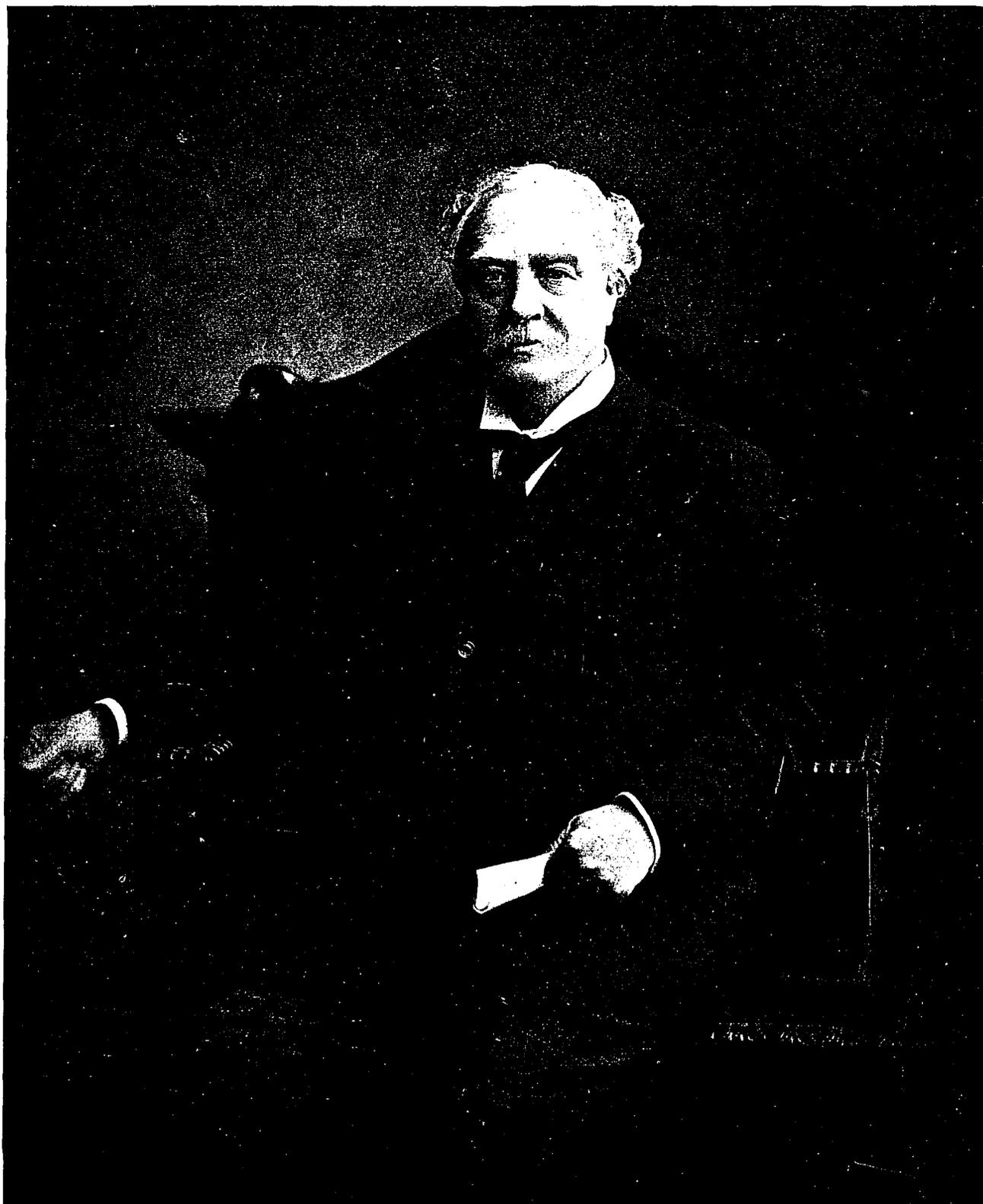


THE
MASONIC ILLUSTRATED
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*R. W. Bro. Lord Allerton,
Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire,
Chairman at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.*

The Province of Surrey.

SOON after the publication of the "Book of Constitutions" in 1723, there were many applications for the constitution of new lodges, not only in the Metropolis, but also in the neighbouring counties, and still further from London. To look after country lodges it was found necessary to appoint Provincial Grand Masters, and thus Provincial Grand Lodges were started from the year 1725. As to these important changes and others consequent upon the extension of the Grand Lodge, the valuable "History of Freemasonry," by Bro. R. F. Gould, should be consulted.

The first Provincial Grand Lodge started was for Cheshire, followed soon by South Wales (1726), Warwickshire (1728), Shropshire (1731), Durham and Northumberland (1734), with others abroad, beginning with Bengal



BRO. FREDERICK WEST, P.G.D.,
DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER IN CHARGE.

(1728). Several were constituted in 1770-2, Surrey dating from the year 1772, when Bro. Thomas Parker was appointed the premier Provincial Grand Master. There were not many lodges to superintend at that time, and apparently no records of the period have been preserved.

Bro. Parker, of Puttenham and Hampton Lodge, was one of the Grand Stewards in 1772, Senior Grand Warden in 1775 (when the foundation of Freemasons' Hall was laid), and was a very regular attendant at Grand Lodge. He was one of the earliest to subscribe to the Freemasons' Hall Fund, his first donation of five guineas being acknowledged in 1773, and he subsequently helped the scheme so bountifully that on the 28th November, 1787, the thanks of the Grand Lodge were "given to him and the Lodge of Emulation for the liberal and generous present of their subscriptions." Such subscriptions towards the Hall were

in the form of loans, but when the time for payment arrived quite a number of them were presented to the Grand Lodge. An illustration of the special medal which was given to those who lent the sum of £25 or more will be found in the MASONIC ILLUSTRATED for August, 1902, under "The Province of Cornwall."

According to the interesting preface to the invaluable "Masonic Calendar and Directory for the Province of Surrey, 1903" (edited by Bros. C. T. Tyler, Provincial Grand Secretary, and W. A. Lathom, Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary), Bro. Parker was a member of the Lodge of Friendship, No. 3 (now No. 6); the Somerset House, No. 219 (which amalgamated with the celebrated lodge, now the Royal Somerset House and Inverness Lodge, No. 4, in 1774); and the Royal, No. 251, which joined the present Royal Alpha Lodge, No. 16, in 1824. "A brick tomb on the south side of Seale Church records his decease on January 22nd, 1792, aged sixty-seven years."

His successor was Bro. James Meyrick, F.R.S., of Wimbledon, who was Treasurer of the Board of Grand Stewards in 1783 (having the Hon. Washington Shirley as President), and appointed Junior Grand Warden in 1784 by H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland, M.W. Grand Master. Like his predecessor, Bro. James Meyrick was a generous donor to the Freemasons' Hall Fund, and with his brother, John Meyrick, S.G.W., in 1795, were prominent members of the Grand Lodge. His death occurred in 1818.

The third Provincial Grand Master (appointed by H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, M.W. Grand Master) was the Right Hon. Frederick John, Baron Monson, of Burton, in the county of Lincoln, and of Gatton Park, in the county of Surrey, who was installed on 10th June, 1837, in the Masonic rooms of the Surrey Lodge, "White Hart" Hotel, Reigate. One of the Grand Secretaries attended, and the Right Hon. the Earl of Mexborough, Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, and other distinguished brethren, were present in honour of the occasion.

Lord Monson (the fifth Baron) was the third initiate of the Apollo University Lodge, Oxford, in 1828, and was a founder and first Worshipful Master of the Surrey Lodge, No. 416, which was warranted 4th January, 1834, by H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, M.W. Grand Master. His lordship was installed as Worshipful Master, on the 15th of the same month, in the presence of Lord Mexborough and other officers of the Grand Lodge.

It is stated in the preface to the Calendar previously mentioned, that "while his health permitted, the third Provincial Grand Master of Surrey laboured unceasingly as its chief. His Masonic as well as literary attainments were considerable, and his hospitality at Gatton was proverbial. He was a staunch supporter of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement."

At the Grand Royal Arch Chapter on 25th April, 1832, being a special convocation, the Most Noble James, Marquis of Abercorn, and the Right Hon. Frederick John, Lord Monson, on the nomination of H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, Grand Z., seconded by the Right Hon. Lord Dundas, Grand H., were balloted for and elected; their "exaltation" taking place at a quarterly convocation of the Grand Chapter on 2nd May, 1832, with the Most Noble, the Marquis of Salisbury, K.G., who had previously been elected. This was a noteworthy event, and the only one of its kind since the Union of the two Grand Chapters in 1817.

After the decease of Lord Monson in 1841, the province was placed in charge of the Grand Registrar (Bro. Thomas Henry Hall) until Bro. Alexander Dobie became the Provincial Grand Master in 1847, by appointment of the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W. Grand Master. Bro. Dobie, who was installed at Chertsey on June 29th of that year, had the distinction of serving in many offices in Grand Lodge, having been Junior Grand Deacon (accord-

ing to the Grand Lodge Calendar) in 1838, President of the Board of General Purposes from 1842 to 1848-9, Grand Registrar from 1846 to 1856-7, and again President of the Board of General Purposes from 1854 to 1856-7; besides being Provincial Grand Master of Surrey, 1847, to his resignation in 1871. His death occurred in 1876, after an eventful Masonic life, extending through one of the most trying experiences of Grand Lodge, when sound judgment



BRO. FRANK HOLME SUMNER,
PAST PROVINCIAL SENIOR GRAND WARDEN.

was much needed. It is not many Provincial Grand Masters who can say of their constituency, "in the province, unanimity and brotherly love and esteem have prevailed ever since my appointment, for I have never had a single complaint of any description to investigate, which no other Provincial Grand Master can boast of, during a period of nearly twenty-five years (23rd January, 1873)." He was then in his sixtieth year as a Freemason, having been initiated in Mother Lodge Kilwinning, No. 0, Scotland, in November, 1813. His resignation was accepted with regret, and a piece of plate was presented to Bro. Alex. Dobie by the Provincial Grand Lodge "as a genuine mark of esteem and regard."

General J. Studholme Brownrigg, C.B. (Senior Grand Warden in 1858), succeeded in 1871, and his installation took place under the banner of the Surrey Lodge, Reigate, on April 27th, 1872. The Calendar states that "Twenty-three lodges and eight chapters were consecrated" during his tenure of office, and the Provincial Grand Master also presided over the Annual Festivals of the Benevolent Institution in 1883 and the Girls' School in 1886. His death occurred so recently as 1889, when the province was placed in the charge of that good friend to the Craft, locally and generally, Bro. Frederick West, F.R.G.S., P.G.D., the esteemed Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

Colonel Gerard Noel Money, C.B., was the sixth Provincial Grand Master from 1891, but his decease occurring only within four years after his installation, again left the province without a ruler-in-chief, but this time for a brief period only, as the Right Hon. the Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G., High Steward of Guildford, was installed as the seventh Provincial Grand Master in that city on July 9th, 1895, by the late Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., the Pro Grand Master. His Masonic *Alma Mater* was the Apollo University Lodge (as with so many other Provincial Grand Masters), having been initiated at Oxford in 1871, and was Senior Grand Warden in 1880. This distinguished nobleman felt compelled to resign the appointment owing to his numerous

public engagements, when Colonel John Davis, F.S.A., Dep. G.D.C. (1888), was selected as his successor, being installed by Lord Onslow at Surbiton on November 24th, 1900. The tribute to his worth and the general expectation that was formed of his distinguished future cannot be better summarised than in the words of the preface to the Calendar of 1903: "Everything seemed to betoken a protracted period of usefulness in the numerous walks in life in which he had attained distinction, but to the general sorrow, his death occurred after a brief illness on the 7th of July, 1902." His initiation occurred in Glasgow in 1858, and he served as Worshipful Master of Nos. 33, 197, and 1971; besides being a founder of No. 2140, and a joining member of the Royal Alfred, No. 777, Guildford. For another brief term the Provincial Grand Lodge is under the able management of Bro. Frederick West, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and will be until the installation of Bro. the Hon. Sir Thomas Townsend Bucknill, known officially as Mr. Justice Bucknill, Judge of King's Bench Division of the High Court, who has been appointed to the oversight of the province by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, M.W. Grand Master. Undoubtedly, a more popular appointment as Provincial Grand Master could not be made, so there is a very bright future before the province under the genial and capable presidency of such a worthy and distinguished brother.

The ninth Provincial Grand Master was initiated in the Lodge of Good Report, No. 136, London, in 1869, and in 1873 was elected as its Worshipful Master. He also joined the Lodge of Friendship, No. 6, and the Old Westminster, No. 2233, as well as becoming a founder and first Worshipful Master of the Ebbisham Lodge, No. 2422, Epsom, in 1892, and Provincial Junior Grand Warden of Surrey in the following year. The Hon. Mr. Justice Bucknill was the third brother appointed to the office of Deputy Grand Registrar of England in 1895, an honour followed in 1899 by his promotion to the Past rank of Junior Grand Warden.

Some twenty-five brethren on the roll of the Province of Surrey are Grand Officers, beginning with the Earl of Onslow as P.S.G.W., and ending with Viscount Cranley, P.M. 1395 (son of his lordship), now the Junior Grand Warden.



BRO. CHARLES T. TYLER, PROVINCIAL GRAND SECRETARY.

The really old lodges chartered for Surrey have all passed away, which is much to be regretted, as there are none now on the register which date before the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England in 1813. The senior of the extinct series was warranted in the year 1733 in Southwark, London, but was removed to the "Castle" Inn, Market Place, Kingston-on-Thames, in 1736. Its connection

with the Province of Surrey, however, soon ceased, as this No. 123 was to be found at the "King's Arms," Great Wild Street, London, in 1738, and some seven years later was removed from the roll. Another lodge at Kingston-on-Thames was held at the same "Castle" Inn by virtue of a charter of 1768, and was numbered 420. It lasted long enough to obtain a second number (356) in 1770, but five years afterwards was erased.

The Royal Mecklenburg Lodge, which was started in London in 1763, was for over twenty years domiciled at the "Bricklayer's Arms," High Street, Croydon, having been transferred from the "Barley Mow," Piccadilly, to that tavern in 1784. After patronising the hosts of the "White Lion" and the "Green Dragon," the year 1809 saw its last appearance on the list as No. 170. It was 199 previously (*i.e.*, before 1792), whilst at Croydon.



BRO. W. A. LATHOM, PROVINCIAL ASSISTANT GRAND SECRETARY.

On the plea of "never say die," or some other reason, a second attempt was made at Croydon. This time it was a re-issue, apparently, of a warrant for a London lodge, started in 1766 at the Haymarket, but lapsed about 1775; so its fortunes were tried anew in 1783. The members began well with a good name, the "Patriotic," and the meetings were held at the "Greyhound" Hotel, High Street, Croydon, the number being 245 on the roll. In 1792 it took the number 206, and at the "Union" received 258, but even three different numbers failed to keep it active, so it was erased in 1822, having made no payments since 1813. A summons of the "Patriotic" is preserved of the year 1785.

Reigate was selected as the abode of the Holmesdale Lodge of Freedom and Friendship, as No. 456, in 1784, but its life was very brief, having, in 1798, as No. 368, to succumb to the unalterable rule of "no pay, no privilege," so disappeared from the register.

The St. John's Lodge, No. 631, Guildford, represented a new departure, compared with those previously constituted, as it was assigned the extinct warrant of No. 78, Norwich, erased in 1809, which was formed in that city in 1748, but was originally held in London (1737). This was due to the Act of Parliament of 1799, which was supposed to provide for those lodges only on the roll in that year. The new charter was dated 1812, and though the brethren managed to hold on long enough to secure a position in the enumeration of 1814 as No. 638, and still worked on for a bit, they finally retired from the scene in 1827, dispirited and defeated.

There are three lodges now in Guildford, *viz.*, the Royal Alfred, No. 777 (1859), and Nos. 2234 and 2858. It is a very curious fact, noticed in looking through the lamented

Bro. John "Lane's Masonic Records, 1717-1894," that the original number of the Royal Alfred, Guildford, in 1859, was given to a lodge at Guildford, Victoria, in 1865.

The "Ancients" did but little in Surrey. No. 272, which was established in the 45th Regiment in 1792, was transferred by endorsement as a civil lodge to Guildford in 1809, and certainly if names would have kept it alive, it had the best of chances, for soon after its opening in that town it was called the Trinity, then, in 1825, it was known as the Lodge of Economy, and in the following year it was changed to Equanimity; yet it was erased in 1838. A still older "Ancient" lodge met as a sojourner in Guildford in 1808, *viz.*, one held in the 7th Regiment of Light Dragoons as No. 262, altered to 331 in 1814, but warrant returned in 1824. Its stay in the town, however, was only for a few months, when it went to Dorchester, then Weymouth, and afterwards to Ireland. Bro. Gould's "Military Lodges" is the best work to study as to such charters.

A lodge which began at Epsom in 1770 as the Fortitude and Perseverance, at the "Fox," ended its days at the same tavern in 1800, having tried the virtues of the "Spread Eagle" in the interim, and obtained the numbers 401, 310-1 and 260, prior to its collapse.

In quite recent times the Studholme Lodge, No. 1591, which was constituted at Surbiton in 1876, was transferred to the Metropolis in 1881, where it remains as an active inhabitant.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey consists of forty-seven lodges, the senior of which—St. George's, Chertsey—was chartered in 1823, followed by the Grove, No. 410, Sutton, of 1832; the Surrey, No. 416, Reigate, being of the year 1834. These and the Frederick Lodge of Unity, No. 452, of 1838, with the Croydon Lodge of Concord, of 1839 (both being domiciled in Croydon), constitute the senior quintette, the next oldest being twenty years later in origin, *viz.*, the Royal Alfred, Guildford, No. 777, of 1859. A valuable history of No. 416, Reigate, was written by Bro. John Lees, and issued in celebration of its jubilee in 1884.

The province is in a prosperous condition financially, numerically, and generally, under the fostering care of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master (Bro. Frederick West, P.G.D.), the Provincial Grand Secretary (Bro. Charles T. Tyler, P.A.G.D.C.), and the Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary (Bro. W. A. Lathom, P.M. 410, &c.), with the other active members. One of the most complete and ably arranged of Provincial Calendars is published annually, under authority, by the Provincial Grand Secretary and the Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary as editors. The lodges with the brethren generally are generous supporters of the Central Masonic Charities, having over 10,000 votes to their credit; the Provincial Grand Lodge alone donating about £2000 during the last fifty years, in the early part of which period the province was but small; besides nearly £500 for other charitable purposes.

As was usual in previous years, so on Whit Saturday, the 30th May, the popular passenger steamers, "Royal Sovereign" and "Koh-i-noor," belonging to the New Palace Steamers Company, commence their sailings from London Bridge (Old Swan Pier) to Southend, Margate, and Ramsgate, at same times of sailing as last year, *viz.*, "Koh-i-noor" at 8.50 a.m. for Southend and Margate and back, and "Royal Sovereign" at 9.20 a.m. for Margate and Ramsgate and back, the fares will also be the same as before. The Company announces that during the past winter months the steamers have been thoroughly overhauled and all the Board of Trade requirements have been complied with and improvements made, so that the public may rest assured that everything possible has been arranged for their comfort. The Company also announce that they are prepared to offer specially reduced fares for parties of twelve and over, and party organisers will do well to write to the Company at their offices at 50, King William Street, E.C., for particulars of their trips before deciding on their excursion. The catering on board the steamers will be on the same liberal scale as hitherto, and worked entirely by the Company.

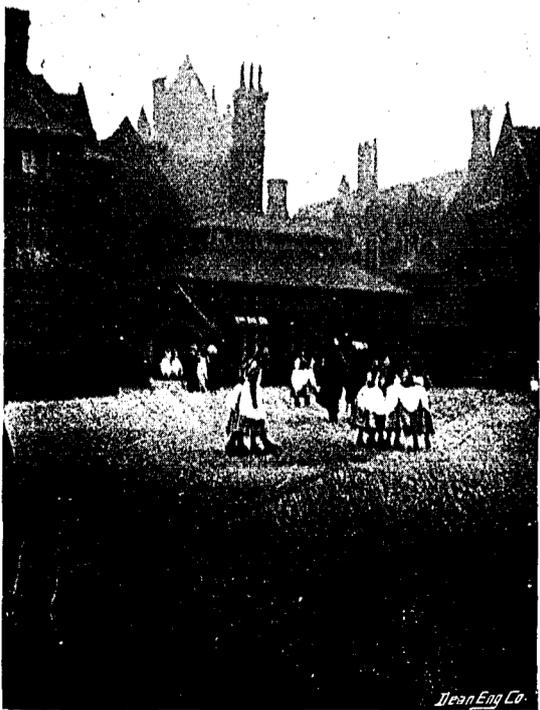
Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

THE Annual Festival of the Girls' School was held at Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, 13th May, Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Allerton, Provincial Grand Master for West Yorkshire, presiding. The capacity of the building was taxed to its uttermost to provide accommodation for the 700 ladies and brethren attending to support the Chairman and to testify to the sympathy and interest taken in the Institution.



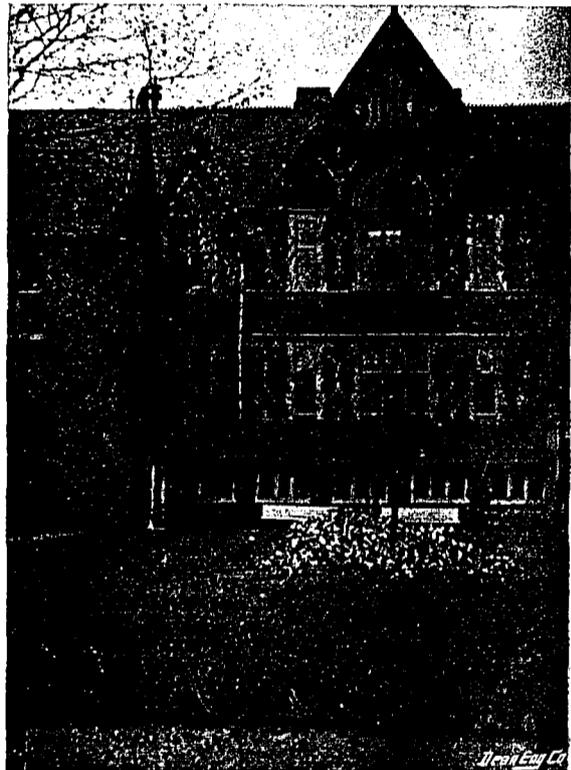
After dinner, the usual loyal toasts were given and enthusiastically received. These were followed by that of "The M.W. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught," and "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Lord Allerton, in proposing the toast of "Success to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls," said they were met that night on the 115th Anniversary of the Institution; therefore, it was a venerable and aged Institution, which he ventured to believe grew in respect the longer it lived. During its



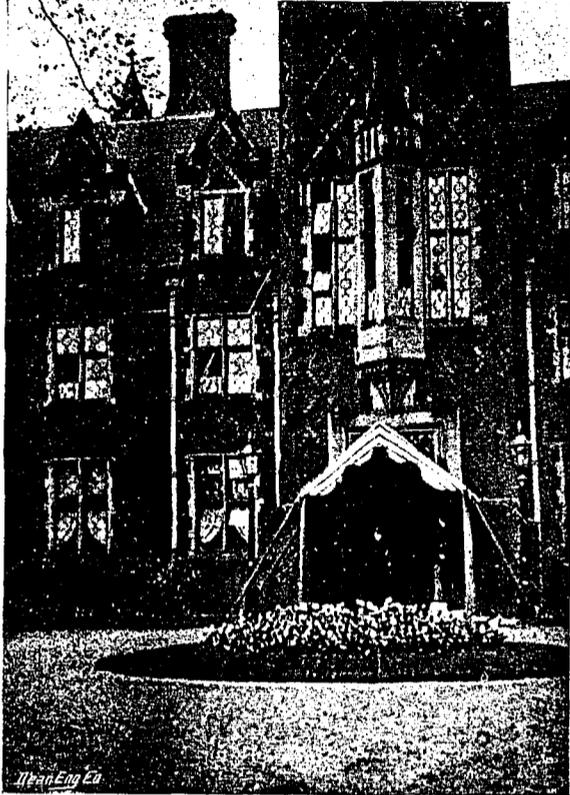
period of existence it had provided a sound and wide education for over 2080 girls. The standard of its education had always been high. At the same time it had always been of a practical character. That the standard has been high, he needed only to remind them that during the past fourteen years out of 460 girls who had entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations, 440 of them had passed. That was a testimony of the quality of the instruction which was given,

and that standard of quality was being maintained. During the year 1902, sixty-one entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations, and of the sixty-one, fifty-seven passed. That, he thought, was a plain and a conclusive answer to the question as to whether the work that was being carried on to-day was being maintained as regards its standard of quality. There was also an interesting feature which he thought it was well to note, and that was this, that all the resident staff of that Institution was made up of pupils of the Institution. Did it not, therefore, tend to emphasise the position when those results were produced under the guidance and care of those who have received their education in the Institution itself? The Institution for Girls would at all times, and under all circumstances, appeal to the hearts of Masons. There was, however, at this particular time, one little point which he thought it right to mention, which made the needs of the Institution and its claims on their benevolence a little more urgent than they had been for some years. As they were aware, the junior School had been carried on in buildings not built for the purpose and not adapted as they



should be for the purpose of instruction, and property had been acquired by the Board of Management, who had resolved upon the site of that property to erect a new building for the junior School, equipped with all the modern requirements which were best fitted to carry on the work. For that purpose they would want about £16,000. The total yearly expenditure was practically £25 per girl, which might be termed or deemed permanent. For the balance it had to rely upon yearly benevolence. That yearly benevolence had never failed it yet, and he did not think it ever would. He would say one word more, particularly, perhaps, to the brethren of the province over which he had the honour to rule. They were largely interested in that good work. They had at that moment from their own province twenty girls in that Institution, two of whom held positions in the Institution, many others had passed the examination of the Cambridge Local Examiners—some of them with honours and distinction. He would say, in conclusion, that he knew if he were asked what the two distinguishing characteristics of a Mason were, he should answer the question by saying that they were loyalty and benevolence, and those meetings publicly tested their loyalty as so expressed, and stimulated their benevolence. He had the advantage of going to see that admirable Institution on Saturday and witnessing the girls go through their calisthenics and other exercises, which were very

beautiful and graceful, and he would confide to them this secret, that if any of them ever felt disposed not to yield to the impulse of contributing to that Institution, he warned them never to go near it and see it. He did not mind who the man was who went there and witnessed those children looking so contented, so clean, so healthy, so happy, with the heartiest touch of sympathy which there is between the staff and the children, the obvious confidence between the children and



their teachers, if they let their mind and memories go back for a little while, and remembered that the fathers of those girls who often met within lodge under circumstances vastly different, he was quite certain that they could not resist the appeal that it makes to humanity by equipping them for the battle of life, with all the blessings of health and sense, he felt sure the Institution never need fear it would ever be allowed to fail. The impression left upon him by his visit to those children was that they were deeply indebted to the Board of Management, to the Matron, to the staff of



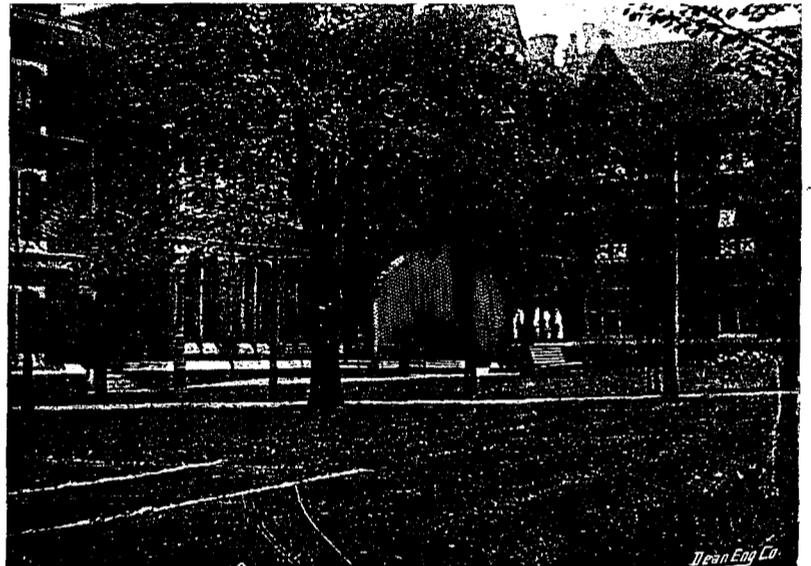
teachers of that Institution. He believed it to be one which was excellent in administration in itself. It was doing a great and a good work, and he commended to their care those girls, and asked them to join him in devoutly hoping that the Great Architect of the Universe would continue to keep them in His care and guidance.

Bro. Hedges then read the list of subscriptions, of which the following is a summary :—

226 STEWARDS—LONDON...	...	£ 8,740	8	6
653 STEWARDS—PROVINCES, &C....		16,293	1	6
		<hr/>		
879 STEWARDS—GRAND TOTAL ...		£25,033	10	0

Bro. Henry Smith, P.G.D., replied to the toast on behalf of the Treasurer, Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, who was engaged in discharging a similar duty to an institution having a prior claim on him. As a former Treasurer, he desired to convey his sincere appreciation and gratitude for the munificent support accorded to the Institution by the devoted services of the noble band of Stewards, to whom they were indebted for the splendid sum announced by the Secretary, whom, he was sure, they all rejoiced to see in improved health. He concluded by informing the brethren that the House Committee had been fortunate enough to secure the extremely valuable services of Bro. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., Provincial Grand Master of Cheshire, to preside at the Annual Festival in May, 1904.

"The Health of the Chairman" and other toasts followed, and the company then adjourned to the Temple, where, under the direction of Bro. Robert Dennant, an excellent entertainment was given.



The annual prize distribution took place the previous Monday, and much as there is in the varied doings of Freemasonry to call forth the best and most generous emotions of our nature, we doubt whether anything embraced under its far-reaching scope can compare with the genuine pleasure and satisfaction which a visit to the Girls' School evokes. This meeting was no exception to the rule, when the Hon. Mrs. Biddard, daughter of Lord Allerton, attended, accompanied by the Hon. F. S. Jackson, to present the prizes to the successful pupils.

The proceedings opened by Bro. Sir Edward Letchworth announcing that Lord Allerton, who had kindly undertaken to preside at the Annual Festival of the Institution on Wednesday, the 13th of May, was, in consequence of his having to attend their Majesties on their journey to Scotland, unable to be present on this occasion, but they were fortunate in having his lordship well represented by his daughter, the Hon. Mrs. Biddard, and by his son, Bro. Jackson, whose name was well known wherever the noble game of cricket was played.

The pupils then went through a well selected programme of music, as well as a display of calisthenics and marching, much to the delight of all present. The presentation of prizes then took place, the result of public examinations in 1902, and in this connection it is satisfactory to note that during the past fourteen years no less than 440, out of 466 entered, have passed the Cambridge Local Examinations.

At the close of the distribution, Bro. Sir Edward Letchworth proposed a cordial vote of thanks to Mrs. Biddard for having so kindly undertaken the duty of presenting the prizes. He was sure he expressed the feelings of all the children who had received the distinctions when he said they would always have pleasure in the remembrance that they had received the prizes at the hands of the daughter of the Grand Master of the province to which the Institution owed so much.

The vote was carried by acclamation.

The Hon. F. S. Jackson acknowledged the vote of thanks on behalf of his sister, who had desired him to express her satisfaction at the success of the pupils and the hope that

the success they had met with would attend them in the future spheres of life they might find themselves in when they left the School, in which hope he desired to include those who had not been successful in securing prizes.

The company then partook of light refreshments, and afterwards made an inspection of the buildings and grounds under the guidance of "Prefects." The Centenary Hall was the centre of attraction, and now that the stained glass windows in the lower alcoves have completed the scheme of decoration, the building presents a strikingly beautiful and noble appearance. These windows have been designed

and executed by Bro. Frampton, who also designed the whole of the heraldic windows above in the Hall, including the large windows presented by Grand Lodge. The general idea is for each window to represent an English poet, and by illustrating the poem it should form, in the beautiful medium of painted glass, an educational and artistic series of pictures, in the hope of encouraging the reading by the pupils of the works of the particular poet the window delineates. After the inspection the company listened to a selection of music, and the proceedings closed at seven p.m. with the National Anthem.

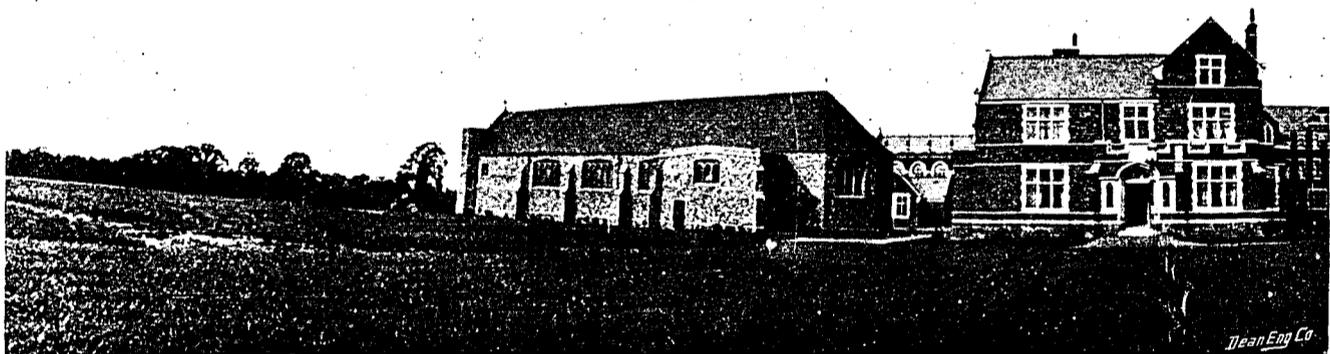
Consecration of the Chapel of the Boys' School at Bushey.

THE consecration of the chapel, the generous gift of Bro. Charles E. Keyser, P.G.D., took place on Tuesday, the 19th May, by the Bishop of St. Albans in the presence of a large gathering of brethren. After the consecration ceremony, the Bishop delivered an address, taking as his text a portion of the sixth verse of the fourth chapter of Joshua—"What mean ye by these stones?" After referring to the three occasions in the Book of Joshua, where there is a special significance given to stones which were raised as memorials in the history of the chosen people, he pointed out the lessons to be deduced. They were memorial stones of mercies, of covenant, and of brotherhood. As he looked at that goodly chapel that day, which, by the munificence of one of the Masonic body, had been raised to the honour and glory of God, he thought what that chapel would mean to the boys who would be trained there in the faith and fear of God. He seemed to see a repetition of the memorial stones of the Book of Joshua, and in them signs of a memorial of mercies, memorial of covenant, and memorial of brotherhood. When he saw the boys trained in that great School, he could surely appeal to them to look upon the walls of that chapel as a memorial of God's mercies to them in

In proposing the toast of "The King," Bro. Keyser said as Freemasons, they always honoured that toast, because they remembered his Majesty's services as Grand Master for twenty-five years, and they always associated his name as one of the greatest and best of Masons. His Majesty was also Grand Patron of the Institution, and they remembered the great occasion in 1898 when the Centenary was celebrated, when he took the chair, and £141,000 was added to the funds.

Bro. Keyser next proposed "The Health of the Lord Bishop of St. Albans," which he gave with all heartiness. They had heard of his great and good work in Newcastle, and they hoped that in St. Albans he would find a diocese equally congenial to his taste. They were honoured that that was the first great function since he was consecrated as Bishop, and they hoped it was a step he would never regret. He hoped they would show their appreciation of the Bishop's services by heartily drinking his health.

The Bishop of St. Albans, in reply, thanked them most cordially for the great kindness with which he had been received. He had only been at St. Albans since the previous Friday, and he knew yet but little of the county he hoped to



THE CHAPEL.

giving them that admirable training institution where they could be brought up in the faith and fear of God, and to be good citizens. When they entered the consecrated doors, they could thank God for the blessings vouchsafed to them, and they should let their gratitude be a life-long gratitude, and show it in their after life. That very afternoon he was to confirm some thirty boys who would renew solemnly their covenant with God before he laid his hands upon them with prayer. Confirmation was a renewal of a covenant with God, and he hoped those confirmed would look upon these stones as a memorial of that covenant. As a memorial of brotherhood, they could also look back upon the consecration of that chapel. Those boys trained in the School would never forget the feeling of brotherhood of their school life. Those feelings in after life would make life sweet until life should be swallowed up in the Eternity beyond.

The address was followed by the Holy Communion.

Bro. Chas. E. Keyser afterwards entertained the company at luncheon in the large hall.

know well. One of the pleasures he felt was that there were some good schools in it. As an old public school boy it pleased him to talk to boys. He rejoiced to have attended that day at such an admirable Institution. He could only give his personal thanks to Mr. Keyser for that beautiful chapel, and trusted it would be a real blessing to the School for all time.

"The Health of their kind-hearted Host" was next proposed by Bro. S. J. Attenborough. When the Institution, he said, was moved from Wood Green and they came to Bushey, Bro. Keyser said he would build them a chapel. A kinder thought never came to any man, for it had been the custom at Wood Green to hold their services in the Hall. In conclusion, Bro. Attenborough read a letter he had received from the Head Master, expressing his thoughts on the great benefit the chapel would prove to the Institution and the boys.

Bro. C. E. Keyser, P.G.D., said he rose with a certain amount of diffidence to reply. He believed the School was

one of the finest educational establishments throughout the world. He would have wished to have issued a larger number of invitations, but they could not accommodate more in the Hall. He wished to point out that, although their School was undenominational, the consecration of the chapel would make no difference in the School. The boys would have that elementary teaching which could not be harmful to boys of any denomination. At the next Festival he hoped to

celebrate his fiftieth Stewardship, and he wished to provide a sum of money to go into the ordinary coffers of the Institution, but sufficient to produce an income to maintain the chapel for all time. He thanked them all for their presence, and he hoped they would take an increased interest in the great Institution at Bushey, which they all had so much at heart.

A confirmation service was afterwards held, at which about thirty boys were confirmed.

Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Essex.

ON Thursday, May 14th, the Right Hon. the Earl of Warwick, Provincial Grand Master of the Mark Masons of Essex, visited Forest Gate, and held his annual Provincial Grand Lodge, under the banner of the West Ham Lodge, No. 467. The meeting took place at the Public Hall, Woodgrange Road, and was largely attended. The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed, the roll of lodges was called by the Provincial Grand Secretary, and all the eight comprising the province were found to be fully represented.

Bro. John J. C. Turner, P.P.S.G.W., presented the report of the Board of General Purposes and moved its adoption. The report showed that there was a slight increase in the number of Mark Masons comprising the province, and the accounts showed a satisfactory balance in hand. The motion was seconded by Bro. J. Ramsey, P.A.G.D.C., P.P.G.W., and unanimously carried.

The Earl of Warwick addressed the brethren, expressing his gratification that there was such a large gathering to support him on that occasion. Owing to increased calls on his time he had felt compelled to resign his position as Provincial Grand Master of Craft Masonry, but, as in the Mark Degree the lodges were less numerous, he had acceded to the wishes of the brethren that he should continue for a little longer to rule over them. He remembered that it was but four years ago since their province was constituted, and he felt gratified they were holding their own, and that their finances were in every way satisfactory. It was with regret he had to announce that Colonel Lockwood, who had succeeded him as Provincial Grand Master of Craft Masonry, had felt that the increase of Masonic work consequent on that position, as well as his Parliamentary duties, compelled him to resign his position as Deputy in the Mark Degree. In that emergency he had invited Colonel Ward, of

Dovercourt, to undertake the position, and from the large number of members of the Harwich Lodge who had come that day to support the gallant Colonel, he felt sure that the appointment would be a popular one, for if a man was popular in his own locality it was a pretty good indication that he would be popular elsewhere. In conclusion, Lord Warwick expressed the hope that the Masters of the various lodges would do all they could to promote the prosperity of the Order in their various localities.

He then installed Bro. Colonel Ward into his office, and he received the hearty plaudits of the brethren.

The election of four members of the Board of General Purposes then took place, and Bro. J. H. Salter, P.M. 145, was for the fifth time unanimously re-elected Provincial Grand Treasurer.

The Earl of Warwick then appointed the officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. Colonel W. J. Burgess, Prov. S.G.W.; Walter Fisher, Prov. J.G.W.; Frederick England, Prov. G.M.O.; W. H. Brough, Prov. S.G.O.; Captain Walter, Prov. J.G.O.; Canon Quennell, Prov. G. Chaplain; W. G. Blakemore, Prov. G. Registrar; Thos. J. Ralling, Prov. G. Secretary; W. J. Johnstone, Prov. S.G. Deacon; G. W. Pascall, Prov. J.G. Deacon; R. Clowes, Prov. G.D.C.; G. A. Harris, Prov. G. Swd. Br.; W. G. Puttick, Prov. G. Organist; Jas. Duffy, Prov. Asst. G. Secretary; J. T. Ward, Prov. G.I.G.; Wm. Hy. Allerton and Frank H. Avent, Prov. G. Stewards; and Arthur Wright, Prov. G. Tyler.

Between fifty and sixty brethren afterwards dined together at the Princess Alice Hotel, under the genial presidency of the Earl of Warwick.

In the absence of Bro. R. Clowes, through indisposition, the position of Director of Ceremonies was ably filled by Bro. J. P. Lewin, P.G. Std. Br., P.P.G.W.

The Citizen Lodge, No. 2911.

THE installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Cannon Street Hotel on April 27th, when Bro. H. Grimsdall installed his successor, Bro. W. Foxton, as Worshipful Master. The Worshipful Master appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Maurice Miroy, S.W.; W. J. Lodge, J.W.; the Rev. D. L. Scott, LL.D., Chaplain; J. H. Merritt, P.M., Treasurer; H. Grimsdall, P.M., Secretary and I.P.M.; J. Seaman, P.M., S.D.; W. F. Millmaker, J.D.; Maurice Garland, I.G.; C. B. Lumley, D. of C.; R. Bellew, Organist; W. B. Smith and C. H. Ellis, Stewards; and J. Ellis, Tyler.

At the banquet which followed, after the usual loyal toasts, the Worshipful Master proposed that of "The Grand Officers," which was responded to by Bro. G. Everett, P.G. Treasurer.

The I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The Worshipful Master," said, although the lodge had only been consecrated twelve months ago, it had made excellent progress, and he had been relieved of all anxiety as to the coming year by the election of the present Worshipful Master, who, he was sure, would carry out his duties worthily and well.

The Worshipful Master, thanking the brethren for their kind reception of the toast, said he could not agree that he would hand over the lodge in a better state than he received

it, that was impossible, but he would do his utmost to carry out his obligation. He compared the lodge to a baby just casting aside its long clothes and beginning to toddle alone. He did not measure their success by the number of initiates, but desired rather to go slow and sure. He then proposed the toast of "The Installing Master, Bro. Grimsdall," who had given them a splendid start, and he wished he could express all his merits. In presenting him with the first Past Master's jewel, he hoped he would live long to wear it and look upon it as a pleasant souvenir. He then asked him to present a Past Master's jewel to the Acting I.P.M., Bro. Goldstein.

Bro. Grimsdall said it was with pleasure he did so, and if he should go through another chair, he would not wish for a better I.P.M. He had been a pillar of strength. If he (Bro. Grimsdall) had been able to place the lodge on a firm foundation, it was only with the help of the brethren, who had all pulled together.

Bro. the Rev. D. L. Scott replied on behalf of the Past Masters.

The Worshipful Master next proposed the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge," which was acknowledged by Bro. Seaman. The Tyler's toast brought a pleasant evening to a close.

Thomas Ralling Lodge, No. 2508.

THE installation meeting of this successful Essex lodge, which bears the name of the popular and energetic Secretary of the province, was held at the Roebuck Hotel, Buckhurst Hill, on Saturday, April 18th. There was a large gathering of members and visitors, including some distinguished Grand Officers. The outgoing Master, Bro. Harvey Löhr, installed his successor, Bro. Charles Gough, into the chair in a very dignified and impressive manner, and the new Master invested his officers with equal credit. As this lodge is a stronghold of "Emulation workers," it would be superfluous for us to comment upon the excellence of the ceremonies.

At the banquet which followed, the usual loyal toasts were given and duly honoured. In proposing the toast of "The Grand Officers," the Worshipful Master reminded the brethren that they entered the same door in Masonry as those who held less distinguished positions, but by merit, ability, and zeal, they were elevated to the "purple." They were conservators of our landmarks, and their duty was to prevent innovation and all that might be detrimental to the best interests of the Craft.



BRO. CHARLES GOUGH.

The toast was acknowledged by Bro. Matthew Clark P.G.D. The enormous spread of Masonry, he said, had thrown great work upon Grand Lodge, and the multiplication of lodges presented a difficult question for the authorities to deal with, and as they went thoroughly into the merits of every application for a warrant for a new lodge, so should every lodge be equally careful in investigating the merits of every candidate before initiating him, and every Mason should emulate the sentiments of the first Master in the land, His Majesty King Edward VII., whom he had heard state twenty-five years ago, that his interest in Masonry commenced with his life and would only end with his death.

Bro. Thomas Ralling also replied, and said he had recently been reading statistics drawn up by some American brethren, in which it was stated that there were over 1¼ million of English speaking Masons. If that were so, and they but carried out the teachings of the Craft, what a powerful influence for good they would have in the world. He had great confidence in that influence, and believed that it would be a powerful factor in pacifying South Africa, and

in making our brethren among Boers understand us better, and desire to live in harmony with us.

In proposing the toast of "The Provincial Grand Master, Colonel Lockwood, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers," the Worshipful Master said it was under the reign of the late Provincial Grand Master, the Earl of Warwick, that not less than thirty lodges had been added to the province, and in Colonel Lockwood, their present Provincial Grand Master, they had a worthy successor. He was a gentleman, a soldier, and deservedly popular in his province.

The new Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Egerton Green, was a zealous and capable Mason, highly esteemed in the Craft. They also had a brother who had rendered excellent service to the province as Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies in the person of Bro. Lucking, and he was exceedingly grateful to him for having officiated as Director of Ceremonies at his installation. The Provincial Grand Secretary, after whom their lodge was named, had endeared himself to all by his tact and geniality, and the growth and prosperity of Masonry in the province was largely due to him. They had many Provincial Grand Officers among their own members, and hoped that by their conduct they would continue to deserve such honours.

This toast was responded to by Bro. Tull, P.P.S.G.W., who stated that the province was proud of the progress made by the Thomas Ralling Lodge, and of its present Master, whom he hoped would have a successful year of office. Bro. Percy Griffith, P.G.S., also replied.

The I.P.M., Bro. Harvey Löhr, proposed the toast of "The Worshipful Master," who, he was confident, was fully qualified, and would thoroughly uphold the magnificent traditions of the Thomas Ralling Lodge, and preserve its standard of ceremonial excellence for which the lodge was famed.

The Worshipful Master, in responding, said he felt the honour of his position, and the confidence they had reposed in him would not be misplaced. He was sensible of the fact that a Master's duty was not confined to the ceremonies, and he accepted with pleasure the responsibility they had placed upon him, and would use his utmost skill and ability to carry out every duty of a Master.

The Worshipful Master then proposed the toast of "The Immediate Past and Installing Master, Bro. Löhr," remarking that if every newly installed Master could feel that he had at his left hand such able support as Bro. Löhr was qualified to give him, he need have no misgivings about any assistance he might require. He had become a member of the lodge the same night as Bro. Löhr, and was proud to follow him who had done so much to elevate the lodge and who still placed his services at their disposal. It was with great pleasure he presented him with the Past Master's jewel voted by the members.

The I.P.M., in reply, said it was with mingled feelings of regret and satisfaction that he left the chair. He remembered many years ago when a student at the Royal Academy of Music, a feeling of contempt for a row of busts of dead and gone musicians which were exhibited on a shelf; after a while, however, he gazed upon them with very different feelings, realising that they represented all that was noblest and best in the history of music. The same might be applied to the row of Past Masters, who now realise what the Master of a lodge owes to his Past Masters, as they represent what is good and great in the past history of the lodge.

"The Visitors," responded to by Bros. S. S. Seal, J.W. 1261; Oliver Notcutt, S.W. 2986; and L. Stanley Johnson, S.W. 453; and "The Past Masters," acknowledged by Bro. Charles Lewis, P.P.G.D. Essex, followed by the toast of "The Officers," brought the proceedings to a close.

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THE MASONIC ILLUSTRATED

Masonic Literature.

A BROTHER who does not read fails to get all that he ought out of his membership of the Order. As suggested by a writer in this journal recently, the art of reading is in itself not easily acquired, and, therefore, the average Freemason may be excused for not having time or talent to go deeply into Masonic lore, but still it is the duty of every one of us to "make some daily advancement in Masonic knowledge."

A certain amount of mental culture is rightly pre-supposed in all who are admitted to the Order, and possibly the ignorance of everything that concerns Masonry outside their own lodge, which characterizes many brethren, may be due to the fact that they scarcely know where to begin.

In the first place there are certain things that the Craft has a right to expect of every brother. For instance, the Book of Constitutions is put into his hands at his admission, and surely that means that he is expected to study it. He is shown the warrant, and surely that means he is expected to read it. He receives the lodge by-laws, and he sadly fails in his duty if he does not make himself familiar with them. And, lastly, his lodge may possibly have a published history, which it is also his bounden duty to read. Masonic study up to this point ought to be regarded as a point of honour, and even if the brother concerned get no further, he will

have a very good foundation, and be able to be a useful member of the Society. The Constitutions ought to be his first care, as until he has read and digested them, a brother can not regard himself as being much more than a member of an excellent social club. It is only when he has understood the structure of our governing bodies and the perfect order and symmetry that prevail, and that bind together every unit, it is only then that he has acquired a proper conception of the dignity and comprehensiveness of the body he has joined. The Antient Charges, which form a part of the Book of Constitutions, will help to discipline him and will give him a reverence for our traditions, and even if he get no further, the brother who has got thus far, is well qualified to perform his Masonic duties. But every right minded brother aspires to office and fixes his eye on the chair of K.S., and the rank and file have a right to expect that brethren appointed to govern and direct them shall be well informed in all that concerns the Craft, and, therefore, some additional course of reading may be suggested. It would be invidious to mention individual books by name, unless acknowledged and standard works, and of these we shall mention but two.

The history of the Order to which he belongs is the first subject that should engage the thinking brother, and the history of the Craft naturally falls into two divisions, which, for want of better terms, may be called political and moral. And each of these is dealt with in a standard work, "Gould's History," and "Hughan's Old Charges." The original edition of the former commands a somewhat prohibitive price, but we learn that a condensed and cheaper edition is about to be published, and these two works should be in every Mason's library. Then, again, current history is quite as interesting from a practical point of view, and, therefore, every brother ought to keep himself informed of what goes on, not only in his immediate circle, but in the Craft at large. A judicious course of visiting will suffice for the former, but the latter demands periodical literature. The quarterly reports of Grand Lodge come first, and brethren entitled to receive them can be supplied by Grand Lodge at a nominal annual charge.

Too much praise cannot be accorded to Masonic journalism for the manner in which the sacred cause of Charity is kept to the front. The records of our great Institutions, those in the provinces as well as those in London, are quite as much part of Masonic history as the records of lodge meetings, and inasmuch as appeals on behalf of the various Charities are continually coming before our lodges, and have to be considered intelligently, those brethren to whom the lodge looks for guidance cannot afford to be ignorant of anything that affects their welfare.

A study of the records of service of distinguished brethren is a part of a liberal Masonic education, as well as notices of the careers of notable brethren, and, as a rule, these cannot be found except in the pages of the Masonic periodical.

In connection with the provinces the Masonic Club deserves mention. It is found that unlike other institutions bearing the name of club, such do not exist wholly for social purposes. They are in most cases centres for the dissemination of Masonic information and for the intelligent discussion of current Masonic questions. The Masonic Club can afford to provide itself with a more complete Masonic library than is possible to the private brother. It is a place of reference, and therefore, here, if anywhere, the back numbers of all the periodical literature to which we have referred should be found. Cyclopædic literature would find a place, although works of this kind should not be relied upon for completeness of information. They are rather valuable as indicating to the student in what direction to turn to attain completeness.

We have not spoken of the excellent periodical issued by the great literary Lodge, "Quatuor Coronati," as well as the Lodge of Research. We have rather confined our remarks to what might be termed elementary education, and what ought to be the foundation upon which the earnest Freemason may raise a superstructure which shall be perfect in all its parts.



The Annual Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter of the Holy Royal Arch, was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, May 6th, M.E. Comp. the Earl Amherst, Pro Grand First Principal, presiding. Charters for three new chapters were granted, and after other routine business had been carried out, the following Grand Officers were appointed :—

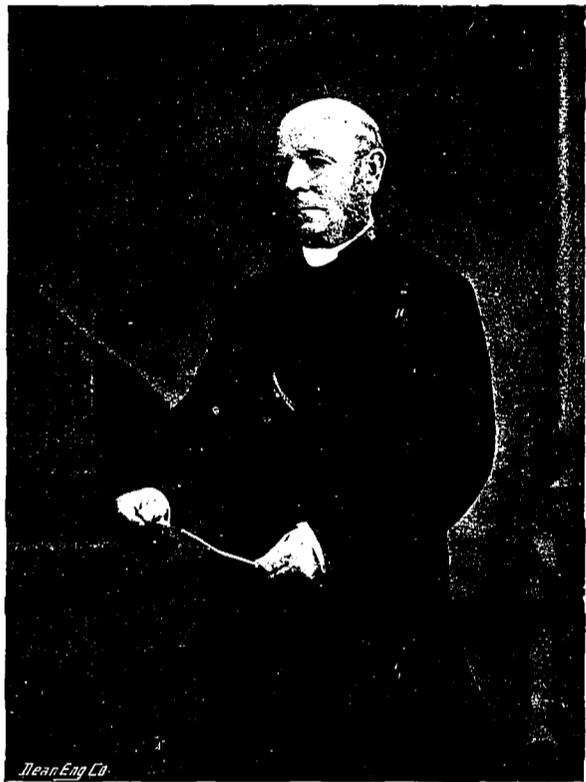
Comp. Earl Amherst	...	...	Pro Grand Z.
" Earl of Warwick	...	...	Grand H.
" Right Hon. T. F. Halsey, M.P.	...	...	Grand J.
" Sir Edward Letchworth	...	...	Grand Scribe E.
" Col. Sir Gerard Smith, K.C.M.G.	...	...	Grand Scribe N.
" R. Horton Smith, K.C.	...	...	Pres. Com. Gen. P.
" W. S. Penley	...	...	Grand Treasurer.
" John Strachan, K.C.	...	...	Grand Registrar.
" J. V. Vesey Fitzgerald, K.C.	...	...	Dep. G. Registrar.
" Rev. Chancellor Davey, M.A.	...	...	Prin. G. Soj.
" W. Lascelles Southwell	...	...	1st A.G. Soj.
" Capt. Noel L. Corry, D.S.O.	...	...	2nd A.G. Soj.
" Col. F. W. Frigout	...	...	Grand Swd. Br.
" Major Woolmer Williams	...	...	Dep. G. Swd. Br.
" E. E. Cooper	...	...	1st G. Std. Br.
" John A. Brown	...	...	2nd G. Std. Br.
" Rev. C. E. Wright	...	...	3rd G. Std. Br.
" Geo. S. Elliott	...	...	4th G. Std. Br.
" J. B. Goulburn	...	...	5th G. Std. Br.
" T. Harrison Roberts	...	...	6th G. Std. Br.
" Frank Richardson	...	...	G.D. of C.
" R. F. Moresby White	...	...	Dep. G.D. of C.
" Edward E. Harding	...	...	1st A.G.D. of C.
" G. Greiner	...	...	2nd A.G.D. of C.
" F. Arnold	...	...	3rd A.G.D. of C.
" J. Berry	...	...	4th A.G.D. of C.
" F. W. Crowe	...	...	G. Organist.
" William Lake	...	...	A.G. Scribe E.
" Henry Sadler	...	...	G. Janitor.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Somerset met at the Town Hall, Clevedon, under the banner of Coleridge Lodge, on Saturday, the 16th May. There was a large attendance of brethren from all parts of the county. Bro. Colonel Long, P.G.D., Deputy Provincial Grand Master, presided, in the absence of Lord Dungarvan, Provincial Grand Master. The most interesting feature of the proceedings was the presentation of a cheque for five hundred guineas to Bro. R. C. Else, P.G.D., who last year resigned the position of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, after serving a quarter of a century. Bro. Else, who has been a member of the Craft since 1858, has filled many important offices, and he retired owing to advancing years with the esteem and affection of every member in the province. Bro. Else, who had driven down from Clifton, where he is now residing, met with an enthusiastic reception. He undertook, in accordance with the suggestion of the subscribers to the testimonial, to devote the fund to Masonic Charities.

The Amphibious Lodge, No. 258, Heckmondwike, celebrated its centenary in the Masonic Hall at that place on the 6th May, when the Worshipful Master, Bro. Medley, presided over a large and enthusiastic gathering, which included Past and Present Provincial Grand Officers and officers from various lodges in the district. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the West Riding of Yorkshire, Bro. Wilson, attended to present the centenary warrant and jewels to the members. After the reading of the warrant

by Bro. Aulay Macaulay, and a few congratulatory words by Bro. T. Pickles, both Past Provincial Grand Officers, Bro. T. Mitcheson, P.M., gave a short epitome of the lodge's history. In the evening about 120 brethren sat down to a banquet, and the proceedings were kept up with enthusiasm until a late hour.

If English Freemasonry goes on growing at the present rate, and there is no apparent reason why it should not, it is obvious that either the place of meeting of the Grand Body must be enlarged, or some restrictions must be placed on the admission of brethren representing private lodges. If the latter course be adopted, the exclusion of Wardens from the meetings of Grand Lodge does not appear to be an unreasonable method of dealing with the difficulty, seeing that within a year, or two at most, the great majority of Wardens will have qualified themselves for admission by their election to the Master's chair.



BRO. THE REV. H. M. DAVEY, GRAND CHAPLAIN 1903-4

Bro. David Reid, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, deserves praise for the improvements he has effected in compiling the report of the Grand Lodge proceedings recently issued. There is a complete list of lodges under the Scottish Constitution, the names and addresses of Masters and Wardens, or their proxies. The names and numbers of lodges are also grouped in their respective provinces, and the names of members of Grand Lodge and the towns in which lodges meet alphabetically arranged. The income of Grand Lodge during the quarter ending April 18th, amounted to £2961 14s. 4d., and the expenditure, including £391 11s. 6d. to the Benevolent Fund, for the same period to £1309 19s. 3d., showing a balance of income over expenditure amounting to £1651 15s. 1d. During the quarter 3413 new members were registered in the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

The consecration of the Green Room Lodge adds another to the roll of London lodges which have been formed in connection with the Dramatic Profession. Amongst the prominent actors who have taken part in its formation are Bros. James Fernandez, Harry Nicholls, and W. S. Penley, while Bros. George Alexander, Lionel Brough, and others have been among the first to become joining members. It goes without saying that the ceremony and ritual of the Order receive an interpretation at the hands of our Dramatic brethren which is of the greatest benefit to the student of its mysteries, while the social and Charitable sides of

Freemasonry are no less upheld by the characteristically generous manner in which they support our Masonic Charities.



The final ceremony in connection with the reception into Freemasonry of his Excellency the Japanese Ambassador, has afforded the Empire Lodge another opportunity which it is ever ready to avail itself of, not only of dispensing its hospitality, but of proving beyond question that it is fully cognizant of its proud position amongst the metropolitan lodges as the recognised centre of Colonial and Indian Masonic interests. The initiation of the Japanese Ambassador is not only an interesting event in itself, but is not unlikely to mark an epoch in Freemasonry in relation to that marvellously progressive country of which his Excellency is the representative. On the occasion of the raising of our distinguished brother on the 28th May, the lodge was honoured by the presence of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, M.W. Grand Master, who was attended by the M.W. Pro Grand Master and a large number of Present and Past Grand Officers, the large Masonic temple at the Hotel Cecil being filled to its utmost capacity. The ceremony itself was most admirably carried out, careful attention to every detail rendering it perfect and more than ordinarily impressive.



The subsequent banquet was presided over by the Worshipful Master, Bro. Sidney F. Isitt, who proved himself as able and genial in that capacity as in the chair he had filled in the lodge. In responding to the toast of "The M.W. Pro Grand Master," Earl Amherst expressed the great pleasure it gave him once more to enjoy the hospitality of the lodge, and congratulated it on its success. It had gone on prospering ever since its inception, and in Bro. Isitt they had found a Master who knew how to do his duty. The Empire Lodge had done excellent work in fostering friendly international relations, and much good, he said, might be done outside the Craft. Masonry had rendered good service among the native population of the different parts of the Empire as well as among our own people. Even our late enemies in South Africa had shown they appreciated our Order, for they never injured our lodges, but if they got hold of the lodge books they entered their names as visitors.



Both the sister Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland were represented at the gathering, the one by Bro. Lord Castletown, Grand Secretary of Ireland, and the other by Bro. the Hon. Claude M. Ramsay, M.P., Grand Master Depute of Scotland, and there were also present a large number of Provincial and District Grand Masters as well as Present and Past Grand Officers.



The 115th Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will be memorable for the loyal and generous support given to the Chairman of the year by the province of which he is the Grand Master. West Yorkshire has in this instance not only maintained its great reputation for munificent contributions to the cause of Charity, but has created a record in liberality which the Institution can hardly hope to exceed in the future. Lord Allerton's chairmanship is not only unique in respect to the large total reached, but in the fact that every lodge of the eighty-two comprising the province was represented, while the lodge contributions were further augmented by the private donations of individual Stewards to the number of 424, the total amount from West Yorkshire realised being £8400.



It has often been impressed upon the non-Masonic world that the Craft does not confine the distribution of its funds within the limits of its own borders, but that wherever a worthy object of benevolence is to be found, Masonry is always ready to assist. A glance at the metropolitan daily papers during the past fortnight would show that Freemasons are still acting on their old lines, for the notices published

with respect to the funds being raised for the London Hospital, contain the announcement of donations made by lodges in all parts of the capital to this excellent institution. Another instance is furnished in the report of the Board of General Purposes just issued, in which Grand Lodge is advised to make a grant of £50 towards the cost of erecting a parish hall for the use of the poor inhabitants of the parish of Holy Trinity, St. Giles's, in which Grand Lodge is the largest property owner. The Board has, of course, ascertained that the proposed hall will not be devoted to sectarian purposes.



BRO. HENRY WATSON, A.G.D.C. 1903-4.

Bro. Lord Leigh, Provincial Grand Master, presided on May 4th at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Warwickshire, at the Masonic Hall, Birmingham. There was a large gathering of brethren—some 300 in all. Lord Leigh is the oldest Provincial Grand Master under the Grand Lodge of England, and a suggestion by himself that he ought to resign on account of his advanced years met with emphatic cries of "No, no," and his lordship thereupon added that if it was the wish of the brethren he should be pleased to continue in office as long as his health permitted him to do so, a promise which received the hearty approval of all present. Reference was also made to the gift by Bro. Charles Richards, of the George Beech Lodge, of a cheque for £1000 to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, Lord Leigh remarking that he hoped other Birmingham men would follow this generous example. Bro. the Rev. C. W. Barnard subsequently delivered an address, on the conclusion of which a collection was made in aid of the Warwickshire Masonic Benevolent and Pupils' Aid Fund. It was decided that the autumn meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge should take place at Stratford-on-Avon, in October.



We regret to record the death of Bro. F. H. Macklin, the well known actor, which took place at his residence, Castlenau Mansions, Barnes, on the 4th May, at the age of fifty-four. During the thirty years of his career as an actor he had served under nearly all the leading managements. Bro. Macklin was a prominent member of the Asaph Lodge, and was highly esteemed and respected by his many friends in the Craft.



The funeral took place at Kensal Green Cemetery on the 7th May. The service was most impressively conducted by his nephew, the Rev. Herbert W. Macklin. The remains were followed by his brothers and several relatives. A large gathering of Freemasons and others awaited the arrival of

the coffin on the steps of the church. Amongst those present were Bros. Harry Nicholls, W. H. Marler (Secretary of the Genesis Club, of which the deceased was a founder), J. D. Beveridge, J. Percy Fitzgerald, R. Manuel, J. W. Mathews, Akerman May, and many others. Many beautiful wreaths were sent.



The Phoenix Lodge, No. 173, celebrated its continuous working for one hundred years at its annual installation meeting on Saturday, the 9th May, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. G. Appleton, Worshipful Master, presiding. A company of over 200 brethren assisted in the work of the lodge, and among them were a large number of Grand Officers. Bro. J. H. Finch, P.M., installed Bro. W. J. Bennison as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. Bros. G. Appleton was invested as I.P.M.; H. J. Stokes, S.W.; W. J. Lewis, J.W.; A. Moore, P.M., Treasurer; A. E. Hubert, P.M., Secretary; Ben Carter, S.D.; W. D. Dale, J.D.; W. G. Betts, I.G.; James Stephens, P.M., D.C.; and R. E. Bennison, W. F. Physick, and W. C. Wise, Stewards.



The Secretary, Bro. A. E. Hubert, P.M., next read the warrant granted by the Grand Master constituting the lodge as a centenary lodge, and authorising its members so long as they continue subscribing members of the lodge to wear a centenary jewel. He then read a summary of the lodge's history from the time of its original warrant on September 27th, 1785, showing that the lodge is really 118 years old. A facsimile of the original warrant hung in the ante-room of the lodge with a map of the Swan Inn, south of St. George's Church, Blackman Street, Borough, a noted hostelry of those days, where the lodge first met.



The reading of the paper was received with much applause; and, after the lodge work had been completed, the brethren partook of an excellent repast at Freemasons' Tavern, under the chairmanship of Bro. W. J. Bennison, and honoured both the customary toasts and the special toast of "The Phoenix Lodge on its Centenary," which was proposed by Bro. James Stephens, P.M., P.D.G.D.C. The toast of "The Masonic Charities" was proposed by Bro. Alex. Ritchie, C.C., P.M.

Bro. J. W. Pownall, the Almoner of one of the lodges in Ashton-under-Lyne, is doing excellent service to the Craft generally by systematically recording and publishing the records of the numerous Masonic impostors who infest the towns in which lodges exist, and by imposing on the unwary, especially the newly-initiated Mason, often divert from the really needy that help which the Craft is always ready to give. The last case of imposture was exposed before the Ashton Bench on the 1st of May, and was one of a somewhat exceptional type.



Joseph Kirkpatrick Rogerson called at the prosecutor's shop as a Mason in distress, and asked for assistance. Being asked for his certificate he said it was burnt, but produced a letter purporting to be signed by the Secretary of the Lochmaben Lodge to prove his bonâ fides. Bro. Pownall suspected a forgery, and eventually forced Rogerson to confess that the letter was written by a man in a Manchester public library, at his own dictation. His pocket-book showed that he had obtained assistance by false pretences at Birmingham, Kettering, Bristol, Nottingham, Shrewsbury, Sheffield, Leeds, Huddersfield, Wakefield, Lancaster, Blackburn, Mytholmroyd, and other places, and had been imprisoned in England, Scotland, and Wales for different offences. The prisoner was sent to gaol for three months with hard labour.



Before a large gathering of brethren, the new reading room and library, recently erected as an annexe to the Freemasons' Hall, Hong Kong, was formally opened by the Deputy Grand Master, Bro. E. C. Ray, in the unavoidable absence of the District Grand Master, Bro. Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G. In his opening remarks, Bro. E. C. Ray explained to the assembly the objects which led to the formation of the reading room and library, and the particulars of the building, and proceeded to state that the room was granted free of rent by the Zetland Lodge, and although the institution would be kept up by voluntary subscriptions, the upkeep would, he estimated, not run up to more than \$300 per annum, and he hoped that after a few months, or probably a little longer, the institution would be self-supporting.



ANOTHER OF THE ANCIENT CERTIFICATES, PARTICULARS OF WHICH APPEARED IN OUR LAST ISSUE.

Laying of a Foundation Stone at Shanklin.

ON Thursday, May 21st, the foundation stone of a new Baptistry at St. Saviour's Church, Shanklin, was laid with Masonic honours by the Provincial Grand Master of Hants and the Isle of Wight, Bro. Sir Augustus Webster, Bart. Much interest was taken in the ceremony, both by the Craft and the general public, and the building was crowded. A procession was formed in accordance with the regulations prescribed in the Constitutions of the Order, and after a short service in the church and an address by the vicar, Bro. the Rev. E. N. Lovett, the ceremony was proceeded with.

In the course of his address the Provincial Grand Master said that the stone would be laid in the fear of God, the Great Architect of the Universe. They had among them, concealed

from the eyes of all men, secrets which might not be revealed and which no man had discovered. But those secrets were lawful, honourable, and not repugnant to the laws of God and men. They were entrusted to them to keep and honour by Mysers of ancient times, and as they had been faithfully transmitted to them, so they desired to convey them unimpaired to the latest posterity. Unless their Craft were good and their calling honourable, they would not have lasted so many centuries, neither would they have numbered among their ranks so many illustrious brethren ready to further their cause and promote their interest. They were assembled to commence a building to the honour, worship, and glory of the Most High, which building they prayed God would prosper.



LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE BAPTISTRY AT ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH, SHANKLIN.

Consecration of the Frietuna Lodge, No. 2949.

ON Tuesday, May 12th, Bro. Colonel Lockwood, M.P., Provincial Grand Master of Essex, consecrated the Frietuna Lodge, No. 2949, the promoters of which are members of the Golf Club at Frinton-on-Sea. By dispensation from H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, M.W. Grand Master, the ceremony took place at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, E.C., the gallant Colonel being assisted by the Earl of Donoughmore, P.G.W., as Deputy Provincial Grand Master—in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Claude E. Egerton-Green—Bros. Lewis Beale, Prov. S.G.W.; H. A. Baxter, Prov. J.G.W.; the Rev. C. E. Barnes, Prov. G. Chaplain; Thos. J. Ralling, Prov. G. Secretary; Albert Lucking, Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies; and James Berry, Prov. A.G. Pursuivant.

At its conclusion, Bro. A. Lucking installed as first Worshipful Master of the lodge, Bro. Vesey Fitzgerald, K.C., P.D.G.R., who invested as his officers the following brethren:—Bros. Sydney Davis, P.M. 25, S.W.; Arthur S.

Main, J.W. 2744, J.W.; A. R. Chamberlayne, P.P.G.R., Treasurer; William Walden, Secretary; Samuel James, J.D. 2721, S.D.; A. Lewis Browne, J.D.; A. G. Browne, I.G.; C. J. Gilbert, Organist; R. Ashmore Cooper and Francis Cooper, Stewards; and Geo. Gooch, Tyler.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Provincial Grand Master and those who assisted him in the ceremony, and they were all elected honorary members. The Worshipful Master was elected to represent the lodge on the Essex Provincial Charity Committee; and a committee having been formed to frame by-laws, the lodge business was closed.

About sixty brethren afterwards dined together in the handsome Norfolk room of the hotel, a very elegant repast being well served under the direction of Bro. Amendt, the courteous and able manager. The usual Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and all the speakers expressed their hope that the lodge so auspiciously started might have a long and prosperous future.

Skelmersdale Lodge, No. 1729.—Reception of the Earl of Lathom.

MONDAY, the 9th day of March, was a red-letter day in the history of the Skelmersdale Lodge, No. 1729, meeting at Pietermaritzburg, Natal, South Africa, the occasion being the reception and entertainment of the patron of the lodge, Colonel the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, Provincial Grand Master for West Lancashire, and Past Grand Warden of England. When the Skelmersdale Lodge was formed in the year 1877, the then Baron Skelmersdale (afterwards created Earl of Lathom), who at that time was Deputy Grand Master of England, graciously gave permission for the lodge to bear his name, and also to use his arms and armorial bearings, at the same time accepting the position of patron of the lodge. On his decease, the present Earl, in response to a request preferred by the lodge, agreed to continue the patronage of his noble house, and it was therefore with no little pride that the members of the Skelmersdale Lodge received an intimation from his lordship, who was making a brief tour through South Africa, that he would be pleased to accept their invitation to attend an emergency meeting of the lodge, convened especially for the purpose of meeting him. A deputation from the lodge, consisting of Bros. W. Matthew, P.M. (acting Master of the lodge); S. Stranack (Town Clerk of the City and J.P.), P.M.; W. J. O'Brien (City Councillor and J.P.), P.M.; Sowersby J. Mason (Mayor of Maritzburg), P.M.; Cecil Holliday (City Councillor and J.P.), P.M.; G. H. Edmonds, P.M.; H. W. Wade, P.M.; O. Dimmick, P.M.; F. G. Pennells, S.W.; W. H. Loney, J.W.; F. C. Loney, D.C.; F. Collier, Secretary; and G. G. Hardy, J.D., met the distinguished guest on his arrival in the capital city of Natal, and subsequently his lordship, who was accompanied by his brother, the Hon. Reginald Wilbraham, P.M. 2682; W. B. Marcus, P.M. 2918; and Capt. Smitheman, 1703, attended a meeting of the lodge, at which over a hundred brethren were present. The District Grand Master of the English Constitution (Bro. Wesley Francis), and the District Grand Master of the Scottish Constitution (Bro. J. Fraser), attended with their District Grand Officers, and among other distinguished guests present were Bro. Edward Terry, Past Grand Treasurer of England, and Bro. C. W. P. Douglas-de-Fenzi, Past Grand Deacon of England and District Grand Secretary of Natal.

In the regretted absence of the Worshipful Master (Bro. R. J. Marshall), who was prevented by ill-health from being present, the chair of the lodge was taken by Bro. Matthew, the I.P.M., who was supported by the

following Past Masters of the lodge:—Bros. S. Stranack (foundation Master), P.D.G.W.; G. H. Edmonds, P.D.G.W.; T. Reid, D.S.G.W.; W. J. O'Brien, P.D.G.W., President of the District Board of General Purposes; H. Wade, P.D.G.D.; A. W. Rowsell, P.D.G.D.; Sowersby J. Mason, P.D.G.W., District Grand Treasurer; Cecil Holliday, P.D.G. Std. Br.; J. Stewart, P.D.G.P.; O. Dimmick, P.D.G.P.; and G. J. Bousfield. During the proceedings in lodge the Earl of Lathom was presented with an illuminated address bound up in a handsome volume of Natal views. The address was as follows:—

“To the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, Baron Skelmersdale, Provincial Grand Master of West Lancashire, Past Grand Warden of England, &c., &c., &c.

“My Lord and R.W. Sir,

“We, the Worshipful Master, Officers, and Brethren of the Skelmersdale Lodge, No. 1729, holding under the registry of the Grand Lodge of England, wish to extend to you a most sincere and hearty welcome to the Capital of the Colony of Natal, and particularly to this Lodge, of which you are Patron.

“It is with peculiar and especial pleasure that we have assembled to greet your Lordship on this occasion, and we would desire to convey to you our deep sense of appreciation of the gracious support accorded to this Lodge by those bearing your distinguished name, dating, in fact, from its formation, when, on the application of the Foundation Master, your noble father was pleased to become its Patron, and upon his lamented decease your Lordship graciously continued that patronage.

“The name of the late Lord Lathom is well known and held in high esteem throughout the whole Masonic world of English speaking Masons, and the honour accorded this Lodge by that illustrious member of the Fraternity, and so kindly maintained by yourself, will ever be a matter of grateful remembrance, and we would venture to express the hope that so long as the Lodge endures it will not lack a Patron from your noble house.

“We trust that this visit, although of such short duration, will prove to be of an enjoyable nature, a source of interesting experience in the present, and of happy recollections in the time to come.

“We have the honour to remain,

“Yours faithfully,

“WILL MATTHEW, I.P.M.

“FRANK COLLIER, Secretary.”

Bro. Matthew, in presenting the address, said:—Allow me to tender you, on behalf of the members, a very hearty welcome, on this your first visit to the lodge which bears your distinguished name. As acting Worshipful Master I deemed it my duty to call the brethren together, to afford them an opportunity of paying respect and honour to their patron on such an occasion as the present, which is certainly unique in the history of the lodge. In addition to our own members, we have with us this evening the District Grand Masters and officers of both the English and Scotch Constitutions, as well as the majority of the Masters, past and present, of the several lodges working in this city, whom we have invited to meet you, and who desire to join with us in extending you a most cordial and fraternal greeting. It is now my pleasing duty to present to you, on behalf of the members of this lodge, with a small token in remembrance of your visit, in the shape of the address just read by the Secretary. This address is to be embodied in an album of Natal views, but owing to the very limited space of time at our disposal we were unable to obtain anything befitting the occasion, so that we trust your lordship will be graciously pleased to accept the album when forwarded to you at a later date.

accede to the wishes of the lodge. In conclusion, he congratulated the Master on presiding over such a prosperous and united lodge.

Subsequently his lordship was entertained to a banquet in the hall attached to the lodge, which had been handsomely decorated for the occasion, and at which about one hundred brethren of the lodge and their guests sat down.

The toast list was commendably brief, being as follows:—“The King, Protector of the Craft,” “H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, Grand Master of England,” “The District Grand Masters, English and Scottish Constitutions,” and “The Patron of the Lodge.”

The toast of the evening—“The Patron of the Lodge”—was proposed by Bro. Stranack, who, in the course of his remarks, said it was one which he had often had the honour of proposing as foundation Master of the lodge. It had never been of a formal nature to himself, in consequence of his association with their late foundation patron, but he felt, the toast having been entrusted to him again that evening, the lodge had conferred upon him the highest honour in its power to bestow, that was to propose the toast of their patron in his presence on that, the first occasion of his visit to the city. The history of the Skelmersdale Lodge had almost



THE BANQUET.

In reply, his lordship thanked the lodge for the presentation just made, and expressed his pleasure at the opportunity afforded him of meeting the members. Had his father been spared he felt sure that in these latter days he would have done his utmost to have visited the lodge. Referring to the question of Charity, he said he was very much touched when he received a donation from the lodge on the occasion of his recent presidency at the Masonic Girls' School Festival, and in this connection it gave him much pleasure to see among those present that evening his old friend, Bro. Terry, who, as they were all doubtless aware, took a very deep and abiding interest in all the charitable organisations connected with the Craft. With respect to the allusion in the address to continued patronage from his house, it was his earnest hope that, although his son was only eight years of age, yet when the time should come for him to be summoned to the Grand Lodge above, that that son would be in a position to

passed into oblivion, and it might not be uninteresting to the members of the lodge if he related a few circumstances in connection with its formation. In the year 1877 one or two points were submitted by members of the Fraternity to the Grand Lodge of England, the then appellate court for the District of Natal. One of the points was the formation of a third lodge in Pietermaritzburg, which was considered as almost a revolutionary step which required careful consideration. It transpired that some of the members interested would have an opportunity of conferring with the Grand Secretary in England, which they were deputed to do. At that conference it was ascertained that the suggestion of the formation of a new lodge was one which would receive the support of the then Lord Skelmersdale, the Senior Grand Warden and President of the Board of General Purposes. It was the assurance of that fact which led to the formation of the lodge as a practical step. They were favoured with

an interview with his lordship, and went so far as to ask that he would allow them to use his name in the lodge and accord them his patronage, both of which requests were acceded to, in addition to which they received his permission to use his arms and armorial bearings. His lordship took a deep and lively interest in the lodge, as correspondence with its members would show. As time passed on the name Skelmersdale was lost in the more exalted rank of Earl of Lathom, this reward being given for long and meritorious services as a distinguished servant of her late Majesty's household. On the lamented death of the Earl they asked the further favour of their guest that evening that he would continue the patronage of the Earl of Lathom, which, as they knew, he had graciously accorded. They, however, did not expect to have the personal presence of his lordship, and he could assure him that they appreciated his presence very much. They knew that his lordship took a practical interest in dispensing charity in the principal Masonic Institutions in England, and he might remark that during the existence of that lodge they had endeavoured to practise charity both at home and abroad. They had relieved directly through the lodge and indirectly through the District Grand Lodge. They had also contributed not only to the Royal Masonic Institutions of England, but also to the local Charitable Institutions of Maritzburg, and it might interest his lordship to know that throughout the war that lodge furnished and maintained a ward of six beds in the Assembly Volunteer Hospital. In conclusion he assured his lordship that they heartily appreciated his presence amongst them that evening.

His lordship's health was drunk with musical honours, while three hearty cheers were given for his countess, and his son, Lord Skelmersdale.

The Earl of Lathom in reply said:—To say that I thank you heartily for the reception you have given me is to put my feelings into very poor words indeed. Brethren, I have had, I am happy to say, many receptions, and I am happy to say also that not through my own merits, but through the merits, I believe honestly, of my father I have always had good receptions; but, brethren, your reception this evening excels them all. I thank you most heartily for welcoming me here this evening, and I can assure you, brethren, that if ever it should be my good fortune to visit South Africa and this Colony of Natal again, I shall not wait to be asked to visit the Skelmersdale Lodge, but I shall write and say that I am coming, because I know I shall be heartily received. Brethren, it is well within my recollection that my father took a great interest in this Skelmersdale Lodge, and a great pride in the fact that he was patron of the lodge, and I can assure you, brethren, that I have always taken a great pride in the knowledge of the fact that my name, the name of my father, has held such a honoured record in South Africa and in Natal. I have often thought about not merely my father's career in Masonry, but about my own. My father began as a very young Mason, and he has told me that for a certain time after he was first initiated in the old Apollo Lodge at Oxford, he did not take that interest in it which he did in after years. Then when he grew perhaps a little older and a little wiser, he began to see what a great good Masonry was doing, not merely in England but throughout the whole of the world. He then took to Masonry, and worked at it until he attained eventually that high position which he held at the time of his death. You all know, brethren, I feel sure, from what I have heard this evening, the distinguished record he held. Then let me tell you, brethren, that for some years after I attained full age I held aloof from Masonry because my father would not try improperly to persuade me to become a Mason. I questioned him sometimes about it, but he would never give me an answer. Well, brethren, that lasted until my marriage, and then, I am glad to say, that one evening when I was not present he spoke rather more openly to my wife and to my sisters than he would ever have done to myself, and he expressed his regret to them that I was not a Mason, whereupon they, knowing my feelings, told him that I had only held back from Masonry because I thought he did not approve of it. I became a Mason almost

shortly after I became a benedict, and I can assure you I regret the one step as little as I regret the other. In all my steps in Masonry I have always felt, and I daresay your District Grand Master has heard me say so, that whatever position I may have in the Craft I owe to the high esteem in which my father was held by the brethren; and, brethren, he was held in high estimation. I have tried, as far as in me lies, to follow in his footsteps, but, brethren, the way in which I have tried to follow that is by always revering Masonry myself. I cannot tell you, brethren, how much I think of our Craft. I have passed through the three Degrees. I have been in the chair in several lodges. I have also passed into the other higher Degrees as they are called, but this I will say that nothing in Masonry do I love so much as the first three degrees. And, therefore, brethren, loving Masonry as I do, I am very jealous about Masonry. I do not like to see, as I regret to say I have seen, brethren made in Masonry who are not worthy of that high honour. We have in Masonry what in my mind I feel to be a very fine exposition of true religion, and though I would that all men were Masons who are worthy of being Masons, I cannot but feel that sometimes Masonry is rather degraded. I have seen it, unfortunately, in England, and I have spoken to those who I know to be brethren, not in this Colony, for I have only just arrived as I may say in this Colony, but elsewhere I have spoken with brethren where I have stayed lately, and I have been told by men who respect the true tenets and principles of the Craft that they will not join certain lodges because they do not wish to combine business with Masonry. Brethren, I have made some enquiries while I have been seated at this table, and I am glad to hear that in this Colony of Natal, here in this town of Pietermaritzburg, you try to keep these two matters entirely separate. I do believe that Freemasonry helps everyone, but there are different ways of being helped, and I do not think it right that anyone should come to another man and say, "I am a Mason and therefore you must help me." I do not think it right even that people should join Masonry simply for the purpose of being helped, either in business, or because they think they may be about to become successful in business. We have many instances of that in England. I get letters in England from men claiming assistance because they are Masons, but how am I to know what sort of Masons they are. Brethren, do you remember how a brother is questioned when he proceeds from the first to the second Degree, and he is asked where he was first made a Mason? The answer to that is "in my heart." We all give that answer, and I hope we all give it rightly. I trust that when I gave that answer I did believe it thoroughly. But is that the case with all Masons? I am afraid not. We trust that to worthy men and worthy men alone are our privileges granted, but—I am not speaking to the brethren of this lodge or the other lodges I am speaking to this evening—you meet other lodges, and I am sorry to say that this is a thing I have heard about, this business being combined with Masonry. I assure you it is wrong, and you all know it. I love the Craft, and I love the lessons it teaches, and I trust, brethren, that we shall all uphold the great watchwords of the Craft—Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. I know full well what good you have done, brethren, to Masonry. I have had occasion already to thank the Skelmersdale Lodge for the help they gave me when I was presiding over the Girls' School Festival in London the other day. For that relief I again tender you my most warm and hearty thanks, but, brethren, Charity is not the only watchword of the Craft. Brotherly Love I trust we all have, and again we seek the truth. We have, as you well know, at the present time, only the substituted words. Brethren, the object, to my mind, of a Freemason's love, should be such as to merit, when he at last ascends to the Grand Lodge Above, the honour, the privilege, of being given the great watchwords from Him who lives and reigns supreme Above.

The proceedings terminated with the National Anthem, and as his lordship drove away from the lodge, the brethren who had congregated in the porchway, appropriately struck up "Auld lang Syne," and "Will ye no come back again."

History of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, No. 256.—(Continued).

(By Bro. HENRY SADLER, Sub-Librarian to the Grand Lodge of England).

ON the 4th of October, Bro. Sudlow announced to the brethren that he was wearing a jewel that had been presented by the Emulation Lodge of Improvement to the late Bro. Thomas Fenn, on his retiring from the office of Secretary of the Lodge in 1863. Having been presented with this jewel by the executors of the deceased brother, he intended wearing it at all meetings of the Lodge as a mark of his high appreciation of the original owner, hoping that this practice might be continued by his successors.

At the same meeting, on the motion of Bro. Charles Lewis, seconded by Bro. Lander, a hearty vote of congratulation was passed to Bro. Sudlow on his promotion to the rank of Past A.G. Director of Ceremonies. Bro. Sudlow proposed, and Bro. Lewis seconded, a similar vote to Bro. Joseph Russell, Secretary, on his appointment to the rank of Past Grand Standard Bearer.



THE EARL OF LATHOM, PROV. G.M. WEST LANCASHIRE.
Chairman of the Festival in 1896.

Bros. Sudlow and Russell suitably responded; the latter warmly acknowledged the gift of his Grand Lodge clothing, hoping that for many years he might worthily represent the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, to which he owed his preferment.

The executors of Bro. Fenn presented also to the Grand Lodge museum the handsome jewel, set with brilliants, voted to him by the Grand Lodge on his retirement from the office of President of the Board of General Purposes, after having served in that important post from 1884 to 1894.

1902. The Committee and executive were all re-elected to their several posts.

At the meeting held on February 21st, Bro. Sudlow, on behalf of the Lodge, congratulated the V.W. Bro. Edward Letchworth, Grand Secretary, on his approaching marriage, begging his acceptance of a silver cigar cabinet, subscribed for by some of the members as a small token of their regard. Bro. Letchworth gratefully acknowledged the present.

The Annual Festival was held on the 7th of March. Bro. R. Clay Sudlow, as usual, presided as W.M., with Bros. Charles Lewis, as I.P.M.; George Rankin, Preceptor of the Kirby Lodge of Instruction, as S.W.; and J. F. Roberts, Preceptor of the St. Bride Lodge of Instruction, as J.W.

The work was the Second Lecture. The 1st Section was given by Bro. A. M. Barnard, P.M. No. 1964; the 2nd by Bro. W. R. Bennett, P.M. No. 1965; the 3rd by Bro. H. A. D. Jowett, J.W. No. 1965; the 4th by Bro. J. H. Jenks, P.M. No. 8, P.G. Stwd.; and the 5th by Bro. T. W. Allsop, P.M. No. 88, P.P.G.D.C. Bucks.

The work, it is almost needless to say, was perfect, being given not only with accuracy, but with a depth of feeling and masterly elocution which showed that the working brethren appreciated the importance of the solemn ceremonies which illustrate Freemasonry.

At the conclusion of the work,

Bro. Sir Augustus Webster proposed a vote of thanks to the five brethren, who had so ably and admirably assisted the W.M. in the work of the evening. It had never hitherto been his lot to witness what he might be allowed to call so very great a Masonic treat.

Bro. the Rev. Sir Borradaile Savory, G.C., seconded the vote, which was unanimously carried by the brethren, and suitably responded to by Br. Sudlow.

On this occasion the Committee, after mature deliberation, had seen fit to make a considerable change in the arrangements for the Festival. In the writer's earliest recollection of Emulation Festivals, every member paid one shilling and visitors one shilling and sixpence for admission to the work, the price of a supper ticket being half-a-crown in addition; it was therefore quite optional whether a brother remained after the Lodge was closed. Some years ago, however, the price of the tickets was increased to five shillings, including admission to the work, for members as well as visitors. This answered fairly well for a time, but it being utterly impossible to comfortably provide for the many hundreds who desired to partake of refreshment after labour, the Committee determined to issue two kinds of tickets, one for the work only at two shillings, and the other as usual for the work and the dinner, which had the expected result of enabling the brethren to dine together in one room and under one chairman, instead of having recourse to overflow rooms, as had been the case for several years past. This change was generally acknowledged to be a decided improvement, for although the Grand Hall was, as usual, filled by an enthusiastic and appreciative audience, the banquet, presided over by Sir Augustus Webster, Bart., Provincial Grand Master for Hants and Isle of Wight, was partaken of with comparative comfort.

The usual preliminary toasts having been disposed of, the Grand Secretary proposed the health of the Chairman of the Festival, and tendered the thanks of the Committee and the brethren generally for the honour he had done them in presiding over them that evening.

Sir Augustus Webster warmly acknowledged the compliment paid him and proceeded to propose the next toast, that of "The Emulation Lodge of Improvement." He said: "It was very gratifying indeed to him that he should be asked to preside this evening over a Lodge founded seventy-nine years ago—a Lodge to which the whole Craft under the English Constitution owed the deepest debt of gratitude. For many years the ritual had been handed down pure and unsullied exactly as it was

to-day, and to those brethren to whom the ritual had been so handed down, a deep debt of gratitude was due. It was not only the rulers of the Craft to whom this applied, but even to the Entered Apprentices. Many brethren worked up the ceremonies without studying the Lectures, and when this was the case, innovations would, of necessity, creep in.



THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH, PROV. G.M. STAFFORDSHIRE,
Chairman of the Festival in 1899.

The more a candidate might be impressed by the first three ceremonies by their being carefully rendered, the more likely he was to be a good Mason, and a good Mason could not be a bad man. The Emulation system, and the manner in which it was handed down, was unalterable; it was never varied, and it provided a standard of work—he spoke for himself and as a ruler in the Craft—which should always be adhered to in the provinces as well as in the metropolis. He begged to propose the toast of 'The Emulation Lodge of Improvement,' and might it for many generations continue to do its most useful work as it had done in the past."

Bro. R. Clay Sudlow, P.A.G.D.C., in reply, said: Right W. Brother Chairman and brethren, I believe that I am only giving expression to a truism when I say that every member of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement derives a certain amount of satisfaction from belonging to this important and useful Institution. It has stood successfully the test of nearly eighty years, and throughout the whole of that period it has not only justified its existence, but it has kept in touch with, and has amply provided for every requirement of the student of Masonic ritual. . . . I think we may venture to claim that accuracy is the special feature of the Lodge to-day, indeed, absolute perfection in this respect has been attained by not a few. Perhaps, for the information of some of the younger brethren, I may say that the apotheosis of an absolutely correct working of a ceremony in the Emulation Lodge of Improvement is a silver match-box, upon which is recorded the success achieved; and so frequently nowadays is that distinction won that the giver may yet live to find himself in the Bankruptcy Court. Are we then, brethren, to think that because a standard has been set up, and because accuracy has been attained the mission of this Lodge is at an end, or that its usefulness is on the wane? Brethren, I say absolutely, no. Apart altogether from the fact that the standard has to be maintained, I think I can suggest an additional field of usefulness for "Emulation," namely, in the training of brethren to act as Preceptors of Lodges of Instruction. Twenty years ago, brethren, so far as I know, there was only one Lodge of Instruction teaching the Emulation system. Of that particular Lodge I was the

Preceptor, and Bro. Langton, who is with us to-night at the Grand Officers' table, was the Secretary. Since that time, brethren, several Lodges have been started, each of them, I am glad to say, ruled over by experienced Craftsmen, well able to carry that Lodge on to success. But we do want, I believe, other Lodges of Instruction teaching the Emulation system, and if they are to be useful they must be presided over by competent brethren, who, above everything else, have acquired absolute accuracy, not only as regards words, but as regards every little detail. Now, that, I venture to say, can only be acquired in the Emulation Lodge of Improvement.

The silver match-box, or certificate, above referred to, is the gift of Bro. Sudlow to every brother not on the Committee, who presides over the Lodge and performs the Master's work with perfect accuracy, unassisted by the Preceptor for the evening. A record of the circumstance is engraved thereon, as well as any subsequent successes of a similar character which the recipient may be fortunate enough to achieve. The idea, which is probably unique, emanated from Bro. Sudlow about six years ago, and, notwithstanding the difficulties which his pupils have to surmount, he has had the gratification of handing to them no less than sixteen of these tangible mementos of industry and perseverance.

1903. No change was made this year in the Committee and executive officers. The Annual Festival held on the 27th of February was attended by about 450 brethren. Bro. R. Clay Sudlow, P.A.G.D.C., presided as W.M., and was supported by Bro. Charles Lewis, as I.P.M.; Bros. George Rankin, W.M. No. 2397, as S.W.; and D. D. West, W.M. No. 2818, as J.W.

The work was the First Lecture by Bros. Oliver Notcutt, J. F. Roberts, Algernon L. Collins, W. R. Bennett, J. H. Jenks, R. L. Devonshire, and T. W. Allsop.

At the close of the work, the R.W. Bro. Lord Barnard, Prov. Grand Master for Durham, proposed a vote of thanks to the brethren who had so ably discharged their duties. His lordship said it had been with a feeling of profound admiration that he had listened to the lecture which had just been concluded, and the marvellous eloquence of the recitation, the very earnest reverence, and the great skill



LT.-COL. A. R. MARK LOCKWOOD, M.P., PROV. G.M. ESSEX,
Chairman of the Festival in 1900.

which the brethren who answered the questions had shown in the Seven Sections, he thought, must have appealed to every brother who heard them. He felt confident that the repetition of the ritual and the eloquence of its great

teachers could not but seriously advance the Order. He only wished that opportunity could be given for these lectures to be delivered more frequently than they were, and that arrangements could be made for London brethren to deliver them in the country. In his own province he knew very many exceedingly regretted they had not an opportunity of obtaining the instruction and information he had listened to that night. Personally he congratulated the working brethren on their skill and ability. He did not think it necessary to say more at present, but he moved a very hearty vote of thanks to all the brethren who had been good enough to enlighten the company in the very excellent way that had been witnessed.

R.W. Bro. George Richards, D.G.M. Transvaal, seconded, and the motion was carried amidst universal applause.

Bro. Sudlow responded on behalf of the working brethren,



THE EARL OF WARWICK, DEP. G. MASTER,
Chairman of the Festival in 1901.

and concluded his remarks by inviting those who were not already members to avail themselves of the present opportunity for so doing.

Before the Lodge was closed, 93 new members, including the noble chairman of the Festival, were proposed for ballot at the next meeting.

The Banquet in the adjoining hall was attended by about 250 brethren, including many distinguished Grand Officers.

The first two toasts on the list having been given by Lord Barnard, Bro. Charles Lewis proposed that of "The Grand Officers," to which the R.W. Bro. George Richards, Dist. Grand Master of the Transvaal, responded.

Bro. Sir E. Letchworth said it was his privilege, as Treasurer of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, to propose the next toast, and it was a privilege of which he availed himself with the very greatest pleasure; in the first

place, because it was one which required no speech to secure for the toast a favourable reception, and, in the next place, because the subject of it was one which could not fail to receive the heartiest welcome. The toast was "The Health of the distinguished brother who had done them the honour of presiding over their festival that evening." They were all probably aware that Lord Barnard was not only a Past Grand Warden in the Grand Lodge of England, but that he presided over one of the most important provinces in the North of England, the members of every lodge of which were most devoted to him. His lordship had discharged his duties that evening with that geniality and ability which were so characteristic of him, and on behalf of the Committee of this lodge he begged to tender his warmest thanks to Lord Barnard for the great honour he had done the brethren by presiding over them.

Lord Barnard, in reply, said: No thanks, he considered, were due to him for presiding that evening; on the contrary, the gratitude ought to be on his part to the Grand Secretary and the brethren for giving him the opportunity of attending the most interesting among the many interesting Masonic functions he had ever been at. When the invitation came to him he determined, if it was possible, to use every effort to avail himself of the opportunity which every Mason ought to avail himself of if he got the chance, because he felt very strongly—and he knew a great many other brethren in the Craft felt it too—that the primary object to be aimed at by all true Masons was perfection of ritual. He attached the greatest importance to that object, and in the exalted position in the Craft he had the honour to hold in the important Province of Durham, he had always done his best to insist on the ritual being carried out in the best possible manner. After this visit, he should go back to his district and try more than ever before to encourage his brethren as much as he could to emulate the example he had had set before him that evening. He regretted, as he had already intimated in the Lodge, that those opportunities were not more common than they were. . . . Living, as he and some others did, some 250 miles from London, it was impossible that they should take that part in London ceremonial that they would like; but now and then, in some of the districts slight variations of ritual did creep in. Some said that provided the sense was maintained the actual form of words was not important, but he did not altogether agree with that, because he felt it might lead to a deviation from the ancient land-marks of the Order, and, therefore, it was of the utmost use to the Craft in general that an institution like the Emulation Lodge of Improvement should exist. He only wished there were many others in different parts of the country. His own Masonic career had been an uneventful one, but it had been a long one; he had been initiated in the Apollo University Lodge, Oxford, No. 357, when he was eighteen years of age; his father having been a Mason before him was an inducement. Since then he had been some time in and out of the Craft. When he went to the North of England, he took it up more keenly than ever, and he did not regret it. Not only himself, but two brothers, both University men, were in Masonry, one in the Isaac Newton Lodge, No. 859, Cambridge, the other in the Apollo, Oxford. His son would come of age this year, and he hoped he would become a Mason. He believed the continuity of Masonry in families was of great value, and to keep up Masonic traditions in a family prevented the danger of their being lost or changed. Also it tended to consolidate local and family feeling in a way that nothing else could do. He was perfectly confident that the Mason who began his Masonic career as a Lewis was a more enthusiastic Mason than a brother who had not had that opportunity. He was permitted now, before he sat down, to propose, on behalf of himself and all others who had the great privilege of attending, "Success to the Emulation Lodge of Improvement," and most heartily and cordially did he present it to the notice of the brethren. He coupled with the toast the name of their most capable and esteemed Master, Bro. Sudlow.

(To be Continued).