and although he had not during the past year bestowed so much attention as he ought to have done to Masonry, in future he hoped to make amends for the past and merit their approval. The W.M., gave "The Immediate Past Master," followed by "The Newly Invested Officers," which, on being responded to, Bro. Major Sewell proposed "The Installing Master," explaining that it ought to have appeared on the toast in the plural number, as he considered much of the credit was due to Bro. Lamson. Bro. T. C. Robinson, following up a custom adopted in Skiddaw Lodge some five years back, had installed his successor in a really admirable manner, whilst they all knew how diligently and efficiently he had discharged his important duties during the past year. As regarded Bro. Lamson, his part of the installation ceremony had been performed by him so frequently in that lodge that he had become an indispensable, and his forthcoming departure to Australia would involve them in a great loss. He wished him every success, both Masonic and otherwise, and trusted they would frequently hear of him. The W.M. wished to add a few words to what had fallen from Bro. Major Sewell. He had to acknowledge his deep indebtedness to Bro. Lamson in various Masonic matters, and he was sorry the lodge was about to lose him. He considered him *nulli secundus* in Masonry, and trusted at no distant date to hear of his being appointed District Grand Master of Australia. Bro. Robinson having modestly replied, Bro. Lamson, in response, wished, first of all, for permission to correct Bro. Major Sewell. As he took it, there could only be one Installing Master, viz., the brother who inducted the Worshipful Master into the chair. Any other brother who took part in the ceremony merely assisted, and therefore honours of Installing Master fairly belonged to Bro. T. C. Robinson, whom he must warmly compliment for the able manner in which he had performed his important duty. As

regarded himself, the humble services rendered by him he looked upon as a duty and pleasure. In that far distant land to which he was about to proceed they might depend the welfare of Skiddaw Lodge would ever be uppermost in his thoughts, and he should often expect to hear of their doings and work. He might also inform them that he intended to continue a member of his mother lodge. He should like to thank their W.M. for the kind terms in which he had spoken of him. The W.M. had mentioned the possibility of his some day being elevated to the dignity of District Grand Master of Australia. Now that was too much of a good thing; but he might remark that he had recently received a letter from an old friend, who enjoined him to let him know when he was raised to the magisterial bench; that, it appeared to his friend, being the destiny of every intelligent Cumbrian who went to Australia or America. In conclusion, he wished that every prosperity might attend Skiddaw Lodge. "The Visiting Brethren" was responded to by Bro. W. Court, P.M. 310, and "The Town and Trade of Cocker-moath," by Bro. W. M'Quhae, after which the Tyler's toast was given, and an exceedingly successful and enjoyable festival came to a close a little before midnight. Some excellent music, consisting of part songs, glees, and songs, were contributed by Bros. T. C. Robinson, T. Mason, W. Taylor, J. Thompson, 962; G. P. Abraham, 1073; T. Weatherston, 371; and W. F. Lamsonby. Bro. W. H. Lewthwaite, P.M., P.P.G. Org., presided at the pianoforte.

DIDSBUY.—Architect Lodge (No. 1375).—The festival of St. John was celebrated at this lodge on Friday, the 6th inst., at the Didsbury Hotel. The lodge was opened at 3.30 p.m. by the W.M., Bro. J. G. Bromley, supported by Bros. MacLochlan, I.P.M.; A. G. Collins, S.W.; J. Bradshaw, J.W.; J. Whitehead, Treas.; C. Laidlaw, P.M. Sec.; A. P. Graves, S.D.; and C. F. Savill, I.G. There were also present Bros. G. H. Pochin, P.M., P.P.G. Reg. E. Lancashire; Studd, P.M.; Harvey, P.M.; and W. D. Phillips. Visitors: Bros. Gilbert, P.M. 368, P.P.G.D.C. Cheshire; Oswald, P.M. 1140; Fallows, W.M. 1052; Wood, W.M. 1140; Caspar, 163; and W. D. White, 726, and 1573.

After the minutes had been read and confirmed, and the Auditor report submitted, Bro. A. G. Collins, S.W., W.M. elect was presented to the W.M., and was duly and properly installed into the chair of K.S. The addresses were given in a very impressive manner by Bro. Studd, P.M.; and the following brethren were invested as officers for the ensuing year: Bros. J. G. Bromley, I.P.M.; J. Bradshaw, S.W.; J. Whitehead, J.W.; Studd, P.M. Treasurer; Laidlaw, P.M. Secretary; A. P. Graves, S.D.; C. F. Savill, J.D.; W. D. Phillips, I.G.; and Heap, Tyler. It was unanimously resolved to remove the lodge to more suitable rooms at the Whittington Local Board offices; and the retiring Master, Bro. J. G. Bromley, was presented with a very handsome Past Master's jewel in recognition of his services and the respect and esteem in which he is held by the members of the lodge. After "hearty good wishes" had been tendered by the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed in ancient form and perfect harmony.

A banquet followed, at which the W.M. presided, and was supported by a goodly number of members and visitors. The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received with enthusiasm. The I.P.M., Bro. Bromley, proposed "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Collins," and in doing so alluded to the great friendship which had existed between them for several years, during which he (Bro. Bromley), had been much impressed with the many excellent traits of character portrayed by Bro. Collins, and expressed the great pleasure he felt, which was shared in by every member of the lodge, in having seen him elevated to the highest honour the lodge could bestow. The W.M. responded in suitable terms, and stated that he hoped, with the assistance of the Past Master and his officers, to carry on the work of the lodge in a satisfactory manner. Bro. Studd, P.M., proposed "The Visitors," who in response, expressed themselves highly pleased with the work in the lodge, and the great kindness and hospitality extended to them. Other toasts followed, and during the evening some excellent songs and recitations were given by the brethren. A word of praise must be accorded to the worthy host for the sumptuous repast provided on the occasion.

CANNOCK.—Earl of Shrewsbury Lodge (No. 1520).—A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 4th inst., at the lodge room, Local Board Offices. Present: Bros. H. G. Wrightson, W.M.; Wm. Ormson, S.W.; Robt. Barton, J.W.; Rev. C. Bullivant, Chap.; J. L. Gibbons, Treas.; T. H. Cope, Sec. (*pro tem.*); P. Sharp, S.D. (*pro tem.*); J. Green, J.D. (*pro tem.*); T. H. Cope, D.C.; G. Blagg, I.G.; Dr. Monro, Steward; E. Coombs, Tyler; T. Buxton, P.M. 1345, P.G. Reg. West Lancashire; W. Bayliss, P.M. 539, P.P.G.S.W.; W. Jones, P.M. 1520, P.P.G.S. of W.; C. Round, P.C.S. of W.; F. Sharp, J. Turner, T. Evans, and J. T. Williamson. Visitors: Bros. W. Fairley, 270; W. R. Brook, 739; F. Barnett, 539; and D. Round, S.W. 347.

The lodge having been opened, Bro. Gibbons installed Bro. W. Ormson in the chair of K.S. in his usual impressive style. The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. R. Barton, S.W.; T. Barton, J.W.; Rev. C. Bullivant, Chap.; J. L. Gibbons, Treas.; P. Sharp, Sec.; F. S. Hooper, S.D.; G. Blagg, J.D.; T. Cope, D.C.; J. Morris, Org.; and J. Green, Steward. The brethren after the business adjourned to the Royal Oak Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was provided by Bro. J. Henney, P.M.

INSTRUCTION.

STRONG MAN LODGE (No. 45).—The members of the above lodge assembled in goodly numbers on the 19th inst., at the Excise Tavern, 48 and 49, Old Broad-street, E.C. Bro. Pardon was W.M., and was supported by Bros. Johnson, S.W.; G. H. Stevens, J.W.; H. G. Gush, Preceptor; C. J. Fox, Secretary; Larchin, S.D.; Newell, I.G.; J. Caton, Kidder, Tate, Wing, Hunt, Stedman, Fontaine, and Pelikan. Bro. Cuthbertson, 371, was a visitor.

Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Cuthbertson answered the questions necessary to passing, and was entrusted. Lodge was opened up, and the ceremony of passing ably worked.

The following brethren worked the Sections: Bros. Pardon, W.M., First Section; Johnson, S.W., Second Section; Stephens, J.W., Third Section; Larchin, S.D., Fourth Section; and Tate, P.M., Fifth Section. Lodge was resumed in the First Degree, and Bro. Stephens, J.W., worked the Fourth Section of the Lecture; in each case the brethren assisting. It was announced that the ceremony of installation will be worked in this lodge on the 23rd inst., by Bro. Larchin, W.M. 1541. Bro. Johnson was duly elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The Fifteen Sections will be worked in February next, and Bro. R. P. Tate, P.M. 862, was elected to preside on that occasion, and Bros. Larchin, W.M. 1541, and G. H. Stephens, S.D. 1623, were respectively appointed Senior and Junior Wardens. Nothing further was brought forward, and lodge was closed and adjourned until the 16th inst., the W.M. congratulating the brethren upon having had such a capital night's work.

ISRAEL LODGE (No. 205).—At the regular meeting, at Bro. W. Yetton's, Rising Sun, Globe-road, E., the chair was taken by Bro. D. Moss, who was assisted by the following officers and brethren: Bros. G. H. Stephens, S.W.; A. Abrahams, J.W.; J. R. Shingfield, S.D.; Musto, jun., I.G.; T. W. Jones, P.M., acting Preceptor; A. K. Turbfield, 1227; Thos. Butler, 1685; Yetton, P.M.; and others.

Lodge was opened with due formalities, and the ceremony of passing was worked, Bro. Jones having previously been entrusted as candidate. Lodge was resumed in the First Degree, and the ceremony of initiation was also ably rendered, Bro. Turbfield being the candidate. Lodge was resumed in the Second Degree, and the W.M. worked the First Section of the Lecture, with the assistance of the brethren, Bro. Stephens acting as Preceptor. Lodge was closed down, and Bros. Turbfield, 1227, and Butler, 1685, were admitted members of the lodge, and returned thanks. Bro. G. H. Stephens was duly elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Bro. Stephens proposed, and Bro. Jones, P.M., seconded, that Bro. H. P. Phillips, W.M. of the mother lodge, 205, be invited to work the ceremony of installation upon the 22nd inst. Bro. Phillips has shortly to perform the agreeable duty of installing Bro. J. Da Silva, W.M. elect 205, into the chair of K.S., and no doubt Bro. Phillips will be well supported upon the occasion of rehearsing that ceremony. Bro. D. Moss having successfully appealed to the brethren for the vote of the lodge for the next election of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and all business being ended, lodge was closed and adjourned.

LANGTHORNE LODGE (No. 1421).—At the last regular meeting at the Swan Hotel, Stratford, E., on Wednesday, the 4th inst., Bro. A. Myers was W.M., and was supported by Bro. R. J. Biggs, S.W.; J. Everett, J.W.; G. F. Dix, S.D.; P. M. Latreille, Sec.; J. Bolton, Preceptor; H. N. Taylor, P.M.; T. S. Taylor, P.M.; Middleton, P.M.; and others. As soon as sufficient brethren had arrived, lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes were read and confirmed, after which the ceremony of initiation was capitally worked, Bro. Taylor, P.M., acting as candidate. Lodge was called off for refreshments, and on its resumption, Bro. Biggs, (S.W. Mother Lodge) was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing lodge meeting, and lodge was closed.

LANGTON LODGE (No. 1673).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 5th inst., at the Mansion House Station Restaurant, Queen Victoria-street, E.C., the offices being filled as follows: Bros. Marshall, W.M.; Chubb, S.W.; Shaw, J.W.; Barton, S.D.; Mande, J.D.; Hallowe, I.G.; Sudlow, Preceptor; and J. D. Langton, Sec. There were also present Bros. Barnett, Duret, Besant, Tanqueray, Pocock, Kern, Allhewen, Johnston, and Harding; and visitors: Bros. Gilbert Bartholomew, 1673; Jas. W. Gaze, 1763; and W. S. Duckley, 1777.

The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second, and resumed in the First Degree, when Bro. Kern, acting as candidate for the Second Degree, answered the usual questions, and he was passed to the Degree of F.C. The First Section of the First Lecture was worked by Bro. Sudlow, assisted by the brethren, after which the lodge opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Sudlow worked the First Section of the Third Lecture, with the brethren's assistance, and the lodge was closed down to the First Degree. Bro. Johnston was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting. Bros. Jas. W. Gaze and Gilbert Bartholomew were duly elected members of the lodge, and the lodge was closed.

Royal Arch.

UNION WATERLOO CHAPTER (No. 13).—The installation meeting of the above chapter took place on the 28th ult., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich, when Comp. E. West, M.E.Z. elect, was, with the usual ceremonies, placed in the chair of First Principal for the ensuing twelve months. The chapter was opened in due form, and when the companions were admitted, Comp. W. West, M.E.Z., presided, assisted by Comps. E. West, as H., and H. Shaw, as J. Among the other companions present were Comps. Jas. I. Thomas, P.Z.; E. Denton, P.Z.; W. T. Gamble, P.Z.; G. Kennedy, S.E.; J. S. Mutch, S.N.; J. Wilkins, P.S.; W. G. Lock, J. Turnell, H. De Gray, J. Gaskell, W. Robinson, and others.

The usual business having been transacted, the chapter was declared a conclave of Past Principals, and Ex. Comp. Thomas, the senior P.Z., undertook the installation ceremony, and carried it out with the *éclat* for which he is so distinguished. The following were invested as officers for the ensuing year: Ex. Comps. E. West, M.E.Z.; H. Shaw, H.; J. C. Mutch, J.; C. Coupland, P.Z., Treas.; W. G. Lock, S.E.; J. Wilkins, S.N.; G. Kennedy, P.S.; H. Welding, 1st Assist. Soj.; and T. Ovenden, 2nd Assist. Soj.

A handsome P.Z.'s jewel was then presented to Ex. Comp. Weston for services rendered during his year of office, and a cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Officer, Ex. Comp. Thomas, for his services that day. After these worthy Masons had returned thanks, the chapter was closed in ancient form, and the companions adjourned to Comp. De Grey's hostelry, where they partook of a *recherché* banquet, and passed a few hours in brotherly love and harmony.

The Theatres.

In "The Lesson," at the Haymarket, Mrs. Bancroft is herself as always, and teaches, we hope, a real lesson in some form or other to her audience. *Lady Duncan*, a girl of eighteen, has married a rich banker in London, a Scotchman, but she has no love for him, and is only too glad when he is in the City, at which times she receives the visits of a *Mr. Wentworth*, with whom she is in love. My lady proposes getting up some theatricals in aid of the church and schools, and engages a professional to coach her up in her part in Goldsmith's "She Stoops to Conquer." *Sir Thomas* is not much pleased with the idea, being opposed to theatres, but gives way. *Mr. Wentworth* makes a call to rehearse his part with *Lady Duncan*, when my lady proposes to him he shall invent some excuse to get rid of her husband for the afternoon. He, therefore, asks *Sir Thomas* if he has heard of the fall of the Government of Turkey, and the consequent panic in the City. *Sir Thomas* has not, and starts for his office; but suspecting something wrong at home, first telegraphs to the City, and receives a denial of *Mr. Wentworth's* report. He re-enters the room where *Lady Duncan* has just been asking *Mr. Wentworth* to go away until four o'clock, for she has a lady coming to see her. *Sir Thomas Duncan* and *Mr. Wentworth* leave the house proposing to go to the Club, both inwardly saying they will be back soon. After they have left, *Miss Kate Reeve*, of the Theatre Royal, is announced. *Lady Duncan* welcomes her, and asks her to make herself at home. She is rather surprised to find a professional off the stage like ordinary people, and that she is married and loves her husband. *Miss Reeve* shows her how to act her part—to do the jealous wife. But when *Lady Duncan* tries it—much to the amusement of the audience—what seemed so easy a task, is now very difficult. She tries burlesque, but is equally unsuccessful. *Lady Duncan* asks *Miss Reeve* why she does not change her name, and a host of inquisitive questions about her husband—as most ladies do of each other. She then shows *Miss Reeve* the photograph of the man for whom she has a passion. Of course, the actress recognises her own husband, and at once denounces my lady, for, whilst being a married woman and holding a position, she encourages the addresses of another man. *Lady Duncan* is unprepared for this, and had been under the popular, but erroneous, opinion that all persons connected with the stage are bad. Whilst this is going on *Mr. Wentworth* comes to pay his visit, and is surprised to see his wife, who reproaches him, as she is entitled to do, for his inconstancy, but lets the individual of her own sex have it the most. All women are severest on their own sex. Whilst *Miss Reeve* is teaching *Lady Duncan* a real practical lesson, in walks *Sir Thomas*, who is not quite sure whether what is going on is real or acting only, not having had any suspicions of his wife. *Miss Reeve* wishing to hide her husband spares *Sir Thomas's* wife an exposure, and explains that she is giving her a lesson. *Sir Thomas*, who is very fond of his money, asks what there is to pay, for though he is not partial to theatricals, did not know the performers could work themselves up into such a state of enthusiasm like real life. *Miss Reeve* replies there is nothing to pay; to which *Sir Thomas* responds that she is a dear good woman, for he thought he would have had to give a good many lawbees, and thinks her an uncommon nice actress. The audience is left to surmise that *Lady Duncan* has that day learned what she will never forget—a lesson. It is also a lesson we think may be taken home by the audience. Many persons have that foolish notion that the whole stage is corrupt. We hope, in course of time, this will disappear; and it cannot be better done than by professionals and by persons mixing together in society and knowing each other. Actors will not be found very different from ordinary people when not on the stage. Of course we do not wish to condone any faults; there have been and there are many bad things done by players, but of late years they have declined. Putting the stage against any other profession, we venture to say it will appear in a very favourable light. There are black sheep in every flock, but considering the temptations which beset this profession, we have no hesitation in saying, as far as our experience goes, actors and actresses set an example many would do well to follow. "Plot and Passion" by our late lamented Bro. Tom Taylor, follows "A Lesson," and in which Bro. Bancroft is the principal character. We forbear noticing it now, as in a short time it will be withdrawn to make way for M. Sardou's new play "Odette." We believe Mrs. Langtry will take a part in it. We may mention at the Haymarket all fees are abolished; so they ought to be everywhere. Truly Bro. and Mrs. Bancroft have appropriately chosen the words over the proscenium, "Summa arts est celare artem." Bro. Bancroft has given notice that his right to the plays of Robertson will shortly expire. "Ours" will be played on the 19th inst., when Mrs. Langtry will, we can definitely say in spite of all rumours to the contrary, appear for the first time as a professional, she will act *Blauche Hay*. Robertson, in his early days, as a writer was very unsuccessful, but after his plays were once taken up, his fortune was made quickly, but he died we regret to say at a comparatively early age. He was himself an actor, and the son of an actor. One of his sisters, Mrs. Dornton, died quite lately, and another Miss Madge Robertson, is married to Bro. Kendal and now takes her husband's name.

On Saturday last Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who had come to town from Sandringham for the concert at the Royal Albert Hall in aid of the fund for the sufferers by the Vienna fire, visited the Royalty Theatre, to witness the performance of "Pluto," and, we believe, was highly pleased. Bro. W. J. Hill (Asaph Lodge) added a great deal to the fun of Bro. Byron's burlesque by his humorous drollery, several times introducing remarks between the verses of the comic medley which we are sure are not in the original, but certainly added to the laughter of the house. The theatre was so full that we were unable to find a seat—it is true we were late in arriving. There is every probability of May and June seeing this piece still on the boards.

The "Great Divorce Case," which was first produced at the Criterion Theatre some six years since, was revived on Saturday. It has, however, been greatly condensed, and with the new business that is now introduced

the action is brisk and lively from beginning to end, so that we may anticipate for it a renewed lease of public favour. The round of characters is very evenly sustained, the several characters being capitably interpreted. The cast is different from what it was, the most conspicuous absent being Bro. E. Righton, whose place, however, is very ably supplied by Mr. A. Maltby. Bro. Charles Wyndham, as *Geoffrey Gordon*, is even more effective than he was originally, his portrayal of the character being a great success. Mrs. John Wood enacted the mother-in-law with great spirit; indeed, as we have already suggested, all the characters, both principal and minor, were sustained with great ability.

Music.

The grand concert in aid of the fund for the sufferers by the conflagration in the Ring Theatre, Vienna, took place at the Royal Albert Hall, on Saturday, in the presence of a numerous and fashionable audience, conspicuous among whom was H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, by whom the date of the concert had been fixed. Part I was opened with "God Save the Queen," the solos being very finely given by Mdlle. Alwina-Vellera, Miss Wilmers, Mr. Barton McGuckin, and Herr Friedmann, and included the funeral march from Beethoven's "Eroica," as well as the whole of that master's C minor symphony, both being superbly rendered by the orchestra, under the able direction of Herr Richter, who had come specially from Vienna in order to take charge of the concert. The grand Austrian National Hymn, specially arranged for chorus, organ, and orchestra by Bro. F. H. Cowen, inaugurated the second part of the programme, which included "Softly Sighs," from "Der Freischutz," sung by Mdlme. Marie Roze, Beethoven's "Creation's Hymn" (Madame Patey); recit., "Deeper and Deeper Still," and aria, "Waft Her Angels," by Mr. McGuckin, "Who Knows," (Mdlle. Valleria), "Elizabeth's Prayer," from Tannhauser, by Madame Rose Hersee, "Sweet Spirit, hear my Prayer" (Madame Liebhart), and "The Lord Worketh Wonders," from Handel's "Judas Maccabæus," by Mr. Burgon. It is needless to say how well these distinguished artistes fulfilled the tasks they were severally allotted. The chorus, too, and the orchestra, though of a somewhat miscellaneous character, got on very well, and as all the performers gave their services gratuitously, and as the Hall was lent for the occasion, while the expenses were extremely moderate, there is reason to hope that the proceeds, which, at the special request of Count Karolyi, the Austrian Ambassador, will be divided between the Vienna Fund and some English charity, will be considerable.

We are glad to hear that the arrangements for the establishment of a Royal College of Music are progressing more satisfactorily than its illustrious promoters could have anticipated. Our readers will doubtless remember that a select preliminary meeting was held about four weeks ago at Marlborough House. It is now arranged that a large gathering, convened and presided over by the Prince of Wales, shall be held in London in the second week of February, the object being to enlist the aid of representatives from all the counties and large towns in the United Kingdom. After this, local meetings will be held in various parts of the country, and it is confidently expected that the appeal to the public will be liberally represented, but should the annual subscriptions prove insufficient to meet the expenditure—estimated not to exceed £5000 a year—the Government will be asked to make up the deficiency. It is anticipated that the Commissioners of 1851 will grant a site for the college at South Kensington, to which will be added the building already erected by Mr. Freaque. Further, a trust has already been created in the names of the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Christian, the Duke of Westminster, Sir Richard Wallace, and Lord Charles Bruce, "to receive subscriptions till the Charter has been obtained and the Corporation formed."

We congratulate Bro. Carl Rosa on the success of his admirable arrangements for the opera season, which commences this evening with Wagner's "Lohengrin," to be followed on Monday by Vincent Wallace's "Maritana"; the other operas to be performed next week being Wagner's "The Flying Dutchman," Ambrose Thomas's "Mignon," and Balfe's "Bohemian Girl," to be performed on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday respectively. Among the novelties that will be produced during the present season, is included Berlioz's opera of "Benvenuto Cellini." Mr. Grist has completed the English version of the libretto, and the parts are already in the hands of the artistes and chorus, while to Signor Magnani has been entrusted the production of the scenery, &c.

The programme for the seventieth season of the Philharmonic Society has been issued. From it we learn there will be a series of six concerts, which will take place at St. James's Hall, on 9th and 23rd February, 9th and 23rd March, 27th April, and 11th May respectively; the performances, which will be under the direction of Mr. W. G. Cousins, commencing each evening at eight. The new productions will include Rubinstein's "Paradise Lost," Brahms's choral ode "Nanie," Liszt's symphonic poem, "Hungaria," and a new pianoforte concerto by Sgambati. Among the artistes already announced to appear, are Mesdames Christine Nilsson, Rose Hersee, and Marie Roze, Miss Santley, Mr. Barton McGuckin, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Signor Foli, Mr. T. G. Carrodus, Signor Sgambati, &c. Mr. Cousins will have under his direction a fine orchestra and a choir of two hundred voices.

On Wednesday evening, the 18th inst., at eight p.m., will be given by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, Hiller's "Song of Victory," and Arthur Sullivan's "Martyrs of Antioch." The conductor is Mr. Barnby, and among the artistes will be Miss Annie Williams, Madame Trebelli, Mr. Frank Boyle, Mr. Brereton, and Mr. Fred King.

The first evening concert in connection with these Ballad Concerts will take place at St. James's Hall at 8 p.m. the same day.

We understand that Messrs. Metzler and Co., of Great Marlborough-street, are, by command of Her Majesty, preparing for publication a complete collection of the musical compositions, sacred and secular, of H.R.H. Prince Consort, the whole being produced under the able supervision of Mr. W. G. Cousins, Her Majesty's "Master of Musick." We believe we are violating no confidence in mentioning that the first idea was that this collection should be printed for private circulation only, but on its having been represented to Her Majesty that such a work, if publicly issued, would obviously command universal interest, both at home and abroad, a gracious assent to such publication was at once accorded, and the collection will shortly be issued at the moderate price of one guinea. This is scarcely the time at which to offer any criticism on the Prince Consort's musical abilities, but the high estimation in which Mendelssohn held His Royal Highness's musical attainments, combined with the great appreciation that is everywhere felt for his high personal qualities, naturally leads to the belief that this interesting memento of the departed Prince will necessarily become an object of eager acquisition to all who admire sterling worth and reverent honesty of purpose.

Among the artistes at the Morning Ballad Concert, St. James's Hall, at 3 p.m. on Wednesday next, there will appear Madame Antoinette Sterling, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Signor Foli, and Mr. Santley. Several of Arthur Sullivan's songs will be given, among them being "Orpheus with the lute," "Let me dream again," "My dearest heart," "In Autumn," "The Lost Chord," "The Willow Song," "Sweethearts," "The Distant Home," "The Vicar's Song," "A Life that lives for you."

The programme for to-day's (Saturday) "Pop.," at St. James's Hall, 3 p.m., includes Mendelssohn's Quintet in A Major, Weber's Sonata in E Minor (for pianoforte only) and Mendelssohn's pianoforte solo in C Minor. Mr. Santley is the vocalist, and Mr. Zerbini accompanist, M.M. Charles Hallé, Straus, L. Ries, Hollander, Zerbini, and Piatti being the executants.

Next Monday's "Pop.," at 8 p.m. at St. James's Hall, offers an attractive programme, Brahms's Quartet in A Major, Schubert's Sonata in B Flat (for pianoforte alone), Beethoven's Pianoforte Trio in E Flat, Op. 70, No. 2, and Heller and Ernst's "Pensées Fugitives" for pianoforte and violin. The executants and accompanist will be the same as at this (Saturday) afternoon's performance, while Mrs. Fassett will be the vocalist.

Science.

There is no doubt we have had a great variety of interesting exhibitions during the last few years, but we question seriously if any of them will have proved more attractive than the exhibition of electricity at the Crystal Palace. Such rapid progress has been made in the arrangements that the Palace executive has been able to announce the possible readiness of most, if not all, of the systems of electric lighting by the end of the present week. The delay is due to the impossibility of providing earlier the requisite amount of steam power for working the various machines. However, visitors to Sydenham will now have the opportunity of judging as to the merits of the rival systems, which have been entered in this novel competition, and which for some time past have been recognised as being among the best that have as yet been invented. The exhibits include those of Her Majesty's Postal Telegraph Department, the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company, the Eastern Telegraph Company, Anglo-American Telegraph Company, United States Cable Company, Submarine Telegraph Company, South-Eastern and London and South-Western Railway Companies, School of Submarine Telegraphy, United Asbestos Company, Phosphor Bronze Company, Patent Plumbago Crucible Company, Messrs. Dolbear and Buck, Johnson and Phillips, Arnold and Sons, Legrand and Sutcliffe, Sanderson and Co., Webster and Williams, J. Willing and Co., J. Davis and Son, W. B. Woodbury, J. Stiff and Son, Hart, Son, and Peard, Eaton, Berridge, and Partners, Professor Monnier, &c., &c., &c. Opportunity has been offered during the week of judging of the character of the display, the arc lamps of the Electric Light and Power Generator Company towards the northern end of the nave having been lighted and burning equally and with remarkable brilliancy. M. André is charged with the task of lighting the front of the Palace. In addition, however, to the systems of electric lighting, there will be exhibited specimens of the apparatus for signalling on railways, fire and burglar alarms, telephones, and numerous other inventions dependent for their working on electrical agency, not the least important being Professor Monnier's electric alarms for warning pitmen of the presence of fire-damp in mines. It should be added that every precaution has been taken against accidents to visitors, the wires being protected by a non-conducting covering in the few cases in which the current of electricity would be strong enough to involve danger.

On Tuesday the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Archaeology was held in its rooms, 9, Conduit-street, W., the Rev. Canon Beechey in the chair. The report, which was read by the Secretary, stated the present number of ordinary members to be 559, in addition to thirty-five foreign honorary members. Mr. Rylands reproduced from the Egyptian correspondence of a French journal the latest accounts of Professor Maspero's exploration of the mysterious stepyramid of Medoum, which is thought by some not unlikely to prove that of the Protomonarch Menes himself. Maspero had discovered the entrance at the summit of the supposed artificial mound on which the pyramid was thought to have stood, but which turned out to be its first storey. According to M. Gabriel Charmes, writing on the day of his visiting the pyramid, with Maspero as his cicerone, the opening now uncovered forms an entrance by an admirably constructed corridor sloping downwards about 40 metres, absolutely the same length as that of the Great Pyramid. At the end of this long slope the path is as yet blocked up by debris. Maspero has already found in the corridor two hieratic inscriptions, in the style of the 20th dynasty, recording the names of a couple of scribes who had visited the pyramid at that date, at least 1000 B.C.

Obituary.

BRO. PROFESSOR PRAG.

Quite a gloom has been thrown over many Jewish and Christian households in Liverpool by the news of the death of Bro. Professor Prag, Chaplain of the Lodge of Israel, No. 1502, Liverpool, for many years the chief minister of the Old Hebrew Congregation, Liverpool, who was well known and highly respected by all classes of the city. He was presented a few months ago with a handsome testimonial in recognition of his twenty-five years of earnest service. Born at Dantzig, in Prussia, he came to England to fill the post in the Old Hebrew Congregation, which he held until the day of his death. Although not an Englishman he had a considerable knowledge of English, and could always express himself in grammatical and graceful language. He acted as teacher of Hebrew at the Jewish Schools, Hope-place, for some years, and he also filled the chair of Professor of Hebrew at Queen's College. He was well known among Rabbinical scholars for his profound knowledge of the Talmud. Indeed, he may be said to have stood in the first rank of Talmudical scholars in this country. He has left no works bearing his name; but it is no secret to those who knew him well that his knowledge furnished the materials for more than one important work on Hebrew literature. He will be greatly missed by the poor, to whom he was always a staunch friend. He was for many years a member of the Literary and Philosophical Society, and served upon its council. He has left an extensive Hebrew library, which comprises some very rare works. Bro. Prag may be said to have died in harness, for it is only a few weeks since he officiated in his synagogue. His health has been failing throughout the summer, in spite of his having obtained change of air. A short time since he went to Brighton, but growing rapidly worse he was removed to London, where he expired on the 27th ult., surrounded by his wife, children, and sons-in-law (among whom was Mr. W. Aronsberg, J.P., Manchester). On Sunday, the 31st ult., the remains of Bro. Prag were interred in the Jewish Cemetery, Deane-road, Liverpool, amid marks of the most profound respect from a very large gathering. The body of the deceased had been removed to his late residence in Upper Warwick-street, for interment in Liverpool. At the Prince's-road synagogue on Saturday reference was made by the Rev. Morris Joseph to the bereavement which the congregation had sustained. A special service was held in the Synagogue, which was largely attended by all classes of the Hebrew community. The congregation included many Freemasons. On the conclusion of an address by the Rev. Morris Joseph the coffin was borne into the synagogue on a bier by four sons-in-law of the deceased, and placed in front of the pulpit, the chief mourners and the executive of the synagogue following, and standing near the coffin while the remainder of the service proceeded. On its conclusion the coffin was taken out and placed in a hearse, and a procession was formed, consisting of about 125 mourning coaches and private carriages, containing the male relatives and the members of the congregation who had signified their desire to attend at the cemetery. On arriving at the cemetery the body was removed to the mortuary-house, where the first part of the burial service was read, and Bro. the Rev. Dr. Stern, Asst. Chap. 1502, delivered an address. The body was afterwards taken to the grave, and the concluding portion of the service was read in the presence of a large number of people. The Rev. J. Polack subsequently addressed the mourners in the mortuary-house. There were twenty-five mourning coaches, containing 100 gentlemen, principally members of the deceased's congregation. Among those present were Messrs. Julius and Joseph Prag (the sons of the deceased), William Aronsberg, Bros. Maurice Aronsberg, J. Frank, and B. W. Wohlgrumth (sons-in-law of the deceased), Messrs. G. Prag, E. Prag, Abraham Aronsberg, and Aaron Aronsberg (nephews), C. Aronsberg, R. Aronsberg, S. Aronsberg, and J. Aronsberg (grandsons), the Revs. Morris Joseph J. Polack, and Bros. H. M. Silver, Dr. W. Stern, H. D. Marks, Kisch, E. S. Lewis, Wood, H. A. Tobias, A. S. Levy, A. Saqui, Berthold Striem, I. Jacobs, S. J. Henochsberg, I. Woolf, H. Gabriel, P. Barnett, Barnard Levy, S. Jacobs, S. Schonstadt, Edwards, Maurice Hart, J. W. Ballard, R. H. Isaac, I. de Freece, H. de Freece, I. Fineberg, T. Phillips, D. Gabrielson, and a large number of other gentlemen.

BRO. REV. DAVID SHABOE, M.A., P.M., &c.

We have the sad duty of announcing the decease of Bro. the Rev. David Shaboe, M.A., P.M., and P.P.G. Officer, which occurred on the 31st ult., at the lodge, Tower Hamlets Cemetery, Bow, E., of which our late brother has been manager for the last 27 years. The funeral took place on Friday, the 6th inst., at the above named cemetery; the coffin was conveyed from the lodge to the chapel by eight bearers, and the burial service was impressively read by the Rev. Mr. Brennan, who was assisted in this and the subsequent services by six or seven reverend gentlemen. The corpse was followed by the whole of the employees of the cemetery, and many influential friends and brethren, amongst whom we noticed Bros. J. J. Berry, P.M. 534; C. T. Spright, 27; Wynne, 554; C. Lacey, 1421; B. Cundick, 1421; Anderson, 554; G. H. Stephens, and numerous others. The funeral arrangements were in the hands of Messrs. Fox and Sons, 92, Cable-street, St. George's-in-the-East, and were most efficiently performed.

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