

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;
SIR ARCHIBALD C. CAMPBELL, BART., M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

VOL. XVIII., No. 851.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1885.

PRICE 3d.

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THE Festival of the Boys' School took place on Wednesday, when under the distinguished presidency of the Marquis of HARTINGTON, Prov. G.M. for Derbyshire, the Stewards brought in the sum of £11,748, to which must be added the Grand Lodge vote of £1000. A great and brilliant company attended, and the gathering may be pronounced a highly successful one.

WE may with pride remember as Freemasons what the zeal and energy of Freemasons have done in England for the support of our great Masonic Metropolitan Charities in 1885. Despite bad times and an universal tendency to uncertainty and unsettledness in business, and when all around we note the falling off of subscriptions, and piteous appeals for help from countless useful associations, our good brethren in Freemasonry have not relaxed one jot or tittle in their steady and munificent support of our great Charities. Forty-four thousand pounds is a return for 1885, thus far incomplete as it is, which we may well point to and "make a note of." Such a total is a very remarkable fact in itself, and commends itself to the notice of the thoughtful and the philanthropic, as very suggestive in all good truth of the loving reality and hearty beneficence of our great Order. We do not wish to prolong these considerations to-day, but amid attacks many and virulent, it is something for us all to remember and witness, that English Freemasonry in its stately march stands before us in clearest contour the pride and trust of its sodality, and the helpmeet and benefactress of mankind.

OUR attention has been called by a correspondent to certain letters and statements by a Rev. R. H. COTTER, attacking Freemasonry in general, and Irish Freemasonry in particular, in a publication without a printer's name, and which is apparently intended for circulation in Ireland and England. The writer of this vehement incrimination of our peaceful, useful, and loyal Order is apparently very wide astray in the remarks he makes, and the assumptions he puts forward. He talks, for instance, of 15 millions of Freemasons, a statement so wild and erratic as not to deserve the slightest attention. He alludes to the paganism of Freemasonry, which we need hardly say is a self-evident absurdity in his mouth. There is one point in his letters with which we cannot fail to be struck, namely, that he runs completely in the same groove with our most virulent Roman Catholic assailants. In fact, he is "on all fours" with the most angry of Ultramontane antagonists. Who can, then, explain this exaggeration of language? this jargon of imbecility? this extraordinary assimilation of Roman Catholic unscrupulousness as regards Freemasonry, whether in Great Britain or elsewhere, which we find in the "ravings," we can term them nothing else, of this minister and messenger of peace and goodwill? The Irish Freemasons will regard these broad sheets with complete equanimity.

WE were glad to see Bro. TERRY in his place at Wednesday's festive gathering at the Crystal Palace. A few weeks since he had the misfortune to be disabled by an accident, which was serious enough to confine him a good deal to the house, and from the effects of which he has not yet wholly recovered. However, a sense of duty impelled him to be present at the Boys' Festival, and we must hope that the journey thither and home again will not have the effect of postponing his restoration to health.

OUR readers will be glad to hear that arrangements have already been completed for filling the vacancy caused by the death of R.W. Bro. Sir WATKIN WILLIAMS-WYNN, Bart., M.P., P.G.M. of North Wales and Salop. Considering how large an extent of country was contained within the limits of the late Bro. Sir W. W. WYNN's government, we think the GRAND MASTER has acted wisely in reconstructing North Wales as a separate province, and it will be generally allowed that in selecting Lord HARLECH for the post of Prov. Grand Master, a better choice could not have been made. Shropshire resumes its old position as a distinct province but under Bro. Sir OFFLEY WAKEMAN, who was Deputy P.G.M. when Sir W. W. WYNN died. The place of the late Duke of ALBANY as Prov. Grand Master of Oxfordshire has been filled by the appointment of the Earl of JERSEY, P.G.S.W., and Bedfordshire has been erected into a province under Bro. Col. W. STUART, of Tempsford Hall. These changes will no doubt prove eminently beneficial to the interests of the Craft generally as well as locally.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

FESTIVAL AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The 87th Anniversary Festival of this Institution was held on Wednesday evening, at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham. Nearly 700 brethren and ladies sat down to dinner, presided over by the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Derbyshire. Among the company present were

Bros. H. B. Marshall, C.C., Past G. Treas., Pat.; A. F. Godson, D.P.G.M. Worcestershire, V.-Pat.; Fitzherbert Wright, P.P.G.S.W. Derby, V.-Pat.; W. Roebuck, P.G. Stwd., P.P.G.S.W. Middx., Trustee, v.-Pat.; Captain George Lambert, P.P. G.W. Herts, P.G. Std. Br., Pat.; Lieut.-Col. J. Peters, P.P.G.W. Middx., P.G. Std. Br.; Edgar Bowyer, P.P.G.S.W. Herts, P.G. Std. Br., V.-Pat.; John Lawrence Mather, P.M., &c., P.P.G.D.C. Herts, V.-Pat.; G. Ratchiff Steel, J.D. 1, G.S.; F. T. Bennett, 33; Jubal Webb, W.M. 55; G. R. Ousey, W.M. 59; Arthur Josling, 60, G. Stwd.; Chas. Belton, F.R.G.S., W.M. 165, P.M. 777, P.P.G.D. Surrey, V.-Pat.; W. A. Scurrah, 167, W.M. 2048, V.-Pat.; Joseph Clever, P.M. 171, P.Z., V.-Pres.; Douglas Chester, 180; James Chapman, P.M. 194; Henry Carman, J.W. 548; W. Angus, P.M. 619; Edward Tappenden, 700; Nathaniel Goodchild, P.M. 704; John Bertram, P.M. 742 and 813, P.Z. 25, V.-Pres.; G. G. Beneditti, S.W. 1155; J. J. Berry, W.M. and P.M. 1278, P.Z. 554; James Crowden, W.M. 1297; A. T. Layton, W.M. 1601, P.M. 181, V.-Pat.; S. Pope, Q.C., M.P. 1610; C. H. Stone, 1641; D. P. Cama, P.M. 1642, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B. Middx., Pat.; Mrs. B. D. P. Cama, Pat.; Bros. W. F. Darnell, 1677; Asher Barfield, P.M. 35 and 1631, V.-Pat.; H. Cattermole, 1839; C. H. Phillips, P.M. 1986; G. P. Festa, P.M. 1900, V.-Pat.; C. H. Driver, P.M. 905 and 1149, P.P.G.S. of Works Surrey, &c.; C. Sherriffe Lane, P.M. 764 and 1862, P.Z. 764, P.P.G.D. Durham, V.-Pat.; C. F. Matier, P.M. 645, P.G. Stwd. Scotland, P.P.G.W. Greece, &c., V.-Pat.; W. W. Morgan; R. D. Poppleton, J. Terry, P.P.G.S.W. Norths and Hunts; J. L. Thomas, P.G.A.D.C.; A. Torkington, 60, P.G. Stwd., V.-Pat.; Hy. Fitzhardinge Price, P.M. 187, P.P.G. Reg. Bristol; John Smith, P.P.G.S.W. Derbyshire, V.-Pat.; Thomas Cox, W.M. 253, P.P.G.S.W. Derbyshire; Thomas Ed. Yeomans, P.M. 506; Samuel Robinson, W.M. 625; Joseph Taylor Wright, 654, P.P.G.P.T. Derbyshire; S. Steele, P.M. 802, P.P.G.P. Derbyshire; Percy Wallis, P.M. 850, Prov. G.D. C. Derbyshire; J. H. Lawson, P.M. 1235, P.P.G.S.D. Derbyshire; Thomas Parker, 1475; J. B. Boycott, W.M. 1952; W. Douglas Dugdale, P.M., P.P. G.S.W. Dorsetshire, V.-Pres.; Hans B. Olsen, Sec. 764; Joseph F. Wilson, J.W. 764; James Pearce Lewin, 276, P.P.G.S. of W. Essex; John Glass, P.M. 453; Richard Clowes, P.M. 050, Prov. G.S.W. Essex; Frank Hall, L.D.S., W.M. 403, P.P.G.A.P. Herts; Edward Swain, P.P.G.J.W. Herts, Prov. G.J. Herts, P.M. 449, 803, P. Std. 403; Christopher Miskin, P.M. 1479, P.P.S.D. Herts; George Band, P.M., Treas. 1096, P.G.A.P. Kent; Charles Holcroft, J.W. 1414; Robt. Foote, P.M. 1505, 2042, P.G. Stwd. West Lancashire, V.-Pres.; Wm. McLaughlin, 1505; C. Stretton, P.P.G.S.W. Leicester and Rutland, V.-Pat.; J. Faulkner, L.D.S., P.M. 1423, P.Z. Era, P.G.S.D. Middx.; W. H. Goodall, P.M. 1567, P.P.G.S.B. Middx.; Carter Millbourn, P.M. 2024, 511, V.-Pat.; J. M. McLeod, P.M. 884, J. 1661, W.M. 265, P.G.S.O. Notts.; G. H. Osmond, 340; A. Buck, 1703; J. J. Nosworthy, 329; H. W. H. Elwes, P.M. 1452, Prov. G.S.D. Suffolk; A. F. Godson, D.P.G.M. Worcester, V.-Pat.; W. C. Green, W.M. 377, Pr. G. Purs. Worcester; John S. Cumberland, P.J.P.G.W. N. and E. Yorks.; Christopher Palliser, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W. N. and E. Yorks.; Rawson Kelly, 258, P.P.G.S.B. W. Yorks.; C. K. Benson, 1336, P.G.A.P. N. Wales and Salop; W. Lascelles Southwell, W.M. 1621; D. C. Jones, P.M. 1573, P.G.J.W. E. Div. S. Wales; F. R. W. Hedges, Sec. Girls' School; J. M. P. Montagu, G. Supt. R.A. Dorset, P.G.D., P.D.P.G.M. Dorset, G.J.W. R.O.S., V.-Pat.; W. Lake, P.P.G. Reg.; and others.

The dinner, which was most bountifully provided by Bros. Bertram and Roberts, was also admirably served, and thoroughly enjoyed by all the company, and at its conclusion grace was sung by the musical team under Bro. Edwin M. Lott, Grand Organist, and the toasts were then proposed.



The Noble CHAIRMAN, on rising to propose the first toast, was received with loud cheers. He said: Ladies and brethren—I have now to propose to you a toast which, I am sure, you will all receive in the way in which, according to my experience, the toast has always been received amongst Freemasons. I have to propose to you "The Health of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen." (Cheers.) There may be other countries in which Freemasonry labours under some suspicion, and the secrecy of its proceedings exposes it to some misapprehensions; that is not the case, I am glad to say, among us. (Hear, hear.) It is well known that her Majesty has no more loyal body of subjects than the Freemasons of this country. (Cheers.) We are all, I think, tolerably well satisfied with the monarchical institution under which we live. (Hear, hear.) It is only upon such occasions as that through which we have just been passing that we fully realise how much we owe to the personal influence of the Sovereign—(hear, hear)—and I have no doubt that when the history of these transactions comes to be laid fully before you, you, with the whole country, will have reason to be satisfied, as you have been before, with the great constitutional knowledge and judgment which has been displayed by her Gracious Majesty. (Cheers.) I propose to you the health of her Gracious Majesty the Queen.

The toast was honoured with great enthusiasm. The CHAIRMAN said—The next toast that I have to give you is "The Health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of England, and President of the Institution whose Festival we are to-day celebrating."

Brethren, it is not necessary that I should waste your time in giving you the reason why we should drink this toast. We should drink it not only as loyal citizens, not only should we drink the health of one who will one day sit upon the Throne of this country, but we should drink it as the health of the chief of our Order, and as the health of one who has shown a great and constant interest in all that relates to Freemasonry. I am sure that there are those present who could tell you much more about it than it is in my power to do; how much the Charity which we are to-day celebrating, and the other Masonic Charities, owe to the exertions of H.R.H., assisted ably as he has been by other members of his family. H.R.H. has lately shown his interest in our Craft by himself, I believe, initiating his eldest son as a Freemason. I am sure it is not necessary that I should detain you longer, because I know you will with all cordiality and enthusiasm drink the health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, Grand Secretary, then said: I am privileged to propose to you the next toast, and it is one which I am confident will be received by every person in this room with the greatest enthusiasm; it is "The Health of your noble Chairman." I am quite sure that our Bro. Binckes will agree with me, and I trust that others present will agree with me, when I say that it is a very great advantage, and certainly it is a very great pleasure, that among the earnest and good men and true that we number on our list, we have among us a very large number of noblemen and gentlemen who are highly distinguished in our country. These noblemen and gentlemen occupy themselves in furthering the interests and welfare of their Sovereign and their country. These are found to act as true and earnest Masons, to identify themselves with our Institutions, and to further their best interests. In fact, I may describe them as true specimens of the English working man. Of this truism I think at the present moment our noble Chairman is an excellent example. He belongs to one of those exalted Houses which have provided old and tried Statesmen, who have contributed to the great success and interests of this country; and yet among the multifarious duties of his life he has found time to be the Prov. Grand Master of Derbyshire for over a quarter of a century, and he has presided over that province with the greatest skill and ability. The Marquis of Hartington has been good enough to come to preside over our Festival, and I think I can venture, in the name of the School, to thank his lordship for his presence this evening. I am quite sure that Lord Hartington's presence to-night will be productive of much good to the Institution, and I trust we are likely at our various Festivals to have noblemen like himself, distinguished among the brethren, to preside on these occasions. I ask you to join with me in drinking "The Health of the Marquis of Hartington, Provincial Grand Master for Derbyshire, the Chairman of the evening." (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN, who was very enthusiastically greeted on rising to respond, said: I need scarcely say that I feel much indebted to Bro. Shadwell Clerke for the manner in which he has proposed my health, and to you also for the manner in which you have received it. I admit that I feel that what has been said about the manner in which I have discharged my Masonic duties I can scarcely take credit for. It is true that I have had the honour of being Provincial Grand Master of Derbyshire for more than a quarter of a century—(hear, hear)—and if the affairs of that province are, as I trust and believe they are, in a satisfactory state, I must honestly say that the credit for that condition of affairs is due entirely to the distinguished brethren who have successively occupied the position of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and who have relieved me entirely, or almost entirely, of all the Masonic cares which ought more properly to have devolved upon me. I have, as has been said by Bro. Clerke, some excuses—some good, others perhaps not quite so good—for my neglect of my Masonic duties. It appears to me, and I take blame to myself, that I have too long resisted the applications which have frequently kindly been made to me to take the chair upon one of these interesting occasions. It seems that in overcoming the diffidence which I felt upon that point with reference to the present occasion, I have shown something approaching to the gift of prophesy. I have always had the excuse that my official duties were very severe—(laughter)—and that my time was so constantly occupied, that it was impossible for me to undertake other than absolute necessary duties. Well, brethren, for reasons with which I need not now trouble you—(laughter)—some months ago I overcame my reluctance on this subject, and I acceded to the request of the distinguished and most energetic Secretary, Bro. Binckes, that I would take the chair upon this occasion, trusting that Providence would in some way or another enable me to fulfil the duty which I thus undertook. (Laughter.) Providence has enabled me. (Laughter and hear, hear.) It is what I trust may be a substantial and a satisfactory holiday which I am now beginning. (Laughter, and cries of "Yes" and "No.") For, brethren, I can assure you that if I have to apologise to you for having kept you waiting to-night—"No apology is necessary"—I was late only because I had just returned from Windsor, having performed the act of resignation of my official duties. (Hear, hear.) Having detained you sufficiently long with regard to myself, I propose to make a slight departure from the order in which the toasts have been arranged, and to take the opportunity of at once bringing to your notice the most important toast with which we have to deal to-night. Not having attended, as I have explained on many of these occasions previously, I do not know what sort of speech it has been the custom to make; but I cannot help feeling a very considerable suspicion that those of you who have attended on many of these occasions must have found a very considerable similarity in the topics brought before you, and I am afraid that anything which I am likely to be able to say to you will be even more trite and well-worn than what many of you have perhaps heard on previous occasions. Then, also, I cannot omit the consideration that we are in the midst of a very extraordinary and sudden change in our somewhat variable climate, and that the temperature of this room in which we sit, and are likely to continue to sit for some time, is somewhat high, and that the grounds outside this beautiful Palace appear to me to be somewhat more inviting than listening to speeches, whether they be new or stale; and therefore I do not propose to detain you very long with any observations upon what is called the toast of the evening. There are difficulties in the way of my dilating at any length upon purely Masonic subjects. All the world knows that we do possess recondite and mysterious secrets, but the presence of numerous ladies whom I am glad to see around us prevents me entering into a discussion of any of the secrets, as to which they would be so glad to obtain information. (Laughter and hear, hear.) I can only therefore speak, ladies and brethren, to-night upon those topics of our Craft which are known and are patent to all the world. I have already said in proposing the first toast that there are countries in which Freemasonry on account of the secrecy of its proceedings, labours under some suspicion, and is connected in the minds of the governments and ruling powers of those

countries with the proceedings of other secret bodies. But I think enough is known of us to satisfy everybody that the secrets we possess are not secrets which are in any degree antagonistic to any of the fundamental principles on which society rests, and are not antagonistic to any of the principles either of morality or of religion. (Cheers.) It is known to all the world that some of the first principles of our Craft are contained in the words "brotherhood and benevolence," and it is in furtherance and in endeavours to carry into execution those principles that we are met here this evening. (Hear, hear.) There may have been times—times long past—when society and the world were not so large, when our own body was not so large, and when it was not necessary that the charity and benevolence which we inculcate should be organised as it is necessary that it should be organised now. In those past times it might have been possible for brother to appeal to brother, or, at all events, for a distressed brother to appeal to his own lodge to obtain the assistance and sympathy which he required. But everything now is so large, and our own body is so large, that some organisation of the benevolence and the charity which is an essential principle of our Order is absolutely required. We all know that indiscriminate charity and indiscriminate benevolence practised by individuals is likely to do more harm than good; and I cannot help feeling that but for the organisation which has been introduced into our Masonic Charities, Masonic Charity might possibly have tended to have had the same effect. (Hear, hear.) Therefore, brethren, I think we owe a very deep debt of gratitude to those Masons who in times past, and who with still more energy in the present time, have devoted themselves to the work of organising Masonic Charity. (Cheers.) And in consequence of these exertions the three splendid Masonic Charities now exist, of which the one whose Festival we are at present celebrating is I think the leading one, or at all events in the very first rank. (Hear, hear.) I am not going to detain you with any history of this Institution, with which no doubt many of you are very much better acquainted than I am; but there are one or two facts I may state which will be of interest to those who are perhaps not so fully acquainted with them. This is, I believe, the eighty-seventh Festival of this Charity, and during the 86 years this Institution has been in existence the number of boys who have received its benefits has been 1657, that is to say, 1657 sons of Masons have received the education which is given to them by this Institution. When it was first founded there were only 25 boys, who, in a somewhat irregular and unsettled manner, were receiving an education at the various institutions all over the country. There are now 215 boys in the School of this Institution at Wood Green. (Cheers.) And the Committee have made arrangements for providing additional buildings and other accommodation, which will enable the benefits of the Institution to be extended to 50 more boys. (Hear, hear.) It is hoped that in October of the present year a certain number of additional candidates will be elected for admission in January, 1886. I need scarcely say that for the completion of those buildings funds are most urgently needed by the Committee. The ceremony of laying the corner stone of this addition to the buildings of the Institution will be performed by a lady well known for her benevolence, and for the lead which she has taken in works of public utility of every description. I refer to the Baroness Burdett-Coutts. (Cheers.) This Institution is, I believe, essentially and completely a Masonic Institution. A few other benefactors we may have had; but that I believe to a very small extent. We ask for no assistance from the State; we ask for no assistance from any other Institution; we ask for no assistance from any other body but the Masonic body. All that we have asked from any other body has been, that we have taken advantage of the liberal and generous procedure of the Universities, and have availed ourselves—that is to say, the Institution has availed itself—of the facilities which have been given by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge for examining and enquiring into the educational results produced by this Institution. Since 1867 a total of 230 boys have passed the University Local Examination, and 148 have obtained honours, while 82 have earned certificates. (Cheers.) In conclusion, I have only to say that results such as these which I have imperfectly endeavoured to bring before you are not accomplished without a very considerable expenditure of money. I am informed that the ordinary expenditure of this Institution in the past year was £9793, in addition to which there was a special expenditure of £1000. To meet that expenditure, the Institution has only got funded stock amounting to £17,000, the dividends upon which—being the only reliable income upon which the Institution has to depend—amount to about £732 per annum. I must say that when I first read these figures I was struck with the boldness of a Committee which could carry on operations involving so large an expenditure, and which appeared not to shrink from the responsibility of still further extending its operations upon an income which was so precarious as one relying upon the annual subscriptions. But when I looked at the list of the recent Festivals, when I saw the vast amount, and, on the whole, the steady and continuing amount which each successive Festival has brought into the coffers of this Institution, I no longer wondered, and I only admired the confidence with which the Committee of this Institution rely upon the benevolent and fraternal principles which unite the whole Masonic body, and rely that they will receive in the future, as they have received in the past, a generous support to this most deserving and this most useful Institution. I beg to propose to you "Success to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys." (Cheers.)

Bro. GEORGE PLUNKETT, Treasurer of the Institution, responded.

The CHAIRMAN then said: I propose to give you the next toast, and after that I think I shall ask the Stewards, or those in charge of this Festival, to request some other brother to propose the remaining toasts, and not to make it necessary for me to inflict any more speeches on your attention. (No, no.) I should be sorry, however, to entrust the toast that I have now to propose to any other hands—it is "The Health of the Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master and the Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master, and the ex-officio Vice-Presidents of this Institution, the Provincial Grand Masters, and the Present and Past Grand Officers." Two of the high officers I have just described to you by their titles are the Earl of Carnarvon and the Earl of Lathom; and, brethren, I should have been extremely sorry if it could have been supposed for a moment that any such trifle as a difference in political opinion would prevent me from proposing the health of the two esteemed friends of my own, whose conduct in the discharge of the important Masonic duties which they fulfil has commended them to the universal approval of the Craft. I must say I think it is a singular coincidence—I believe it is extremely probable—that the train which I met when I left Windsor this afternoon may perhaps have contained the Grand Officers whose health I propose—the Earl of Carnarvon and the Earl of Lathom. It may be that they cannot do without Masons. If the House turns out of office any members of the Craft they replace them with other members of the Craft, and perhaps we ourselves may have to acknowledge that we are

something like the great family who in the time of the civil wars of the Stuarts used carefully to keep in a member or two members of the family in order that they might always be on the right side, whichever might be forward. I am not quite sure whether that was a very excellent political manoeuvre or not, but I appeal to you, who are a non-political body, whether you will not do well to receive and cherish in your midst members, and as far as you are able, the most distinguished members on both political sides, and to honour their names, whatever may be the party to which they belong, as you now honour the names of Lord Carnarvon and Lord Lathom to-day. Meanwhile, I have to couple with this toast the name of Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall, Past Grand Treasurer.

Bro. H. B. MARSHALL, Past Grand Treasurer: My Lord, Ladies, and Brethren,—I thank you, my lord, for the very kind and fraternal way in which you have proposed the health of the Grand Officers, and you, brethren, for the cordial way you have received it. You have often heard from the Grand Secretary that the Grand Master invariably exercises great judgment and rare wisdom in his selection of the rulers of the Craft. It would be highly improper for me, placed in this position by your generosity and magnanimity to say that you have exercised the same judgment and wisdom, but I can say with propriety, and do assert from my heart as well as from my lips, that I will try to be as worthy of the position in which I have been placed as any Grand Officer that has been selected by the Grand Master for the present year or for part years.

Bro. F. BINCKES then read the list of subscriptions amounting to £11748 7s., which he prefaced by saying he had hoped that this year would have proved a bright exception, but the large amount collected by the Benevolent Institution in February, and the Girls' School in May, made him begin to despair of the success of the Boys' School. The only hope he had to render a good account before the brethren to-day was the fact that he had had the good fortune to enlist the support of the Province of Derby, and the presidency of the Marquis of Hartington. He had no hesitation in saying that his success in that direction had been the salvation of this Festival. He was sure they would be disappointed with the result, but whether they had succeeded or whether they had failed, they had done the best in their power.

Bro. SAMUEL POPE, Q.C., in proposing the next toast, said: I had no idea that I should have the honour of proposing this toast, but I should be a sorry brother of the Craft, and a lame member of my own profession if I hesitated to do so upon the request of our Bro. Binckes. I own, brethren, that I have been much impressed to-night with the general feeling of brotherhood which prevails among the Craft. There are some of us who rejoice that an enforced temporary idleness has enabled our Right Worshipful President to rally us to this Charity. There are others, and I rejoice to know it, who feel that it is an honour to the Craft that if Her Majesty requires advisers she can find them among the Masons of this country. As far as my duty now extends, it is rather to invite you to consider not only the claims of the Institution which has called us together, but to recognise also the claims of the kindred Charities of the Craft. I do not share the feelings of our Bro. Binckes that our subscription lists give any ground for anxiety or despondency. It seems to me that it is a magnificent effort of the benevolent Charity of the Craft that early in the year and in May so grand a subscription could have been made for the Benevolent Institution and for the Girls' School, and yet there is still left a sufficient amount of responsibility to raise the magnificent sum of £11,700 in support of this School, and that makes a sum of more than £44,000 subscribed by Masons in support of their Charities since the 1st of January of the present year. Of course, while, on the one hand, we desire to see our boys sent out into the world with the advantage of education which our School affords to them, we equally desire that the future mothers of Masons should have advantages equal to those of the boys, and while we look to the future and to the youth, we also look back upon the aged, who have consecrated their lives to the service of the Craft, and we feel that they are deserving equally of our support and of our sympathy. I ask you therefore, while we have to-night celebrated the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, that when the year come round we should remember that the Charities are one and all the same, and that we should do next year, if possible, more than we have done in this, in order to support those Charities upon the basis which they have hitherto maintained. I beg, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, to ask your leave therefore to propose "The Other Masonic Charities—the Institution for Girls and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution," and I couple with the toast the names of Bro. Terry and Bro. Hedges.

Bro. HEDGES: My lord, ladies and brethren, on entering this room I little thought that it would fall to my lot to have the honour of addressing you to-night, and I am sure you will all feel with me deep regret at the very serious indisposition which has compelled Bro. Terry to ask me to speak on his behalf as well as on my own. And, sir, but for that regret, I rise with the very greatest amount of pleasure indeed to acknowledge on behalf of the Benevolent Institution and the Girls' School for the very hearty reception which you have accorded to this toast to-night, and for the very kind manner in which you have drunk to its prosperity. Bro. Pope has already told you that with to-night's meeting the Craft has subscribed to the three Masonic Charities for the year £44,781. On behalf of the Girls' School and the Benevolent Institution permit me to express my deep acknowledgements for the share which those Institutions have taken in that large amount and to tender to the Boys' School our congratulations on the sum which Bro. Binckes has to-night announced. When we take into consideration the splendid sum which the Boys' School received on the last occasion I do not think Bro. Binckes should be in any way despondent. I thank you once more for the very kind manner in which you have received our names in connection with the toast.

Bro. JAS. LEWIS THOMAS, P.G.A.D.C., in proposing the "The Patrons, the Vice-Patrons, the Vice-Presidents, Trustees and Members of the Committees," said, I am sure we are all deeply indebted to these brethren for the manner in which they conduct our affairs and for the splendid way in which they support this Institution. We have heard in a most eloquent speech from our noble Chairman that we cannot inform all the company present of our secrets in Freemasonry, but at all events this is the outward and visible sign of Freemasonry which we display to the world and that is our charities, and I am sure that the noble way in which the Institution has been supported this evening will cause great rejoicing throughout the ranks of the brethren in the length and breadth of the land. I therefore propose this toast and beg to couple with it the name of Bro. Capt. Geo. Lambert, Patron of the Institution.

Bro. GEORGE LAMBERT, P.G. Swd. Br.: Permit me, on behalf of the Patrons, Vice-Patrons, Presidents, and Vice-Presidents of this Institution,

to return you our grateful thanks for the manner in which year after year you are pleased to enlarge upon our services. I little thought when I first joined Freemasonry that I should ever have the honour of being a Patron of this Institution, and I now remember well I opposed Bro. Binckes in moving the School or doing anything at Wood Green; but I feel we are amply repaid for the trouble, the toil, the anxiety which we had on that occasion when I see the magnificent pile of buildings, and, what is more important, the magnificent education which the boys receive who are educated in it. I am quite sure that that is the best meed of praise that can be meted out to your officers by enlarging that education, and doing the best you possibly can to aid these young men on coming into the world to fight the battle of life, which they must face. We are very much indebted to Dr. Morris for the manner in which he has conducted the School. I am proud that we have a man of such sterling character and of such high education to produce such lads. We are thankful that the Committee take the labour off our hands. We would all willingly, I am sure, share in the labour of that Institution; but I feel bound to consider a few members can do it better than a large Committee. But "quot homines tot sententiae" is a very old saying. A large number have not the time to give. Permit me to return you our thanks for the terms in which you have acknowledged our labours, and to assure you that they will not be lessened, but rendered to the best of our ability on behalf of this Institution.

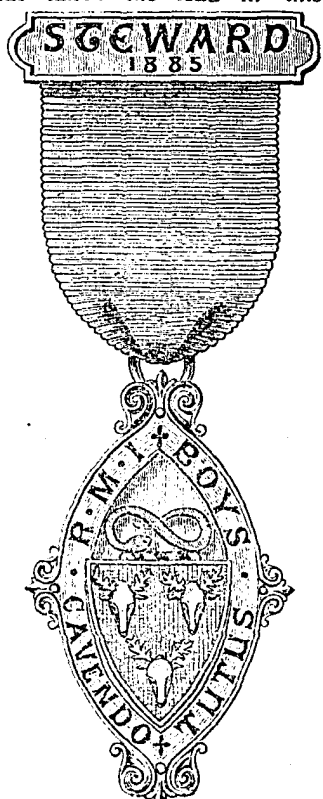
Bro. SMITH, P.G.W. Derbyshire, in eloquent and flowing terms, proposed "The Board of Stewards."

Bro. EDGAR BOWYER, P.G. Std. Br., responded.

The CHAIRMAN: The influences to which I referred at an earlier period of the evening have, I think, judging by the appearance of the room, had their effect, and I fear that, notwithstanding the excellent maxim which I inculcated that we should be short, we have some of us trespassed too much upon your time, and I am afraid that among those I have been the greatest offender. Ladies and brethren, we have reached the last toast, but not the least important of the evening, and I think before we separate if the brethren will join with me in drinking the health of those who have contributed so much to the grace and success of the evening—the ladies who have been good enough to honour us with their presence—we shall be doing only what is just. I believe this is the Masonic Institution which has taken the lead in this civilised and civilising habit of admitting ladies to their festival. I do believe that although our body is not one which, as a general rule, approves of innovation, this is an innovation which we fully, entirely, and completely approve. I shall not trespass longer upon your time. I can only express a hope that the ladies who have done us the honour to visit us this evening have not been too much wearied by the proceedings in which they have had the goodness to take a part. I hope they will impress upon all their friends, upon all those over whom they exercise so good and beneficent an influence, that they should support this and the other Masonic Institutions, and that we may rely in future upon their cordial support in promoting the success of those most excellent associations.

The proceedings then terminated, and the party returned to town by special trains on the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway (High Level).

The Steward's Jewel is silver-gilt, the design being of a renaissance character; the edges and letters are in relief on a friezed ground; the arms and crest of the Chairman in the centre, enamelled in correct colours. It is suspended from a silver-gilt bar, bearing the date of the Stewardship, by black and white ribbon, the Marquis's colours. It was specially designed and manufactured, by Bro. George Kenning, London.



STEWARDS' LISTS.

LONDON.			Lodge.		
Lodge	£	s. d.	183	£	s. d.
1 Bro. G. Ratcliff Steel	15	15 0	183 Bro. Stephen Richardson	37	16 0
2 " Wm. Harry Rylands	47	5 0	194 " James Chapman	105	0 0
4 " Harry E. Pollard	16	10 0	198 " J. C. Carr	...	...
5 " C. Herbert Shoppee	42	0 0	205 " M. H. Harris	65	2 0
6 " J. Harvey Brand	21	0 0	211 " Alfred Withers	54	18 6
7 " Albert Sauvé	16	16 0	235 " Joseph Kincaid	...	...
8 " S. G. Glanville	23	2 0	259 " J. H. P. Wilson	38	17 0
14 " S. R. V. Robinson	5	5 0	435 " August. Ross	31	0 0
21 " W. Grellier	36	15 0	548 " Henry Carman	...	...
25 " J. W. Harvey	52	10 0	619 " W. Angus	10	10 0
26 " J. W. Robinson	...	...	700 " Edward Tappenden	79	16 0
Lodge and Chapter 28 } Bro. E. M. Money	45	8 0	704 " Nathaniel Goodchild	27	16 6
33 Bro. F. T. Bennett	71	18 6	715 " Herbert Cuff	25	4 0
34 " R. A. Meyer	...	...	720 " George Lambert	42	0 0
55 " Jubal Webb	31	10 0	733 " Alfred Arrowsmith	44	2 0
59 " G. T. Ousey	85	1 0	742 " John Bertram	52	10 0
60 " Arthur Josling	33	12 0	822 " J. C. Partridge	...	...
90 " J. A. Allison	85	1 0	902 " W. Wilkins	25	4 0
91 " W. J. Parker	42	0 0	1155 " G. G. Beneditti	19	19 0
95 " Millner Jutsum	101	17 0	1158 " W. Belchamber	...	...
141 " Adolphus Steng	110	10 0	1185 " W. G. Hildreth	36	15 0
143 " W. E. Stewart	28	7 0	1278 " J. J. Berry	77	14 0
Chapter 145 Comp. Henry Venn	30	5 0	1297 " James Crowden	53	0 0
Lodge 165 Bro. Chas. Belton	52	10 0	1319 " C. Wellard	...	...
167 " W. A. Scurrall	157	10 0	1383 " M. P. F. Caulfield	83	10 0
171 " Joseph Clever	40	19 0	1420 " J. W. Hiscox	68	5 0
172 " W. O. Beazley	16	16 0	1471 " A. C. Halestrap	85	11 6
177 " Robert Pierpoint	132	0 0	1538 " John P. Parkes	21	0 0
180 " Douglas Chester	41	9 0	1585 " J. W. Robinson	52	10 0
181 " E. W. Stanton	68	15 0	1601 " A. T. Layton	15	15 0
			1608 " G. A. Barclay	136	10 0
			1610 " S. Pope, Q.C.	89	5 0
			1641 " C. H. Stone	26	5 0
			1642 " Bro. D. P. Cama	10	10 0
			1670 " Mrs. Bhicaiji D. P. Cama	220	10 0
				29	5 6

like Bro. Bowyer's of last year, amounting to £210. Third in order was Bro. James Willing, jun., as representative of the Strand Lodge, No. 1987, his total being £169 17s., and close at his heels we find Bro. Scurrah, St. John's, No. 167, who figures for £157 10s. Bro. G. A. Barclay, of the Kilburn, No. 1608, raised £136 10s., and Bro. Robert Pierpoint, of the Domatic, No. 177, £132; while Bro. Burdett-Coutts, of the Abbey Lodge, No. 2030, was not very far from repeating his triumph of May, 1884, his list on the latter occasion being £157 10s., and on Wednesday £126 5s. The remaining three-figure lists are as follow: Those of Bro. Adolphus Steng, of the Faith Lodge, No. 141, £110 10s.; Bro. W. Williams, of the Creaton, No. 1791, £110 5s.; Bro. C. H. Phillips, Honor Oak, No. 1986, £106 10s.; Bro. James Chapman, St. Paul's, No. 194, and Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall, Past Grand Treasurer, Unattached, each with £105, and Bro. Millner Jutsum, Eastern Star No. 95, £101 17s. There are a few other good lists, such as those of Bro. Ousey, Royal Naval, No. 59, Bro. Allison, No. 90, Bro. Caulfield, No. 1383, Bro. Halestrap, No. 1471, and the joint one of Bros. Forge and Woodman, No. 1950, while on the other hand there is probably more than the usual array of returns which are evidently limited to the personal contributions of the brethren making them. At all events, be the explanation of the reduction in number of Stewards and amount what it may, we must go through the returns of several festivals before we come to one in which the London total was so low as it was on Wednesday—£509 17s.

Let us give our attention now to the

PROVINCES,

Of which 31, or about the usual proportion, sent Stewards. The sum raised by this section of the Board of Stewards was £6655 12s., and we may reasonably congratulate the 156 brethren composing it on the result of their labours. Here at all events there is something like an approach to the average, both as regards the number of brethren who gave their services and the amounts they were successful in obtaining, and had London been equally well placed, Bro. Binckes would have been able to announce a sum more nearly equal to what he did in 1884. Of course, the most prominent part was played by the Chairman's province, and he undoubtedly must be immensely gratified at the result of its efforts, the Derbyshire total, inclusive of the Marquis of Hartington's own donation, amounting to £1541 11s. Other provinces which distinguished themselves were Kent, West Yorkshire, Staffordshire, and Middlesex, full particulars, however, being furnished in each case. But before giving these, we shall just bestow a glance at those which, for reasons of their own or for no particular reason, allowed the Festival to pass without sending up any Steward or Stewards.

The absentee provinces were 10 in number, namely, Cambridgeshire (five lodges), which did excellent service both for this Institution in June, 1884, and the Benevolent in February last; Cornwall (29 lodges), which has been present at the eight Festivals held since January, 1883, and, by the hands of Bro. C. Truscott, raised £200 for the Benevolent in February, and £210 for the Girls' in May; Herefordshire (four lodges), which we regret to find has taken no part in any of the festive gatherings since that of the Boys' School held in June, 1883; Lincolnshire (21 lodges), which swelled Bro. Binckes's list in June, 1884, with a modest 50 guineas, and Bro. Terry's in February last with close on £90; but which must kindly excuse us for suggesting that it might possibly give further assistance without serious detriment to its own interests; Monmouthshire (eight lodges), which was represented at the Boys' Festival in 1884 to the extent of £307 13s.; at the Benevolent in February with £200; and in May by Master Willie Watkins, whose list was £61 8s. 6d.; Norfolk (16 lodges), which, under the influence of Bro. Bacon, of Perseverance Lodge, No. 213, Norwich, made up a total of £200 for the Girls' School last month; Northants and Hunts (10 lodges), which, however, raised over £215 for this Institution last year; Wiltshire (10 lodges), which, per Bro. Chandler, raised £185 14s. for the Benevolent Institution in February last, and was represented at all three Festivals in 1884; South Wales, Western Division (10 lodges), which gave Bro. Terry £90 in February, and worked admirably for the Girls' School in 1884, and the Boys' School in 1883; and Jersey (seven lodges), which did well for the Benevolent in February, and better still for the Boys in 1883. In addition, there are Bedfordshire, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man, each of which has five lodges, but no provincial organisation; but only one of which—the Channel Islands—appears to concern itself about our Institutions. In the case of the Isle of Man, this lack of interest, for reasons we have before specified, is perhaps excusable; but, as regards Bedfordshire, which is on the eve of being erected into a province under Bro. Col. W. Stuart, of Tempsford Hall, as Prov. Grand Master, let us hope that under the new order of things it will find a place in its consideration for the Institutions of which the English Craft, as a body, is so justly proud. The above 10 provinces and three districts without provincial organisation include amongst them 135 lodges, and, from the tenour of our remarks, it will be seen that the bulk of these have done their duty more or less successfully on other occasions, and that in nearly every case a valid reason can be offered for their absence from this particular celebration.

As regards the represented provinces, taking them in their usual alphabetical order, we have at the head of the list the Province of

BERKS AND BUCKS.

Which is as remarkable for the regularity of its attendance as for the liberality of its contributions. It seems to be recognised as a point of honour among its 21 lodges that one or more of them should send up Stewards to every Festival, and the aggregate of its lists is invariably respectable. The four Stewards on Wednesday made up a total of £149 2s., of which Comp. J. Early Danks, of the Union Chapter, No. 414, Reading, raised £67 4s. In February it raised £207 1s. for the Benevolent Institution, and in May £234 for the Girls' School, so that its total for the current year amounts to a few shillings over £590. In 1884, it raised over £453; in 1883, £472; and in 1882 nearly £620, and in each case the sum has been very fairly apportioned among all three Charities. On this occasion two Berks and one Bucks lodge, with one Berks chapter, did their best towards sustaining the honour of the province.

BRISTOL.

Has 8 lodges, and for reasons of its own, appears to give its principal support to the Old People. Thus in February last Bro. Wm. Purnell, one of Wednesday's Stewards, raised close on £60 for the Benevolent Institution. In February, 1884, the same brother made up a list of £293 11s., and in 1883, three of its lodges contributed amongst them £217, Bro. Purnell being again a Steward. On Wednesday, the Beaufort, No. 103, and the Sussex Lodge of Hospitality, No. 187, raised between them £115 10s., Bro. Purnell's share for the former lodge being £24 3s., and Bro. H. Fitzhardinge Price's for the latter, £91 7s. This gives a total for the last three years of over £685, which, considering the province, as we have

pointed out already, has only eight lodges, is unquestionably a most satisfactory figure.

As regards CHESHIRE,

We seem to be somewhat disappointed. There are 39 lodges on its roll, and though its Educational Institute is in capital trim, being liberally supported and doing admirable work, a total of £36 15s. strikes us as being too moderate a contribution for so conspicuous a province. It raised £100 16s. for the Girls' School last month, and £244 15s. for the Benevolent in February, so that its total for the current year is £371 16s. But in 1884 it raised £679, and in 1883, all three Charities were benefited, the sum secured by the Boys' School being over £173. Perhaps, the smallness of the present total may be explained by the comparative largeness of the contribution—nearly £500—to this Institution last year. However, whatever the reason, there stands the return as £36 15s., and we can only wish it had been ten times the amount.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND,

With its 20 lodges, figures once again in the returns, under the familiar auspices of Bro. G. J. McKay, its Prov. Grand Secretary, whose list amounts to £52 10s. The last occasion on which this worthy brother played the part of Steward for his province was at the Boys' School Festival in 1883, when his total reached the splendid sum of 1000 guineas (£1050). Only once since then has Cumberland and Westmorland taken any part in these gatherings, and that was in February last, when one of its lodges raised slightly over £50 for the Benevolent Institution.

Next in order is the Chairman's province of

DERBYSHIRE,

Every one of whose 20 lodges has taken care to send a representative, and whose total of £1541 12s., including the Marquis of Hartington's personal contribution of £73 10s., does infinite credit to the Stewards who have laboured so strenuously to make the return worthy of their respected chief, and to the brethren generally, who have so laudably seconded those efforts. It is not so very many years since such a total, if accumulated by the whole body of the Craft for a particular Festival, would have been looked upon as a handsome contribution. It is certainly not very long ago that, when the question of enlarging the benefits of this Institution was on the carpet, very grave fears were entertained as to the possibility of raising the requisite £1500 annually, and the contemplated enlargement was postponed. But here we have a single province, and, speaking numerically, by no means the most considerable, raising off-hand, and almost as a matter of course, a total which, at the time referred to, caused such dismal apprehensions as to be considered pretty nearly beyond the possibility of levy. Nor is this by any means the sum of what may be said in behalf of Derbyshire and our other provinces when it devolves upon any particular district to give additionally loyal support to the Chairman of the day. It has evinced its interest in all our Charities in turn, if it has not figured regularly in the Stewards' lists. Last year, for instance, it raised £94 10s. for the Boys' School, and £356 4s. for the Girls'. In 1883, it distributed £359 4s. among the three Charities, the Boys' being favoured to the extent of £238 17s., and in 1882 it totalled up a little over £690. In these four years therefore it has done admirably, and were it desirable to carry our researches further back, we should find that, in the preceding as in these years, Derbyshire had loyally borne its share of the general burden in upholding our Institutions. We may congratulate Lord Hartington on the loyal support he has received from his province, the brethren, and in an especial manner, Bro. Percy Wallis, who worked so well, on the support thus given.

The half-century of lodges in

DEVONSHIRE

Had no representative at the Girls' Festival last month, though, in February one of its members as Steward for Lodge No. 1402, of Torquay, took up a list of £135. In 1884 it contented itself with small contributions to the three Charities, while in 1883 it raised £595, of which £317 6s. fell to the share of the Boys' School, and in 1882 its total was £305. On Wednesday there were two Devon Stewards, Bro. J. E. Curteis, who has more than once signalled himself at these festive gatherings, and Bro. J. Bradford, who figures for 30 guineas (£31 10s.), the result of their joint efforts being £289. Of the 31 lodges in

DORSETSHIRE

Made its second appearance during the current year on Wednesday, when Bro. W. Douglas Dugdale—a brother whose name is often present in these lists—handed in a total of £68 5s., Bro. S. R. Baskett's list in May for the Girls' School amounting to £96 12s. Thus, though there are only 13 lodges on the roll of this province, its contributions have reached to close on £165. In 1884, Bro. Dugdale gave his services as Steward at the Benevolent, Festival but no return appeared in the Stewards' list; but the preceding year contributions were raised for all three Charities, the Boys' School receiving £142 16s. In former years it has also acquitted itself most creditably, its totals having in more than one instance been largely in excess of what the paucity of its lodges would justify us in expecting.

DURHAM,

One—the Harbour of Refuge, No. 764, West Hartlepool—had two brethren to represent it, their joint list amounting to £105; in February, two brethren as representatives of Nos. 48 and 348 respectively between them raised £120 15s. In 1884 it gave £452, and was among the contributing provinces in 1883 and 1882, but its principal effort was at the Boys' Festival at Brighton in 1881, when the late Marquis of Londonderry occupied the chair, and its returns exceeded £700, the sum of £1024 representing the aggregate of the year's contributions to the three Charities. Of the 23 lodges on the roll of

ESSEX

Seven sent up Stewards on Wednesday, and the Priory Chapter, No. 1000, Southend, was also represented, the aggregate of their lists amounting to £251 19s. It cannot be doubted that this is an excellent total, especially after contributions to the Benevolent in February of £456 13s. 6d., and to the Girls' School last month of £86 2s. Moreover, it raises the sum for the current year to £794 14s. 6d. as against £1546 17s. 6d. in 1884, but in the latter year its Prov. G. Master, Lord Brooke, M.P., presided as Chairman at the Girls' School Festival, and the Province then raised £1000. Thus in 1884 and 1885 Essex has been represented at all six anniversaries, and the total of its contributions is £2341 12s., or over £390 per Festival. It will be allowed that Essex has played its part admirably in these as in previous years, when its returns will be found to have been as regular as they were generous.

For the Province of

GLOUCESTERSHIRE,

After its splendid work in February, when its Prov. G. Master, Sir M. F. Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., presided for the Benevolent Institution and all

its 14 lodges and the chapters attached to all of them, raised amongst them over £1210, we did not expect that a representative of any of its lodges would figure in the returns on this occasion. The province is a small one, and the sum it raised in February was worthy even of a far stronger body. However, Bro. Edwin F. Parker, of Royal Lebanon Lodge, No. 493, contributes a useful £36 15s., and deserves KUDOS accordingly. It is surprising how a few such modest lists swell the aggregate, and we feel sure Bro. Binckes would gladly have taken note of several more of like amount.

There are 41 lodges in

HANTS AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT,

And five of these, with the Royal Arch chapter attached to the sixth, have made up a total of £234 5s., the heaviest of the seven Stewards' lists being that of Bro. the Rev. A. C. Barker, of the Oakley Lodge, No. 694, Basingstoke, whose total is £59 6s. 6d. In February its amount was £550 14s. 8d., and in May £240 7s., so that the sum of its contributions for the present year is £1025 6s. 8d. In 1884 it raised for the Benevolent £373 2s.; for the Girls' School, £295 7s. 6d.; and for the Boys' School £512 1s.; or, together, £1180 10s. 6d.; while in 1883 it did even better, the sum of its contributions to the three Charities being about £1832. Here, then, we have, in round figures, over £4000 raised by this province alone in the space of three years. This is evidently the case of a province in which both the ability and the will to do loyal service are conspicuous by their presence.

HERTS,

With its 13 lodges, only figures for £46 15s. 6d., contributed by the Hertford, No. 403, the Cecil, No. 449, and the Halsey, No. 1479, Lodges. This, like the total of £42 5s. raised for the Girls' School last month, is only a moderate return; but in February it figured for upwards of £322, and in 1884 the Benevolent was likewise the principal recipient of its favours. In 1883 it raised only a few pounds short of £500, and in 1882 close on 1000 guineas (£1050), so that Herts has done good service, though it may not have benefited equally all three Charities.

A short journey takes us into the Province of

KENT,

Which, with its 53 lodges, is justly regarded as one of the strongholds of the Craft in England. It certainly has the knack of exemplifying its loyalty to the guiding principles of Freemasonry. It never misses a Festival, and its contributions are more often than not of considerable amount. On Wednesday, though only six of its lodges were represented by as many Stewards, the aggregate of its returns was £714 17s. 6d., of which Bro. Geo. Rice Bolton's list, as Steward for Acacia Lodge, No. 1314, Bromley, engrossed no less than £432 12s. A return of this magnitude is unusual, and Bro. Bolton is pre-eminently worthy of being congratulated for the success of his efforts to swell the general total. Last month the Province raised £327 2s. 6d. for the Girls' School, while in February the Old People benefited to the extent of £531 12s., so that during the current year this province has raised, in round figures, £1573 for our Charities. In 1884 its total for the Charities was £1331 13s. 6d., and in 1883 it was £2700, so that during these three years it has raised altogether about £5600 for our Institutions, and if we continued our investigations still further back, we should find the record equally commendable.

LANCASHIRE (EASTERN DIVISION),

Though it is, numerically, our most considerable province, does not, except on very particular occasions, show to the best advantage at these gatherings. Thus on Wednesday, though it can boast of 93 lodges, only five of them were represented in the returns—one having three Stewards—and these raised amongst them no more than £110 5s. But it can do splendidly when it puts forth its strength, and no doubt it would do this more frequently were it not that it has a local Masonic Charitable Institution of its own, to which it freely contributes, and which renders very valuable assistance in helping those who would otherwise have only our central Charities to look to in time of need.

Similar remarks must be made in the case of

LANCASHIRE (WESTERN DIVISION),

Which figures for no more than £94 10s., the aggregate of eight Stewards' lists. Here again there is a firmly established local Charity, to which the brethren of the province give most generously, and so lessen the demands on principal Institutions. But West, like East, Lancashire, is apt to play a very conspicuous part when the occasion calls for exceptional exertions, as for instance, when its popular and respected chief, the Earl of Lathom, has given his services as Chairman. Then West Lancashire acts a worthy part.

On the other hand,

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND,

As regards the number of its lodges, is but a small province. Yet it raised £405 for the Girls' School in May, and now supplements it with a useful 25 guineas (£26 5s.). In 1884, it helped the Benevolent to the extent of £360, and the year previous Bro. Binckes had the satisfaction of including £405 in his array of Stewards' lists. This speaks well for the energy of the lodges (only 11 in number) which constitute this province, the brethren evidently having an abiding and active faith in the efficacy of our cherished principles.

The home county of

MIDDLESEX,

With 9 of its 34 lodges and one chapter, represented by 14 Stewards contributes the very satisfactory sum of £329 4s., of which Bro. W. Taylor, as the representative of Lodge No. 1503, and Chapter No. 1194, is responsible for £79 11s. 6d., while Bro. Captain H. Stephens, doing duty for Lodge No. 1579, follows him close with £74 0s. 6d. This is a far heavier total than it raised last month for the Girls, when seven Stewards handed in lists amounting to £205 3s., and somewhat in excess of what, with 13 Stewards, it raised for the Benevolent in February, namely, £322 9s. In any case, however, the aggregate for the current year—£856 16s.—is a handsome sum, and will compare favourably with its contributions of previous years, with the £724 17s. 6d. of 1884; the £616 of 1883; and the £1212 of 1882. Such figures as these demonstrate the earnestness of our Middlesex brethren in behalf of our Institutions.

Considering how well

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Figured last month when Bros. Gilbert and Toplis between them raised £261 14s., and in February, when Bro. Phelps as Steward handed in a list of £158 13s., we should have had no right to be disappointed if on Wednesday it had failed to put in an appearance. But Bro. McLeod, of the Newton Lodge, No. 1661, Newark-on-Trent, succeeded in making up a list of £120, and thus increased the aggregate of his province for the year to £540 14s., giving an average for the 14 lodges of between £38 and £39 per lodge. In 1884 its total for the Benevolent and Boys' School was £374 5s., and the year previous it raised £190 for the former Institution. These are excellent returns for so limited a province.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

has been returned among the absentee provinces, but its five-year-old Lewis (Master Willie Watkins) of the Girls' School Festival last month, was an Unattached Steward on this occasion. We give a pen-and-ink sketch of him as he would have appeared at the Palace on Wednesday had he been able to grace the banquet with his youthful presence.

NORTHUMBERLAND

Has not had any part in our anniversary celebrations since the memorable Boys' School Festival of 1883, when it contributed £1222 13s., our respected Bro. B. J. Thompson doing duty as Steward for the occasion. On Wednesday Bro. T. V. Strachan acted in the same capacity, and figures in the returns for £162 15s. No doubt Bro. Binckes would gladly have welcomed a more impressive list, especially as the province can boast of 21 lodges on its roll. Nevertheless it is a goodly total and one we shall gladly see repeated or exceeded in future years.

It cannot be said that



OXFORDSHIRE

Has been quite as successful as we have known it in past years. We cannot call to mind—for a long time at all events—a Festival at which it has not been represented; but its latest lists have not been as considerable as formerly, and this no doubt may be accounted for by the loss it sustained in the spring of 1884, by the death of its Prov. G. Master, the lamented Duke of Albany. On Wednesday three of its 10 lodges, represented by as many brethren, made up a total of 32 guineas (£33 12s.). Last month four Stewards raised among them £69 6s., and in February, the five lists reached an aggregate of £104 16s. This gives the full result for the year as £207 14s., as against £293 in 1884. Under its new chief the province will no doubt resume its wonted activity.

SOMERSETSHIRE,

With its 25 lodges, invariably cuts a creditable figure at these gatherings, and Bro. Nosworthy's list of £136 10s. on Wednesday was no exception. It is the kind of "crumb" one likes to see, and for which room can always be found in the receptacle prepared for such nutritive food. The Benevolent found its share of the Somersetshire provender—£176 8s.—very acceptable, and we may be sure the Girls' School did not hesitate about accepting its portion of close on £300 in May. Last year, the Old People had pretty nearly the whole loaf to themselves—£505 out of £610—the two Schools having each a "crumb"; while in 1883 the Benevolent and Girls' had only the "crumbs," while Bro. Binckes secured the loaf. But whether we regard £120 as a "crumb" or a "slice" of good luck, it is clear that Somersetshire is, after all, pretty impartial in the distribution of its aid.

Two Stewards—Bros. Prince and Bailey—have done duty this time for the 27 lodges of

STAFFORDSHIRE,

And very well they seem to have done it, too, seeing their joint list amounts to £338 2s. In May its two Stewards raised £215 5s., Bro. Bailey's list figuring as high as £189, and in February it swelled the Benevolent returns with £141 15s. Thus in 1885 Staffordshire has distributed over £695 among our three Institutions, close on half of it being the "crumb" that constituted the Boys' School share. In 1884 its aggregate was £646; in 1883, £790; and in 1882 over £616, making for the four years £2747, or rather more than £100 per lodge.

SUFFOLK,

With its 21 lodges, began the year with a total, by the hands of Bro. Major Dods, of £246 15s. for the Benevolent Institution. In May it followed this up by raising, per Bros. Canova and Pratt, £300 11s. for the Girls. On Wednesday, Bro. Elwes acted as Steward, and his list amounted to £143 17s., swelling the aggregate for the current year to £691 3s. The results in 1884 and 1883 were £606 and £568 respectively, making for the triennial period a grand total of, in round figures, £1865, or not very far short of £90 per lodge. These returns speak eloquently for the generosity of Suffolk.

Of the 26 lodges on the roll of

SURREY,

Seven, with the chapter attached to one of them, sent up Stewards, the result of their combined efforts appearing in a total of £135 8s. 6d. In May, with six Stewards, its returns amounted to £148 8s., and in February they reached the still higher figure of £222 14s.; aggregate for the current year, £506 10s. 6d., as against about £585 in 1884, and £1083 in 1883, General Brownrigg, Provincial Grand Master, being Chairman at the Benevolent Festival in the latter year. This gives the sum of its contributions during the years 1883, 1884, and 1885 as £2174.

Considering what

SUSSEX,

With its 25 lodges did in May when R.W. Bro. Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart., M.P., occupied the chair at the Girls' Festival and the province raised the splendid sum of £1850, we did not expect any help from it on this occasion. However, Bro. Broadbridge, of the South Down Lodge, No. 1797, Hurstpierpoint, though he supported his chief like a loyal Mason last month, fortunately had a "crumb" in reserve for "Our Boys" in the shape of a 70 guineas list for Wednesday, and this list will be found duly recorded in its proper place in the returns for this Festival. Last year it distributed as nearly as possible £458; in 1883 close on £950; and in 1882 about £920; making in all for the four years specified about £4250, a total of which our South-Saxon brethren have every reason to be proud.

WARWICKSHIRE

Makes a better show than at either of the previous Festivals of the current year, its total being £173 5s., whereas last month it contributed only £74 11s. to the Girls, and but £101 6s. to the Benevolent in February;

total for 1885 £349 2s. This is rather an improvement on last year's total, but we must go back to 1882, when it raised £810 for the Girls' School, for a total worthy of so considerable a province. Perhaps it is husbanding its strength for one of next year's Anniversaries.

There were four Stewards doing duty on Wednesday for
WORCESTERSHIRE

and its 12 lodges, of whom three—Bros. Godson, the Deputy P.G.M.; G. Taylor, the Prov. G. Secretary; and Consterdine-Chadwick—are constantly appearing in these lists. Their associate was Bro. W. C. Green, and the list handed in by them amounted to £136 10s. In February it raised £171 13s. for the Benevolent, and in May, £89 5s. for the Girls' School, its total for the present year being therefore £396 18s. Last year the contributions to the three Institutions exceeded £416, while in 1883 they were upwards of £764, making for the whole triennial period a grand total of £1576 or more than £130 per lodge.

We must again congratulate the 28 lodges of
NORTH AND EAST YORKSHIRE

On the fulfilment of their desire to assist in turn all our three Masonic Charities. It began the year by raising within a fraction of £204 for the Old People. In May it contributed £150 to the Girls' School, and on Wednesday it completed the round by giving a welcome £143 6s. to the Boys. This is largely in excess of what it did for them in 1884, yet by no means equal to its performances in 1883, when the Boys' School alone received £873 7s., while a further £150 or thereabouts was apportioned between the Benevolent and the Girls. In 1882 it raised £645, of which our oldest Institution had £500 as its share. The Stewards on Wednesday were Bros Major J. W. Woodall, G. Treasurer of England; J. S. Cumberland, P.P.G.J.W.; M. C. Peck, Prov. G. Secretary; and Christ. Palliser, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works, who have worthily sustained the honour of the province.

WEST YORKSHIRE,

Which, speaking numerically, is only surpassed by the two Lancashires, has a total to its credit of £355 19s., the number of brethren acting for it as Stewards being 27. In May it raised, above and beyond the 1000 guineas (£1050) for the Sir Henry Edwards Presentation, £558; and in February it contributed £143 17s. to the Benevolent Institution. Thus the total for 1885 is £2107—in round figures—or, less the amount of the Presentation, £1057. Last year, when the contributions were wholly of the usual character, none being set apart for a two-fold purpose, the sum was £1841. In 1883 the province distributed £2350, of which the Boys' School received £1500, the Girls' School £400, and the Benevolent £450; while in 1882 the

total was £1635. The grand aggregate for the 11 years just completed is £22,570. Such figures need no explanation.

This is the last time we shall have occasion to speak of

NORTH WALES AND SHROPSHIRE

as a Masonic province. We do not mean by this that a sudden catastrophe has swept away its lodges or that they have resolved on doing nothing further for our Institutions. Nothing of this kind, or equally or similarly detrimental to Freemasonry in this extensive district, has happened. Only henceforth North Wales and Shropshire will form separate provinces, Lord Harlech, a former Deputy of the late Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P., P.G.M., having been appointed his successor for N. Wales, and Bro. Sir Offley Wakeman, Bart., who was D.P.G.M. at the time of Sir W. W. Wynn's death, being Prov. G. Master of Shropshire. This return to the old order of things will no doubt be beneficial to Freemasonry. There are 18 lodges in North Wales and 10 lodges in Shropshire, so that each will stand well in respect of numbers, and we may be sure the brethren will exert themselves, so that the new arrangements may be at least as satisfactory as the old. But, setting aside all anticipations as to the future, we must point out that the career of North Wales and Shropshire has closed successfully. Five of its 28 lodges sent representatives, and their returns made up a total of £184 12s., which, following on the £175 2s. raised last month for the Girls' School, and the £97 5s. 6d. of February for the Benevolent, gives a total for the year of as nearly as possible £457. This is considerably more than it did in 1884, and not so very much behind the aggregate of 1882.

SOUTH WALES (EAST DIVISION)

Has 16 lodges on its roll, and, having contributed £200 to the Girls' School last month, appears to have thought it would balance matters by giving a like amount to the sister School on this occasion. Last year the province figured in the Boys' Returns for £200, and in the Girls for £160, while in 1883, the Schools received £447—Boys, £230, and Girls, £217. In 1882 it raised £574 for the same Institutions, so that, if not invariably, it is frequently represented, and always to good purpose.

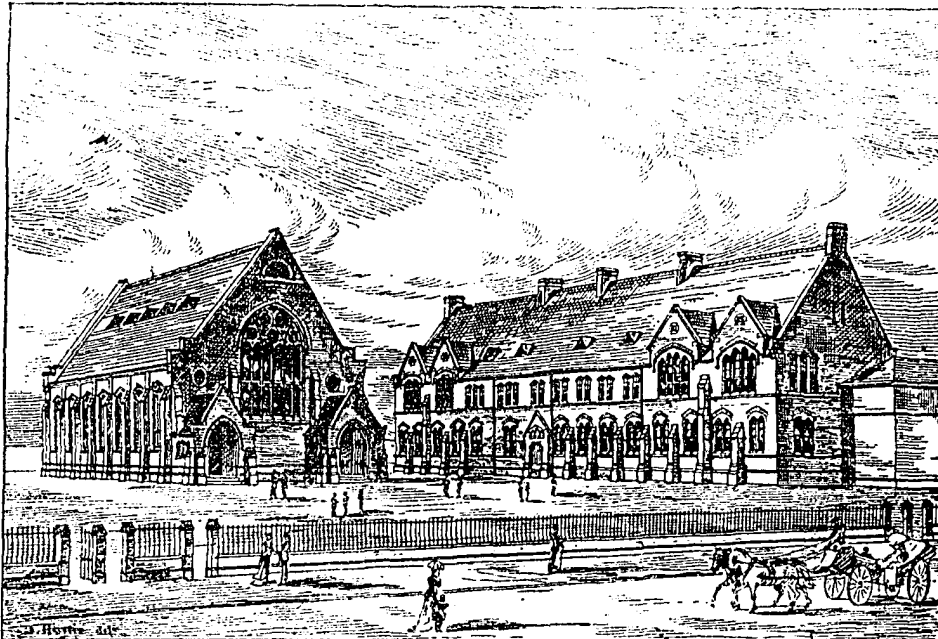
OTHER CONTRIBUTORIES.

In addition to the Provincial Returns, we have lists from Bro. J. M. P. Montagu, acting for the Royal Order of Scotland, and Bro. Windrum, of Lodge No. 508, Singapore—the former amounting to £100, and the latter to 15 guineas. The former has served many Stewardships in connection with his Province of Dorsetshire for this and our other Institutions, and may be looked upon as among the staunchest of their supporters. And with this just tribute to a most distinguished brother, we conclude our analytical remarks,

THE ANNUAL FÊTE AT WOOD GREEN.

The annual fête of the above Institution took place on Saturday last at Wood Green, when Bro. the Lord Mayor distributed the prizes in the presence of a large number of ladies and gentlemen to the boys successful in the recent school examinations.

Before the prize distribution, Bro. BINCKES (the Secretary to the Institution), in welcoming the visitors, remarked that the hall in which they were assembled, and of which we are pleased to give the accompanying sketch, although not strictly inaugurated, had been so far completed by the energy of the builder, as to be available for use that day. He was sure that all present were very much indebted to the Lord Mayor, who had found time, amongst his multifarious duties, to be present with them on that occasion.



Bro. R. MORRIS, M.A., J.L.D. (Head Master of the Institution), on rising to hand the prizes to the Lord Mayor for distribution, referred to the work done in the Institution, and said that while the intellectual part of the boys' education was the most important consideration, the physical portion was by no means neglected by them.

The prize distribution then commenced, the Lord Mayor shaking hands with each boy as he came forward to receive his reward. The class prizes having been disposed of in this manner, the Lord Mayor proceeded to distribute the special prizes presented by the House Committee, the Audit Committee, and private friends for excellence in various branches of study, and the silver and Canonbury gold medals given respectively for general good conduct, and to the boy chosen by the boys themselves to be its recipient.

This interesting feature being concluded, the Lord Mayor spoke a few words, expressing the pleasure it gave him to be present on the occasion, and heartily congratulating the Head Master and Committee of the Institution on the satisfactory report brought before them of the flourishing condition of the School. That a sound education is given to the boys there is shown by the fact that out of 16 boys sent up for the Cambridge Local Examinations last December, all had passed, and 12 of them with honours. He hoped that the great success attained by the boys would be an additional incentive to subscribers to increase their subscriptions, and thus add to the benefits of the Institution. He wished now to address a few words more particularly to the boys before him, some of whom he had had the pleasure of shaking hands with as prize-winners. To those not prize-winners, he would say that if they had striven honestly to increase their knowledge, they had gained more than the prize-winners, as they had learned those habits of industry and perseverance which would be of such use to them in after years. To those of them who were shortly going out into the world, the advantages which they would obtain from being educated there were numerous friends of the Institution in all parts of the world, as would aid and befriend them.

Bro. BOWYER, rising to propose a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor, regretted that he was now obliged to leave, as he wished to go over the Institution before leaving to fulfil an important engagement.

The LORD MAYOR, in thanking the company for the vote of thanks

accorded him, said that the success of a school depended in a great measure upon its head master, and he therefore had great pleasure in asking the company to give Bro. Morris a hearty vote of thanks for the able manner in which he had discharged his duties.

Bro. MORRIS having replied, the Lord Mayor left the hall, the chair being taken for the remainder of the afternoon by the Treasurer, Bro. Plunkett.

The programme included several songs by the choir; and a farce admirably acted by five of the boys was then proceeded with, at the conclusion of which the company sat down to a cold collation in the gymnasium. Athletic sports by the boys concluded a very pleasant day's proceedings.

The following is the list of boys to whom the several prizes have been awarded:—

PRIZES PRESENTED BY THE INSTITUTION.

- FIRST CLASS.—Scripture, 1, W. Richardson. Latin, 1, H. King; 2, A. Kennedy. French, 1, F. Smith. English, 1, J. Hurst. Mathematics, 1, A. Haworth. Attention to Studies, 1, F. Tanner; 2, G. Jones; 3, W. Pringle.
- SECOND CLASS.—General Proficiency, 1, R. Reynolds; 2, D. Ashdown; Attention to Studies, 1, J. Scott; 2, G. Brooks.
- THIRD CLASS.—General Proficiency, 1, E. Lucas; 2, G. Wilson. Attention to Studies, 1, H. High; 2, E. Platt; 3, F. Herring.
- FOURTH CLASS.—General Proficiency, 1, A. Blunt; 2, A. Fellows. Attention to Studies, 1, H. Richardson; 2, F. Lewis.
- FIFTH CLASS.—General Proficiency, 1, C. Seagrave; 2, W. Stanford.
- SIXTH CLASS.—General Proficiency, 1, S. Gibson; 2, F. Coleman; 3, H. Lillywhite.
- SEVENTH CLASS.—General Proficiency, 1, E. Nichols; 2, J. Walters.

PRESENTED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

- Writing, 1, G. Keighley; 2, W. Stanton. Dictation, 1, F. Smith; 2, P. Gedge. History, 1, J. Hurst; 2, A. Haworth. Geography, 1, P. Gedge; 2, H. Knott. Mental Arithmetic, 1, C. Crow. Elocution, 1, F. Smith; 2, H. King. Efficiency as Monitor, 1, W. Stanton; 2, J. Langdon; 3, G. Keighley. Proficiency in Drill, 1, G. Keighley. The Band, 1, W. Stanton; 2, W. Sutton; 3, R. Watson; 4, C. Thompson; 5, A. Lewis; 6, J. Hurst. Vocal Music, 1, F. Cairney.

PRESENTED BY THE AUDIT COMMITTEE.

- The Band, 1, F. Smith; 2, V. Shrapnell. Pianoforte, 1, W. Conway.

PRESENTED BY PRIVATE DONORS.

- By Bro. Edgar Bowyer (Vice-Patron)—Book-keeping—G. Keighley.
- By Bro. W. A. Scurrah (Vice-President)—Shorthand—W. R. Watson.
- By Bro. Mauvietti—Mathematical Drawing—A. Haworth.
- By Mr. Sylvester (Drawing Master)—Object Drawing—G. Keighley. Freehand—Pike. Mapping—W. Sutton. Painting—H. King. Shading—C. Johnston. Architecture—J. Langdon.

PRINCIPAL PRIZES.

- Silver Medal for Good Conduct, presented by the Institution—Herbert Rich Hounslow.
- Canonbury Gold Medal, presented by the late Bro. E. Cox, V.-Pat.—Frank Smith.
- Silver Watch and Chain for General Good Conduct, presented by the Supreme Grand Council 33°, to a Pupil leaving the Institution—William A. Sutton.
- Money Prizes apportioned from the interest, £23, of the Fund, £525, founded by Bro. W. Winn, W.M. 657, V.-Pat., to the 16 pupils who passed the University Examination, Cambridge, December, 1884; these varied in amount according to the order of merit of the candidates.

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New Premium Income..... £12,566

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REVENUE OF THE YEAR.

Premiums..... £144,636
Interest, &c..... £37,695
£182,321

ACCUMULATED FUND.

Laid by in the year..... £65,507
Accumulated Fund on 31st January,
1885..... £1,010,962
Claims and Bonuses paid under Com-
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Accumulated Fund at the end of December, 1884, exceeded
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At Her Majesty's, in the Haymarket, a more interesting style of entertainment is being given, in the form of a genuine ballet. There are no words spoken nor songs sung; but the whole evening's performance is devoted to the nimble art, danced most gracefully to pretty music by an Italian company. An excellent band gives a good taste of its quality in the execution of Rossini's "La Gazza Ladra" overture between the first and second acts. The author of the libretto—if we use such a word when no one speaks—has sought to depict the great struggle between progress and retrogression. The action commences at the date of the Spanish Inquisition, and is meant to show the subsequent progress of civilisation. The drilling of the dancers is simply perfect. No one is engaged on account of her good looks; we should say good looks have not been considered at all. The corps de ballet are all dancers.

* * *

On Saturday last, Mr. Sydney Grundy's new comedy, "The Silver Shield," was put on at the Comedy Theatre, under Miss Violet Melnotte's management. Mr. Grundy can well lay claim to his play being original; it is not adapted from the French, for its matter deals with English life and habits. Mr. Grundy is a shrewd observer of human events, and not only takes in all that goes on in the world, but makes a note of, and reproduces his impression in, his own satirical style. "The Silver Shield" is a running bitter satire from beginning to end. It attacks Society, the Stage, the Church, and Art each in turn, and one cannot deny that there is a great deal of truth in the sweeping sarcasms, even if they are exaggerated. Mr. Grundy is nothing if he is not attacking some one or some conventionality. It might be said of Mr. Grundy that if other authors have chastised with whips, he chastises with scorpions. He seems to say he has met with no mercy, so he will give none. In the "Glass of Fashion" the same author "went for Society papers;" in his new piece he lets them alone. But it must not be supposed that because "The Silver Shield" is so cynical that there is no amusement in it; it teems with fun. With its bitterness there is much mirth. Its most scathing dialogue is provocative of laughter, though one feels the hitting is too hard sometimes, and what one would only expect from a pessimist. No wonder, after its being played at a matinee at the Strand a month ago, that its smartness made the managers rush to produce it. The cast now is nearly the same as at the morning performance. Mr. Arthur Roberts has taken the place of Mr. C. Groves, we should imagine—though we were not present at the matinee—not for the better, and Mr. Percy Compton has taken Mr. Rutland Barrington's part of the cleric. The motive of "The Silver Shield" is its weakest part, but one forgets that in the clever repartee, the easy force and natural humour of the dialogue are obvious, the characters are selected judiciously. We congratulate Mr. Grundy on having written one of the most brilliant plays of the season. Had the author contented himself with more homely themes, and not confined himself to slogging at art, the stage, and critics, he would have achieved a still greater success. The weakness of the plot consists in a husband having read a letter of his wife's to some one who admires her, and whom she is begging to leave her alone. But this device is made use of twice, for another wife picks up a letter of her husband, in very affectionate terms, addressed to a lady. The wife never seems to have imagined, that though she knows her husband writes plays, that this could be a part of a play—which it is—though it seems odd, that while the MS. of the play is written on ordinary paper, yet on the desk with the play this letter-part of the comedy is written on paper with the address headed. The keenest interest is retained to the fall of the curtain in the manner of the long foreseen revelations, whereby a jealous young wife is restored to an affectionate husband, and that through a woman who from her own bitter experience knows what it is to be the victim of jealousy. It may be urged that there is too much "shop" in the piece, and that the public do not care to know the relations existing between a theatrical manager and his actors and actresses. However, on Saturday night the public laughed heartily at the character of Mr. Dodson Dick, personated by Mr. Arthur Roberts, who, we think, forgot that he was playing comedy, and not comic opera. The ordinary public now-a-days delight in knowing all they can about the theatrical profession, and the private lives of those who walk the stage, so that they cannot but be amused with the dialogue between Mr. Dick and Miss Alma Blake, an actress, most ably portrayed by Miss Amy Roselle, a part that exactly suits her, and whom we have not seen play so well since her engagement at the Prince of Wales's. Miss Kate Rorke is the young wife, and she took her audience by storm. At the Criterion she has often delighted us; but never so much as on Saturday. Her representation of a young wife's passionate sorrow was so wonderfully true, and so touched the whole audience, both men and women, that one may be assured that in Miss Kate Rorke we have an exceedingly talented actress, who will not be long before she takes her place in the front ranks. Mr. Beauchamp and Miss Maria Davis, in minor rôles, gave much assistance. Mr. Lyndal and Mr. Arthur Dacre are good as the two husbands, and Mr. Compton, as the reverend doctor, is splendid; he has copied the character from life. We know, at least, one such person who will not allow anything good about the stage or its belongings, and who sees sin in everything but himself. We are inclined to hope that there are not to-day such managers as Mr. Dodson Dick; hence we think Mr. Roberts was not such a success as the other ladies and gentlemen. After each act the audience—not a packed one—called for the company, and at the final fall of the curtain the author was vociferously cheered and came before the curtain. Then Miss Roselle was called again. Still, the people would not leave until they had had Miss K. Rorke once more before them to congratulate her on her splendid piece of acting. There was an array of first nighters, which included Sir Arthur Sullivan, Mr. W. Wilde (brother of Mr. Oscar Wilde), Miss Kate Munroe, Miss Mary Rorke, Mr. Joseph Knight, Miss Camille D'Arville, Miss Tilbury, Miss Lydia Thompson, and Bro. G. R. Sims.



We are asked to announce that the meetings of the Sir Hugh Myddelton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1602, have been adjourned until the first Wednesday in September.

Bro. Wm. Mackie will be installed W.M. of the Wilson Iles Lodge, No. 2054, at the Four Swans Hotel, Waltham Cross, on the 7th July next.

Prince Albert Victor of Wales will visit the Guildhall on Monday next, when the freedom of the city will be presented to his Royal Highness.

The fund for the widow and family of the late Bro. C. W. Thompson, Vacant Lands Officer of the City of London, has already reached to close on £1000.

The ceremony of installation will be rehearsed at the Chiswick Lodge of Instruction, No. 2012, on Saturday, the 27th inst., by Bro. E. Ayling, when the lodge will be closed until the third Saturday in August.

Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., and Sheriff Phillips will attend the re-opening to-morrow (Saturday) of the organ at St. Mark's Church, Walworth, when a short service will be held in honour of the occasion.

Bro. the Very Rev. E. R. Currie, M.A., Dean of Battle, P.G. Chap. Sussex, was installed W.M. of the Abbey Lodge, No. 1184, on Thursday, the 18th inst., at Battle.

Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., presided at a meeting held at the Mansion House on Friday, the 19th inst., for the purpose of promoting the interests of the Volunteer Medical Staff Corps.

The first afternoon party this season of Alderman Sir B. S. Phillips and Mrs. Sarah Phillips will take place at 17, Grosvenor-street on Thursday next, the 2nd proximo.

Bro. J. D. Allcroft, P.G. Treas., in the unavoidable absence of Bro. the Lord Mayor, presided at a meeting held at the Mansion House on Monday in aid of the work of the Church of England in Paris.

Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., opened a bazaar at New Barnet on the 17th inst., the object being to reduce the debt on the Congregational Church from £5200 to £2000, so that a conditionally-promised sum of £500 may become available.

Bro. Sir Thomas Brassey, K.C.B., M.P., presided at the 23rd meeting, held in Westminster College Hall, on Saturday afternoon last, of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union, Bros. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, and Holland, M.P., were among those present.

Notice of motion was given at the Court of Common Council on Thursday, the 18th inst., to the effect that it be referred to the General Purposes Committee to provide a suitable tablet or brass to mark the place of interment in St. Paul's Cathedral of Bro. Alderman Nottage, the late Lord Mayor, the cost not to exceed £100.

At the Court of Common Council, on Thursday, the 18th inst., Bro. Altman submitted a statement of the accounts for the year 1884 of the City of London School Committee. The report, which was so far satisfactory that £1000 less than the previous year was asked to be transferred from the City's cash, was agreed to.

The Prince of Wales attended a meeting held at the Mansion House on Tuesday under the presidency of Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., P.G.W., in furtherance of the Beaumont Trust. His Royal Highness gave a cheque for £100 towards the object of the meeting. Bros. Alderman and Sheriff Whitehead, Alderman Cowan, and E. Terry were among those present.

By command of the R.W.P.G.M., Bro. Lord Suffield, a Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Town Hall, Yarmouth, on Thursday, at 12 a.m., to transact the business of the province. At 2.30 the brethren assembled in the Priory Hall, and from thence proceeded in their Craft clothing to Divine service at St. Nicholas Church, at three o'clock. A banquet was afterwards held at the Town Hall.

Bro. Sir J. McGarel Hogg, Bart., M.P., gave his annual dinner to the members of the Metropolitan Board of Works, at Willis's Rooms, on Saturday last, Bros. the Lord Mayor, Alderman and Sheriff Whitehead, Baron H. de Worms, M.P., the Right Hon. G. J. Shaw-Lefevre, M.P., Lord Egerton, Sir E. Watkin, Bart., M.P., Lord Brabourne, Sir G. Elliott, M.P., and Sir F. Herschell, Q.C., being among the principal guests.

Bros. Lord Claud Hamilton, M.P., Baron H. de Worms, M.P., Alderman Staples, Alderman Savory, Alderman and Sheriff Whitehead and Mrs. Whitehead, Bro. Alderman and Mrs. Evans, Bro. Alderman and Mrs. Cowan, Bro. Sir W. A. and Miss Ogg, Bro. Lieut.-Col. T. Davies-Sewell, Bro. Major Joseph, Bro. G. P. Goldney (City Remembrancer), and Bro. S. da C. Andrade were among the guests at the complimentary dinner given at Grocers' Hall on Thursday, the 18th inst., to Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., P.G.W., and the Lady Mayoress.

We are requested to announce that the second Summer Outing and Ladies' Day, of the Corinthian Lodge, No. 1382, is fixed to take place on Thursday, the 23rd prox. The rendezvous is again fixed at the Crown Gardens, Broxbourne, whither the brethren will repair in brakes, starting from Bro. W. Clark's, George Hotel, Millwall, at 9.30 a.m. prompt. Any profit that may accrue will be again devoted to Masonic Charities. Single tickets 12/6; double tickets, for lady and gentleman, 21/-; to be had at the George Hotel, or of the Honorary Secretary, Bro. S. G. Bonner, 2, The View, Millwall, E. Brethren are cordially invited to participate in the above mentioned outing.

3,000,000 tins of CHAMPION'S MUSTARD were sold in London alone during the past year. Why was this so? Because the public, having satisfied themselves it was the best and cheapest gave it a preference over all others.—ADVT.

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Prince Albert Victor will shortly take his commission in the 10th (Prince of Wales's own) Hussars.

The Prince of Wales has accepted an invitation to visit Birmingham during the autumn for the purpose of opening the Suburban Hospital at Erdington.

The half-yearly election of children into the London Orphan Asylum took place on Monday at the Cannon Street Hotel.

Bro. T. B. Whytehead, of York, after a recess of some fifteen months, has been re-appointed manager and editor of the *Yorkshire Gazette*, one of the oldest newspapers in the North.

Bro. Thomas Clarke has purchased from the splendid stud of the late Earl of Dudley, a magnificent pair of carriage horses at the somewhat high price of £650.

Bro. H. B. Marshall, P.G. Treas., presided on Tuesday at the 41st anniversary of the Asylum for Fatherless Children, Riedham. The report was very satisfactory, and the proceedings of the day most interesting.

The Prince of Wales has appointed Captain the Hon. Alwyn H. Fulke Greville, of the King's Royal Rifle Corps, to be an Esquerry in waiting to Prince Albert Victor of Wales.

Bro. Sir W. and Miss Ogg, and Bro. C. and Mrs. Barry, were among those present on Saturday last, at the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the foundation of Dulwich College.

Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., presided on Tuesday at Willis's Rooms at the anniversary festival of the London Fever Hospital, the amount of the subscriptions reaching £2516.

The brethren of Perseverance and Cabbell Lodges, having in mind their enjoyable summer trip to Cobham Hall in July, 1881, are desirous this year of taking an extended excursion by rail to Ipswich, and thence by the river Orwell to Harwich, on Tuesday, the 11th August next.

Bro. Lord Brooke, M.P., P.G.M. Essex, was to preside at the 58th anniversary festival of the Royal Infant Orphan Asylum on Thursday, among the stewards being Bros. J. Derby Allcroft, P.G.T., and Alderman Sir F. W. Truscott, P.G.W.

Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., and Miss Fowler, Bro. Tyssen-Amherst, M.P., and Mrs. Amherst, and others were present at Divine service in St. Margaret's, Lothbury, on Sunday last, when the Bishop of Carlisle preached on behalf of the North-Eastern Hospital for Children.

Bro. T. Loveridge was heartily greeted on attending on Thursday, the 18th inst., for the first time since his serious illness the meeting of the Court of Common Council.

R.W. Bro. Lord Kensington, M.P., P.G.M. South Wales (West), and Lady Kensington were present on Tuesday when the Princess Louise laid the memorial-stone of a new out-patient wing of the Victoria Hospital for Children, Chelsea.

The following dinners took place at Freemasons' Tavern, for the week ending Saturday, June 27th. Monday—Staff College. Tuesday—Old Paulines' Club. Wednesday—Smeatonian Society of Civil Engineers; Manchester New College.

Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton, and Lady Egerton, gave a dinner party at their residence in St. James's-square, on Thursday, the 18th inst., Bro. Sir Welby Gregory and Miss Welby, and Bro. Sir James Fergusson, being among the guests.

Bro. Alderman Savory, one of the Wardens of the company, and Bros. Justice Cave, P.G.W., E. Bowyer, P.G. Std. Br., and R. Gooding, M.D., P.G.D., were present at the annual dinner on the 17th inst. of the Court and Livery of the Poulterers' Company.

Bro. the Lord Mayor, immediately on the news reaching him of the terrible colliery accident which occurred last week near Manchester, telegraphed to the Mayor of Manchester his readiness to open a subscription at the Mansion House for the relief of the sufferers by the calamity.

Bros. Lord Muncaster, Sir James Fergusson, Bart., Sir A. Campbell, Bart., W. A. Burdett-Coutts, Alderman Sir R. Hanson, and Alderman Evans were among the guests at the banquet given by Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., at the Mansion House, on Friday, the 19th inst., to the Conservative candidates at the next election, who are not at present Members of Parliament.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Beatrice will be presented with a Grand Piano (made by Messrs. Brinsmead and Sons), at Buckingham Palace, on the 4th prox., when Bro. J. Brinsmead will attend to explain to the Princess its mode of construction. The piano, which is one of a new description with all the latest improvements, has during the week been inspected by several members of the Royal Family.

Bros. the Lord Mayor, M.P., P.G.W., Alderman and Sheriff Whitehead, Alderman Sir R. Hanson, P.G. Std., J. D. Allcroft, P.G. Treas., and H. B. Marshall, P.G. Treas., were among the stewards of the recent festival of the Sons of the Clergy, who were entertained at dinner at Lambeth Palace by the Archbishop of Canterbury on Wednesday, the 17th instant.

On Tuesday afternoon the Prince of Wales attended a meeting at the Mansion House, in support of the Beaumont Trust Scheme for providing amidst the dense population in East London, opportunities for rational amusement, by the erection of a library, reading-rooms, winter garden, concert hall, promenade, gymnasium and swimming baths, and for promoting technical education. Bro. the Lord Mayor presided.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Nervousness and Want of Energy.—When first the nerves feel unstrung, and listlessness supplants energy, the time has come to take some such alterative as Holloway's Pills to restrain a slight disorder from developing itself into a serious disease. These excellent Pills correct all irregularities and weaknesses. They act so kindly, yet so energetically, on the functions of digestion and assimilation, that the whole body is revived, the blood rendered richer and purer, while the muscles become firmer and stronger, and the nervous and absorbent systems are invigorated. These Pills are suitable for all classes and all ages. They have a most marvellous effect on persons who are out of condition; they soon rectify whatever is in fault; restore strength to the body, and confidence to the mind.—[ADVT.]

