

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.

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A CURIOUS case is quoted in the October number of the *Canadian Craftsman* as having recently occurred in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. It appears from the record that one who is now a brother, having been initiated, passed, and raised in the usual manner in a regularly constituted lodge, has been pronounced clandestine under the following circumstances. Six months previous to his initiation in this lodge he had been proposed, balloted for, and rejected in another lodge. The six months which, in compliance with the requirements of the G. Lodge of Massachusetts, had elapsed between his rejection in the one case and his acceptance in the other turn out, however, to have been *lunar* instead of *calendar* months, it being held as a kind of law absolute that, where not otherwise stated, a month means a *calendar* not a *lunar* month. The result is unfortunate in one sense, for the man who has been thus made a Mason in a regular lodge cannot enjoy the privileges of Masonry, though, as far as he is concerned, there is not the shadow of a pretence that he has done anything to justify the infliction of this sentence. If blame attaches to any body, individual or corporate, it must be to the lodge that elected him, and then initiated, passed, and raised him. But the Massachusetts Committee on Jurisprudence—at least, we presume that is the body which had entrusted to it the consideration of the case—has sapiently determined that the innocent must suffer for the guilty, the man who has committed no further offence than that of being urgent in his desire to become a Mason notwithstanding he had been rejected once, for the lodge which has committed the very flagrant (?) default of interpreting the expression “six months” as six honest *lunar* instead of six honest *calendar* months. Here then is a man who has been made a Mason in the usual manner by a regular lodge, but about twelve or fifteen days sooner than he was entitled to be made, and who for that trifling default—for which it is ridiculous to suppose he could have been responsible—is summarily deprived of his Masonic privileges. But though a rose may be designated a upas-tree, it does not smell less sweetly or cease to be a rose; and this brother, though he has been pronounced clandestine for no default of his own, is a genuine made Mason in spite of all the quasi-legal absurdities that have ever been pronounced by Committees on Masonic Jurisprudence. This, though differently expressed, is the opinion of our Canadian contemporary and the *Masonic Advocate*, from from which it has derived its information. We will go further, and say that legislation of this kind is a farce and calculated to bring Masonic legislators and law administrators into public contempt.

WE have grown so accustomed to the attacks made on Freemasonry by a section of the press that it comes upon us as a most agreeable surprise when we meet with an article which seems to regard our Fraternity with a considerable amount of favour. Such an article appeared in the *English Churchman* of the 10th inst., and though we cannot endorse all the parts of its historical account, the tone and character of the remarks are very friendly. The article is entitled “The Origin, Meaning, and End of Freemasonry,” and it is evident the writer has been at great pains to gather together all the information that was likely to assist him in his elucidation of the subject. Nor do we propose to criticise the several sections of his essay seriatim; those who would learn more of it are referred to the issue itself of the *English Churchman*. It is, perhaps, unfortunate he should have adopted two traditions ascribed to the Freemasons, of which one is unsupported by any direct evidence, the indirect evidence being most unfavourable; while in respect of the other, what we know about it is vague, like all the rest of the history referring to the same period. These traditions are (1), the story which assigns the establishment of the first Grand Lodge in England to ATHELSTAN'S brother EDWIN, in 926 A.D.; (2) the theory about HENRY VI. having interrogated the Freemasons, as set forth in the Locke letter. The introduction of these into the article must have the effect of lessening its value, but it will not destroy it absolutely. Thus there cannot be any objection to the description of Freemasonry as “an art in the highest and noblest sense of the word, an art of a purely æsthetic nature, a liberal art, combining and cultivating in its bosom that which is good, true, and beautiful, and excluding triviality and meanness.” Nor can we be otherwise than gratified with the

following, with which the article is brought to a conclusion: “All liberal arts have their origin in man's own heart and mind; the human mind yearns for spiritual gifts and blessings; such blessings cannot proceed but from a spiritual source; this spiritual source cannot be conceived by the senses, but by reflection only; the faculty of reflection means the activity of producing ideas; the highest idea imaginable is that of ‘one invisible Creator of all creatures.’ Among these creatures *man* is the noblest—*man* in the collective sense of the word, and in his individuality; *the recognition of the claims of the latter as such a noble work of God constitutes the essence of all true Liberalism, the Alpha and Omega of the art of Freemasonry.*” This complimentary language is in striking contrast to the denunciations which are so frequently directed against us, and we thank the *English Churchman* for having spoken so boldly in our favour. There is just one other point which may be noticed—the assignment of the word *Freemason* to a Hebrew origin. The writer states that “*mas*” in Hebrew means “tribute, levy, tributaries;” and that the words in Exodus, which have been rendered in our English version as “task-masters,” means “lords of tributary services.” Moreover, “*mas*” meant also those in Israel who were “selected to do a distinct work,” as well as “captives in war,” and in the First Book of Kings “King SOLOMON” is described as having “raised a ‘tribute of select men’ (a ‘mas’),” and placed them under the superintendence of ADONIRAM (“sublime or excellent master”), “the levy,” or “*mas*,” which was “a class superior to the rest of non-Israelite working men,” being “thirty thousand men.” These, it is argued, “were a body of comparatively ‘free’ men of the ‘mas’ (unlike their forefathers in Egypt), and remained a select and distinguished class, rich in instruction, culture, and refinement, and proud of their distinction as ‘mas,’ by which collective name they may have formed a respected and respectable Brotherhood in Israel.” Hence the “Brotherhood of *Masum*, or *Mason*, or *Masoni*, or *Macons*, or *Masons*, as they variously were called at their spreading over the various civilised countries of the world.” This is the explanation offered as to the origin and meaning of the term “Freemason,” and it is justified on the ground that the names and titles and important words in use within the Order were, and are, Hebrew. We commend the suggestion to the notice of those among our readers who have devoted themselves to the consideration of this question.

CONSECRATION OF THE UNITED NORTHERN COUNTIES LODGE, No. 2128.

On Monday afternoon, the V.W. Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, consecrated this new lodge at the hall of Grand Mark Lodge, No. 8A, Red Lion-square. The lodge has been established for the convenience of brethren who are natives of the Northern counties of England, but who have migrated, or may migrate, to London. The objects of the lodge have for some time past been fully described in these columns, which have also detailed as they arose the different progressive steps which have been taken in its formation. It started on Monday with the best sign of success, the approval of those brethren who might be supposed to be the most affected by it—the brethren of the Northern counties from which the members of the lodge come. Notably among these were the Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, Bro. Thomas W. Tew, who was present, and Bro. Woodall, of Scarborough, Grand Treasurer, who was also present, and both of whom threw their whole soul into the work, and seemed highly delighted with the proceedings of the day.

Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke was assisted in the ceremony by Bros. T. Fenn, P.G.D., President of the Board of General Purposes, who acted as S.W.; Bro. Edward Letchworth, P.G.D., who acted as J.W.; Bro. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G.C., who performed the duties of Chaplain; Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as Director of Ceremonies; and Bro. Edgar Bowyer, P.G. Std. Br., as I.G. The other brethren present were—

Bros. H. Hughes, 869; H. Baldwin, P.P.G.S.D. Middlesex, W.M. 1949; C. F. Matier, P.G.W. Greece, P.G. Stwd. Scotland; R. Berridge, P.M. 21, P.G. Stwd.; G. Ratcliffe, P.P.G.D.C. Berks and Bucks, P.M. 841 and 979; J. Halden, Sec. 1009; J. W. Catterson, P.M. 1981, W.M. elect 548, P.G.P. Surrey; S. P. Catterson, P.M. 548, P.Z. 79 and 548, P.P.G. Std. B. Surrey; C. W. Pearce, 969; C. O. Tagart, P.G.S., J.W. 2; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; J. C. Duckworth, J.W. 1928; E. W. Collins, 25; W. W. Morgan, 211; T. Tremere, P.M. 1929; A. S. Browning, P.M. 33; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; J. Terry, P.P.G.S.W. Norths and Hunts; W. Soden, 1287; A. Bamfull, P.M. 35; H. Lovegrove, P.Z., W.M. 1507, P.M. 1777, 1948, and 2048; J. Green, 1962; H. J. Gibbs, W.M. 1984, P.G.P. Herts; N. G. Philips, P.G.D.; V. S. Vickers, P.M. 199, P.C. Chap. Kent; W. M. Mitchell, 1365; A. McDonald, P.M. 948 and 1962, P.P.G. D.C. Berks and Bucks; Neville Green, P.M. 1962; A. Weston, W.M. 1929; J. G. Burnard, P.M. 1662 and 1766; and F. Binckes, P.G. Stwd.

The founders present were Bros. J. S. Cumberland, P.P.G. J.W.; W. F. Smithson, P.P.G.S.D.; Wm. Masters; Fitzherbert Wright, P.P.G. S.W. Derby; J. L. Cooke; W. H. Bullock; H. J. Almond; J. L. Potts;

J. Clayton; R. G. Smith, P.P.G.D.C. North and East Yorkshire; C. G. L. Kipling; E. Carr; J. W. Woodall, G. Treas.; J. W. Tew, P.G.M. of West Yorkshire; and S. Lamb.

After the lodge had been formally opened,

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, in addressing the brethren on the object of the meeting, said they were assembled on a very interesting Masonic occasion, viz., to consecrate a new lodge, for which a warrant had been granted by the M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales. They knew it was somewhat difficult in the present day to obtain a warrant for a new lodge in London, on account of the large number of Masonic lodges which met in the great metropolis. Of course there were exceptions to the rule, and the present case was one peculiarly fitted for an exception in its favour. In the present condition it was not, as was generally the case of things in London, that the lodge was established for the convenience of London brethren, but for the convenience of many earnest and distinguished Masons who had received their Masonic light in lodges in the Northern Counties of England, who, from the exigencies of their business avocations, had come to reside in London, but who had not had an opportunity of joining London lodges. Yet these brethren felt it was a desirable thing to have a kind of rendezvous in London, so that the brethren who had worked in former days in the North of England might meet in lodge in London. His Royal Highness had seen fit to recognise the claims of these brethren, and had granted a warrant for the constitution of the United Northern Counties Lodge. The brethren who had been selected to rule over the lodge for its first year were old and well tried Masons, and he felt that in Bros. Cumberland, Smithson, and Masters the brethren would have officers who would manage the lodge well, and conduct its affairs aright.

At the conclusion of this address,

Bro. the Rev. J. STUDHOLME BROWNRIGG, P.G.C., delivered the following oration:

The rapid increase of our Order, both in numbers and in importance, is rendering necessary the existence of such lodges as the one we are consecrating this evening. We welcome it as an assurance that in all matters of importance there is an identity of feeling between this great City and the provinces, and that the most distant provinces desire to strengthen that bond of fraternal affection which binds them to the head quarters of our Order. Brethren, I emphasize the expression "in all matters of importance," because I think it is well to remember that in our Craft, as in all other human Institutions, there must be differences of opinion. Each lodge has a complexion of its own, different from that of its neighbour. It is well that it should be so. Beauty is the combination of distinct and diverse colours blended by the Master's Hand. Strength is the union of many forces controlled by the Master's will. Wisdom is the result of various sciences taught by the Master's skill; and so the harmony of our Craft is not hindered, because the voices of our lodges are not identical. Indeed, we gain, rather than lose, by freedom of opinion and debate, so long as that freedom is kept within due bounds by Charity. It is the stagnant water of the pool which is unwholesome, not the strong, fresh torrent of the mountain stream. I rejoice therefore that in our Grand Lodge, year by year, our country lodges are making themselves more heard. Every true-hearted London Mason will join with me in giving this assurance to our country brethren. We desire to hear what they think and what they feel on all matters. If they differ from us—as they possibly may differ—we shall never forget that our legislation is for the Craft at large, and that the wants and interests of country lodges must have an equal consideration with those of our town lodges. But let us all remember that we are human. It is very easy to impart bitterness into matters upon which we feel strongly. We are prone to forget that truth is many-sided. We may be right without our brother who differs from us being wrong; the liberty we claim for ourselves we must allow to others. The line which separates legitimate discussion from angry recriminations is a very narrow one, and is very easily overstepped. There is nothing so hard as to defend our own opinions without attacking those of others. The temptation to strengthen our own arguments by unfair and ungenerous imputations is an ever present and dangerous evil. It does at times find its way even into a Mason's lodge. Let us take a lesson from the Operative Masons of old. In the quarries where the work was prepared there was the continuous sound of the mallet and the chisel. The rough ashlar received its fine polish from the continuous efforts of the workman.

"Many a blow and biting sculpture
Polished well those stones elect."

In the clay ground between Succoth and Zartham, where the ornaments of the Temple were cast, the blaze and heat of the furnaces were incessant, but "The house when it was in building, was built of stone made ready before it was brought thither, so that there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron, heard in the house while it was in building."

So our brothers of old laboured under the guidance of an earthly architect. The work was fashioned by many hands, not without the din and turmoil of a busy workshop, but all worked not on their own but on the architect's plans; and when each Mason had done his work honestly and laboriously it was brought to be placed silently in the place for which the architect had designed it. So, my brethren, let us labour. There must be, as of old, some din and clamour in the work, but that will not mar its excellence if we work, not for our own selfish ends, but in accordance with the plan of our Heavenly Architect, who has given to each of us our own especial task to be done with energy and humility; with honest zeal to complete what he has given us to finish, without hindrance to the work which he has given others to do, leaving to Him the completion of the whole, the combination of our poor efforts and those of others, into a Temple of Beauty for the Honour and Glory of His Most Holy Name.

The ceremony of consecration was then regularly proceeded with, and on its completion Bro. J. S. Cumberland was installed as Master of the lodge; Bro. Thomas W. Tew was invested to act as P.M.; Bro. T. W. Smithson was invested as S.W.; Bro. Masters, as J.W.; Bro. Wright, Treas.; Bro. J. L. Cooke, Sec.; Bro. W. H. Bullock, S.D.; Bro. Almond, J.D.; Bro. Potts, I.G.; Bro. Lamb, P.M., D.C.; Bro. Clayton, W.S.; and Bro. Edward Mills, Tyler.

After the delivery of the addresses, Bro. CUMBERLAND, W.M., proposed, and Bro. T. W. TEW, P.M., seconded, a vote of thanks to Bros. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Thomas Fenn, E. Letchworth, the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, Frank Richardson, and Edgar Bowyer for acting at the consecration, and also that the honorary membership of the lodge should be conferred upon them.

The motion having been unanimously carried, Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE acknowledged the compliment.

Bro. CUMBERLAND informed the brethren that the officers of the lodge had presented the official collars and the jewels, which were of silver; that the Earl of Zetland had presented a beautiful set of working tools; the Grand Treasurer a valuable lodge banner; Bro. Smith the toast lists; and Bro. Tew a box of working tools and the columns.

Thanks were voted for these gifts.

A Committee was appointed to frame the bye-laws, and letters of apology for inability to attend were read from the Lord Mayor of York and the Dean of York. A telegram from the Eboracum Lodge congratulating the brethren was also read. Names of candidates for initiation and joining were given in, proposed, and seconded.

The S.W., Bro. T. W. SMITHSON, proposed a gift of 10 guineas to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, hoping that the W.M. or some other brother would take a Stewardship for that Institution.

Bro. TEW seconded the motion, which was supported by the W.M., and carried.

Bro. JAMES TERRY, Secretary Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution,

offered for the acceptance of the lodge a black-letter Bible, 250 years old, which had come into his hands only a week ago. The Bible had belonged to the Deringer Royal Arch Chapter, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, which became extinct in the year 1814. He thought no better home in London could be found for this curious volume than in a lodge composed of brethren from the Northern counties.

The W.M. gladly accepted the gift on behalf of the lodge, and moved a vote of thanks to Bro. Terry.

Bro. SMITHSON seconded the vote, and said he could hardly find words to thank Bro. Terry sufficiently, as the presentation had come upon him quite by surprise.

The motion was carried "nem. dis.," and after the usual greetings, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant, where a choice banquet was provided. After banquet the toasts were honoured, and under the direction of Bro. E. M. Lott, Grand Organist, who was assisted by Bros. E. W. Collins, T. Tremere, Arthur Weston, and C. W. Pearce, Mus. Doc., a charming selection of music was performed.

The toast of "The Queen" gave the W.M. the opportunity of alluding to Her Majesty's womanly sympathies in all sorrow, as evidenced by her message to the widow of King Alfonso.

In proposing "The M.W. Grand Master," the W.M. said that 600 lodges had been consecrated during the Prince of Wales's reign over Freemasons, and this showed the immense amount of life there was in the Craft, as he hoped there was in the lodges, because, as it was once said by the late Lord Zetland, Freemasonry did not consist so much in the number as in the quality of brethren who entered it. If they took the 600 lodges as a basis for calculating the number of new members of the Order since the Prince of Wales was installed, he thought they might reckon that at least 20,000 brethren had in that time been added. At any rate, the prosperity of the Craft was most marked under His Royal Highness' auspices. In the words of the old Masonic song: "Long may he reign, the cause maintain, and lodges flourish thro' the land."

The W.M., in proposing "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers," said that when they knew a great part of the work of Grand Lodge devolved upon the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the other Grand Officers, he thought there was due to them a debt of gratitude for giving so much time to the interests of Masonry. That the Pro G.M. and the D.G.M. took such a deep interest in it was a singularly fortunate circumstance, as it augured well for its stability, and put to shame those who railed against the Order, and fulminated anathemas upon it. When there were clergymen of the Church of England, and of other denominations, as members, it gave the Order some standing, as it proved that the only object they had, as far as Masonry was concerned, and the teachings it gave, was that they should be faithful to God, country, and laws.

The Rev. J. STUDHOLME BROWNRIGG, P.G.C., replying, said that under ordinary circumstances he believed the proper thing to say was that he regretted it had not fallen to other hands to respond; but he was not going to say anything of the kind, because, although it might seem to be somewhat egotistical, it was not on account of his eloquence, but on account of the position he occupied, that there were no other hands into which it could have better fallen, as he was distinctly a London Mason and a provincial Mason. As a London Mason he was extremely glad to see a new country lodge in London. He was not saying anything in irony, because it would bring up, especially the day when they met, a large number of provincial Masons. He was sure London brethren would welcome them most heartily to their legislative assembly. As a provincial brother he could say that "Northern" was only a relative term. He claimed from the Northern counties because he happened to be a member of the Province of Berks and Bucks, which was distinctly north of London. He was united in Berks and Bucks by a very distinct tie, and was a United Northern country brother because he voted for Bro. Woodall, as Grand Treasurer, who was proposed by Bro. McDowell, a Berks and Bucks brother present that night. They carried their man, and they were, from the position they took, distinctly United Northern counties brethren. (Laughter.)

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE proposed "The W.M. of the United Northern Counties Lodge (Bro. J. S. Cumberland), and Prosperity to the New Lodge." In doing so, he said it was a great honour and compliment to be elected for first W.M. of a new lodge. The position of this lodge was exceptional, but he was sure that all London Masons heartily welcomed this friendly invasion from the north, and hoped that the brethren would settle down among them. The lodge had a very great future before it. It might draw into its fold at the proper time all those good brethren who came from the north on business, and took up their abode in London. The members of the lodge must only be careful to bide their time, and not fill their ranks with everybody who wished to come in. If they would only be content to wait a little, they might become one of the greatest lodges in London. Bro. Cumberland was a brother who had been very many years a Mason, and had already gone through the chair of a distinguished lodge in the north, and the members of the present lodge had exercised prudence and wisdom in selecting him as their W.M.

Bro. CUMBERLAND, in acknowledging the toast, said the brethren were not anxious to build their lodge up except with proper persons. The chain of Masonry should be strengthened, and the strongest part of a chain was only equal to its weakest link. In the new lodge they would try that every link added to the Masonic brotherhood should not be weak. He was certain he should have the kind support of the brethren, the founders of the lodge, as well as the officers. It had been a great source of pleasure to him to see so many old faces present. On the other hand, he was very pleased to find so many brethren there who until that night had been strangers to him and the brethren forming the lodge. They were heartily welcome, and their presence was a great gratification to Yorkshiremen.

Bro. THOS. W. TEW, Prov. G.M. for West Yorkshire, in proposing "The Sister Lodges, Metropolitan and Provincial," said that although the lodges were so many they were one in sentiment and in ambition to do their best. It gave Northern counties men great satisfaction to find a home in the metropolis, and he could not but think that this lodge would meet a great want long felt outside the metropolitan area where they could have a central meeting place. To Northern counties men like himself it was very gratifying to see the kind and friendly reception they had had in the establishment of this lodge. They would do their best to maintain its integrity, and he believed that in time to come it would be as great an ornament to London as any of the other lodges. They would probably see in those rooms a vast number of Northern counties brethren who had long wanted a central place of meeting. This lodge wished to work with the

utmost hearty good feeling with the metropolitan lodges, and their great aim and object was good fellowship and brotherhood. This lodge would be a means of drawing the Northern brethren very much together, of taking them to Grand Lodge to see how Grand Lodge business was transacted as the centre of the Masonic system. After a humorous allusion to the names of the brethren who formed the lodge, the R.W. brother concluded by hoping that the lodge would be the finest and best in Freemasonry.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, P.G.D., replied. He was the present Master of the oldest lodge in the Craft, the Lodge of Antiquity. Among the associations of the Lodge of Antiquity none would be more agreeable than the recollection that as Master of that lodge, and as one of its Wardens, he had been instrumental in recommending the United Northern Counties Lodge for a warrant. But he was not responding for the Lodge of Antiquity, but to a far more comprehensive toast. When he looked round him he saw distinguished members of the most distinguished lodges, the Grand Stewards' Lodge, the Alpha, the Prince of Wales, the Tuscan, and others. Among the provincial brethren were the most distinguished representatives of lodges in the north of England. On behalf of both sections he was justified in expressing the most earnest hope that the United Northern Counties Lodge might have before it a future of unclouded prosperity, and that brotherly love and affection might ever distinguish its members as men and as Masons.

Bro. F. A. PHILBRICK, O.C., G. Reg., who had just entered the room, and was received with a cordial greeting, on being called upon for some observations, said it gave him great pleasure to find himself among friends and brothers. He owed the lodge many apologies for not being present at the consecration. He was sure the lodge had a career of usefulness before it. He was sure also that it supplied what was wanting, and he trusted it would more than fulfil the wishes of those who had founded it in proving a rallying point and a home for those Masons from the north who sometimes wished to find such a home in the metropolis. He knew that whatever the brethren from the north put their hands to they were not apt to turn back upon. There was a good honest purpose and a set resolution about them which inspired success and insured it, and if that resolution was continued and the brethren made a strong, hearty pull together, he felt that they would make this lodge a success, and an example to the other lodges in London. The co-operation of the Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire was a rallying point round which the brethren of the province would gather. He was very popular in his own province, and when he came to London the brethren would follow his banner. It was the same with the other Northern provinces. Although it was a Northern invasion, the brethren of London were only too glad to hold out to them the hand of fellowship, as they felt that the more such victories were achieved on the great field of Masonry the better for the common cause they all had at heart.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in giving "The Consecrating Officers," said they would try to deserve the kindness of those brethren for after again explaining the objects the brethren had in view in establishing the lodge. Referring to Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, he said he had received from him even before he was Grand Secretary many kindnesses, and it had that day given him very great pleasure that he should have consecrated this lodge.

Bro. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE said it had given him great pleasure to consecrate the lodge. He was always pleased to see Masonry progressing as it was all over the world, and more especially in the formation of such good and worthy lodges as this lodge promised to be.

Bro. WOODALL, G. Treas., proposed "The Visiting Brethren." On the other side of the Atlantic and in Germany the greatest kindness and sympathy had been extended to him, and it had made a deep impression on his heart.

Bro. ROBT. BERRIDGE responded, and after thanking the brethren for their hospitality, hoped that on the foundation laid that day would be built a superstructure honourable to the builders.

Bro. SMITHSON, S.W., proposed "The Masonic Charities." Having been an earnest worker for West Yorkshire, he wished to show what had been done by the Charities. The Girls' School had something like 231 girls in it, at a cost of £9000 a year. That Institution had had for many years, and had still, great support. It had had an extra cost of £700 entailed upon it by the establishment of a Preparatory School, and also an expense of £6500 for some extra ground, which the friends in the north considered a most judicious investment. The Boys' School had in it 230 boys, at a cost of £10,000 a year. This re-dounded very much to the credit of the Masons to whom they appealed annually for support, considering there was so little funded capital at their disposal. Taking the great energy of Bro. Binckes in founding a Preparatory School, and the warm-heartedness of the Craft in supporting it to the extent of £20,000, he thought the youngest lodge in the country should, at any rate, put its shoulder to the wheel to assist this Institution. As to the Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows, these poor people got from it a splendid annuity, and there were 375 of them on the books, at a cost of £14,500 a year. The lodge should also lend a helping hand to that Institution. He was glad to find that Bro. Tew was going to be the lodge's Steward at the next Festival of this Institution, and he could assure him that he should have the heartiest support and sympathy from himself (Bro. Smithson) on that occasion.

Bro. JAMES FERRY said it was not the first time he had had to thank the Yorkshire brethren for assistance. The West Yorkshiremen were always found to the front in sending Stewards. He had no doubt that when the Festivals came round for the Aged, for the Girls', and for the Boys' Institutions, this lodge would be well and worthily represented.

Bro. F. BINCKES said each of the Institutions had a special ground of appeal. The Boys' School was finishing a work forced upon it by the Craft, at a cost of £20,000. £3500 of that sum was not originally contemplated, and at the end of the year they would be from £3000 to £5000 short, and he did not see where it was to come from, save from the sympathy and good feeling of the Craft. All the Institutions had their peculiar claims. The Girls' School had had to buy a piece of land. The Grand Chaplain had said that, while Masons were agreed upon essentials, they were allowed to differ as to details, and he was perfectly certain that, while there might be some fancy that these appeals to the brethren for the support of the Institutions ought to be made more carefully, there was not a Mason who had not the interests of all the Charities at heart, and who would not grieve very deeply and sincerely if those Charities lacked the support needed. It would be a bad day for Freemasonry when these appeals were not made. He was sure that in this lodge, formed as it was by brethren who had been in the past distinguished for the support of the Institutions, an appeal by the Secretaries of the Institutions was not out of place, or they would not have been invited to attend. Their was not one of the Secretaries that had

not in times gone by had to express their thanks to the Northern brethren for their support, and they must thank those brethren for founding a home in London, which would bring them in closer connection and contact with the glorious Masonic Institutions.

The toast of "The Masonic Press," proposed by the TREASURER, was responded to by Bro. H. MASSEY.

To the toast of "The Officers," Bro. MASTERS replied, and hoped that the brethren would come to the lodge to see its working. No matter how they criticised, the lodge would be glad to see them, and he could promise them the officers would do the work according to the best ritual. The W.M. was an excellent worker, and the officers would emulate his example. They were all indebted to the W.M. for the very great trouble he had taken in the formation of the lodge, and it was their duty and their privilege to do what they could to bring the lodge to a state of success. Every one of them thanked the W.M. for what he had done, and anything they could do to second his efforts would be done by them with the greatest pleasure and sincerity, and as a bounden duty.

The Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

The lodge was furnished by Bro. George Kenning.

CONSECRATION OF THE CAMA LODGE, No. 2105.

This new lodge for the Province of Middlesex was consecrated on Wednesday evening, at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, by Bro. Colonel Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex. The Right Worshipful brother was assisted on the occasion by V.W. Bro. Raymond H. Thrupp, P.G. Asst. D.C., Deputy Provincial Grand Master; the V.W. Bro. J. F. H. Woodward, P.M., Prov. G. Secretary; W. Bro. Henry Lovegrove, P.M., P.Z., P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; W. Bro. Thos. C. Walls, as D.C.; and the Prov. G. Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. S. T. H. Saunders.

The other brethren present on the occasion were Bros. Mark Tanner, M.D., P.M. Yarborough Lodge; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; H. De Lacy, Orpheus Lodge, 1206; Henry J. Dutton, 1706; W. R. Palmer; H. D. Cama, Harmony Lodge; D. C. Dharwar, 1159; S. W. Kaka, Earl of Carnarvon Lodge; A. Lawrence Fryer, 1624; Thomas Poore, P.M. 720; John Gilbert, Prov. G. Tyler; and C. J. Axford, S.W. 2048.

The founders of the lodge were Bros. D. P. Cama, W. R. Palmer, John Read, N. D. Francis, H. D. Cama, John Church, Thomas Poore, D. C. Dharwar, and S. M. Kaka.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. John Read, P.M., P.Z., and J. W. designate, who was assisted by Bros. Dutton, Frier, and R. De Lacy, of St. Paul's Cathedral choir.

The lodge having been opened in usual form,

Sir FRANCIS BURDETT, addressing the brethren, said he had around him so many excellent Masons that it was scarcely necessary for him to say much to them as to the ceremony for which they were assembled, and he was sure that the W.M. designate was such a good Mason, and understood the work of Masonry in general so well, that it was also not necessary to say anything to him about it. The W.M. designate had for some time been working as a good Mason, and when he was installed in the chair of a new lodge, and when he was called upon to exercise his authority, he must be reminded that unless he was properly supported by his officers and brethren he could not do it properly. It was always supposed in Masonry that Masons were all on a perfect equality, but no institution could exist without having a head, and there must be one ruling power, and that one power must be centred. When there was such a Master designate as on this occasion, there was little doubt he would be a proper ruler. At the same time he would exercise his authority with mildness, and at the same time with an amount of power in which he would certainly be supported by the Wardens and other officers, and Grand Lodge brethren in general. If any question of difficulty should arise it would be for the W.M. designate to decide whether these questions were right or wrong. On several occasions Worshipful Masters had been called upon to state their reasons why they decided in a particular manner, and in most cases they had been found to be right by Grand Lodge. These cases required considerable care and attention. The W.M. ought to be able to rule the lodge persuasively, but at the same time with an amount of determination which would enable him to carry out the duties of the lodge in a manner which would reflect credit not only on the lodge, but on the Order in general.

The Rev. S. T. H. SAUNDERS then delivered a very eloquent address.

The usual ceremony of consecration and dedication was then proceeded with, and when these ceremonies had been completed, Bro. Dorabjee Pestonjee Cama, P.M., was installed by V.W. Bro. Raymond H. Thrupp, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, as W.M. of the Cama Lodge, No. 2105, for the ensuing year. The brethren appointed and invested as his officers for the year were Bros. W. R. Palmer, S.W.; John Read, J.W.; John Church, Treas.; Thomas Poore, Sec.; the Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, Chap.; H. D. Cama, S.D.; Thomas C. Walls (for Bro. N. D. Francis), J.D.; D. E. Dharwar, I.G.; S. M. Kaka, D.C.; and Harrison, Tyler.

A vote of thanks to the Consecrating Officers was proposed by the W.M., and seconded by the S.W., and carried, and the Consecrating Officers were elected honorary members of the lodge. The musical brethren were also elected honorary members.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER afterwards announced that he should stand as Steward for the lodge at the forthcoming Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and he solicited the assistance of the brethren in making up a good list, at the same time informing them that he should stand as Steward for the lodge at the Festivals of the other Masonic Institutions.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of an exceedingly choice banquet, provided by the proprietor of the Mitre Hotel, Bro. Sadler, who personally superintended the arrangements.

After the banquet the customary toasts were proposed.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in proposing "The Empress of India and the Craft," said the Queen of England was his old Sovereign. She was

now the Empress of India. She had reigned over India for 50 years, and during that time India had been progressing. He hoped it would continue to progress, and Indians were very thankful to their noble Queen, the Empress of India, and, generally speaking, to John Bull, who had the honour of bringing a little bit of education from west to east. If it had not been so he would not have been speaking at that place at the present time. Indians were proud of the English nation, and of their Queen. Long might she live to rule over India, a country which consisted of 250 millions of people, and, as she ruled over many other colonies, he felt there would be no colony more loyal or devoted than India.

In proposing "The M.W.G.M.," the WORSHIPFUL MASTER referred to the installation ceremony at Albert Hall in April, 1875, when the Prince of Wales was installed in the presence of 8000 Masons, a sight which he never would forget. He was proud that the warrant of the Cama Lodge was signed by the Prince of Wales, the future Emperor of India. He should do his best to keep that warrant safe, and hand it over to his successor. Since his Royal Highness had been placed on the throne of King Solomon the Craft had prospered by leaps and bounds, and his Royal Highness took so much interest in Masonry that he had initiated his own son.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in giving the next toast of "The Pro G.M., Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," said the brethren who held these high offices studied the comfort of the Craft, and in order to perform their duties travelled miles and miles. The brethren were therefore proud of their Grand Officers.

Bro. H. SADLER, G.T., who was called upon to reply, said it was very seldom the Grand Tyler had the privilege of responding for the Grand Officers. Although he was a Grand Officer, that rank did not confer on him a vote in Grand Lodge. On that account he was always rather diffident of considering himself a Grand Officer at dinner tables. There were certain times when he had to be a Grand Officer; but that was not at the dinner table. He was sorry he was not able to reply in terms eloquent and deserving of the special honour now done the Grand Officers. Speaking, however, for the Grand Officers, he was perfectly honest in expressing the opinion that all the Grand Officers did their duty to the best of their ability, and took great pains, especially some of them, in order to reflect the greater honour on their illustrious Grand Master.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER next gave the toast of "The Provincial Grand Master, Sir Francis Burdett." The genial disposition of the Right Worshipful Brother, and the zeal he always showed for the welfare of the Craft, had won for him the heart of Masons in general, and the Province of Middlesex in particular. He had the honour to know Sir F. Burdett for a long time as "our popular captain." He had often seen him travelling miles and miles, setting aside his personal comfort, and for the love of the Craft striving his best to pay visits to the lodges of the province. Whenever he could not stop the whole time, he had seen their beloved popular chief paying even flying visits to lodges. Of course, then, he ought to be popular among the brethren, Sir F. Burdett having gone into many higher Degrees in Masonry. He (the W.M.) had got somewhat higher than some of the brethren present, and there he had been taught that all human beings were equal, and that was the motto of Sir F. Burdett. That was the reason that Sir F. Burdett was getting more popular year by year. Long might he live, with good health and wealth, to preside over the Craft in Middlesex, and as a ruler of the Craft in general.

Bro. Sir F. BURDETT, replying, said he felt so gratified with what the W.M. had said of him, that he could hardly find words to respond properly. As far as he had been concerned himself as Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, it had always given him the greatest pleasure not only to reign over the Province of Middlesex, but to meet the brethren of the Order wherever he went, and whenever he could find them. The W.M. had said he (Sir F. Burdett) had been genial and kind to them in every possible way; but he should be the veriest cur in the world if he was not grateful for the kind way in which he had always been received in the Craft in Middlesex and in all the other Orders. He could not express his extreme gratification at being among the brethren whenever he could find time to do so. It had, perhaps, been the proudest time of his life, which had now been a pretty long one, to find himself at the head of the Province of Middlesex. He was the first Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex. Members of the then lodges in Middlesex came to him and asked him if he would consent to be put in nomination for that distinguished office, and he felt very gratified at the compliment then paid him; but he had no idea at that time that the Province of Middlesex would attain to such high distinction. He had for a long time been representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland in the Grand Lodge of England. He knew all the lodges, and the principal members of the lodges in Ireland, before he came over here. When he came over to this country he found himself surrounded by many brethren who were very kind and affectionate, and he could not resist the application made to him to be Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, although he knew the difficulties attaching to the office. It was through the instrumentality of the Royal Union Lodge at Uxbridge, the Villiers Lodge at Isleworth, and other lodges, that he became Provincial Grand Master, and he felt very much flattered and honoured by the application. He knew he should be cordially assisted in his endeavours to carry out the onerous duties of the office; and with that feeling he had done his best to make the province a flourishing province. He did not suppose there was a province which was more flourishing. The province started in 1867, and there were then but three lodges in Middlesex. A fourth was started at Teddington, of which he was the first W.M. He had since watched the progress of the province, and not only had he seen it increase in the number of its lodges, but in the quality of the members who had been its stable support. He looked upon the province as a powerful province, as powerful as any province in England, although there were larger provinces. The W.M. had said he looked upon quality as stronger than quantity, and he was quite certain that were that was the case they would have lodges which would be an honour to the province and to Masonry generally.

The W.M. next gave "The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Raymond H. Thrupp, and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers," and expressed his regret that Bro. Thrupp had been compelled to leave in order to catch his train. He, however, was glad to find that others of the Consecrating Officers remained, and he could not but speak with much gratification of the way in which the work had been performed, and in which those brothers who remained, Bros. Woodward, Lovegrove, Saunders, Walls, and Axford, took part. He should always remember that evening, and that he had been honoured with the presence of so many distinguished officers.

Bro. WOODWARD, in replying, said that the institution of another lodge showed that Masonry was not going backward, but forward. More men

would be brought into the Craft, who would learn the duties they owed to each other in a way that men of the outer world did not understand.

Bro. H. LOVEGROVE said this was the second time he had acted as one of the Consecrating Officers of a lodge in the Province of Middlesex. On the former occasion, he said, as he was the first Junior Warden to open the lodge, he hoped it might be many years before he would be the Prov. G.S.W. to close the lodge for the last time. He repeated it now, and by it he meant that he trusted that the Cama Lodge had many years of prosperity before it; that it would assist in diffusing the light of Freemasonry, and be a great light in the Province of Middlesex; that it would be a great lodge in which the Anglo-Indian population would meet. He was always partial to persons not born in this country, to foreigners generally, and to those who were subjects of the Empress and India. He felt that Freemasonry acted as a bond of union between them and us. He sincerely trusted that when this lodge assembled at its next installation, Bro. Cama might not wear the purple and gold, but the purple of the Grand Lodge of England. It would be his pleasure during the next two months to induce every member to attend Grand Lodge on the first Wednesday in March who was admissible, and to vote for Bro. Cama as Grand Treasurer. He was not going to allude to Bro. Cama's gifts to Charity—they had had enough of that—but Bro. Cama was a good Mason all round. Apart from the ground of Charity, it would be a graceful act on the part of English Freemasons—having elected London Masons and a provincial Mason already as Grand Treasurer—to go in for one of their fellow-subjects beyond the sea, and elect Bro. Cama, not only as a representative of India, but of the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown.

Bro. Sir FRANCIS BURDETT proposed "The Health of the W.M." They had been much gratified that evening in having the opportunity of installing Bro. Cama, and although he was not a native born in this country they were only too happy to acknowledge him as the Master of this lodge, and to see him presiding over them as the representative of the Empress of India. He (Sir F. Burdett) had had the pleasure and the honour of being initiated in Bro. Cama's country, not so far north as Calcutta, but down in the Madras and Mysore country. It was rather in a rough condition that he received the light of Masonry, but notwithstanding it made a great impression on him. Knowing what they did of Bro. Cama, and what he was prepared to do, they were sure that under his presidency the lodge would be as prosperous as any lodge in the Province of Middlesex, a province which now held a high position in the Order generally. He hoped Bro. Cama would be present as a P.M. of the lodge for many years to come.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in responding, said he was very proud of holding the position of first Master of the Cama Lodge. He thanked the founders for electing him. The lodge took the name of the first founder of the Cama family, who was the grandfather of the grandfather of him (the W.M.) He (the W.M.) and the Senior Deacon were both chiefs of that noble family. He felt that he had taken a great responsibility on his shoulders, but as far as he was concerned he would do his best to make this lodge reach the same standard as the other lodges in the province. In doing that he knew he would have the help of his brother founders and the other members of the lodge. If they all worked with a united purpose they might rest assured the lodge would prosper. It was his duty to keep up the prestige of the lodge for the sake of the name of the lodge. In conclusion he wished all the brethren from the bottom of his heart "A Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year."

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in proposing "The Visitors," gave them a most cordial welcome, and assured them that they would have the right hand of fellowship whenever they came. If they were in India they would be received there with the same heartiness as he and his co-religionists had been received here and elsewhere.

Bro. Dr. TANNER said that he was initiated in India the same as Bro. Sir Francis Burdett, but it was as far back as 1852. He had rather a vivid recollection of the rough manner in which the ceremonies were conducted in those days. He was present at the installation of the W.M., and the consecration of the first Parsee lodge formed in Bombay, which had been a very grand success. It had been a great pleasure to him to come again among an oriental race; it reminded him of days and years gone by when he was present at the opening of the first Parsee Lodge in Bombay.

Bro. PALMER, S.W., responding to the toast of "The Officers," assured the W.M. that he would endeavour to tread in his footsteps, and to carry out the true traditions of Masonry, and to assist the W.M. to the utmost of his ability. All the officers would do the same, and he trusted that at the conclusion of the W.M.'s year of office he would be able to say he had been well and worthily supported. On his own behalf he returned his very sincere and hearty thanks for the kindness shown to him in placing him as S.W. of the lodge.

The Tyler's toast concluded a most enjoyable evening, during which Madame C. Blackwell, Madame Read, and Bros. Dutton, Frier, Read, and R. De Lacy, of St. Paul's Cathedral choir, under the direction of Bro. John Read, J.W., treated the brethren to some charming vocal and instrumental music.

The lodge was furnished by Bro. George Kenning.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DERBYSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Derbyshire was held on Thursday afternoon, the 10th inst., and attracted one of the largest Masonic gatherings ever held in the town of Derby. The whole of the 20 lodges in the province were represented, some of them very numerous, and the appearance presented by the spacious and recently redecorated hall, when the brethren had been duly marshalled and the dignitaries of the Provincial Grand Lodge had taken their appointed stations, was remarkably imposing. To the great disappointment of all concerned, the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, the Most Hon. the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., was unable to be present, but, happily, the genial and accomplished Deputy P.G.M., R.W. Bro. Haughton Charles Okeover, P.G.W. England, was in attendance, and directed the day's proceedings with his wonted judgment. The chair of the Deputy P.G.M. was occupied by Bro. Thos. Cox, P.P.G.S.W. and P.G. Treas., and the other Provincial Grand Officers present were Bros. William Walters, P.G.S.W.; Charles Maltby, P.G. J.W.; Edwin Belfield, P.G. Reg.; W. Naylor, P.G. Sec.; J. Crossley, P.G.S.D.; Joseph Bland, P.G.J.D.; Percy Wallis, P.G.D. of C.; F.

Bennett, P.G.A.D. of C.; J. H. Richardson, P.G. Asst. Sec.; Thomas Parker, P.G. Purst.; J. Hawthorn, P.G. Std. Br.; Gadsby, P.G.O.; Jas. Wright, J. Monck, G. Higginbottom, and Raymond Slater, P.G. Stwds.

The R.W.P.G.M. entered the hall soon after three o'clock, and was supported by the following brethren, in addition to the P.G. officers already mentioned:—

Bros. W. H. Marsden, P.P.G.S.W.; F. Campion, P.P.G.S.W.; John Smith, P.P.G.S.W.; J. B. Coulson, P.P.G.S.W.; J. Chadwick, P.G. Sec. (East Lancs.); Thomas Hall, P.P.J.G.W.; W. Whittaker, P.P.G. Reg.; J. Allen, P.P.G.J.D.; J. Brown, P.P.G.J.D.; J. E. Russell, P.P.G.J.D.; J. Howell, P.P.G.S. of Wks.; S. Steele, P.P.G.P.; J. Worsnop, P.P.G.P.; R. A. Greenhough, P.M.; V. J. Greenhough, P.M.; Joseph Pym, P.M., P.P.G.S.D.; F. Bennett, P.M.; C. Webster, P.M.; R. Carlin, P.M.; T. E. Yeomans, P.M.; W. H. Humphreys, P.M.; H. Cupit, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.; W. Barnes, P.M.; Fred. J. Robinson, P.M., P.P.G.A.D. of C.; J. Whitehead, P.M., P.P.G.D. of C.; Alfred Wood, P.M.; P.P.G.P.; Isaac Hyde, P.M.; H. Arnold Bemrose, W.M. 253; R. Roberts, W.M. 353; W. Dust, W.M. 681; J. Copestick, W.M. 731; the Rev. E. A. Hillyard, W.M. 787; A. J. Waller, W.M. 802; J. H. Cooke, W.M. 850; W. F. Mill, W.M. 1235; J. B. Boycott, W.M. 1052; O. Wilkinson, W.M. 1235; T. Roberts, W.M. 1028; J. H. Orme, W.M. 1688; and many other officers.

The reports presented by the Masters of the various lodges were uniformly gratifying. They testified not merely to a prevailing spirit of harmony and goodwill, but to increased numerical strength and corresponding financial prosperity.

The report of the Masonic Hall Committee, presented by Bro. JOHN SMITH, P.P.G.S.W., was also satisfactory, making reference to the extinction of the hall debt, and the redecoration and refurnishing of the building.

The report of the Charity Trustees, was submitted by the Chairman of that body, Bro. G. T. WRIGHT, P.P.G.J.W., and was of an exceptionally interesting character. It showed that the distinguishing virtue of the Craft had during the past year been most cordially espoused by all the lodges in the province, and that exceedingly large sums of money had been contributed to the various Charities of the Order. Especial allusion was made to the magnificent aggregate sum—over £1500—sent up to the Festival of the Boys' School, at which Lord Hartington presided. Bro. Wright added, amidst cheers, that all this generosity on the part of the brethren had greatly strengthened the hands of the local Charity Committee, who had been enabled to carry the election of their nominees, and who had a voting power at their disposal second to none of any other province.

Bro. Thomas Cox having been unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. G. T. Wright's re-election as chairman of the Charity Committee having been very heartily agreed to, the R.W.P.G.M. proceeded to appoint and invest his officers in the following order:—

Bro. G. T. Wright, 731	...	...	Prov. G.S.W.
" Wm. L. Ball, 802	...	...	Prov. G.J.W.
" Rev. C. E. Bagshawe, 1688	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" Rev. H. Price, 253	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" Thomas Cox, P.P.G.S.W., 253 (re-elected)	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" W. T. Jones, 681	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Wm. Naylor, P.P.G.S.W., 1085 (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Sam Robinson, 625	...	...	Prov. G.S.D.
" C. D. Hart, 1085	...	...	Prov. G.J.D.
" A. H. Smith, 506	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" Percy Wallis, 850 (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" J. Clexton, 787	...	...	Prov. G.A.D.C.
" John Clark, 1324	...	...	Prov. G. Swd. B.
" W. Barnes, 850	...	...	Prov. G. Std. B.
" J. W. Wyatt, 654	...	...	Prov. G. Std. B.
" Charles Armstrong, 631	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. Silver Hall, 253	...	...	Prov. G.A. Sec.
" Vernon J. Greenhough, 1425	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" H. George, Derwent Lodge	...	...	Prov. G.A. Purst.

The P.G. Stewards are Bros. W. Dust and T. Shipton, Scarsdale Lodge; Bros. James Melrose and Wm. Forman, Arboretum Lodge; and Bros. Luther Russell and Baxter W. Pike, Hartington Lodge. Bro. Wm. Stone was again appointed P.G. Tyler, amid general tokens of approval. It may be added that the appointment of Bro. T. G. Wright to the Senior Grand Warden's chair was hailed with the cordial approbation of the brethren, by whom his ardent and disinterested labours in the interests of the Craft Charities have long been cordially appreciated. The P.G. Master also took occasion, whilst investing Bro. Wright, to bear testimony to his long and untiring labours, remarking that he knew of no Mason who had more unselfishly and more indefatigably promoted the well-being of his distressed brethren and their families.

The routine business of the lodge having been brought to a close, the R.W.P.G.M. delivered a short address, in the course of which he referred to the recent centenary festival of the Tyrian Lodge—a festival which, he remarked, was singularly interesting and well carried out, under the mastership of their old and well tried friend, Bro. Thomas Cox. (Applause.) The cause of Charity, the P.G.M. observed, had been exceedingly well looked after during the year; in fact, the tone which pervaded the whole of the reports presented him clearly showed that the Order was not only being actively carried on in Derbyshire, but that the brethren were mindful of its highest and noblest principles. (Applause.) He congratulated them all upon the results of their labours, and he would in particular, if they would allow him, congratulate their good Bro. Percy Wallis upon the splendid sums he had, not only on this occasion but from time to time, been able by his zeal and fidelity to secure for their noble Masonic Institutions. (Applause.) Bro. Wallis did his work with such thoroughness that when he sought for subscriptions he was bound to get them, and they all honoured him for his devotion to a good cause. (Applause.) He regretted that his next duty was that of a less pleasant character. He could not allow that occasion to pass over without saying how deep was his sense of loss at the decease of their Bro. Thomas Horsley, P.P.G.S.W., whose death had quickly followed that of his son, Bro. T. Horsley, jun. Bro. Horsley was initiated into Freemasonry in the Beaureper Lodge in 1862, and ever since that time he had been a true and loyal brother amongst them, winning the approbation of all, and the animosity of none.

After the transaction of some further business of a formal character, the P.G. Lodge was closed with the usual ceremonies.

Subsequently a large number of the brethren dined together in the Lower Hall, and spent a pleasant and harmonious evening.

PROGRESS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND IN 1885.

Now that the Grand Lodge and the "Cosmo" Masonic Calendars are issued for 1886, we have before us the latest figures and details respecting the progress and present condition of the Grand Lodge of England. Taking the Grand Lodge Calendar for our guide (as it was issued later than the "Cosmo," and therefore contains a few more lodges), we find that the last warranted lodge bears the number 2129; which means an increase of 58 lodges as compared with the edition for 1885; each issue having to do with the year immediately preceding that for which it is published.

During the last ten years of Calendars, say 1877 to 1886 inclusive, it will be noted that there has been an increase of 481, 1877 having 1648 and 1886 no less than 2129 lodges; the largest increase being for 1878 (really 1877), when 77 were added to the roll. The average during the decade has been 55 new lodges per annum.

Since the period of December 27th, 1813 (termed by Bro. Hughan the "Blessed Union"), there have been 2059 lodges chartered, making with those then in existence a grand total of 2707. The rate of increase per year has been some 12 lodges from 1814 to 1832, exactly 22 lodges from 1833 to 1863, but from 1834 to 1885 it has exceeded 52 per annum. During this period there have been many erasures, arising out of financial and other reasons, especially the formation of new Grand Lodges; but notwithstanding these heavy reductions, there are still on the roll the very large number of 1951 active lodges "scattered over the four quarters of the globe."

There are now 43 Provincial and 28 District Grand Lodges, besides many groups of lodges, greater in number than some Grand Lodges, which are not dignified by any such titles. Some are very large, and muster on their rolls several thousands of members, e.g., East Lancashire with 95, West Lancashire with 84, West Yorkshire with 69, Kent with 53, and Devon with 50 lodges, and then again districts such as Victoria with 85, New South Wales with 66 (an advance of eight lodges each, since the issue of the former Calendar), and the East Indies, with its 109 lodges, divided into five District Grand Lodges. These districts begin with Gibraltar, Malta, Turkey and Egypt, and having particularized the numerous offspring we have in the East Indies; the Eastern Archipelago, China, Borneo, and Japan are duly chronicled. Then Africa seeks our attention, and certainly makes an excellent show with its three District Grand Lodges (Western, Eastern and Natal), and 16 lodges not under any district, numbering a total of 59 lodges dotted round the coast, in evidence of the "Mystic tie," which connects that great Continent with "dear old England."

Passing these by with a friendly word, we come to the West Indies and Central America, including Jamaica with its ten lodges (No. 513 being omitted for 1886) and various Isles of the Sea, in which Masonry flourishes as the "green bay tree." North America is represented by Montreal and Newfoundland District Grand Lodges, and one lodge at Halifax unattached. In South America there is one District Grand Lodge, and some seven lodges scattered over various parts—Demerara, Monte Video, Valparaiso, &c. Then Australia and New Zealand enter the field with their 264 lodges, notwithstanding that South Australia has "swarmed," and is now independent, happy, and prosperous. "Last scene of all," No. 1931, Fiji, concludes the extraordinary Masonic panorama of living lodges, and suggests how widespread and far-reaching are the lodges and Provincial and District Grand Lodges over which H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has the honour and pleasure of ruling as our beloved and esteemed Most Worshipful Grand Master.

In Royal Arch Masonry, gratifying progress has likewise been made, and the rate of increase suggests that the "root, heart and marrow" of freemasonry is at length receiving the support it deserves. Much of this increase of interest in the Degree is due to the labours of the Grand Scribe E., who never loses an opportunity to utilise his welcome services and abilities at special assemblies of chapters, whether it be convocations for centenary celebrations or other important meetings.

There are on the roll at the present time the large number of 682 chapters, being distributed as follows: Provinces and Channel Isles, 418; military, 3; Colonies, 127; and London, 134 chapters. East and West Lancashire head the list with 37 chapters each, followed closely by Yorkshire with 36, and then Devon chimes in with 27, Cheshire and Hants and Isle of Wight having 20 each. Kent is fifth, as respects numbers, with 18, being exceeded by Devon, Cheshire, and Hants, though they have fewer lodges. North and East Yorkshire have 15; Cornwall, 14; Durham, 13; Middlesex and Surrey, 11; Cumberland (with Westmorland), Somerset, Staffordshire, Sussex, and Warwick, 9 (each); Northumberland, 8; Berks (with Bucks), Derby, Dorset, Lincoln, Norfolk, and Suffolk, 6 (each); Leicester, Monmouth, Nottingham, North Wales (with Shropshire), and Wilts, 5 (each), and the numbers then lessen from four down to one (Herefordshire).

Bro. Hughan tells us in his "Origin of the English Rite of Freemasonry" that "in 1813 the proportion of lodges to chapters in London was seven to one; but in 1884 it is five to two." This proves the immense strides Royal Arch Masonry has made of late years, and we hope yet to see the day when all healthy, vigorous lodges have chapters attached to them throughout England especially, so that what has been termed the "English Rite" may be fully worked and appreciated in the country of its origin.

The "English Rite," as it is termed, or the "York Rite," in error, by some, is peculiar to this country, and is due to the union of the two rival Grand Lodges in 1813, being brought about on the condition that the Royal Arch Degree was recognised. From December, 1813, Royal Arch Masonry has been an integral part of the Craft, the completion of the Third Degree, and the consummation of the ceremonies adopted by the United Grand Lodge of England.

Although it is not, strictly speaking, a Degree as now worked or acknowledged, it actually is one to all intents and purposes, and, in our opinion, when conferred as the completion of, and in connection with the Master Masons' Degree, has no equal, as a ceremony, amongst all the numerous Masonic Degrees which claim the attention and support of the Craft.

Though the chapters are not yet as numerous as we should like to see them in this country, still the progress made of late years has been most gratifying, and at the present time there are considerably over 500 active chapters working in England, side by side with upwards of 1400 lodges.

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On Wednesday, 24th February, 1886,

Upon which occasion the Most Hon. the

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R.W. Senior Grand Warden,

Has been pleased to signify his intention of Presiding.

Brethren are earnestly invited to accept the Office of Steward upon this occasion, and they will greatly oblige by forwarding their Names and Masonic Rank, as soon as convenient, to the Secretary, who will gladly give any information required, and supply them with all necessary circulars, &c.

It is fraternally hoped that, upon this occasion, owing to the large number of Applicants and the few vacancies, Brethren will use their influence to obtain donations towards the Funds of the Institution, which were never more needed than at the present time.

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NOTICE.

The *Freemason* will be published on the morning
of Thursday, the 24th inst., instead of Friday, as
usual. This will enable the trade to deliver it
previous to the Christmas holidays.

To Correspondents.

Correspondents are particularly requested to write on ONE side
of the paper only.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Keystone," "Orient," "La Revista Masónica del Peru,"
"Proceedings of the District Grand Lodge of the Punjab," "Die
Bauhütte," "Jewish Chronicle," "The British Journal of Photo-
graphy," "New York Dispatch," "Citizen," "Hull Packet,"
"Newcastle Daily Journal," "British and Colonial Printer and
Stationer," "Sunday Times" (London), and "Court Circular."



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 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.]

A QUESTION OF PRECEDENCE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,
"I.P.M." asks—"The outgoing Master being
present, but unwilling to perform the installation ceremony,
which Past Master can claim the right to do so?" You
answer—"The I.P.M., then the senior P.M., and so on."
It is a delicate matter to differ from an Editor in his own
organ; but I feel constrained to protest against your
ruling, and believe that on reflection you will agree
with me.

The question resolves itself simply to this—"Who rules
the lodge?" The Master, of course. "Who is the
Master?" The outgoing Master until his successor is in-
stalled. Ergo—the retiring Master, being present, rules
his lodge, and if inclined to vacate the chair during the
exercise of his office, may appoint any Past Master present
to fill it, and perform any ceremony, installation or other-
wise. Neither the I.P.M., nor the senior P.M., nor any
other Past Master can claim this as a right. The W.M.,
if present, rules and directs his lodge, whether in the chair
or not.

I go even further than this. Should the W.M. be absent,
the I.P.M. would assume the chair, and rule the lodge for
that evening. If at the proper moment he felt disinclined
to install the W.M. elect, he, in turn, would have the un-
doubted right to order the ceremony to be performed by
any P.M. present, irrespective of rules of precedence,
because he is during his presence in lodge the ruler thereof.
If both W.M. and I.P.M. be absent, then the senior P.M.
rules the lodge, and acts in the same way. In fact, Clause
141 Book of Constitutions simply enacts who is to rule in
the absence of the W.M., not who is to perform certain cere-
monies as his substitute in his presence. So long as the
W.M. is in the lodge he is the ruler, and whoever momen-
tarily occupies the chair merely acts under his orders. His
choice of a substitute is unrestricted. The question as to
which P.M. it would be judicious on his part to appoint is
totally different, and must vary according to the circum-
stances of each lodge. When, therefore, your correspondent
asks which Past Master can claim the right, the answer is
none. Until the new Master is entrusted with the gavel
and warrant and placed in Solomon's chair, the W.M. of
the year rules and directs his lodge as seemeth best to him,
and none can dispute his ruling.—Yours fraternally,
G. W. SPETH.



ERASED LODGES 1864—1885.

637] Since the last alteration of numbers in 1863 (and it is to
be hoped there will not be another for a long time), 1155
warrants have been granted, raising the total to 2129, the
number of the youngest lodge on the roll of the Grand
Lodge of England, published in the Official Calendar for
1886. From the gross total, however, 179 lodges have to
be deducted, that number having been erased from one
cause or another since the third renumbering of this
century. I have carefully examined the Calendar for 1886,
and compared its list of lodges with previous issues,
besides which, having also counted the number of London,
country, military, and colonial lodges, I can, without hesi-
tation, supply the following roll of extinct or erased lodges,
making 179, which being deducted from 2129, leaves the
very large number of 1951 lodges still on the roll, inclusive
of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, which is not numbered.
The Calendar is exceedingly well edited, all the tables,
elaborate and numerous as they are, being absolutely cor-
rect, so far as my researches have extended. In 1863 no
less than 302 vacancies were filled in.

W. J. HUGHAN.

Torquay, December 15th, 1885.

17	612	842	1162
118	616	848	1172
122	620	849	1173
138	623	864	1176
161	627	866	1187
182	628	870	1190
351	629	875	1191
365	635	878	1200
396	642	881	1207
397	644	883	1217
399	648	886	1234
400	649	888	1240
420	658	899	1245
423	664	909	1251
427	668	919	1252
436	674	923	1344
470	675	924	1346
479	676	927	1368
480	677	947	1396
490	682	953	1412
499	688	955	1419
505	690	961	1484
512	693	963	1487
513	695	964	1497
514	701	965	1498
518	717	968	1499
522	722	983	1516
524	740	984	1527
527	744	994	1548
532	756	1023	1606
535	762	1029	1666
544	763	1047	1751
553	770	1053	1759
559	774	1054	1819
562	775	1062	1866
565	783	1082	1876
568	790	1084	1921
571	805	1090	1934
575	808	1103	1956
577	819	1104	2002
578	821	1109	2100
583	825	1117	
584	826	1127	
585	831	1142	
596	835	1154	
598	841	1156	

W. J. H.



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carefully through the work, and, having done so, we can
say with justice that we readily condone any "presump-
tion" there may have been on the part of Bro. Kelly in
publishing a book which is certain to prove useful to the
general body of the Craft; that it is unpretentious both in
the same sense as the majority of serviceable compilations,
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without looking to the adventitious aid of puff and absurd
flattery; and that, though it probably contains some "imper-
fections," they are neither many nor glaring. In short, Bro.
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ablest of our writers on lodge working. It is a kind of
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Constitutions, who is at the trouble of furnishing himself
with a copy of this Companion and carefully studying its
pages, will find himself far better qualified for the proper
discharge of his duties. Should he feel himself in a
dilemma, let him consult Bro. Kelly, and the dilemma will
disappear. He will have no difficulty in finding safe in-
formation on any difficult question, for though Bro. Kelly's
guide is described as a "compendium," it is a very ex-
haustive one, while its directions are clear and may safely
be followed. There is a short introduction, and then the
various subjects, which together constitute our "Lodge
Government," are dealt with in their order, and both lucidly
and satisfactorily; descriptions of the ceremonies of con-

secration, the dedication of halls, laying foundation stones, &c., &c., being superadded. The whole constitutes, as we have said, a pocket Masonic Jurisprudence, and we must take this opportunity of congratulating Bro. Kelly on the proof he has given us that "presumption" in the case of a skilled Craftsman is rather more than less welcome when it makes itself apparent by the publication of such unpretentious little volumes as this "Freemasons' Pocket Companion."

CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY FOR THE PROVINCE OF MIDDLESEX, 1886. Edited by Bro. HENRY LOVEGROVE, P.M., P.Z., &c. Published at 26, Budge-row, E.C.

Bro. Lovegrove's Calendar will compare favourably with the other provincial calendars which are published annually. It contains full particulars of the lodges and chapters in the province, the Officers and P.M.'s—in the case of chapters the P.Z.'s—being given in each case, and a list of the Mark lodges in the Province of Middlesex and Surrey. There is also furnished an account of the inaugural meeting of the Province, and lists of the Prov. G. Officers of the home Provinces of Kent, Surrey, Berks and Bucks, and Herts. The particulars appear to be described accurately, and there is evidence throughout that Bro. Lovegrove has spared no pains to make his Calendar worthy of the province. It must be added that the profits, if any, arising out of the publication, will be appropriated to the benefit of the Masonic Charities, of which Middlesex is so regular and so generous a supporter. There is reason, therefore, to hope that it will be received with favour by Bro. Lovegrove's brethren.

YOUNG DAYS OF AUTHORS. By ASCOTT R. HOPE. With Illustrations. London: JOHN HOGG, Paternoster-row.

This is essentially a boy's book, and among those who love to read of stirring adventures will be received with immense favour. Mr. Ascott Hope, who is an author of considerable repute, has an easy and agreeable way of narrating his stories. The reader somehow feels he is at home in the scenes that are described, and almost fancies that he is taking part in what is happening. The first story, "Boys in Arms," is derived from a French source—a history of a Breton College in the time of the first French Empire—by A. F. Rio, and relates to the days and doings of the Chouans, those brave and determined friends of the Bourbon dynasty. It is full of stirring scenes, in which the author himself took part. In the second tale is described the boyhood of Heine; the hero of the next is Captain Basil Hall, who figures as "A Midshipman of the Old School," and through whom we get an insight into naval life in the days of the long war. Following him we have similar sketches of Alfieri, the Italian poet—"A Youth of Fame and Fortune"—Mr. William Hutton of Birmingham—Mrs. Grant of Laggan—depicted as "A Scotch Lassie in America," in which are depicted several scenes in European warfare with the Indians, and two other tales. There are several illustrations, and the scenes in several of the stories are of so stirring a character that, as we have said, the volume cannot fail to be a very popular one. In fact, even the grown-up children will find it readable when they want to spend an hour or so leisurely.

"IN PERILS OFF." Romantic Biographies illustrative of the Adventurer's Life. By W. H. DAVENPORT ADAMS. With sixteen illustrations. London: JOHN HOGG, Paternoster-row.

Mr. Davenport Adams enjoys the reputation of being a successful writer. His works are numerous, and they have deservedly won him much fame, so that even apart from the natural and exciting character of the subjects described, that would be a good reason to anticipate a readable volume from the pen of so practised a writer. The subjects have been well chosen and show, as the author points out in his preface, "that even in our prosaic and materialistic nineteenth century, the romantic is not very far from our path, and is easily to be found by those who seek it." It is well that such biographies as are told in these pages should be made public as much as possible. There is far too great a tendency nowadays to measure everything by a money value, to look at matters affecting the honour of the country—which is contemptuously spoken of as a mere sentiment—as of no account whatever. Mr. Adams has done well to include such personages as the late Admiral the Earl of Dundonald, Sir Sidney Smith, Lieutenant Schwatka, Sir Samuel Baker, and, above all, that splendid hero, General Gordon, in his biographical sketches. It does one good to read about these grand men, and as the story of their adventures is told by Mr. Adams, it makes one wish that the world was more heedful of them. There are some few illustrations, which are well done, but illustrations are not intended to be the strong point in a volume of this kind, which must contain well-written accounts of stirring adventure, and the more exciting the adventures and the better the style in which they are told, the more popular are they likely to become. This book by Mr. Adams fulfils the conditions referred to, and we have an idea it will be among the most acceptable gift books of the season. It deserves to be so undoubtedly.

ONE THING AT A TIME. By ETHEL COXON, Madame COLOMB, Mrs. M. DOUGLAS, and others. With 23 Illustrations by A. Chantrey, Corbould, A. W. Cooper, Harriet Bennett, and others. London: JOHN HOGG, Paternoster-row.

This is a series of stories, of which the first in order—"One Thing at a Time"—is by Madame Colomb; while "Say Well is a Good Word, but Do Well is a Better," coming next, is by Ethel Coxon; and "Beauty is but Skin Deep," by Conway Edleston, is the third. They are a good class of stories, and very suitable for young people, by whom, no doubt, they will be eagerly sought, and still more eagerly read. The merit shown in the seven stories is about on a level; but Madame Colomb's—No. 1—in which she sets forth the advantages of having and holding by a certain "Rule of Conduct"—that of doing "One Thing at a Time"; Ethel Coxon's description of "A Brave Boy's Trials" in No. 2; and Walter Clinton's story of "The Best Suit," in No. 7, will compare favourably with most of those of their kind which appear at this season. The illustrations are worthy of the letterpress.

EVERY CLOUD HAS ITS SILVER LINING, and other Proverb Stories for Boys and Girls. First series. By Mrs. J. H. RIDDLE, &c. With 36 Illustrations by H. W. COOPER and other artists. London: JOHN HOGG, Paternoster-row.

It is a very popular form of writing, that of illustrating some better or less well-known proverb by an appropriate story, nor is it without this further advantage, that young children often see more clearly the drift of a proverb, when they have before them a direct application of it to actual or ideal life. The eight stories which are included in this volume, told by different authors, are capably written, all the proverbs selected for illustration being of a healthy character, and some of them, such as "Every Cloud has its Silver Lining," to which is annexed the place of honour; "Handsome is as Handsome does," and "A Friend in Need is a Friend indeed," tolerably familiar even to young readers. The stories are skilfully contrived, and it would be difficult to find a similar set of eight which would better fulfil the purpose of the volume. Here again, the illustrations are extremely well done, the artists, like the writers, being worthy of great praise for their skill in drawing, and the refined character of their conceptions. We congratulate Bro. Hogg on publishing so worthy a gift book.

THE BURDETT MARCH. Composed by G. S. GRAHAM. London; CHARLES SEATON, Handel House, Peckham Rye, S.E.

This is a very spirited composition, and does great credit even to such musical ability as Bro. G. S. Graham is known to possess. It is dedicated, by permission, to R. W. Bro. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., P.G.M. Middlesex, who must feel complimented by the dedication.

IN THIS OUR CALM RETREAT. Mason's Song. Words by Bro. P. SAMPSON, Lodge No. 329; music by W. A. HOWELLS, Associate of the Royal Academy of Music. London: W. MORLEY & Co., 269, Regent-street, W., and 70, Upper-street, N.

Bro. P. Sampson's words read well and tunefully, and have been well set to music by W. A. Howells. We have, unfortunately, by no means a large repertory of really good songs, and we consider the Craft is much indebted to Bro. Sampson for having furnished one which has been so well set to music by Mr. Howells, and which, by its genuine Masonic ring, will doubtless excite the enthusiasm of the brethren.



Craft Masonry.

MOIRA LODGE (No. 92).—The anniversary festival of this lodge was held on Monday, the 7th inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Present: Bros. Bertram Noakes, W.M.; W. Bohm, I.P.M.; Alfred Dent, S.W.; S. Shorter, J.W.; A. Pringle, S.D.; R. M. Tweedie, I.G.—P.M.'s Josiah Houle, Sec.; E. Horne, R. F. Gould, W. Noakes, G. C. Andrew, H. M. Carter, and T. L. Wilkinson, Treas.; also the following brethren, G. Reid, W. Kidner, S. Griener, M. F. Tweedie, A. G. Rogers, F. D. Barnes, J. Chappell, J. A. Maitland, J. P. Murrrough, and W. Elgood. Among the visitors were Bros. W. H. Read, D.G.M. Eastern Archipelago; Admiral of the Fleet Sir H. Keppel, G.C.B., 508; Vice-Admiral Sir W. Hewitt, K.C.B., 237; Colonel Sir Charles Warren, G.C.M.G., 278; Rear-Admiral Mayne, C.B., 1048; R. H. Giraud, P.G.D.; G. Lambert, P.G.S.B.; P. A. Myburgh, Q.C., 1610; H. C. Wilson, W.M. 77; C. Charlesworth, 357; Major-General Tweedie, 161; J. W. Waldron, P.M. 1383; J. E. Daly, 283 (I.C.); W. H. Hooker, 1670; W. Harwood, 570; R. D. Armstrong, 1563; E. Stimson, 15; E. Dent, 1506; H. Jotling, 1731; L. C. Lumley, No. 1; R. Sheriff, 166; R. H. Martin, P.M. 708; W. Wallis, 916; J. G. Gardner, 657; H. Langridge, W.M. 1627; H. M. Crookenden, 357; J. H. Coorst; F. Chappie, 382; H. S. Morris, H. M. Phillips, P.M. 3; W. Harris; M. P. Evans, 570; J. A. Crookenden, 1719; R. Jones; E. Roberts, 1464; H. Kingsmill, 1494; J. E. Jones, 2005; F. Williams, 522; H. C. Barker, 21; J. D. Jones, 93; and C. Dent, 10.

The W.M. elect, Bro. Alfred Dent, having been duly installed according to ancient form by Bro. Houle, P.M., the following officers were invested, viz.: Bros. B. Noakes, I.P.M.; S. Shorter, S.W.; A. Pringle, J.W.; T. L. Wilkinson, P.M., Treas.; J. Houle, P.M., Sec.; R. W. Tweedie, S.D.; N. D. Cohen, J.D.; and J. Greiner, I.G. "Hearty good wishes" having been very generally expressed in the room, as well as by telegram from Lieut.-Colonel Sir Norman Pringle, Bart., South Staffordshire Regiment, Assouan (Nile)—an absent member—the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts met with due and fervid response.

Bro. Giraud, P.G.D., returned thanks for "The Grand Officers."

To the toast of "Brethren who have done Good Service across the Seas," Admiral of the Fleet Sir H. Keppel, in the course of some interesting remarks, which, however, were very imperfectly heard, expressed his pleasure at being present, and added that the brethren would be glad to hear that the navy, although far short of what it ought to be, was gradually improving. Our ships, it is true, are no longer built of oak, but the hearts of our seamen are the same as of yore, and for gallantry we have a specimen in Bro. Hewitt, who would rather require holding back than encouragement to fight. The gallant guest, so distinguished in South Africa—Bro. Sir C. Warren—will doubtless include in his speech many points upon which I am unable to dilate. But it affords me much gratification, W.M., to be present at your installation, and it is a further pleasure to see amongst my brother visitors my old friend and brother—W. H. Read—by whom I was admitted as a brother of Lodge Zetland in the East fully 43 years ago.

Sir Charles Warren, who next responded, said: Brethren—I am much gratified to have the honour of replying to the toast, because I am deeply impressed with the good done by Masonry in foreign lands, and the important feature it is in bringing together so many who would not otherwise have

an opportunity of knowing each other, and generally in knotting together our colonies with the mother country. I do not think that even Freemasons themselves are at all aware of the important work done by Masonry in keeping peace in the world, and preventing quarrels arising. I first drew breath as a Mason about 26 years ago at Gibraltar; it is difficult to say exactly who one's ancestors in Masonry are, but I should be inclined to say that Bro. Sergeant Irwin (now Major Irwin) stood as Masonic father, and Bro. P.M. Gould as grandfather, and I may say of them that their names were household words on the Rock of Gibraltar for many years on account of their Masonic work, and I can speak most strongly of the important effect Masonry had at Gibraltar in binding together harmoniously officers, soldiers, and inhabitants. I believe that Masonry has a great effect for good in assisting to keep up discipline in our Army. In Palestine Masonry brought together persons of different races and creeds, who were otherwise not likely to have met, and I may mention among others whose acquaintance I made the name of Herr Petermann, of Berlin, the distinguished occidental linguist. While grubbing among the ruins of the temple of King Solomon, I had ample opportunity of observing the good work of Masons in Palestine, and my thanks are due to many for the valuable assistance they gave me in my work. On one occasion I had the pleasure of assisting in opening a lodge in a cavern which runs nearly under the old temple, the members of which, though few in number, represented the East and West. There was an Englishman, an American, a German, a Frenchman, an Armenian, and a Greek, and also a Hebrew; while in the Holy Land I had the chance of realising the practical benefits of Masonry. I was over on the east of Jordan with some Bedouins, when Reschid Pasha, the Muschir of Damascus, came down upon them with his army; there was a party of Greek Christians in the village of Esalt, whose lives and property were certain to be lost between the two belligerents. They asked me to endeavour to assist them. I wrote to Reschid Pasha, who was a Mahomedan, to beg of him, as a brother Mason, to do what he could to assist these Greek Christians, and he attended to the matter at once, and when he captured Esalt he put guards on their houses, so that not only their lives but their property were preserved intact. During the Egyptian campaign in 1882 I had the honour of serving under the Admiralty, under the orders of Bro. Sir William Hewitt, a thorough good Mason, and had an opportunity of seeing what an important element Masonry is in assisting and bringing all together in aid of one common object. I feel very grateful to Sir William Hewitt for the manner in which he rendered me every possible assistance in my quest after the remains of Professor Palmer and his party in the desert of Arabia. In South African life Masonry plays a very important part. At a very critical period last year, when race feeling was so strong that Dutch and Germans would scarcely meet Englishmen socially on any common footing, I was enabled, through Masonry, to meet many who otherwise would have been strangers to me, and to ascertain their views and opinions; and I ascribe the recent peaceful solution of the South African difficulties to be in no small manner due to the good effect of Masonry. I was enabled on my return to England through the large towns of South Africa to notice this particularly, for I received addresses from the lodges at Kimberley, Bloemfontein, Craddock, Grahamstown, and Port Elizabeth, and had the pleasure at those lodges to meet brethren who assured me of their good wishes, but whose political or other positions would not allow of their assisting in ordinary public demonstrations. And I would point with satisfaction to the fact that President Brand, of the Orange Free State, who in times past so greatly assisted to preserve peace in South Africa, is a leading and prominent member of the Craft. In conclusion, I may say how pleased I am to be called upon to respond to this toast, as I feel so strongly the importance of Freemasonry in bringing together our brethren of the colonies and the mother country, and in assisting in knotting together our great Empire, in whose prosperity we are all so much interested.

Vice-Admiral Sir W. Hewitt, who was the last to reply, feelingly alluded to the great benefits of Freemasonry, and mentioned having assisted at the actual construction of a lodge in South Africa.

The toast of the evening, "The Memory of Earl Moira, the Patron of the Lodge," was then introduced by Bro. T. L. Wilkinson, Past Master, who said: Brethren,—The W.M. has entrusted me with his gavel, and directed me to propose to you the next toast, that which is in this lodge and on this occasion the toast of the evening. It is the memory of the illustrious man whose name this lodge bears. Seventy-two years ago—in the year 1813—when the struggle for the Premiership, vacant by the death of Mr. Percival, had been ended by the appointment of Lord Liverpool to the office of Prime Minister, and the appointment of Lord Moira to the combined offices of Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of India, this lodge, to mark its sense of Lord Moira's services to this country and to the Craft, elected him their Patron, called the lodge by his name, and ordained that this, our installation meeting, should be held on his birthday. And it has long been our custom to drink this toast and recall for our own edification those splendid services, and rarely has it been more fitting that this should be done than this evening, when we have placed a brother in the chair who is so honourably known in Eastern enterprise, and when we have amongst us some of the most famous seamen of any times who have sailed on Eastern seas. Brethren, it has been given to few here to perform services more worthy of being remembered than those of Lord Moira—whilst a boy he first became known for the skill and valour with which at Bunker's Hill he led his company into the enemy's entrenchment under a rifle fire so deadly that it has become historical. Forty years later, the attention of all Europe was attracted by the skill of the combinations which enabled him to crush Ghorika, Mahratta, and Pindaree, and made England mistress of the wide realm which stretches from the walls of Hyderabad to the frontiers of Nepal. Between these periods Lord Moira saw much and varied service as a soldier, and, although it was his fortune to serve in many campaigns disastrous to English arms and unpopular with the English people, yet he retained the confidence of his countrymen, and gained the reputation of being one of the most capable Englishmen that ever led soldiers to victory. The military reputation of Lord Moira would have been more widespread even than it is were it not that, besides being a soldier, he was a statesman in the highest sense of the word, and a great Parliamentary leader. And then it came to pass that during the

years with which this century opened—during the period that elapsed between the morning on which Abercrombie met a soldier's death on the sands of Alexandria and the fine evening on which the thin red line swept down the slope at Waterloo—that period so full of military opportunity, so glorious in our military history—it was felt that Lord Moira could render greater services to his country in the Parliament House at Westminster and the Council Chambers at Calcutta than even in the field. What these services were is a matter of common history. It is enough for me to say that Lord Moira was one, and not the least distinguished, of that band of Statesmen who during that troubled time guided the destinies of England, and guided them to such good purpose as to bring her out of the turmoil of the nations, not only with increased strength, with increased wealth, and with increased honour, but with the proud reflection that in a time when the streets of every capital in Christendom, save our own, had resounded with the drums of hostile regiments or the guns of hostile fleets, no Englishman in his own land had ever seen an enemy's flag save as a trophy, or an enemy's ship save as a prize. But, brethren, although it behoves us to speak of Lord Moira's services to his country in the first place, yet it is not to these services, brilliant and valuable though they were, that is due the enduring love in which his name is held by Masons; that is due to other causes. Lord Moira was above all things a Mason. From the day of his initiation he made the welfare of the Craft one of his primary objects in life. For years he filled the very highest office in it, and he brought to its council all the skill and energy he brought to affairs of war and of State. But he did more—to use his own words, he ever tried to rule his life by the finest Masonic principles, and that effort produced in him a wise and splendid beneficence. It was a beneficence untainted by any mixture of self-glorification. It was a beneficence not confined to any class—not confined to any country—it was refused to none of the far-reaching Brotherhood that is united in the bonds of want, sickness, and sorrow. It was given to black men in America, fever-stricken amidst the swamps that skirt the Atlantic seaboard. It was given to white men plague-stricken in the Lazar-houses that dot the shores of the Mediterranean. It was given to the orphans of the Bengalee, who but for it would have filled dens of infamy on the banks of the Ganges. It was given to the orphans of the Irish rebel, who but for it would have starved in the cabins of Down and of Antrim. And it was given with such lavish generosity, that amongst millions of whom our principles and keystones were unknown our brother became renowned, not alone as a soldier and a statesman, but as one to whom was given, in a measure such as is rarely vouchsafed unto men, a large-handed Charity, a sympathy with suffering, a tenderness for the frailties of mankind, and, above all, a passionate desire to relieve human misery—that was unbounded by seas or by skies, by language, by race, or by religion. And so it is, brethren, that now, though 59 years have elapsed since the boom of the minute guns passed over the Bay of Naples told the world that the warrior had gone to rest, we still in this lodge call for his name, and on this his birth night bear him in memory; we bear him in memory as Masons should ever bear in memory a departed brother who, during a life that was varied and eventful amongst even varied and eventful lives—in courts and in camps; amidst the conflict of armies and the conflict of political factions; in many lands and amongst many peoples—ever bore testimony by his life and works to the great truths that are illustrated by the symbolism of our Craft; and we bear him in memory as Englishmen should ever bear in memory British worthies, who in dark days of our country's history, when peril to the commonwealth came on every wind of Heaven, not only ever bade "England be of good cheer," but ever with brain and hand fought manfully to preserve and extend that glorious heritage, power, and presidency which they received from their fathers, and which they have handed down to us, their children. Let us drink then, brethren, to the memory of that valiant man and true, great soldier, great Statesman, great Mason, who has left a name so splendid on the annals of our Craft; so splendid on the annals of England. Brethren, we will drink in solemn silence to the memory of our departed brother and the former patron of the lodge, Francis Rawdon, second Earl of Moira and first Marquis of Hastings.

Bro. W. H. Read, D.G.M. Eastern Archipelago, in responding for "The Visitors," said: In the first place, I have to apologise for not appearing before you this evening in my proper clothing, but I have but lately arrived from the far East, and my baggage is still on the bosom of the ocean. I have, however, done my best to supplement it, and if the apron I wear looks grimy it is with the dust of ages, as the owner of it assures me that it has been in the possession of his forefathers for upwards of a century. Having thus apologised for myself, allow me to thank you on behalf of the guests for the very handsome entertainment you have offered us this evening. Hospitality has ever been a great Masonic virtue, and the Moira Lodge has shown that it is worthy to rank with the first on this occasion. On behalf of the visitors, among whom I am glad to see many old friends, again I thank you. With reference to the ceremony we have seen this evening, although it may be without my province to make any remark, allow me to observe that if determination, energy, and a desire to perform his duty will lead to success, I feel sure that the W.M. who has been raised to the chair will, at the end of his reign, be able to hand the gavel to his successor with the proud satisfaction that he has not only earned the approbation of the brethren, but that, which is the Master's proudest reward, the inward satisfaction that he has done his duty. I have often been told that Masonry is on its decline, and that its utility is no longer recognised. The numerous meeting of brethren present this evening; the magnificent Charities, so nobly maintained by the Craft in England; and the constant assistance granted at all hands to those in distress, prove the utter illusion of these ideas. So long as we uphold the fundamental principles of the Craft—brotherly love, relief, and truth—we need not fear the future, and Masonry will endure till this world is no more. Again, I thank you.

The next to reply—Rear-Admiral Mayne—said that he feared he could not claim, like his friend, Sir W. Hewitt, to have assisted Masonry to the extent of building a lodge, or, indeed, that he had done anything to give him any special claim to honour among Masons. He had, however, disseminated (so to speak) his Masonry over a considerable portion of the globe, having been initiated in Vancouver

Island, and raised in New Zealand—two points about as far from each other as could be easily found. He thanked them for coupling his name with the toast of the Visitors.

Bro. R. H. Martin, who was loudly called for, also acknowledged the toast in a few well-chosen words.

The other toasts were of a routine character, though that of the W.M. met with a response which must have been peculiarly gratifying to the occupant of the chair, and the brethren separated, after an evening that will be long remembered by all those who had the good fortune to be present. In concluding our notice of this meeting, it may be added that the musical arrangements, which were conducted on a scale of great magnificence, reflected the highest possible credit on Bro. T. Lawler.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—This lodge met in great strength at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 11th inst. Among those present were Bros. R. Pierpoint, W.M.; H. Price, S.W.; Simner, J.W.; T. Morris, Sec.; Champion, J.D.; Harvey, I.G.; Salmon, W.S.; Wood, D.C.; Riechelmann, Hon. Org.; Foulger, P.M.; Ferguson, P.M.; Deputy Walford, C.C.; P.M.; Kent, P.M.; Buscall, P.M.; White, P.M.; Willing, jun., P.M.; Spink, P.M.; Herbage, P.M.; Maclean, P.M.; Foxcroft, P.M.; and others. Among the visitors were Bros. J. Stephens, W.M. 1425; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, W.M. 1793; Da Costa, P.M. 1349; Hill, P.M. 1607; C. Graham, P.G.S.D. Middlesex, P.M.; J. Stacey, P.M.; Wingham, 25; Jones, 795; Bolt, 1563; Bates, 1563; Price, 1816; Poole, 2030; and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Messrs. James Webster and Thomas Trodd, and it proving to be unanimous, the first-named, being in attendance, was duly initiated into Craft mysteries by the W.M. Bros. T. N. Morris, E. Melson, and A. J. White were then impressively raised to the Third Degree. It being election night, Bro. H. Price was unanimously elected as W.M.; Bro. George Everett, P.M., as Treas.; Bro. Walkerly, as Tyler; and Bro. Plenderleith, Spurrell, Weston, Billingham, and Cole, as Auditors. The following resolutions, after some discussion pro and con, were passed: "That no notice of motion be allowed to appear on the summons unless proposed in open lodge, except in cases of great urgency, and not then unless the consent of the Worshipful Master be first obtained;" and "That a Committee—consisting of the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Past Masters—be appointed to carry out the necessary arrangements for celebrating the centenary of the lodge in the forthcoming year." A Past Master's jewel was then unanimously voted to Bro. Pierpoint, in recognition of his valuable services as W.M. during the past year. A letter from Bro. George Everett, P.M., Treas., was read, pleading his inability to attend, in consequence of severe indisposition. Several other communications having been read, the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth, the usual Royal and Craft toasts were duly honoured.

"The Health of the W.M." was proposed in fluent terms by the I.P.M.

Bro. Pierpoint, in response, expressed the great gratification it had afforded him in being W.M. of so large and important a lodge as No. 177. He had striven to do his best, and he believed that he should leave the chair carrying the good wishes of every member with him.

The toast of "The Initiate" followed, and was briefly acknowledged by Bro. Webster.

"The Visitors" came next in order, and was responded to by Bros. Stephens, Walls, and Graham.

In giving "The W.M. Elect," the W.M. congratulated the lodge on the unanimous choice it had made that evening. It was a great honour for Bro. Harry Price to be unanimously elected in so influential and strong a lodge as this, as it proved the great respect he was held in by the brethren. He (the W.M.) felt convinced that the lodge would never regret its action, and, in conclusion, he hoped that the W.M. elect would have a most enjoyable and prosperous year of office.

The toast having been drunk with acclamation, Bro. Price responded in modest terms. In the course of his reply he said that it had been one of the great wishes of his heart to preside over No. 177. He little thought, however, that that hope was destined to be realised on so important an occasion as the centenary of the lodge in 1886. To prove his gratitude to the brethren, he would do all he could to still further enhance the prosperity of the good old Domatic, and trusted that his efforts would be strengthened by the assistance of the intelligent and powerful body of Past Masters.

"The Treasurer and Secretary" followed. In proposing this toast the W.M. expressed his great regret that Bro. Everett, who had discharged the duties of Treasurer so well for so many years, was not present that evening, through illness. He felt certain, however, that their absent brother would be pleased to hear that he had been unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and they all hoped that he would have a speedy return to health. He also spoke of the great services of Bro. Morris, the Secretary.

Bro. Morris having responded, "The Health of the Past Masters" was proposed, coupled with the names of Bros. Foulger and Ferguson.

This toast having been warmly received, Bro. Foulger returned thanks. He said that, as an old member, he was delighted to watch the steady progress the lodge had made, and was continuing to make. He was also pleased to notice that, notwithstanding many of their Past Masters were increasing in years, they still evinced their interest in the lodge by attending as often as possible. In conclusion, he said that he looked forward with pleasure to the year of office of the W.M. elect, who would, he felt convinced, not disappoint the brethren who had placed him in that proud position.

Bro. Ferguson also made a neat speech, and his witty remarks were well received.

The toast of "The Officers," coupled with the names of Bros. Simner, Salmon, and Wood, who responded, brought the long, though enjoyable, proceedings to a close.

CONFIDENCE LODGE (No. 228).—The annual election meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Monday evening, at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, when there was a goodly attendance of brethren, under the presidency of Bro. W. A. Cubitt, who was supported by Bros. W. Saint, S.W.; F. Silvester, J.W.; R. D. Kershaw, P.M., Treas.; J. Shackell, P.M., Sec.; G. P. Nightingale,

S.D.; S. Smither, J.D.; J. Gildersleve, acting as I.G.; E. J. Davey, W.S.; W. Wood, P.M.; S. J. Webb, P.M.; J. E. Fells, P.M.; T. Biddle, P.M.; H. T. Reed, P.M.; J. Hart, F. Westoby, E. D. Stevenson, A. W. South, J. Egan, A. W. Barham, J. Dongray, W. A. Colyer, W. J. Parker, W. Richell, J. Little, J. Foster, G. Masters, W. G. Fernley, J. H. Bayley, J. D. Collins, F. Hemings, and others.

Lodge having been opened in accordance with ancient rites, Bros. W. J. Parker, A. W. South, J. Dongray, and F. Westoby were raised to the Third Degree, the work being admirably performed by the W.M. Bro. Joseph Hart was afterwards passed, the ceremony being also perfectly rendered. Subsequently the ballot was taken for Mr. H. M. Alston and Mr. F. Hemings. The latter, being present, was duly initiated, and the brethren then proceeded to the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, the choice of the brethren falling unanimously on Bro. Saint, who had satisfactorily discharged the duties of the minor offices in the lodge. Bro. R. D. Kershaw, P.M., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. L. G. Reinhardt, Tyler. At the conclusion of some formal business, the brethren and visitors partook of supper, under the presidency of the W.M., when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

In consequence of the heavy amount of work done in lodge, which infringed upon the time of the Fourth Degree, the W.M. said he would be brief in proposing the toasts; but those of "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W. G.M.," and "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," were received with customary respect.

Bro. S. Webb, P.M., in the absence of the I.P.M., Bro. Bedford Lemare, proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and, in doing so, said Bro. Cubitt had deservedly secured the approval of every member of the lodge. He had succeeded in passing the various offices in the lodge with the utmost credit, and the lodge had lost none of its lustre under the auspices of its present Master. The W.M. next year during his term of office would have a valuable helpmeet in Bro. Cubitt, and would receive the hearty support and assistance of the rest of the Past Masters.

The Worshipful Master, having thanked the brethren for the kindly manner in which the toast had been proposed and received, said he had discharged the duties of his high position to the best of his ability, and if he had succeeded in meriting their approbation he was abundantly satisfied. He alluded to the interest always manifested in the lodge by brethren who had passed the chair, and said it was a good sign in any lodge when the Past Masters continued to exercise a willing and active interest in the work.

"The Health of the Initiate" was given from the chair, and briefly acknowledged by Bro. F. Hemings.

The toast of "The Past Masters" followed, and was responded to by Bros. J. Shackell and S. J. Webb.

Bro. W. Saint, S.W. and W.M. elect, replied for "The Officers." After thanking the brethren for their cordial reception of the toast, he said it afforded him a considerable amount of satisfaction to know that he had been unanimously elected to the chair, and it was something that would always live in his memory. He had worked hard during the past two or three years to qualify himself for the office, the duties of which he hoped he might be able to carry out with credit to the lodge and to himself.

The proceedings of the evening, which were throughout of the most harmonious and enjoyable description, were interspersed with some excellent songs and recitations.

CAPPER LODGE (No. 1072).—The first meeting of the above excellent lodge since the installation of the new W.M., Bro. W. H. Harris, took place on Thursday, the 10th inst., at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, City. The W.M. presided, assisted by the following Past Masters, officers, and others: Bros. W. Nevins, I.P.M.; J. Dorton, P.M., Treas.; W. Mitchell, P.M.; E. West, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. Herts.; N. Taplay, P.M.; W. Watkins, S.W.; C. Mears, J.W.; J. C. Pitt, Sec.; W. Temple, S.D.; J. Still, J.D.; A. T. Dale, I.G.; M. Sherwin, Org.; Turberfield, Tyler; and C. Jolly, S.W. 1472 (Freemason).

The only work before the lodge was the passing of Bro. Drow and the raising of Bro. Capt. Loney, both ceremonies being admirably performed by the W.M. The lodge shortly afterwards adjourned, and the brethren departed with mutual good wishes for the approaching festive season, and a happy and prosperous New Year.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1558).—The December meeting of this lodge took place on Thursday evening, the 10th inst., at 5.30 o'clock, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. Present: Bros. G. S. Stokes, W.M.; Nettleford, S.W.; Walker, J.W.; Sutton, S.D.; Clayton, J.D.; Taylor, P.M., Treas.; Power, Sec.; Brown, I.G.; Manly and Shave, W.S.; C. Sims, P.M.; Muddiman, Mullett, Catt, and Sutton. The visitors were Bros. J. Hill, S.W. 1058; J. D. Smith, W.M. 1658; Payton, Israel Lodge; and Walker, Ebury Lodge.

Bros. H. Wakeford, J. Clark, F. Jackson, and W. Simpson gave proofs of proficiency in the First Degree, were entrusted, and retired. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, the brethren were admitted in due form, and were passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft. The lodge was resumed in the First Degree, but the candidate for initiation was unable to attend, and the lodge was called off for a short time. The lodge being called on the W. Master rose for three times to enquire. One proposition was made for a candidate.

The lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren retired to the "refreshment" prepared for them. The brethren thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and after the "Christmas pudding," fully ablaze, and the mince pies were despatched, the toasts were proposed.

"The Queen and the Craft," after which Bro. C. Power, P.M., sang "God save the Queen."

The next toast, "The M.W. Grand Master," was introduced by the W.M. in the expression of admiration for his continual work in Masonry, and the amount of attention given. Bro. John Darwin Smith sang "God bless the Prince of Wales."

The toast of "The Pro Grand Master and all the Grand Officers, Present and Past," being proposed, the W.M. informed the brethren that those who attended Grand Lodge must value them for their devotion to the work. Their duties were many and great; therefore, those who could not attend Grand Lodge must value the Grand

Officers from what was told them. Bro. Sutton sang a song.

The Immediate Past Master then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who presided, being the first time after his installation. His working was a credit to the lodge; his conduct of affairs proved they had made a happy choice, and they would have a prosperous year.

The Worshipful Master, in responding, thanked the brethren for the proud position to which they had raised him. He should do his duty to the best of his ability, in doing which he must ask their support, for no lodge could prosper unless the brethren supported it by their subscriptions, and added new members. He wished for them to understand that only good and worthy men should be chosen, that they must not hold the admission into the Order too cheaply, that it were better for the candidate to be made to understand that it was a greater favour to be admitted than a favour for him to give his admission to it. He thanked them heartily for their kind expressions.

"The Visitors" toast was the next. The W.M. said that there were only four present. He thought the weather and the fact of the time being the "busy part of the year" had deterred some from attending.

The visitors responded. Bro. J. D. Smith considered it a great pleasure to be at the festive board. He had thoroughly enjoyed himself. The W. Master and he had started at the same time. They had attended instruction at the same place, and he hoped they would still go on for many years.

Bro. Walker made a few remarks.

Bro. Peyton responded. He was happy to be amongst them by the kind invite of Bro. Sutton. He had seen the working of the lodge, and was pleased with the whole. He was sorry that no brother had offered to take up the Stewardship for one of the Charities, for if he had the brother would have had the same support from the Earl of Lathom Lodge of Instruction as it had given to Bro. C. Sims, P.M. He supposed that the Order was one of benevolence, and hoped that one of the members would be able to see his way clear to yet become a Steward representing the lodge.

Bro. J. Hill then took up the theme, and gave praise to the W.M. and officers. It was unfortunate that in some lodges the work was not done well and cleanly, but the Duke of Connaught ought to be proud of their W.M. and the officers, for every one had fulfilled his duty in a very efficient manner. He was pleased to see Bro. Stokes in so high a position, for he had known him as a boy, a youth, and a man, both in physical and Masonic growth. He had known him as an initiate, an officer, a Provincial Grand Officer, and now at the head of a prosperous, well-conducted, thriving lodge. The W.M. had worked the Second Degree, but he hoped to see him do the Third Degree in quite as creditable a manner.

"The Treasurer, Secretary, and Past Masters" came as the next toast. The brethren fully appreciated their services. They carried out their duties in a very efficient manner. The anxieties attached to their offices were great, for the lodge could not be carried on without finances. The Secretary had done immense service to them. He was delighted to see Bro. C. Sims, P.M. The I.P.M., Bro. Smith, bore traces of the serious illness he had been through, and it was a great blessing that the Great Architect of the Universe had supported and succoured him.

Bro. Muddiman sang "Hearts of Oak."

The Treasurer, Bro. T. Taylor, thanked them for their kind wishes, and would endeavour to uphold Masonry and the W.M. as far as lay in his power.

The Secretary stated that he hardly worked so indefatigably as they would like him to do, but he did his work for love to the lodge. The brethren should be conversant with the affairs of the lodge, and if they gave the necessary funds to the Treasurer the duty of the Secretary would be lightened. He was one of the first initiates, and mounted through every office, Treasurer for three or four years, and have been two years as Secretary.

The I.P.M. thanked the lodge as the I.P.M., and if his health was spared he would help the W.M. and others in promoting the welfare of the lodge. He exhorted the officers to go on working well.

"The Officers" toast was next proposed. The W.M. said that this is the first time. He thanked them for assisting the lodge, and hoped that in the future they would do so, for without them the work must go wrong.

Bro. Hargroves sang "Alonzo, the brave."

Bro. S.W. responded, and said, I thank you for your kind expressions of health. As the next member likely to fill the chair, I shall hope to have good officers. Those who follow me will, I am sure, be as good officers as those who have gone before, and be useful Masters of the Duke of Connaught Lodge. The high encomiums given by the visitors will only stimulate us to still go on doing our duty. I thank you for your kind expressions, and hope you will have a prosperous year and a happy Christmas.

Bro. J.W. thanked them for their congratulations, and was proud to be the J.W. of the lodge, and he would support the W.M. throughout the year.

The Treasurer and Secretary added a few remarks, when Bro. S.D. said it gives me great pleasure to be S.D. I have been a member eight years, and am therefore pleased the visitors give us praise.

Bro. I.G. responded for himself, and could say little after so much had been said. He had done his duty, and looked at the chair, in the expression so much used of late "in the dim distance."

Bro. W. Steward thanked the W.M., officers, and brethren. It was a pleasure to do his duty, for the brethren so much appreciated any small service rendered to them.

The Tyler's toast having been given, the lodge parted with many expressions of "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year."

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—At the meeting of this lodge, held on the 8th inst., there were present Bros. John Jacobs, W.M.; Harry Kedgley, S.W.; T. A. Dickson, J.W.; C. Stacey, P.M.; Org.; W. Bourne, P.M., Sec.; B. Solomons, S.D.; S. Hewitt, acting as J.D.; G. Reynolds, I.G.; C. Potter, Tyler; G. Coleman, I.P.M.; C. Kedgley, P.M.; Foan, C. Ralph, W. F. Thorpe; Frank Gulliford, G. H. Reynolds, C. Cousins, C. Bond, L. Isaacs, and others; also several visitors.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. L. Cohen and J. Potter were raised to the Degree of M.M. Bros. C. W. Lodge and A. R.

Temple were passed to the Degree of F.C. A ballot having been taken on behalf of Mr. Henry J. Willis, and proving unanimous, that gentleman was initiated into the mysteries of the Craft. The whole work was done by the W.M. in the most praiseworthy manner. The bye-laws were read, and Bro. Harry Kedgley was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. E. Jacobs, P.M., and Bro. C. Potter, P.M., were re-elected Treasurer and Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was unanimously voted to Bro. John Jacobs, in recognition of his services during his year of office, the same being proposed by Bro. W. Bourne, P.M., and seconded by Bro. G. Coleman, I.G. The lodge was then adjourned to the second Tuesday in January, when the installation of Bro. Harry Kedgley, S.W., as W.M., will take place.

The brethren were introduced into the new lodge room by Bro. Bertini, manager of the Criterion. The room was lighted by electricity, and reached by a well-arranged lift from the ground floor.

GALLERY LODGE (No. 1928).—The installation meeting of this flourishing Press lodge was held on Saturday, the 12th inst., at Brixton Hall, Acre-lane, Brixton. There were present Bros. W. M. Duckworth, W.M.; T. Minstrell, I.P.M.; Chas. F. Pardon, S.W. and W.M. elect; O. Goldsmith, J.W.; R. J. Albery, Sec.; H. Massey, P.M., Treas.; J. C. Duckworth, S.D.; Dr. Griffiths, J.D.; H. Wright, I.G.; R. Hancock, D.C.; J. Moore and W. Perkins, Wine Stewards; and a large number of members.

The visitors were Bros. A. M. Broadley, P.D. District Grand Master of Malta; H. F. Farncombe, P.M. 311 (Mayor of Lewes); Fred. Cundy, of the Sleaford Lodge, Sydney; Pardon, 1541; Frank Hall, P.M. 403; Fred. Bennett, 33; Chas. Nightingale, I.P.M. 1362; James Nightingale, P.M. 1362; R. A. Steel, P.M. 1194; S. G. Brealey, 1056; H. Carus, 1929; C. A. Barrington Brown, 354; Chas. E. Robinson, 1146; Crichton Saunders, 1362; W. E. White, S.W. 777; A. F. Asher, S.W. 1395; Augustus Harris, 2127 (of Drury Lane Theatre); J. Hecksher (Hamburg Lodge); and H. C. Mann, 164.

The lodge having been duly opened, Bro. Massey, P.M., installed Bro. Chas. Pardon, the W.M. elect, in a manner which elicited the general admiration of the brethren, Bro. Minstrell, P.M., delivering the charge to the Wardens, and Bro. W. Duckworth, I.P.M., the charge to the brethren. The newly-installed W.M. then appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. O. Goldsmith, S.W.; J. C. Duckworth, J.W.; Albery, Sec.; Massey, P.M., Treas.; Griffiths, S.D.; H. Wright, J.D.; Thomas, P.M., D.C.; R. Hancock, Deputy D.C.; W. T. Perkins, I.G.; Basil Cooke and Peacock, Stewards; Peachey, Org.; and Very, Tyler.

The W.M. next passed Bro. McNeill to the Second Degree, his work being admirable. The Audit Committee presented a most satisfactory report as to the financial position of the lodge, which was accepted by the brethren *nem. con.* The Permanent Committee, to whom the management of the lodge Benevolent Fund is entrusted, reported that they had voted ten guineas to the fund being raised for the benefit of the widow and orphans of the late Bro. T. B. Whitefoot. The brethren were invited to subscribe individually to this fund. The W.M. presented the I.P.M. with the Past Master's jewel voted by the lodge. The lodge was closed in perfect harmony, and the brethren subsequently sat down to a substantial repast. The usual first three toasts having been duly drunk with all honours,

Bro. Duckworth, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." He said that in Bro. Pardon they had a Master who was an accomplished Mason, a distinguished Pressman, and a genial companion, and in whose hands they could safely leave the prosperity and well ordering of the lodge. Bro. Pardon was one of their first members, and had always taken a great interest in its welfare.

The W.M. thanked the brethren for the cordial way in which they had received the toast, and promised to do his best to follow in the footsteps of his predecessors, who had all done credit to themselves and the lodge while they were occupants of that chair. He had to propose "The Health of the I.P.M. (Bro. Duckworth), the Installing Master (Bro. Massey) and the other Past Masters of the Lodge." In proposing Bro. Duckworth's health, it gave him great pleasure to hand to him a gold bracelet for Mrs. Duckworth, with the good wishes of the brethren who had subscribed for it amongst themselves as a special mark of esteem to their I.P.M. With regard to Bro. Massey, the Installing Master, he had been the mainstay of the lodge since its commencement.

Bro. Duckworth, I.P.M., in responding, said that he very much appreciated the kind gift he had just received on behalf of Mrs. Duckworth, and he thanked them most sincerely for the handsome jewel which had been presented to him in lodge. As W.M. of the lodge he had endeavoured to lessen the "aggregate of human misery and suffering," by making short speeches, and he trusted that in that matter at least he had deserved the gratitude of the brethren. He was much indebted to Past Masters Massey and Minstrell, as well as to the officers of the lodge, for the assistance they had given him during his year of office, which he was thankful to say had been a prosperous one.

Bros. Massey and Minstrell also responded.

In responding for the toast of "The Officers," Bro. J. C. Duckworth, J.W., said that the lodge ball on the 7th January promised to be a great success, and the only difficulty the Ball Committee had was to prevent the ball-room being overcrowded. They had had the large hall carefully measured, and found that there was only room for 180 people, and the supper room would only accommodate 175. They had applications for close upon 200 people, but the issue of tickets would have to be strictly limited to 180.

Bro. Farncombe, the Mayor of Lewes, on behalf of "The Visitors," said that as a newspaper man himself he was much gratified with all he had seen in the Gallery Lodge.

Other visitors also responded, Bros. Asher and Crichton Saunders promising a guinea each towards the Whitefoot fund.

The W.M. in proposing "The Masonic Charities," said he should go up as Steward for the Girls' School, especially in the interest of a little girl of nine years left to their care by their late Bro. Whitefoot. He thought the lodge ought to father that child and do their best to get her into the Masonic School for Girls, and to generally look after her future welfare. As to the lodge Benevolent Fund, which amounted to some £50 or £60, he was of opinion that it should receive a larger proportion of the revenue of the

lodge than it did at present, and he should on another occasion bring before the lodge a proposal in that direction.

During the evening Bros. Cundy, Macdonald, and others contributed to the harmony, and Bro. Sydney Pardon gave a recitation with exceedingly good taste.

The Tyler's toast brought a most pleasant evening to a close.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 2012).—The election meeting of the above lodge took place at its new home, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, on Monday, the 14th inst., Bro. George Everett officiating, in the absence of the W.M., the ceremonies of raising and initiation being performed with his well-known ability. The election of W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler was proceeded with, and Bro. George Gardner, S.W., was elected unanimously to fill the chair of K.S. for the ensuing 12 months; Bro. Dr. Laurence was also re-elected Treasurer. The Audit Committee having been appointed, the W.M. rose for the first time, and the S.W. handed in the names of five candidates for initiation, and proposed for application the Right Honourable Lord George Hamilton. On the third rising "Hearty good wishes" were tendered, and the lodge was closed in perfect love and harmony.

The brethren then adjourned to the banquet, which was served in Bro. Brill's usual style, after which songs, &c., were indulged in, and a very pleasant evening spent.

THE ABBEY LODGE (No. 2030).—An ordinary meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 14th inst., at the Town Hall, Westminster, when there was a large attendance of members and visitors; and Bro. Baker, the W.M., had before him a full agenda paper, involving the working of the ceremonies in the three Degrees. Bros. Salway, Hankin, and Shives were raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. Bro. Thos. H. Gammon was passed to the Degree of F.C.; and Mr. David de Pinna, Mr. John Jacob Geisell, and Mr. Auguste Hoffman were initiated as Entered Apprentices. The work was very well done by the W.M., who was ably seconded by his principal officers, and by Deacons who thoroughly understood their duties.

After the above-mentioned ceremonies had been completed, Bro. Bull, P.M., brought forward a motion of which he had given notice, for raising the initiation fee to fifteen guineas, and the joining fee to ten guineas; and supported his proposal by the argument that the lodge was becoming very numerous, and expressing his opinion that very large lodges were not desirable.

Bro. Sugg, S.W., reminded the brethren that the Abbey Lodge was, in fact, a resuscitation of a lodge which was held for six hundred years in the chapter-house at Westminster, and he thought, therefore, that under the circumstances they ought to be careful in doing anything which might prevent Westminster men from entering the lodge. They had ninety-six members in all, which he did not consider at all excessive, for he himself belonged to one which numbered one hundred and thirty members (the Domestic), in which no inconvenience was experienced on that account, as the members who actually attended fell very far short of the number on the roll.

Bro. Burdett-Coutts, I.P.M., said he should like to say a word or two on this proposition. Not only the Master, but all the brethren, would, he was sure, understand that nobody, whatever his fidelity to Freemasonry or his love to that lodge, could have the interest of the lodge more deeply at heart than himself. He confessed that, in view of the circumstances under which the lodge was founded, and the position it now held, he did not recognise the advantage of restricting it to a small number of members. His own view was that it should become a great and representative lodge of the Freemasons in Westminster. He felt a personal interest in the lodge, and so far as his personal influence went, it would be directed towards such a fulfilment of the future of the lodge that it should become large and representative; because, on account of its neighbourhood and surroundings, there was a dignity attached to it which took it out of the ordinary category of the lodges of the metropolis. As Westminster was a peculiar part of the metropolis, he thought the Abbey Lodge should be a peculiar lodge, and he did not know how its peculiar position could be better maintained than by making it very large and very representative. For these reasons he should be inclined to give his voice against the proposition that had just been brought forward. He did not doubt that the promoters sincerely thought that what they proposed would be for the welfare of the lodge; but he thought it rather premature, though it might be necessary at some future period. If any alteration were to be made, he thought it should not be by making initiation more expensive, but rather by laying a somewhat heavier tax upon those members of other lodges who wished to avail themselves of the privileges of the Abbey Lodge.

Bro. Bull said possibly his motion had been a little premature, however inevitable it might be at some time in the future; and after the expression of the opinion of the brethren which the proposal had elicited, he would, with the W.M.'s permission, withdraw the motion.

A proposal by Bro. Shand, Secretary, for raising the visiting fee to a guinea on installation nights, and 15s. on other nights, was agreed to.

Before the closing of the lodge, Bro. Baker, W.M., informed the brethren that he had consented to accept a Stewardship for the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and, upon the motion of the I.P.M., a sum of 10 guineas was voted from the lodge funds in aid of that Institution.

After the dinner which followed the closing of the lodge a number of loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed from the cross-table.

In proposing "The Health of the M.W. the Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers," Bro. Baker, W.M., reminded the brethren that the 14th of December was an eventful day in the Royal Family, because it was on that day of the year that the father of their illustrious Grand Master died; it was on that day of the year that he lost his sister, the Princess Alice, and it was also on that day of the year that occurred the turning point in his own severe illness, which occasioned such acute, such intense anxiety to the whole body of the English people. After referring to the rest of the Grand Officers, which had been associated with this toast, Bro. Baker said that they were represented on that occasion by Bro. Simpson, P.G. Chaplain, who he would ask to respond for them.

In replying, Bro. Simpson said that the W.M. had referred to the fact that their I.P.M., Bro. Burdett-Coutts,

had had the honour, at last Grand Lodge, of proposing the re-election of the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M.; but he confessed that he took a deeper interest in another incident that occurred at Grand Lodge, which was that a brother made an extempore proposition that the I.P.M. of the Abbey Lodge should be elected Grand Treasurer of England. But whether it was extempore or not, he would venture to say that the reply was one which conferred great dignity upon their I.P.M. It was an answer given with wisdom, strength, and beauty—wisdom for obvious reasons; strength, because however strong Bro. Burdett-Coutts stood as P.M. of that lodge, he would stand still stronger after that reply; and in beauty, because nothing was more graceful than true humility.

In proposing "The Health of the Master," Bro. Burdett-Coutts said that Bro. Baker was well able to fill his position with credit to the distinguished surroundings of the lodge, and he asked the brethren to drink to their W.M.'s health with enthusiasm. Referring to what had fallen from Bro. Simpson, he said that he fully recognised the good feeling displayed in the incident alluded to, and he was very grateful to the distinguished brother who made the proposition for the honour he designed to do him. Without taking credit to himself for wisdom, strength, or humility, he had done what, as a Mason, he thought to be right, and his decision had been justified by the kindly approval which had been given by Grand Lodge when, in declining that intended honour, he had stated that his only claim to distinction as a Mason was that he was the one who had first held the office of Master of the Abbey Lodge. The name of the Abbey Lodge was received with cheering throughout Grand Lodge, and therefore he thought he might say that the appreciation of the Abbey Lodge had gone beyond the members, and beyond the visitors, and into the dignified and sacred precincts of Grand Lodge itself; and in order that that feeling might be maintained, they, the brethren of the lodge, must render themselves worthy of it, and of the lodge, and he thought they could not take any step more conducive to the end than by taking care in the future that their Masters were men who would maintain the character of the lodge. Their present Master was fully fitted to maintain with credit, and he might say with lustre, the high reputation which the Abbey Lodge had attained, and he hoped that he might be succeeded by a long line of men who would do their utmost to keep up the high reputation of the lodge.

Bro. Baker having returned his acknowledgments of the manner in which his health had been proposed by the I.P.M., and received by the brethren, proposed "The Health of the Past Masters," which included Bro. Spinks, the first acting Past Master, which received a very hearty response from the brethren; and Bro. Burdett-Coutts and Spinks spoke at some length in reply.

Several other toasts were proposed, including "The Initiates;" "The Visitors;" "The Masonic Charities;" "The Treasurer and Secretary;" and "The Officers." There were 85 visitors present, several of whom replied to the toast of their health, including Bros. Austin, Walker, Germaine, Roberts, S. Hunter, and Newman.

SUNDERLAND.—St. John's Lodge (No. 80).—On Tuesday, the 18th inst., the installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, the W.M., Bro. James Dobson, presiding. He was supported by Bros. J. Nelson, I.P.M.; H. J. Turnbull, P.P.G.P.; R. Kinmond, P.P.G.P.; J. Mitchinson, P.M.; W. Hawdon, P.M.; T. Elwen, P.P.G.P.; D. Huntley, P.M.; J. C. Moor, P.P.G.P.; J. J. Clay, P.G.D. of C.; J. G. Kirtley, P.G.J.D.; J. Hewson, W.M. 949; T. G. Garrick, W.M. 94; A. T. Munro, P.P.G.S.B.; T. Henderson, P.G.S.B.; J. R. Pattison, W.M.; R. Singleton, S.W. 97; and J. Deans, S.W. 2039. The W.M. elect, Bro. J. J. Wilson, S.W., was presented by Bro. M. Douglas, P.M., P.P.G.D., to the installing Master, Bro. H. J. Turnbull, P.P.G.P., by whom the installation ceremony was very ably performed. The newly-installed W.M., Bro. Wilson, afterwards appointed and invested the following officers: Bros. J. Dobson, I.P.M.; Thomas Atkinson, S.W.; T. Smith, J.W.; T. Elwen, P.M., Treas.; W. Hawdon, P.M., Sec.; H. J. Turnbull, P.M., P.P.G.P., D. of C.; John Nicholson, S.D.; James Hudson, J.D.; S. Curle, I.G.; and J. W. Brown, Tyler.

The lodge was afterwards closed, and in the evening the annual festival was held in the Masonic Hall banquetting room, at which the W.M. presided, and the vice-chairs were occupied by Bros. T. Atkinson, S.W., and T. Smith, J.W. In addition to the above there were also present Bros. F. Maddison, P.M., P.P.G.D.; and R. W. Halfnight, P.P.G.P. "The Health of the W.M." was ably proposed by T. Elwen, P.M., P.P.G.P.

DURHAM.—Marques of Granby Lodge (No. 124).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 1st inst., in the Masonic Hall, for the purpose of electing the W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year. Bro. the Rev. Joseph Lawson was elected W.M.; Bros. S. Fenny, Treas.; and J. Carter, Tyler. Bro. Richard Bailey was then initiated, and Bro. James Burnett was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree. Bro. Fenny read the financial statement as representing the Charities' Committee, which showed a balance in hand. It was recommended and agreed to that the balance be handed over to the Durham Masonic Education Fund. On the lodge being closed in due form, the brethren adjourned to the banquetting hall, where the Festival of St. John was enthusiastically and harmoniously celebrated.

GUERNSEY.—Mariners Lodge (No. 168).—The usual monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, the 2nd inst. Present: Bros. Coombes, W.M.; Thorne, I.P.M.; Quick, P.M.; Bichard, P.M.; De Jersey, P.M. and Treas.; Courtenay, P.M.; Pengelley, P.M.; and a large number of the brethren, including several visitors.

Bro. F. C. Sparrow, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. De Jersey re-elected Treasurer; and Bro. Barter elected Tyler, pro. tem. Bro. Pengelley was elected a member of the Board for the Management of the Masonic Temple, and Bros. Quick and Nicolle were elected Auditors. In the absence of Bro. Emra Holtues, who had been instrumental in getting the old Bible belonging to the Harmony Lodge, now extinct, restored to the care of the Masonic brotherhood, it having got into the possession of Mr. Anthony Isemonger, who had willingly given it up, Bro. Quick presented this ancient and interesting Book of the Sacred Law to the lodge. A vote of thanks to Mr.

Isemonger for his generosity in giving up the volume was unanimously voted. The Lodge of Harmony was alluded to in Bro. Hughan's account of the Guernsey Lodges.

Nearly fifty brethren sat down to refreshment after the closing of the lodge, when the chair was taken by the W.M., Bro. Coombes, R.A.

Bro. Dr. Kinton, M.A., W.M. 84, responded as a visitor on behalf of his lodge, and hospitably invited the brethren to attend the lodge.

Other brethren from distant lodges also responded, and several of the visitors added greatly to the harmony of the evening by recitation and song.

Bro. Thorne proposed "The W.M.," for the last time during his year of office, giving a well deserved tribute to the admirable manner in which he had governed the lodge for the past year.

Bro. Coombes, in responding, spoke modestly of his own services, but testified warmly to the great help he had received from the Past Masters and officers of the lodge.

Bro. Quick proposed "The Visitors" in happy terms, and assured those present of a hearty welcome. Mariners Lodge is distinguished for its hospitable reception of strangers, and is deservedly very popular.

MANCHESTER.—Caledonian Lodge (No. 204).—The installation meeting took place in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, on Wednesday, the 9th inst., when the following brethren were present: Bros. Henry Paulden, W.M.; Jno. Cliffe, S.W.; Saml. Lawton, J.W.; John Roberts, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; Rev. Phillip Hains, P.M., Chap.; G. T. Mullock, P.M., Sec.; W. Artingstall, S.D.; S. Bramwell, J.D.; R. A. Eldershaw, P.M., D.C.; Jas. Varley, P.M., P.P.G. Org.; Organist; Richd. Timperley, P.M., P.P.G.D.; Wm. Bagnall, P.M.; J. Hill, P.M.; J. C. Hend, P.M.; Thos. Fairrie, P.M.; W. Aldred, P.M.; J. R. Lever, P.M. 317; Thos. Sawyer, I.P.M.; S. Ayland, P. Apostolo, Jas. E. Roberts, B. Taylor, Wilfred Bagnall, J. Grimshaw, T. Woolley, W. Dearden, J. Artingstall, A. Burgon, G. L. Coombs, J. Allison, B. Steel, T. G. Broughaly, Thos. Guest, and J. Sly, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. F. H. Glendinning, P.M. 1055, P.P.G.J.D.; W. W. Dawson, P.G.A.D.C.; T. Schofield, P.M. 1387, P.P.G.J.D. West Lanc.; A. B. Whittaker, P.M. 1633; Joseph Richardson, P.M., and W.M. 581; R. Simister, P.M. 163; Wm. Byway, P.M. 193; E. Williams, P.M. 325; W. H. Peak, P.M. 993; E. Nathan, P.M. 1798; A. Humphreys, P.M. 204; Thos. Wilson, P.M. 1814; Chas. J. Schofield, P.M. 1219; A. T. Forrest, W.M. 1633; Robt. Chadwick, W.M. 1147; E. Hampson, W.M. 152; H. Withington, S.W. 78; J. Holroyd, S.W. 1133; J. Molesworth, S.W. 226; W. Wright, J.W. 581; D. Conway, Treas. 152; Geo. Taylor, 1730; C. West, St. Mary's Chapel, Ireland; S. C. Lowe, 815; Jno. M. Simpson, 1387; Thos. McClelland, 1345; W. T. Farrington, 1633; J. H. Langley, 581; George Redfern, 1993; J. W. Irving, W.M. 127 (S.C.); W. Appleby, and R. R. Lisenden, S.W. 317 (*Freemason*).

The lodge was opened at 4 o'clock, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Messrs. Socrates, N. Porthos, and Henry K. Moutt, and being favourable in both instances, they were subsequently severally initiated into Freemasonry by Bro. Wm. Bagnall, P.M., who occupied the chair at the request of the W.M. The ceremony of installation came next on the tapis, Bro. Henry Paulden, W.M., performing in his usual careful and painstaking manner the important duties of installing Master. The W.M. elect, Bro. Jno. Cliffe, after having been formally presented to the installing Master by Bro. R. A. Eldershaw, P.M., was subsequently inducted into the chair of K.S., with all due rite and ceremony. On the re-appearance of all N.M.'s, the fact of Bro. Cliffe's installation was proclaimed to them, and they duly saluted the new W. Master in the customary manner. The W.M. then appointed his officers, and they were forthwith invested by Bro. G. T. Mullock, P.M., as follows: Bros. Saml. Lawton, S.W.; W. Artingstall, J.W.; Rev. Phillip Hains, P.M., Chap.; John Roberts, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas. (fifth time); G. T. Mullock, P.M., Sec. (invested by W.M.); Guthrie, S.D.; A. Burgon, J.D.; R. A. Eldershaw, P.M., D.C.; James Varley, P.M., P.P.G. Org., Org.; Wilfred Bagnall, I.G.; Jas. E. Roberts, J. Grimshaw, and T. Woolley, Stewards; and J. Sly, Tyler.

The three addresses were delivered in a very impressive manner by the installing Master, who concluded the ceremony. A proposition was made by the W.M., seconded, and carried, that a soiree be held in connection with the lodge on the second Wednesday in February. A most commendable and charitable action inaugurated Bro. Cliffe's accession to office, being no other than voting from the lodge funds the sum of £5 for the immediate relief of an old member of the lodge, who was not present, but whose case was warmly advocated by Bro. Humphries, P.M. A proposition was made, seconded, and carried, that the sum previously mentioned be given to Bro. Humphries to be handed to the distressed brother, and there being no further business, "Hearty good wishes" were expressed by the numerous visitors, and the lodge was closed in peace and harmony.

The brethren afterwards dined together, celebrating the Festival of St. John. The usual loyal toasts were proposed by the W.M., and responded to by the brethren. Bros. T. H. Glendinning, P.P.G.J.D.; W. W. Dawson, P.G.A. D.C.; and T. Schofield, P.P.G.D. West Lanc., responded on behalf of "The V.W. Dep. P.G.M., Bro. G. Mellor, and the Present and Past P.G. Officers."

"The Health of the Initiates" was proposed by Bro. the Rev. Phillip Hains in a capital speech, and responded to by both brethren.

"The Health of the W.M." was proposed in eulogistic terms by Bro. Richard Timperley, P.M., P.P.G.D., and drunk by the brethren, after which Bro. Martin Thomas, P.M., sang "Here's to his health," and the W.M. responded in suitable terms.

Several other toasts were proposed, including "The Installing Master," "Visiting Brethren," &c., and a pleasant, but very short evening was spent. Songs were rendered by Bros. Dr. Coombes, R. R. Lisenden, and others, and Bro. James Varley presided most efficiently at the piano.

DUDLEY.—Harmonic Lodge (No. 252).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 1st inst., at Freemasons' Tavern, Stone-street. Present: Bros. G. T. Owen, W.M.; Jas. Turner, S.W.; Robt. Stevenson, J.W.; W. E. Walker, P.M., Treas.; Sam. Smith,

P.M., Sec.; Sept. Bagott, S.D.; Jas. Warham, J.D.; M. Smith, D.C.; Wm. Swallow, I.G.; Thos. Chambers, Stwd.; F. Garner, Tyler; S. Spittle, Asst. Tyler; Robt. G. Walker, I.P.M.; Wm. Smith, Wm. Waring, and George Bagott, P.M.'s; Wm. Bagott, Hy. Bagott, E. Pewtress, H. Swinchatt, E. J. Lloyd, E. J. Chambers, Jas. Jones, J. H. Jevons, A. J. Baird, Robt. Preece, J. Sidaway, Geo. Morgan, Thos. White, Rich. J. Guest, A. J. Collett, and C. E. Cole (after initiation). Visitors: Bros. G. H. Stanger, W.M. 419, and Jos. Bellingham, 498.

The lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. R. J. Guest was duly passed to the Second Degree; and Messrs. A. J. Collett and C. E. Cole, who were elected at the previous meeting, were initiated into the First Degree of Freemasonry. The S.W. was elected to fill the office of W.M. for the ensuing year; and Bro. W. E. Walker, P.M., was re-elected as Treasurer. The brethren expressed their regret that their esteemed Bro. T. F. Higgs, P.M., was still unable to be present at the lodge on account of severe illness; and they passed a vote expressive of their sincere sympathy with him, and of their earnest hope for his speedy restoration to health. The recommendation of an unfortunate brother's petition to the Grand Lodge Board of Benevolence was signed by the W.M., Wardens, and brethren present, amid general expressions of regret at learning the sad state of things that necessitated the appeal. After receiving the proposition of another candidate for initiation, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

MANCHESTER.—Affability Lodge (No. 317).—The usual meeting was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, on Thursday, the 3rd inst. Present: Bros. J. W. Edwards, W.M.; R. R. Lisenden, S.W.; J. Garside, J.W.; Wm. Nicholl, P.M., Treas.; E. Smith, Sec.; W. B. Akerman, S.D.; E. Wehl, I.G.; J. Sly, Tyler; John Bladon, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C.; James Wilson, P.M.; Jas. Dawson, P.M.; John Smethurst, P.M.; H. Walmsley, P.M.; W. J. Cunliffe, P.M.; J. R. Lever, P.M.; J. E. Middlehurst, F. Walstencroft, C. E. Daber, A. Rottmayer, E. Chesworth, V. C. M. Vultchaff, S. Staton, W. Rennie, G. E. Swindell, J. Pearson, J. Eckersley, and E. Wormleighton. Visitors: Bros. J. Walker, P.M. 37, P.G.J.W.; Chas. Neale, 1357; and Jno. Bowers, 1730. The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Staton, after answering the necessary questions leading from the First to the Second Degree, was subsequently made a F.C. by Bro. James Wilson, P.M., who occupied the chair by permission of the W.M. Bro. R. R. Lisenden, S.W., delivered the charge to the candidate. This being the night for electing the W.M. for the ensuing year, the choice of the brethren fell upon Bro. Lisenden, whom the W.M. announced to be unanimously elected; and Bro. Lisenden returned thanks for the honour. Bro. W. J. Cunliffe, P.M., was elected Treasurer, and re-appointed Charity representative, and expressed his thanks in suitable words for the honour. Bro. James Sly was re-elected Tyler, and also returned his thanks to the brethren. The W.M., W.M. elect, and the P.M.'s were selected to make the necessary arrangements for the St. John's Festival. The W.M. announced his intention of being Steward for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; Bro. W. J. Cunliffe, P.M., to the Boys'; and Bro. Jas. Garside, S.W., for the Girls'. There being no further business, "Hearty good wishes" were expressed by the visitors, and the lodge was closed in peace and harmony.

HARTLEPOOL.—St. Helen's Lodge (No. 531).—The ceremony of installation of the W.M. elect of this lodge was performed on the 3rd inst., at the Masonic Hall, Regent's-square, by Bro. John Hunter, P.P.G.J.W., the W.M. being Bro. F. Hockaday, who invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year, viz.: Bros. M. Harrison, I.P.M.; J. Vetherell, S.W.; E. Nixey, J.W.; Walter Shaw, Treas.; Henry Kirby, Sec.; J. Patrick, S.D.; William Belk, J.D.; Bolton, I.G.; Hutchinson, Tyler; J. Wilson, Org.; B. Ferrier, S.S.; J. Hogg, J.S.; and W. Hardy, A.S.

At the close of the ceremony the brethren adjourned to the Cleveland Hotel, where a banquet was served by Host Humble, and presided over by the W.M. elect, when a numerous company, including several visiting brethren, assembled.

WIMBORNE.—St. Cuthberga Lodge (No. 632).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Monday, the 7th inst. There were present W. Bros. W. Burt, W.M.; Merson, I.P.M.; Harvey, S.W.; F. Buden, J.W.; Rev. W. M. Heath, Chap.; Lodder, Treas.; Whitehead Smith, Sec.; Hatchard, S.D.; Harrod, J.D.; Frampton, I.G.; E. T. Budden, P.M.; H. C. Burt, P.M.; Wyke-Smith, P.M.; and Parkinson, P.M., with a numerous attendance of members of the lodge and visiting brethren.

After confirming the minutes of the last meeting, and voting a sum of ten guineas to be placed on the list of Bro. E. T. Budden, as Steward of the Masonic Benevolent Institution, a very interesting and gratifying sequel to the business of the evening was the presentation of a testimonial to the secretary, Bro. Whitehead Smith. The W.M., addressing Bro. Smith, expressed in feeling terms the high estimation in which he was held by the members of the lodge, both for his personal qualities and for the able and earnest way in which, for the past eleven years, he had carried out the duties of his office, and how they felt that some acknowledgment was due to him for the services which he had so ably and gratuitously rendered, sometimes under peculiar circumstances of difficulty, and at a sacrifice of his own personal convenience. Tendering to him the hearty good wishes of the brethren, he begged Bro. Smith's acceptance of a gold P.M.'s jewel.

Bro. H. C. Burt then rose, and said that the anxiety of the brethren to do honour to their Bro. the Secretary for his valuable services had been shown to such an extent that, after providing for the jewel which had just been presented, there remained a sufficient balance of funds to add to it a silver tea service, consisting of a teapot, milk jug, and sugar basin, which it was now his privilege and pleasure to present, in the name of the brethren, for acceptance by Bro. Smith, together with an address and list of subscribers. This last, enclosed in a neat morocco case, had been engrossed on vellum by Bro. Horace Budden, a member of the lodge.

Bro. Whitehead Smith acknowledged the kindness of the brethren and their appreciation of the little service he had been able to render the lodge. What he had done had been a work of love, and he hoped to be able to show in the future that the memory of that evening would never pass from his mind, for, though he needed no spur to urge him on to increased exertions in furthering the prosperity of his dear mother lodge, yet his failure to find words in which to express adequate thanks for the handsome gift of the brethren should find compensation in continued devotion to its welfare.

At the banquet which followed, after the usual loyal and Masonic toasts,

Bro. Rev. W. M. Heath, as the oldest P.M. present, proposed "The Health of Bro. Whitehead Smith," and, in the course of his remarks, congratulated himself on having been instrumental in launching Bro. Smith on his Masonic career, as it was from his hands that he had received the Second and Third Degrees, and he had with great satisfaction watched Bro. Smith ever since, and noted how he had persistently persevered in carrying out the principles and teaching of Masonry he had then embraced.

Bro. Smith made a suitable response, and repeated the assurances he had made to the brethren in the lodge.

The jewel and tea service, which were of the handsomest description, were much admired.

DERBY.—Arboretum Lodge (No. 731).—A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 9th inst., at the Masonic Hall. Present: Bros. J. Copestick, W.M.; E. Horne, S.W.; A. Woodiwiss, J.W.; W. Whittaker, P.M.; Treas.; J. V. Brigg, Sec.; Jesse Chadwick, S.D.; S. Taylor, J.D.; W. Forman, Org.; John Walker, D.C.; G. Sutherland, I.G.; J. Melrose and W. Todd, Stwds.; T. Day, Tyler; C. Webster, P.M.; J. Brown, P.M.; A. Frazer, P.M.; J. Bland, P.M.; T. E. Yeomans, P.M.; James Taylor, P.M.; J. Worsnop, P.M.; T. G. Sanderson, P.M.; G. H. Ward, A. Smith, E. H. Claye, G. Tarver, W. H. Wright, F. Ball, F. Sale, W. W. Haywood, A. Tyler, and W. H. Orme. Visitors: Bros. H. V. Edwards, Tyrian Lodge; W. H. Roberts, P.M. St. Cuthbert's Lodge; W. H. Murrow, Stanhope Lodge; S. Waddington, Repose Lodge; T. Lutin, P.M. Newstead Lodge; J. Monck, J.D. Repose Lodge; T. Widdowson and R. Woods, Bedford Lodge; C. D. Harty; J. E. Russell, W.M. Hartington Lodge; and W. J. Piper, S.W. Repose Lodge.

Lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last lodge were read, confirmed, and signed. Mr. G. C. Copestick was initiated by his father, the highly-esteemed W.M. of the lodge; Mr. Watson Harrison by Bro. C. Webster, I.P.M.; and Mr. James Anthony Linacre by Bro. A. Frazer, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. The work was carefully and admirably done, the charge being given in a most careful and telling manner by the J.W. After a candidate for initiation had been proposed, "Hearty good wishes" were tendered by the numerous visitors, and the lodge was closed in perfect harmony, the brethren adjourning to the Lower Hall for refreshment.

In the absence, through domestic affliction, of the Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. T. Orrell, grace was said by the W.M., and afterwards thanks returned by the S.W. The Charity box having been passed round, the W.M. briefly proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts.

To the toast of "The Prov. Grand Lodge," which was announced to be held the next day, Bro. J. Bland, Prov. G.J.D., suitably responded.

"The Health of the W.M." was ably proposed, as usual, by the Senior Warden, and met with quite an ovation.

Bro. Copestick feelingly acknowledged the compliment, and alluded to the great pleasure he had experienced in initiating his eldest son, whom he hoped would some day work up to the position he then occupied.

The W.M. then proposed "The Past Masters," heartily thanking them for so many being present, and assisting him in every manner to carry out his duties.

Bro. A. Frazer responded, and alluded to the pleasure he had felt in being permitted to initiate his very old friend and now Bro. James A. Linacre.

Bro. John Brown, P.M., then assumed the gavel, and most ably proposed the toast of "The Initiates." He said it was a toast peculiar in itself, yet needed but few remarks from him in explanation. Masonic life might be said to be but just beginning for them, and therefore of their past he had nothing to say. The tongue of good report had been heard in their favour, or they would not have been there, as the brethren were very jealous of the good reputation of their lodge. He could assure them Masonry was not a religion, but it taught the highest form of morality by symbols. He truly hoped they would study the meaning of those symbols, looking well beneath the surface, and strive by all good means to become ornaments to the lodge of which they had been admitted members.

Each Initiate having briefly and feelingly responded, Bro. W. Whittaker, P.M., Treas., was called upon to propose "The Visitors."

Bro. Thos. Lutin, 47, ably responded, highly praising the lodge for its admirable working, and trusting all who could would visit the Newstead Lodge.

Bro. J. E. Russell, 1085, also responded, as well as Bro. W. J. Waller, W.M. 802, who had arrived late.

The W.M. then proposed the toast of "The Officers," highly complimenting them on their good working, and expressed his sincere thanks for so good an attendance.

Bro. Woodiwiss, J.W., replied in the words of Mark Twain—they would always try and do their level best.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings at an early hour.

GLASTONBURY.—Pilgrims' Lodge (No. 772).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held recently, when Bro. Whitfield Perkins, S.W., was duly installed W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by Bro. R. C. Else, D.P.G.M. Somerset. The newly-installed W.M. then invited his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. H. Leaker, I.P.M.; Hodge, S.W.; H. B. Crouch, J.W.; J. A. Bright, P.M., Treas.; H. J. Taylor, P.M., Sec.; A. Vincent, S.D.; W. G. Brown, J.D.; A. Down, P.M., Org.; W. Snook, I.G.; W. McNamara, D.C.; and R. T. Fisher, Tyler.

WORKINGTON.—Sun and Sector Lodge (No. 962).—The brethren of this lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John by a social gathering in the Assembly Rooms of

the Green Dragon Hotel, on Monday evening last, the 14th inst., where upwards of eighty ladies and brethren were present.

The arrangements, which were very complete, were under the direction of Bros. Thompson, W.M., and Paterson, I.P.M., as M.C.'s, assisted by Bros. Wood, P.M.; Coverdale, P.M.; McMullen, P.M.; and Eden, Secretary.

The music was supplied by an efficient quadrille band, and dancing (interspersed with songs and recitations) was kept up throughout with great spirit.

At 11.30 p.m. a temporary adjournment was made to the supper room, where an excellent repast, served up in admirable style by the worthy host, Bro. Howieson, was thoroughly appreciated.

Several visiting brethren were present from neighbouring lodges, and one of the most enjoyable and successful gatherings ever held under the banner of No. 962 was brought to a close about 5 a.m. by the united company singing "God save the Queen" and "Auld lang syne."

LOOE.—St. Anne's Lodge (No. 970).—The brethren of the above lodge have unanimously elected Bro. G. W. Martin as their W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. John Crossman, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C., has been elected Treasurer. The date of installation and festival of St. John is fixed for January 6th, 1886.

HULL.—Kingston Lodge (No. 1010).—There was a large and influential assembly of brethren at the Worship-street Hall, on Wednesday evening, the 2nd inst., to witness the installation by Bro. H. Forder, P.M., P.P.G.D., of Bro. William H. Wellsted, C.E., as W.M., in succession to Bro. A. E. Seaton, C.E., under whose able ruling the prestige of the lodge has been well maintained. The newly-elected Master having been greeted with the customary honours, he proceeded to invest his officers for the ensuing year, the collars being thus bestowed: Bros. A. E. Seaton, C.E., I.P.M.; Col. H. F. Pudsey, S.W.; H. Firth, J.W.; Rev. Canon McCormick, D.D., Chap.; H. Forder, P.M., P.P.G.D.; C. Copland, C.E., P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; J. Carhill Savill, Sec.; W. Fowler Sutton, S.D.; J. H. Peters, J.D.; F. Fullerton, P.G.S., D.C.; W. D. Keyworth, P.M. 57, P.P.G. Supt. of Wks., Almoner; J. Pyburn, M.D., P.M., P.P.G. Reg., Org.; J. Bilson, I.G.; Thomas Dawson, Stwd.; and F. J. Lambert, P.G.T., Tyler.

After the transaction of some further business, the brethren and visitors adjourned to the Vittoria Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was provided. The W.M., Bro. Wellsted, presided, and was supported by Bros. M. C. Peck, P.G. Sec., Walton, W.M., and Corris, S.W., all of 57; White, W.M., Blackburn, S.W., and Towler, D.C., all of 250; Elsom, W.M., Webb, S.W., and A. P. Wilson, J.W., all of 1511; W. Smith, Godrich Lodge; Alderman Chapman, Councillor Toozes, Councillor John Shaw, Councillor Gillett, Frank Nicholson, M.D., P.M.; C. H. Johnson, P.M.; Alfred Cuthbert; J. Stringer; George Bohn, C.E., P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; Vincent Hill; John Harrison, C.E.; F. A. Hopwood, P.M.; E. Kipps, P.M.; James Sugden, P.M.; B. S. Jacobs, P.M.; Campbell Thompson, C.E., and others.

Letters of regret for non-attendance were received from Bros. J. P. Bell, M.D., J.P., D.P.G.M.; Moseley, P.M.; Robinson, W.M. 1605, and other brethren of eminence. The customary Masonic, patriotic, and loyal toasts were duly honoured. It is almost needless to say that the proceedings passed off with much éclat, being agreeably enlivened with an admirable selection of music. The Tyler's toast brought a highly successful and enjoyable gathering to a happy termination.

SALTASH.—Zetland Lodge (No. 1071).—The annual installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, the 8th inst., when Bro. E. R. Doney, S.W., and W.M. elect, was installed by Past Masters Bros. T. D. Deeble and J. Pearce, supported by an efficient board of installed masters. The W.M. invested the following officers:—Bros. G. Burns, I.P.M.; H. Bowden S.W.; R. C. Revell, J.W.; W. Foxwell, P.P.G.J.D., Treasurer; Joseph Rawling, P.P.G.D.C., Secretary; W. H. L. Clark, P.P.G. Std. Br., Chaplain; W. R. Rawling, S.D.; Jno. Doney, J.D.; W. T. Nancarrow, I.G.; T. Shaddock, D.C.; J. H. Dingle, S.S.; J. Lander, P.M., J.S.; and J. Deeble, Tyler.

BIRMINGHAM.—Emulation Lodge (No. 1163).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 26th ult., at Masonic Hall, New-street. Present: Bros. T. Troman, P.M., P.G.O., W.M.; H. G. Andrews, S.W.; T. R. Shelley, J.W.; P. House, Treas.; F. C. Taylor, Sec.; F. J. C. Taylor, S.D.; R. D. Paul, J.D.; E. J. Harris, D.C.; W. Brookes, I.G.; L. Neale, Stwd.; J. Chapman, Tyler; T. E. Shaw, P.M., P.P.G.D.; P. House, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C.; E. J. Harris, P.M.; J. H. Hawkes, P.M.; S. Toy, P.M.; G. Halleley, and N. Thwaite.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last regular lodge read, confirmed, and signed. The W.M. then presented to W. Bro. T. E. Shaw, P.M., P.P.G.D., on behalf of the brethren, an album containing the likenesses of the officers and members of the lodge, also an address as follows:

"Lodge of Emulation, No. 1163, W. Bro. T. E. Shaw, P.P.G.D., W.M. 1876, 1884 and 1885. This token was presented by the brethren to their beloved Worshipful Master on his retiring from the office, as a mark of appreciation for the perfect work, and the urbanity and brotherly love manifested to all, and the general interest taken in the lodge. November 26th, 1885."

In making the presentation the W.M. referred to the many obligations the lodge was under to Bro. Shaw, and the many acts of kindness he has displayed towards the officers in instructing them in the various duties. The wishes of the brethren were that their W. brother might be spared for many years to render assistance for the prosperity of the lodge.

Bro. Shaw, in reply, thanked the brethren for the gift, which he said would be a lasting memento to him. What he had done for the lodge and brethren had been a labour of love, and he could not express in words the pleasure he felt in receiving that kind mark of their appreciation.

SUDBURY.—Stour Valley Lodge (No. 1224).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 20th ult., at the Masonic Hall. Present: Bros. C. W. Gum-

wood, W.M.; Daniel Alston, S.W.; H. C. Pratt, J.W.; J. Frome Wilkinson, Chap.; J. F. Hills, P.M., Treas.; F. Wheeler, P.M., Sec.; W. J. Mason, S.D.; A. H. Fenn, J.D.; E. C. Mauldon, D.C.; C. Joslin, I.G.; J. George, Stwd.; H. M. Sholl, Tyler; C. J. Martyn, D.P.G.M. Suffolk; F. W. Jennings, P.M.; W. G. Walford, P.M.; T. B. Ardley, P.M.; H. Welham, P.M.; C. Emmerson, P.M.; W. H. Smith, P.M.; Reid, Joy, Kelpack, Sewell, Lilley, Coote, Whittle, Row, Denny, Rivolta, Lord, April, Carlton, and Bladon. Visitors: Bros. W. Clark, P.G.P.; Geo. Thompson, P.M. 1008; A. Taylor, I.G. 332; F. R. W. Hedges, 1900; and F. Horseman, 51.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Statement of accounts for the past year were read and ordered to be printed. Mr. Geo. Grant was initiated by the W.M., the I.P.M., Bro. Jennings, giving the charge. The Installing Master, Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, D.P.G.M., then took the chair, and Bro. Alston was regularly installed W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. W. Clark, P.G.P., acting, as D.C. The W.M. then appointed his officers as follows: Bros. H. C. Pratt, S.W.; W. J. Mason, J.W.; the Rev. J. Frome Wilkinson, Chap.; J. F. Hills, Treas.; F. Wheeler, Sec.; A. H. Fenn, S.D.; C. Joslin, J.D.; J. George, Stwd.; B. H. Hurst, Org.; M. Reid, D.C.; and H. M. Sholl, Tyler.

The Charity column was passed round the lodge and produced 27s. 9d.; and after a vote of thanks to the Installing Master and Bro. Clark, the brethren, to the number of about 40, adjourned to the Rose and Crown Hotel and partook of an excellent banquet, prepared by Bro. George, where the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and honoured, and where peace, harmony, and good fellowship prevailed.

SITTINGBOURNE.—St. Michael's Lodge (No. 1273).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 10th inst., at the Town Hall. There were present Bros. Rev. William Bond, W.M.; T. J. Seale, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C., as S.W.; G. Goble, J.W.; G. Payne, P.M., Treasurer; F. J. Seale, P.M., Secretary; H. Morris, S.D.; D. M. Cowie, J.D.; L. Seager, I.G.; C. Bradley and A. J. Lee, Stwds.; C. Bennett, Tyler; C. Burley, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C.; K. G. Kennett, H. Iron, I.P.M.; A. Stooke, H. Johnson, A. C. Stark, T. Burley, E. K. A. Scoones. Bro. A. C. Stark was passed to the Second Degree. Bros. T. Burley and E. R. A. Scoones were initiated, the passing and initiation ceremonies being ably rendered by Bro. the Rev. William Bond, in a very effective manner. At the close of the meeting, the brethren adjourned to the Bull Hotel and partook of supper, prepared by the Host, Bro. Owen, in his usual excellent style.

REDHILL.—Royal Albert Edward Lodge (No. 1362).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 5th inst., at the Market Hall, when there were present Bros. Charles Nightingale, W.M.; James Nightingale, S.W.; H. Trower, J.W.; H. Austen, Treas.; Wm. J. Kemp, P.M., Sec.; R. Killick, S.D.; P. Shepherd, J.D.; A. J. Gant, D.C.; A. H. Rees, I.G.; C. Heather, Tyler; H. Summers, I.P.M.; W. A. Laker, P.M.; J. C. Gant, P.M.; J. Mew, P.M.; G. Laker, Godson, Ellwood, Dellagana, Markham, Hammond, Feild, Barnes, Berrett, Hamilton, Saunders, and Alberty. Visitors: Bros. J. Seeks, P.M. 186, and 1426; J. Abbott, 973; G. Ralling, 51; W. B. Newby, 463; G. Hall, 463; and D. M. Sherwill, 513.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Dellagana was raised by the W.M. to the Third Degree. A ballot was taken for Mr. Edwin Pitman, who was unanimously elected, and afterwards initiated by Bro. Summers, I.P.M., into Antient Freemasonry. Bro. James Nightingale was then installed by Bro. W. J. Kemp as W.M. of the lodge, and afterwards appointed his officers as follows: H. Trower, S.W.; R. Killick, J.W.; H. Austen, Treas.; W. J. Kemp, Sec.; P. Shepherd, S.D.; A. H. Rees, J.D.; A. J. Gant, I.G.; W. C. Saunders, D.C.; J. A. D. Hamilton, W.S.; and C. Heather, Tyler. The usual addresses were then given by Bro. W. J. Kemp. The report of the Audit Committee showing a satisfactory balance, it was unanimously adopted. Several letters were read, including one from Florida, from Bro. C. W. Arnold, P.P.D.G.M. Surrey, thanking the lodge for a resolution passed at the last meeting wishing him happiness and prosperity in his new home.

The lodge was then closed, and a banquet was subsequently held, at which the usual toasts were proposed, and Bro. C. Nightingale, I.P.M., was presented with a P.M.'s jewel.

OLD BROMPTON.—Brownrigg Lodge of Unity (No. 1424).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 14th inst., at the King's Arms Hotel, when there were present Bros. William Browne, W.M.; James Plummer, S.W.; William Wilson, J.W.; A. F. Johnstone, P.M., Treas.; C. W. Slaney, Sec.; A. Snelling, S.D.; B. Hoe, J.D.; L. Salt, D.C.; H. Chalfont, I.G.; J. J. Long and A. F. A. Stride, Stwds.; John Drago, Tyler; P.M.'s Bates, Ramsden, Boulton, Morgan, Knott, Johnstone, and others. Visitors: Bros. Warne, P.M., P.Z. 20; Cockburn, W.M. 20; Heager, W.M. 77; and others.

The installation of Bro. Wm. Browne was performed by Bro. J. A. Bates, P.M., founder of lodge, and first S.W., in a most impressive and solemn manner, which elicited a hearty vote of thanks from the brethren, which was also supported by Bro. Warne, P.M., and the remainder of the visitors. The Installing Master spoke in high terms of the previous working of the W.M., Bro. Browne. The retiring W.M., Bro. S. E. Morgan, was presented with a P.M.'s jewel, the W.M., at the time, complimenting him upon the exceedingly effective manner in which he had always performed his duties in the lodge. The banquet was held in the lodge room after the ceremony.

LOWESTOFT.—St. Margaret Lodge (No. 1452).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 10th inst., at the Masonic Hall. There were present Bros. G. Bush, W.M.; J. B. Blackmore, S.W.; B. S. Bradbeer, J.W.; J. B. Blackmore, Chap.; H. J. Eastaugh, Sec.; D. C. Smith, I.G.; W. J. Roberts, Stwd.; J. Wright, Tyler; H. W. H. Elwes, P.M., P.G.S.D.; F. A. Mann, P.M., P.P.G. Org.; F. Seago, and J. P. Smith. The visitors were Bros. S. Allerton, W.M. 71; W. Dods, 1631, P.P.G.J.W.; N. Tracy, 376, P.G. Sec.; J. C. Smith, P.M.; and Loveless, P.P.G. Org.

The first business was to read a dispensation from the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, allowing the lodge to be held on this day, instead of the regular lodge day, owing to the Parliamentary elections taking place then. After the minutes of the previous lodge were read and confirmed, the W.M. elect, Bro. the Rev. J. B. Blackmore, Prov. G. Chap., was presented for installation, the ceremony being very impressively rendered by Bro. N. Tracy, Prov. G. Secretary of Suffolk. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows: Bros. G. Bush, I.P.M.; B. S. Bradbeer, S.W.; H. B. Walker, J.W.; T. S. Tearne, S.D.; D. C. Smith, J.D.; P. Alley, P.M.; Treasurer; H. J. Eastaugh, P.M., Secretary; W. J. Roberts, I.G.; and J. Wright, Tyler.

At the conclusion of the lodge business, the brethren partook of an excellent banquet, provided by Mr. W. Seeley, Crown Hotel, and subsequently the following toast list was duly carried out and honoured: "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W. the Grand Master of England," "The R.W. the Pro Grand Master," "The V.W. the Deputy Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Officers Past and Present," "The Worshipful Master," "The Installing Master," "The Visitors," "The Masonic Charities," "The Worshipful Master and Brethren of Lodge Unity," "The I.P.M. and Past Masters of St. Margaret's Lodge," "The Officers of St. Margaret's Lodge," and the Tyler's toast.

PLUMSTEAD.—United Military Lodge (No. 1536).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 11th inst., at the Lord Raglan Assembly Rooms, Bro. W. Moulds in the chair. Among the other brethren present were Bros. W. Weston, P.M., P.P.G. Swd. Br. Kent; G. Spinks, P.M., P.G. Std. Br. Kent; G. Kenneyday, P.M.; A. Penfold, P.M., P.G. Std. Br. Kent; W. Maule, S.W.; R. Gooding, J.W.; James Morton, Sec.; James Gee, Treas.; T. Cooper, S.D.; A. Murdock, J.D.; Robinson, I.G.; E. Palmer, W.M. 913; C. Jolly, 913 (Freemason), and about 50 other brethren and visitors.

The lodge having been duly opened, Bros. Battery Quartermaster Sergt. S. Weibkin, 730, and E. L. Evans, Ordnance Artificer Corps, 1696, were admitted as joining members. The ballot was then taken for Quartermaster Sergt. A. Hill, R.A., and Battery Quartermaster Sergt. R. Hambridge, R.A., and, proving unanimous, those gentlemen were duly initiated. Bros. Day, Haynes, Buckenham, and Wilde were passed, and Bro. Holliday was raised—a most arduous night's work, most ably done by the W.M. and his officers.

After a nice little supper, a few hours were devoted to the usual loyal, Masonic, provincial, and personal toasts, which were interspersed with some excellent harmony.

MORECAMBE.—Morecambe Lodge (No. 1561).—The ordinary and also the annual installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 4th inst., at the King's Arms Hotel. The lodge was opened under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. T. Atkinson, amongst those present being Bros. Capt. Garnett, P.M., P.P.G.S.W. M. Lanc.; John Hatch, P.G.S. of W.; R. Stanton, W.M. 281; Major Turner, W.M. 1051; D. Shaw, J.W. 1353; the W.M.'s of Lodges 113, 314, 333, and 343, and other brethren from Preston.

The ballot was taken for Mr. Thomas Tomlinson, and proving successful, he was initiated into the mysteries of the Craft by the W.M. The chair was afterwards taken by Bro. Capt. Garnett, as Installing Master, when the W.M. elect, Bro. W. E. M. Tomlinson (M.P. for Preston), was duly presented, and regularly installed as W.M. of the lodge, the ceremony being most efficiently performed. Bro. W. Longmire, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C., gave the addresses to the officers, and Bro. T. Longmire, P.M., presented the working tools. The newly-installed W.M. subsequently appointed his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. T. Atkinson, I.P.M.; J. Brown, S.W.; J. F. Willan, J.W.; W. Stephenson, Treas.; W. Duff, P.M., Sec.; J. L. Gorton, S.D.; H. Baxter, J.D.; J. Scholfield, I.G.; and T. Wilkinson, Tyler. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Officer, Bro. Garnett, for his services, and after the usual routine business the lodge was closed, and the members adjourned to an adjoining room, where the banquet was held, under the chairmanship of the newly-installed Master. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair, and responded to with the usual honours.

Bro. Capt. Garnett proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master," that of "The Installing Officer" being given by Bro. Duff, each of which was received with the greatest enthusiasm, and duly acknowledged.

The toast of "The Visitors" was acknowledged by Bro. Nevett, W.M. 113.

HAMPTON WICK.—Wolsey Lodge (No. 1656).—This lodge met at the Rose and Crown Hotel, on Monday, the 14th inst. Among those present were Bros. Piller, W.M.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., S.W.; Chandler, J.W.; the Rev. C. De Crespigny, P.P.G. Chap., Treas.; T. W. Ockenden, P.P.G.D. Middx., Sec.; Jobbins, S.D.; Dare, acting J.D.; Gerhold and Belbin, Stwds.; W. T. Peat, Org.; Featherstone, P.P.G.P. Middx., P.M.; Sapsworth, Grant, T. J. Smith, Mahood, J. J. Smith, L. Plambock, R. Drummond, R. Masters, and others. Bro. Woodward, P.G. Sec. Middx., &c., was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Ockenden proposed, and Bro. the Rev. C. De Crespigny seconded, "That Bro. J. F. H. Woodward, Prov. Grand Secretary of Middlesex, be elected an honorary member of the lodge." This resolution was put and carried unanimously. Votes of thanks were also passed to Bros. Col. S. H. Clerke, G. Sec., and J. F. H. Woodward, P.G. Sec., for their services in respect to recent removal of the lodge. Letters of apology were received from Bros. Forge, P.M.; Handel, J.D.; and others.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. A few toasts followed, and a most agreeable evening was spent, under the genial presidency of the W.M.

MANCHESTER.—Zion Lodge (No. 1798).—Monday, the 7th inst., was the occasion of the installation of Bro. Marks Steinart as W.M. during the ensuing 12 months. Bro. Steinart is a most worthy and well respected brother, and it was a matter of pleasure to him to see every member of the lodge who could be present on the occasion to support him. The lodge was likewise honoured with several visitors, among their number being several

provincial officers of note. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows: Bros. Morris Rosenthal, S.W.; Philip Hart, J.W.; Joseph Shorps, Treas.; Geo. Rideal, Sec.; W. H. Boycott, S.D.; L. Frankmetoin, J.D.; George Crocker, I.G.; and the Rev. J. H. Valentine, I.P.M., Chap.; the Rev. S. Alexander, Organist; Abram Besse and W. Edwards, Stewards; and George Board, P.M., Director of Ceremonies.

INSTRUCTION.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—The weekly meeting was held on the 15th inst., at the Victoria Mansions, Victoria-street. There were present Bros. Lovegrove, W.M.; Cooper, S.W.; Mount, J.W.; Cottebrone, P.G.P., Preceptor; Shaw, S.D.; Chapman, J.D.; Krohn, I.G.; Cross, Sec.; Cobham, Stroud, Hunt, Corby, and Weekes.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Stroud being the candidate. The address to the candidate was admirably given by the W.M. Lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Corby answered the questions leading to the Third Degree, and was duly entrusted. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed. Lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting. The lodge was then closed.

TEMPERANCE LODGE (No. 169).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Friday evening, the 4th inst., at the Duke of York Tavern, Evelyn-street, Deptford, when there were present Bros. Dale, W.M.; Pitt, S.W.; Abbott, J.W.; Percival, S.D.; Dixon, J.D.; Borrett, I.G.; Milbourn, Preceptor; Strickland, Secretary; Vellenoweth, Akehurst, Johnson, and Lazarus.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Akehurst personating candidate. The questions preparatory to passing having been answered, Bro. Lazarus was entrusted with a test of merit, the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Lazarus as candidate. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. The W.M. rose for the first time, and Bros. Lazarus, of the Southwark Lodge, 879, and H. Johnson, of the Temperance Lodge, 169, were unanimously elected members; the dues were collected. The W.M. rose for the second time, and the S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The W.M. rose for the third time. The resignation of the Hon. Secretary, Bro. Strickland, was regretfully accepted. Bro. Milbourn, No. 13, the esteemed Preceptor, was unanimously re-elected; Bro. Dale, S.D. 169, was elected Treasurer; and Bro. Charles Vellenoweth, 169, Secretary. A hearty vote of thanks, to be recorded on the minutes of the lodge, was then passed, thanking Bro. Strickland, the late Secretary, for his services during the past four years. The lodge was then closed.

At the meeting on the 11th inst., there were present Bros. Percival, W.M.; Lazarus, S.W.; Hovey, J.W.; Akehurst, S.D.; Sanderson, J.D.; Dale, I.G.; Milbourn, Preceptor; Vellenoweth, Secretary; Strickland, and North.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Strickland being the candidate. Questions preparatory to passing having been answered, Bro. Sanderson was entrusted with a test of merit. Lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Sanderson being the candidate. The lodge was opened and closed in the Third Degree. Lodge was closed in the Second Degree. The W.M. rose for the first time, and dues were collected. The W.M. rose for the second time, and the S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The W.M. rose for the third time, and it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that a vote of thanks, to the W.M., be recorded on the minutes of the lodge, for the excellent manner in which he had worked the ceremonies for the first time in the lodge. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—The weekly meeting of this lodge was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, on Tuesday, the 8th inst. There were present Bros. G. Lavington, W.M.; R. Rowlands, S.W.; Peet, J.W.; the Rev. H. Townshend, S.D.; E. M. Gibson, I.G.; R. Walden, Sec.; J. Hill, Preceptor; and others.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and resumed in the First. As the ceremony of passing was to be rehearsed, Bro. E. M. Gibson answered the questions, and gave proofs of his proficiency in the First Degree. The lodge was resumed in the Second Degree, and the ceremony was worked by Bro. Peet, upon the command of the W.M., who is a very young Mason. The lodge was called off and on. The 4th Section of the Second Lecture was worked by the Preceptor and the S.W. The lodge being resumed in the Third Degree, was closed down in the usual form. After the usual congratulations, Bro. Hill proposed, and Bro. Peet seconded, that Bro. R. Rowlands, S.W., be the W.M. for the ensuing week. After this had been put to the vote, Bro. Rowlands acknowledged his thanks for his election, appointed his officers in rotation, and named his work to be the Third ceremony, the charge, and the 1st and 2nd Sections of the Third Lecture. Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 14th inst., at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland square, Porchester-terrace, Paddington, W. Present: Bros. R. E. Cursons, W.M.; J. H. Wood, S.W.; C. S. Mote, J.W.; G. Read, P.M. 511, Treasurer and Preceptor; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, Secretary; G. Dickinson, S.D.; O. W. Battley, J.D.; J. Potter, I.G.; J. Cruttenden, Stwd.; W. H. Chalfont, P.M. 1425; W. Harris, M. J. Green, E. C. Mulvey, T. Rossdale, W. Death, W. Rogers, and J. C. Conway. Visitors: Bros. C. E. B. Rudd, 765; and E. Greenboam, 212.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was called off and on. After the usual preliminaries, the ceremonies of initiation and raising were rehearsed, Bros. Mulvey and Rogers being the candidates respectively. Bro. Greenboam was unanimously elected a member. Bro. Wood was elected W.M. for next meeting, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

MARQUESS OF RIPON LODGE (No. 1489).—The members of the above lodge of instruction met on Monday last at Bro. Hart's, Queen's Hotel, Victoria-park. Lodge was opened by Bro. A. W. Weston, as W.M., who was supported by Bros. Draper, S.W.; W. Gray, P.M., J.W.; Larter, S.D.; T. Dutton, I.G.; A. G. Watkinson, acting Preceptor; Hart, Hughes, P.M.; Stephens, P.M.; Catling, Richardson, and others.

After the usual preliminaries, the evening was devoted to working the Second ceremony, Bro. Richardson candidate. Bro. Draper, S.W., next worked the 1st and 2nd Sections of the Lecture, with the usual assistance. Bro. Draper was elected as W.M. for next meeting; and a well-merited vote of thanks was unanimously accorded Bro. A. W. Weston for the truly efficient manner in which he had worked the ceremony, especially as it was the first occasion of Bro. Weston taking the position of W.M. A hearty welcome was given to Bro. Stephens, P.M., as a joining member, and lodge was closed. Brethren are cordially invited to attend.

WANDERERS LODGE (No. 1604).—A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 16th inst., at Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-street, S.W. Present: Bros. Grist, W.M.; Ray, S.W.; Bowen, J.W.; Brindley, P.M.; Preceptor; Gibson, Treas.; Musson, Sec.; C. Pugh, S.D.; Sater, J.D.; Wynn, I.G.; Weeks, Tyler; C. Taylor, P.M.; T. Cross, P.M.; Harris, Hayes, Barker, Holland, Coleman, Saunders, Dotterill, Coughlan, Thatcher, and Smales.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Gibson having answered the questions leading to

the Third Degree, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Gibson was duly raised to the Degree of a M.M. The lodge was closed down. Bro. Brindley, P.M., worked the 2nd Section of the Lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Ray was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. There being no further business, the lodge was closed.

At a meeting of the Charity Association, held afterwards, £5 ss. each was ordered to be paid in the names of Bros. B. White, W. Thatcher, and T. W. Harris.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge of instruction was held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent-Garden, W.C., on the 10th inst., when there were present Bros. W. Stroud, W.M.; E. C. Mulvey, S.W.; F. Kedge, J.W.; W. Fowles, S.D.; H. G. Marsden, J.D.; E. J. Gittens, I.G.; W. C. Smith, Preceptor; G. Reynolds, Secretary and Treasurer; Frank Gulliford, T. A. Dickson, G. H. Reynolds, and T. E. Weeks.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. W. C. Smith worked the 1st Section of the First Lecture. Bro. G. Reynolds having offered himself as a candidate for initiation, the W.M. was pleased to rehearse the ceremony with the charge. Bro. Frank Gulliford offering himself as a candidate to be passed to the Second Degree, the usual questions leading to that Degree were put, well answered, and he retired. Lodge opened in the Second Degree. The W.M. rehearsed the Degree of F.C. Bro. W. C. Smith worked the 2nd Section of the Second Lecture. Lodge resumed to the First Degree. On rising for the first time, Bro. E. J. Gittens, Manchester Lodge, 179, was unanimously elected a joining member; being proposed by Bro. E. C. Mulvey, and seconded by Bro. T. A. Dickson. On rising for the second time, Bro. W. C. Smith proposed that Bro. E. C. Mulvey S.W., be W.M. for the ensuing week—seconded by the J.W., and carried unanimously. The W.M. elect was pleased to appoint his officers in rotation. On rising for the third time, Bro. W. Fowles proposed that a hearty cordial vote of congratulation be recorded on the minutes of the lodge to Bro. W. C. Smith, their worthy Preceptor, on his recovery from his late severe illness, and all prayed that T.G.A.O.T.U. would give him health and strength, not only for his ordinary avocation, but also that he would be spared many years to impart that Masonic knowledge which he so clearly gave to those brethren who wished to seek it. They were all pleased to see him back in his old place as Preceptor—seconded by Bro. E. C. Mulvey, S.W., who cordially endorsed all that Bro. W. Fowles had said, carried unanimously. Bro. W. C. Smith made a grateful acknowledgment of their sympathy, saying how much he always felt the kindness of the brethren of the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction. They were always attentive to his instruction. During his illness he had thought of them, and appreciated the good wishes of the lodge which had been conveyed to him by kind and courteous letters from the Secretary, Bro. G. Reynolds. Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed.

Bro. W. C. Smith, on entering the lodge, was received with hearty cheers.

UBIQUE LODGE (No. 1789).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 11th inst., at the Crown and Anchor, 79, Ebury-street, S.W. Present: Bros. Coleman, W.M.; Hayes, S.W.; Musson, J.W.; G. Boulton, P.M., Preceptor; Gibson, Treas.; Coughlan, Sec.; Gibson, S.D.; Green, jun., J.D.; Mann, I.G.; Cope, Arnold, Green, sen., Grist, Folsom, Turner, Chiffcott, and Clarkson.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Folsom being the candidate. Bro. Cope, a candidate to be passed to the Second Degree, answered the usual questions, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Cope being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and closed down. Bro. Turner, 144, was unanimously elected a joining member of this lodge of instruction. Bro. Hayes was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Nothing further offering, the lodge was closed.

A meeting of the Charitable Association was afterwards held, and a ballot taken, which proved favourable to Bro. Forscutt.

Royal Arch.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER (No. 185).—This old chapter met at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on the 8th inst. Among those present were Comps. S. Elborn, M.E.Z.; T. Davis, H.; Cleghorne, J.; F. B. Davage, P.Z., S.E.; E. A. Harris, S.N.; Staley, P.S.; Harfeld, P.Z., Treas.; Rest, 1st Asst. S.; Kimpton, 2nd Asst. S.; Stewart, I.P.Z.; J. Mander, P.Z.; T. C. Walls, P.G.P. Soj., Middx., P.Z.; N. Moss, P.Z.; Davis, P.Z.; and Parkinson, Janitor. Comp. Proudfoot, 1507, was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bros. Isaac Rosenfeld and Woolfe Myers, both of No. 185, and, it proving to be unanimous, they were impressively exalted to the Royal Arch Degree by the I.P.Z.

The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to the banquet, which was well served. The customary toasts followed.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Sir George Cathcart (No. 617).—On Wednesday night, the 2nd inst., the election and installation of office bearers for 1886 took place, Bro. Captain F. W. Allan, R.W.M., presiding. There was a large meeting of the brethren and numerous visitors and deputations from sister lodges, among whom were Bros. Lieut.-Col. J. T. Stewart, Proxy Prov. G.M. Peru; Lieut.-Col. Commandant John Kidston, J. Mitchell, A. Frame, and Lieut. A. E. Black, of 607; Bennett, R.W.M. 592; Martin, R.W.M. 367; St. John, Kilwinning; Kirkintilloch, 28; and others. Letters of apology for absence were received from Bros. Rev. J. W. Ritchie, Jas. Crichton, W. Bisset, J. Howie, and others.

The result of the elections having been ascertained, the new office bearers were installed with due Masonic ceremonial by Bro. Col. J. T. Stewart as under: Bros. Capt. F. W. Allan, R.W.M. (re-elected); John Frew, S.M.; R. Gillon, S.W.; John Macindoe, J.W.; Capt. J. Crawford, Sec. (re-elected); James Winning, Treas. (re-elected); T. Galbraith, S.D.; J. D. Thomas, J.D.; Rev. J. W. Ritchie, Chap. (re-elected); Rev. Dr. Smith, Hon. Chap.; D. M'Clashan, D. of M.; J. R. Hart, I.G.; W. Bisset, Bible Bearer; T. Miller, D. of C.; James Crichton, Jeweller (re-elected); James Herriot, Marshal; C. S. Whitelaw, Pres. of Stewards (re-elected); R. Caskie, Sword Bearer; A. Skirving, Architect; and I. Davis, Tyler.

The brethren having enjoyed a pleasant hour in harmony, during which toast, song, and brotherly sentiment, with true Masonic geniality, were freely interchanged, were afterwards recalled to labour, when the lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

The Prince of Wales has contributed £25 towards the fund now being raised in order to erect a national memorial to the late Bro. the Earl of Shaftesbury.

India.

BENARES.—Fraternity and Perseverance Lodge (No. 1746, E.C.)—An emergent meeting was held on the 4th ult. to receive Bro. T. Jones, P.D.D.G.M. Bengal, as representative of the R.W. District Grand Master of Bengal, on an official inspection of the lodge. The P.D.D.G.M. gave the brethren some valuable information as to uniformity of working, and suggested the formation of lodges of instruction on the same lines as those followed at the Emulation Lodge of London, and adopted at Calcutta with great success. A vote of thanks was unanimously carried for Bro. Jones's kindness in visiting the lodge at considerable personal inconvenience. The W.M., Bro. J. R. Muirhead, then rose and expressed the great pleasure he experienced in informing Bro. Rev. A. H. Etty, P.D.G. Chap. Bengal and Burmah, Past Master and Chaplain 1746, and Past Master 1268, E.C., that brethren of the lodge had subscribed £10 10s. to provide a jewel to be presented to him (Bro. Etty) as a token of their esteem and goodwill towards him on his leaving India. Bro. Etty expressed surprise, and returned his thanks in brief, but earnest, terms. A vote of thanks was then recorded on the minutes for Bro. Etty's past services to the lodge.

Bro. George Kenning, London, has been commissioned to supply the jewel, and there is no doubt but that the article supplied will, as usual, do credit to his reputation, which is universally established in India, as well as other parts of the globe.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. F. W. BRODIE.

Bro. F. W. Brodie, now of Maidstone (formerly of Exeter), has been presented by Semper Fidelis Lodge, of which he was Secretary, with an address beautifully illuminated. The Master and Past Masters of the lodge have given him a handsome pendant to attach to the gold chain presented him by the *Gazette* staff. The address is as follows:

"Dear Sir and Brother,
"Semper Fidelis Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons desires to express its great regret at your removal from this city, and the consequent loss of one who by his faithful service and gentleness of manner has much endeared himself to all its members. The lodge feels assured your steps will be guided and directed by the Great Architect of the Universe, and that your high character and professional ability will secure for you that distinction and confidence from your fellow men to which you are entitled. The officers and members of the lodge will always rejoice in your success, believing you will continue to manifest like zeal for the success of the Order in your new sphere, and by so doing evidence your own steadfastness and do credit to this, your mother lodge.

"Signed, on behalf of the lodge,
"THOMAS ANDREW, W.M."

PROVINCIAL PRIORY OF HANTS AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Priory of Hants and the Isle of Wight was held at the Masonic Hall, Southampton, on Monday, the 7th inst., at three o'clock p.m. After the usual business had been transacted the Provincial Prior, W. W. B. Beach, M.P., appointed and invested the following officers: E. Sir Knights Thomas Best, Sub-Prior (re-appointed); Rev. E. V. Nepean, Prelate; J. E. Le Feuvre, Chancellor; H. Coles (Mayor of Southampton), Constable; E. E. Street, Marshal; C. W. A. Jellicoe, Treasurer; R. J. Rastrick, Registrar; R. L. Loveland, Vice-Chancellor; R. W. Mitchell, Sub-Marshal; C. Carter, Captain of Guards; and Briggs, Esquerry.

A NOBLE MASON.

The terrible visitation of small-pox that has for nearly five months been the scourge and terror of the city of Montreal is now gradually lessening in its virulence. At one time more than one-tenth of the population was afflicted, and the death-rate was over 300 a day. When the plague was at its height, a brother who is well known from his indefatigable exertions on behalf of, and his loyalty to, the District Grand Lodge of Quebec (E.C.), Bro. S. J. Thompson, isolated himself from his family and friends, and devoted himself, his time, and money to combat the epidemic, and relieve the distressed and console the afflicted. Such a noble act of devotion to the call of humanity might well be recorded in letters of gold, and it clearly shows that the great principles on which our Order is founded must, when acted up to as in Bro. Thompson's case, develop the highest and noblest faculties, and lead men to the practice of universal beneficence and charity.

MESSRS. WELFORD AND SONS (LIMITED).

The inhabitants of the metropolis are to be congratulated on the milk supply thereto, doubtless brought to this stage of perfection by the influence and actions of such firms as Welford and Sons (Limited); there we find exceptional advantages offered and care taken for the delivery of milk perfectly fresh and pure. Their Home Farms, situated at Willesden, and within the Metropolitan area, enable them to deliver the produce of the same to their numerous patrons three or four times daily, and to invalids, infants, and persons of delicate digestion, and other cases where the milk is required to be taken quite fresh, it is obvious that a supply delivered directly after milking, as in this case, is not only unique, but most necessary. Messrs. Welford have taken numerous prizes, cups, and medals, for the quality of their products, and amongst others the Gold Medal of the International Health Exhibition, for the quality and purity of their farm produce. The Butter-making, Cream Separating, and manufacture of their Silver Medal Cream Cheese, are carried on daily at their chief office. The whole of the farms, dairies, &c., together with employes and their families, are under the superintendence of their medical officers, and the sanitary arrangements throughout have been carefully devised and carried out by their sanitary engineer. The herds of goats stationed at the chief office and farms show the care taken to provide the nursery with one of the best articles of diet for infants.



BRO. D. P. CAMA, P.M., P.Z.

Our readers are aware that Bro. D. P. Cama—an account of whose installation as W.M. of the lodge bearing his name will be found elsewhere—is one of the candidates nominated early during the present month for the Grand Treasurership, and that they may understand more clearly the nature and extent of his services both to the Craft and the general body of the community likewise, we take the liberty of laying before our readers the following description, derived from the letter of a correspondent—Bro. F. Ernest Pocock, M.D.—which appeared in the *Freemason* towards the beginning of November:—

Bro. Dorabjee Pestonjee Cama, W.M. designate of the Cama Lodge, No. 2105, whose connection with Freemasonry dates from the year 1806, was, in the course of a voyage round the world, initiated in the *Courage with Humanity* Lodge, No. 392, Calcutta. In 1871 he joined the Marquis of Dalhousie Lodge, No. 1159, of which he is at the present time senior Past Master and subscribing member. In 1874 he joined the Harmony Lodge, No. 255, Richmond, Surrey, and last year the Sir Francis Burdett Lodge, No. 1503, Twickenham. He is also an Honorary Member of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, No. 1642, and a subscribing member of the Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 777, Guildford.

In the Royal Arch he is a founder and the senior P.Z. of the Sir Francis Burdett Chapter, No. 1503, and I.P.Z. of the Iris Chapter, No. 255. He is also an Hon. Member of the Earl of Carnarvon Chapter, No. 1642.

In the Mark Degree he is W.M. of the Percy Lodge, No. 114, a member of the Hiram Lodge, No. 13, and an Hon. Member of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, No. 711.

In addition, he has had conferred upon him provincial honours in all the Three Degrees, being a P.G. Swd. Br. in Middlesex, and P.G.M.O. in Middlesex and Surrey (Mark); and is besides a Grand Officer in the Cryptic Degrees of Freemasonry, and in the Grand Lodge of M.M.M.

He and Mrs. Cama are both Patrons of our four noble Charitable Institutions, viz., the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the Mark Benevolent Fund, and they have both of them served the office of Steward at the different Festivals.

Outside, as well as inside Freemasonry, Bro. D. P. Cama is well to the fore. He is the son of our benevolent Bro. P. H. Cama, of Bombay, and is well-known in London as a life member of several scientific and other societies; as well as by numerous acts of public and private benevolence. It was a Cama firm who first started in the City as Indian merchants; and when the original firm was dissolved in 1862, they distributed nearly £15,000 among the Charitable Institutions with which Bro. Cama, senior, was connected in London. The Hospital for Women in Bombay, the foundation-stone of which was laid in 1883 by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, two days after his arrival in that country, was also founded by Bro. P. H. Cama, at a cost of nearly £20,000.

The directorate of the Alhambra have resolved on introducing their Christmas programme at as early a date as possible, a grand military spectacular ballet by M. Hansen, entitled "Le Bivouac," with music composed and selected by M. Jacobi, having been arranged for production on Monday evening next, when the corps de ballet and auxiliaries will number upwards of 200. The popular ballet of "Nina," with Mdlle. Palladino and Miss Lillie Lee in the accustomed rôles, will also be given, together with a long programme by a very strong array of variety artists.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT MESSRS. G. BOTTERILL AND SONS AND THE 1885 TOBACCO CROP.

A curious circumstance connected with the good crop of Havana cigars since 1869 is that every fourth year after that date has been exceptionally good, viz.: 1873, 1877, 1881, and now 1885. We consider it partially owing to the cycle of moist seasons, but more particularly to the exhaustion of the soil, which takes, at least, three years to recover itself after a crop of tobacco. The intermediate crops are fed by the phosphates used, the actual soil not having any virtue in it. We therefore consider from past experience that connoisseurs may not expect another good crop until 1889. Harranagus are the best fine light cigars this year. Morales, in fine sizes, are exceptionally good, but of much richer quality. We have had the pleasure of testing several brands of Messrs. Botterill and Sons' Havana cigars of this year's growth, and can with confidence recommend them to our numerous readers and all lovers of a really good cigar.



BRO. J. S. CUMBERLAND, P.M., P.Z.

Bro. J. S. CUMBERLAND who, on Monday evening, was installed first W. Master of the United Northern Counties Lodge, No. 2128, and whose portrait we have much pleasure in presenting to our readers, has for several years past taken a very active part in Masonry in the Province of N. and E. Yorkshire. He is a Past Master of the Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611, York, as well as W.M. of the New Lodge just consecrated, and a Past P.G.J.W. of N. and E. Yorkshire. He is P.Z. Eboracum Chapter, P. Prov. G. Std. B., and Prov. G.J. in R.A. Masonry, and a P.M. York Lodge (Time Immemorial), and a P.P.G.S.W. in the same province in Mark Masonry, besides being Past G.J.O. in the Mark Grand Lodge of England and Wales. He has the further distinction of being a most genial man, and in every way qualified by his tact and kindness of feeling and manner, combined with a firmness of character, which all must respect, to conduct the business of a newly-formed lodge. These few particulars will give but a faint idea of the amount of energy which Bro. Cumberland has brought to bear on his labours during a long Masonic career, while we should be doing him a great injustice if we did not mention his important services to our charitable institutions; the welfare of each of which he has, both as contributor and steward, laid himself out year after year to promote.

MASONIC CONVERSAZIONE.

A most agreeable reception was given on Thursday, the 10th inst., at Croydon, by the Masons of the Province of Surrey. The entertainment took place in the beautiful new hall attached to the Greyhound Hotel, and was presided over by General J. Studholme Brownrigg, C.B., the Grand Master of the province.

A large gathering of ladies and brethren accepted the invitations, among whom were Bro. Henry Baber, 1799, and Mrs. and Miss H. Baber; Bro. J. Michell, 463, and Mrs. Michell; Bro. W. H. Ranson, 1790, and the Misses Cattersons; Bro. J. Kelvington, 1790, and Mrs. and Miss Kelvington; Bros. F. S. Ridpath, 2096, 1790; C. Beckett, 1319; R. R. Weed, 1716; W. A. Frost, 2000; G. S. Horsnail, 1790, and Mrs. Horsnail and Mrs. Clarke; Bro. B. Green, 87, and Mrs. Green; Bros. W. Foulsham, 24, 406, 1790; F. Carter, 1892, and Mrs. Carter; Bro. A. Verdon, 1892, and Mrs. Verdon; Bro. C. White, 1790, and Mrs. White; Bro. T. Griffiths, 463, and Miss Nicholls; Bros. W. H. Gates, 463; H. M. Hobbs, 2096, and Miss Halford, Misses Aston, Misses Heath, and Miss Hobbs; Bros. R. De Lacy, 1706; J. Edwards, 1892, and Mrs. Edwards; Bro. J. Waterman, 452, and Mrs. Carencey; Bro. T. Eblentd, 463, and Mrs. Eblentd; Bro. W. G. Batchelor, 452, 548, and Miss Audley; Bro. F. Pascall, 720, 1790, and Mrs. and Miss Pascall, and Mrs. Larry; Bros. W. R. Griffiths, 1790; W. C. Plater, 901, and Mrs. Plater; Bros. J. W. Moorman, 1638; W. H. Mason, 1981; H. Senery, 1815, and Mrs. Senery; Bro. W. Pils, 1892, and Mrs. and Miss Pils; Bros. A. A. Barnes, 1351; S. Oxenham, 2096, and Mrs. and Miss Oxenham; Bro. E. C. Holdsworth, 2096, and Mrs. Holdsworth; Bro. J. S. Fraser, 2096, and Mrs. and Miss Hutchbury; Bro. J. R. Hubbard, 463, and Mrs. Hubbard; Bro. W. B. Newby, 463, and Mrs. Aubary; Bros. E. F. Wood, 1000; F. Woosman, 1000; H. E. Frances, 452; S. P. Catterson, 548, 1981; J. G. Horsey, P.M. 1892, P.P.G.D.C., and Mrs. Horsey; Bro. G. Yaxley, 463, and Mrs. Yaxley; Bro. J. W. Baldwin, 1892, and Mrs. and Miss Baldwin; Bro. C. H. Woodward, P.P.G.W., P.P.G.N. Surrey, P.M. and P.Z. 463 (Secretary), and the Misses Woodward and Mrs. P. Colles, jun.; Bro. J. H. Owens, 1347, and Mrs. Owens; Bro. W. D. Merritt, 1000, and Mrs. and Miss Merritt and Mrs. Welfens; Bro. F. Cambridge, P.P.G.O. Surrey, and Mrs. Cambridge and Miss Cooper; Bro. H. G. Thompson, 1556, and Mrs. Thompson; Bro. J. Hooke, 463, and Mrs. and Miss Hooke; Bro. S. L. Locke, 1347, and Miss Barnes; Bro. J. Rhodes, 463, and Mrs. Rhodes; Bros. H. Steele, 452; H. W. Turner, 1347; C. Greenwood, P.G.S., P.G.S.B. England, and Miss Greenwood; Bro. F. West, P.M. and Treas. 1382, W.M. 4, P.Z. 463, 1328, P.G. Stvd. England, P.P.G.R. and P.G.N. Surrey (Chairman), Miss West, Miss H. M. West, Miss J. West, and Mrs. Ingram Cooke; Bros. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Reg.; E. Bowyer, 4; H. Saxelby, 463; H. H. Greenwood, 1982; J. Streitor, 463, Mrs. and Miss Streitor; and Mrs. Huanse; Bro. G. Price, P.G.S. Surrey, P.M. and P.Z. 463, and Mrs. Price, Miss Newson, and Miss Rise; Bro. B. H. Ridge, 463, and Miss Holloway; Bros. J. L. Thoms, P.G.W. Middx.; W. H. Lee; G. N. Man, Alliance Lodge, and Mrs. Man; Bros. T. Patterson; General J. S. Brownrigg, C.B., Prov. Grand Master for Surrey, and Mrs. J. S. Brownrigg; Bro. S. Kuster, Urban Lodge, Miss A. Kuster, Miss F. Kuster, and Miss C. Kuster; Bro. E. Hobbs, 453, and Miss Stewart; Bro. J. S. Curtis, Penge Lodge, and Mrs. Curtis; Bro. A. J. Norris, Fitzroy Lodge, and Mrs. Norris; Bros. C. Holden, 2096; C. J. L. Gillemand, 463, Mrs. Gillemand, and Miss Fabian;

Bro. T. J. Cuthbert, 1615, and Mrs. Cuthbert; Bro. W. S. Lee, 1987, and Mrs. Lee; M. L. Levey, 2096, and Mrs. Levey; Bro. W. G. Oates, 2096; Bro. W. E. Greenfield, 34, and Mrs. Greenfield; Bro. W. H. M. Smith, 463; Bro. A. Wilmot, 1790, and Mrs. Wilmot; Bro. B. Shakespeare, 1790, and Mrs. Shakespeare; Bro. A. Smith, 538; Bro. W. G. Fenn, 538, and Mrs. Fenn; Bro. H. W. Down, 1982, and Miss Down; Bro. J. Bennett, 1415, and Mrs. Bennett; Bro. M. G. Bohren, 1627, and Mrs. Bohren; Bros. B. B. Jesse, 1556; C. Field, Liberty of Havering Lodge; C. Sarry, 1790; H. Massey, 619 and 1928; J. D. Langton, 1, P.M. 1673, W.M. 2096, Secretary, and Miss Wollaston.

The hall was elegantly decorated with flowers and shrubs, and every arrangement was made which would conduce to the comfort and pleasure of the party. The programme of the entertainment consisted of vocal and instrumental music.

Besides these items of enjoyment, further performances were given by Bros. Bertram and Odell. All the performances were loudly cheered, and obtained the hearty commendation of the whole company. Bro. Charles Bertram's conjuring was a surprise to every one, and Bro. Odell's recitations created immense amusement, more especially, perhaps, his "Dream of the Bilius Beadle," an imitation of Eugene Aram's Dream. The glees and part-songs went admirably. Miss Clara Wollaston's rendering of "On the Banks of Allan Water" and "The Kissing Bridge" formed one of the most enjoyable features of the evening, and won for her applause again and again repeated. Miss Florence Kuster's pianoforte recitals were likewise charming artistic performances; and Bro. Gustave Kuster established himself as a great favourite by his violin solos. Miss Madeleine Halford, R.A.M., and Miss Lizzie Mulholland displayed the greatest taste in the songs appearing against their names; and Bros. Arthur Wilmot, W. S. Hoyte, R. de Lacy, J. B. Shakespeare, C. Beckett, and W. A. Frost made a vivid impression not only in the solos but in the part songs. The proceedings were not allowed to flag from the opening of the entertainment to the close, and a dance, without which no entertainment to ladies is complete, was improvised to put the final touch to the evening's proceedings. The brethren of Surrey are to be congratulated on having achieved such marked success with their first essay in providing an agreeable evening for themselves and the ladies of their families.

OLD MASONIANS' ANNUAL DINNER.

A number of the old boys of our Masonic School at Wood Green dined together at the Holborn Restaurant, on Wednesday, the immediate purpose of the gathering being to present a testimonial to Mrs. Lees (lately Miss Hall), who for so many years held the responsible office of Matron to the Institution. The chair was taken by Mr. Charles M. Uwins, who was supported by Bro. F. Binckes, Secretary to the School, and the Misses Binckes, the guest of the evening, who was accompanied by her husband, Mr. Lees, being in the place of honour, while among "Old Boys" there were Messrs. Hopwood, Price, Williams, Whiteby, Barnard, Roberts, Barrett, Pulman, and Wain.

In the course of the evening, Mrs. Lees was presented with the testimonial, which consisted of an album, a silver tea and coffee service, and an afternoon tea papier mâché tray, and which was acknowledged, on behalf of the recipient, by Mr. LEES in a brief but appropriate speech. Both the album and the tray bore inscriptions recording when and by whom the presentation was made.

In the course of the evening, Mr. UWINS, in proposing the chief toast, threw out a suggestion, which, we are pleased to say, was most cordially received by all present, namely, that a Club should be formed, consisting entirely of Old Masonians, who would thus have the opportunity of continuing or renewing the friendships of their school days. The suggestion is a most excellent one, and could not have been made on a more suitable occasion than when a number of Old Boys were gathered together for the special purpose of demonstrating their sense of the very great kindness they had received from the past Matron of the School. We hope the suggestion will attract attention and support from other old Masonians.

The Craft Abroad.

GRAND LODGE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

A Quarterly Communication of this Grand Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Flinders-street, Adelaide, on the 15th July last. Bro. the Hon. S. J. Way, Chief Justice, M.W.G.M., presided, and there were present among others Bros. H. E. Downer, M.P., D.G.M.; A. M. Simpson, J.P., G.S.W.; John Ramsay, J.P., G.J.W.; S. Solomon, Pres. Board of General Purposes; T. G. F. Seabrook, M.D., Past Pres. Board of General Purposes; W. B. Webb, G. Reg.; J. H. Cunningham, G. Sec.; J. C. Kaufmann, L.L.D., G. Inspector of Lodges; Rev. F. S. Poole, M.A., G. Lecturer; P. Sanson and F. H. Wigg, G.S. Deacons; F. Oliffent and F. C. Bowen, G.J. Deacons; L. T. Carter, G.S. of W.; E. Saint, G.D.C.; F. W. Bullock, G.A.D.C.; L. G. Madley, J.P., G. Swd. B.; J. Shakespeare, G. Org.; H. Turner, G. Asst. Sec.; and others. The report of the Board of General Purposes was of a satisfactory character, and was accepted. Among its notifications was one to the effect that a tablet commemorative of the establishment of the Grand Lodge had been erected in the Masonic Hall.

GRAND DOINGS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

There was a splendid gathering of the brethren in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, on Tuesday, the 10th ult., when the cornerstone of the Schiller monument was laid with Masonic ceremonial by the G.M. of Pennsylvania, assisted by the officers of his Grand Lodge. The day was chosen as being the 126th anniversary of the birth of the great German poet, and as may be well imagined the two Philadelphia lodges on the roll of Pennsylvania, which are composed of brethren of German nationality, the Hermann Lodge, No. 125, and the Humboldt Lodge, No. 359, took a very conspicuous part in the proceedings. The ceremony was conducted in accordance with the time-honoured usages of the Masonic Craft, the central figure being Bro. E. Coppée Mitchell, G. Master of Pennsylvania, his principal coadjutors being Bros. Clifford P. MacCalla, G.S.W., as Deputy G. Master; the Hon. J. Simpson, Africa, G.J.W., as G.S.W.; Hibbert P. John, as G.J.W.;

Thomas R. Patton, G. Treas.; Michael Nisbet, G. Sec.; Rev. John S. J. McConnell, G. Chap.; George S. Graham, G.S.D.; John Slinglaff, as G.J.D.; G. W. Wood, G. Marshal; Louis M. Charteau, G. Swd. Br.; Col. Robt. P. Dechert, G.P.; Chas. H. Kingston, Asst. G. Sec.; W. J. Kelly, Asst. G. Marshal; S. Kingston, McCay, and J. Wesley Supplee, G. Stwds.; and W. A. Sinn, G. Tyler. When the ceremony was concluded, a most eloquent oration was delivered by Bro. the Hon. Richard Vaux, Past G. Master, while Bro. G. G. Kellner delivered a similar address, in German. The trowel, which was of massive silver, and most chastely designed and executed, was presented to the Hermann Lodge by Mrs. Herold, wife of Bro. Charles P. Herold, the designer and manufacturer, and bears the following inscription: "Presented to the Hermann Lodge, No. 125, F. and A.M., Philadelphia, Pa., by Mrs. Charles P. Herold, on the occasion of laying the corner-stone of the monument of her illustrious townsman, Frederick Von Schiller, Fairmount Park, November 10th, 1885."

CONCORD LODGE, No. 666 (S.C.)

On Monday evening, the 7th Sept., the annual installation of officers in the above lodge was performed by Bro. Solomon, P.M., in the Oddfellows Hall, Aulbury, N.S.W., in the presence of a large number of the brotherhood and visitors from kindred lodges. The following are those who were installed: Bros. J. T. Thorne, W.M.; W. S. Chauncy, I.P.M.; L. Solomon, Dep. M.; W. Frew, S.W.; W. S. Gray, J.W.; G. F. Mackay, Treas.; J. B. Hayes, Sec.; W. N. M. Edmonson, Org.; G. C. Parker, S.D.; W. S. Murdoch, J.D.; F. Shepherd, I.G.; J. Johnson and W. McCamey, Stwds.; and J. Hawkins, Tyler.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF NORTHERN CHINA.

A regular communication of this District Grand Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Shanghai, on Tuesday, the 22nd September last. Bro. J. T. Miller, D.D.G.M., presided as D.G.M., and among those present were Bros. Cornelius Thorne, P.D.G.M.; Thos. W. Kingsmill, P.D. G.S.W., as D.D.G.M.; H. Evans, as D.G.S.W.; E. P. Lalcaea, D.G.J.W.; Rev. F. R. Smith, D.G. Chap.; W. H. Short, D.G. Treas.; A. Longford, D.G. Reg.; J. M. Cory, D.G. President Board of Purposes; R. D. Starkey, D.G. Sec.; L. Moore, as D.G.S.D.; W. H. Anderson, as D.G.I.G.; J. Morris, Dist. Grand Supt. of Wks.; G. R. Wingoose, D.G. Swd. Br.; A. M. A. Evans and R. A. Gubbay, D.G. Std. Br.; A. P. MacGregor, D.G.P.; J. Jones, D.G. Stwd.; and C. Merritt, D.G. Tyler; and several other brethren representatives of the lodges and visitors, amongst the latter being R.W. Bro. C. H. Dallas, D.G.M. of Japan, to whom were accorded the honours proper to his rank. The D.G. Lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the previous communication read and confirmed, it was announced that the scheme for the establishment of a Masonic school had received the assent of the brethren in the district, and a grant of £100 in aid thereof having been proposed and seconded, was agreed to unanimously.

Then followed the principal business of the meeting, which was the presentation by R.W. Bro. C. Thorne, P.D. G.M., of an address, in the form of a handsome album, in which the brethren expressed their thanks for the valuable services he had rendered, and the great kindness and courtesy he had shown them during the seven years of his D.G. Mastership. In this address the brethren of the Scotch and American lodges in Shanghai had, at their own special request been permitted to join, and the D.G. Master in the chair having ably fulfilled his duty, and expressed personally the pleasure it gave to have been the medium for presenting such a token of the respect in which their late chief was held, and the regret they felt at his resignation. Bro. Thorne rose and returned his thanks for the address, trusting that his successor would receive the same kindness and assistance he himself had experienced. D.G. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated.

GRAND COMMANDERY OF MARYLAND.

The fifteenth annual convale of the Grand Commandery of Maryland was held at the Masonic Hall, Baltimore, on the 24th and 25th November last. Sir Knight Woodward Abrahams, G.C., presided, and there was a numerous attendance of Grand Officers and Sir Knights. The Grand Commander, in his customary address, congratulated the Grand Commandery on the uniformity and correctness of the work throughout the jurisdiction, Monumental Commandery, No. 3, being especially complimented for the manner in which it had carried out the work of the year. The Committees presented their reports, as usual, with the exception of the Committee on Correspondence, which had been delayed through the serious illness of its Chairman, Sir Knight W. T. Adreson, P.G. Commander, who, however, though in a very weak state of health, was able to be present at the meeting.

The election of Grand Officers resulted as follows: Sir Knights C. C. Isaacs, Grand Commander; Charles W. Hatton, Dep. G. Commander; J. A. C. Kahler, G. Gen.; W. F. Cochran, G. Capt. Gen.; George R. Coffroth, G. Prelate; Charles McDonald, jun., G.S.W.; Henry O'Reese, G.J.W.; Harry A. Barry (re-elected) G. Treas.; and Charles T. Sisco, G. Recorder. The installation of the newly-elected G. Officers took place on Friday, the 27th ult., the officiating Sir Knight being Past G. Commander F. J. I. Gorgas, whose manner of carrying out the ceremony was the theme of general admiration.

It was resolved on recommending, at the next triennial convale of the Grand Encampment of the United States, a radical change in the mode of transacting its business.

GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The regular quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was held at the Masonic Hall, Philadelphia, on Wednesday, the 2nd inst., under the presidency of Bro. E. Coppée Mitchell, M.W.G.M. There was a large attendance of Grand Officers and brethren, it being the day appointed by the Constitutions for the election of the Grand Officers for the year. The following brethren have been re-elected to the principal offices: Bros. E. Coppée Mitchell, G.M.; Joseph Eichbaum, D.G.M.; Clifford P. MacCalla, G.S.W.; the Hon. J. Simpson Africa, G.J.W.; Thomas R. Patton, Grand Treasurer; and Michael Nisbet, Grand Secretary. The Trustees of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund are Bros. Jacob Laudenslager, Daniel Brittain, Edward Strickland, Alphonso C. Ireland, and

Daniel M. Fox; and of the Girard Bequest, Bros. Samuel C. Perkins, Charles M. Prevost, A. W. Hooper, John L. Thompson, and Alex. H. Morgan.

The business appears to have been of a satisfactory character, the reports of the different Committees showing that the Grand Lodge was in a prosperous condition. The Sinking Fund amounts to 326,000 dollars (£65,200). A sum of 500 dollars was voted towards the relief of the sufferers by the late terrible conflagration at Galveston, Texas. A portrait of the late Bro. Stephen Girard, which for the first time appeared in its appointed place on the walls of Grand Lodge, was very much admired.

CHRISTMAS CARDS.

There, for many years past, have been an institution of the season, and we might also try to imagine a Christmas without the pudding as without the cards. From a simple beginning with the "Compliments of the Season," or similar device, inscribed on an ordinary kind of card, they have passed into the domain of art, and no amount of money or trouble is considered to be injudiciously expended in the production of these seasonable reminders of old friendships, family ties, and the like. Among those we have had an opportunity of seeing are a selection of the Christmas Cards published by Mr. Harding, 157, Piccadilly, including a number of lawn tennis subjects, by Sem, of which it is difficult to suggest whether the conception or execution will be the more appreciated. It is needless to say that lawn tennis is being indulged in (on these cards) in all imaginable kinds of places, under varying circumstances, and by the strangest people. But excellent taste and great skill in the drawing are the characteristics of each card. Equal merit is displayed by Mr. Alfred Roberson in his hunting, coaching, shooting, and racing designs. The sets we have seen show this capable artist at his best, the figures in each being admirably drawn, while the horses especially are to the life, and as regards their action, most accurate. The comic hunting incidents by Miss Georgina Bowes are singularly meritorious. The firm of Rimmel, of the Strand, have also brought out their usual Christmas specialties, including cards of every variety, and ranging in price from a remarkably low figure, considering the quality, as well as gifts, in which are mostly included sundry of the scents for which they are so famous. Bro. J. B. Gooding, of Holborn and the City, has on sale a similarly numerous variety of cards, many of which will attract by their combined simplicity and elegance. Other firms, such as Messrs. Hamilton, Hills, and Co., have contributed largely and successfully to the demands of the season, and there is no doubt that Christmas, 1885, will be as well situated in this respect as preceding seasons.

Visitors to the Royal Aquarium this week will have been perplexed with the number and variety of attractions provided at this favourite resort. But inasmuch as some cynics say the Aquarium is infested with persons intimately acquainted with Bacchus, it may be mentioned that the firm of Messrs. Dows, Clark, and Bray, of 14, Smart's Buildings, High Holborn, are exhibiting samples of most recherché of non-alcoholic drinks. To enumerate all of these in their catalogue would be superfluous, but having tasted their "orange champagne," we must pronounce it the most agreeable beverage we have ever tasted for either summer or winter, and ample testimony has been borne to its purity and its immunity from many deleterious influences. When this speciality becomes more generally known we are assured that it will be a great means of obviating the differences which are frequently occurring between men who hesitate to enter a public house in which no non-intoxicating liquors are sold. It may be safely said, on the testimony of *connoisseurs*, that Messrs. Dows, Clarke, and Brays' champagne is the most "subtle subterfuge of the age" in the matter of wines.

A concert will be given on Tuesday, the 22nd inst., at the Christ Church Board Schools, Cubitt-town, by the Boys and Girls, and some friends. The prizes for attendance during the quarter, and the special prizes gained during the year, will be distributed by Henry Green, Esq., M.P., who will be supported by other managers. Tickets at the doors, or of Bro. S. G. Bonner (Head Master) College View, Cubitt-town. The proceeds will be devoted to the purchase of slides for a magic lantern, already purchased by proceeds of similar concerts last year.

CHRISTMAS FARE.

In anticipation of the merry season of Yule-tide, so rapidly approaching, tradesmen of all grades are making their customary displays of "creature comforts," many of them this year being far superior to any of their predecessors. Poultry and fish, of course, form a most important element in catering for Christmas-tide festivities; and the thousands of business men who daily traverse Broad-street, entering and returning from the City, will not fail to have noticed the extensive and magnificent display made by Bro. John Gow, near the Liverpool-street Railway Terminus. It is by no means an uncommon sight to witness here a recherché collection of poultry of all kinds, as well as fish, such as can scarcely be rivalled in the market; but something more than ordinary is expected during the festive season, and Bro. Gow has not fallen short of the public expectations. There is a profuse exhibition of toothsome turkeys and splendid geese, with every other species of game and poultry in season, the excellence of which is only rivalled by the exceedingly moderate prices quoted. The same remark applies to the fish and barrelled oysters; and we cannot recommend our readers to do better, or study their own interest more closely, than to visit any of Bro. Gow's establishments, from the headquarters near Broad-street (outside the railway station) to the branches in Honey-lane Market, Cheapside; 93, Theobald's-road, Holborn; and 125, Brompton-road, S.W.

ST. JAMES' RUM.

We have before spoken of the great merits of St. James' Plantation Rum, for which G. W. Christie and Co., 25, Milton-street, E.C., are the agents for the United Kingdom, the sole proprietor being M. P. Lambert, St. Pierre, Martinique. We would remind our readers that this is fully equal to the best brands which found such favour with past generations, and as it is sold in square bottles, stamped with the words "Rhum des Plantations," our friends who are partial to this spirit will have only themselves to thank if they neglect the opportunity of laying in a good stock of really prime quality.



At his half-yearly rent audit on Saturday last Bro. Sir Thomas Brassey, K.C.B., M.P., remitted 20 per cent. of the rents due.

Bros. the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs attended the opening of the December session of the Central Criminal Court, at the Old Bailey, on Monday.

Bro. the General Lord Wolsley presided on Thursday, the 10th inst., at the annual dinner of the North London Rifle Club, of which his lordship is president.

The Prince of Wales was present on Saturday last at a Standing Committee of the Trustees of the British Museum, and afterwards presided at a general meeting.

It is said that the sum of £15,000 has been expended by Bro. Henry Irving in making the necessary preparations for the production of Mr. Willis's version of "Faust."

Bro. Colonel C. Harding, G.A.D.C., presented the prizes to the 4th Volunteer Battalion Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment) in the great hall of the Cannon Street Hotel on Monday evening, the reception accorded to him on his recent appointment to be hon. colonel of the battalion being of the most enthusiastic character.

Bro. his Excellency, Count Nigra, Italian Ambassador to the Court of St. James's, arrived at Dover from Rome on Sunday evening, and proceeded at once on his journey to London.

Bro. the Lord Mayor and Bros. Alderman and Sheriff Evans and Sheriff Clarke were entertained at dinner on Friday evening, the 11th inst., by the Mayor of Croydon.

Bros. the Earl of Haddington, the Earl of Mar and Kellie, the Earl of Airlie, the Earl of Northesk, Viscount Strathallan, and Lord Balfour of Burleigh, are among the Scottish peers who have been elected to sit in the House of Lords during the term of the new Parliament.

According to the *Keystone*, Bro. Thomas J. Shryock, the present G. Master of Maryland, will not be 34 years of age till February next, while Bro. Charles Webb, the senior Past G.M. of the same G. Lodge, was only 33 years old when installed G.M. in 1853.

Bro. Sir Frederick Leighton presided on Thursday, the 10th inst., at the distribution of medals and other prizes awarded to students of the Royal Academy, Burlington House, and afterwards delivered an interesting lecture on the progress of art. There was a large audience present.

The installation ceremony will be worked in its entirety at the Brixton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1949, on the evening of Tuesday next, the 22nd inst., at 8 o'clock, by W. Bro. Jos. Starling, P.M. and W.M. of the United Mariners Lodge, No. 30, when it is hoped that a goodly number of brethren may be present, and that a large Board of Installed Masters may be formed.

On Thursday, the 10th inst., by special licence the marriage was solemnised in the Chapel Royal, Savoy, of Sir R. H. Williams-Bulkeley, Bart., with the Lady Magdalen Yorke, youngest daughter of R.W. Bro. the Earl of Hardwicke, P.G.M. Cambridgeshire, and the Countess of Hardwicke. Among the relations and friends present were Bro. the Earl and Countess of Hardwicke, Bro. the Hon. Alexander Yorke, and Countess Cowley.

Our worthy neighbour, Mr. E. Surrey, of 21, Great Queen-street, W.C., has issued his usual handy little pocket "Almanack and Annual for 1886." It contains some useful and entertaining information, sufficient space for memoranda, and above all, a price list of the excellent commodities in the shape of cigars, tobaccos, smoking appliances, and mounted and unmounted walking sticks, which are sold by Mr. Surrey.

Bro. G. Shaw, Chairman of the Library Committee of the Corporation of London, presided at a banquet given by the said Committee to a large number of guests, literary, scientific, and artistic, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on Tuesday evening, among the guests present or invited being Bros. the Lord Mayor, F.S.A., Alderman and Sheriff Evans, Sheriff Clarke, Sir R. H. Collins, K.C.B.; Alderman Sir R. Hanson, P.G. Stwd.; Sir J. B. Monckton (Town Clerk), P.G.W.; G. P. Goldney (Remembrancer), and H. H. Crawford (City Solicitor).

Amongst the many attractions at the Royal Aquarium this week, one of the most notable has been the exhibition of Messrs. A. J. West and Co., gas engineers, of Lisle-street, Leicester-square. The unique stoves for drawing rooms, and other purposes, are all that can be desired in this age of modern improvement. By the combination of the delta metal with asbestos fibre, the most brilliant and comfortable effects are attained, and the consumption of gas, which is after all an object of consideration in these hard times, is largely economised. In addition to the saving, from a household point of view, there is cleanliness, and a saving of labour on the part of the servants of the establishments. This firm also manufactures cooking apparatus of the most modern appliances, which must be seen to be appreciated.

Bro. Edward Spooner, P.M. and P.Z., President of the New Wandsworth Philanthropic Society, 1, Albert-terrace, Haldon-road, Wandsworth, will thankfully receive contributions towards the fund for providing 600 poor children with a dinner on Christmas Day, and on the 8th of January next a tea, followed by an entertainment, to 250 old women and men. This has been an annual feature of the Society's work. The report and balance sheet of this Society, just to hand, is of a satisfactory character. No less than 2093 poor families have been relieved with meat, bread, grocery, and coals. Allowing five persons to each family, the number aided has been 10,465. The Society was formed in 1868, and one of its principal founders was Bro. Spooner. The balance-sheet shows an expenditure of £100 only; and there is no item for labour or salary, everything is done voluntarily by a staff of willing philanthropists.

Bro. Sheriff Clarke has contributed ten guineas to the funds of the Licensed Victuallers' School.

There are 21 lodges under the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia with an aggregate membership of 3020 brethren.

Early last week Bro. E. J. Watherston presided at a meeting held at Putney for the purpose of organising a Sanitary Association for the district.

Bro. A. J. Altman presided at a dinner of the City of London School Committee at the Guildhall Tavern on Wednesday, the 9th instant.

Bro. the Earl and the Countess Granville and Lady Victoria Leveson-Gower, returned to town on Saturday last, from visiting the Duke of Devonshire at Chatworth.

The debt of the Grand Lodge of New York, which Bro. Lawrence, G. Master, has resolved on making a determined effort to pay off or at all events to reduce substantially, is stated at 485,000 dollars (£97,000).

Bro. Sir T. Dyke Acland, Bart., M.P., who was on a visit to Hawarden Castle, attended Divine service at the parish church on Sunday last. Bro. Lord Wolverton, who had also been on a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone at Hawarden, left for London on Saturday.

Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Connaught visited the Royal Tapestry and Stained Glass Works at Old Windsor, on Thursday, the 10th inst., and inspected a window which is being executed for Bagshot Church, in memory of the late Bro. the Duke of Albany.

Bro. the Right Hon. G. O. Trevelyan, M.P., was on a visit to his father-in-law, Mr. R. N. Philips, at his seat near Stratford-on-Avon, during last week, and on Thursday was one of a party that shot over Mr. Philips's estate.

The Board of Directors of the Garfield National Monument Association of Washington, D.C., has handed the sum of 1000 dollars, consisting of contributions received for the Association, to the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home, Louisville, Kentucky.

At the 66th annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, held at Cincinnati on the 20th October last, Bro. S. Stacker Williams was elected M.W.G.M., and Bro. Charles Brown, Grand Treasurer, while Bro. John D. Caldwell was re-elected Grand Secretary.

We regret to announce the death on Sunday evening last of Bro. C. Brewer, of Old Burlington-street, who was well known in racing circles as an owner and commissioner. Bro. Brewer was a Past Master of the Kilburn Lodge, No. 1608.

The York Lodge, No. 236, will hold its annual meeting in the Masonic Hall, York, on Monday evening next, when the W.M. elect will be installed in office by Bro. Jos. Todd, P.M., Treasurer, P.P.G.R. The banquet is fixed for 6.30 p.m.

Bro. Sir Charles Dilke, Bart., M.P., addressed a political meeting at the Sydney Hall, Leader-street, Chelsea, on behalf of Mr. Joseph Leicester, M.P. for West Ham, for whom a fund to defray his election expenses is being raised, on Monday evening.

Bro. the Lord Mayor attended the meeting held on Monday evening, in the schoolroom attached to the Kingsland Congregational Church, for the purpose of distributing the Government prizes and local awards to the successful students of the North London School of Art.

The Prince of Wales will visit the Doulton Pottery Works, Albert Embankment, on Monday next, for the purpose of presenting the head of the firm with the Albert Medal awarded for the excellence of its exhibits at the Inventions Exhibition, and in recognition of its services generally to art pottery.

Bros. the Earl of Carnarvon, Lord Lieutenant, and Lord Ashbourne, Lord Chancellor of Ireland, Sir Michael E. Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., Chancellor of the Exchequer, Lord Randolph Churchill, M.P., Secretary of State for India, and Colonel Stanley, Secretary of State for the Colonies, attended the Cabinet Council held at the residence of the First Lord of the Treasury, in Downing-street, on Monday afternoon.

Visitors to the Royal Aquarium this week will hardly fail to notice in the Eastern Gallery a prettily arranged stall, not inappropriately denominated the "Sma' Still," occupied by Messrs. T. S. McAllister and Co., distillers and blenders, of Lochgorm, Inverness. The stand is tastefully fitted up, and customers are most warmly received. It seemed to us, while on our visit of inspection, that "the prof o' the pudden is in th' preein' o' it." Can anything be said more?

We regret to hear that, after an active city life of thirty years, the latter half of which was passed as partner in the firm of Bros. Farmaner and Hainsworth, of 8, Coleman-street, Bro. James Hainsworth died at his residence, Wheatly, Coventry Park, Streatham, on Monday. Bro. Hainsworth had been in failing health for some time past, but he was at his post, as usual, as late as Thursday, the 10th inst. The deceased was a brother of some years' standing, and a Past Master of the Old King's Arms Lodge, No. 28. Bro. Hainsworth, who was a widower, leaves behind one son, resident in Sydney, New South Wales, and one daughter.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the New Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1695, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, on Tuesdays, the 22nd and 29th inst., at 8 o'clock. On the first named date the Seven Sections of the First Lecture will be worked; and on the latter date the whole of the Sections of the Second and Third Lectures—Bro. H. G. Gush, is the Preceptor, and Bro. A. J. Berry, Secretary.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS. — During every break of wintry weather exertion should be made by the afflicted to recover health before unremitting cold and trying storms set in. Throat ailments, coughs, wheezings, asthmatical affections, shortness of breath, morning nausea, and accumulations of phlegm can readily be removed by rubbing this fine derivative Ointment twice a day upon the chest and neck. Holloway's treatment is strongly recommended with the view of giving immediate ease, preventing prospective danger, and effecting permanent relief. These all-important ends his Ointment and Pills can accomplish, and will surely prevent insidious diseases from fastening on the constitution to display themselves afterwards in those disastrous forms that will probably embitter life till death itself is almost prayed for. — [Avert.]

Bro. Lord Randolph Churchill, M.P., has accepted the presidency of the Dublin Conservative Working Men's Club.

We are glad to be in a position to announce that Bro. W. C. Smith, the worthy Preceptor of the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, has recovered sufficiently from his recent prolonged illness to be able to resume his duties.

The Music Committee of the Corporation of London have unanimously passed a resolution of thanks to their Chairman, Bro. Pearce Morrison, for the very able manner in which he discharged the duties of his affairs during the past year.

Bro. the Lord Mayor will preside at a meeting, to be held to-day (Friday) at the Mansion House, in behalf of the Benevolent or Strangers' Friend Society, Bros. Alderman and Sheriff Evans, Sheriff Clarke, and H. B. Marshall, P.G. Treas., being among those who are expected to be present and take an active part in the proceedings.

The Library Committee of the City of London have shown this appreciation of the valuable services rendered during the past year by their Chairman, Bro. George Shaw, by unanimously voting him a resolution of thanks for the able and courteous manner in which he fulfilled his duties. A similar compliment was paid to Bro. Henry Windybank by the members of the Law and City Courts Committee.

Bro. the Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, G.C.B., the Prime Minister of the Dominion of Canada, is now in London on diplomatic business connected with Canada. Sir John is the Representative of the Grand Lodge of England at the Grand Lodge of Canada, and arrived in this country, unfortunately, just too late to attend the last quarterly communication of Grand Lodge.

Mr. John Maddison Morton—the veteran author of "Box and Cox"—is about to gratify the lovers of private theatricals all the world over. He has written a series of six new home plays, which will appear monthly in *London Society*. The first will come out before Christmas in the January number, and the title is "First Come, First Served!"

The following dinners took place at the Freemasons' Tavern for the week ending Saturday, the 19th inst. Monday—St. George's and Cornerstone Lodge; University Chapter. Tuesday—Enoch Chapter; Royal York Chapter; Cadogan Lodge. Wednesday—Novcomagus. Thursday—Gt. Northern Lodge; Globe Lodge. Friday—London, Aberdeen, Banff, and Kincardine Association Ball; Jordan Lodge; Odd Volumes. Saturday—Tottenham House Ball.

A new novel by Mr. Westall, entitled "Two Pinches of Snuff," was commenced in *Cassell's Saturday Journal* of the 16th inst. The first popular editions of this author's "Red Ryvington" and "Old Factory" (published in March and April last) being nearly exhausted, Messrs. Cassell and Company are preparing a second edition of each of these works.—*Academy*.

The will of the late Bro. J. Forrester, of Sydenham-hill and Mark-lane, has recently been proved, the personalty being sworn at £41,855, the whole of which is bequeathed to his widow and children.

Every one will hear with regret that Bro. E. Dawkins, who for the last fifteen years has played a leading part in the management of the Freemasons' Tavern, has retired from that position. Bro. Dawkins had laid himself out so assiduously to consult the wishes, both of the regular "habitues" and the infrequent customers, that his presence will be greatly missed. However, his departure will not pass unheeded, his many friends having already determined to present him with a testimonial in recognition of his invaluable courtesy and great business tact. Mr. S. Webb, 24, Clarendon-road, Holland Park, is the Hon. Treasurer of the fund, and Mr. J. Diprose, Radcliffe House, Denmark-hill, the Hon. Secretary, either or both of whom will gladly give any information that may be desired.

On Thursday, 7th inst., a highly successful concert was given by the past and present pupils of Grove House School, South Hackney, at the Manor Rooms, Mare-street, Hackney. Besides a well-selected programme of vocal and instrumental music—the latter under the direction of Henry Baynton, Esq.—at the end of each part a farce was given, "Leave it to Me" and "That boy Pete" respectively; all of which was successfully carried out. During the interval the distribution of prizes were made by the Rev. Canon Lester, M.A. There was a large attendance of the friends of the pupils, and Bro. A. G. Watkinson, the Principal, is to be congratulated upon the satisfactory outcome of his arrangements. We are informed that the next term commences on January 19th, 1886.

Monday last being the 24th anniversary of the death of the Prince Consort, and the 7th of that of the Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse Darmstadt, Her Majesty and the Royal Family attended Divine service in the Mausoleum at Frogmore, the officiating minister being the Dean of Windsor. The Prince and Princess of Wales, Princes Albert Victor and George and the Princess Louise of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne, the Duchess of Albany, Princess Christian, and Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg were present. The Prince and Princess of Wales and their sons and daughter, and the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh afterwards left the castle for London.

We beg to express our sympathy with Bros. Robert and James Crowden—both of whom are Past Masters of the West Kent Lodge—who, as the old established firm of Crowden and Garrod, have just experienced the misfortune of having their handsome premises, Falcon House, at the corner of Southwark-street and Southwark Bridge-road, destroyed by fire. This is indeed a verification of the well-known proverb that "it never rains but it pours," the two having recently sustained a severe domestic bereavement, while one of them is only just getting the better of a serious illness. We also regret to hear that a great fire broke out on Thursday night on the premises of Messrs. Vyse, Sons, and Co., of Wood-street, the greater part of the building being nearly burnt out, and the rest severely damaged by fire and water. In this Bro. Howard Vyse and the other members of the firm have our cordial sympathy.