

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. 855.]

SATURDAY, JULY 25, 1885.

PRICE 3d.

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THE adjourned meeting of members favourable to the formation of a Northern Counties Lodge took place on Thursday, at 16A, Great Queen-street. The meeting was adjourned till Thursday week at 3, to fill up the list of founders and elect officers, and sign the petition.

It has sometimes occurred to us how strangely and grotesquely, to say the truth, prejudices still linger in the profane world against Freemasons and Freemasonry. Whether it be that the old theory is true, only throw sufficient dirt upon persons or things, and a portion of it, at any rate, must stick, or whether it be the fault of Freemasons themselves, we know not, but prejudices, however perverse, are long-lived, and are difficult to eschew, and harder still to consign to oblivion. Not a very long time ago an excited Frenchman at Swansea declared that he had been robbed and ill-treated by certain "Freemasons," who turned out to be "gipsies," though probably the ill-treatment and robbery only existed in the heated imagination of this impulsive child of Gaul. And we constantly find, in foreign papers, of more or less repute, the most extraordinary and contradictory allegations made against Freemasons. Indeed, to listen to some foolish speakers abroad, and some almost irresponsible writers at home, nearly all the "evils to which flesh is heir to," almost all the complications and anomalies of Society, the State, and the World just now, are attributable to those "mysterious and wicked Freemasons." We speak not here of the normal abuse of the Ultramontane press, to that we are accustomed, and, "like the Eele," begin rather to like it. Neither do we allude to the abnormal utterances of popes and cardinals, bishops in "partibus" and bishops *not* in "partibus," Jesuits, Professors Illuminati "et hoc genus omne," because, to say the truth, they seem to us all alike "out of court," by the absurdity of their "premises," and the fallacy of their "conclusions." But we rather speak of that sort of general dislike, fad, prejudice, call it what you will, which seems to permeate a large portion, at any rate, of Society and the world at the very mention of the words "Freemasons" or "Freemasonry." One hundred and eighty years and more ago, a Revival took place in London, which certainly has produced most wonderful results. The little seed has developed into a mighty tree of giant growth, under whose umbrageous extent and dominant influences, all over the world to-day we find those who are glad to rest and repose, to claim friendship and acknowledge supremacy. Since that time, whatever may have been the case in preceding generations or under more mysterious forms, Freemasonry stands before the world in distinctive utterance and oecumenical reality. The ideas it professes and the aims it avows are alike honourable, loyal, philanthropic, and beneficial, and since that time it has not ceased to progress and advance, and to proclaim unceasingly and practice unreservedly those principles and duties, which are, without doubt or controversy, for the help and healing of our race, the aid and benefit of humanity, and the general conservation and amelioration of all those forces and all that mechanism, which constitute the safe and controlling motives or hidden springs of Society and the world at large. Loyalty, Charity, Order, Legality, Religion, Toleration, Veneration, Sympathy, Liberty of Conscience, Freedom of Thought,—such are its watchwords in the strife, and it is under the ægis of these great and enduring principles, as well as the engaging development of universal beneficence of Charity, that wherever true Freemasonry plants its standard, wherever honest Masonic lodges are set up, their contemporary admirers, neighbours, and even bitter and irreconcilable foes witness, and must witness, the happy creation of peaceable and useful centres of light, charity, wisdom, and toleration. We should have thought "a priori" that the very marked and charitable and utilitarian outcome of Freemasonry in these latter days might have dissipated prejudice and renewed friendliness. We no doubt note from time to time how the world which once ridiculed or persecuted Freemasons, now speaks of English Freemasonry at any rate with "bated breath," and even a semblance of respect at any rate, of its charitable and utilitarian and beneficent results, which quite overpass the efforts of all other similar bodies and constitute in themselves a lasting credit on the zeal, the sympathies, and the earnestness of English Freemasons. But still in various ways and various forms the old heresy survives, the ancient prejudices linger. Let us hope that they will yet

yield to the soothing influences of time and common sense, and that the verdict of our contemporaries in respect to Freemasonry may yet be, that to which thoughtful Freemasons have long since attained, namely, making every allowance for the weakness of earth, and the frailties of mortality, no more sincerely useful, no more cultivated, no more beneficent organization exists in the world at this hour than that Masonic Craft of ours, which has outlived so many dangers, and weathered so many storms, and gifted with long life, and matured activity and energy, promises still to be of real and living advantage, comfort, and blessing to untold generations of mankind.

THE Little Village is emptying fast, and by the end of this month all, except those retained by duty, or hindered by "circumstances over which they have no control," are leaving for distant scenes, and a long-needed holiday time. The seaside, and Scotland, the Channel Islands, and Normandy, Brittany, Norway, and Ostende, Switzerland, and the German Baths, and health resorts are all receiving that heterogeneous crowd, as Lord ROKEBY said of "JOHN and JENNY BULLS," with their fads and fancies, with their idiosyncrasies and their complaints. A good old Englishman of another generation used to say that, whenever he met a countryman or countrywoman abroad, he used to go up and shake hands, so isolated he felt there. We fancy such feelings are wearing off, and that the Continent is becoming as familiar to us as Herne Bay, Margate, or Brighton. TOM MOORE once sang of a "fair Blue" whom he should meet drinking tea on the Wall of China. That perhaps is "going a little too far." Still, our travelled and travelling people are just now everywhere, and we wish them heartily all enjoyment, sound health, and good tempers wherever they go, wherever they be. And, as many of our worthy Brotherhood are amid that moving, noisy, ubiquitous, gregarious crowd, we desiderate for them equally a very pleasant "outing," all needful rest and recreation, and trust that they may return to "labour and refreshment" when next their lodge summons specially confronts them, in fullest energy of mind and body, with their smiling faces and their warm hearts.

WE are asked "What is the use of Statistics?" They are among those things we are told "a fellar can't understand." As the Prince CONSORT said so ably a great deal often depends upon and turns these apparently trivial facts. We took up some calculations the other day, and find the following figures, for which we do not vouch, but they will, we think, arrest attention and command thought. Out of the billion inhabitants of this earth we are told 33 millions die yearly, 90,000 per day, 3780 per hour, 60 per minute, and one per second. These 33 million deaths annually are counterbalanced by 41,500,000 births annually, the excess constituting the annual increase of the universal human race. 83,000,000 marriages take place every year it is averred, or one in 130; and a quarter of the children die before their 7th, and one-half before their 17th year. The average duration of human life is 33 years six months. There are, then a billion of people in the world, as before alleged, speaking 3064 languages, and professing 1100 forms of religion. And though there are many people who, as they say, "never look beyond their nose," and to whom "a daisy is a daisy and nothing more," yet such facts and figures as these affect all the teaching of men, and the very reality of life, and are the foundation on which are based all the social, psychological and political struggles and theories of our race. It would be most important and valuable, as we have often said, if we could obtain reliable statistics of Universal Freemasonry. The great difficulty is to strike the "even mean" as between the tendency to a "Fraus pia," and the energy of interested exaggeration. It is the fashion of our opponents to augment the actual forces and influence of Freemasonry so as to make it a real living danger to persons of the same excited temperament and alarmed "cultus," and weak, unthinking, and buffle-headed Freemasons to whom you can neither give "brains" nor common sense, think, they increase on their part the prestige of Freemasonry by adding very largely to its substantial reality and its numerical unit, whereas in truth they do just the contrary. Truth is Truth after all, whether historical or statistical, and though it "lies often at the bottom of a well" as ever, it is, after all, the only one safe gauge of reality, and the only abiding test of accuracy.

WE call attention to a deliverance by Grand Master MURRAY, of the Grand Lodge of Canada, taken from the *Montreal Daily News* of July 9th, by which it would seem that the legal position of the Montreal lodges and of the Grand Lodge of England is openly, if unwillingly, admitted by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada. He, too, like others, bows down to the fiat of the American theory of Grand Lodge sovereignty, which, as we have for a long time contended, is peculiar to America, and, though it may be workable there, (it has even there its difficulties), has never been recognized in England. We regret to have to add that in our experience, which is now, alas! of very many years, we have never known a case where so little "strait-running" and so much Masonic Jesuitism have been manifested as in this mournful "Quebec difficulty."

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SUFFOLK.

The annual provincial grand meeting of the several Masonic lodges in the Province of Suffolk was held at the Public Hall, Lowestoft, on Monday, the 13th inst., under the auspices of the two local lodges—Unity and St. Margaret's. The hall was very tastefully furnished, the walls being adorned with trophies of flags and Masonic banners, and at the east end was a very tasteful collection of foliage and flowering plants. There was a large gathering of Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers and brethren. Amongst the former were—

Bros. the Right Hon. Lord Waveney, P.G.M.; the Rev. C. J. Martyn, D.P.G.M.; George J. Paine, P.G.J.W., 1008; S. Maude, P.G. Chap., 516; Gen. Hessey, P.G. Reg., 81; N. Tracy, P.G.S., 376; H. W. H. Elwes, P.G.S.D., 1452; A. E. Smith, P.G.J.D., 1224; W. Clarke, P.G.D.C., 114; W. Woodward, P.G.A.D.C., 516; A. Barnes, P.G.S.B., 81; G. A. Hardacre, P.G. Org., 332; Lewis, 81; E. Buckham, 376; Stewards: Bros. J. M. Canova, P.P.G.S.W., 1983; B. P. Grimsey, P.P.G.J.W., 114; G. Thompson, P.P.G.S.W., 1224; Joseph F. Hills, P.P.G.J.W., 1452; B. Gall, P.P.G.S.D., 81; J. C. Baines, P.P.G.P., 1452; G. H. Cooper, P.P.G.S. of W., 71; P. Hessey, P.P.G.S.W., 145; Chas. W. Dance, P.P.G.A.D.C., 71; W. Daking, P.P.G. Reg., 1063 and 225; G. Abbott, P.P.G.S.B., 225; A. Barber, P.P.G.S.B., 225; W. W. Walesby, P.P.G.S.W., 929; F. A. Mann, P.P.G.O., 1452; W. Dods, P.P.G.W., 1631; G. V. Grummett, P.P.G.A.D.C. Norfolk, 1114; Fred. W. Tewson, P.P.G.A.D.C., 929; Rev. A. Tigue Gregory, P.P.G. Chap., 81; R. A. Barber, P.P.G.P., 1319 and 279; James Tennant, P.P.G.S. of W., 71; W. Bobby, P.P.G.S.W., 114; Edward Sparke, P.P.G. Stwd.; George Jewson, P.P.G.S.D. Norfolk; James M. Harvey, P.P.G.P., 936; A. J. Grimwade, P.P.G.S.W., 332; Robert W. Saul, P.P.G.S.B., 71; Thomas Holland, P.P.G.D.C., 1224; W. B. Cooper, P.P.G. Reg.; P. W. Syer, P.G. Tyler; and others.

The brethren of the receiving lodges made every possible provision for the comfort of their visitors, Bro. Hodgson being particularly worthy of commendation for the energy with which he strove to promote the success of the meeting. The two lodges kindly provided a special train to convey brethren from a distance to their respective destinations, the Great Eastern Railway Company meeting them in a liberal manner.

The lodge was opened in due form by the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, assisted by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, the Senior Warden's chair being filled by Bro. Bobby, P.P.G.S.W.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER read letters from Bros. Lord Henniker and Major-General Cecil Ives, P.G.S.W., who regretted that they were unable to attend Prov. Grand Lodge. Bro. Major-General Ives, in his letter, stated that he had forwarded the design for the memorial brass to be placed in Clare Church to the memory of the late Prince Leopold, W.M. of the Clare Lodge. He had ventured to submit the design to her Majesty, who was much pleased with it, especially with the inscription. The design was subsequently produced by Bro. Vincent. The tablet is surmounted by an open copy of the Holy Scriptures, with the square and compasses lying upon it. The inscription is as follows:—

In Fraternal memory of his Royal Highness Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, Earl of Clarence, K.G., Prov. Grand Master of Oxfordshire, Prov. Grand Junior Warden of England, and Third Principal of Royal Arch Masons of England, fourth son of her Majesty Queen Victoria. He was born 7th April, 1853, and died 28th March, 1884, H.R.H. being at that time Worshipful Master of the Royal Clarence Lodge of Freemasons of this town, No. 1823.

This tablet is erected by the officers and members of the lodge, and other brethren in the province of Suffolk.

The tablet is surrounded by various Masonic emblems.

The PROV. G. SECRETARY read the report of the Board of General Purposes, which called attention to the apparent decrease in the number of members in the province, which was due to the fact that greater care had been taken to clear up the number of members in arrear. The total strength of the province was now 900 members. The accounts showed a balance in favour of the province of £62 15s. 9d. The Board recommended that the sum of 30 guineas be equally distributed among the three Charities, and also that Prov. Grand Lodge become a member of the Suffolk Life Subscription Association for the Royal Masonic Charities of £4 4s. per annum.

On the proposition of the DEP. PROV. G.M., seconded by Bro. B. P. GRIMSEY, the report was adopted.

The Prov. Grand Master then proceeded to invest his officers for the year as under:—

Bro. Gen. W. Hessey, 81	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.W.
" J. M. Harvey, 936	...	...	...	Prov. G.J.W.
" Rev. Wilkinson, 1224	...	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" J. B. Blackmore, 1452	...	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" C. H. Vincent, 1823	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" N. Tracy, 376...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" G. Bush, 1452	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.D.
" D. W. Bellamy, 1631	...	...	...	Prov. G.J.D.
" E. Buckham, 376	...	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" W. Clarke, 114	...	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" H. J. Barnes, 1663	...	...	...	Prov. G.A.D.C.
" B. Seaman, 929	...	...	...	Prov. G. Swd. B.
" W. Maddison, 516	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. B.
" W. H. Smith, 516	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. B.
" Peddar, 516	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" H. J. Wright, 936	...	...	...	Prov. G.A. Sec.
" E. Butler, 114	...	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" A. Laughton, 1008	...	...	...	Prov. G.A. Purst.
Bros. Eastaugh, 1452; T. S. Allerton, 71; and W. Jeckels	...	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.

On the proposition of Bro. H. W. H. ELWES, seconded by Bro. BOBY, Bro. E. P. Youell was elected P.G. Treasurer; Bro. B. W. Syer was re-elected Tyler.

The roll of the lodges was then called over, and the reports showed that they were all in a satisfactory condition.

The business of the lodge was then suspended while the brethren attended Divine service at St. Margaret's Church.

On returning to lodge-room after service,

Bro. GRIMWADE, P.P.G.S.W., read the report of the Suffolk Charity Association, which stated that the total amount of contributions to the Charities for the past three years amounted to £1974, being an average of £94 per lodge. The following were the Stewards from the province at the Festivals for the past year and the amounts of their respective lists: Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, held in February, Bro. Major W. Dods, P.P.G.J.W., St. Andrew's Lodge, Gorleston, £251 5s. (Applause.) Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, held in May, Bro. J. W. Canova, P.P.G.S.W., Prudence Lodge, Halesworth, and Martyn Lodge, Southwold, £200 11s.—(applause); Bro. H. Pratt, Stour Valley Lodge, Sudbury, £100. Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, held in June, Bro. H. W. H.

Elwes, P.G.J.D., St. Margaret's Lodge, Lowestoft, £143 17s., making a total of £695 13s., which is an increase of £70 over the amount of the previous year. There were at the present time from this province four brethren and nine widows receiving annuities from the Benevolent Institution, and in the two Schools there were five girls and one boy. The Association tendered its thanks to Bro. Capt. N. G. Philips and Bro. Peter de Long for their kind assistance in securing the election of the candidates from the province, and to the brethren who had so ably represented the district at the Charity Festivals. In conclusion, the Association pointed out that notwithstanding the liberality of the brethren, the province was receiving a larger amount from the Charities yearly than was subscribed, so that it was earnestly hoped the brethren would not relax in their efforts for the future. (Applause.)

Bro. CLARKE, P.G.D. of C., in moving the reception and adoption of the report, said it must be gratifying to the Prov. Grand Lodge to have heard such a satisfactory result of the past year's work. It was, to his mind, a matter of satisfaction to know that the Province of Suffolk was awake to the responsibilities which devolved upon it with respect to the Charitable Institutions of the Order. (Hear, hear.)

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER seconded the motion, with the addition of a vote of thanks to Bro. Grimwade, P.P.G.S.W., for the admirable manner in which he had performed the duties of Secretary to the Suffolk Charity Association. (Applause.)

Bro. Major DODS expressed his gratitude to the province for the honour they had conferred upon him by allowing him to attend the Masonic Charity Festival, and for having placed in his hands such a handsome contribution to the funds. (Applause.) The success of the Suffolk Charity Association was due to the fact that the province was united, and that it contained such men as Bro. Bobby, the originator of the scheme, the Prov. Grand Secretary, and Bro. Grimwade. (Applause.) He was aware that politics were excluded from these Masonic meetings, but he should always be pleased to remember that the present Chancellor of the Exchequer was the Chairman of the Festival which he attended, and at which £17,800 was announced as the grand result. (Applause.)

Bro. VINCENT then laid before the lodge the design for the Albany memorial brass referred to above.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER said it was a gratifying circumstance that the brass which the Freemasons of Suffolk proposed to erect to the memory of the young Prince had been approved in its arrangements and terms by the Royal mother, to whom it might be some slight consolation. (Applause.)

After some remarks from Bro. HOLLAND upon the antiquity of Masonry,

The PROV. GRAND MASTER addressed the brethren, and said he had been struck with the progress which Masonry was making throughout the country. He urged the paramount importance of unity, and expressed the hope that the ancient constitution would be maintained in its integrity. (Applause.)

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER then proposed the adoption of the revised bye-laws, a copy of which had been forwarded to every member of Prov. Grand Lodge.

Bro. BRADBEER seconded the motion.

Bro. HODGSON proposed an amendment, which would constitute Past Masters members of the Board of General Purposes, but this, after a short discussion, in which the amendment was opposed by Bros. Clarke and N. Tracy, and the Prov. Grand Master, was withdrawn, and the revised bye-laws were adopted.

This concluded the business on the agenda, and the lodge was closed in ancient form.

The banquet was held at the Suffolk Hotel in the evening, when a very large company sat down. The R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Lord Waveney, presided in the large dining-hall, an "overflow" party, under the presidency of the D.P.G.M., the Rev. C. J. Martyn, dining in the coffee-room. Most of the Past and Present Prov. Grand Officers and brethren above mentioned were present at the banquet.

The R.W. PROV. G. MASTER proposed "The Queen and the Craft," "The Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," and "The M.W. the Pro. Grand Master, Lord Carnarvon, the Deputy Grand Master, Lord Lathom, and the Grand Lodge Officers, Present and Past." In submitting the latter toast the Prov. Grand Master referred to the appointment of Lord Carnarvon as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and expressed the hope that the liberal sentiments to which he had given utterance with respect to that country would be fulfilled. (Applause.) He coupled with the toast the names of the D.P.G.M., Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Chap., and Bro. Clarke, P.G.P. (Applause.)

Bro. the Rev. C. J. MARTYN, in response, expressed the hope that happiness, unity, and comfort would be restored to Ireland under the régime of the Pro Grand Master, Lord Carnarvon. (Applause.) He believed, if the Irish people were approached in the right way, there was not a better class of men on the face of the earth. (Hear, hear.) Lord Lathom, whose appointment as Grand Chamberlain must have given satisfaction to every Mason in the country—(applause)—was a most admirable, excellent, courteous, English gentleman. (Applause.) He was pleased to say that the province had been honoured with the appointment of another Prov. Grand Officer, Bro. Sanderson—(applause)—who had so well and worthily filled the office of Prov. Grand Chaplain of Suffolk, having obtained the well-earned promotion of Grand Chaplain of England. (Applause.)

Bro. CLARKE also responded, and said he had endeavoured to merit the confidence which had been reposed in him.

The DEPUTY PROV. G. MASTER then proposed "The Health of Lord Waveney, Prov. Grand Master." (Loud applause.) It was one of the greatest pleasures of the office which he had now for several years had the honour to hold, that at their annual gatherings it fell to his lot to propose the health of one of the most popular Provincial Grand Masters in England. (Applause.)

The toast was drunk with full Masonic honours.

The PROV. G. MASTER, in response, spoke of the deep interest he felt in the lodges of the province, and went on to say he believed he was one of the oldest Masons in the country, having been initiated in the year 1828. (Applause.)

The other toasts were—"The V.W. Deputy Prov. G. Master, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C.," which was drunk with enthusiasm, and responded to in an interesting speech by Bro. Martyn; "The Officers of Prov. Grand Lodge, Present and Past;" "The Masonic Charities;" "The W.Ms. of Receiving Lodges;" and "The Visiting Brethren."

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

This annual Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 15th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Whitehaven, under the banner of the Fletcher Lodge, No. 213. In the absence of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Bective, M.P., W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. F. R. Sewell, J.P., Deputy Prov. Grand Mark Master, presided. The following brethren were also present :

Bros. J. Nicholson, P.M., P.P.G.S.W., as D.P.G.M.M.; Ed. Tyson, P.M. 213, G. Stwd. Eng., as G.S.W.; J. Gardiner, P.M., P.G. Treas., as G.J.W.; Rev. E. M. Rice, W.M. 282, P.G. Chap.; Tom Dixon, P.M. 282, P.G.M.O.; H. Peacock, P.M. 229, P.G.S.O.; J. W. Robinson, P.M. 151, P.G.J.O.; G. Dalrymple, P.M. 213 and 216, P.G.A.D. of C. Eng., P.G. Sec.; R. Wilson, P.M. 216, P.G.S.D.; T. Atkinson, W.M. 213, P.G.J.D.; J. H. Raven, P.M. 151, P.G.I. of Works; Thomas Mason, 229, P.G.D. of C.; J. Abbott, S.W. 151, P.G. Swd. Br.; F. T. Allatt, S.W. 216, P.G. Std. Br.; J. Cooper, Org. 282, P.G. Org.; J. H. Hartley, S.W. 282, P.G.I.G.; Sergeant-Major Bunyan and J. Rothery, S.W. 213, P.G. Stwds.; Wm. Wagg, Tyler 282, P.G. Tyler; Geo. J. McKay, P.M. 195, P.P.G.S.W., P.G.S.D. Eng.; Rev. Jas. Anderson, Chap. 213; G. Ryrie, 213; W. Bewley, J.W. 213; T. Brakenridge, S.D., T. Rowlings, I.O., J. Moore, J.D., J. Mills, D.G., and W. J. Tyson, Org., all of 213; J. Casson, I.G., J. Bowes, and S. Lockyer, S.D., all of 60; J. Dickinson, W.M. 151; R. Leech, 151; Geo. Lowden, W.M. 216; A. Moordaff, J. Dickson, S.D., C. Gowan, M.O., and J. O. Scott, J.W., all of 151; J. Johnston, Tyler 216; J. Hewson, P.P.G. Tyler, Tyler 229; John Paterson, W.M. elect 282; J. Eden, J.W.; J. C. Thompson, M.O.; Wm. Carlyle, Reg. of Marks; J. McGill; G. H. Smith; and others.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was opened in form promptly at 2.30 p.m., and the Prov. Grand Master was greeted with the usual honours. On the roll of lodges being called over, all were found to be well represented, and, with one exception, the annual returns have been made.

The minutes of the last annual meeting, held at Workington, were read and passed.

The PROV. G. TREASURER next read a statement of accounts up to 31st December, 1884, which showed the balance to be to the credit of Prov. Grand Lodge of £38 os. 5d. They were passed as read, with the order that they be printed, and each member of the province receive a copy.

The time having again arrived for the province to recommend to the M.W. Grand Mark Master a brother to govern the province. Bro. Geo. J. McKay, P.M. 119, P.P.G.S.W., said it was with great pleasure that he had to move that the Right Hon. the Earl of Bective, M.P., be again the nomination of the province to the M.W.G.M., the interest that his lordship had always taken in the Craft in general was a recommendation of itself.

Bro. Ed. Tyson, P.M., 213, P.P.G.J.W., ably seconded the nomination, and with applause it received a unanimous vote.

On the motion of Bro. Tyson, seconded by Bro. J. W. Robinson, Bro. James Gardiner, P.M. 151, P.P.G.S.W., was again by a unanimous vote elected Prov. Grand Treasurer.

The W.D.P.G.M.M. then invested the following brethren as Provincial Grand Officers for the year :-

Bro. Thomas Mandale, P.M. 151	...	...	Prov. G.S.W.
" Tom Dixon, P.M. 282	...	...	Prov. G.J.W.
" James Harper, P.M. 216	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" J. H. Raven, P.M. 151	...	...	Prov. G.S.O.
" Thos. Atkinson, P.M. 213	...	...	Prov. G.J.O.
" Rev. James Anderson, Chap. 213	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" James Gardiner, P.M. 151 (re-elected)	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" J. C. Thompson, 282	...	...	Prov. G. Reg. Ms.
" Geo. Dalrymple, P.M. 213, 216 (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Wm. Shilton, W.M. elect 229	...	...	Prov. G.S.D.
" Jas. Dickinson, W.M. 151	...	...	Prov. G.J.D.
" Thos. M. Compton, W.M. 60	...	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" Thos. Mason, 229	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Geo. Lowden, W.M. 216	...	...	Prov. G.A.D.C.
" Sergt.-Major Albert Bunyan, 60	...	...	Prov. G. Swd. B.
" John Rothery, S.W. 213	...	...	Prov. G. Std. B.
" John Smith, P.P.G. Org.	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Wm. Bewley, J.W. 213	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" George Ryrie, 213	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" John Paterson, W.M. elect 282	...	...
" Joseph Eden, 282	...	...	} Prov. G. Tyler.
" Thos. Richardson, 213	...	...

On the motion of Bro. H. Peacock, P.M. 229, seconded by Bro. J. Abbott, S.W. 151, the following brethren were unanimously elected to serve on the Committee of General Purposes for the year, Bros. J. Nicholson, P.M. 151; P. de E. Collin, P.M. 151; Jas. Harper, P.M. 216; and J. H. Raven, P.M. 151.

Bro. H. Peacock, P.M. 229, then moved, and it was seconded by Bro. the Rev. E. M. Rice, W.M. 282, that it be suggested to the R.W. Prov. Grand Master to hold the next annual Prov. Grand Lodge at Cocker-mouth, under the banner of the Faithful Lodge, No. 229. The Wor. D.P.G. Master approved of the suggestion, and it received a unanimous vote.

Bro. Geo. J. McKay then intimated that he expected at an early date to be able to invite the Provincial Grand Master and his officers to Kendal. The Kent-Dale Lodge, No. 195, had only, from unavoidable circumstances, done little work in Mark Masonry, but better services were anticipated before long.

Bro. James Gardiner, P.M. 151, moved, and Bro. J. C. Thompson, P.G. Reg. of Mks., seconded, and it was carried unanimously, that the fees be remitted to Lodge No. 195.

A vote of condolence to the widow of the late Bro. W. B. Gibson, P.M. 213, P.P.G.S.W., was moved by Bro. Geo. J. McKay. In feeling terms he said he need hardly remind the R.W. Prov. Grand Master and the brethren of the severe loss the Craft in general and the province in particular had sustained by the untimely death of our late Bro. Gibson. Our late brother was always ready to support him in that high office of Prov. Grand Secretary in the Craft by his assistance and counsel. They seldom missed him from any important meeting in the province. His amiable disposition, genial bearing, and uniform courtesy, had endeared him to every brother in the united Province of Cumberland and Westmorland, who had the honour of his friendship and acquaintance. He trusted they might all meet their dear brother in the Grand Lodge above, and moved a vote of

condolence to the widow of their lamented brother, and that the same be entered in the minutes of that Prov. Grand Lodge.

Bro. J. Nicholson, P.M. 151, P.P.G.S.W., in a very touching manner seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the Grand Hotel, where a very excellent banquet awaited them.

The usual loyal and Masonic toast list was well given and responded to, and with songs and recitations a most agreeable meeting ended with the Tyler's toast about 7.30.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MONMOUTHSHIRE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Monmouthshire was held at the Masonic Hall, Dock-street, Newport, under the banner of the Albert Edward Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1429, on Thursday, the 9th inst., at high noon. There were present—

Bros. Col. Charles Lyne, Prov. G.M.; Capt. S. G. Homfray, P.G.A.D.C., Dep. Prov. G.M.; W. Pickford, 471, P.P.G.T.; A. J. Sinclair, I.P.M., P.G.S.B.; Chas. F. Gooch, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; W. Parfitt, P.M., P.G.D.D.C., P.G.M.; I. E. Thomas, P.M., P.P.G.P.; W. F. N. Noel, W.M. 457, D.G. Supt. of Works Malta; H. R. Hudson, P.G. Stwd.; S. Davies, P.P.G.J.W.; T. D. Griffiths, P.G.C.; Edward Davies, P.G.C.; M. John, G.A.D.C.; E. W. Grove, P.G.A.D.C.; Edward Lewis, P.P.G.P.; T. Harry, P.G.J.D.; James Sanders, P.G.A.S.; A. H. Oliver, P.M., P.P.G.R.; T. R. Oakley, P.M. 457, P.G.S.D.; W. R. Evans, P.M. 818; R. B. Evans, P.M. 471, P.P.G.S.W.; E. T. Evans, 471, P.G.S.; Charles P. Evans, P.P.G. S.D.; F. Orders, P.P.G.S.D.; G. H. Llewellyn, P.P.G.S. of Works; Geo. Gould, P.M., P.G.R.; Henry Richards, P.P.G.D.C.; David Bowen, P.P.G. Chap.; A. McMahon, P.P.G. Sec.; George Bevis, P.G.S. of Works; Thomas G. Preece, P.M. 457, P.G.T.; Henry Fletcher, P.G.A. Tyler; C. Widdowson, P.P.G.P.; James Green, P.G. Purst.; C. L. Phillips, P.G.S.B.; John Lewis, P.P.G.S.W., 1098; J. T. Thomas, P.P.G.S., J.W. 1552; Edward Lewis, P.P.G.S., S.W. 1562; J. D. Davies, P.P.G.S., S.W. 1562; M. John, G.A.D.C.; E. W. Grove, P.G.A.D.C., 1562; Thomas Perkins, I.P.M. 457, P.P.G.P.; A. P. Fabian, 36, P.P.G.S.W.; Evan W. Evans, W.M.; A. I. Sinclair, P.M.; and others.

On the completion of business a procession was formed, and the brethren proceeded to Holy Trinity Church, where a sermon was preached by Bro. Rev. D. Wilks, the Prov. G. Chap., and a collection was taken. In the evening a banquet was held at the King's Head Hotel.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE LEEDS BRETHREN.

The brethren of the great industrial town of Leeds very naturally availed themselves of the opportunity offered by the gracious visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales on Wednesday, the 15th inst., for the purpose of opening the new buildings of the Yorkshire College, in order to present to his Royal Highness, as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge, an address embodying the loyal and heartfelt wishes of the members of the Leeds lodges for the health and happiness of the Royal visitors. A deputation of representative brethren was accordingly organised, and Bro. W. L. Jackson, M.P., W.M. of the Fidelity Lodge, No. 389, acting as spokesman, delivered the following address :

To H.R.H. Albert Edward Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England, whom may the Great Architect of the Universe long preserve.

May it please your Royal Highness, We, the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and Brethren of the Lodges Fidelity, No. 289; Philanthropic, No. 304; Alfred, No. 306; Excelsior, No. 1042; Goderich, No. 1211; Defence, No. 1221; Zetland, No. 1311; and Prudence, No. 2069, of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, beg to express the high gratification and pleasure which we feel on being graciously permitted the opportunity and privilege of welcoming the presence of your Royal Highness as the Most Worshipful Grand Master of our Order, and that of your illustrious consort, her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, on the occasion of your visit to the town and borough of Leeds for the primary object of opening the Yorkshire College.

We desire also to be permitted the opportunity of assuring your Royal Highness of our loyalty and attachment to the throne and person of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, to yourself, and her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, and to all the members of the Royal Family. We fervently pray that your Royal Highness may long be spared to rule and govern the Craft, and that the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth may continue to take deep root in the hearts of all Freemasons, as well as of all men.

We are, in the name of the brethren of the eight lodges in Leeds, your Royal Highness's most devoted and faithful servants,

- W. L. JACKSON, M.P., W.M. Fidelity, No. 289;
- EDMUND WOODCOCK, W.M. Philanthropic, No. 304;
- W. H. THOMPSON, W.M. Alfred, No. 306;
- EDWARD CROSBY, W.M. Excelsior, No. 1042;
- CHARLES SCRIVEN, W.M. Goderich, No. 1211;
- R. P. BRINDLEY, W.M. Defence, No. 1221;
- Geo. COBB, W.M. Zetland, No. 1311;
- EDWIN WOODHOUSE, J.P., W.M. Prudence, No. 2069.

The GRAND MASTER, in reply, said: Worshipful Masters and Brethren—I thank you for the loyal address of welcome which you have just presented to the Princess of Wales and myself on the occasion of our visit to Leeds for the purpose of opening the Yorkshire College. Your expressions of devotion to the Royal Family are especially gratifying to me, your Grand Master, as coming from a body of my fellow subjects, so celebrated in all times for their loyalty to the Throne and respect for the Sovereign. I trust that the Craft, with which I am so intimately connected, may long be spared to continue its career of utility and benevolence.

The function then terminated, and the brethren, highly gratified with their reception, very gracefully retired. Among those present were the following brethren, namely:

Bros. T. W. Tew, J.P., Prov. Grand Master; Henry Smith, Dep. Prov. Grand Master; T. C. Smyth, D.D., P.D.D.G.M. Eastn. Arch.; W. L. Jackson, M.P., P.G.S.W.; W. H. Brittain, P.P.G.W. (Mayor of Sheffield); C. L. Mason, P.P.G. Treas.; A. W. Stanfield, P.G. Reg.; Herbert G. E. Green, P.G. Sec.; Lieut.-Col. J. E. Bingham, W.M. 296 (Master Cutler of Sheffield); T. Bateman Fox (Mayor of Dewsbury); R. Craig, P.P.G.D.; T. Winn, P.P.G. Superintendent of Works; J. W. Beck, P.P.G. Director of Ceremonies; Rev. E. W. Makinson, P.P.G. Chaplain; Alfred Williamson, I.P.M., James Milnes, S.W., and Alfred Scarth, J.W., all of 289; Edmund Woodcock, W.M., James Yates, I.P.M., T. Myers, S.W., and J. Brownfoot, J.W., all of 304; W. H. Thompson, W.M., John Dyson, I.P.M., John Thrippleton, S.W., and Dr. Thompson, J.W., all of 306; E. Crossley, W.M., M. B. Yates, I.P.M., W.M. Tyers, S.W., and W. Flockton, J.W., all of 1042; Chas. Scriven, W.M., John Jaques, I.P.M., A. W. Youings, S.W., and W. H. Bradford, J.W., all of 1211; Richard Prince Brindley, W.M., James Marston, I.P.M., Richard Kingston, I.P.M., and Robert Lees, J.W., all of 1221; Geo. Cobb, W.M., A. F. McGill, I.P.M., W. D. Holles, S.W., and J. M. Hollingsworth, P.M., J.W., all of 1311; Tudor Trevor, P.M., Sec., W. Watson, P.M., S.D., and H. S. Butler, Chap., all of 2069.

MARK BENEVOLENT FUND.

The seventeenth annual festival of the Benevolent Fund attached to the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown was held on Wednesday evening, at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, under the presidency of Lord Egerton of Tatton, Deputy Grand Mark Master, and Provincial Grand Mark Master of Cheshire. A large company of brethren and ladies were present, and among them were:

Bros. Love Jones-Parry, M.P., G.J.W.; F. Davison, P.G.W.; J. Moon, G. Treas.; F. Binckes, P.G.W., G. Sec.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W.; J. Neal York, Prov. G.S.W. East Anglia; S. B. Wilson, P.G.I. of Works; C. E. Soppet, P.G. Stwd., W.M. G. Stewards; George Cooper, P.G.D.; J. L. Mather, P.M. Old Kent; George Kenning, P.M. 1; R. J. Voisey, W.M. 22; Samuel Kelly; Alfred Williams, P.G.D.; R. Beveridge, G.D. of C.; R. P. Spice, G.S.D.; H. Massey; Captain George Lambert, P.G.D.; Dr. George Mickley, G.J.D., P.P.G.O. Bucks; Baron de Ferrieres, M.P., P.G.M.O.; Thomas Cubitt, P.G.O.; T. J. Pulley, P.G.D., P.G. Sec. Berks and Oxon; Edwin Head, W.M. 27; A. H. Simpson, W.M. 225; W. Lake, P.P.G. Reg. Cornwall; R. Glasspool, W.M. 235; J. M. Dormer, W.M. 247; Rev. G. De Ewer, W.M. 257, P.P.G. Chap.; Thos. Taylor, P.G. Stwd., P.P.G.S.W. Bucks; W. H. Finchett; Nathaniel Tracy, Prov. G. Sec. East Anglia; B. Chennell, W.M. 334; H. Stone, G. Stwd., P.M. 54; Rev. H. Cummings, G. Chap., P.G.S.W. Kent; W. A. Weston, P.M. 226; Percy Wallis, G.S.D., W.M. 302; Thomas Clark, P.G.S.D. Middlesex and Surrey; Jabez Church; W. S. Webster; Chas. Belton, W.M. 114, P.P.G.I. of Works Middlesex and Surrey; C. F. Hogard, P.G. Stwd.; J. Boulton, Prov. G.J.O. Middlesex and Surrey; H. H. Shirley, J.D. 214; Major P. Dunbar, P.G. Stwd., W.M. 284; W. W. Morgan; R. Plumbe, P.G. Stwd., J.W. 331; N. Bridges, Prov. G.J.W. Middlesex and Surrey; G. Graveley, G.I.G.; Norman Selfe, P.G.D., P.M. Sydney, 25; H. Gange, G.A.D. of C.; J. Topliss, W.M. 344, P.G. J.W. Notts; F. Rossiter, P.M. 166, Prov. G.M.O. Sussex; W. Nott, P.G. Stwd., P.M. 178; W. B. Williamson, Prov. G.D. Worcestershire; F. T. Bennett; and a large number of ladies.

At the conclusion of the banquet, which was a choice one and was admirably served, grace was sung, and the toasts were proposed.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the first toast, said: the first toast which is drunk in every assembly of Englishmen and Masons, is that of her Majesty the Queen, I will, therefore, give you "Her Majesty the Queen and Mark Masonry." Her Majesty is not only the mother of a Mark Mason, but she is now the grandmother of a Mark Mason, and it afforded me very great pleasure and honour to assist in advancing as a Mark Mason Prince Albert Victor, the heir ultimately to the throne now occupied by her Majesty. We know as Masons that the Queen deserves the respect and attachment of Masons for all she has done during the many years that she has reigned over this country, and among her subjects there are none that can claim to be more loyal to the throne than Masons and Mark Masons. I, therefore, give you with great confidence, knowing that you will receive it with the greatest warmth, "The Health of Her Majesty and Mark Masonry."

In giving the next toast, the CHAIRMAN said: the next toast I have to give you is "The Health of Mark Masonry and the Grand Master, the Earl of Kintore." I am sure that all the brethren will be glad that the abilities of our M.W.M.M. have been recognised by his being placed in a responsible position as a servant of her Majesty. You will all feel that those abilities which we recognised as fitting him for taking his high place in Mark Masonry have been recognised by the Sovereign for employment in the service of the State, and they show that some of the qualities of a good Mason are also some of the best qualities of a citizen. None will recognise his fitness for such an office more than the Mark Masons of England. We are rejoiced to be governed by one who is so well fitted by his position and by his acts to take the lead and be an honour to Mark Masonry. It is unnecessary for me to remind you how well and how fittingly he has ruled over us, and I am sure he will hear with pleasure that his health has been received here with enthusiasm, as it always will be among Mark Masons. I, therefore, give you "The Health of the M.W.G.M. of Mark Masons, the Earl of Kintore."

Bro. GEORGE LAMBERT next said the toast which has been confided to me is one of great importance, because, while it proves that Mark Masonry is in existence, it is the ideal, and not only the ideal, but the fact that we have a great many Grand Officers on this occasion, who rally round this—our board. I have the honour to offer to your notice "The Health of the Deputy Grand Master, Lord Egerton of Tatton, and the Grand Officers, Present and Past." In days gone by, we formed a Grand Lodge, and I had the honour of being the first Grand Deacon. I am very glad on this occasion that I may have the opportunity of saying a word for the Grand Officers. I believe your Grand Officers have worked most sincerely and well in the past, and if we want evidence of it we have only to compare the number who have been present on former occasions with the number of those present to-day. They have done good suit and service, and have shown by their efforts that they have been thinking of our Mark Benevolent Fund, by urging those who are not members to do the best they can for us. I have no doubt in Mark Masonry, as in every other Degree of Masonry, the Grand Officers have to put their shoulders to the wheel, and carry out those rules which may not be quite in accordance with their own views, and we are much indebted to those brethren who come up from long distances to advocate these principles. We ought to be grateful as I am sure we are for the duties they impose on themselves, and to the Deputy Grand Master, our Chairman, for coming to preside over us to-day. I should like to have told you more of him, but I am told that is left for some one else to say. We have the honour to-night to entertain our Bro. Love Jones Parry, and we are grateful to our good friends who come from so far away. We hail the province of Wales from which he comes as one of the most excellent in working and as a bright example to all those who are within our borders.

Bro. LOVE JONES PARRY, in responding, said he was a Mason of 35 years standing, and the longer he was in it the greater pleasure he took in it. It was no violation of Masonic secrecy to say that Charity was the motto and the motive power of Masons. St. Paul placed Charity at the head of the virtues and charity was only the Latin name for love. It was in the cause of charity they had met that day, and he was happy to be able to say that the Charitable Fund of Mark Masonry was increasing very rapidly. He need only call attention to the printed books which were in the hands of the brethren which showed the extraordinary difference between the sum subscribed each year from 1869. In that year it was £97 2s. 8d.; last year it was £832 19s. He only hoped that that day it would not be less than £1000. It was very gratifying indeed to see so much larger an attendance this year than there was last, when they had an equally sunny day, but from some cause or other there were last year many gaps at the dinner tables, and there were not so many ladies present. He was sorry that the rules of Masonry did not allow of ladies being present more frequently. There was only one instance, however, of a lady being a Mason, but in these days when women's

rights were so much advocated there was no knowing what might happen and the ladies need not despair.

Bro. the Rev. H. CUMMINGS, in proposing "The Chairman," said it must afford Lord Egerton of Tatton very great satisfaction to see before him such a company. He ventured to think that with such a large number of Stewards, their wives, daughters and friends would bring the festival to such a success as the Benevolent Fund had not yet had. Having at their head a chairman of such deserved popularity was no doubt the cause. They were a long way from Cheshire, but the Cheshire brethren were supporting him strongly. Lord Egerton was now Deputy Grand Master, and he hoped that he would in turn become Grand Master. He was quite sure that the popularity of Lord Egerton had a great deal to do with the immeasurable success which this festival was going to have. They had already heard of the strides made in 15 or 18 years. Last year over £800 was collected but he believed that to-day it would be over £1000. He ventured to think it would be a long way beyond £1000.

The CHAIRMAN said it gave him the greatest pleasure to return his most hearty thanks for the kind way in which his health had been received, and for the kind way in which it had been proposed. He felt that the success of the meeting would not be owing so much to his presence as to the good cause of which he was there as the humble advocate. It gave him great pleasure to see so many Stewards present to support him, more than double the number of the Stewards on any previous occasion, but still drawn together from every part of the world as well as of the kingdom. Australia, Sydney, and New South Wales were represented on this occasion. All parts of England were represented, and he was glad that the provinces with which he was more immediately connected, Lancashire and Cheshire, had sent up their fair share of Stewards, although those two counties could not compare with Middlesex and Surrey, which sent 21 Stewards, or three times the number of the other two. Still he thought if this Festival was ever held in Lancashire it would show as good an account as the two metropolitan counties. With regard to the ladies he should have thought from the speech they had lately heard that the speaker was the champion of women's rights. Women were to be found in every good work, and although they could not be initiated into Masonic mysteries, they could be associated in Masonic good work. After the many distinguished men he had the honour to follow as Chairman, he felt that his efforts might be small in comparison with theirs, but there was not one of his predecessors who had been actuated by a warmer desire to benefit the Institution which they were met to support. He trusted that the success of this Festival would give promise of better and larger success.

The CHAIRMAN, in giving the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Mark Benevolent Fund and the other Masonic Institutions," said: the company had been already told that Charity was one of the most prominent and leading of all the Masonic virtues, and Mark Masons shared it in common with the rest of the Craft. The Mark Benevolent Fund had from its commencement been a source of interest and support with Mark Masons. They had heard how 16 years ago it had a very small beginning. It was then held under the then Grand Master, now Canon Portal, and under £100 was collected. Since then many other distinguished men had presided at their annual Festivals, and the sums had gradually risen. But this year he trusted that instead of making gradual progress it would go on with those leaps and bounds which a late Chancellor of the Exchequer used to delight in with regard to the national exchequer, which now they could not claim. Masonry was more fortunate because they had double the number of Stewards, and he was sure he might say there would be double the amount collected last year. They were well aware what the objects of the Fund were—first to relieve Masons in distress, their widows and children. Further than that there was an accumulated amount of £2000, and still further there was an educational branch which had absorbed the sum of £1400 and with that 12 boys and five girls were receiving education. Unless a large amount was now collected there would be very few vacancies at the next election, but they had every confidence that they would be able to do even more than they had yet done. They were not only in their charity assisting Mark Masons but to a considerable extent they were relieving Craft Masonry also, because all those who have become Mark Masons must have passed the Craft Degrees. He would like to throw out a proposal which he was sure they would approve of. He would like to see a fund started for the relief of decayed and aged Mark Masons and their widows. It had been computed that a very moderate sum would be sufficient to give £15 or £12 a year to each of six men and widows. It could not be denied that both aged Mark Masons and their widows had a great claim on Mark Masons, and he thought the Benevolent Fund might be extended in that direction. As example in these cases was better than precept, he proposed, if it was the wish of the Board who had the control of the Benevolent Fund, and if they would accept it, he would give 100 guineas towards such a fund, on condition that it was started. He was sure that on the present occasion it would not be necessary to use many words to enforce the benefit of extending this fund, for he was quite certain that those present would come forward and support it, and would spread the idea to other Masons. They would feel that all deserving Mark Masons should have a fair share of the prosperity of Mark Masons in general, and that every one who became a Mark Mason might look forward to the time when, if his circumstances were not so good as when he joined the Order, he should be able to fall back on such a fund as this, in the full confidence that his claims would be regarded and attended to. He felt certain that no words of his were needed to give the toast of the Mark Benevolent Fund and the other Masonic Institutions, and that the very successful result, which would shortly be announced by the financial statement, would show them that the exertions of the Stewards and the Honorary Secretaries, Bros. Binckes and Matier, had not been altogether in vain.

Bro. BINCKES responded, and hoped the brethren would take to heart what the Chairman had said as to forming a new fund. He unhesitatingly accepted the condition attached to the Chairman's gift of 100 guineas, and trusted that, in consequence, the subscriptions of future years would even be greater than the magnificent amount he was going to announce. He then read the list of subscriptions.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing "The Board of Stewards," said that the amount already announced had been due to the activity and energy of all the Stewards and the President, Bro. Alfred Williams, and the two honorary Secretaries, Bros. Binckes and Matier. The very gratifying announcement just made could not have been attained without the energy and activity of the Stewards of this Festival.

Bro. ALFRED WILLIAMS responded. The Mayor of WORCESTER proposed "The Visitors." Bro. SELFE, from Australia, responded, and assured the brethren that the hearts of Masons in Australia beat as warmly to the Masons of England as they did towards the Masons of Australia. The toast of "The Ladies" closed the proceedings.

STEWARDS' LIST.

Table listing stewards by province and lodge, including names like Lord Egerton, Bro. Miles J. Walker, Bro. J. H. Lawson, etc., with associated monetary values in pounds, shillings, and pence.

SUMMARY.

Summary table showing totals for various regions: Berks and Oxon, Buckinghamshire, Cheshire, Cumberland and Westmorland, East Anglia, Gloucestershire, Hants and Isle of Wight, Kent, Lancashire, Leicester, Northants, and Derbyshire, Lincolnshire, Middlesex and Surrey, and Grand Total.

RESULT OF THE FESTIVAL.

Every one must be unfeignedly pleased with the result of this seventeenth Anniversary Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund. In the more limited sphere of the Mark Degree, it is a success which probably surpasses even the most sanguine hopes of its promoters and supporters...

tury since were wont to be announced at the close of our principal Charity Festivals. If we compare the result of this particular Anniversary with those of its predecessors, on behalf of the same Fund, we see at a glance that the highest recorded sum—the £833 of last year, when Bro. Major Woodall, P.G.M.M.M. of North and East Yorkshire, occupied the chair—has been more than doubled. This shows, of course, how great an advantage it is to have a good system of organisation framed after the best models. In 1884 there was a very good Board of Stewards, composed of 47 brethren, all anxious and willing to do their best for the success of the meeting; but there was no regularly-arranged sub-division of duty. On Wednesday there was a Board of 88 Stewards, the majority of whom represented lodges or provinces, and, for the first time in the history of this Fund, the brethren were classed under the section or province to which they severally belonged, or, perhaps, as it is no uncommon thing for a brother to belong to more than one section or province, it would be more accurate to say, under that which he had undertaken to represent. This may seem a small matter to mention; but a Steward will tell you that it makes all the difference in the result achieved between working at haphazard and working for a particular district. In the one case the same ground is traversed by several; in the other, one brother, or it may be more than one, has a certain portion of the work assigned to him, and he meets with little or no interruption in his canvass. This is why the Festivals of our great central Charities have been so magnificently productive of late years, because the different Stewards have worked different lodges or districts, and this it is which accounts for the unexampled success we have just recorded. In these circumstances it would be an act of grave injustice if we did not accord a full measure of praise to the Grand Secretary, Bro. F. Binckes, and Bro. C. F. Matier, who occupies the position in the Grand Secretary's office held by the late Bro. Dewar. Both worked splendidly, while on Bro. Matier devolved in an especial manner that work of organisation on which we have rightly laid so much stress, and which has borne such splendid fruit, splendid even beyond our most sanguine expectations.

The total, as stated elsewhere, reached £1721 16s. 6d., being the joint contributions of London as represented by 19 Stewards, of whom 11 were unattached, and 24 provinces with 69 representatives, of whom no less than 22, or nearly one-third, hailed from the Metropolitan province of Middlesex and Surrey, the total of these latter being about equal to the result of a whole Mark Benevolent Festival such as it was half a dozen years since. The London total is £272 4s., and considering that, in the Mark Degree, there is no special district or area marked out as holding directly under the Mark Grand Lodge, the result is very gratifying. The principal lists are those of Bro. C. F. Matier unattached, £46, and Bro. J. L. Mather, P.M. and Steward for the Old Kent Time Immemorial Lodge, £42.

Taking the Provinces seriatim, we find their aggregate contributions amounted to £1344 12s. 6d. Of this sum BERKS and OXON, with 7 Stewards, Bro. T. J. Pulley acting for the province, and the other six for as many lodges, raised £82 1s. Bro. Thomas Taylor, as Steward for the Province of BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, as well as for St. Peter and St. Paul, No. 163, made up a list of £16 16s. CHESHIRE, two Stewards, Bro. the Rev. C. W. S. Stanhope, D.P.G.M., acting for the province, and Bro. Finchett for the Earl of Chester Lodge, gave £21. Bro. Collin for CUMBERLAND and WESTMORLAND contributed £5 5s. EAST ANGLIA, with four Stewards, raised £118 13s., the list of Bro. N. Tracy, Prov. G. Sec., amounting to £52 3s., Bro. Dyer's, Isaac Newton University, No. 112, to £35, and Bro. Chennell's, York, No. 334, to £31 10s., Bro. Graveley's amount obtained from the Beaconsfield, No. 205, forming part of his total of 50 guineas (£52 10s.), entered under MIDDLESEX and SURREY, for Temperance-in-the-East, No. 350. GLOUCESTERSHIRE, with two Stewards, gave £21; and HANTS and the ISLE OF WIGHT, two Stewards, £63. There were five Stewards for KENT, the total being £156 10s., and the list of Bro. the Rev. H. Cummings, for the province, £105, the weightiest of all the Stewards' lists. LANCASHIRE also had five Stewards, whose lists amounted to £57 5s., and the Province of LEICESTERSHIRE, NORTHANTS, and DERBYSHIRE, four Stewards, who raised amongst them £81 7s. 6d., the chief items being Bro. Percy Wallis's of £35 15s., and Bro. Miles J. Walker's of £26 5s. LINCOLNSHIRE per Bro. Jack Sutcliffe, Prov. G.M.M.M., gave £10 10s.; and MIDDLESEX and SURREY, with 22 Stewards, £504 2s., Mrs. D. P. Cama £52 10s., and Bro. G. Graveley, £52 10s., being the principal contributors, while Bros. R. Plumbé, No. 331, F. T. Bennett, No. 5, W. S. Webster, No. 3, W. E. Stewart, No. 7, A. Tisley, No. 238, Jabez Church, No. 104, and Thomas Clark (province) raised £35 14s., £34 12s. 6d., £32 11s., £27 5s., £27 5s., £25 4s., and £25 2s. respectively.

Of the other represented Provinces, MONMOUTHSHIRE, per Bro. Major A. Thrale Perkins, is entered for £21; NEW SOUTH WALES, per Bro. Norman Selve, for £5 5s.; and NORTHUMBERLAND and DURHAM, per Bro. C. H. Hill Drury, for £17 1s. NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, with Stewards for two of its lodges, contributes £48 6s., of which Bro. H. George's list absorbs £43 1s. SOMERSETSHIRE, per Bro. C. W. Radway, figures for £10 10s., and SUSSEX, per Bro. F. Rossiter, for £18 11s. Then follow VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA—no return—and WILTSHIRE, one of whose lodges—the Wiltshire Keystone, No. 178—per Bro. William Nott, gives £17 15s. The two WORCESTERSHIRE Stewards, of whom Bro. A. F. Godon is one, contribute a joint list of £31 10s.; WEST YORKSHIRE, per Bro. Fred Cleaves, of the Britannia Lodge, No. 53, £11; NORTH WALES, per Bro. Love Jones-Parry, M.P., G.J.W., £5 5s.; and SOUTH WALES, per Bro. Sir Pryse Pryse, who presided as Chairman in 1883, £21.

The Stewards named in the other entries have severally included the sums obtained for the "Degree of Royal Ark Mariners," the "Allied Masonic Degrees," and the "Royal and Select Masters" in their totals entered elsewhere in the list, while the return for VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA has yet to be received. We must add that Lord Egerton, as Chairman, gave a personal donation of 100 guineas (£105), but subject to the condition that the scheme in contemplation for providing annuities for aged and decayed Mark brethren and their widows is adopted. As the scheme is already formulated in its most material points, there is little doubt as to the condition being fulfilled.

In several of the cases enumerated, the sums subscribed are probably only the personal gifts of the different Stewards—the five guineas entitling a brother to the Charity jewel presented by Mark Grand Lodge; but the list is nevertheless a goodly one, and though it is the first which has been attempted under the new system, we have no doubt it will be as successfully followed, and even exceeded at future Festivals. This much we are justified, by the present result, in anticipating, and we trust not many years will elapse, ere the total of 1885 has been doubled in the same brilliant manner as that of 1884.

See the same names elsewhere.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS

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THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KINTORE, M.W. GRAND MASTER.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD EGERTON OF TATTON, R.W. DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

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Will be held, on the invitation of the R.W. Provincial Grand Mark Master, the Dep. Prov. Grand Mark Master, and the Brethren of the Liverpool Lodges, at

THE ADELPHI HOTEL, LIVERPOOL,

On WEDNESDAY, the 29th of July, 1885,

At which all legally advanced Mark Master Masons may be present.

Grand Lodge will be opened at Four o'clock prompt.

By command of the M.W. Grand Master,

FREDERICK BINCKES, P.G.J.W.

Grand Secretary.

Office—8A, Red Lion Square, London, W.C., 10th July, 1885.

BUSINESS.

Open Grand Lodge in Form.

General Business.

Close Grand Lodge.

A Banquet will take place at 5 precisely, at the Adelphi Hotel. Tickets, 7s. 6d. each (exclusive of Wine).

N.B.—To facilitate the arrangements for the comfort of the Brethren attending the Banquet, application for Tickets must be made not later than Saturday, 25th July, to W. Bro. JOHN CHADWICK, Prov. G. Sec., 2, Cooper Street, Manchester; W. Bro. WM. BRACKENBURY, W.M. 65, 14, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool; or Bro. W. LUDLOW, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.

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Pending the announcement of definite arrangements, the names of Brethren willing to co-operate with the Committee and executive as Stewards will be gratefully received.

The Fee payable by a Steward is One Guinea, to include Ticket for Déjeuner.

Programmes with full details of the ceremony to be observed, will be prepared in due course.

By order,

FREDERICK BINCKES, Secretary.

Office, 6, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C. July, 1885.

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To Correspondents.

371.—We imagine the reason is that the third or final obligation crowns the second and first obligations, as the Third Degree crowns or consummates the two inferior.

Several communications stand over.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Le Moniteur de la Chance Universelle," "The Belgian News and Continental Advertiser," "Broad Arrow," "Sunday Times" (New York), "Citizen," "Bulletin du Grand Orient de France," "Keystone," "Court Circular," "El Taller," "Allen's Indian Mail," "The Freemason" (Toronto), "Sunday Times" (London), "Odd Fellows' Register and Masonic Journal," "Freemasons' Repository," "Liberal Freemason," "Canadian Craftsman and Masonic Record," "Jewish Chronicle," "New York Dispatch," and "The Freemason" (Detroit)—April 25th to June 27th.



SATURDAY, JULY 25, 1885.

Original Correspondence.

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

THE RECENT BOYS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I take the earliest opportunity of thanking your correspondent, "A Life Governor of the Three Charities," for his courteous endeavour to satisfy my very natural curiosity. I am prepared to allow that his explanation as to the falling off in the contributions at the recent Boys' School Festival has some amount of reason in its favour. Festival receipts, like all other similar returns, follow a certain law of average, and you cannot well disturb that average in order to swell the total of any particular year to an exceptional amount without affecting detrimentally those of the years that follow. But I cannot bring myself to endorse his view that "the premium votes" of 1883 "inflicted a very serious injury on all of the three Masonic Charities, by destroying the confidence of many of their supporters, who not unnaturally regarded the allotment of such extra votes as a direct violation of the terms on which they had previously been induced to become Governors."

I presume your correspondent will agree with me that special measures of some kind or other must be devised in order to meet an emergent expenditure such as was caused by the necessity for enlarging the Boys' School. In that case, of course, we have only to consider what, if any, better means were possible than those which the Executive of the School, in the exercise of its discretion, saw fit to adopt. It might, for instance, have set about accumulating a Special Fund by diverting a certain proportion of its annual receipts to the purpose in view, and so spreading the work of accumulation over a term of years. But the objection to this course was that the need for enlargement was immediate and imperative. While this Fund was being raised, many of the poor children whom it was desired to admit would have grown old enough to leave the School, or at all events too old to be admitted. When the Governors of the Institution resolved on having a School of their own, something like five or six years elapsed between the time when the resolution was formulated and the admission of the first batch of 25 boys, and then it was only a question of some £3000 or £4000 over and above an annual expenditure of about £1000, with a fixed income of about £500. In this case the additional expenditure involved was estimated at £12,000 or £15,000, with an annual outlay of about £10,000 and a fixed income within £800. I do not think the Committee were ill-advised in rejecting this scheme which would have required too many years to complete. Then, as in 1864, the funded property of the Institution might have been sold and the new premises erected out of the proceeds; or, as in 1865, a mortgage might have been raised on the existing building; but apart from the fact that it took something like 15 years or more to replace the funded property thus sold out and to pay off the mortgage of £10,000 thus raised, the weak point in the Boys' School finance is that the permanent income already bears too small a proportion to the income required, and I fancy few will grumble that the Committee did not see their way to the adoption of this alternative. But what was to be done in order to meet the pressing emergency, with these avenues for raising the wind closed against them, or a postponement for several years until the special fund had been raised? Well, the Committee having in view the special character of the emergency, and remembering at the same time that the ordinary annual expenditure of quite £10,000 would have to be met, resolved on holding out to brethren as an inducement to give more liberally than usual the privilege of double votes. By this inducement, or "bribe," as your correspondent calls it, they obtained the greater part of what they wanted in addition to the moneys necessary for the ordinary expenditure. Having done this, they resumed last year the old arrangement as to votes, and the Festival yielded £14,000 to the General Fund as against £15,000 General Fund and £8000 Special Fund, or together £23,000 in 1883. Thus the Special Fund having been got rid of, there was no very serious falling off from £15,000 in 1883 to £14,000 in 1884, no more, indeed, than must be expected, and has, indeed, occurred in many previous years. But the average returns, or about the average, having been resumed in 1884, I do not think we can account for the further diminution of over £2000 in the current year by the "premium votes," the disturbing effect of the special privileges being necessarily weakened the further we get from the year in which they were offered. But be this as it may, the "bribe" of double votes has done no harm to the other two Charities, both of which have raised more this year than they did last, and more in 1884 than they did in 1883.

I have more to say but will reserve it for a future letter.
—Faithfully and fraternally,
ALPHA.

WHICH SHALL IT BE—"CHARITY" OR "DINNERS?"

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

"Cakes and Ale" has not quite understood my letter. I expressly said I did not seek to abolish "dinners." I agree with him that to do so would seriously affect the "Charity" which I so desire to see extended. But it is possible, in the way I have pointed out, to continue the "dinners," and yet increase the amount the "Charities" receive, an increase which would, I firmly believe, double the sum annually given by the Craft for the three Institutions. Reduce the expenses of the banquets in the mode I have suggested, and grant to the various Charities the money thus saved by the lodge, and the thing is done. Let any lodge try it for a year, and see what the result will be.

I cannot supply all the data for which "Cakes and Ale" asks, having only joined the lodge some four years ago. I can tell your readers that it has a roll of about 70 members, and that it has not been an unusual thing for 90 to 100 to sit down to the installation banquet; but at the other meetings the attendance has not usually been so large. Everybody knows that the visitor's fee does not—at least, in a dining lodge—recoup the lodge the cost of the visitor. This lodge has been in existence a little over 20 years, and, so far as I can ascertain, has not contributed out of the lodge funds in any year more than 10 guineas to some one of the Institutions, and, if I am rightly informed, in some years nothing at all. But it has, I am told, always been a banqueting lodge, and, because I desire to see a little more active "Charity" from the lodge, as a lodge, I have been called a "fanatic," and have had thrown in my teeth the fact (which I am proud to acknowledge, and desire to make still better known) that, individually, the lodge contains some of the most generous men it has ever been my lot to meet.

Now, Sir, I take issue strongly on one point raised by "Cakes and Ale." The lodge, as a lodge, has no more right to take credit for any individual contributions to Charity, Masonic or otherwise, than it has to take credit for the payment by me of my rent and taxes. True, the contributions of such men as "A Poor Mason" (whose letter appears in your issue of the 4th inst.) and myself go to swell the list of some ambitious brother, who sees perhaps the prospect of a little fame or another medal, and it may be a vote or two, for a heavy list; but Masons know how that list is made up. It is not for me to say more about it, or to do anything which may have the slightest tendency to stop the current of Masonic Charity. On the contrary, the mode I have suggested for the use of "Lodge Funds" would largely increase it, and instead of £44,000—twice that sum would be raised in a single year.

I lately belonged to a lodge which out of an income of not quite £120, voted 40 guineas to the Charities in one year. How was this done? By having only one, the installation banquet—on one or two occasions a plain supper—and at the other meetings the brethren paying "pro rata" for what they had after lodge was closed.

One other point and I have done. "Cakes and Ale" introduces to my notice quite a new character—one I have never yet met—the person who apologises for his presence at a banquet or dinner. I should look upon such a fellow, if I ever met him, as a humbug, and not believe one word he said.

I beg you will permit me to repeat, that until the Audit drew my attention to the figures, I had not, like, I venture to think, thousands of our brethren, given any thought to the subject. I do not want to abolish "Dinners." My Masonic teaching has been based on what are, no doubt, now, old fashioned lines. I may be a "fanatic," but, as the history of the progress of the world shows, most good things have been accomplished with the aid of those who have been, more or less, subject to that stigma; and I shall be content if the seed I have sown does, in due time, germinate, and bring forth fruit, good in its season, to the Craft and its beloved Institution.—Faithfully and fraternally yours,
C. E. G.

July 20th.

THE MASONIC CHARITIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

It has been pointed out on several occasions in your valuable paper that lodges and members do not subscribe to the Charities as fully as they might do, and that it is generally the same lodges and brethren who do subscribe from time to time. There must be a reason for this, and the only one that I can imagine is that the amount asked for is more than many lodges and brethren can afford. To remedy this I would suggest that the Secretaries of the three Institutions be permitted to receive payment on account of Life Subscriptions by instalments of 5s. a month, and that a vote, or votes, be given at each of the elections, as long as a brother continued to pay regularly; that all sums thus paid be credited to the lodge to which the brother belongs, and that any lodge subscribing £10 10s. be permitted to take credit and receive votes for all sums thus paid by its members, or, in other words, receive the same privilege as Stewards. If this were done many lodges would, I feel assured, subscribe 10 guineas, at least, during the year, and would, no doubt, give this sum to the Charitable Institutions turn and turn about; and if only one member in each of our lodges, and I trust there would be many more, would embrace the opportunity of obtaining a Life Subscription on these easy terms, it would, I hope, produce such an amount as would prevent the Secretaries being so despondent as they generally are prior to the Festivals.

It may be said that brethren wishing to obtain Life Subscriptions by easy terms of payment can do so by joining one of the Associations held at lodges of instruction; but there are many brethren who cannot and do not attend instruction lodges, and others, again, who do attend hear of these Associations after they have been in existence for some time, and are debarred from joining because they would have to pay up from the beginning, and being unable to afford £1 or 30s. as a first payment, they refuse to join. At any rate, the Charities could not lose by carrying out this suggestion; but, on the contrary, would be a gainer, and I trust to a considerable amount.—I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

CHARITY.

Royal Military Asylum, Chelsea, July 21st.

LONDON MUTUAL MASONIC VOTING ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Permit me to say a few words on behalf of the "London Mutual Masonic Voting Association." This Association, all will admit, is much needed, and has not been started before it was required. Many London brethren have noted for some time past the admirable manner in which the Provincial brethren have worked, and how they have, by combination, succeeded in running their candidates in at the several Elections; but the difficulty in our minds has been, How could London, with its numerous lodges and without a rallying point, secure a like result for London cases? This has at last been overcome, and great praise is due to those brethren who have, I trust, successfully combated and conquered it.

London brethren will, by joining the Association, not only aid in obtaining a fair representation of London cases in the several Institutions, but will secure in the future—should they require it for themselves, or any member of their families—election to either of the Masonic establishments, and the cost need not debar the very poorest from joining, seeing that the entrance fee is only 2s. 6d., and the subscription 2s. per annum.

The Association is at present only in its infancy, and it will take time and careful management to bring it on a level with the Provincial Associations, and its success will materially depend upon the support it receives from the Metropolitan lodges and brethren, whom I trust will rally round the standard of the Association in such numbers as to prove to the provinces that we are not wanting in "esprit de corps," or above following their lead in any undertaking which is for the advancement of our Order, or the benefit of its members.—I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours sincerely and fraternally,

July 20th.

A. T. H., 1425.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGES FOR LONDON.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The letter of "A Supporter of our Institutions," in your issue of the 18th, raises a question well worthy of consideration by all interested in the future welfare of the Craft. Masonry has extended so rapidly under the able management of our royal Grand Master, especially in the metropolis, that the London Masons may fairly claim some constitution in the nature of a province, whereby they may be brought together and London interests fostered as in the country districts. It is true that the London rulers of the Craft have the opportunity of meeting at Grand Lodge; but the increased interest taken by our provincial brethren in the meetings of Grand Lodge and the large contingents they send up to London when any subject of special interest appears on the agenda, has entirely altered the nature of the meetings of Grand Lodge, which not many years since were composed principally of prominent London members. Indeed, already Grand Lodge, as at present constituted, has quite outgrown its present home, and many eminent Masons give up attending to make room for younger brethren, the accommodation available being wholly insufficient for all who could and would be present. Would it not be practicable, without interfering with the privileges of "Middlesex" or "Surrey" to divide the metropolis into districts and constitute each a separate province, and then reconstitute Grand Lodge as a meeting of elected members from each province, the number of members elected by each province being regulated by the number of working lodges existing from time to time? If Masonry continues to increase during the next decade at the rate it has done during the last, we shall bid fair ere long to become a heterogeneous mass of units, with little power of cohesion, and that spirit of unity which should be prominent will suffer. In political, municipal, and social matters we find it necessary to reconstitute organisations which have worked well in the past but are not suited to the altered circumstances of the nineteenth century, and the same rule may have to be applied to our Brotherhood. If such be the case, let us not make the mistake of blindly adhering to "what is" because it "has been," but look at the matter boldly and impartially. Reforms that come from without are always more drastic than those that emanate from within.—Yours, &c.,

LONDONIENSIS.

A MASONIC EXCHANGE AND SALE COLUMN IN THE FREEMASON.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

There must be many brethren possessed of jewels and regalia they never want, and who would be glad to sell if a market could be found. So, too, there are doubtless many who would be glad to know where to obtain second-hand Masonic clothing. Can you not set apart a column, or part of one, say, in the middle of the paper, opposite the correspondence, for the purpose?—Yours fraternally,

JOHN A. LLOYD.

Broad Hinton Vicarage, Swindon.

MASONIC POETRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

A long and severe illness, which has flung me behind hand in every way, has prevented me from replying as early as I ought to have done to our respected Bro. Emra Holmes's fraternal letter on the subject. I also cordially endorse all that Bro. Whitehead has said in praise of our gifted Bro. Dr. Rob. Morris, although I have not had the pleasure of seeing his recently published volume, nevertheless I have read sufficient of his true Masonic poetry in the American and other Masonic periodicals to make me warmly approve of his coronation at New York as the new poet Laureate of Freemasonry, an honour which I sincerely wish he may long live to enjoy. If I remember rightly, for his letter is not before me as I write, Bro. Whythead spoke of Bro. John Cunningham as being born at York. If so, it is an error, Dublin being the natal place of the pastoral poet. Whether Bro. John Cunningham was initiated into Freemasonry in Ireland, Scotland, or England, I tried in vain to ascertain many years ago, of which more anon. Bro. Duganne's most excellent Masonic poem, "King Solomon's Temple," I regard as the grandest thing that has ever been done in that way, and think that every true Freemason ought to be familiar with

that wonderful production. Bro. Emra Holmes is quite correct in saying that I attempted to make it known in this country some years ago, by publishing it in a very cheap form. I sent out many thousands of advertisements to lodges all over the country, offering to send it free by post on receipt of five halfpenny postages, but the sale never cleared a quarter of the expense of advertising it, let alone that of printing, &c. I will still be happy to sell copies at that price to any one who wishes to know what genuine Freemasonry is, whether they belong to the Craft or not, for whilst as a true Mason, I would share the fate of that illustrious character we are taught to venerate in the Third Degree, rather than improperly divulge the secrets of Freemasonry. I hold it to be the bounden duty of every member of the dear old Craft to be able and willing to give to every honest inquirer a rational answer to the question, "What is the good of Freemasonry in the present age?" I thank Bro. Emra Holmes for his kindly tribute to my "Hundred Masonic Sonnets, Illustrative of the Principles of the Craft," and, in return for his manly out-spokenness, I hope he will allow me to dedicate the volume to him when it does appear, as I hope it will do before long. I have received some names as subscribers, both at home and abroad, of which I may well be proud; but I have not yet a sufficient number of brethren agreed to pay half-a-crown for a copy of the book when ready for delivery to justify me incurring the cost of printing and binding it at present. In the meantime I am running the sonnets through the Masonic press wherever the English language is spoken and the editors care to give them; and it is my intention in the volume to state where each sonnet has previously appeared. As any doggerel rhymers may call his rubbishy Masonic poetry, and as the greater part of what has appeared in print as such is, in my opinion, a disgrace to the Sons of Light, this will prove that many of my literary brothers regard the sonnets as fit for publication, and the reading Mason will not be "buying a pig in a poke."

In conclusion, allow me to say that any communication that may be addressed to me at Rose Cottage, Stokesley, Yorkshire, will receive my careful attention.—I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours most fraternally,

GEORGE MARKHAM TWEDDELL.

Rose Cottage, Stokesley, July 16th.



623] FRENCH STATUTES OF 1743.

I am now writing to the Hague for a copy of these, as well as selections from the minutes of the Versailles Lodge "Chambre du Roy," and trust to give "Masonic Student" all the information he wants in a few weeks at latest.

G. W. SPETH.

624] BRO. WOODFORD'S LIBRARY.

Bro. Woodford seems to think students will be pleased at the sale of his valuable library. If there be a Cresus amongst us, no doubt he individually will be glad. For myself, I am sincerely sorry. For all practical purposes Bro. Woodford's library is as much mine as his, because he has never yet refused to place any book at my disposal, "and so say all of us." But when it is dispersed what shall I do? I look upon the proposed sale as a personal calamity. Can not Grand Lodge be induced to buy it? or, failing this, can not a syndicate of students be formed to buy it and present it to Grand Lodge under certain conditions making it more valuable to students? If sold, as proposed, almost every work of value will go to the United States, and although no one can be fonder of our cousins than myself, I should feel an infinite satisfaction in robbing them of their prey. I distinctly lay down this axiom: if this collection leaves the country it will be a lasting disgrace to the English Craft. If a syndicate can be formed, I will contribute even beyond my means to avert this disgrace.

G. W. SPETH.



Craft Masonry.

EUPHRATES LODGE (No. 212).—The summer banquet of this lodge was held at the Holborn Restaurant on Tuesday evening, the 14th inst., under the presidency of Bro. Martin, W.M., assisted by Bros. W. J. Cooper, S.W., and W. J. Bassett, J.W. Previous to dinner, the brethren, ladies, and friends enjoyed a pleasurable trip on the Thames, the favourite and commodious steamer, Lotus, having been specially chartered. The company, numbering nearly one hundred, met at the Old Swan Pier, and proceeded to Richmond, accompanied by an excellent quadrille band, returning to the Temple Pier at six o'clock, carriages being provided to convey them to the restaurant, where a sumptuous banquet was served in first-class style. The loyal and Masonic toasts having been proposed and duly honoured, songs, recitations, and "morceaux de salon" brought to a close a most enjoyable day.

Among those present were Bros. W. R. Martin, W.M., and Mrs. Martin; Bro. W. J. Cooper, S.W., and Mrs. Cooper; Bro. W. J. Bassett, J.W., W. J. Bassett, jun., and Miss Bassett; Bro. J. Seigenberg, S.D., Mrs. Seigenberg, and Miss Seigenberg; Bro. G. Wallduck and Mrs. Wallduck; Bro. J. Boyden, I.G.; and Mrs. Boyden; Bro. H. May, Mrs. May, and Miss May; Bro. Glass, Sec., and Mrs. Glass; Bro. West and Mrs. West; Bro. Halsey and Mrs. Halsey; Bro. Pryor and Mrs. Pryor; Bro. Burston and Mrs. Burston; Bro. Elsdon; Bro. De Leeu and Mrs. De Leeu; Bro. G. Stevens, Mrs. Stevens, Miss Stevens, and Miss Clara Stevens; Bro. Williams and Mr. Williams; Bro. Edwards, Bro. Forss, Bro. Benabo and Mrs. Benabo; Bro. Moss, Mrs. Moss, and Miss Moss; Bro. Barnes, Mrs. Barnes, and Miss Barnes; Bro. Marsh; Bro. Stean and Mrs. Stean; Bro. Thorn, and Mrs. Thorn; Bro. Taylor, and Mrs. Taylor; Bro. Copson; Bro. J. T. Wood; Bro. Woods, Mrs. Woods, and Miss Woods; and Bro. Hine, and Mrs. Hine.

NELSON LODGE (No. 700).—The installation meeting of this flourishing lodge took place on Wednesday, the 15th inst., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich, when Bro. C. Sweeting, S.W. and W.M. elect, was placed in the chair of K.S. and saluted in due form. Bro. C. Norman, P.M., Sec., performed the ceremony admirably, and the W.M. appointed his officers as follows: Bros. J. Sanderson, S.W.; R. J. Naylor, J.W.; T. Butt, P.M., Treas.; C. Norman, P.M., Sec.; J. Swanson, S.D.; W. Wray, J.D.; J. Warren, P.M., D.C.; W. Bidgood, Org.; J. W. Miller, I.G.; and W. Webber, Assist. D. of C. A cordial vote of thanks was tendered to Bro. Norman and inscribed in the minute book for his masterly work as Installing Officer, and that brother returned thanks.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren took train to Gravesend, where, at the New Falcon Hotel, Bro. Hubbard had ready for their delectation one of those elegantly and tastily served banquets for which he is so famous; the magnificent assembly room facing the river, in which the banquet was partaken of, being prettily decorated with flags and flowers for the occasion.

Among those present and not above named were Bros. W. G. Graham, P.M.; G. Crawford, P.M.; J. Dawson, P.M.; E. Bowles, P.M.; C. Hobson, P.M.; E. B. Hobson, P.M.; A. Woodley, P.M.; J. H. Roberts, P.M.; T. Ovenden, P.M.; W. Ward, C. Bedo, H. Palmer, G. Porter, R. Low, H. Tufnell, S. Southgate, W. Orpwood, G. Shaw, J. Trodd, H. Lane, H. Smith, A. Adams, W. McCoy, J. Carty, A. Fenn, and J. McCullour, all of the lodge; J. Vincent P.M. 1076, P.P.G. Svd. B. Surrey; T. D. Hayes, P.M. 913; J. Kent, W.M. 192; E. Palmer, W.M. 913; W. Akers, 13; W. Moulds, W.M. 1536; E. Farwig, P.M. 180; J. Latham, P.M. 1714; E. Bedford, P.M. 473 (Cawnpore); A. Ives, W.M. 1472; R. A. Smith, P.M. 14; G. Davies, P.M. 13; Dr. Bernays, W.M. 706; R. Parkes, 1567; G. Nichols, 1567; F. Tyler, 913; G. Barker, D.C. 1275; W. Balchin, 2030; W. Hill, 13; H. T. Bonner, 73; H. Broadway, 1790; H. Hammond, 1296; W. G. Graham, I.G. 2041; and C. Jolly, S.W. 1472, &c. (Freemason.)

The usual loyal and Grand Lodge toasts having been honoured, the I.P.M., Bro. Ovenden, proposed "The Health of the W.M." in brief but telling sentences. He felt assured that Bro. Sweeting would make as good a Master as he had made a good officer in the junior ranks, and would sustain the prestige of the lodge above all else, so as to leave it as bright as he found it.

The Worshipful Master said he hardly knew how to find words sufficient to thank them for their kind reception of the toast. It did not often come to the lot of so young a Mason as himself to reach the chair in so short a time as he had, and to preside over so excellent and prosperous a lodge as the Nelson. When he looked round at the Past Masters he saw among them Bro. P.M. Hobson, who initiated him, and he thanked that brother and those who followed him in the chair for giving him his first and successive steps. If he had done his duty in the past, and he must have done so or they would not have chosen him as their Master, then would he try even to do even better in the future, so as to show that their confidence had not been misplaced, and also his earnest desire for the prosperity of the lodge and the happiness of the brethren.

The toast of "The Past Masters" followed, and in proposing it the W.M. spoke highly of their services to the lodge, and in glowing terms eulogised Bro. Norman's splendid rendering of the installation ceremony. He then presented Bro. Ovenden, I.P.M. with the jewel of his office, and wished him many years of health to wear it, and then to hand it down to his children as a token of the respect their sire was held in by the brethren of the Nelson Lodge.

Bro. Ovenden, in response, said he felt highly gratified at the reception of so handsome a testimonial, because it carried with it, he felt sure, their approbation of his poor services, and he would prize it as long as he lived.

Bro. Crawford was sorry he could not attend the lodge as often as he would like to, but there were two Past Masters who were never absent, he referred to Bros. Norman and Butt, and where they were all other assistance was unnecessary.

Bro. Graham, as one of the oldest Past Masters of the lodge, could only endorse the words of P.M. Crawford as to Bros. Butt and Norman. He regarded Masonry as something above mere labour or refreshment, it meant purity of life, truth, honesty, and above all Charity, and if he had not the time to spare to come oftener than he did, yet any especial call would always meet with a hearty and immediate response at his hands.

Bro. Norman thanked the W.M. for the complimentary way he had spoken of his working the installation ceremony, but felt that he had only done his duty, for "labour, if delighted in, physics pain."

Bro. C. Hobson said the reception of the toast was most gratifying to the Past Masters. He looked upon himself as one of the pensioners of the lodge, and thought the time had come when no dues should be expected from the poor old worn out Past Masters, especially those who, like himself, had 11 years service in, with a good conduct medal. They must not expect the old Past Masters to work too hard, but let them rest comfortable in the shade and look back and talk about the honours and pleasures of their more youthful days. He concluded a witty and mirth provoking speech by wishing the lodge and the Master every prosperity.

Bro. Butt was glad to be surrounded by such an array of Past Masters, especially upon "settling" day, it showed they took an interest in the lodge once a year. As Treasurer he was pleased to say the lodge was in a sound financial position, and looked like improving year by year.

Bros. Warren, Woodley, and Roberts also responded. The other toasts were "The Initiate, Bro. Smith," "The Visitors," "The Officers," and Tyler's toast, and a special toast to Bro. Hubbard for his splendid catering concluded the proceedings.

DUDLEY.—Harmonic Lodge (No. 252).—A meeting was held on Tuesday evening, the 7th inst., at the Freemasons' Tavern, Stone-street. Present: Bros. G. T. Owen, W.M.; Jas. Turner, S.W.; R. Stevenson, J.W.; W. E. Walker, P.M., Treas.; S. Smith, P.M., Sec.; S. Bagott, S.D.; J. Warham, J.D.; M. Smith, D.C.; W. Swallow, I.G.; F. Garner, Tyler; S. Spittle, Asst. Tyler; R. G. Walker, I.P.M.; Edwin Turner, P.M.; Wm. Waring, P.M.; G. Bagott, P.M.; T. F. Higgs, P.M.; John Bywater, E. J. Chambers, J. Jones, R. Preece, J. Sidaway, G. Morgan, and T. While. Visitor: Bro. W. Docker, 468.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The business arising out of the minutes and some other private business of the lodge were next considered and disposed of. Bro. Robt. Stevenson, J.W., in a very excellent manner, gave an explanation of the second tracing board. Bro. W. E. Walker, P.M., gave notice of motion in respect to voting a sum of money from the funds of the lodge in further aid of the widow of a deceased brother, and the ordinary business being ended, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

SIDCUP.—Sydney Lodge (No. 829).—The above pretty little lodge, located at the Black Horse Hotel, held its annual festival on Tuesday, the 14th inst., and a good attendance of the brethren was the result. The W.M., Bro. A. Britten, opened the lodge, and initiated Mr. A. McLellan. Bro. T. Hastings, P.M. and Treas., P.P.G.P. Kent, then took the chair as Installing Officer, and with the usual ceremonies, placed Bro. Jas. H. Etheridge, S.W. and W.M. elect, in the chair. The following were invested as officers: Bros. H. Greener, S.W.; J. Seaton, J.W.; T. Hastings, P.M., Treas.; W. Moulder, P.M., Sec.; T. Knight, S.D.; F. Gale, J.D.; A. Smith, I.G.; H. Martin, D.C.; and R. Hanson, P.M., W.S. Bro. Hastings was re-elected representative of the lodge on the Provincial Charity Committee, and five guineas were voted to a distressed brother. A handsome Past Master's jewel, of the value of 10 guineas, was presented to Bro. Britten for his services, and as a token of the esteem of the brethren.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren banqueted together, and passed a pleasant evening in toast and harmony. Among the others present, and not above enumerated, were Bros. Dr. Flaxman Spurrell, P.M., P.P.G.J.W. Kent; J. Parsons, P.M., P.P.G. Org. Kent; S. J. Gore, P.M.; J. Coombes, P.M.; J. Topping, G. W. Keneday, G. Freeland, W. Etheridge, A. Sharpe, C. Kent, G. Simmonds, and G. Gregory, all of the lodge; W. Moulds, W.M. 1536; J. Aillud, W.M. 615; J. Speight, 147; W. Ransom, 1790; H. Barber, 1790; C. Steng, 1790; W. Williams, 192; T. Jacknell, 169; and J. Bennett, 1567.

BATTLE.—Abbey Lodge (No. 1184).—The members of this lodge met on Thursday, the 16th inst., at the Masonic Hall. Bro. the Very Rev. E. R. Currie, M.A., Prov. G. Chap., presided, supported by the following officers and brethren: Bros. B. H. Thorpe, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., I.P.M.; Chas. Armstrong, S.W.; Hy. Kimm, 40, J.W.; Rev. C. Bonny Hawkins, M.A., Chap.; R. Hughes, Sec.; H. G. F. Wells, P.P.G.P., P.M., Treas.; J. B. Foord, S.D.; T. J. Walder, J.D.; J. Fielding, Org.; W. T. Jordan, I.G.; W. C. Till, acting Tyler; W. Lamborn, P.P.G.P., P.M.; J. B. Sargent, P.M.; C. Martin, H. Foster, W. A. Raper, R. T. Davison, M.D., D. White, Major Robertson, and others. Visitors: Bros. J. Davis, 582, P.J.W.; J. J. Austin, S.D. 1708; F. Duke, I.G. 40; and W. Robertson.

After due observance of the preliminaries, the minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed. A successful ballot was then taken on behalf of Mr. Wm. Pepper, after which Mr. Cornelius Leary was duly initiated and Bro. D. White passed to the Second Degree, both ceremonies, together with the working tools and charge of each Degree, being most ably rendered by the W.M., Bro. E. R. Currie. After a vote of thanks to Bro. J. B. Foord for presentation of banner to the lodge, and there being no further business, the lodge was closed in due form.

REDCAR.—Stour Valley Lodge (No. 1244).—The annual festival and installation of Bro. T. R. Dent as W.M. for the ensuing 12 months was held on Tuesday evening, the 7th inst. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. James Hogg, P.M., P.P.G.A.D. of C. of N. and E.R. The other officers appointed were Bros. W. P. Ingham, S.W.; W. Anderson, J.W.; J. Hogg, Treas.; J. Howcroft, Sec.; Burdett, S.D.; W. Smith, J.D.; and G. Hood, I.G. The banquet took place afterwards at the Coatham Hotel.

FELTHAM.—Lebanon Lodge (No. 1326).—The sixteenth installation meeting of this well established lodge was held on Saturday, the 18th inst., at the Railway Hotel. Bro. Joseph John Marsh, P.P.G. Std. Br. Middx., W.M., opened the lodge punctually at two o'clock p.m. There were present then and during the afternoon Bros. Fletcher Knight, S.W. and W.M. elect; W. R. Vassila, J.W.; E. Gilbert, P.A.G.P. Middx., P.M. and Treas.; Frederick Walters, P.P.G.D. Middx., P.M., Sec.; J. Lawrence, S.D.; E. A. Smith, J.D.; C. W. Baker, I.G.; W. Walters, D.C.; J. V. Willis, A.D.C.; H. Potter, P.M., W.S.; J. C. Goslin, A.W.S.; J. A. Wilson, Stwd.; J. Gilbert, P.G. Tyler Middx., Tyler; E. Mallett, P.M.; W. H. Lee, P.A.G. Sec. Middx., P.M.; J. Stevens, P.M.; H. Forss, W.M. 917; S. Page, F. Dunstan, A. J. Drysdale, G. H. Eaton, H. J. Dawe, S. Wheeler, H. E. A. D'Arcy, P. Lodge, T. M. Prescott, W. White, W. Kite, H. Lee, A. Lawton, R. J. Morley, W. J. Babb, Rev. R. Seddon, G. Teideman, and others. Amongst a large number of visitors we noticed Bros. G. S. Graham, P.P.G. Org. Middx., P.G. Org. Surrey, &c.; T. Noton, W.M. 1309; G. H. Stephens, W.M. 1623; F. Driver, P.M. 45; W. Bigley, P.M. 1298; F. T. C. Keeble, P.M. 1426; E. F. Storr, P.M. and Treas. 22; J. Brockett Sorrell, P.M. 176; R. J. Taylor, P.M. 144; H. Perdue, P.M. 834; W. H. Aston, 1507; J. Culverhoun, 584; D. McNish, 1962; E. Tappenden, 700; H. F. Hoole, 765; M. Smith, 19; R. H. Edgley, I.G. 1446; Valentine Day, 862; W. W. Lee, 1897; H. Hughes, 809; J. Davies, 1309; T. H. Francis, 1815; and very many others whose names we were unable to ascertain.

The minutes of the meeting held on June 20th, were read and confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee was read, and it showed that after discharging every liability, and giving the usual large amounts to other Masonic Charities and relieving a distressed brother there was a good sum in hand. The Benevolent Fund, as is usual in this lodge, has a large amount of money in the bank, and shows every year a steady increase of the funds. The Rev. Reuben Seddon (who had been balloted for) being in attendance was duly initiated. Bros. H. Lee, A. J. Drysdale, and P. Lodge were passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft. Then came the all important ceremony of the evening, the installation. Bro. Frederick Walters, P.P.G.D. Middx., P.M., Sec., presented Bro.

Fletcher Knight, S.W. and W.M. elect, to the W.M., Bro. J. J. Marsh, for the benefit of installation. The W.M. then in the most able manner installed Bro. Fletcher Knight, S.W., as the W.M. for the ensuing year. No less than two dozen being present at the Board of Installed Masters. After the customary salutations, given under the guidance of the veteran Bro. James Stevens, P.M. 720, &c., who kindly, and it is needless to add, most efficiently acted as the D.C. The newly-installed W.M. appointed and invested as his officers Bros. Joseph John Marsh, P.P.G. Std. Br. Middx., I.P.M.; William Robert Vassila, S.W.; James Laurence, J.W.; James William Baldwin, P.G.J.D. Middx., P.M., Chap.; Edwin Gilbert, P.A.G.P. Middx., P.M., Treas.; Frederick Walters, P.P.G.D. Middx., P.M., Sec.; Edwin Arthur Smith, S.D.; Charles William Baker, J.D.; William Walters, I.G.; John Vickers Willis, D.C.; William Henry Walters, A.D.C.; Samuel Page, Org.; John Alfred Wilson, James Clarke Goslin, Richard James Morley, George Henry Eaton, Samuel Wheeler, and Frederick Dunstan, Stwds., and John Gilbert, P.G. Tyler, Tyler.

By special desire of the W.M., the veteran Secretary, Bro. Frederick Walters (who is a personal friend of the W.M., and by the very kind courtesy of the Installing Master, Bro. J. J. Marsh), gave the address, which when completed a cordial vote of thanks was given to Bros. J. J. Marsh, P.P.G. Std. Br. Middx., I.P.M., and Frederick Walters, P.P.G.D. Middx., P.M., Sec., for the very painstaking and correct manner in which they had worked the all important ceremony of the installation. The W.M. having informed the brethren of this vote, they duly acknowledged it. It was a matter of regret to most of the P.M.'s and others that after having been so well accustomed to listen to the excellent working of Bro. J. J. Marsh, who had at this meeting, if possible, excellent himself over his work; but hopes were expressed that at times the W.M. would kindly sanction Bro. J. J. Marsh occasionally doing some of the ceremonies. It is gratifying to know some such arrangement was made and agreed to. The excellent working of Bro. J. J. Marsh was the theme of admiration of all who were present.

But before the lodge was closed, the great events of the meeting took place, when

Bro. Fletcher Knight, W.M., in an able speech, in the name of the lodge, presented Bro. Joseph John Marsh, P.P.G. Std. Br., I.P.M., with a magnificent Past Master's jewel, of the value of 12 guineas. The usual seven guineas had been unanimously voted for his jewel from the lodge funds, and the balance was made up to him by the voluntary subscriptions of a few friends. There is a suitable inscription on the jewel, in which the fact of his having succeeded in getting 20 Stewards to represent his lodge at the Masonic Festivals during his year of office is duly recorded.

Before Bro. Marsh had time to reply, Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.D. Middx., P.M., and Sec., in an eloquent speech, said a little balance of money being left after paying for that handsome jewel which had just been presented Bro. Marsh, he and some few others had increased that balance, and he had now the very great pleasure and satisfaction in presenting him with a Past Master's collar and a massive silver jewel.

We have only to add the articles were manufactured by Bro. George Kenning to show they were all that could be desired.

Bro. J. J. Marsh expressed his gratitude for those splendid presents. He said the Past Master's seven guinea jewel he certainly did expect, but had no idea its value would be increased as it had been. The Past Master's jewel and collar were gifts that came upon him with agreeable surprise. He heartily and most sincerely thanked the brethren for such substantial recognition of his services, and assured them that those presents were likely to be seen at every lodge meeting, for illness only would prevent his ever attending their meetings. It was his mother lodge, and he was proud of being one of its initiates, and still more proud of being one of its Past Masters. To show how very much his services had been appreciated, one of the influential officers of the province wrote of him in this manner: "I wish the W.M. elect every prosperity, and can only recommend him to follow the very able manner his predecessor in the chair, Bro. Marsh, has so successfully done his work, and his genial manner has made all happy who have been at the lodge."

"Hearty good wishes" were given from all the visitors, and the names of some joining members and candidates for initiation were given into the Secretary. Five guineas were unanimously voted from the Lodge Benevolent Fund to a distressed member, and two guineas to the Levander Memorial Fund, he having been an honorary member of the lodge until his death. A notice of motion was given to purchase the Provincial Grand Lodge clothing (full dress) for Bro. Edwin Gilbert, P.G.A.P. Middx., P.M., Treas., from the lodge funds, and present the clothing to him.

All other business having been disposed of, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. The usual loyal toasts were given and responded to; original poems were delivered, songs sung, and some excellent recitations given. After some hours were spent in social enjoyment, the brethren returned to town.

YORK.—Eboracum Lodge (No. 1611).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 13th inst, at the Eboracum Masonic Hall, St. Saviourgate. The lodge was opened by Bro. M. Millington, P.M., who was supported by Bros. J. T. Seller, P.M.; C. G. Padel, P.M.; G. Balmford, P.M., Treas.; A. T. B. Turner, S.W.; W. Brown, J.W.; J. Kay, Sec.; W. Stephenson, W. Lackenby, G. Lamb, E. P. Holmes, J. H. Irving, W. B. Dyson, J. E. Wilkinson, J. R. Jackson, and other members, and visiting brethren Bros. L. R. Barnes, P.M. 113, and G. W. Pattison, 602.

Bro. Millington proceeded to initiate a candidate, after which the chair was assumed by Bro. J. Blenkin, I.P.M., who passed to the Second Degree his son, Bro. J. W. Blenkin. Bro. J. T. Seller, P.M., presented to the lodge a very beautifully carved model, in old oak, of Micklegate Bar, arranged so as to form a tobacco box for the smoke-room table. The model, which is the work of Mr. Widdas, carver, of York, is about 18 in. high, and is an exact model in every detail of one of the most remarkable of the mediæval structures of the city. On each side is a brass shield, bearing inscriptions as follow: "Presented to the Eboracum Lodge of Freemasons, No. 1611, by Bro. J. T. Seller, P.M. 13th July, 1885, Masonic Hall, St. Saviourgate;" and "Model of the South Gate of York, called Micklegate

Bar. Carved from oak taken from the Church of St. Crux, York." A hearty vote of thanks was given to Bro. Seller for his beautiful present, as also to Bro. W. Brown, J.W., for the gift of a framed etching of the Saxon porch of St. Margaret's Church, York. The name of a candidate was proposed, and the lodge closed. Subsequently the members met at refreshment, and a pleasant evening was passed.

Bro. T. B. Whythead, P.M., in proposing "Prosperity to the Eboracum Lodge," referred to the history of its formation and the success that had attended its progress, and urged upon the brethren the necessity of working together and keeping in view the great object they all desired to see carried out, namely, the perfection of the lodge.

We understand that carved oak furniture of a most massive and elaborate kind is now in process of manufacture for this lodge. It is also intended very shortly to open a lodge of instruction in connection with the lodge.

INSTRUCTION.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 20th inst., at the Fountains Abbey Hotel, 111, Praed-street, Paddington. Present: Bros. S. J. Humphreys, W.M.; C. Coleman, S.W.; E. C. Mulvey, J.W.; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, Sec.; J. C. Conway, S.D.; P. Monson, J.D.; T. Friend, I.G.; James Kershaw, 1044, Stwd.; H. Purdue, P.M. 834; G. Davies, P.M. 167; Capt. A. Nicols, P.M. 1974; W. J. Stratton, C. R. Wickens, R. E. Cursons, C. S. Mote, E. J. Day, and O. W. Battley. Visitor: Bro. W. C. Smith, P.M. 1593.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The lodge was called off and on. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Stratton as candidate. Bro. Davies, at the request of the W.M., assumed the chair, and after the usual preliminaries, the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Battley as candidate. A letter was read from Bro. Colonel Ross, Commanding Officer Canadian Volunteers, also one from Bro. D. P. Cama, thanking the brethren for their vote of sympathy. Bro. E. Coleman was elected W.M. for next Monday. Bro. Kershaw was elected a member. A vote of thanks to Bro. Davies was unanimously agreed to. The lodge was then closed.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—This successful lodge continues, despite the sultry weather, to hold good and numerously attended meetings. At the last one held on Monday, the 20th inst., at the Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, Bro. W. Stiles, P.M., and Preceptor occupied the chair, and was supported among others by Bros. Bolton, S.W.; Fraser, J.W.; Burgess, S.D.; Surridge, J.D.; Spon, I.G.; Scales, P.M., Treasurer; Storr, Sec.; D. T. Davies, Asst. Sec.; Wace, Clunn, Barfoot, Worrall, Smeaton, Holder, McKay, P.M., W. A. Scurrah, Stephens, Robertson, Ross, Henning, Brown, Kaufmann, and others.

Bro. Stiles kindly consented to work the ceremony of installation, thereby affording a Masonic treat to the brethren assembled, and an opportunity for Bro. W. A. Scurrah, W.M. elect 2048, who acted as candidate, to rehearse the investing of officers, the entire ceremonial was effectually carried out and gave great satisfaction. Bro. Scurrah next, with Bro. Wace as candidate, worked the initiation ceremony, completing a capital night's instruction and practice. Bro. Bolton, S.W., and S.W. 1509, the worthy host, was elected W.M. for next meeting, and a vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Stiles, the Preceptor, for his valuable services to this lodge, which was gratefully acknowledged. We can heartily recommend this lodge to brethren who are studying Masonic ritual; the meetings are well attended, and the teaching is thorough and practical. No wonder the lodge secures good attendances!

UBIQUE LODGE (No. 1789).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 17th inst., at the Crown and Anchor, 79, Ebury-street, S.W. Present: Bros. Hayes, W.M.; Glover, S.W.; Brindley, P.M., J.W.; Boulton, P.M., Preceptor; P. Coughlan, Sec.; Chilcott, S.D.; Green, senr., J.D.; Green, jun., I.G.; and Davis.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Green a candidate to be raised to the Third Degree, answered the usual questions and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Green, candidate. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree. Bro. Davis, a F.C., answered the questions leading to the Third Degree. The lodge was closed in Second Degree. The W.M. rose for the first time, and Bro. Davis, 1604, was unanimously elected a joining member. Bro. Davis replied, and the W.M. rose for the second time, Bro. Glover was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Nothing further offering, the lodge was then closed.

Royal Arch.

LION AND LAMB CHAPTER (No. 192).—

The regular meeting of the above chapter was held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on the 15th inst. There were present Comps. Thos. Cohe, M.E.Z.; W. Medwin, J.; George Kenning, P.Z., Treas.; Chas. Arkell, P.Z., S.E.; John Taylor, P.S.; H. Hughes, 2nd Asst. Soj.; F. D. R. Copestick, P.Z.; Henry Birdseye, P.Z.; Edw. F. Storr, P.Z.; C. B. Cheese, P.Z.; W. A. Dingle, R. J. Dart, S. Bigley, C. J. Harmsworth, H. Stevenson, W. R. Dixon, T. F. Holland, Walford, J. Archer, J. Gibbs, W. Hawes, A. W. Price, Alfred Cotton, Ed. Jas. Ackworth, and James Salmon. Comp. H. E. Cooper, 1446, was a visitor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and Bros. E. J. Ackworth, P.M. 133; Alfred Cotton, 1613, and A. W. Price, 1623, were balloted for and duly exalted. Comp. James Salomon, of the Whittington Chapter, No. 862, was also elected as a joining member. One guinea was voted to assist a distressed companion, and two guineas to the Mugeridge Testimonial Fund.

The companions afterwards sat down to dinner under the presidency of the M.E.Z.

CHORLEY.—Earl of Lathom Chapter (No. 730).—

The regular meeting of this chapter was held on Monday, 29th ult., at the Masonic Rooms, Town Hall, when there were present Comps. Thos. Forrester, M.E.Z.; Robert Irving, H.; J. M. Kerr, J.; W. Blackledge, P.Z. 268, Treas.; John Bradshaw, S.E.; Dr. Farmer, A.S.; P. Yates, as S.N.; James Corbitt; J. H. Sillitoe, Prov. G. J. East Lancs.; and Thos. Higson, Janitor.

The chapter being duly opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Three Principals were re-elected for the ensuing year, as was also the Treasurer, and Comp. Yates was elected Janitor. E. Comp. Forrester then announced that all the other officers were re-appointed for the next twelve months. The next business was the presentation of a very handsome and valuable P.Z. and Founder's jewel to E. Comp. Thos. Forrester, in recognition of the eminent services he had rendered, as well in its foundation and furnishing, as in the chair and many other ways in which he had manifested his deep and untiring interest in the success of this young and flourishing chapter. Comp. Forrester, in thanking the companions for the very beautiful jewel they had presented to him, assured

them that he would always continue in the future as he had in the past, to take a lively interest in R.A. Masonry, and in the Earl of Lathom Chapter in particular. E. Comp. Sillitoe gave the Three Lectures and an explanation of the ceremonies in his usual well-known clear and impressive style, and he was afterwards unanimously elected an honorary member of the chapter, which was then closed in due form. The jewel has been adequately described in the *Freemason* recently, and, as then stated, was manufactured expressly by Comp. George Kenning, upon whom it reflects the greatest credit.

PLUMSTEAD.—Pattison Chapter (No. 913).—The installation meeting of this, the premier chapter of the Province of Kent, took place on Thursday, the 16th inst., at the High School for Boys, Brookhill, and was attended by a distinguished circle of the prominent Masons of the district, members of the chapter, and visitors. Comp. T. S. Warne, P.Z. 20, P.G.S.E. Kent, was the Installing Officer, and under his direction Comps. R. Edmonds was installed as Z.; W. Rees, as H.; and E. B. Hobson, as J. The M.E.Z. then invested Comps. H. J. Butter, P.Z., P.P.G. P.S. Kent, as Scribe E.; R. J. Cooke, Scribe N.; J. H. Roberts, P.S., the latter appointed; A. Penfold, P.Z., P.G. 1st Asst. S., was invested as Treas.; E. Palmer, 1st Asst. S.; S. Clarke, 2nd Asst. S.; W. Myers, P.Z., as D.C.; W. Musto, P.Z., W. Std.; and W. J. Lardner, Janitor. A guinea was voted as a prize for the scholastic competition at High School for Girls; and a vote of thanks was tendered Comp. Warne, and ordered to be inscribed on the minutes of the chapter, for the impressive manner in which he had carried out the duties of Installing Officer, and that companion returned thanks. Comp. H. Mason, I.P.Z., was presented with a handsome and valuable P.Z.'s jewel, in recognition of his services to the chapter during his year of office, and he returned thanks. M.E. Comp. Warne then delivered an address to the companions in eloquent and impressive language, and the chapter was closed in due form.

The banquet was at the Holborn Restaurant, and the usual loyal and R.A. Grand Chapter toasts were duly honoured.

The toast of "Lord Holmesdale, Grand Superintendent of Kent," was drunk in bumpers, and was followed by that of "M.E. Comp. Jas. S. Eastes, P.G.H., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," and in giving it, the M.E.Z. said Comp. Eastes would have been with them that day but for the pressure of business. As to Comp. Coupland, P.G.J., they all knew what he was, both in the lodge and chapter; while they had seen for themselves what the P. Scribe E. could do, having seen something of it in the chapter that day. He asked them to drink the toast with all the enthusiasm it deserved.

Comp. Coupland said he would have preferred that Bro. Warne should have responded, especially as he had to go away presently and, worst of all, by train, which waited for no man. However, for himself he could only say that he felt highly gratified at being J. of such an important province as that of Kent. His year of office would expire the following week, when Provincial Grand Chapter would meet at Maidstone, and he must say that it had been a very pleasant one. He cordially thanked them for the toast.

Comp. Warne said the position he was now placed in recalled to his mind an anecdote told by a bishop of a young student of Divinity at one of the theological colleges on the occasion of his trial sermon. The student was to be keenly criticised by the other students, as was the usual custom at such institutions. He was a little man, and like most little men very popular among his colleagues, and had precedence in the pulpit on that account. Well, he wanted to get the ordeal over as soon as possible, and so took for his text the story of Zaccheus; the sermon was as follows: "Zaccheus was a little man, and so am I. Zaccheus was up a tree, and so am I. Zaccheus made haste to come down, and so will I." He then opened the pulpit door and came down and went his way; and he (Comp. Warne) felt in the same position as the student, and felt as if he would like to go and catch his train. As to Bro. Eastes he was rather unwell at present, but during the ensuing week he (Comp. Warne) should see Comp. Eastes at Ashford, and would inform him of the enthusiastic manner in which his name had been received by the companions of the Pattison Chapter; and he felt sure that Comp. Eastes would be pleased to hear it, because the Pattison Chapter was the premier chapter in the province, not only for numbers, but for quality. It was his first visit, and he had thoroughly enjoyed it, and should feel it a privilege should they at any time invite him to attend its meetings and assist its working in any way. He cordially thanked them for the toast, and retired amid great cheering and every demonstration of esteem.

Comp. H. Mason, I.P.Z., then rose to propose "The Health of the M.E.Z.," who, he said, he had known and worked with in Masonry for many years past. He was a good Master of his lodge, and would make a good Z. of the chapter. He wished him, and felt sure the companions did, a very prosperous and pleasant year of office.

Comp. Mason, in response, said he had been speaking about other people, and now he had to speak about himself. There was a Greek motto (proverb) which said, "Know thyself." Well, it was not always the best way to tell people all one knew about one's self, or they would be as wise as one's self. They had heard the kind expressions of M.E. Comp. Mason in his behalf, and that companion had spoken of his merits in very flattering terms. All he could say in return was that he should try and prove himself worthy of their confidence. He would, however, ask them to overlook any little shortcomings of his, for it was no small responsibility to rule over such a chapter with dignity; and if he was not serious enough, they must impute it to his temperament, and not to undue levity; but they might depend upon it that he should always endeavour to keep the chapter up to its present high standard of excellence, and worthy of its position and prestige in the Province of Kent.

Comp. the Rev. Hayman Cummings, P.Z. 1837, responded for "The Visitors," and thanked the chapter for its splendid hospitality. He looked upon the Pattison Chapter as a brilliant example to every province in England, and was proud to think they had such a chapter in Royal Arch Masonry. To those companions whose chapters seldom exceeded some 20 or 30 members it must be a revelation to see such a goodly array as were assembled in the Pattison Chapter that day, all members of it, and all actuated with but one desire—its prosperity and harmony

—which made it, as their esteemed P.G.S.E. had said, "The premier chapter in the Province of Kent." They had given the visitors a right royal welcome, and that was not his first visit, and he trusted as years rolled on that the bonds which held the chapter together would be strengthened by the truly Masonic principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth.

The next toast was that of "The Second and Third Principals."

Comp. Rees, in response, assured them of his determination to carry out the duties to their satisfaction.

Comp. Hobson thanked them for their kind greeting, and, in return, thought the simplest and most effective thanks he could offer would be to try and emulate the work of those who had preceded him.

Comp. Mason, in response to a very hearty reception of the toast of "The Past Principals," referred with pride to the handsome present made him that day, and could assure them of his unfaltering devotion to the chapter and its interests.

Comp. Musto, P.Z., whose popularity is unbounded, and who is deservedly known among the companions as the "Prince of Wine Stewards," was loudly called upon to respond. He said he was taken quite at a disadvantage, and was sure the toast might well have been left with Comp. Mason; but as he was called upon, he must bow to the powers that be. Since he had been a member of the chapter, and he felt proud of so being, he had always endeavoured to do all he could for the comfort of the companions, and anything he could do to conduce to that, however humble it might be, he should always feel a pride and pleasure in doing it. He then with Comp. E. B. Saunders, an old friend of 40 years' standing, sang "When we were boys," as a duet, with rare feeling and pathos, both being cheered to the echo at its conclusion.

"The Officers" and Janitor's toast concluded the proceedings.

Amongst the other companions not above named were Comps. E. Denton, P.Z., P.P.G.P.S. Kent; W. B. Lloyd, P.Z.; Capt. Eugene Sweny, P.Z.; D. C. Capon, J. Farrier, C. Lawson, T. R. Richardson, G. W. Lloyd, W. G. Musto, jun., G. Frost, W. Busbridge, G. Nichols, W. Harris, W. Tucker, W. Topp, E. Hughes, M.L.S.B.; R. Hewetson, H. Wilson, G. Setton, and C. Jolly (*Freemason*), all of the chapter; Rev. R. Jamblin, M.A., P.Z. 1837; W. Batchelor, M.E.Z. 70; A. Willmot, 552; E. Nichols, 1516; J. C. Smith, P.S. 1507; A. H. Bateman, Scribe E. 1973; and others.

TWICKENHAM.—Era Chapter (No. 1423).—This chapter met at the Albany Hotel, on the 11th inst. Among those in attendance were Comps. J. B. Ryley, M.D., P.G.J. Middx., M.E.Z.; T. Goodchild, H., M.E.Z. elect; J. Faulkner, P.P.G. Swd. B. Middx., I.P.Z. acting J.; T. C. Walls, P.G. Soj. Middx., P.Z.; Wingate, S.N.; S. E. Elliott, P.S.; E. H. Thiellay, P.P.G.D.C. Middx., P.Z., Treas.; W. H. Lee, P.Z.; and others.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, Ex. Comp. W. H. Lee, P.Z., installed Comps. Goodchild as M.E.Z., and Wingate as J., in a most admirable manner. Ex. Comp. John Mason, H. elect, was unavoidably absent. The officers invested were as follows: Comps. T. C. Walls, S.E.; Elliott, S.N.; Matthews, P.S. (by deputy); Thiellay, Treas.; and Gilbert, Janitor. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed and ordered to be entered on the book. The report of the Audit Committee having been read and adopted, and apologies for non-attendance having been read from Comps. R. H. Thrupp, James Stevens, P.Z., and others, the chapter was closed and adjourned until the second Saturday in September next.

The companions then adjourned to the banquet, which was well served. The usual toasts followed.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

MOUNT CALVARY CHAPTER (No 3).—This distinguished and prosperous chapter held its installation meeting at the Masonic Hall, Golden-square, on the 10th inst. Among those present were Ex. Bros. T. C. Walls, M.W.S.; F. W. Driver, M.A., H. Prelate; Tayleur, 1st General; Ill. Bros. Major Gardiner, 30^o, 2nd General; W. Paas, 30^o, Treas.; Ex. Bro. H. J. Lardner, Recorder; Ill. Bros. Capt. J. E. Anderson, 30^o, Raphael; G. Graveley, Capt. of G.; E. M. Lott, 30^o, Org.; W. Roebuck, 31^o, P.M.W.S.; Charles H. Driver, 32^o, P.M.W.S.; Alfred Williams, 30^o, P.M.W.S.; Ex. Bros. J. L. Mather, Capt. W. B. Williamson, T. Lamb Smith, Charles Belton, G. Grimwood, and others. Ill. Bro. H. D. Sandeman, 33^o, G.S.G., was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Ill. Bro. C. Driver, acting G.M., presented Ex. Bro. F. W. Driver, M.W.S. elect, to the M.W.S., who at once carried out the ceremony of installation. The officers invested for the year ensuing were Ex. Bro. Tayleur, H.P.; Ill. Bro. Major Gardiner, 1st General; Ex. Bro. G. A. Berkeley, 2nd General (by deputy); Ill. Bro. Captain Anderson, G.M.; Ex. Bros. Graveley, Raphael; W. B. Kidder, Capt. of G. (by deputy); H. J. Lardner, D.C.; Ill. Bros. Captain Stöhwasser, 30^o, Herald; and E. M. Lott, Organist. The M.W.S., in very flattering terms, then presented Ex. Bro. T. C. Walls, P.M.W.S., with a jewel. A vote of thanks was also passed to Bro. Walls for his services as Installing Officer. Letters of apology for non-attendance having been read from Ill. Bros. Dr. Coffin, Captain Stöhwasser, and Nicols, and Ex. Bros. Berkeley and Kidder, the chapter was closed and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet at the Café Royal, Regent-street. Upon the removal of the cloth the customary toasts followed.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—Royal Kent Chapter (No. 8).—This chapter was opened by the M.W.S., Bro. Watson, assisted by the officers of the chapter. Ill. Bro. Charles James Banister, S.G.I.G., 33^o, and I.G. North-Eastern District, was received in due form and saluted. Bro. James George Accles, being a candidate for the Degree, was received and perfected a Rose Croix Mason most impressively by the M.W.S., assisted by Ill. Bro. Banister, 33^o, and the officers of the chapter. Business of the chapter being over, it was closed in due form.

The banquet was prepared for the brethren, and excellently served in the dining hall, and appreciated by all present, after which the loyal and Masonic toasts were pro-

posed and responded to, and three hours were spent in social intercourse, each member joining each other in being happy, and communicating happiness to all around the board. The M.W.S. of the St. Cuthbert's Chapter, Darlington, was present, and very happy in his remarks to the brethren; indeed, Ill. Bro. Fry is always so. The veteran Bro. Henry Hotham was also present, and in much improved health.

SHEFFIELD.—Talbot Chapter (No. 16).—This chapter was opened on Friday, the 17th inst., by the M.W.S. Ill. Bro. J. Wordsworth, assisted by the officers of the chapter. The minutes of the last chapter were read and confirmed. Ill. Bro. Charles James Banister, S.G.I.G., 33^o, and I.G. North-Eastern District, was received under an arch of steel, and saluted in due form. Bro. J. E. Bingham, M.W.S. elect, was presented by P.M.W.S. Ill. Bro. E. Drury to Ill. Bro. C. J. Banister, who installed him into the chair of M.W.S. with his usual care. The M.W.S. then appointed the following officers: Ill. Bros. Saml. Kelly, 30^o, High Prelate; Frank Cleeves, 30^o, 1st General; John Shaw, 30^o, 2nd General; Ex. and Pt. Bros. R. F. H. King, Raphael; Wm. Greaves Roper, Grand Marshal; Wm. Colver, Treas.; Harold Thomas, Recorder; William F. Tasker, Captain of Guard; F. G. Chevassut, 1st Herald; J. A. A. Andrew, 2nd Herald; J. F. Littlewood, Chamberlain; Bros. Leighton and Wilkinson, Outer Guards. Ill. Bro. C. J. Banister addressed the officers and brethren on their duties as Rose Croix Masons, which was listened to with marked attention. The Auditors made their report, which was satisfactory, and ordered to be printed. A unanimous vote of thanks was passed to them for their excellent report. The business of the chapter being over, it was closed in due form.

The banquet was held in the dining hall, under the presidency of the M.W.S. Ill. Bro. Bingham, who is Master Cutler also, supported on his right by Ill. Bros. Banister, 33^o; W. H. Brittain, 32^o, the Mayor of Sheffield; Ex. and Pt. Bros. W. R. Thomas, M.D., P.M.W.S.; Thos. Collinson, P.M.W.S.; and on his left by Ill. Bros. John Wordsworth, P.P.M.W.S.; Kelly, 30^o, Prelate; Robt. Arnison, 30^o, P.M.W.S.; H. E. Voight, 30^o, P.M.W.S.; Wm. Roddewig, 30^o, P.M.W.S.; Ex. and Pt. Bros. E. Drury; G. W. Hawksley, P.M.W.S.; Scargill, Roper, and the officers of the chapter.

After dinner the M.W.S. proposed "The Health of Her Majesty the Queen," "Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, and the rest of the Royal Family," and "The Supreme Council," all of which were duly honoured.

The M.W.S. proposed "The Health of Ill. Bro. Banister," in most flattering terms, thanking him for his kindness in coming to install him that day.

Bro. C. J. Banister was received most kindly, on returning thanks, and in speaking of his long association with the chapter, being present at its consecration, and for over 11 years their I.G., and intimated that he was getting old and ought to resign (which the brethren would not entertain, some of them kindly saying that their Ill. Chief looked better than they had seen him for some years), still Ill. Bro. Banister thought that he should make room for some other deserving brother, but from the great kindness of the brethren all over his district, he would not resign this year, but must seriously consider what he should do next year. In conclusion,

Bro. Banister proposed "The Health of Bro. Bingham, M.W.S.," in appropriate terms, which was enthusiastically received, and duly drunk with all the honours.

The M.W.S. replied in most excellent form, and made a truly Masonic speech, which augurs a most successful year of office, and he will be supported by the Ill. brethren, P.M.W.Ss., and officers.

The M.W.S. proposed "The Health of the Members of the 32^o," to which Ill. Bro. Brittain, 32^o, responded in a telling speech, giving the brethren most excellent advice, and stating he felt sure that the M.W.S. would have a most successful year in the high and exalted office he would fill. They had worked together in various offices, and he could speak from past experience. He was delighted to be present at the banquet, although it was impossible for him to have been present at the chapter; he was also anxious to be present to pay his respects to and welcome his old and valued friend Bro. Banister, their highly-esteemed Inspector-General of the North-Eastern District, and to see him looking so well.

The M.W.S. proposed "The Health of the Brethren of the 30^o," which was heartily responded to by Ill. Bros. Arnison, Roddewig, Voight, and Kelly.

The M.W.S. proposed "The Ill. P.M.W.Ss. of the Talbot Chapter," coupling with it the name of Ill. Bro. Thos. Collinson, who, in a most humorous and spirited speech, returned thanks for that excellent band of brethren.

"The Health of the Officers" was cordially proposed and responded to, and this toast brought a most happy and interesting meeting to an end, the brethren being sorry to part but happy to meet again.

There was a grand display of roses, sent by Ill. Bros. W. H. Brittain, 32^o, Wor. the Mayor of Sheffield; J. E. Bingham, M.W.S., Master Cutler; John Wordsworth, P.M.W.S., and others.

Rosicrucian Society.

METROPOLITAN COLLEGE.—A quarterly meeting of this college was held on the 9th inst., at Freemasons' Tavern. The fratres assembled under the presidency of R.W. Fra. J. R. Foulger, M. of the Temple. Among those present were R.W. Frs. W. J. Ferguson, VIII^o; E. Thiellay; Dr. Wynn Westcott, VIII^o; T. C. Walls; F. Holland, Hon. VIII^o; S. Liddell Mathers, Hon. VIII^o; John Collinson, Wm. Ackland, J. J. Thomas, and John Gilbert.

The Metropolitan College was duly formed and the minutes of the meeting held in April were read and confirmed. The proposition of Fra. S. L. Mathers that the office of Secretary carry with it immunity from all fees, was unanimously passed. A proposition by Fra. W. G. Lemon on the subject of qualification for office was withdrawn by permission of the M.T. Three candidates for the Grade of Zelator were balloted for and approved. Bro. Wm. Lake, P.M. 131, and Bro. T. W. Lemon, P.M. 189, were in attendance and were elevated to the Grade of Zelator by R.W. Fra. J. R. Foulger with impressive cere-

monial, R.W. Fra. S. L. Mathers conducted the novices through the serpentine path of Wisdom to the occult altar. Letters of regret for unavoidable absence were read from Frs. Dr. Woodman, S.M., Hunter, Hughan, Harrison, Lambert, and many others. The Secretary announced the death of Fra. Dr. Livingstone, of Barnet. Fra. John Collinson then read an "Essay on the comparative aspects of Alchemy, Magic and Rosicrucianism," which was well received and highly approved. Fra. S. L. Mathers added some remarks on the grand principle underlying these occult systems.

The Metropolitan College was then dissolved, and the meeting adjourned until the second Thursday in October. The fratres then assembled at a suitable banquet, which was succeeded by Rosicrucian toasts and discussion on mystic subjects.

Any Master Mason desiring information as to the objects and aim of the Society, and the means of admission, should communicate with the Secretary, Dr. Wynn Westcott, 4, Torriano Avenue, London, N.W.

South Africa.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE.

The installation of officers of the District Grand Lodge of South Africa (Western Division) took place on Tuesday evening, the 26th May, at Cape Town. The R.W.D.G.M., Bro. C. A. Fairbridge, presided, and invested the officers for the Masonic year with the insignia of their office as follows:

Bro. W. T. Hawthorn ...	Dep. Dist. G.M.
" G. Britain ...	Dist. G.S.W.
" W. A. Burton ...	Dist. G.J.W.
" Very Rev. C. W. Barnett-Clarke, } M.A. (Dean of Cape Town)	Dist. G. Chap.
" J. O. Riddelsdell ...	Dist. G. Treas.
" J. W. Attwell ...	Dist. G. Reg.
" P. J. Stigant ...	Dist. G.P.B.G.P.
" A. Davidson ...	Dist. G. Sec.
" H. G. Morton ...	Dist. G.S.D.
" J. A. Cuff ...	Dist. G.J.D.
" T. W. Cairncross ...	Dist. G.S. of W.
" W. E. Goodman ...	Dist. G.D.C.
" J. E. King ...	Dist. G.D.A.C.
" J. May ...	Dist. G. Svd. Br.
" E. Whiley ...	Dist. G. Std. Br.
" Rev. Ornstein ...	Dist. G. Std. Br.
" R. G. Dexter ...	Dist. G. Org.
" R. Day ...	Dist. G. Purst.
" H. G. Hicks ...	Dist. G.A. Purst.
" G. Wright ...	Dist. G. Tyler.
" Bobbins ...	
" Cathcart ...	
" Cogill ...	Dist. G. Stwds.
" Oliff ...	
" Strang ...	

The following brethren will form the Board of General Purposes: Ex-officio—Bros. P. J. Stigant (President), G. Britain, J. O. Riddelsdell, J. W. Attwell, and A. Davidson. Elected—Bros. Very Rev. C. W. Barnett-Clarke, R. W. S. Giddy, T. J. C. Inglesby, C. J. Stephen, and J. Travis.

KIMBERLEY.—Cosmopolitan Lodge (No. 1409).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place on the evening of St. John's Day, when more than 100 brethren assembled to witness the installation of Bro. F. D. Walton. The ceremony was most ably and efficiently performed by Bro. S. Nordon, P.M. Bro. Walton having been placed in the chair of K.S., proceeded to appoint his officers as follows: Bros. S. T. Solomon, I.P.M.; C. Moses, S.W.; C. F. Beaton, J.W.; S. Foote, Treas.; J. S. Stuart, Sec.; S. Mendelssohn, S.D.; S. H. Dewhurst, J.D.; F. E. Legard, I.G.; Jno. Foote, D. of C.; W. F. Cranswick, W. A. Briggs, C. W. B. Geddes, and H. J. Beetham, Stewards; and H. J. Kennet, Tyler.

DU TOITS PAN.—Lodge Peace and Harmony (Dutch Constitution).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place at one o'clock in the afternoon of St. John's Day. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the ceremony of installing Bro. A. Yockmonitz, P.M., was very ably performed by Bro. B. Klisser, P.M. Bro. A. Yockmonitz having been placed in the chair of K.S. invested his officers as follows: Bros. S. Mylchurch, D.M.; D. Gill, S.W.; J. Angove, J.W.; J. Quilliam, Orator; J. Stanley, Sec.; B. Klisser, P.M.; Treas.; J. De Kock, Preparator; R. C. Partridge, M.C.; A. Spiller, Ambassador; and J. Israel, I.G.

MASONIC CHARITY IN WEST LANCASHIRE.

Under the presidency of Bro. H. M. Molyneux, P.M. 155, a largely attended meeting of the members of the lodges in this division was held on Friday, the 10th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool. It was unanimously resolved to ask his Worship the Mayor (Bro. D. Radcliffe) to become the patron of the conversation to be held next September in aid of the Hamer Benevolent Fund, and several committees were further appointed for the purpose of carrying out the arrangements.

THE SUNDERLAND MASONIC CLUB EXCURSION.

The above club made a most agreeable excursion on Thursday, the 16th inst., to Leyburn, Bros. F. Maddison, President; Walter Beattie, Secretary; and others, being accompanied by Bro. J. W. Wagman, J.P., Ex-Mayor of Sunderland, and several non-members. On their arrival, lunch was first discussed, and then the party entering several brakes which had been specially chartered for their use, visited in succession, the old church at Spennethorn, Mount Pleasant, the ruins of Jervaulx Abbey, in the grounds of which, they had received the special permission of Bro. the Marquis of Aylesbury to roam at will, Deep Ghyll, East Wilton, part of the ruins of Middleham Castle, and thence back to Leyburn to dinner, and after a pleasant evening, home again. It is difficult to imagine a more enjoyable "outing" than this, especially in such glorious weather as the excursionists were favoured with.

SUMMER EXCURSION OF THE HUNDRED OF ELLOE LODGE, No. 460.

Under the direction of the respected Worshipful Master, Bro. Jas. Hiscox, and the indefatigable Secretary, Bro. G. F. Barrell, the annual summer excursion of the members of the Hundred of Elloe Lodge, No. 409, Spalding, took place on Friday, the 10th inst., amid weather of the most resplendent character.

Ipswich and Harwich were the places visited, the journey being made by special Great Eastern rail and boat excursions, the untiring efforts of the two brothers above alluded to to render the day at once memorable and enjoyable being crowned with every success.

The party numbered over forty ladies and gentlemen in all, the first place of entertainment being the celebrated White Horse, Hotel, at Ipswich, of "Pickwick" renown. Here, at ten o'clock, immediately upon arrival, the company sat down to breakfast, and whatever may have been the experiences of Mr. Charles Dickens, certainly the Fraternity on this occasion had no cause for complaint. The courtesy of the proprietor, Mr. Mulder, was only exceeded by the repleteness of the repast which he placed upon the tables, variety dominating its many other noteworthy features. This refection, which, we need scarcely say, was much appreciated, fortified the guests for "the labours of the day," which commenced in downright earnest by an inspection of the various places of interest which Ipswich affords, chief amongst these being the noble Town Hall, or Municipal Buildings, and a very promising museum, which is already well stored with exhibits of no little value. Then came the much-anticipated trip down the river Orwell to Harwich, the beauties of either bank meeting with a faithful record in "King's Guide to the River." The Secretary, Bro. Barrell, evidently proclaimed himself a prophet in pronouncing the Orwell as something after the fashion of a Rhine in England. Along the whole course of the river, possibly 14 miles in length, new features in Nature's panorama spring up with such charming frequency that boat passengers cannot fail to be delighted with the picture presented them. By the excursion party, in fact, the boat trips to and from Harwich were looked upon as one of the chief enjoyments of the day. Harwich, Felixstowe, and Dovercourt for many hours occupied the attention of various exploring parties, whilst boating presented not a little attraction for the more adventurous spirits of the excursion.

At any rate, good digestion waited upon appetite when once more around the festive board in the palatial colliery of the Great Eastern Hotel, the 42 discussed the recherché dinner there provided. One word—excellent—will adequately describe the character of the catering, whilst emulating the spirit displayed at Ipswich, the energetic manager, Mr. Grew, evinced more than ordinary kindness in his endeavours to secure the comfort and approbation of his guests. Given further hour of repose, and the discussion of dessert, the W.M. and Secretary gave the signal for the return journey, the whole distance by boat and rail being completed in just three hours, nothing but pleasant memories crowning the day and its surroundings. It will be seen that this lodge has adopted (for some time past) the practice so often advocated in the *Freemason*, of including the fair sex in their recreative meetings.

THE QUEBEC DIFFICULTY.

Toronto, Ont., July 8.—In the address of Grand Master Hugh Murray, of the Grand Lodge of Canada A. F. and A. M. occurs the following passage: Referring to the edict of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec declaring non-intercourse with lodges working under the registry of the Grand Lodge of England in the Province of Quebec. It is cause for regret that the brethren of St. Paul's, St. George's and St. Lawrence Lodges have not seen it to be their duty to remove all occasion for contention by surrendering their warrants and affiliating with the Grand Lodge of the Province. I sympathise strongly with what I believe to be a correct principle, and I admit that from her standpoint she is not bound by the conditions that applied to the recognition of Grand Lodge of Canada. Further than this, however, I think our Grand Lodge cannot go, for though we may regret that conditional recognition was accepted by our predecessors, who acted no doubt under circumstances peculiarly adverse and at a time when the question of Grand Lodge sovereignty was not so prominent as in the present day, yet we are, I believe, bound honorably to carry out the agreement entered into by them, and which has remained undisturbed for nearly 26 years.

[Knowing the pressure which exists in those "high latitudes" on such vexed questions, we are not surprised, though we feel bound to say we regret the remarks of Bro. G.M. Murray, both as a precedent and a fact.—ED. F.M.]

OPENING OF NEW MASONIC ROOMS AT EAST GRINSTEAD.

Tuesday, the 7th inst., was a red letter day in the history of the Sackville Lodge. It was not only the annual meeting and installation of the W.M., but it was the first occasion on which the Masonic Rooms were used for the purpose to which the spacious building near the Post Office has recently been dedicated. The untiring efforts of Bro. G. D. Woolgar have eventuated in providing accommodation for the members of the Sackville such as few other lodges can boast in the Province of Sussex. The internal decorations and arrangement are in excellent taste, having been admirably executed by Bros. Plummer and Betchley, assisted by the veteran Bro. Hopkinson, who on the 7th inst. resigned his position as W.M. to Bro. Betchley. The floral decorations were profuse and elegant—a labour of love, in which Mrs. G. D. Woolgar took the principal part.

Among those present on this interesting occasion were Bros. V. P. Freeman, Prov. G. Sec., P.M. and P.Z. 732; T. Isley, 51 and 500, P.P.G.D.C. Norfolk; A. Taylor, P.M. 1110, P.P.G.P. Sussex; J. Farncombe, P.M. and P.Z. 311, P.P.G.S. and P.G.S.B.; C. Haine, W.M. 1110; J. S. Plummer, 1558; J. H. Every, 311; A. Russell, 311; Harrison, P.M. 1829; Thorpe, P.M. 38; and the following members of the lodge: Bros. Hopkinson, W.M.; Brown, S.W.; Betchley, J.W.; G. D. Woolgar, S.D.; Cooper, J.D.; E. A. Head, P.M., P.P.G.D.; Rudge,

P.G. Std. Br., P.M.; Calway, P.M.; G. Mitchell, Sec.; Smith, Martin, T. Mitchell, Rhodes, Hosken, H. Histed, G. Histed, Leeney, S. Woolgar, and others.

Letters of apology, regretting absence, were received from Bros. Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart., M.P., P.G.M. Sussex; Sir F. W. Truscott, and many others.

Previous to vacating the chair, Bro. HOPKINSON, in well chosen words, presented to Bro. Mitchell a very handsome Secretary's jewel, being the unanimous testimony of the brethren as to his efficient discharge of the duties of Secretary during the past five years.

The ceremony of installing Bro. Betchley as W.M. was performed in a most impressive manner by Bro. V. P. Freeman, Prov. G. Sec. The following officers of the lodge for the ensuing year were then invested by the new Master: Bros. Hopkinson, I.P.M.; Smith, S.W.; G. D. Woolgar, J.W.; E. A. Head, P.M., Treas.; G. Mitchell, Secretary; Hosken, S.D.; H. S. Martin, J.D.; Leeney, I.G.; Rudge, P.M., D.C.; S. Woolgar, Org.; H. Histed, Stwd.; and T. Mitchell, Tyler, pro tem. The new W.M. initiated a serving brother, and elicited the warm approbation of the brethren for the excellent manner in which he performed the ceremony. The retiring Master, Bro. Hopkinson, was presented with a Past Master's gold jewel, in recognition of his excellent working during the past year.

The business of the lodge being concluded, the brethren adjourned to the Crown Hotel, where an excellent banquet was provided by the worthy host. The evening was spent most agreeably, loyal, Craft, and complimentary toasts being duly honoured.

The East Grinstead brethren are to be congratulated on the enterprise shown by them, and the success which has attended their efforts to provide suitable premises wherein to hold their lodge meetings. The jewels were manufactured by Bro. George Kenning, of London, and were much admired, particularly the one presented to the Secretary, Bro. G. D. Woolgar has presented the lodge with a valuable American organ and a very ancient engraving, "Hiram, King of Tyre, sends presents to King Solomon."



Miss Julia Gwynne, late of the Haymarket and Savoy Theatres, was married lately to Mr. Geo. Edwardes, the manager of the Savoy.

Some six weeks ago, at a matinée at the Olympic, a new play was introduced, written by Mr. R. C. Carton and Mr. Cecil Raleigh, and met with an undoubtedly pleasant reception. They called their farcical comedy "The Great Pink Pearl." It soon found a manager anxious to produce it at his theatre. Mr. Edgar Bruce has recently put it on the boards of the Prince's, where it is meeting with the success it deserves. "The Great Pink Pearl" is clever and original, and is quite free from any nasty double meaning which some people think a necessity in a play if it is to be funny. The pearl belongs to the beautiful wife of the Russian Ambassador in Paris, Prince Paul Penikoff. The lady is ambitious, and is always in need of money to keep up her fame and establishment. She conceives an idea of obtaining money by selling the Great Pink Pearl. She offers it to an American millionaire, Mr. Anthony Sheen, but the letter, instead of going into his hands, is taken to another person of the same name, a starving journalist. He shows the communication to a fellow lodger, Patruccio Gormani, an ex-Irishman, at once a Nihilist, watchmaker, maker of infernal machines, and once an operatic singer. This adventurer conceives a plan to obtain the pearl. The Princess is anxious to sell, then why should not the spurious Sheen personate the millionaire? Gormani also sees that through this he may be able to renew his vows to the Princess, which in days gone by, when an opera singer, he got himself into trouble with the Ambassador, and was banished to Siberia, for so much attention to the Princess. The two set off to Paris and take apartments at the Grand Hotel. Gormani tells Sheen to act like an American, to use plenty of "I guesses," "you bets," to put his feet on the table, and, even if he can't smoke, "at any rate spit all over the carpet." The Princess calls there with the pearl. A young lady who is Sheen's sweetheart, living in Paris, also calls at the same time. The latter is put behind a screen where the pearl is in its box while the Princess and Sheen are coming to terms. Miss Turner opens the box and takes out the pearl and goes away with it. A sheriff's officer arrives to arrest Sheen for an old debt. Much fun is caused by this personage being himself arrested as the dynamiter Gormani, who is known by the police to be in the hotel. The Prince accuses his wife of infidelity when he learns she has lost the Great Pink Pearl that Czars have longed for but which has remained for generations in his family. How Gormani succeeds in avoiding arrest as a conspirator, how the pearl is ultimately restored to its owner, and how everything ends satisfactorily space forbids us to explain. It is a piece that requires playing smartly by a company well used to each other to carry out the spirit of the fun. The ladies and gentlemen of the cast treat it in this way, and so "The Great Pink Pearl" rattles along smoothly, with scarcely a dull line in it, and keeping the audience heartily amused throughout. Mr. C. Groves is Gormani, and Mr. Garden, Sheen. With these two much of the success rests. M. Marius is well suited for the part of the Prince who cannot understand how it is every one about him "has no repose." He looks dignified and just what he represents—an Ambassador. Miss Compton (Mrs. R. C. Carton) plays her character as the Princess with much taste. She looks an aristocrat, dresses in the best of taste, is handsome, has a fine presence, and acts and speaks with refinement. Both ladies and gentlemen cannot but admire her magnificent costumes. Miss Clara Jacks, once more as a servant girl, plays brightly and wins applause. We congratulate all concerned in this newest play in London. We hope the weather will not make any difference at the Prince's in the receipts. We anticipate that Mr. Bruce will soon send out companies to play it in the provinces and the colonies. We look forward with pleasure to seeing it again. In conclusion, we beg to call attention to the fact that the Prince's is lit by electricity, and therefore is cool.



We understand that Lord Brooke, M.P., Prov. Grand Master of Essex, will hold his Grand Lodge at Saffron Walden, on Thursday, August 13th.

Bro. Captain Bedford Pim, R.N., has been promoted to be a rear-admiral on the retired list.

The title by which Bro. Sir R. Loyd-Lindsay will be raised to the peerage will be that of Baron Wantage of Lockinge, in the county of Berks.

Bro. Sheriff-elect T. Clarke is going on a yachting tour before the time comes for him to enter on his duties as Sheriff of London and Middlesex.

Bro. Baron H. de Worms and Bro. Sir J. and Lady McGarel-Hogg were among those present at the Marchioness of Salisbury's reception on Wednesday, the 15th inst.

The Prince of Wales, with a distinguished party, arrived by special train on Saturday evening last at Aylesbury, on a visit to Bro. Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, M.P., at Waddesdon Manor.

Bro. A. Pell, M.P., has informed the South Leicestershire Conservative Association that he does not intend to offer himself as a candidate for the Harborough Division of the County.

The Prince of Wales has fixed the 12th August next for the Solent Regatta in Bembridge Bay, when his Royal Highness will sail his own yacht or be represented by his son, Prince George.

Bros. the Lord Mayor and Alderman Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart, M.P., were among the patrons of the grand promenade concert given in Victoria Park on Saturday last in aid of the Saturday Hospital Fund.

Bro. Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild was on Friday, the 17th inst., elected M.P. for Aylesbury in place of Sir N. de Rothschild, now Lord Rothschild, by a considerable majority of votes over his conservative opponent, Mr. Graham.

Bro. Lord Waveney, Mrs. Coleridge Kennard, and Bro. Baron and the Baroness de Worms were among the guests at the dinner party given on Thursday, the 16th inst., by Sir Samuel and Lady Wilson at their residence in Grosvenor-square.

Bros. the Lord Mayor, M.P., and Sir J. McGarel Hogg, Bart., M.P., have consented to act jointly as Treasurers of the fund now being raised for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to the Earl of Iddesleigh, lately Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., M.P.

Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., presided at a meeting held at the Mansion House on Friday, the 17th inst., in support of the British Institute in Brussels for Homeless and Friendless English Girls. The Lady Mayoress and Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Whitehead were present.

Bro. Shaw-Lefevre, M.P., headed a numerous and influential deputation to the Metropolitan Board of Works on Friday, the 17th inst., the object being to secure the extension of Hampstead Heath and the preservation of Parliament Hill. The deputation included the Baroness and Bro. Burdett-Coutts and Bro. Lord Kensington, M.P.

A farewell banquet will be given by the Officers Present and Past of the Royal Horse Guards on Saturday (to-morrow), to Bro. Lord Carrington, P.G.S.W., previous to his departure to assume the Governor Generalship of New South Wales. It has been arranged that the dinner shall take place at Limmer's Hotel, and it is expected that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales will be present.

Bro. Colonel Henry Platt, Gorddino, Bangor, has been appointed by Lord Harlech, the Provincial Grand Master of the newly-constituted Province of North Wales, as the Deputy Provincial Grand Master. Colonel Platt was the first W.M. of the Royal Leek Lodge, Bangor, of which city he is the present and first Mayor. Its Masonic Hall, a conspicuous architectural ornament, also owes its origin to his enterprise.

At the Court of Common Council on Thursday, the 16th inst., a vote of congratulation was unanimously passed to Bro. the Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir R. N. Fowler, Bart., M.P., on the occasion of his being created a baronet of the United Kingdom. The mover and seconder of the resolution were Bros. E. Dresser Rogers and Alderman Sir B. S. Phillips, and the vote was most cordially acknowledged by his lordship.

The Prince of Wales concluded his visit to Lancashire, where he had been the guest of Bro. the Earl and Countess of Lathom, at Lathom House, near Ormskirk, on Friday, the 17th inst., when His Royal Highness left Preston for London. Previously, however, to his departure, the Prince visited the Corn Exchange, where he was presented with a handsome box containing a variety of goods locally manufactured; after which he laid the foundation stone of a new dock, named in his honour the Albert Edward, and forming part of a scheme for improving the navigation of the Ribble.

Bro. Hughan, the well-known Masonic archaeologist, delivered a lecture on behalf of the "Devon Masonic Educational Fund," on Monday evening, the 20th inst., to the members of the True Love and Unity Lodge, No. 248, Broxham. The chair was occupied by Dr. Searle, W.M., the subject chosen being "The Origin of the United Grand Lodge of England," and the history of the four Grand Lodges—1717, 1725, 1751, and 1779 being duly detailed. There was a good muster of brethren, the visitors being Bros. Grant, W.M. 328; Taylor, P.M. 328; John Dodge, P.M. 1492; Lane, P.M. 1402, and others from Torquay. A collection having been made on behalf of the Fund, by which five guineas will be donated in the name of the Lodge, No. 248. Numerous questions were asked the lecturer and duly answered, those taking part in the conversation being Bros. Dr. Searle, W.M.; the Rev. R. B. F. Ebrington, J.W.; and W. H. Atherton, P.M., of 248; and Bro. John Lane, P.M. 1402. The meeting was so pleasant that Bro. Hughan has promised to lecture again.

A recent number of *Society* contains a portrait of Bro. H. Homewood Crawford, City Solicitor.

Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., presided at a meeting at the Mansion House on Tuesday of the members of the Aborigines Protection Society.

Bro. A. H. Novelli, P.G.J.W., presided on Friday, the 17th inst., at the half-yearly general meeting of the Fore-street Warehouse Company.

Bro. Sir E. Watkin, Bart., M.P., presided on Tuesday at the half-yearly general meeting of the Shareholders of the Metropolitan Railway Company.

Bro. G. J. Shaw-Lefevre, M.P., has been invited by the Earl of Iddesleigh to accept a nomination as one of the members of the proposed Royal Commission on the Depression of Trade.

Mr. Collins, a member of the Court of the Fan-makers' Company, is arranging for a complimentary dinner to be given to Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Whitehead, who is Master of the Company.

The Baroness Burdett-Coutts distributed the prizes gained by the members of the Highgate Youths' Institute in Northfield Hall on Friday, the 17th inst., the chair being occupied by Bro. W. Burdett-Coutts.

A life-size bust of Bro. Sir E. Watkin, Bart., M.P., Chairman of the London and South Eastern Railway Company, has recently been presented to the Corporation of Folkestone on behalf of a number of subscribers.

Bro. Alderman Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart., M.P., presided at the half-yearly meeting at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Monday, of the Shareholders of the Alliance Bank. The report was adopted.

The Prince of Wales visited the Royal Agricultural Show at Preston, on Thursday, the 16th inst., the Earl of Lathom being among those present to welcome him. His Royal Highness was afterwards elected President of the Society for the ensuing year.

The Marquis of Lorne presided on Wednesday, the 15th inst., at the opening of the new International College, which Mr. Haysman has erected as an auxiliary to his Anglo-French College, both institutions being situated contiguously in the Finchley-road. A goodly company was present, and everything passed off most satisfactorily.

Bro. Earl Cowper presided, and Bro. Alderman Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart., M.P., moved the principal resolution at a meeting, at the Mansion House on Saturday last, of the Mayors and Provosts of the cities and towns of the United Kingdom, in order to promote the objects of the Naval Volunteer Home Defence Association.

On Wednesday next, the 29th inst., Bro. Lord Randolph Churchill, M.P., Secretary of State for India, will receive addresses by a number of Lancashire Associations at Hengler's Circus, Liverpool. The same day Bro. the Earl of Milltown, P.G.S.W., will preside at the house dinner of the Constitutional Club, Regent-street.

The Prince of Wales returned to Marlborough House from his visit to Bro. Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, M., at Waddesdon Manor, near Aylesbury, on Monday, and in the afternoon of that day presided at a meeting at Mr. Boehm's Studio of the Hyde Park-corner Improvements Committee, when the model of a new statue of Bro. the Duke of Wellington was selected for Hyde Park-corner.

R.W. Bro. the Earl of Zetland laid the foundation-stone on Tuesday of a new National Agricultural Hall, like that of the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, near the Addison-road railway-station. The ceremony was followed by a luncheon, at which the principal speakers included Bro. the Earl of Zetland, the Earl of Lathom, Alderman Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart., M.P., Alderman Waterlow, and W. W. B. Beach, M.P.

Among the students who passed the Minor Examinations of the Pharmaceutical Society, held on Thursday, the 17th inst., was Mr. Ernest L. Ralling, youngest son of the late Mr. Thomas Ralling, of Colchester. Mr. E. L. Ralling, who was educated at the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys (where he passed the Cambridge Local) served his apprenticeship with Bro. F. A. Cole, P.M. 51, P.P.G.R. Essex, of St. Botolph-street, Colchester.

Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., who was accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, Bro. Alderman and Sheriff and Mrs. Whitehead and Sheriff and Mrs. Phillips, distributed the prizes gained by the successful pupils of the City of London Freeman's Orphan School, Brixton, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., the company present to witness the interesting ceremony including Bro. A. Brookman (Chairman of the Committee and Mrs. Brookman, Bro. H. B. Marshall, Bro. Controller Bake (Master of the Turners' Company), and Bros. Deputy East, Sir J. Bennett, J. W. Gooding, G. Shaw, G. P. Goldney (Remembrancer), and others.

Bro. and Mrs. Bancroft took their farewell of the public in the capacity of managers of the Haymarket Theatre on Monday evening. There was a crowded and fashionable audience, among whom were the Prince and Princess of Wales, and Bros. Earl Granville, Lord Lonsdale, Sir Algernon Borthwick, and Edmund Yates. Bro. Henry Irving declaimed admirably a farewell ode, written by Mr. Clement Scott, and Bro. Toole made a humorous speech. Bro. Bancroft, at the conclusion of the performances, appeared before the curtain and bid a hearty adieu, both Mrs. Bancroft and he being greatly affected by the enthusiastic reception they experienced.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Whilst the inhabitants of our great cities suffer from the effects of overcrowding and all its attendant evils, both physical and moral, the more robust and energetic emigrant will in his turn be liable to suffer in his new home from the want of ready skill and the great medical resources of his native land always at command. The best advice a friend can give is for him to take a supply of these well-known remedies as part of his outfit, for, by attention to the easily understood and yet ample directions which accompany each box and pot, he will never be at fault when taken ill or under any adverse sanitary conditions of life.—[ADVT.]

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.

Bro. Alderman Savory completed his 42nd year on Thursday, the 23rd instant.

On Monday evening, Bro. Sir Farrer Herschell, Q.C., M.P., opened a new liberal club at Croydon.

The Lady Mayoress distributed the prizes at Aske's School for Girls, Hatcham, on Monday last.

Bro. Lord and Lady Hothfield left London for Hothfield Place, near Ashford, on Saturday last.

Bros. Sir Michael E. Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., and Earl Granville received invitations to the Royal Wedding at Osborne on Thursday.

Bro. Sir Charles Dilke, Bart., M.P., was entertained at dinner on Saturday evening last by the Political Committee and members of the Reform Club.

A testimonial is being prepared by a number of his friends for presentation to Bro. Thomas Clarke on his election to the Shrievalty of London and Middlesex.

The Prov. G.M. of Middlesex (Bro. Sir Francis Burdett) has left Ancaster House, Richmond, for Ramsbury Manor, Wilts, and will be away for some time.

Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, opened a flower show in the Vicarage Grounds, Lorrimore-square, Walworth, on Tuesday.

Bros. A. T. Layton and W. Paas were present at the half-yearly meeting last week of the Governors and Subscribers of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, Old Kent-road and Margate.

Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., presided at a meeting at the Mansion House on Monday of the Council of the Gordon Boys' Home, about to be established as a memorial to the late General Gordon.

In the absence of the Lord Mayor, Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Whitehead presided at the 26th annual meeting at the Mansion House on Tuesday of the Metropolitan Drinking Fountain and Cattle Trough Association.

The Grocers' Company held their annual election feast on Wednesday, the 15th inst., among the principal guests being Bros. Admiral the Hon. Sir H. Keppel, J. D. Allcroft, P.G. Treas., C. H. Shoppee, and Lieut.-Col. T. Davies Sewell.

Bros. Sir J. B. Monckton, Col. Peters, C. Greenwood, C. C. Dumas, and Sir P. Colquhoun were among the guests at the banquet given by the Coachmakers' Company, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on Thursday, the 16th inst.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were present at an afternoon performance at the Lyceum Theatre in aid of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, and in the evening their Royal Highnesses dined with the Earl and Countess of Cadogan at Chelsea House.

Bro. Earl and the Countess Bathurst left town at the close of last week for Cirencester House, Gloucestershire, where, during the current week, grand rejoicings have taken place in celebration of the coming of age of his lordship's eldest son, Lord Apsley.

The Prince and Princess of Wales will give a dance this evening (Friday) at Marlborough House, at which it is expected that many of the illustrious and distinguished personages who attended the marriage of Princess Beatrice and Prince Henry of Battenburg will be present.

Bros. Alderman Evans and Puleston, M.P., took part in a meeting held by the kind permission of Bro. the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House, on Tuesday afternoon, in support of the University College of Wales, Aberystwith, and especially in aid of the restoration fund after the recent disastrous fire.

Bro. and Mrs. Horace Jones, Bro. and Mrs. Staveley-Hill, Lady Knight and the Misses Knight, Bro. Alderman Savory, Bro. Ex-Sheriff and Mrs. Clarence-Smith, and Bro. Sir Albert and Lady Woods were among those who attended the Lady Mayoress's reception at the Mansion House on Tuesday.

On Friday, the 17th inst., Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., distributed the prizes gained during the past year by the successful pupils of the day schools connected with St. Bartholomew, Bethnal-green. His lordship was accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, and a vote of thanks was accorded him at the close of the proceedings.

The Bridge House Estates Committee of the City of London, under the presidency of their chairman, Bro. T. Beard, made a very enjoyable excursion on board the Maria Wood on Monday, Bros. J. Cox, G. R. Innes, G. Shaw, H. B. Marshall, and others being of the party. The route selected was from Kingston to Sudbury.

Bros. Alderman De Keyser, Alderman and Sheriff Whitehead, Alderman Cowan, T. Beard, F. P. Alliston, E. C. Beedell, J. Cox, E. Dresser Rogers, A. J. Altman, Sir J. B. Monckton, P.G.W., and Horace Jones, G.S. of W., were among those present at the ceremony on the Victoria Embankment on Tuesday of laying the foundation-stone of the new Guildhall School of Music.

At the last meeting of the West Smithfield Lodge, No. 1623, on the 16th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, W.C., Bro. J. J. Howes, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. elect, and a Past Master's jewel voted to Bro. G. H. Stephens, the outgoing W.M., in recognition of his valuable services during his year of office. Bro. W. Malthouse, P.M., was, by a majority, elected Treasurer, and Bro. W. Smyth was unanimously re-elected Tyler. After a capital lot of working, the brethren adjourned to the Princes' Saloon, Holborn Restaurant, where a capital banquet was partaken of, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. G. H. Stephens.

At the last meeting of the brethren of the Royal Cumberland (Time Immemorial) Lodge of Mark Master Masons, Bro. Williamson, M.O., in rising to second the proposition of the I.P.M., Bro. Lawson Howes, "That a vote of respectful sympathy and condolence be forwarded from this Mark Lodge to Miss Hopkins on the death of her brother, Dr. Hopkins," said he trusted due prominence would be given to the minutes of the lodge to the sincere grief of that Mark Lodge at the loss they had sustained in the decease of Bro. Dr. Henry Hopkins, the loss of one who, in the opinion of the speaker, had done more in this city to improve Masonic work, and more particularly Mark work, than any brother in their time, and who gained the esteem and respect of all who knew him.