

THE FREEMASON.

The Organ of the Craft, a Weekly Record of Progress in
FREEMASONRY, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

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

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 anniversary festival for the Girls' School is fixed for May 21st. Lord BROOKE, M.P., Prov. G.M. for Essex, a very popular and rising Mason, will preside. We have no doubt but that his own province will support him, and Warwickshire may lend a helping hand. We anticipate a goodly gathering under his Chairmanship, and trust that Bro. HEDGES may have a gratifying announcement to make when he reports the total of the Stewards' List. We regret, however, to add that up to the present the Stewards number under 200. There is no doubt plenty of time before the Festival to increase that number, and we would urge on all our readers and all the friends of the School the need there is that they should come forward to assist in maintaining the School in its fullest efficiency. Up to the present time many provinces are not represented at all, and though as we know some provinces only send Stewards every third year for this or that particular Charity, yet surely there is a very large margin left of duty unperformed and support ungiven. We have heard it said the Girls' School has a considerable funded capital. So it has, and most wisely so, both as provision for unavoidable contingencies and a "rainy day"; but not too large, and in itself going but a little way, by the use of the "interest," in the support and development of the School. The amount derived from capital invested is,—to use a familiar expression,—a "mere flea bite" in regard of the claims for the maintenance and education of the children, which are normal and needful. The Girls' School is an institution of which our Order may well be proud. It is "second to none" in existence, and may be said fairly to be "unique" in its admirably conceived and administered system of judicious, useful, and valuable instruction. Let us seek to make the Festival of 1884 a thorough success.

A MOST gratifying fact has been announced to us officially, that of 15 girls sent up to the Cambridge Local Examination all have passed—nine in honours, and six have "satisfied the examiners." Of the nine—one in the second class and eight in the third—there is no reason that a first class should not have been obtained by our girls; but Greek and one or two other subjects are not studied at Wandsworth. We beg to say, with some knowledge both of the examination and the subject itself, that such a result is a proof of most careful training and of much scholarly aptitude. We congratulate the authorities of the School on such a very satisfactory state of affairs, which will be both a subject of rejoicing to all the friends of the Institution, and reflects the very highest possible credit on Miss DAVIS, the very able head, Miss REDGRAVE, and the rest of the carefully-selected and painstaking teachers. All who are versed in the minutiae of the Local Examinations and the realities of school work, will agree, as with us, in thinking that such a successful result of the Cambridge Examination for the School deserves very hearty commendation and special record.

WE are also happy to announce that 24 of Our Boys have also passed the Cambridge Examination—15 in honours and nine "satisfied the examiners." Of those who passed in honours, six were in the first class, two in the second, and seven in the third. We refer our readers to the detailed report elsewhere, congratulating all concerned on so satisfactory a result.

OUR readers will have seen with gladness the announcement last week that the correspondence *in re* the election of Grand Treasurer has closed. Such a determination will be a source of relief to many. Let us hope that twelve months hence, if the subject is to be again discussed, it will be treated with less vehemence, and handled with greater calmness, forbearance, and fraternal consideration.

OUR worthy contemporary the *Canadian Craftsman* seems sadly exercised with some remarks of the *Freemason*. We take his complaints seriatim. One is as follows: "The London *Freemason* has the meanness to insinuate, by copying a lying paragraph from the *Montreal Post*, that Quebec Masonic lodges are connected with Orangeism.—Shame! shame! shame!" We

really do not understand what our contemporary means or complains of. We quoted a paragraph from the *Montreal Post* for the information of our readers, but by no means thereby, by a common use of quotations, implying our acceptance of or adhesion to the facts alleged. The only authoritative expression of the *Freemason* is to be found in its editorial first page, and no information of any kind to the effect complained of has ever found place there.

THE next cause of offence is given as follows: "The London *Freemason* calls the invasion of the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec 'a two-penny halfpenny affair at the most,' and the action of that Grand Chapter in defending herself a 'stupid development of perverse fatuity,' and adds, 'it is doubtful whether the Grand Lodge of Quebec or the Grand Chapter of Quebec are anything more in the eyes of the law than illegal secret associations.' 'Fie! fie! fie!'" The whole question turns on a point of law. Either the Quebec Grand Lodge is legal by the laws of the land, or it is not. If it is not, all the fine writing in the world, all the vehemence possible will not make it so, and all that we have to concern ourselves with is, Does the statute law of the land render illegal by its provisions the Grand Lodge of Quebec? It is a rule of Masonry that when the law does not recognise or sanction the meeting of lodges, they cannot meet, and when they are prohibited by specific enactments, they clearly cannot lawfully assemble, nor can they claim to be regular bodies of Masons. They become clandestine associations. There are many cases in the last century where the lodges held legal warrants, but the law of the land forbidding the meeting of the lodge, the warrant was surrendered and the meetings ceased. There is nothing in the point whether it be a Roman Catholic country or a Protestant country. It is simply a question of law. We apprehend this point of legality is held as strongly by the American Masons as by ourselves, and though we always live and learn, it is certainly new to us to hear it suggested that Masonry is in any shape superior to the law, be that law where and what it may be. We think our good confrère has got a little "mixed up."

A MOVEMENT is going on in Canada, which is curious and interesting in itself, as showing forcibly the outcome of those hasty moves for "separation," which have been such a characteristic of Canadian Freemasonry. If our readers wish to realize the reality of the original case, they had better peruse the official correspondence, or study the then authentic intelligence of the *Masonic Observer*. Just now in the Masonic dominions they are in a "fix." Quebec "swarmed" from Canada, Ontario is doing the same. If Quebec was lawful in its emergence from connection into independency, we cannot see "a priori" or "prima facie" why Ontario is not. It seems to us that the "engineer is hoist by his own petard," and that what is "sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander." According to the Quebec view, each province, like the United States in America, can have a conterminous Grand Lodge, and, if so, unless it can be clearly shown that the movement in Ontario has no geographical or Masonic features, properly or legally, in its favour, we cannot see why what Quebec did Ontario cannot do. But we pronounce no opinion and express no partiality, favour, or affection. All we want is the truth; the facts of the case. Will any brother in Canada kindly post us up, since, as regards details and actualities, we are without information and without knowledge?

THE following genuine and startling and amusing "tattle" of Masonic Statistics is taken from *El Taler*, a Spanish Masonic paper, of date February 15th, printed at Seville. No wonder the Jesuit and Ultramontane party are full of fears and complaints. There are stated to be in the United States of America 5,650,000 members of the Order; in Brazil and South America, 3,791,000; in Asia and Oceania (this last touch is sublime), 402,000; in Africa, including Egypt, 78,500 (this particularity is noteworthy); and in all the countries of Europe 4,853,000; in all the magnificent number of 14,865,000. We feel inclined to echo Mr. MANTALINI's emphatic ejaculations. The financial portion of these Statistics is still more astounding and deserving of note. The total income, and that is the curious contrast of this great army, according to this accurate statist amounts to £223,203. £68,746 are spent in printing, &c., £89,215 in relief to distressed Masons, £29,875 in pensions to widows and orphans, £21,448 in asylums and schools, £69,46 in help to the profane, and £5288 in the adoption of Lewtons and Lewises; in all £223,303. Of course these figures are simply absurd, and the proportion of funds to members still more so. From the sublime to the ridiculous there is but one step. The *Liberal Freemason*, on the faith of some old figures in the *Freemason*, assigns the members at 1,500,000 Freemasons, and though our excellent confrère Bro. HUBERT,

considers serious statistics very difficult to establish, in which we entirely agree with him, we think such most modest computation not far out. Therefore, oh! timid Ultramontanes, take courage, that great array of unbelievers, destructive, irreligious, disloyal Freemasons is not so large as you affect to believe or like to assert. As General CHANGARNIER once said to the Chamber of Deputies in Paris, in the midst of civil commotions, "Dormez en paix"—Sleep in peace!

THE following paragraph relates to one of the most difficult matters modern Craftsmen have to contend with. It is a resolution now standing on the books of the Grand Lodge of Maine, U.S., to be discussed at the next meeting: "Resolved—That no Mason shall sell, offer for sale, buy, or in any manner aid in circulating any printed document or cypher, as a ritual of any part of symbolic Masonry, under penalty of any punishment which may be imposed under the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge for gross unmasonic conduct." It is a subject about which for obvious reasons it is most difficult and inexpedient to write, and about which most truly in every sense "the least said the soonest mended." And yet if such a law passes what is to become of Masonic book collectors and Masonic MSS. hunters. We do not believe in sumptuary laws of any kind; they are mostly unworkable. Such a law if passed would fall at once into abeyance, because we apprehend thoroughly unpractical, and would only tend to give greater gains to unscrupulous brethren who vend surreptitiously, using fictitious authorities and claiming untruthful sanction for such alleged expositions. The true practice and the best teaching of Masonic work is to be found in our Lodges of Instruction.

OUR readers will be glad to hear that our venerable Bro. Sir MOSES MONTEFIORE is improving in health, despite the seriousness of his ailment and his great age. We are glad on all occasions to be able in the *Freemason* to express our sympathy with so great a benefactor of humanity,

JUST now the Hebrew race is undergoing everywhere most unmerited persecution. Now it is Germany, as well as Russia, which seems to be moving in the barbaric course of spiteful and degrading fanaticisms.

CONSECRATION OF THE ABBEY LODGE, No. 2030, WESTMINSTER.

The consecration of this new lodge took place on Monday last at the Town Hall, Westminster, the ceremony being performed by V.W. Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, P.G.D., Grand Sec., assisted by V.W. Bro. Sir Albert Woods (*Garter*), P.G.W., as S.W.; W. Bro. Dr. R. Turtle Pigott, D.C.L., P.G.A.D.C., as J.W.; V.W. Bro. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., as Chap.; W. Bro. Frank Richardson, as D. of C.; and W. Bro. Thomas Fenn, P.G.D., acting as I.G.

There was a very large attendance of brethren even so early as four o'clock, it being understood that a preliminary ceremony of a very interesting character was to be gone through before the Masonic business of the meeting commenced. The grand room in which the meeting took place, bearing on its walls an inscription that the foundation-stone of the building was laid on the 20th March, 1882, by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, was converted into one of the most elegant Masonic lodge rooms that perhaps have ever been furnished. The whole of the lodge appointments are works of art. The pedestals and chairs are of imposing proportions, and, constructed of unpolished walnut wood and elegantly carved, are of themselves noticeable features of the lodge. The effect, however, is materially heightened by the addition of light blue cloth covers on the pedestals; which fall in banner shape about half way down the fronts and sides of those pieces of furniture, the front of the covers having embroidered on them the device of the lodge, which is a view of the Abbey with the addition of the Burdett-Coutts arms in heraldic colours. The same device is emblazoned on the light blue banner behind the Master's chair, and on the kneeling stools, and indeed upon every article on which it could appropriately appear, including the collars and cuffs of the principal officers. For these beautiful articles the new lodge is indebted to the munificence of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, to mark her appreciation of the fact that Bro. Burdett-Coutts was to be the first Master of the lodge.

At the hour named the Baroness, accompanied by two or three ladies, and leaning on the arm of Bro. Burdett-Coutts, entered the room, the brethren present (who had not yet assumed their Masonic clothing) rising in a body to receive her. Taking up her position on the right of the Master's pedestal, the founders of the lodge being ranged before her to receive her words,

The Baroness BURDETT-COUTTS said: Gentlemen, through your friendly courtesy I am enabled to be here to-day and to present to your Master elect, Mr. Burdett-Coutts, the furniture, ornaments, and insignia for the use of your lodge. I know your time is limited, therefore I will very briefly ask your attention to the device which runs throughout them, and beg you to observe the beautiful and skilful manner in which the work has been carried out. If there is one part to which I would more than another direct your attention, it is its embroidery, as upon this I am more competent to judge, and I have watched its progress under the small and dexterous fingers which have executed its device so skilfully and with such admirable effect. The device itself was adopted, as most present here are aware, in compliance with a kind intimation from your members that our arms would form an acceptable badge for the Abbey Lodge, and it was thought by your Master elect that these could be harmoniously conjoined with a representation, as far as was practicable, of that majestic pile from which your lodge will derive its future name. The emblazements of heraldry carry us back to past historic days, when the men and women long since numbered with the dead were living actors in the events and movements of their time, and it has been a pleasing thought to us that our forefathers and your forefathers may have watched the uprising of that pile, and seen stone placed upon stone of that building we know as the Abbey, as each was fashioned into form and beauty by the cunning hand of the artificers of the Craft. Some may even have stood round whilst its first stone was laid with a ceremonial not differing in its essentials from that I was entrusted to perform a short time ago in the building in which we now stand. How few who witnessed that scene in the then young Abbey thought what a world of history would gather round that stone—the keystone of our national annals, and a cementing bond of union, sympathy, and affection between the English of that day and their descendants in blood—our kindred of the English-speaking people of the earth. I

could say little more, even if the hour permitted, for it is not in moments of strong feeling that words come readily to the lips. I now formally place all the appointments connected with the lodge into your Master's care, and have but one more office to perform, and I am not quite sure I am fully aware of what I am doing, for the trowel has been the only weapon I have ever used—that has often been confided to me; but in placing this poignard in your hand I know that whatever your duty may be, your hand will do it; that if the poignard be unsheathed it will be for the right, and with no uncertain aim, and that when sheathed it will be sheathed with honour.

Bro. BURDETT-COUTTS then said: Baroness Burdett-Coutts, it ill becomes me to attempt, after the brief but eloquent words in which you have presented this lodge with this beautiful furniture, to attempt to express in equivalent terms the thanks of all the founders of this lodge for the honour you have done us to-day. It is true that the articles in themselves are most beautiful—arc works of art. But to us they have a value beyond their intrinsic beauty—they have been presented to us by your hands, which have ever been actively employed for the good of mankind—by you whose association with Westminster will be one of its proudest remembrances. One word more. This Inner Guard's jewel with which you have presented me, and which will be found to bear an appropriate inscription, I now present to this lodge in memory of this day.

On the conclusion of this pretty ceremony Bro. Burdett-Coutts conducted his lady and her friends slowly down the hall, the Baroness and her companions stopping at the S.W.'s pedestal to cast approving looks upon the beautiful needlework so dear to feminine eyes.

Left to themselves the brethren donned their Masonic clothing, and the Grand Secretary proceeded to appoint the assisting Grand Officers to their respective posts, as indicated above, and then to open the lodge in the three Degrees. After the hymn "Hail Eternal by whose aid," the PRESIDING OFFICER addressed the assembled brethren. He said that, as they were aware, they were met together on a very important and pleasing occasion, which was no less than to give effect to a warrant of the M.W. the Grand Master for the formation of a new lodge, and add one more name to the long roll of lodges already existing under the Grand Lodge of England—the largest Grand Lodge in the world. There were already a very large number of lodges in England, those in London alone numbering no less than 330. It was consequently a matter of some difficulty to obtain a warrant for a new lodge. There was, however, no rule without an exception, and it occasionally occurred that the reasons for establishing an additional lodge overbalanced the reasons against so doing, and then his Royal Highness, in the exercise of his discretionary powers, granted the warrant asked for. There were some brethren in this city of Westminster who had laid a petition before the Grand Master, who, for good reasons, had been pleased to grant a warrant for a lodge to be called the Abbey Lodge; and it was for the purpose of consecrating the lodge that they were met that day. The founders were all more or less connected with the city of Westminster, and the lodge would therefore be a local lodge, having local interests and local members. They had selected an able brother to be the first Master—Bro. Burdett-Coutts. That worthy brother was, as they were aware, connected by family ties with that part of London, and he (Col. Clerke) would be wanting in duty if he did not refer to the charming incident which they had witnessed, when they had the pleasure of hearing the noble lady referring to historic times and giving them the lucid account of that historic pile in this part of London. This lodge being opened under her patronage, they were greatly delighted at the incident they had witnessed. The Grand Secretary said that he felt it to be scarcely necessary to make the remarks that he sometimes felt it his duty to make when founding new lodges, referring to the caution necessary in making new members of new lodges. It was frequently the case that they did not perhaps exercise at the starting of a lodge as much care or caution as they afterwards did. He was sure that this lodge would be very careful in this respect; that they would weigh and consider the antecedents of every candidate who offered himself for membership. It was very easy to get candidates, but not at all easy to get rid of them if found unsatisfactory. He hoped, therefore, they would be very careful; there was no lack of candidates in these days, and if only they were careful in their selection they would reap their reward in a few years, when their lodge would have become a high-class one.

At the conclusion of this address the Grand Secretary called on the acting Chaplain to give the customary prayer, after which Bro. Richardson addressed the presiding officer, who thereupon directed that the founders of the new lodge should be ranged in order; after which Bro. Frank Richardson, as D.C., read the petition and the warrant, and the founders, in reply to the enquiry of the presiding officer, signified their unaltered approval of the officers nominated in the warrant. The Rev. Bro. R. J. Simpson, as Chaplain, then delivered an oration on the nature and principles of Freemasonry. At the conclusion of the oration the anthem "Behold how good and joyful a thing it is, brethren, to dwell together in unity," was sung, and the ceremony of consecration proceeded with the utmost impressiveness until it was brought to a close by the delivery of the final benediction.

The Abbey Lodge was now in existence, with Col. Shadwell H. Clerke in the chair as Installing Master, who proceeded to declare the lodge to be resumed in the Second Degree, and Bro. Richardson presented Bro. Burdett-Coutts for the benefit of installation, whereupon the Installing Master proceeded with the ceremony and in the most impressive manner formally installed Bro. Burdett-Coutts in the chair of K.S. according to ancient rite; and thereafter the newly-installed W.M. invested his officers, the following brethren occupying the various offices for the year: Bros. W. H. Baker, S.W.; F. Seager Hunt, J.W.; H. Bowman Spink, acting I.P.M.; J. F. Warrington Rogers, P.M., Treas.; J. E. Shand, P.M., Sec.; W. Sugg, P.M., S.D.; R. Montague, J.D.; H. R. Baker, I.G.; J. A. Jones, P.M., D. of C.; J. Gibson, Asst. D. of C.; R. E. H. Goffin, W.S.; and C. C. Piper, Asst. W.S. The office of Tyler was left vacant.

The act of investiture was in every instance accompanied by a few kindly expressions from the W.M., and in several cases he referred directly to the individual merits of the parties. In particular he referred to Bro. Baker, the S.W., having recently been presented with a testimonial for his services in connection with the erection of the Westminster Town Hall. Bro. Warrington Rogers was also referred to as specially a Westminster man, son of a leading Mason, intimately associated with local government, and as being himself concerned in the local self-government of Westminster. He also warmly complimented Bro. Shand, the Secretary, saying that it might not be known to all the founders of the lodge, as it was known to himself, how earnestly Bro. Shand had worked in connection with their brother S.W. in the formation of the lodge. They were all very grateful to Bro. Shand for the way in which he had carried out the task he had undertaken. The

W.M. added that he had no doubt Bro. Shand would perform his secretarial duties with satisfaction to the lodge. Bro. Montague, the High Constable of Westminster, also came in for a humorous reference to the opportunity he would have of seeing the peace perfectly kept in that place; and to Bro. Jones he intimated that it appeared to him to be appropriate that that brother should have an office in the lodge who had been so intimately associated with the construction of the building in which the lodge was held.

Before the closing of the lodge the WORSHIPFUL MASTER rose and said that he had a proposition to put forward, which he thought should take precedence of all other matters. It might have occurred to many brethren there present that that day—the day upon which the most important ceremony of that lodge had been performed—was the date of an occasion which brought joy and happiness to this country—it was the anniversary of the marriage of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. Therefore he would briefly say—because he thought they must have divined at once the purport of what he had to say—that he thought it right and fitting that as, to use the words of the Installing Officer, he had received the warrant fresh from the hands of the Grand Master, that in the open lodge that evening they should pass a resolution congratulating his Royal Highness on the twenty-first anniversary of that happy event. He had ventured to draw up a resolution as follows: "It was proposed by Bro. Burdett-Coutts, and seconded by the S.W., that, the brethren, rejoicing in the auspicious fact that the consecration and first meeting of their lodge takes place on this, the twenty-first anniversary of the marriage of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Most Worshipful Grand Master, do hereby tender their heartfelt congratulations to his Royal Highness, and trust that the G.A.O.T.U. will be pleased to preserve his Royal Highness for many years to come to reign for many years over the Craft, and with his illustrious and beloved consort, her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, to continue to diffuse happiness amongst the faithful subjects of the realm." (Applause.)

The SENIOR WARDEN said he would not spoil the effect of this happy idea of the W.M. by making a speech upon it; he would rather leave it to the brethren to carry it with the unanimity that their applause indicated.

The motion was put to the vote by the J.W., and carried unanimously, amid the applause of the brethren.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER said he presumed it was the pleasure of the lodge that the resolution should be forwarded to his Royal Highness so that he should receive it before the day was closed. (Applause.)

The following answer has been received from General Sir F. Knollys, C.B., in acknowledgment of the foregoing resolution: "Marlborough House, Pall Mall, W., 11th March, 1884. I am desired in reply to request you to be so good as to convey to the brethren of the Abbey Lodge, Westminster, 2030, the expression of their Royal Highness's warm thanks for the congratulations offered by them to the Prince and Princess on the occasion of the anniversary of their wedding day.—I remain, yours truly, FRANCIS KNOLLYS, C.B.—W. Burdett-Coutts, Esq."

Bro. BURDETT-COUTTS again rose and said he had now the pleasure to propose a vote of thanks to the Consecrating Officer. A few words from him were necessary (particularly as the hours were advancing, and they were approaching another ceremony) to express the gratitude they felt to the Grand Secretary and the other Grand Officers for coming there to assist in the consecration. The Grand Officers must know that the brethren were sensible of the great honour that their presence conferred. He would rather embody their gratitude in another proposition, which he would make connected with that one, and that was, he would propose as honorary members of the lodge those officers of the Grand lodge who had assisted in the consecration, namely, Bros. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Sir Albert Woods, Dr. Turtle Piggott, the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Frank Richardson, and Thos. Fenn, and for reasons that would be apparent, he would ask them to add the name of his cousin, Bro. Sir Francis Burdett.

This proposition was also seconded by the S.W., and carried unanimously amidst applause.

Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE on behalf of himself and his colleagues returned thanks for the double compliment that had been paid them, and accepted with gratitude the honorary membership in the Abbey Lodge, for which they hoped continued prosperity.

Bro. Sir FRANCIS BURDETT, Prov. G.M. Middlesex, also returned thanks for the compliment having been extended to him on special grounds, and notwithstanding that he had not taken any part in the consecration ceremony.

The SECRETARY read a few of the many letters of regret that he had received, stating the inability of the writers to be present. These included the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, the Duke of Manchester, Lord Wolseley, Lord Milltown, Lord Limerick, and many eminent Masons. He also read a letter from Bro. Hedges, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, asking for a Steward for the next festival of the Institution, whereupon

Bro. BURDETT-COUTTS rose and said that he proposed being a Steward at that festival.

Bro. BAKER, S.W., said that that announcement would give the brethren great pleasure. He had very great gratification in proposing "That twenty guineas out of the lodge funds be placed on the W.M.'s list;" and knowing as he did what the brethren desired to do with regard to the Charities, he felt sure that the sum would not bear comparison with the support the W.M. would receive from the brethren individually.

This proposition was seconded by the J.W. and carried unanimously.

There were numerous proposals for initiation and also for the election of brethren as joining members. A Committee, comprising the W.M., the Senior and Junior Wardens, the Treasurer, and Secretary, was appointed to draw up the bye-laws.

The lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren of the lodge and their very numerous guests dined together in the large hall on the ground floor of the building. On the removal of the cloth, Bro. Burdett-Coutts proceeded to propose various loyal and Masonic toasts.

In proposing the first toast he said: Brethren, the first toast which I have the honour to propose to you to-night is one which derives an added feeling from its connection with the special circumstances of the evening; it is the toast of "The Queen and the Craft." The Queen—her sympathies are so wide, her connections are so numerous and varied with the different interests in this country, that it is not difficult to find on any different occasion some connection between her Majesty and the subject of that occasion. On this night I find it—in fact we know it—that the Queen is the friend of the Craft; and she is the mother of our Grand Master. Though it is not connected with this particular lodge, I could remind you that the Queen was born within the precincts of St. Margaret's parish, was proclaimed queen within those precincts, and there held her first council. That gives us of

this lodge, prominently representing the City of Westminster, an apparent connection with her Majesty to-night. I will say no more, but commit to your loyal hands the toast of the Queen and the Craft.

The toast was loyally and enthusiastically received, and in proceeding with the toast list,

The CHAIRMAN said: Brethren, the next toast I have to propose is one which I think will receive your cordial consent; it is the toast of "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales." I think I am not wrong in believing that this is in the heart of every one here present, the feeling to which I endeavoured to give expression in the lodge to-day—feelings of sincere congratulation to their Royal Highnesses of having attained the twenty-first anniversary of their wedding day. Wherever the name of an English gentleman is honoured there I think the name of the Prince of Wales will be received with pleasure and esteem. But we have a higher character in which to invest him in our thoughts to-night; it is the character of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of our Order. As such we, here to-night, are able to bear testimony to the admirable manner in which he presides over the Craft; and both I and the founders of this lodge can return him on this occasion our grateful thanks for enabling us to form a Craft body of Masonry, and entertain our friends here to-night. With every grateful and loyal expression I give you the toast of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

This toast met with an enthusiastic reception, after which

The CHAIRMAN said that the next toast which he had to propose was that to "The Grand Officers." He thought they had a very distinguished company of Grand Officers present on that occasion. He was not too well acquainted with consecration meetings; but he was told that it was rare to see such an assemblage of Freemasons in general. He considered their presence a very great honour to himself; but it was a greater honour to the lodge over which he was permitted to rule. On his right he had his cousin, Bro. Sir Francis Burdett, Bro. Hopkinson, Bro. Sir J. McGarel Hogg, Bro. Philbrick, Bro. Creaton, Bro. Fenn, Bro. Richardson (who had aided them so much in the conduct of the ceremony that day), and Bro. Sir John B. Monckton; on his left he had Bro. General Brownrigg, Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke (of whom he would have to say something later on), Bro. Sir Albert Woods (an old friend of his, and an honoured and dear friend of Lady Burdett-Coutts), Bro. Capt. Philips, Bro. Admiral Keppel, Bro. Burt, Bro. Horace Jones, Bro. Sir John Whitaker Ellis, and probably some others whom his ignorance obliged him to pass over. In the name of the brethren of the lodge he wished briefly to bid these Grand Officers a most hearty welcome. The lodge was young—they were almost in the hour of their birth—he was happy to say it was not a painful process. To the Grand Officers he would say that as now so in the future the brethren would always welcome them and be proud of their presence. It was an honour to the lodge that the Grand Officers had presided over the difficult but happy circumstance of their coming into existence; it was an honour which they were not likely to forget. With this general toast he would not mention more names than he was permitted by circumstances and time to do. He knew they had many able and eloquent speakers among them; but where there were so many he must be guided by a certain rule, and he would therefore mention the names of Bro. Sir Francis Burdett, Prov. Grand Master of Middlesex, and Bro. General Brownrigg, Prov. Grand Master of Surrey.

Bros. Sir FRANCIS TRUSCOTT and General BROWNRIFF having acknowledged the compliment in the name of the Grand Officers,

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, G.S., rose and said it was his duty to propose a very important toast—a toast dear to every founder of the lodge and one which the visitors would receive with cordiality and pleasure. He was about to propose "The Health of the W.M.," whom he had had the honour to install that evening. He had taken the opportunity of saying a few words to the brethren in the lodge, and those remarks he now fully and clearly endorsed. When the founders of the Abbey Lodge conspired together to get up their lodge they did a very wise and proper thing in selecting so good and proper a Mason as Bro. Burdett-Coutts to be their first Master. Bro. Burdett-Coutts was made, and well made, in the well-known Apollo Lodge, a lodge which had done perhaps more good than any other lodge he could name. For several years his way of life had thrown him out of the way of Masonry. His merits had now been recognised; he had been nominated the Master of a new lodge, and they had seen the way in which he had invested his officers. In that work, which was most thoroughly done, he had given a specimen of what he meant to do in his year of office. In witnessing the very pleasing ceremony which preceded the formation of the lodge the assembled brethren had been charmed and delighted at the presence of the noble lady, which would influence very strongly the future success of the Abbey Lodge, which, however, he believed did not require any outside influence, their first Master being so good a man. He thought he might venture to add that at the end of this year the brethren would say they could not have made a better choice. He would not weary them with further words; they knew their man as well as he did; he would therefore only ask them to join him in drinking the very good health and every possible good luck to the W.M. of the Abbey Lodge.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in making his acknowledgments for the toast, said: The words in which you, Bro. Shadwell Clerke, have proposed this toast, and the unmistakeable warmth and cordiality with which you, brethren, have received it, has gone straight to my heart, and there they will ever rest as one of its most treasured and grateful memories. (Cheers.) I must beg of your indulgence, as I have been performing my part to-day under exceptional physical difficulties, as any brother who, in pursuance of the charitable principles involved in this our Order, would kindly exchange his throat for mine, would soon discover. (Laughter and cheers.) Yet I would fain explain to you one or two reasons why then I say that it is a very great honour and pleasure to me to have been chosen the first Master of this lodge. I use these words in no formal or merely complimentary sense. In the first place, there are the circumstances that led to the formation of the lodge, which are fresh in your recollection. It was felt that there was a distinct want for the lodge to gather together the great interests of local self-government which concentrate themselves within this hall into a lodge of the Craft, to which so many of the workers in, and representatives of, that local self-government belong. The warrant was spontaneous among you, brethren, who are citizens of Westminster, proceeding directly from those who by the ceremony of to-night have been united in the confraternal bonds of the Abbey Lodge. We all know the value of such a basis. It means a direct personal interest, on the part of every brother in the lodge, as a creation of their own, and I trust I shall not be claiming too much if I venture to hope and believe that the act by which you have chosen me as your first Master partook of something of the same spontaneity, unanimity, and personal interest which guided you to the formation of the lodge itself. At any rate I will lay that flattering unction to my soul, for it

makes my appointment a double honour and pleasure to me. Then again there is the locality which has given a birthplace to this lodge and the associations that hover over it. This dear old Westminster—like its traditions lost in the mists of by-gone ages, with its modern developments of thought and action reaching far into the unknown future; Westminster, the centre and heart of this mighty London, with its swift popular emotions and its vast, eager, busy, struggling population; Westminster, representing in a concentrated form all the characteristics of London—the home of every class, the focus of every interest, the goal of every ambition; Westminster is the home of this lodge, and the lodge itself is composed mostly of Westminster men. Nay, more; so proud are we of the peculiar character attaching to this lodge, so anxious to perpetuate its inseparable connection with Westminster, that we have hung the banner of it on our outward walls, and have named it after that stately Abbey beneath whose holy and historic shadow we shall always meet. We have so named it, not only as a tribute of honour and respect to its mighty past, but because we know and feel that its traditions and memories are so glorious that the very dust enshrined within its walls is in itself recreative and inspiring. To any one this connection with Westminster would invest this lodge with an added interest, but to me that interest is ten-fold greater. I need not say that anything that connects me with Westminster gives me the greatest satisfaction and pleasure, for it is carrying on and fulfilling a line of association into which circumstances have happily called me, which is very dear to me, and which I shall always endeavour to strengthen and perpetuate, though I cannot hope to compete in interest with those two illustrious characters who have successively formed and maintained it. Sir Francis Burdett, one of the most auspicious and singular figures in the political history of this century, the head of a family whose present head we are so glad to see here to-night in the person of my cousin, Sir Francis Burdett—(loud cheers)—the head, I repeat, of a family which had sent many representatives to Parliament before him, a family—I say it without hesitation in the presence of my friend the Garter King-at-Arms, Sir Albert Woods—(cheers)—with an uninterrupted line of descent from the Conquest, possessed of two splendid estates, gifted with the inward and outward graces of an English gentleman of the olden type, did, as your representative, champion the rights and liberties of the people wherever and whenever they were assailed, and did so with a warmth of conviction, with a power of eloquence, and a purity of motive that rendered him a popular idol. And after him his daughter, just as much as he, but perhaps in a different way—the champion of the rights, the redressor of the wrongs, of her less favoured fellow-subjects, not less than he keenly jealous of the honour and reputation of the country, took up and continued her association with Westminster in a spirit which has endeared her to its citizens, which has placed in its poorest districts a beautiful church, the centre—with its parish organisation, so much of the success of which is due to our Bro. Senior Warden—(cheers)—the centre of an active Christian influence, a spirit which has connected her with many useful movements within its precincts, the last and not the least when with her own hands she laid the foundation-stone of this noble building in which we are assembled, this enduring monument of your enterprise and progress. (Loud cheers.) If I have said too much on this point you will forgive me, for I am only showing the extent to which the position in which you have placed me is enhanced in value to me by its indirect connection with her whom I value above all. I would remind you that her father was a Mason, and that she herself has always shown an interest in the Craft, as witness the Burdett-Coutts Lodge, which years ago she assented to found, and whose W.M. we are so glad to see here. You have already seen how it has pleased the founders to illustrate and perpetuate these associations by adopting our united shield, emblazoned on the front of the Abbey, as the arms of the lodge. Apart from these considerations special to myself, and which enhance the depth and sincerity of my response to this toast, there are general reasons for congratulation on the formation of this lodge which I know are present to your own minds in sufficient force not to require their enumeration by me. But I would point again to the special opportunities it will give to binding together in a fraternal and sympathetic union men who have common objects, common aims, and, to an extent, kindred occupations in the great work of local self-government as organised and concentrated in this Town Hall. Union in this, as in other cases, is strength—strength to the individual member who is well and fortunate, for who will deny that each member partakes of and gains from the combined influence of the whole body as well as from the particular and special influence of every other member—(cheers); while for the less fortunate and prosperous also this union is strength. In these days, when the struggle of life is so keen, when the race is to the swift and the battle to the strong, many a weaker brother crushed by some passing storm of adversity, his cries for help lost in the din and rush of the advancing tide of life's struggle, is apt to be left helpless by the way-side. Where, brethren, I ask, can such a one find a securer haven of rest and relief than within the bosom of an Order which is so liberal and generous? In conclusion, I would only say that I trust that these and the many other beneficial objects of our Order may grow and prosper in this lodge. So then may it, in the words of the motto of my family, "Cleave Fast"—(loud cheers)—may it ever be the home of loyalty and faith, of loyalty to the Crown and Constitution, loyalty to all the nobler and kindlier instincts and aspirations of man, loyalty to those great principles of justice and mercy which lie at the base of this great Order; and, lastly, may it be the home of faith, of that great and priceless treasure which Freemasonry has in no small degree, it seems to me in these latter days of ours, the high privilege and duty of safe guarding—the home of faith in the Great Architect of the Universe. (Continued cheering.) The Worshipful Master concluded by proposing, in very complimentary and graceful terms, "The Health of Bro. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, the Consecrating Officer of the Lodge."

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE having acknowledged the compliment, the WORSHIPFUL MASTER proposed "The Health of the Visitors," to which Bros. Sir JOHN WHITTAKER ELLIS, P.G.J.W.; F. A. PHILBRICK, Deputy Prov. Grand Master Essex; and EDWARD CLARKE, Q.C., M.P., replied.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then proposed "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge," and Bro. W. H. BAKER, the S.W., having returned thanks, the proceedings of a most successful evening terminated with the Tyler's toast.

The musical arrangements, which were excellent, were under the direction of Bro. Henry Baker who was assisted by Madame Agnes Ross, Madame Antoinette Stirling, Bros. H. W. Schartau, A. L. Fryer, J. Nettleship, and W. Lloyd. Bro. H. Maunder presided at the pianoforte. The lodge was furnished by Bro. George Kenning.

CONSECRATION OF THE CROOK LODGE, No. 2019.

On Wednesday, the 5th inst., the ceremony of consecrating this new lodge took place under very auspicious circumstances at Crook, one of the busiest centres of the coal and coke producing districts of the county of Durham. On the arrival of the train by which a large number of the brethren proceeded from various parts of the province, there was a large concourse of the public assembled. The carriage of Bro. the Rev. G. P. Wilkinson, P.P.G.S.W., was in waiting for the Most Hon. the Marquess of Londonderry, K.P., Prov. G.M., who, with Bro. Robert Hudson, Prov. G. Sec., was driven to the Mechanics' Institute, where the ceremony took place. The lodge was duly opened by Bro. E. D. Davis, acting D.P.G.M., after which the brethren received the Prov. G.M. The other officers present were Bros. C. S. Lane, acting Prov. G.S.W.; John Wood, Prov. G.J.W.; Rev. E. Collier Biggs and the Rev. W. C. Harris, Prov. G. Chaps.; Babington Boulton, Prov. G. Treas.; Henry Maddison, Prov. G. Reg.; Thomas Bradley, Prov. G. Asst. Sec.; C. D. Hill Drury, acting Prov. G.S.D.; G. C. Watson, Prov. G.J.D.; J. J. Clay, acting Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Edward Hudson, Prov. C.D.C.; George Hardy, Prov. G. Asst. D.C.; Mark Frampton, Prov. G. Swd. Br.; R. J. Talintyre, Prov. G. Org.; R. Kinmond, Prov. G. Purst.; Joshua Curry, Prov. G. Tyler; G. Greenwell, P.P.G.D. of C.; C. R. Fry, P.P.G.J.W.; W. Coxon, P.P.G.S.B.; George Stillman, P.P.G.D.; Thomas Bell, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Walker, P.P.G. Org.; and W. A. Malcolm, P.P.G.P. Among others present were Bros. A. Allan, P.M. 1121; D. P. Huntley, P.M. 80; W. Hobson, P.M. 111; J. Hudson, I.P.M. 94; J. C. Moor, W.M. 97; N. W. Apperly, J.D.; W. C. Blackett, P.M. 124; W. Hines, P.M. 1121; J. Ostle, P.M. 1121; J. Probert, P.M. 424; R. H. Dickenson, W.M., and J. C. Wilson, I.P.M. 636.

The petition for the new lodge and the warrant were read by the Prov. Grand Secretary, after which the W.M. and Wardens of the new lodge were presented to the Prov. Grand Master. An oration was delivered by Bro. E. C. Biggs, Prov. G. Chap., after which the new lodge was solemnly consecrated by the Prov. Grand Master. The installation of the W.M. designate, Bro. Samuel Holdsworth, P.M. 1121, was then ably performed by Bro. W. Coxon, P.P.G.S.B., the officers of the new lodge being afterwards invested as follows: Bros. John Ostle, I.P.M.; Wm. Love, S.W.; Thomas Hardy, J.W.; Rev. Richard Coulton, Chaplain; Richard Proud, Treasurer; Daniel Ostle, Secretary; Thomas Young, S.D.; Wm. Arrowsmith, J.D.; J. Graham, D. of C.; E. Milburn, Organist; Wm. Cochrane, I.G.; J. Ord and T. Hall, Stewards; and John Dowson, Tyler. The founders of the lodge were Bros. S. Holdsworth, W. Love, T. Hardy, T. Young, the Rev. G. P. Wilkinson, J. Ostle, and George Pearson. The musical portion of the ceremony was very ably rendered by Bros. D. Whitehead, Nutton, and Walker, of Durham Cathedral choir, and Bro. Talintyre, Prov. G. Org. A number of initiates and joining members were proposed, after which the proceedings of the consecration terminated.

A luncheon was served in the room below, at which Bro. S. Holdsworth, W.M., presided. The loyal and Masonic toasts received full acknowledgment, that of "The R.W. Prov. Grand Master" being most enthusiastically received.

The Marquess of LONDONDERRY in replying said this was his first visit to Crook, but after the reception he had had that day, as Provincial Grand Master of Durham, he hoped it would not be the last. He trusted and hoped that the lodge he had just consecrated, which made the twenty-ninth lodge in his province, might conduce to the advantage and prosperity of Freemasonry in general. The Provincial Grand Secretary had informed him that in September next in all likelihood there would be the Londonderry Lodge, upon temperance principles, which would make up the 30 lodges, and would give them an important increase in the number of their provincial officers. He thanked them very sincerely for the honour they had done him by receiving the toast of his health so cordially. He felt he ought not to take his seat without proposing the toast of "The Health of the first W.M. of the Crook Lodge."

Bro. R. HUDSON, P.G.S., afterwards proposed "The Officers of the new Lodge," to which Bros. LOVE and HARDY replied. Other toasts were also given.

THE RECENT FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

We have much pleasure in stating that the increase in the proceeds of this festival which we announced last week has been still further extended, so that the total, as it now stands, is £14,642 10s., or very considerably more than we in our careful estimate had reason to anticipate. The new lists that have been received are those of Bro. F. G. Brown, No. 1, £10 10s.; Bro. H. P. Gordon, No. 907, £37 16s.; and Bro. John Hammond, No. 1986, £45 3s. These with the further additions made to lists already received give a total for London amounting to £8,422 13s. As regards the provinces, Bro. Toms, unattached, Berks and Bucks, has sent in £10 10s.; and Bro. J. M. Collins, No. 1861, Surrey, £5 5s. While totals for Hants and the Isle of Wight and Suffolk have been increased by £17 and £21 respectively. These give the provincial aggregate as £6219 17s., and the grand total at £14,642 10s. It should be mentioned that Friends in Council Lodge, No. 1382, ranks among the London three-figure lists, the sum of £94 10s. as first announced, having been since increased to £105 10s.

The final meeting of the Board of Stewards of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held at Freemasons' Hall on Friday last, the 7th inst. Bro. Edgar Bowyer, G. Std. Bearer, and Hon. Treasurer to the Board, occupied the chair, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, a letter from Bro. H. B. Marshall, apologising for his inability to attend, was read. It was reported that 338 brethren and 127 ladies were present at the Festival, and that the total collection, which had originally been stated as £14,343, had since been raised to £14,609 8s. 6d., with nine lists still outstanding, and, as will be seen above, this amount has since been still further increased to £14,642 10s., with seven lists yet unaccounted for. A vote of thanks from the Committee of Management to the Board of Stewards for their exertions was read, after which a most cordial vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Allcroft, Grand Treasurer, for having undertaken the responsibilities of Chairman, as well as to Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.D., President of the Board of General Purposes, who, at almost a moment's notice, so loyally supplied the place of Bro. Allcroft, when it was found the latter's state of health prevented his attending. A statement of the accounts was submitted and audited, and the balance remaining over and above the expenses appropriated, as usual, the services rendered by Bros. Mason and Recknell being duly recognised. The board then dissolved, after voting a resolution of thanks to Bro. Bowyer for presiding.

THE REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTIONS.

The long-expected revision of the Book of Constitutions, finally settled at the Grand Lodge of December last, is now ready for issue in the octavo edition, and the 32mo. is being printed as rapidly as possible. The cost of either copy will be as formerly, viz., eighteenpence, exclusive of postage. To be properly understood and appreciated the revise requires to be carefully compared with the publication of 1873, and, as a matter of fact, there has not been such a revision of the regulations since 1815, when the laws were formerly agreed to by the United Grand Lodge of England. Externally and generally the appearance of the present volume is much the same as the various editions from 1827, but an examination of the work page by page will serve to indicate how numerous and important are the changes effected. The arrangements of the paragraphs, which are in consecutive order, and numbered from 1 to 312, instead of the old cumbersome system of pages, rules, and clauses, is a great improvement, and will be valued much in actual usage. Passing over the alterations of, and additions to, the rules respecting the Grand Lodge and Grand Officers, those of the Provincial Grand Lodges and lodges claim especial attention. The prefixes are inserted as a guide for the brethren, based upon the order of the M.W. Grand Master. The oft used "Very Worshipful" is only to be applied to certain Grand Lodge Officers, and never to any of provincial rank, the latter not being entitled to other than "Worshipful," as Masters or Past Masters of lodges, save, of course, the Provincial Grand Master, who is "Right Worshipful," but who is actually not a Provincial Grand Lodge Officer, but the representative of the M.W. Grand Master (ranking after the Deputy Grand Master of England). The continuation of the Provincial Grand Lodge, on the death of the Provincial Grand Master, as now provided for is a great boon, and for provinces the additional offices of two Provincial Grand Standard Bearers and an Assistant Provincial Grand Secretary will be much appreciated, as will also the two extra Provincial Grand Deacons and a Deputy Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies for provinces numbering 30 or more lodges, which latter rule affects Devon, but not Cornwall at present, the former having 50 and the latter 29 lodges. "Clearance certificates" must accompany petitions for relief from funds of Grand Lodge when the petitioners have ceased to be subscribing members. Warrants must be produced or exhibited at all meetings. Brethren must have duly served as Wardens of a lodge under the English Constitution to be eligible for the chair. Meetings can be held by dispensation of the authorities elsewhere when the regular halls cannot be used. Past Masters subscribing to a lodge, but not having served as such in that particular lodge, may now take the chair, according to seniority, in absence of the other qualified Past Masters. Deputy Provincial Grand Masters of provinces on visiting lodges in the absence of their Provincial Grand Masters rank as Provincial Grand Masters, and take precedence accordingly for the time being. Masters are empowered to refuse the admission of any visitor who is likely to disturb the harmony of the lodge, or who is a known bad character. Bye-laws of lodges are to be sent through the Provincial Grand Master, having had his approval, for the Grand Secretary's consent. Bye-laws of lodges must be printed and presented to every member, who by his acceptance will be deemed to consent to them. On public holidays the meetings may be held on the day before or after, at the discretion of the Master. The minimum fee is now five guineas, inclusive of registration and certificate. Lodges accepting joining members without proper enquiry will be responsible for the payment should any arrears be owing to the former lodge. Children of deceased brethren may apply for relief whilst under age, and within five years of the death of their father. Petitions for relief must now be sent for report to the Provincial Grand Secretary, who then has to forward the same to the Grand Secretary. Collars of the officers of lodges can only be worn in their own lodges, or when acting as representatives, as Masters, Past Masters, or Wardens in Grand Lodge or Provincial Grand Lodge. Gauntlets may now be worn, though as a matter of fact they have long been. These are a few of the more important alterations. The usefulness of the work is much increased by an elaborate index.—*Western Morning News.*

THE MASONIC EXHIBITION AT YORK.

By Bro. T. B. WHYTEHEAD.

I note the memorandum by "Masonic Student," and if the editor will permit me the space will venture to make a few remarks respecting the numerous interesting exhibits that were so kindly and fraternally entrusted to our care for the conversation and exhibition at York last month. We had numerous applications from brethren who were anxious to examine the collection by daylight, and who would have been delighted if the exhibition could have been kept open for a day or two. This, however, we found to be impossible for several reasons. In the first place the exhibits were lent on the understanding that they were to be at once returned; in the next place we should have been unable to devote the time that would have been required from us to maintain a personal supervision over the collection; and chiefly we felt that there was a certain amount of risk from fire, &c., attending the exhibition, and although we arranged for a special attendance during each night of a police guard, which was willingly furnished by Bro. S. Haley, the local head of the force, yet we were continually haunted by the apprehension of the possible occurrence of some unforeseen accident, whereby the loss of relics of priceless value might be entailed.

Referring to the catalogue I may say there occurred in it two or three inaccuracies, in the way of printer's errors, but as its compilation, as well as most of the organisation and correspondence fell upon me, and as many of the exhibits did not arrive until the morning of the day itself, it is easy to understand the difficulties that attended the revision of the last sheets.

Taking the exhibits in the order in which they stand in the catalogue, we arrive first at the collection in the possession of the York Lodge, 236. Of these all the paper and parchment rolls and minutes have been described by Bros. Woodford and Hughan and others, and I need not therefore occupy space by again speaking of them. They were spread out under sheets of glass, leaving the more remarkable portions displayed, and covered a large table at the

east end of the hall. The parchment minutes of the Grand Lodge of All England (No. 6) were regarded with special interest, beginning, as they do, in 1712, and recording the initiation in 1725 of Francis Drake, who in 1728 delivered the notable oration, as Junior Grand Warden, in the Merchants' Hall at York, and was Grand Master at the revival of the Grand Lodge in 1761. The rules of the Grand Lodge (No. 8) are curious, but closely resemble those of other prominent Masonic bodies in the last century, inasmuch as they contain several clauses indicating the propensities of the members in the direction of swallowing rather more liquor than was good for them. The collection, in a scrap book, of MSS., &c., relating to the Grand Lodge at York (No. 13) is of immense interest, and would alone occupy a day in its examination. It contains the correspondence with the brethren who formed the Grand Lodge South of the Trent and the returns made by them, the earliest Templar minutes known, some curious outline rituals of Chivalric Orders, correspondence with subordinate lodges, draft certificates, &c. The minute book of the Grand Chapter of All England (No. 16) is the small quarto MS. book discovered by Bro. J. Todd and myself a few years ago, and described by me in the *Freemason* at the time. The next exhibit (No. 17) is the chapter minute book that records the meeting of the companions in the crypt of York Minster last century. I see that "Masonic Student" refers to exhibit No. 18, the 24-in. guage, dated 1663, with the names of brethren incised. This curious relic, which, by the way, is only 15 inches long, is a graduated mahogany flat rule, bevelled on one side, and marked thus—

WILLIAM * BARON: 1663
JOHN DRAKE: IOHN * BARON

It bears every evidence of antiquity, and, with other relics of the extinct Grand Lodge, has been handed down through local families whose ancestors were active members during the eighteenth century. A large portion of the furniture of the old Grand Lodge has come into possession of the York Lodge, and the mallets, carved candlesticks, obligation pedestal, compasses and banner were catalogued amongst the exhibits. The silver snuffers, like an exaggerated pair of sugar tongs, presented to the Grand Lodge in 1764, as thereon engraved, and the seals of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, are very interesting. An old tracing board, painted on canvass (No. 40), is remarkable. It has at some period been the property of a warranted lodge, as the words "Regd. Lodge" appear upon it, and the costume of the figures painted thereupon indicates the date as very early in the last century. No. 38 in the catalogue, described as a circular marble table with Masonic emblems engraved, is curious. Its history is not known, but we suspect it to be the work of Bro. Plows, a prominent Mason and a sculptor, who flourished at York during the early portion of this century. Its surface presents a mass of engraved emblems, including every Degree known to have ever been practised, as far as I know. The collection of engraved portraits belonging to the York Lodge is very good, as the list shows, some of them being very rare, and there is a remarkable oil painting on wood, dated 1770, and done after the fashion of a sign board, representing the crypt of the minster, the pyramids, &c., and prominently inscribed "Grand Lodge of All England."

The exhibits of the Eboracum Lodge were also interesting, although of course not approaching in attraction for Masonic students the relics in the possession of the senior lodge. Yet the Eboracum, in spite of its brief existence, has a collection far superior to most lodges, and some of its treasures are well worth notice. The pewter flagon (No. 1) is, as far as I know, unique. It is an enormous vessel of silver pewter, capable of holding 13 pints. It is most artistically moulded, and upon the double-hinged lid is a shield bearing various Masonic emblems and the date 1694. Upon the body of the flagon are cut the names of the Master, Wardens, and brethren of the Dutch guild, to which it formerly belonged. This flagon was purchased by me in a broker's shop in York and I was informed that it had come from Hull. It was then in a very dirty state, but revealed enough to show its Masonic value. The members of the lodge subscribed for its cost and for the construction of an elaborate stand upon which it rests. It has been furnished with a moveable and more reasonably sized interior which is used by the lodge as a loving cup on state occasions. The series of seven coloured engravings, date 1812 (No. 2) representing Masonic ceremonies, are in very good condition. Several sets are known to exist, and Bro. Robinson's, of Chester, exhibit (No. 6), contains reduced facsimiles of them. The Bible of the Grand Lodge of All England (No. 7), is a valuable relic. The flyleaf is inscribed "This Bible belongs to the Freemason's Lodge at Mr. Howard's, in York, 1761." This identifies it with the revival of the Grand Lodge of All England under Drake in that year, for the minutes inform us that the surviving members of the Grand Lodge met at Mr. Howard's, Lendall, in York, in March 17th, 1761, and galvanised the dormant old lodge into life.

The Military Lodge attached to the 5th Dragoon Guards exhibited its warrant, which was granted on the 1st June, 1776, by the Earl of Antrim, G.M. of Ireland, to John Keys, James McDowell, and Wm. Martin, of the "Second Regiment of Horse." The set of silver working tools exhibited by this lodge attracted a good deal of attention, owing to the massive and valuable character of the various implements.

(To be continued).

OPENING OF THE NEW CROSS LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1559.

On Tuesday evening last another addition to the long list of metropolitan lodges of instruction was made by the launching, under the warrant of the New Cross Lodge, 1559, of an instruction lodge at the Chester Arms, Albany-street. The attendance, though fairly numerous, was yet not up to what might have been expected from the various promises that had been made, and the members of lodges of instruction meeting within easy distance of Albany-street were conspicuous by their absence; this, however, did not affect the enjoyment of those who assembled in the capital lodge room of the Chester Arms. Bro. Thomas Grummant, I.P.M. of the mother lodge, was in the chair of K.S., supported by Bros. Hiram Henton, W.M. 1559, as S.W.; G. Wood, W.S. 1681, J.W.; C.

Grassi, S.D. 1559, S.D.; H. Wild, 1559, J.D.; J. H. Meyer, 1559, I.G.; C. Westall, Org. 1559, Org.; Ernest Smith, P.M. and Sec. 1559, as P.M. and Sec.; and Gullock, Tyler. There were also present the following brethren: Bros. J. Neville, 1559; G. E. Court, W.S. 1559; W. Antill, 720; M. Hart, 188; J. A. Aitkew, 157; T. O. Davis, 1201; C. Harrison, 1607; J. Greenaway, 1260; J. Hooker, 1681; R. Corry, 1681; B. L. Wilson, J.W. 1366; B. Perelli-Rocco, 1305; and several other brethren.

The lodge having been opened in the First Degree and the minutes of the preliminary meeting read and confirmed, Bro. Ernest Smith, P.M., presented Bro. Hiram Henton, S.W., as W.M. elect. The ceremony of installation was then worked by Bro. Thomas Grummant in the same impressive and perfect manner that he had rendered it some five or six weeks previously in the mother lodge, an occasion upon which he had installed Bro. Henton into the chair of K.S. Upon the return of the brethren the newly-installed W.M. was saluted according to custom, Bro. E. Smith, P.M., acting as D.C. The W.M. then invested his officers as follows: Bros. T. Grummant, I.P.M. 1559, I.P.M.; B. L. Wilson, J.W. 1366, S.W.; G. Wood, W.S. 1681, J.W.; H. Wild, 1559, S.D.; G. E. Court, W.S. 1559, J.D.; J. H. Meyer, C.S. 1559, I.G.; Ernest E. Smith, P.M., Sec. 1559, Sec.; Carlo Grassi, S.D. 1559, D.C.; C. Westall, Org. 1559, Org.; J. Neville, 1559, W.S.; and Gullock, Tyler.

Upon the first rising of the W.M. eighteen brethren were elected joining members, and on the second rising Bro. E. SMITH, P.M., proposed, and Bro. H. WILD seconded, the nomination of Bro. G. Wood, 1681, as Preceptor of the New Cross Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Wood was elected unanimously, and made a suitable reply in acknowledgement of the honour done him. Bro. Wilson was elected W.M. for the ensuing Tuesday. On the third rising the W.M., Bro. HENTON, proposed, and Bro. E. SMITH, P.M., seconded, "That an especial vote of thanks be voted to Bro. Grummant, P.M., for the admirable manner in which he had worked the ceremony of installation, and that the same be recorded on the minutes." This was carried with enthusiasm, and in announcing the fact to Bro. Grummant, the W.M. paid him a high compliment in reference to his Masonic career.

Bro. GRUMMANT in the course of his reply expressed his best and heartfelt wishes for the prosperity of the New Cross Lodge of Instruction, and assured the brethren that as a P.M. of the mother lodge he should consider himself lacking in his duty if he did not render them all the assistance in his power.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren devoted themselves to a musical evening. Bro. Charles Westall presided at the piano, when an excellent programme, admirably executed, whiled away a very pleasant evening. The New Cross Lodge of Instruction has thus been capitally launched, and we wish it every success.

THE CAMBRIDGE LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

The following are the results obtained by the candidates from the Boys' and Girls' Schools at the above examination for Christmas, 1883:—

GIRLS.		
Name.	CLASS II.—HONOURS.	Province.
Norrish, S. M. *	Devon.
CLASS III.—HONOURS.		
Collins, K. J. A.	Cawnpore.
Mey, G. H.	West Yorkshire.
Spurgin, E. E.	London.
Hennet, M. B.	Somersetshire.
Parker, K. L.	Lincolnshire.
Kingcombe, C.	London.
Potts, E. M.	Hampshire.
Harvey, J. M. *	London.
SATISFIED THE EXAMINERS.		
Cecil, A. W.	London.
Ansell, M. S.	Kent.
Hicks, E.	Devon.
Peele, K. A.	Durham.
Johnson, M. A.	Lincolnshire.
Tanare, A. B.	London.
BOYS.		
Name.	CLASS I.—HONOURS.	Province.
Bartley, W. J. †	N. Wales and Salop.
Browning, E. A. †	Monmouth.
Mey, G.	West Yorkshire.
Smith, F.	East Lancashire.
Stone, C. E.	London.
Watkin, H. K.	Warwickshire.
CLASS II.—HONOURS.		
Gibbs, J.	Somerset.
King, H. H. ‡	West Yorkshire.
CLASS III.—HONOURS.		
Bingham, H.	London.
Cooper, W. R.	Bristol.
Cooper, W. P.	Somerset.
Hunt, E. C.	Dorset.
Jepson, J. T.	East Lancashire.
Johnstone, W. S.	Sussex.
Riley, R.	London.
SATISFIED THE EXAMINERS.		
Deeley, R. P.	London.
Gardner, A. W.	Durham.
Garstin, W. L.	London.
Roberts, S. C.	S. Wales (East Div.)
Tibbitts, E. B.	Cheshire.
Ward, J.	N. Wales and Salop.
Gedge, P. A.	London.
Nicholls, R. H.	London.
Woon, R. H.	Kent.

* Distinguished in theory of music.
† Distinguished for Latin. ‡ Distinguished for French.

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* The guage bears, where the asterisks are shown, the Royal Arch emblems, i.e., two triangles interlaced.

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K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.GRAND PATRONESS:
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.**THE NINETY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY
FESTIVAL**

of this Institution will take place

On **WEDNESDAY, the 21st MAY next,**

under the Presidency of the

RT. HON. THE LORD BROOKE,

R.W. Prov. G.M. Essex.

Brethren willing to serve the office of Steward are
very greatly needed, and will much oblige by forwarding
their names as *early as possible* to the Secretary, who will
gladly give any information required.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Sec.

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Great Queen-street, London, W.C.**METROPOLITAN AND CITY
POLICE ORPHANAGE.**PATRON:
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ANNUAL GRAND BALL**

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On **THURSDAY, the 24th APRIL next,**AT THE
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Allowance of 1s. weekly is now granted to every child up to
the age of 13 years, for whom room cannot be found in the
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To Correspondents.

We have received several letters respecting the election of Grand Treasurer, but in accordance with our notice last week they cannot be inserted.

N. STAMP.—Yes, if need be, "by virtue," &c.

The following communications have been received, but are not inserted in this issue owing to want of space:—

CRAFT LODGES—

- Unanimity, 89.
- St. Hilda's, 240.
- Loyal Welsh, 378.
- Fawcett, 661.
- Northern Bar, 1610.

NOTES AND QUERIES—
Count Balsamo.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Orient" (Budapest), "Die Bauhütte," "Jewish Chronicle," "Citizen," "City Press," "Broad Arrow," "Allen's Indian Mail," "El Taller," "Hull Packet," "La Revista Masónica," "Keystone," "Court Circular," "Le Moniteur de la Chance Universelle," "New York Sunday Times," "The Tricycling Journal."



SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1884.

Original Correspondence.

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

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—
96TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

It is with very great pleasure I have to inform you that the Right Hon. the Lord Brooke, M.P., R.W. Prov. G.M. of Essex, has very kindly consented to preside at the approaching Festival of this Institution.

I have also to inform you that it has been unavoidably necessary to change the date on which the Festival will be held, from Wednesday, 14th, to Wednesday, 21st May.—I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,
F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

5, Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
11th March, 1884.

PROVINCIAL GRAND SECRETARIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

May I crave space for a few words in answer to the letters in your last issue, passing by the covert and unfriendly sneers of "P.P.G.D.C.?" I certainly have not been in the Prov. Grand Secretary's office, simply because, though I belong to a large and influential province, the Prov. Grand Secretary has no office, being a retired tradesman, living at some distance away from town and at a very inconvenient place to get to; therefore I maintain that there should always be an office where information can be got at, and this can easiest be done by appointing an accountant to do the clerical work, and there are plenty of them who

are M.M.s., and who would do the work for £50 a year. As to attendance on lodges, our Prov. Grand Secretary only visits on installation days.

Now, with regard to the "monopoly of patronage," I simply state the fact that Prov. Grand honours are not distributed according to merit. The R.W. Prov. Grand Master has 18 offices to distribute annually, and some lodges have been without honours for 10 or 12 years. One lodge in particular has never had but one Prov. Grand honour since its foundation some 15 years ago, though it is well known throughout the province for its superior working and the "good report" of its members, while others, celebrated as "fourth degree" lodges only, have honours every year. Is this right?

Prov. Grand Officers, to my mind, should be chosen from those "well skilled in the noble art, exemplary in conduct, and held in high estimation by the brethren"; but I say this is not so. It is notorious that the most able men are not usually selected even from the lodges honoured by an appointment. No doubt all Past Masters should have these qualifications, but many are lamentably deficient, and only owe their position to the fact that they have been carelessly passed on as officers, and no one likes to "bell the cat" by opposing a S.W., however deficient in qualifications for the chair.—Yours fraternally,
COMPANION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In answer to a communication in your issue of the 8th inst. signed "P.P.G.D.C.," I can make his mind easy respecting "one of those who have lately been writing about provincial promotion," by informing him that the letter signed "Companion" did not emanate from me; therefore, as far as I am concerned, there is not any "change of front."

Respecting Provincial Grand Secretaries, I certainly say let every one be paid for his labour. I have the pleasure of a slight acquaintance with our Prov. G. Secretary, Bro. Henry Smith, and there is not a Mason in the province who is more respected and more deserving of the position. The salary he gets is well earned, and the duties pertaining to the position well and faithfully discharged.

As "P.P.G.D.C." speaks of "many letters, such foolish ones as . . . 'Companion' would write," let him be very careful not to draw the foolishness on himself by his uncalled for surmises as to the author of certain anonymous communications. He may soon learn who I am, if he wishes, by communicating to me through the "Freemason."—I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,
Huddersfield, March 11th.
JUNIOR P.M.

THE OLDEST FREEMASON IN ENGLAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have the honour to be W.M. of All Souls Lodge, No. 170, and we claim to have the oldest subscribing Freemason member of our lodge. R.W. Bro. Wm. Eliot was initiated in February, 1816, in All Souls Lodge, was W.M. in 1822, and has subscribed without intermission to the present date. He is P.P.G.M. and Past G. Superintendent of Dorset, and is alive and well, and takes the deepest interest in all that pertains to Masonry even now. I may incidentally mention that last year we buried W. Bro. J. Jacob, P.P.G. J.W., who was initiated in 1819, and last week my father was buried, who was initiated in 1822, and who was installed W.M. on St. John's Day, 1833, exactly 50 years before my installation, St. John's Day, 1883. My father was P.P.G. S.W. and P.P.G.H. under our R.W. and venerable Bro. W. Eliot, whom may God long spare to be the oldest subscribing Mason under our English Constitutions.—Yours fraternally,
ZILLWOOD MILLEDGE, W.M. 170.
The Fernery, Weymouth, March 8th.



A LECTURE ON JEWISH WORKMEN MENTIONED IN THE TALMUD.

Mr. Louis, a learned Hebrew professor, gave at a recent meeting of the Society of Biblical Archaeology a lecture on this subject. It seems to us, in the abstract, we confess, fragmentary and incomplete, and our learned friend Bro. Nathan would, we fancy, have a good deal to tell us about the Masons mentioned in Kings and Chronicles. There seems to have been guilds of artizans and handicraftsmen among the Hebrews, and it will be curious if the guild, after all, is of Judaic and Oriental origin. A few years ago the guild system was hardly touched upon. It is quite clear now that it was a great "factor" in the social life of the middle ages. We commend heartily all such researches and communications.

GLIMPSES AND GLEAMS. By Bro. MUSGRAVE HEAPHY, P.M. 141. Chapman and Hall, Piccadilly.

The perusal of this little volume has afforded us great pleasure. Bro. Heaphy has dedicated his work to "An Unknown Hero," who fought under Garibaldi, and who was killed by the author's side. "At that instant a shell fell in front of us and burst. On looking round, I saw him extended on the ground, torn nearly in half by a fragment. We hastened to his aid, but he, on seeing us, partly raised himself with one hand, and with the other waved us to press onward and not heed him. Then a bright light came in his eyes, and an exulting smile on his face, as, collecting his breath, he sang two lines of a song that thrilled through all that heard. It was a song to Freedom. At the last word the blood, which had been gurgling in his throat, poured from his mouth, and he fell back—dead." The object of the writer in publishing the work is to bring matters of philosophic and scientific interest before the public in an interesting and somewhat novel form. The book contains a number of complete stories, which are respectively named "The Piece of Limestone," "The Uninvited Guest," "John, the Miner," "The Wagon," "The Old Fiddler," "The Red Crown," and "The Blue Scarf." Our space is far too limited to give extracts from all the tales, but the following admirable specimen of word-painting taken from the first mentioned story will give our readers a capital idea of the author's finished style and depth of thought: "So the poor trembling piece of Limestone told them of how she was born of the sediment of the great

ocean, and once formed part of its bed, and, after a time, of its shore. She told them of the beautiful fishes and swimming creatures that lived in the waters; of the lovely corals that clothed the rocks, and which resembled living flowers whose petals were ever moving; and she told them of the unknown lands, and the life beneath the sea. And then she spoke of the shore with its graceful ferns and stately palms, and of the wonderful tropical forests, with the strange animals and brilliant flying insects that inhabited them. She spoke of the lofty mountains, with their jagged peaks clothed with white stone, and how down their sides dashed streams of molten snow, like torrents of glowing crimson. And she spoke of the soft, gentle breeze that sang to them of far-off places, and whose song, too, was of things which all felt, though none knew how to express. She told them of the gorgeous sunsets of purple, scarlet, amber, and gold, which permeated all that beheld with a soft, rapturous state of wondering pleasure, and filled them with a sense of infinite hope. She spoke of her happy, tranquil life, and of her dear friends, and of the blue sea waves, which would steal gently up to kiss her and then glide away, leaving her breast covered with warm white foam; and how she fell asleep last evening, and waking up found herself in the road." It is a thoroughly readable book both for the young and the old, and should greatly enhance the reputation of Bro. Heaphy, who among other scientific studies has made electricity a special feature. His essays and letters on the latter subject have received favourable notices from our contemporaries, especially the *Times*, which journal a short time since published a leader in which our brother's name and his electrical researches were flatteringly mentioned. In conclusion we have to add that the book is well got up, both as regards the paper and the type, and we can cordially recommend "Gleams and Glimpses" to our readers.

LE FILS DE PORTHOS. Par PAUL MAHALIN. Tresse, S, 9, 10, 11, Palais Royal, Paris.

The very name of Porthos carries us back to old and happy days, when first we opened the pages of the "Trois Mousquetaires," and perused confidently the records of the "Vingt ans Apres." We do not say that the works of Alexandre Dumas Père constitute the wisest or the best of literature. Far from it, if truth be spoken as it always should be, in the *Freemason* at any rate. But the books we have mentioned form a distinct epoch in the lives of many of us, when we first were fascinated and excited by the vivid fancy, the living creations, and the gay illusions of the great romancer. Artagnan, Athos, Aramis, and Porthos became to us distinct personalities, familiar friends. That admixture of "fanfaronnade" and gallantry, of high imaginings and terrestrial aims, of deeds of "derring do," and subtle schemes of policy, the frank "free lances" of gallant and high-souled "camaraderie," "en pour tous, et tous pour un," had deep attractions for many a young, many a genial, many an impulsive disposition. Alas! Time has passed on sadly and weirdly for many of us since then, and we are sadder, wiser, more solemn to-day! A. Dumas has this great charm, despite his obvious faults and blemishes, that his characters are all real, living, talking, and acting people; if shadows, yet shadows which linger with us still, even when we are "disillusiones," overpassing the changes of taste and fashion, the caprices of generations, and the metamorphosed literary aspects and "fads" of the hour. We still can realize Grimaud and Bazin; Mousqueton, Planchet, and Blaisois, poor Constance Bonacieux, De Winter and his mother, the greater and the lesser cardinals, Anne of Austria, the mendicant of St. Eustache, Cardinal de Retz, and the Comte de Rochfort. Some of us have never forgotten those light and pleasant pages which told us of striking personages and marvellous exploits, and therefore the announcement of a new story concerning the "son of Porthos," had a charm for some of us who are not ashamed, either in the Puritanism or barbarism of these latter days, to confess their admiration for all that genius can adorn, or art achieve. When this story opens our old friends Artagnan and Athos and Porthos all have passed away, and none of their faithful attendants survive except Bazin, the servant of Aramis, and beadle of Notre Dame, who is now very fat, old, puffy, and dignified indeed. Aramis is still to the fore as "General of the Jesuits," "Duke of Alameda," "Grandece of Spain," and "Bishop of Vannes," hoping to be Cardinal and Pope, and as worldly and intriguing as ever. Age, if it has increased his suppleness and "finesse," has taken nothing away from his force of character, his courtier habits, and his mundane life. He is still Aramis, the "mousquetaire," under his robes. Bazin appears a little more sanctified, but, like his master, essentially unchanged. We were introduced in the "Vingt Ans Apres" to the regency of "Anne d'Autriche," and the minority of Louis XIV. We are now ushered in before Louis XIV. in the midst of the splendour of his court, and the brilliancy of his reign. Madame de Montespan, Madame de Maintenon, and numerous others come and go on the fitful stage, and we think we see to-day in the lurid grandeur and hidden baseness of court life and court intrigues, signs of a coming if distant storm; we seem, amid all the turmoil and confusion of those active and unprincipled days, to listen to the far-off grumbings of the tornado. How Aurore de Tremblay, the heroine, escaped the seductions of Marly and the treachery of professed friends; how the son of Porthos rivalled the exploits of his father, saved Aurore, married her, and "lived happily ever afterwards"; how he achieved greatness and so proclaimed himself the true son of Porthos, we must leave to our readers to master for themselves. The book is worth reading. Its touches are light and pleasant, its pictures clear and well coloured, and its moral is sound. It is a somewhat questionable policy to attempt to reproduce what charmed us in years gone by, either by imitation or reconstruction. Time so pitiless takes its revenge on the fame of men, whether heroes or authors, whether amid forgotten glories, or the "nameless stone." The reveries of the wise, the disquisitions of the learned, the quarrels of controversy, all are soon forgotten in the restless tide of generations, sweeping on, always sceptical and often ungrateful, to that "undiscovered country" from which no "traveller returns." It is always a dangerous thing to tread in the footsteps of others and attempt to revive faded laurels and forgotten writers. The similitude may be there in measure, but the fire of old fancy and pathos and brightness has long gone out, and a shadow of the past hovers over the reality of to-day. The master's hand is cold and still for aye.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE SOCIETY FOR BIBLICAL ARCHÆOLOGY.

The eighth volume of the Transactions of the Society for Biblical Archæology, parts i. and ii., is a most interesting one, and we congratulate Bro. W. H. Rylands, the active and learned Secretary, on its appearance, value, and editing. Among the many striking papers we note one especially full of interest for Masonic Students, namely, the paper by Dr. Birch on a tablet to two architects. It seems that these two were twin brothers, Suti and Har, and were "Mer kat" Architects, or Superintendents of the Works. They seem to have had charge of the Temple at Karnac and to have been living in the eighteenth dynasty. Thirty-four architects are named by Brugsch, Leiblein, and Lepsius, and the subject deserves careful study. We think it right to observe, that though there is so far some evidence as to the existence of priestly mysteries there is nothing so far to confirm Clavel's systematic account of the organization of the Masons in grades, &c., &c., as given in his "Picturesque History." In some matters it is very "picturesque" indeed.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

309] REVISE OF THE CONSTITUTIONS.

In October 6th and 13th, 1883, of the *Freemason* is an excellent comparison of the 1873 and *Revise* of the Constitutions by Bros. Hugh H. Riach and E. L. Hawkins, which I most gladly welcomed at the time. Now that the 1884 edition is published, having a most comprehensive and useful index, I anticipate many will like to examine the labours of these two brethren side by side with the completed revision. Many, however, of the numbers of the paragraphs have been altered since the issue of the temporary editions of the revise, so I enclose the old and new numbers of the chief of these for the guidance of all concerned, having noted them for myself. The older numbers are in brackets. (37) 36, (50) 49, (52) 51, (53) 52, (55) 54, (57) 56, (70) 69, (76) 75, (78) 77 and 79, (80) 81, (81) 82, (84) 88, (83) 87, (96) 97, (102) 104, (145) 146, (146) 147 and 148, (148) 150, (149) 151, (150) 152, (151) 153, (157) 159, (160) 162, (161) 163, (162) 164 and 165, (164) 167, (165) 168, (169) 172, (171) 174, (174) 177, (179) 182, (180) 183, (181) 184, (186) 189, (187) 190, (190) 193, (200) 203, (202) 205, (203) 206, (206) 209, (207) 210, (209) 212, (210) 213, (216) 219, (218) 221, (221) 223, (230) 233, (231) 234, (237) 240, (240) 243, (242) 245, (277) 280, (281) 284, (290) 293, (300) 303, (302) 305 and 306. The numbers included in the suggestive portion of the analysis I have omitted. W. J. HUGHAN.

310] THE YORK CATALOGUE.

A careful study of that striking little pamphlet suggests many interesting thoughts to the Masonic student. First of all, what a great field is clearly before us, and more or less unworked, of Masonic memorials, relics, and forcible indices. Everything seems now to be pointing to an early illustration and development of the traces of English seventeenth century Freemasonry. The Dutch Masonic Guild flagon of 1694 opens out much that is very important as regards early Dutch Masonic history, and would seem to strengthen the early traditions of the pre-1700 Dutch Freemasonry. The pint mug, Leeds ware, will probably not be before 1700. The early Scotch Master Mason's apron is a most interesting find for many reasons. I should like to know the exact date of the old snuff-box, with the arch of Enoch and the Rose Croix emblems, as that would probably be about synchronous with the formal development of the "High Grades." I say nothing of the medals, for they are admittedly and comparatively modern. What is the metal jewel with Latin and French mottoes? It may be late. The Scarborough Master Mason's jewel of 1729 is a very important link, as well as the tracing cloth, early eighteenth century. I should like to know something more of the very old oval brass seal, and the old snuff box with emblems of Rose Croix Degree in 1700. This is a very important fact. It is however very desirable to note carefully whether these emblems are Rosicrucian or Rose Croix. My own opinion long has been, that we have in the Rose Croix a form of Rosicrucianism, and that what are called the High Grades are far earlier than Ramsay, and that if he did adopt any, he adapted them. We need never despair of reaching the truth one day, if only we do not become impatient, and slur over and underrate important facts. Let us try to imitate the zeal, ability, and Masonic fervour of our good brethren at York.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The monthly meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on the 12th inst. The Secretary reported the deaths of four annuitants. The petition of one candidate was approved, and the name entered on the list. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Sir John Monckton for having at a short notice consented to preside at the festival on the 26th ult., in consequence of the unavoidable absence of Bro. J. Derby Allcroft, who was to have presided. The Secretary also reported that the subscriptions announced on that occasion had now been increased to £14,610; also that a legacy of £10 had been left to the Widows' Fund by Bro. Duncombe, of Little Bytham. The motion by Bro. Moore of which notice had been given was considered, several members of the Committee taking part in the discussion. When put to the vote only five members out of a Committee of 29 voted for the motion, which was accordingly lost.

An interesting experiment is to be made in connection with Drs. Zintgraff and Chavanne's coming visit to the Congo and the interior of Africa. They take with them a phonograph wherewith to fix the speech and melodies of hitherto unknown tribes, which, thus received by the instrument, will be forwarded to scientific men in Germany. The apparatus (which will be used for such a purpose for the first time) has been made in Berlin, and exactly corresponds with one left in that city, so that the plates used in Africa can be sent to Berlin to be unrolled by that machine, and caused to re-emit the sounds received.

REPORTS OF LAMIA MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

PHENIX LODGE (No. 173).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, 8th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, when there were present Bros. F. D. Vine, W.M.; G. Güterbock, S.W.; H. W. Davie, J.W.; Capt. J. Finch, Treas.; Walter Holcombe, Sec.; Millier, S.D.; Bros. Foxley, Allen, Phillips, Blyth, and Vine, P.M.s.; Williams, J.D.; H. Conolly, I.G.; New, Stwd.; Speight, Tyler; also Riddle, Marlow, Morse, Bennisson, Hart, Kearley, Linom, Kinnimont, Hopkins, Mabe, Rogers Gregory, Houghton, Stanham, Hubert, G. Hart, Broad, Rupell, and Gilbert. There were 15 visitors.

Lodge opened in due form and the minutes of the February lodge were read and confirmed. Bros. Bennisson and Linom were afterwards raised to the sublime degree of M.M.s., and Bro. Hubert was passed to the Second Degree. Pursuant to notice the Secretary proposed that Bro. Hy. G. Warren be elected an honorary member of the lodge in recognition of his past services, and in the course of his remarks Bro. Holcombe stated that many years ago when the lodge was not in a flourishing condition Bro. Warren joined it, and energetically applied himself to the task of resuscitation with great success, and that among many illustrious brethren initiated in the lodge by Bro. Warren was Col. Creton, Past Grand Treasurer. The motion was carried unanimously. Bro. Blyth, P.M., stated he had taken up in his capacity of Steward at the festival of the Institution for Aged Freemasons the handsome sum of £117, and expressed his obligations to the brethren for their liberality. The brethren dined together after the lodge was closed.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE LODGE (No. 706).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on the 7th inst., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich, Bro. G. C. Mathams, W.M., in the chair, supported by the following officers and others: Bros. Capt. Eugene Sweny, P.M.; Capt. J. Scully, S.W.; Sydney Clarke, P.M., Treas.; E. Denton, P.M., Sec.; A. Burnett, S.D.; Dr. H. L. Bernays, J.D.; W. D. Livesay, I.G.; K. Ugland, D. of C.; J. Burton, P.M., 276, P.P.G. Sec. Essex; C. Jolly, 913, J.W. 1472 (*Freemason*); Dr. A. Sharpe, G. Risch, A. Ogden, G. Cockel, and F. G. Nichols.

The lodge having been opened and the minutes confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. G. H. P. Livesay, and proving unanimous he was duly initiated in the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, the working of Bro. Mathams and his officers being both impressive and correct. A letter was read from Bro. Dr. C. H. Y. Godwin, J.W., regretting that a call for duty in Egypt prevented his attendance, and expressing a hope to be with them again at some future period, the lodge being then closed in due form.

The brethren afterwards partook of supper in the hall, and spent an hour or so in social communion; the only toasts given being those of "Initiate" and "The Visitors," Bros. Burton and Jolly responding for the latter. The lodge, which is a small and exclusive one, fully kept up its reputation for both good working and genial hospitality, and the whole affair was most enjoyable.

ROYAL STANDARD LODGE (No. 1298).—The installation meeting took place at the Wellington Club, Islington, on the 4th inst., there being a good muster of the brethren present, including several visitors. The minutes of the last regular meeting having been read and confirmed and the report of the Audit Committee received and adopted, the W.M., Bro. Allison, proceeded to the business of the day, and duly installed Bro. Alexander Wilson in the chair of K.S. according to ancient form. On the lodge resuming, the ceremony was continued by Bro. Allison, assisted by Bro. Eckstien with the addresses. The investiture of the officers by the W.M. was performed in a most efficient manner, Bro. C. H. Searle receiving the vacant collar as Steward, the whole ceremony leaving nothing to be desired. The W.M. having received the "hearty good wishes" of the brethren the lodge was closed.

The brethren were subsequently entertained to a recherché banquet, after which the usual Masonic and patriotic toasts were enthusiastically responded to. The toast of "The Visitors" was responded to by Bro. Eckstien, P.M., who in felicitous terms congratulated the W.M. on the excellence of his working and the proficiency of his officers in their duties, and predicting for them a very successful year. The I.P.M. was presented by the W.M. with a very handsome Past Master's jewel. The musical arrangements were most efficiently carried out under the direction of the Organist, Bro. A. Birch.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).—The last regular meeting of the season of this lodge took place at the Horns Tavern, Kennington-park, on the 4th inst. Amongst those present were Bros. Appleton, W.M.; Stranger, S.W.; Plowman, J.W.; W. Mann, P.M., Treas.; W. Stuart, P.M., Sec.; La Feuillade, J.D.; Bingley, I.G.; Cockburn, I.P.M.; H. Higgins, P.M.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., P.M.; Köhler, P.M.; W. P. Webb, P.M.; Palmer, Cruse, and others. The visitors were Bros. Betts and Rumbleton, of 1638.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Radcliff was raised to the Degree of a M.M. by the W.M. in a very creditable manner. The lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. Upon the removal of the cloth a few toasts were given. "The Health of the W.M." was given by the I.P.M. The W.M. having replied, then gave "The Visitors," which toast was acknowledged by Bros. Betts and Rumbleton. "The Past Masters" was coupled with the name of Bro. Cockburn, who briefly replied. "The Healths of the Treasurer and Secretary" followed, and was duly acknowledged by Bros. Mann and Stuart. The toast of "The Officers" terminated the proceedings.

HENLEY LODGE (No. 1472).—The installation meeting of the above prosperous lodge took place on Tuesday, the 4th inst., at Bro. West's, the Three Crowns Hotel, North Woolwich. Lodge was opened by Bro. V.

J. Holloway, W.M., and the minutes having been passed, he proceeded to install Bro. C. T. Lewis, S.W., W.M. elect, and did so very fairly indeed. The W.M. having been duly saluted, invested his officers as follows: Bros. A. Ives, S.W.; C. Jolly (*Freemason*), J.W.; A. J. Manning, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. Essex, Treas.; J. Ives, P.M., Sec.; J. Paul, S.D.; J. Savage, J.D.; H. Canning, I.G.; G. Jones, D.C.; H. Smith, Organist; C. Turner and C. Hefford, Wine Stwds.; and A. W. Page, P.M. 1076, Tyler.

The new W.M. then initiated (already balloted for) Messrs. Henry Lewis and T. G. Johnson in a most admirable manner. A handsome Past Master's jewel of the value of 10 guineas was presented to Bro. Holloway, and it was resolved that a vote of thanks, inscribed on the minutes of the lodge, should be presented to him for his services as Installing Officer that day, and further, that a testimonial engrossed on vellum of the value of five guineas should be presented to him in due course. The W.M. expressed his intention of standing as Steward for the Boys' School festival in June next, and he hoped to take up a good sum. The lodge was then closed.

Among those present were Bros. West, P.M., P.P.G.P. Herts; Dr. W. Vance, P.M.; W. Turner, P.M. 1327; B. B. Brayshaw, P.M., P.P.G. Swd. Br. Essex; Gilbert, P.M. 1327, P.P.G.J.W. Herts; A. Penfold, P.M. 913; J. H. Roberts, W.M. 700; W. Dorton, W.M. 1076; W. Nevins, S.W. 1076; C. Arkell, P.M. 192; G. J. Potter, 177; W. Brown, 225; J. A. Keable, D.C. 174; Carter, Huckwel, G. Plume, J. Brightmore, A. Knight, G. Richardson, H. W. Stanley, A. Woodland, C. Wood, A. Burton, G. Gennings, W. McGuinness, M. Kaul, J. Glading, and J. Kenworthy, all of the lodge.

The banquet having been disposed of, the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in brief but felicitous terms, and the brethren responded right loyally.

The I.P.M. assumed the gavel to propose "The Health of the W.M." He said no one who had watched the career of Bro. Lewis need be told that he would make a Master of whom the lodge might well be proud, and the admirable, and, indeed, faultless manner in which he had that day initiated two candidates gave them a taste of his quality, and an idea of what they had to expect of his future working. He sincerely trusted Bro. Lewis would have a happy and prosperous year of office, and asked them to drink the toast with all the honour it deserved.

The Worshipful Master in response said that when he was initiated in that lodge in 1878, he told the brethren in his maiden speech that if the G.A.O.T.U. gave him health and strength, he should endeavour to reach the chair he now sat in. He had striven hard to attain that position, and in going up the rungs of the ladder, which was like Jacob's ladder, he had always clung to three of them, namely, those of hope, faith, and charity—hope that success would crown his efforts; faith in the cause of Masonry and the brethren of the lodge; and charity with all men, especially with his brethren in Freemasonry. And now that he had arrived at the chair he trusted so to wield the gavel that not only might the lodge prosper, but that the genial good feeling and perfect harmony that characterised its every feature would be maintained to the utmost, and when he left the chair to his successor, might they reward him by saying "Well done, Bro. Lewis."

The next toast was that of "The Initiate," and in giving it the W.M. dwelt with commendable pride upon the fact that one of them was his own brother, and the other an old and esteemed friend of his brother's, and he felt sure they would never forget, but faithfully carry out the solemn duties they had that night pledged themselves to perform.

Bros. Lewis and Johnson having responded, the toast of "The Past Masters" followed, coupled with the names of Bros. Holloway, Manning, Ives, and Turner, and these brethren, with the exception of the latter, having responded, the toast of "The Visitors" was given and most heartily received.

Bro. Roberts in responding, said it astonished him to see the W.M. initiate the candidates in such an admirable manner on the very day of his installation. It must give the brethren full and perfect confidence in the coming 12 months as to his ability to rule and govern the lodge with honour and credit both to him and themselves.

Bro. Penfold said that was the first time he had visited the Henley Lodge, and he cordially thanked Bro. West for his invitation. The brethren on the north and south sides of the river were only separated by, well, certainly not by a little "silver streak" now, whatever it might have been in times past, and he hoped to see an interchange of visits between these brethren oftener than at present. He cordially thanked them for the toast.

Bros. Gilbert and Keable also responded. "The Masonic Press," "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast brought a pleasant evening to a close.

ALDERSGATE LODGE (No. 1657).—The March meeting of the above lodge was held on Monday last, at the Castle and Falcon Hotel, when there were present Bros. Samuel White, W.M.; Samuel Benton, I.P.M.; E. Y. Jolliffe, S.W.; W. H. Froom, J.W.; Rev. Richard Lee, Chap.; Rev. Dr. P. H. Ernest Brette, P.M., Sec.; Edward Anderton, S.D.; Arthur B. Hudson, D.C.; Matthew R. Webb, D.C.; F. Crookford, Stwd.; E. F. Fuller, W. Stwd.; George Kenning, P.M.; J. Shotton, Geo. Rawlinson, John Larkin, P. Saillard, C. W. Lovett, Henry Matthews, Dr. Alder Smith, Thomas Benskin; and the following visitors: Bros. Thos. Perrin, W.M. 1297; W. H. Ransford, 795; D. H. Fisher, I.G. 1489; and J. Gordon Langton, J.W. 96.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Rev. Dr. Brette proposed and Bro. Dr. Benton seconded "That five guineas be subscribed from the funds of the lodge to the Hughan Testimonial Fund." On being put it was carried unanimously. Arrangements were made for a summer banquet to be held in June next.

A banquet was subsequently partaken of, after which, under the gavel of Bro. Samuel White, the W.M., the usual toasts were honoured, that of "The Visitors" being responded to by Bros. Perrin, Ransford, Fisher, and Langton.

St. LEONARD LODGE (No. 1766).—The usual monthly meeting of the above Lodge was held at the Town Hall, Shoreditch, on the 5th inst., under the presidency of Bro. A. A. Clement, W.M.; assisted by Bros. J. A. Jones, I.P.M.; L. Stean, P.M.; C. F. Barham, P.M.; E. Benjamin, P.M.; J. Funston, S.W.; Rev. H. G. Henderson, Chap.; J. Cox, Sec.; F. Matthews, S.D.; R. Drysdale, J.D.; H. J. Thrower, I.G.; G. C. Young, P.M. 820, Org.; E. T. Clark

and T. Douglass, Stewards; J. Very, Tyler. There were also present Bros. W. Beasley, A. J. Heard, E. A. Beckett, W. Snellgrove, R. H. Drysdale, H. Wayforth, H. J. F. Gale, J. Tidball, Dr. W. Holt, J. W. Griffiths, W. Strickland, G. Short, and others. Among the visitors were Bros. H. J. Mount, J. D. 1566; T. J. Mercer, 1421; G. F. Snook, 1693; and Jas. Smith, I.P.M. 193.

Lodge having been opened, Mr. W. Edwards was unanimously elected for initiation, which ceremony was then most impressively performed by the W.M. and his officers. Bro. H. J. Scott was passed to the F.C. Degree, and Bro. J. Austin was raised to the rank of M.M. The work was well done, and highly spoken of by the visitors who were present.

ALLIANCE LODGE (No. 1827).—BANQUET TO THE LORD MAYOR.

—This lodge, founded some five years ago by Sir John B. Monckton, President of the Board of General Purposes, and other brethren connected with the Corporation of the City of London, has since its formation entertained each succeeding Lord Mayor belonging to our Order, commencing with Sir Francis W. Truscott, P.G.W.; thence passing on to Sir John Whitaker Ellis, Bart., P.G.W.; Sir H. E. Knight, P.M. No. 1; and now, not the least illustrious, Alderman R. N. Fowler, W.M. No. 1, Prov. G.S.W. Wiltshire, &c., to meet whom a large number of distinguished brethren were invited, amongst them being several present and past Grand Officers. On Thursday evening, the 16th inst., his lordship visited the lodge in semi-state, being attended by Bro. G. W. Winzar (Sword Bearer) and Bro. Major D. J. P. Campbell (City Marshal). A guard composed of the staff-sergeants of the 4th Battalion Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment), in charge of Bro. Sergt.-Major W. Simpson, saluted the Chief Magistrate on his arrival, and a band, conducted by Bro. H. Sibold, the bandmaster of the same regiment, was in attendance and played an excellent programme of music during the reception and banquet.

A lodge of emergency was first held, the Lord Mayor being escorted into lodge by Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, P.M., and Bro. F. Green, P.M., assisted by the Deacons. His lordship was received in open lodge with the honours due to his Masonic rank. The proceedings here were of a brief character, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, at which his lordship supported Bro. Major T. Davies Sewell, 4th Batt. Royal Fusiliers, the W.M. of the lodge, on the right, whilst Bro. H. Wilder Wright, I.P.M., supported his predecessor in the chair of the lodge on the left. There were present besides Bros. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Sec.; Ralph Gooding, G.S.D.; T. H. Devonshire, G.J.D.; Sir Albert Woods (Garter), P.G.W., G.D.C.; Raymond H. Thrupp, G.A.D.C.; Col. James Peters, G. Svd. Br.; Col. A. C. Gough, L.L.D., G. Std. Br.; Edgar Bowyer, G. Std. Br.; L. F. Littell, G. Purst.; Capt. N. G. Phillips, P.G.D.; P. de Lande Long, P.G.D.; Ex-Sheriff Burt, P.G.A.D.C.; W. T. Howe, P.G. Purst.; Bullen, P.G.S.; G. N. Johnson, P.G.S.; R. P. Spice, P.G.S.; Col. L. G. Dundas (4th Batt. Royal Fusiliers), Prov. G.S.W. Surrey; Rev. J. H. Smith, P.P.G. Chap. Leicester; Alderman and Ex-Sheriff De Keyser, Under-Sheriffs Hanbury and Metcalfe, E. Garnet Man, S.W.; Henry Wright, J.W.; J. Perkins, S.D.; Squire, J.D.; Pearce Morrison, D.C.; Hyde Clarke, I.G.; Major Campbell, J.W.S.; Jewson, Org.; Major Wilde, Major J. Perry Godfrey, P.M.; Barrow Emanuel, M.A., E. Emanuel, Jackson, Greenwood, P. S. Blancy, A. A. Porter, Ambler, H. C. Richards, Roderick, G. R. Crickmay, C. Stretton, Jex, Wilkinson, A. W. Wallis, Tatlock, and Lewis.

The toasts of "The Queen," "The M.W. the Grand Master," "The Pro. Grand Master," "The Deputy Grand Master," and "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," were given from the chair. Sir Albert Woods acknowledged the latter.

The Worshipful Master gave "The Health of the Principal Guest of the evening, the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, W.M. No. 1, and P.G.S.W. Wilts.," and the toast was received with loud cheering. The W.M., referring to the custom of the lodge to entertain those Lord Mayors who were Masons, said that on no occasion had they been able to offer their hospitality to a more distinguished brother citizen, filling, as the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor did, the duties of his office with exceptional ability. He could occupy some time in recounting the high qualifications which he had evidenced whilst ably filling the many public positions taken by him as legislator, corporator, and philanthropist. Greeting him as Masons, they felt that the very valuable attributes he possessed rendered him worthy of the best wishes of the Craft in general, and, at that moment, of the Alliance Lodge in particular. He felt that he was speaking the sentiments of every brother present when he said that the manly, honourable, and unaffected manner in which his lordship fulfilled the duties of Chief Magistrate of this City demanded their cordial recognition, as it reflected credit upon the great and glorious institution of Freemasonry. Every one present, he believed, echoed the sentiments he had expressed, and he would ask his lordship to accept the assurance that the assembly greeted him with sincerity, not only as brethren, but as fellow citizens.

Bro. the Lord Mayor, who was received with loud and prolonged cheering, thanked the W.M. for having proposed his health, and the brethren of that distinguished lodge for having received it, in so cordial and kind a way. It gave him especial pleasure to be there that night, because their W.M. was a very old and valued friend of his, whom he had had the pleasure of knowing for more years than either of them would perhaps care to recollect. During these long years he had always found him a man who threw lustre on whatever he undertook. He had another particular pleasure in attending this lodge, because in the position he (the Lord Mayor) held, he could not but recollect that many of the members of that lodge were those with whom he was officially connected, members and officers of the Corporation. Their W.M. had told them that several previous Lord Mayors—all who were Masons—had accepted the hospitality which he had now the pleasure to enjoy. He was glad to believe that the Court of Aldermen very much consisted of Freemasons. Several past Lord Mayors had been Masons, and he believed for a long course of years future Lord Mayors must be Masons. He was very glad to see a brother near him who before long would, he hoped, stand in the position he (the Lord Mayor) now occupied, viz., Alderman De Keyser. He might answer for his esteemed brother and honourable colleague that when he stood in that position he would be very glad to accept the

hospitality of that lodge. He hoped that for a long course of years the Alliance Lodge would continue to entertain his successors in the office he occupied. He felt out of place sitting above so many distinguished brethren of the Craft, and he felt it a high honour and a compliment to himself and the province which had placed him in his important position in Masonry, and it would be an additional incentive to him to be worthy of the confidence placed in him.

The I.P.M., Bro. Wilder Wright, next proposed "The Health of the W.M." He remarked that there was something in Masonry which seemed to make men "evergreen." Their oldest Masons bore in their faces the index of their kindly hearts. They could not possibly have had as their Master one who could have better discharged its duties, or better used its hospitality, or who lived more in the hearts and affections of the brethren of the lodge. He hoped that the Alliance Lodge might never have a worse Master than he who now graced the chair.

The Worshipful Master responded to the toast, and subsequently proposed "The Health of the Visitors," coupling with it the name of Bro. Alderman De Keyser, who, in acknowledging it, said that, however eloquent a brother might be and however distinguished his position, none could have a higher sense of gratitude than he had for the very Masonlike, brotherly, and charming entertainment to which they had invited him. He was glad to see the spirit of brotherhood existing in so extended a degree in connection with their municipal institutions. Masons met free of party spirit and free from jealousy, and he was glad to see that spirit so strongly developed in the citizens of London. Long might it continue to be so, and long might the Alliance Lodge develop that sentiment which was such a credit to the City of London and to Masonry in general.

The other toasts were "The Past Masters," proposed by the W.M., and acknowledged by Bro. Wilder Wright; "The Officers of the Lodge," proposed by the W.M., and acknowledged by the S.W., Bro. b. Garnet Man, and Bro. Henry Wright, J.W.; and the Tyler's toast.

CLERKENWELL LODGE (No. 1964).—PRESENTATION TO BRO. EDGAR BOWYER,

G. Std. Br.—The March meeting of the above lodge was held on Saturday last, at the Viaduct Hotel, Holborn, when there were present Bros. T. Hastings Miller, W.M.; Edgar Bowyer, G. Std. Br., I.P.M.; Good, S.W.; Potter, J.W.; Rose, Chap.; George Lambert, P.G.S.B., Treas.; James Terry, P.G.S.W. Norths and Hunts, &c., Sec.; Col. H. Radcliffe, S.D.; James Rolfe, J.D.; J. Tuck, I.G.; and J. A. Robinson, Org.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed and Bro. Capt. Henry Edgar Bowyer was passed to the Second Degree, the lecture on the tracing board in this Degree being most ably delivered by Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, giving much pleasure and instruction to the brethren present, many hearing it for the first time. Bro. Good was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. George Lambert was re-elected Treasurer. Bro. Edgar Bowyer was then presented with a Past Grand Standard Bearer's jewel by the lodge, also the full-dress clothing for the same rank subscribed for by the members of the lodge on the occasion of the anniversary of his birthday. The ceremonies of the lodge were rendered most impressive by the singing of an opening and closing hymn, accompanied by Bro. Robinson, the Organist of the lodge, on the harmonium.

A banquet afterwards took place, at which Bro. T. Hastings Miller presided, giving the toasts in his usual happy way, that of "The Grand Officers" being replied to by Bro. the Rev. C. W. Arnold, P.G.C.; "The Visitors" by Bros. Col. Peters, G.S.B., Alderman Savory, Geo. Kenning, Dr. Strong, and Hartmann. Bro. Bellamy, who had been appointed to represent the lodge at the forthcoming festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, replied for "The Masonic Charities."

CHICHESTER.—Lodge of Union (No. 38).

—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 6th inst., when there were present Bros. Oliver Lloyd, W.M.; O. N. Wyatt, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Works, as S.W.; W. H. Barrett, J.W.; H. M. Davey, P.P.G.C., Chap.; J. St. Clair, P.P.G.J.W., Treas.; J. H. Hawes, Sec.; H. E. Breach, S.D.; G. C. Inkper, J.D.; G. Smith, P.P.G.D., D.C.; W. Doman, I.G.; A. Buquet and F. Adames, Stwds.; G. Molesworth, P.P.G.D., P.M.; G. Gatehouse, P.P.G.D., P.M.; F. W. Gruggen, I.P.M.; Arthur Smith, P.P.G. Supt. of Works, P.M.; H. Heather, T. S. Fisher, C. F. Charge, J. Lillywhite, G. Kemp, J. Fielden, J. C. Budden, A. Swann, E. F. A. Gower, W. A. Beatson, and T. Jarman. Visitor: Bro. A. H. Lee, 1223.

The minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed, and a letter was read from Bro. Lord Algernon Gordon Lennox, S.W., apologising for his non-attendance, and explaining that he was unavoidably detained in London. Bros. Gower and Beatson having been passed to the degree of F.C., the W.M. proceeded to present the Treasurer, Bro. J. St. Clair, with a handsome tea service, in silver, and an illuminated address, which ran as follows: "Presented to Bro. John St. Clair, P.P.J.G.V., P.M. and Treasurer No. 38, P.M. No. 1726, P.Z. Cyrus Chapter, No. 38, by the brethren of the Lodge of Union, No. 38, Chichester, of the Gordon Lodge, No. 1726, Bognor, and by several of his colleagues in Provincial Grand Lodge, in recognition of his long and valuable services to Masonry in connection with the Lodge of Union (in which he has served continuously as Treasurer since 1870), the Gordon Lodge, and the Province of Sussex.—Oliver Lloyd, W.M.; J. H. Hawes, Sec.; March, 1884." [Here follow the names of 54 subscribers.]

The Worshipful Master said one of the most pleasing duties that could perhaps happen in the life of a Mason was the one he had the honour to discharge that night. A recent happy venture upon which Bro. St. Clair had embarked afforded the opportunity to those who valued his merits of suggesting some recognition of those services which he had rendered both to the Craft in general and that lodge in particular. The movement had met with a ready and a generous response, the outcome of which was the service of plate now lying before them and which they were there assembled to present to Bro. St. Clair. It was with very sincere feelings of delight that he was permitted to hand to that brother, in the name of the subscribers, that testimonial of their approbation of his worth. It took the form they thought would commend itself most to his taste, because it would be a constant reminder to him of the warm appreciation in which he was held by the brethren,

and which was perhaps one of the surest guarantees to a woman's heart that he in whom she has placed her trust is worthy of that confidence. Bro. Lloyd concluded by expressing a hope that Bro. St. Clair might long be spared to look with pleasure on the gift, which to those who survived him would speak of the esteem in which he was held.

Bro. Geo. Smith, P.P.G.D., the senior P.M. present, having in a few hearty words endorsed everything which had fallen from the W.M.,

Bro. St. Clair, who was very warmly greeted, said it would be very difficult for him to find words to express how deeply their kindness had touched him. He should never look upon that handsome testimonial of their regard without being reminded of his old lodge, of the many happy evenings he had spent in it, and of the kindness he had experienced. He could not expect them to endorse all that had been said of him by their W.M. and S.W., neither could they expect him to rush to the other extreme and say that he disclaimed it all. He thought, however, it might not be unbecoming in him to say that by their favour he was now in the 15th year of his Treasurership of that lodge, and that those duties which had fallen to him to discharge had been discharged to the best of his ability and without any other hope or expectation of acknowledgment than that of their approval if they could give it or of their forbearance if they could not approve. He could hardly find words to thank them for having selected the occasion of his marriage for presenting him with that handsome testimonial of their regard, for which he added his wife's thanks to his own. This present would endure, as the W.M. had said, longer than he (Bro. St. Clair) would, and it would preserve the memory of their kindness long after he himself was forgotten.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).

—The first regular meeting under the new W.M. and officers who were installed in February was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, the 6th inst., at 7.30 p.m. Present: Bros. J. Rubie, P.M., P.P.G.J.W., W.M.; E. J. B. Mercer, P.G.S. of W., I.P.M.; Ashley, P.M., P.P.G. J.W., Treas.; C. W. Radway, P.M., P.P.G.S.W., Sec.; F. Wilkinson, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., as Dir. of Cers.; Ames, S.W.; W. Peach, J.W.; T. E. Wilton, S.D.; W. L. Baldwin, J.D.; Gregory, I.G.; Foote, Organist; Brown and Reynolds, Stewards; Bigwood, Tyler; T. Wilton (Mayor of Bath), P.M., P.P.G.J.W.; R. B. Cater, P.M.; P. Braham, P.M., P.P.G. Org.; and Dr. H. Hopkins, P.M. 41, 43, 958, P.P.G.S.W. Warwickshire. Many members also attended. The minutes of the previous meeting and of the lodge of instruction were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Bro. F. W. Gardiner, 1296, as a joining member, which proved favourable. The Secretary announced the resignation of Bro. Ponting, owing to the distance of his residence from Bath, and explained the unavoidable absence of Bro. Robinson. Bro. Cater apologised for the absence of Mr. A. C. Sheppard, a candidate for initiation. At this period an announcement was made that the W.Ms. and many members of Nos. 53 and 906 were at the door demanding admission. They were as usual received with honours, including Bros. W. F. Collins, W.M.; C. Collins, P.M.; Sumsion, P.M.; Col. J. R. Ford, P.M.; C. Milsom, P.M.; B. H. Watts, S.W.; J. A. Timmins, J.W.; E. Noke, S.D.; W. F. Gould, Stwd.; and G. H. Noke, all of No. 53; F. Glover, W.M.; W. H. Baker, Stwd.; W. Clements, and H. Humphries, all of No. 906; J. H. Palmer, P.M. No. 10; and J. Carpenter, No. 851. The W.M. mentioned that he had received from the Grand Secretary a copy of the new Book of Constitutions, the printing of which had been completed. On the proposition of Bro. Radway, seconded by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, it was resolved "That a meeting of the Permanent Committee be held to make arrangements for a revision of the bye-laws, so as to bring them into accordance with the Book of Constitutions. The Treasurer read his annual report, which had been audited, and on the proposition of the W.M. and Secretary it was adopted. Mr. William C. Carey was then introduced, properly prepared, and duly initiated by the W.M., the symbolism of the working tools being explained by Bro. Brown, and the charge given by Bro. Dr. Hopkins. At the conclusion of the ceremony the W.M. congratulated the candidate on his admission into the Order, speaking feelingly of the respect in which his late father was held, who had been initiated on the same day of the month of March 18 years ago.

Some of the brethren were then leaving the room, and would have done so had not Bro. Ashley requested them to remain in order that they might hear a document read, in which he could assure them they would be greatly interested, not only on account of its remarkable contents, but also because it came from the venerable Bro. Edmund White, the oldest man and oldest member in the lodge, now residing at Weston-super-Mare. Bro. Ashley then read as follows: "The wish to live after death in the memories of those we love in life is, I think, not only a natural, but a not unworthy wish. Acting on this conviction, I, being desirous of living in the memories of my dear and much loved brethren of the Royal Cumberland Lodge of Freemasons, No. 41, Bath, have resolved, subject to the lodge's approval, to present to the said lodge the loving-cup presented to me by my fellow-citizens in 1848, together with the framed list of subscribers thereto, my portrait, painted by Stewart in the same year, and the sum of £200, on the following conditions and subject to the following regulations: The money to be invested in such security (being one of those sanctioned by the Court of Chancery for investment by trustees) as the said lodge shall select, and the interest arising from such investment to be annually applied as follows: So much thereof as may be required for that purpose to replenish the said loving-cup for the use of all the brethren then present at either the annual festival of installation of W.M. or at the banquet by which such festival is usually succeeded, and the remainder to the purchase of a P.M.'s jewel, to be presented to every succeeding P.M. who shall have performed the duties of the office of W.M. to the satisfaction of his brethren. In the former case, immediately after the proclamation of the W.M.'s installation, and in the latter, immediately after the removal of the cloth and before any toasts are proposed, the beverage to be such as the trustees and the Board of P.Ms. shall select. Immediately after either of the events above-mentioned, the W.M. or other presiding officer shall, after striking with his gavel, say: 'Brethren, let us remember our departed brethren.' The brethren present shall then, all standing, each in succession and in due order drink from the cup, pronouncing distinctly, before drinking, the words, 'To our departed brethren,' and after drinking, while handing the cup to the next brother,

S.E.; Lyon, P.S.; Lovegrove, Fulwood, Hastie, Minchie, and others. The minutes of the last convocation having been read and confirmed the ceremony of exaltation was effectively and impressively rehearsed, the working of Comp. Lyon, as P.S., being carefully and excellently rendered. Great praise is due to all the officers for the care bestowed by them in their various duties, and it must be very encouraging to Comp. Poore, the worthy and painstaking Preceptor, to find the chapter so steadily growing in numbers and importance, and it is confidently believed that this will ultimately become the most successful chapter of instruction in London. All Royal Arch Masons are earnestly and cordially invited to attend every Friday evening at half-past seven, when they may be sure of receiving a hearty welcome and hearty greeting.

MASONIC BALLS.

During the past few weeks when so many events of great moment have been occurring in the world Masonic there has been a dearth of space wherein to set forth, even in brief, an account of certain celebrations which, occurring, as the children say, "only once a year," yet carry with them a considerable amount of importance and influence for good. Fully carrying out the proud boast enunciated in our "Entered Apprentice" song that "No mortal can more the ladies adore, than a Free and Accepted Mason," we must congratulate our brethren upon the thoughtfulness which has resulted in several really successful and happy events, in which the brethren have not only "been happy themselves and communicated happiness," but have, in so doing, materially upheld the dignity of Freemasonry as a social and unselfish institution, but have materially assisted that true outcome of true Masonic feeling: Charity. Taking these events in the order of priority according to the numbers of the lodges, we have first the ball of the

TEMPERANCE LODGE, 169,

Deptford, held at Sayes Court, Deptford, under the distinguished patronage of Mr. Boord, M.P. for Greenwich, and Mr. Evelyn, of Deptford. A capital band, under the direction of Mr. Kalischer, who assisted Bros. E. G. G. Bax and H. Pitt as Masters of the Ceremonies, contributed greatly to the enjoyment of the ladies and brethren assembled, and who, to the number of about 180, presented a specially grand and varied spectacle, the brethren being in Craft clothing, and the ladies, as usual, displaying excellent taste in their costumes. A capitally served supper was supplied by Bro. Morgan, 169, host of the lodge, and the discussion of the same formed an agreeable break in the pleasures of the dancing. Bro. G. Skudder, S.D. 169, proved an able president at the social board, and we learned with much pleasure that the proceeds of the ball will be devoted to augment the funds he will have the pleasure of taking up as Steward for the forthcoming festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys in June next. The toasts following the supper were few and pithily given, Bro. Skudder specially thanking the ladies for their kind attendance and support. The dancing was renewed with vigour, and heartily enjoyed until a capital dance list, and, indeed, many of the dancers, were exhausted.

BURDETT COUTTS LODGE, No. 1278.

The anniversary festival of the above lodge was successfully celebrated at the Cannon-street Hotel, E.C., some 200 ladies and brethren taking part in the proceedings, which had for their outcome a happy reunion of the brethren and their fair partners, and support to the Masonic Charities. The ball was under the distinguished patronage of the Hon. Baroness Burdett Coutts, and had the advantage of the experienced direction of Bro. R. L. Sturtevant, P.M. 1278, who was assisted from first to last by a capital Board of Stewards, comprising Bros. R. J. Chitson, W.M. 1278; J. J. Berry, P.M. 554, S.W.; W. H. Making, J.W.; G. W. Verry, P.M., Hon. Secretary; R. J. Crutch, Treas.; A. Jones, I.P.M.; W. P. Clark, S.D.; J. W. R. Hammond, J.D.; B. Stewart, I.G.; R. Brittain, D.C.; J. K. Sturtevant and A. W. Weston, W. Stewards; E. W. Schroeder, Org.; G. A. Payne, P.M. 933; and G. H. Stephens, S.W. 1623; the M.Cs. being Bros. A. C. Stichling, 511, and W. Perrin, 1056, all of whose exertions were efficiently carried out. The dancing was much enjoyed, although the evening being warm and gas having to be used to light the large hall, instead of the electric light, the dancing was not carried on with quite such pleasure as it would had the room been cooler. A well-served supper was partaken of shortly after midnight, Bro. Chitson presiding. "Success to the Burdett Coutts Ball" was given, Bro. Chitson saying he felt himself highly honoured by the large numbers which had rallied round him that evening, and expressed his sincere thanks for their kind support. After some other toasts dancing was enjoyably renewed, and was continued to the satisfaction of all concerned.

PENGE LODGE, No. 1815.

The third annual ball was held on the 27th ult., at the Vestry Hall, Anerley, and passed off in a most successful and enjoyable manner. Although it could hardly be expected from the short notice given, the occasion brought together a strong muster of brethren, ladies, and friends. The hall wore a most animated aspect, being again adorned with Masonic decorations by Bros. Williams and Dibble. The dancing was entered into with great spirit and promptness and was thoroughly enjoyed. An excellent supper was supplied by Bro. Mackrell, of the Thicket Hotel, and though divided was well arranged. Great credit is due to the Stewards and all concerned.

FAITH LODGE, 483, ASHTON-IN-MACKERFIELD.

The members of this lodge held a ball at the Town Hall, Newton-le-Willows, on Shrove Tuesday, for the benefit of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. It was held under the distinguished patronage of Bros. the Earl of Lathom, R.V.D.G.M., and Prov. G.M. West Lanc.; Right Hon. Col. Stanley, M.P., G.S.W. and D.P.G.M. West Lanc.; Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., P.G.W.; S. Pearson, W. F. Gooch, S. E. Pardey, R. Brierley, and other distinguished brethren. Altogether about 70 couples were present, and the ball was in every respect a great success. There being no chapter attached to the lodge, Craft clothing, with a little sprinkling of the provincial, only was worn. The room presented a most brilliant and animated spectacle when lighted up. The decorations had been carried out under the superintendence of Bros. Stones, Harewood, W. Hibbert,

and Devereux, the orchestra being surrounded with beautiful exotic and other plants. The Stewards were Bros. Crompton and Cooper, Bros. Hibbert and Devereux acting as M.Cs., while Bro. Cooper acted as director of the evening's arrangements. A most elegant supper was supplied by Bro. H. Hibbert, of the Blue Bell Hotel, Newton. Dancing commenced about nine o'clock and was kept up with the greatest enjoyment until the small hours of the morning. It may be interesting here to note that the ball was held in the room where the lodge was first opened in 1842, being then part of the Old Horse and Jockey Hotel, Newton, its number at that time being 711. Subsequently from various causes the lodge was removed to Ashton-in-Mackerfield.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 280 S.C., COLDSTREAM.

The second ball since the resuscitation of the lodge was held in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute, on Friday evening, the 29th ult., under most favourable auspices, and, like its predecessor, takes rank as being the best of its kind in the neighbourhood. The hall was tastefully decorated with the emblems of the Fraternity, and, as on the former occasion, a portion of the area was set apart for supper room and refreshment stall, this being done by light screens of pink and white. On the staircase and in the room various shrubs, flowers, and plants formed a pleasing addition to the other decorations. The music was supplied by the celebrated quadrille band of Bro. Amers, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and was an especial treat. The programme opened with the "Triumph" in double set, and was led off by Bro. Jno. Smith, R.W.M., and Mrs. Munro, and Bro. A. L. Miller, P.M. 393, and Miss Hair. Thereafter it was unanimously agreed by the company, that being the 29th February of Leap Year, the usual order of things should be reversed until midnight, and the ladies choose partners and proffer the usual attentions they are in the habit of receiving. This was a source of much amusement and enjoyment. The refreshments were purveyed in excellent style by Bro. Robertson, Newcastle Arms Hotel. Dancing was kept up until five o'clock. The company numbered over 70.



Bro. Bancroft, in reviving M. Sardou's comedy "Peril," has received the applause and gratitude of his patrons at the Haymarket. The last time it was played in London was at the Prince of Wales's in 1876, attaining great popularity. Only one of the cast who represented it at that time now play in it, that one being Bro. Bancroft himself, and he has changed his Sir George Ormond for Dr. Thornton, Mr. Forbes Robertson now playing the former character. It would be well if other managers would from time to time unearth some of the best comedies which years ago took so well with the public. Peril is not a play dependent on the times in which it is acted; it might have been played 100 years ago—had it been written—and it may be represented 100 years hence and still all its paths will be fresh. Its very truthfulness in the display of human character must always be the same, unless human nature should change materially. Lapse of time cannot detract from its smartness, its interest is ever new. The third act is the most thrilling. In the first act the audience is interested, in the second aroused, in the third spell bound, and in the fourth gratified. The absorbing power of "Peril" it is useless to deny. As Lady Ormond, Mrs. Bernard Beere is thoroughly suited with a part befitting her, without making comparisons as to former artistes. One can never forget how she portrays the wife who, though pure in heart, in unreflecting moments yields to a temptation, and that from her husband's dear friend, a guest in her own house; but finally her purity and honour prevail, and she comes out of her passion honouring her husband more than ever, and, flinging away her tempter with disdain, shows how virtue at last triumphs over impulsive blind love. We may here just briefly say that the plot of the play is the guilty passion which Capt. Bradford, otherwise a fine young fellow, conceives for Lady Ormond, the wife of his host, and which she foolishly reciprocates in a weak moment, owing to her impulsive nature. In the third act we see the jealousy of the too-confiding Sir George Ormond aroused by some so-called friends, and he adopts a ruse to try his wife's honour. He pretends to be suddenly called away, returning of course when not expected, but not to find his wife yielding to the importunities of Capt. Bradford, who has forced himself into her presence. Having at last awakened, and only just in time, to her duties, she entreats her lover to leave her, clinging to her husband, and loving him more than ever. Sir George does not taunt his wife, but fully believes in her innocence, and by his very noble nature brings the young captain to his senses, and does him a kindness which he gladly embraces. Mr. H. B. Conway of course plays Captain Bradford, a character so well suited to his representation of impetuous nature. The Sir George Ormond of Mr. Forbes-Robertson one must love, because one does not often meet with such characters in real life. Mr. Brookfield of course makes his part suit him, and Mr. Alfred Bishop we have never, and it is saying a good deal, seen to greater advantage; the grumpy, ill-natured, old East Indian, Sir Woodbine, he most faithfully portrays, and makes much of the fun to be derived from the play. Bro. Bancroft, in yielding up the part of the husband, is admirably suited to the cynical Dr. Thornton, a true friend to Sir George and Lady Ormond. Bro. Bancroft entirely loses his individuality, and thereby enhances the rendering of the part he has undertaken to play. Mrs. Cannings and Miss Wilton (Mrs. Bancroft's sister) also add to the interest of "Peril" in what they have to do. "A Lesson" precedes "Peril," in which Mrs. Bancroft and Miss Lingard, who have no part in the play of the evening, distinguish themselves. We noticed that scarcely any one entered the theatre after the first rise of the curtain, for the simple reason that no one would, if they could help it, lose Mrs. Bancroft's splendid acting in the character of Miss Reeve. Mr. E. Russell has just now all his work cut out as manager to cater for his audience in the way of seats, but is equal to the occasion. We notice that H.R.H. the Duchess of Edinburgh has been already twice to see "Peril" and "A Lesson." The Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne have honoured the theatre with a visit.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The following circular has been issued to W.Ms. of lodges: "5, Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C., March, 1884. "66TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL.

"Worshipful Sir and Bro.—I have the honour to inform you that the Right Hon. the Lord Brooke, M.P., R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Essex, has very kindly consented to preside at the above festival.

"I have also to state for the information of the brethren that it has been necessary to change the date on which the festival will be held from Wednesday, 14th, to Wednesday, 21st of May.

"Should your lodge not be already represented by a Steward, permit me to solicit your very valuable co-operation on this occasion, as at present there is a great necessity for a large accession to the list, the number of names already received being comparatively small.

"I am, Worshipful Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

"F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary."

Obituary.

BRO. JAMES MILLEDGE, P.P.G.S.W. DORSET.

It is with exceeding regret that we announce the death of a very old Freemason, W. Bro. James Milledge, who was initiated into Freemasonry in All Souls' Lodge Weymouth, No. 283 (now 170), as far back as June 13th, 1823, having been proposed by R.W. Bro. Wm. Eliot, P.P.G.M. Dorset, seconded by W. Bro. Thos. Robinson, P.M., both of whom outlive him. He became W.M. of his lodge in 1833; was appointed P.G.J.W. in 1834, and P.G.S.W. Dorset in 1835. He filled the chair of Z. in the All Souls' Chapter in 1836, and that of H. in the Province of Dorset, in 1834. The chair of All Souls' Lodge is at present held by his eldest son, W. Bro. Zillwood Milledge. As a townsman his conduct has always been without fear and without reproach. The highest honours his fellow-townsmen could confer have been his. He has been a Member of the Town Council without intermission since 1832, was Mayor in 1870-71, and Alderman and Justice of the Peace for the Borough at the time of his death. He quietly passed away, after a prolonged illness borne with great Christian fortitude, on Monday, the 25th ult., at the ripe old age of 83, and to him may be justly applied the epithet "Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright man; for the end of that man is peace." His was a career worthy of all imitation, and with confidence it may be said of him that he has "ascended to that Grand Lodge Above where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns till time shall be no more, there to shine before His Throne as the stars for ever and ever."

BRO. GEORGE BUCKLAND.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. George Buckland, the popular lecturer and entertainer. He had been for some time in failing health, and it is only within the last week that circulars have been sent out announcing a dramatic and musical entertainment for his benefit at the St. George's Hall, for Wednesday, the 26th inst. Messrs. Alfred Read and Corney Grain had volunteered to lend the hall for the occasion, and among the committee organised in support of the scheme were Messrs. J. L. Toole (treasurer), Wilson Barrett, Alfred Bishop, Lionel Brough, Arthur Cecil, Frank Celli, Charles Coote, Charles Du Val, Corney Grain, F. W. Green, Geo. Gosmith, John Hare, Henry Herman, David James, Charles Kelly, Meyer, Lutz, Frederic Maccabe, John Maclean, M. Maybrick, Henry Neville, H. Paulton, R. Reece, Alfred Reed, R. Soutar, Edward Terry, and J. D. Langton (Hon. Sec.). The assistance thus freely offered, however, came too late, Bro. Buckland expired on Sunday night at his residence at Dartmouth-park-hill, in the 64th year of his age. He will be best remembered in connection with the old Polytechnic Institution, where his humorous songs, recitations, and sketches of character for many years enjoyed popularity. Bro. Buckland was a P.M. of the Asaph Lodge, and P.Z. of the Asaph Chapter. His genial presence and excellent working of the lodge and chapter ceremonies made him a welcome visitor in all Masonic circles, and his loss will be much regretted. The Honorary Secretary of the Entertainment Committee writes to say that "the Committee has decided that the entertainment announced to be given at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, on Wednesday afternoon, the 26th inst., shall take place, notwithstanding the unfortunate, but not unexpected death of Bro. Buckland which occurred on Sunday last. The proceeds of the entertainment will be handed to his widow, who has been left totally unprovided for, owing to the prolonged illness of Bro. Buckland, which had incapacitated him from giving his entertainments for a long time past."

BRO. S. SMOUT, SEN., P.M. 1642, Z. 1642.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. S. Smout, sen., P.M. 1642 and Z. 1642, which took place on Monday last at his residence, Chesterton-road, North Kensington. He was one of the founders of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, and most justly respected by the Fraternity. His interment takes place at Kensal-green Cemetery to-day (Friday) at half-past two o'clock.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

BOYD.—On the 17th Jan., at Avonside, near Christchurch, New Zealand, the wife of C. Boyd, of a daughter.
COX.—On the 9th inst., at Pomeroy, Honiton, Devon, the wife of Capt. R. H. Cox, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

MITCHELL—IRVINE.—On Jan. 21st, at Calicut, Malabar, Edward Charles Mitchell, of Vythery, Wynaad, Madras, to Edith Caroline, widow of J. Irvine.

DEATHS.

KELLY.—On the 7th inst., at 6, Derwent-terrace, Newington-common, N., Caroline Mary, the dearly-loved wife of Bro. Fitzroy Arthur Kelly, and youngest daughter of John Jackson, of Addington-road, Bow.
SHAND.—On the 4th inst., after an illness of only 12 days, at school, in Margate, George Alexander, aged 8 years and 6 months, the beloved youngest son of Bro. J. E. Shand.



Bro. Colonel Fred Burnaby is now on his way home from Suez. His wound is rapidly healing.

Five guineas were subscribed to the "Hughan Testimonial Fund" by the Aldersgate Lodge, No. 1657, at the ordinary meeting on Monday last.

On Wednesday evening, at the White Hart Hotel, Lambeth, Bro. W. H. Bale was installed W.M. of the Vitruvian Lodge, No. 57, Bro. Davis being invested as S.W., and Bro. T. Minstrel, as J.W.

Bro. Sir Erasmus Wilson has announced his intention of retiring from the chairmanship of the board of directors of the Crystal Palace District Gas Company, in consequence of failing health, but his services will still be retained as a director.

Bro. Dr. Morris, Head Master at the Boys' School, has again met with unqualified success in the Cambridge Local Examinations, 24 of his pupils having passed, 15 with honours. We are glad to record this satisfactory issue to our worthy brother's conscientious and painstaking labours.

The ceremonies of consecration and installation will be rehearsed on Wednesday, the 19th inst., at the Panmure Lodge of Instruction, No. 720, Balham Hotel, Balham, by Bro. James Terry, P.P.G.S.W. Norths and Hunts, &c. The musical arrangements will be under the direction of Bro. G. S. Graham, P.P.G. Org.

The inauguration of the Coborn Lodge of Instruction, No. 1804, will take place at "The Eagle Hotel," Snaresbrook, on Monday next, the 17th inst., at 6 p.m. punctually, when the ceremony of consecration will be rehearsed by Bro. James Terry, P. Prov. G.S.W. Norths and Hunts., P.P.G. J.W. Herts., P.M. 228, 1278, 1366, &c., and Sec. R.M.B.I.; and the installation ceremony will be rehearsed by Bro. William Clarke, P.G.P., P.M. 114. The musical arrangements will be under the direction of Bro. W. Graves, Org. 1598 and 1685. A supper will follow.

We must congratulate Miss Davis, Head Governess at the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, on another success for this Institution. Fifteen girls were sent up for the Junior Cambridge examination, all of whom have passed, nine with honours. This is evidence that the education is kept up to the standard required in these days of competition, and it also shews, what Miss Davis would be the first to acknowledge, that during her serious illness in the early part of last year, Miss Redgrave, while acting for her, followed closely in the lines so ably laid down by the Head Governess.

The following are the dinners, &c., held at the Freemasons' Tavern during the present week:—Monday, March 10th—Vegioni of the Italian Colony Club, St. George's and Corner Stone Lodge, University Chapter. Tuesday, 11th—Swallow Bicycle Club Ball, St. James's Union Lodge, Urban Lodge. Wednesday, 12th—North of Thames Licensed Victuallers' Ball, United Lodge, London and Galloway Association. Thursday, 13th—Holborn Cricket Club Ball, Rose of Sharon Chapter, Polish National Lodge, Lodge of Regularity, St. George's Chapter. Friday, 14th—Quadrant Ball, Britannic Lodge, Bedford Lodge, Eclectic Lodge. Saturday, 15th—Bachelors' Ball.

Bro. A. E. J. McIntyre, O.C., M.P., presided on Saturday evening last at Exeter Hall, when Miss Jennie Young, of New York, repeated to an appreciative audience the attractive entertainment which she calls a concert-lecture on the songs of Robert Burns. This lady lecturer combines with the gift of pleasing discourse a rich and abundant sympathy with the spirit of lyric poetry, and the vocal talent to illustrate her theme with song. Her platform manners are graceful, and even Scotch people, who are so apt to be exacting as to the rendering of Burns, own that in delivering the songs of their bard she achieves no mean success. Bro. McIntyre conveyed the thanks of the audience to the fair lecturer, who after a vote of thanks to the chairman had been passed, gratified the Scotch portion of her audience by joining them in "Auld Lang Syne," sung by way of a good night chorus.

At the regular monthly meeting of the St. John the Baptist Lodge, No. 39, Exeter, held on the 6th inst., the sum of two guineas was voted from the lodge funds towards the Hughan Testimonial Fund. In making the proposition Bro. John Stocker, P.M., P.P.G. Treasurer, referred in eulogistic terms to the signal service our distinguished brother has rendered to Freemasonry throughout the globe, and for lodge 39 (of which he is an honorary member) in particular, the valuable epitome of the history of the lodge, prefixed to the bye-laws, bearing evidence of the gratitude of the brethren to Bro. Hughan for compiling it. The brethren of this lodge, in common with all Devonshire Masons, heartily welcome Bro. Hughan amongst them, and notice with pleasure the impetus he has already given to Masonic study.

At the conclusion of the business of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, held in Liverpool on Friday the 7th inst., a meeting was held in furtherance of the scheme for securing a portrait of Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, D.G.M., the Provincial Grand Master of West Lancashire, to be hung up in the lodge room of the hall in Hope-street. Bro. J. B. MacKenzie, Prov. G.S.D., chairman of the committee, presided. The report as to the returns from the various lodges were highly gratifying, and the executive, along with several members of the committee, were deputed to report to a future meeting the name of an artist who should be entrusted with the commission. The committee hope that all returns of subscriptions from the various lodges throughout the province will be made at an early period.

"RUPTURES."—WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is the most effective invention for the treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring, so hurtful in its effects, is avoided, a soft bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected. Send for descriptive circular, with testimonials and prices, to J. White and Co. (Limited) 228, Piccadilly, London. Do not buy of Chemists, who often sell an Imitation of our Moc-Main. J. White and Co. have not any agents.—[ADVT.]

Bro. Charles Henry Phillips was installed W.M. of the Honor Oak Lodge, No. 1968, on Wednesday last.

A medal and first-class award has been obtained by Grant's Morella Cherry Brandy at the Calcutta International Exhibition.

Bro. Brindley, S.W. of the Wanderers Lodge, No. 1604, was on Tuesday evening unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Meredith, P.M., was for the eighth time elected Treasurer.

The annual supper of the Chaucer Lodge of Instruction will take place on Tuesday, the 18th inst., at the Old White Hart, Borough, Southwark. Bro. C. Graham, W.M. 1540, will preside, supported by Bro. G. Moorcroft, W.M. 25, and Bro. Catheson, W.M. 1981.

We with pleasure refer our readers to an account in another column of an interesting episode, as novel as it is pleasing, which took place at the last meeting of the Royal Cumberland Lodge, No. 41, Bath. The circumstance there recorded we believe to be unique in the annals of our ancient Order.

On Wednesday, the 6th inst., Bro. Matthew R. Webb, 1657, entertained a numerous company of friends at dinner at the Albion Hotel, Aldergate-street, the guests being over 70 in number. Amongst those present were Bro. Deputy Sims, A. J. Altman, C.C.; Alfred Brookman, C.C.; W. Wallford, C.C., and the Rev. A. R. Clemens, Bro. Deputy Sims gave "The Health of the Chairman." During the evening an excellent selection of vocal music was performed under the direction of Bro. Chaplin Henry.

Presentations to worthy brethren in the Craft take a prominent place in the current issue of the *Freemason*, our columns chronicling no less than four of these interesting events, not the least important of which are those to Bro. Edgar Bowyer, 1964, G. Std. Br., and to Bro. J. Neal, York, 88, D.P.G.M., Cambridgeshire; whilst two other brethren not so prominent in the Craft (Bro. J. St. Clair, Treas. 38, and H. E. Ibbs, Treas. 1473), have been similarly honoured by the brethren of their respective lodges.

We are authorized to contradict in the strongest manner the absurd rumour that Sir John Monckton has been offered the post of Under Secretary for the Home Department, on condition that he follows the apparently popular example of Mr. Marriott, M.P., and changes his politics, and then gets into Parliament for Maidstone. The Town Clerk is far too conscientious a man to adopt such a dishonourable suggestion, and far too shrewd a man to accept what might prove to be a very temporary office in exchange for one of a permanent character, and which he fills so thoroughly to everybody's satisfaction.—*City Press*.

The proverb, "Its an ill wind that blows no good," has received a very pointed illustration in the recent disastrous fire at the Masonic Temple at New York in the following circumstance, the particulars of which we copy from our contemporary the *Keystone*, who says:—"Holland Lodge, No. 8, of New York City, has recently recovered its Book of Minutes of the meetings from the organization of the lodge, in 1787, to 1832. The book had been lost since 1847, and was brought to light again after the fire at the Masonic Temple at Sixth avenue and Twenty-third street, which occurred December 1 last. In 1847 the building in which the lodge then held its meetings was destroyed by fire, and this book was the only record saved. It seems to have come into the hands of a then member of the lodge, for he makes a note in the book that he intends to present it to the lodge. He, however, did not do so, and in some way the book must have got into the archives of the Grand Lodge, and been forgotten there. It is a large octavo volume, bound in the solid, old-fashioned style. All the entries are in the handwritings of the different secretaries. The bye-laws, written and adopted in 1787, are peculiarly interesting."

We would call the attention of the officers and brethren of the Craft to the announcement of the London Stereoscopic Company of the proposition made at the Fidelity Lodge, No. 3, and also the statement made by the W.M. at the time. We are glad to see that this movement is being taken up by other lodges, and shall be further glad to see it become general, and it is singular that the Craft have not taken up this suggestion earlier, since in those lodges in which such an album has been started, it has given great satisfaction to the brethren. At a meeting of St. Thomas Lodge, 142, on Saturday, the 2nd inst., Bro. A. V. Haines, I.P.M., presented to the lodge a very handsome album to contain the portraits of the members of the lodge, the members having availed themselves of the very liberal offer made in our advertising columns by the London Stereoscopic Company. We have reason to believe also that this generous concession will be extended to families of brethren who accompany them to the Company's studios. As the season is opening we certainly recommend an early visit.

We gather from a contemporary the following history of the Highland feather bonnet, the proposed abolition of, or rather the substitution of another head-dress for, which has produced no little dissatisfaction in those regiments, and their friends, to which it specially appertains:—"A collection of drawings of uniforms, preserved in the British Museum under the somewhat misleading title of "A Representation of the Clothing of His Majesty's Household," and dated 1742, shows a man of the 42nd, then lately regimented, wearing a flat bonnet, precisely like that now worn by itinerant bagpipers in the London streets, with the addition of a cockade and hackle. Pictures of the day indicate that the same pattern of bonnet, minus the cockade and feather, was worn by the rank-and-file of the clans at Culloden. The same bonnet was worn, five-and-twenty years later, by the Highland Fencible regiments raised for home service during the American War of 1778-83. Now Stewart of Garth, the very best authority in Highland regimental lore, states that when the 42nd were in Scotland, about 1770, the non-commissioned officers and men had a custom of decking their bonnets with ostrich plumes, on which they spent considerable sums, as the Government only allowed a piece of black bearskin by way of ornament. The inference is that the practice originated on service in America, and that the real source of the traditional popularity of the feather bonnet was the (now forgotten) fact that it was a sort of tacitly recognised mark of a service-going regiment as distinguished from local corps, retainers, etc."

Monday last was the twenty-first anniversary of the wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The Rev. Sydney Linton, D.D., Bishop designate of Riverina, was initiated into Freemasonry in Sincerity Lodge, No. 943, Norwich, on the 26th ult.

A singular incident occurred at the meet of the Southdown foxhounds at Portslade, on Friday last week, a fox running into Poyning church, and taking refuge in the pulpit. He was quickly brought out of the sacred edifice and turned loose, being soon afterwards killed.

The celebrated regiment called the Black Brunswickers, raised in 1809 by the unfortunate Duke of Brunswick, which fought under the English flag in the Peninsular War and at Waterloo, is now quartered in Metz, and will there celebrate its 75th anniversary on the 1st prox.

Bros. Lord Alcester, Lord Tweedmouth, the Earl and Countess of Dudley, Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone, the Lord Steward, the Bishop of London; Mr. Christopher Sykes, M.P.; Bro. Montague J. Guest, M.P., Prov. G.M. Dorset; Field-Marshal Lord Strathnairn; Bro. Staveley Hill, O.C., M.P.; Bro. Lord Suffield, Prov. G.M. Norfolk; and Bro. Lieut. Henry Wright, 1827, were amongst the congregation at St. James's Palace Chapel Royal on Monday to hear the Bishop of Carlisle.

The consecration of the University of London Lodge is fixed to take place at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 14th May. The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, has consented to consecrate the lodge, and will be assisted by Colonel Shadwell H. Clarke, Grand Secretary. The Earl of Milltown, and the Right Hon. Frederick Stanley, the present Grand Wardens, will officiate as Wardens, and a very distinguished company will be present. Bro. Philbrick, O.C., Deputy Grand Master Essex, will be the first Master, and the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor will be the first S.W.

A general meeting of the Court of Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution was held on Friday evening, the 7th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool. Bro. Henry A. Tobias, P.P.G.S. of W., in the chair. The election of several children for the benefits of the institution, recommended by the general committee, was unanimously confirmed, and the Treasurer's accounts for the past year were also received and approved. These showed that £1160 had been paid for the education, clothing, and advancement in life of 168 children during 1883; that £1221 had been received as donations from lodges, brethren, &c.; and that the present invested capital of the institution now amounts to £17,876.

An influential opposition has been set on foot in the island of Malta by the Maltese lawyers to the proposed extension and diffusion of the English language in the island. Being afraid that, if English became the official language, and was used in the law-courts, English barristers would usurp their practice, the lawyers, acting as a propaganda, insinuated among the priesthood the idea that the British Government intend to abolish the Italian language, to cut off all communication with Rome, and to proselytise the Maltese by means of the Protestant Bibles. The official members of the Council will however, for the present, continue to speak English, and the elected members, English or Italian, as they please. This, however, does not satisfy the latter, who insist that all the official members should be compelled to speak Italian, and prohibited from speaking English; and that Italian shall also be made the basis of instruction in the schools to the exclusion of both English and Maltese.

A leading Parisian contemporary, commenting the other day upon the disposition of General Graham's force, dwelt with gratifying commendation upon the Black Watch. Our Parisian friends never can understand the nice distinctions of etiquette and idiom which render England and its language a subject of curious study and erroneous conceptions. Accordingly, the "Black" Watch seemed but a convertible term to signify colour and race distinction. Thus satisfied of the accuracy of his understanding on this point, our contemporary arrived at the conclusion that Her Majesty's Government had determined to reinforce General Graham with their celebrated *regiment of negroes!* A modest credit was taken to the French military system in the discovery here made that England, following the example of France, which had created a regiment of Zouaves to battle with her African enemies, had called out its Black Watch to fight men of its own colour.—*Broad Arrow*.

Bro. P. H. Emanuel is to be congratulated on the success of the entertainment he organised for the benefit of the widow and children of the late Detective Swift, and which took place at Portsmouth on the 4th inst., under very distinguished patronage, including his worship the Mayor and Mayoress, their *Serene Highnesses* Bro. the Prince and the Princess Edward of Saxe-Weimar, Admiral Sir Geoffrey Phipps and Lady Hornby, the Hon. T. C. Bruce, M.P., Bro. Sir Henry Drummond Wolff, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., M.P., and General Sir Frederick and Lady Fitz-Wygram. The eminently satisfactory results are due in the first place, to the energetic manner in which the initiative was taken by Bro. Emanuel. The programme was opened by an overture played to perfection by the string band of the Royal Marine Artillery, which also performed several other items in the course of the evening. A ventriloquial and musical melange, introducing chiming bells, voices here, there, and everywhere, formed a part of the entertainment, in addition to several well rendered songs and recitations. Bro. Emanuel himself brought a capital programme to a fitting conclusion with "Half an hour in fairyland," in which he exhibited several clever tricks of sleight-of-hand, and then attempted thought reading by a new process, in which he was entirely successful.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Shortness of Breath, Wheezing, Coughs, and Colds.—Thousands of testimonials can be produced to prove the power possessed by these corrective remedies in cases of asthma, incipient consumption, and all disorders of the chest, lungs, and air passages. The Ointment, well rubbed upon the chest and back, penetrates the pores of the skin, is absorbed and carried directly to the lungs, where, in immediate contact with the whole mass of circulating blood, it neutralises or expels those impurities which are the foundation of consumption, asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, and similar complaints. On the appearance of the first threatening symptoms the back and chest of the patient should be fomented with warm brine, dried with a coarse cloth, and Holloway's Ointment then well rubbed in. Its absorption will check and subdue them.—[ADVT.]

