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*R. W. Bro. Sir Offley Wakeman, Bart.,
Provincial Grand Master of Shropshire.*

The Province of Shropshire.

SHROPSHIRE is, so far as existing records show, the premier province of England, although its early history, which furnishes comparatively few traces of Masonic activity, hardly justifies its holding that proud position. Moreover, it must be remembered that it has to yield pride of place by several years to both the Province of Cheshire and that of North Wales. Its constitution as a province appears to have taken place in the year 1731, and is recorded



BRO. ROWLAND G. VENABLES, P.A.G.D.C. (ENGLAND),
DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER.

by Anderson, in the Book of Constitutions for the year 1738, in the following words:—"Love!, Grand Master, granted a deputation to Sir Edward Matthews to be Provincial Grand Master of Shropshire." Sir Edward's administrative powers, if he ever exercised them in Shropshire Masonic business, which may well be doubted, cannot have been highly taxed, as only two nameless lodges, the one founded in Shrewsbury in the 1736, and the other founded in Oswestry in 1744, existed during his period of office. In the year 1735 he was also appointed Provincial Grand Master of North Wales. In the year 1753 Lord Carysfort, then Grand Master, appointed Sir Robert de Cornwall Provincial Grand Master for several of the Western counties, including Shropshire, and also for North Wales, but neither Sir Robert nor his successor, George Durant, who nominally held office from 1774 to 1779, ever had, so far as is known, any practical connection with Shropshire Masonry. Several lodges had, indeed, sprung into existence in the county during the periods mentioned, but these were short lived, the last survivor of them being erased in 1783, and no record of their work is anywhere to be found, nor is there any reason to suppose that the high officials mentioned knew of their existence. The Craft was for the first time placed upon a solid foundation in the province in the year 1785, when a lodge known as No. 1, Whitchurch, and then No. 478 on the register of the Modern Grand Lodge, was founded through the instrumentality of Major Charles Shirreff, an officer on half pay, who, for some unknown reason, settled in the quiet town of Whitchurch. Since this date the history of the lodges from time to time founded in the province can, in nearly every case, be obtained from their own minute books, the only important exception being that of the Agenorian Lodge working at Bridgnorth

for nominally the first half of the last century, and there is some ground for hoping that even in this case the minute books are not destroyed, and may yet be found. Shirreff had from early youth been an active Freemason, and had assisted at the foundation of lodges in various parts of the world, including one at St. Heliers in Jersey, and two in America, when he was in service with his regiment. He was firmly convinced that he was an "Ancient" Mason, but by some mistake his application for a warrant for the Whitchurch Lodge reached the Grand Secretary of the "Moderns," and the warrant was ultimately granted by the Grand Lodge of that body. The minute book of the Whitchurch Lodge, which has recently been found, contains a copy of its by-laws, of which the 32nd runs as follows:—

"Through the Benevolent Intention of Reforming the Errors of those calling themselves Modern Masons, and bringing all Mock Masons into a Right Channel. It's now resolved by this Society that all such applying to it shall be Enter'd Gratis, and if Passed or Raised, are only to pay half Fees."

It is safe to assume that the Grand Secretary of the Moderns never saw this by-law, or there would have been a row. The whole incident furnishes valuable evidence as to the probable insignificance of the alleged difference between the working of the two rival Grand Lodges, Ancient and Modern. Shirreff, being unable from want of means to accept the office of Provincial Grand Master which he had once intended to apply for, in the year 1786 obtained the appointment for the Rev. Francis Henry Egerton, then Rector of Whitchurch, and Prebendary of the "Golden Stall" in the Cathedral of Durham, afterwards Earl of Bridgewater, and now best remembered as the founder of the famous series called "The Bridgewater Treatises." Egerton generally lived in a house called the Maison d'Egerton in Paris, and seems for the benefit of his flock, upon his occasional visits to them, to have hunted a pack of harriers and dispensed hospitality with a liberal hand. He appointed Shirreff to be his Deputy, and for a few years does appear to have given some little attention to the province, which had hitherto been so much neglected by its rulers. During his tenure of office, which lasted till 1819, though purely nominal after 1800, five lodges were founded in the county, one of which, the Salopian, No. 262, established in 1788, has continued to work until the present day, and celebrated its centenary in 1888. The same period also saw an Ancient Lodge, founded in the Shropshire Militia in 1810, settle down in Shrewsbury when the regiment was disbanded after Waterloo. This lodge, which originally obtained the number 153 of an old military lodge in the 13th Regiment of Foot, obtained a Civil Warrant in 1820, and is now the flourishing Salopian Lodge of Charity, No. 117. Shirreff appears to have gone to live in London about the year 1798, with the result that, wanting his knowledge and experience to advise them, three of the newly founded lodges were erased for not paying their contributions to the Hall Fund. He was, as his letters, many of which are still to be seen in the Grand Lodge library, plainly show, a hard worker, yet filled with vast ideas of his own importance and dignity in the Masonic world, partly due, no doubt, to the fact that he held a patent from the King of Prussia, through one of the Deputy Grand Inspectors in North America giving him, as he conceived, jurisdiction over all lodges within seventy-five miles of his residence. Moreover, he had, as he tells us, arrived at the "Ne plus ultra" or 25th degree, and carefully cherished certain books which cannot now be identified, but which unfolded a system of what he calls "Philosophic Masonry." He suffered greatly from rheumatism and gout, and in one of his letters gives a cure for the latter ailment which is worth recording. He says: "I know this gentleman well, and

when any signs of his calling appears I drink a glass of genuine wine, which drives him from the head and stomach into the feet where he takes up his abode, and then in a little while he is off."

It would be interesting if some of the port loving brethren of the present day would try this cure and report results for the benefit of the Fraternity in general. Egerton having been many years absent from the province, in the year 1819 the Salopian Lodge, No. 262, complained to Grand Lodge, and a new Provincial Grand Master, in the person of the Hon. Henry Grey Bennett, was appointed. He probably owed his appointment to the fact that he had represented the borough of Shrewsbury in Parliament for several years prior thereto, and in that year retained his seat after a contested election. His work for the province, so far as it can be traced, consisted only of the presentation of an address to King George IV. from the Salopian Lodge in the year 1820, and the grant of a dispensation for the initiation of Sir Andrew Vincent Corbet, Bart., a minor, in the same lodge. Although there is no formal record of the fact it would appear that Bennett ultimately appointed this young Mason to be his D.P.G.M. He, himself, did not contest the election for Shrewsbury in 1826, which year also marks the termination of his rule over the province.

After the year 1826 the province remained for a quarter of a century without even a nominal head. It is true that the *Ficemasons' Calendar* includes "Sir Andrew Corbett, Bart." (by whom was doubtless meant the Sir Andrew Vincent Corbet already mentioned), in the list of Provincial Grand Masters the date given as that of his appointment being 1843, but it is clear from the minute books of the Salopian Lodge, No. 262, that, from motives of economy, he returned his patent, and never acted. During this period only the two Shrewsbury Lodges, Nos. 262 and 117, were really actively working, though the names of the Mercian Lodge in Ludlow and the Agenorian in Bridgnorth were retained upon the register till the years 1832 and 1853 respectively. There were, however, not wanting some slight signs of further Masonic activity. Two new lodges, the one at Woore, founded in 1836, and the other at Wem, founded 1846, sprang into existence. No names of members of the former were registered in Grand Lodge after 1840, and the only payment made to Grand Lodge from the latter was for its foundation fees, so that they have left no permanent mark upon the history of the province.

The year 1843 also saw the foundation of the Salopian Chapter, 262. The brethren of 262 had, apparently, under the warrant of the Craft Lodge, but not in meetings of the Craft, worked the Royal Arch ceremony at intervals from 1797 to 1830 without any Charter. In 1830, in consequence of a communication from Grand Chapter, this illegality was discontinued, and the Charter was applied for and granted as above mentioned. Several attempts were, moreover, from time to time made to obtain the appointment of a Provincial Grand Master, but owing to the apparent apathy of the Grand Lodge officials, no step in this direction was taken for many years.

In the year 1852, however, these efforts were at last crowned with success, as Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., was then appointed to preside over a newly-formed province of North Wales and Shropshire. The North Wales portion of the province then included only two lodges, namely, St. David's, Bangor, now No. 384, and St. Cybi, Holyhead, now 597. With this appointment a fresh wave of Masonic activity swept over the country, due, beyond a doubt, to the high social position, uniform kindness, genial disposition, and unwearied industry of Sir Watkin himself. One of his first pieces of Masonic work undertaken before he was actually installed, was the procuring of the cancellation of a somewhat curious agreement by which the two Shrewsbury lodges had in the year 1851 informally and illegally amalgamated, and were working under the Warrant of 262. The loss of precedence to the province involved in the probable erasure, in consequence of this amalgamation, of such a low number as 135 from the roll of lodges about to pass under his care, will easily explain his anxiety upon the point. He continued

in office until his death, in the year 1885, and saw no less than eight new lodges founded in Shropshire, and 16 in North Wales, at the consecration of all of which he was, with but two exceptions, present. The Shropshire lodges so founded, have all continued to flourish. After the death of Sir Watkin, the joint provinces was, owing to its unmanageable size, again divided into two, and Sir Offley Wakeman, Bart., who had been D.P.G.M. since the year 1882, was appointed Provincial Grand Master of the reconstituted Province of Shropshire, a post which he has still continued to hold to the great advantage of the whole Province. Sir Offley was initiated in the Churchill Lodge, 478, in the year 1871, served the office of Provincial Grand Secretary of Oxfordshire in 1872, and was appointed S.G.W. of the same province in 1878. He was also W.M. of the Salopian Lodge, 262, in the year 1880.

During his tenure of Office, lodges have been founded at Ellesmere and Whitchurch, so that every town in the county of any size, except Wem, now possesses its own lodge. The province also possesses two Royal Arch chapters, the one at Shrewsbury, and the other at Wellington, the latter, however, being practically defunct, a Mark Master Mason's lodge at Shrewsbury, and a Rose Croix chapter in the same town.

In Mark Masonry, Shropshire is, however, joined to Staffordshire for Provincial Grand Lodge purposes. The province is a small one, there being only twelve lodges in all, with a total of 405 subscribing members, but it is exceedingly well organised, and its compactness allows its members to know each other well and to work together with that unanimity and heartiness which must underly all successful work. The province has reason to be proud of its own Charitable Association, which has always been successful in obtaining for its candidates the benefit of the Great Masonic Charities to an extent which the funds at



BRO. WILLIAM BAXTER, PROV. GRAND TREASURER.

its disposal could hardly warrant. For this result a heavy debt of gratitude is due to the organising skill of the worthy P.G. Secretary, Bro. W. H. Spaul, P.A.G.D. of C., and his brothers, Bros. A. C. Spaul and F. R. Spaul. At the present time there are two Shropshire boys and two girls in the schools, and two annuitants receive benefit from the Benevolent Institution, but in the year 1898 the numbers were three, five, and two respectively. In the year 1887, when the Provincial Grand Master presided as chairman at the 99th Anniversary Festival of the Girls' Institution, the contributions from the province to that Institution reached the hand some total of £1055, and at the Centenary of the Boys'

Institution no less a sum than £1199 1s. 6d. was collected by fifty one Stewards, earning for the province the compliment of "Well done, Shropshire!"

The brethren of this small province may, therefore, fairly claim to be doing their best to merit the benefits they have received and are receiving. In the Boys' Institution the province possesses jointly, with the province of North Wales, the "Sir Watkin" Life Presentation, contingent on the life of H.R.H. the Princess Beatrice; this was purchased in the year 1877 to commemorate the completion by Sir Watkin of twenty-five years' rule over the province, and the right of



BRO. W. H. SPAULL, P.A.G.D.C., PROV. GRAND SECRETARY.

nomination is now exercised alternately by the two provinces. Policies of assurance on the life of Her Royal Highness have been taken out by both provinces to secure the perpetuation of this right. The Provincial Calendar, founded and edited by the W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. R. G. Venables, P.A.G.D. of C., is a singularly complete and useful work, and might well serve as a model to larger provinces.

The Provincial Board, founded by the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, and containing elective members from every lodge in the province, as well as certain ex-officio members, is intended to form a channel of communication between the brethren of the province and the R.W. Provincial Grand Master; this is the embodiment of an idea which has much to be said in its favour, and in practice is found to produce useful results. Both the R.W. Provincial Grand Master and the W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master frequently attend the

various lodge meetings. Provincial Grand Lodges are held in turn in the different towns in which lodges exist; the yearly audit of lodge minute books is thoroughly carried out, and every endeavour is made by the officials not only to secure accuracy of work, but to promote the success of the province as a whole.

The province is singularly destitute of any Masonic buildings. All the lodges, except No. 611, Ludlow, which for some years has possessed a small Masonic Hall, at present being obliged to meet in public assembly rooms or hotels. Many attempts have been made during the last fifty years to erect a Masonic Hall in Shrewsbury, but hitherto these efforts have only ended in failure. At the present time the want of a suitable site seems to be the chief obstacle to success in this direction. The Masons at Oswestry, it is reported, are about to build a hall in that town for the use of its two lodges, 1124 and 1432, and we wish them every success in their endeavours.

Interesting antiquities are somewhat scarce; such as do exist are chiefly relics of lodges long since dead. Thus the Castle Lodge, 1621, Bridgnorth, possesses a few of the belongings of the old Lodge of Industry, which was founded in the same town in 1799. These include a charter of the chapter formerly working in connection with that lodge, and a set of working tools of unusual dimensions, the level being about four feet wide by three feet high. The Lodge of St. Oswald, 1124, Oswestry, still uses three antique chairs formerly used by the Wynnstay Lodge, founded in 1771, and which met at Wynnstay, the home of Sir Watkin and his ancestors. The Lodge of the Marches prizes greatly some of the furniture and jewels of the Mercian Lodge already mentioned, and also possesses a curious glass goblet made for the Silurian Lodge in 1791, the year in which it was founded at Kington in Herefordshire by Thomas Dunckerley. The Salopian Lodge, 262, has two decanters and some other pieces of glass, which must have been purchased for its use before 1792, as they are engraved with the number 525, which the lodge ceased to use in that year, owing to a general renumbering of the lodges.

This lodge also formerly possessed a valuable gold ring, dug up in 1839 in a field near Haughmond Abbey. This ring had, about the year 1600, been presented by Sir William Leighton, Chief Justice of North Wales, when raised to the rank of Sergeant-at-Law, to Richard Barker, then Recorder of Shrewsbury and a Judge of North Wales, and whose family then resided at Haughmond. The ring was unfortunately lost in 1862, but a reproduction of it was made from wax impressions in existence, and this reproduction is worn by the Master of the lodge when acting in his office. The device upon the ring, of which a copy is given, will show that it possesses something of a Masonic nature. The sword of state of the province was acquired from the family of Bro. White, G.S., and bears the inscription: "Royal Arch Constitutional Sols." The Sols were a Secret Convivial Society, in no respect Masonic, established about the year 1780.

The late R.W. Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W.

THE death roll of members of the Fraternity during the short period of the existence of "THE MASONIC ILLUSTRATED" has been a formidable one, both in point of number and in the eminence and great services of those whose loss it has been our painful duty to chronicle, but amongst these the death of R.W. Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, which occurred, after a very short illness, on the 3rd February, will stand out in bold relief as a Masonic bereavement almost irreparable. This is brought home to us more fully when we consider not only the length of his service to the Craft, but the nature of those services which it was his privilege to render.

His initiation took place in the year 1856 in the Belvedere Lodge, No. 503, Maidstone, in which town he then resided, and on taking up his residence in London shortly after, Sir John speedily extended his Masonic relations by joining the Jerusalem Lodge, No. 197; the Buckingham and Chandos Lodge, No. 1150; and the Alliance Lodge, No. 1827; while lodges innumerable conferred on him honorary membership. It is, however, difficult to identify him in our thoughts with membership of any one lodge. He was the personification of the idea of the universality of Freemasonry, and his presence at any Masonic gathering was always equally acceptable whether as a member or a visitor. But

it was as an Officer of Grand Lodge that Bro. Monckton rendered such invaluable services and achieved so great a distinction. He was appointed Senior Grand Deacon in 1872 and in the same year Principal Grand Sojourner in Supreme Grand Chapter, and in 1874, after having served as Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes, he was, on the death of Bro. Horace Lloyd, Q.C., appointed President. The ten years following, during which he filled that office, was a period of remarkable activity and progress in Freemasonry, and the influence of the President of the Board in directing and shaping the growth of our Order during that time has left an indelible mark on its constitution. No abler or more courteous officer has ever filled the Presidential chair, and it is said of him that even those to whom he had to administer admonition and rebuke left his presence with the feeling that next to an expression of approval from his lips his condemnation was a thing to be grateful for. On relinquishing this office in 1884 the rank of Past Grand Warden was conferred on him, but his retirement from the chair and his advancement in office did not cause him to retire from the Board or to slacken his energies in the legislative and administrative work of Grand Lodge. He was a regular attendant for many years after, and no important decisions were come to in which his knowledge and experience were not put under contribution.

In almost all Degrees of Masonry Bro. Monckton took an active interest, but it was in connection with the Masonic Charities that the most attractive points of his many-sided character were observable. The Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, especially, was the object of his constant solicitude and devoted service. No more delightful spectacle could be imagined than the tall form of Sir John in the midst of a group of merry, laughing children at the Girls' School, or on

some festive occasion to see him as the partner of some tiny mite in the dance. His personal interest in each individual inmate was remarkable, and for many years past every pupil, to the number of nearly 300, was known to him by name. To such an extent was he interested that he formed a collection of photographic portraits of the scholars, numbering many hundreds. It is needless to add in view of this phase of his Masonic character that he was an ardent supporter of our Masonic Charities. He was a Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at the Festival of which, in 1884, he acted as Chairman; a Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; and a Patron of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, for which latter Institution he had served fifteen Stewardships.

At both Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter he was a constant attendant, and so recently as the Quarterly Communication, in December, he filled the Chair of Senior Grand Warden, and proposed and carried an amendment

reversing the decision of the Board of General Purposes on appeal against its ruling in reference to the qualification of a Warden for the Master's chair, by the Regent's Park Lodge, No. 2202.

In civic life, as Town Clerk of London, Sir John Monckton's career was one of brilliant usefulness, and his loss is mourned not only by the Corporation of London, of which body he was the most distinguished officer, but by all those whom duty or pleasure brought into contact with him. He was, in the words of the writer of a special memoir in the *City Press*, an officer whose zeal in the public service, and loyalty to the body he had served for so many years, had won for him the esteem and affection of all with whom, in the course of his civic duties, he became associated. To speak of the Guildhall without thinking almost as by instinct of the Town Clerk of London, was an impossibility. Unhappily the hand of death has now removed from the ranks this devoted public servant, and left the City the poorer immeasurably by his loss.

Sir John was the recipient of many distinctions beyond that of knighthood, which was conferred on him in 1880, but they are too numerous to particularise; we may, however, mention that of the Belgian order of Leopold, the Order of the Redeemer of Greece, the Lion and Sun of Persia, and the Golden Lion of Warsaw, which were conferred on him in connection with the prominent part he took in connection with the receptions given at the Guildhall to those Royalties, who thus signified their appreciation of the compliment paid to them.

The funeral took place on Friday, the 7th of February. A service was held at St. Peter's, Cranley Gardens, within a short distance of our late brother's residence, whence the coffin was borne to Brompton Cemetery. The remains were followed by Lady

Monckton, Bro. Lionel Monckton, and the other members of the family, as well as by many intimate friends, which included a large number of Grand Officers and other members of the Masonic fraternity. A beautiful cross was placed upon the coffin by Lady Monckton, and there was a large number of wreaths and other floral tributes. A memorial service was also held in the Church of St. Lawrence, Jewry, which was attended in state by the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, together with very many members of the Common Council.

His Majesty, the King, through Bro. Sir Francis Knollys, has written a letter to Lady Monckton, expressing sympathy with her and her family in the loss which they have sustained in the death of Sir John Monckton, whom His Majesty had known for many years.

We are pleased to learn that with the consent of Lady Monckton and the family, a monument will be erected over the grave by our late brother's colleagues, the Grand Officers.



THE LATE BRO. SIR J. B. MONCKTON, P.G. WARDEN.

Shropshire Masons in London.

Consecration of the Wrekin Lodge, No. 2883.

THE consecration of this, the latest of the county lodges, which will in future meet at the Masonic Temple, Hotel Cecil, Strand, W.C., took place, by dispensation, at Freemasons' Hall on January 29th.

The ceremony was performed by V.W. Bro. Edward Letchworth, Grand Secretary, in the deeply impressive manner with which London Masons are now familiar. He was assisted by Bros. C. E. Keyser, P.G.D., as S.W.; A. C. Spaul, P.D.G.D.C., as J.W.; the Right Rev. the Bishop of Barking, P.G. Chaplain, as Chaplain; Frank Richardson, P.D.G. Reg., as D.C.; and V. C. L. Crump, P.G. Std. Br., as Inner Guard.

The founders, many of whom are prominent members of the Shropshire Society, were:—Bros. the Right Hon. Lord Barnard, P.G.W., Prov. G.M. Durham; Ralph R. Benson; Charles E. Birch, P.P.J.G.W. Herts., P.P.J.G.D. Kent; G. Darlington, F. H. Dayus, Ed. Eaton; Capt. G. Williams Freeman, P.G.S.B., P.G.W. Egypt, P.P.S.G.W. Shropshire; Edward John Gittins, P.P.G. Std. Br. Herts.; T. Juckes, J. Mellings; J. H. Redman, P.P.G.W. Shropshire; A. Middleton Rickards, T. J. Salwey; John Downes Southam, P.P.G.S. of Works Shropshire; Charles R. Valentine; the Hon. and Rev. Gilbert H. F. Vane, P.G. Chaplain; Thomas M. Vaughan, Walter H. Webb, Samuel Withers, and William M. Worrall.

There was a large concourse of visitors, including several Masons of high rank in Shropshire who had come to London to witness the ceremony.

The Consecrating Master, in his brief opening address, said that this lodge, the Wrekin, which would be the home for Shropshire Masons in London, took its name from the celebrated mountain of that name, which was principally owned by the Right Hon. Lord Barnard, Provincial Grand Master for Durham, and he congratulated the founders upon having secured him as their first Master.

In the course of the ceremony the Right Rev. the Bishop of Barking delivered an oration with deep feeling and eloquence. He said: "No one who had been in close touch with Freemasonry for many years could fail to recognise the steady advance it had made, it was easy to prove by statistics that there had been an advance all along the line. Not only had the increase in numbers been phenomenal, but in other respects it had progressed upon the lines upon which Masonry was based, not only with the ceremonial, which all over the country was now performed in a better and truer manner, but their great principles were more universally acted upon and understood. They were a secret Society because they held some things which the world must not know and which it would be wrong to disclose, but the outer world could and did judge the Society by its fruits, and should thus be able to know what it professed. Its secrecy did not exist for any bad purpose; they had no plots or conspirators. From the Grand Master downwards, their conduct had never given just grounds for the slightest suspicion upon that head. Every new lodge formed was a proof of their vitality, and it was for them to be anxious that the good opinion now existing might be strengthened by their individual conduct with the outer world as well as in the lodge. The ceremony they were taking part in was a very solemn one, and should be regarded as such, otherwise it would be a mockery, and an outward form only. Masonry at the present time was teaching every brother the valuable lesson that each must work in his place as workmen rearing a majestic building, some doing inferior work, some the higher, each doing his part that the design

might be carried out perfect. The founders of this lodge connected as they were by local influences were naturally anxious to join in cementing their friendships in the Masonic bond. Might the Wrekin Lodge do its part in rearing the great edifice.

At the conclusion of the consecrating ceremony, Bro. appointed Letchworth installed Lord Barnard as W.M., who and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Capt. G. Williams Freeman, P.G.S.B., S.W.; R. B. Benson, W.M., J.W.; the Hon. and Rev. G. H. F. Vane (brother of Lord Barnard), Chaplain; C. E. Birch, P.M., P.P.J.G.W. Herts., P.P.J.G.D. Kent, Treasurer; A. Middleton Rickards, Secretary; J. H. Redman, P.M., P.P.G.W. Shropshire, I.P.M.; E. J. Gittins, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br. Herts., S.D.; T. M. Vaughan, J.D.; E. Eaton, I.G.; C. R. Valentine, P.M., D.C.; and F. H. Dayus, G. Darlington, P.M., and T. Juckes, Stewards.

The Consecrating Officers were elected hon. members and a founder's jewel presented to the Consecrating Master. Many letters of regret at inability to attend were read, including one from Bros. Sir Offley Wakeman, Bart., P.G.M., Shropshire, and the Right Hon. Lord Harlech, P.M.G. North Wales.

After further business the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to a banquet.

After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been duly honoured, Bro. J. H. Redman, P.P.G.W. Shropshire, proposed the toast of "The Grand Officers."

Bro. V. A. Williamson, P.G.W., was pleased to have been present as the guest of their W.M., Lord Barnard, who occupied the chair of Provincial Grand Master, which had been filled for many years by a very dear friend of his, and whose mantle had fallen upon an excellent Mason. He could not claim to be a Salopian, but his nephew, Col. Herbert, who was at present on active service, was owner of that part of the Wrekin not owned by their W.M. He thanked them for the evident heartiness with which they had received the toast of the Grand Officers.

The next toast, a somewhat unusual one in a London lodge, was proposed by the Worshipful Master: "The R.W. Provincial Grand Master of Shropshire, Sir Offley Wakeman, Bart.; the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, R. G. Venables, P.A.G.D.C.; and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past." The lodge had arisen out of one of those county societies so popular in London. The Shropshire Society had been founded about two years ago, and was one of the most successful. The lodge might be regarded as the inner circle, and could not fail to extend the object the Society had in view, which was to promote the good of Shropshire men in London. Although he principally resided in another county, he regarded Shropshire as typical of their beautiful English counties. The county had nobly done its duty to the nation during the war, having sent out detachment after detachment of yeomanry and regular forces. He was proud to be a Shropshire man, and knew nothing would be left undone by the members of the lodge to make it worthy of the admiration of the Masons of their province.

Bro. R. G. Venables, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, responding, thanked the W.M. for his kind thought for the Masons of Shropshire. The members of the Provincial Grand Lodge would be proud of their child in London, and he hoped it would prosper. In fact, they had no doubts upon the subject. This was the second lodge bearing that name, but the first had but a short life, having been born in 1788 and expired in 1799.

Bro. Capt. Williams Freeman, P.G.S.B., S.W., proposed the toast of "The Consecrating Officers," and enlorged the impressive manner in which the ceremony had been performed. He had been delighted but not surprised, as three of the six Consecrating Officers were Shropshire men—Bro. A. C. Spaul, P.D.G.D.C., Bro. V. C. L. Crump, P.G. Std. Br., and he could claim the Bishop of Barking, as he was educated at King Edward VII. School, Shrewsbury. He did not think it possible for the ceremony to have been done better, but if it were possible it would be when all six officers hailed from Salop.

Bro. the Right Rev. the Bishop of Barking, replying (in the absence of the Grand Secretary) for the Consecrating Officers, had pleasure in admitting that he owed a great deal to the old school of King Edward VII., regarding which he had had a reminder from Shrewsbury, for the first letter he received after being gazetted Bishop was one from the head boy of the school asking him to write and get the boys a half-holiday in honour of the event, which he had great pleasure in doing. The founding of a lodge always reminded him of the launching of a ship. When the cords were cut, there was that anxious moment before the vessel gradually and majestically glides off the slips; there was just that period in starting a lodge, would all go right? There was no doubt as to that. Judging from propositions made that night, the success of the Wrekin Lodge was a foregone conclusion. It was always a pleasure to be a consecrating officer with such a Master as Bro. Letchworth and a Director of Ceremonies of such ability as Bro. Frank Richardson. He was confident the lodge they had started would attract Shropshire men to rally round it. Freemasonry draws real work out of men, and he advised every member to aspire to office, and to thus help the work forward.

Bro. J. H. Redman, acting I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The Worshipful Master," remarked that none but those acting on the committee of the Shropshire Society, could

know how much enthusiasm Lord Barnard had displayed in their interests. Anything for the benefit of Shropshire men was sure to have his hearty support. He was second president of their society, having succeeded the Duke of Norfolk. When the question of a lodge was mentioned to him he stepped down from his lofty pedestal of Provincial Grand Master of Durham and consented to be their first W.M. He could assure him that he held, and ever would hold, the affections of Shropshire Masons.

The W.M., in reply, could not sufficiently thank the brethren for the heartiness accorded to the toast. Whatever he had done for the society and lodge have been simple evidence of the deep interest in everything concerning the county. He hoped the influence of the lodge would bring good recruits from the society, and that its working would be a model among lodges. He disclaimed much of the credit which had been given to him, which must be shared with those who have worked with him.

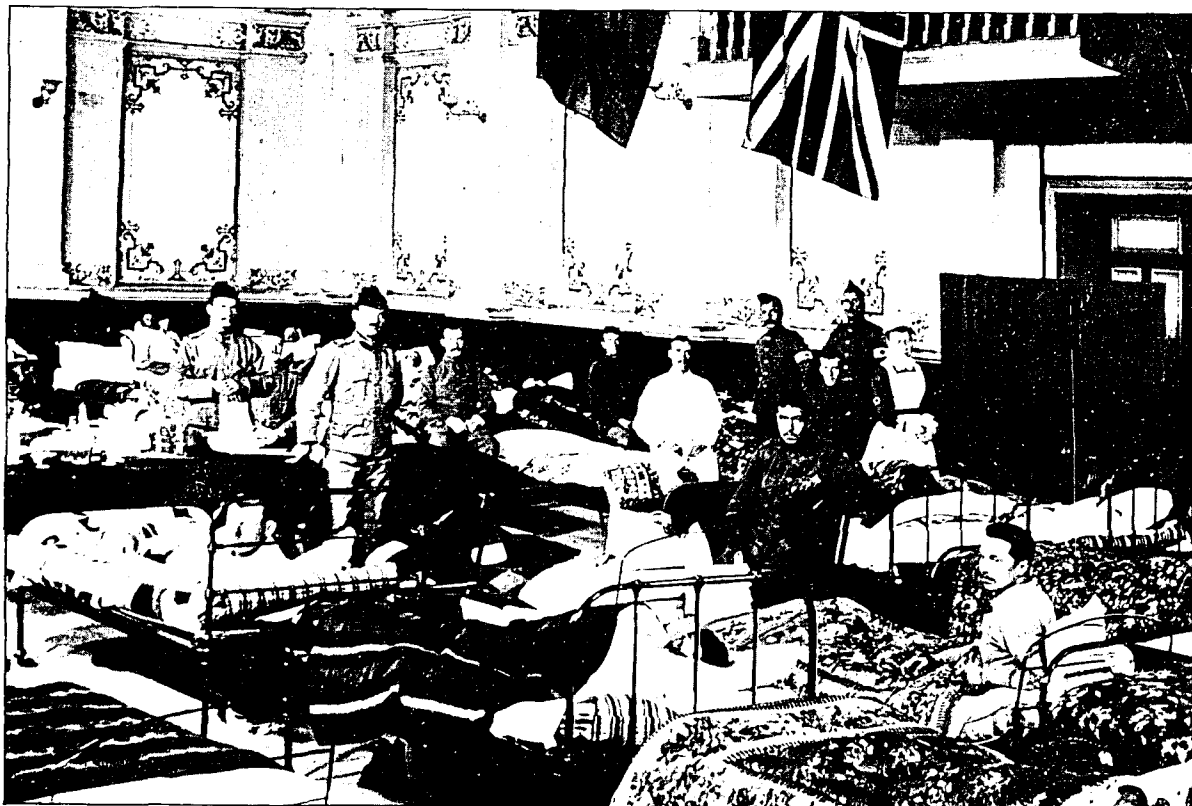
The toast of "The visitors" was duly honoured, and was responded to by Bro. J. D. Williams, who said he was the youngest installed Master present, and W.M. of the oldest lodge in the province, No. 117. The heartiest wishes, he said, for the success of the lodge would re-echo from "Around the Wrekin."

Bro. Pretty, P.M., also responded.

Replying to the toast of "The Officers," Bro. R. B. Benson, W.M. 1537, J.W., assured the Worshipful Master and brethren that they appreciated the honour and privilege of being the original officers, everyone of whom felt a deep sense of responsibility, realizing that they were making traditions for the lodge.

A local Shropshire toast, "All around the Wrekin," was given and honoured.

The Tyler's toast brought a successful evening to a close, the arrangements for which were perfect, and reflected great credit upon the Secretary, Bro. A. Middleton Rickards.



A PORTION OF THE MASONIC HALL, JOHANNESBURG, NOW IN USE AS A MILITARY HOSPITAL.

We are indebted for the above to W. Bro. Ivan H. Haarburger, Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, of Bloemfontein, whose portrait appeared in our issue of September last.

*Presentation to Bro. W. J. Watson,
P.P.S.G. Warden North and East Yorkshire.*

A LARGE gathering of members and visitors were present at the regular meeting of the North York Lodge, No. 602, held on January 31st in the Masonic Hall, Middlesbrough, the Worshipful Master, Bro. T. Henderson, presiding, when Bro. W. J. Watson, P.M., was the recipient of a handsome jewel, subscribed for by the members, to mark the occasion of his promotion to the high office of Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden of North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, which was graciously conferred by the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Marquis of Zetland, on December 23rd last.



BRO. W. J. WATSON, P.M.

W. Bro. S. A. Sadler, P.M., P.P.S.G.W. North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, and M.P. for Middlesbrough, in making the presentation, said that it gave him the very greatest pleasure to have the opportunity of testifying to the excellent work which, for upwards of thirty-three years, Bro. Watson had performed as a member of the Craft, and it might not be out of place if he briefly detailed, for the information of the younger brethren, an outline of Bro. Watson's Masonic career.

He was initiated into Freemasonry on October 29th, 1869, and on December 21st, 1875, was installed as W.M. of the North York Lodge by the late Bro. George Marwood, then Past Provincial Deputy Grand Master of North and East Ridings of Yorkshire.

In 1883 the office of Provincial Grand Registrar was conferred upon Bro. Watson, who, in May, 1889, attended the first festival of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire Provincial Educational Fund, being one of the representatives for his lodge.

In 1890 he was elected Charity Representative for the North York, and continued the duties of that office until 1901, when, owing to the death of their esteemed W. Bro. Andrew Farmer, a vacancy occurred on the Provincial Educational Board of one of the representatives of the province, and Bro. Watson was unanimously elected to fill the same at Provincial Grand Lodge, held in July of that year; and, although still eligible to be Charity Representative

for his lodge, he declined to be again nominated, so that the North York might have its independent and direct representative.

Thus far, he had detailed Bro. Watson's connection with the North York, but he had not confined his efforts to his mother lodge, for in 1879, along with the late Bro. W. H. Cowper, who was also a Past Master of the North York, and Past Grand Sword Bearer of England, he was instrumental in forming a second lodge in Middlesbrough, when at a meeting of a few Past Masters, of which he (the speaker) was one, held at the Erimus Club, on the motion of Bro. Dr. Walker, the name "Ferrum" was given to it, and Bro. Watson maintained his connection with the same until quite recently, when, feeling that he could not take any active personal interest in it, he retired.

In 1891, Bro. Watson founded the Orde-Powlett Lodge, No. 2391, named in compliment to the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, now Lord Bolton, which has had a very large amount of success and is a very popular lodge. Bro. Watson was installed first Worshipful Master of it, and, at the end of the year, was unanimously elected for a further term of office.

At the same time, his labours were so highly appreciated by the brethren that they took the opportunity of presenting him with a very handsome founder's jewel, and at the close of his second year they further marked their appreciation by entertaining him at a banquet and presenting an illuminated address. Bro. Watson continued to take unabated interest in the lodge and now acts as its Director of Ceremonies.

The year 1894 was Bro. Watson's silver wedding in Masonry, and the brethren of the Orde-Powlett entertained him to a complimentary dinner in commemoration of the same.

Further, it might be mentioned that Bro. Watson had always taken an earnest interest in the welfare of Masonry in the neighbourhood, and two of the lodges, viz.: the Zetland, No. 561, Guisborough, and the Handyside, No. 1618, Saltburn, elected him an honorary member in recognition of services freely rendered them.

In the Royal Arch Chapter, Bro. Watson was First Principal in 1881-2, and is still a subscribing member; he also ranks as Past Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, North and East Ridings of Yorkshire.

In the Mark Degree he was advanced upon the day of the consecration of the Middlesbrough Mark Lodge, in 1881, having been one of the promoters of it, and acted as Secretary for the first year of its institution, holding the office of Worshipful Master in 1886, and is Past Prov. J.G. Warden.

Thus far, he had given what might be termed statistics, but coming down to the particular reason of the function of that evening, he would say that on December 23rd last, the Most Worshipful Provincial Grand Master intimated, through the Provincial Grand Secretary, that it was his pleasure to promote Bro. Watson to the rank of Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden, which, as the brethren would know, is the highest office a Provincial Grand Master can bestow, and the brethren of the North York Lodge, realising this, thought it a very fitting opportunity to signalise the event by expressing their appreciation of the constant and earnest work for so many years done by Bro. Watson on behalf of Masonry in their lodge, therefore they resolved to procure a Provincial Grand Warden's jewel, and had done him (Bro. Sadler) the honour of asking him to formally place it upon Bro. Watson's breast, which he had great pleasure in doing at the same time saying that he hoped he might long be spared to wear it and continue in health and strength to still further carry on his good work for Masons and Masonry.

In responding, Bro. Watson thanked the brethren very cordially for this mark of their kindness to him and referred feelingly to the great affection which has existed for a great number of years between himself and the members of the lodge. He could assure the brethren that whatever he had done had not been at all with any view to obtaining recognition either from them or the Provincial Grand Master, but because he had a whole-hearted interest and liking for the Craft; at the same time, it was undoubtedly most pleasing to himself that he should be signalized for such spontaneous kindness on their part, and he could assure the brethren that whatever he had done in the past he would endeavour to do in the future and thus merit the confidence which was placed in him. It had been, to a large extent, a pleasureable hobby, and he exhorted the younger members of the lodge to look upon it in the same light and devote a considerable part of their time to furthering the interests of the Craft. He could assure them there was plenty of excellent work for them to perform if once their enthusiasm was aroused and they would take the trouble to follow out the tenets of Masonry. He thanked Bro. Sadler for finding time in his multifarious Parliamentary and other duties to come amongst them and make the presentation, as they were such old personal friends, and both initiated in the same lodge.

After the business of the lodge had been concluded, the brethren dined together, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

Amongst those present were the Mayor of Middlesbrough, Bro. Alderman. J. McLauchlan; W. Bro. J. A. Manners, P.M., P.P.J.G.W. (the doyen of Freemasonry in Middlesbrough); W. Bro. W. Richardson, P.M. 561, P.P.J.G.W.; W. Bro. M. Jefferson, W.M. 2391; Bro. W. R. Harrison, W.M. 561; W. Bro. R. Anderson, P.M. 1342, P.P.G.D.C.; Bro. B. S. Beckwith, P.P.G.W. Durham; W. Bro. William Payne, W.M. 940; Bro. W. H. Robinson, P.M. 2391, P.J.G.D.; Bro. J. A. Henderson, Secretary 940, P.J.G.W. Durham; and a number of officers and brethren of neigh-

bouring lodges, besides several Past Masters of the North York Lodge.



BRO. COLONEL S. A. SADLER, M.P.,
PAST PROV. SENIOR GRAND WARDEN N. & E. RIDINGS YORKS.

The jewel bore the following inscription:—"Presented by the members of the North York Lodge, No. 602, Middlesbrough, as a token of esteem and in appreciation of his many valuable services to the lodge, to W. Bro. W. J. Watson P.M., upon the occasion of his appointment as P.P.S.G.W N. and E. Ridings Yorkshire, 23rd December, 1901.

University of London Lodge, No. 2033.

THE first meeting in the New Year was held on the 8th January, when Bro. Samuel Hague, LL.B., B.A., P.G.D. Middlesex, W.M., presided. The ceremonies included opening and closing in all the Degrees, and the officers acquitted themselves well therein. The full ceremonies are somewhat rare in our modern lodges, and are the more appreciated because of their rarity.

Bro. W. R. McConnell, B.A., K.C., P.M. of the lodge, and P.D.G. Registrar, and Bro. Nunneley, of the Apollo University Lodge, replied for "The Grand Officers," and

"The Sister Lodges" respectively.

This lodge is in the eighteenth year of its existence, and numbers some sixty members. It is in close touch with the three English University Lodges, and is usually favoured with the presence of representatives of one or more of the lodges.

Now that the University is extending so greatly its sphere of action, this lodge is exerting itself to develop the social side of university life, a development which has hitherto been much neglected within the walls of the institution.

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Class Lodges.

A CLASS Lodge is one which practically restricts the qualifications of membership within limits narrower than those laid down in the Constitutions. It is true that no bye-laws of a lodge, as far as we are aware, contain any rule so limiting its membership, and it is more than doubtful if such a clause would receive the approval of the M.W. Grand Master, but the ballot places the election of candidates in the hands of the members, and in practice the object is as easily attained as it would be by laws formally sanctioning the limitation. Up to about thirty years ago there were very few such. Lodges attached to various regiments and holding under special warrants were, of course, Class Lodges in the strictest sense, and besides these there were less than a dozen. The oldest and most influential are the Grand Stewards' Lodge, which has no number, and which was warranted in 1735. Its members must have served the office of Steward at the Grand Festival. Then there is the Royal Alpha, No. 16 (1722), whose members are the personal friends and advisers of the Grand Master. The Pilgrims' Lodge, No. 238, was founded for the German community in London, and it works in that language. Of late years the travelling military or regimental lodges have decreased in number, and the three on the register were all founded more than half a century ago.

Their warrants have either been surrendered, or the lodges concerned have become stationary. To them have succeeded a host of lodges, both at home and abroad, which exist exclusively for the benefit of persons engaged in the King's service, whether civil, naval or military. The Fitzroy, Ubique, and Ordnance are for the artillery, and the united services meet in the Army and Navy, No. 2738. Lodges connected with various volunteer battalions are very numerous. His Majesty's service is, of course, distinguished by the *esprit de corps* of those who form it, and we can quite understand that this influences even their Masonry. The modern tendency of the various trades and professions to form exclusive Masonic coteries is very marked and appears to meet with every official encouragement.

Thus barristers meet in the Northern Bar, the Midland and Oxford Bar, and the Chancery Bar Lodges. The Telegraph Cable Lodge is for employees of the Eastern Telegraph Extension Company. The Sir Walter Raleigh provides a Masonic home for the tobacco trade, but we should have thought that this particular industry would have found itself at home at any social board. Doctors are admitted to the Æsculapius and the Rahere, named very happily after the founder of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, as well as the London Hospital, the Middlesex Hospital, the Sancta Maria, St. Mary's Hospital, and the Cheselden, named after the great surgeon, and attached to St. Thomas's Hospital. Equally appropriate is the name (Galen) of the lodge where chemists and druggists congregate. Lodge Hiram is meant for architects, the Britannic for engineers, the Chough, Mozart, Orpheus, the Guildhall School of Music and the Incorporated Society of Musicians for musicians. Now the musician is welcome at any lodge, and one wonders why he wants to segregate himself. Actors are allowed to join the Asaph and the Drury Lane. Rowing men go to the Argonauts, London University Graduates meet in a lodge of that name, whilst various public schools, notably the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, have lodges named after them for the benefit of old boys. The London Stock Exchange has its own lodge, happily named Prudence, and journalists find Masonic companionship in the Gallery Lodge, composed of Parliamentary reporters. Evening Star is the well chosen name of the lodge, where employees of the Gas Light and Coke Company may see light of another kind. Then the London School Board has its own lodge. The Guardians of the Poor meet in the Guardians' Lodge. Commercial travellers have lodges for their exclusive enjoyment, and also the Royal Warrant Holders.

Many Class Lodges have a geographical or racial qualification. Such are Israel for Hebrews, La France, L'Entente Cordiale, Italia, as well as the Pilgrims, already mentioned. The Cornish, Northern Counties, Lancastrian, Devonian, Norfolk, and London Welsh explain themselves, as also do the Scots and the Anglo-American. The colonial brother who has returned to England may join the Empire.

The great majority of these lodges meet in London, and the reason is fairly obvious. In the provinces, Class Lodges come into existence owing to accidental circumstances, for which the ballot-box, rather than the intentions of the founders, is responsible.

There are two other Class Lodges to which we must refer, inasmuch as they reflect much credit on the Order. There are the lodge of Quatuor Coronati and the lodge of Research. One of these meets in London, the other at Leicester. They are the homes of Masonic learning and have rendered the Craft incalculable good. Papers are read at their meetings on Masonic history and archaeology and kindred Masonic subjects. Lodge Quatuor Coronati numbers its members in every part of the globe, in fact it is the only lodge upon which the sun never sets. It is limited in membership to forty, and none are admitted without a high literary, artistic, or scientific qualification. The late Bro. Speth, however, formed what he called an outer circle, whose members enjoy all the literary privileges of the lodge, but being without votes and ineligible for office. Members of the inner circle seldom exceed thirty in number.



The following notice of motion, which has been placed on the business paper for Grand Lodge, on the 5th of March by the Grand Registrar, will be read with considerable interest:—"To add to Rule 175 Book of Constitutions the following provision—'175A. Should a member be four years in arrear, he shall therefore cease to be a member of the Lodge, and can only become a member again by regular proposition and ballot according to Rule 189. The Lodge may require payment of the arrears as a condition precedent to election. This Rule shall not prevent a Lodge proceeding against any of its members under Rule 210 for non-payment of contributions according to its bye-laws, for a shorter period than four years. When a Brother ceases to be a member under this Rule, the fact shall be forthwith notified to the Grand Secretary, and, if the Lodge be within a Province or District, also to the Provincial or District Grand Lodge. The provisions of Rule 211, 212, and 213 shall apply in such a case, as if the brother had been excluded by vote.'"

We believe the Fraternity will gladly welcome and adopt a rule which will have the effect of automatically cancelling the membership of those brethren who so lightly value their privileges as to allow their contributions to remain unpaid, in some cases for many years. It is true that the rule already provides for their exclusion by vote of the lodge, but the duty is always an unpleasant one, and the executive officers will rejoice to be relieved from taking the initiative.

No special gift of prophecy is required to foretell that at the next meeting of Grand Lodge in March, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught will be again elected Grand Master of English Freemasons, and that on the 30th April the formal installation, personally or by proxy, will then take place. The election to the office of Grand Treasurer is also equally placed beyond conjecture, Bro. Captain Barlow, J.P., being the only nominee.

Bro. Sheriff Horace Brooks Marshall, Grand Treasurer, entertained Bro. Sir Joseph Dimsdale, M.P., the Lord Mayor, Past Grand Treasurer, at dinner, on the evening of the 19th February, at the Reform Club, when the following Officers of Grand Lodge were also present: Bros. Viscount Templetown, Colonel John Davis, A.D.C., Sir Reginald Hanson, Robert Grey, Alderman W. Vaughan Morgan, Sir Forest Fulton, K.C., R. Loveland-Loveland, K.C., Frank Richardson, J. H. Matthews, J. C. Parkinson, Sir Frank Green, Bart., Sir Alfred Newton, P. de Lande Long, Under-Sheriff Langton, Thomas Catling, T. H. Gardiner, and Gordon Smith.

The M.W. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, was entertained on the 13th February at a banquet in the Masonic Hall, Molesworth Street, Dublin, by the members of the Duke of York Lodge, No. 25 (I.C.), of which Sir Charles Cameron, C.B., is Secretary. Two hundred brethren, including many of the leading members of the Order in Ireland, took part in the proceedings.

The business paper for the next meeting of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons contains the following:—"The Board has the pleasure to announce that the installation of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, K.G., will take place on Tuesday, 3rd June. So soon as the arrangements are complete, particulars will be sent to every Grand Officer, Present and Past, and to the W. Master of every private lodge."

We believe it is in contemplation to hold the meeting for the installation of His Royal Highness at the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, and the subsequent banquet at Freemasons' Tavern.

There are few more ardent and enthusiastic Masons than Bro. Baddeley, whose installation as W.M. of the Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385, took place at Barnet on the 31st January. His first introduction to Masonry was in a lodge under the Scottish Constitution in the year 1873, while he was a resident in Sydney, New South Wales, and for some years after he continued his connection with that body, joining Lodge 358 in 1875, as well as the St. Andrew's Royal Arch Chapter, No. 110 (S.C.), in the same year. On his return to England some ten years later he lost no time in affiliating himself with the Grand Lodge of England by joining successively the Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385, in 1885, the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25, the Barnet Lodge, No. 2509, of which he was a founder, and the Jubilee Masters' Lodge, No. 2712. As we have stated, he now occupies the chair of the Gladsmuir, and was W.M. of the Robert Burns in 1898, the Barnet in 1889, and is at present the Senior Warden of the Jubilee Masters' Lodge.

Bro. Baddeley has been no less active in the Royal Arch and other Degrees. In the former he has filled the chair of M.E.Z. in the Gladsmuir Chapter, No. 1385, the Robert Burns, No. 25, the Bedford, No. 157, and is now P.S. in the George Price Chapter, No. 2096. Twice he has been elected to the Master's chair in the Mark, viz.: the Gladsmuir, No. 367, in 1893, and recently the Prince Frederick William, No. of 458. He became a member of the Camden Rose Croix Preceptory in 1895, and was M.W.S. in 1900, and took part in founding the Camden Preceptory of Knights Templars, and filled the chair of E.P. in 1901. To this record must be added membership of the Allied Masonic Degrees and of the Royal Ark Mariners. Bro. Baddeley is a

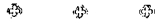


BRO. WILLIAM BADDELEY. (Photo Elite Portrait Co.)

generous contributor to our Masonic Charities, is a Vice-Patron of the Boys' and the Benevolent Institution, Vice-President of the Girls', and is within measureable distance of becoming a Patron of all three.

At a meeting of the Boys' School Dinner Club held on Friday, January 31st, at the Holborn Restaurant, at which V.W. Bro. Harry Manfield, P.G. Treasurer, presided, R.W. Bro. Colonel John Davis, A.D.C., made known his intention

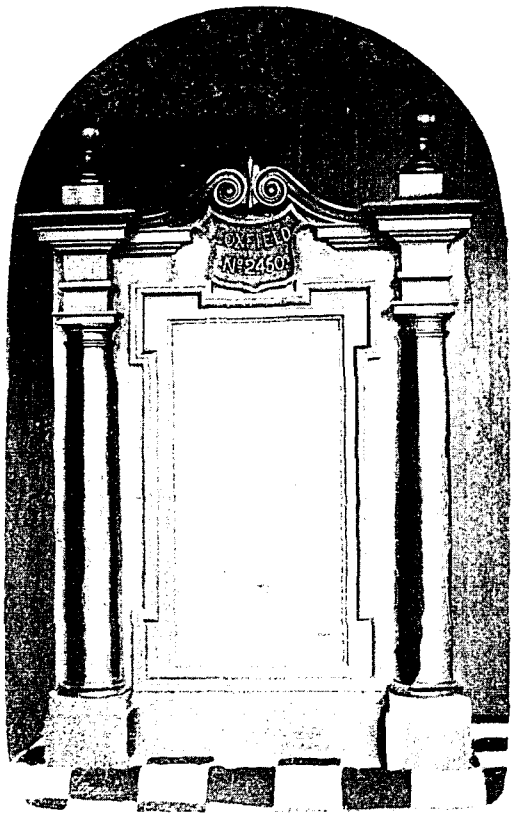
of founding a scholarship in connection with university education. Many other well known brethren were present, including Bro. J. Passmore Edwards.



The passing away of R.W. Bro. Sir John Monckton, P.G. Warden, and the sympathy which has gone out from the whole Craft at that sad event, reminds us that he has left behind him, in the person of Bro. Lionel Monckton, a son whose talent has long been recognised in the musical and dramatic professions. We are reminded of the tale which Bro. Lionel Monckton relates regarding the late-lamented Bro. William Terris, who once made him a present of a grandfather's clock. On the day that poor Terris was assassinated, Lionel Monckton arrived home to find his clock stopped, and on enquiry he found that it had ceased to go at the very minute that Bro. William Terris met his death.



The arrival of R.W. Bro. Lord Llangattock, P.G. Master South Wales (E.D.), and Lady Llangattock in town, is the subject of an interesting note in a contemporary, which we cannot forbear from quoting:—"Lady Llangattock was Miss Georgina Maclean, daughter of Sir Charles Maclean, of Morvaren, and as she is Scotch and her husband Welsh, their marriage was somewhat of a union of races. The pronunciation of their title and of their home in Wales proves a puzzle to many. The correct mode is as follows: 'Llangattock' should be 'Hlang-a-tock' and 'The Hendre' must be 'The Hendref.' Their abode in London is a treasure-house of arts and curios collected during foreign travel. The drawing room is said to be an exact copy of a reception room in the German Emperor's palace at Berlin; and another apartment has a frescoed ceiling painted at a great cost."



The Loxfield Lodge, No. 2450, at Uckfield, possesses a very elaborate and massive oak tracing board, of which the above is an illustration. It was designed by W. Bro. S. Denman, P.M. 732, 2450, P.P.G.D., and presented to the lodge by W. Bro. C. J. Hayes, P.M. 619, 1708, who, by the way, is qualifying for Vice-Patron to the three Charities this year. The tracing boards, which slide in at the back, were painted in oils by the Senior Deacon of the lodge, Bro. E. J. Earp, a noted Sussex artist, and together form a very handsome and pleasing asset of the lodge furniture.



The Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which was held at the Freemasons' Hall on the 27th February, was a great success. R.W. Bro. Sir Augustus

Frederick Godson, M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire, presided, and he was supported by a Board of Stewards numbering nearly 700. It was announced by

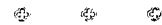


THE CHAIRMAN, BRO. SIR A. F. GODSON.

the Secretary of the Institution, Bro. James Terry, that the list of contributions sent in amounted to the magnificent sum of £24,575, of which sum London had contributed £11,995 and the provinces £12,580. The Chairman's Province of Worcestershire, although numbering only fifteen lodges, had evinced their loyalty to the Provincial Grand Master and their interest in the Institution by contributing £2874 to the grand total. It was stated that there were twenty-eight Lists still to come in, and that there was little doubt that the sum, large as it was, would still be considerably augmented. The chairman had the gratification of announcing that, in view of the generous response that had been made to the appeals of the Stewards on this occasion, the Management Committee had decided to place the additional number of five brethren and five widows to be elected on the 16th May, in honour of the coronation of His Majesty King Edward VII., Grand Patron of the Institution.



Even in these days of record breaking we think it would be difficult to find a brother who could vie with Bro. J. F. Stokes, Secretary of the Lodge of Benevolence, No. 1168, Sherborne, in the matter of regular attendance. The lodge meets monthly, and he has not been absent on any single occasion of the lodge meetings for thirty years; a regular consecutive attendance for 360 nights. Bro. Stokes was initiated in 1870, and filled the chair in 1876. For the past twenty-four years he has acted as Secretary.



No decision has yet been made known as to any special arrangements come to in connection with the Coronation ceremonies, but in view of the close connection which exists between Royalty and Masonry, it is not improbable that some special notice will be taken of the event by the Craft.



The office of Town Clerk at the Guildhall has not, in consequence of the lamented death of R.W. Bro. Sir John Monckton, P.G.W., been allowed to cease its associations with Freemasonry, the present temporary holder of the office, Bro. Sir Gabriel Goldney being a well known member of the Craft. A popular candidate for the office, which the late Bro. Sir John Monckton filled so long and well, is Bro. Sir Homewood Crawford, the present City Solicitor, who is a Past Grand Deacon of England.

The M.W. Grand Master having been pleased to grant a warrant, on the application of many residents in the Strand, the Willing Lodge, No. 2983, will be consecrated by the Grand Secretary on Tuesday, March 11th, at the Tivoli Restaurant, Strand. The Worshipful Master Designate is Bro. James Willing, jun., who is a Past Master and founder of several successful lodges; the Senior Warden is Bro. T. V. Bowater, C.C., and the Junior Warden is Bro. Willis H. Wilson. The lodge starts under auspicious circumstances and bids fair to play a prominent part in London Masonry.



Bro. Arthur S. Benjamin, whose installation as W.M. of the Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge is reported in another column, is the son of one of the earliest settlers in Melbourne, Victoria, was born in London, after his parents return to this country, in 1854, and was educated at University College, Gower Street, and at the Handel School, Berlin. In 1875 Bro. Benjamin went to Queensland, and with his brother founded, in Brisbane, a large mercantile business, returning to this country in 1890, and subsequently joining a well known firm of tobacco brokers. He became a member of the Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge in 1892, and has worked up to the chair through all the offices.



Bro. Colonel J. D. Murray, P.G. Treas., presided on February 19th at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool, over a large representative gathering of brethren interested in the welfare and prosperity of the West Lancashire Alpass Benevolent Institution, founded for the purpose of giving needed assistance in the way of annuities to the widows of deceased Freemasons. Continuations of grants to fourteen widows already on the fund were considered and passed for the approval of the yearly court of governors to be held at an early date. One new candidate was also selected as an eligible annuitant at the meeting referred to, when the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer's reports will be submitted.



Bro. Captain Edmund Bailey, whose installation as first W.M. of the Khartoum Lodge, No. 2877, was recorded in our last number, was the moving spirit in the formation of this, the first lodge consecrated in Egypt and the Soudan since it has been organized as a District, and his well



BRO. CAPTAIN BAILEY.—(Photo Elite Portrait Co.)

known energy and zeal for the Craft will be of great service to his confreres in the somewhat difficult task of establishing a sound Masonic organization in that region. His position on the staff of the Sirdar, who is also District Grand Master, cannot fail to be of advantage in this direction.

The installation meeting of the Lodge of United Strength, No. 228, took place at the Guildhall Tavern, E.C., on Tuesday, 11th February, when W. Bro. Benson C. Kirby was installed as the 105th Master. The outgoing master, W. Bro. A. V. Miller, installed his successor in a very able manner, and Bros. the Rev. S. B. Mayall and W. A. Smith were appointed S.W. and J. W. respectively. This is one of the centenary lodges, and its oldest member is W. Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., and Secretary of the R.M.B.I.



There are several members who can claim thirty years membership, and the Treasurer, Bro. Hickman, P.M., was initiated twenty-nine years ago. He was W.M. in 1882, and then initiated Bro. Ashby, the present Secretary of the lodge. With the additional strength it has acquired by new members, the lodge has started upon its second century with every prospect of flourishing for many years to come. The present W.M. is an ardent Mason, and will further the interests of the lodge in every way.



It will be heard with regret that, in consequence of illness, Bro. F. H. Macklin, of the Lodge of Asaph, No. 1319, has for some time been unable to follow his profession. It will not be for the want of good wishes of all who have been associated with him in the dramatic world that the matinee to be held for his benefit on Tuesday, the 18th March, at the Haymarket Theatre, is not a huge success.



It is not uninteresting to note in a well-informed contemporary that Bro. Walter Parratt, P.G. Organist, will assist in the performance of the music at the Coronation, and that V.W. Bro. the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, P.G. Chaplain, will be one of the bishops to assist in the duty of supporting His Majesty.



An interesting incident took place at Rangemore recently, where His Majesty paid a visit to R.W. Bro. Lord Burton, of Bass's Ale fame, who is a Past Grand Warden of England. On the 22nd February, "His Majesty mashed five lots of Bass's best product, No. 1 Strong Ale, which was then stored, to be used on great occasions twenty or thirty years hence."



Bro. Hermann Klein, P.G. Organist, in the interesting account of doings in New York, which he periodically sends to a weekly contemporary, relates that Boer emissaries are endeavouring to stir up political feeling in the Masonic lodges there. So far as we know American Masonry has not, up to now, allowed the purity of its scutcheon to be tarnished by political intrigue, and it is not surprising to learn from our worthy raconteur that little success has been met with in this direction by politicians across the "herring pond."

PORTRAITS WANTED.

The proprietors of "THE MASONIC ILLUSTRATED" are desirous of borrowing portraits of the following eminent Masons for the purpose of illustrating the "History of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement." Care will be taken that no injury be done to them, and they will be returned in the course of a few days:—

- Bro. JOHN DOWLEY, P.M. 66, 180, 231, &c.
- " W. R. G. KEY, P.M. 7, 198, &c.
- " CHARLES ROBB, P.M. 11, 231, &c.
- " GEORGE SOANES, P.M. 99, P.G.S.
- " RICHARD J. J. E. DALY, P.M. 8, P.G.S.
- " WILLIAM FREDERICK BEADON, Past Grand Warden (Metropolitan Police Magistrate, died 1862).
- " HERBERT LLOYD, 14, P.S.G. Deacon (died 1867).
- " THOMAS HENRY HALL, 99, &c., Past Prov. G.M. Cambridgeshire (died 1879).
- " JOHN L. EVANS, Past Pres. Board of General Purposes.
- " HORACE LLOYD, Q.C., Past Pres. Board of General Purposes.
- " SAMUEL TOMKINS, Past Grand Treasurer.
- " LORD TENTERDEN, K.C.B., Past Prov. G. Master Essex.
- " LORD KENSINGTON, Past Prov. G. Master South Wales (W.D.).

Freemasonry in Wigan—Antiquity Lodge, No. 178. 1786-1902.

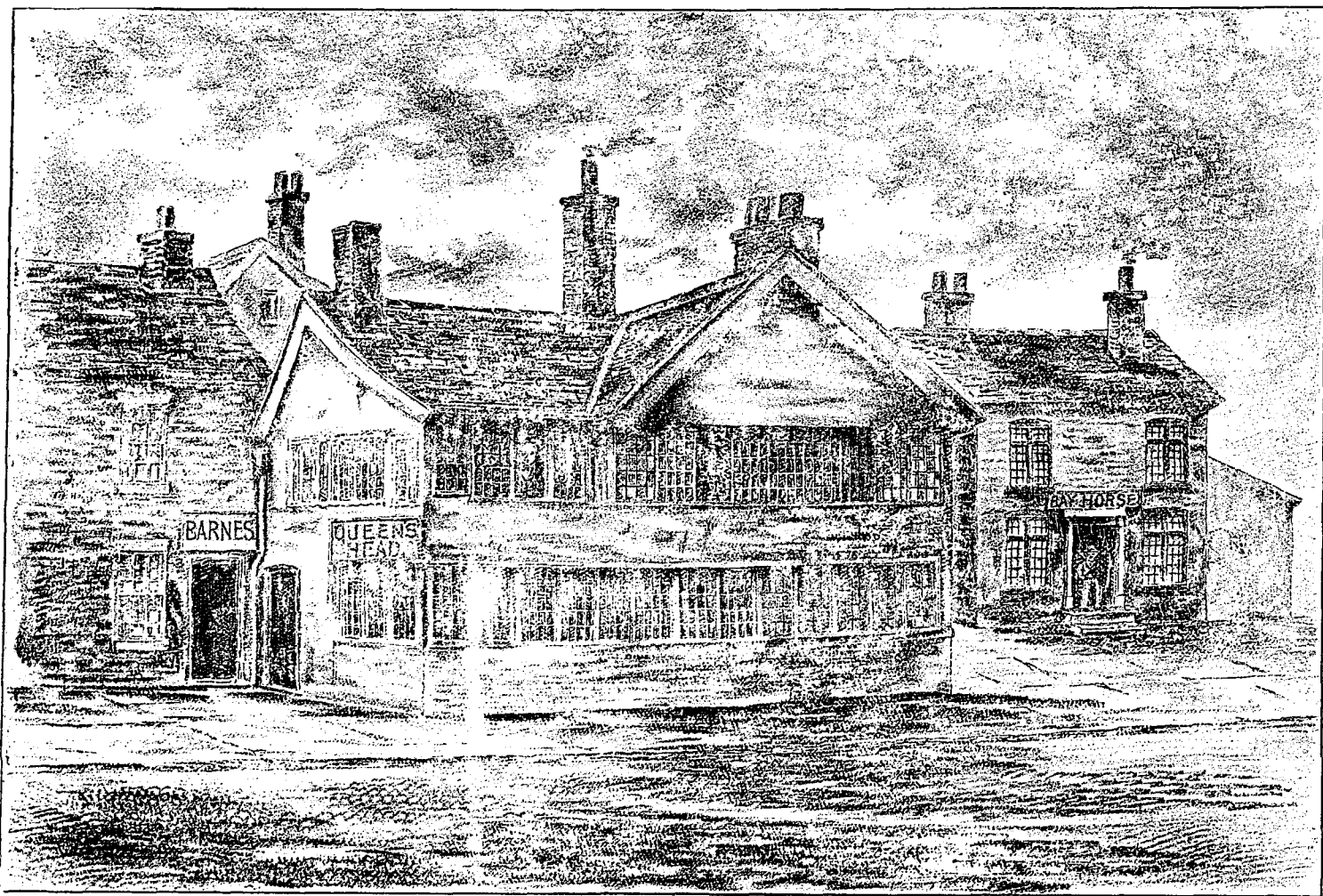
THE installation meeting of this ancient and distinguished lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Tower Buildings, Wigan, on January 15th. The occasion was more than usually noteworthy from the fact that this was the first festival meeting of the lodge held in the magnificent new premises. Three times during the long and chequered career of the lodge have the brethren had to seek new homes that their ever-increasing numbers might be accommodated; and a comparison of the conditions under which they met to carry on their work at various periods in the history of the lodge illustrates the remarkable progress of Masonry in the district.

Considerations of space, however, forbid more than a brief survey of the conditions obtaining at the first installation meeting of the lodge, and some account of the recent festival meeting, being the 116th annual meeting. Fortunately ample material exists for the purposes of such comparison. Not only do the lodge minute books and Treasurers' books contain an unbroken record of the transactions of the lodge, from its consecration to the present time, but the history of Masonry in Wigan has been ably treated by a Past Master of the lodge in an admirable little work, which deserves to be much better known than it is.* Much of whatever may be interesting in this short sketch will be found within its covers.

* * * * *

At the Queen's Head, Wigan, therefore, the new lodge was duly consecrated on Wednesday, June 21st, 1786, bearing the name of Antiquity Lodge, Wigan, and being numbered 235. The ceremony took place in the presence of a goodly number of brethren from Manchester, Bolton, and Liverpool, the first W.M. being Bro. Thomas Doncaster, of Lodge 39, Manchester, while Bro. William Rogers, Lodge 53, Liverpool, and Bro. W. Bradley, Lodge 39, Manchester, were appointed S.W. and J.W. respectively. Bro. R. Holmes was the first Treasurer, and continued in that office for 40 years. He appears to have been a very eccentric man. The local records state that he was buried in the Wigan Parish Church graveyard in a coffin which, during his lifetime, he had had hewn out of a solid block of stone.

The original bye-laws, dated London, May 26th, 1786, are still in existence. It is interesting to note that from the first the brethren took steps to establish a Charity Fund for the relief of indigent brethren and for other charitable purposes. In this respect, as will be seen below, their successors have worthily upheld the early traditions of the lodge. Arrangements were also made to ensure the regular and punctual attendance of officers and members. Refusal to serve in any of the offices entailed a maximum penalty of five shillings in the case of the W.M., with a minimum of one shilling for a Deacon. A member absent one hour after the



THE QUEEN'S HEAD, WIGAN (1786), HEAD QUARTERS OF THE FIRST MASONIC LODGE IN WIGAN.

Among the very few Masonic lodges existing in Lancashire in the year 1786 was the Antiquity Lodge, Bolton, then No. 196. Here Bro. Richard Holmes, of the Queen's Head, Wigan, was "initiated, pas'd, and raised" on February 19th, 1786, on "the very extraordinary emergency, viz., that he might have a lodge, going to be formed at Wigan, at his house."

appointed time of meeting was fined *one penny*. If, however, he did not put in an appearance during the time of meeting the amount was increased to *twopence*. Fines were also imposed on brethren who "cursed, swore, lay or offered to lay wagers." All such fines were deposited in the Charity-box. The initiation fee was fixed at no less than "two guineas and cloathe the lodge, if required." One authority informs us that this clothing of the lodge included "white aprons and gloves, not only for every member in the lodge, but also for all their wives and sweethearts, if they require them."

* History of Masonry in Wigan. Bro. J. Brown.
R. Platt, Printer, Wigan.

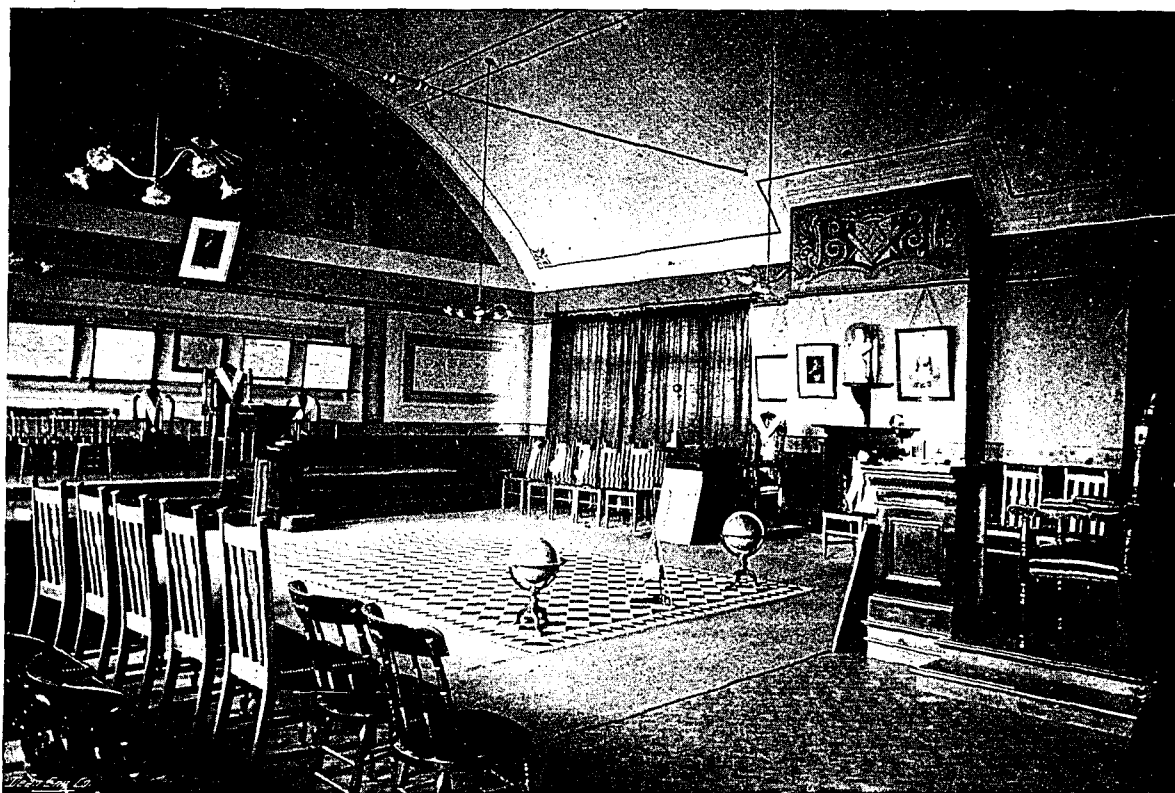
The bye-laws appear to have been seldom transgressed. That there were occasional lapses on the part of the brethren, however, the following quaint extracts from a later period indicate:—

“Feb. 21st, 1801.—Bro. ——— being disguised in liquor, he was admonished by the Worshipful and ordered home.”

“Feb. 26th, 1823.—For some unbecoming business, Bro. ——— was suspended from the lodge for the space of 999 years.”

their successors have worthily followed in their footsteps. An ordinary meeting of Antiquity Lodge in the present day without a goodly array of visitors would be somewhat of a novelty.

Here we must leave these ancient worthies. Their work remains. The foundations they laid were well and truly laid, and each succeeding storey has only made more evident the strength of such foundations, and the wisdom of the dispositions they made. Well may their representatives



LODGE ROOM, MASONIC HALL, WIGAN.

The form of circular used in convening the meetings at the Queen's Head in 1786 is very quaint indeed, and is still in use in connection with the Festival of St. John, necessary alterations as to time and place of meeting, &c., only having been made.

The proceedings in connection with the early installation meetings differed in some respects from those which are in vogue now. The brethren usually met at half-past nine in the morning. This was so on the occasion of the first installation meeting, and “at half-past ten o'clock called from labour to refreshment, and proceeded forthwith to hear prayers at the parish church, and thence returned to the lodge room.” The public procession appears to have been quite a usual feature in the proceedings. In the following year, for instance, after the installation meeting. . . . “The members of this lodge, joined by a many brethren from Chorley, Bolton, and Leigh, &c., with a select band of music, new banner, and regalia; the whole paraded the town, making a respectable appearance, after which the brethren dined together in the New Town Hall.” The banner here referred to still hangs in the Masonic Hall, and a portion of the regalia is still in existence.

The banquet then, as now, a feature of the annual meeting, has also undergone some changes. The “banquet” of 1786 was responsible for the following items of expenditure:—

“June 17.—Paid for the Dinner for the Bros. coming express from Manchester on ac't of Installation, 1s. 4d.
June 21.—Thirty-six Dinners at the Installation, £1 16s., Beer and Porter, 66 quarts, Brandy Punch, £2 11s., Rum Punch and Suppers, £1 8s. 3d.”

Some of the brethren appear to have stayed overnight, for we have on the following day,

“June 22.—Chaise, Drivers, Victuals, and Liquor, 5s.”

Ample evidence exists that these early pioneers of Masonry in the district were ever ready to hospitably entertain visiting brethren from other towns. Here, again,

to-day guard the traditions of the lodge with jealous care, and look with no very friendly eye upon innovations!

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Brief as this sketch must necessarily be, it is impossible to pass over the interval between the two installations under review without a passing reference to the dark days in the



JAMES HEATON, W.M. ANTIQUITY LODGE, WIGAN.

lodge's history. The old masters had passed away. They were succeeded by others who lacked their high ideals, and two or three generations later (viz., from A.D. 1835 onwards) the membership had decreased until it was often found impossible

to open the lodge for lack of officers and brethren. In this crisis in the history of the lodge, fortunately, there were to be found two brethren whose lofty conception of Masonry and extraordinary tenacity of purpose were sufficient not only to stave off the apparently impending dissolution of the lodge, but ultimately to triumph over all the difficulties by which Antiquity was beset. What Freemasonry in the Wigan district owes to W. Bro. Henry Miller and W. Bro. Thomas Holmes will never be fully known. Certain it is that their partnership, extending over 25 or 30 years, during which time the one usually acted as W.M. and the other as Secretary, was of inestimable value to the lodge. They lived long

enough to see the fruition of their labours, for when they laid down their tools Antiquity was in a strong and healthy condition. The mantle of W. Bro. Thomas Holmes descended upon his relative W. Bro. C. B. Holmes, P.M., P.P.G.P., D.C., after whom Antiquity's youngest daughter lodge is named, and of whom one need only say here that he has been a veritable father of the Antiquity Lodge of the present generation, even the claims of his own "bonnie lassie" being insufficient to effect any diminution in the intense interest he has always taken in the work of his mother lodge.

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Ladies' Night of the Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge, No. 2432.

THE annual ladies' night given by the members of the Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge, No. 2432, for the special delectation of ladies of their families, was celebrated this year on the 6th February, at the old quarters of the lodge, the famous Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn Fields, and the gathering was a complete success.



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER, BRO. A. S. BENJAMIN.

The reception was called for 7.30 p.m., when Bro. and Mrs. Benjamin commenced, in the room usually set apart for the meetings of the lodge, their hearty congratulations to the ladies and gentlemen who there assembled. During the ten years of the existence of the lodge these yearly gatherings have proved highly successful, although they began in a very small way. Their dimensions have grown by degrees, but surely and safely, and the last of the meetings was the greatest of all, no less than one hundred and forty ladies and gentlemen co-operating in their contribution to the enjoyment of each other.

After the dinner, a few toasts were proposed and honoured, that of "Bro. Benjamin, W.M.," being given by Bro. Thomas Rayner, P.M., who said it was quite unnecessary to tell the company of his good qualities because one and all had known him many years, and he had their good will—he was a gentleman and a good Mason. With the name of the W.M. he coupled that of Mrs. Benjamin.

Bro. A. S. Benjamin, W.M., in acknowledging the compliment, said he wished he had words to express as deeply as he felt the kindness of the company in so honouring himself and his good wife. Being of a retiring nature he was not able to say much about himself, but he might say that if he felt that one quarter of what, during his Mastership,

the brethren had said in his favour was true he should be one of the happiest of men in the world.

Bro. A. S. Benjamin, W.M., next proposed "The Stewards." It would not be right, he said, to leave the festive board without drinking the health of those to whom the great success of that evening was due. In the first place they had their Past Master, Bro. W. H. Bullock, the Secretary, to whom their greatest recognition was owing, and for himself he sincerely expressed his individual obligations to him for the very great amount of work he had put into the present meeting to make it a success.

Bro. W. H. Bullock, P.M., in reply, said the W.M. had been good enough to speak about what he (Bro. Bullock) had done, but he might say his duties had been light and pleasant. He had been supported by an active board of Stewards. Bros. Oscar Moore, S.W.; Rayner, P.M.; and George Emblin, P.M., D.C., had especially done excellent work.

Bro. Custance, P.M., Treasurer, said, if it had not been for Past Master Bullock, the Sir Walter Raleigh ball and banquet would not have been so successful, and he complimented Bro. Benjamin on it. He hoped Bro. Bullock would long be Secretary of the lodge and of the ball.

Bro. Van Gelden proposed "The Ladies." Without ladies the brethren would have been nowhere. (Laughter.) It was difficult to find words for such an important and pleasant toast; therefore he wrote a speech, after looking up all the authorities on the subject, of about fifteen pages, but was sorry to say he had lost it. For that the company would be thankful.

Bro. Ralph Bullock, replying to the toast, said: A little while ago he happened to be in Liverpool one Sunday, when he dropped into church, and he heard the minister, in his sermon, asking the question, "Who will be the sheep, and who will be the goat?" A sailor there, who had been dining not wisely but too well, said: "Well, governor, to keep the show going, I will be the goat." (Laughter.) His knowledge of the ladies was very spare. By his austere father he had been brought up in such a way that he did not know much about the sex; but at the same time he read the papers now and then, and therefore had a knowledge of the domestic strifes in various households (laughter); and also he had had an opportunity of witnessing a play called *Are you a Mason?* in which he saw in the domestic circle a somewhat misleading statement of the duties of a Mason. There were ladies connected with Freemasonry who had very grateful hearts for Freemasons. Ladies who had been deprived of their husbands, and when they were in great trouble, had found Freemasons their best friends, their little sons and daughters found it so, and many ladies who were now enjoying the privileges of Freemasonry were thankful to Freemasons for it. Before sitting down he begged, on behalf of the ladies, to thank them for the excellent souvenir of the W.M.'s year of office.

A souvenir, consisting of a Russia leather wallet, a handkerchief, and a bottle of scent, was presented to each lady.

A programme of eighteen dances finished off a happy and exceedingly enjoyable evening.

Lodge Jottings.

LONDON.—THE ROYAL NAVAL LODGE, No. 59. The installation meeting of this old lodge, which was founded in 1739, was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, on Monday the 13th January, and was very numerously attended. The W.M., Bro. W. B. Abbott, was supported by his officers and a large number of members and visitors. At the request of the W.M., Bro. R. H. Stimpson, P.M., took the chair, and in due course installed Bro. Harold Coxen, S.W., into the chair of K.S. Bro. Stimpson's rendering of the whole ceremony was masterly in the extreme, and he received from the brethren hearty congratulations thereon.

The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. W. B. Abbott, I.P.M.; M. P. Relf, S.W.; W. Waddington Cook, J.W.; J. Duncan, P.M., Treas.; R. H. Stimpson, P.M., Secretary; W. Melville, S.D.; W. B. Clarke, J.D.; C. Weil, P.M., I.G.; D. Mayer, P.G.D., D.C.; A. S. Berenburg, P.M., and H. J. Dunnaway, Stewards; and R. W. Edgeley, P.M., Tyler. A valuable P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. W. B. Abbott, I.P.M., in the name of the lodge, and the gift was suitably acknowledged. Another presentation came as a surprise to many present, it was made by the W.M. to Bro. R. H. Stimpson, P.M., Secretary, and consisted of the jewels of P.M., Secretary, Charity, Jubilee, Diamond Jubilee, and others, and were given to the worthy brother as a mark of esteem and affection towards one who had so ably filled the position of Secretary for fourteen years, and who had most unluckily lost all his jewels about a month since. Bro. Stimpson returned his most sincere thanks to the W.M. and brethren, and assured them that he would ever strive to do in the future what he had done in the past for the benefit of the lodge.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, under the genial presidency of the Worshipful Master.

The customary loyal toasts were given and cordially received.

To the toast of "The Grand Officers," Bros. Daniel Mayer, P.G.D., and H. A. Tobias, P.G. Std. Br. In reply to the toast of "The Worshipful Master," which was proposed by Bro. W. B. Abbott, P.M., Bro. Coxen expressed his great pleasure in attaining to the highest position in his mother lodge, and assured the brethren that they could command his best services. He afterwards announced his intention of going up as a Steward (unofficially) to the Benevolent Institution, and officially to the Boys' School. Seventy-five guineas were subscribed during the evening to the W.M.'s list for the Boys' School.

Many other toasts followed, and to that of "The Visitors" Bros. Ferdinand Hess, W. Hancock and others replied. The Tyler's toast closed a most successful and enjoyable evening.

BANGOR.—ST. DAVID'S LODGE, No. 384. The installation of Bro. Philip E. Jones as W.M. of the premier lodge of the Province of North Wales brought together a large number of members and visitors to the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, the 21st January. Amongst the brethren present were Grand and Provincial Grand Officers, viz.:—Bros. Col. C. Hunter, P.M., P.D.G.P., Prov. G.M. Aberdeenshire (East), P. Prov. S.G.W.; Edward Roberts, P.M., P.D.G. Swd. Br. Eng., P. Prov. S.G.W., Prov. G. Sec. North Wales; Robert Owen, P.M., Prov. J.G.W.; Thos. Edwards, P.M., P. Prov. G. Chap.; John Pritchard, P.M., P. Prov. G. Deacon; D. Wynn Williams, P.M., P. Prov. G. Deacon; Owen Rowland, P.M., Prov. G. Supt. of Works; R. G. Thomas, P.M., P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; R. W. Newton, P.M., P. Prov. J.G. Deacon; R. Langford Jones, P.M., P. Prov. J.G. Deacon; W. P. Matthews, P.M., P. Prov. G.D.C.; R. A. Gregory, P.M., P. Prov. A.G.D.C.; W. A. Foster, P.M., P. Prov. G. Std. Br.; Walter M. Williams, P.M., P. Prov. G. Purst.; W. Price Smith, P.M., P. Prov. G. Purst.; J. A. Hornby, P.M., P. Prov. G. Steward; Evan Evans, P.M., P. Prov. G. Steward; Richard Jones, W.M., Prov. G. Steward; T. Westlake Morgan, I.P.M. 1849; A. Sumner, I.P.M. 755; D. P. Morgan, I.P.M. 2609; J. A. Rodway, W.M. 1849; and W. H. Wright, W.M. 606.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Dr. Richard Jones, and after the ceremony of initiation had been performed, Bro. Philip E. Jones was duly installed as Master. The newly installed Master then appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Richard Jones, I.P.M.; John Hughes, S.W.; John Hughes, J.W.; Morris Griffith, Chaplain; Walter M. Williams, P.M., Treasurer; W. Price Smith, P.M., Secretary; W. G. Williams, S.D.; G. F. Ainger Williams, J.D.; W. P. Matthews, P.M., D.C.; H. King, Organist; I. Ivor Jarvis, Asst. Secretary; G. F. Ainger Williams, I.G.; O. E. Thomas, William Jones, R. W. Parry, John Humphreys, and W. Tegarty, Stewards; and T. Powis, Tyler. Bro. R. A. Gregory, P.M., was appointed Charity Representative. Numerous letters of apology were received. Several candidates for initiation were proposed, also joining members.

The lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to the Castle Hotel, where an excellent banquet was served.

After the banquet the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured. Music was provided by Bros. William Jones, Owen Rowland, Walter M. Williams, and recitations excellently rendered by Bro. R. Booth.

BARROW.—HARTINGTON LODGE, No. 1021. The installation meeting of this lodge took place on the 14th January, at the Masonic Hall. The ceremony was very efficiently performed by Bro. R. W. Worrall, P.M., P.P.G. Swd. Br. Cheshire, the retiring Worshipful Master, assisted by Bro. J. J. Waddington, P.M., and Bro. Walter Bell, P.M. The newly installed Worshipful Master invested his officers for the year as follows: Bros. R. W. Worrall, I.P.M.; J. McDougall, S.W.; Dudley Wright, J. W.; A. Brown, P.M., Treas.; J. P. Williams, P.M., Sec.; W. Sansom, S.D.; R. Newton, J.D.; E. Allan, I.G.; J. J. Waddington, P.M., Organist; H. F. Wright, P.M., Dir. of C.; E. M. Young, J. E. Hamilton, and A. F. Scott, Stewards; and J. Artis, Tyler.

Bro. Bell, P.M., on behalf of the brethren of the lodge, presented Bro. Williams, P.M., with a Secretary's jewel, as a recognition of his valued services in that office, and Bro. Williams gave an appropriate reply in returning thanks. The W.M. invested the I.P.M. with a Past Master's jewel, and presented him with a beautifully illuminated address, on behalf of the members of the lodge, for the distinguished services he had rendered to Freemasonry in Barrow.

In the evening the brethren partook of a most excellent banquet at the Criterion Restaurant, when the usual toasts were proposed and duly honoured.

BOLTON.—ANCHOR AND HOPE LODGE, No. 37. The installation meeting took place on the 13th January. There were present:—Bros. Jas. Newton, W.M., P.G.S.B., Prov. G. Sec.; C. F. Murphy, S.W.; Gilbert J. French, J.W.; Jno. Booth, P.M., P. Prov. G.D., Treasurer; F. W. Broadbent, P.M., P. Prov. Dep. G. Reg., Secretary; J. W. Thompson, P.M., D.C.; R. W. Walker, I.G.; E. Newton, J. K. Simpson, and H. G. Gee, Stewards; and W. Bro. W. H. Dutton, P.M., Tyler. There were also present W. Bros. Golling, Horrocks, Hinnell, T. Murphy, G. E. Greenhalgh, P.M.'s of the lodge; and Bros. J. B. Goulburn, P.M. 1723, P. Prov. G.D.; R. Harwood, P.M. 146, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; the Rev. John Lawrence, P.M. 273, P. Dist. G.W.; the Rev. W. R. Clayton, P.M. 191, P. Prov. G. Chaplain; T. E. Flitcroft, and Percy Dearden. The visiting brethren were as follows:—Bros. C. D. Cheetham, P.M. 993, G.D. England; Jno. Miles, P.M. 1723, P. Prov. G. Organist; Jas. Unsworth, W.M. 146; Jas. Preston, P.M. 146; Edward Wilson, P.M. 1061, Prov. G.D. West Lancs.; W. H. Brown, P.M. 221, P. Prov. G.D.; Thomas Shorrocks, W.M. 1723; R. H. Beswick, P.M. 1723, P. Prov. G. Steward; T. B. Tong, P.M. 1723; G. Harcastle, W.M. 1773; Jno. Gaultier, P.M. 1256; W. Morris, W.M. 221; J. Renshaw, P.M. 298; George Whittaker, I.P.M. 317; Jeffries, 1621; Fisher, 1061; Stobert, 2572; Hill, 1723; Pigot, 148; Briscoe, 934; Collett, 317; Cobb, 236; and Flitcroft, 1723.

The installation ceremony was performed in an efficient manner by the W.M., Bro. Newton, and the customary proclamations were given by W. Bro. Thompson, P.M., D.C. W. Bro. Booth, in lucid terms, explained the jewels to each officer on his investment, and the usual addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren were given by Bros. Broadbent and Goulburn.

The following officers were invested by the W.M., Bro. Murphy:—Bros. G. J. French, S.W.; Jas. Johnston, J.W.; W. R. Clayton, P. Prov. G.C., Chaplain; Jno. Booth, P.M., Treasurer; F. W. Broadbent, P.M., Secretary; R. W. Walker, S.D.; Edwin Newton, J.D.; J. W. Thompson, P.M., D.C.; J. K. Simpson, I.G.; H. G. Gee and F. A. Lightburn, Stewards; and W. H. Dutton, P.M., Tyler. Bro. Murphy, the newly installed Master, in felicitous terms presented a Past Master's jewel, on behalf of the lodge, to Bro. Newton, and referred to his valuable services to the lodge during his year of office, and the latter, in reply, thanked the brethren for their kindness in giving him such a handsome memento, and he assured them he would prize it very much.

Covers were laid for fifty guests at the banquet held after the meeting, in the Dining Hall, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, especially that of "The W.M.," Bro. Simpson giving a fine rendering of "Here's to his health in a song," the post prandial proceedings being also enlivened by songs and recitations from other brethren, and all agreed that the festival had been one of the most successful held of late years.

HUNTINGDON.—The Socrates Lodge, No. 373. The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 21st January at the George Hotel, when there was a large gathering of members and visitors. Bro. G. Brownlow was duly installed in the chair by Bro. Todd, who was assisted by Bros. Thackray, Pascoe and H. T. Smith, and their work was highly praised. The new W.M. then appointed and invested the following officers for the year:—Bros. F. B. Thackray, I.P.M.; C. B. Margetts, S.W.; J. Copping, J.W.; the Rev. G. H. Frewer, Chaplain; J. Pascoe, Secretary; H. T. Smith, D.C.; E. A. Taylor, Organist; Dalgeish, S.D.; W. Howard, J.D.; J. White, I.G.; Cowden, Rawlance and F. Brown, Stewards; W. Brown and J. Page, Tylers.

The brethren to the number of fifty afterwards sat down to an excellent banquet.

JERSEY.—THE MECHANICS LODGE, No. 245. This lodge held its eighty-ninth installation meeting on January 16th; some seventy members were present, and it was most successful from every point of view. Bro. W. T. Dunell, the W.M. elect, was duly installed by the outgoing Master, Bro. Curtis. The W.M. then invested the following officers:—Bros. W. Curtis, I.P.M.; J. A. Samson, S.W.; J. C. H. Moignard, J.W.; T. W. Dunell, Treasurer (36th time); O. Dodge, Secretary (29th time); J. C. Thatcher, S.D.; R. W. Rice, J.D.; W. Hardy, I.G.; W. Burt, Organist; and W. H. Hambly, Tyler.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren and visitors adjourned to a well-served banquet.

Amongst the visitors were Bros. Nicolls, P.G.S. Guernsey; Major F. G. Godfray, P.S.G.W.; P. G. Hamilton, P.J.G.W.; J. O. Letuer, P.G. Treas.; Lt.-Col. Vatcher, T. Cummings, and the Worshipful Masters of the different lodges of the province.

LINCOLN.—THE WITHAM LODGE, No. 297. The installation meeting of this old lodge was held on the 27th January. There was a large attendance of Past Masters and brethren from Cambridge and the Province of Lincolnshire. The chair was filled by the W.M., Bro. H. B. Kelly. Before the installation ceremony, a very interesting presentation took place. W. Bro. B. Vickers, P.A.G.D.C. England, and P.P.G. Registrar, presented to W. Bro. G. H. Shipley, P.M., on behalf of the lodge, an illuminated address in album form, congratulating him upon having attained his jubilee as installed Master. Bro. Vickers referred to the position of the Witham Lodge at the time of Bro. Shipley's initiation, in 1845, also recalling the names of some noted Masons connected with the lodge when he was installed as W.M. in 1851. The address was then read by Bro. J. L. Rayner, the Secretary, and Bro. Vickers warmly congratulated Bro. Shipley, and expressed a hope that they might have the pleasure of his company on many future occasions. Bro. Shipley, notwithstanding his advanced age, replied in a remarkably clear voice. He expressed his thankfulness, and referred to the fact that there was only one link remaining of the days when he was an ardent worker in Masonry—Bro. Richard Hall, who had that morning expressed his sincere regret that failing health would prevent him from being present at the lodge. The installation was then proceeded with, and afterwards the brethren adjourned to a banquet. The whole of the proceedings were characterised by a truly Masonic spirit, and it was the unanimous opinion of those present that the meeting was one of the most successful the lodge had ever held.

NORTHAMPTON.—THE POMFRET LODGE, No. 360. The annual installation festival in connection with this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, January 1st, when Bro. William John Stanton, P.P.G. Std., S.W., was duly installed as Worshipful Master, in succession to V.W. Bro. H. Manfield, P.P.S.G.W., P.G. Treasurer England. About 120 brethren assembled in honour of the occasion, and not only were the sister lodges in the town represented, but the majority of those in the Province of Norths. and Hunts. The Deputy Prov. Grand Master, W. Bro. J. Haviland, and over forty Past Masters were present. The installation ceremony was performed by V.W. Bro. H. Manfield. The W.M. appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. C. R. Nunn, S.W.; W. J. Arnsby, P.P.G.S., J.W.; C. E. Thorpe, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., Chaplain; A. Cockeril, P.M., P.G. Treasurer, Treasurer; G. Ellard, P.M., P.G. Secretary, Secretary; C. H. Dorman, S.D.; J. J. Martin, J.D.; G. F. E. Wilkinson, P.M., P.J.G.W., D.C.; R. S. Skillington, I.G.; Astley Cooper and R. L. Capell, Stewards; M. L. Warner, P.P.G. Organist, Organist; and G. Robinson, P.P.G. Tyler, Tyler. After the transaction of the usual routine annual business, lodge was closed in due form.

The brethren afterwards sat down to a banquet, when the usual toasts were proposed and duly honoured. The newly-elected W.M. presided, and was supported by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, W. Bro. J. Haviland, P.J.G.D. England, and the Past Masters.

RAMSEY.—ST. MAUGHOLD LODGE, No. 1075. The annual installation of this, the oldest lodge in the Island on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England, held at the Masonic Rooms, on Tuesday, January 21st, brought together one of the largest and most brilliant Masonic gatherings ever witnessed in the Island. The W.M. elect was Bro. T. H. P. Mylechreest, and the ceremony of installation was ably performed by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master. The roll of Installed Masters on this occasion was one of the largest, if not the largest, in the history of Insular Freemasonry. The W.M. invested his officers as follows:—Bros. John Kermod, I.P.M.; A. H. Brown, S.W.; S. A. Whitham, J.W.; Rev. F. D. Kermod, Chaplain; F. M. Le Mothe, Treasurer; F. Brew, Secretary; G. W. Kewin, S.D.; R. D. Kermod, J.D.; H. C. Kerruish, P.M., D.C.; J. Craine, P.M., Organist; A. H. Faragher, I.G.; W. R. Fleming, Steward; and W. Callister, Tyler. The brethren then adjourned to the Queen's Hotel, where they sat down to an excellent banquet.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, that of "Lord Henniker, the Provincial Grand Master, and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Isle of Man," proposed by the I.P.M., being ably responded to by Bro. F. C. Poulter, Prov. G. Secretary, who gave some useful information as to the progress made in the formation of the Taubman and Heron Charities, one for the aid of aged Freemasons, and the other for the assistance in life of the orphans of Freemasons.

Other toasts followed, and a most enjoyable evening was spent,

REDRUTH.—THE DRUIDS LODGE OF LOVE AND LIBERALITY, No. 589, held its installation meeting on the 14th January, when Bro. S. Howard Lanyon was installed as W.M. by W. Bro. Casper R. Laurie, I.P.M. The Worshipful Master invested as his officers:—Bros. S. J. Harper, S.W.; J. W. Welsh, J.W.; Rev. A. H. Ferris, Chaplain; S. M. Abbott, P.M. Treasurer; T. A. Kistler, P.M., Secretary; E. T. Hamilton, S.D.; R. E. Richards, J.D.; H. T. Moore, Asst. Sec.; W. Parkyn, D. of C.; W. C. Hodge, Organist; T. Shopland and E. Noble, Stewards.

W. Bro. E. Broad, P.M., P.P.G. Treasurer, was re-elected Steward of the Cornwall Charity Association, and W. Bro. Casper R. Laurie, P.M., was elected Steward of the Cornwall Masonic Amnity and Benevolent Fund, seventeen guineas being devoted towards these charities. W. Bro. Thomas A. Kistler, P. Prov. G. Treasurer, was presented with a massive silver epergne and a beautifully illuminated address, subscribed by eighty-two brethren of the "Druids" as a mark of their appreciation of his long and valued services as Secretary, and the interest he had evinced in the lodge during the past thirty years, and as a token of fraternal regard and esteem. The presentation was made by the two senior Past Masters, W. Bro. T. Davey, P. Prov. G. Swd. Br., and W. Bro. E. M. Milford, P. Prov. S.G.W.

The Deputy Prov. Grand Master, in very appropriate words, then handed Bro. Kistler an autograph letter from the Prov. G. Master, the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, in which his lordship stated that he had much pleasure in conferring upon him the rank of Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden, well knowing that his devotion to the interests of Masonry, and his long service as Secretary of his lodge, fully justified his lordship's selection, and he felt sure it would receive the hearty approval of the brethren of the province as well as the members of the Druids Lodge.

Bro. Kistler very feelingly thanked the brethren for their great kindness to him, which he should ever value; and especially was he grateful to the Prov. G. Master for the distinguished honour he had conferred upon him, which he appreciated all the more on account of the very kind way in which this unexpected honour was conveyed.

At the close of the lodge, seventy brethren and their visitors partook of an excellent banquet at Tabb's Hotel, presided over by the Worshipful Master, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed, and songs and recitations given by several of the members and visitors.

STRATFORD.—WEST HAM ABBEY LODGE, No. 2201. This flourishing lodge held its eighteenth regular meeting at the Town Hall on Thursday, February 6th. The lodge was opened by Bro. W. G. Stone, W.M., who afterwards vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Jas. Boulton, P.M., P.G.P., who then installed Bro. Henry Barrow as W.M. for the ensuing year. The new W.M. appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers:—T. Thretford, S.W.; J. J. Richardson, J.W.; the Right Rev. Bishop of Barking, Chaplain; Jas. Boulton, Treasurer; F. C. D. Fenn, Secretary; G. A. McDowall, S.D.; W. H. Turner, J.D.; W. S. McDonald, I.G.; J. H. R. Moloney, D.C.; W. Laver and G. W. Reed, Stewards; W. Graves, Organist; and M. Gross, Tyler.

The W.M. then proceeded to pass Bro. Potter to the degree of F.C. The sum of fifty guineas was voted from the lodge fund to be placed upon the W.M.'s list as Steward for the R.M.I.B., and later in the evening this was supplemented by a further £50 subscribed by individual members of the lodge. The balance sheet for the year, which was received and adopted, shows that the sum of one hundred guineas was given from the lodge funds to the R.M.B.I. Thirteen Masters have preceded Bro. Barrow in the chair since the consecration of this lodge, but he is the first initiate of the lodge who has had the honour conferred upon him; he has not been without distinction in other directions in the interim, being a P.M. of the St. Clement's Lodge, No. 2442, and a Past Prov. Grand Swd. Br. Essex.

A banquet afterwards took place, which was attended by a large number of members and visitors.

WREXHAM.—THE SQUARE AND COMPASS LODGE, No. 1336. The installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Public Hall, on the 5th February. The W.M. elect, Bro. Samuel R. Johnson, was installed in the chair by Bro. R. T. Powell, P.M., who was ably assisted by Bros. T. B. Barton, P.M., and G. Cuthrall, P.M. A large number of members and visitors were present.

The new W.M. appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. Thomas Sumnal, I.P.M.; W. E. Johnson, S.W.; R. W. Glascodine, J.W.; T. Beech Barton, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treasurer; Newton Fisk, P.P.G.S., Secretary; J. T. Morgan, S.D.; Arthur Cudworth, J.D.; J. F. Edisbury, P.M., P.P.G.W., Organist; Stanley D. Edisbury, I.G.; Samuel Allcock, Joseph Grimshaw, and Robert Rowley, Stewards; and Thomas Lee, Tyler.

Before the closing of the lodge, the retiring W.M., Bro. Thomas Sumnal, was presented with a Past Master's jewel, as a mark of appreciation and esteem from the brethren, for the services rendered by him during his year of office.

At the conclusion of business an adjournment was made to the Imperial Hotel, Regent Street, where a banquet was served, under the presidency of the newly-installed W.M., Bro. S. R. Johnson. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly proposed and honoured, and a musical programme, to which Bros. Wilfred Jones, W. S. Stephenson, S. P. Davies, Loui Parry, and others contributed, was excellently carried out.

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

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

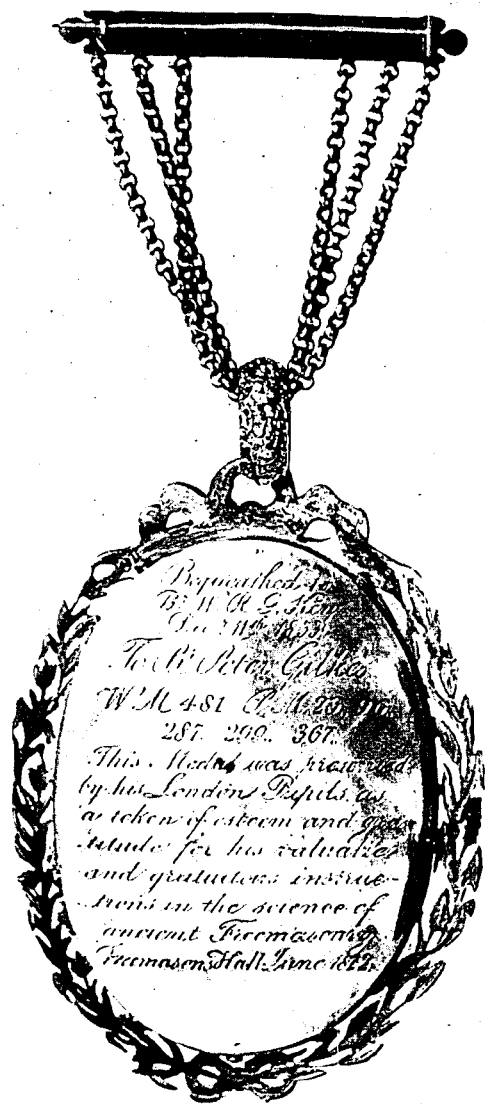
THE Lodge of Unity, now 82, satisfied with his attainments and general conduct, first elected him their Master. He filled successively the chairs of 23, 188, 201, 211, 318, 259, and 7, several times each, and died the Worshipful Master of the St. Michael's Lodge, No. 255. For the last 16 years of his life, he was a distinguished member of the Board of Benevolence, to qualify himself for which he, during that period, annually filled the chair of a lodge, and discharged its arduous duties.

"The difficulties Bro. Gilkes had encountered in perfecting himself in Masonry made him resolve to teach gratuitously such brethren as were disposed to attend him every day from

Masonic illustration, and who, to their credit, acknowledged the reproof with all the courtesy which became their allegiance to the Craft.

"In his youth he must have been an extremely powerful man, for when in his 67th year, on his return from the Blackfriars Lodge, he was attacked in Lincoln's Inn Fields by four men, three of whom he knocked down; he generally carried a cook's knife to defend himself with in case of attack; but, fortunately, he had left it at home on the night of the attack.

"Although universally held in esteem amongst Masons, his conduct was always characterised by good sense; he



PAST MASTER'S JEWEL PRESENTED TO PETER GILKES IN 1822.

one o'clock till the time to attend some lodge or other, where his evenings were generally spent; he was always ready to receive them for this purpose, and even made several journies into Lincolnshire, Cambridge, and Norfolk, refusing all remuneration further than the mere expenses of his visit.

"He was in a manner something Johnsonian in regard to Masonry—no advantage could be taken of him in lodge—he would not allow the slightest deviation in *word*, or *manner*, or *matter* to please the most learned, or the most accomplished in other subjects; we have observed him correct many men of rank and influence for deviations from the standard of

never aspired beyond his station in life, and declined the honour of an office in the Grand Lodge, because he considered that his circumstances in life were not equal to the appointment."

By favour of the Percy Lodge, No. 198, we are enabled to present to our readers an illustration of the handsome Past Master's jewel, designed by Bro. John Harris, of Tracing Board fame, subscribed for in 1822 by some of the London pupils of Peter Gilkes, by whom it was bequeathed to his friend, executor, and favourite pupil, Bro. W. R. G. Key. The jewel, which is profusely embellished with diamonds, is said to have cost one hundred guineas, and in 1834 Bro. Key

applied for, and obtained, the Grand Master's sanction for wearing it at all Masonic meetings. In 1871, Bro. Key, an old member, and for many years Secretary, of the Percy Lodge, being in needy circumstances offered to dispose of the jewel to that lodge for the sum of one hundred pounds. After mature deliberation it was agreed by the members to pay Bro. Key, in advance, an annuity for the remainder of his life, on condition of his surrendering the jewel to the lodge, and in default of such payment "the said jewel to revert to him and again become his property." These conditions having been faithfully observed, on the death of Bro. Key in 1873, the jewel became the property of the Percy Lodge.

Peter Gilkes died on the 11th, and was buried on the 19th December, 1833, in St. James's Churchyard, Piccadilly. "The highest tribute of respect to departed merit was amply offered in the number as well as by the character of a larger concourse of the Fraternity than were probably ever congregated at any Masonic meeting, whether of a public nature or upon any occasion of festivity." In the following year (1834), a Committee was appointed to collect subscriptions for the purpose of erecting a monument to his memory. As may readily be imagined, the many admirers of the departed brother soon enabled the Committee to carry out their wishes, and a most appropriate and handsome tablet, the gratuitous design of his friend and pupil, the late Stephen Barton Wilson, P.G.D., was placed on one of the pillars in the South aisle of the above-named church, where it can still be seen by anyone who cares to inspect it. No doubt the foregoing will sufficiently evince the esteem in which this worthy brother was held by the Fraternity in London, forming, however, but a very small portion of the well-merited encomiums bestowed upon him; indeed, I question whether any single individual, either before his time or since, has attained to such distinction as a Masonic instructor. Gifted with an extraordinary memory, he seems to have come to the front at a period when his peculiar qualifications were most in demand, and consequently fully appreciated. The following extracts from letters written by the two Grand Secretaries who were members of the Lodge of Reconciliation, will sufficiently indicate the official estimate of his character and abilities:—

"Freemasons' Hall,

"Aug. 6, 1818.

"In referring you to Bro. Gilkes, I mentioned he would instruct you in the correct method adopted since the Union; it is quite useless to enquire of me 'which is correct'? More I cannot say in this mode of communication.

"I am, Sir and Bro., &c., &c.,

"E. HARPER, G.S.

"The Lodge 498, Shrewsbury."

"F.M. Hall, 6 Sept., 1843.

"In reply to yr letter of the 5th instant, enquiring whether any alterations have been made in the Ceremonies of Initiation, &c., since the late P. Gilkes was in the Country; I beg to say (without knowing at what period that visit took place) that no alterations have been made since the G. Lo. formally approved and decided on them in the year 1816. Br. Gilkes was fully Master of all the Ceremonies, and, I believe, most strictly observed them.

"I remain,

"W. Master,

"Yours fraternally,

"W. H. WHITE, G.S.

"Lodge 523, Kidderminster."

I cannot well close my remarks on the career of Bro. Gilkes without adverting to his connection with the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, of which lodge he is frequently designated the "Founder." This is obviously incorrect, as he did not join the lodge until about eighteen months after it was established, and is the person referred to in the Memorial of 1830, which bears his own signature, as "the W.M. who now comes amongst us." I have somewhere read that so far from approving of the plan on which it was estab-

lished, he at first strongly objected to it, on the ground that a lodge of instruction restricted to M.M.'s, and working the lectures only, on a new system, could not succeed; he, however, had reason to alter his opinion, for in May, 1825, he joined the lodge, and continued an active, and I need scarcely say, the principal member of it the remainder of his life, thus showing that prejudice was *not* one of his failings.



BRO. S. B. WILSON.

It will readily be conceived that so remarkable a character would be long remembered in the lodge with which he had so strongly identified himself, and, up to a comparatively recent period, "The pious memory of the late Peter Gilkes" was the first toast given at the Annual Festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. His admirers and pupils were numerous, and, although familiar with the names of many whose merits I should like to notice, I think it better under the circumstances, to confine my remarks to those whom I have personally known, and with whose abilities the brethren of the present generation are best acquainted. According to Masonic tradition, the designer of the monument to Peter Gilkes succeeded him in the leadership of his favourite lodge of instruction. I am somewhat doubtful on this point, as there were much older and more experienced brethren intimately associated with the lodge for many years after Gilkes' time, as the following paragraph from a report of the Anniversary Festival in 1835 will show:—

"The meeting was, in particular, marked by the presence of the three leading lecturers on Masonry, upon whom, by general consent as it were, the mantle of 'Peter Gilkes' may be said to have fallen. We feel an honest pride in our association with Brothers Dowley, Cooper, and S. B. Wilson and entertain so high an opinion of their value to the Society that we take the liberty of making as public as we can their well-earned character for intelligence, grounded upon a careful adherence to the landmarks of the Order, for the strict observance of our laws and regulations, and still more for the modesty with which they receive the homage so readily offered to their merits as individuals."

From the fact of the names of Bros. Dowley, Cooper, and S. B. Wilson being mentioned conjointly as successors of Peter Gilkes in the guidance of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, I should think it probable that the lodge was then conducted in a similar manner to that in vogue in the present day, *i.e.*, by a Committee selected by the members from amongst the most experienced of the brethren that attend the weekly meetings.

(To be Continued).