

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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CONTENTS.

LEADER—

The Recent Tercentenary of the Lodge of Edinburgh, No. 1	381
Provincial Grand Rank	382
Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey	383
Supreme Grand Chapter of England (Agenda Paper)	384
Summer Outing of the Beaconsfield Lodge, No. 1662	384
Summer Outing of the Mount Calvary Preceptory (D.)	384
Masonry in Devonshire	385
The Craft Abroad	385
Provincial Grand Chapter of Surrey	385
Knights Templar	385
MASONIC NOTES—	
Agenda Paper of Supreme Grand Chapter	387
Special Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge of Devonshire	388
Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire	388
Consecration of the Harringay Lodge, No. 2763	388
Annual Meetings of the Provincial Grand Lodge and Chapter of Durham	388
The Recent Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys	389
Craft Masonry	389
Royal Arch	390
Obituary	390
Masonic and General Tidings	392

THE RECENT TERCENTENARY OF THE LODGE OF EDINBURGH, No. 1.

No such event as that which was celebrated in the Music Hall, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, the 5th instant, has ever previously been known in Masonry. We hear much about the antiquity of the Craft, its existence in pre-historic times, the derivation of its system from the religions and philosophies of ancient Egypt, or from other sources belonging to a more or less



remote past. To those who have studied the question, there appears to be nothing unreasonable in this. But the general public, which is apt to become weary when it has travelled back a century or two in its researches, is, we fear, inclined to be somewhat sceptical as to the justice of these claims on the part of Freemasonry to a remote antiquity. They open a history of the Craft, and having glanced through its early pages, they learn that the Grand Lodge of England—the parent Grand Lodge of the whole world—dates from no further back than the year 1717, that is, from the second decade of the 18th century; that the Grand Lodge of Ireland was in existence in the third decade;

and the Grand Lodge of Scotland was established in the fourth decade of the same century; and they not unnaturally inquire where this very remote antiquity comes in, when the bodies from which all other Grand Lodges derive their origin are not yet two centuries old. Here, they argue, are your admitted historical facts, but where does the antiquity come in by comparison (say) with the kingdom of England which has existed for over a thousand years; with the fabled Kings of Scotland whose counterfeit presentments may be seen even at the present day in the palaces of the modern Athens; or the Kings who reigned in Ireland when that country was at its zenith as the home of letters and religion. Well, it would not be much good



attempting to satisfy the curiosity of these incredulous people, nor have we the time or space to devote to the long series of articles which it would be necessary for us to compile in order to overcome their incredulity. But here, at all events, we as Masons can point with pride to a lodge in Edinburgh which can boast of possessing an almost unbroken chain of records, the earliest entry in which bears date "*ultimo July, 1599*," and the event therein recorded is the employment of a cowan by a Mason contrary to the statute law of Masonry. The volume of Records, which begins with this minute, also contains the Schaw Statutes of 1598, one of the articles of which was, according to the minute, set at naught by the Mason complained of, but how long prior to the date in question the lodge had been in existence is hidden in obscurity. There is also a supplementary code of the year 1599, the existence of which was not discovered till a date comparatively recent, from one of the articles of which it is evident that this lodge of Edinburgh must have existed for some time prior to the close of the 16th century, the article laying it down that "Edinburgh salbe in all tyme cuming, as of befoir, the first and principal lodge in Scotland." In quoting this passage we have no intention of trenching upon a question which has long been, and in all

probability will always remain, a subject of controversy between the partisans of Mother Kilwinning and this Edinburgh Lodge (Mary's Chapel), No. 1. We quote it for the purpose of showing that the latter dates from a period long anterior to 1599, when its records begin, and may, therefore, with good reason be taken to furnish in itself undeniable evidence of an origin which



BRO. PETER LYLE HENDERSON.

is far more than three centuries old. This is a fact of which all Masons, but especially those under the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the members of Edinburgh, No. 1, in particular, must be exceedingly proud, and we hold that the lodge was well advised when it resolved on celebrating, with all possible pomp and circumstance, the tercentenary of its earliest recorded minutes, though everyone regret that unavoidable circumstances should



BRO. RICHARD WOOD HAWKS.

have prevented his Royal Highness the Prince of WALES, who is Patron of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, as well as Grand Master of England, and an affiliated member of No. 1, and other Masonic notabilities, from being present at a gathering which is unique in the annals of the Craft.

But we can well imagine there is still another reason why our Scottish brethren entered with so much spirit into the project for

celebrating this anniversary. The earliest evidence obtainable of the existence of speculative Masonry in England is found in the Diary of ELIAS ASHMOLE, who records that on a certain day in 1646 he and Colonel MAINWARING were made Masons at Warrington; while 35 years later he tells us that he was present at a lodge meeting in London, when several gentlemen were made members of the Craft! Lately, too, Bro. CHETWODE CRAWLEY has discovered that this form of Masonry was known in Trinity College, Dublin, in 1688. But a minute of this Edinburgh lodge of June, 1600, shows that a certain JOHN BOSWELL, laird of Auchinleck, who was not an operative Mason, was a member at that time. Other instances, dating from the year 1634, are also recorded in these minutes, and also others of later years, the two whose portraits accompany this article, being ALEXANDER HAMILTON, General of the Artillery, and Master of the Ordnance and Ammunition, who was made on the 20th May, 1640; and Sir PATRICK HUME, of Polwarth, afterwards Earl of MARCHMOUNT, who was made on St. John's Day, 1667. Another notable instance is that of Quartermaster-General ROBERT MURRAY, who was admitted a member on the 20th May, 1641, while the Scottish army lay in camp at Newcastle-on-Tyne. But it is unnecessary to mention further instances. Those who desire to know more of this matter should read the early chapters of Bro. D. MURRAY LYON'S elaborate "History of the Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary Chapel), No. 1," of which we rejoice to say a new edition will shortly be published in commemoration of this Tercentenary. Suffice it say, that in the face of this celebration the general public will be induced to speak more respectfully of the claims of Masonry to a remote antiquity, while those who are members of the Craft in England and Ireland must envy the lodge which possesses such ancient records and so many such well-attested evidences of the existence of speculative Masonry north of the Tweed.

The other two portraits are those of Bro. P. L. HENDERSON, R.W.M. of the lodge, who presided at the Tercentenary banquet, and Bro. HAWKS, the Secretary, whose labours contributed so largely to its success. As regards the former of these worthy members of this ancient lodge, Bro. PETER LYLE HENDERSON, who is an Architect, of 122, George-street, Edinburgh, was initiated in the lodge on the 2nd December, 1884, and having occupied the positions of Senior Warden and Substitute Master was elected R.W.M. St. John's Day, 1896. He is Grand Treasurer of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland; Treasurer Edinburgh Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1; Treasurer of the Preceptory of the Temple in the Lothians; Treasurer of the Priory of Malta in the Lothians; Grand Treasurer of the Royal Order of Scotland; Treasurer of the Edinburgh Rose Croix Chapter, No. 1; and 1st Grand Standard Bearer of the Edinburgh Consistory, No. 1, K.H. Bro. HENDERSON occupied for a short time a seat in the Edinburgh Town Council, and is an Ex-Moderator of the Edinburgh High Constables. Bro. RICHARD WOOD HAWKS, who is, as we have said, Secretary, was initiated in the lodge in the year 1890, and after filling one or two minor offices, was elected Secretary, in which position he is now in his sixth year.

PROVINCIAL GRAND RANK.

(COMMUNICATED.)

Every right-minded Freemason should be consumed by two ambitions, one of these is to occupy the chair of his lodge and the other is to wear the purple, either of Grand or Provincial Grand Lodge. The purple of Grand Lodge is necessarily available to but few of those who aspire to it, and there are so many candidates for it, all of sterling Masonic worth and merit—that other circumstances have to be taken into consideration when selecting recipients for that high honour. Such, for instance, is the possibility of the brother concerned being able to attend Grand Lodge, his attitude with regard to the great Charitable Institutions, and his literary and social characteristics. But the Provincial Grand Master has a much freer hand and in Provincial Grand Lodge Masonic enthusiasm and devotion have a much better chance of being considered on their own merits. Of all the duties he has to perform, the Provincial

Grand Master considers this as the most onerous; and the one requiring the exercise of the most careful tact and discrimination. There are, of course, always those who consider that they could make a better selection than the P.G.M., and the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, in the course of some remarks he let fall at a meeting of the Doric Lodge at Harrogate recently, expressed himself personally in favour of the election of an advisory committee. Doubtless, Bro. Wilson felt he would like some one to share with him the responsibility of advising the Provincial Grand Master, which, under present conditions, rests with him alone. The District Grand Master of the Punjab not long ago issued a circular to all Masters of lodges in his district asking that they would forward recommendations to him on the same subject. We do not, however, think that responsibility of this kind can be delegated in the manner suggested. Were General Wolseley's suggestion universally acted upon, then every brother who expected promotion, and failed to get it, would blame the Master of his lodge. True, under present conditions, he blames the Provincial Grand Master or his Deputy; but he ascribes their want of perception to a cause different to that to which he would ascribe his W.M.'s want of perception. Moreover, the P.G.M.'s back is broad, and his relation to the brethren is quite different from that of a W.M. to his lodge. The latter is the personal friend of all the brethren over whom he rules, but we venture to suggest that, as far as the Past Masters are concerned, this relation would be imperilled if General Wolseley's proposal became a universal practice.

Let us consider the position of the ruler of the province when about to make his annual selection. He has before him the returns—up-to-date, let us hope—of every lodge under his jurisdiction. The absence of any one of these returns clears the ground considerably, as such disrespect as is implied in failure to make a prescribed return in due course quite justifies the Provincial Grand Master in neglecting the lodge concerned. The ground is still further cleared by the fact that certain offices, namely, the Provincial Grand Treasurer and Tyler, are out of his hands entirely. There are also certain other offices his right of appointment to which is only nominal. For instance, he may appoint the Provincial Grand Secretary, but, inasmuch as the Board has to provide the salary of that officer, the Board has practically the appointment. It is quite conceivable that if an unacceptable brother were nominated, the P.G.M. might have to pay the honorarium himself. The same consideration applies to the Assistant.

The President of the Board, if not re-appointed, and the Treasurer, if not re-elected, have prescriptive rights of advancement to the Wardens' chairs. It might here be mentioned that in the Districts abroad, where the powers of the Board are more extensive than in England, the President is nearly always a Past Warden of considerable experience.

The Deputy is nearly always selected from among those brethren who have served the office of Registrar or Warden, and in many cases he serves until he cares to resign.

Appointment to several other offices is limited by the professional capacity of the brethren concerned. Thus the Registrar ought to be a brother of legal attainments, and the Superintendent of Works should be professionally familiar with the use of the working tools. The Chaplains are necessarily reverend gentlemen, and the Organist must of equal necessity be a musician. The officers available for the rank and file are, therefore, much more limited in practice than appears to be the case on paper. There seem to be about 20 collars available for annual distribution. These are the Deacons', Standard Bearers', Sword Bearers', Directors of Ceremonies', Pursuivants', and their respective deputies and assistants. Thus, in the Province of West Yorkshire, which, having already quoted, we continue for the purpose of illustration, there are 81 Worshipful Masters installed every year, and 20 collars, or thereabouts, to be given away. That is, that of absolute necessity three-fourths of the brethren, deserving and eligible, have to see their claims neglected. But, of course, this number increases every year. The proportion this year—if we exclude all Past Masters—is three-fourths, or 61 out of 81. Next year it will be 142 out of 162, and the year after 223 out of 243. Let the brethren who consider themselves to be aggrieved by what they consider persistent neglect, study these figures carefully, and they may find reason to sympathise with the authorities rather than to accuse them.

Theoretically it is desirable to select the best man, and the only two proposals hitherto made have been those to which we have already referred. We have shown R.W. Bro. Wolseley's idea to be an undesirable one; and it remains to consider Bro. Wilson's. An advisory committee is very well in theory. But its composition ought to be unknown. That was the weak point in the other proposal. Had the District Grand Master consulted

all the Worshipful Masters in his district in a confidential manner no one could have objected; but to embody that proposal in the printed minutes of the communication, was, we venture to think, a mistake. An openly-elected advisory committee would lead to all sorts of Masonic corruption. At present no one would dream of personally urging his claims to the Provincial Grand Master, but he would feel no restraint of delicacy in urging the representatives of his lodge to press his claims in committee. The feeling that they had the power of dispensing Masonic patronage would create new and undesirable relations between members of the committee and private members. Obligations incurred outside Freemasonry might come to be considered as adequately discharged by a vote given at a critical moment. What used to occur during the election of Grand Treasurer, is a sample of what might be expected to happen when election day came round, the difference being that it would be multiplied by 20. It may be remembered that at one time it was seriously proposed to alter the Constitutions in order to allow the Treasurer to be appointed by nomination.

The present system may be an incomplete one, and brethren eminently deserving may be occasionally overlooked, but it should be remembered that in profane politics there is no form of government which more readily affords opportunity for corrupt practices than a republic, and from a Masonic republic may we be delivered.

We know of one District G. Master who goes outside the recognised channels of information—that is, the returns—and studies the minute books of the lodges, whenever he has a chance. Notice is taken, not only of regularity of attendance and punctuality in the payment of dues, but of such minor matters, as they might be considered, as failure to apologise for absence. This is a District where no deserving brother is overlooked, and we commend the suggestion for the consideration of those who sometimes feel the responsibility of making selections weigh heavily upon them.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SURREY.

The annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Surrey was held at the Public Hall, Woking, on Friday, the 21st instant, when there was a large attendance of brethren. The R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Earl of Onslow, was supported by Bros. Fredk. West, P.G.D., Dep. Prov. G. Master; R. F. Gould, P.G.D.; R. Eve, P.G. Treas.; the Rev. Norman Lee, G. Chap.; V. Freeman, P.G.D.; J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; Salter Whiter, Prov. G.W.; Chas. Greenwood, P.P.G.W.; W. B. Smallpeice, Prov. G. Treas.; C. T. Tyler, Prov. G. Sec.; W. A. Latham, Asst. Prov. G. Sec.; J. B. S. Lancaster, P.P.G.S.B.; J. R. Cleave, P.P.G.D.; J. H. Hawkins, Prov. G.D.C.; T. H. Roberts, P.P.G.S.B.; J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C.; Col. Dundas, P.G.S.B.; W. Pile, P.P.G. Treas.; Thos. Clark, P.P.G.S.B.; J. T. Mayo, P.P.G.P.; and many others.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes having been confirmed, the roll of lodges was called, two being unrepresented.

The PROV. G. SECRETARY presented the Treasurer's accounts and the Report of the Audit Committee, showing a balance in hand of £286 16s. 3d., and in the Charity Account of £288 19s. 10d.

The Report was adopted, together with the following resolutions: "Ten guineas each to the three Masonic Institutions, 10 guineas to the Woking Cottage Hospital, and two guineas to the Home for the Dying." The honorarium of the Asst. Prov. G. Secretary was also increased from £50 to £60.

The Report of the Charity Committee showed excellent work done during the past year, the most gratifying feature being that all lodges in the province are now represented upon the Committee. Steps had been taken to put a stop to Masonic vagrancy in the province, an Almoner having been appointed in each town, and from the information received a considerable check had been put upon the abuse of Masonic Charity.

Bro. T. H. Roberts, P.P.G.D., was nominated for the office of Prov. Grand Treasurer, and there being no other candidate, he was declared duly elected.

The following brethren were invested as Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. Lieut.-Col. A. H. Bircham, 1395	...	... Prov. S.G.W.
" S. S. Goodman, 2652	...	... Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. James Beeby, 1826	...	... } Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. W. Horan, 452	...	... }
" T. H. Roberts	...	... Prov. G. Treas.
" H. A. Howe, 1362	...	... Prov. G. Reg.
" C. T. Tyler, 1395	...	... Prov. G. Sec.
" A. S. Tipson, 463	...	... } Prov. S.G.Ds.
" Dr. A. P. Luff, 410	...	... }
" A. Meier, 2502	...	... } Prov. J.G.Ds.
" G. S. Horsnail, 1851	...	... }
" C. P. King, 2422	...	... Prov. G.S. of Wks.
" J. H. Hawkins, 410	...	... Prov. G.D.C.
" W. E. Robinson, 1395	...	... Prov. D.G.D.C.
" J. W. Dix, 2120	...	... } Prov. A.G.Ds. of C.
" A. J. Newman, 777	...	... }
" S. H. Hodgkin, 1872	...	... Prov. G.S.B.
" Capt. J. Hoey, 2317	...	... }
" John Jones, 2096	...	... }
" E. A. Brown, 2521	...	... } Prov. G. Std. Brs.

Bro. E. J. Packington, 2444 ...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. A. Latham, 410 ...	...	Prov. Asst. G. Sec.
" F. W. Hullett, 1981 ...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" J. Hart, 2146 ...	...	Prov. Asst. G. Purst.
" C. de Bertodano, 1616 ...	...
" Dr. W. H. Twort, 1714 ...	...
" W. Soper, 2095 ...	...
" W. G. Goode, 2096 ...	...
" J. J. Lamigeon, 1929 ...	...
" John Ellinger, 2222 ...	...
" Robert Potter ...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

An Audit Committee was appointed, and Bro. J. D. Langton, P.D.G. D.C., kindly consented to again undertake the duties of Secretary to the Charity Committee.

It was unanimously decided, on the proposition of the Prov. G. SEC., to supply each subscribing member with a copy of the Masonic Calendar at the expense of Prov. G. Lodge.

The PROV. G.M. referred in feeling terms to the recent death of Bro. Raymond H. Thrupp, D.P.G.M. Middx., who was also well known and respected in Surrey, and on the proposition of the D.P.G.M., seconded by Bro. LANGTON, a resolution of sympathy with the late Bro. Thrupp's relatives was passed, and was forwarded to Bro. James M. Small, the Prov. G. Secretary for Middlesex.

Prov. G. Lodge was closed, and a banquet was subsequently held under the presidency of the Prov. G. Master.

The usual toasts were subsequently honoured, Bro. the Rev. NORMAN LEE, G. Chap., briefly replying for "The Grand Officers."

Bro. F. WEST, Dep. Prov. G. Master, proposed "The R.W. Provincial Grand Master," and said the brethren felt greatly honoured at seeing Lord Onslow preside on such an occasion as this. There was no better sportsman than their Prov. G. Master, he held high office in the State, and had had wide experience in ruling over men. It would be very difficult to find a Prov. G. Master with his capacity for ruling.

Bro. the Earl of ONSLOW, R.W. Prov. G. Master, thanked them sincerely for the welcome accorded him as Prov. G. Master. The Prov. G. Master had been more cordially supported by his province than he had been on every occasion. At the great meeting at the Albert Hall, Surrey came out on the list of provinces in a place which was worthy of its reputation. Surrey had always been to the front in everything that concerns the chapter, and this year was one upon which he could congratulate them more particularly. There was not a single lodge that was not now represented on the Charity Committee of the province. That Committee was of recent birth, but it started under auspices which were perhaps not altogether favourable. There were some lodges which thought that the system of handing over their votes was not altogether a wise and prudent one, but it had been proved that the policy was one which had met with almost general approval. The consequence was that the cases for election to the Institutions which came from Surrey were supported by the votes from the province and were successful. His earnest desire in administering the affairs of the province was that there should be no favour shown to any lodge or individual, but that Masonic work and contributions to the Masonic Charities should alone entitle members to that preferment in Provincial Grand Lodge. There was a time when Provincial Grand Lodge meetings were held under the banner of a particular lodge, and that lodge expected to be exceptionally treated with respect to Provincial honours. That was no longer the practice. His hands were now absolutely free, and he did his best, with the valuable assistance he received from the Deputy Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Grand Secretary, to see that the Provincial honours were conferred without fear or favour. Those who resided in Woking, the Provincial Grand Secretary and others, and who were responsible for the arrangements of the day, were to be congratulated on the way in which everything had been carried out. In conclusion, the Provincial Grand Master proposed "The Deputy Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Grand Officers," and referred to the very valuable services Bro. West had rendered in Surrey for so many years past.

Bro. FREDK. WEST, Deputy Prov. G.M., responded, and said that, in conjunction with his colleagues, he was proud to serve under such a Prov. Grand Master.

Bro. J. M. MCLEOD, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B., replied for "The Visitors," and expressed the hope that the day was not far distant when the Provincial Grand Master of Surrey would preside over a Festival of the Boys' School.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF ENGLAND.

The following is the business to be transacted on Wednesday next, the 2nd prox.:

The minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation to be read for confirmation.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England.

The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from the 19th April, to the 18th July, 1899, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:

To Balance, Grand Chapter £1439 7 5	By Disbursements during the
" Unappropriated Account ... 253 4 6	Quarter ... £383 5 9
" Subsequent Receipts.. 485 19 10	Balance ... 1548 4 0
	Unappropriated Account ... 247 2 0
	£2178 11 9

which balances are in the Bank of England Law Courts Branch.

The Committee have likewise to report that they have received the following petition:

1st. From Comps. John Christian Osterstock, as Z.; John James White as H.; William John Hewett, as J.; and 10 others, for a chapter to be attached to the Cator Lodge, No. 2266, Beckenham, to be called the Cator Chapter, and to meet at the Holborn Restaurant, London.

The petition being regular, the Committee recommend that the prayer thereof be granted.

The Committee have likewise received memorials, with extracts of minutes, for permission to remove the following chapters:

The Urmston Chapter, No. 1730, Stretford, Lancashire, from the Longford

Coffee House, to the Club Assembly Rooms, 20, King-street.

The James Terry Chapter, No. 2372, Walthamstow, Essex, from the Four

Swans Hotel to the Falcon Hotel.

The Committee recommend that the removal of these chapters be

sancion ed.

(Signed) GEORGE DAVID HARRIS, President.
Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
19th July, 1899.

SUMMER OUTING OF THE BEACONSFIELD LODGE, No. 1662.

The brethren of the above lodge held their summer outing on the 13th inst. This was the first time that this enjoyable custom had been adopted by the lodge, and the unanimous opinion of all the members and friends present was that the function was successful, and that the W.M. (Bro. W. Lane) was to be congratulated on the new departure inaugurated during his year of office. The party left Liverpool-street Station at 9 a.m. for Ipswich. Reaching Harwich about 12.30, a welcome interval was devoted to the discussion of an excellent luncheon at the Great Eastern Railway Hotel, under the supervision of Bro. Becker, the popular manager of that hostelry. Two hours were then spent in investigating the attractions of the neighbourhood, some members taking the opportunity for a dip in the incoming tide, and then the steamer Suffolk conveyed the party up the River Orwell to Ipswich, the thoughtfulness of the Committee in providing a supply of strawberries and cream being heartily appreciated. After a short time spent at Ipswich the lovely scenery of the banks of the river again cheered the minds of all on the return journey.

A sumptuous banquet in the marquee at the Harwich Hotel was then partaken of.

At its conclusion, the W.M., Bro. LANE, who was greeted with loud applause, proposed the toast of "The Queen," eulogising her Majesty for her personal qualities, and recognising the obligations of the Craft to her as the patron of their Charities and the mother of such distinguished brethren.

The toast having been received with enthusiasm, all joined heartily in the National Anthem, Bro. F. Kebbell, P.M., leading off in his usual excellent rendering of the solo.

The W.M. then proposed "The Ladies," expressing his pleasure at having so many present. He offered them his thanks and congratulations on their presence for the first time. He hoped they would believe that much of the time of the brethren when away from their sides at their various lodges was devoted to their various Charities, and he was sure when any one of the ladies present missed her husband, on those occasions she would in future put a charitable construction upon it.

Bro. WEST humorously responded as a lady.

On the proposition of Bro. F. KEBBELL, P.M., seconded by Bro. F. AMOS, Steward, and supported (as a visitor) by Bro. C. T. PAPWORTH, thanks were accorded to the Committee for their successful efforts in the management of the outing, as well as to Bro. Becker for his catering.

The party left at 8 p.m. for London, having spent a most enjoyable day.

SUMMER OUTING OF THE MOUNT CALVARY PRECEPTORY (D.)

This old preceptory held its annual summer banquet at the Mitre Tavern, Hampton Court, on the 28th ult. Among those present were Sir Knights J. R. Carter, E.P.; J. Horst, Constable; Major T. C. Walls, P.E.P., P.G.C. of Gds., Reg.; G. Haysom, W. Fisher, C. Slater, P.E.P.; Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., P.E.P.; and Capt. George Carpenter. The banquet was served by Bro. T. Sadler, and assistants, and gave unqualified satisfaction.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the customary toasts received full justice.

"The Health of the E.P." was duly proposed. In submitting the toast the proposer regretted that in consequence of other engagements many members had been unable to attend. It was a subject for regret that such old members of the preceptory, among others, as Sir Knights F. W. Driver, G. Graveley, Lieut.-Col. F. W. Stohwasser, H. J. Lardner, L. Steele, and Basil Stewart were absent. The E.P. was a most genial man and Mason, and since his membership had done everything in his power to enhance the prosperity of the Mount Calvary.

The E.P., in reply, admitted that he had been greatly disappointed in not being better supported that evening. Personally, he always looked forward to the pleasant June gathering of the preceptory. The surroundings of the Mitre were so picturesque and historic, and as to the creature comforts of the hostelry they were not to be surpassed. He had every reason to believe that there would be several candidates introduced before he left the chair. The Order was an excellent one, and, without egotism, he ventured to declare that no preceptory could surpass the Mount Calvary. It was a very old one, perhaps the oldest in the country. Unfortunately, the records prior to its resuscitation in the early forties had been lost.

The toast of "The Visitors" followed, and was duly acknowledged.

"The Health of the Past Preceptors" came next in order, and was coupled with the names of Sir Knights C. Slater and Rev. R. C. Fillingham.

Sir Knight C. SLATER stated that he quite agreed with the Eminent Preceptor as to the Order in general, and the Mount Calvary Preceptory in particular. There was an indescribable something about the preceptory that made an attendance therein so thoroughly enjoyable. He had been a member for many years and every meeting he had attended was fraught with the most pleasant recollections.

Sir Knight the Rev. R. C. FILLINGHAM stated that since the last meeting of the preceptory he had been abroad and in order not to miss the annual summer meeting he had curtailed his holiday. In fact he had travelled post haste from distant Montenegro. He belonged to many Masonic Degrees but there was no Order in Masonry that he held in higher esteem than Knight Templary.

The toasts of "The Treasurer and Registrar" and "The Officers," coupled with the names of Sir Knights Major Walls, C. Horst, Capt. Carpenter, G. Haysom, and W. Fisher, terminated the proceedings, which were throughout eminently satisfactory.

MASONRY IN DEVONSHIRE.

A special Prov. Grand Lodge has been convened at the Freemasons' Hall, St. Andrew's-road, Exmouth, on Wednesday, the 9th prox., for the purpose of constituting the Rolle Lodge, No. 2759, granted recently by the M.W. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The meeting will be opened in due form at four p.m. precisely. A banquet will be provided at the Imperial Hotel at six p.m., but tickets must be procured from Bro. J. E. Brooks, 1, Strand, Exmouth, on or before the previous Saturday.

The annual Prov. Grand Lodge is to be held in the Drill Hall, Tiverton, on Thursday, the 10th prox., at 3.30 p.m. The Committee of Petitions will assemble at the Town Hall at one p.m. The railway arrangements for both meetings will be as usual. The luncheon, at two p.m., will be served in the Public Schools, St. Andrew-street. Tickets to be obtained on or before the previous Saturday from Bro. J. W. A. Pleass, Angel-hill, Tiverton. There are now 59 lodges in the county of Devon, having some 3900 subscribing members, financially and numerically the province never having been so prosperous as now. A number of reports will be read for adoption, and the officers for the year ensuing will be appointed and invested by the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, C.B., M.P., who is one of the most popular and esteemed Masonic rulers in the country. The Province of Devon has a candidate for one of the vacancies in the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys in October, and Cornwall has another for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. The applications are unusually few for the ensuing elections from the West of England, there being none from either Somerset or Dorset, and only one each from Devon and Cornwall.

The Prov. Grand Master of Devon, Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, C.B., M.P., has accepted an invitation of the Committee to open the new Victoria Wing of the Tiverton Infirmary on the 10th prox., the day on which Prov. Grand Lodge will meet in that town. The ceremony, which takes place at 12 o'clock noon, will not be of a Masonic character, but the Prov. G. Secretary, Bro. John Stocker, has been specially directed to invite the brethren to attend and support him on the occasion. The Committee have intimated their intention of making no collection or appeal for contributions.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF SURREY.

The annual meeting of this Prov. G. Chapter took place on Friday, the 21st instant, at the Public Hall, Woking, under the presidency of the Earl of Onslow, G. Superintendent, supported by Comp. F. West, Prov. 2nd G. Principal, and many other distinguished Masons.

The minutes were confirmed, and the Audit Committee's Report was adopted, including several recommendations.

The G. Superintendent then invested the following officers, after Comp. T. H. Roberts had been unanimously elected Prov. G. Treasurer.

Comp. J. R. Cleave, 2096	...	...	...	Prov. G.J.
" C. T. Tyler, 1395	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" G. H. White, 1395	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" T. H. Roberts	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" H. A. Howe, 1362	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" W. R. Barr, 1556	...	...	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" J. Appleton, 1851	...	...	...	Prov. 1st A.G.S.
" Hugh Taylor, 1347	...	...	...	Prov. 2nd A.G.S.
" J. W. H. Littleboy, 2317	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" W. T. Driver, 463	...	...	...	{ Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" C. P. King, 1851	...	...	...
" T. Pennington, 880	...	...	...
" H. J. Bidwell, 2120	...	...	...
" G. B. Spicer, 2246	...	...	...
" C. F. Passmore, 2317	...	...	...
" W. A. Latham, 1556	...	...	...
" Robert Potter	...	...	...

The PROV. G. SCRIBE E. having announced letters of regret, the Prov. G. Chapter was closed.

The Craft Abroad.

Skelmersdale Lodge, No. 1729.

One of the most successful installation festivals ever held in Pietermaritzburg took place on Saturday, the 24th ult., when Bro. Cecil Holliday was installed as W.M. of the above lodge. The Installing Officer was Bro. O'Brien, who carried out his duties to perfection, being admirably assisted by Bros. Edmonds, Reid, and Wade. The ceremony was of a particularly impressive nature, the music being a special feature. The following officers were invested by the newly-installed W.M.: Bros. O. Dinnick, S.W.; F. T. Dane, J.W.; R. J. Marshall, D. of C.; W. Matthew, Treas.; A. Harrington, Sec.; F. C. Loney, S.D.; F. G. Pennells, J.D.; W. H. Loney, I.G.; and C. Ireland and R. C. Nutman, Stwds. The lodge was honoured by the presence of the R.W. Master and Officers of the Dist. Grand Lodge (S.C.), and the Acting R.W. Master and Officers of the Dist. Grand Lodge (E.C.). Visitors were also present from numerous lodges outside the Colony, the company, in all, numbering nearly 100.

The installation banquet was as great a success as the preceding ceremony. An admirable repast was provided in the gaily decorated dining-hall, and the proceedings were greatly enlivened by the performances of the string band of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, under Bandmaster J. P. Mullins.

The usual toasts were given and heartily received, general regret being expressed at the absence, owing to illness, of the R.W. Master of the Dist. Grand Lodge (E.C.), and Bro. Mason, I.P.M.

British Lodge, No. 334.

Never, probably, in the history of South African Freemasonry has the Worshipful Master of any lodge entered upon his year of office under such auspicious circumstances as on the 21st ult., when Bro. Herbert Southwell Everett was installed 89th Master of the ancient British Lodge in the Masonic Temple, Capetown, Cape of Good Hope. The atmospheric conditions were all against the success of the ceremony, but one of the largest and most representative gatherings that has ever been seen within the walls of the British Lodge had assembled by seven o'clock, when the proceedings commenced with a punctuality which was as commendable as it was embarrassing to a large number of brethren who arrived a few minutes late. It would be idle to attempt to give a list of the many distinguished brethren who occupied seats in the East. It will be enough to say that they represented every lodge in Capetown and the Peninsula, while the W.M.s. and officers of a large number of provincial lodges were also in attendance.

The impressive installation ceremony was performed with befitting dignity by the District Grand Master, Bro. the Very Rev. the Dean of Capetown, the following being the officers installed for the ensuing year: Bros. Herbert Southwell Everett, W.M.; Thomas Black, D.G. Std. Br., I.P.M.; Josiah Robert Finch, S.W.; Francis Lytton Kight, J.W.; Samuel Fitzhenry, S.D.; Andrew George Hill, J.D.; George Eric Oliver Bennett, D.D.G.M., D.C.; Rev. Alan Williams, D.G. Chap., Chap.; William Erastus Goodman, P.D.G.D., Treas.; Edward Henry Jones, Sec.; John Lang, P.D.G.O., Org.; John Elliott Bygott, Asst. Org.; James Charles Davidson, I.G.; Thomas Crawford, P.D.G.D., Frederick Robert Jesse, Reginald Augustus Leigh, Charles Augustus Prior, and James Ernest Avery, Stwds.; and Edgar Athelstan Buxton, D.G.T., Tyler.

At the conclusion of the ceremony within the lodge the brethren adjourned to the refectory, where the British Lodge had made preparations which more than sustained their great reputation for sumptuous hospitality. Especial mention should be made of the menu card, which was certainly the most original and artistic production that has yet been used at such functions. The newly-elected Master, Bro. Everett, presided, supported on his right by the R.W. the D.G.M., and after full justice had been done to the excellent cold collation, the toast list was proceeded with.

The three loyal toasts, "The Queen and the Craft," "H.E. the Governor," and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master of England," proposed by the W.M., were given with tremendous enthusiasm, and musical honours. Seldom has the National Anthem been more stirringly rendered.

The W.M. then proposed the toast of "The R.W. the District Grand Master" in very felicitous terms.

R.W. Bro. the Dean replied in an eloquent and stirring speech, in the course of which he said that their hearts as good Masons, and, therefore, as good citizens, must be very full that night. "If we are true Masons," he continued, "and do accept our duty, which teaches us to pray, dear brothers, let us pray that God may give peace in this our time. The four last lines of the national anthem, 'God Bless the Prince of Wales,' seemed to-night to touch me to my very soul. England knows her power, and always reserves to the very last moment the assertion of that power. We do trust that, as loyal subjects of our Queen-Empress, harmony and peace may be restored between England and the Transvaal. May God grant it in his good time. So mote it be."

The toast of "The W. Deputy District Grand Master and the Officers of the District Grand Lodge of South Africa (Western Division)" was proposed by the W. Master.

Bros. the Very Rev. the Dean of Cape Town, D.G.M., and G. E. O. Bennett, D.D.G.M., replied.

"The R.W. Deputy Grand Master, the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Netherlands," was given by Bro. W. Standford, P.D.G.M.

This was responded to by Bros. C. E. Lewis, M.A., Dep. G.M., and H. O. Bate, P.G.M.

"The Worshipful Master of the British Lodge" was proposed by Bro. the Very Rev. Chas. W. Barnett-Clarke, M.A., D.G.M. S.A. (W.D.).

Bro. Herbert S. Everett, W.M., replied.

"Our Sister Lodges and Brother Visitors" was next proposed by Bro. Thomas Crawford, P.D.G.D.

Replies were made by the W.M.s. of the Carnarvon Lodge, the Lodge de Goede Hoop, the Southern Cross Lodge, and the St. Patrick's Lodge, and distinguished visitors.

"The Masonic Charities" was given by Bro. J. B. Wheelwright, P.A.G.D. of C. Eng., P.D.D.G.M., D.G. Sec.

This toast was responded to by Bros. J. E. King, Sec. and Treas. District Joint Benevolent Fund; W. H. Tiffany, Sec. and Treas. Masonic Education Fund; and Capel Jenner Hogg, Dist. G. Treas.

"The I.P.M. and Officers of the British Lodge" was proposed by the Deputy D.G.M.

Bro. Thomas Black, I.P.M., replied.

The speeches throughout were of a very high order, Bro. Everett distinguishing himself particularly by the wit and appropriateness of his remarks. "My own opinion is," he remarked, "that oratory is rather a disqualification for the Mastership than otherwise." If so, Bro. Everett, W.M., is not qualified for his position.

The guests broke up about 11 o'clock, after one of the most successful Masonic functions that has ever been held in Cape Town.

Knights Templar.

Geoffroy de Bouillon Preceptory, No. 91.

An important meeting was held on Friday, the 7th inst., at the Masonic Chambers, Birkenhead. Special interest was attached to the assembly, inasmuch as it was the first installation meeting since the warrant had been removed to Birkenhead, and from its being honoured by the presence of the V.E. Prior of Cheshire, the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., K.C.T., and the V.E. Prior of N. and E. Yorks, Major J. Woodall Woodall, K.C.T., who was the first Preceptor on its formation in 1867. For some little time it had been contemplated to form a preceptory in Birkenhead, in response to the expressed desire of several companions who were wishful to join. It was, therefore, a gratification to all when it was known the M.E. and Supreme Grand Master had been pleased to sanction the transfer of the warrant, and, as the furniture was also handed over, the sir knights felt that they were able to start off fully equipped. At the last meeting E. Knight Dr. C. S. Brewer was unanimously elected Preceptor, and E. Knight F. K. Stevenson, Treasurer, and no less than 10 candidates were proposed for installation. The preliminary arrangements were placed in the hands of Dr. C. S. Brewer, who has done so much to promote the interests of many of the Higher Degrees, in which he is an accomplished exponent of the ritual, and upon whom a good deal of their working has devolved; the sir knights were, therefore, delighted to elect him their Preceptor.

A goodly number of sir knights assembled on this auspicious occasion to witness the ceremonial and grace the proceedings. Among those present, in addition to the Priors of Cheshire and N. and E. Yorks, were Sir Knights W. S. Sutton, Sub-Prior of Cheshire; Rev. C. C. Atkinson, P.G. Prelate, Prov. Prelate; F. K. Stevenson, Prov. Chan.; Dr. C. S. Brewer, Prov. St. B. (B.); J. Roby, Prov. B.B.; Captain F. R. Oke, Prov. C. of G.; John Fletcher, P.E.P.; J. V. Thompson, R. C. Davies, A. Birkett, S. Jones, J. Clarke, A. Rutherford, A. J. Thompson, J. C. Robinson, J. Jones, J. Lee, A. J. Fishlock, and C. A. Young.

The preceptory was opened by the E. Knight F. K. Stevenson, Prov. Chancellor, and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed. A ballot was taken for each of the 10 candidates, and proving unanimous in their favour, they were duly installed, the ceremony being performed in a manner which delighted and impressed every one present. The Prov. Priors of Cheshire and N. and E. Yorkshire were then announced, and received under the arch of steel. The Prov. Prior of Cheshire took the chair, and both were saluted with the Templar honours due to their exalted rank, and after interesting addresses from each of them, a ceremonial especially arranged for the occasion was gone through. V.E. Sir Knight Major J. W. Woodall then, in a most able manner, installed Sir Knight Dr. C. S. Brewer as Eminent Preceptor for the ensuing year, who, after the usual salutations, appointed and invested his officers as follows: Sir Knights R. C. Davies, 1st Cons.; Saml. Jones, 2nd Cons.; J. Clarke, Chap.; F. K. Stevenson, Treas. (elected); A. Birkett, Reg.; J. Roby, Marshal; J. C. Robinson, Almoner; A. Rutherford, Herald; A. J. Thompson (B.); Std. Br.; John Jones, Std. Br. (V.B.); John Lee, 1st Aide-de-Camp; A. J. Fishlock, 2nd Aide-de-Camp; C. A. Young, Capt. of Gd. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Priors of Cheshire and N. and E. Yorks for their presence, and in replying to the compliment, they made the very handsome present of the whole of the furniture to the preceptory, including a beautiful set for the Priory of Malta as well, this being received by the members with every expression of delight, and acknowledged by the Preceptor in feeling terms. Other formal business having been transacted the aims were collected and the preceptory closed.

The brethren then adjourned to the refectory and partook of refreshment, spending a pleasant evening in fraternal intercourse.

Thus ended a gathering, which we trust is the commencement of an era of prosperity and usefulness, for never could a preceptory have better prospects of success.

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EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT.—To Chepstow, Monmouth, Newport, CARDIFF, SWANSEA, &c.

EVERY THURSDAY.—To Clevedon, TAUNTON, Tiverton, &c.

EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT.—To CHESTER, Birkenhead and LIVERPOOL.

EVERY THURSDAY & FRIDAY NIGHT.—To WESTON.

EVERY THURSDAY, FRIDAY NIGHT & SATURDAY.—To Dawlish, Teignmouth, Bodmin, Wadebridge, Newquay, Truro, Falmouth, St. Ives, PENZANCE, &c.

EVERY THURSDAY & SATURDAY.—To BRIDGEWATER, MINEHEAD, TORQUAY, Dartmouth, Kingsbridge, &c.

EVERY FRIDAY.—To NEWBURY, Devizes, TROWBRIDGE, &c.

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT.—To the SCILLY ISLANDS.

EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY.—To SAVERNAKE, Marlborough, &c.

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EVERY FRIDAY & MONDAY.—To SWINDON, Stroud, GLOUCESTER, Cheltenham, HEREFORD, &c.

EVERY SATURDAY.—To FROME, Shepton Mallet, Wells, YEOVIL, Bridport, Dorchester, WEYMOUTH, Portland, Lynton, LYNMOUTH, Barnstaple, MILFORD-COMBE, Yealmpton, Tavistock, Launceston, &c.

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EVERY WEDNESDAY.—HALF-DAY TRIP to READING, Newbury, Hungerford, Saverne, Marlborough, and DEVIZES.

EVERY THURSDAY.—HALF-DAY TRIP to STRATFORD-ON-AVON, Banbury, & LEAMINGTON.

WEDNESDAY, August 2nd. To Chipping Norton, CHELTENHAM, WORCESTER, Malvern, HEREFORD, &c., for 7 days.

FRIDAY, August 4th.—To Market Drayton, Crewe, Stockport, MANCHESTER, &c., for 7 days, and to STRATFORD-ON-AVON, Dudley, &c., for 3 or 6 days.

FRIDAY MIDNIGHT, August 4th.—To Oxford, Leamington, BIRMINGHAM, Wolverhampton, &c., for 3 or 6 days; and to CHESTER, Birkenhead, and LIVERPOOL, for 6 days.

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SUNDAY, August 6th.—To CIRENCESTER, Stroud, GLOUCESTER, CHELTENHAM, &c., for 1, 2, 5, 9, 12 or 16 days.

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SUNDAY MIDNIGHT, August 6th.—To OXFORD, Leamington, BIRMINGHAM, Wolverhampton, &c., for 1, 2, 4 or 5 days.

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FRIDAYS, August 4th, 18th, September 1st, 15th and 29th.—For WATERFORD, Dungarvan, Lismore, Clonmel, Tipperary, Kilkenny, KILLARNEY, BELFAST, Armagh, Enniskillen, Larne, GIANT'S CAUSEWAY, &c.

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To Rugby, Leicester, Loughborough, Nottingham, Sheffield, Penistone, Stockport, Warrington, Liverpool, and Manchester, at 10.30 p.m. Friday, and 5.20 p.m. Saturday.

On SATURDAYS, AUGUST 5th, 19th and 26th (for 3 or 6 days).

To Bridlington, Carlisle, Filey, Middlesborough, Newcastle, Scarborough, South Shields, West Hartlepool, York, at 8.0 a.m.

To Knutsford, Northwich, Southport, Widnes, Wigan, at 10.0 a.m.

To Ashton, Barnsley (Court House), Cleethorpes, Gainsborough, Grimsby, Guide Bridge, Huddersfield, Hull (Corporation Pier), Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester (London Road), Nottingham, Oldham, Penistone, Retford, Rotherham, and Masborough, Rugby, Sheffield (Vic.), Stalybridge, Warrington, Worksop, &c., at 10.25 a.m.

To Brackley, Bulwell Common, Chesterfield, Eckington, Hucknell, Lutterworth, New Basford, Staveley Town, at 4.0 p.m.

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SATURDAY, JULY 29, 1899.

Masonic Notes.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter will be held at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 2nd prox., at the hour of 6 p.m., when the chief business will be the consideration of the Report of the General Committee. From this it appears that there is only one new Chapter for which the Committee recommend that a warrant should be granted, namely, the Cator, No. 2266, Beckenham, in the Metropolitan district.

To-day (Friday) the town of Hornsea will be the scene of an interesting Masonic ceremony. It has been arranged that the foundation stone of a new hall for the Alexandra Lodge, No. 1511, shall be laid with full ceremonial by the Marquis of Zetland, Prov. G

JULY 29, 1899.

Master of North and East Yorkshire. The lodge will be opened in the Congregational School Room at 2.15 p.m., and the brethren will march thence in procession to the site of the building, returning at the conclusion of the ceremony. A cold collation will be served in the Public Rooms at 3.45 p.m.

* * *

We are indebted to the courtesy of Bro. W. Thirsk, Treasurer and Secretary of the Masonic Charitable Association connected with this lodge for copy of the balance sheet. From this it appears that the total sum received by the Association was £175 13s. 7d., of which all but £1 10s. for Entrance Fees and £1 5s. 1d. for Bank Interest, was in the shape of subscriptions. Of these £57 15s. was paid over to the Girls' School; £10 10s. to the Boys' School; £68 5s. to the Benevolent Institution; and £34 17s. 6d. to the North and East Yorkshire Educational Fund, while the expenses for Printing and Postages amounted to £3 10s. The small balance of 16s. 1d. was handed over to the Alexandra Lodge Benevolent Fund.

* * *

We could not have better evidence of the spirit by which the members of the lodge are actuated than such a statement of account. The lodge was founded as recently as 1874, and musters only 38 subscribing members, yet these figures show that, through the instrumentality of this Association, £171 7s. 6d. has been paid over to the Central or local Masonic Charities, the former having been benefited to the extent of £136 10s., while the latter received the balance of £34 17s. 6d. A lodge that does such signal service as this deserves every encouragement, and we sincerely hope that the function which has been appointed to take place to-day (Friday) will help to promote still further the interests of the Alexandra Lodge, No. 1511. The Provincial Grand Master and the brethren generally of North and East Yorkshire must be proud to be associated with a lodge which has so praiseworthy an idea of its duties and responsibilities.

* * *

A special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devonshire will be held at the Freemasons' Hall, St. Andrew's-road, Exmouth, on Wednesday, the 9th prox., at 4 p.m., for the purpose of constituting the new "Rolle" Lodge, No. 2759. The customary banquet will take place at the Imperial Hotel, at 6 p.m., tickets for which—price 5s., exclusive of wine—must be applied for to Bro. J. E. Brooks, 1, Strand, Exmouth, on or before Saturday, the 5th prox. On the following day, the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at the Drill Hall, Tiverton, at 3.30. On this occasion the Committee of Petitions will meet, by command of the Prov. G. Master, at the Town Hall, at 1 p.m., and at 2 p.m. there will be luncheon at the Public Schools, St. Andrew-street. Tickets—price 3s. 6d., exclusive of wine—to be had on application to Bro. J. W. A. Pleass, Angel Hotel, Tiverton, on or before Saturday, the 5th prox.

* * *

We have much pleasure in adding that the Great Western and London and South-Western Railway Companies have made arrangements for the issue to individual brethren of return tickets, first, second, and third-class, at a fare and a quarter, and at single fare, first-class, to parties of not less than 30; and second and third-classes to parties of not less than 50, from any one station distant 30 miles or more, on producing their Masonic clothing at the time of booking, such tickets being available from the day before to the day after the meeting.

* * *

We have very great pleasure in announcing that Ewart Richardson, one of the boys retained for higher education in the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, has passed in the First Division of the London University Matriculation at the examination held recently. Richardson's success is the more creditable, as he was entered for the examination in January, but could not sit on account of ill-health at that time, and since leaving the School has had no tuition. Six boys have now passed in the First Division and one in the Second Division during the past four years.

* * *

Another new lodge in the Greenwich District to which, if for no other reason than that it bears the honoured name of "Lord Kitchener of Khartoum," we wish all possible success, was consecrated at the Ship Hotel on Monday, the 17th instant. It ranks as No. 2757 on the roll of Grand Lodge, and has been founded for the convenience of those brethren in the neighbourhood who are known for their musical attainments or love of music. The ceremony of consecration was performed by Bro. E. Letchworth, the Grand Secretary, who was assisted in his task by Bros.

Ralph Gooding, M.D., P.G.D., and Lieut.-Col. G. J. Parkyn, P.G.S.B., as Wardens; Bro. the Rev. Canon Brownrigg, Past G. Chap., as Chaplain; Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D. of C.; and Bro. Walter Martin, P.A.G.P., as I.G. Subsequently Bro. R. Petter, P.M., was installed as W.M., and the officers having been invested, Bro. Lord Kitchener, who apologised through the G. Secretary for his inability to be present, and the Consecrating Officers, were unanimously elected honorary members, and presented with founders' jewels. There was a numerous gathering of visitors, and, after dinner, an admirable programme of vocal and instrumental music was successfully carried out.

* * *

We are pleased to learn, from our report of the proceedings at the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey, on the 21st instant, that the Masonic Vagrant was not entirely lost sight of, and that an Almoner having been appointed in each town, a considerable check has already been put upon the abuses of Masonic Charity in consequence of the adoption of this step. This is very creditable to Surrey; but how about the adjoining Provinces which not improbably have been overrun to a still greater extent than ever by these pests? Masonic vagrancy, like rabies in dogs, will not be stamped out until precautionary measures have been adopted throughout the whole country.

* * *

The Harringay Lodge, No. 2763, was successfully inaugurated at Freemasons' Hall, on Tuesday, the 25th instant. The ceremony was performed, as usual, by Bro. Edward Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Secretary who was assisted by Bros. W. H. Bailey, Past G. Treasurer, as S.W.; J. D. Langton, Past D.G.D.C., as J.W.; the Rev. Canon Brownrigg, Past G. Chap., as Chaplain; and Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C. When the lodge had been constituted, Bro. C. E. Wetton, P.M. 2087, was installed as the first W.M., and the other principal officers designate invested—Bros. E. F. Barnes, S.W.; and W. E. Poynton, J.W. The list of founders comprises some two dozen brethren, among them being several who are Installed Masters or have held office in other lodges. We hope to give a full account of the proceedings next week, but in the meantime we wish the lodge, which has started on its career under such auspicious circumstances, a long and prosperous career.

* * *

We acknowledge with thanks copy of a new work from the pen of Mr. Arthur Lovell, author of "Ars Vivendi," "Volo," and "The Ideal of Man." It is entitled "Imagination and its Wonders," and, we doubt not, will prove worthy of the author's reputation, and even enhance it very considerably. We shall take an early opportunity of reviewing it.

* * *

We must remind our readers that the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire is appointed to be held to-day (Friday), under the auspices of the Stortford Lodge, No. 409, at the Parish Room, Windhill, Bishop's Stortford. Prov. Grand Lodge will be opened at 3.45 p.m., and will be followed by the customary banquet. We understand that there is every prospect of the attendance being somewhat larger than usual, and that among the visitors will be found many prominent members of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Essex. Seeing that Hertfordshire headed the list of contributing Provinces at the recent Boys' School Festival, we anticipate that the meeting will be a great success.

* * *

It is gratifying to learn that the Freemasons' Benevolent Institution of New South Wales is steadily progressing. Our contemporary, *Masonry*, of Melbourne, publishes a full report of the proceedings of the eighth annual general meeting of this Institution, and from this we gather that whereas in 1892 the income amounted in round figures to £260, and the assets to £2067, the figures for the year ending 30th April last showed an income of £1470, and assets, after clearing off £500 for Masonic Hall shares, £5022. In 1892 there were no annuitants and no disbursements for relief; during the last year there were 28 annuitants—being a temporary reduction of one—and £465 was expended in relief. Thus, in this brief period, the income has been increased about fivefold, and the assets considerably more than doubled.

* * *

Of the special efforts to which this progress is in great measure due the annual ball appears to be most productive. This was instituted in 1894 and

yielded £257, while the proceeds of the ball held in the Town Hall, Sydney, on the 28th July, 1898, reached £578 reduced, by presentation to the Hon. Secretary, to £527. The day fixed for the annual function for 1899 is Thursday, the 27th instant, the Town Hall, Sydney, being chosen for the *locale*.

* * *

As regards the brethren to whose personal efforts and influence the Craft in New South Wales is principally indebted for the progress which their Benevolent Institution has made, the foremost seem to have been Bro. J. C. Remington, P.D.G.M., who had held the office of President for the last seven years, and Bro. G. H. Marsh, the hon. Secy. The former, in his retiring address, expressed the opinion that it was not well for the same brother to remain in office—though annually re-elected—in *perpetuo*, and for this reason he had come to the conclusion that it was his duty to resign and make room for another, the brother chosen to succeed him being Bro. T. Spencer. As regards the post of Hon. Secretary, Bro. G. H. Marsh was re-elected, notwithstanding his declaration that he is no longer able to devote the whole of his time to the duties. Hence, to enable him to discharge them, assistance will be found for him, our contemporary observing that Bro. Marsh's "supervision and experience will be invaluable," and that "it is matter for general congratulation that he accepts the duties, even in the new form." The Treasurer of the Institution is Bro. Ellis Robinson, who was re-elected; while the vacancy on the Committee, caused by the election of Bro. T. Spencer as President, is filled by Bro. J. G. Moon.

* * *

We learn with extreme regret that *The Voice of Masonry* has ceased to exist, after a useful career of some 35 years. It was one of the most valuable of our exchanges, and to its "Masonic Gleanings" we were indebted for much of the news relating to Freemasonry in the United States which appeared in our columns. Its reviews of the annual reports of the different Grand Lodges were ably and concisely written, nor did the Editor, at any time or in any case, refrain from expressing his opinions very courteously, but, at the same time, freely and clearly on matters of policy to which exception might properly be taken. Its articles, too, were excellent both in tone and character, nor can we conceive how such an admirable periodical as our late friend *The Voice* can have been allowed to die without a supreme effort being made to ensure its continuance. It was published at Chicago, and it is very far from being to the credit of the Michigan brethren that they should have allowed what we do not hesitate to describe as a catastrophe to Masonic periodical literature to occur.

* * *

The *Pacific Mason*, of Seattle, Washington, to which we are indebted for our information, refers in complimentary terms to our late exchange, briefly describing it and the lately deceased *Freemason's Repository* as having been "for many years most powerful exponents for the good of Freemasonry." It was an honour to the Craft in the States that it should possess two such genuine "exponents" of Masonic principles and opinions, and, as we have remarked already, it is the reverse of creditable that they should have been allowed to die.

* * *

We are further indebted to the *Pacific Mason* for the announcement in its June number that Sir Knight Thomas H. Caswell, who has been Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of California for the last 21 years, has resigned his office and been succeeded by Sir Knight William A. Davies, Past G.C. We are further informed that Judge Caswell has resigned the Grand Secretaryship of the Grand Chapter of California, and that Comp. William T. Reynolds, Past G.H.P., has been appointed in his stead. The retirement of so experienced an officer, even though successors of recognised ability have been appointed in his place, cannot be regarded as otherwise than a serious loss by the Grand Commandery and Grand Chapter of the State affected.

* * *

The annual Prov. Grand Lodge and Prov. Grand Chapter meetings of the Province of Durham have just been arranged to be held—the Prov. G. Chapter meeting at Stockton-on-Tees, at 3.45 p.m., on Wednesday, September 16th; and that of the Prov. Grand Lodge at the Town Hall, Gateshead, on Tuesday, September 26th. Bro. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., will preside at both meetings. The annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Northumberland and Durham is announced to be held at the Freemasons' Hall, 18, Grainger-street West, Newcastle, on Thursday, the 3rd prox., the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., presiding. The Lodge is expected to be honoured with the presence of M.W. Bro. the Earl of Euston, Pro. Grand Master, on the occasion.

**THE RECENT FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL
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The following alterations and additions have been received since our last report, namely:

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THE PROVINCES.		
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HERTFORDSHIRE.		
504 , E. J. Pearson, new Steward and list	...	44 0 0

Craft Masonry.

Nelson Lodge, No. 700.

The above lodge celebrated its installation day by a grand gathering of the brethren of the lodge and surrounding lodges on Wednesday, the 19th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Mount Pleasant, Plumstead, and at that place and on that day Bro. W. Long, S.W., W.M. elect, was installed W.M., and proclaimed in the usual and ancient manner. Bro. T. Sydney Smith performed the ceremony admirably, and was complimented on all sides for his perfect working and eloquent delivery of the charges. The W.M. invested the following officers: Bros. Smith, I.P.M.; W. Chambers, S.W.; W. J. Harris, J.W.; J. H. Roberts, P.M., Treas.; W. Lawson, P.M., Sec.; J. Warren, P.M., Consulting Sec.; H. Pamment, P.M., D. of C.; E. Carter, S.D.; F. S. Folkes, J.D.; C. F. Perry, I.G.; W. J. Bidgood, Org.; and G. H. Porter, P.M., H. Roberts, W. Reynolds, H. Sandford, and F. Wright, Stewards. The usual vote of thanks to the Installing Officer and the presentation to him of a handsome Past Master's jewel concluded the business, and then the lodge was closed.

The banquet was served at the Holborn Restaurant, and among the other brethren present were Bros. C. Sweeting, P.M.; E. P. Hobson, P.M.; J. McCullough, P.M.; T. Butt, P.M.; G. R. Nichols, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br. Middx.; W. Webber, P.M.; E. Carter, P.M.; H. Tufnell, P.M.; G. W. Mitchell, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Kent; G. F. Taylor, P.M.; H. King, P.M., P.P.G.P. Kent; S. E. Southgate, P.M.; C. Jolly, P.M., Hon., &c., &c., &c.; G. B. Davies, P.M., Hon.; T. Collins, J. Cole, F. Tapp, G. Lorraine, J. Dohnan, R. Taylor, J. Noakes, E. Blanchett, F. Wright, F. Thistle, Z. Kitley, J. Crone, W. Long, P. Stevenson, H. Dalby, A. Adams, G. Lapp, T. Punter, C. Jacobs, W. Goodman, C. Benstead, W. Reed, W. Holmes, T. Thorne, A. Johnston, H. Dudman, J. Adamson, E. Valon, J. Jones, H. Jones, J. Brock, Jas. Brown, E. Lonergan, J. Baldie, L. Chennell, C. Talbot, G. Martin, E. Lyons, E. Birchill, C. Roberts, J. Plume, A. Sanders, T. Manning, G. Stamford, Dr. Jas. Tees, E. Moore, J. Dowsett, J. Hodgkin, C. Whitley, C. Thomas, S. Blackler, A. E. Goodman, H. Back, T. Bond, J. Price, Jas. Lloyd, B. Taylor, J. Hodgson, J. Brown, G. Brown, A. Abbey, R. Williams, O. Degan, A. Whitts, G. Hallett, W. Shenstone, G. Bryant, J. Waller, and F. Thomas, all of the lodge. Among the visitors were Bros. W. J. Barnes, P.M. 13; J. Quick, S.W. 13; W. Abbey, 13; J. Hall, 13; A. Pringle, P.M. 92; Dr. H. Bernays, P.M. 706; E. M. Taylor, W.M. 913; Jas. Tucker, J.W. 913; H. Vicars, 913; A. Hill, W.M. 1536; A. Simmonds, S.W. 1536; T. H. Lait, W.M. 1472; A. T. Ives, P.M. 1472; W. Turvey, P.M. 1472; D. Ross, S.W. 1472; R. Rawlinson, S.W. 2399; A. Avery, 1314, P.P.G.R.; J. Spencer, P.M. 1437, P.G. Std. Br. Essex; C. Chandler, J.W. 1259; W. Legg, P.M. S98; A. Kearn, 615; J. Coombes, P.M. 829, P.G. Org. Kent; J. Steer, J.W. 2399; F. Robesmith, 205; C. Harrison, 2374; J. Jones, 2736; W. Bailey, 1789; W. Nash, 784; F. Quick, 733; W. Buckley, 1839; C. Grant, 1765; W. Edmonds, 319; G. H. Campbell, 913; E. Townsend, 1641; A. Josef, 179; and W. Briden, 79.

The I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The W.M.", said he claimed their polite attention, as the toast he had to propose was one of exceeding importance, and as far as they were concerned it was the "toast of the evening." He firmly believed their W.M. would make one of the best Masters the lodge had ever had and go through the office with as much honour as those who had preceded him, and he asked them to drink the toast in bumper.

The W.M., in response, said that ever since he had been an officer of the lodge he had done his best to carry out the duties of every office he had been appointed to. They must not during his year of office expect very long speeches from him, so he should conclude by simply thanking and assuring them that he should do his best as he had done in the other offices he had held.

The toast of "The Visitors" followed, and Bro. Taylor, W.M. 913, in response, briefly expressed his pleasure at being present and witnessing the installation of Bro. Long into the chair of the Nelson Lodge.

Bro. Laid was also pleased to be present and trusted the good feeling that existed between the Henley and Nelson Lodges would long continue.

Bro. Spencer rejoiced in the strength of the Nelson Lodge. He had had the pleasure of being present at several of these installation meetings and had always been kindly received, thanks to the invitations of his friends Bros. Chambers and Folkes. He hoped to be present that time next year and be enabled to witness the installation of Bro. Chambers.

Bro. Quick regretted the unavoidable absence of the W.M. of No. 13, but was pleased to have the opportunity to be present and represent that lodge.

Bros. Rawlinson, Legg, Chandler and Ives also responded.

Bro. Smith, in response to an enthusiastic reception of the toast of his health as Installing Officer, said he intended to make his speech as short as possible. He had undertaken the work of the Installing Officer in the same spirit, and with the same determination to do his best and make the working a success; that had animated his predecessor, and if he had succeeded in doing that and in pleasing them, he took it as a great compliment; and he heartily thanked them not only for drinking his health, but also for their favourable verdict as to his working of the ritual as Installing Officer. They might remember that last year, in that hall Bro. Pamment made them a very amusing speech, in the course of which he said "they could not all be canaries, and he was content to be a sparrow." He (Bro. Smith) certainly for himself was not content to be a sparrow, and felt almost sure their W.M. would be a canary. He (Bro. Smith) had worked for the honour, reputation, and welfare of the lodge, and their continued kindness to him, and the handsome Past Master's jewel they had that day presented him with, made him feel that, at least, in their eyes, he had not worked in vain.

Bro. T. Butt, in responding for "The Past Masters," was delighted to hear that the finances of the lodge were in such a good state, and was proud to be one of its Past Masters.

Bros. Roberts, Sweeting, Lawson, and Hobson also responded.

After several other toasts, the proceedings, which were most harmonious, terminated.

The singers were Miss Nellie Roberts, Miss Jessie Phillips, Bro. J. Ireland, and Messrs. Wilkes and Hengler, whose contributions added much to the pleasures of the evening.

De Grey and Ripon Lodge, No. 1161.

The regular meeting was held on Wednesday, the 19th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, when the following were present: Bros. J. Scholfield, W.M.; Walter Cockerham, S.W.; J. T. C. Blackie, J.W.; J. Islam, P.M., Treas.; S. Richards, Sec.; J. Brownhill, S.D.; A. C. Bentley, J.D.; Buckley Carr, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., D.C.; E. E. Huntley, Org.; S. Dixon, I.G.; G. J. Critchley, Stwd.; S. L. Lewis, P.M.; R. Dottie, P.M.; E. Loebell, P.M.; O. M. Jones, P.M.; J. M. Moss, P.M., P.D.G.S.B.; J. R. Ashworth, P.M.; James Burgess, P.M.; A. Oughterson, C. J. Balls, Peter Smith, and J. R. Fletcher, Tyler.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Messrs. A. Griffiths and J. W. Whalley, which

proving unanimous in their favour, they were initiated by Bros. John Schofield, W.M., and O. M. Jones, P.M. The ceremony in each instance was performed in a most admirable manner. The working tools were ably presented by Bro. J. T. C. Blackie, J.W., and the charge after initiation was rendered most impressively by Bro. Walter Cockerham, S.W. Bro. Peter Smith was then raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by Bro. J. M. Moss, P.M., P.D.G.S.B., in his usual effective style, after which the lodge was closed.

The brethren then adjourned to the social board, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to.

The harmony of the evening was contributed to by Bros. Buckley Carr, O. M. Jones, E. Loebell, S. Richards, Walter Cockerham, J. R. Ashworth, and Peter Smith.

Isle of Axholme Lodge, No. 1482.

On Tuesday, the 18th instant, the above lodge celebrated their annual festival, when Bro. Joseph H. Lee was duly installed W.M. The brethren assembled in lodge at 2.30 in large numbers, and a very large contingent of visiting brethren from Thorne, Scunthorpe, Goole, Howden, Chesterfield, Doncaster, Todmorden, and other places was present. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Thos. Staniforth, P.M., P.Z., P.P.S.G.W., whose impressive and perfect style has gained for him high repute throughout the county. He was assisted by Bros. Langbridge, M. R. J. Behrendt, J. Hemingbrough, W. Burtonshaw, and J. Franks. Bro. H. L. Burtonshaw, P.P.G.O., presided at the organ. The anthem was beautifully rendered by Bro. Robinson, 458, Goole. After the ceremony of installation the newly-installed W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. J. Franks, I.P.M.; A. W. Cundall, S.W.; Mark Dawson, J.W.; W. J. Constable, Chap.; T. Staniforth, Treas.; W. Burtonshaw, Sec.; J. Hemingbrough, D. of C.; M. W. Renton, J.D.; H. L. Burtonshaw, Org.; J. G. Barratt, I.G.; J. Turner, Std. Br.; and G. Naylor, Tyler. After the investiture of the officers, Bro. Staniforth, in a carefully and well-thought-out speech, spoke of the splendid manner in which Bro. Franks had presided over the lodge during the past year. He had been firm in administering the business of the lodge, yet he had shown kindness, courtesy, and liberality to all. Now that he had vacated the chair his officers who had served under him felt it their duty to reciprocate his kindness. He (Bro. Staniforth) had been deputed by the W.M., officers, and brethren to present to Bro. Franks a beautiful Past Master's jewel in gold, as a token of esteem, and hoped he would live long to wear it. He would like to see it become an established rule for every I.P.M. to receive a Past Master's jewel. Bro. Franks thanked Bro. Staniforth for his kind remarks, and the brethren for their kindness. He had only done his duty and what he promised at his installation. He should place a very high value upon the splendid jewel presented to him. He thanked those old Past Masters for the great support they had rendered him, and hoped they would do the same to his successor, Bro. Lee.

The brethren then adjourned to the Oddfellows' Hall, where a splendid banquet was awaiting them. Nearly 40 brethren partook of the tempting and recherche repast provided by Bro. Cranidge, of the Darby and Joan Hotel. Hostess Cranidge is noted for her superior catering, and on this occasion it was beyond all praise. The arrangement and management were perfect, and luxury and style characterised every department. Bro. Cranidge was highly complimented.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured. The whole of the ceremonies were gone through in perfect and harmonious style, for the D.C. being Bro. J. Hemingbrough, who is a past master in the art of skilfully pioneering through the paths of both duty and pleasure.

The brethren who contributed vocally were Bros. Bolton and Robinson, Goole; Hainsworth and Turner, Doncaster; and Scholey and Renton, Crowle. Bro. H. L. Burtonshaw presided at the pianoforte. Bro. Lee was congratulated on his first and happy meeting.

The following were present: Bros. J. Franks, W.M.; W. S. Scholey, I.P.M.; J. H. Lee, S.W., W.M. elect; A. W. Cundale, J.W.; J. Constable, P.P.G.O.; Chap.; T. Staniforth, P.P.G.W., Treas.; C. Fox, Sec.; M. Downson, S.D.; M. W. Renton, I.G.; H. L. Burtonshaw, P.P.G.O.; W. Burtonshaw, P.P.G.P.; and J. G. Barratt. Visitors: Bros. J. W. Hanby, 207S, P.P.G.S.; R. J. Swaby, W.M. 207S, P.A.G.P.; W. Langbridge, P.M. 2078, P.P.G.S. of W.; W. T. Tippett, 2373; P. Richardson, 207S; H. Whitehead, 219; T. W. Turner, W.M. 242; J. W. Hainsworth, J.W. 242; J. Acaster, Stwd., 2259; J. Robinson, P.M. 458, P.G.P.; W. Boulton, I.P.M. 458; R. Alcock, W.M. 458; J. Greenwood, Sec. 458; E. Timm, S.W. 458; G. J. Hunt, 458; W. Coulson, 458; and J. Law, 458.

Lebanon Lodge, No. 1326.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Railway Hotel, Feltham, on Saturday, the 15th inst. There were present Bros. A. Russell, W.M.; Gordon de Lacy Larner, S.W. and W.M. elect; J. C. Goslin, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; F. Dunstan, P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; Robertson, P.M., P.A.G.D.C.; Laurence, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; Bailey, P.M.; Adams, Alderman, Bainbridge, Brooke, G. Brown, Buxton, Childe, Collett, Coulthard, Evans, Harris, Holland, Lewis, Little, Scargill, Tait, Trinder, Wardrop, and others. There were also present 26 visiting brethren.

The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, after the transaction of other business, the installation ceremony was proceeded with. Bro. Gordon de Lacy having been installed as W.M., appointed and invested the following as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. W. J. Burton, S.W.; A. F. Holland, J.W.; J. C. Goslin, Treas.; F. Dunstan, Sec.; T. W. Alderman, S.D.; L. C. Brooke, J.D.; J. Parry, I.G.; J. Coulthard, D.C.; F. Trinder, Org.; C. Elderfield R. T. Adams, and J. Evans, Stwd.; and J. Gilbert, Tyler.

After the presentation of a Past Master's jewel to Bro. Russell, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a choice banquet, which was splendidly served by Bro. H. P. Harris (the proprietor of the Hotel).

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly proposed and responded to, and a most pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent.

Doric Lodge, No. 2695.

PRESENTATION OF PORTRAIT TO BRO. T. WOODS, I.P.M., PROV. G. TREASURER.

The ordinary monthly meeting of the Doric Lodge, No. 2695, took place at the Masonic Hall, off Victoria-avenue, Harrogate, on Friday, the 21st instant. This lodge, as its number shows, is a recent addition to the Grand Lodge roll, and is the 81st on the list of the Province of West Yorkshire. Consecrated on the 22nd March of last year, it made a vigorous start in the race of life, and has since steadily maintained its position. Its inception and progress are largely due, as we showed in our report of the very interesting proceedings at the time, to the energy and ability of its founders. Prominent amongst these was Bro. Thomas Woods, *facile princeps amon' st his brethren*, who was selected to bear the responsibility of occupying the chair as first Worshipful Master. Supported though he was by a band of some five or six Past Masters, who had assisted as founders in the formation of the lodge, Bro. Woods, himself a P.M. of the St. James' Lodge, No. 448, Halifax, might well have shrunk from undertaking so onerous a *rôle*; but there was no hesitation in Bro. Woods; he cheerfully placed his services at the command of his brethren, and faced the position. The success, which from its commencement has crowned his efforts, affords the fullest justification for the choice of the brethren. In addition to making him Worshipful Master, he was also elected Charity Member for his lodge; and, largely through his exertions, the Doric Lodge has signalised its advent by its generosity in the cause of Masonic Charity. After a year of assiduous application to duty, during which many new members were added to the roll, Bro. Woods, on the 23rd March last, retired from his position, and brilliantly finished off a brilliant year by installing his able and experienced successor, Bro. Walter Davey. In recognition of his services, the province, at its annual meeting in April, unanimously elected Bro. Woods Prov. G. Treasurer. The brethren of the Doric Lodge not, however, content with this, wished to mark their own appreciation, and decided to present him with a life-size portrait of himself. This was done on the 21st inst., and, naturally, evoked very much interest. It was a proud position for Bro. Woods, for he was not only surrounded by his Doric brethren, but was supported by old Masonic friends from the lodge in which he had first filled the chair. The Province of West

Yorkshire, too, ever ready to give honour where it is due, was not backward in recognising the importance of the occasion, for the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Richard Wilson, P.G.D. Eng., accompanied by other Prov. G. Officers, graced the meeting by his presence.

It was, as we have said, an ordinary meeting, and comprised Bros. W. Davey, W.M.; T. Woods, Prov. G. Treas., I.P.M.; J. B. Griffiths, S.W.; F. H. Ingle, J.W.; O. Threapleton, Chap.; J. M. R. Smeatham, Sec.; Wesley Petty, S.D.; F. R. Paull, I.G.; T. Hargreaves, P.M., D.C.; Max Blume, P.P.G.O., Org.; H. Walker, E. Davies, and R. Falshaw, Stwds., and H. A. Holmes, Tyler. Other members of the lodge included Bro. W. H. Wainhouse, P.M., P. Hird, F. Dowson, H. Carter, and E. Gearing. The visitors were Bros. Richard Wilson, P.M. 289, P.G.D., Dep. Prov. G. Master; C. Letch Mason, P.M. 304, P.P.G.W.; T. Lawrence, P. Dist. G.W. Madras; Charles Scriven, P.M. 1211, Prov. G.I. of W.; John Barker, P.M. 1102, P.P.G.I. of W.; H. Robertshaw, P.M. 448, John Dyson, P.M. 306, C. J. Rhodes, and Thos. Hewson, P.P.G.Ds.; Joseph Matthewman, P.M. 1010, P.P.A.G. Sec.; T. Robertshaw, P.M. 1211; Rupert Sykes, W.M. 448; T. Linskell, I.P.M.; A. T. Bacon, P.M. 1211; and B. H. Benson, P.M., P.P.G.D.

The lodge was opened at 6.45, after which the Dep. Prov. G. Master and Prov. G. Officers entered. The minutes were read and confirmed and Bro. Norton Carter, in the usual course, was passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft. The working tools were explained by Bro. W. H. Wainhouse, P.M., and the charge was most carefully delivered by the Junior Warden, Bro. F. H. Ingle. On resuming in the First Degree, the W.M. explained briefly the circumstances which gave rise to the idea of presenting a portrait to Bro. Woods and invited the Dep. Prov. G. Master, Bro. Richard Wilson, to undertake that duty. The picture it must be explained, is a fine life-size portrait in oil and represents Bro. Woods in Masonic clothing. The jewel on the collar is that of a W.M., but that upon the apron is a Past Master's emblem. This is to indicate that though Bro. Woods at the time he sat, was W.M. of the Doric, yet in an older lodge (St. James, 448) he was also a Past Master. The artist, we were informed, was J. T. White, of London. The painting is enclosed in a handsome gilt frame, which bears a plate with the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. Thomas Woods by the brethren of the Doric Lodge, No. 2695 (of which he was first W.M.), as a token of esteem and regard as well as in appreciation of his untiring zeal and ability in discharging the duties of his office."

Bro. Richard Wilson, in making the presentation, said how much pleasure it gave him to rise at the wish of the W.M. on so interesting an occasion. It was his first visit to the Doric Lodge in his new capacity as Dep. Prov. G.M., and he was delighted to find that in the youngest lodge in the province good work and honest zeal were recognised and rewarded. He considered the portrait was a speaking likeness, and he hoped it would speak to Bro. Woods, constantly reminding him of services rendered, yet still calling him to further effort; that it would show to his friends the appreciation in which he was held by his brethren in Freemasonry, and that it would bear witness to his family that Bro. Woods, by his diligence, courtesy, and industry, had gained the honour, the respect, and the affection of his brethren both in Harrogate and elsewhere. Bro. Wilson concluded by wishing Bro. Woods all happiness, and expressing the hope that he would long live to contemplate that special mark of his brethren's esteem.

Bro. Thomas Woods was most warmly received on rising to reply. He asked the brethren to extend indulgence to him, as he was in a position of no little embarrassment. He admitted that in the formation of the Doric Lodge, and in its supervision and government during a very critical period of its history—its first year—he had honestly striven to do his best. It was true that that best might not amount to great things, yet when a man puts forth all his energies, when he honourably tries by every means in his power to carry out a good and noble work, then on his retirement he can, at least, feel that he has satisfied his conscience and fairly done his duty. When, however, to that inward feeling of satisfaction, as in this case, there was added the outward manifestation of appreciation which had been shown that day, then he thought such man might be pardoned if he felt somewhat overcome. The gratification which was his experience at that moment, he would add, was largely enhanced by the fact that the presentation of that mark of his brethren's goodwill had been made in the presence of many of his old and valued friends who had come from a distance to witness it, and that moreover in terms of which anyone might justly be proud of hearing applied to himself. He could only thank his Doric brethren for their gift, his comrades of past days for their countenance and sympathy, and the Deputy for the kind way in which he had made himself the spokesman of all.

After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed, and the brethren and visitors adjourned to supper.

This was a most pleasant function and heartily enjoyed by all.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed.

To that of "The Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy, and the Officers of Prov. Grand Lodge," Bro. Richard Wilson made an interesting reply, describing the position of the province as he found it and suggesting various matters which appeared to meet with approbation. The speech was not without humour and the speaker was loudly applauded.

"The Health of Bro. W. Davey, W.M.," was also most cordially given and received.

It is clear to any visitor that the Doric Lodge abounds in vitality and under careful and judicious management will give a highly satisfactory account of itself.

Royal Arch.

Lion and Lamb Chapter, No. 192.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 19th instant, at the Cannon-street Hotel. Present: Comps. F. Hughes, M.E.Z.; H. Birdseye, P.Z., as H.; William Baker, J.; F. D. R. Copestick, S.E.; D. Ringrose, S.N.; John G. Robeson, P.S.; T. Cohu, P.Z., D.C.; G. Couchman, Janitor; W. Haynes Dunn, P.Z.; W. T. Fisher, C. G. Diamond, G. Wetton, J. Collins, and J. Miller.

The chapter was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The brethren whose names were down for exaltation being unavoidably detained, the next business was the election of a companion to occupy the chair of H. (vacant by the regretted resignation of Comp. T. W. Fisher), and the vote was unanimous in favour of Comp. William Baker, J.

The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to dinner, under the genial presidency of the M.E.Z., Comp. Hughes.

In responding to the toast of "The Past Principals," Comp. Birdseye said that it was with very great regret that the health of his old and esteemed friend Comp. Geo. Kenning did not improve so rapidly as he could wish, and he was sure the companions present would join him in the fervent hope that T.G.A.O.T.U. would soon restore him to his usual health and strength, and the society of his companions of the Lion and Lamb Chapter.

Comp. Copestick proposed, and Comp. Cohu seconded, that the spontaneous and very feeling remarks of Comp. Birdseye be recorded on the minutes, as representing not only his, but the heartfelt feeling and desires of all present.

Pattison Chapter, No. 913.

The installation meeting of the above flourishing chapter took place on Thursday, the 20th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Mount Pleasant, Plumstead, when Comp. Isaac Turton was installed as M.E.Z.; Comp. J. O. Cook, as H.; and Comp. Dr. E. Bryceson, M.D., as J. Comp. A. Penfold, P.Z., P.Z. 13, P.Z. 1472, P.G.H., was the Installing Officer. Comp. W. Russell, P.Z. 820, P.G.S.B. Eng., P.G. Treas., assisting in the Scriptural portion, and we need hardly say that in their hands the working was most masterly and perfect. The following officers were invested: Comps. H. J. Butter, P.Z., P.P.G.P.S., S.E.; W. H. Turton, S.N.; A. Penfold, P.Z., P.Z. 13, P.Z. 1472, P.G.H., Treas.; W. Busbridge, P.S.; B. Hammond, 1st A.S.; J. D. Brooks, 2nd A.S.; H. Mason, P.Z., P.P.G.P.S., D.C.; R. J. Cook, P.Z., P.P.G.R., and E. Carter, Stwds.; and C. Warren, Janitor. Comp. S. Horton, I.P.Z., was presented with a handsome P.Z.'s jewel. Comp. Penfold was saluted as P.G.J., and accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his services as Installing Officer, and then the chapter was closed.

The banquet was partaken of at the Royal Mortar Hotel, opposite the principal gates of H.M. Royal Arsenal, Beresford-square, Woolwich, and was *chic*. Among

the other companions present were Comps. C. Coupland, P.Z., P.A.G.D.C. Eng., P.P.G.J.; E. B. Hobson, P.Z., P.P.G. Org.; W. Campbell Taylor, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B.; G. F. Taylor, P.Z.; G. R. Nichols, P.Z., P.A.G.S.E.; C. Jolly, P.Z. (Hon.), P.Z. 1472, P.Z. and Scribe E. 2184, P.P.G.S.B. Essex; E. M. Taylor, J. Stratton, G. Frost, Major J. J. Murphy, D. C. Capon, L. Chasteanuf, Z. Kettley, F. Hoare, A. S. Saunders, A. Moore, D. K. Summers, H. Vicars, R. Warren, P.Z. 13, 1437, 1472, P.P.G.P.S. Essex; and C. Hind, P.Z. 1837, P.P.G.S.B.

In putting the toast of "Earl Amherst, Grand Superintendent of Kent," the M.E.Z. said they had very recently had an opportunity of seeing the admirable manner in which his lordship conducted the business of their Grand Chapter; a manner that he felt sure must have impressed itself upon their memories, and every word that was said in his lordship's praise on that occasion, or what might be said that evening, was worthy of their acceptance, and not a whit too much for the hearty interest his lordship took in the progress of Freemasonry, especially the Royal Arch, in the Province of Kent.

Comp. Penfold, in response to the toast of "The Prov. Grand H. and J., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers," in the course of a long and interesting speech, said that the possession of the office of P.G.J., that he had the honour to hold, was lately left to be settled between himself and Comp. Butter, and they agreed that their good friend's wife, Mrs. Butter, should act as arbitrator, and she decided that he (Comp. Penfold) should be the selected one for the honour. So far as the office was concerned, there was no great amount of work attached to it, although it might be that he should have to give the oration, should there be a new chapter consecrated in the province. He thanked them, and on behalf of the Prov. Grand Officers he could assure them that they would one and all do their best for the benefit of the province.

Comp. Butter added to the above remarks that their Grand Superintendent had told him that their recent Prov. Grand Convocation at Plumstead was one of the most pleasant functions he had ever attended, and should look back upon it as one of the best ever held in the province.

Comp. Horton said it was now his privilege to propose the toast of "The M.E.Z." He felt that he had just vacated a grand and honourable position, but was gratified to know that the office was now in the hands of one who was a better Mason than himself. ("No, no.") Well, one who would, by good work and genial ruling, keep them and the chapter together, and even bring it to a higher state of prosperity than it now occupied.

Comp. Turton, in his reply, said his remarks would be very brief. In the first place, he desired to thank them most heartily for their kind reception of the toast of his health. They might safely take it from him that he should do all in his power to reach up to the position that Comp. Horton had achieved. If he did that he should, indeed, be pleased. He did not remember a year in that chapter that had been a more successful one than the one just passed, and if he had such a prosperous year he should have reached the height of his ambition. They had two candidates to start the year with, and he sincerely trusted that they might have many more good and true Masons to follow. He asked them to support him in such a manner that at the end of his year of office they would be enabled to say both of him and the chapter, "Well done." It had been said in his hearing that the position he now held was the highest a Mason could attain. For himself he was a great lover of Masonry and had a very great respect for its ritual. The Greeks of old prayed to an "unknown god," but they, as Royal Arch Masons, felt that they were nearer to the "Great I Am," and were, by the exercise of the ritual and working of their officers, getting nearer and nearer to the truth, and that great secret which only a future state would enable them to understand and appreciate. He impressed upon every member of the chapter to endeavour to do his best in bringing good Masons who were not members of the Royal Arch into its folds and so nearer to the sublime principles taught in it, while, at the same time, they would be raising the chapter to the position it once occupied, both in numbers and quality, as the premier chapter in the Province of Kent.

Several other toasts followed, and a grand selection of vocal and instrumental music was given under the direction of Comp. Horton, the artistes being Mrs. E. Bryceson, who sang splendidly. Bros. R. Fowler and J. Ireland also contributed. Comp. Horton and his daughter and son, Miss Gladys and Mr. Lionel Horton, played respectively the violin, piano, and cello, and each can play either instrument grandly, so that the whole affair was pleasurable and will long be remembered as "Turton's year."

Farringdon Without Chapter, No. 1745.

The installation meeting of this chapter was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 26th ult. Among those present were Comps. Murphy, M.E.Z.; F. P. Weinel, First Principal elect, H.; H. B. Marshall, J.P., C.C., Second Principal elect, J.; Major T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C., S.E.; W. D. Webb, S.N.; the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, 1st A.S.; T. L. Pewtress, 2nd A.S.; Dr. J. W. Hinton, P.Z. 84, P.P.G.O., Asst. Org.; and T. Simpson, P.Z. Among the visitors were Comps. T. Snelling, P.Z.; H. Whitney, H.; and J. N. Sherin.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the S.E. installed Comp. Weinel as M.E.Z., Comp. Marshall as H., and Comp. Webb, J. Comp. Evenden, P.Z., was elected Janitor, *vice* Comp. Mallett, P.Z., deceased. Among the officers invested were Comps. Major Walls, S.E.; the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, P.S.; T. L. Pewtress, 1st A.S.; Dr. Hinton, Asst. Org.; and Evenden, P.Z., Janitor. The investiture of Comps. Newell, S.N.; H. J. Lardner, P.Z., Treas.; and Dr. E. M. Lott, P.G.O. Eng., Org., in consequence of their unavoidable absence, was postponed. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Principal. A Past Principal's jewel was presented to Comp. Murphy. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. G. Newell, S.N.; H. J. Lardner, P.Z.; Dr. Lott, P.Z.; J. Young, P.Z.; G. Herbert, P.Z.; T. S. Plummer, P.Z.; and others. The chapter was then closed.

A banquet followed, at which the M.E.Z. presided in a most genial manner.

The I.P.Z. submitted the toast of "The First Principal." In the course of his remarks he mentioned the fact that Comp. Weinel had distinguished himself greatly as an exponent of the Craft rituals. He had been for many years a Preceptor in a lodge of instruction, and no doubt if opportunities presented themselves would shine equally as well in the Royal Arch Degree.

The M.E.Z., in reply, expressed himself as being highly honoured by being elected their First Principal. The chapter was a small one, but it possessed several excellent workers. He could not hope to equal their efforts, but he would endeavour to discharge his duties creditably, and to the satisfaction of the members.

The toasts of "The H. and J.," "The Visitors," "The Past Principals," "The S.E. and Treasurer," and "The Officers" followed in quick succession.

The response of Comp. T. Simpson as a Past Principal was full of point and humour.

During the evening Comp. the Rev. R. C. Fillingham gave an interesting account of his recent visit to the Principality of Montenegro, and his adventures there.

Obituary.

BRO. PHILIP DAKERS.

The Australian papers record the proceedings at the funeral of the late Bro. Philip Dakers, who died at the residence of Mr. C. Everett, Wayville, on Tuesday, June 6th. It took place on the following Wednesday afternoon, when a large number of his many friends followed his remains to the Payneham Cemetery. The mourners present at the graveside were mostly brethren in Freemasonry, Bro. Dakers having been a shining light in the ancient Craft, and a true and trusted friend. Brethren of nearly all ranks in the various Masonic Orders attended, including members of the Blue Lodges, the Grand Lodge, Mark Masonry, Royal Arch, and Knight Templary. The burial service was conducted by Bro. the Rev. F. Slaney Poole, M.A., Past G. Chaplain in the Grand Lodge of South Australia, assisted by Bro. the Rev. W. A. Swan, the present Grand Chaplain. Around the grave were many distinguished Freemasons. Those present included Bros. the Hon. J. G. Jenkins, M.P., Commissioner of Public Works, Dep. G.M.; J. H. Cunningham, G. Sec.; A. M. Simpson, Past Dep. G.M. and President of the Board of General Purposes; M.

V. Adams, Grand Inspector of Lodges; T. J. C. Hantke, Past S.G.W.; R. McMichen, S.G.W.; Jasper Bee and R. K. Thomson, G.Ds.; E. Frinsdorf, G.D.C.; and other Grand and Past Grand Officers. The Lodge of Harmony, of which the deceased brother served for two years as Master, was represented by Bros. C. R. J. Glover, W.M.; W. B. Caw, P.M.; T. H. Atkinson, P.M.; A. W. Marshall, P.M.; J. Lambert, jun., the Master elect; S. M. Sutherland, E. J. Bradley, and others. The Adelaide Mark Lodge was represented by Bro. Fred Johns, Dep. W.M.; the South Australian Royal Arch Chapter by Comps. J. P. Jones, First Principal; W. Brindal, and others; the Duke of Leinster Lodges—Blue and Mark—by Bro. J. P. Bickford, Town Clerk of Glenelg; Commercial Lodge, by Bro. H. Conigrave, W.M.; Lodge of Faith, by Bro. James Shakespeare, W.M.; and Great Northern Lodge, Petersburg, by Bro. T. Edwards, W.M. Others present were Bros. S. H. Good, P.M.; J. Sanders, P.M.; R. Patfull, P.M.; A. Myers, P.M.; A. Simpson, P.M.; J. Robillard, E. Johns and D. T. Lawes. One of his latest Masonic acts was to assist at the ceremony of the installation of the Right Hon. Sir Samuel Way, Bart., as Master of the Adelaide Mark Lodge. In Freemasonry he was one of the most prominent and active members, having been connected with the Craft uninterruptedly for over 36 years. He was initiated in the Lodge of Harmony, Adelaide, in 1862, on the same night as the present Grand Master of the Colony, Bro. the Right Hon. Sir Samuel Way. Prior to the formation of the Grand Lodge of South Australia, in 1884, Bro. Dakers held prominent offices under the Dist. Grand Lodge of England, his last office under that Grand Lodge being that of Dist. G. Treasurer. Under the Grand Lodge of South Australia he filled several high offices with conspicuous ability, including those of Senior and Junior G. Warden and G. Inspector of Lodges. During his residence in England he was a member of several lodges, and obtained a distinguished position there. He was one of the founders of the Royal Leopold Lodge, No. 1669, and, after filling the chair, was Treasurer for many years. During the Queen's Jubilee of 1887 he was one of the Stewards appointed in connection with the Benevolent Funds of the Grand Lodge of England, and was a Steward of the Girls' School, one of the great Masonic Charities in England. He was also one of the founders and Past Masters of the Kintore Lodge, No. 333, in Mark Masonry in England, and held office in the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Middlesex. In South Australia he filled the highest offices in the Royal Arch Chapter, was associated with the Supreme Grand Chapter, and also with Knight Templary. In April, 1898, Bro. Dakers was made the recipient of a handsome cheque from the brethren in South Australia on the occasion of his departure to take up his residence in Victoria. The presentation was made at the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, and in handing over the testimonial the Grand Master remarked of Bro. Dakers: "The lustre of his services in England spread from the metropolis to various parts of the country. His service for the Craft in South Australia forms part of the history of Freemasonry in this colony. . . . As a Grand Officer at Masonic functions my old comrade and friend has by his presence and assistance helped me very much. . . . We shall ever remember his sterling, manly Masonic character." The cause of death was paralysis.

HOLIDAY RAILWAY FACILITIES.

MIDLAND RAILWAY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY.—On Bank Holiday, August 7th, and on the previous Saturday, certain booked trains will be discontinued, of which due notice will be given by special bills at the stations. For the convenience of the public the Midland Railway Company have arranged that the Booking Offices at St. Pancras and Moorgate-street Stations shall be open for the issue of tickets all day on Friday and Saturday, August 4th and 5th. Tickets to all principal stations on the Midland Railway will also be obtainable beforehand at their City and Suburban Offices. Cheap excursion trains will be run from London on Friday night, August 4th, to Stirling, Perth, Aberdeen, Inverness, &c., for 4 or 10 days, and to Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dumfries, Castle Douglas, Ayr, &c., for 4 and 10 days, by which trains third-class return tickets will be issued at a single fare for the double journey, available for 16 days. Cheap excursion tickets will be issued from London (St. Pancras) to Dublin, Belfast, Londonderry, &c., and excursion tour tickets to the North of Ireland on Friday, August 4th. (See bills for times, fares, routes, &c.) On Saturday, August 5th, a cheap excursion train will be run to Birmingham, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Leicester, Nottingham, Melton, Burton, Derby, Manchester, Liverpool, Blackburn, Bolton, Preston, Wigan, Blackpool, Rochdale, Oldham, Bury, the Furness District, Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, Barnsley, Keighley, York, Hull, Scarborough, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle, Carlisle, &c., &c., for three or six days. On Monday, August 7th, day trips will be run from London (St. Pancras) to Southend-on-Sea, St. Albans, Harpenden, Luton, Bedford, and Kettering; a one, two, four, or five days' trip to Birmingham; and a two or five days' excursion to Manchester. Tickets for these trains for starting from St. Pancras Station can be obtained on the two days previous to the running of the trains at the above-named Offices. Cheap season excursion tickets are now issued each Saturday, until September 30th, from London (St. Pancras) to Matlock, Buxton, Liverpool, Southport, Blackpool, Lytham, St. Anne's-on-Sea, Scarborough, Bridlington, Whitby, Morecambe, Lancaster, the English Lake District, &c., available for passengers to return in either 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days, and to the Isle of Man on Friday nights and Saturday mornings for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days. Fortnightly excursions to Northallerton, Richmond, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle, and Berwick will be run on alternate Fridays, from August 4th to September 29th inclusive, leaving St. Pancras at 8.30 p.m., and affording facilities for 4, 10, or 16 days' stay. Cheap week-end tickets are issued every Friday and Saturday from London (St. Pancras) and other principal Midland stations to numerous seaside and inland holiday resorts, including the "Peak" District of Derbyshire, Yorkshire, the North-east Coast, Morecambe, Dumfries, Ayr, Kilmarnock, Glasgow, Greenock, Melrose, Edinburgh, Perth, Dundee, Aberdeen, &c. The tickets are available for return on the following Sunday (where train service permits), Monday, or Tuesday, and those issued on August 4th and 5th will be available for return up to Wednesday, August 9th. Cheap excursion trains will be run to London on Saturday, August 5th, from Birmingham, Walsall, Wolverhampton, &c., for three, four, or seven days; and from Carlisle, Keighley, Bradford, Leeds, Barnsley, Sheffield, Liverpool, Manchester, Blackburn, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Rochdale, Burton, Derby, Lincoln, Nottingham, Leicester, &c., for six days; also from Liverpool, Southport, Warrington, &c., for three days. Passengers will be booked by these trains at cheap fares to Brighton and other South Coast stations for 8, 12, or 15 days. On Monday, August 7th, cheap day excursion trains to London will be run from Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, Bedford, Luton, St. Albans, &c. For holiday companions, travellers cannot do better than secure copies of the new publications which have just been issued by the Midland Railway Company. The books may be obtained at any Midland station or agency.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY announce that on Friday night, August 4th, and each alternate Friday until September 29th (for 4 and 10 days), cheap excursions will leave London (Woolwich (Arsenal and Dockyard), Greenwich (S.E.), Victoria (L.C. and D.), Ludgate-hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross (G.N.), &c.), for Northallerton, Darlington, Richmond, Durham, Newcastle, Alnwick, Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Perth, Dundee, Oban, Fort William, Aberdeen, Inverness, and other stations in Scotland. Passengers holding four days' tickets return on Tuesday following date of issue, and those holding 10 days' tickets return on Monday following date of issue. Tickets at a Single Fare for the double journey will also be issued by above excursions to places named, available for return on any day within 16 days, including days of issue and return. On Saturday, August 5th, cheap fast excursions will also leave London (Woolwich (Arsenal and Dockyard), Greenwich (S.E.), Victoria (L.C. and D.), Ludgate-hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross, &c.), for the principal stations in Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire, Lancashire, Yorkshire, and North Eastern Districts, returning on 7th and 10th August. Cheap excursions will also be run to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, and Mablethorpe, on Saturday, August 5th, for one, three, or four days; Bank Holiday, August 7th, for one day; and to Skegness only on August 8th for one day; from Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross, Finsbury Park, &c. On Bank Holiday, August 7th, cheap day excursions will be run to St. Albans, Hertford, Wheathampstead, Harpenden, Luton, Dunstable, Hitchin, Baldock, Royston, Cambridge, Biggleswade, Sandy, Tempsford, St. Neots, Huntingdon, and Peterboro', from Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's-cross (G.N.), &c. The cheap week-end tickets usually issued each Friday and Saturday will also be issued on Friday, August 4th, and Saturday, August 5th, returning on Sunday, August 6th (if train service admits), Monday, August 7th, Tuesday, August 8th, or Wednesday, August 9th, except tickets to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, Mablethorpe, Woodall Spa, Cromer, Sheringham, North Walsham, Mundesley-on-Sea, and Yarmouth, which are available for return on day of issue, or any day up to and including Wednesday, August 9th (if train service admits). To prevent inconvenience from crowding at the company's principal terminal station, King's Cross, tickets, dated in advance, will be issued at King's Cross (G.N.R.), Victoria (L.C. & D.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, and suburban stations. Tickets available from Woolwich and Greenwich can be obtained from the Great Northern agent, 7, Beresford-square, South Woolwich, and Thornton House, South-street, Greenwich, respectively.

BANK HOLIDAY RAILWAY FACILITIES.—The Great Western Railway Company issue ordinary as well as excursion tickets at their principal City and West-end Offices, and this arrangement is probably never so much appreciated as during the week preceding the Bank Holiday, when large numbers of people avail themselves of the opportunity thus afforded for obtaining tickets at their own time and without the crowding and worry inseparable from a large railway station at holiday seasons. The fares charged are the same as at Paddington. The following are the offices at which tickets are issued, viz.:—193 and 407, Oxford-street; 181, Tottenham-court-road, W.; 53, New Oxford-street; Gloucester Mansions (10, Cambridge-circus), Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.; "The Piazza," Covent Garden; 269, Strand; 26, Regent-street, S.W.; 29, Charing-cross; 17, Brompton-road; 4, Holborn-circus; Nag's Head-yard, 137, Borough High-street, E.C.; 118, Minories, E.; 5, Arthur-street East, London Bridge, E.C.; 82, Queen Victoria-street; 67, Gresham-street; 4, Cheapside; and at the L.B. and S.C. Company's Excursion Office (under Grand Hotel), Trafalgar-square. Tickets can also be obtained at Clapham Junction; Kensington (Addison-road); Uxbridge-road; Hammersmith, and other stations. The booking offices at Paddington Station will be open for the issue of tickets on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, August 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th, and the tickets issued (except those for specified excursion trains) will be available for use on any of those days. To meet the expected additional traffic by the ordinary trains on Saturday, August 5th, the Company will run in duplicate the 11.45 a.m. and 3.0 and 9.0 p.m. trains from London to the West of England, the 4.45 and 6.50 p.m. trains to the North, and the 12.0 noon train to Weymouth, Hereford, and South Wales. The first portion of the 11.45 a.m., 3.0 and 9.0 p.m. trains will leave Paddington at 11.38 a.m., 2.55 p.m., and 8.55 p.m. respectively, but the first portions of the other trains will leave at the advertised times, and the second a few minutes afterwards, the long distance passengers being as far as possible taken in the first portion, but with a few exceptions both trains will stop at the advertised stations to take up and set down passengers. Fast excursion trains leave Paddington every Wednesday for Shrewsbury, Aberystwyth, Dolgellau, Barmouth, Llandudno, &c.; and at midnight every Wednesday for Cardiff, Swansea, &c.; every Thursday for Clevedon, Taunton, Tiverton, &c., and at midnight for Chester, Liverpool, &c.; every Thursday and Friday night to Weston-Super-Mare; every Thursday, Friday night and Saturday, to Dawlish, Teignmouth, Falmouth, Penzance, and other resorts in the West of England; every Thursday and Saturday, to Bridgwater, Minehead, Torquay, Kingsbridge, &c.; every Friday, to Newbury, Devizes, &c., and at night to the Scilly Islands; every Friday and Saturday, to Savernake, Marlborough, &c.; every Friday night and Saturday, to Exeter, Plymouth, &c., and to Douglas (Isle of Man); every Friday and Monday, to Swindon, Stroud, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Hereford, &c.; every Saturday, to Frome, Yeovil, Dorchester, Weymouth (for the Channel Islands), Lynton, Lynmouth, Ilfracombe, Launceston, &c.; and every Saturday and Monday, to Bath, Bristol, &c. Cheap Half-day Excursions are also run every Monday (except August 7th), to Maidenhead, Marlow, Aylesbury, &c.; every Tuesday, to Abingdon, Oxford, and Blenheim and Woodstock; every Wednesday, to Reading, Newbury, Marlborough, Devizes, &c.; and every Thursday, to Stratford-on-Avon, Banbury, and Leamington. Passengers are booked every Saturday to Guernsey and Jersey, via Weymouth, and the short sea passage to the Islands by the trains leaving Paddington at 8.50 a.m. and 9.45 p.m. Third-class return tickets, available for a fortnight or less, are issued at a fare of 2s. 6d. There is now a daily Daylight Service from Weymouth to Guernsey and Jersey in addition to the night boat. On Wednesday, August 2nd, an excursion will run to Cheltenham, Worcester, Malvern, Hereford, &c.; on Thursday, August 3rd, to Cork and Killarney; on Friday, August 4th, to Stratford-on-Avon, Crewe, Manchester, Waterford, Killarney, Belfast, Giant's Causeway, &c.; and at midnight to Cardiff, Swansea, Oxford, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Chester, Birkenhead, Liverpool, &c.; on Sunday, August 6th, to Gloucester, Cheltenham, Weston-super-Mare, Exeter, Dawlish, Teignmouth, Torquay, Plymouth, &c.; and at midnight to Oxford, Leamington, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, &c. On the Bank Holiday Excursions will run to Reading, Goring, Swindon, Bath, Bristol, Weston-super-Mare, Gloucester, Cheltenham, &c. Excursions will be run to London from most of the principal stations, and cross country trips have also been arranged. Cheap tickets are issued daily from London and many suburban stations to Staines, Windsor, Taplow, Maidenhead, Henley, Goring, Wallingford, and other riverside resorts. These tickets can be obtained during the whole of the Summer month. The train service to and from the riverside stations has also been considerably improved.

AMONG THE MINISTERS who attended the Cabinet Council, which was held on Monday, were Bros. the Right Hon. A. Akers-Douglas, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, the Earl of Halsbury (Lord Chancellor), Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, (Chancellor of the Exchequer), the Duke of Devonshire, Lord George Hamilton, the Right Hon. W. H. Long, Sir M. White Ridley, and the Right Hon. C. T. Ritchie.

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Masonic and General Tidings.

BRO. LORD NORTON and the Hon. Misses Adderley have gone to Hams Hall, Birmingham.

BRO. THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF ATHOLL have left Eaton-place for Blair Castle, Blair Atholl.

BRO. AND THE HON. MRS. ROCHEFORT MAGUIRE and the Hon. George Peel have left London for South Africa.

BRO. LORD GEORGE HAMILTON, M.P., who is staying at Deal Castle, is reported to have benefited considerably by his residence at the seaside.

BRO. THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF ABERCORN and the Ladies Hamilton left town on Wednesday for Baron's Court, Newtown Stewart, co. Tyrone.

KENNING'S C.C. v. ACTIVE C.C.—Played at Hackney on Saturday last, resulting in a win for the former. Scores—Kenning's 90 for eight wickets; Active, 45.

THREE VESSELS of the Italian naval squadron, under the command of Admiral Carlo Marchesi, are expected at Southampton about the 10th prox. Every arrangement is being made to give the visitors an enthusiastic reception.

ON WEDNESDAY EVENING the following bulletin was issued at Walmer Castle: "The Marchioness of Salisbury passed a very good day. There has been a rise of temperature, but the strength is well maintained. (Signed) H. R. Walker."

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES will arrive at Cowes to-day (Friday) in the Royal yacht Osborne, which will take up her moorings in the roadstead. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught and family will pay a visit to Her Majesty to-morrow (Saturday).

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY left Claremont on Tuesday morning, on a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Tarleton, at Breakspears, Harefield, near Uxbridge. An address of welcome was presented to her Royal Highness by the Parish Council, in honour of her first visit to the district.

DR. CONAN DOYLE'S play "Halves" will conclude its summer season at the Garrick Theatre on Friday evening, August 4th, and resume its successful career the first week in September. The last matinee for the present will take place on Wednesday afternoon next, August 2nd.

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG is to open the new buildings of the Royal National Hospital at Ventnor. The Queen was expected to perform the ceremony, but it has been intimated to the authorities of the institution that the journey from Osborne and back would involve too much fatigue for her Majesty.

PRINCE CHRISTIAN OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN has arranged to leave England for Germany to-morrow (Saturday) night, travelling from Victoria by the Flushing boat train. Princess Christian, accompanied by Princess Victoria, left Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Park, on Monday, on a visit to the Queen at Osborne.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES left Victoria Station on Monday afternoon for West Dean Park, Chichester, as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. James. His Royal Highness was attended by the Hon. Sidney Greville, and was received at the station by Mr. J. F. S. Gooday, manager of the line, Mr. Wright, Mr. Palmer, and other officials of the Brighton Company.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK, attended by Lady Eva Dugdale and Sir Charles Cust, left Victoria Station on Monday afternoon, on a visit to the Duke of Richmond and Gordon at Goodwood House, Chichester, for the race week. Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, with Major Martin in waiting, travelled by the same train. The Duke of Cambridge left Victoria early in the day for Bramber, attended by General Albert Williams, and joined the party at Goodwood House on Tuesday.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES was represented by Bro. Lord Suffield, and H.R.H. the Princess of Wales by Lord Colville of Culross at the funeral service which was held for the late Cesarewitch on Wednesday morning in the Russian Chapel in Welbeck-street. Major-General Sir Francis de Winton was present on behalf of the Duke and Duchess of York. The Princess of Wales, Princess Victoria, and Princess Charles of Denmark, attended a similar service at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, Sandringham.

BARONESS BURDETT-COUTTS and Bro. Burdett-Coutts, M.P., gave a largely attended garden party at Holly Lodge on Tuesday afternoon, in furtherance of the work, especially for prisoners and in workhouses, of the Church Army. Among those present were the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos and Bro. Earl Egerton of Tatton, the Countess of Chesterfield, the Countess of Bective, Susan Countess of Malmesbury, the Countess of Oxford, Lady Conyers, Viscountess Sherbrooke, Lord and Lady Colchester, Lady Laurence, Lady Wynford, Sir Francis de Winton, the Dowager Countess of Dundonald, Sir William and Lady Broadbent, and others.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES, attended by Miss Knollys, paid a visit to the London Hospital on Saturday afternoon last. Her Royal Highness was met at the Institution by the chairman, the matron, and Viscountess Knutsford, and then went into the receiving room, looked at the list of cases which had been treated that day (numbering over 300), spoke to several of the patients who were waiting to be treated, and was recognised at once by a poor fellow with a broken hand. The Princess afterwards went round several of the wards, including the Hebrew one, speaking to nearly every patient. The nurses' home was also inspected, and the new sitting room greatly admired. Tea was served in the garden which had just been opened for the nurses. On Monday the Princess left Marlborough House, accompanied by Princess Victoria, and attended by Sir Dighton Probyn, for Sandringham.

CONVEYANCE OF PERSONAL LUGGAGE OF PASSENGERS IN ADVANCE.—The Great Central Railway Company have considerably extended the arrangements adopted by them in 1898 for the collection, conveyance, and delivery of passengers' luggage in advance at 6d. per package. Previously the arrangements have been limited to the luggage of passengers travelling to seaside and other tourist resorts, but now the personal luggage of passengers is collected from any residence or hotel situated in the company's free collection boundary at places where they have their own cartage staff, forwarded in advance of the owner's journey, and delivered to any address within the company's free delivery limits, at places where the company deliver, at an inclusive charge of 6d. per package. At places where the company have no cartage staff, luggage brought to the stations will be forwarded and delivered, if so required, or left till called for, at the destination station, where the company do not undertake delivery. These extended arrangements also apply to the luggage of passengers travelling between Great Central stations and stations on the lines of many of the other railway companies. Further particulars are announced in the company's time tables and tourist programme, and can also be obtained on application at the company's stations.

BRO. EARL AND COUNTESS AMHERST have left Wilton-place for Scotland. THE DUCHESS OF ROXBURGH and the Ladies Innes-Ker have left town for Floors Castle, Kelso, N.B.

BRO. LORD AND LADY ASHBOURNE and the Hon. Misses Gibson have arrived in Dublin from town.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF FEVERSHAM and Lady Ulrica Duncombe leave to-day (Friday) for Duncombe Park, Helmsley, Yorks.

TUESDAY was the 39th birthday of the Duchess of Connaught, her Royal Highness having been born on July 25th, 1860.

THE QUEEN, on the recommendation of the Home Secretary, has appointed Bro. M. C. Buzzard, Q.C., to be Recorder of Leicester, in the place of the late Mr. A. T. Toller.

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG visited Carisbrook Castle on Saturday afternoon last, and opened a new gate, erected in the outer archway, as part of the castle memorial of her husband. Her Royal Highness afterwards presided at a meeting in the castle in aid of the Army Scripture Readers and the Soldiers' Friend Society.

ON BEHALF of the Corporation, the Lord Mayor (Bro. Alderman Sir J. V. Moore) and Lady Mayoress welcomed at the Guildhall on Wednesday evening an enormous concourse of members and supporters of the Wesleyan Conference. The State procession, led by the City Marshal and the Sword and Mace Bearers, entered the library at half-past seven, and for fully an hour a stream that seemed unending passed before the Chief Magistrate. Some 3000 invitations had been issued.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN, attended by Baroness von und zu Egloffstein and Major Evan Martin, distributed on Saturday last, in the Home Park, Windsor, awards and certificates at an exhibition of horticulture and handicrafts, under the auspices of the Prince Consort's Association for Improving the Condition of Labourers and others. These displays are only made every third year, and the present was a notable one, inasmuch as the 50th anniversary of the association's establishment is fast approaching.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES was present on Saturday last at a meeting of a Standing Committee (Natural History) of the Trustees of the British Museum, and afterwards presided at a general meeting of the Trustees, and took part in the annual visitation. His Royal Highness, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of York, was present in the afternoon at the athletic sports of the Oxford and Cambridge v. the Harvard and Yale Universities at Queen's Club. The Hon. S. Greville and the Hon. D. Keppel were in attendance.

THE DUKE OF WESTMINSTER on Saturday presided over a meeting of the executive Committee of the National Memorial to Mr. Gladstone, when there were also present Earl Spencer, the Earl of Crewe, Mr. Burt, M.P., Mr. J. G. Talbot, M.P., and the honorary Secretary, Captain Sinclair, M.P. It was reported that the subscriptions received and promised now amounted to £32,455. The offices of the memorial have been removed from 84, Mount-street, to Grosvenor House, Upper Grosvenor-street, W., to which latter address all communications should be addressed.

THE EARL OF COVENTRY presided at the last monthly meeting of the council of the Royal Agricultural Society before the autumn recess, when among those present were Bro. Earl Egerton of Tatton, Viscount Bridport, Lord Brougham and Vaux, Lord Arthur Cecil, Bro. Lord Moreton, Sir Walter Gilbey, Sir John Thorold, Sir Nigel Kingscote, Sir Jacob Wilson, and others. A suggestion, made by H.H.R. the Prince of Wales, that a number of zebra hybrids, bred by Professor Cossar Ewart, should be exhibited at the society's meeting at York in 1900, was adopted, and instructions were given for the requisite arrangements to be made.

IN ACCORDANCE with annual custom, the First Commissioner of Works has sent to the Lord Mayor warrants for four bucks, to the Sheriff three, and to the Recorder, Chamberlain, Town Clerk, Common Serjeant, and Remembrancer one each. They are addressed to the Keeper of Bushey Park. Similar warrants for does are issued in December. These gifts had their origin in the early privileges granted to the citizens of London in which their hunting were secured to them. There is extant in the British Museum an original warrant to Sir John Gedeney, Lord Mayor in 1428, giving him two fat bucks from Eltham Park and four from Windsor, and it bears the signatures of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, and six other members of the Privy Council.

OFFICIAL GUIDE—LONDON TO SOUTHEND, CLACTON, MARGATE, YARMOUTH, &c., BY THE BELLE STEAMERS.—This guide will be found to contain a lucid and interesting account of the principal places and objects on land and water, seen by the passenger during the journey. The book, it will be observed, is well illustrated with photographic views, and the map on pages 14 to 23, which has been specially prepared for this work, shows the exact route of the steamers to Yarmouth and Ramsgate, and gives the correct mileage and the position of every buoy and lightship. The Belle Steamers provide a quick, cheap and pleasant means of reaching not only Greenwich, Woolwich, Roserville and Gravesend, but the many pretty resorts on the Essex and Suffolk coast, which are growing so rapidly in popularity. The Belle Steamers are all fine vessels, admirably appointed, and commanded by men of great experience.

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