

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;
RIGHT HON. LORD SALTOUN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

Now that the Benevolent Institution has celebrated its anniversary, the duty devolves upon us of calling our readers' attention to the claims upon their support of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. The story has been repeated "many a time and oft," in these pages, but it must be repeated, just as the Festival is repeated annually, until the time shall come, if indeed, it ever comes, when the Institution shall find itself in a position to meet all its expenditure out of its own funds. The day appointed for the celebration of the 110th Festival is, as previously announced, Wednesday, the 18th May, and the distinguished brother who has consented to preside on the occasion is Alderman Sir REGINALD HANSON, Bart., M.P., Past G. Warden of England, who, though he has not a Province at his back, as the majority of our Festival Chairman have, will, no doubt, be generously supported by the lodges and brethren in the Metropolitan district. That he will need all the support which is to be obtained, both from London and the Provinces, is beyond question. We cannot, in reason, expect that the successes of the last four years will be repeated on this occasion. The Boys' School is calling upon the Craft for a supreme effort in its behalf, in order that it may worthily celebrate the Centenary of its foundation, just as in 1888, the Girls' School made a similar appeal in behalf of its Centenary, and in 1892 the Benevolent adopted the same course in respect of its Jubilee. We are, therefore, prepared in this case, as we were in that of the Old People, for a substantial reduction in the total of donations and subscriptions, so that the Boys' School may have the fullest opportunity of winning support from all parts of the country during this momentous year. What, however, we do desire to see—and what we regret to say has not been realised for the Benevolent Institution—is that the year's deficit may be met, or approximately met. Our argument—and we consider it as sound a one as can be advanced—is that whatever special feature there may be associated with any particular anniversary of this or that Institution, the sum required to make good the year's deficiency of income in the other two Institutions should be forthcoming or very nearly so. This is what happened in the year of the Girls' Centenary—when the Benevolent Institution secured a total of £15,296, while the Boys' School, though its Festival was held within three weeks of the Girls' Centenary, and its then Managing Committee had already fallen

into bad odour with the Craft, received £8674, which may very probably have been augmented to close on £9000 before the year was out. In 1892, the Girls' School Festival resulted in a total of £10,000, and that of the Boys' School in one of £12,600. Thus, though in 1888 the Boys' School suffered considerably, labouring as it did under special disadvantages, which do not apply to either the Benevolent or Girls' Institutions this year, the total raised in that year, outside the Girls' Centenary total of £51,500, was not far short of £24,000, and in 1892 it exceeded £22,500, irrespective of the Benevolent Jubilee Return of £69,000. So far the precedents established in the years we have quoted have not been followed, the recent Benevolent Festival having yielded a sum equal to about half its annual expenditure, or, to be more exact, about two-thirds of the year's deficiency. What result will attend the Girls' Festival in May is the question which must engage our attention during the next eight or 10 weeks.

There are two points which we are most anxious to impress upon our readers. In the first place, the permanent income of the Institution consists of the exceedingly modest grants of £150 and £10 10s. by Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter respectively, and the dividends on invested capital, or about £2500, while the fixed expenditure ranges between £13,000 and £14,000. There is thus an excess of expenditure over income of about—in round figures—£11,500, and very naturally it is to the Anniversary Festival to which the governing body must look to supply the bulk of this sum. But we can hardly expect that Bro. HEDGES will succeed in rallying to the support of the Chairman anything approaching in numbers to the Boards which rendered such valuable service in 1897 and the three years which preceded it. The number of ladies and brethren who have thus far volunteered their services as Stewards is, we understand, about 100 short of what it was at the corresponding period of last year, when a Board of 385 (182 London and 203 Provinces) raised upwards of £16,000. There are, happily, two and a half months between now and the appointed day in which to augment this number, and those who consent to serve now will have ample time to canvass for donations and subscriptions. We therefore appeal to the Provinces, lodges, and brethren to do all they can, consistently with any engagements they may have entered into, to support the governing body of the Girls' School in their responsible and arduous task of raising the ways and means for the current year. The money is needed, and we trust will be forthcoming.

Our second point is that, whatever the Craft may, in its discretion, see fit to contribute to this much-loved Institution, it will not only be most thankfully received, but, the brethren may rely upon it, will be most faithfully, and, we may add, most advantageously applied. There are some 270 girls in the Institution, and we have no hesitation in saying that the education they receive—mental, moral, and physical—is about the best of its class that can be had at any scholastic Institution within the three kingdoms. Of this the evidence is annually forthcoming not merely in the tale of successes achieved at the different public examinations, for which the children are entered, but likewise in the high tone and exemplary demeanour uniformly exhibited by the children themselves. There is, indeed, no school in the world in which greater care is successfully bestowed on the mental, moral, and physical training of the girls entrusted to its charge; and as when it makes this statement, the *Freemason* is but echoing the opinion held of our Girls' Institution by

every member of the English Craft, we sincerely hope that our appeal for the support of the general body of English Masons—which, be it remembered is as necessary in 1898 as in any other year the Institution has been in existence—will not be in vain. Again, we say, the money is needed and we trust will be forthcoming.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

It is extremely gratifying to note the progress which has been made of late years in the matter of instruction, nor is this progress by any means limited to a single Degree or branch of our Masonic system. Everywhere is to be seen an increasing desire on the part of the brethren to become experts in the rendering of our beautiful rituals, and where, only a quarter of a century ago, one Mason was to be found who could work a ceremony with anything like correctness and in a fashion that betokened a just and thorough appreciation of its beauties, there must now be at least a hundred who can work them all with something like a near approach to accuracy of detail, and with some understanding of the inner meaning that is intended to be conveyed. We are, no doubt, indebted for much of this advance to the steadfast labours of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, which has gradually won for itself not only the first position among our lodges of instruction, but has likewise extended its influence throughout the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge to such an extent as to be now regarded almost as the official school of instruction. But in saying this, we are not desirous of detracting in the slightest degree from the merit of the brethren themselves who have taken thus kindly to the task of studying the work done in our lodges and chapters. Emulation working is a power in the field of English Masonic study; but its influence alone will not account for the enormous increase which has latterly taken place in the number of our schools of instruction. A quarter of a century ago, that number in London alone was about 70, but a reference to Grand Lodge Calendar for the current year will show that at the present time there are some 200 such schools. As for the Provinces, little, if anything, was done in the way of teaching, nor need we go very much further back than the period we have already specified for the time when it was customary for our country lodges to invite a London expert to perform the most important duties of the lodge. Now there is hardly a Province or District abroad which cannot boast of its own trained ritualists who are fully possessed of the requisite knowledge and ability to work the whole of the ceremonies. Similar progress has been made in respect of the Royal Arch ritual, there being now some 20 Chapters of Improvement, where 25 years since there were barely half a dozen, while in the Mark Degree there has been, since 1884, one central lodge of instruction, known as the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction for Mark Master Masons, which, it is almost needless to say, has proved of the greatest benefit to our Mark brethren.

We have said enough to show the importance which nowadays attaches to the work of instruction; but further evidence will be found in the increasing number of annual festivals which are held by sundry of these lodges, the most important being those of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement in Craft Masonry, and the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction in the Mark Degree. The latter of these great annual fixtures was held at Mark Masons' Hall on Wednesday, the 16th ult., and when the ceremony of advancement had been most perfectly rehearsed under the presidency of Bro. J. REYNOLDS, the Preceptor of the lodge, and the lecture most ably given by Bro. JOHN SMITH, P.M., its Secretary, and when the invaluable services rendered by Bro. WILLIAM VINCENT—Bro. GREEN'S predecessor in office—during the 11 years of his Preceptorship had been recognised by the presentation of a handsome service of plate, the brethren adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant, and there celebrated the occasion under the genial presidency of Bro. Sir J. C. DIMSDALE, the Junior Grand Warden, who dilated at length and to excellent purpose upon the admirable manner in which the lodge and its principal officers discharged their duties. On Friday, the 25th ultimo, the Emulation Lodge of Improvement held its annual Festival under the auspices of Bro. R. D. M. LITTLER, C.B., Q.C., Past Deputy G. Registrar, when, as usual,

there was a large gathering of our most accomplished ritualists, the general tenor of the speeches being to the effect that in these days of emulation—we trust we shall be held guiltless of anything in the nature of a pun—it was more than ever necessary that brethren should make themselves conversant with the working of our ceremonies. Those who desire to know more of what passed at these two gatherings should consult our last week's issue for the report of the Mark meeting, while as regards the Craft meeting, we must refer them to the ample report which will be found in another part of the present number.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England was held on Wednesday at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C. Bro. Earl Amherst, R.W. Dep. Grand Master, presided. Bros. Dr. Egan, D.G.M. South Africa (E.D.), acted as Past G. Master; W. W. B. Beach, Prov. G.M. for Hants and Isle of Wight, as Dep. G. Master; Robert Grey, P.G.W., as S.G.W.; and the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., as J.G.W.

There were also present, among others—

Bros. Thomas Halsey, Prov. G.M. Herts; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Richard Loveland Loveland, Q.C., Pres. Bd. of Gen. Purposes; Thomas Fenn, P.G.W.; R. Horton Smith, Q.C., Dep. G. Reg.; J. C. Malcolm, P.G.D.; Henry Smith, P.G.D.; A. C. Spaul, P.G. Std. Br.; Richard Eve, P.G.T.; Wm. Stiles, P.G.T.; Sir J. C. Dimsdale, P.G.T.; Alderman Vaughan Morgan, G.T.; W. F. Lamony; C. E. Keyser, P.G.D.; W. E. M. Tomlinson, M.P., P.G.D.; Dr. Balfour Cockburn; R. Clowes; the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., as G. Chap.; the Rev. Canon Child, LL.D., G. Chap.; Col. J. W. Woodall, P.G.T.; James H. Matthews, Pres. Board of Benevolence; D. D. Mercer, P.G.P.; H. Garrod, P.G.P.; A. Lucking, P.G.P.; R. Clay Sudlow; W. M. Bywater; J. Boulton; J. Newton, P.G.P.; and W. P. Brown, P.G. Std. Br.

The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of December 1st, 1897, having been read and confirmed,

Bro. Earl AMHERST said the Grand Secretary would now read certain communications from the M.W.G. Master.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH then read the following:

The Most Worshipful Grand Master has been pleased to sanction the following addition to the Regulations respecting the Charity Jewels, at Page 143 of the Book of Constitutions, and has ordered that the same be inserted immediately after the paragraph relating to Vice-Patrons.

"A Patron of any one or more of the Masonic Institutions may have embroidered on the right and left sides of the ribbon referred to in the preceding paragraph a sprig of acacia one and a half inches long, meeting in the centre, over the colour appertaining to the Institution of which he is a Patron, and the jewel ensigned with a representation of the coronet of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master; the sprig of acacia and the coronet to be of silver for a Patron of any one of the Institutions, of gold for a Patron of two, and enamelled in their proper colours for a Patron of the three Institutions."

This passed without any observation being made by the brethren.

Bro. LETCHWORTH then said: I have also been commanded by the Grand Master to communicate to the Grand Lodge, that a brother having been convicted of felony, for which he is now undergoing penal servitude, and to submit to Grand Lodge the propriety under the circumstances of removing the said brother from the rank of Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, to which office he was appointed in 1895.

Bro. RICHARD HORTON SMITH, Q.C., Deputy Grand Registrar, said: Most Worshipful Grand Master in the chair, the Grand Master has been pleased to communicate to us the fact that a Past Officer of this Grand Lodge has been convicted of felony, and for that crime he is now undergoing a sentence of penal servitude; and the certificate which I hold in my hand is official proof of the fact. It is a certificate under the seal of the Central Criminal Court, and it shows that "_____ was on the 24th day of May, 1897, convicted on his own confession for that he did feloniously steal £2972 2s. 4d. of, and belonging to, the Royal Standard Permanent Benefit Building Society, his masters, and afterwards, to wit on the 14th day of September, 1897, he was ordered to be kept in penal servitude for two years to be computed from the said 24th day of May, 1897." Now, stopping for a moment I put the position of our brother thus: I would ask first of all, what is his position with regard to ordinary lodges; and asking that question I will answer myself in the words used by the Board of General Purposes in the year 1833 in deciding certain questions which were put to them by the Board of General Purposes of Ireland with reference to a person under these circumstances. The answer was this: "He ceased from the moment of his conviction to be a member of any lodge to which he belonged; he cannot be recognised as a Mason or be allowed to enter any lodge until his crime be expiated by serving the full term for which he was sentenced or otherwise until he shall have received a free pardon." I think it will be sufficient if I move to deprive the brother of his rank as a Past Grand Officer, and the way I propose to put it is this—"That Grand Lodge having considered the communication and submission of the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the certificate of the Central Criminal Court to the fact that a brother was on the 24th May, 1897, convicted on his own confession of feloniously stealing the sum in question, and that he was on the 14th day of September, 1897, ordered to be kept in penal servitude for two years to be computed from the said 24th day of May, 1897, agrees in the propriety under the circumstances of removing the said brother from the rank of Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, to which office he was appointed in 1895, and deprives him of such rank accordingly."

Bro. R. LOVELAND LOVELAND, Q.C.: M.W.G. Master in the chair,—I have had an opportunity of seeing the cases cited by the Deputy Grand Registrar, and I fully concur in the course he has recommended. Therefore I second the motion.

Bro. Earl AMHERST: And I put this motion, and I hope, for the honour of the Craft, I may never have to put such another from the chair.

The motion was carried *nem. dis.*

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH: M.W.G. Master in the chair,—I have to read a communication received from the M.W. Pro Grand Master, in reply to the vote of condolence carried by this Grand Lodge. I will read it:

"Lathom House, Ormskirk, December 30th, 1897.

"Dear Sir and Brother,—

"May I ask you to convey to his Royal Highness, the M.W.G.M., and the Grand Officers and brethren in Grand Lodge conveyed my heartfelt gratitude and thanks for their truly fraternal and touching message of sympathy with me and my family in our great affliction. "I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

"(Signed) LATHOM."

Bro. W. E. M. TOMLINSON, M.P., moved, and Bro. THOMAS FENN seconded, that this letter be entered on the minutes.

The motion was carried.

Bro. Surgeon Lieut.-Colonel KIALMARK, in proposing the election of M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, said: I rise with much pleasure, and at the same time with some diffidence, to move the following resolution: "That his Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales be re-elected M.W.G.M. for the ensuing 12 months." The pleasure I experience arises from the opportunity it gives me of expressing my sense of the deep obligations the Craft is under to his Royal Highness for the manner in which he has managed our concerns from the time he has presided over us as Grand Master. My diffidence arises from the knowledge that I am unable to do justice to the subject. But I am encouraged by the conviction—and this is a proposition which does not depend upon any help by my poor efforts—that it is one that will receive at the hands of the members of the Craft unanimous and enthusiastic cordiality. Numerous distinguished brethren have in previous years moved a similar resolution, therefore, it is difficult to say anything fresh on the subject; but the continued kindness with which he rules over us enables me to place the motion before you in an acceptable manner. It is not necessary for me in this Grand Lodge to remind the brethren that his Royal Highness has presided over us for a long period, if not a longer period than his illustrious predecessors. (No. no.) When he became our Grand Master in 1875 there were 1471 lodges on the roll. Now you will see by the paper in your hands there are over 2704. (Applause.) There has been a proportionate increase in the number of members of the Craft. Therefore, it is to my mind an extremely gratifying fact that the honour, reputation, and usefulness of Freemasonry have never stood higher in the opinion of the uninitiated or popular world, who are not Masons, than they do at the present time. I beg to move my resolution. Bro. MURE seconded.

Bro. EARL AMHERST: I declare his Royal Highness duly elected Grand Master. I have to report that a telegram has been received here from his Royal Highness, conveying the congratulations of the Prince of Wales's Lodge, 1003, in the Province of Jersey, on his 24th election as Grand Master. (Applause.)

Bro. THOMAS FENN, P.G.W., Acting G.D.C., therefore proclaimed his Royal Highness by all his titles, duly elected, as M.W.G.M. of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England, all the brethren standing.

Bro. EARL AMHERST: As there is only one nomination for Grand Treasurer, I declare Bro. Clifford Probyn duly elected.

On the motion of Bro. J. H. MATTHEWS, President of the Board of Benevolence, seconded by Bro. D. D. MERCER, Senior Vice-President, the report of the Board of Benevolence for the month of December, 1897, and January and February, 1898, was adopted, and the following recommendations of grants were confirmed:

The widow of a brother of the Royal St. Edmunds Lodge, No. 1008, Bury St. Edmunds ..	£50 0 0
A brother of the Nelson Lodge, No. 700, Plumstead ..	50 0 0
A brother of the Mayo Lodge, No. 1406, Secunderabad ..	75 0 0
A brother of the Derwent Lodge, No. 40, Hastings ..	50 0 0
A brother of the Friends in Council Lodge, No. 1383, London ..	100 0 0
A brother of the Southdown Lodge, No. 1797, Huist-pierpoint ..	50 0 0
A brother of the Rock Lodge, No. 1289, Birkenhead ..	100 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Albert Edward Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1429, Newport, Mon. ..	100 0 0

The report of the Board of General Purposes, which appeared in the *Freemason* of last week, was taken as read, received, and adopted.

Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS.

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge of Mark Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown was held on Tuesday evening last, at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Bro. the Earl of Euston, M.W. Pro Grand Master, presided. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Past Grand Master, occupied the seat of M.W.P.G.M., and Bro. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton that of Dep. G. Master; Bros. Lord Addington, S.G.W., and Sir Joseph C. Dimsdale, J.G.W., were in their respective chairs. Among numerous other brethren present were Bros. Edward Letchworth, R. Loveland Loveland, Q.C., P.G.W.; Frank Richardson, Grand Registrar; C. F. Matier, P.G.W., Grand Secretary; Dr. Balfour Cockburn, Dr. Clement Godson, Colonel Clifford Probyn, P.G. Treas.; Richard Eve, P.G. Treas.; Major J. W. Woodall, P.G. Treas.; Charles Letch Mason, Prov. G. Master West Yorkshire; Frederick West, W. A. Scurrah, W. E. M. Tomlinson, M.P., Charles Belton, as G.M.O.; Henry Sadler, as G.I.G.; and others.

After the formal opening of Grand Lodge, and the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the previous quarterly communication,

The Earl of EUSTON rose, and said: Brethren, the next business is the election of the Most Worshipful Grand Master his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who was nominated at the last meeting, and I am sure that in putting his name before you for election there is no

one voice among us all that would be raised against it; we are only too glad to have him as our Grand Master. He always supports us in every way he possibly can, although he is not able to be as much with us as we could desire owing to the great number of his duties he has to perform. I put his name to you at once—that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales be elected as our Most Worshipful Grand Master for the ensuing year.

The motion was carried with enthusiasm, and

Bro. Dr. BALFOUR COCKBURN, acting as G.D.C., proclaimed his Royal Highness duly elected.

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON next said: Brethren,—Bro. William Mason Stiles having been duly nominated as Grand Treasurer, and no other candidate being duly nominated, I declare Bro. William Stiles duly elected Grand Treasurer, in Grand Lodge. I am only too pleased that there is no contested election, because when there is a contest it puts Grand Lodge to a great deal of trouble, as well as to a great deal of expense.

Bro. WM. STILES: M.W. Pro Grand Master and Brethren,—I have to acknowledge the kindness of Grand Lodge in electing me to the distinguished office of Grand Treasurer, and trust I shall give every satisfaction.

On the motion of Bro. R. LOVELAND LOVELAND, Q.C., President, seconded by Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, G. Reg., the report of the General Board was taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

The principal points in the report were the increase by 358 of members of the Mark Degree in the three concluding months of 1897; the granting of warrants for five new lodges, and three new Ark Mariner lodges; the appointment by the Grand Master of the Earl of Halsbury as Prov. G. Master for Cornwall; the re-appointment for three years of Bro. A. Woodiwiss as Prov. G. Master for Derbyshire; the announcement of a grave complaint against a brother Past Grand Officer, for which he had been summoned to attend the Grand Lodge meeting; and the gift of a trophy of cavalry lances by Bro. W. A. Weston, P.G.I.G.

The following are the words of reference to the grave complaint against a brother: "A complaint of a grave nature having been laid before the Board concerning a Brother, he has been summoned to appear in Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be deprived by the M.W. Grand Master of his Rank as a Past Grand Officer, and why he should not be expelled from the degree of Mark Master Mason."

Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, on this subject, said: M.W. Pro Grand Master,—It is my painful duty, holding the office of Grand Registrar of the Order, to move the first resolution, which is notified by the report which is in the hands of all the brethren. By Rule 147 a lodge can only exclude a member by a vote of two-thirds. I regret to say that at a special meeting of this brother's lodge, held on the 1st of January, a resolution was unanimously passed to exclude a brother in consequence of his having failed, after having been duly summoned by the lodge, to show cause why he should not be so expelled, the grounds being that he had possession of the books of the lodge, and also of the money of the lodge. It is a very sad thing, but I fear it is a case that Grand Lodge must take up. A report was duly made to the General Board to this effect, and a summons had been served upon our brother pursuant to the Book of Constitutions to show cause why he should not be expelled. He has taken no notice of the summons and, therefore, Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master, I think we have one course only to adopt, and that is to endorse the resolution of his lodge and also exclude him from Mark Masonry altogether. The rule under which it must be done is specific, it provides that Grand Lodge shall have the power; it says a lodge shall not be erased or a brother expelled until the Master or officers of such lodge or the brother charged with an offence shall have been summoned to show cause in Grand Lodge against such sentence. I think, M.W. Pro Grand Master, the brother, a Treasurer of this lodge who has not only received the money and applied it to his own purposes but fails to deliver up the books of the lodge ought not to be on the roll of Grand Lodge, and although it is with very great regret indeed I am compelled to make such a proposal that he be expelled, I do with all due deference make it.

Bro. LOVELAND LOVELAND: M.W. Pro Grand Master,—I beg to second this proposition; but I would suggest to you, M.W. Pro Grand Master, that before it be passed by Grand Lodge he should be called outside the lodge in case he might be here in the precincts.

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON: I understand he has been duly summoned to attend here.

Bro. LOVELAND LOVELAND: He has.

Bro. Dr. Balfour Cockburn then proceeded outside Grand Lodge, and had the brother called by name.

On his return, Bro. Dr. BALFOUR COCKBURN said: M.W. Pro Grand Master,—Bro. — does not answer to his summons.

The Earl of EUSTON: Brethren, it is with deep regret that I rise on the subject on which I think we all feel we regret as Masons; but there is one law laid down for us, and by that law we must abide. You have heard what has been said by Brother Grand Registrar, and the President of the General Board. You have heard the rules referred to read, and I must look to you now to agree with the proposal that the brother be excluded from Mark Masonry for the cause stated. I do not think it is necessary to go into further details and into matters that are not before us in any way. I shall, therefore, put it to the Grand Lodge. Those who agree with the proposal signify it in the usual way observed among Mark Masons. (After a pause.) On the contrary. Carried.

On the motion of Bro. LOVELAND LOVELAND, seconded by Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, the report of the General Board was adopted.

In reply to the Earl of Euston, Bro. MATIER said there was no other business, but he had received several letters of apology from brethren for absence, and in the case of Major Carrell, G.D.C., he was sorry to say his absence was caused by dangerous illness.

The Earl of EUSTON: Brethren,—Assist me to close the lodge. I only regret we had to do such an unpleasant duty, but I think, whether it is unpleasant or pleasant, we should not shrink from performing it according to the Constitutions of the Order.

Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

BRO. LORD WANTAGE has consented to preside at a dinner to be held, in the course of this month, in celebration of the declaration of Greek Independence. The Duke of Westminster, the Duke of Argyll, the Right Hon. Herbert Gladstone, M.P., Mr. George W. E. Russell, and Mr. F. S. Stevenson, M.P., are amongst the stewards of the anniversary. Those wishing to attend are requested to communicate with the Hon. Treas., Mr. F. Victor Fisher, 48, Lillie-road, Earl's-court, S.W.

THE RECENT FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The following lists, and additions to lists, have been received since last week, namely :

Lodge	LONDON.	£	s.	d.
174 Bro. G. A. W. Griffiths, additional	...	10	10	0
(raising his list to £193 3s.)	...			
193 „ J. W. Simeons, additional	...	1	1	0
(raising his list to £43 11s.)	...			
834 „ A. Williams, additional	...	5	5	0
(raising his list to £113 10s.)	...			
1017 „ H. Chatham	...	1	1	0
(raising his list to £46 12s.)	...			
1695 „ Robert Colsell, additional	...	1	1	0
(raising his list to £43 11s. 6d.)	...			
2417 „ — Witts, M.D., new list	...	10	10	0
Lodge of Instruction	...			
1687 Bro. A. W. Humphreys	...	5	5	0
Ladies	...			
Mrs. Trew, additional	...	2	1	0
(raising her list to £104 8s.)	...			
THE PROVINCES.				
DEVONSHIRE.				
Bro. Rev. A. H. Hare, new Steward	...	10	10	0
(raising the Provincial total to £21.)	...			
HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT.				
Bro. J. W. Gieve, new Steward	...	10	10	0
(which with the Provincial money makes his list £36 15s.)	...			
HERTFORDSHIRE.				
Unattached	...			
Bro. J. P. Taylor	...	10	10	0
OXFORDSHIRE.				
Lodge	...			
340 Joint list, additional	...	5	5	0
(raising total to £106 5s.)	...			
SOMERSETSHIRE.				
Lodge	...			
Bro. Lieut.-Col. A. T. Perkins, additional	...	21	0	0
(raising his list to £31 10s.)	...			
STAFFORDSHIRE.				
2149 Bro. Thomas Taylor, new Steward	...	10	10	0
(raising Provincial total to £21.)	...			
SURREY.				
2444 Bro. A. Watkin, additional	...	1	0	0
(raising his list to £24 1s.)	...			

ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.

The annual festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was held on the 25th ult., at Freemasons' Hall. Between 300 and 400 brethren were present first at the working of the Second Lecture in the Temple, and afterwards at the supper at the Freemasons' Tavern. Bro. R. Clay Sudlow, P.G. Std. Br., presided at the former, and Bro. R. D. M. Littler, Q.C., P.D.G. Reg., at the latter, and among the distinguished company present were Bros. Charles Belton, E. Letchworth, G. Sec., Treas.; Rowland Plumbe, G. Supt. of Works; J. A. Farnfield, P.G. Std. Br.; James Boulton, P.A.G.S.; Walter Martin, A.G.P.; J. J. Thomas, H. J. P. Dumas, W. A. Scurrah, W. Russell, W. P. Brown, H. Lovegrove, W. G. Kentish, Col. Hugh Gordon, H. Sadler, G. Tyler; W. Vincent, J. H. Matthews, A. C. Spaul, C. E. Keyser, R. Horton Smith, Q.C., D.G.R.; C. J. R. Tijou, J. S. Eastes, and Benj. Charles Smith, of Turk's Island, W.I.

In the lodge the officers who assisted Bro. Sudlow were Bros. Rushton, P.M.; Charles Lewis, S.W.; D. D. West, J.W.; R. E. F. Lander, S.D.; George R. Scott, J.D.; and Major Badham, I.G.

The Sections of the Second Lecture were worked as follows:

1st Section	...	Bro. A. D. Kennaby, 1965.
2nd „	...	„ W. R. Bennett, P.M. 1965.
3rd „	...	„ R. E. F. Lander, W.M. 2086.
4th „	...	„ C. Lewis, P.M. 1706.
5th „	...	„ T. W. Allsop, P.M. 88.

At the close of the working, which was all beautifully performed, Bro. LITTLER proposed a vote of thanks to the workers, and said he had never seen the work done better.

Bro. HORTON SMITH, Q.C., seconded the motion, and said that that was the second time he had attended the festival, and that the work was done, if anything, better than on the last occasion when he was present.

The motion having been carried,

Bro. R. CLAY SUDLOW, in acknowledging the compliment, said the brethren who had taken part in the working appreciated the vote very highly. They had naturally been very anxious to sustain the prestige of the lodge for good working, and now that their labours were over, and they had been accorded that vote, they considered themselves amply repaid for the trouble they had taken in making themselves perfect. If he was a judge of expression, he should say there were a great many present who were anxious to become members, and an opportunity would at once be given them to gratify their desire; their names could be given in that night with the names of their proposers and seconders, and they would be voted upon at the meeting of March 4th. Half-a-crown was the life membership fee; a shilling was charged each night of attendance; but if they paid 5s. a year the attendance fee per night was reduced to 6d. After the expenses had been paid, every penny went to the Masonic Charities.

After the lodge had been closed, the brethren adjourned to supper.

Bro. R. D. M. LITTLER, Chairman, having proposed "The Queen and the Craft," and "The M.W. Grand Master," which were both heartily honoured,

Bro. RUSHTON proposed "The M.W. Pro Grand Master, Dep. Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and said in that lodge the toast would receive a special welcome from the close connection it had a ways had with that distinguished body of brethren, the Grand Officers. They had the privilege to number among their members a great many Grand Officers, both present and past, and they had, as they knew, as their Treasurer, the hardest worked, and the most important Executive Officer of Grand Lodge. Bro. Edward Letchworth, the Grand Secretary, had evidenced his interest in the working of that lodge on many occasions, and they were very proud to have him in the position of their Treasurer. They were also very grateful to all the Grand Officers, who annually favoured them with their company at those gatherings; it gave the members of the lodge great encouragement in the work they had to do, and lent a sort of official stamp to the ritual, which they endeavoured to teach in the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. On that occasion, too, the toast had a special interest for the members of that lodge, for to the number of Grand Officers

had been added this year the name of one whose intimate connection with the lodge was well-known—Bro. W. G. Kentish. (Hear, hear.) Among the distinguished brethren who were selected for past rank on the occasion of the splendid meeting at Albert Hall, to vote a congratulatory address to her Majesty on completing her Diamond Jubilee year, none deserved the honour conferred upon him more than Bro. Kentish—(cheers)—and although his work in Freemasonry, no doubt, had been most useful and important in other directions, he (Bro. Rushton) ventured to hope that Bro. Kentish's connection with that lodge had some influence in the selection which was made for giving him the purple.

Bro. R. HORTON SMITH, Q.C., Dep. G. Reg., responding, said with regard to the Pro G.M., the brethren all felt for him in the calamity that had overtaken him, and it would be a great misfortune to the Craft if they did not see his face so often as they had seen it in times past. Lord Amherst, so far as he had been with them since his appointment as Deputy Grand Master, had amply justified that appointment. All the Grand Officers were always ready to do all they could for the Craft, and that was the reason the toast was always well honoured. But that night the brethren had rather turned the tables, and instead of paying a compliment of that sort, they had given a good object lesson to them in the lodge by showing them the way in which they should perform their duties. As he said in lodge, he had never seen the work done better, and the Grand Officers would always be glad to come and see such work.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, G. Sec., Treas. of the lodge, proposed "The Chairman." The brethren knew how busy a man Bro. Littler was; he was often surprised at the amount of work he got through, and how he managed in such an admirable manner the duties he undertook and discharged. He felt some little diffidence in asking Bro. Littler to take the office of Chairman at that meeting, as it was the commencement of the Parliamentary session, when every moment of his time was so valuable to him and those he advised; but he knew that Bro. Littler was willing at all times, to the utmost of his power, to help Freemasonry, and he knew he would make a sacrifice for its benefit. It was with very great pleasure he received a letter from him saying that he would take the chair. It only remained for him, the Committee, and the lodge to thank Bro. Littler for the honour he had done them.

Bro. LITTLER, in acknowledging the toast, said Bro. Letchworth was entirely in the right when he said that anything he (Bro. Littler) could possibly do for the advancement of the interests of the Craft was heartily at the service of every brother composing the Craft. But he was bound to say that Bro. Letchworth rather exaggerated him, because if anything could be more pleasing to any one who took interest in the Craft than anything else it was the admirable working of that evening; everything was put aside by the splendid sight and hearing of what went on to show the proper way of doing the work of the Craft. He only wished that some lodges he knew of would induce all their members to pay half-a-crown, and instruct their officers, because it would be worth five shillings to them. To any one who liked the working it was a delight and pleasure, and he was more pleased in addition to the drinking of the health by what he saw before they came from labour to refreshment. Anything more interesting or more valuable for Masons, anything more instructive to those less advanced or likely to arouse in them the spirit of emulation he could not well conceive. He had had some experience in the Craft, and the pleasure of initiating an 'ex-Lord Chancellor, the present Speaker, and, he believed, the raising of the heaviest brother that Masons had amongst them. (Laughter.) Most of the brethren knew that brother's genial face and all who knew him loved him thoroughly—he was referring to his dear old friend, Bro. Samuel Pope. He could not help remembering that in one of the rooms in Freemasons' Hall there was a certain lack of irreverence amongst the brethren, which was scarcely preventible, even although in such an important ceremony when his Wardens reported to him that it proved a slip. (Laughter.) He thought the brethren would all agree—his experience was at all events varied, but there was one thing he thought would be appreciated in this room—he had the honour of being Master two successive years in his own lodge, and two years in the Northern Bar Lodge, but he never allowed more than one candidate to take a ceremony at the same time; he never allowed two candidates to take a ceremony in company with each other; if they did it was a most mischievous practice; it destroyed all the solemnity and all the interest; and he did not think it would meet with the approval of the members of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. He had now had the honour of being a Mason a great many years; he had appreciated highly all the successive honours he had received; but he was bound to say that, however highly he appreciated them, he did not know that he appreciated any honour so much as the time he had spent in the Emulation Lodge of Improvement that night. It was a matter to be remembered by any one to see the work done so well, so steadily, and so accurately; and not with the painful accidents one sometimes saw. He was speaking now of counselling perfection; he had hardly been able to realise it himself; but one could admire perfection when one could not attain to it. He remembered when Sir Cresswell Cresswell was Judge of the Divorce Court, and one counsel said to the learned Judge—"Well, we cannot all be perfect, like your lordship;" the counsel who said so was a Serjeant; and Sir Cresswell Cresswell said to him—"Brother ———, no one will impute perfection to you; but there is no reason why the Court should not endeavour to improve you." (Laughter.) That was what he (Bro. Littler) found in himself that night; he hoped to obtain improvement from his visit; he was too old to improve, or too hardened a sinner to do so; but he had had much pleasure, and that had been added to by the very kind way in which brethren, very good workers in the Craft, had drank his health.

Bro. LITTLER next said: After the great honour and pleasure bestowed on him that night, he now had the privilege of proposing that which was the toast of the evening "Success to the Emulation Lodge of Improvement and the Health of its Officers." With regard to the lodge the idea had been regarded as one of excellence; but it had not been until recent years that the full value of this lodge in connection with Grand Lodge and the London lodges had been so much appreciated as it was now. The Emulation Lodge of Improvement was what he considered the very backbone of the whole institution of Masonry. What they got in this lodge and what they saw and heard they did not get, see, or hear in other lodges; but they were able at all events to attempt something like an accurate and a perfect ritual. If one went to some lodges they would find everything was halting, perhaps hearing two Past Masters by distributing themselves in different quarters trying to keep the officers somewhat up to the mark; but it was somewhat disappointing to many who took an interest in the Craft to find the Master and Wardens listening to a separate and distinct Preceptor, not only visible to the naked eye but audible to the naked ear. That was not conducive to the respect of Masonry; the essence of Masonry was to have the thing well done. It was always said that if anything was worth doing at all it was worth doing well; if that was applicable to the ordinary things of the world it was more applicable to the solemn ceremonies of Masonry; it ought to be so with every one; but if it were not for the Emulation Lodge of Improvement he thought very few lodges would do their work so well as they did; if the brethren of the lodges attended this lodge, their lodges would go on better trained and better conducted. He could only say he trusted this lodge would long prosper, that it would long have the number of members it had now, that it might have a great accession to that number and have the gratitude it deserved of the Craft at large. In coupling Bro. Sudlow's name with the toast, he believed that any one in the lodge could see by the promptness of Bro. Sudlow's questions and the emphatic manner in which he put them he had a thorough acquaintance and knowledge of

the work, and they could not doubt that if he had to do all the work himself, although he might have wanted a drink after it, he could have done all the ceremony by himself. (Cheers and laughter.)

Bro. R. CLAY SUDLOW, in replying, said: I have no doubt that many of the brethren who frequent our weekly meetings are of opinion that the position of a P.M. of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement is not a very easy one. You know that it is his duty to watch every word, nay, even better, every detail in the working of our ceremonies and lectures, in order that he may at once correct the slightest inaccuracy; and I admit that the strain imposed is a very severe one. But at these festivals another and a more difficult task falls to the lot of the senior Past Master, and that is to find year after year something new to say in response to the toast which has been so ably proposed. I believe that this difficulty has been experienced by my predecessors, and I can assure you that in my own case it is now very pronounced. In the remarks, therefore, that I shall make in response to this toast, should I perchance tread on well worn ground, I hope that I shall have your indulgence. I hope, further, that the indulgence extended to me will not be meted out in accordance with the measure that I myself grant to the officers on Friday evenings—(laughter)—and, as a matter of fact, indulgence from me is really not required in their case. The quality of working in this lodge has been improving for a very long time past, until now it has attained to a very high standard. This approach, brethren, to perfection in working may be taken as illustrative of a very special feature of this lodge, viz., that it is a lodge of improvement, and not a lodge of instruction. The difference, which is a very important one, is not, I find, generally understood even now, and, therefore, perhaps it will be well for me to explain in what the difference lies. A lodge of instruction is essentially a lodge for beginners, and it is the duty of the Preceptor to teach everything that has to be done, and that, brethren, is no slight task when we remember the numberless details which make for good working. The lodge of improvement, on the other hand, is intended solely for advanced students, brethren who have advanced to a high proficiency in the working of our ceremonies, so that they may themselves act as Preceptors in each office that they take. It will be obvious, I think, to you that if you desire to make your mark in the Emulation Lodge of Improvement—and I hope that there are very many here to-night who have come to that determination—you should first of all attach yourselves to one or other of the lodges of instruction where this Emulation system is taught, otherwise you will have to essay that most difficult of all tasks—that of unlearning. Such, brethren, was my unfortunate experience, and it took me years to accomplish. The year after I had been accepted as a correct exponent of our ritual, I found myself occasionally getting into the old grooves. For instance, I remember on one particular occasion, when acting as S.W. in the initiation ceremony, I made the well-known, but terrible, slip when investing the candidate, which is so strongly reminiscent of a place of entertainment at Richmond; I can leave you, brethren, to imagine the look of horror that overspread the face of our Past Master Fenn. But after all the greatest value of this lodge as an institution lies in the fact that it provides for an absolute standard of ritual. As it is necessary in the outside world to have standards of weight and measurement and capacity, so, I maintain, in Masonry is it necessary to have a standard which shall never alter. To maintain this standard in its absolute purity is the duty that devolves on me and on my colleagues, Bros. Rushton and Kentish, and we in that duty are to-night very much encouraged by the presence of so many Grand Officers and by the heartiness in which our Chairman's toast has been received by you. On behalf of the Committee, I extend to them, Grand Officers, and to you our most hearty thanks. (Cheers.)

Bro. W. RUSSELL, Asst. G.D.C., proposed "Success and Prosperity to the Lodge of Unions," the mother of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. He said he recollected in his younger days before he acquired the levels he used to attend this lodge of improvement and it was one of his greatest treats to come to this annual festival and mix with brethren he had heard so much of, but then had not the opportunity of seeing in Grand Lodge; he valued the opportunity very much. He recollected Bro. Farnfield in those days as the Treasurer of the Lodge of Unions make most felicitous responses to the toast and say how convinced he was—it was one of the brightest jewels in the diadem of the Lodge of Unions under this lodge of improvement worked under its aegis. It seemed to him although some 24 years had elapsed, the circumstances were very much the same, and the members of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement were still proud to have the opportunity of toasting the Lodge of Unions; it always did—it did now, and he entertained no doubt it always would evoke a hearty response for the brethren. If he might be permitted to digress one moment from the Lodge of Unions and to testify as a semi-country brother to the enormous value of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement to those brethren who lived a few miles out of London who were blessed with a quick evening train service and lived in the country and occasionally came here for instruction the blessings were very great, because they had an opportunity then in the country of disseminating the knowledge they had gained at the expert hands and the nimble tongue of Bro. Fenn or Bro. Sudlow, and so reproducing the exact ritual among the Craft in our various provinces, and like with a stone dropped into a pool, the circles enlarged and enlarged until they reached the further bank, the knowledge of Masonry went on, and spread deeper and wider into the provinces, until it reached the further shore, where the jurisdiction of United Grand Lodge of England did not go beyond. It seemed to him that the 24 years that had also elapsed during his own life in Masonry in which he had been working at it marked an epoch. The difficulty now in getting the brethren in the country to adopt the ritual of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was nothing like what it was 24 years ago. He recollected perfectly well, before he was allowed to be a War'en in his lodge, a deputation of Past Masters waited upon him and said: "Bro. Russell, you are an ardent Mason; we admit you have some strange notions; we have ancient landmarks; we have certain peculiarities of conducting our ceremonies, which you have talked lightly of; in fact you do not uphold our landmarks." He said: "Brethren,—Don't you run away with the idea that I would countenance for one moment anything that is subversive. I wish to unite the whole of the Craft in one ritual which all shall understand, and work harmoniously, so that the working of the lodge shall be an intellectual treat to those who join the Craft." To the Lodge of Unions, whatever the blessings we were now reaping were due; long might it prosper, and long might the Emulation Lodge of Improvement be the banner of its beneficent work in Masonry.

Bro. J. A. FARNFIELD, in acknowledging the toast, said the Master of the Lodge of Unions, although quite able to work the ceremonies well and preside at the banquet table in a becoming manner, felt diffident when called upon to respond before such a large assembly as that, and therefore he (Bro. Farnfield) had to respond. He remembered that lodge of improvement when Bro. Murton was Secretary, and it was then very flourishing, but it seemed to be even more flourishing now. Bro. Russell had said that the Lodge of Unions considered the Emulation Lodge of Improvement one of its brightest jewels. It certainly did feel much like the poor old lady who had had a son or a daughter who had made his or her mark in the world, and they were only too glad to see it go on and prosper, and did not disdain to know her in the presence of such a company as that then assembled, and that she was not considered a small or insignificant body.

Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D., proposed "The Masonic Charities," which, he said, had now arrived at such a height of prosperity that they had now nearly £50,000 a year to find to keep the Institutions up to the mark. A great proportion of that had to be raised by donations every year. The present was an

exceptional year; they had had a good many lately. They had had the festival of the Old People, which raised something under £9500, by no means a despicable sum, but one they generally exceeded. The girls would have their festival on the third Wednesday in May, when he hoped Sir Reginald Hanson would be well supported, so that the Institution might go on without trenching on invested funds. Then came the Boys' Festival, which was its Centenary, and the brethren were going to utilise it by appealing to the generosity of the Craft to remove the School from Wood Green to a better site at Bushey. The scheme would entail an outlay of £100,000, but they were sanguine enough to believe that even that amount might be found in this exceptional year. They had done wonderful things in the past; he asked them again to do it in the present.

Bro. J. A. FARNFIELD replied. Personally he was a Steward for the Benevolent and for the Boys, but he hoped to put something on the Girls' list, and he hoped his friends around him would do the same, that the Girls' School might not be left in the cold in this auspicious year.

Bro. H. LOVEGROVE, P.G.S.B., proposed "The Stewards."

Bro. W. G. KENTISH responded. He said they were all sorry for the absence of the Secretary, Bro. Russell, through illness. They had heard what Bro. Sudlow had said about the importance of that lodge, and of its work. He ventured to think there was something else in connection with that lodge. All brethren who had ever belonged to it would also feel that it did not only do all that was possible in the matter of ritual, but it also carried out the spirit of Freemasonry. The Committee were most harmonious. He had had the privilege of working with the Committee for several years, and there had been no occasion when there was the smallest difference among them. From year to year their clientele altered; men passed away who had belonged to them; others came on; and the Committee were very grateful indeed to, as it were, the coming generation for the very hearty support which they gave not only at the ordinary meetings, but at these annual festivals. The Committee were grateful to those brethren who had exerted themselves to make the meeting a success. He hoped all the brethren would support the lodge and spread its advantages as far abroad as they could. All brethren who attended the lodge derived advantages from it; he had himself for very many years.

The brethren honoured the Tyler's toast before separating.

ANNUAL SUPPER OF THE EARL OF LATHOM LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1922.

The annual supper of this very successful and flourishing lodge took place at the Station Hotel, Camberwell New-road, on Wednesday, the 23rd ult. The President of the evening was Bro. R. Peachey, W.M. of the mother lodge, who was supported by Bros. C. L. Plant, P.M. 101, Preceptor; Wm. Hill, I.G. 1512, Treas.; Hy. Cornford, S.W. 1320, Sec.; Chas. Hy. Stone, P.M. 507 and J.W. 1641; and many others.

An excellent supper provided by the host, Bro. Sisman, was much appreciated and hearty thanks were accorded him.

The cloth removed, the PRESIDENT gave the toasts of "The Queen," "H.R.H. the M.W.G.M., and Grand Officers," remarking of his Royal Highness and the rest of the Grand Officers, that they were excellent brethren and performed their various duties as perfectly as possible.

Bro. C. L. PLANT, P.M., Preceptor, rose, and proposed "The Health of Bro. R. Peachey, W.M. 1922, the worthy President." It was a pleasure to all present to see how ably he could carry out the duties and also to see the hearty support accorded him by so many Past Masters who were present. It was very important for such gatherings as the present that the W.M. of the mother lodge should preside, and when Bro. Peachey was approached upon the subject he at once consented. That fact showed the interest the President took in promoting the interests of the Order, and the brethren appreciated his kindness, and he was sure a most enjoyable evening would be spent under his able guidance.

In reply, the PRESIDENT said when he accepted the position of the Master of the Earl of Lathom Lodge and the onerous duties and responsibilities it entailed, he esteemed it a great honour and was delighted to see such a goodly gathering and so many visitors.

Bro. C. L. SHIPTON, P.M. and Sec. 1922, next presented the toast of the evening, that of "Success to the Earl of Lathom Lodge of Instruction," which was making rapid strides and doing a large amount of good in South London. It had the good wishes of all present and personally his one great regret was that he could not attend so often as he wished on account of his parochial duties, and his advice was, although he had passed the chair, to all the younger brethren, they could not do better than place themselves under such a Preceptor as Bro. C. L. Plant, P.M., who was ever ready to do his duty by every brother who might ask his assistance.

Bros. WM. HILL, Treas., and HY. CORNFORD, S.W. 1922, Sec., replied.

Bro. PEACHEY next proposed the toast of "The Worthy Preceptor," whom personally he thanked for much instruction given. It was his misfortune that he could not be more regular in his attendance, which was greatly to his loss. Bro. Plant took a lively interest in all the brethren of the mother lodge, and many others were greatly indebted to him. He was most assiduous and painstaking, and all wished him health to continue such a useful career.

In reply, Bro. PLANT, Preceptor, who was loudly applauded, said he heartily thanked the President and the brethren, and felt he was not entitled to such eulogiums. He had only been their Preceptor a few months, but Deputy Preceptor for two years, and he had striven to do his duty, and would continue to do the same.

Bro. H. BUCKERIDGE, P.M., Dep. Preceptor, said he had been honoured by the President in proposing the toast of "The Visitors," which was of no mean order. There was an excellent array and all were heartily welcomed. He hoped that many might become members of the lodge of instruction and swell the number of its members.

This was ably responded to by Bros. H. Cohen, Inskip, Stone, and Burkm.

The toast of "The Artistes," was presented and received most cordially; also of the Stewards who had carried out the duties so admirably; they were Bros. C. Johnson, W. E. Groom, A. R. Jackson, and F. G. Messent.

The officers of the lodge are Bros. C. L. Plant, P.M., Preceptor; H. Buckeridge, P.M., Dep. Preceptor; Wm. Hill, Treas.; Hy. Cornford, Sec.; and E. J. S. Ware, Asst. Sec.

A capital programme of music was provided by Bro. F. Swinford, P.P.G. Org. Middx., assisted by Bros. Arthur Court, H. A. Stunt, W. E. Groom, T. Nettleton Taylor (piano solo), Cohen (recitation), F. G. Messent, R. Peachey, L. S. Shipton, and H. Buckeridge. Bro. J. Nettleton Taylor, Org. 1922, ably accompanied.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS ADOLPHUS OF TECK were on Saturday elected Fellows of the Royal Botanic Society.

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*Extracted from the Authorised Reports of the
Grand Lodge of England, during the past 25 years.*

EDITED, ARRANGED, AND ANNOTATED BY

Wor. Bro. Rev. J. T. LAWRENCE, M.A.

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Masonic Notes.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1898.

We tender our respectful congratulations to their
Royall Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales on
the providential escape from the hands of assassins of
King George of Greece. His Majesty is a brother of the
Princess of Wales and brother-in-law, therefore, of our
M.W. Grand Master. The King, accompanied by his

daughter, the Princess, was driving in an open landau,
when the attempt was made, and the groom in attend-
ance was wounded in the leg, while one of the horses
was slightly hurt. Happily both his Majesty and his
daughter escaped. Indignation is felt everywhere
throughout Greece, while the King has received
innumerable letters and telegrams of congratulation.

* * *

The Quarterly Communication of United Grand
Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday,
under the presidency of Bro. Earl Amherst, Deputy
Grand Master, when the business, as published in our
last week's issue, was transacted. There is nothing of
special moment upon which to offer any comment, but
we gladly avail ourselves of this opportunity of con-
gratulating Bro. Col. Clifford Probyn on his election to
the office of Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.
Bro. Probyn has, in his time, done good service to the
Craft, and we doubt not that in his new and more
exalted position he will render still greater service,
thereby placing it under far greater obligations to him
than it is at the present moment.

* * *

The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge
of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales was
held at Mark Masons' Hall on Tuesday, the 1st inst.,
under the presidency of Bro. the Earl of Euston,
M.W. Pro Grand Master. The one matter to which
we think it advisable to refer is the election of Bro.
W. Mason Stiles to the office of Grand Treasurer for
the ensuing year. We offer him our sincere congratu-
lations on the honour thus conferred upon him, more
especially as it is the third time it has been so con-
ferred by a Supreme Masonic Body. In 1894, in
consequence of the Craft Grand Treasurer not being
qualified to hold the corresponding office in Supreme
G. Chapter, Comp. W. M. Stiles was elected by a narrow
majority Royal Arch Grand Treasurer. In 1895 he was
elected, after a severe contest, Grand Treasurer of
United Grand Lodge, and he is now, without having
gone through the ordeal of a contested election, Grand
Treasurer of the Mark Grand Lodge. There is no
other case of its kind, that we are aware of, in Masonry,
and hence in this instance our more than usually
hearty felicitations.

* * *

In addition to the two new lodges the consecration
of which we announced last week, there are two others
which will start on their career in the course of the
next few days. To-morrow (Saturday) the Alfred
Newton Lodge, No. 2686, will be consecrated, the
ceremony being performed by the Grand Secretary.
When the lodge has been constituted, Bro. Alderman
James Newton, P.M., will be installed in the chair as
the first W.M. The meeting will take place at the
Chelsea Town Hall, at 4.30 p.m., and when lodge has
been closed, the customary banquet will follow.

* * *

The other new lodge is the Arcadian, No. 2696,
which will be consecrated at the Hotel Cecil, at 5 p.m.
In the proceedings on this occasion, the Grand Secre-
tary will preside as Consecrating Officer, and will be
assisted by Bro. Alderman W. Vaughan Morgan, G.
Treasurer, and other distinguished members of Grand
Lodge. When the lodge has been constituted, Bro.
James Rosedale, P.M., W.M. designate, will be installed
in the chair of K.S., and the officers having been
appointed and invested, the rest of the business will
be transacted, and the banquet will follow.

* * *

In a sermon he recently preached in West Parish
Church, Crieff, before the local lodge, Bro. Dr. Rankin,
of Westhill, though he was by no means sparing in
his remarks on the faults and foibles of the brethren,
was in the main exceedingly complimentary. He
observed "that Masonry well managed was a system
capable of sweetening and calming general society. A
pacific ocean," he said, "was too much to hope in this
life for a very long time to come, but if they could get
a few specimens of pure and stormless water, even
the size of Loch Turret, great would be the boon,"
and he added, "for the practical attainment of a few
figurative Loch Turrets, he would rather trust a dozen
Masonic lodges than a dozen churches each different
from the other." This shows that Bro. Dr. Rankin
has a very high opinion of Freemasonry, though we
think he would have shown better judgment had he
abstained from instituting any comparison between
our Society and religious bodies.

* * *

"Ex-Secretary P.M.," our correspondent of last
week on Article 141 of the Book of Constitutions is to
be commended for his anxiety in behalf of a strict

observance of the laws of Masonry, but we are afraid
he is somewhat rash in taking all the words that appear
in a report in their literal sense. It is quite true that
in the face of the provisions made in Article 141 for
the occupation of the chair in the Master's absence, it
would be unconstitutional for a W.M. to *depute* any
particular P.M. to act in his stead. The law lays
it down that "in the Master's absence, the Immediate
Past Master, or, if he be absent, the Senior Past
Master of the Lodge present, or if no Past Master of
the Lodge be present, then the Senior Past Master,
who is a subscribing member of the Lodge shall take
the chair." But "depute" may not have been the
word actually used in the passage he quoted from our
report, and if it were actually used, it may not have
been intended to be used in its ordinary acceptation.

* * *

On looking, indeed, into our report we find that the
word is that of our reporter, who probably never
dreamt that every word he employed in his interesting
little introductory paragraph, would be interpreted
strictly. It is more than probable that our correspon-
dent's suggestion as to the arrangement having been
made with the full concurrence of the I.P.M., who was
present, is correct. It occurs to us that the I.P.M.
must have forgone his right to preside under Article
141, in favour of Bro. Barker, in order that the latter
might have the "privilege" to quote the word attributed
later in the report to Bro. Malcolm of initiating his
own son into Masonry. Still, our correspondent is
justified, in view of the experience he mentions in the
second paragraph of his letter, in calling attention
to the law, and is probably right in his surmise as to
there being W.Ms. who think they can depute any P.M.
they like to act in their stead in their enforced absence.
The point we are desirous of emphasising is that in the
case of the Mirfield Lodge, there is nothing to show
that the W.M., now absent in Riviera, "deputed" any
particular P.M. to act for him.

* * *

There will be a meeting at the Masonic Hall, Hope-
street, Liverpool, this (Friday) evening of the Court
of Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educa-
tional Institution, when 20 children will be elected upon
the funds. Of these eight will be placed on the
Educational Fund, seven on the Combined Funds, and
five upon the Advancement Fund. These children
having all been recommended by the General Com-
mittee. We have received a copy of the Report of
the Institution for the year 1897, and shall take an
early opportunity of calling attention to the leading
matters mentioned therein.

* * *

We have received copy of a circular, from which it
appears that the Masonic Charities' Association,
established by the Citadel Lodge of Instruction, No.
1897, in 1895, is on the eve of terminating its career,
having been instrumental in providing upwards of 400
guineas in Life Subscriptions for our three Central
Masonic Institutions, nor is it surprising that after
having achieved so great a measure of success, the
members, at their last meeting, should have resolved
on forming a second Association of a precisely similar
character. We congratulate the lodge of instruction
on the extent of the service it has thus been the means
of rendering to our Charities.

* * *

The formation of a second Association comes most
opportunistically just now, as it will enable brethren of
moderate means and others who are inclined to en-
courage and support this kind of organisation to
support our Institutions without any serious effort.
all they have to do is to contribute by easy instalments
at the rate of one shilling per week—though not
necessarily payable weekly—one or more sums of five
guineas each, and they become in due course Life
Subscribers or Life Governors of which one of the
three Masonic Charities they may elect to support.
Ladies, Lewises, and gentlemen who are not Masons
are eligible to become members. Full particulars of
the Hon. Sec., Bro. Harry Wilsher, 46, Birchington-
road, Kilburn, N.W.

* * *

We have much pleasure in announcing that of the
74 pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls
who were entered for the Cambridge Middle Class and
College of Preceptors' Examinations in December
last, as many as 68 were successful, a fair proportion of
the honours and distinctions awarded being distributed
amongst them. This is irrespective of the success
scored at the Cambridge preliminary, which we
recorded recently, when 19 out of 21 satisfied the
examiners.

Reviews.

"FREEMASONS' CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY FOR THE PROVINCE OF GLOUCESTER, 1898."—This beautifully-printed Masonic annual is in the front rank for typography, for it is from the press of John Bellows, of Gloucester, and it is also ably edited by Bro. R. P. Sumner, the indefatigable Secretary. The directory is published by authority of the Prov. G.M. and the Prov. Grand Lodge, and is a credit to all concerned in its preparation. There are 16 lodges in the province, with 741 members, being the largest total yet returned, according to the comparative statement since 1881, which is a capital and most interesting compilation, and especially as it also gives the number of votes held in the Central Masonic Charities, 1879-1898, the total for the last mentioned being also the largest during the period, viz., 4823. The average per lodge of members is thus 46, and the average per member of votes is over six, which is a most honourable and satisfactory record as respects the generous support to the Institutions. All the Degrees are duly attended to that are worked in Gloucestershire and well arranged.

CONSECRATION OF THE PELLIPAR LODGE, No. 2693.

The first lodge to be closely associated with one of the ancient city guilds was consecrated on the 18th ult., and will be known as the Pellipar Lodge, No. 2693. The interesting ceremony took place in the Cedar Drawing Room at Skinners' Hall, where a distinguished company of Masons had assembled.

The Consecrating Officer, Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., was assisted by Bros. Alderman Vaughan Morgan, G. Treas., as S.W.; his Honour Judge Masterman, P.G.D., as J.W.; the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., as Chaplain; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D. of C.; and W. Vincent, G. Std. Br., as I.G.

The founders, all of whom are members of the Skinners' Company are—

Bros. E. H. Cartwright, P.M., P.P.G.P. Oxon, W.M. designate; H. A. Burke, P.G. Stwd.; H. Parkinson, S.D. 1328; J. F. Roberts, J.D. 2650; H. E. Diamond, P.P.J.G.W. Derby; E. H. Draper, 160; H. Keep, P.M. 1464; H. C. T. Hunt, S.D. 134; E. Harrison, 569; C. E. Masterman, 129, Grand Orient of Brazil; his Honour Judge Masterman, P.G.D.; Charles Barry, P.G.S. of Wks.; F. W. Price, P.M. 90; A. J. Hewitt, 1328; R. M. N. Kerr, P.M. 136; C. H. M. Kerr, 357; H. Vyse, P.M. 162; G. Parkinson, 1494; T. P. Dorman, P.M., P.P.G.S.W. Norths and Hunts; R. Brooks, 650; and A. G. Salomon, 2190.

The visitors in attendance included—

Bros. T. Ralling, P.A.G.D.C.; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; Geo. Cowell, P.G.D.; W. G. Kentish, P.G.S.B.; W. J. Ebbetts, P.G. Std.; C. J. Egan, Dist. G.M. South Africa; J. A. Farnfield, P.A.G.D.C.; J. Lewis Thomas, P.A.G.D.C.; Frank Green, P.G.D.; G. F. Edwards; Captain J. Masterman, R.N.; J. H. Maunder; Louis A. Heales; E. B. Rotherall, S.W. 136; J. B. Balls, C. Collard, J. H. Jenks, J. H. Pearson, W. J. Fisher, R. A. B. Preston, E. Durrant, R. W. Muggeridge, T. Lang Day, A. Barton Kent, A. W. Stearn, P.M. 69; R. R. Franks; O. Bendall, I.P.M. 2339; F. R. Harrison, 2524; G. F. Hempson, W.M. 2339; W. R. Longman, W.M. 1328; C. E. Burney; A. M. Reynolds, P.M. 83; E. J. Wilks, P.M. 18; E. Hobbs, P.P.G.D. Essex; T. Burne, P.P.S.G.D. Sussex; C. Fuzell, 162; J. A. Dawes, 2021; H. Cartwright; G. Herschell, 2410; H. W. Schartau, P.P.G. Org.; E. Todd, 21; H. W. Kialmark, P.M.; E. N. Shackee, P.M. 657; Major E. M. Money; W. W. Lee, P.P.G.D.; and others.

A selection of music was played on a mustel organ during the assembly of the brethren, and on the entry of the Grand Officers, a solemn processional march, composed expressly for this occasion by Bro. Maunder, and dedicated by permission to the Grand Secretary, was played by the composer.

Lodge was opened and an opening hymn sung, and the CONSECRATING OFFICER addressing the brethren said: It is unnecessary for me to occupy your time for many moments with any words of my own. You are all aware that we have met to-day in this historical building for the purpose of starting into existence a lodge, the founders of which are connected with the ancient guild in whose home we are at the present moment, and I can only express a hope that the lodge about to be consecrated may accomplish all those objects the founders have in view, that it may unite even more closely those already associated together, and that it may be an ornament to the lodges of this great metropolis. As this lodge is about to be dedicated to the service of Almighty God, I will call upon the Grand Chaplain for a prayer.

The warrant was read by the the D.C., and an excellent oration was delivered by Bro. Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap.

An anthem "Behold how good and joyful" was sung and the lodge was dedicated and constituted.

Bro. E. H. Cartwright, P.M. 69, P.P.G.P. Oxon., was then installed as the first W. Master by the Grand Secretary, and during the ceremony Bro. Frank Tebbutt sang "Be thou faithful" (St. Paul). The following officers were invested: Bros. H. A. Burke, P.G. Stwd., acting I.P.M.; H. Parkinson, S.W.; J. F. Roberts, J.W.; H. E. Diamond, Treas.; E. H. Draper, Sec.; H. Keep, P.M., S.D.; H. C. T. Hunt, J.D.; E. Harrison, I.G.; C. E. Masterman, D.C.; and R. H. Goddard, P.M., Tyler.

On the proposition of the W.M., the Consecrating Officers were elected honorary members of the lodge, and the Grand Secretary was presented with a founder's jewel as a souvenir of the occasion.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH returned thanks for himself and colleagues, and gratefully accepted the honorary membership offered. He personally thanked the lodge for the jewel presented to him. His association with that room and with Skinners' Hall extended over many years, and he assured them that amongst his Masonic recollections none would be more pleasant than those connected with the proceedings of that day.

Bros. C. Barry, P.G.S. of W., and J. H. Maunder were also elected honorary members, and expressed their acknowledgments.

Bro. Kent, the Master of the Skinners' Company, was proposed as a joining member.

The lodge was then closed.

The banquet which followed was held in the large hall, and at its conclusion the usual toasts were given, "The Queen and the Craft" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" being first honoured.

In proposing "The Grand Officers," the W.M. said that in the course of one's Masonic career his ideas of the Grand Officers altered. At the initiation one regarded them as supernatural, but on reaching the chair of J.W. and visiting Grand Lodge, one was struck by the shortness and simplicity of the work, and one thought they did not do quite so much hard work. As their experience ripened they found a good and true idea was something between the two. The simplicity and shortness noticed at Grand Lodge was entirely due to the excellent organisation of the whole of the Craft, and the good work of the officers and members of Grand Lodge. The brunt of the organisation fell upon the Grand Secretary, about whom he should have something to say later on. Amongst the Grand Officers present were the Grand Treasurer and the District Grand Master of South Africa, Bro. Dr. Egan.

Bro. Alderman VAUGHAN MORGAN, G. Treasurer, said it was a great honour to be connected with the worthy brethren who formed the members of Grand Lodge, and to have one's name coupled with the distinguished brother alluded to. The longer they had experience of Masonry and of Grand Lodge the more pleased they were with the admirable way in which the work was done by the Craft and those in Grand Lodge—especially those who formed the backbone of Grand Lodge. It was pleasing to him to see the W.M. installed for the second time.

The W.M., in proposing "The Consecrating Officers," said the Secretary had honoured them by consecrating their lodge and they would agree that the ceremonies were in every way most splendidly performed and most impressively rendered. The Grand Secretary was also ably assisted by the Grand Officers who accompanied him. As he had previously mentioned, the Grand Secretary held a most important position in Grand Lodge, having to do with the organisation practically of the whole business of the Craft and the smoothness with which everything went, both in and out of Grand Lodge, depended upon the Grand Secretary and his department. He (the W.M.) need not detain them by attempting to sing the Grand Secretary's praises further and it would, indeed, be impertinent to do so, but he would ask them to drink the toast of the Consecrating Officer and those who assisted him.

The GRAND SECRETARY said that after the patience they had exhibited in listening to his voice at no inconsiderable length in lodge he would not be so ungenerous as to inflict anything in the nature of a speech upon them. He would, therefore, in the fewest possible words ask them to accept the warmest thanks of those Grand Officers who had the privilege of taking part in the consecration for the kind reception given the toast, proposed in such extremely kind terms by the W.M. The Consecrating Officers had many duties to perform in connection with their Order but he was sure he was only expressing their feelings when he said they had no duty which afforded them greater pleasure than that of starting into existence a new lodge of the character of this. That pleasure was greatly increased when they were assured, as they were on that occasion, that the lodge they had started had before it a career of the greatest possible success. They thanked the lodge for the compliment paid them in drinking their health and for the great honour in electing them honorary members. He had next the agreeable duty of proposing to them what was the toast of the evening—"Success to the Pellipar Lodge." He felt sure that that lodge had before it a career of great success. It had started under the most favourable auspices, and would be composed of members of the ancient guild, in whose hall they had met. He doubted not that generations of Skinners in time to come would refer to the event which had taken place that day. He most heartily congratulated the members of that lodge in having as their first Master a brother so capable and so fitted in every way to preside over the lodge in the first and most important year of its existence. He had heard it remarked that it was a new departure to consecrate a new lodge or having a Masonic function in the hall of a City Company. He might remind them that during the last century the Freemasons of England were indebted to the City Companies for the generosity and hospitality which the Skinners extended to them that night. Bro. Hy. Sadler, who was acquainted with all matters of Masonic law, had placed in his hands a long list of City Companies who, during the last century, permitted the Freemasons to hold their feasts in their halls. These feasts were held in the halls of the Merchant Taylors, Haberdashers, Mercers, Fishmongers, and Vintners, and, therefore, it was no new departure. He trusted the example set by the Skinners in the 19th century would be followed by more than one company. He asked them to drink success to the Pellipar Lodge, and with that toast he begged to associate the name of the Worshipful Master.

Bro. E. H. CARTWRIGHT, W.M., thanked the Grand Secretary for the extremely flattering and altogether undeserved remarks made about him. All he could do for the lodge he certainly should do, and as for the work he would do his utmost to make it worthy of the lodge. He regretted that some other brother of the Court of the Skinners' Company could not be found to occupy the chair. They did their best, but Bros. Barry, Masterman, Vyse, and others made excuses. The founders, therefore, elected him—perhaps because he was about the youngest member—and he had promised to do his best. The Grand Secretary had wished the lodge success in kind terms, and all would echo that sentiment to the bottom of their hearts. The reason which prompted the formation of the lodge was that, as members of the Livery of that Company, they had not frequent opportunities of meeting, and it was thought that such a bond of union in connection with the Company would be a further means of spreading that brotherly feeling of friendship among them and the principles of Freemasonry. He could see no reason why the lodge should not be a success, and the founders would do their best to make it so. Before he sat down he had to propose a toast—an unusual one at a Masonic gathering—but one they intended should always have a place in their lodge—"The Worshipful Company of Skinners, root and branch; may it continue and flourish for ever." When the lodge was first mooted the Master of the Skinners' Company—Bro. Kent—told them that he would have great pleasure in being an initiate of the lodge; but when the matter was a little further advanced, Bro. Kent naturally wanted to know why he could not attend the consecration. When he found it was impossible, Bro. Kent was so keen that he found another lodge—the Cadogan Lodge—where he was initiated a few days ago, and he was present with them that evening. The founders desired to express their thanks to the Court for their kindness in allowing them to hold their meeting in that ancient hall. The Skinners was one of the most ancient Guilds of the City, and he had much pleasure in coupling with the toast the name of the Master, Bro. Barton Kent.

Bro. BARTON KENT responded with mingled feelings of humility, and pride, and pleasure; humility at being the youngest and humblest Mason amongst them, pride because he was always proud to reply to the toast of

the Skinners' Company. The Court had been very pleased to grant the use of the hall for the occasion.

"The Visitors" was next given by the W.M., and in response, Bros. Dr. EGAN, D.G.M. South Africa, and Alderman and Sheriff FRANK GREEN, P.G.D., returned thanks.

Bros. H. PARKINSON, S.W., and J. F. ROBERTS, J.W., replied for "The Officers."

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. J. H. Maunder, assisted by Bros. H. Schartau, W. Feil, F. Tebbutt, and Wingrove Ives.

LADIES' NIGHT OF THE SOUTHERN STAR LODGE, No. 1158.

This successful and very happy event took place at the Bridge House Hotel on the 16th ult., and was attended by about 100 members and guests. There were present at the emergency meeting, which was called for the purpose of reading the dispensation to hold the meeting, Bros. W. Richards, W.M.; F. W. Downes, S.W.; T. Green, J.W.; J. Block, P.M., Treas.; J. Austin, P.M., Sec.; F. Austin, S.D.; F. Benson, J.D.; J. Atkinson, D.C.; S. Blum, I.G.; W. Price, A.D.C.; E. G. Cooper, Stwd.; and others.

The business of the lodge ended, at 6.30 a reception was held by the W.M., Bro. W. Richards, and Mrs. Richards, when there were present Bro. J. Hands, P.M., and Mrs. Hands; Bro. Brown and Mrs. Brown; Bro. Bunker, P.M.; Bro. J. Boswell and Mrs. Boswell; Bro. H. N. Morgan and Mrs. Morgan; Bro. J. Austin, Mrs. J. Austin, and the Misses May, Edith, and Beatrice Austin; Bro. F. Austin and Mrs. Austin; Bro. J. Block, P.M.; Bro. W. Belchamber, I.P.M.; Bro. F. W. Downes and Mrs. Downes; Bro. Wm. Beecroft, P.M.; Bro. J. F. Tarrant, P.M.; Bro. C. Day, Mrs. Day, Mrs. Caleb Day, and Miss Day; Bro. W. Green and Mrs. Green; Bros. C. H. Thompson, F. Benson, J. Atkinson, S. Blum, and W. Price; Bro. E. G. Cooper and Mrs. Cooper; Bro. R. Colston and Mrs. Colston; Bros. R. Needle, J. G. Blake, G. Gainger, and J. A. Morath; Bro. D. Bushell, Mrs., and Miss Bushell; Bro. W. H. Hopton; Bro. E. A. Bruce; Bro. S. Parker and Mrs. Parker; Bros. W. Brice, S. E. Robinson, E. E. Burford, and J. Swingle; Bro. A. H. Turner and Mrs. Turner; Bros. D. Warhaft, J. Prior, and A. George; Bro. S. Nicholls and Mrs. Nicholls; Bros. J. Parry, G. Baldwin, and W. H. Fleming; Bro. A. Wells and Mrs. Wells; Bro. Rose and Miss Rose; Bro. Burford; Bro. Winsor, P.M.; Bro. J. J. Hogg and Mrs. Hogg; Bro. A. Brown and Mrs. Brown; Bro. W. Croxson and Mrs. Croxson; Bro. S. E. Green; Bro. R. S. Cobden and Mrs. Cobden; Bro. J. Davidson and Mrs. Davidson; Bro. J. H. Gaskin, P.P.G. D.C. Middx., and Mrs. Gaskin; and others.

After the reception the company adjourned to the banqueting hall, which was prettily decorated, and all necessary arrangements were made for the comfort of the guests, which were carried out most successfully by the W.M. and Past Masters of the lodge, every lady being presented with a spray of flowers.

The banquet ended, the W.M. presented the toasts of "The Queen" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," which were received with due honours.

Bro. J. HANDS, P.M., next rose, and in excellent terms presented the toast of "The W.M., Bro. W. Richards," who had endeared himself to every brother in the lodge. From his initiation into the lodge he had taken the deepest interest in its welfare, and had carried out the various duties to which he had been appointed to their greatest satisfaction. That had led to his unanimous election as W.M. of the lodge, and all were delighted with the manner he had presided on such an eventful evening. All wished him health and strength to continue the good work during his year of office, which work would be to the entire satisfaction of the lodge and redound to his honour.

In reply, Bro. W. RICHARDS, W.M., most cordially thanked the company for such a reception, and for the kind remarks of Bro. J. Hands, P.M. He felt it indeed a great honour to preside over such a company, and he hoped for many years the Southern Star Lodge would invite the ladies at least once in each year to grace the festive board by their presence.

The toast of the evening—"The Ladies"—was proposed by the W.M., who, after dilating on their many virtues, gave them all a most cordial welcome, and hoped the lodge would be honoured by their presence on many a future occasion.

Bro. E. A. BRUCE, on behalf of the ladies, expressed their thanks to the lodge for the kind invitation extended to them, and the gratification it gave them in attending. Not only for the kind generosity shown them, but because the brethren had voluntarily extended to them with the utmost freedom such a mutual companionship by the meeting of good men with good women, and being in the possession of such, what more could the ladies desire? On their behalf he tendered their grateful thanks.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was proposed by the W.M. in eloquent terms.

Bro. BUNKER, P.M., most ably responded, and gave a brief *resumé* of the Charities.

The toast of "The Visitors" received at the hands of the W.M. a most cordial greeting.

Bros. J. HAMILTON CRAIG and J. DAVIDSON, W.M. 87, most forcibly replied.

Bro. W. RICHARDS, W.M., next presented the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge" in eulogistic terms.

Bro. F. W. DOWNES, S.W., replied, and promised the ladies a thorough treat next year.

During the evening the ladies were presented with a casket of perfumes as a souvenir of the occasion from the lodge, and another special feature was a gift by Bro. Blum, I.G., of a novelty in the shape of a German cake, which was much appreciated.

An excellent selection of vocal and instrumental music was arranged under the able direction of Bro. A. Briscoe, P. Prov. G. Org. Surrey, and Mr. Harry S. Vose, assisted by Miss Alice Motterway (who was loudly encored), Miss Rose Sylvia Morris (reciter of great talent), Messrs. E. G. Downes, Harry Hudson, W. Hammond, and Bros. F. W. Downes, J. Davidson, P.M., and Sidney Cobden, all of whom were highly applauded.

The toast master was Bro. W. T. Winsor, P.M., who acted most efficiently. The most cordial thanks are due to the Directors of Ceremonies, Bros. Atkinson, Blum, and Price, and the Stewards who worked most untiringly, Bros. J. Block, P.M., Treas.; J. Austin, P.M., Sec.; Gainger, Cooper, Bruce, George, Rose, and Ward.

Craft Masonry.

Moirs Lodge, No. 92.

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on Tuesday, the 22nd ult. Present: Bros. W. F. Noakes, W.M.; J. Webb, S.W.; C. E. Russell, J.W.; Rev. R. I. Woodhouse, I.P.M., Chap.; T. L. Wilkinson, P.M., P.D.G.R., Treas.; R. F. Gould, P.M., P.G.D., Sec.; Russell Ardigh, J.D.; Wickham Noakes, P.M., Steward; Harold Carter, P.M.; M. A. Tweedie, P.M.; J. M. Mitchell, P.M.; Sydney Shorter, P.M.; J. P. Murrough, J. W. Noakes, S. B. Noakes, and F. A. Donnison. Bro. T. H. Gardiner, P.A.G.D.C., was a visitor.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed, and the report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. Bro. Sir N. R. Pringle, Bart., was elected a joining member and appointed I.G. Bros. J. N. Noakes, S. B. Noakes, and F. A. Donnison were passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft. It was announced that Bro. Wickham Noakes, P.M., had consented to serve as Steward at the approaching Festival of the Girls' as well as of the Boys' School.

The Charity-box was then circulated, and there being no further business, the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards dined together.

Tranquillity Lodge, No. 185.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 21st ult., at Frascati's, Oxford-street, when a very large company of brethren assembled under the Worshipful Mastership of Bro. William Hinds. Among them were Bros. J. A. Witthaus, S.W.; P. Ormstien, J.W.; Harry Tipper, P.M., P.A.G.P., Treas.; David Hills, P.M., Sec.; W. Bloomfield, S.D.; J. Gerson, J.D.; H. Braham, I.G.; J. Eisenmann, P.M., D.C.; F. R. Mortimer, Stwd.; Alexander Levy, P.M., P.D.G.T. Kimberley; J. D. Barnett, P.M.; Isaac Lazarus, P.M.; J. S. Barnett, P.M.; W. D. Bayley, P.M.; Lewis Levy, P.M.; A. E. Staley, P.M.; Sidney Rosenfeld, P.M.; J. Rawler, Tyler; H. M. Kenzinski, James P. Budden, G. Michael, W. T. Lester, S. E. Goss, P. Hirschs, T. W. Moore, Alfred Rosenfeld, Ernest Joseph, B. Fisher, Thomas Marks, Marcus Fisher, B. Cohen, L. Franklin, H. Bersenick, Joseph Cohen, Henry Charig, W. H. King, D. S. Woolf, S. H. Ochmersee, R. Rosenfeld, J. H. Stone, H. Eleibmann, J. Severn, J. W. Taylor, D. Loebl, W. R. James, W. F. Kendall, M. Joseph, M. Chetham, M. Hanckeyer, and J. Phenner. Visitors: Bros. Arthur Williams, P.M. 834; P. J. Bloomfield, W.M. 43; A. J. Mitchell, 1677; W. Ralph Norris, 2509; I. Bundelinger, P.M. Star Rand, Johannesburg; W. Biddeley, W.M. 25; Walter Harvey, 2348; H. T. Telling, P.M. 2182, 2343; Elias Benaton, 142; Moss Chapman, P.M. 619; Walter Clark, 2579; H. T. Matthews, I.P.M. 1919; L. Mitchelson, 310; R. Finlayson, W.M. 1017; Alfred Moss, 1017; A. Jewel, 1017; W. H. Felling, 2182; Frank L. Nion, Org. 1549; W. T. Hunt, 2264; H. G. A. Nash, 1348; Robert Marx, W.M. 1828; E. Oppenheimer, 1549; J. Grunebaum, P.M. 1017; S. F. Feidman, 188; William Fitch, J.D. 2509; S. N. Scott, 134; S. Samson, 205; J. Marchand, P.M. 1572; Thomas Pennington, P.M. 1638; J. Dukes, Stwd. 1017; John Falconer, W.M. 2509; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; F. S. Plowright, P.M. 193; Robert Hoar, J.W. 1725; S. Pollitzer, P.M. 1017; J. Joseph, 2398; M. Lintine, 205; and W. Blarkly, P.M. 1298.

The W.M. initiated Mr. William Henry Ring in splendid style, finishing up with delivering the ancient charge. Bros. Dr. G. Michael, 270 (S.C.), Horace Barnett, 1360; and Joseph Cohen, 2184, were elected joining members. Bro. W. Hinds, W.M., afterwards installed Bro. J. A. Witthaus, S.W., and W.M. elect, P.M. 2509, as Master of the lodge for the ensuing year. Bro. W. Hinds was invested as I.P.M. The other brethren invested were Bros. P. Ormstien, S.W.; N. Bloomfield, J.W.; Harry Tipper, P.M., P.A.G.P., Treas.; David Hills, P.M., Hon. Sec.; J. Gerson, S.D.; H. Braham, J.D.; L. Franklin, I.G.; J. Eisenmann, P.M., D.C.; F. Westacott, A.D.C.; F. R. Mortimer and C. R. James, Stwds.; and J. Rawles, Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. W. Hinds, voted by the lodge, and in addition, a beautiful Past Master's collar and jewel subscribed for privately by the brethren of the lodge, was also presented to him. Bro. David Hills, Sec., informed the W.M. that at the next meeting of the lodge he should move that 50 guineas be given from the funds of the lodge to the Steward's list for the Centenary Festival of the R.M.I. for Boys. Already there are six Stewards of the lodge for that Festival, including the W.M. Bro. Abraham Levy, P.M., P.D.G.T. Kimberley, the Master of the lodge in 1851, in commemoration of his 50 years' membership of the lodge, then presented for the acceptance of the lodge to the W.M. a beautiful ivory gavel. The W.M. then proposed, and the Secretary seconded, a vote of thanks for the handsome gift, and it was resolved that such vote be engrossed on vellum, and presented to Bro. A. Levy.

The lodge was afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to a delightful banquet, which was followed by the honouring of the usual toasts.

Miss Stella Maris, Miss Violet Carter, Bro. John Robert, and Mr. Stuart Debnam contributed singing in the intervals between the speeches; Miss Freda Russell gave some exquisite performances on the violin; and Mr. Arthur Helmore gave his capital story—"The Rev. Millikin Midmay Explains." Bro. W. R. Norris was at the piano. During the evening the Stewards' lists were made up to £120.

Southampton Lodge, No. 394.

The Festival of St. John, in connection with the above lodge, was held at the Masonic Hall, Albion-place, Southampton, on Thursday, the 17th ult., when there was a large attendance of brethren to witness the installation into the chair of the lodge, for the ensuing year, of Bro. F. Fairweather, the S.W., of the past year. The installed Masters present were Bros. A. Doggrell, W.M.; H. P. Aslatt, J. Lemon, H. W. Bull, H. Lashmore, R. H. Brannon, G. J. Tilling (Mayor of Southampton), S. Dacombe, W. Bowyer, F. A. Dunsford, A. Hewett, and W. Bates (all of the lodge); Rev. H. Searle, P.M. 76; C. J. Sharp, W.M., and C. Penny, P.M., of 837; J. Berry, W.M., and A. J. Blackman, P.M., of 359; Reader, P.M. 309; Cudlipp, W.M. 1461; Prowse, W.M. 1780; and M. J. Bradley, 958. There were also present many visiting brethren. After the initiation of a candidate by the retiring Master, Bro. Doggrell, the ceremony of installation was ably performed by Bro. G. J. Tilling, P.M., P.P.S.G. of W., P.G.D. Eng. The officers were afterwards invested as follows: Bros. Doggrell, I.P.M.; D. A. W. Harris, S.W.; E. Cooper Poole, J.W.; J. Lemon, P.M., Treas.; W. Bowyer, P.M., Sec.; Rev. S. W. Stevens, M.A., Chap.; G. K. Reynolds, S.D.; W. Berry, J.D.; W. Bates, P.M., D.C.; W. H. Bastick, I.G.; J. T. Wells, Org.; W. H. Myland and J. E. Maffey, Stwds.; and W. Vare, Tyler. Thanks to the retiring Master, with the gift of a Past Master's jewel, for his services to the lodge during the past year, and to the Installing Master, were accorded during lodge business.

The brethren afterwards partook of a *recherche* banquet, provided by Mr. Etheridge, the after-lodge proceedings being admirably superintended by Bro. Bates, the newly-appointed D.C.

Bros. Wells, Conlan, H. Searle, J. Billett, and A. J. Miller were responsible for an excellent musical programme.

Ebury Lodge, No. 1348.

The installation meeting of this successful lodge was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, on the 22nd ult., when there was a large gathering of members and visitors. The continued prosperity of the lodge was once again evinced by a satisfactory balance-sheet; by the completion of a long agenda of ceremonial work by the officers, including the installation ceremony by Bro. H. Morris, and five initiations by Bro. A. Atkin, W.M.; by liberal hospitality and a good musical entertainment. The good Masonic feeling prevalent amongst the members was also a noticeable feature, and this in no small measure, in conjunction with the efforts of the Treasurer and Secretary—Bros. Wigley and Fincham—conduce to the grand success the Ebury Lodge has achieved.

The members present included Bros. H. Morris, W.M.; A. Atkin, S.W.; C. Botterill, J.W.; W. C. Wigley, P.M., Treas.; H. Fincham, P.M., Sec.; J. Holland, S.D.; Stuart Walker, J.D.; F. Clark, I.G.; G. W. Beaman, D.C.; J. Warren, P.M.; Fred Stephens, P.M.; H. Smith, P.M.; W. Fowles, P.M.; T. Divall, A. Cash, J. P. Cash, and many others. The visitors, numbering 60, included Bros. Laughton Field, Org. 2308; G. P. Pointer, P.M. 1613; W. Pottinger, P.M. 2262; J. Hattersley, P.S.G.W. Bucks; J. J. Wright, P.M. 1981; A. Wood, W.M.

2426; W. Roots, I.P.M. 2580; S. Pardoe, P.M. 1585; F. Voller, P.M. 754; R. C. Davis, P.M. 2266; Homer Price, W.M. 1614; F. I. Bird, P.P.G.S.B.; H. E. Mullins, J.D. 211; J. R. Barber, I.G. 1278; L. Lake, I.G. 87; W. H. Hodgson, P.M. 1613; E. J. Wickenden, I.P.M. 1599; S. H. Baker, P.M. 1260; J. Tucker, I.P.M. 2135; T. A. Greene, P.M. 1710; D. Dawson, SS; T. G. Skipworth; A. Abraham, 1707; T. Moore, 1457; C. Hurford, 1420; C. A. Baker, 1981; H. E. Elms, 1539; H. Garrod, P.G.P.; A. Thorn, 2580; F. Davies, 2425; W. A. Weeks, 1583; W. J. Briggs; F. E. Davy; J. Collins; W. W. Lee, P.M.; and others.

The opening of the lodge was followed by the confirmation of the minutes, after which Bro. Helsby was passed to the Second Degree. The retiring Master, Bro. H. Morris, then installed Bro. Alf. Atkin as W.M. in a very able and creditable manner, and the following officers were invested: Bros. Harry Morris, I.P.M.; C. Botterill, S.W.; J. Holland, J.W.; W. C. Wigley, P.M., Treasurer; H. Fincham, P.M., Sec. and Stwd.; Stuart Walker, S.D.; Frank Clark, J.D.; W. M. Ward, I.G.; Mark Attwood, Organist; G. W. Beaman, D.C.; A. W. Bray and H. Langston, Stwds.; and R. F. Potter, P.M., Tyler. The W.M. then exhibited his knowledge of the ritual by impressively initiating Messrs. A. Edwards, F. S. Thorn, N. Birchall, H. Lotz, and G. W. Beard. On the motion of Bro. H. Fincham, P.M., Sec., seconded by Bro. W. C. Wigley, P.M., Treas., the sum of 20 guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Lodge was closed, and after banquet, a flashlight photograph was taken by Messrs. Fradelle and Young, the eminent photographers.

The usual toasts followed, and were heartily honoured.

Bro. H. Garrod, P.G.P., briefly replied for "The Grand Officers."

Bro. Harry Morris, I.P.M., in proposing "The Worshipful Master," said that Bro. Alf. Atkin was well able to undertake the management of the work as they had seen by the five initiations that evening. The W.M. and he were initiated together and had kept together through the various offices. The W.M. was a Mason in every sense of the word, being a Life Governor of the three Institutions, and he was always doing good work in the cause of Charity. He hoped the W.M. would be well supported by the members, would have a pleasant year of office, and remain for many years a member of the Ebury Lodge.

Bro. Alf. Atkin, W.M., returned thanks, remarking that he did not deserve the kind words used. It was, however, usual for the I.P.M. to say a few good words about the W.M., as the next toast gave the W.M. an opportunity of returning the compliment. He had the honour of being installed a short time ago in the Borough Lodge, when the ceremony was performed in an able manner by Bro. Roots, but he must admit that Bro. Morris, a pupil of Bro. Roots, had installed him that evening equally as well. The I.P.M. had, indeed, surprised him that evening, having recently recovered from a severe illness. During the coming year he (the W.M.) wanted the assistance of the members in order that the lodge might do equally as well as in the past year. If they would rally round him the Ebury Lodge would be better at the end of his year than it was that day. He wished to see the Ebury Lodge stand second to none in London. The funds could not be in better hands and he was glad they had voted 20 guineas to the Charities that evening. He hoped to see the time when they could give 50 guineas. He wished them all a pleasant year with him and he hoped he should not disgrace the position he had attained.

The W.M. then proceeded to propose "The I.P.M.," again complimenting Bro. Morris on the installation ceremony. The I.P.M. had done his best to make his year a success and had given every satisfaction to the members and Past Masters. He should look to the I.P.M. for a great deal of assistance, and he was sure of obtaining it. On behalf of the members, it afforded him great pleasure to invest the I.P.M. with a handsome Past Master's jewel, which he had thoroughly and well earned. Their earnest wish would be that Bro. Morris would be long spared to wear it.

Bro. H. Morris, I.P.M., expressed his sincere thanks to the W.M. and also to the members for the jewel, which would remind him of a very pleasant year. He thanked the brethren for their kind support, which he hoped would be continued to the present W.M.

"The Initiates" was responded to by the five newly-initiated brethren.

Bros. Hattersley, Green, Price, Roots, and Davies acknowledged the toast of "The Visitors."

"The Past Masters, Treasurer, and Secretary" having been honoured,

Bro. H. Fincham, P.M., Sec., expressed his pleasure at seeing the lodge in such a flourishing condition. It would be his earnest endeavour, in conjunction with Bro. Wigley, P.M., Treas., to maintain that prosperity so long as they continued to enjoy the confidence of the members. He congratulated the W.M., and wished him a happy year of office.

"The Officers" and the Tyler's toast concluded the programme.

The musical items included selections by Bros. Laughton Field and Stuart Walker, Miss Emerson Hurst, Mrs. Edward Roberts, and Bros. F. Stephens, Wylie Price, Alex. Edwards, and G. W. Beaman.

Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385.

The second regular meeting of the year was held at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, on Friday, the 25th ult. Bro. J. McLeod Rainsford, W.M., presided, and there were also present Bros. F. G. Mason, P.J.G.W., I.P.M.; R. Cranston, S.W.; H. J. Grimwade, J.W.; R. Fisher Young, P.M., P.P.G.D., Treas.; Charles Gray, P.M., P.G. S.B., Sec.; Billson, S.D.; Raddley, I.G.; Lewis, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., D.C.; Dade, A.D.C.; John Brittain, P.M., P.P.G.W.; G. Blizard Abbott, P.M., P.P.G.D.; F. Collingwood, P.M., P.P.G. St. Br.; Foulkes, Cooke, Dr. Haskins, Org.; and others.

The minutes of the previous lodge having been read and confirmed, Bro. Cooke was raised to the Degree of Master Mason by the W.M. A sum of £5 5s. was, on the motion of Bro. Young, P.M., Treas., voted from the funds of the lodge towards the 1st of Bro. Mason, I.P.M., Steward at the recent Festival of the Benevolent Institution, and notice was given for a grant of equal amount to be voted and placed on the list of Bro. Billson as Steward at the approaching Centenary Festival of the Boys' School. Bro. Dade announced his intention of moving at the next meeting that a sum not exceeding five guineas be appropriated towards the purchase of a jewel to be presented to Bro. Gray in recognition of his valuable services as Secretary for several years past. A ballot was then taken for a Life Governorship of one of the Masonic Institutions, and resulted in favour of Bro. Marshall, and a candidate having been proposed for initiation, the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards dined together, and the speeches being short, and the singing by Bros. Gray, Lewis, Dade, Grimwade, and Cooke excellent, a very enjoyable evening was spent.

Islington Lodge, No. 1471.

A large number of members and visitors attended the installation meeting, held at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, on the 10th ult., when Bro. E. J. Harrison was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The members included Bros. J. A. Blount, W.M.; E. Harrison, S.W.; C. Isler, J.W.; Sidney Napper, P.M., Treas.; E. Blinkhorn, P.M., Sec.; C. Horst, S.D.; W. Taylor, J.D.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D., D.C.; E. H. Bury, Org.; A. Cox, P.M.; D. C. Ritchie, P.M.; H. B. Harding, P.M.; R. Loomes, P.M.; and F. W. White, I.G. Visitors: Bros. J. Claus, D.C. 933; J. Heath, P.M. 709; J. Petch, P.P.G.S.B.; V. R. Longman, S.W. 1328; J. Macgregor, 2913; W. Hancock, P.M. 2191; F. Allen, P.M. 1689; R. Eddie, 25; J. Brown, 1642; Tom Taylor, S.W. 45; A. Flint, 1613; J. W. Clarke, P.M. 1512; A. Cook, P.M. 1366; J. Johnson, 1632; A. Oliver, P.M. 820; F. H. Bewce, 217; R. P. Upton, P.M. 1328; J. R. Morison, 907; W. Anderson, 1298; W. W. Lee, P.M.; and others.

Lodge was opened, the minutes confirmed, and Mr. W. E. Peckover was initiated. The sum of £25 was voted to a necessitous brother, and the Treasurer's accounts were received and adopted. Bro. Coxon, P.M., assumed the chair, and in an able and impressive manner installed Bro. E. J. Harrison as W.M. The following officers were invested: Bros. J. A. Blount, I.P.M.; C. Isler, S.W.; C. Horst, J.W.; S. Napper, P.M., Treas.; E. Blinkhorn, P.M., Sec.; W. Taylor, S.D.; F. W. White, J.D.; C. M. Coxon, P.P.G.D., D.C.; G. E. Walker, I.G.; F. E. Newman and E. H. Bury, Stewards; E. J. Bury, Org.; and Couchman, Tyler. The I.P.M., Bro. Blount, was presented with a Past Master's jewel, in recognition of services rendered as Master, and appropriately acknowledged the gift. Other business was transacted, and the lodge was closed.

After banquet, due attention was given to the customary toasts, which were heartily acknowledged.

Bro. J. A. Blount, I.P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master," and said there had been many efficient Masters in the lodge in the past, besides Bro. Harrison, who had been installed that evening as a Mason at heart, and would reflect credit on the lodge.

Bro. E. J. Harrison, W.M., said he responded with diffidence to the kind remarks made about him. He remembered on the occasion of his initiation—just nine years ago—that he then said it would be his great endeavour to qualify himself for the office he now occupied. At that time he had little idea what the office was, and thought it was a great deal further off. He appreciated very highly the position in which he was placed, and whatever he could do for that lodge would be done with a good will. There seemed some prospect of plenty of work, and if he could satisfy the brethren he would feel that his efforts in Freemasonry had not been unsuccessful. It was his intention to act as Steward at the Centenary Festival of the Boys' School, and he asked the brethren in their generosity to support him, so that he might take up a representative list. He again thanked them, and assured them of his intention of exerting himself for Freemasonry in general, and particularly for that lodge.

The W.M. then proposed "The I.P.M.," and referred to the long distance Bro. Blount had had to travel to attend the lodge. There had been five initiates, and the past year had been a very successful one.

Bro. J. A. Blount, I.P.M., returned thanks for the kind reception of the toast and for the beautiful jewel presented to him.

"The Installing Master" was proposed by the W.M., who expressed his gratification and pleasure that he had been installed by Bro. Coxon, P.M.—thanks to the kindness of the I.P.M. Bro. Coxon always worked with efficiency, and he took a great interest in the lodge of instruction.

Bro. C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D., said the interest and welfare of the lodge were dear to his heart, and that feeling was experienced by every good Mason towards his mother lodge. He had undertaken the ceremony with great pleasure, and should be happy to do so on any future occasion.

"The Initiate" was duly honoured.

Bros. W. Hancock, P.M.; Upton, P.M.; and others replied for "The Visitors."

Leopold Lodge, No. 1571.

The brethren of the above lodge assembled in force, on Tuesday, the 8th ult., at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, to celebrate their 23rd installation meeting. Bro. J. Hampson, W.M., occupying the chair, supported by Bros. Meadows, I.P.M.; F. P. Langford, S.W.; George Horwill, J.W.; Wm. Carey, P.M., Treas.; Edmund J. Morgan, P.M., Sec.; C. M. Morris, S.D.; P. Leach, J.D.; G. Hall, I.G.; T. Duffield, P.M., D.C.; R. Lee, A.D.C.; Pain and Farmer, Stwds.; Watts, P.M.; Parker, P.M.; Whitefield, Joseph Durell, James Durell, Wells, Egles, Lattimer, Simmonds, Down, Wickham, McKenzie, Davy, Brownfield, Truckell, Maud, and Foley. Also the following visitors: Bros. W. L. Barker, P.M. 1607; D. Harlow, P.M. 65; Kinipple, W.M. 65; Saunton, P.M. 1423; L. J. Powter, P.M. 1228; Johns, P.M. 1571; Ward, 1348; Davy, 1348; E. Van Patten, P.M. and Sec. 1601; Valentine Hill, 1641; Carter, P.M. 1662; Winsor, P.M. 1950; Eddie, S.W. 742; Newman, S.W. 65; Won, 913; and Masters, P.M. 13.

The minutes of the previous regular lodge and emergency meetings having been confirmed, and a ballot taken for a joining member, the accounts of the lodge for the past year, showing a record balance in hand, were unanimously adopted. At this stage, Bro. Frederick P. Langford, S.W., W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. T. Duffield, P.M., D.C., to receive at the hands of the W.M. the benefit of installation, the whole of the ceremony, including the addresses, being rendered by the Installing Master, Bro. Hampson, in a manner eliciting high praise from all present. The officers for the ensuing year were able to invest by the newly-installed Master, Bro. Langford, as follows: Bros. George Horwill, S.W.; Charles M. Morris, J.W.; W. Carey, P.M., Treas.; Edmund J. Morgan, P.M., Sec.; Percy Leach, S.D.; Robert Lee, J.D.; W. A. Farmer, I.G.; Thomas Duffield, P.M., D.C.; R. W. Clarke, Org.; George Whitefield, A.D.C.; Hubert V. Down and Alfred Simmonds, Stewards; and A. Young, Tyler.

After receiving the "Hearty good wishes" of the assembled brethren, the voting of 15 guineas to the list of the W.M. as lodge Steward at the Boys' Centenary Festival, and the reading of letters of regret apologising for the absence of certain brethren, an adjournment took place to the banqueting table.

The creature comforts having been duly negotiated and grace sung, the W.M. submitted the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The Grand Master," and "The Grand Officers."

Each toast met with a loyal and enthusiastic reception.

Bro. Hampson, I.P.M., in asking the brethren to drink to "The Health of Bro. Langford, W.M.," congratulated the lodge on having a brother in the chair who would prove a most capable Master. He had served the various offices of the lodge with distinction, was a regular attendant at the Leopold Lodge of Instruction, and would worthily uphold the traditions of the lodge.

The toast was generously pledged.

Bro. Langford, who received a very hearty reception on rising to respond, said he sincerely appreciated the high honour conferred upon him in his election to the chair, and while mindful of the arduous duties he had undertaken, and the standard of efficiency set before him by previous Masters, he relied upon the Past Masters, officers, and brethren of the lodge to support him in his responsible position, and in return nothing should be wanting on his part to merit their continued confidence; and he hoped that when he left the chair the brethren would feel that he had done his duty to their satisfaction, and that his Mastership had promoted the prosperity of the Leopold Lodge.

The W.M. then said it was now his pleasing duty to submit the toast of "The Installing and Immediate Past Master, Bro. Hampson." After a year's hard work—having initiated, passed, and raised nine gentlemen into Freemasonry in a highly creditable manner—Bro. Hampson had installed his successor in the same clear, concise, and impressive manner that he had rendered the other ceremonies, and, as a mark of the esteem in which the I.P.M. was held, it was now his pleasure and privilege, on behalf of the lodge, to present to Bro. Hampson a Past Master's jewel, and, for the first time in the history of the lodge, a Past Master's collar and jewel, in recognition of his services as W.M., and, in doing so, he (Bro. Langford) hoped that Bro. Hampson might long be spared to wear those mementoes and continue a hard-working member of the lodge for many years to come.

Bro. Hampson, I.P.M., receiving a very cordial welcome, heartily thanked the brethren for the tokens of their favour in the gifts which had just been presented to him, and which he hoped it might long be his privilege to wear as symbols of a very pleasant year of office. He had endeavoured to render the ritual of Freemasonry to the best of his ability, and also the other duties of the chair, and if, as Installing Master, he had given satisfaction he had been well repaid by the very kind attention which had been given by the brethren during the progress of the ceremony. Although he was now relegated to the ranks of the Past Masters, he could assure the brethren that his best efforts would be continued to further the interests of his mother lodge.

"The Visitors," as the toast always does, met with a warm reception from the brethren of the lodge, the Worshipful Master extending to the guests a hearty welcome.

Bros. Kinipple, W.M. 65; Harlow, P.M. 65; Saunton, P.M. 1423; Powter, P.M. 1228; Van Patten, P.M. and Sec. 1601; and Carter, P.M. 1662, responded on behalf of the visitors, of whom a goodly number was present, one and all testifying to the excellent working and good fellowship existing in the lodge.

The cause of "The Masonic Institutions" was earnestly pleaded by the W.M., and, while gratefully acknowledging the vote of £15 15s. from the lodge funds, he earnestly hoped the brethren would rally round him individually on the occasion of his Stewardship at the Centenary of the Boys' School, when he hoped to take up a list that would redound to their credit, and in the absence of Bro. J. M. McLeod, Secretary of the Boys' School, he would ask Bro. Carey, P.M., Treas., to respond.

Bro. Carey proved a worthy substitute, and having dealt with the claims of the Girls' School and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which had been a favourite with the Leopold Lodge, he pressed home upon the brethren the need of supporting the W.M.'s list when the opportunity presented, so that it might be said of each of them that they had done what they could to ameliorate the condition of their less favoured brethren and offspring.

"The Past Masters of the Lodge" was feelingly given from the chair, the W.M. relying upon his predecessors in office to continue to him their advice and assistance, so ungrudgingly given in former years.

Bros. T. Duffield, P.M.; W. F. Packer, P.M.; and Edmund J. Morgan, P.M., Sec., in reply, pledged themselves to a continuance of their assistance in the well ruling and governing of the lodge in the coming year, at the same time congratulating the W.M. on presiding over so prosperous and united a lodge.

For "The Officers," Bro. Percy Leach, S.D.—in the absence of Bro. Horwill, S.W.; Bros. C. M. Morris, J.W.; R. Lee, J.D.; Farmer, I.G.; and H. Down, Stwd.—responded, promising a regular attendance at lodge meetings and a hearty support to the newly-installed W.M.

The Tyler's toast brought a most enjoyable evening to a close, during which the following artistes contributed to its success: Miss Jessie Hotine, Miss Gertrude Gallagher, Bros. W. F. Packer, P.M., Withers, Valentine Hill, and H. Mervyn Ward, and Mr. F. H. Nerman. Mrs. Bower and Bro. A. E. Kipps acted as accompanists.

Sir Francis Burdett Lodge, No. 1503.

This lodge held a meeting at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, when there were present, among others, Bros. A. Burnett Brown, W.M.; Dr. J. W. Hinton, M.A., P.M. 84, P.P.G.O., S.W.; H. Bright, J.W.; J. T. Briggs, P.M., P.P.G.D., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; E. H. Tompsett, S.D.; F. Bonney, J.D.; the Rev. S. H. Saunders, M.A., P.M., P.G.C., Chap.; A. Macchi, I.P.M.; A. Toulmin, jun., P.M., P.P.G.D.; E. W. Davis, P.M.; W. Fisher, P.M., P.P.G. Treas.; and G. Harrison, Tyler. Bro. G. Turner Dobson, 1524, was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bro. G. T. Dobson, 1524, and it proved to be unanimous in his favour. The W.M. invested him with the collar of I.G., *pro tem*. A Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. A. Macchi, I.P.M. Several brethren in arrears having been excluded, the by-laws were read. The Treasurer gave a notice of motion to vote five guineas to the W.M.'s list as an additional Steward from the lodge to the Centenary Festival of the Boys' School.

The lodge was then closed. At the subsequent dinner the W.M. briefly submitted the various toasts.

Bro. the Rev. S. H. Saunders, Prov. G. Chap., &c., responded in a neat speech on behalf of "The Prov. Grand Officers," and interpolated a few eloquent remarks anent the Masonic Institutions.

Bros. A. Macchi and E. W. Davis acknowledged the toast of "The Past Masters."

Bro. J. T. Briggs responded for "The Treasurer," and Bros. Dr. Hinton and H. Bright for "The Officers."

The W.M. also gave "The Joining Member," to which toast Bro. Dobson made an interesting reply.

During the evening Bro. J. W. Hinton, Mus. Doc., executed several brilliant *morceaux* on the piano, and the proceedings, which were throughout most agreeable, then terminated.

Aldersgate Lodge, No. 1657.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held on the 21st ult., at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, E.C., when there were present Bros. Thomas Briggs, W.M.; Septimus Croft, I.P.M.; Henry N. Bennett, S.W.; Rupert Smyth, J.W.; Samuel White, P.M., Treas.; Arthur B. Hudson, P.M., J.D.; Edward Anderton, P.M., D.C.; George Rawlinson, P.M., Stwd.; James C. Hayes, Ralph Langton, J. Gordon Langton, C. R. Leedham, Sir John B. Monckton, Past Grand Warden, and Thomas Tyler. The following visitors were also present: Bros. George Briggs, P.M. 1572; A. J. Scrutton, P.M. 83; Thomas W. Chant, J.D. 2128; Fred P. Alliston, P.M. 2047; H. G. Thompson, P.M. 1556; John Davies, 1670; George W. Thompson, 410; James Cowan, P.M. 1572; S. Godden, P.M. 862; T. A. Richardson, P.M. 1397; J. M. Walker, S.W. 1397; J. W. Earle, W.M. 1397; Henry Chas. Heard, P.M. 449, 2178; E. G. Gerrish, P.M. 9; Chas. E. Hey, 190; W. Parker Johnson, 1907; H. Montague Bates, P.M. 91, P.G.S.; M. Hewitt, 1540; P. Stansfield Smith, W.M. 2243; J. H. Kemm, 803, P.G.S.; H. Home Crawford, 1, P.G.D.; Chas. Norrington, P.M. 619; J. E. G. Montmorency, S.D. 449; W. J. Roberts, S.D. 1827; Henry J. Pringley, P.M. 1327; T. G. Detmar, 90; E. Roerich, 2127; T. H. Brooke Hitching, P.M. 1540; John Williams, G. Prior Goldney, 295, P.G.D.; E. J. Baylis, 295, P.G.D.; F. Goslin.

The minutes of the meeting of the 15th of November, 1897, and of the emergency meeting of the 24th ult. were read and confirmed, after which the Auditors' report was adopted. Letters of resignation were read from Bros. Sir Joseph Renals, and W. R. B. Briscoe. Bro. Thos. Briggs, W.M., then impressively installed Bro. Hy. Nicholls Bennett as his successor for the ensuing year, who appointed his officers as follows: Bros. Thomas Briggs, I.P.M.; Rupert Smyth, S.W.; Ralph Langton, J.W.; Samuel White, P.M., Treas.; George Kenning, P.M., Sec. (by deputy of Bro. George Briggs, P.M. 1572); Arthur B. Hudson, P.M., S.D.; C. R. Leedham, J.D.; Edward Anderton, P.M., D.C.; James C. Hayes, I.G.; George Rawlinson, P.M., Stwd.; and Thomas Tyler. The addresses to the W.M., Warden, and brethren were then delivered by Bro. Thomas Briggs, I.P.M., Installing Officer. After receiving a proposition for a candidate for initiation at the next meeting, and "Hearty good wishes" the lodge was closed, the brethren adjourning to a banquet under the gavel of the W.M.

The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts.

Replying for "The Grand Officers," Bro. Sir John Monckton, P.G.W., said he was always glad to see new blood in lodges, and that evening he had been relieved from the office of Installing Officer by the fact that the immediate P.M. had so ably and admirably installed his successor.

Bro. Thomas Briggs, I.P.M., in presenting the toast of "The W.M.," said the very manner our W.M. has entered upon his duties this evening is sure sign of a happy and well conducted year of office—at any rate our W.M. has enormous resources of energy in his daily walk of life, and he even brings them to bear on his Masonic work, which we may call thorough.

The W.M. replied.

The W.M. next presented the toast of "The I.P.M. and Installing Officer," in which he said it was a proud privilege to have been installed in such an able and perfect manner, more especially as it was the first time for many years that Masters had been installed by their predecessors in the Aldersgate Lodge, and he had now much pleasure in presenting the handsome gold Past Master's jewel, adding—"I do it with much pride, knowing that it has been so well and so able earned, having done your work and duty perfectly in every office you have been appointed to, and in placing it on your breast may it ever remind you of the good will and esteem of your brethren, and be a token of your work and ability in Masonry."

The I.P.M. replied: Worshipful Master, Grand Officers, and Brethren,—I trust you will permit me in a few words to thank you for the very hearty and cordial reception you have given to the toast of my health. I remember when I accepted the office of W.M. it was with some diffidence, and I felt I was undertaking a very high office, being a young Mason and a very busy man. I only hope I have done my duty in a satisfactory manner. I somehow feel I have faithfully discharged my important duties by your presentation of this handsome jewel, which I will ever prize as marking a most important page in my Masonic life—that of having occupied the chair of the Aldersgate Lodge. It has been customary for some years to invite our R.W. Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W., to install our W.M.s., but when he installed me a year ago he remarked that as he had now done the ceremony 147 times, and he would soon do his 150th, he then intended to stop, and expected to come as a visitor this year and see me install my successor, and it is a proud moment now to hear such a critic in the art say I have done it to his satisfaction. In conclusion, W.M. and brethren, I can only say my best efforts will ever be given to the Aldersgate Lodge, and if it had not been for one or two sadnesses connected with the lodge, my year of office would have been one of the happiest of my life.

The Worshipful Master next presented the toast of "The Visitors," which is always received in the Aldersgate Lodge with the warmest cordiality. "To-night we have 31 visitors and I bid them all a hearty welcome, although we are small in numbers and some of us small in stature, we are endowed with large hearts; as it is late I trust the visitors will excuse me reading all the names, but we offer you the right hand of fellowship, and I will couple the toast with the names of Bros. Alderman Alliston, Kemm, and Brooke-Hitching."

Bro. Alderman Alliston, in reply, said: I am deeply sensible of the great compliment you have done me in associating my name with the toast of the visitors, but I feel there are reasons I ought not have been called upon—firstly, after listening to the beautiful ritual so ably rendered by your I.P.M. I feel my heart so full I am utterly unable to do justice to it. Secondly, when I consider that my feet have trod for 50 years within a few yards of this spot, I see around me nothing but friends; therefore I do not feel a visitor, but I feel the Masonic impressions and thank you deeply for the great treat inside the lodge and your courteous reception and unbounded hospitality at this board.

Bros. Kemm and Brooke-Hitching also suitably responded.

The Worshipful Master next presented the toast of "The Past Masters," and included "The Treasurer and Secretary," he said the lodge was almost a lodge of Past Masters and they depended upon them for advice and they always received it in the kindest manner; he coupled the names of Bros. Anderton, P.M., White, Treas., and George Briggs, P.M. of 1572; who had done much kindly work for them in the past, and who, that evening, had acted as Deputy Secretary in the unavoidable absence of Bro. George Kenning, P.M. and Sec., and on behalf of the lodge he sincerely thanked them.

Bro. Samuel White, P.M., Treas., replied that it was quite a pleasure to be their Treasurer. Business sometimes caused him sleepless nights, but certainly the Treasurership of the Aldersgate Lodge had never done so. He must say he deeply missed from his side his old colleague. Bro. George Kenning having been so many years side by side at those meetings he felt it much.

Bro. Anderton replied for the Past Masters, and said it was always a pleasure to assist the younger members, because they appreciated it; and he could say for himself, and he was sure for all the other Past Masters, that they would always advise and assist them in every way in their power.

Bro. George Briggs, 1572, on being called upon, said really as a Past Master of the Aldersgate Lodge he had no *locus standi*, but as the W.M. had included his name, he knew his duty too well, as an old Mason, and obeyed. Their Treasurer, Bro. White, had just reminded him that it was now nearly 20 years since he first did work for the Aldersgate Lodge—that must have been nearly at its birth—at any rate, he was always glad to do all he could whenever they asked him to further the work in any capacity, for to impart pure Masonic knowledge to the brethren was not only a duty, but a pleasure. He was deeply grieved at the necessity they had to seek his services that night, and could only wish his dear old friend and their dear Secretary—Bro. George Kenning—might be soon restored to take his place once again among them.

Bro. S. Croft, P.M., proposed "The Officers," which was duly responded to by Bros. Smyth, S.W., and Hudson, P.M., S.D.

The Tyler's toast closed a most happy and enjoyable evening.

An excellent programme of music was ably rendered by the following artistes: Miss Gertrude Snow, Miss Florence Venning, Bro. Arthur Weston, and Bro. Barry Lindon, under the direction of Bro. Arthur Weston. Bro. G. F. Smith, G.O., presided at the piano.

Alleyn Lodge, No. 2647.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 26th ultimo, at the Crown and Greyhound, Dulwich, S.E. Present: Bros. C. J. Axford, P.P.G.D. of C. Middx., W.M.; G. W. Capel, S.W.; J. Joel, J.W.; W. J. Songhurst, P.M., Treas.; J. Read, P.M., P.P.G. Org. Middx., Sec.; W. H. Stone, S.D.; E. J. W. Scott, D.C.; Baron Von Reiffenstein, I.G.; R. Omash, as Stwd.; F. G. Mitchell, Tyler; J. W. Stevens, P.M. 2234; W. D. Jollye, W. J. Mars, H. Harwood, F. J. Ritson, and E. J. Austin. Visitors: Bros. E. H. Phillips, P.M. 1580; S. V. Tunnon, 1609; S. Hague, M.D., 2105, P.P.G.D.C. Middx.; C. B. Barnes, P.M., Sec. 19; R. M. Hammond, 19; James Kaling, 1287; G. Davis, 2381; J. Webb, S.W. 92; Alex. McNab, 1519; E. Horne, P.M. 227; S. Hales, 1227; J. W. Underwood, 2182; A. Sparks, 1987; R. Hooper, P.M. 2381; T. Carpenter, 1982; R. Broughton Stanhope, S.D. 1269; H. J. Croker, P.M. 190; and G. H. Grontage, 1586.

Lodge was opened and the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The minutes of a special lodge, held on the 5th ult., in removal of lodge to the Crown and Greyhound, Dulwich, were approved and the proposition then made was confirmed. A ballot was taken for Messrs. C. L. Lechmere and A. Browne, which resulted in their favour, and they were regularly admitted into the Order. Bro. G. W. Capel, F.R.G.S., S.W., was then presented to the W.M. for the purpose of being installed, Bro. Axford performing the ceremony with his usual ability. Bro. Capel appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. J. Joel, S.W.; W. H. Stone, J.W.; A. E. Wood, M.A. (absent), Chap.; W. J. Songhurst, P.M., Treas.; John Read, P.M., Sec.; T. Compton Stanley, W.M. 435 (absent), S.D.; E. J. W. Scott, J.D.; Baron Von Reiffenstein, D.C.; E. J. Austin, Org.; J. F. Henley (absent), I.G.; R. Omash and W. G. Mars, Stewards; and F. G. Mitchell, Tyler. A handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. C. J. Axford, by the newly-installed Wor. Master, who said it was a very pleasing duty to present to Bro. Axford, in the name of the lodge, the jewel, suitably inscribed, as a mark of high appreciation of excellent work during the period in which he was Master, and he trusted Bro. Axford might be with them wearing the jewel for many years to come. After Bro. Axford had feelingly acknowledged the gift, letters of regret for inability to attend the meeting were received from the Grand Secretary, the Asst. Grand Secretary, Bros. Bywater, P.G.S.B., Horace Brooks Marshall, Ellinger, Millbourn, Recknell, and others. Great sympathy was expressed for Bro. Henley, absent on account of illness.

Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, presided over by the W. Master.

After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, the W.M. proposed "The M.W. the Pro G.M., the Earl of Lathom; the R.W. the Deputy G.M., Earl Amherst; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," remarking that the splendid manner in which they fulfilled their important duties not only merited their indebtedness, but accounted for the prosperity of the Order.

Bro. Henry Lovegrove, P.G.S.B.—whose name was coupled with the toast—responded.

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

In reply, Bro. Capel said: Brethren,—For the warmth and cordiality with which you have received the toast of my health, allow me to return you my sincere and heartfelt thanks; and I beg to express to you my deep gratitude for the high honour you have done me by placing me in the position of W.M. I can assure you that I shall most earnestly endeavour to carry out my duties with satisfaction to every brother, and to the credit and interest of the lodge.

The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the I.P.M.," who he said had deservedly gained the high esteem of all by his genial manner, skilful work, and devotion to the best interests of the lodge.

The W.M. then said: I now submit to you "The Initiates." It is a toast always welcome to the lodge. We have this evening two initiates, and I feel sure that they are worthy gentlemen, and that they will prove a good acquisition to Freemasonry in general and the Alleyn Lodge in particular. We give them a very hearty welcome, and should like both to respond to the toast.

The Worshipful Master said it is now my pleasing duty to propose the toast of "The Visitors." We are highly delighted to have plenty of guests at our meetings as we wish the Alleyn Lodge to obtain a high reputation for hospitality. We are favoured this evening with the presence of many visitors and we welcome them most heartily, and sincerely hope they will come again. I associate with this toast the names of Bros. Barnes, P.M. and Sec. 19; Hooper, P.G.T. Middx.; Phillips, P.M. 1580; Horne, P.M. 227; and Croker, P.M. 190; who all replied. Brethren, I now have the pleasure to submit to you the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary." We are, indeed, fortunate in having as Treasurer and Secretary such worthy and experienced Past Masters as Bros. Songhurst and Read. They are both well-known and greatly respected by all of us; and I am sure that no words of mine are necessary to make the toast of their health highly acceptable to you.

After Bros. Songhurst and Read had responded, "The Officers" and the Tyler's toasts brought to a close a most pleasant evening.

The pleasure of the proceedings during banquet were considerably enhanced by an orchestral performance of selected music under the direction and conductorship of Bro. John Read, P.M., P.P.G. Org. Middx., Sec. of the lodge.

After the banquet some songs by friends and relatives of Bro. Scott lent additional attraction.

The portrait of the W.M. will appear next week.

Red Cross of Rome & Constantine.

Doyle Conclave, No. 7.

The annual installation meeting of this venerable conclave took place on Thursday, the 17th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Court-place, Guernsey. Sir Knight Dr. E. K. Corbin, M.P.S., having opened the conclave, a Senate of Sovereigns was formed, and Sir Knight J. T. Laine duly enthroned in the chair of Constantine by Sir Knight Corbin, assisted by Sir Knights W. H. Strickland, Deputy Intendant-General, and Col. H. Wilkins, H.C. On the closing of the senate, a college of Viceroys was duly opened, and Sir Knight J. B. Nicholls, V. elect, was impressively consecrated by the I.P.M.P.S., and regularly installed in the Viceroy's chair by the Dep. Int.-Gen. The newly-enthroned M.P.S. nominated and invested the following as his officers: Sir Knights E. C. Ozanne, S. Gen.; T. Elliott, J. Gen.; Dr. E. K. Corbin, I.P.M.P.S., H.C.; Col. H. Wilkins, Recorder; W. Stranger, Prefect; Dr. H. K. Ramsden, Std. Br.; Dr. J. D. C. Allen, Herald; and P. Steins, Sentinel. As a memento of his year of office, and in commemoration of her Majesty's record reign, the retiring M.P.S., Dr. E. K. Corbin, at the last meeting presented the conclave with a very handsome chalice and paten in case for use in the commandery of the K.H.S., &c. The useful gift is highly appreciated by the conclave, the efficient and admirable working of which during the past year is largely due to the generous donor, whose zeal for the Order is well known. On the proposition of the Intendant-General, Sir Knight Dr. Balfour Cockburn, supported by an able speech by the Dep. Int.-Gen., a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Sir Knight Corbin for his present, and unanimously carried by acclamation.

At the banquet which followed the enthronement ceremony, after the usual loyal toasts had been duly honoured, "The Health of the M.P.S." was heartily responded to on the proposition of the I.P.M.P.S., who afterwards, in felicitous terms, proposed that of "The Intendant-General," whose unavoidable absence all present deplored, for it is largely due to his influence and energy that this old conclave, after a cessation of upwards of 14 years, has again resumed its working. Such success has attended its resuscitated career, and so hearty an interest its members individually take in its welfare, that better working or more harmonious gatherings of this chivalric Order are rarely to be found.

A cordial response to the toast of "The I.P.M.P.S.," followed by that of "The Past Sovereigns and Officers of the Conclave," brought a most successful and enjoyable re-union to a close.

Obituary.

BRO. JAMES ADDINGTON.

It is with the deepest regret we record the sudden death of Bro. James Addington, which occurred on Monday, the 21st ult. By his death the brethren and all with whom he came in contact have lost a genial and faithful friend. We offer our heartfelt sympathy with his surviving wife and family. Our late brother was most philanthropic, a firm supporter and Life Governor of all the Masonic Institutions, the Bakers' Benevolent Institution, the Peckham and Old Kent Road Pension Society and others. He was a Past Master of the Stability Lodge, No. 217, a P.Z. of the Star Chapter, No. 1275; and a member of the Southwark Mark Lodge. The interment took place at Nunhead Cemetery, S.E., on Saturday, the 26th ult., in the presence of many brethren and friends. Among the brethren present were Bros. Wm. Cowley, P.M.; J. H. Edwards, P.M.; P. H. Garner, P.M.; T. Grummant, P.M.; Wm. Eckersall, P.M.; Wright, P.M.; Furnell, Channon, P.M.; C. H. Stone, P.M.; Dobing, Sam Fisher, Tennant, Woolmer, P.M.; Hy. Cornford, G. Benedetti, P.M.; Isaac Dunn, P.M.; Dr. Makeham, P.M.; J. Nixon, P.M.; G. Say, W.M.; W. R. Barr, P.M.; Giraud, R. Fisher, Witty, H. Hardman, P.M.; Wrattan, R. J. Voisey, P.M.; Jefferys, and many others.

Masonic and General Tidings.

BRO. THE DUKE OF ATHOLL has arrived in town from Scotland.

THE QUEEN will hold a Council at Windsor on Monday, the 7th inst.

WE REGRET to hear of the serious illness, owing to blood poisoning, of Bro. Major C. W. Carrell, G.D.C. in the Mark Degree.

BRO. THE EARL OF WARWICK, the Earl of Chesterfield, and Lord Herbert Vane Tempest, have gone to Ireland for a month's fishing in the Blackwater.

LADY LUCY HICKS-BEACH will have evening parties at 11, Downing-street, the official residence of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on Wednesdays, the 23rd and 30th inst.

THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will hold their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 9th instant, at 4 p.m.

BRO. LORD HENRY CAVENDISH-BENTINCK, M.P., has just returned to England from the Cape, where he had been to visit his brother, who is quartered with his regiment, the 9th Lancers, at Natal.

THE MARQUIS AND MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY and Lady Helen Stewart left on Saturday last in the Castle Line steamer Pembroke Castle for Teneriffe, for the benefit of Lady Londonderry's health, and hope to return to London in about three weeks.

WE REGRET THAT in the hurry of writing our Analysis of the Returns at the recent Benevolent Festival we should have omitted the list of Bro. T. J. Bolton, representing the Rothesay Lodge, No. 1087, for £115 10s., and stated the amount of Bro. Budeker's list for the Royal Albert Lodge, No. 907, as £100 10s. instead of—as it should have been—£106 15s. The corrections will be made in the reprint.

BRO. BENJAMIN CHARLES FRITH, of the firm of Frith Bros., Turks' Island, West Indies, is in London for a short period on business, staying at the Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate-street. He has found time to renew many old Masonic acquaintances. He was present at the Emulation Festival on Friday, the 25th ult., and expressed himself as greatly delighted and impressed with the accuracy of the work and the dignity of the whole function. Bro. Frith was initiated in the Wolsey Lodge, No. 1656, Hampton Court, in 1887, and is still a subscribing member. He has also taken the Royal Arch and Mark Degrees.

THE QUEEN received Viscount Fincastle, Lieutenant 16th Lancers, at Windsor Castle, on Monday afternoon, and conferred on him the decoration of the Victoria Cross for bravery during the fighting at Nawa Kili, in Upper Swat, on August 17, 1897. On that occasion Lieut.-Col. R. B. Adams proceeded, with Lieutenants H. L. S. Maclean and Viscount Fincastle, and five men of the Guide, under a heavy and close fire, to the rescue of Lieut. R. T. Greaves, Lancashire Fusiliers, who was lying disabled by a bullet wound and surrounded by the enemy's swordsmen. While they were bringing the wounded man under cover he was struck by a bullet and killed. Lieut. Maclean was also mortally wounded, whilst the horses of Lieut.-Col. Adams and Lieut. Viscount Fincastle were shot, as well as two troop horses. Princess Henry of Battenberg was present with the Queen. Bro. the Earl of Kintore, Col. Donald Browne, and Bro. Col. the Hon. Sir Henry Lyng were in attendance. Her Majesty also received a deputation from the Working Ladies' Guild, consisting of Lady Knightly, on behalf of the managing committee; the Marchioness of Headfort, representing the Art Needlework Department (in place of Lady Eden, unavoidably prevented from attending); and the Hon. Mrs. Reginald Talbot, representing the Decorative Art Department. The deputation presented an address of congratulation and a screen as a Diamond Jubilee offering, which were graciously accepted by her Majesty. The Duchess of Roxburghe (Lady-in-Waiting), was in attendance.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, attended by Bro. Major-General Sir S. Clarke, visited on Monday afternoon the exhibition of sketches by the late Bro. Sir Frank Lockwood, O.C., M.P., at the St. James's Galleries, King-street, St. James's, and afterwards the exhibition of "Artistic Bookbinding by Women," at 61, Charing Cross road.

THE CENTENARY of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Rhode Island is to be celebrated on Saturday, the 12th inst., in the city of Providence. The G.H.P. is M.E. Comp. John F. Oldham, of Pawtucket, R.I., and the centennial address is to be delivered by the Rev. Dr. Rugg, so that the occasion will be a memorable one in many respects.

THE PUBLIC SUPPERS at Christ's Hospital will commence on Thursday, the 10th instant, when Bro. the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs will attend in State. The subsequent suppers will take place on the 17th, 24th, and 31st instant, and it is hoped that the Duke of Cambridge, the President of Christ's Hospital, will be back from the Continent in time to preside at one of them.

THE LORD-LIEUTENANT and Countess Cadogan have returned to the Castle, Dublin, and have been entertaining a party this week, including Bro. the Earl and Countess, of Kilmorey, Earl and Countess Annesley, Bro. the Earl of Arran, Viscountess Duncannon and the Hon. Olwen and Hon. Irene Ponsonby, Bro. Viscount Chelsea, M.P., Viscount Castlerosse, and others.

BRO. THE LORD MAYOR, who was accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and Miss Davis, presided on Monday at the annual general meeting of the Royal Hospital for Children and Women, which was held in the Saloon of the Mansion House, and was well attended. Ever since its foundation in Doctors' Common in 1816, this useful institution has had for its President the Lord Mayor for the time being, and has never appealed to civic liberality in vain. This year its expenses have been particularly heavy on account of an outbreak of diphtheria, while for three months the wards were entirely closed. For this reason the need of funds is urgent, and the Lord Mayor, in moving the adoption of the report, warmly commended its claims to London citizens.

ON SATURDAY LAST the Council of the Society of Arts attended at Marlborough House, when H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, President of the Society, presented the Albert Medal to George James Symons, F.R.S., "for the services he has rendered to the United Kingdom by affording to engineers engaged in the water supply and the sewage of towns a trustworthy basis for their work." Among the members present were Major-General Sir Owen Tudor Burne (Chairman), Bro. Sir Frederick Abel, Sir George Birdwood, Sir Edward Rickbeck, Sir Frederick Bramwell, Hon. Sir Charles W. Fremantle, Sir Douglas Galton, Roberts-Austen, and Mr. Alexander Siemens, with Bro. Sir Henry Trueman Wood (Secretary), and Mr. Henry B. Wheatley (assistant Secretary).

A MEETING of the Mansion House Committee of the Fund for providing a memorial to the late Princess Mary Adelaide, Duchess of Teck, in the form of a Home of Rest for Poor Women from London, was held in the Venetian Parlour, under the presidency of Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., and there were present Lord Rookwood, the Bishop of Stepney, Sir Henry Peek, Bro. Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart., Sir Edward Carbutt, the Dean of Westminster, Bro. the Dean of Rochester, Sir John Hansard, Mr. E. J. Halsey (Chairman of the Surrey County Council), the Mayor of Richmond, Mrs. Arthur Kennard, and Bro. W. J. Soulsby, C.B. The Lord Mayor said the fund amounted to £4500, which was gratifying, as the result of only 10 days' appeal. It was estimated that about £25,000 would be required. Mr. Halsey said it was not proposed to start any fresh organisation, but to affiliate the home to some existing institution, such as the Victoria Convalescent Home at Bognor, of which the Duchess of York was to be the President. It was decided to invite the co-operation of the clergy and ministers of religion in the collection of small sums in their districts, and to form a ladies' Committee, headed by the Lady Mayoress and Lady Ellis.

THE ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—The principal feature of attraction is the grand pantomimic ballet scene—"Beauty and the Beast," in which is presented a version of one of the fairy stories of childhood, brought under our eyes in a most charmingly harmonious blending of colour and grouping, for which the Alhambra has been so long famous. It is, indeed, a vision of beauty, wedded to most delightful music. The varieties include the two Franks, clever bar performers, one of whom has but a leg wherewith to stand on, yet shows great athletic ability; the well-trained cats are a marvel; the cinematograph (Australian cricket match), in a series of moving pictures, enlist the sympathy of all English people. A pleasant evening, where nothing can shock the most fastidious, may be spent at the Alhambra.

ROBBERY OF MASONIC JEWELS.—Robberies from City warehouses are becoming uncomfortably frequent. The latest victims are Messrs. Carless, Whitaker, and Bignold, of Addle-street, whose premises were entered on Saturday afternoon, property being removed to the extent of £200. The thieves, who were apparently not strangers to the locality, gained admittance to some premises in Aldermanbury, which were secured by a lock only. The housebreakers then proceeded over the roofs of some adjoining property and entered the premises of Messrs. Carless, Whitaker, and Bignold by means of a skylight in the roof. An attempt was made to open the safe with skeleton keys, but as this was found to be impossible the visitors ransacked some drawers and abstracted therefrom several Masonic jewels valued at £50, the property of Mr. J. A. Bignold, the senior partner in the firm, while they also took with them silk goods worth £150.

ONE OF THE many interesting features included in the round of entertainments and shows at the Alexandra Palace this season will be Louis Tussaud's Waxwork Exhibition, produced under Mr. Tussaud's personal direction. Special arrangements have been made for suitable accommodation for this fine collection, and many new groups and figures will be added. These will include models of the late Sir Havelock Allen and Mr. William Terriss. There will also be a series of scenes connected with the Dreyfus case, one of which will represent Captain Dreyfus on the Ile du Diable. In others will be included Mons. Zola and the principal people who have figured in this *cause celebre*. The management have under consideration a scheme for fitting up a part of the grounds as an Oriental City, probably Cairo, as in view of the developments shortly to be expected in Egypt, a representation of this town will prove of special interest.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—The complete results of the Cambridge Local Examinations held December last are now to hand, and show that our boys have scored well as follows: Seniors—(Age 16 to 19)—One boy gained a Second Class, one a Third Class, and seven others passed; average age, 16 years four months; juniors—(age, up to 16)—one boy gained a Second Class, four a Third Class, and 16 others passed; average age, 14 years two months; preliminary—(age, up to 14)—two boys gained a Second Class, one a Third Class, and 30 others passed. There were four "Distinctions" for French, English, and History; average age, 13 years three months. Total—63 certificates, 10 Honours and four "Distinctions" (1897) 71 certificates, nine Honours and seven "Distinctions." N.B.—During the eight years of present management, 35 candidates have passed the "Senior," and 187 the "Junior," and 99 the "Preliminary" Cambridge Local Examinations. Of this total of 321, 58 have gained "Honours" and there have been 23 "Distinctions."

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