

# 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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WE call attention to an appeal elsewhere from the Irish Masonic Orphan Schools, Dublin, as we think it is a subject in which many of our warmhearted brethren may take an interest in. Any support from this side of the water will be deeply appreciated in Ireland just now, as Irish Masonry has had, owing to extraneous circumstances, a very difficult position to maintain during the last few troubled years, and this excellent Institution has had great obstacles to overcome to bring it to its present state of activity and usefulness. Our well-known Bro. W. E. GUMBLETON, P.G.D., is the Treasurer for England, and will be truly happy to receive any Masonic contributions towards so seasonable and good an object.

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THE consecration of new lodges is always a matter of interest and rejoicing to loyal Freemasons. There may be those who think they are extending too rapidly, and expanding too hastily, but on this, as on most other questions, there are two sides. In the first place many old lodges are stagnant and young Masons cannot get on, but are condemned to vegetate many years before a hope of promotion comes. In the next place competition is healthful, the increase of lodges a true sign of Masonic vitality. It is perfectly competent and indeed proper for our rulers to scan with careful eye every petition for a new lodge, for there are of course "petitions and petitions," and we think this discretionary power is most wisely and cautiously exercised. But we cannot affect to deny that, on reasonable and seasonable grounds a charter for a new lodge is a good thing in itself, and we hold that all such legitimate extension is a benefit to and a strengthening of our contemporary Freemasonry. We are pleased to record elsewhere the consecration of a new lodge at Richmond, where, under the effective presidency of Bro. THOMAS FENN, in the unavoidable absence of our zealous GRAND SECRETARY, the ceremony was most impressively performed, and left a very favourable impression on all who witnessed it.

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IT is announced on authority that in June next Sir JOHN B. MONCKTON, who has for ten years past occupied the important position of President of the Board of General Purposes, will not be a candidate for re-appointment by the Grand Master. Sir JOHN MONCKTON has done more varied official work than probably any living member of the English Fraternity. He has been successively President of the Colonial Board, Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes, and since 1874 President of that Board. He acted as Chairman of the Sub-Committee appointed by the Board to carry out the arrangements on the auspicious occasion of the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of WALES as Most Worshipful Grand Master in 1875, and recently presided over the Sub-Committee by whom virtually the Book of Constitutions has been so successfully revised. Many years ago he represented the Jerusalem Lodge as Grand Steward, and was subsequently appointed Senior Grand Deacon of England, and Grand Principal Sojourner. Sir JOHN MONCKTON belongs to many lodges and chapters and has passed the chair on several occasions. He is now acting as Chairman of the Committee appointed by the Grand Lodge to superintend the rebuilding of the "Temple" at Freemasons' Hall.

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THE questions which have been raised by some unwonted claims and developements of new appellations and elaborate rites are neither few nor easy to solve. It is most important, while on the one hand we carefully bar the door against childish masquerades or absurd pretensions, we should never forget upon the other the important and enduring claims of fairness, toleration, and justice. The course adopted or proposed to be adopted in one or two American bodies to interfere with such movements by "ex post facto" decrees of Craft Grand Lodge seems to be open to the gravest objections. A Craft Grand Lodge has no duties except quoad the Craft. It cannot rightly take any cognizance of any grade which oversteps the limits of Craft Masonry. Within its own dominion it is supreme, and none can question its jurisdiction, or dispute its "dicta." But

the moment it seeks to legislate for other bodies, to lay down the law as regards separate organizations, it finds itself incessantly headed by difficulties, alike serious and overwhelming. It can, indeed, lay down a law that in its own assemblies none of its members shall wear insignia or claim affiliation with any other existing grade whatever, and can ignore any and every other rite not of Craft Masonry; but this is all it can fairly do; this is all it ought legitimately to attempt to effect. The wisdom of the Grand Lodge of England and the position of the Grand Lodge of England, permeated as both have been by the long and faithful rule of Lord ZETLAND, have for years wisely eschewed all needless interference, and kept the Craft out of unreasonable discussions, as regards the peculiarities and proceedings of other rites. Free itself, it accords perfect freedom to others to belong to the High Grade movement, so long as nothing is done which at all interferes with, or infringes upon, the undoubted rights and claims of its own unchallenged and unchallengeable jurisdiction. Hence in England no such burning questions can arise, no such needless heats need be excited. The Grand Lodge of England knows nothing officially of any higher grade than the Royal Arch, and even that is a separate government, and pretends in no way whatever to discuss or decide upon conflicting claims or rival coteries. It freely concedes that brethren who, unsatisfied with the simpler rites of Craft Masonry, aspire to higher and more ornamented gradations in Masonic or quasi-Masonic bodies, may fairly do so without question and without blame. It seeks to ostracize none, anathematize none, to excommunicate none. It leaves to angry combatants and vindictive conclaves, in petty imitation of Roman Catholic persecution of its brethren, the childish satisfaction of fulminatory decrees and anathemata, which very few read, hardly any care for, and none are in the slightest degree the worse for in any shape. We all may well be proud that we stand to-day a firm phalanx under the ennobling banner of the English Grand Lodge, protesting against intolerance and injustice in every shape, and proclaiming in unerring tones an unfailing message of love, charity, toleration, and goodwill.

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THE little archaeological question touched upon in the last *Freemason* has for Masonic Students much of importance, in that it affects the entire history of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite since 1761. On STEPHEN MORIN'S patent rests the legitimate validity of a great portion of that widespread organization. Antagonists of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, those who have sought to become "fautors" of other bodies and puffers of antagonistic claims have made several allegations equally hostile, unfair, and unfounded. The more close and critical studies of the present generation have aided to clear the facts of the case from the discolouring influences of time and doubt, ignorance and apathy, and to revive the realities of forgotten realities and to set forth the outcome of actual history. MORIN did not receive his patent from the Grand Lodge of France, the Council of the Emperors of the East and the West, as is often alleged, but from the Grand Lodge of St. John of Jerusalem of Perfection. His patent never was recalled or cancelled, as the Body from which it emanated seems gradually itself to have passed out of sight; and the confusion which has arisen by assuming that the Grand Lodge of France, (purely symbolical Masonry), had anything to do with the matter has been very great. FINDEL and THORX both fall into the same error, by not realizing the existence of the High Grade Grand Lodge, but which we pointed out some years back. This one fact disposes of many difficulties connected with the history of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. It is thus seen at a glance, that the very serious question of the number of the degrees is easily settled. The Grand Lodge of St. John of Jerusalem talks in its patent of "tous les Grades," and there is no reason whatever to accept the commonly received statement put forward for many patent reasons that the Thirty-three Degrees came back from America. They clearly existed in France long before they went to America, and we have always rejected the common account as unfair to the real antiquity of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. Another statement has now to be considered: the existence of relics from 1700 downwards (and probably earlier), which seem to shew that the Rose Croix Grade existed long before the usual time allotted to the appearance of the High Grades on the scene. It has long been felt that the theory which connects them with RAMSAY, or as the developement of RAMSAY'S movement, must be given up. He seems to have left Masonry about 1736-37, and to have died in 1741, and we hear of Rose Croix relics of 1700. The history of the High Grades and that of the Ancient and Accepted Rite has yet to be written, and we feel convinced when it is so, that giving up untenable evidences and passing by unverifiable allegations, it will be able to produce records alike clear and continuous, which will satisfy the scrutinizing claims of criticism, and fully meet the verifying demands of history and archæology.

## THE RITES OF MEMPHIS AND MIZRAIM.

We hear a good deal of these rites just now, and it seems well in the *Freemason*, which seeks to cater for all members of the Fraternity, to pass by no questions which fairly come before us, while it endeavours to impart useful information to all its readers as well as giving a careful and critical account of their actual history. One great difficulty supervenes here. Are these two rites or only one? Bro. Kenneth Mackenzie says one practically, the editor of "Kenning's Cyclopædia" says two. The truth is, and thus the difficulty is solved, Memphis is an after-thought to Mizraim, or Misphraim, which was put together about 1805 at Milan by a Bro. Lechangeur. It seems to have been existent at Naples, Venice, and the Ionian Islands, according to Thory, about 1811, and to have been introduced into France about 1814 by the Bros. Bedarride, Lechangeur, and Joly. They seem to have taken the idea of the Strict Observance, of the "Supreme Unknown Directors," and to have divided the grades into Symbolical, Philosophical, Mystical, Cabalistical, up to 87, though in all 90. The names of these grades seem to be gathered indifferently almost from numerous MS. and printed collections of grades, without much sense of coherence or order or uniformity. The claim to be an Egyptian Rite is, of course, pure nonsense. According to "Hermes," written by E. J. Marconis de Negre, the Rite of Memphis was founded by an Egyptian sage or priest of the name of Ormus, converted by St. Mark. Of him history is, however, silent. He is alleged to have purified the Egyptian mysteries by Christian teaching, and to have incorporated with his wisdom of the Temple, the Solomonic Cabala, and secret teaching of the Essenes and Therapeutæ and other Jewish sects. Until 1118 the disciples of Ormus who had formed a secret and mysterious association, remained the only depositaries of the Antient Egyptian Wisdom, added to by Solomonic learning and Christianity.

The Templars are said to have learned this hidden wisdom, and as they were well-known in the east as the Knights of Palestine or Rose Croix, the Rite of Memphis recognizes them as its "immediate founders." Such were the words of Marconis in 1846; he apparently knew nothing of the more recent statements of the revival of the Order and its reproduction in France under Keber and Napoleon I. Marconis goes on to say that Gariond landed in 1150 with 24 of these disciples of Ormus in Sweden, and that these 24 Masons established Masonry in Europe.

After the death of Molay, the Scottish Templars formed themselves into a new Order, and thus two Rites were in existence at the end of the fifteenth century, namely, the Rite of Memphis and the Rite Ecossais. Marconis knew nothing certainly of the story of Napoleon, &c., but seems to ignore any question of either its open existence or legal countenance. He says, indeed, that the Rite of Mizraim was invented about 1813, and the Rite of Memphis was of much higher antiquity, dating from Ormus.

When Thory wrote in 1815 he seems to know nothing of the Rite of Memphis, and Ragon tells us that it was put together by the Bros. Marconis and Mouttet in Paris in 1839, and afterwards at Brussels. Marconis repeats in "L'Hierophante" substantially what had been said in "Hermes,"—that the knights of Palestine, or Brethren Rose Croix of the East, were its immediate founders. This system was composed of 92 degrees. We can only remark as before, that there is no reality in this claim of Egyptian wisdom or origin, that the names of the grades are arbitrary and meaningless in themselves, and though we understand the number has been reduced, after an assembly or revival in America, we give the account such as Marconis, the founder, actually put forth. It will be seen then, we think, that the Rite of Mizraim dates from really about 1810, and Memphis from 1839-40.

The alleged history of Marconis is, of course, pure fable, and if Ormus existed, or if his name be not appropriated from "Hormus" or "Ormuszd," any such preservation of the "wisdom of the Temple" by him is alike mythical, and, to speak openly, absolutely ridiculous.

CONSECRATION OF THE RICHMOND LODGE,  
No. 2032.

The Richmond Lodge, No. 2032, was consecrated on Monday last, a large number of brethren assembling to take part in the proceedings, amongst those present were the following:

Bros. T. Fenn, P.G.D., acting W.M.; Robert Grey, P.G.D., S.W.; W. T. Howe, J.W.; Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, Chap.; and Frank Richardson, D. of C. Founders: Bros. P. E. Blasby, C. J. Digby, F. Reynolds, W. R. Phillips, E. Dare, J. P. Houghton, H. Sapsworth, J. Ireland, Chas. Morton, T. Callander, and E. J. Goodall. Visitors: Bros. J. Stedman, W.M., 1765; C. E. Tinney, S.W., 1319; J. Hodges, P.M., 1706; A. L. Fryer, 1621; W. Goss, P.M., 1780; E. H. Sugg, P.M., 452, P.P.G. Org. Surrey; R. H. Pearson, P.M., 1196; C. Sims, 861; O. L. Latreille, P.M., 1260; R. Mezzell, 890; W. E. Scantlebury, 975; S. Blasby, 780; R. Southey, T. Weaver, 889; G. T. Thomas, P.M., 1632; T. McDonald, 820; J. Hooke, P.M., 463; W. J. Braham, 1471; G. E. Young, 820; C. Hubbard, 820; W. H. Myers, P.M., 820; W. W. Morgan, W.M., 211; F. C. Mouffet, 1305; H. Davies, P.M., 865; G. T. Hickwood, 870; T. G. Smith, 104; W. Helton, P.M., 780; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; J. Lucas, F. D. Kennedy, P.P.G.D.; T. Skewes-Cox, 8; J. Pearson, 1765; E. T. Smith, 1765; A. A. Richards, P.M. Grand Stewards Lodge; C. J. Turner, P.M., 157; C. Phillips, P.M., 820; F. Albert Crew, 1363; Chas. J. Wade, P.M., 180; Arthur Turner, 1818; W. Clifford, 975; Banks, Tyler; and W. Lake, P.P.G. Reg. Cornwall (*Freemason*).

In the unavoidable and regrettable absence of our esteemed Grand Secretary through indisposition, Bro. Thomas Fenn, P.G.D., officiated as consecrating officer, assisted by Bros. Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G. Chap., as Chap.; Robert Grey, P.G.D., as S.W.; Howe, P.G.P., as J.W.; and Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D. of C. Bro. Fenn, opened the proceedings with some forcible words and the following oration was then delivered by Bro. WOODFORD.

It is my privilege once again, V.W. Consecrating Officer, to deliver the customary oration on the "Nature and Principles of Freemasonry," and it has struck me when putting together some thoughts and considerations suitable for the day's ceremonial that perhaps the most efficient way in which I could perform my allotted task to your satisfaction and the edification of my brethren would be to keep close to the lines marked out for us by the ceremonial; words which serve to intimate what the oration should be, an address on the nature and principles of Freemasonry, as best calculated to remind us all of those truths we profess to believe, to keep us all in harmony with the ceremonial of to-day, and to encourage us in our loyal adherence to that great institution which has outlived even Time's destroying hand, and under the godly regime of our Royal Grand Master is to-day flourishing more markedly and happily than ever. It might, indeed, seem, at first sight, as if hardly anything was left for the orator to say on such an occasion as this, remembering as we do how many eloquent addresses we have listened to; how we have often all been gratified and moved by the happy words of some genial speaker. But still keeping close, as I said before, to the "idea" of our own effective ceremonial, let us hope that we may manage yet to discover some topics and some teachings, both suitable and seasonable for us all alike who are assembled happily here to-day to add another lodge to the lengthening roll of lodges under the peaceful and prosperous jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England. What, then, first of all, is the nature of

Freemasonry? Now, we all know that when we talk of the nature of a thing, or of a society like this, we mean its inherent qualities, its essential conditions, which give to it marked characteristics or special attributes, which, in fact, distinguish it from other like institutions, and constitute alike its "raison d'être," its utility, its need, and its value for ourselves and the world in which we live. When we come then to regard Freemasonry, (though it is of English Freemasonry alone I am speaking of to-day), in the abstract, calmly and scrutinizingly, both in what it professes to be and what it really is, we note at once three great features which seem to express felicitously its nature, meaning, and object. The first of these is its universality, the second is its neutrality, and the third is its religious reverence. Freemasonry is in its very constitution cosmopolitan and oecumenical. Wherever men do congregate on this wide earth of ours, there is, there can be, there well may be—Freemasonry. By its actual idea, by its universal scope, it can enclose within its ample fold men of every country, sect, and opinion, and can conciliate firm friendships amongst those who must otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance. It seems equally to be found amid nations civilized and savage, and thus it comes to pass, that explain the fact as you may, Freemasonry is discoverable amid all countries at the present hour, and sometimes indigenous, sometimes evidently imported, it is yet existent and flourishing amid different and differing conditions of government, race, tongue, and colour. It has been said that this very universality constitutes a danger to society. We, on the contrary, Sir, think and hold, that this universal spread of Freemasonry may be esteemed its peculiarity, its utility, and its pride. All over the world to-day it seems to bring the distant and the near within the happy influences of that electrical chain, so to say, of brotherly kindness and good-will, which serves as it were to girdle the world in which we live with adamant chains of living interest and sympathy one with another. It is in truth one of the most startling and moving facts connected with the history of Freemasonry, and its actuality, its life and its outcome among men, that wherever the foot of man has trod there seems to have been and to be Freemasonry. Travellers tell us how they can yet trace its marks on the crumbling ruins of forgotten peoples, dynasties, and empires, how its symbols can still be beheld on mystic edifices and monumental remains. At this hour more than a million and half of Masons claim to belong to our Universal Brotherhood in all quarters of the world. The universality of Freemasonry is accompanied, necessarily and especially for our English Body since 1813, with the proclamation also of a universal profession of faith and practice. By this I mean that despite the attacks of heated and partizan writers, our English Grand Lodge in its public declarations and actual teaching declines to attempt to force down upon the conscience of others what is subjective for what is objective. Thus English Freemasonry is universal in its teaching, as well as in its organization. It sets before us Belief in the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man, as the one essential colouring of all its doctrines, the one unchanging condition of all its work and outcome, but refuses to permit any discussion on points, on subjects, on facts, which constitutes the "tests" of differing Denominational Bodies, and which, however sacred and important in themselves, are altogether outside the purview of Freemasonry. Hence it accepts as its fundamental truth, passing by all others, the declaration of a Great, Divine, Eternal, Maker, Preserver, Ruler, Judge of all men! Let us rejoice to think that English Freemasonry is thus universal in its design and in its practical verity among men. The neutrality of Freemasonry constitutes its vital power and its sustaining influence, as well as its promise of prosperity and permanence. The world, as we survey it philosophically and Masonically to-day, is divided into numerous bodies of religious denominations, some boldly contending for this, some loudly battling for that. And not only so, but the necessities of the social state and the natural tendencies and diverging views of men lead to the formation of political associations, with special "Shibboleths" and formal "dogmata," and which in consequence often divide men from men, fellow citizen from fellow citizen, in our daily life. In a Freemason's lodge we happily know nothing whatever of religious differences or political discussions. And long may this neutrality continue. We are forbidden, and properly so, to introduce any subject whatever in our lodges which might serve to foment religious disputes; we are equally enjoined never to allow political differences to find a footing, so as to mar our harmony or cloud our happy intercourse brother with brother. Freemasonry has a mission of peace and goodwill to man, and therefore in England we most persistently and fitly proscribe in our lodges the introduction of any topics of discussion which might add fuel to the flame of controversial zeal, or tend to promote the severances of the outer world. All such things are opposed to the non-combatant genius of Freemasonry, and if in the slightest degree ever carelessly overlooked or apathetically tolerated, or glossed over in any manner, they will infallibly uproot and destroy the harmony and happiness of our Order. Our Royal Grand Master once bade us and all English Freemasons keep clear of political and religious discussions, and no sounder advice was ever given, no safer course was ever marked out with unerring precision for the tranquil progress and happy continuance of English Freemasonry. Let us, Sir, try and keep at a distance from our peaceful lodges (for Freemasonry, remember, is a Temple of Peace), any tendencies to party spirit or party strife, those manifestations of an intolerant "animus" whatever shape it assumes which have wrought such evil in the world, and so greatly oppose the benign and kindly influences of progressive Masonic civilization. The religious reverence of English Freemasonry is a most remarkable reality. Acknowledging the Great and Divine "Architektonos," it bases all its moral teaching on the Bible, the inspired Word of the Most High, as the one great moral law of all mankind. We shall all be sensible, and none more than yourself, Sir, of the very religious and reverential character of Freemasonry, which breathes out of every portion of its ancient ritual, is indelibly impressed on every ceremony, and which dominates every rite, we carefully guard, and peacefully celebrate. The spirit of religious reverence greets us, if we may so say, whenever and wherever we English Masons meet together; confronts us from the first moment when we see the Light, opens and closes every gathering, and constitutes an unailing criterion of the moral excellence and beauty of Freemasonry, its enduring recommendation to countless faithful brethren. We may also gladly call to mind today that in England the open Bible is ever in our midst, the great Light of Masonry, without which all our lectures and catechisms, if dependent only on human teaching, would become to us necessarily almost as "darkness visible." It is this distinguishing feature of religious reverence, I venture to repeat, Sir, which is the permeating and enduring characteristic of our great English Order, and which we should ever be glad to realize and sedulously to guard against the attacks of the ignorant and profane. We see, Sir, then in the first place, though very shortly stated, that the nature of Freemasonry rightly understood, the actuality of our ancient mysteries and peculiar confraternity, is such as to commend it to the admiration and appreciation of the wise and the good. And, in the second place, what are its principles? I take them to be mainly four,—loyalty, charity, brotherly love, and toleration. All English Freemasons are loyal citizens and honest patriots, inasmuch as loyalty to the Sovereign of their native land and to lawfully constituted authority is impressed upon them at their initiation. They can have nothing to do with plots and conspiracies against the State. They are bound at all hazards to obey the injunction of the civil power; they cannot honesty or legally belong to any of those secret political associations which too often pave the way for national convulsions, and are most inimical and antagonistic to true liberty in the world. Freemasonry, as recognizing its benevolent aims, has been legalized by the Legislature, and is entirely opposed, both in its principles and views, to those surreptitious and unlawful bodies, by whatever name they are termed, whose main theory appears to be the plunder of the honest and industrious, whose goal the overthrow of proper authority, and whose triumph the hateful reign of license, anarchy, and revolution. And, just as of old in more unquiet days, the whole English Craft addressed another Prince of Wales, the then Grand Master, in exalted terms of loyal unity and patriotic devotion, so in these happily more peaceful days loyalty still profoundly distinguishes English brethren and English Freemasonry. Amid countless incentives to agrarian violence, the outcome of forbidden secret associations of the most dangerous tendency, the loyal attitude of our good Irish brethren may well commend itself to our notice as a happy example of the ever loyal teachings and reality of true Freemasonry. And what can I, need I, say of Charity? Never at any time in the history of English Freemasonry did this great virtue more prevail amongst us, and without parade, without ostentation. Time would fail me were I to tell what English Freemasonry yearly does in various ways to prove that its professions are true, its words are real, and that its practice squares with its utterances. In every portion of our Masonic work and life to-day Charity meets us in the way, gladdening our hearts and warming our enthusiasm by the thorough, real, hearty, invaluable proof it affords that Masons' hearts are in the right place, and that the golden law of love, agape, and Charity controls our Order, and rules its development and practice in wondrous measure. We never should forget our Charities, which are the "decus columenque" of English Freemasonry; and just as we rejoiced to note the success of the Festival of the Benevolent Institution, so let us hope that equally gratifying results may attend the coming Festivals of the Girls' and Boys' Schools. If any opponent attacks Freemasonry to-day, asking its use and value

to men, passing over many other invaluable arguments, we may surely point, and confidently and not without legitimate pride, to what it does for Charity. Brotherly love is, and ought to be, the distinguishing feature of our Masonic meetings and teaching and life. Under this head we may fairly include those long friendships which, formed in our lodges, go through our lives, and with us to our deaths, and form so cheery a companionship for many of us in the house of our pilgrimage. There is something, too, very elevating and ennobling in that Masonic theory of brotherly love, which makes us cling to a brother, believe in a brother, stand by a brother, in all that constitutes the reality of our fraternal sympathy and goodwill. There are many touching and striking stories told how this great Masonic principle has worked among Masons of differing countries and creeds, on the field of battle, amid the horrors of shipwreck, in trial and trouble, difficulty and danger, and we must all hope and trust that brotherly love may long continue to be the great reality of English Freemasonry, and cement more and more the lodges and brethren throughout the world, not, sir, the mere idle utterances of a passing breath, not only "lip service," but a living reality, brightening up for us all, amid all circumstances of life, the goodly teachings of that useful and kindly Order to which it is indeed our privilege to belong. And lastly, Sir, let us glance at that great Masonic principle of Toleration. We live at a period when "Toleration" in its meaning and verity seems greatly needed to be learnt and practised by us all. So many are the varied forms of human thought which meet us by the way, that we are sometimes troubled and perplexed by those "isms" and "ologies" which, as some one has said, perplex and harass "plain men" to-day. Freemasonry (and that is its great crime with many) receives into its ranks all who reverently acknowledge the Great Creator, Maker, Sovereign of Mankind. It troubles itself with no further questions and asks from none any other confession. This very toleration constitutes in my humble opinion the peculiar utility, value, and blessing just now. An American poet has said—

"But we have a Temple not built up with hands,  
Eternal as Truth in its glory it stands;  
Age dims not its lustre, grand, noble, sublime,  
Unmarred by the tempest, untarnished by Time.  
Its porch is as wide as the east from the west,  
Its altar the heart in each true Mason's breast,  
Its covering is Charity, richer than gold,  
Its jewels are good deeds of value untold.  
Here all nations meet, in one language and tongue  
The anthems of praise to Jehovah are sung.  
No jarring of sects, no clashing of creeds,  
This Temple is wide as the world and its needs.  
All schisms are banished, for all hearts are true,  
Mahomedan, Hindoo, Christian, and Jew,  
For these are all lost in the Brotherhood, where  
We meet on the Level, and work by the Square."

Hence it comes to pass that as English Freemasons we always raise our protest against the exhibition of intolerance elsewhere, against the debasing practice of persecution, and advocate the fullest rights of conscience, and the great and real truth of universal toleration. For the new lodge now about to be consecrated let us all offer "our hearty good wishes;" and, adhering to true Masonic principles, may it move on its peaceful and prosperous path, destined in the good providence of T.G.A.O.T.U. to advance the happiness and harmony of its members, to proclaim the utility and dignity of English Freemasonry, and to subservise the lasting peace, welfare, and progress of our fellow men! So mote it be.

The usual ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, being most efficiently performed. Bro. Fenn having to leave, Bro. Frank Richardson acted as Installing Master, and installed Bro. Blasby in the chair of King Solomon. The following officers were then appointed in the presence of a Board of 34 Installed Masters: Bros. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., I.P.M.; Charles Isaac Digby, P.M. 933, S.W.; Edward J. Goodacre, P.M. 1260, J.W.; W. Forster Reynolds, P.M. 820, Treas.; W. R. Phillips, P.M. 975, Sec.; J. P. Houghton, S.D.; E. Dare, J.D.; H. Sapsworth, I.G.; J. Ireland, D.C.; and T. Callander, A.D.C. The W.M. on investing each officer placed a founder's jewel on the breast of each, with a few well-chosen remarks and congratulations. The Consecrating Officers were then, on the motion of the W.M., proposed as honorary members; this was seconded by the S.W., and carried unanimously. Bro. Woodford, in returning thanks, expressed his regret at the absence of the senior Consecrating Officer, Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke. Eight gentlemen were proposed for initiation, and 11 brethren as joining members—a fact which speaks well for the stability and prosperity of the new lodge. Some other needful business having been transacted the lodge was closed, and the brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent banquet, which was admirably served by the host, Bro. Munro. The W.M., Bro. Blasby, occupied the chair, and proposed in their proper order the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were, as is invariably the case, heartily received.

In proposing the toast of "The Grand Officers" the WORSHIPFUL MASTER spoke of their invaluable services to the Craft. He coupled the toast with the name of V.V. Bro. Southey, P.D.G.M. South Africa, Lieut.-Governor of Griqualand.

Bro. SOUTHEY in response thanked all present for the honour they had done him. He had witnessed with great pleasure an interesting ceremony—the establishment of another lodge under the roll of the Grand Lodge of England. When he looked around he saw not strangers, but brother Masons—in fact he never saw strangers in a lodge. The Grand Chaplain had told them that Masons assembled together in love and harmony, no matter what creed or nationality they were. In South Africa they had many Grand Lodges with different jurisdictions, but when they met together there was no distinction. In this country the cause of Charity was nobly supported, and in his district they endeavoured to do what they could. Whenever a widow of a soldier could show that her husband was a Mason she was always taken care of and sent back to her own country. He thanked the brethren for their hospitality.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then proposed "The Health of the Consecrating Officers." He regretted the absence of Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, but they had the good fortune of having a most efficient substitute in Bro. T. Fenn. He had never seen the beautiful ceremony of consecration more efficiently performed.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. WOODFORD in returning thanks for "The Consecrating Officers" deplored the absence of Bro. Shadwell H. Clerke, the esteemed and hard-working Grand Secretary, as he would have spoken to the toast with full authority, and would have received that reception from the brethren he so well deserved. (Applause.) He equally regretted the enforced absence of Bro. Thomas Fenn, than whom no abler expounder of our ritual existed. (Applause.) For the Consecrating Officers and himself he returned hearty thanks for all the kindness extended towards them. His brethren and himself were only too happy to render any assistance they could. He (Bro. Woodford) had often seen the ceremony of consecration performed, but never had it appeared to him to go with greater ease or truer effect than to-day. As he was now a very old Mason, he might be permitted to congratulate the brethren of the Richmond Lodge on the undoubted success of the day's proceedings, and the undoubted augury of future good Masonic excellence which their consecration afforded for their new lodge. He also was glad to have the opportunity—though shortly, as he ventured to think short speeches were wisely becoming the order of the day,—(cheers)—to impress upon his

younger hearers the value and importance of Freemasonry. It seemed to him, after many years' apprenticeship, that its worth and reality increased more and more, and that, amid these divided days, it afforded a rallying point and meeting ground for men of different and differing views, where all could assemble, forgetting severances and antagonisms, and work together in love, unity, and harmony, ignoring all that might have a tendency to keep them apart in the world without. Let them all believe in Freemasonry, and it would, indeed, afford to them all many happy hours of social friendship, and teach them the goodly lessons of brotherly love, charity, and toleration. (Applause.)

Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON also responded. He said that he had been called on quite unexpectedly; but he had great pleasure in taking part in the consecration of that lodge, not only because his esteemed friend Bro. Joshua Nunn was connected with it, but because he had other associations with Richmond, and he was once himself a member of the Lily Lodge of Richmond. The Grand Secretary, he said, in responding to this toast always cautioned the members of a new lodge, advising them to be very careful as to whom they admitted to the privileges of Masonry. Not numbers, but character, was to be considered, for once an objectionable member got into a lodge it was difficult to get him out again. He congratulated the W.M. and brethren on the excellent start they had made, and wished them all success.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. WOODFORD then said he was afraid that they would be tired of hearing his voice; but, obeying orders, he ventured, relying on their kindness, to give them "The Health of the W.M." He always thought it a pleasing duty to propose the health of a W.M., for they must assume that he would not fill that post of high dignity unless he had received and merited the sincere suffrages of his brethren. But he felt this pleasure still more strongly when he proposed the health of the first W.M. of a new lodge, because, as they all knew, he had been selected by his brethren for the reason that he was emphatically the brother in their opinion best qualified to guide and direct the energies and progress of a new lodge. (Applause.)

From what they had all seen that evening he felt quite sure Bro. Blasby fully justified the choice of his brethren, and he was convinced that at the expiration of his year of office he would have a good account to render of his work of the lodge. He would then, with the heartiest good wishes for the prosperity of the Richmond Lodge, give them the health of its first W.M. (Applause.)

The W. MASTER in reply said that when he asked the W.M. of the Lily Lodge he readily agreed to support the petition for the Richmond Lodge, and they had then little difficulty in obtaining a warrant for its consecration. He assured the brethren that he would do all in his power to secure its success. He intended that the lodge should support the great Charities of the Order, and he relied with confidence on the officers who had been appointed that day to support him in his efforts. He felt great pleasure in being the first W.M., and thanked all present for the kind reception they had given to the toast.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER next proposed the toast of "The Visitors." There were several present that evening, many of them being brethren of repute who had passed through various offices and obtained high honour. He wished particularly to allude to Bro. Walter Goss, P.M., who had initiated him into Masonry, also Bro. Pearson, whom as a very old friend he was especially pleased to see present.

Bros. GOSS, PEARSON, HILTON, JONATHAN PEARSON, and HERBERT, W.M. of the Lily of Richmond Lodge, responded, the latter expressing a hope that the two lodges would work amicably together in a friendly spirit of Emulation and in support of the Charities.

The toast of "The Officers of the Lodge" was then given and responded to, and the Tyler's toast brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

A varied programme of music was performed during the evening, the artistes being Bros. L. Hodges, Stedman, L. Frere, C. E. Tinney, and Bro. Stedman's choir boys, under the direction of Bro. E. H. Sugg, P.M., P.P. G. Org. Surrey. The lodge was furnished by Bro. George Kenning.

## CONSECRATION AND OPENING OF THE NEW MASONIC TEMPLE, SYDNEY.

The great event of the past month in connection with Freemasonry in the Australian Colonies, has, undoubtedly, been the consecration and opening of the new Masonic Temple in Sydney. This splendid building has been erected at a cost approaching £20,000, including the price of the land; and the young Grand Lodge of New South Wales points to it with a feeling of pardonable pride, as a proof of what Masonry in the colonies can do, when freed from the trammels of the home Grand Lodges. There can be no doubt that a much greater interest is taken in Masonry by those who have given their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of New South Wales, and the splendid gathering of brethren in Sydney, on January 23rd to 26th, showed how largely the Masons of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, New Zealand, and other places sympathised with the first Australian Grand Lodge. The arrangements were admirably prepared and carried out, the R.W. Grand Secretary, Bro. N. Weekes, and Bro. James Hunt, P.D.G.M., having been unremitting in their exertions, while some other brethren rendered material assistance as the time for the ceremony drew near. Over six hundred brethren in all took part in the proceedings.

The programme of the proceedings in connection with the opening of the Temple embraced a period of four days. This, though at first sight it might appear rather too much pleasure all at once, had been wisely arranged by the Sydney brethren, to enable their visitors from the colonies to see the lions of the place during the day, and to provide suitable entertainment for them in the evening. On Thursday, January 24th, a grand ball was given in the hall, when about 300 couples enjoyed themselves. On Friday evening, the grand Masonic banquet took place in the same hall—a dinner to the members and brethren of the Grand Lodge of Victoria especially, having been given by the M.W.G.M. the Hon. J. S. Parnell, at Bro. Hunt's, Oxford Hotel, King-street, on the evening of Wednesday, after the consecration ceremony.

Apart from strict Masonry, the most delightful part of the whole proceedings took place on Saturday, when an excursion all over the magnificent harbour, in the government steamer Ajax, was enjoyed by a party of about 200 ladies and brethren. We have neither time nor space here to attempt a description of the beauties of one of the most charming localities it was ever our good fortune to behold, but may take up the subject on a future occasion.—*Rough Ashlar.*

**ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.**

CHIEF PATRONESS:  
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.  
GRAND PATRONS:  
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c.,  
M.W.G.M., *President*.  
H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

**THE NINETY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL**

of this Institution will take place  
AT FREEMASONS' TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN-ST.,  
LONDON, W.C.,

On *WEDNESDAY, the 21st MAY next,*  
under the Presidency of the

**Rt. Hon. THE LORD BROOKE, M.P.,**  
R.W. PROV. G.M. ESSEX.

*President of Board of Stewards:*  
W. Bro. F. A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Essex.  
*Treasurer:*  
W. Bro. BURDETT-COUTTS, W.M. 2030.  
*Chairman of Ladies' Stewards:*  
W. Bro. CHARLES HAMMERTON.

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.  
Offices—5, Freemasons' Hall,  
Great Queen-street, London, W.C.

**ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS,**

WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

GRAND PATRON:  
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT:  
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W.G.M.

**EIGHTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL.**

**H.R.H. THE DUKE OF ALBANY,**  
K.G., &c., &c.,

R.W. PROV. GRAND MASTER OF ONFORDSHIRE,  
Who has kindly consented to preside,  
has fixed the date for

*THURSDAY, the 26th JUNE, 1884.*

The notice of place, and other particulars, will be duly  
announced.

The services of brethren as Stewards are earnestly  
solicited.

FREDERICK BINCKES, (P.G. Stwd.) V. Pat.  
Secretary.

6, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.,  
26th March, 1884.

**METROPOLITAN AND CITY POLICE ORPHANAGE.**

PATRON:  
HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

**THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL GRAND BALL**

In aid of the Funds of this institution will take place  
On *THURSDAY, the 24th APRIL next,*

AT THE  
CANNON STREET HOTEL, CITY,

Under the distinguished patronage and presence of the  
**RIGHT HON. THE LORD MAYOR, M.P.,**  
The **SHERIFFS** and **UNDER-SHERIFFS.**

The Orphanage Building has been enlarged to accommodate 250 children, and a new wing erected to replace the iron sheds used as School Rooms. A Compassionate 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 Orphanage.

On behalf of the Committee,  
H. S. BOWMAN, Lt.-Colonel,  
G. BORLASE CHILDS, F.R.C.S., } Stewards.  
A. L. FOSTER, Supt., Hon. Sec.

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**GRAND CHAPTER OF PRINCE MASONS FOR IRELAND.****THE TRIENNIAL CONVOCATION**

of Prince Masons, will be held  
AT FREEMASONS' HALL, DUBLIN,  
On *WEDNESDAY, the 16th APRIL, 1884,*  
at half-past Six o'clock p.m.

THE HON. JUDGE TOWNSHEND, LL.D., 33°  
President of the Order, will preside.

The TRIENNIAL BANQUET will take place at half-past  
Seven o'clock precisely.

Tickets for the Banquet, 20s. each, should be applied  
for before Monday, the 14th April.

All duly vouched Members of the Rose Croix Degree are  
admissible.

SAMUEL B. OLDHAM, 31°,  
Assistant Secretary General.

**THE ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS, EARLWOOD, REDHILL, SURREY.**

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APRIL ELECTION, 1884.

The favour of your Votes and interest is respectfully  
solicited on behalf of

**JAMES EDWARD TAYLOR,**

Aged 12 years, who was deprived of his reason from the  
effects of Scarlet Fever when four years of age. The  
Father (Bro. Jas. Taylor, Lodges No. 730 (I.C.), 1331,  
1536, and Chapters, 13, 1331,) is a Sergeant in the Com-  
missariat and Transport Corps now serving at Aldershot,  
and although willing to support to the utmost of his  
abilities, is unable to provide adequate treatment or the  
necessary supervision required by the case, which is strongly  
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Baron H. de WORMS, M.P., 4, Old Burlington-st., W.  
\* GEORGE KENNING, Esq., Upper Sydenham.  
RICHARD EVE, Esq., Oxford Villa, Victoria-road,  
Aldershot.  
\* F. C. BLUNT, Deputy Commissary General, Aldershot.  
\* H. S. E. REEVES, C.B., Assistant Commissary General,  
Aldershot.  
\* Rev. R. M. SPOOR, Heatherview, Cambridge-road,  
Aldershot.  
Proxies will be thankfully received by gentlemen marked  
thus \*.

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**BRO. THOMAS BACON**

begs to solicit the kind patronage of Brethren visiting  
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Lodge would purchase the lease of his hotel, a statement  
to which effect was inserted in all the leading newspapers.

He is sorry to say the report is operating much against  
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his hotel closed, have gone elsewhere.

He therefore trusts that his Brother Freemasons in the  
country will support him, and the more so as he has been a  
tenant of Grand Lodge for half-a-century.

**BRO. ROBERT RAYNHAM,**  
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G. M. Hicks, M.A., 5, South-row, Blackheath, S.E. E. F. Ashworth Briggs, M.A., L.L.M., 15, New Street, Daventry. Rev. A. Lloyd, M.A., Norton Rectory, Bury St. Edmunds. C. L. Peel, Esq., C.B., Woodcroft, Cuckfield, Sussex. Major Ed. Green, St. Mary's, Bedford. J. D. Rodger, Esq., College Lawn, Cheltenham. C. P. Mason, B.A., F.C.P., Dukessell, Streatham Hill, S.E.

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EMPLOYMENT WANTED by a Brother, experienced Merchant; corresponds in German and French. Superior references. Apply to H.S., 212, Queen's-road, Dalston, N.

AGENCY.—Bro. J. Muhsam, of Lodz, Russian Poland, Coal and Commission Agent, desires AGENCIES of any kind for this place and district. He can produce first class references. Is a member of the St. John's Lodge, Victorious Truth, of Glentz, Upper Silesia. Communications to be addressed, care of Freemason Office, 16, Great Queen-street, London, W.C.

To Correspondents.

The following communications have been received, but are not inserted in this issue owing to want of space:—Description of the Exhibits at the Rosicrucian Exhibition at York.

CRAFT LODGES.—Honour and Generosity, 165; Metropolitan, 1507; De Vere, 1794, Earl of Lathom, 1922.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.—Royal Jubilee, 72; Harmony, 178.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.—Prince Leopold, 1445; Chaucer, 1540; West Smithfield, 1623; Tredegar, 1625.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Die Bauhütte," "O Nivel," "Jewish Chronicle," "Court Circular," "Hull Packet," "Broad Arrow," "El Taller," "Citizen," "Freemason" (Toronto), "Loomis' Masonic and Musical Journal," "Masonic Home Journal" (Louisville), "Boletín Masónico" (Uruguay), "New York Dispatch," "Correspondence and Documents in the Difficulty between the Grand Chapter of Quebec and the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales," "Victorian Masonic Journal," "Freemasonry: a Lecture by Bro. Norin Chand Bural, Calcutta," "The House of Lords" (Lecture by Sir John Bennett), "The Tricycling Journal," "Keystone," "Allen's Indian Mail," "English Illustrated Magazine."



SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 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.]

PORTRAITS OF PROVINCIAL GRAND OFFICERS. To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother, The Freemasons of Kent are rejoicing in the possession of copies of a very nice portrait of Lord Holmesdale, Prov. Grand Master, lithographed, in colours, by Messrs. Maclure, Macdonald, and Co., of Tower-buildings, Queen Victoria-street, City, and I feel sure that the members of lodges in Middlesex would be very glad to have an equally good representation of the well-known genial face of Sir Francis Burdett. The cost per copy would be small if a number of copies were subscribed for; 600 would cost about £50.—Fraternally yours, HENRY LOVEGROVE, P.P.G.S. of W. Middx.

A SOLDIER'S DAUGHTER—AN APPEAL. To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother, Will you give me space to point out that the claims of Minnie Woodward, the only soldier's daughter who is a candidate for election to the School, upon the consideration of the Craft are very imperfectly set out in the printed list? Her late father, William Woodward, described as "canteen steward," was a pensioned serjeant-major, whose services in the regimental canteen were retained by his corps on his taking his discharge. Serjeant-Major Woodward was born in the 31st Regiment, and served with it in the Crimean, the North China, and Taeping campaigns. He was also a good Mason, and having been initiated in the Inhabitants Lodge, Gibraltar, in 1858, was in the same year a founder of the Meridian Lodge, now No. 743, attached to the 31st Regiment, and a subscriber till his decease. Unfortunately, the members of military lodges are without the pale of those provincial organisations which do so much to ensure success at our elections. Possibly, however, this appeal, feeble though it be, may be read by some military brethren, with votes as yet unpromised, and to such I can heartily recommend the case.—Yours fraternally, R. F. GOULD, Late Lieut. 31st Regiment, P.G.D., P.M. 743.



Masonic Notes and Queries.

312] THE YORK MASONIC EXHIBITION. I am pleased to see that Bro. Whythead is favouring us with more particulars of the remarkable collection of Masonic curiosities exhibited at York last month, and so there is no need for me to say more on the subject, as I at first intended, especially as he is better fitted for that duty than anyone else. There is, however, one jewel alluded to by "Masonic Student" of which I can speak from having seen it. I noted it in the catalogue and through Bro. Whythead's introduction I wrote Bro. Major MacGachen, the owner, who kindly forwarded it for my inspection. It is a brass medal, the Masonic tools and emblems being in bold relief. Its shape is unusual, being virtually an arch supported by two columns, and another arch from the foundation of the pillars extending southwards. The mottoes "Amor, Honor, et Justitia," and "Virtuti et Silentia" are often met with, but not so the one in French "Nous Vivons sur l'equare." I have only met with the latter once before, and that was on a silver oval medal owned by a brother at Falmouth. I take them both to be about a century old. I have written Bro. J. S. Cumberland about some medals he exhibited with others from his capital collection. The next great exhibition is to be at Worcester in August. W. J. HUGHAN.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

A preliminary meeting of the Board of Stewards was held on the 24th inst. The following brethren signed the attendance book: Bros. Edgar Bowyer, F. A. Philbrick, Robert Grey, Frank Richardson, Peter de Lande Long, J. H. Mathews, James Edmeston, Edward Liebmann, Samuel G. Baker, H. Cowley Gambrell, Hugh M. Hobbs, E. M. Money, S. J. Weston, Henry L. Andrews, C. Welland, Alfred Stokes, A. McDowall, A. F. Godson, J. T. Austen, F. Croaker, T. H. Gardiner, F. B. Shepperd, and J. Charlton. Bros. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Provincial Grand Deacon, D.P.G.M. Essex, was elected President; Bro. Burdett-Coutts, Treas.; Bro. Charles Hammerton, Chairman of Ladies Stewards; and Bro. Hedges, Hon. Sec. The amount of fee was fixed as usual at £2 2s. The Music and Dinner Committees were appointed and other details arranged. The Festival will take place on the 21st May, and will be held as usual at the Freemasons' Tavern.

RESUSCITATION OF AN OLD ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

After a lapse of over 21 years the Royal Arch Chapter Volubian, attached to the Lodge Love and Honour, No. 75, Falmouth, has been resuscitated, and on Tuesday, the 17th inst., the first convocation was held. It was a necessary preliminary to obtaining sanction to reopen the chapter, that three of the original members should take part in the movement, and these, together with the warrant and other necessities, being forthcoming, after some little trouble and delay the chapter is again a reality, and not a thing of the past. Ex. Comp. E. D. Anderton, P.Z., P.P.G.J., Prov. G.S.E., was unanimously chosen M.F.Z., and the other officers chosen are as follows: Comps. A. Grant, P.Z. 1006, as I.P.Z.; W. D. Rogers, Z. 331, II.; Norman Gray, J.; George T. Oliver, S.E.; W. H. Dunstan, S.N.; G. A. Jenkins, Prin. Soj.; Lieut. G. H. B. Reed, R.N., Asst. Soj.; J. Francis, Janitor; and W. F. Newman, Treas. Comps. Dunstan, Jenkins, and Newman are the three companions who were members when the chapter closed in 1863. The chapter now numbers 14 companions, and there are 12 candidates for exaltation. The chapter was furnished by Comp. George Kenning.

THE CHESHIRE MASONIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

The twenty-first annual meeting was held at the Masonic Chambers, Hamilton-street, Birkenhead, on the 17th inst. for the purpose of determining the amounts to be recommended to be voted at the next Court of Governors, which will be held at Crewe on Wednesday, the 26th inst., for the education of the children on the books of the Institution, and to hear applications from the friends of new candidates. Bro. the Rev. R. Hodgson, Prov. G.C., presided, and a large number of other brethren were present, including Bros. J. P. Platt, P.M. 537, P.P.G.J.W., Treas., and F. K. Stevenson, P.M. 537, Hon. Sec. The Treasurer's accounts showed money invested £3745 6s. 3d., together with £800 in a Dock Bond. The annual subscriptions amounted to £306 13s. 6d., and interest from investments £196 6s. 7d. The expenses of management had been £38, and the outlay for education £182 4s. 3d. The accounts were passed, and the Secretary's accounts were submitted, from which it appeared that the work of the Institution is progressing favourably. Twenty-five children are being educated, of whom four go off the books this year, and five candidates are applying. Bros. J. W. Latham, P.G.D. Eng., and F. A. Dickson, P.P.G.J.W., had been added to the Board of Governors to fill up vacancies caused by death. The report having been adopted, the Committee considered the following applications, and voted the amounts affixed to the respective names: Catherine Graham, aged 11, daughter of the late Bro. Joseph S. Graham, 89 (£10); James Stanley, aged 12, and Sarah, aged 8, children of the late Bro. Jas. Shepley, 461 (£15); Thomas H. O. Jones, aged 10, son of the late Bro. Jones, P.M. 721 (£5); and Frances Jane Hill, aged 11, daughter of the late Bro. Edwin Hill, 1045 (£6 6s.) In the case of John E. Floyd, of Manchester, now 15 years of age, it was agreed to grant a sum of £20 for the purpose of apprenticing him to Messrs. Hattersley and Co., machinists, Manchester. £5 was voted for the education of the youngest child—a daughter 10 years of age—of the late Bro. Thomas Horsfall, for several years Secretary of No. 758, and who died three or four weeks ago leaving four children.

### CONSECRATION OF THE BOROUGH OF GREENWICH MARK LODGE.

This new lodge of Mark Master Masons, constituting No. 332 on the roll of Grand Mark Lodges of England and Wales, &c., was consecrated on Thursday, the 20th inst., at the King William the Fourth, Bro. G. Burney's recently restored and magnificently furnished hotel, in Trafalgar-road, East Greenwich. The ceremony was performed by the R.W. Bro. the Rev. T. Robinson, M.A., Prov. G.M.M. Kent, and P.G.C., assisted by W. Bro. J. G. Podovin, D.P.G.M.M.M.; R.W. Bro. Fredk. Birckes, G. Mark Sec.; V.W. Bro. Donald M. Dewar, G. Asst. Sec.; H. C. Levander, G.R.; G. Kalley Miller, Prov. G.S.W.; H. Penfold, Prov. G.J.W.; Capt. Eugene Sweny, P.P.G.J.O.; the Rev. H. Cummings, acting Prov. G. Chaplain; A. Escott, Prov. G. Reg. of Marks; T. Poore, Prov. G.I.; S. Catterson, S.O. 230; Ralph Gooding, W.M. Bon Accord Lodge, W.M. designate; E. S. Stidolph, P.M. 22, S.W. designate; and W. Kipps, No. 1, J.W. designate. The brethren assembled in the anteroom and walked in procession to the lodge room, and there received and accorded grand honour to Bro. Robinson, the presiding Consecrating Officer, and his colleagues, who opened the lodge and appointed officers pro tem. A ballot was then taken for new members, and proving successful, the following brethren were advanced to the Degree of M.M.: Bros. H. Roberts, P.M. 79; H. W. Partridge, P.M. 79; F. Couldry, P.M. 79; A. H. Satch, 79; J. Griffin, P.M. 933; W. C. S. Burney, 140; W. H. Burney, 169; G. Burney, W.M. 1155; W. G. Batchelor, P.M. 548; W. T. Hunt, J.W. 79; G. Scudder, S.D. 169; H. D. Hatfield, J.W. 1320; J. G. Thomas, J.D. 871; J. Tuck, S34; and C. Fowler, P.M. 97.

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, and nothing could exceed the impressive and dignified manner in which our distinguished brother the Prov. Grand Master carried out his duties.

Bro. the Rev. H. CUMMINGS delivered the following oration:—R.W.G.M. of our Province and Brethren,—I esteem it a high honour to have been asked by you, R.W. Sir, to address the brethren on this very happy occasion, and in the brief remarks I venture to make I speak with all diffidence and humility, because it is in the presence of one, brethren, who holds a place in the front rank of Masonic students, one who is justly regarded as one of the most sound and learned authorities in the kingdom. I mean our eminent R.W. Bro. the Prov. G.M. Kent. You, Sir, and others who may be full well acquainted with the history and the antiquity of Mark Masonry, its origin and progress, will forgive me then if I try to present to you some few thoughts springing out of a review of the circumstances in the history of this Society for your consideration, which may have a practical value for the younger members of our Order, and those who have only to-day crossed its threshold. Tradition tells us that at the building of King Solomon's Temple every man among the many thousands employed was provided with a distinctive and peculiar mark which he placed upon his work. By these the Overseers were able, not only to trace faulty work to the Craftsman who wrought it, but imposition was prevented. The historical narrative of the Mark Degree is in harmony, not only with this, but also with the history of the Craft and the Royal Arch. The examinations and discoveries of later years confirm it, and we have no reason to doubt that those hieroglyphics found on the stones of buildings all over the world, especially those erected just after the Crusades and during the middle ages, are the signs and marks of Ancient Mark Master Operative Masons. If at any time the ritual of our degree should excite surprise in a brother's mind, let him remember that in the construction of that wondrous Temple of old, and the employment of more than 100,000 workmen, a regular system and the nicest judgment were required to control and inspect the whole, whilst unceasing vigilance was necessary if the industrious Craftsman was to be rewarded and the idle interloper to be discovered and punished. Viewed thus, the ritual of the Mark Degree becomes intelligible and consistent, and we see how we may join the idea of the Mason's mark or sign manual to his work—which having once been selected he had neither to wish nor power to change—with the idea of the Mark or pledge of friendship given to another Mark Mason, inculcating and calling forth mutual charity and forbearance, and knitting us together in one common brotherhood of love. Suffice it to say with regard to the symbols of Mark Masonry as at once attesting its antiquity they have been discovered on buildings belonging to every age and in every country of the world, from the stones of the Holy Temple itself and the Phœnician Masons of Hiram, King of Tyre, down to our own cathedral at Canterbury, and the buildings among us, which are the creations of modern times. It must be more than accidental surely, that the Masons' marks, still to be read on the stones of the Great Pyramid of Egypt, are identical with those seen on many an English church. With all this undoubted antiquity the Mark Degree was but little cared for or practised in England until the end of the last century, although long previously held in high esteem in the sister country, Scotland, and in the United States. We of the present day will not be disposed to find fault with this; we will be content with our present prosperity, and by looking to the source from which it springs, we shall best see that line of conduct which will conduce to make it permanent, and render the Order a lasting good to Masonry and to the world. There can be no doubt that rightly approached and understood there is something very taking in the degree itself. It falls into its own proper place in the ascending scale of Masonic knowledge, lending a recognition from the ruling powers of the Craft, who, while precluded by the Articles of Union from acknowledging and adopting it into the body of Craft Masonry, yet recognised its good, and declared it in 1855 to be, though not essential, yet a most graceful appendage to Craft Masonry. But this is not all; like every other order, it depends for its influence for good or ill upon its rulers and guides. Judged by results, we have every reason to be satisfied with the progress of Mark Masonry. Scarcely 30 years ago Grand Mark Lodge of England was formed, now 20,000 working members range themselves under its banner. During the last two years of Lord Henniker's Grand Mastership nearly 3000 brethren have been advanced, an average of 1500 per annum, or an increase of 300 each year upon any previous yearly average. During the last

year six new provinces were formed, two of them in England. There is a fashion which has thrust Masonry before the world since our beloved prince and future king became our Grand Master. Hitherto this has probably affected Mark Masonry but little, if at all, but the enrollment of H.R.H. among the rulers of the Mark Degree will doubtless give an impetus to the Order, far beyond anything we may be disposed to predicate or imagine. Well, let it be popular, only let us be certain our popularity is a tribute to our principles, our worth, and not a rush for fashion and place. In Craft Masonry, the ugly truth cannot be too often put to the front that it is possible for Freemasonry by its very popularity to attract undesirable men—but with the key-stone and triple tau it is different. One may not persuade a friend to become a Mason, but being in the Blue, one may persuade a brother of the desirability of advancing one step further and enlarging the scope of his Masonic knowledge by becoming a worthy Mark Master Mason. There is yet one thing more. Every society, as I have said, takes its complexion and hue from its leaders and rulers. What is true of society at large, of every society in general, is true of the lodge in particular. If the lodge is well ruled, well ordered, it is not only a success, it is a power for good; if all is loose and slipshod, the reverse effect will be a natural sequence and consequence. Here you have the earnest of success—if the names and reputations of sterling men and Masons as founders, officers, and rulers have any bearing on the future of the lodge, then we may say that a bright and happy future is before the lodge we are about to consecrate this day; and the motto, the watchword, I would place before each brother of this new lodge, eye, every brother who hears me now, for his and our future guidance, is that of the Order in which we have enrolled ourselves. Have the words a meaning, or are they a mere shibboleth of an effete and worn out creed? If they are real to us, not a mere formula for lip repetition in the ritual of the lodge, they will influence us to such a line of conduct as will command for our Order the respect and admiration of the outside world. The brethren only as yet in the Craft will seek to join us, in order to know more of our elevating mysteries, and we shall make it acceptable to those in earnest about Masonic work and working. Corn, wine, and oil. What are these? The symbols which have an ever further reaching meaning to the truly earnest Mason. They are the emblems of plenty, and well do they remind us, over and above their obvious significance and purpose in the consecration ceremony, of those virtues which should distinguish us in our day of Masonic prosperity and progress—the virtues most needed in a time of plenty—Temperance and Charity. Let us be temperate in all we do, in our speech and behaviour when in lodge, as well as in our pleasure of refreshment. Let us cultivate the charity that never faileth; it will be, it is, the very keystone of our mystic arch, too often lost amid the rubbish of our worldly pursuits, but surely to be found and cherished by the diligent and honest Craftsman. Charity! No mere giving or subscribing of alms, though that is a part of it, but a charity which, like its Divine Original, knows neither bound nor limit, and alike never faileth, nor has an end. This grace it is which more than any other will maintain the peace of a lodge, as of a household. It is the salt which preserves us from corruption. It will show itself, where it exists, in the common place of lodge routine, in the exciting subjects which must sometimes be discussed, and which without it must give rise to heartburnings and discord; it will make itself felt in the hour of sorrow, and the subscription list of our own noble Charities, and in the closing hours of our existence here, after life's fitful fever has worn itself out. It is in this degree in Freemasonry that we are solemnly enjoined to "do justice, love mercy, practice charity, maintain harmony, and endeavour to live in unity and brotherly love." Surely if we succeed in this, and in so far as we succeed, we shall have marked well, and may look forward with firm but humble confidence to our meeting with the G.M.O., who will surely come to reckon with us, and whose reward is with him.

Bro. Gooding was then placed in the chair and saluted, afterwards investing his officers as follows: Bros. Stidolph, S.W.; W. Kipps, J.W.; H. Roberts, M.O.; Partridge, S.O.; Couldry, J.O.; Satch, Treas.; Griffin, Sec.; W. C. S. Burney, Chap.; Batchelor, S.D.; Hunt, J.D.; Scudder, I.G.; Fowler, Reg. of Marks; Hatfield and Tuck, Stwds.; and T. R. Brown, Tyler. At the conclusion of the ceremony Bro. Robinson and his assistants were unanimously elected honorary members of the lodge, and it was resolved that a vote of thanks should be tendered them, and inscribed upon the minutes of the lodge, for the handsome and able manner in which they had carried out the ceremony of consecration that day, and after the brethren thus honoured had returned thanks, the lodge was closed.

The brethren subsequently met at a superb banquet, which being disposed of, the usual loyal and Mark Masonic toasts were drunk and severally responded to.

The toast of "The Grand Officers" was coupled with the name of Bro. BIRCKES, who in response drew a vivid and eloquent word picture of the rise and progress of the degree in England during the last five and twenty years. He spoke of the struggle the first promoters of it had with the Grand Chapter of Scotland before they could establish a Grand Lodge of their own, and of the bitter opposition the movement had met with from many yet living and distinguished Masons; but now, he was happy to say, it was secured upon a solid and firm foundation, and the ranks of its Past Grand Masters were graced by the names of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, and others of the noblest among the historical names of England. They had now for their Grand Master a Scotch nobleman, and in Lord Kintore they had a ruler whose heart and soul was in the degree, and who was as proud of it as they of the degree were proud of him. As for himself, after 27 years of Mark Masonry, 25 of which had been spent as Secretary of Grand Lodge, he could only say that he loved Mark Masonry for itself, and felt sure that there was a grand future before it, although he warned them never to hope that it could ever become part or parcel of the Craft Degree, or in any way allied to the Craft Grand Lodge of England.

Bro. the Rev. T. ROBINSON, in responding to the toast of his health as Prov. Grand Master of Kent, explained the position the lodge held with regard to the province as totally different to that of the Craft lodges in Greenwich, the latter being "Metropolitan" and not "Provincial" lodges, and congratulated the brethren of the Borough of Greenwich Mark Lodge upon the fact that they now were allied

as brothers with the Mark Masons of Kent. He assured them that the brethren of the province of Kent would only be too pleased of the opportunity of making their acquaintance and of welcoming them to their homes amid the valleys and villages of Kent. He was proud to say the degree was yearly increasing in the province, and felt sure that the Borough of Greenwich Lodge, being the only open Mark Lodge in Greenwich (the one at the College or at the Naval School being a service one, and therefore a close one), would prosper; that was his hearty wish, and also that their esteemed Master, Bro. Gooding, whom he knew so well in Masonry, would have his health to lead them to their prosperity. He thanked them again for the toast and resumed his seat amid applause.

The next toast was that of "The D.P.G.M. and rest of the Prov. Grand Officers," coupled with the name of Bro. Miller, who elegantly responded.

Bro. ROBINSON then proposed the toast of "The W.M.," and Bro. GOODING returned thanks.

Bro. C. JOLLY, P.G. Org. Kent (*Freemason*), responded for "The Visitors," and regretted that he had been unable to attend the consecration but felt sure that the Masons of Greenwich would rally round their W.M. and make the lodge one of, if not the strongest in the province.

Bro. STIDOLPH returned thanks for "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

The lodge was furnished by Bro. Geo. Kenning, P.M. 1.

### CONSECRATION OF THE GARNETT COUNCIL OF THE ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES.

On Thursday, the 20th inst., the ceremony of consecration of No. 8, and what we feel assured will prove a highly satisfactory and important council, of the Allied Degrees in North Lancashire, named after our esteemed and distinguished Bro. Capt. Garnett, P.P.G.S.W. for West Lancashire, took place at the Masonic Rooms, Lancaster. The Deputy Grand Master of the Allied Degrees, Bro. C. F. Matier, acted as the Consecrating Officer, assisted by W. Bros. A. Middleton, G.J.D.; J. D. Murray, P.M. 4, G.S.B.; Chas S. Lane, Matier Council, T.I.; W. Nichol, W.M. elect Matier Council, T.I.; W. W. Cottam, 4; and others.

The consecration ceremony, we need hardly say, was most admirably performed by the D.G.M., who afterwards installed as the first W.M. Bro. C. H. Garnett, 31, in a most impressive manner, and he in a manner worthy of imitation, and proving that nothing on his part will be wanting as regards the working of the council during his year of office, invested his officers as follows, all being P.Ms. of some lodge in the town: Bros. H. Longman, S.W.; E. Simpson, J.W.; T. Atkinson, Treas.; R. Stanton, Sec.; W. Hall, S.D.; W. H. Bagnall, J.D.; B. Gregson, I.G.; and A. K. Allinson, Tyler. Previous to the consecration the D.G.M. conferred the degrees of Knight of Constantinople, Red Cross of Babylon, and Grand High Priest on several of the brethren. Votes of thanks having been unanimously passed to the D.G.M., the Grand Officers, and the visitors, the council was closed in due form.

The brethren then adjourned to the King's Arms Hotel, where supper was provided, after which the usual loyal and customary toasts were given and duly responded to.

### THE VISIT OF THE GRAND MASTER TO PETERBOROUGH.

The ceremony of laying the foundation-stones of the central tower of Peterborough Cathedral is now definitely fixed to take place on the 7th of May. The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, will perform the ceremony, and, as at Truro, he will be accompanied by the Grand Officers. The Grand Secretary will shortly visit Peterborough with a view of making the necessary arrangements. A lodge of emergency of St. Peter's Lodge was called for yesterday (Thursday) to arrange for the reception of the Grand Master, and we hope to be able to give full particulars in our next.

### IRISH MASONIC ORPHAN SCHOOLS.

We have been requested to publish the following letter of appeal, which we do with much pleasure and "heartily good wishes":—

"16, Molesworth Street, Dublin, 12th February, 1884.  
Dear Brother,—I have to-day at the request of the Governors undertaken to act as Honorary Secretary of the Masonic Orphan Boys' School, and venture to lay before you a statement of the critical position of the Institution, with an urgent appeal for your personal assistance as well as your influence with the other Members of our Order.

The income from subscriptions from all sources after several years' decline, has, during 1882 and 1883, slightly increased but is still very far short of the sum required to keep the School efficiently. The amount of subscriptions for the past five years was as follows: 1879, £1696 5s. 0d.; 1880, £1040 1s. 2d.; 1881, £962 19s. 0d.; 1882, £1052 5s. 0d.; 1883, £1099 18s. 7d. The expenditure during the same period increased, partly owing to the large outlay on repairs necessitated by the lamentable condition of the Adelaide Hall premises, and partly by the increase of the number of Pupils, of whom there are now 37 in the School, the largest number ever received.

The Governors have been obliged to sell out £500 of their invested funds to pay the liabilities incurred during the past twelve months, and unless the income for the current year can be increased by at least that sum, a further deficit must be apprehended. Meantime the claims for admission were never so numerous or urgent as at the next Election; no less than 16 Orphan Candidates will be competing for two vacancies, the largest number which the present School could admit, even if the state of the finances warranted our receiving more.

You are earnestly appealed to for "Annual Help," and for aid in organising, through lodge collections, and otherwise, a system of bringing the claims of this most deserving Charity before the notice of that great majority of our brethren who as yet are not contributors to its support.

"I remain, Dear Brother, fraternally yours,  
R. W. BOYLE."

Assistant Treasurer for England, Bro. W. E. GUMBLETON, P.G.D., Belgrove, Queestown, Ireland, and Junior Carlton Club, Pall Mall, London.



### Craft Masonry.

**VITRUVIAN LODGE (No. 87).**—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, 12th inst., at the White Hart Tavern, Belvedere-road, Lambeth, when there were present Bros. Thomas Janeway, W.M.; T. Minstrel, acting S.W.; W. H. Bale, J.W.; the Rev. E. Chamberlain, Chap.; E. Thurkle, P.M., Treas.; W. Stuart, P.M., Sec.; W. R. Davis, S.D.; Thomas Minstrel, J.D.; R. Lambourne, D.C.; A. E. Birch, I.G.; W. Watson, Stwd.; E. Chamberlain, Asst. Stwd.; Lee, Tyler; also Bros. Harnor, Whiting, Ross, Timothy, Skirving, and Robinson, P.M.s.; and about 70 other members. Visitors: Bros. Manship, 1604; Mildred, 2024; Worrall, 1623; E. Thring, 211; Kershaw, 1044; Barbis, 932; Goodhall, 954; and Mason, 1567.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. Wood and Nightingale were passed to the Second Degree. Bro. W. H. Bale was then installed in the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom. The ceremony was performed by the Master, Bro. Janeway, and the charges were delivered by P.M. Whiting in capital style. The newly-installed W.M. then invested Bros. W. R. Davis, S.W.; T. Minstrel, J.W.; Thurkle, P.M., Treas.; Stuart, P.M., Hon. Sec.; Birch, S.D.; Watson, J.D.; Lambourne, I.G.; Chamberlain, D.C.; Irvine and Payne, Stwds. Messrs. Maffey, Clark, and Pennington, were balloted for and initiated, and after receiving congratulations of the visitors the W.M. closed the lodge in due form.

The brethren then repaired to the banquet room, where an excellent repast was provided, to which ample justice was done. Great praise is due to Bro. Carrington, the host, for the capital way everything was served. At the conclusion of the banquet the W.M. gave the usual loyal toasts, which were heartily received.

Bro. Janeway then assumed the gavel to propose "The Health of the W.M." During his term of office, he said, nothing had given him greater pleasure than installing Bro. Bale into the chair as his successor. The brethren were so well acquainted with the ability of Bro. Bale that it was needless for him to detain them by any lengthened eulogy of his merits.

Bro. Bale tendered his sincere thanks for the kind way in which the brethren had received the toast. He should endeavour to conduct the work of the lodge to the satisfaction of them all, and hoped with their co-operation to make his year of office as enjoyable as that of any of his predecessors. He then proposed "The Health of Bro. Janeway, I.P.M.," referring to the manner in which he had performed the duties of the lodge, and remarking that a better Mason it would be difficult to find.

Bro. Janeway in a few well-chosen words thanked the Past Masters and brethren for the support they had given him, enabling him to carry out the duties of his office.

Bro. Bale in proposing "The Health of the Initiates" said that, owing to losses sustained by that in common with every other lodge, it was necessary to have new blood admitted, and he was sure the gentlemen they had initiated that evening would prove valuable additions to their numbers.

Bros. Maffey, Clark, and Pennington replied, expressing the great pleasure it afforded them to be admitted to the Order, and they hoped to prove themselves good and worthy brethren.

The toast of "The Visitors" was given, and responded to by Bros. Mildred, Worrell, and Goodhall. Bro. Bale then gave the toast of "The Past Masters of Vitruvian Lodge," Bros. P.M.s. Whiting, Stuart, Skirving, Timothy, and Robinson responding in suitable remarks. "The Charities" was then given from the chair, and responded to by Bro. Mason, who congratulated the brethren on the handsome sum subscribed; but in an effective speech exhorted them to further efforts on behalf of benevolence. "The Officers" and Tyler's toasts were severally given and acknowledged, bringing to a conclusion one of the most enjoyable evenings ever spent by old Vitruvians. The proceedings were enlivened by some capital songs by Bros. Davis, Quinney, Huntley, and Taylor. Bro. Davis presided at the piano.

**FRIENDSHIP LODGE (No. 206).**—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 13th inst., at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C. Present: Bros. Chas. T. Scrivener, W.M.; John Anderson, S.W.; W. Gowland, J.W.; Allan R. Rumsey, Sec.; Wm. Arber, J.D.; J. M. Rooney, I.G.; Wm. Rumsey, Stwd.; Reinhardt, Tyler; C. St. Barbe Williams, P.M.; J. J. Stevens, P.M.; A. Harris, P.M.; H. M. Collier, P.M.; E. Squirrell, P.M.; John Waters, P.M.; John Stewart, P.M.; E. J. Gillespie, R. L. Sindall, Wm. Steel, C. Fenwick, Wm. Dray, E. H. Marquis, C. H. Barrett, A. G. Painter, A. Britton, and A. W. Tobin. Visitors: C. E. Smith, P.M. 58; J. Crombie, 211; John Nixon, P.M. 217; O. H. Colven, P.M. 58; S. J. Pitt, 890; F. J. Laughlin, 1365; J. W. Beningfield, 1580; W. H. White, 55; A. Espinel, 72; G. T. H. Seddon, P.M. 174; and B. H. Ridge, 463.

The business on the agenda was to ballot for, as a candidate for initiation, Mr. Ernest Heydon Marquis; also Bro. Robert Langford Sindall, P.M. 1293, W.M. 1601, W.M. elect 1597, P.P.G. Svd. Br. Middx., as a joining member; and the ballots being successful, the ceremony of initiation was performed on behalf of Mr. Marquis by the W.M. Bro. E. J. Gillespie was next raised to the Sublime Degree. The lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

**NELSON LODGE (No. 700).**—The quarterly meeting of the above excellent lodge took place on Wednesday, the 19th inst., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich, Bro. J. H. Roberts, W.M., in the chair. There was a good attendance of brethren of the lodge and visitors from neighbouring lodges, and also a goodly array of Past Masters on the left of the chair. Among those present were Bros. E. Bowles, J. Warren, and A. Woodley, P.M.s.; T. Ovenden, S.W.; M. Ross, J.W.; T. Butt, P.M., Treas.; C. S. Norman, P.M., Sec.; C. Sweeting, S.D.; J. Sanderson, J.D.; W. Bidgood, Org.; R. J. Naylor, I.G.;

and the following visitors: Bros. G. G. Rest, P.M. 389; H. Bastrick, P.M. 546; R. Newbould, P.M. 426; W. Rees, S.W. 913; W. J. Akers, S.W. 13; G. H. Letton, S.D. 913; G. M. Mitchell, S.D. 615; G. Frost, 13; E. W. Sennett, 1536; J. H. Hartham, 1767; and C. Jolly, 913, J.W. 1472 (Freemason).

The lodge was in mourning for the death of the late lamented I.P.M., Bro. G. Beaver, and both members and visitors wore the badge of sorrow.

Bro. Redhead was raised, and Bros. Knowles and Trodd were passed. Bro. Butt gave notice of his intention to stand as Steward at the forthcoming festival of the Boys' School, and it was unanimously resolved that the sum of 35 guineas should be given from the funds of the lodge to his list; 10 guineas of that sum to make Bro. Butt life governor of the Charity, as some slight recognition of his valuable services to the lodge as Treasurer during the past five years; 10 guineas to Bro. C. Norman, to qualify himself as a life governor of the same Institution, as a token of the thanks of the lodge for his services as Secretary during the same period; and 15 guineas towards the lodge's vice-patronage of the School. The W.M. afterwards communicated the gratifying intelligence that he should give five guineas from the "charity box" to make up the sum to 40 guineas. It was resolved that a letter of condolence should be sent to Mrs. Beaver, widow of the late Bro. Beaver, on her bereavement, and then the lodge was closed and the brethren partook of refreshments.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been honoured, Bro. Norman proposed in felicitous terms "The Health of the W.M.," who in response said he had the interest of the Nelson Lodge always at heart, and had tried hard to keep up its well-won prestige. He would, however, like to see more frequent meetings, because he believed the lodge suffered from their too infrequent ones. He was proud that they were in a position to do so well for the Masonic Charities, because it put them in a better position in case they had to apply themselves. It was like throwing bread upon the waters, the fruits of which they gathered (if they wanted it) in after days. He was proud to think Bro. Butt was going up as Steward for the Boys' School, as the Nelson Lodge had not been represented for some years past. He cordially thanked them for the toast.

Bros. Norman and Butt responded for "The Past Masters," and the latter expressed his thanks for the munificent sum given by the lodge, and trusted to take up a list of over £100 for the Boys' School. "The Visitors" and "The Officers" concluded the toasts.

**CITY OF LONDON LODGE (No. 901).**—A meeting was held on Monday, the 17th inst., at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C. Present: Bro. David Hughes, W.M.; H. McClelland, S.W.; E. Harris, J.W.; John Hughes, I.P.M.; Henry Darcy, P.M., Treas.; C. Beaumont, P.M., Sec.; H. Harbord, S.D.; Daniel Hughes, J.D.; R. Clinch, D.C.; R. Gillard, A.D.C.; R. Pittam Stevens, I.G.; R. F. Whurr, Haylock, and Hoddinott, Stwds.; J. Woodstock, Tyler; Griffiths, P.M.; Lewis, P.M.; Ginger, P.M.; and Cundy, P.M.; Richardson, Vale, Dance, Fimister, Diamond, Easey, Gross, E. Venner, W. Venner, Glanville, Besley, Chamberlain, Richardson, Bater, Gordon, Russell, Alder, Chivers, Taylor, Rogers, E. W. Cundy, Watkins, Barwell, Fletcher, Brittain, Corkhill, Little, and Kubardt. Visitors: Bros. Hickman, P.M. 224; Bevan, 1963; Rudderfork, P.M. 1668; Cracknell, 169; Dutton, 1567; Strong, 1284; Fisher, 1305; Kennard, 145; Smith, jun., 1839; and Diten, 1287.

The minutes having been read and confirmed, Bro. Glanville was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. in most excellent form. It was resolved that a summer banquet should again take place in connection with the lodge, the officers and Past Masters to form a Committee, together with the following members, who were nominated, viz., Bros. Dance, Fletcher, Vale, Chamberlain, J. Hoskings, Glanville, Fimister, Easey, Taylor, Barwell, Bater, Watkins, Gross, and W. Venner. The Secretary announced the resignation of Bro. James; and one joining member and a candidate for initiation were proposed. The W.M. then received "Hearty good wishes" from the visitors and the members adjourned to the banquet, which was served in Messrs. Ritter and Clifford's usual first rate style.

The preliminary loyal and Masonic toasts were briefly proposed by the W.M. and met with a hearty reception.

Bro. John Hughes, I.P.M., in proposing "The W.M.," said he had discharged his duties most efficiently, and that the City of London Lodge had no occasion to be ashamed of its W.M. He (the I.P.M.) considered that if a W.M. got through the work in a lodge like that he had much to congratulate himself upon.

The Worshipful Master having thanked the brethren for the cordial way in which they had received the toast of his health, announced that he intended serving as Steward at the festival of the Boys' School, and asked for all the support they could give him, so as to enable him to compare favourably with his predecessors.

The I.P.M. then in stirring tones supported the Master's appeal, and said it was an acknowledged fact that the Masonic Charities were the best organised of any, and the more liberal the brethren were towards the W.M. the more good they were doing the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

The Worshipful Master in giving the toast of "The Visitors" said there were several distinguished brethren with them that night, but he would couple the toast with the names of Bros. Hickman and Rutherford, who acknowledged the compliment.

The I.P.M. responded on behalf of "The Past Masters," and the Officers toast having been given and gracefully acknowledged by the S.W. and J.W., and the Tyler's toast brought a very pleasant evening to an end.

**HIGHGATE LODGE (No. 1366).**—At a regular meeting of the above lodge on Monday, the 10th inst., at the Gate House Hotel, Highgate, there were present Bros. W. B. Tuck, W.M.; Underwood, S.W.; B. L. Wilson, J.W.; Sheppard, S.D.; Galer, J.D.; Gregory, I.G.; J. D. Collier, Sec.; and Marsh, Tyler; also P.M.s. Curssans, James Fish, Bambexel, Shelton, and Ryde, and a large muster of the brethren. The work comprised the First and Second Degrees, which was performed in a very efficient manner by the W.M., who was thoroughly supported by his officers. The W.M. having returned thanks to the lodge and brethren for the way in which he had been supported by them in acting as Steward for the Old People,

intimated that it would give him great pleasure to represent them again on the occasion of the Boys' festival, it being his intention to act as Steward for that Institution.

The brethren and visitors, of which there were a good number, afterwards sat down to a very excellent banquet, which was served in the good old style of this ancient hostelry.

The Worshipful Master in proposing the toast of "The M.W.G.M.M. the Prince of Wales" expressed the pleasure it gave him to do so, especially on this occasion, it being the 21st anniversary of his Royal Highness's wedding day. A telegram was during the evening forwarded to Marlborough House from the W.M. and brethren congratulating his Royal Highness on the happy recurrence, to which a gracious reply was received. The remainder of the Masonic toasts having been given and duly responded to, the brethren separated, having spent a delightful evening.

**METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).**—The last meeting of the season was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Wednesday, the 19th inst. Bro. G. Clark, W.M., presided, with Bro. G. Edwards, S.W., and Bro. G. W. Knight, J.W., and all the other officers in their places, with a goodly array of Past Masters and members, exceeding 50 in all. The W.M. very ably worked the Three Degrees. The election of W.M. was then proceeded with, and all the Past Masters of the lodge having declined to stand, Bro. H. Lovegrove, who was next in seniority, withdrew in favour of Bro. George Edwards, who was elected, and returned thanks in suitable terms. Bro. J. Willing was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. J. Daly, Tyler. A jewel of the usual value was voted to Bro. Clark, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

**TEMPLE BAR LODGE (No. 1728).**—This very successful lodge, consecrated in the year that Temple Bar was removed, of which it is a worthy memorial, held its last meeting of the present season on the 20th inst., at Anderton's Hotel. A large number both of members and visitors assembled to support the worthy and highly popular W.M., Bro. T. W. C. Bush, P.M. 185, who is going through the chair of this lodge for the second time. Amongst those present were Bros. Thomas W. C. Bush, W.M.; B. Buckworth, I.P.M., Treas.; G. S. Recknell, S.W.; Richard Kimpton, J.W.; A. G. Watkinson, Sec.; Frederick James S.D.; A. R. Carter, J.D.; John Rexworthy, I.G.; G. J. Garland and T. B. Tiffin, Stwds.; A. B. Church, Tyler; C. Butcher, P.M.; also Bros. W. Trenberg, C. S. Williams, A. T. Porter, J. L. Breeze, A. S. Harris, G. L. Turner, C. A. Mackrell, W. T. Westmore, C. Silverthorne, jun., J. W. Chapman, G. Spurgin, J. S. Spurgin, W. Boldero, H. Ocllee, and J. G. Webb. Visitors: Bros. H. B. Marshall, G. Treas. elect; B. Ridge, W.M., P.P.G.A.D.C. Surrey, 463; A. McDowall, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., 1962; C. W. Fox, P.M. 1326; G. W. Downie, S.W. 1815; Lieut. Henry Wright, T.H.R.B., J.W. 1827; F. J. Laughlin, Org. 1365; John Taylor, 298; George Berry, 463; R. Lawson, 1426; C. F. J. Bignold, 1624; Jos. Bilycard, 1435; and J. Bridgroom, 1364.

The Worshipful Master passed Bro. Williams to the Second Degree in a manner which left nothing to be desired, and then vacated the chair for the Treasurer, Bro. Buckworth, P.M., to initiate five brethren, three of whom are personal friends of his and introduced by him. From the way the ceremonies were worked we are able to say that the Temple Bar Lodge has no lack of good men coming on to fill the chair. After the initiation of Messrs. Webb, Ocllee, Spurgin, and Boldero, the lodge was closed, and the brethren assembled in the banqueting room, where an excellent repast was provided, and the visitors' wants were well looked after by the P.M.s. and Stewards. Being a very late hour at which the lodge was over, the W.M. wisely limited the speeches. "The Queen," "The Prince of Wales and other Grand Officers," having been drunk with enthusiasm.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The Initiates," said he need not describe with what pleasure he rose to propose that toast, which he might fairly call the toast of the evening. Never before in his life had it been his lot to see five gentlemen initiated in one evening, and never had he seen five men initiated who would do more credit to Masonry than those brethren—a remark which was thoroughly endorsed by the brethren. That pleasure was still further enhanced by their having been introduced by a brother whom they all so much respected. Any one introduced by their esteemed Bro. Buckworth was always welcome.

Bro. Boldero said in reply he looked forward to many happy days to spend in their company. Bro. Ocllee observed he should endeavour to uphold the principles of the Craft. Bros. Webb and Spurgin responded in equally brief and heartfelt words.

The Worshipful Master in giving "The Health of the Visitors" said it was a toast always received there with pleasure and respect, and he was sure he could on behalf of the brethren give them a hearty and cordial welcome. Nothing gave him more pleasure than proposing that toast. One of the visitors, a friend of his, Bro. Joseph Bilycard, had travelled from the Continent that day in order to be in time to be there.

Bros. Ridge, Fox, Bilycard, and Bridgroom responded.

The Worshipful Master in response to the toast of his health, proposed by the I.P.M., said that he sincerely thanked them for the kind words and manner the toast had been given and received. He could only say that it was very satisfactory to know that he had gained their esteem, and he ardently hoped he should always have it. In proposing "The Health of the P.M.s." the Worshipful Master said they were always pleased to have them with them, and he was sure that they all hoped that they would be amongst them many years to give them their assistance.

Bro. Butcher, P.M., responded, and observed that he had come to the conclusion that the Temple Bar Lodge was stronger every time they met.

Bro. Buckworth, P.M., in responding to "The Healths of the Treasurer and Secretary," said it was with feelings of satisfaction that he rose, for he could announce that their returns were improving and their balance-sheet would look well at the end of the year. The Secretary very briefly replied. The other officers acknowledged the toasts in their honour in well-chosen words, and the Tyler's toast was then drunk. After the agreeable evening we spent we were not surprised to hear one of the visitors ask to be proposed as a member. Bro. H. B. Marshall, Grand Treasurer elect, was unable to stay to the dinner.

**LONDON RIFLE BRIGADE LODGE.**—(No. 1062).—A meeting of this lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Friday, the 21st inst., the following brethren being present: Bros Walter C. Claridge, W.M.; G. C. Matthews, S.W.; A. Haig Brown, J.W.; A. McDowall, I.P.M.; N. Green, P.M. and Sec.; A. H. Sandle, S.D.; L. V. Walker, I.G.; J. C. Tilt, 1st Stwd.; Jno. Geen, 2nd Stwd.; J. Lackland, Tyler; Levey, Tayton, Rix, Gregory, Morris, Bell, Beard, Kitchingman, Wright, Heward, McNish, Hinton, Bokenham, and Nuding. Visitors: Bros. G. H. Bishop, D. of C. 1965; F. W. Hancock, W.S. 548; R. London, 76; L. Turner, 1593; H. Nuding, W.M. 140; and G. L. Linom, 173.

The lodge was opened in the customary manner, and the minutes of the previous lodge meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Wright was passed to the Degree of F.C. The Treasurer, Bro. W. McDougall, being absent through domestic bereavement, the Secretary was instructed to write him a letter of condolence. The lodge was shortly afterwards closed in peace and harmony, and the brethren adjourned to supper, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to. Bros. Sandle, McNish, Bokenham, Walker, Nuding, and others contributing to the harmony of the meeting, and the brethren spending a very enjoyable evening.

**EARL OF MORNINGTON LODGE** (No. 2000).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday afternoon, the 20th inst., at 33, Golden-square, under the direction of Bro. Dr. Lavies, W.M. The acting officers were Bros. Capt. Phillips, S.W.; Dr. Griffith, J.W.; Canon Harford, Chap.; Davison, Treas.; Hodson, Sec.; Lavies, S.D.; C. Trollope, J.D.; Bros. Braine, D.C.; Mitchell, Stwd.; Ball, I.G.; Austin, Tyler; and Bros. A. Ball, Moss, Firth, Hood, and others. A number of distinguished brethren had been invited, and amongst those who attended were Bros. Sir Wm. Wyllie, Canon Harford, Capt. Lavies, Trollope, and others.

The ceremonies of passing and raising were performed in a most impressive manner, the Worshipful Master after the conferment of each degree reciting some remarkable lines, the effect of which upon those who heard them will not soon be forgotten. For 20 years the high poetical talent of Bro. Dr. Lavies has been known to the literary world, and these beautiful verses are equal we think to anything formerly written by him. To form a true opinion of their force they ought to be heard coming from his own lips.

The ceremonies were accompanied by music throughout, chiefly written by the W.M. The grand old ceremony of "calling off and on" was performed, and the brethren adjourned for tea and coffee for 10 minutes before the working of the Third Degree. After the closing of the lodge the brethren dined at the Holborn Restaurant, and during the evening some of the finest old English glees were exquisitely performed.

**CHISWICK LODGE** (No. 2012).—The last meeting of the season of this new and highly successful lodge was held at Chiswick on the 10th inst., under the presidency of Bro. Geo. Everett, W.M. Bro. Harry Furze was raised to the Sublime Degree, of a M.M. Bros. Hill, Wimpey, Brown, and Wilson were entrusted and duly passed to the Second Degree, and Messrs. Hughes and Coward after being balloted for were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, the W.M. performing the whole of the ceremonies in an admirable manner. The names of several new candidates were given in, and the Master stated it would be necessary to have a lodge of emergency before the winter season began. There was not such a large attendance of the brethren as usual, among the absentees being the S.W., from illness, his place being filled by Bro. Harry Price, the Secretary.

After the banquet the W.M. asked the brethren to excuse long speeches, for he was invited to the consecration of the Abbey Lodge that night, but he felt it his duty to attend his own lodge, and do his work there. Several songs were given by the brethren. The toast of "The W.M." was proposed by Bro. Dr. F. Lawrence, the popular Treasurer and acting P.M. After the Master had responded in a few well chosen words, he vacated his place, which was occupied by Bro. Lawrence, who proposed the toast of "The Officers." "The Health of the Visitors" was given from the chair. Bro. Lieutenant Henry Wright, J.W. 1827, and Bro. Parker, 1327, responded, the former complimenting the lodge on its excellent working, and mentioned that he had learned something in one of the ceremonies from the brother occupying the same chair as himself. Bro. Parker observed that he had been there before, and always enjoyed the working and hospitality of the Chiswick Lodge. The J.W. responded for "The Officers."

**HASTINGS.**—Derwent Lodge (No. 40).—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Monday, the 10th inst., at the Castle Hotel. The W.M., Bro. W. H. Russell, presided, supported by the following officers: Bros. J. Pearce, I.P.M.; F. Plowman, S.W.; F. H. Hallett, J.W.; F. Rossiter, P.M., Treas.; E. W. J. Hennah, P.M., Sec.; T. W. Markwick, J.D., acting S.D.; F. Duke, acting J.D.; C. W. Duke, P.P.G.D., P.M. 1184, P.M., D.C.; H. Gloyns, I.G.; and Leslie, Tyler; the brethren present being Bros. T. H. Cole, M.A., P.P.G.A. D.C., P.M.; G. F. Wood, F. J. Parsons, C. Hallett, John Abram, Mus. Doc., T. J. Rubie, J. Hirst, P.P.G.D. Herefordshire, P.M. 338; S. Chandler, J. D. Hunter, W. S. Allen, A. Bray, Peter Robinson, P.M. 201, and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a jewel was presented to the late Secretary, Bro. G. F. Wood, as a mark of the esteem of the brethren and in appreciation of his valuable services to the lodge, after which the W.M. very ably passed Bro. Herman Muscat to the Second Degree. There being no further business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an admirably served supper. On the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured.

**MANCHESTER.**—Caledonian Lodge (No. 204).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 12th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, when there were present Bros. T. Sauter, W.M.; H. Paulden, S.W.; J. Cliffe, J.W.; Rev. P. Hains, P.M., Chap.; John Roberts, P.M., Prov. G.D.C., Treas.; G. T. Mullock, P.M., Sec.; S. Lawton, S.D.; R. A. Eldershaw, P.M., D.C.; also P.Ms. T. Shorrocks, I.P.M.; J. C. Hind, W. Bagnall, T. Fairrie, J. R. Lever, 317; W. Aldred, 350; and J. Hill, 1403; also Bros. Apostolu, J. Artingstall, Dearden, Gregory, Guest, Guthrie, Pass, Spencer, Steel, Sudlow, and Taylor.

Visitors: Bros. Holford, W.M. 1077; Dawson, P.M. 1219; Welsh, P.M. 1077; Byway, W.M. 1633; Schofield, P.M. 1219; Holder, S.W. 935; Appelby, S.W. 1219; Littler, S.W. 1730; Conway, Treas. 152; Naphtali, 1147; and Roberts, Sec. 993.

After the usual preliminaries, the Rev. R. Hammond Cotton, M.A., B.Sc., was initiated by Bro. John Roberts, P.M., Treas., Prov. G.D.C., the charge being given to the new initiate and Bro. B. Steel by Bro. Rev. P. Hains, P.M., Chap. Bro. Steel was passed to the Second Degree by the W.M. The working tools in each degree were presented by the J.W. The W.M. on behalf of the brethren presented a tea and coffee service to Bro. Thomas Shorrocks, I.P.M., in recognition of his valuable services as W.M. during 1883, which Bro. Shorrocks suitably acknowledged.

Lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to supper, after which Bro. Rev. Hains in proposing the toast of "The Newly-Initiated Brother" made an impressive speech on the grand principles of Freemasonry. In responding to the toast of "The Visitors," Bro. Dawson, P.M. 1219, humourously referred to the brethren as his uncles, he having been initiated in 1219, which was a daughter of 204. With the Tyler's toast a most pleasant and agreeable meeting was brought to a close.

**LANCASTER.**—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 12th inst., in the Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, Bro. Bayley, the W.M., occupying the chair of K.S., supported by Bros. Greyson, I.P.M.; Stanton, S.W.; McKaith, J.W.; Pilkington, Sec.; Nicholson, S.D.; Thistlewaite, J.D.; Heald, I.G.; and Shaw, S.S. The lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A discussion then followed as to the desirability of procuring a new lodge room, owing to the brethren having to quit their present place of meeting, consequent on alterations. It was eventually resolved, on the motion of the I.P.M., seconded by the J.D., that the W.M., Wardens, and Secretary be appointed to meet an equal number from the Rowley and Duke of Lancaster lodges, in order to decide what steps should be taken towards procuring fresh premises.

On the motion of the I.P.M., seconded by the W.M., and supported by Bros. P.Ms. Kelland and Atkinson, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Longman, P.M. and Sec. 1051, P.P.G.S. of W., for his labours in connection with the compiling and publishing of "The Lancaster Masonic Calendar." Bro. Longman in acknowledging the compliment said he was heartily recompensed for all his labours by their warm appreciation of his services as expressed in the vote of thanks, and also by the favourable notice which the calendar had received at the hands of the brethren. Their thanks were also due to Bro. Stanton, who had rendered him very material assistance in getting up the various data for work.

The usual proclamations were then made, which elicited "Hearty good wishes" from the visiting brethren, and the lodge was closed.

**MANCHESTER.**—Lodge of Affability (No. 317).—The regular meeting took place on the 13th inst., in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, there being present Bros. W. J. Cunliffe, W.M.; J. W. Edwards, S.W.; R. R. Lisenden, J.W.; Wm. Nicholl, P.M., Treas.; John Garside, Sec.; J. G. Elderton, S.D.; Walter Wood, J.D., acting I.G.; Abraham Wild and Edward Smith, Stwds.; James Sly, Tyler; also Bros. John Bladon, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; John Smethurst, J. R. Lever, Daniel Donbavand, H. Walmsley, James Wilson, and Mark Vickers, P.Ms.; Thomas Sumner, J. Smith, R. Bradshaw, J. Eckersley, Henry Samuels, J. Hopwood, J. Pearson, A. Wild, G. C. Frühling, E. Wihl, E. Chesworth, F. Warburton, S. Hamer, Hugh Kerr, and G. J. Roscoe. Visitors: Bros. J. Robinson, J.W. 430; C. H. Hayhurst, 113; J. Blair, J.D. 1387; Ralph Sherratt, 1914; J. Hothersall, I.G. 1161; and John Allison, 204.

After reading and confirming the minutes, Bro. James Robinson, J.W. 430, was successfully balloted for to become a member of the lodge, after which the ballot was taken for Mr. Charles Victor Anger, and declared to be in his favour, and he was afterwards initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry by the W.M., who, considering it was his first attempt to perform the ceremony, did it remarkably well. Bro. Lisenden delivered the E.A. charge to the Initiate.

Bro. Wm. Nicholl, P.M., having previously given a notice of motion, now proposed "That the sum of £10 10s. be voted from the lodge funds towards the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution." The resolution was carried, and there being no further business "hearty good wishes" were expressed by the visitors, and the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards supped together, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, including that of "The Health of Bro. Anger," who suitably acknowledged the compliment.

**BIRKENHEAD.**—Combermere Lodge (No. 605).—The annual installation meeting of the members of this lodge took place on Thursday afternoon, the 20th inst., at the Queen's Hotel, when there was an attendance of about 60 brethren. The lodge was opened by Bro. J. R. Simm, the retiring W.M., and amongst those present were Bros. T. Shaw, P.M.; G. J. Davies, P.M., P.P.G.S.; A. E. Coveney, P.M.; C. S. Staley, P.M.; W. S. Stanton, P.M. 1289; G. Alistair, W.M. 1276; S. Jones, P.M. 477; Amos A. Gass, 1576; R. Jones, Sec. 1276; T. C. Thorburn, W.M. 477; Theodore H. Tebbs, 477; R. Parry, 1276; T. Leighton, P.M. 1325; J. Lee, 1675; G. Mason, J.W. 1276; G. Lloyd, 477; J. B. Mackenzie, P.P.G.S.D. West Lanc.; D. B. Risk, 241; W. H. Jones, 241; J. B. Sparke, P.M. 216; S. H. Smith, P.M. 268; J. P. Thompson, P.M. 477; A. Fairclough, S.W. 447; W. Simms, 477; T. E. Tomlinson, P.M. 1013; J. G. Aliston, 786; J. B. Cruickshank, 786; and others.

The chair of presiding officer was taken by Bro. G. J. Davies, P.M., who in a most effective and superior manner duly installed Bro. Owen Jones as the W.M. for the ensuing year. The following officers were subsequently invested: Bros. J. R. Simm, I.P.M.; T. M. Bleakley, S.W.; James Clarke, J.W.; J. Sillitoe, P.M., P.P.G.J.D., Treas. (re-elected for the fourteenth time); A. E. Coveney, P.M., Sec.; George Grant, S.D.; James Gamlin, J.D.; W. E. Clayton, I.G.; Thomas Evans, D.C.; Thomas Cockcroft, S.S.; John Powell, J.S.; Phipps, Org.; and Bro. J. Holtaway was elected Tyler. Before the close of

the business, Bro. J. R. Simm, I.P.M., was presented with an exceedingly chaste Past Master's jewel. An excellent banquet was served by the proprietor of the Queen's Hotel, and during the evening a musical programme was provided by Bros. Rowlands, R. Parry, E. G. Mason, D. Williams, J. G. Jones, E. J. Davies, J. C. Jones, and J. Lee.

**STAFFORD.**—Staffordshire Knot Lodge (No. 726).—The ordinary monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Swan Hotel, when there were present Bros. John Baker, W.M.; James Senior, I.P.M., P.P.G.S.D.; John Mottram, S.W.; Edward J. Mousley, J.W.; F. Woolley, Sec.; S. E. Fowke, P.M., D.C.; J. Woodbridge, S.D.; T. Rigby, J.D.; J. Bervon, Org.; W. D. Batkin, I.G.; H. Thorn and W. Brown, Stwds.; R. Tomlinson, Tyler; N. Joyce, S. Moss, F. Taylor, T. Masters, F. Espley, T. B. Mottram, R. Sudbury, A. C. Ward, S. S. Plant, and J. J. Tomlinson.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Taylor was passed by the W.M. to the Fellow Craft Degree. The brethren then proceeded to the election of a W.M. for the ensuing year, and their choice was unanimous in favour of Bro. John Mottram, S.W., who in suitable terms thanked the brethren for the honour they had conferred upon him. Bro. N. Joyce was unanimously elected Treasurer, and Bros. R. Tomlinson, Prov. G. Asst. Tyler, and J. J. Tomlinson were elected Tyler and Asst. Tyler respectively. A candidate for initiation having been proposed, the lodge was afterwards closed in the customary form.

**WEST DERBY.**—Pembroke Lodge (No. 1299).—On Thursday afternoon, the 20th inst., the members of the above lodge met for installation purposes at Rawlinson's Hotel, where Bro. R. Winstanley Taylor was placed in the W.M.'s chair for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by Bro. W. Jones, who retired from the position on this occasion. The officers invested were Bros. William Jones, P.M., I.P.M.; William Kinsey, S.W.; J. J. Ramsay, J.W.; W. S. Vines, P.M., P.P.G. D.C., Treas. (re-elected for the fifth time); T. G. Fisher, P.M., M.C.; T. A. Whitley, Sec.; W. A. Boylett, S.D.; J. Fearnett, J.D.; S. H. Jones, I.G.; and T. Price, S.S. Amongst the visitors were Bros. the Rev. T. W. Richardson, Prov. G.C.; J. T. Callow, P.P.G. Treas.; Eaton Batty, 1609; Longbottom, Prov. G.S.; Wilkinson, W.M. 1086; and T. Hatton, P.M. 203.

The brethren, after business, proceeded to Liverpool and dined at the Canton Hotel, Victoria-street, where the catering of Bro. Vines gave ample satisfaction. A valuable presentation of jewellery was made to Bro. W. Jones, and, through him, to Mrs. Jones, during the day's proceedings.

**HAMPTON.**—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—This lodge held its last regular meeting of the season on the 20th inst. at the Lion Hotel. Among those in attendance were Bros. T. Moody, W.M.; Davey, S.W.; J. Hammond, P.P.G.D. Middx., J.W.; E. Hopwood, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., Treas.; W. Hammond, P.P.G.D. Middx., Sec.; Spearing, S.D.; Wheatley, J.D.; Hollands, I.G.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., D. of C.; Jessett, P.M., W.S.; Eales, A.W.S.; and Gilbert, Tyler. Bro. Tozer, of the Lebanon Lodge, was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed Bro. Kundry was passed to the Second Degree, and Messrs. Davis and Clark having been balloted for were impressively initiated into Craft mysteries by the W.M. Bro. Davey, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M., and Bro. Hopwood unanimously re-elected Treasurer. The bye-laws having been read, a Past Master's jewel was unanimously voted to the W.M. for the very excellent manner in which he had conducted the affairs of the lodge during his year of office. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The usual toasts followed.

**PLUMSTEAD.**—United Military Lodge (No. 1536).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on the 14th inst. at the Lord Raglan Hotel, Burrage-road, Bro. G. Kenneday, W.M., in the chair, supported by the following officers and others: Bros. T. Holleyman, I.P.M.; G. Spinks, P.M.; W. Weston, P.M., P.P.G. S.B. Kent; A. Penfold, P.M.; Rev. C. Reilly, Chap.; W. Mould, J.W.; W. Gee, Treas.; A. Fisher, Sec.; A. Rowley, S.D.; J. Pernel, J.D.; W. Maule, I.G.; J. Bilton and H. Swinerd, Stwds.; J. H. Roberts, W.M. 700; R. S. Smith, W.M. 13; W. Akers, J.W. 13; W. Rees, S.W. 913; W. J. Rainer, 127; W. N. Berridge, 1066; G. Smith, 13; and J. Wood, 381.

The minutes being confirmed, Sergt. J. Flack was balloted for successfully, and initiated into Masonry, after which Bro. Cooksley was raised, both ceremonies being admirably performed by the W.M. and his officers. A well-deserved presentation was then made by the W.M. to Bro. Fisher on his promotion to Master Gunner at Gibraltar, to which place he goes at the end of the present month. The presentation consisted of a massive silver tea service, bearing the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. A. E. Fisher by the United Military Lodge, No. 1536, for valuable services rendered as Secretary. Plumstead, March, 1884."

In making the presentation the Worshipful Master spoke in eulogistic terms of the many services Bro. Fisher had rendered. On learning that their brother was about to go to another and more extended sphere of usefulness in her Majesty's service at Gibraltar, the members determined that he should not go away without some token of their esteem and admiration, and he could assure him that every brother of the lodge tendered him their heartfelt wishes for his health, happiness, and prosperity wherever he might go. He felt that Bro. Fisher would not esteem their presentation merely for its intrinsic value, but as a remembrance of the many happy hours he had spent with his comrades and brethren of the United Military Lodge. The W.M. then formally made the presentation, saying: Bro. Fisher, on behalf of the brethren of this lodge I present you with this testimonial, and trust that in the years to come you will look upon it as a token of the esteem and regard in which you were held by your brethren of the United Military Lodge, and I can assure you that you take with you into your new sphere of life the hearty good wishes not only of myself, but of every brother of the lodge.

Bro. Fisher could only thank the W.M. and brethren for their very handsome and valuable present. When he took office he meant to do the work well, for he considered that if the work was worth doing at all it was worth doing well. He was pleased to find that his services had been appreciated, and should ever remember the unremitted kindness of



his brethren of the lodge, for which he again and again could only and did thank them.

Some 60 portraits of Lord Holmesdale, Prov. G.M. of Kent, were then distributed to the subscribers to his lordship's late testimonial, and five guineas were voted to Bro. Butt's, P.M. 700, list for the Boys' School Stewardship. The lodge was then closed, and after supper the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and some excellent harmony helped to pass away a few hours in brotherly love and good fellowship.

**CLEATOR MOOR.**—Stirling Lodge (No. 1989).—The regular monthly meeting of this, the junior lodge of the province, was held on Wednesday, the 12th inst., Bro. J. J. Robinson, W.M., P.G.S.D., presided, supported by the following officers, members, and visitors: Bros. D. Bell, S.W.; J. Bewlay, J.W.; E. Clarke, P.M. 1267, P.P.G.J.D., Treas.; Chas. Gowan, Sec.; T. Watson, J.D.; J. D. Welsh, I.G.; J. Caffery, Tyler, J. F. Kirkconel, P.M. 1267, P.G. Reg.; R. Baxter, P.M.; P.G.Std.Br.; R. Walker, J. Johnston, J. Nixon, J. Leathes, E. Irvin, H. Ward, J. Boundy, J. McHarry, J. Kelley, J. Vingo, J. Dickinson, C. S. Pearson, and Geo. Dalrymple, P.M. 872, 1660, P.P.G.D.C. The following were visitors: Bros. W. J. Tyson, 119; W. T. Beetonson, P.M. 624; Thos. Atkinson, P.M. 872, P.P.G.D.C.; F. Hodgson, P.M.; J. Jackson, J.W.; J. McGowan, J.D.; Thomas Brackenridge, Thos. Rawlings, H. Hartley, 1267; J. Dickson, 1660, and others.

On the confirmation of the minutes the election for W.M. was proceeded with, when Bro. J. J. Robinson was re-elected by a unanimous vote, the great success that has attended this lodge during Bro. Robinson's Master-ship rendering it highly desirable no change should be made for another year. Bro. Edward Clarke was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. J. Caffery, Tyler. The ballot was taken for Bro. Mordaff as a joining member, and proved favourable. Bro. Pearson was raised to the Third Degree. One proposition was made, and with "Hearty good wishes" from the many visitors the lodge was closed in form and good harmony, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet hall, where a very agreeable evening was spent.

### INSTRUCTION.

**FAITH LODGE (No. 141).**—At the weekly meeting on Tuesday, the 18th inst., there were present Bros. Dutton, W.M.; Lovegrove, S.W.; Forscutt, J.W.; Cottebrune, P.M.; Eastgate, S.D.; Mount, J.D.; Chapman, I.G.; Cross, Sec.; Bull, Dairy, Bond, Stamp, Von Joel, G. F. Edwards, Coop, Stroud, Harris, J. V. May, F. C. May, Cox, and Power.

Lodge was opened in due form and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Power being candidate. Lodge was opened on the square. Bro. Cox answered the questions for the Third Degree and was duly entrusted. Lodge was opened on the centre and the ceremony of raising rehearsed by the W.M. in his fluent and impressive way. Lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and Bros. J. Venables May and Frank C. May were elected members of the lodge. The S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. at the next meeting, and appointed his officers in rotation. Lodge was duly closed according to ancient form.

**JUSTICE LODGE (No. 147).**—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 20th inst., at the Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford. Present: Bros. B. R. Banks, W.M.; Stringer, S.W.; Penrose, J.W.; S. R. Speight, P.M., Sec.; Fisher, S.D.; Calt, J.D.; Smith, I.G.; Hutchings, P.M.; Preceptor; Good, P.M.; Ingram, P.M.; J. Bedford Williams, Greener, and H. E. Freeman.

The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and after the confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting, was advanced to the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. J. Bedford Williams personating the candidate. The lodge was then called off, and on resuming the brethren respectively saluted the W.M. in the Three Degrees. Lodge was then closed down to the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Greener being the candidate, after which lodge was closed down to the First Degree, and Bro. Stringer, S.W. of the Royal Oak Lodge, was elected W.M. for the first Thursday in April, and the lodge was closed.

**BURGOYNE LODGE (No. 902).**—This lodge of instruction, which has for some time past met at Bro. Austin's, Victoria Hotel, 25, Charterhouse-street, Farringdon-road, every Wednesday, at seven p.m., is apparently appreciated by members of the Craft, if the increase in the attendance may be accepted as an index. On Wednesday, the 19th inst., the chair was occupied by Bro. Bundy, the W.M. of the mother lodge for the year 1884, who ably worked the Third Degree, and subsequently followed that by the First, to the satisfaction of all the brethren present. This lodge of instruction possesses in their Preceptor, Bro. Frost, P.M., P.Z., a most able and intelligent teacher.

**HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).**—A meeting was held on Monday, the 24th inst., at the Fountains Abbey Hotel, 111, Praed-street, Paddington, W. Present: Bros. J. Webb, W.M.; W. J. Mason, S.W.; F. Chandler, J.W.; G. Read, P.M. 511, Treas., Preceptor; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, Sec.; W. Middleweek, S.D.; W. H. Chalfont, W.M. 1425, J.D.; J. Cruttenden, I.G.; J. Laurence, Stwd.; Capt. A. Nicols, I.P.M. 1974; H. Purdue, W.M. 834; W. Craig, P.M. 1425; C. H. Wood, R. P. J. Laundry, G. Laundry, C. S. Mote, M. J. Green, J. Everitt, W. Death, H. Robinson, and J. Chapman. Visitor: Bro. A. G. Dixon, 1987.

Lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of last lodge meeting read and confirmed. The lodge was called off and on, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Purdue being the candidate. Bro. Mason, at the request of the W.M., then took the chair, and rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Dixon being the candidate, who then answered the questions leading to the Second Degree. The First Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Read, and the Second by Bro. Chalfont. Bro. Dixon was elected a joining member, and Bro. Mason W.M. for next meeting. A unanimous vote of thanks, to be recorded on the minutes, was voted to Bro. Webb for the able manner in which he had presided as W.M. for the first time, and the lodge was closed in perfect harmony.

### NEW FINSBURY PARK LODGE (No. 1695).

—At the meeting on Tuesday, the 18th inst., there were present Bros. Edmunds, W.M.; Gush, as Preceptor; Moon, S.W.; Mercer, J.W.; Berry, Sec.; Snelling, S.D.; Haynes, J.D.; Oldis, I.G.; Charley, Tremere, and Knights. The lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer, and the minutes of the last meeting read confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees and the First Section of the Third Lecture was worked by Bro. Snelling. Lodge was resumed in the Second Degree and Bro. Tremere, the candidate for raising, answered questions and was entrusted. Lodge resumed in the Third Degree and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. This being the day for the appointment of officers, Bro. Gush was unanimously elected as Preceptor, and Bro. Berry re-elected as Secretary, the election of Treasurer being deferred. The lodge was closed and adjourned to Tuesday next. We have no doubt then, under the able Preceptorship of Bro. Gush, this lodge of instruction will take a prominent position in the Craft.

**LEICESTER.**—Leicester Union Lodge.—The annual festival of this lodge (formed by the union of Lodges 279, 523, 1391, and 1560, under the joint Preceptorship of W. Bros. S. Cleaver, P.M. 279, Prov. G.S.D.; J. T. Thorpe, P.M. 523, Prov. G.S.W.; Edward Watson, W.M. 1391, Prov. G.J.D.; and Miles J. Walker, P.M. 1265) was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, on the 14th inst., under the presidency of the R.W. Bro. William Kelly, F.S.A., F.R. Hist. Society, P.P.G.M. for Leicestershire. The attendance was large, and included, in addition to the above-named, W. Bros. George Toller, jun., D.P. G.M.; S. S. Partridge, P.G.S.; Joseph Young, P.G.D. of C.; C. Gurdin, P.G.A.D. of C.; Clement E. Stretton, Rev. C. Henton Wood, M.A., Rev. W. A. Langley, M.A., Edward Mason, R. Michie, and several other brethren.

The lodge was opened in the First Degree by the R.W. Bro. Kelly, the acting officers being Bros. J. L. West, as S.W.; J. W. Willson, J.W.; J. B. Waring, S.D.; R. B. Starkey, J.D.; and Geo. Jessop, I.G. The minutes of the last lodge were read by Bro. E. P. Steeds, the Secretary, and confirmed. W. Bro. Edward Watson was appointed Installing Officer for the next lodge, and Bro. J. L. West, as acting W.M., after which Bro. Kelly briefly introduced W. Bro. James Stevens, of London, P.M., P.Z., who had been specially invited to deliver his lecture, entitled "Knobs and Excrescences," explanatory of the rituals and ceremonies of the First Degree, and referred to his (Bro. Kelly's) pleasing acquaintance with Bro. Stevens, which was formed many years ago.

Bro. Stevens, after a few preparatory remarks on the desirability of unity of working the ceremonies of the Craft, proceeded with his lecture, which was listened to with great attention for over two hours. The able and eloquent lecturer commenced with the opening of the lodge, and continued through the whole ceremony of initiation, explaining many points of interest, showing divergencies in the rituals as practised by different lodges, and giving good and substantial reasons for correcting fallacies therein.

At the conclusion of the lecture Bro. Toller alluded to the pleasure he had derived from listening to the able exposition by the lecturer, of the many interesting points on which he had treated, and approved of the great desirability of uniformity in working as suggested by the lecturer, and considered that the lecture should be heard by the Craft generally.

Bro. Thorpe proposed and Bro. Wood seconded a complimentary vote of thanks to the lecturer, the latter brother regretting that time would not permit of many interesting enquiries being then pursued, but hoped the brethren would not lose sight of them hereafter. Bros. Young and Cleaver having also spoken, the vote was carried by acclamation, and Bro. Stevens in responding said he felt amply repaid for the little service he had rendered by the enthusiasm displayed, and expressed his intention of not failing to again visit Leicester and give further illustrations of his views as to the Second and Third Degrees, on which he had for some time been engaged. In conclusion the lecturer presented to the lodge a chart of the lodges in England and Wales, and stated that he had Freemasonry so much at heart that he would willingly visit any lodge desiring to have the information and explanation which his lecture afforded.

On the lodge being closed the brethren adjourned to the magnificent banqueting room connected with the hall, where supper was served under the presidency of W. Bro. Ed. Watson, at the close of which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured.

### Royal Arch.

#### ROYAL ALBERT CHAPTER (No. 907).

An excellent gathering of this prosperous chapter was held at the White Hart Hotel, Abchurch-lane, on the 13th inst. Among those present were Comps. Griffiths, P.Z., acting M.E.Z., in the absence of Comp. Coleman, Farnfield, P.Z., Treas., acting H., in the absence of Comp. Barr, F. White, P.Z., acting J.; H. J. Lardner, S.N., J. elect; T. Burne, S.E.; Couston, 1st Asst.; and Van der Pant, 2nd Asst. The visitors were Comp. T. C. Walls, P.G.D.C. Middx., P.Z.; Lott, H. 1507; B. Turner, 157; and Strugnell, 1044.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Comp. Lardner was duly installed into the chair of J., and Comp. Lyon invested as S.N. The ballot having been taken upon behalf of Bro. E. G. Brewer, 165, he was duly exalted by the acting M.E.Z., ably assisted by his officers. The working throughout was admirable. The historical and symbolical addresses were well given by Comp. Lardner, and the mystical portion of the Degree was delivered by the M.E.Z. in a manner that left little to be desired. The bye-laws having been read and approved of and several other important matters disposed of, the companions adjourned to the banquet, which was excellent. Upon the removal of the cloth the usual toasts followed and were duly honoured. The chair was occupied by Comp. White, P.Z., most effectively and genially.

### Mark Masonry.

**TWICKENHAM.**—Sir Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 181).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Albany Hotel, on the 19th inst. Among those present were Bros. T. C. Walls, Prov. G.S.B., Prov. G.J.W. Middx. and

Surrey, in the chair, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Handel; W. Hammond, Prov. G. Sec., acting S.W.; Sanders, P.P.G.S. Middx. and Surrey, acting J.W.; Briggs, M.O.; H. Higgins, J.O.; Köhler, S.D.; Raymond Thrupp, Prov. G.O., acting J.D.; W. Taylor, P.P.G.D. Middx. and Surrey, &c., P.M.; and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Wm. Bailey, 1732, was duly balloted for and advanced to the degree of M.M.M. The bye-laws having been read a vote of condolence was passed and directed to be sent by the Secretary to Bro. Henry Handel, W.M., who for some time past has been seriously indisposed.

The lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. Upon the removal of the cloth the usual toasts followed. Bros. Thrupp and W. Hammond responded upon behalf of "The Grand Officers," and Bro. Sanders replied to the toast of "The Prov. Grand Officers." "The Health of the W.M." was given by Bro. Sanders, coupled with the name of Bro. Walls, who acknowledged the compliment. "The Advance" followed, Bro. Bailey in reply expressing himself as being highly gratified with the ceremony and hoped in due time to take an active part in the working of the Mark Degree. "The Officers" brought the proceedings to a conclusion. This toast was acknowledged by Bros. Hammond, Briggs, and Köhler. The proceedings then terminated.

### Knights Templar.

#### YORK.—Ancient Ebor Preceptory (No 101).

The annual installation meeting of this preceptory took place on the 10th inst. The chair was taken at six o'clock by E. Sir Kt. T. B. Whytehead, P., the E.P. Sir Kt. M. Millington, being present; as also Sir Knts. Rev. J. E. M. Young, P., as Chaplain; J. Marshall, Const.; A. T. B. Turner, Marshal; J. S. Cumberland, P., Sub-Marshal; W. Brown, Capt. of Guards; W. H. Cowper, and other members.

Soon after the opening of the preceptory it was announced that the Provincial Prior of Staffordshire and Warwickshire was in attendance, and accordingly V.E. Sir Kt. C. Fendelow was admitted and received with the honours due to his rank, and was thereafter welcomed by the acting P., and subsequently responded. Comps. J. T. Belk, Middlesbro; and J. A. Banks, of the 5th Dragoon Guards, were then received as knights of the Order, after which Sir Kt. J. Marshall, the E.P. elect, was presented and installed in the chair by the acting E.P., and was saluted and proclaimed. The officers for the year were appointed as follows: Sir Kts. A. T. B. Turner, Constable; Christopher Palliser, Marshal; W. Brown, Sub-Marshal; M. M. Reynard, Std. Br.; W. B. Dyson, Swd. Br.; W. H. Cowper, Herald; J. T. Sellar, Captain of Guards; and T. B. Whytehead, Treas. and Reg. The E.P. and visitors having retired under the arch of steel, the sir knights adjourned and partook of supper.

### HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE LIFEBOAT WORK.

The annual general meeting of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution was held on the 15th inst., at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., in the chair. The meeting was most numerously and influentially attended. There were present, amongst others, including many ladies, Bros. Lord Suffield, Lord Chas. Beresford, R.N., Sir Thomas Brassey, K.C.B., M.P., Lord Robartes, the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor, M.P., &c. The sixtieth annual report stated that the number of lifeboats under the management of the Institution last year was 274, which were launched on service 283 times between the 1st of January and the 31st of December, and saved no less than 725 lives and 30 vessels. Besides this, 230 lives were saved from shipwreck by shore-boats and other means, all of which services were rewarded by the institution, making up a grand total of 955 lives rescued during the year, for which 14 silver medals and clasps, 25 votes of thanks on vellum, and £5397 were granted by the Committee, including grants to widows and orphans of lifeboatmen killed on duty. Altogether from its foundation the institution had voted 97 gold medals, 964 silver medals, and £77,984 in cash for saving 30,563 lives from shipwrecks on our coasts. The subscriptions, donations, dividends, &c., amounted during the past year to £40,250, which sum included £3767 in special gifts for expenses connected with seven lifeboats, and £2000 for the endowment of two lifeboats. Several legacies were also received. The total expenditure was £45,817.

The PRINCE OF WALES in the course of his speech said: *There is no institution in the country which is of greater importance, or which more demands our sympathy and assistance. (Cheers.)* From our geographical position as a sea-girt isle, and from the vast colonies we have acquired, the mass of ships that travel to and from our ports is almost too vast even to count, but they encounter many shipwrecks, the result of which is in many cases great loss of life. The risks too, that our fishermen run must be known to all of you. It was specially to save their lives—and to save the lives of all who travel on the sea and may be shipwrecked on our coast—that this noble institution was founded. It must be patent to all of you that a society of this kind is an absolute necessity. (Cheers.) Since its existence, nearly 31,000 lives have been saved, and already this year more than 300 have been rescued by the lifeboats. (Cheers.) While I need say nothing of the ability and courage displayed by the crews of the boats, there is one thing of which I must remind you: though we all admit that this is a national institution, it is entirely supported by voluntary contributions. Therefore I must urgently ask you to ponder well this fact, and to remember that the annual cost of maintaining a lifeboat station is about £70 a year. The report has told you that the Princess of Wales—(cheers)—has become a patroness of the institution. I need hardly tell you she shares with me the views I hold on this important matter, and it was a great gratification to her quite recently to present medals to two most deserving coxswains who had distinguished themselves in saving life.—In responding to a vote of thanks for presiding, the Prince of Wales said he was only too glad to take the chair at the annual meeting of that institution. He need not say how much his heart was with the gallant men who undertook the rescue of their fellow creatures in danger.



Bro. George Lambert, F.S.A., has been unanimously elected master of the Pattenmakers' Company.

The Baroness Burdett-Coutts has kindly undertaken to present the prizes at the Girls' School on the occasion of the Stewards' visit.

Bro. General Lord Wolseley presided at the festival dinner of the Railway Officers and Servants' Association, at Cannon-street Hotel on Thursday.

Bro. Sir Watkin and Lady Williams Wynn left their house in St. James's-square on Saturday for Brighton, for the benefit of Sir Watkin's health.

Bro. Alderman Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart., Governor of the Hon. the Irish Society, has been appointed on the Commission of the Peace for the county of Londonderry.

Bro. George Kenning has been awarded the Gold Medal and First-Class Certificate for Gold and Silver Embroidery, Military Accoutrements, &c., at the Calcutta International Exhibition. Jury Award, No. 5, dated 19th Feb., 1884.

Bro. Thomas Shorrocks, I.P.M. Caledonian Lodge, No. 204, Manchester, was at the ordinary meeting of the lodge on the 12th inst. presented by the W.M., on behalf of the members, with a handsome tea and coffee service, as an expression of their feelings in appreciation of his valuable services in the chair during the past year.

Bro. F. T. Isitt (of Messrs. J. and C. Boyd and Co.) will preside at the seventeenth anniversary festival in aid of the funds of the London General Porters' Benevolent Association at the Albion on Thursday, April 24th. Mr. Sheriff Clarence Smith and Lieut. Colonel and Sheriff Cowan have promised to attend the dinner in their state robes.

The Nelson Lodge, No. 700, Woolwich, has voted 35 guineas from the lodge funds to the list of Bro. P.M. Butt, who will represent the lodge at the Boys' School Festival. This sum, which has been further augmented by £5 from the charity box, goes towards completing the lodge's vice-patronage, and also to purchase life governorships for Bros. Butt and Norman, in recognition of their services as Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

The Salutation Tavern, Newgate-street, has lately been rebuilt and redecorated under the personal supervision of its energetic and genial proprietor, Bro. E. Leibmann (Urban Lodge, No. 1196). As will be seen by an announcement in another column, amongst its special features are a spacious Masonic temple, with reception and preparation rooms, commodious lodge rooms, and banqueting halls; and lodges who have in contemplation a change of location are invited to make an early application.

At the meeting of the Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 359, Southampton, last week, W. Bro. W. Waters, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., was presented by W. Bro. Patstone, P.M., on behalf of the lodge, with a handsomely illuminated vellum in recognition of his eminent services as Director of Ceremonies of the lodge for upwards of eight years. The W.M. of the lodge, Bro. E. O. Longland, occupied the chair, but the presentation was made by Bro. Patstone, from the fact that he was at the head of the lodge at the time it was voted.

The *Buffalo News*, in its Masonic columns, and the *Corner Stone*, have been expressing a vigorous protest against allowing so much space in the Masonic Temple, at New York, to be used by bodies that have never in any way been recognised by the Grand Lodge of the jurisdiction. Arabian Princes, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, and other societies that are in no sense Masonic except as they gather their members from the Craft, are said to have taken possession of many of the apartments to the exclusion of lodges that would be glad to occupy the same. If the condition of things is as stated, a work of reform should begin at once.

A ball in aid of the funds of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, took place on Friday, the 21st inst., in the Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool, and resulted in a great success. Amongst the list of patrons were Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, D.G.M., Prov. G.M.; the Countess of Lathom; Bro. Lord Claud J. Hamilton, M.P., and Lady Hamilton; Bro. the Right Hon. F. A. Stanley, M.P., D.P.G.M., &c. Bro. J. D. Reader, I.P.M., acted as Secretary, and Bro. Savage made an admirable M.C. The arrangements in connection with the entertainment were successfully carried out by a committee consisting of Bros. Lewis Peake; R. E. Mitton; C. Bargerly; J. P. Bryan; Dr. D. Hendry; M. Pearson; James Tunstall; W. Wilkinson; H. Marshall; John Smith; and Roberts.

A report having gained general credence that the coloured men of this city (Buffalo) had in working order several Masonic lodges, which were instituted by Charles E. Newton, who gained considerable notoriety as the first coloured man on the city police force, the following facts, which are not generally known to the fraternity of this city, were obtained from Newton:—He claims to be working under a charter issued on September 28, 1784, by Henry Frederick, Duke of Cumberland, as Grand Master of English Masons at that time, which was granted to Prince Hall and other coloured men. The Lodges working in this city are: Lodge of St. John's, No. 16, Master Masons, 40 members; Eric Lodge, Royal Arch Masons, No. 10, 21 members; Simon Commandery, Knights Templar, 22 members; Rose Croix Lodge, Scottish rite, 17 members; and Lodge of the Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, 6 members, one member of which claims to be a thirty-second degree Mason. The coloured brethren are jubilant over the success of their different lodges, which they claim are growing rapidly and doing regular work.—*Montreal Daily Star*.

"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. the Earl of Jersey has been unanimously elected by the Council High Steward of the city of Oxford, in the place of the Earl of Abingdon.

Bro. J. Sillitoe, P.P.G.J.D. Cheshire, has been elected Treasurer for the fourteenth time of the Combermere Lodge, No. 605, Birkenhead.

Bro. Horace B. Marshall, C.C., presided at the fifty-seventh annual meeting of the Printers' Pension, Almshouse, and Orphan Asylum Corporation on the 15th inst., at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon-street.

The members of the Pembroke Lodge, No. 1299, West Derby, near Liverpool, have presented a set of jewellery to Mrs. Jones, the wife of their much respected P.M. and I.P.M., Bro. W. Jones, as a mark of the esteem in which they hold that worthy brother.

The Installation Meeting of the Holmesdale Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 129, was held on Thursday evening last at the Royal Hotel, Ramsgate, when W. Bro. J. S. Harris was installed in the chair of A. by the V.W. Bro. J. D. Podevin, Dep. Prov. G.M.M. A full report will appear in our next issue.

The annual grand ball in connection with the Great City Lodge, of which Bro. Keeble is W.M., took place at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Saturday evening last. There was a large attendance and the proceedings were of a most enjoyable character. Great credit is due to the Stewards for their admirable arrangements.

Bro. George B. Van Saun, G.M. Iowa, is of opinion that he who presides in the Grand Lodge is not "endowed at his birth, or at his election and installation, with a power, if not infinite, yet a little more than human, whereby he can violate the constitution and bye-laws of his Grand Lodge with impunity and yet be exonerated from guilt. . . . I did not receive any manifestation of power which would enable me to violate our laws any more than any member of a subordinate lodge, but rather felt the responsibility of the trust reposed in me, and was more strongly pledged to obey these laws. . ."—*Masonic Home Journal*.

At the last meeting of the Southampton Lodge, No. 394, Bro. Barford presiding, the sum of ten guineas was voted towards the funds of the Girls' School, the W.M. having announced his intention of being present at the approaching festival. At the same meeting a vote of sympathy was passed with Bro. the Rev. Isidore Simon in a recent severe family affliction. The rev. gentleman was a member of the lodge, but resigned at the beginning of the year, on his leaving Southampton to take charge of the Jewish congregation at Manchester. He had no sooner become located in his new home than his children were all stricken down with diphtheria, from which three of them, all girls, died.

After an association with 7, Bank Buildings, Lothbury, for over thirty-five years, the business of the Accident Insurance Company, in consequence of the expiration of the old lease, and the desirability of obtaining more expanding room, has been removed to St. Swithin's House, 10, St. Swithin's-lane, which has recently been built by Bro. Deputy Brass, from the designs of Mr. W. Wimble, the well-known architect. The building is in every way most eligible for the conduct of the business of this successful company, as well as attractive to the passer-by. It is situated between the Messrs. Rothschild and the Hall of the Salters' Company, and is opposite the City Carlton Club.—*City Press*.

The Lodge of Israel, No. 1502, Liverpool, held its annual ball in aid of the Benevolent Fund connected with the lodge at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, on Wednesday evening, the 12th inst. Established about nine years ago, the fund has acquired a most satisfactory position, and from time to time the committee of six in whose hands its administration rests are enabled to make substantial grants to deserving applicants. An instance of this occurred only a short time since, when a sum of £25 was voted to a distressed member of the lodge. Upwards of 160 ladies and gentlemen attended the ball, which, in every respect a successful gathering, is expected to yield a considerable amount for addition to the benevolent fund. The brethren acting as stewards were Bros. S. J. Henochsberg, Captain; H. Archer, Asst. Captain; R. Robinson; M. Hart; Henry Gabriel; A. Lyons; S. Schonstadt; B. Woolf; M. Cohen; J. Phillips; and I. Lowe. Edwards' band was in attendance, and dancing was kept up until an early hour in the morning. Supper was admirably served about eleven o'clock, under the personal supervision of Bro. Ludlow, manager of the Hotel.

We printed a fortnight ago in our obituary column a notice of the death of an eminent clerical and medical American brother, Bro. Thomas Ralph Austin. Anent this same brother, the *Keystone* says: "Bro. Thomas R. Austin, a venerable and eminent Indiana Freemason, died a few days since at his home in Vincennes. Bro. Austin was born in London, England, graduated at Oxford, ordained a clergyman of the Church of England, and afterwards received a diploma as a physician and surgeon. During our late civil war Bro. Austin was a brigade surgeon. He was an estimable man and an enthusiastic Mason, and during the course of his long Masonic career is said to have conferred the M.M. degree on more than one thousand candidates." In another issue our contemporary says:—"Bro. Austin had quite a remarkable career. We read, in a contemporary, that he took the highest honours at Oxford, England, a half century ago. Later, starting for America, he was shipwrecked, and lived for thirteen days without food or water. In 1861, he was elected Grand Master of Indiana, without previously having filled any other station in that Grand body. During the war of the Rebellion he was brigade surgeon of Indiana troops. At one time he had one of the most complete Masonic libraries in America, but fire destroyed all his books. At the time of his death he was rector of St. James's P.E. Church, at Vincennes, Ind."

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Health or Wealth?—No sane person would hesitate an instant in the choice between these two conditions. Now is the season to secure the former, either by restoring or confirming it. These Pills expel all impurities from the system which fogs, foul vapours, and variable temperatures engender during winter. This medicine also acts most wholesomely upon the skin, disorganizing the liver of its accumulated bile; and by exciting the kidneys to more energetic action; it increases the appetite for food, and strengthens the digestive process. The stomach and liver, with which most disorders originate, are fully under the control of these regenerative Pills, which act very kindly, yet most efficiently on the tenderest bowels.—[ADVT.]

Bro. Frank Howard, 1673, solicitor, has taken offices at No. 26, Budge-row, Cannon-street.

Bro. Bradshaw Brown, auctioneer and surveyor, Fenchurch-street, has been elected a member of the Institute of Surveyors.

Bro. H. B. Marshall will preside at an entertainment to be given to the children of the Freemans' Orphanage School, this day (Friday).

Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon on Tuesday evening addressed a crowded gathering at the Stepney Meeting Hall upon the advantages offered by Canada as a place of emigration for working men.

Mr. Lennox Browne's lecture on "Science and Singing," delivered before the Society for the encouragement of the Fine Arts, is to be published immediately in an amplified form by Messrs. Chappell, under whose auspices the same author's "Medical Hints" had such a wide circulation.

We had the pleasure of announcing some time since that H.R.H. the Duke of Albany had consented to preside at the next festival of the Boys' School on the 26th June; and now we learn that his Royal Highness has approved of the Crystal Palace as the locality for holding the festival.

Bro. George Lambert, F.S.A., a short time since gave the Armourers and Brasiers' Company two axes of antique form and manufacture, with handles inlaid with ivory, engraved with various devices, "inter alia," the Crucifixion, the arms of Saxony, and the Corporation of Miners, to which these axes formerly belonged. They were carried in procession before the King of Saxony on the occasion of his presiding at the meeting of the Corporation, the King himself wearing a miner's dress.

The following dinners, &c., have been held at the Freemasons' Tavern during the present week: Monday, March 24th—Robert Burns Chapter, Old Kings' Arms Lodge, De Grey and Ripon Lodge, and Royal Somerset House & Inverness Lodge. Tuesday, 25th—Tuscan Lodge and Royal Savoy Lodge. Wednesday, 26th—Jews' Hospital and Orphan Asylum, and Lodge of Antiquity. Thursday, 27th—Old Acquaintance Annual Dinner, Mount Moriah Lodge, Grenadiers Lodge, St. George's Chapter, Presentation to Mr. Samuel Fryett, Chairman of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum. Friday, 28th—Jerusalem Lodge and Peace and Harmony Lodge.

Ye Antiente Fraternite of Ye Rahere Almoners give their fourth Smoking Concert for the season at the Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate-street, E.C., on Monday evening, the 31st inst. Bros. Sinclair, Dunn, and G. S. Graham, assisted by Mdles Susetta Fenn and Amy Graham with other artistes, have arranged an attractive programme of national ballads, which, with other selections, will doubtless ensure for this concert equal success to that which has characterised the former similar entertainments of this useful charitable society.

The British Government did a gracious act of international courtesy in presenting the steamship *Alert* to the United States, to aid in the Greely relief expedition. As was natural, resolutions of thanks were proposed in the House of Representatives, and were carried without dissent, except from the Hon. Mr. Finerty, of Illinois, and the Hon. Mr. Robinson, of New York, both of whom voted against the resolutions. Their conduct was childish, unworthy of men holding such high office as they do. We might consider their votes shameless exhibitions in an American House of Representatives, did we not remember that they are merely fanatics, who are driven to madness whenever the name of the English Government is mentioned with respect. The mention of England is to them what the waving of a red rag is to a wild bull.—*New York Dispatch*.

A meeting of the general committee of the late Fisheries Exhibition, for the purpose of winding up its affairs, was held on Saturday afternoon at South Kensington, the Prince of Wales in the chair. His Royal Highness said it was patent to all that the Fisheries Exhibition had in every point of view been a financial success, and it had also been a success as regarded the enormous number of people who had visited it, not only our countrymen and those from our colonies, but from every part of the globe. He maintained that its two salient objects—viz., the scientific and practical ones—had fully justified its existence, and it had shown, not only to our countrymen but to the whole world, what a valuable means of subsistence fish is. The report stated that they had a surplus amounting to £15,243, and it was resolved, on the motion of H.R.H., that a sum of £10,000 be invested with a view to applying the proceeds to the assistance of families who have suffered the loss of a father or husband in the prosecution of his calling as a sea fisherman, and that a further sum of £3000 be applied to the formation of a fisheries society, such as had been suggested by himself.

Trousers need not necessarily be old to get out of shape, baggy at the knees, or creased after rain; the different textures of which they are made, as well as use, are sufficient to cause these ordinary defects in gentlemen's dress. To invent an appliance which should make trousers always look new and seemly, is to confer an advantage upon society. A simple patent of Messrs. John Hamilton and Co., known as The Portable Trousers Stretcher, removes at once defects in gentlemen's dress, and becomes as indispensable an adjunct to the dressing-room as a boot-jack or shoe-horn. The instrument is composed of two clamps—one of which holds the trousers (after being folded with the crease down the centre) at the bottom, and the other clamp grips the trousers above the knee, a screwed rod is then passed through the top clamp, into the bottom clamp, and by turning the rod the clamps are driven from one another, and the trousers (being securely fastened in same) can be strained to any extent. The article is well finished in electro-bronze and electro-nickel, and can be divided into four parts—two clamps, and the rod (being jointed) in two parts, the whole when packed occupying a space of 17 inches by 5 inches, and weighing about 38 ounces. We observe that these useful and portable articles are retailed from 3s. 6d. to 7s. 6d., and hitherto have been supplied by the leading tailors of the country, thus giving the practical sanction of the trade to the value of Messrs. Hamilton's patent. As there are many millions of Her Majesty's subjects wearing trousers, there is a large field of business open to the patentees, at home and abroad. Certainly the "boots" at the leading hotels of the world may expect a pleasing and profitable addition to their duties.