

# THE MASONIC REVIEW

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## Masonic and Social Events for Freemasons.

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### MASONRY UNIVERSAL.

"How were these pillars further adorned?"—"With two Spherical Balls."  
 "What were delineated upon them?"—"Maps of the Celestial and Terrestrial  
 Globes."  
 "What did they point out?"—"Masonry Universal!"—*Ritual.*

WE are, as Freemasons, told that Freemasonry is "spread over the surface of the Earth," and, in respect of it, that the Sun is always at its meridian. Hence is claimed for the peculiar Science of Morality veiled in allegory—Universality. Is this universality a fact or a fallacy? If the former, it cannot be too frequently or too strongly insisted upon in our teachings; if the latter, then in the interests of Freemasonry itself, and more particularly of the Grand Principle upon which, with others, the Institution is founded, the teaching cannot be too readily abandoned. The discussion of the question cannot, in its result, affect in any degree the welfare of the Order. Whatever the resultant answer, whether affirming the universal spread of speculative Masonry, or entirely negating the principle laid down, the progress of the Science would not be hindered thereby. Whether or not any practically beneficial result can attend the discussion is quite another matter; but never yet, in the search after truth, has the time of the inquirer been altogether lost, or his patience unrewarded.

We shall assume that the earliest pretensions to the universal theory were made by the framers of the "System of Morality," much after the same fashion as those in support of the antiquity of Freemasonry, and that in both instances they were altogether wrong in their premisses. That Masonry, as representing the art of designing and building—in other words, operative masonry—comes to us from remote ages, and many distant and very different countries, there can be no doubt; and the claim for some amount of antiquity and universality in respect of that art, may be admitted, though not in the broad sense which the word "universal" itself expresses as all-embracing. For even now there are portions of the habitable globe whereon the simplest rudiments of the operative art are unknown, as there are many and spacious tracts of land whereon the foot of a speculative Freemason has never pressed.

It is not with the operative art we have now to deal, but with that Speculative Science which is illustrated by reference to symbols of which the working tools of the practical Mason form the groundwork. And for this speculative science the claim for universality was set up within a century from its foundation, a century totally devoid of those means for rapid communication with distant lands such as we now enjoy. *Preston* tells us that just prior to 1717, to so low an ebb had the operative Lodges fallen, that "to increase the number of the members, a proposition was made, and afterwards agreed to, that the privileges of Masonry should no longer be restricted to operative masons, but extend to men of various professions," and that "in consequence of this resolution, many new regulations took place, and the Society

### OUR PREFACE.

WE do not excuse our birth. We come upon the scene to supply something which is missing to the followers of our Craft; a something which the existing Masonic journals have not attempted to supply. We shall not presume to influence the general literature of our contemporaries, but we admit our aim is to lead the literature of our Order. We come with a journal which shall be a faithful representative organ of English Freemasonry. It shall contain the ideas of men who are qualified by their education in life, and in the Craft, to express them, and it shall have no side issues or under-currents which might influence the tongue of truth, or make our pen anything but subservient to the interests of the Craft, of our subscribers, and of our own.

Our programme is simple. It is to chronicle all passing important events of a Masonic nature, and to make our pages bright and interesting. If we criticise, our criticisms shall be just, even to the extremity of justness; if we censure, we will not sacrifice our honour for our smartness; when we praise, we shall be sure our praises are well bestowed. Our pages are open to correspondents who address us briefly on Masonic or kindred subjects, and whose communications bear their signatures for publication. We have in preparation a series of signed articles by men high up in the public and social world, and whose views upon the doctrines of Freemasonry will be of the utmost interest and value. "Eminent Masons at Home" will be continuous, and our strong feature. We have nothing to sell.

The English Craft has ever admitted the want of a representative journal conducted by journalists. Upon this we cannot speak. We produce the MASONIC REVIEW to steadfastly acknowledge the ritual of our Craft, and live in an atmosphere of pure Masonic faith.

Thus we launch our well-trimmed barque upon that boundless ocean which will ebb and flow until the day of doom. Our course is clear, and our mariners are staunch. To the "wastepaper" island and the "butter counter" rocks we give a wide berth, and we are bound for the port of *Morocco*, a port where we may rest as a monument of our Craft, cheek-by-jowl with the venerable volumes which furnish the oaken shelves of the Englishman's library.

once more rose into notice and esteem." Here we find the date of the changes which originated Freemasonry as a Speculative Science, and whatever might then have been the nature of the new regulations and the mode of ceremonial, whether based upon the Christian religion alone, or those of Jews and Gentiles modified to conciliate conflicting prejudices and opinions, it was this new science which was declared in less than a hundred years after, to be "universal" and "spread over the four quarters of the globe." Let us see how far this assertion can be justified by facts within the reach of any member of the Order in the present day, and without invading the domain of abstruse research. A reference to the register of Lodges under the English constitution—and it is acknowledged that England is the mother country of all speculative Freemasonry—shows that in 1813, when the reconciliation of divergent systems was effected, and the United Grand Lodge became thereby constituted—there were but some 338 Lodges, of which but nineteen were established in foreign parts. These were represented by six Lodges in Calcutta, three in Madras, three at Gibraltar, two each in Jamaica and Bermuda, and one each in Barbadoes, South America, and South Africa. That appears to have been the full extent of "Masonry Universal" at that date, and when the ritual of the present century was framed. It is true that some other Grand Lodges were in existence at the time mentioned, but these do not appear to have progressed far towards Universality. The Grand Lodge of Scotland, with 250 Lodges in 1813, had but two at foreign stations. These were at Nassau and Trinidad respectively. Upon how slight a basis, therefore, was the pretension to Universality founded! The wish might have been, and doubtless was, "father to the thought," but to claim as a fact that the signs and tokens by which connection with the Science could alone be demonstrated by one person to another were common and universal throughout the world, was a perversion of the great principle of Truth not at all in accordance with the system of morality which Speculative Freemasonry was designed to promote. The statement at that time was erroneous. How much nearer the truth is it in the present day, and after the lapse of but three-fourths of a century since its promulgation? There are now about 550 foreign Lodges on the register of English Freemasonry, and a very considerable number of foreign Grand Lodges, with numerous, so-termed, subordinate Lodges attached to each, and there can be no doubt that the spread of Freemasonry towards that Universality which is claimed for it has been very great and rapid. But it is yet far, very far, from attainment. A recent writer on the subject\* not only very forcibly points out that "the claim was first advanced on the strength of a pure supposition in order to maintain a shadow of the original pretension—advanced in ignorance"; but, placing the great difficulty against Universality in its proper position, maintains that "so long as a fragment of religious belief is required from a candidate, it follows that the Masonic system cannot be absolutely universal." Is this an argument for the abandonment of religious principles in the system? Not at all; but it is strong as against the claim of Universality. It is an anomaly in the present day, whatever it might have been a century or a century and a half ago, to tell intelligent men—and it is to be presumed that all men who enter into the Order are possessed of intelligence—that Freemasonry is common to the whole world, when they must know that the faith they hold, and without the full acknowledgment of which they could not pass the portals of a Masonic Lodge, is not accepted by millions of people, dwellers on the surface of that earth over which it is said that Freemasonry is universally spread.

\* H. J. Whympster on "The Religion of Freemasonry."

## Round and About.

Universal pleasure will be felt at the recovery of the Earl of Jersey—the Prov. Grand Master of Oxfordshire—from his severe attack of gastric fever, contracted on his journey from India; but the most sincere congratulations will come from the villagers and poor of the Osterley estate. Lord Jersey has a strong attachment for children, and nothing pleases him more than to fill one of his home meadows on a July afternoon with children from the neighbouring schools and institutions, and romp with them until his Countess summons them around her to partake of tea and all the goodies she can procure.

\* \* \*

I found his Lordship on one occasion speeding a host of his departing guests at the gates of the park, where he was doling out, from huge boxes lying upon the gravel, buns and oranges and all kinds of good things for his young friends, and not until the last little mite had filed round a bend of the road did he cease waving his handkerchief in return for the cheers that they gave him. On another occasion, when a cricket-match was being played in the park by a local club of policemen against a team from London, his Lordship, hearing the "bobbies" were a man short, hastily donned his whites, took his place in the field, and materially assisted his side to win the match.

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The *World* says:—"The Derby of 1889 was rather one of enormous crowds than of intense enthusiasm. The weather was magnificent, and it is quite possible that the number of sightseers actually beat the record. Circulation on the Hill was at one time almost impossible, owing to the unprecedented number of coaches. Lord Cheylesmore (suffering from a slight attack of gout) sat by the side of his son, and assisted him to entertain Lord George Pratt, Colonels Trotter and Cochrane, the Master of the Cattistock Hounds, and Mr. 'Willy' Brand; the arrival of General Boulanger, sitting behind Mr. L. M. Wynne's magnificent black-brown team, and apparently in the political charge of Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Mr. Whitmore, and Mr. Dixon-Hartland, excited considerable interest; Mr. Toole, Mr. Bancroft, Mr. George Grossmith, Mr. Charles Wyndham, and Mr. Brough were, as usual, the guests of Lord Londesborough; Lord Donegall and Mr. Borlase seemed almost as cheerful as of yore; Sir Victor Houlton enjoyed the hospitality of his tall nephew in the Royals; but no trysting-place was half as popular as the tent over which floated the purple flag and golden portcullis of the Body-Guard. Here Lords Brooke, Coventry, and Breadalbane arrived together as soon as the great event was over; the Deputy-Master of the Mint 'came on' from the lunch of the L. B. & S. C. directors; Lords Sempill and Sudeley were both amongst the guests; Sir Reginald Hanson and Mr. Alderman Evans discussed the coming contest for the Conservancy between the races; and if Mr. Seager-Hunt did not find many of his colleagues, the Army was represented by Sir 'Sam' Smith, Sir George Harman, Sir Gustavus Hume, Colonel Wemyss, General Dunne, and Sir Arthur Herbert."

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"The 'Royal train' becomes each year an increasingly important feature in the Derby Day programme, and on this occasion Mr. G. Lopes took charge of the engine 'Samuel Laing' in person. Lord Colville, Mr. Ralph Dutton, Mr. J. S. Forbes, and Mr. Doughty Brown surveyed with a critical eye the preparations for departure; the Dukes of Beaufort, Westminster, and Portland arrived in quick succession, the latter looking radiantly happy in the company of his *fiancée*, who wore a cool, cream-coloured dress trimmed with roses. The Duchess of Westminster and Lady Hindlip were both attired in green; Lord Hardwicke, in the glossiest of hats, reserved his most diverting stories for Lord Dudley; Lord and Lady Londonderry were far more cheerful than last year; Lord Hartington held a lengthy conference with Mr. Leopold de Rothschild; Sir Harry Keppel was the life and soul of

a jovial party of old friends; and if M. de Falbe was the only diplomatist recognised, the House of Commons was represented by 'Mr. Solicitor' (in full racing costume), Sir William Marriott, Mr. John Aird, and Mr. Maclure; while the Bench contributed Mr. Justice Lopes. The Duke of Edinburgh (apparently much stronger) was the first to put in an appearance, and the Princess of Wales and her daughters defied the dust and heat in fawn-coloured cloaks. In spite of the abnormally crowded state of the line, the journey was accomplished in thirty-one minutes."

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"They say," remarked a lady to me the other evening, "that the Shah and his suite left Buckingham Palace in a very dirty state at the termination of their previous visit;" and her little girl of seven summers chimed in with, "Then they found it sweet and left it sour," and laughed at her own smartness. Gilbert's "Singular Anomalies" will not diminish in numbers as years go by.

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Mr. Andrew Pears has taken Stonor Park, Lord Camoy's place near Henley, for several years. The rent is high, but the park is beautifully wooded, and there is plenty of small shooting.

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It is but a very few years since Mr. Pears started on that gigantic enterprise of covering the earth's surface with advertisements of his particular soap, and already the golden harvest is in the hands of the reapers. This department of the business was placed in the hands of Mr. Thomas Barratt, the London partner, and the first year's operations were limited to an expenditure of £2,000. Never, perhaps, were £2,000 more judiciously invested, for the advertising contracts of the present year have amounted to no less a sum than £150,000, and the firm is still anxious for new worlds to conquer.

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Mr. Pears was initiated in the Etonian Lodge of St. John (209), Windsor, in November, 1873, and occupied the chair in 1882. He lives in The Grove, Isleworth—a somewhat defunct locality, very much overgrown with weeds and decaying villas. But he has purchased the mansion and grounds of Squire Davis, opposite the Spring Grove Station on the South-Western Railway, about a mile past the historic Zion Manor-house, the Isleworth place of the Dukes of Northumberland. The grounds are being restored and laid out anew, but the mansion is to be pulled down and replaced by a modern structure.

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A contemporary much given to very decided opinions on many very disagreeable matters, makes a suggestion that a string band should be placed in the vestibule of Burlington House, so that picture-hunters may knock away a little of the boredom attached to a scramble through the "bleak and comfortless series of barns in which our chief picture-show is yearly housed." The galleries may be bleak and comfortless in a measure, but yet they possess all the distinction of carefully-constructed and suitable apartments, with the one exception of size. They are not nearly large enough, and therefore give no impression. Now, if Mr. Norman Shaw would put a little colour on the walls of his half-buried refreshment saloon—the plastic enrichments of which would greatly aid colour decoration—a deal of warmth and feeling might help the digestion of the buns and tea-cakes which form a great portion of the "refreshment" indulged in by the feminine frequenters of the Academy.

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The fact of it is, we get too much for our shilling. The superficial area of the hanging space is limited, and the superficial area of the accepted pictures is limited also, so that the area of the latter may about equal the area of the former. Here is the bane of English picture-painting. Could the Academicians be content to show us not more than five hundred canvases a year, and hang each one so that it might be separately studied and admired, a deal of gratification and an infinite amount of instruction would be got out of an Academy ramble. Some attempt at classification should also

be made, so that a delicate piece of work brimful of refinement and thought should not be murdered by a bold and daring canvas that chance had hung beside it.

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As far as hanging goes, the Academy may learn a deal from the enterprising New Gallery. There are enough pictures on its walls to satisfy the greediest of picture-gazers, but why doesn't Mr. Hallé stick to management and leave exhibiting alone? And why was not Sargent's "Ellen Terry" placed on an easel by itself in the central pavilion, or given a room where its amazing audacity of colour and execution could not ruin its neighbours? Keeley Halswell's "Early Moon-rise" (83), in the west room of this exhibition, is very little short of a masterpiece.

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To return to Piccadilly, the unfortunate Architectural Room is a species of ante-chamber where goddesses adjust their shoes and old ladies surreptitiously devour the enviable sandwich. "What are all these drawings?" asked a sweet little maiden once in my hearing; and the eldest son of a City millionaire, who is a professed admirer of the Arts, remarked that they were "pictures of houses, and churches, and schools, and all those kind of things." The young gentleman is perhaps related to that gilded youth who, as his country uncle was drawing his carving-knife through a delicious Sunday wether leg, remarked that wherever he dined they always seemed to have pork. "And what do you think this is?" queried the blunt old man. "I dunno," replied the nephew, "but it looks like a pig's head."

\* \* \*

Sir Arthur Blomfield, A.R.A., has done some fine work in his time, and deserves the distinction of knighthood. He is architect to the Bank of England, and boldly stuck up a Classic building beside poor Street's masterpiece at the corner of Bell-yard. He is doing the enlargements at Eton, has previously come into close connection with the Royal laying of foundation-stones, and is the son of the late Bishop Blomfield. But where is Alfred Waterhouse, R.A., the leading man of the profession in the kingdom? and Norman Shaw, R.A., the revivalist of Queen Anne, and who is (Norman Shaw, *not* Queen Anne) erroneously credited with the conception of Bedford Park? Poor Norman Shaw! Poor Queen Anne!! and Mr. John Pearson, R.A., the restorer of Westminster Abbey, and the finest Gothicist of his day? This reminds me that the cloistered screen to Westminster Hall is practically completed, and that the heraldic finials of the interior staircases, which provided Mr. Plunket with that smart retort for Sir George Campbell in the House the other day, may be seen by the public. There is no question but what Sir Charles Barry's complete scheme for St. Stephen's was the right and proper one after all, and failing this, some modification of it by his son, who is possessed of all the necessary data and sketches. Mr. Pearson has, however, carried out his own ideas faithfully and well, and there are hundreds of competent judges who will applaud his work.

\* \* \*

Both Sir Arthur and Mr. Pearson were passive members of that Committee which endeavoured some time ago to rouse the City Corporation into action over the Temple Bar stones, and partially succeeded, though not in inducing the Temple lawyers to find a home for them. Augustus Sala, who waxed warm over the movement, and declared he would like to grind the inoffensive pieces into powder and fling them into the Thames, has never sent me the promised tracing of the Roman façade from which Sir Christopher "stole the idea of the attic story." Perhaps he has forgotten, or has been satisfied that the great Tottenham Court-road brewer has "wasted" £3,000 in re-erecting the old Bar at Waltham. But I should still like the tracing.

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It was a beautiful sight to watch a Thames boatman and his assistant the other afternoon, inducing Lord Churchill to purchase

the "Ozone," evidently for use at Henley. My Lord was not at all satisfied as to several points of construction, and whilst the boatman stood bareheaded and quite overpowered with the presence of his illustrious client, the assistant with the greatest *sang froid* imaginable placed his greasy, sunburnt paws upon his Lordship's shoulder and chatted to him in a most patronising way. I am not certain he did not indulge in a complimentary "dig in the ribs"; but Lord Churchill's face was a perfect study of embarrassment. That particular assistant was created to become a ticket-collector on the District Railway, and has evidently mistaken his calling.

\* \* \*

The late Lord Caithness, who was but 31 years of age and unmarried, was buried in the Chapel Royal of Holyrood—the right of which has been the valued possession of his family for several generations—on Wednesday, May 30. The Earl, who was of a retiring disposition, dined with Lord Hopetoun, the High Commissioner of Scotland—who subsequently attended his funeral in uniform—a few hours previous to his death, which was terribly sudden. He was Lord Lieutenant of the County of Caithness-shire, an Elder of the Church of Canisby, a Colonel of Volunteers, and the Provincial Grand Master of Caithness, a position he held with much dignity. He was a most popular man, his tenants were extremely fond of him, and the sailors of the *Francisca*, his splendid yacht, simply adored him.

\* \* \*

The new Earl is Mr. James Augustus Sinclair, a very distant cousin of the deceased peer. He is a bank agent in Aberdeen, and inherits nothing but the title. The Scotch estates are bequeathed to Mr. Heathcote, a college friend of the late Earl, on condition that he resides three months every year at Barrowgill Castle, and assumes the name of Sinclair. The Caithness jewels go to Lady Emily Carew, £3,000 to Piper Mackintosh (who watched over the body in St. Giles's Cathedral the night preceding the funeral), and the residue to the poor of the parish of Canisby. As no mention whatever is made in the will, of the yacht, or the valuable pictures, which include masterpieces of Rubens, Vandyke, Reynolds, and hosts of others, the property in Hertfordshire, the house in Hill-street, or a large value of Consols and cash, the poor of the fortunate parish seem to have dropped into a good thing. For the sake of the heir to the title it is almost to be wished the will may be successfully contested.

\* \* \*

A certain weekly publication, famed for its trenchant remarks upon matters that may offend against its own opinions, very unwisely comments upon an unfortunate affair connected with a recent issue of a high-toned illustrated paper. This certain weekly publication must have known that by thus drawing public attention to a matter which no other journal in London took cognisance of, and giving such details as would enable innocent people to indulge their curiosity upon, it showed a great want of good, or an abundant possession of very bad, taste. This is not the kind of smartness that is wanted in an old-established and reputable paper that caters largely for the amusement of its lady readers.

\* \* \*

Mr. Henry King, of Hammersmith, a horsey gentleman I have not the pleasure of knowing, has been fined 40s., and 12s. 6d. costs, for working an animal in an unfit condition. This animal, as may be supposed, was a horse, but it *had* been a racehorse, and besides running in the Derby of 1870, had won several races since. I wonder if any of the fair dames and gallant sirs who have patted Cockney Boy's silken coat in days gone by would recognise him now, or if any of the Newmarket cats will eventually feed off the carcass of the fallen. I wonder!

\* \* \*

Lord Londesborough was in brilliant form at the Lyric Tent at Ascot, and seems to be more and more attached to the histrionic art and its professors.

Mr. Gladstone has earned another appellation. *Argus* calls him "The great steam tongue." Poor Mr. Gladstone! I have always pitied him for the "larks" everybody seems to enjoy at his—and, for the matter of that, every other politician's—expense. The only time I bore him any animosity was the night his Irish Bill was defeated in the Commons. I had walked down Parliament-street, as everybody else seemed to be going in the same direction, and had been standing at the corner of Downing-street but a few moments, when a carriage "with a horse attached" came dashing down the street, to the consternation of the police and the amusement of the hoary ruffians who formed the greater part of the crowd. To make room for the venerable gentleman's conveyance taxed the composure of the "A" Division, no doubt, but I have never been able to obtain any explanation why a burly member of the force should come at me like a mad bull and lay me prostrate in the gutter. But he did, and I am not going to forget it.

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I have it from the highest possible source that Prince Edward of Wales is about to consult the editors of half a dozen "Society" papers with a view to ascertaining details of his suggested marriage. This course would give some annoyance, no doubt, to his illustrious family, but then he thinks—and I think so too—that it would be a most serious thing if he were to take unto himself any lady who should not be approved of by those gentlemen of the press. To be serious, there seems to be no foundation for the rumour that Prince Edward is to be installed as the Provincial Grand Master for Surrey.

\* \* \*

The Government has given the vacant land adjoining the National Gallery for the erection of the New Portrait Gallery, the entire cost of which is to be so generously defrayed by the anonymous philanthropist, as announced by Lord Salisbury at the recent Academy banquet. The site is very central, and about the only one suitable. In the hands of Mr. Ewan Christian we may safely expect a grand edifice, and if he gives us as fine a staircase as Mr. Charles Eastlake has at last secured for the National Gallery we shall be quite satisfied.

\* \* \*

It is not generally known, I believe, that his Grace the Duke of Portland is a member of the Craft, and a very sincere one, too, though his many social and public duties have prevented him attaining to any high position therein. His seat at Welbeck, about which we have read so much lately, is quite historic, but I fancy in centuries to come, when the Law Courts will be worshipped, and Nelson's Column will have been distributed among the museums of the world, Welbeck will be known principally for its subterranean apartments, and the eccentric Duke who constructed them.

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The present owner will carry on the traditions of his race un tarnished. He has safely passed through that probationary period of life when wealthy scions of the nobility are most tempted to step down from the paths of honourable example and indulge the propensities of early manhood in the bubbles of the Bohemian world. His first act on coming into his estates was to enhance the comforts of his workpeople and servants by giving them a beautiful range of buildings in which their hours of relaxation might be spent in pastimes and amusements of an intellectual order. They have their library and their reading-rooms, their billiard and refreshment saloons, and all the comfortable luxuries a generous master can give them. The lady he has taken as the mistress of his vast wealth will assist him nobly to carry out the duties of his high position, and we may safely look forward to a record of such a life as springs from the possession of all that is good and best in womanhood, and all that is noble and honourable in an English gentleman.

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What is this we hear about a penny *Graphic* and a penny *Illustrated London News*? It is only recently that the proprietors of

the *Penny Illustrated Paper* have increased and improved their splendid property beyond all praise. It is now a wonderful production for a penny, and will safely withstand any rival that can be placed against it. Mr. Thomas has lately been giving us some interesting particulars about the running of the *Graphic*. The Jubilee Commemoration number, which was printed in black and gold, with remarkably fine engravings on wood, cost the exact sum of £9,750 to produce, and although an edition of 206,000 copies was printed and sold in a few days, there was an actual loss of £40 by the transaction.

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The greatest hit the journal ever made was, of course, the publication as a Christmas Supplement of Millais's "Cherry Ripe." Of this, half a million copies were sold in a fortnight, and it was an impossibility to supply the demand that was made by the trade for a larger supply. Five hundred pounds a week is what the illustrations now cost to produce, and many of the very finest artists in black and white are engaged on the staff. If some of the long-haired, starving parasites of the Royal Academy would turn their hands to a perfect study of pencil work, their names and their banking accounts would increase in value.

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Mr. George Alexander is leaving the Lyceum and the higher branch of his art, to assume the lead in the commonplace but popular melodramas of the Adelphi. I am sorry both for Mr. Alexander and his art, for he has done such work as places him above the class of plays he will degenerate into. I suppose it is a question of salary, and if under Messrs. Gatti he can command double the fees he has to accept from his present principal—well. Human nature, you know!

\* \* \*

I sincerely hope our clever Brother Willard will succeed in his joint tenancy at the Shaftesbury. Willard is a man I am always pleased to see in any of his characters. He seems to put himself heart and soul into his work, to ignore entirely the existence of his audience, and to give us purely and simply a natural portrait of the character he represents. There is really nothing in the "igh falutin'" declamatory demcanour of the man who struts upon the stage like a peacock across a strawberry-bed. Willard's sketches are purely natural ones, seasoned with the necessary condiments of dramatic force, without which the substance might lose some of its tastiness.

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Charles Cartwright also is a dramatic artist of superlative ability. We shall see this actor some day—with natural good fortune—do something very far in advance of what he has hitherto attempted. His forcible delivery is very fine—better than Willard's, in fact, which is stronger in subdued and calmer passages—and his very finger-nails almost assume the emotions of his heart in furthering the effect of his powerful acting. Cartwright is a follower of Willard in many things, and they both stand out quite clear of any equality from their fellow men.

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Professional playgoers must not forget the compliment they owe to old Mrs. Stevens. A special performance for her benefit will be given at the Shaftesbury Theatre on an afternoon of the present month. This benefit is not a fraud.

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I must thank "E. T. W." for his kind offer of assistance, which I am sorry to decline; Mr. Frederick Batchelor also for his contribution, which is unsuitable; and "Nemo" for his letter, which I shall be pleased to publish if he will permit his name to be attached. I refer the latter gentleman to "Our Preface." To those gentlemen and brethren who have already sent me their hearty good wishes, and our publisher their subscriptions, I return my thanks.

THE DRUID.

## THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

IT is late to discuss the report of the Philbrick Committee of Investigation appointed under the resolution of the Quarterly Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys of July 27, 1888; but, under the circumstances of our birth—call it a posthumous birth—it must be done. The report is dated April 18 of the present year, and discloses such a state of things as never were heard of in any kindred institution. After dealing in a careful and complete manner with every department of the school management at Wood Green, and from reminding us of the astonishing fact that £85,000 have been spent upon the buildings in the vicinity of Muswell Hill, to the no less astonishing disclosure that 50 per cent. is the average loss in cooking and boning the meat consumed by the pupils, the report is one painful history of mismanagement and disgrace. We quote from it the following:—

"This deficiency in class-rooms is the more remarkable, as the library (a large room) has for some time been kept locked up, by direction of the Head Master, as a store for books, whereas it might well serve its former use as a class-room part of the day, and its original purpose of a library at other times. There is also a large quantity of space on the ground-floor, formerly a laundry, but now practically unused, which could readily be made available by a small outlay, and either afford accommodation for classes or set free other apartments for that purpose. One of these unused rooms, of considerable size, was at our visit occupied by dogs, kept therein by the house steward."

"The hon. surgeon-oculist told us that double the ordinary percentage of defective sight occurs among the pupils, many of whom have, in consequence, to undergo treatment and use spectacles"—

owing to the shortsightedness caused by the careless arrangement of the gas-burners in the class-rooms.

"In the upper floors we ascertained that in the alterations made since first construction one-half the bath-room accommodation was removed, and no substitute provided; in other words, half the accommodation is now provided for double the number of boys, so that the bathing accommodation now left is four times too small according to the original design."

"Apart from the deficiency in warm-bath accommodation already noted, the plunge-bath is neither in construction nor mode of heating satisfactory. It is difficult and expensive to warm; when used the entire school enter in detachments, the water being practically unchanged; the bathing is so hurried, moreover, as to preclude the idea of its being a means of cleanliness; while for the last bathers the state of the water, as described to us, is revolting."

"We carefully observed the boys in both schools in play-hours and when at dinner. We were unfavourably impressed with their general appearance, and remarked the deadness and want of activity they displayed. There was a lack of animation even in their games. The physique is low, and they crowded aimlessly about the playgrounds (where we watched them unobserved) in a manner very different to healthy boys at play. This was especially obvious in the younger boys, and we attribute it in part to the insufficient playgrounds and over-long hours of study."

"Complaints of the quality of the clothes supplied were laid before us. One firm, recently gone out of business, chiefly supplied the clothes, on contracts made after limited tender. A sample of the clothing was examined by us, and from it and what we observed on the boys we arrived at the conclusion it is of inferior quality (this does not apply to the boots)."

"As to the towels, each is used in common by several boys; and this occurs even when boys are suffering from ringworm and other infectious diseases, unless the case be removed to the infirmary. It is hopeless to attempt to eradicate such diseases from the school while this system prevails."

"We have adverted to this, as well as to other matters in themselves minute, because throughout our inquiry we found an absence of system, and a want of control, pervading the domestic management. On this head of cleanliness, so important as regards health, there is not enough intelligent supervision of the personal cleanliness of the pupils, especially the younger ones. We are aware of the difficulties of securing this with boys without systematic and orderly attention. We had evidence of neglected heads—cases of vermin, not accounted for by supposing them brought back after the holidays, inasmuch as such things occurred during the term, and were first detected by the masters in the class-rooms. Proper precautions are not taken to examine the boys on re-entry after holidays; nor when these complaints arose were the means adopted to eradicate the evil satisfactory."

## On the question of food:—

"No systematic rule is adopted in ordering supplies of meat. All depends on rule of thumb."

"At our visit we saw great waste thus caused. The food was badly prepared, and roughly served. The Assistant Matron, who is appointed by the Matron, professes to take orders only from her. The antagonism of the house staff against the educational extends to the junior school, so that remonstrances by the Head Governness were disregarded for some time."

"The medical men think that the fourteen hours from tea to breakfast the next day are too long for growing children to be kept fasting, especially the elder ones, and that there should be some provision for a slice of bread for those who want it at bedtime. We thoroughly concur in this recommendation."

## On the question of management:—

"There are two factions, each dissatisfied with the proceedings of the other, which it watches with jealous eyes. The house is divided against itself, and the real interests of the Institution suffer. No establishment could be conducted on these principles."

"When the constant friction and ill-feeling thus engendered result in a formal complaint, the House Committee has not adequately supported the Head Master. *This action tends to destroy his legitimate authority, and if persevered in must end in the ruin of the School.*" It is plain that so long as any one occupies the position of Head Master, the authorities are bound to uphold him. If his acts are such that they cannot give their hearty support, then their plain duty is to dismiss him. A gentleman of education and attainments, as the Head Master ought to be, will never accept such an invidious position as the present system has created."

"With respect to the kitchen-garden, we find, in the year 1887, no less than £47. 16s. was expended in manure, purchased and carted to the spot, this sum being in addition to ordinary expenses for seeds and plants, and the labour of gardeners."

After detailing the particulars of the Secretary's duties and salary—which latter amounts, with a fixed annual allowance of £200, in lieu of a commission formerly granted when he occupied the position of collector to the charity, to £700 a year—the question of accounts and reports is considered:—

"On inquiring for the books we found that no cash-book, in the ordinary sense of the term, nor any book showing the daily current receipts and payments, has ever been kept in the office."

"The receipt of money is recorded solely by the amounts being entered on the counterfoils of the receipts given for subscriptions and donations. There is no entry made showing how a particular amount is received, whether in cash or by cheque, or identifying the payment with the letter or advice covering the remittance: the latter are not preserved, so that, if accidentally or otherwise, a receipt is omitted to be given, all trace of the transaction would be lost."

"The bankers are virtually made to keep the cash account of the Institution, so far as one may be said to be kept."

"The books kept are not arranged on any systematic plan, nor are they such as would be permitted in any business establishment."

\* The italics are ours.

Speaking of the published accounts of the Institution for the year 1888, which bears the printed signatures of the Audit Committee, the report says:—

"The Secretary stated that the Audit Committee acquiesced tacitly, if not expressly, after the publication: but it is our duty to point out that if the members of the Audit Committee thus acquiesced, they have been parties to a representation to the subscribers that they saw and signed the original of that account as printed, whereas they did neither the one nor the other. There never was any such document in existence."

Thus, the members of the Inquiry Committee proceeded with their unthankful task, finding on all sides and in every department dissatisfaction and chaos. The Audit Committee, they say, has done nothing but what the Secretary has done for it. The House Committee has been blind to everything but the monthly dinners. The House Steward has almost defied any interference from his equals or superiors in authority. The duties and authority of the Head Master at Muswell-hill have been usurped by the Secretary, who, by the gradual growth of years, has virtually seduced the control of the entire Institution, with its various Committees, into his own hands.

The report, embodying forty-six pages of closely-printed matter, was presented to the Quarterly Court of the 26th April last. Copies have been sent to all the Life Governors of the Institution, and a meeting of subscribers to the Charity was held on Thursday, the 6th ult., at which meeting the report was adopted, and a further Provisional Committee, consisting of five members of the Philbrick Inquiry Committee—viz., Bros. Philbrick, Q.C.; John Derby Allcroft; Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart.; Lieut.-Col. Perkins; Robert Wylie; strengthened by the assistance of Bros. Richard Eve, Sir R. Fowler, G. Corble, George Glass, George Lambert, Lord Euston, Captain Homfray, R. V. Smith, W. F. Smithson, Alderman Harwood, J. S. Eastes, Gerard Ford, Le Fevre, A. C. Spaul, J. Brodenham, and Edward Terry, the Grand Treasurer,—was appointed to manage the affairs of the Institution, and report to a future Court the best and most effective mode of carrying out the recommendations in the original report which the brethren had unanimously adopted.

It is a grave question whether it was wise to have published the report in the first instance; but this having been done, nothing but a faithful adherence to its recommendations and a steadfast determination by the Provisional Committee to cleanse the administrative department will suffice. The mere fact of Bro. Philbrick and four other gentlemen who prepared the report being elected on this new Committee make it imperative that this shall be done, for they could hardly make recommendations in one capacity and ignore them in another.

We are grieved to hear the aspersions that have been cast upon the honour of the Secretary. That he has been guilty of many and great indiscretions, that he has permitted his zeal to overgrow the caution with which official business of any nature should be transacted, and that he has shown very little tact in his connection with the heads of the establishment at Wood-green has been evident for a long time to those who form opinions on such matters. We should have thought the invidious position in which he is now placed would have prompted his immediate resignation, offering the Committee every facility for throwing light upon the dark places of the Charity. We cannot disregard, even in the present extremity, the good work Bro. Binckes has done for the Charity, but the retention of the secretarial duties in his hands would mean ruin to the Institution. If the Committee, in their wisdom, can find just cause for conferring a pension upon Mr. Binckes, let them do so; but whilst assessing the amount of such pension on no extravagant basis, they must remember that their sternest censure for all that has been done, or left undone, should be fired straight at the heads of the various Sub-Committees that have allowed such things to pass their notice.

#### UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

THE Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge of England was held on Wednesday evening, June 5, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M. for Hants and Isle of Wight, presided. Bro. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., Prov. G.M. for Middlesex, acted as Dep. G.M.; and Bro. Hugh D. Sandeman, Past Dist. G.M. of Bengal, as P.G.M. The Earl of Carnarvon, Pro. G.M., was prevented from being present.

The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 6th March and of the Grand Festival of 24th April were read and confirmed.

Scrutineers were appointed and obligated to make a true return of the election of members to serve on the Board of General Purposes.

The ACTING GRAND MASTER: Brethren,—Grand Lodge is aware that during the last two years the Freemasons of two of the Australian Colonies, viz., New South Wales and South Australia, have formed themselves into, and established, independent Grand Lodges in each of those colonies, and that this Grand Lodge has recognised these Lodges as being lawful and regular. I am now commanded by the Most Worshipful Grand Master to say that a report has been received from the Freemasons of another colony in Australia, viz., Victoria, stating that the Lodges belonging to their various jurisdictions have regularly and constitutionally formed themselves into a Grand Lodge, and that the movement is practically unanimous, 140 out of 142 Lodges having joined the new Grand Lodge; and that the new Grand Lodge has elected Bro. Sir William Clarke, Bart., who has hitherto held the appointment of District Grand Master of the three District Grand Lodges of England, Ireland

and Scotland, as the new Grand Master. As the action thus taken appears to be similar to that followed in the case of the other two Australian Grand Lodges, the Grand Master now recommends that the request be recognised and granted, with the distinct understanding that should the two Lodges which have not joined the new Grand Lodge still refuse to do so, and wish still to belong to the Grand Lodge of England, their position should be acknowledged and recognised by the new body. I have now, on the part of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, to move that this Grand Lodge be recognised—the United Grand Lodge of Victoria.

Bro. F. A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., G. Reg.: Brethren,—Having had the honour on previous occasions of seconding similar motions in the cases of the Grand Lodges of South Australia and of New South Wales, it gives me much pleasure to second the motion which is now before Grand Lodge. We, as English Masons, and being assembled in the Mother Grand Lodge of the world, see these strong bodies forming themselves into distinct and independent Grand Lodges. It is true that by this action many of the Lodges which were under our jurisdiction have formed themselves under the new, but it is in no grudging mood that we accord recognition to a movement made thus regularly. We wish the new Grand Lodge every Masonic success; we trust that the principles that they have derived from the parent Grand Lodge of England, while certain constituent members were associated with us, may be perpetuated and extended under the dominion of the new Grand Lodge. We think it right, and I am sure this Grand Lodge will agree, to guard the position of those Lodges which still may remain under allegiance to us. As long as they continue to do so we cannot renounce them; and I feel quite sure that the Masonic feeling in the Colonies which has attended this movement, will recognise their position, and will desire to recognise it, so long as those Lodges may be outside the movement, which, with the exception of those two Lodges, is entirely unanimous. I trust, therefore, that this Grand Lodge will have no difficulty whatever in according to the new Grand Lodge of Victoria its recognition, wishing to this new Grand Lodge the same prosperity and success as they did in the cases of the other two Grand Lodges of Australia.

The motion was carried *nem. con.*

The ACTING GRAND MASTER: Brethren,—I am commanded by His Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master to make an announcement to Grand Lodge, connected with the matter which has just been before you. Grand Lodge may possibly remember that His Royal Highness has already acceded to the request from the Grand Lodges of New South Wales and South Australia to become the Grand Patron of those Grand Lodges. He has received a similar request from the newly-recognised Grand Lodge of Victoria, and his Royal Highness desires me to state that, subject to their recognition by this Grand Lodge this evening, it will afford him much pleasure to accede to their request to become their Grand Patron. Brethren,—I have now to announce that His Royal Highness, the Most Worshipful Grand Master, has appointed Brother Thomas Fenn, President of the Board of General Purposes.

Brother Thomas Fenn was then re-invested, and congratulated by the acting Grand Master on his appointment.

It was then announced there would be no election for the Colonial Board, as only the requisite number of members were nominated, but the M.W.G.M. nominated Lieut.-Col. Haldane, Chairman, Brothers Hugh D. Sandeman and Brackstone Baker as members, and Brother Gadsden to be Vice-Chairman.

On the motion of Brother BELTON, Brother John Smith (Harding & Co. accountants) was appointed auditor of Grand Lodge.

The brethren nominated for the Colonial Board were: Col. Frederick Gadsden (Madras), P.M. 434; Capt. Thomas Charles Walls, W.M. 1656; James Brett, P.M. 177; Reginald St. A. Roumieu, P.M. 1537; Albert Escott, P.M. 1539; John Speight Cumberland, P.M. 2128; and Lennox Browne, W.M. 2256. And those elected for the Committee of Management for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons: Bros. C. A. Cottebrune, P.M. 733; Hugh Cotter, P.M. 554; J. E. Dawson, P.M. 404; C. G. Dilley, P.M. 1155; Major A. Durrant, P.M. 569; C. Kempton, P.M. 1287; A. H. Tattershall, P.M. 140; I. Dixon, P.M. 1567; R. Griggs, P.M. 228; and Wm. Henry Hubbert, P.M. 1625.

The ACTING GRAND MASTER announced that the Grand Master had appointed the following brethren on the same Committee:—Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Jabez Hogg, Robert Turtle Pigott, D.C.L.; Dep.-Insp.-Gen. Thomas Purchas, M.D., R.N.; Frederick Mead, Thomas George Bullen, James Brett, Henry Garrod, William Henry Perryman, and David Dixon Mercer.

Grants by the Board of Benevolence were then confirmed to the amount of £810, to ten brethren and five widows of brethren whose recommendations had been approved by the Board.

The following report of the Board of General Purposes was taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

*To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.*

The Board of General Purposes beg to submit a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts, at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 17th day of May instant, showing a balance in the Bank of England (Western Branch) of £5,863. 7s. 2d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary

for petty cash £100, and for servants' wages £100, and balance of annual allowance for library £10. 4s. 1d.

(Signed) THOMAS FENN, President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C., 21st May, 1889.

After a vote of thanks by the Board of General Purposes had been passed to Bro. Fenn for his courtesy at the meetings of the Board during the past year, Brother Raynham W. Stewart moved, and Brother H. Greene seconded, the following resolution:—

That the sum of £70 be given from the Fund of General Purposes; that the money be placed in the hands of the Secretary of the "Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons," to supply the inmates of the Institution at Croydon with coals during the winter season.

The motion was carried, and Grand Lodge was closed in form.

#### THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

THERE are many members of the Craft who have no conception of the symbolism connected with the important and dignified position of the Chief Ruler of a Lodge of Freemasons. Beyond the statement that his Collar of Office is the highest honour it is in the power of the Lodge to bestow, their minds are perfectly unenlightened as to the attributes which distinguish his title of "Worshipful Master." The gavel with which he has been entrusted for purposes of order, merely completes in their estimation the necessary complement of ordinary Chairmanship; for they have forgotten—if, indeed, they have ever heard—the solitary reference to the grand prototype, which in the course of ceremonial is, or should be, enunciated. In order that they might well consider before using their prerogative of suffrage, such Brethren should know that the occupant of the Eastern Chair is the representative of King Solomon, and is the chief of the three pillars which support a Lodge. His symbol, as such support, is the Ionic Column of Architecture, denominated by Freemasons the Pillar of Wisdom, representing which his business is to exert his judgment and penetration in contriving the most proper and efficient means for completing the intended work, of whatsoever nature it may be; that is, to instruct his Brethren in all matters connected with the system of Freemasonry. To qualify him for such position and business, it should be absolutely necessary that he should possess in an enlarged degree those several excellences which are set forth in the questions addressed to him prior to his Installation. He should have evinced during the whole of his Membership, and by the discharge of the duties of subordinate offices, his untiring zeal on behalf of the Institution and the welfare of his Lodge, and have acquired administrative skill as well as a knowledge of the science and its landmarks. His courtesy of manner should be beyond all question, for, unless the "suaviter in modo" is combined with the "fortiter in re," offence is easily given and frequently too readily taken. There should be no reservation in the matter of firmness of principle, for any lapse in that respect cannot fail to bring discredit on Master and Lodge alike. He should be well conversant with ceremonial ritual, and fully understand its meaning both in regard to symbolism and verbiage, for insufficiency in that regard excites feelings of mistrust and regret amongst the brethren for the choice they have made in selecting him for supreme authority. And whilst thus referring to some few of the many qualifications for the position of Worshipful Master, we cannot refrain from condemning that departure from ancient practice by which the presentation to a Board of Installed Masters, for the purpose of ascertaining and reporting on the suitability of the candidate for the Master's chair prior to his election, is made void and of no effect. On this subject we shall probably dilate in future issues. As matters now stand, except as to some most honourable exceptions, the presentation of a candidate to a duly-qualified board before installation is entirely neglected, and thereby one of the greatest safeguards to the general welfare of our Lodges removed.

The numerous duties of the Worshipful Master during his tenure of office are onerous. In him is vested the chief power and the fullest responsibility, notwithstanding the share in the well-ruling and governing of the Lodge which his Wardens have. His should be a master-mind, strong in judgment and purpose, and subject to no extraneous controlling influence which might interfere with the general good. Whilst he should not stray from beaten tracks which have led to perfect working and harmonious relaxation, there might arise opportunities for still further

advancing the quality and increasing the enjoyment of both. In such instances, that which his predecessors have or have not done should be no consideration of his, if otherwise he thinks aright. So shall the Master-mind do Master's work, and setting aside faulty stereotyped custom and dull routine, make still further progress in liberal art and science. Amongst the most important of the Worshipful Master's duties is that of selecting his principal Officers, and herein he may advance or retard his Lodge, as he may prove firm, or otherwise, in his nominations. We are not alone in thinking that if Brethren have not previously made themselves fully able to discharge the obligations they are generally so ready to take when offered to them, they should not be chosen for Officers of a Lodge—rota, social position, or any other external influence notwithstanding. And this equally applies to the Offices below the Chairs, in respect of which our subsequent articles will contain remarks. For a particular duty relating to the proper record of all proceedings in his Lodge and of the financial accounts, we need only refer to the requirements of the Book of Constitutions, with the full contents of which every Worshipful Master should consider it a point of honour to be thoroughly acquainted. Another responsibility which devolves upon him is the maintenance of peace and harmony within his Lodge, for which purpose he is armed with the power to enforce strict, immediate, and effective control, such as no other body or society of men on earth, no meeting or assemblage, is subject, and it is distinctly his own fault if he permits the slightest departure from Masonic discipline, whilst it is equally his privilege to use the power with which he has been entrusted in the promotion of the prosperity of the Lodge and the happiness of its members.

In the matter of example following upon precept, there is yet another responsibility which devolves upon the occupant of the Chair of K.S., for nothing can possibly be so injurious to the welfare of Freemasonry as that the Brethren should find in the person of their ruler, and the exponent of all the moral teachings of the Order, one who does not himself practise that which he professes and counsels others to pursue. Moreover, as the "profane" judge of the character and respectability of the Institution by the general demeanour of its individuals, a more than ordinary responsibility attaches to the sayings and doings of its recognised leaders, and any lapse from the ordinary precepts of morality on their part is visited with proportionate severity on the general body of Freemasons.

The Installation by the W.M. of a Lodge, of his successor to the chair of K.S., although not one of the canons of Freemasonry, is nevertheless a duty which should be performed by him as the crowning work of his year of office. The delegation of that duty to any other Brother is tantamount to a confession of inability, which derogates from the proud title of "Past Master of the Art," and materially lessens the satisfaction with which the customary acknowledgment of *perfect* service may be regarded alike by the recipient as by those who are aware of the insufficiency of merit. The P.M.'s presentation jewel is, or should be, a mark of the fullest appreciation of the thorough discharge of all precedent duties, and an evidence that the wearer thereof can afford all necessary instruction in respect of every Craft ceremonial.

Amongst other duties and responsibilities of the W.M. may be briefly stated the importance of observing punctuality in the opening of the Lodge; the calculation of time so as to ensure a calm and deliberate performance of the work set out by him on each occasion of meeting; the prevention of any breach of constitutional law by the introduction of regalia or symbols not in strict accordance with pure and ancient Masonry; the retention in his own hands of the fees for which he will have personally to account to Grand Lodge; and the cautious exercise of any privilege arising out of custom—for there is no direct authority given him except under peculiar circumstances—for the admission of any person for initiation unless such candidate shall have been regularly proposed and seconded in accordance with the rules of the Constitution.

JAMES STEVENS.

The Freemasons of Staffordshire and the neighbouring districts are to take part in the ceremonies connected with the laying of the foundation and memorial stones of the new hospital to be erected at Longton. The foundation-stone will be "proved and tried" by the R.W. Bro. Colonel Foster Gough, the Provincial Grand Master.

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## Eminent Masons at Home.

NO. I.—HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS, THE GRAND MASTER,  
 AT SANDRINGHAM.

FROM the railway-station at Wolferton the three miles of lanes to Sandringham Hall—the Norfolk home of the Prince—run through a somewhat uninteresting country, lending every advantage to the squire of energy and taste to develop its natural condition into something more attractive to the eye. The patches of heather and gorse diminish the nearer one approaches the Royal domain, until we leave the Sandringham Church on our left, in the graveyard of which—"where the rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep"—stands the plain marble cross over the grave of the infant Prince Alexander, who died on April 7, 1871, the year in which the well-remembered illness of his Royal Father proved so nearly fatal. A sudden sweep, and the Norwich gates, of beautifully hammered iron, give access to the park. The splendid drive, through a fine avenue of limes, leads straight to the principal entrance to the house, and here we get a glimpse of the home-life of our Most Worshipful Grand Master. It is a noble house, is Sandringham, possessing in every feature the attributes of an English gentleman's residence. It is no grand palace, but a picturesque gabled mansion of red brick, in which culture and taste have been exhausted. Beautifully cultivated lawns sweep away from the terrace, dotted with masses of foliage, with rushing rivulets, and placid lakes. In the clump of trees yonder are hid the stables and the kennels, the dairies, the cottage, and the out-buildings, so dear to the heart of their Royal owner.

It might be supposed that there is no difference between the mode of life of the Prince and Princess at Sandringham

and that of a great Norfolk squire and his wife. But it would not be altogether true. The Prince and Princess have indeed combined most happily the inevitable responsibilities of their inheritance with the discharge of the duties of their position as the squire of a large estate and the squire's wife, the possession of which would entitle them to a foremost place in the county if the squire were not heir-apparent and representative of the Royal lines which merged in the House of Hanover, and if his wife were not the child of a Royal Dane.

In 1862 Lord Palmerston recommended the estate to the notice of the Prince Consort, then in search of a suitable residence for his son, and as Mr. Spencer Cowper, the owner, was willing to sell, the purchase was effected for the sum of £220,000. In the following year the Prince of Wales entered on the ownership of Sandringham. The estate contains a little over 8,000 acres—one-third being very good mixed soil; one-third grass, marsh, and arable; and one-third of a kind suited to game coverts, and best left to pheasants and rabbits—and, although the Cowpers improved the property, the price for which it was sold was certainly tenfold that for which it might have been purchased in the time of Charles II.

Over the entrance on the east front, is a tablet recording, "This house was built by Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, and Alexandra, his Wife, in the year of Our Lord, 1870." From the vestibule is the saloon in which guests are received. Its ceiling is of carved oak, its walls are covered with pictures, and priceless works of art are cunningly distributed throughout the apartment. On the right is the library, controlled by Mr. Holtzmann, the private secretary to the Princess. Bookshelves filled to overflowing, writing-tables, and easy-chairs keep the visitor in a state of repose for many an hour. The Equerry's room is next, and beyond it the apartment furnished with mementoes of the historical Indian visit, among which are numerous fittings and knickknacks from the cabins of the *Scrapis*. Off the staircase-corridor lie the reception suite and the morning-room of the Prince, the latter a perfect nest of comfort as only a man of refinement can appreciate. Then come the drawing-rooms, with their panelled mirrors, their painted ceilings, and Madame Jerichan's statuary of "The Bathing Girls." Then the dining-room, with its lovely tapestry—a present from the late King of Spain—Royal portraits, Landseer's "Mare and Foal," and the host in the uniform of the 10th Hussars. Here collect the visitors for the early breakfast; and luncheon, which is also served here, is sometimes graced by the Princess and the young members of the house. Into the billiard-room and private den of the Prince peep but the privileged few to whom the Royal hospitality is extended, and they are doubly fortunate if they secure a view of the magnificent collection of arms belonging to the accomplished Royal sportsman. This room, against the walls of which are cabinets filled with arms, some exceedingly rare and beautiful, lies at the end of a corridor, beyond the dining-room, and hither, when the Princess and ladies have retired for the night, the guests follow the Prince, unless the bowling-alley asserts superior attractions,—a game in which the Princess and many of her friends take much pleasure. From the bowling-alley the apartment which contains the Prince's batteries is gained, and there in their costly simplicity are arrayed the *chefs-d'œuvre* in rifle and smoothbore of Purdey, Grant, and foreign interpolations of royal, imperial, or princely gifts.

The pictures, drawings, and sketches at Sandringham are mostly illustrative of the Prince's life; but there are portraits and many paintings, *souvenirs* of friends and of incidents dear to the Princess. On one side of the great salon a picture dated 1863 represents the palace in which her Royal Highness was born.



Portraits of the King and Queen of Denmark, drawings by the Princess Louise, sketches by the artists who accompanied the Prince on his various expeditions, decorate the walls. The progress through India is commemorated by splendid trophies of arms, by many objects of art, goblets of iron inlaid with silver, and "Kooftgau" steel inlaid with gold. Trophies of the chase in India, tigers' tusks and skins, abound, and the wide extent of the Prince of Wales's sporting excursions in almost every quarter of the globe, is indicated in drawings of shooting parties in the snows of Russia and in the jungles of Jaypore.

There is also a collection of arms from the field of Gravelotte, the hoof of Eclipse, the famous racer, side by side with priceless gifts of Emperors, Egyptian relics, and Hindoo antiquities.

Thus, throughout the house are scattered the charming things collected by its owner. At certain seasons of the year a short holiday—snatched from the offices of his important position—is enjoyed by the Prince and his family at their country seat. He casts off his Royal garb, and assumes that of an ordinary country gentleman, and heart and soul he goes to work among his tenantry and servants. The people down in the village want a reading-room, and Mr. Beck, the agent of the Royal estate, is consulted in the matter, and the reading-room is built. All the churches on the estate have been restored, and are kept in perfect repair. Schools have been erected for the children, cottages for the labourers, reading-rooms for the villagers, and a hospital for the aged.

His Royal Highness devotes more time to the interests of the Craft than most people imagine. He dearly loves an argument on its many abstruse points with some congenial spirit worthy of his steel, and often on his little tours of inspection, when cattle are trotted out and examined, farms surveyed, or crops overhauled, he will drift into Masonic matters apparently without an effort. He remembers his early experiences of Masonry with much pleasure: his initiation by the late King of Sweden in 1869; his courtesy installation as Past Grand Master of England; Patron of Grand Lodge of Ireland in 1871 by his Grace the Duke of Leinster, K.G., Grand Master,

who presented him with the collar, apron, and jewel of the dignified position. The latter has the following engraved on the reverse:—"Presented by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland to His Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, Earl of Dublin, Knight of St. Patrick, &c., as Patron of their ancient order. 1871."

On Friday, January 26, in the following year, the Marquis of Ripon, M.W.G.M. of England, summoned a Grand Lodge of Emergency for the purpose of adopting an address to Her Majesty upon the happy recovery of His Royal High-

ness from the terrible illness which so nearly proved fatal. Then comes his re-election to the chair of the Royal Alpha Lodge, and his inauguration as Commander of the Encampment of Faith and Fidelity at Freemasons' Hall the first week in June of the same year. But not till three years after, in April, 1875, was he installed, by the unanimous vote of Grand Lodge, into that high office that completed the road of progression. Shall we ever forget that magnificent spectacle of 8,000 Masons—all men of degree in the Craft, apparelled in their gorgeous insignia of office—receiving their new Grand Master with all the honour it is possible for Masons to give? Or the cheers that followed the declaration of Sir Albert Woods—who still holds the important position in Grand Lodge that he did then—"Be it known that the Most High, Most Puissant, Most Illustrious Prince Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, Duke of Saxony, Duke of Cornwall and Rothesay, Earl



*From a photograph by the London Stereoscopic Company, Limited.*

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.

of Chester, Carrick, and Dublin; Baron of Renfrew, and Lord of the Isles, Great Steward of Scotland, Knight of the Garter, Knight of St. Patrick, Knight of the Thistle, Grand Commander of the Bath, Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India, Knight of the Elephant of Denmark, Knight of the Golden Fleece, has been elected Most Worshipful Grand Master of Freemasonry in England, whom the great Architect of the Universe long preserve." Or the feelings that rose in every breast as His Royal Highness took his seat on the throne presented by the old Duke of Sussex, and surrounded by the highest dignitaries of Freemasonry? Year after year, since this memorable event,

Grand Lodge has regularly and faithfully returned His Royal Highness as its Master.

At Sandringham, the Prince and Princess of Wales lead the quiet, well-ordered, tranquil, yet busy life of an English gentleman and his wife, surrounded, nevertheless, by some of the state which is inseparable from their high position. There is at the gate a blue-coated, helmeted personage, familiar with the discipline of Scotland-yard, but the penalty which greatness pays for security in this instance is not very heavy. For communication with the outer world there is a telegraph and post-office within the walls of the house. On Sunday the Prince and Princess, with their family, attend the service in the Park Church of St. Mary Magdalene. When the service is over the Prince generally takes a walk round by the artificial lakes and rockeries, pointing out the improvements to his guests, and listening to the suggestions which the more intrepid amateurs are sure to offer. The Prince gets over the ground at an extraordinary rate, and woe betide the man who is not in good walking condition.

There is one great trait in the character of His Royal Highness, which is noticeable as strongly in his private life as elsewhere, and that is his universal courtesy to all sorts and conditions of men with whom he comes in contact. The civility and attention he pays to the comforts of his own servants is very marked, and a smile or a shake of the hand is ready for any man, be he never so lowly, who can deserve such an honour. The social duties of his high position, the numerous public offices he fills, and his firm determination to do everything he touches truly and well, make the Prince perhaps the most hard-worked man in the empire. No wonder that he looks forward to those happy holidays when he casts off the cares of State and hides himself in the bosom of his family and friends in his country home. If he has the cares of his high position, he has also its blessings, the greatest gem of which is the noble and good lady who shares his honours. Men speak of his Consort as the good Princess, they are united in admiration of her lovable nature, and mention not her name but with the reverence which it deserves.

#### THE POET.

UNDER the trees in the autumn time,  
Under the trees that are golden yellow,  
Fill'd with his fancy and phrase sublime,  
Deeming Parnassus an easy climb,—  
Isn't the Poet a happy fellow?

Puffing a weed, as he lies at ease,  
Puffing a weed that is mild and mellow;  
Kiss'd by the amorous autumn breeze,  
Singing a lullaby 'mid the trees,—  
Isn't the Poet a happy fellow?

\* \* \* \* \*

Under a lamp in the winter time,  
Under a lamp that burns dim and yellow;  
Racking his brains to extract a rhyme,  
Wasting the pith of his manhood's prime,—  
Ah! is the Poet a happy fellow?

Puffing in vain at an empty bowl,  
Puffing in vain till his cheeks grow sallow;  
Where is the fame that enwrapp'd his soul?  
Where is Parnassus, that easy goal?  
Ah! is the Poet a happy fellow?

J. P. OGILVIE MITCHELL.

#### MARK GRAND LODGE.

THE Half-yearly Communication of Grand Lodge of Mark Masons of England and Wales took place at the Holborn Restaurant, on Tuesday evening, the 4th ult., R.W. the Deputy Grand Master the Marquis of Hereford presiding. The official chairs were occupied by R.W. Bro. W. Kelly, Prov. G.M. of Leicestershire, as Deputy Grand Master, R.W. the Earl of Euston as Junior Grand Warden, and Bro. Olán de Tatton Egerton, M.P., as Junior Grand Warden.

A numerous company of distinguished brethren were present, including Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., Baron de Ferrieres, Col. Marmaduke Ramsay (P.G.M. of the Mediterranean), Col. Shadwell, H. Clerke, Henry Lovegrove, Rev. J. Lloyd (Grand Chaplain), Frank Richardson, D. P. Cama, Lieut.-Col. G. J. Haldane, Col. Addison Potter, C.B., Col. H. S. Burney Thomas Cubitt, Major Cook, and Frederick Binckes, the Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge having been formally opened, and the Acting Grand Master saluted in ancient form, the minutes of last Grand Mark Lodge of Dec. 6, 1888, and the Special Grand Lodge of Feb. 25 of the present year, were read and confirmed. The report of the General Board was received, and ordered to be entered in the minutes on the motion of Bro. F. Richardson, Grand Registrar, seconded by Bro. R. Berridge, G.D.C.

The report contained a notification of the death of the President of the Order, the M.W. Bro. the Rev. Canon Portal, Past Grand Master, the sad intelligence of which was formally communicated to the Board at a special meeting on April 12 last, and it was unanimously resolved that a letter of condolence should be forwarded to Mrs. Portal. To this communication, which was signed on behalf of the General Board by "Frank Richardson Vice-President Euston, Chairman of the day, and F. Binckes, Grand Secretary," the widow of the deceased President replied, tendering her thanks to the Grand Mark Lodge for their expressions of sympathy.

The report further recorded that:—

By command of his Royal Highness the M.W.G.M. all brethren of the Mark Degree under this jurisdiction were enjoined to wear Masonic mourning for three months in accordance with instructions contained in a circular letter.

During the six months ending March 31 last, there have been issued: Mark certificates, 702; total number registered, 25,339. Warrants for new lodges, seven, viz.:—

- No. 395, Combermere, Albany, N.S.W.
- " 396, De Tabley, Frodsham, Cheshire.
- " 397, Cumberland County, Paramatta, N.S.W.
- " 398, Danum, Doncaster.
- " 399, Euston, London.
- " 400, Egerton of Tatton, London.
- " 401, Swindon Keystone, Swindon.

Royal Ark Mariners certificates, 96; total number registered, 2,733.

Two warrants for new Ark Mariner lodges, viz.:—

- Henniker, attached to the Albert Victor Lodge, No. 70, Ipswich.
- Ararat, attached to the Eothen Lodge, No. 264, Hong Kong.

The following re-appointments as Provincial Grand Masters have been made for a further term of three years: Col. G. Singleton Tudor, Staffordshire; Rev. Canon Tristram, Northumberland and Durham; Capt. S. G. Homfray, Monmouthshire; the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, Lancashire; and Rev. W. Mortimer Heath, Dorset.

The Board recommend that in the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown the title of "Provincial Grand Lodge" should be changed to "District Grand Lodge," and that powers be given to such District Grand Lodges to regulate the fees payable to their own funds, subject to the approval of the Board.

The Adelaide Lodge, No. 41, Adelaide, South Australia, have informed the Board that the M.W. Bro. Chief Justice Way, the Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons of South Australia, has become a member of the lodge, and the Board recommended that, as a compliment to this distinguished brother, the rank of Past Master should be conferred on him, and that the Adelaide Lodge should be authorised to take the necessary steps to carry this resolution into effect.

The Board have been informed of the death of Bro. John Watson, R.W. Prov. G.M. Notts, and desire to express their sorrow and regret.

A Special Grand Lodge was held at the Holborn Restaurant, on the 5th of March last, for the purpose of authorising a lease of Bacon's Hotel, Great Queen-street, for a term of 49 years being taken up, and making such alterations as might be necessary to adapt the premises for the purposes of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons. The resolutions were unanimously carried, and at the Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge of England, held on March 6, the lease was authorised to be granted, and a peppercorn rent for six months was conceded.

The plans for the alterations have been prepared by Bros. Berridge and Driver, and approved and signed by M.W. Pro-G.M. Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton, on behalf of this Grand Lodge, and by W. Bro. Robert W. Edis (G. Supt. of Works), on behalf of the United Grand Lodge of England.

The work of alteration is now in progress, and the Board confidently hope that the December Meeting of Grand Lodge will be held in the permanent home of the Mark Degree.

Bro. George Clarke, jun., F.C.A., has been appointed the Auditor of Grand Lodge, in succession to Bro. C. E. Soppet, to whom the thanks of Grand Lodge are due for his gratuitous services.

The invested capital of the General Fund is £2,600.

#### FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

The twenty-first Anniversary Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on July 24, 1889, and Bro. Sir Lionel E. Darell, Bart., has most kindly consented to preside. It is confidently hoped that the untiring exertions of the Board of Stewards, and the generous liberality of the members of the Mark Degree, will enable the General

Board, not only to maintain the efficiency of this useful and most deserving Charity, but to still further increase its benefits by the admission of those accepted Candidates whom, at present, the Board do not feel justified in placing on the Fund.

Over 100 Brethren have already volunteered their services as Stewards, and it is sincerely hoped that this number may be largely increased before the day of the Festival.

ANNUITY BRANCH.

A brother, aged seventy-two, who had been a subscribing member of Fortitude Lodge, No. 78, for over twenty-one years, has been added to the number of Annuitants, making a total of Five Brethren now enjoying the advantages of this Branch, the annual income of which is only £99. 12s. 1d., while the expenditure is £155.

EDUCATIONAL BRANCH.

There are now fourteen boys and thirteen girls being educated and clothed, which entails an annual outlay of £400. 4s. 8d., the income being £89. 12s. 2d. Arthur P. Morris, aged eight years; Edith Taylor, aged nine years; Annie L. M. White, aged eleven years seven months; Harold Miller, aged ten years three months; Edward G. Jarmain, aged eight years; and Stephen Wellington, aged ten years, have been accepted as candidates, subject to the declaration of vacancies, the number of which must in a large measure depend on the success of the coming Festival.

The sum of £1,750. 9s. 9d. was received on account of the Benevolent Festival of 1888, and after payment of the necessary expenditure, £546 has been paid to Benevolent Branch, £546 to Educational Branch and £545. 4s. 6d. to Annuity Branch.

The total invested funds are—

Benevolent Branch	...	...	...	£2,500
Educational	...	...	...	2,400
Annuity	...	...	...	3,200

The Board have relieved eight cases at an expenditure of £115, and have recommended to Grand Lodge M. A. G., widow of Bro. L. G., for its benevolent consideration.

The report bore the signature of the Grand Registrar.

The ACTING GRAND MASTER (the Marquess of Hertford): Before we pass to the next business, I think that as this is the first regular Grand Lodge that has been held since the very great loss that Mark Masonry has sustained, it would be hardly decent if I did not say a word with respect to that loss. Of course, I refer to the death of Canon Portal. I am sure you will all agree with me—that by the death of Canon Portal, Mark Masonry has lost a brother whom we could ill afford to lose. I believe that there was no brother in Mark Masonry who took more trouble for the good of Mark Masonry—and all Masonry I may say—than Canon Portal did. (Hear, hear.) Many of you brethren, Mark Masons of much older standing than myself, know better than I do all that Canon Portal has done, and the way he worked as President of the General Board, and in every way he possibly could for the good of Mark Masonry. I think when you heard the minutes of the 25th February read, you must have noticed that he was then working hard to try to get our Mark Grand Lodge settled in the new building—Bacon's Hotel—and put in proper form, and was doing all he could to arrange that Mark Masonry should have a proper home there; and when we go, as I hope we shall before no very long period, into the new Grand Lodge-room at what was Bacon's Hotel, I am sure we shall all feel that it is owing in a great measure to Canon Portal that we go in to what, I hope, will be a proper abode for Grand Mark Lodge. I have no resolution to move, but you will agree with me that we could not pass over the death of Canon Portal in absolute silence on this occasion. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. W. KELLY, Prov. G.M. of Leicestershire: Perhaps a few words from me will not be inappropriate, as I represent the second province on the roll of Mark Grand Lodge which was constituted after the formation of Grand Lodge, the first province being Devonshire. I had the honour and pleasure of knowing Canon Portal for many years. He was in our Grand Lodge of Leicestershire, and during the whole time I have been Grand Master of that province, which is thirty-one years, I have been in correspondence with him. With the Most Worshipful Grand Master in the chair, I think that no one could have Mark Masonry more at heart than had Canon Portal.

Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, G. Reg., next moved the adoption of the following recommendation arising out of the Report of the General Board:—

That in the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown the title of "Provincial Grand Lodge" should be changed to "District Grand Lodge," and that powers be given to such District Grand Lodges to regulate the fees payable to their own Funds, subject to the approval of the Board.

The motion was carried.

Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON next moved:—

That the rank of Past Master be conferred on the Most Worshipful Bro. Chief Justice Way, Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons of South Australia, and that the Adelaide Lodge, No. 41, be authorised to carry this resolution into effect.

He had the honour of knowing Bro. Way personally. At the installation, a few weeks ago, of Sir Wm. Clarke as Grand Master of the Province of Victoria, Chief Justice Way made the most beautiful speech he (Bro. Richardson) had ever read. Three years ago he was in Australia, and had hardly been in Adelaide three hours before he received a visit from the Grand Secretary with a message from the Chief Justice that he hoped he would pay him a visit. He had the greatest pleasure in moving the resolution.

The Earl of EUSTON seconded the motion. He had served under the Chief Justice in the Colony, and received the greatest kindness and consideration from him. From his knowledge of the Chief Justice, and the kindness he had experienced from him himself, he could say that Bro. Richardson's visit must have been most enjoyable.

The motion was carried.

The ACTING GRAND MASTER then announced that H.R.H. the Prince of

Wales had been unanimously re-elected M.W.G.M., and he congratulated the Order thereon.

The Prince of Wales was then proclaimed by Bro. BERRIDGE as again duly installed G.M. of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown.

The Grand Officers for the year were appointed as follows:—

Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton	...	...	...	Pro G.M.
" Marquess of Hertford	...	...	...	D.G.M.
" Lord Cremorne	...	...	...	S.G.W.
" Sir Lionel Darell, Bart.	...	...	...	J.G.W.
" Richard Vassar Vassar-Smith	...	...	...	G.M.O.
" W. G. Lemon	...	...	...	S.G.O.
" Butler Wilkins	...	...	...	J.G.O.
" Rev. Dr. Herbert Kynaston	...	...	...	G Chaps.
" Rev. Trevor Parkins...	...	...	...	G. Treas.
" Henry Faija	...	...	...	G.Reg.
" Frank Richardson	...	...	...	Pres. Gen. Bd.
" Earl of Euston	...	...	...	G. Sec.
" F. Binckes	...	...	...	S.G.D.
" Felix Sumner Knyvett	...	...	...	J.G.D.
" W. Goodacre	...	...	...	G.S. of W.
" Henry Stocker	...	...	...	G.D. of C.
" H. E. Cousans	...	...	...	A.G.D. of C.
" Rowland Plumbe	...	...	...	G.S.B.
" Robert Berridge	...	...	...	G. Std. Br.
" J. H. Matthews	...	...	...	G. Org.
" J. B. Bridgman	...	...	...	A.G. Sec.
" Dr. T. B. Purchas	...	...	...	G.I.G.
" W. T. Christian	...	...	...	A.G.I.G.
" A. R. Carter	...	...	...	G. Tyler.
" Thomas Troman	...	...	...	
" C. F. Matier...	...	...	...	
" Joseph Manwaring	...	...	...	
" J. Unwin	...	...	...	
" A. Walkley	...	...	...	

The Grand Stewards for the year are: Bros. J. M. Collins, Bon Accord Lodge; E. M. Money, Old Kent Lodge; Philip Saillard, 144; Edwin Storr, 234; T. E. Biddlecombe, 244; G. H. Newington Bridges, 333; J. W. Howard Thompson, 144; Henry Fisher, Warwickshire; William Denne, 378; G. J. Brady, Dorsetshire; W. R. Felton, Gloster and Hereford; S. Knight, Berks and Oxon; K. McEwen, North Wales; and G. P. Airey, 247.

The following are the members of the General Board:—(Nominated by the Grand Master) Bros. F. Davison, Alfred Williams, James Moon, C. H. Driver, Thomas Cubitt, and George Cooper. (Nominated by the Brethren)—Bros. Dr. George Mickley, P.M. 97, P.G.D.; John E. Dawson, D.P.G.M. Herts; R. Loveland Loveland, D.P.G.M. Hants and I. of W.; A. F. Godson, M.P., Prov. G. M. Worcestershire; and Rev. Hayman Cummings, P.G.C., D.P.G.M. Kent.

Letters of apology for absence were announced by the Grand Secretary as having been received from a large number of distinguished brethren, and Grand Lodge was then closed.

A banquet was subsequently served in the Venetian Room, Bro. W. Kelly in the chair, when the usual toasts were duly honoured.

A new secret order, the Chevaliers of Pythias, have established a Lodge in Liverpool. The headquarters of this new Society—which, in its broad features, appears to resemble the Oddfellows and similar orders—are in Massachusetts; but the organisation, though only in its infancy, has already expanded beyond the bounds of America. The Lodge initiated in this city on Monday is the third established in the United Kingdom, the others being at London and Aberdeen, and there is also one in Paris. The new Society being before anything else a secret Order, it is not possible to penetrate its inmost purpose. It avowedly exists, however, as an international organisation, the objects of which are the promotion among men of the true principles of benevolence and charity; the relief of its members in sickness and distress; the payment of a stipulated sum upon the death of a member; and care and protection of the widow and orphan; and the cultivation of fraternal relations among mankind. The eccentric designation of the Society is explained by the fact that the story of Damon and Pythias furnishes the main subject for the "drama of the ritual in this Pythian and chivalric brotherhood." There is nothing in the story which should suggest to ordinary readers of it anything appertaining to amusement, nevertheless it is mentioned as one of the peculiar advantages of the Pythian order, that the fraternal benefits common to other Societies of the same kind are supplemented by "the genuine amusement and instruction furnished by the exemplification of our ritualistic work which has never been equalled by any other Society"

## Masonic News.

(From the Weekly Press.)

The following is the result of the ballot by Grand Lodge on the 5th ult. for members of the Board of General Purposes: Bros. T. Hastings Miller, W.M. 2192; Lennox Browne, W.M. 2256; W. A. Scurrah, W.M. 167; Capt. T. C. Walls, W.M. 1656; E. C. Mulvey, W.M. 179; Gordon Smith, W.M. 14; J. L. Alex. Monckton, M.A., W.M. 197; George Gardner, W.M. 2309; F. E. Pocock, M.D., P.M. 1891; Joseph D. Langton, P.M. 2096; George Read, P.M. 511; Tom Drew Bear, P.M. 1584; William G. Lemon, P.M. 165; and Henry Pritchard, P.M. 1415.

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The Deputy Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, has had his son dangerously ill with typhoid fever in Brittany.

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H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, K.G., has been gazetted to the rank of Lieut.-General by strict seniority. The commission takes effect from April 1 last.

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On Thursday, the 6th ult., at the Masonic Temple, Jersey, the members of La Césarée Lodge (590), inaugurated a new departure in the annals of Jersey Freemasonry, by installing Bro. E. Bree in the Master's chair for the third consecutive year. The annual banquet was afterwards held in the dining-room, about forty brethren sitting down. The thrice-elected Master occupied the chair, and besides him were Bros. T. Le Scelleur, P.P.S.G.W.; P. E. Sohler, P.G.S.; G. J. Renouf, P.G.T.; Major J. C. Raven, Capt. F. Godfray, P. W. Binet, P.M.; and Ph. Le Feuvre, jun., I.P.M.

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The Swindon Keystone Mark Lodge (401) was consecrated on Friday, the 7th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Swindon, the Consecrating Officer being the Bro. C. F. Matier, P.G.W. M.M.M. Eng., assisted by Bros. Pierrepont Harris, P.G.D., as S.W.; Leon, P.G.D., as J.W.; Rev. John A. Lloyd, P.G. Chap.; Robert Berridge, G.D. of C.; W. Bambridge, Org.; and Surgeon-General Ringer, W.M. 177, I.G. There were also present Bros. John Chandler, P.M. 178, W.M. designate; Henry C. Tombs, S.W. designate; J. Campbell Maclean, J.W. designate; Cope-Procter, P.M., and other brethren. The Worshipful Master, Bro. John Chandler, having been formally placed in chair, invested his officers: Rev. John A. Lloyd, J.P.M., Acting Chap.; H. C. Tombs, S.W.; J. C. Maclean, J.W.; H. Bevir, M.O.; W. Lovegrove, S.O.; W. Bambridge, J.O.; H. Kemble, Treas.; A. Plummer, Sec. and Reg. of Mks.; R. W. Merriman, S.D.; E. Jones, J.D.; J. H. Chandler, P.M., D.C., Org.; A. Barns, J.G.; and J. Dean, Tyler. The death of Bro. William Nott, a P.D.D. of England, well known throughout Wilts, who had signed the petition praying for the warrant of constitution, was feelingly commented on during the proceedings.

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The eleventh annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Suffolk was held at the Crown Hotel, Framlingham, on Monday, the 17th ult., when a new chapter—the Henniker (555) was consecrated. The ceremony of consecration was performed by the Grand Superintendent, and the Principals installed were Comp. Rev. R. Peek, J. 376, M.E.Z.; Comp. S. G. Carley, H.; and Comp. W. Minter, J. The Provincial Grand Officers invested by the Grand Superintendent were:—Comp. S. R. Anness, P.Z. Royal Sussex Chapter, P.P.G.S.N., Prov. G.H.; Comp. H. H. George, P.Z. St. Andrew's Chapter, P.P.G.Std. Br., Prov. G.J.; Comp. N. Tracy, P.Z. Royal Sussex Chapter, Prov. G.S.E.; Comp. Rev. N. Peek, M.E.Z., Henniker Chapter, Prov. G.S.N.; Comp. G. H. Cooper, H. Lowestoft Chapter, Prov. G.P.S.; Comp. E. Smith, M.E.Z. Royal York Chapter, P.P.G.R., Prov. G. 1st A.S.; Comp. W. B. Hanson, J. Royal Alexandra Chapter, Prov. G. 2nd A.S.; Comp. W. Chapman, P.Z. White Rose Chapter, Prov. G. Reg.; Comp. A. J. L. Reeves, H. St. Andrew's Chapter, Prov. G.S.B.;

Comp. H. C. Pratt, S.E. Martyn Chapter, Prov. G. Std. Br.; Comp. W. Clarke, Royal Sussex Chapter, Prov. G.D. of C.; Comp. F. A. Mann, S.N. Lowestoft Chapter, Prov. G. Org.; Comp. G. Gould, Janitor Royal Sussex Chapter, Prov. G. Janitor.

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At the annual meeting of Lodge "Fidelity" (555), held at the Crown Hotel, Framlingham, on Wednesday, the 19th ult., when Bro. Wm. Balls was installed as W.M., a sum of money was voted towards the restoration fund of Framlingham parish church, on condition that it be devoted to some particular work approved of by the members of the Lodge.

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Bro. Samuel Steele, a well-known and greatly-esteemed Derby man, who died a few days since, was buried on Wednesday, the 19th ult., with Masonic ceremony.

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The annual summer meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Nottingham was held at the Pelham Lodge, Worksop, on the 20th ult. The ordinary meetings of the Lodge are generally held at Nottingham, and the summer meetings in one or other of the smaller towns in the county, hence yesterday's meeting at Worksop. The members present numbered about 120. Many of these arrived by the early morning trains, and did a portion of the round of the "Dukeries" before entering into the business of the day. The Town and Criterion Halls were engaged for the occasion, the former for the banquet, and the latter for the general Lodge meeting. The members met at the Lodge, Criterion Hall, at two o'clock. The principal business was the installation of the Very Worshipful Bro. the Rev. Frederick Vernon Bussell as Deputy-Provincial Grand Master. The installing officer was the Right Worshipful Bro. Tew, Deputy-Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire.

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The special communication of Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow was held on May 29. The Prov. Grand Master, Bro. John Graham, occupied the throne, and the Wardens' chairs were filled by Bros. Andrew McNair, R.W.M. 4, acting P.S.G.W., and B. M. Gunn, R.W.M. 73, acting P.J.G.W. The Prov. Grand Master announced that the list of Prov. Grand Office Bearers was complete. He had great pleasure in asking Bro. Thomas Halket to administer the usual ceremony to the office bearers elect, who were:—Bro. Richard Barnwell, Prov. Grand Deputy Master; Bro. James Boyd, Prov. Grand Sub. Master; Bro. J. M. Oliver, Prov. Grand S.W.; Bro. David Reid, Prov. Grand Sec.; Bro. Rev. W. W. Tulloch, B.D., Prov. Grand Joint Chaplain. Letters of apology were read from Bros. G. C. H. McNaught, P.J.G.W., and Rev. John Watt, B.D., P.G. Joint Chaplain. After the installation ceremony the Prov. Grand Master, in the name of Prov. Grand Lodge and daughter Lodges, made a presentation to Bro. Thomas Halket, Prov. Grand Treasurer of Benevolent Fund, to commemorate his golden wedding. Bro. Thomas Halket thanked the Prov. Grand Master and brethren, and the Prov. Grand Lodge was eventually closed.

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Viator Lodge, No. 2308, was consecrated at Anderton's Hotel on Saturday, June 1, by Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, P.G.D., Grand Sec., assisted by Bros. C. Belton, G.D.D.C. as S.W.; C. Matier, P.G.S.B., as J.W.; Rev. G. W. Welden, P.G. Chap., as Chap.; P. Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; and G. P. Britten, as J.G. The founders are Bros. Henry N. Price, P.M., 177, W.M. designate; E. A. G. Smith, S.W. designate; William T. Brixton, J.W. designate; and Bros. A. E. Kay, James Stephens, P.M., T. Morris, F. Smith, W. Ferguson, P.M., J. L. Lowe, A. C. Stephens, J. Higgs, H. Hobbs, A. Banks, C. Naylor, W. Chapple, and William Drew, W.M. 733. The Grand Secretary performed the consecration ceremony with his usual ability. Among the visitors were the District Grand Master of Jamaica and Bro. George Everett, P.M., this year's unsuccessful candidate for the Grand Treasurership. The Lodge appears to have a brilliant career before it.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Gloucestershire was held on Wednesday, the 5th inst., at Tewkesbury. An interval of eleven years had elapsed since a similar meeting had been held in the old town, the occasion then being the re-opening of the Abbey Church after its extensive restoration, in which the Masons of the province had taken part by contributing to the repair of the Chapter House. Among the brethren present were Sir Edmund Lechmere, the Prov. G.M. of Worcestershire, and a great number of provincial officers, including the Prov. G.M. the Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., who appointed the Right Hon. the Lord Fitzhardinge, W.M. of 270, Prov. G.W. A recital on the Abbey organ was afterwards conducted by Bro. Hemingway.

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The foundation-stone of the new Masonic Hall, which is being erected in Edward-street, West Bromwich, by the brethren of the Dartmouth Lodge, was laid by the Mayor, Bro. E. Heelis, W.M. of the Dartmouth Lodge, assisted by the P.G.M., Col. Foster Gough, LL.D., and a large number of brethren from the Province of Staffordshire.

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Bro. F. H. Rooke, whose recent letters to the *Freemason* have attracted some attention, is a Past Grand Steward, having served that office in 1872. He is P.M. of the Old Union Lodge (46), and of the Alexandra Palace Lodge (1541), and P.Z. of the Old Union Chapter (46). He is a member of the 30° and has acted for some years as Recorder of the Holy Sanctuary Rose Croix Chapter (53), of which he is at present M.W.S. He is a Life Governor of all the Masonic Charities. By profession Bro. Rooke is a solicitor at Barnes, Surrey, and Lincoln's-inn-fields, W.C., and he is well known in Church circles, especially as Chairman of the Free and Open Church Association.

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The annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Norths and Hunts was held on Thursday, the 13th inst., under the banner of the Socrates Lodge (373), Huntingdon. The Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, D.L., P.G.M., assisted by Bro. Butler Wilkins, P.G.M., P.G., Std. Br., presided. The Grand Lodge was opened at the Town Hall, at 1.45, Bro. H. T. Smith, W.M. 374, being appointed P.G.S.W. for the ensuing year. Later in the proceedings the brethren formed in procession, and, preceded by the P.G., Sword Bearers with the Masonic emblems and symbols, visited All Saints' Church, where Bro. the Rev. F. S. Thornton, Prov. G.C., had been announced to preach. An interesting feature in the procession was that of four Lewises (younger sons of Bros. Thackray, Hodgson, and Davis), dressed in white serge, and carrying a Bible resting on a prepared bier elegantly decorated with choice white flowers and acacia-leaves. The first portion of the church service was read by the Rev. J. Pycock, the Rev. T. Hodgson taking the lesson. Mr. A. A. Mackintosh presided at the organ for the greater part of the service, Bro. Vials, P.G.O., Org. of the Eleanor Cross Lodge, playing the voluntaries. The sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. S. Wathen Wigg, P.P.G.C. The reverend gentlemen, taking for his text 1 Kings, chap. 20, part of the 32nd verse—"He is my brother"—eloquently discoursed upon the connection Masonic belief had with the Christian religion.

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The installation of Bro. Robert Titlow, W.M. Elect of Lodge Prudence (388), took place at the Masonic Hall, Halesworth, last week, when the following brethren signed the presence-book:—Bros. P. M. Canova, W.M.; J. Oakley Green, I.P.M.; R. Titlow, S.W., W.M. Elect; R. W. Flick, J.W.; J. M. Canova, P.M., P.P.G., S.W., Treasurer; A. E. Smith, P.M., P.P.G.J., W., Secretary; E. W. Moore, S.D.; A. Caton, P.M.; C. S. Pelgriff, P.M.; R. Barker, P.M., P.P.G. Asst. D. of C.; C. H. White, P.M.; W. Chappell, Acting Tyler; P. W. Kendall, George Andrews, W. P. Gale, P.S.W.; Pryce Morris. The visiting Brethren included Bros. George Abbott, P.M. (285), P.P.G.S.B.; Herbert Buckingham, jun., J.W. (85); J. W. W. King, P.M. (376);

E. M. U. Adnams, W.M. (1983); T. Sergeant, S.W. (1983); W. D. Merrith, P.M. (1000), P.P.G.S.W.; Jno. E. Sales, J.D. (929). Bro. P.M. Canova, the retiring W.M., ably performed the duty of Installing Master, his skilful work pointing him out as an accomplished craftsman. The W.M. Elect having been duly and according to ancient custom installed in the Master's chair, he appointed his officers:—Bro. R. W. Flick, S.W.; Bro. E. W. Moore, J.W.; Bro. J. M. Canova, P.M., P.P.G.S.W., Treasurer; Bro. A. E. Smith, P.M., P.P.G.J.W., Secretary; Bro. Pryce Morris, S.D.; Bro. W. E. Baylie, J.D.; Bro. P. W. Kendall, I.G.; Bro. R. Barker, P.M., P.P.G.D. of C., Steward; Bro. James Miller, Tyler. The annual banquet subsequently took place at the Angel Hotel.

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Bro. William Marwood, who is well known in Liverpool, has been installed into the chair of the Croxteth United Service Lodge (786).

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Councillor and Mrs. W. Botting, of Brighton, have just become the recipients of a much-valued souvenir of their silver-wedding. The gift came from the Royal Brunswick Lodge, of which Bro. Botting has for many years been an esteemed member. It consisted of an address, enclosed in a massive oak and gilt frame, and most artistically illuminated, amongst the adornments being a beautiful floral border, a *fac-simile* of the banner of the Lodge, consisting of a white horse upon a blue ground, with the motto, "Nex aspera terrens," a circle containing Mr. Botting's family crest, consisting of a swan, with the motto, "Floreat qui Laborat." The wording of the address is as follows:—

"Royal Brunswick Lodge, No. 732.  
Antient Free and Accepted Masons, England.  
To Bro. WILLIAM BOTTING, P.M.

"We, the Worshipful Master, Officers, and Brethren of the 'Royal Brunswick Lodge,' assembled at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, desire to offer you and your Wife our sincere and hearty felicitations and congratulations upon your Silver-Wedding Day.

"May the Great Architect of the Universe bless you and your Wife and Family with health, happiness, and every blessing, for many years to come."

SAMUEL DENMAN, W.M.  
T. P. HARKER, S.W.  
HORTON LEDGER, P.M., J.W.  
W. ALFRED FIELD, S.D.  
W. BENNETT, J.D.  
GEO. J. CLEMENTS, I.G.  
CHARLES NYE, P.M., D. of C.  
WALTER SMITH, P.M., Std.  
HENRY DAVEY, P.M., Std.  
RICHARD WILLARD, I.P.M.  
W. H. HOLLIS, Secretary.  
And the Brethren of the Lodge.

The presentation of the address was made at a Lodge meeting, and was accompanied by hearty felicitations.

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It is proposed by the members of the National Liberal Club to establish a new Lodge, to be called the "Whitehall Lodge," exclusive, of course, to any brethren but what are members of the Club.

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A distinguished company will probably be present at the "Masonic" garden party that Bro. H. Clarke, C.C. (W.M. of the Alliance Lodge), purposes giving on Saturday, July 13, at his residence, Cannon Hall, Hampstead. Invitations have been sent to all the members of the County Council who belong to the craft.

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Since the dissolution of St. James's Lodge (713), at Keith, nearly fifty years ago, the charter and books of the Lodge have been missing. No trace of them could be found until recently, when the charter turned up rather unexpectedly. It has been for many years in the possession of an old resident, who had forgotten all about the missing document in his possession until it came to light the other day. It was generally believed that the last Secretary to the Lodge,

Bro. D. Cameron, schoolmaster, Newmill, had taken the books and other documents with him to America at the time of the dissolution of the Lodge. But the discovery of the charter in so unexpected a manner has given rise to the hope that the books may also turn up and eventually be deposited in the Keith Museum. The St. James's Lodge was resuscitated about four years ago, and some of the regalia belonging to the original Lodge has been presented to it. These, like the original charter, are in a good state of preservation. The charter is written on finely-dressed sheepskin, and is a specimen of the beautiful and careful penmanship of the period in which it was written.

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Bro. Joseph D. Langton, who has been appointed Hon. Sec. of the Provisional Management Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, is J.D. of Grand Masters' Lodge (1), P.M. and Secretary of the Langton Lodge (1673), and P.M. and Secretary of the George Price Lodge (2097); also Z. of the George Price Chapter, and Z. elect of the Asaph Chapter (1319). Bro. Langton was, at the last meeting of Grand Lodge, elected a Member of the Board of General Purposes, and he is P.P.J.G.W. of Surrey, and P.P.G.A.S. of the Provincial Grand Chapter.

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Bro. Sir Michael R. Shaw Stewart, Bart., Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire, has appointed Bro. James Reid, Greenock, to be Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Scotland, in room of M. Hugh Shaw Stewart, of Carnock, who resigned that office on his election as Provincial Grand Master of Stirlingshire. Bro. David J. Dunlop, Port-Glasgow, has been appointed Sub-Provincial G. Master; Bro. Provost Binnie, Gourrock, Provincial Senior Grand Warden; and Bro. Rev. John Frew, Greenock, one of the Provincial Grand Chaplains.

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Probate of the will, dated June 15, 1888, of the late Bro. Carl Rosa, of 17, Westbourne-street, Hyde-park, who died on April 30 last, at the Grand Hotel, Paris, has been granted to the acting executors, Mr. Henry Alex. Bruce, of the Court Theatre, Liverpool, theatrical manager, and Mr. Charles Edward Horte, of Northbourne, Lower Common, Putney, secretary, probate having been renounced by Mr. John Hayward Evans, solicitor, also named as an executor in the will. The value of the personal estate has been sworn at £78,758. 12s. 4d.

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Considerable excitement prevails in Masonic circles at Scranton, Pa., over the condemnation, by the Grand Master McCalla, of a Lodge belonging to the Cerneau rite of Scottish Masonry. The introduction of the Cerneau rite into this region was regarded by the ancient northern jurisdiction as a sort of Masonic schism. It is alleged against the new rite that it confers degrees easily, unworthily, and cheaply, and sometimes sold its honours for solid cash. As a result, men of no merit were found displaying evidences of Masonic dignity to which they were not entitled. These and other offences moved the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to declare the Cerneau rite clandestine.

The proprietors of *The Masonic Star*, the modest little weekly edited by Bro. James Stevens, is seeking the assistance of £5,000 (in five thousand shares of £1 each) to continue the publication and increase the publicity of the paper. Five thousand pounds will do a great deal with such a small affair that has been in existence twelve months. Bro. Stevens, although one of the proprietors and promoters of the Company, will not receive any of the purchase-money to be paid to them. Under the circumstances, the whole of the purchase-money should be taken in deferred shares, bearing no interest till the ordinary shareholders had received 5 per cent.

## Colonial and Foreign.

Lord Onslow, the new Governor of New Zealand, was welcomed on his arrival in the Colony to take up his official position by the Brethren of the District Grand Lodge, who had arranged a Masonic reception and banquet in his honour. In reply to the address, which was presented to him at Government House, Auckland City, his Lordship said:—

"Worshipful Brethren,—It has afforded me sincere pleasure to receive in your name, representing as you do the important District Grand Lodge of Auckland, so cordial and fraternal a welcome on landing on the shores of New Zealand. It shows, if proof were wanting, that brotherly love, the first principle of Freemasonry, is as strong in this important province of the Empire as in the heart of the Grand Lodge of England itself. As a Grand Warden of that Lodge, it will be a pleasure to me to express to his Royal Highness the Grand Master the satisfaction which I feel in learning that Freemasonry in New Zealand does not yield in vigour, in prosperity, or in loyalty to any of her sister colonies in Australasia.

To an address from the Mark Master Masons, Lord Onslow also replied; and at the banquet, which was held the following evening (April 23), on rising to reply to the toast of "Our Guest," he was received with deafening applause. Lady Onslow and a number of ladies listened from the dais.

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Several Brethren having petitioned the G.S.R. of the Order of the Secret Monitor for a warrant authorising them to hold a conclave of the Order in Madras, and having pointed out that Bros. Malden, Gray, and Barton, of that city, had already received the first Degree in the American manner, the G.S.R. constituted them the principal officers of a conclave, and authorised them to receive and act upon the warrant. Accordingly, on Friday, May 3 last, the brethren, to whom the warrant was granted—Bros. Rev. C. H. Malden, 18 deg., S.R. designate; J. Gray, C. designate; and J. B. Barton, G. designate, summoned a meeting of the founders of the Damon and Pythias conclave, No. 14, and having entered the lodge-room, these then knelt around the E. and recited the obligation. Bro. Gabriel was then admitted and obligated as Sentinel. The three Rulers designate then opened the conclave, and proceeded to admit into the Order Bros. W. T. Hewitt, 18 deg., Past D.G. Pres. B.G.P.; C. Campbell, D. Calder, D.G.A.D.C.; H. Love, Sec. 1198; C. Bonell, and B. C. Dumphy. After the induction of the candidates. Bro. Malden informed the brethren that having been appointed to the rank of Past Grand Councillor, he was empowered to consecrate the conclave and take his seat as 1st Supreme Ruler. Bro. Malden then called upon the acting Secretary, Bro. C. Campbell, to read the petition and warrant, and asked the brethren if they approved of the officers named in the warrant. He then, assisted by Bros. Gray and Barton, consecrated, dedicated, and constituted the conclave, Bro. Barton delivering the oration. Bro. Malden then installed himself as S.R., Bro. J. Gray as Councillor, and Bro. J. B. Barton as Guide. Bro. W. T. Hewitt was elected Treasurer. The remaining officers were then appointed and invested; Bros. Colin Campbell, Sec.; J. H. Love, V.D.; D. Calder, V.D.; and C. Bonell, Gdr. A Committee, consisting of the S.R., Sec., and Treas., was then appointed to frame by-laws to be submitted at the next meeting. The conclave was then closed.

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The Southern Tasmanian Masons, after discussing the proposals for the establishment of a United District Lodge for Tasmania, have decided by 27 to 25 votes that the time was not ripe for the formation of the Lodge.

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When it became evident that the debt on the Masonic Temple in New York would be paid off some two years ago, it was decided to look about for a proper site on which to build and maintain the long-promised asylum. The rentals of the Temple afford a revenue of about 40,000 dols. per annum, and it was believed if the Home was properly located that the well-known liberality of the fraternity in doing charitable work for their own order would swell the fund to nearly 100,000 dols. per annum. Hasty or ill-advised action in the choice of site would result in serious difficulties. The site chosen must be carefully considered from all points, and it was not to be determined upon until the committee and Grand Master were absolutely certain it was best for the interests of all. In June, 1887, the resolution empowering Grand Master Lawrence to appoint the committee was passed in the Grand Lodge. In April, 1888, the committee was named, and consisted of one from each of the nine judicial districts in the State. These gentlemen reported at the June meeting of last year of the Grand Lodge, and it was decided that no proposals for sites should be received after September 5 following. Eligible and valuable sites were offered at Lockport, Auburn, Syracuse, Ithaca, Binghamton, Unadilla, Rome, Utica, and on Long Island, all of which were visited by the committee. After careful surveys and deliberations extending for many months, it has been unanimously agreed to recommend the Driving Park, Utica City, as the most appropriate spot, provided it can be secured for not more than 20,000 dols. The tract is situated almost wholly within the city limits, and contains 175 acres. It is rectangular in shape, having a width of 2,600 ft., the frontage being to the north, and bounded by the West Shore Railroad. It is not improbable that the East Utica Station on the West Shore will be moved to the corner of the land on which stands the main entrance to the Driving Park, and side tracks are already there, so that building material can be carried to the grounds by rail. Much of the land is not included in the Driving Park plot, but lies outside the fence. At the

front, gently sloping to the north and east, and insuring excellent drainage, is a broad expanse of rolling meadow, at the centre and back a fine plateau. Across the west side, extending nearly from front to back, lies Silver Spring Glen, its steep sides lined with forest trees of natural growth. Across the south-west corner, and emptying into the glen, is a deep ravine, and at its mouth a fine sulphur spring. On the west, south, and east, and covering some twenty-five or thirty acres, is a strip of woodland embracing many varieties of large trees, and furnishing groves in great abundance. From the plateau the landscape is one of great variety and surpassing loveliness. To the north-west lie the beautiful Deerfield Hills, crowning the picture with such fair scenes as to make it one fit for canvas or poesy—a landscape seldom excelled in variety and never in loveliness. Here the Home for aged and indigent Masons and the widows and orphans of Masons not otherwise provided for, will be located. Utica will welcome it with open arms, and guarantee to it an honoured place among her many charitable institutions. It is destined to become one of the greatest institutions of this character in the State. Supported by the proceeds arising from the rental of the Masonic Temple in New York, and by the contributions of the 717 Lodges scattered throughout the State, administered with the bounty and liberality that has ever characterised Masons in deeds of charity, yet, with a care and uprightness that shall place it above suspicion or reproach, it will shed its beneficent influence in every community, setting an example of brotherly love that may wisely be patterned by men of all creeds, and standing as a monument to prove to future generations that the principles of Faith, Hope, and Charity have not been taught in vain. The Utican Masons have alone subscribed 4,750 dols. towards the purchase.

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The Grand Lodge of Maryland has presented Bro. Captain Murrell, of the *Missouri*, with a gold medal for rescuing the crew and passengers of the *Danmark*.

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The foundation-stone of the new Eden Masonic Hall, Wilmington, North America, was laid with ceremony the latter end of May. The hall is a massive structure five stories in height, from the designs of Bro. E. Rice, jun.

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The Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Freemasons of England have cancelled the charters of nine Lodges in New South Wales which entered the United Grand Lodge recently established in Sydney under Lord Carrington as first Grand Master.

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Chief Justice Way was re-elected Grand Master of the South Australian Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication, and, upon the retirement from the candidature of Bro. P. Sansom, Bro. H. E. Downer, M.P., was returned without opposition D.G.M. The other positions, chiefly without elections, were filled as follows:—Bros. F. H. Wigg, J.P., S.G.W.; J. G. Jenkins, M.P., J.G.W.; Rev. Canon Poole, M.A., G. Chaplain; S. Solomon, M.P., President of Board of General Purposes; F. W. Bullock, J.P., G. Treasurer; W. B. Webb, G. Register; F. Olifent, G. Inspector of Lodges; J. E. Thomas, G. Lecturer; Harry Turner, J.P., S.G.D.; F. J. Harris, S.G.D.; T. De Cean, J.G.D.; A. Kemp, J.G.D.; J. T. McLean, G.S.W.; G. C. Knight, G.D.C.; M. V. Adams, D.G.D.C.; J. Le M. F. Roberts, Assistant G.D.C.; J. W. Peterswald, J.P., G. Sword-Bearer; H. Hampson, G. Standard-Bearer; Dr. Lendon, G. Standard-Bearer; J. Shakespeare, G.O.; T. Day, A.G. Sec.; Andrew Simpson, G. Purs.; D. H. H. Weir, A.G. Purs.

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One of the most brilliant Masonic gatherings ever witnessed in Melbourne took place in the Masonic Hall, Collins-street, at the dedication of the "Davies" Lodge, the first established under the Victorian constitution, of which the Hon. Sir W. J. Clarke is the M.W.G.M. The new Lodge is named after its first Worshipful Master, the Hon. M. H. Davies, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. The ceremony connected with the installation of the hon. gentleman was witnessed by 120 installed Masters, including the Grand Master and all the Grand Lodge officers. The oration was delivered by the Grand Chaplain, the Rev. W. W. Mantell, and the ceremony of installing the W.M. of the new Lodge was excellently carried out by Bro. Baker, D.G.M., assisted by Bros. A. Aitken, G.G.W., and W. B. Edwards, G.D.C.

The brethren of the Anglo-American Lodge are about to present a testimonial to Consul-General Waller on his retirement from the office of Consul-General in this country for the United States. In the circular issued to the members of the Lodge, Bro. Waller is referred to as having efficiently fulfilled his Consular duties to the entire satisfaction of every one who has come in contact with him during his four years of official duty. The Anglo-American Lodge lose a genial and eloquent brother, whose graceful and amiable society endeared him to all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

DRIFTING.

A VERY excellent article—more excellent it would have been from the pen of "Atlas" himself—was published some weeks since in the columns of the *World*, and spoke somewhat sympathetically of the drifting propensity of human nature. "A man who," said the writer, "began life with exalted hopes as an art-student, who fondly believed himself of the glorious company of Michael Angelo and Raffaele, who saw in the dim yet dazzling future, the mystic letters R.A.—ay, and even the P.R.A.—following his world-renowned name, ends in that vast sanctuary of the undecided, the Stock Exchange. He hardly knows how he came to be speculating in Berthas or burning his fingers with Tintos. He never thought, what time the spirits who haunted his slumbers were Titian and Velasquez, that he should ever lie awake o' nights thinking of settling-day and contango. He only knows that to this conclusion he has come at last by mere drifting."

Yes! this is true, but the action of this universal "drifting" is a double one. The harum-scarum school-lad, pulled up sharp from the discipline of his tutors, drifts into one of the many walks of life without any guidance from the rudder of discretion. At least, it is more often so. The parental influence is secondary to the childish whim, and so the untutored mind drifts into the ranks of law when the church should have claimed him for its lawful subject. Then comes the reckoning. Little by little the light of truth draws upon the mind which is not steadfast enough to its purpose to close its shutters against it. The germ of discontent is sown upon the soil which ripens it too quickly, and the unsuccessful lawyer drifts, wave by wave, into some other channel, whose current bears him from the place which knew him first. If he can enter the lock and pass thus through to the lower reaches of the stream he is safe, but the weir is wider than the lock by far, and the current runs towards it. Once within its luring eddy all is lost—lost for the want of a little discretion and steadfastness of purpose.

From every purpose and institution of life men drift, from Masonry as from other things. There are instances—and we know of several—where candidates have been initiated into the ranks of our Order, drifting into their initiation without aim or reason, and who have never qualified themselves beyond it for the rank of a Master Mason. They have drifted out of it in the same manner as they drifted in—with the current. But these instances are few. The drifting nature of the Mason ripens upon his passing the chair of his Lodge. This dignity reached, he steps down into the ranks of the Past Masters, vegetates in the sunshine of his Lodge during the mastership of his immediate successor, when, metaphorically, he is "potted" for some vacant shelf in the greenhouse of the Craft, until, by successive "slippings," time and circumstances change him altogether. He has merely drifted.

"GRASMERE."

CLOUDS, lingering yet, extend in solid bars  
Through the gray west; and lo! these waters, steeled  
By breezeless air to smoothest polish, yield  
A vivid repetition of the stars;  
Jove, Venus, and the ruddy crest of Mars,  
Amid his fellows beautifully revealed  
At happy distance from Earth's groaning field,  
Where ruthless mortals wage incessant wars.  
Is it a mirror? or the nether sphere  
Opening to view the abyss in which she feeds  
Her own calm fires? But, list! a voice is near;  
Great Pan himself, low whispering through the reeds,  
"Be thankful, thou, for, if unholy deeds  
Ravage the world, tranquility is here!"

Wordsworth.

The Rev. James Anderson, P.P.G. Chap. of the Province of Cumberland and Westmoreland, has been appointed Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Whitehaven, as successor to the late Canon Dalton, who held the position for upwards of fifty-six years.

## A BOARD OF PAST MASTERS.

WE reprint from the *South African Freemason*:—In a recent leading article we made a passing allusion to the functions at present accorded to a Board of Past Masters at Installations as coming, *inter alia*, under the class of Masonic make-believe against which we felt it to be our duty to inveigh. The desire of the thinking class of Masons of to-day is to make Freemasonry a clear and logical system, with potentialities higher than those possessed by a mere eleemosynary and festive association. And in following out this ideal, your true progressist has the inestimable advantage, not possessed by those of the cognate school of thought and politics, of being at the same time a reformer and a thorough conservative, inasmuch as the progressive and amending Mason has nothing to do but to go back to the ways of our ancestors for the standard at which he aims. Slight adaptations, verbal alterations, and the like, are necessitated, because *tempora mutantur et vie mutantur in illis*; but although the paths may alter a little, they can be trodden after the same manner, and in a direction leading to the same goal. Masonic abuses are, for the most part, if we only look back far enough, found to be mere perversions of the customs of old times. And applying this principle to the subject with which we are particularly germane to-day, we are content to believe that we have the best warrant for assuming that the functions of a Board of Installed Masters at Installations were in former days of a very much more real character than they are to-day. In Anderson's original Constitutions of 1723, general directions are given for the conduct of the ceremonies of Installation and Consecration, and it is therein distinctly stated that the Grand Master shall ask his Deputy "if he has examined him and finds the Candidate Master well skilled in the noble Science and the royal Art, and duly instructed in our Mysteries." In connection with this it may be observed that Anderson's Constitutions pre-supposed that Installations should always be performed by the Grand Master, his Deputy, and the Grand Wardens, the only Lodges then under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge being in London. At a later date it became necessary to extend the power of Installation to any three Past Masters. But it is perfectly clear that the spirit of the old Constitutions demanded an actual examination of the candidate on the part of those officers who were charged with the duty of installing him. The ritual in common use to-day is somewhat less definite, but it does thus far copy the wording of the old Constitution as to lay down as a necessary qualification for the chair of K.S. that the candidate "shall be well skilled in the Noble Science," and further on we are told that he must be "able and willing to undertake the management of the Work." Although it does not, like Anderson, specially indicate any machinery for giving practical effect to these requirements, yet, judging from analogy in other portions of Masonic ceremonial, we are forbidden to assume that the compilers of our ritual had so little veneration for the Royal Art as to put into the mouths of its votaries words which, if devoid of meaning, would be nothing less than nonsense and the worst of shams. And lest any one should endeavour to find a loophole of escape from this position by falling back on the assumption that the ritual recognised the prior passing of the various degrees and the serving of the office of Warden as sufficient guarantees of proficiency, we would point out that all these qualifications are categorically stated separately and distinctly from the qualifications we have quoted, and were certainly regarded as metaphorically sailing under their own flags. And further, if it be necessary, we would meet the hypothesis with a flat negative, and remind any critics that service as Warden is no

guarantee whatever of proficiency in the ritual duties of W.M., and that our ancestors were perfectly well aware of the fact. We are, then, fully justified in assuming that in Anderson's day, and probably for a very long time after, a Board of Installed Masters was supposed to examine every candidate for Installation as to his actual proficiency in the work. The present Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England are silent on the point at issue, but that does not count for much, *vox et præterea nihil* having been for years the revered motto of Great Queen-street. However, the voice of the past is sufficiently clear, and the voice of common sense echoes it. Surely it is only reasonable that some means should be taken to ascertain, before election, the fitness of past Wardens for the Chair, the duties of which are so complex, and so essentially different to anything that has gone before. If a man conscientiously means to fit himself for the exalted post of Master, he cannot surely be averse to submitting his acquirements to test by those brethren whose peers he aspires to become. And is it reasonable that a brother should only begin to learn his work just when his term of office is half ended, or that some other brother, pitchforked into the chair because of his well-filled pockets, and his popular reputation of being "a jolly good fellow," should go through his year without ever performing the duties at all, and should be obliged to have recourse to an obliging P.M. whenever a degree is on the *tapis*? The sights one is compelled sometimes to witness on the daïs are a disgrace, and the only way to avoid them is to compel every candidate for the chair to submit himself previous to election to examination by a competent Board of Masters. And not only would the dignity of the Chair and the credit of the Lodge be advanced thereby, but a collateral advantage would be gained in the increased interest felt in Lodges of Instruction, which would receive an amazing fillip if such a reform were brought about. And it is workable, for a correspondent of the *Masonic Star* of March 7 quotes a by-law of a Greenwich Lodge, which he says has been in operation with good effect for the last twenty-two or twenty-three years. It runs thus:—"No brother shall be eligible for the office of W.M. unless he is capable of opening and closing the Lodge in the three degrees, and working the ceremonies; the qualification of such candidates shall be certified by a Board of Past Masters prior to his election." The correspondent states that during the whole of the aforesaid twenty-two years they have only had one case in which the P.M.'s could not recommend the S.W. for election, simply because the inferior officers knew perfectly well what was before them. Now, failing a regulation like this being made a Constitutional Rule, it is open to any private Lodge to pass a similar by-law, which would doubtless be sanctioned now as it was in the case of the Greenwich Lodge. A crying evil would be met, and an improvement practicably immeasurable effected in Lodge working. Nobody supposes that such a Board would insist on absolute letter perfection, but it would require a competent knowledge of the work of the daïs.

A beautiful little story is going the rounds regarding the kindness of our Princess Christian. A certain kindly-disposed old man was escorting an unfortunate young person to a home where it was thought her evil ways might, by better associations, be discarded. The pair were seen by the Princess at a London terminus, and she recognised in the "unfortunate" a previous servant of her employ. Enquiries were evidently made, for two days after the old gentleman received a letter from the Princess, who, with a few kindly remarks, enclosed the sum of £3 to pay the expenses of the young girl. The Princess Christian has a heart that is big enough to hold the good opinions of the whole world. She is a Past Grand Mistress of all that is beautiful in the refinement of human nature.