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*R. W. Bro. The Right Hon. Thomas Frederick Halsey, M.P.,  
 Provincial Grand Master of Hertfordshire.*

## The Province of Hertfordshire.

NOT every Masonic province can lay claim to a history commencing in the mists of antiquarian legend.

There are, however, two which stand out pre-eminently in this respect, that of Hertfordshire and York. The former can claim to have been associated, at least in legend or tradition, with the very commencement of Freemasonry in Great Britain. The old charges record that "St. Alban loved Masons well, and cherished them right much." How far the old charges are correct is a matter of discussion, but no doubt the legend enshrines a truth. Hertfordshire Masons, as may be supposed, embrace the view of the conservative critics, who have a belief in the tradition.

We may give the story from the various old charges as collated by an American brother, who applied the method of modern criticism to the matter: "England in all this time stood void of Masons unto St. Alban's time. And in his days the King of England, that was a pagan, did wall the town about that is called St. Albans. In that town of St. Albans was a worthy knight, which was chief steward to the King and had governance of the realm and also of the making of the town walls, and loved well Masons, and cherished them much, and made their pay right good, and gave them a charter of the King and his council for to hold a general council, and thereat he was himself, and helped to make Masons and gave them charges."

It is permissible to believe that the original Masons were brought over early in the eighth century from the continent by King Offa on his return from Rome. They may have been Nisnian Masons, descended from Greek colonists, who brought with them the knowledge of their craft. These were employed either in fortifying Verulam or in building the first Cathedral of St. Albans to the memory of the Martyr. They probably had their craft organization and trade secrets, which were only communicated to Masons after due trial and examination. And to secure their freedom to hold assemblies, or lodges as we should now call them, and administer the jurisdiction of their trade's union, they obtained a charter from the King, incorporating them and giving them the protection and authority needed.

Troublous times succeeded, and Masonry fell into abeyance, and the members of the Craft seem to have dispersed, though still retaining knowledge of their art and copies of the charges, until they were called together at York in the tenth century under Athelstan, and reinstated in their ancient privileges. If this be an approximately accurate account of the state of Freemasonry in Hertfordshire in the eighth century, the light of the Order, after shining with great brilliance at first, only plunged the intervening centuries into greater darkness than ever.

No doubt Freemasons were employed at the building of the present Abbey in the eleventh century, for their well-recognised marks are found in the building, but how much

of speculative as well as operative Masonry entered into their ceremonies on the occasion of their meeting in lodge or guild we cannot even conjecture. When in the eighteenth century the light of Masonry was again set burning in the county, no longer under the auspices of operative, but purely speculative Masonry, it burned feebly and fitfully, and finally again collapsed for nearly half a century, to recommence early in the nineteenth century with a stronger and ever increasing flame.

A lodge was founded on the scene of the former exploits at St. Albans. In the year 1739 a warrant was issued from the Grand Lodge of the Moderns, as they were styled by the rival Society of the Ancients, to consecrate a lodge at the Red Rampant Lyon, No. 181, for the practice of speculative Masonry. In the following year it was moved to the Woolpack Inn, but whether the removal of this delicate shoot thus early in its career interfered with its proper development, or some other untoward circumstance intervened, we cannot

discover. It was erased from the books of Grand Lodge in 1755 as "not having attended at any Quarterly Communication, or even met for several years."

Twelve years afterwards an attempt was made to resuscitate the Order in the same town, when the Lodge of St. Amphibalus, No. 412, was founded. We will not conjecture from the fact of its being held in a private house that the cause of the extinction of its predecessor was attributable to the fact of its being held where refreshment was easily obtainable, even though we bear in mind Hogarth's engraving of "Night," in which the Senior Warden of a London lodge is being conducted home by the Tyler, evidently exhausted and overcome by the labours of the evening.

This lodge was moved to London Colney, three miles from its former home, and took its transplanting even less kindly

than the former, for it died two years afterwards. No further attempt was made to establish a lodge of Freemasons under the shadow of the noble pile their ancestors had erected until 1839, to which we shall refer later. The year before the Lodge of St. Amphibalus was erased, the Lodge of Harmony, No. 491, was consecrated at the White Horse, Baldock, but the condition of things in Hertfordshire at this time was evidently unfavourable to Masonry, for after eleven years of struggle it succumbed, and was erased in 1787.

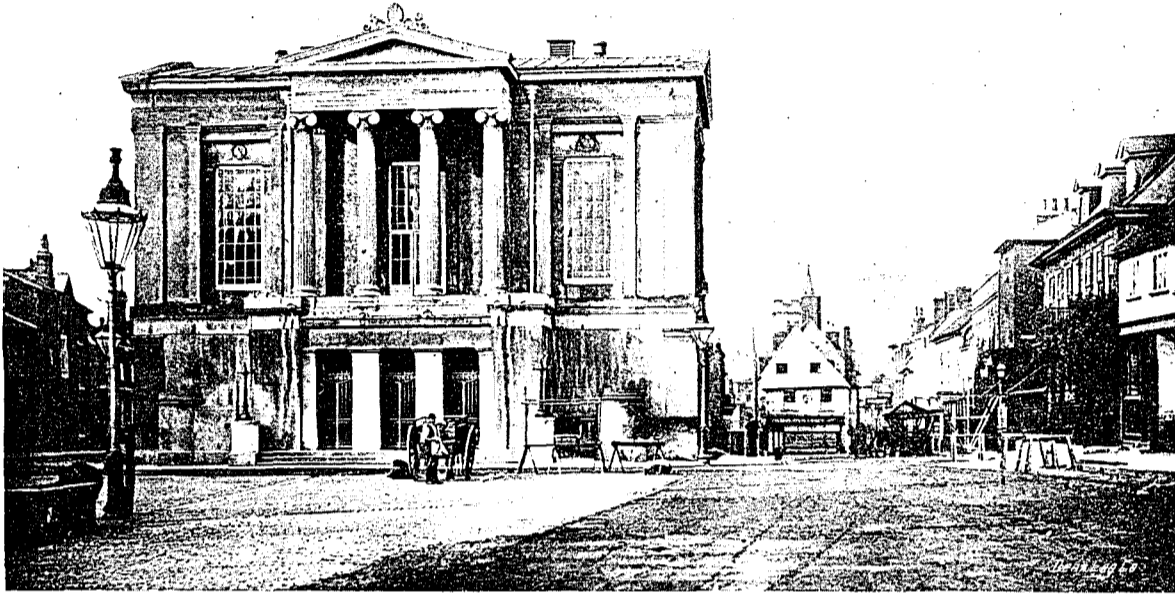
We have now no means of knowing if the failure of Masonic venture in this suburban county caused any perturbation in the minds of the Masonic authorities, and whether Francis, Earl of Moira, the then acting Grand Master, or Bro. Rowland Hill, his Deputy, determined on a new plan of campaign to capture this refractory province; but a singular and unique appointment was made in 1797, when Bro. W. Forsteen was appointed Provincial Grand Master of Hertfordshire. A more desolate position can scarcely be Masonically imagined.



BRO. F. SUMNER KNYVETT, PAST GRAND DEACON,  
DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

A ruler without a single lodge to rule over, and no members to appoint as his officers. Bro. Forsteen seems to have been a distinguished member of the Shakespear Lodge, and was indefatigable in the cause of charity. He was particularly identified with the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, which he served in various capacities for nineteen years, eventually becoming Treasurer of the Institution. But apparently no effort was made to make his provincial office anything but a barren honour, and he resigned it in 1803, when he became Junior Grand Warden. The sinecure office was, however,

How long Colonel O'Kelly remained in this position we do not know, but there was no further appointment made until 1835. A real Masonic beginning, however, was now about to be made. The establishment of lodges very much resembles the foundation of the Greek Colonies. The settlers are mostly citizens from some overgrown city, who, as strangers, take up an unoccupied spot, and there proceed to reproduce the buildings, organization, and life of the parent city, and after a time to incorporate among themselves the most eligible of the inhabitants of the district.

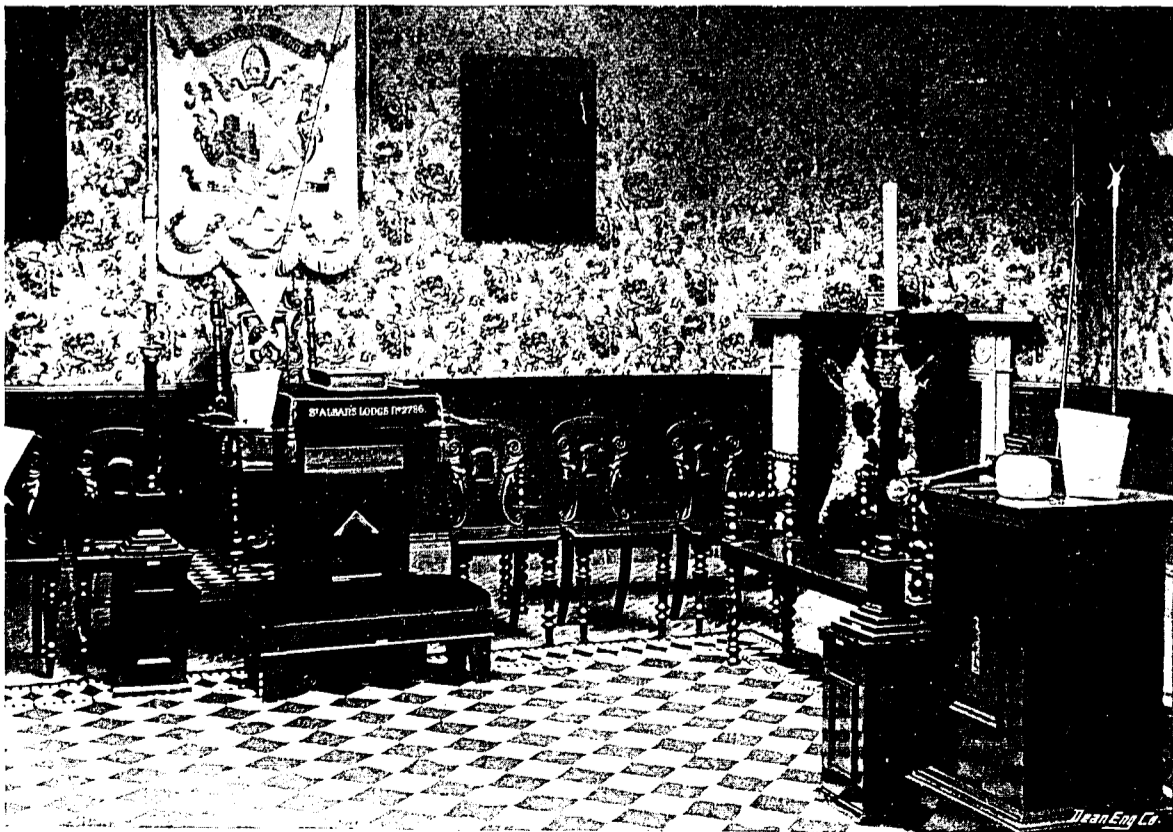


THE TOWN HALL, ST. ALBANS—HALSEY LODGE, No. 117.

still continued, and a member of the same London lodge as the former Provincial Grand Master, Bro. George Daniel Harvey, born in 1777, received his patent three years after his initiation as Provincial Grand Master.

The solitary position occupied by the Craft ruler seems to have touched the hearts of the authorities, for to render his position more endurable a Provincial Grand Superintendent of Hertfordshire was appointed in 1811 (Colonel Andrew Dennis O'Kelly), though Royal Arch Chapters must have been as non-existent as lodges. We wonder if the two ever met and mutually consoled each other in their Crusoesque condition.

In the year 1829 another effort was made to Masonically colonise Hertfordshire, and this time with success. We may notice, however, in what a chaotic state the rights and duties of Provincial Grand Masters still were, although the appointment to this office had been made a century before, for no reference whatever seems to have been made by the founders of the first Hertfordshire lodge under the new régime to the R.W. Bro. Harvey. It is of course possible that the settlers were unaware of the existence of a Provincial Grand Master, or it may be that a settlement from London, and from so distinguished a body as the Grand Masters' Lodge, to which nearly all the founders belonged, looked



ST. ALBANS LODGE ROOM.

upon it rather as a Metropolitan conquest, than a county settlement.

Bro. Francis Crew, the W.M. designate of the Hereford Lodge, No. 849 (now 403), with his seven co-founders, obtained a warrant from the M.W.G. Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, dated August 31st, 1829, to found a lodge in Hert-



BRO. PETER CLUTTERBUCK, SECOND W.M. WATFORD LODGE, No. 1, DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER, 1830.

ford to meet at the Salisbury Arms Hotel on the first Tuesday in every month. No time seems to have been lost in carrying out the object of the warrant, for eight days afterwards the lodge was consecrated by Bro. John Bott, P.G.D. of England, but apparently in the absence of the Provincial Grand Master, and not improbably without his knowledge. As soon as the W.M. was duly installed, he set to work in a most masterly fashion. On the same day fifteen candidates were proposed, balloted for, elected, and straight-way initiated in batches. We do not wonder at the record, that occasionally the lodge was called from labour to refreshment.

Thus, in the county capital, was inaugurated the first lodge of the new régime under more favourable auspices and with a greater promise of success than those previously established in the Masonic Mecca. The second meeting of the lodge in October was the scene of even more strenuous labour, for sixteen candidates for initiation were admitted to the light of the Order, the most prominent being the second Marquis of Salisbury Bro. Henry Lytton Bulwer, the distinguished diplomatist, who subsequently became Baron Dalling, joined as an initiate, and completed his Masonic Degrees in the lodge.

When the W.M. surrendered his gavel to his successor, the membership had grown to fifty-five—forty initiates in one year. Truly a goodly record for the state of things more than two generations ago. Meanwhile, another part of the county had not been unmindful of the interests of the Craft. The town of Watford possessed a number of Masons who desired to form themselves into a lodge, and so plant another colony in the province. These placed themselves under the aegis of the Provincial Grand Master, who presented a petition to the Duke of Sussex to grant a warrant for the Bamborough Lodge to be held at the Spread Eagle Inn, in that town.

The warrant was granted constituting the Lodge, No. 851, on the Grand Register (now the Watford Lodge, No. 404). But as the brethren were eager to get to work, and apparently the ways of officials in those days were dilatory, a dispensation or temporary warrant was granted by R.W. Bro.

Harvey, empowering the members to proceed at once to the consecration, which was performed on the 13th November by Bro. Thomas Cant, the senior Past Master present, as he is described in the minutes. Bro. G. Beattie was duly installed as first Worshipful Master. The Grand Lodge Warrant is dated October, 1829, but it must have been issued later, as the place of meeting mentioned in it is the Assembly Rooms, whither the lodge moved in the following January.

The day of consecration was one of hard work, for eleven candidates were balloted for, and initiated. Though this was not so severe a ordeal as that of the sister lodge the record was longer, the lodge being adjourned to the following Tuesday, when five more candidates were admitted, and a further adjourned lodge was held on the Friday following, at which four more candidates became Free and Accepted Masons; the lodge was then duly and formally closed after having been in operation for eight days.

Several lodges of emergency seem to have been necessary to get through the work. A regular meeting of the lodge was held on Good Friday, and the following probably unique entry was made in the minutes:—"To give the brethren an opportunity of going to church, the lodge was adjourned until one p.m." When they met again the Lectures in the three Degrees were delivered by some visiting brethren, evidently to the satisfaction of the members of the lodge, for the visitors were then and there made honorary members.

Before the close of Bro. Beattie's year a distinguished Mason had joined the lodge, Bro. Stewart Marjoribanks, M.P., G.S.W. of England, a *persona grata* to the Most Worshipful Grand Master. In an interview with His Royal Highness—again we quote the minutes—"he had represented to him how much pleased he had felt in joining so numerous and respectable a lodge as ours, on which occasion His Royal Highness was most graciously pleased to say that he would become an honorary member, it not being customary to ballot for a member of the Royal Family."

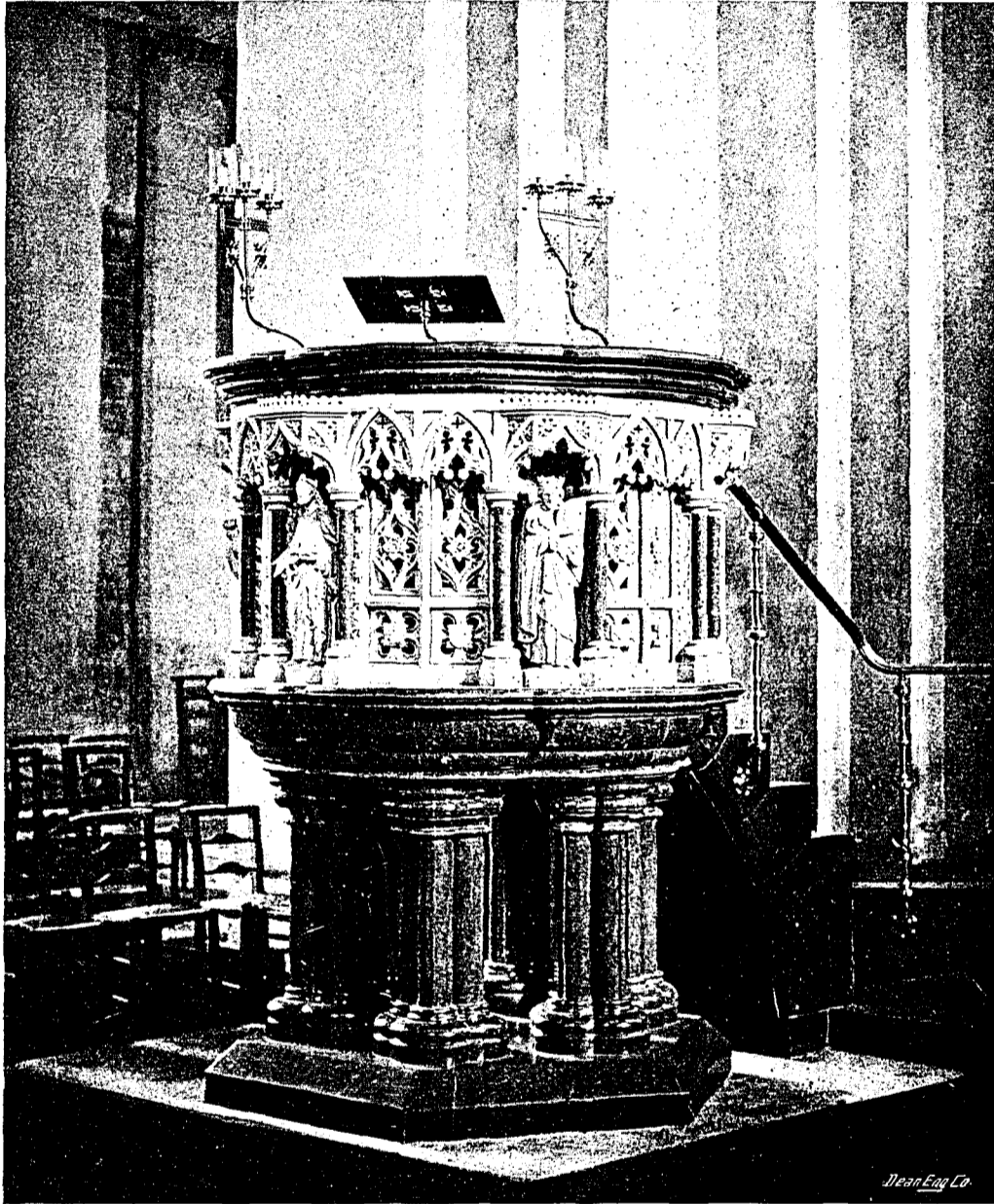
That intention was carried into effect, for an intimation from the Grand Secretary was received stating that the Duke of Sussex had allowed his name to be enrolled as a member of the Bamborough Lodge. On the occasion of the installation of Bro. Peter Clutterbuck, the second Master, the R.W.



THE SECOND MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, R.W. PROV. GRAND MASTER, 1833-44.

Bro. Harvey held his first and only Provincial Grand Lodge at Watford, when the newly-installed Master was appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the two lodges furnished an equal quota of Provincial Officers.

In 1831 began what we may call the colonisation of the province from within; the first settlement had been in the central district, the second in the west, the third took the district bordering on the east, and the scene of it was the ancient town of Bishop's Stortford. Of the eight founders five were members of the Hertford Lodge, and the W.M. designate was Bro. G. P. Philipe, of the Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1. It was consecrated on the 27th December, 1831, by Bro. Philip Broadfoot, one of the ablest Masons of the time, at the Crown Hotel, Hockerill, a suburb of the town. On that occasion Paul Chelms, the parish clerk, was initiated as a serving brother. Thus the third settlement was completed, though it only possessed as officers the Worshipful Master and the two Wardens.



PULPIT IN THE NAVE OF ST. ALBANS CATHEDRAL.

In the first year, seventeen candidates were initiated and the vacant offices were gradually filled. Bro. Philipe seems to have been a very able Master, influential in character as well as skilful in work, for the record of him, which has gone down to posterity in the minutes of the lodge, is that not only did he possess Masonic knowledge, but exercised strictness of discipline, and yet exhibited gentle demeanour in the service of his office—higher praise would scarcely be possible.

One of the joining members of that year was Bro. Roland Alston, who became Provincial Grand Master of Essex in 1836, nor was he the only Provincial Grand Master which the province has produced, for Bro. Augustus Smith, M.P., became Provincial Grand Master of Cornwall in 1863, and Colonel William Stuart, Provincial Grand Master of Bedford in 1885, both initiates of the Watford Lodge, the name the Bamborough Lodge assumed in 1833.

There are two items in the expenditure of the Stortford Lodge for the year, which are of interest: "Randall, Hertford Tyler, for horse and cart with Hertford Regalia, £2 10s." Paraphernalia is rather a wide term, but probably it was the necessary furniture which had been lent to the new lodge, for we find the Stortford Lodge in 1833, purchased the furniture of a defunct lodge in Braintree, Essex. The other item is "Coach hire and travelling expenses of Past Masters to open and install, £4 2s. 6d."

This gives us a glimpse of the difficulty of intercommunication in the days of Masonry's first settlement in the county; and how important it was to provide, by such means as paying travelling expenses, that an adequate number of Past Masters should be present, lest an installation in a new lodge should miscarry. In the summer of 1831, R.W. Bro. Harvey resigned his position, and Bro. Gascoigne Cecil, second Marquis of Salisbury, an initiate of the Hertford Lodge, succeeded to the no longer barren honour of Provincial Grand Master, although he was not formally installed into office until 7th November, 1833.

From the three lodges now firmly established other off-shoots were sent out, and the first to become a parent was the Stortford Lodge. A warrant was granted on April 9th, 1834, to six members of the Stortford Lodge and one outsider to found the Lodge of Friendship, No. 604, at the Crown Hotel, Hockerill. It was consecrated in May, 1834, and the parent lodge emigrated in the same year to the George Hotel, Bishop's Stortford. It is now at the Chequer's Hotel in that town. The daughter lodge proved a very delicate shoot; its inauguration was evidently premature, for it deceased in August, 1851, when its warrant was returned to Grand Lodge.

The next attempt was more fortunate. On March 31st, 1836, a warrant was granted to eleven members of the Hertford Lodge, amongst whom was Bro. Francis Crew and one member of No. 7, to establish an offshoot at the Falcon Hotel, Waltham Cross, under the title of the Salisbury Lodge, No. 630. It was consecrated by Bro. John Davis, P.P.D.G.M., in the presence of the Provincial Grand Master, the Grand Secretary, and Dr. Crucifix, whose publication of Masonic proceedings caused such a fluttering among the Grand Lodge doves. It had a prosperous career, and in 1847 was removed to Enfield, in Middlesex, thereby severing its connection with its original province. It now meets at Freemasons' Hall, No. 435.

The Hertford Lodge having colonised the extreme east now turned its attention to the *ultima thule* of the province, Hitchin. It numbered amongst its own initiates several inhabitants of that town, and these having tasted of the fruits of the Masonic tree of knowledge desired to benefit their fellow townsmen by planting it in their midst. This was accomplished on the 19th May, 1838, when the Cecil Lodge, No. 657 (now No. 449), was consecrated at the Sun Hotel in that town.

The Marquis of Salisbury was present with several members of the Watford Lodge, who must have driven the twenty odd miles in order to attend. We find amongst

the list of founders Bro. Francis Crew and Bro. W. Lloyd Thomas, of the Hertford Lodge, who also appear in that capacity at the establishment of the Salisbury Lodge. The lodge took at once an important position in the province, which it has since retained. The minutes, though interesting as provincial records, contain little that is of general interest, but we must mention a peculiarity in its original by-laws, which led to considerable irregularity on more than one occasion. Like many country lodges, before the introduction of railways and lighted ways, the date of its meeting was regulated by the time of the full moon. The date of election of Worshipful Master was on the Thursday after the full moon in November. In the year 1849 there was no Thursday in November after the full moon, and no lodge was held, the election being delayed until the January of the following year, in which month the Master should have been installed. The same grave irregularity was repeated in 1853. This goes to prove that the discipline exerted by Grand Lodge at that time was feeble. Such a thing now-a-days would be impossible. Moreover, prior to the year 1866 it is not improbable that the days of meeting were settled between the landlord of the "Sun" and the members of the lodge, according to their mutual convenience, for a motion was passed in June of that year that the lodge "would be held upon the regular days appointed, and these days will be strictly adhered to."

Thus the Hertford Lodge had now two sturdy daughters, who gave every promise of exuberant life, while the sister of Watford, equally vigorous and full of potentialities, was yet barren. The inauguration of the Cecil Lodge, however, may have stirred the parental feeling dormant in the Watford Lodge, for in the following year another attempt was made to resuscitate the Craft in its historic home. A warrant dated 22nd April, 1839, was granted to eight members of the Watford Lodge and one of the Cecil to found a St. Alban's Lodge, No. 678, in the Turf Hotel of that city, the first Master being Bro. Alexander Fraser, a Past Master of the mother lodge.

The early career of this daughter lodge was auspicious. A large number of initiates and joining members was secured, and all went well until the year 1846, when the blight, which seemed to overhang all lodges founded in St. Alban's, began to make itself felt. How the difficulties arose is uncertain, but a petition signed by ten members of the lodge was presented to the Provincial Grand Master in Provincial Grand Lodge in June, 1847, asking for a full and immediate inquiry into its affairs, accusing certain of the members of un-Masonic and un-brotherly conduct, which prevented sufficient attendance to form a lodge and the members from paying their subscriptions.

The inquiry was accordingly held in the Town Hall, St. Albans, on 17th June, 1847, by the Provincial Grand Master

and four assessors. The charge of Masonic misconduct was held to be disproved, but it was found that the lodge was in difficulties owing to the refusal of certain members to pay their subscriptions from some misunderstanding, and it was resolved that application be made for the payment of arrears, in default of which they were to be returned as defaulters to Grand Lodge.

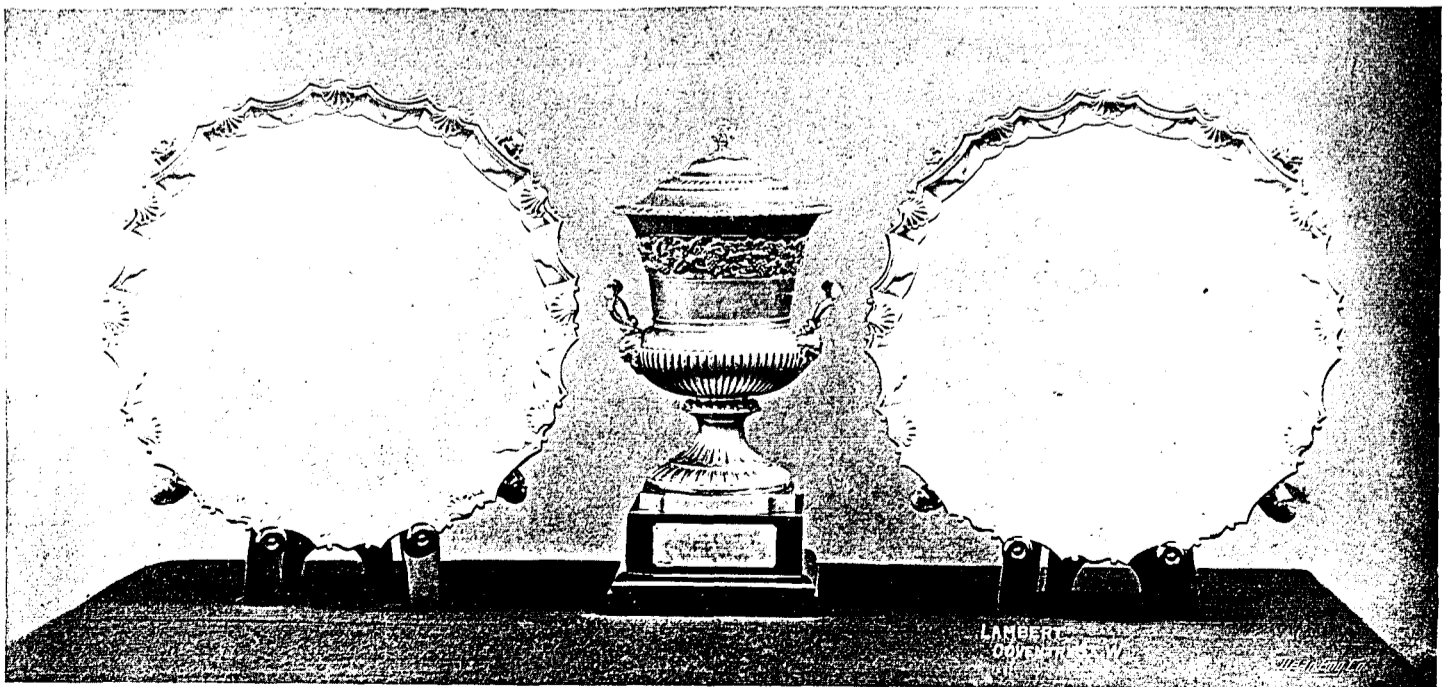
The matter is not mentioned again in the minutes of Provincial Grand Lodge, but the recommendation and reconciliation must have been futile, for the lodge was erased by order of Grand Lodge in June, 1853. This was the last of the lodges founded under the rule of the Marquis of Salisbury, who resigned in 1844, and was succeeded by Bro. William Stuart, of Aldenham Abbey, Provincial Senior Grand Warden, who had been Deputy Provincial Grand Master from 1835 to his promotion. His accession to office was speedily followed by the consecration of a lodge as the western outpost of the province.

Bro. the Rev. S. Lea Wilson, of Berkhamstead, gathered around him a band of Craftsmen devoted to the speculative art, and obtained a warrant on 4th December, 1844, for a lodge to be called the Berkhamstead Lodge, No. 742 (now No. 504), to be held at the King's Arms, the first lodge in the province which had the honour of being consecrated by the Provincial Grand Master in person. Bro. the Rev. S. Lea Wilson was the first Master, but resigned in 1847, having moved to Streatham. He was, however, retained as an hon. member, and when the lodge celebrated its jubilee in 1895 a telegram of congratulation was received from its venerable founder.

It appears to have been customary in the sixties for the members of the lodge, many of whom came from London, to vary their arduous labours by jaunting country excursions. On one occasion they visited Ashridge Park, the seat of Lord Brownlow, and were so well received and attended to that on their return the lodge voted the sum of one guinea for the purchase of plate as a present to the son of the house steward. The lodge now meets in a room which it has built and furnished contiguous to the King's Arms, its original home.

In the sixteen years which followed the founding of the Berkhamstead Lodge, Freemasonry was consolidating its forces in the province, and no further attempt was made to found a new centre until 1861, when a warrant was obtained by certain members of London lodges, who were residing in the neighbourhood of Waltham Cross, to enable them to open a lodge to be named the Gresham, No. 1171 (now 869), at the Four Swans Hotel. It was consecrated in the presence of the Provincial Grand Master by one of the founders, Bro. Jeremiah How, the Grand Director of Ceremonies of the Province.

(To be Continued).



LOVING CUP AND SALVERS PRESENTED TO BRO. THE RIGHT HON. T. F. HALSEY, PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

## Consecration of the Somersetshire Lodge, No. 2925.

ON the 28th of July this, the latest addition to the rapidly increasing roll of County Lodges in London, was consecrated at the Trocadero Restaurant in the presence of a large assemblage of brethren, many of whom had journeyed from the West of England for the express purpose of supporting their friends among the founders.



BRO. VISCOUNT DUNGARVAN, PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER,  
WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

The ceremony was impressively performed by V.W. Bro. Edward Letchworth, Grand Secretary, assisted by Bros. His Honour Judge Philbrick, K.C., as S.W.; Dr. Clement Godson, P.G.D., as J.W.; the Rev. Canon Brownrigg, P.G. Chaplain, as Chaplain; Frank Richardson, P.D.G. Registrar, as D.C.; and Lieut.-Colonel G. H. N. Bridges, P.G. Sword Bearer, as I.G.

Bro. the Rev. Canon Brownrigg delivered a short but eloquent oration, in the course of which he said: "It is an acknowledged fact that the great strength of our Empire depends on many races—witness the loyal support of our ever increasing Colonies, yet every Colony, like every English County, has its peculiarities and traditions; it would be a misfortune if those racial distinctions and differences became narrowed or obliterated. Somersetshire men had come to the determination to preserve the traditions of the West Saxon, and of the good King Alfred, who governed well with the aid of his people, and whose memory would ever be green and dear to the hearts of Englishmen. The founders of the lodge would strive to act up to the highest Masonic principles, thus making it worthy of the great county after which they were named."

At the close of the ceremony of consecration, R.W. Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, Provincial Grand Master of Somerset, was installed Worshipful Master. He invested Bros. T. A. Bullock, P.G. Sword Bearer, as Acting I.P.M.; T. White-more Chant, P.M., S.W.; Henry Newland, P.M., J.W.; Dr. Danford Thomas, as Treasurer; and Bro. Trehawke Davies, Secretary.

The Consecrating Master and Officers were elected hon. members, for which V.W. Bro. E. Letchworth expressed their appreciation.

Letters of regret at inability to attend from several brethren, including Sir Henry Irving and the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, were read and the lodge was closed.

At the banquet which followed, after the usual loyal toasts, the Worshipful Master proposed the toast of "The Grand Officers," coupled with the name of a veteran Mason, R.W. Bro. Colonel Daly, District Grand Master of British Guiana.

Bro. Colonel Daly, in reply, thought it hard to have come 4000 miles to reply to the toast of "The Grand Officers," but he considered it a great honour, for which he thanked the Worshipful Master. In their distant part of the Empire they were always glad to welcome not only Grand Officers, but all Masons, and especially those from whom they could learn, and he wished many an absent brother could have seen the work that night. Under Lord Dungarvan's control the Somersetshire Lodge would be sure to prosper and do honour to the Craft.

In proposing the toast of "The Consecrating Officers," the Worshipful Master said that there was in starting a new lodge a certain amount of anxiety as to how the first meeting might go off, but the ceremony had been performed in an admirable manner by those most capable of doing it. He was sorry that Colonel Calley had not arrived to take his part, but a soldier's duty had first call upon his time. Bro. His Honour Judge Philbrick he could claim as a Somerset man now, as he was resident at Yeovil, and they were pleased to have him there. Bro. Canon Brownrigg was well known as one ever ready to give his services. Bro. Frank Richardson had won a reputation as a perfect ceremonialist, and the name of Bro. Colonel Bridges was one well known and respected in Somersetshire. He had kept Bro. Letchworth's name until the last for a particular reason. He had recently experienced the happiest event in a man's life, and on behalf of the founders he asked him to accept a silver inkstand as a memento of the day's proceedings.

The inkstand was a replica of a handsome antique.



(Photo Elite Portrait Co.)

BRO. T. A. BULLOCK, PAST GRAND SWORD BEARER,  
ACTING I.P.M.

Bro. Letchworth heartily thanked the Worshipful Master for the toast on behalf of the Consecrating Officers, and expressed his thanks for the beautiful gift. He was deeply touched, and would prize it as a token of the kindly feelings shown to him by the Craft, whom it had been his great pleasure to serve.



BRO. THOMAS WHITEMORE CHANT, SENIOR WARDEN.

The toast of "The Worshipful Master" was entrusted to Bro. Judge Philbrick, who remarked it was no light thing to have assisted to consecrate a lodge whose first Master was the Provincial Grand Master of the province from which the founders were drawn. Nor was it a light task which Lord Dungarvan had undertaken, but few were more experienced



BRO. HENRY NEWLAND, JUNIOR WARDEN.

and none more ardent than their Worshipful Master—he would work the lodge and well start it upon the career of usefulness which he hoped it would attain. Somerset Masons had now a home in London, but he (Bro. Philbrick), a London Mason, had gone to Somerset, like the wise men who came from the East and went to the West, thereby, it

had been well said, showing their wisdom. He had seen the Worshipful Master work in his province, and therefore felt the success of the lodge was assured.

Bro. Lord Dungarvan, replying, thanked Judge Philbrick, who was one of the best friends they had in the province, for the kindly terms of the toast. When the question of a



BRO. DR. G. DANFORD THOMAS, TREASURER.

lodge for Somersetshire men was mooted to him he felt certain it would be a success from the hearty way the promoters took it up, but he had not contemplated such a gathering as they had that night. He felt the responsibility laid upon him, and would use every effort to make the lodge worthy of his important province.



BRO. ALDERMAN F. TREHEWKE DAVIES, SECRETARY.

Bro. Newland, J.W., proposed the toast of "The Visitors," which was replied to by Bros. Colonel Bridges, P.G. Sword Bearer; C. A. Gompertz, P.G.T. Herts.; and Alexander Watson, W.M. of the Yorick Lodge, who thought the success of a new lodge greatly depended upon the capabilities of the Master and Secretary. Those of Lord Dungarvan



were well known, and as Bro. Trehawke Davies was also his Secretary, he could give him excellent testimonials.

Bro. T. A. Bullock, the Acting I.P.M., proposed the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," whom he could testify were of no common order. Bro. Danford Thomas held the important position of Treasurer in three other lodges. The Secretary, although an Alderman of Marylebone, had never relaxed his efforts and duties to the lodge, which had culminated in that successful meeting. Both their funds and organization were in good hands.

Bro. Danford Thomas, replying, said that up to the present the Secretary had performed his duties as well as his own, but he had no doubt his office would be a very pleasant one.

Bro. Trehawke Davies, Secretary, in reply, expressed appreciation of the toast. He had taken up the duties of Secretary somewhat late, but knew he would have the

support of Bro. Danford Thomas, whose name was world-wide. He would endeavour to give the Worshipful Master the same satisfaction as he hoped he had given the Masters of the other two lodges of which he was Secretary.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing the toast of "The Officers," informed the brethren that the credit of originating the lodge must be given to Bro. Chant, who was ably assisted by Bro. Newland. He knew he would have valuable support from his officers, and he promised to support them. The Grand Secretary, who ought to know the value of an officer, had remarked to him that Bro. Trehawke Davies was one of the best Secretaries he had met.

Bro. Chant, S.W., replying, said that at present the officers were an unknown quantity, but they were actuated by the same spirit as King Alfred, and intended that nothing should be wanting on their part.

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## *Consecration of the Tamesis Lodge, No. 2926.*

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THE consecration of the above, the latest addition to the roll of lodges in the Province of Berkshire, took place at the Ray Mead Hotel, Maidenhead, on Wednesday, August 13th, in the presence of a large assembly of the brethren, both of the province and from London. There were seventeen founders. The ceremony was performed by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master (in charge), W. Bro. John Thornhill Morland, P.G.D., assisted by Bros. C. W. Cox, P.S.G.W., as S.W.; George Gray, P.J.G.W., as J.W.; Edward Margrett, P.G. Std. Br., in the unavoidable absence of the Provincial Grand Chaplain, discharged the duties of that office; J. W. Martin, P.A.G.D.C., Provincial Grand Secretary, as D. of C.; and C. Batting, P.P.G.D.C. of Berks., as I.G.

In the course of an interesting oration, W. Bro. Margrett said they had met to consecrate a lodge, which meant an assembly of Masons met in brotherly love. They were starting a new lodge, but not a new institution. It was the adding of a link to the chain which was venerable with hoary antiquity, whose history was lost in the dim past ages. Ancient buildings bore witness to the fact, as in many of them our Masonic traditions could be traced, and they still held all that was best in the old builders' guilds.

At the conclusion of the ceremony of consecration, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master installed Bro. Frank Crocker, I.P.M. 2786, P.P.G. Swd. Br. Hertfordshire, as W.M., who invested Bros. J. L. Goldstein, P.M. 2265, W.M. 2743, as S.W.; J. T. Matthews as J.W.; C. Offord Burgess, P.P.S.G.W. Berks., A.G.D.C. England, as Treasurer; and Harry Burkett as Secretary.

At the banquet which followed, in proposing the toast of "The Grand Officers," the Worshipful Master tendered to Bro. C. E. Keyser the sincere and hearty thanks of the founders for the invaluable assistance he had so liberally rendered them in obtaining their warrant, and expressed a hope that he would continue to take a paternal interest in their progress.

Bro. Keyser tendered his thanks on behalf of the Grand Officers and for himself. It had been a great pleasure to have been of assistance to the founders, and, knowing many of them as he did, he believed that the Tamesis Lodge meant to make things hum in the province.

In proposing the toast of "The Deputy Provincial Grand Master (in charge)," The Worshipful Master said that those who knew the province were familiar with the wisdom of his rule and the urbanity and dignity, combined with amiability, which characterised him at all times. No doubt these happy methods had been produced by a close study of the principles of Masonry. He had won that day the gratitude of the founders and the respect and admiration of all present.

Bro. J. Thornhill Morland, replying, thanked the Worshipful Master for the flattering terms of the toast. It had been a pleasure for him to have consecrated a lodge which Bro. Keyser had recommended, a fact which assured him it would be a source of strength. The other Maidenhead lodge, the Ellington, had also extended it a welcome, which was a healthful sign. He congratulated

the lodge upon its start, and proposed the toast of "The Worshipful Master, Bro. Frank Crocker." His work in the lodge was worthy of an old Mason, but to his surprise he learnt he was young in the Craft. This proved he had made the most of his time, which was a good augury. He hoped he would have a prosperous year of office and be spared for many years to work in the province.

The Worshipful Master, in reply, said words failed him to express his appreciation of the kind remarks which had been made by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and he would do his best to make the Tamesis Lodge worthy of the province.

In proposing the toast of "The Consecrating Officers," the Worshipful Master assured them that the founders intended by honesty of purpose, and adhering to the truest principles of Freemasonry, never to bring trouble or disgrace upon the province which had received them, and of which one of their number, Bro. C. O. Burgess, A.G.D.C., was Past Provincial Grand Warden. In Bro. Martin, Provincial Grand Secretary, who had so ably performed the duties of Director of Ceremonies, they had a brother who had not only done yeoman suit and service to the province, but had been most kind and helpful to the founders.

Bro. J. W. Martin replied on behalf of the Consecrating Officers.

The toast of "The Visitors" was duly proposed, and was responded to by Bros. W. J. Mason, P.G. Std. Br., Collis Clarke, and E. L. Berry, P.P.G.D. Surrey.

The toast of "The Masonic Charities" was entrusted to Bro. C. O. Burgess, who asserted that he knew all would agree with him that their main object was far from being conviviality, or in making or meeting friends. It had wider and more comprehensive aims, and the greatest of these was Charity. It promised well for their new lodge that the Worshipful Master had that afternoon succeeded in getting £120 upon his list for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. They were honoured by the presence of Bro. Colville Smith, P.G.D., Secretary of that Institution, for whom, in his new capacity, they could predict a successful career.

Bro. Colville Smith, who, upon rising, was received with a hearty round of applause, thanked the brethren for the kind and hospitable manner in which they had received him. That was his first appearance at a lodge as Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and that was his maiden speech, and as maidens were coy and hesitating, so must he be forgiven if his speech lacked eloquence, but there was no need for it in Berkshire, which had always been such a consistent supporter of the Charities. He trusted they would do in future as in the past, and, if possible, this year a little more, as sugar for the new bird.

The toasts of "The Treasurer and Secretary" and "The Officers" brought the proceedings to a close.

Great credit is due to Bro. Harry Burkett, the Secretary, for the splendid manner in which he organised and arranged every detail for the comfort of the founders and their guests. It promises well for the future Secretarial work of the lodge.

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### *The Irregular Officers.*

WE have adopted this term, for want of a better, to designate those officers, both of private lodges and Grand Lodges, whose functions are not of ancient tradition. In our own Grand Lodge these would include, in addition to the Grand Registrar and his Deputy, all the officers between the Grand Deacons and the Grand Pursuivant. Our readers are probably familiar with the names of these offices and the duties attached thereto, and we shall therefore only allude very briefly to them. They have been created as occasion arose, the Grand Master being no doubt influenced by the fact that additional opportunities were afforded him

of recognising the merits of distinguished brethren. The Grand Superintendent of Works, Grand Director of Ceremonies, Grand Sword Bearer, and Organist are the oldest of these offices. The first named was originally called Architect, and was first appointed in 1776, in the person of T. Sandby, who designed and built Freemasons' Hall. The name still survives in the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

In the provinces, where often no practical work has to be done, he might be supposed to superintend the theoretical works in which the Craft is engaged, and should be a brother well conversant with the ritual. The Sword Bearer was appointed in 1731, when Bro. Moody carried the sword of Gustavus Adolphus, which had been presented by the Duke of Norfolk, Grand Master. The Grand Organist is now appointed annually, but the list contains only the names of thirty brethren who have adorned the office. The Grand Standard Bearer and Assistant Grand Secretary for German correspondence are of recent creation. The Deputies and Assistants of these several officers have been largely created to provide for the ever increasing number of brethren deserving distinction. In foreign and colonial Grand Lodges we find many other offices in addition to those named. There is for instance the "Grand Orator," found in most continental Grand Lodges. Most private lodges also appoint this functionary, but he is only to be found in one English lodge, the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 2. This officer adds a good deal to the style of the lodge, especially if he be fluent and well informed. His duty is to make all the set speeches and orations, such as valedictory and funeral orations. He also welcomes distinguished visitors. Another duty is that of winding up all discussions and debates in lodge. He has to sum up all the arguments in a lucid and impartial manner and no brother may speak after the Orator has had his say, the question being immediately put to the vote. In some lodges he is also the toast master at the social board.

The Expert is not known in English Masonry, at least under that name. Such duties as he performs are divided between the Deacons and the Director of Ceremonies. He is a sort of understudy of the whole body of officers, being liable to be called upon by the Master to fill any office that may be temporarily vacant. Next there is the "Frere Terrible," whose duties are to prepare candidates in the several stages, and introduce them to the lodge. The processes of the ante-chamber in foreign lodges used to comprise a good deal that was calculated to startle the nerves of the intransigent, and the designation "Terrible" was therefore fitting enough. In Scottish Masonry we find the Bible Bearer, and in Scottish Masonry abroad there are, in addition, the Quran Bearer, the Zend-Avesta Bearer, the Shaster Bearer, &c., titles which indicate the cosmopolitan character of the membership. The Grand Jeweller, Grand Clerk, Grand Bard, and Grand Marshals bear titles which are self explanatory. The duties of the latter, which are chiefly concerned with the ordering of processions, are, with us, assigned to the Director of Ceremonies.

Some American Grand Lodges possess an officer called the Grand Preceptor. His duties are performed unofficially in England by the Preceptor of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. The office is a most valuable one, affording, as it does, a court of appeal in matters of ritual, as well as a much needed source of instruction. A rehearsal of ceremonial work by this officer forms an integral part of the agenda of every Grand Lodge communication. We have no officer corresponding with the Depute Master of Scottish Masonry. This brother is not necessarily a P.M., although he takes the chair in the absence of an Installed Master, and performs its duties. He is not thereby an officer of Grand Lodge. The Grand Lecturer is unknown in England. He flourishes in America, where his duties are somewhat analogous to those of Grand Orator.

In French lodges there are the Hospitaller or Collector (not dispenser) of alms, a librarian or "Archeviste," a keeper of the seal, and several tilers (*Tuiler*). These Tilers are honorary brethren. The care of the outer portal devolves upon brethren in turn, and the actual serving brother is practically a waiter at the social board.



The September Communication of Grand Lodge, although unlikely to be very fully attended, will on this occasion prove to be a meeting of no slight importance in the annals of the Craft. An address of congratulation will then be voted to His Majesty the King, and a further list of distinguished Craftsmen to receive Masonic honours will be announced which may be expected to include the names of many Colonial members of our Order. Further, the M.W. Grand Master has expressed a desire that a contribution should be made by Grand Lodge to the King's Coronation Gift in aid of the Hospitals, and in accordance with that desire the Deputy Grand Master will propose that a sum of 500 guineas be voted to the Lord Mayor's Fund now being raised.

The paragraph in the report of the Board of General Purposes, which will be submitted to Grand Lodge on the 3rd proximo, dealing with the question of music in lodges, will be read with some regret by many who think that the judicious introduction of suitable hymns in the ceremonies adds greatly to their charm and impressiveness. It is quite right that there should be some limitations in the direction indicated in the report, but we trust the prohibition will not be so strictly enforced as to prevent the use of a few simple hymns, such as those sung at the opening and closing in many lodges, and which in no respect come under the category of those identified with an exclusive form of religious worship.

The recommendation of the Board with reference to the much debated question of the qualification of a Warden for the Master's chair will at least settle the point at issue if carried, although it will probably not succeed in satisfying the large body of Masons who consider that the qualifying period should date from election and not from investiture. It is something, however, to have found a means of rescuing the question from the deadlock into which it had drifted after the decision of Grand Lodge on the Regent's Park Lodge appeal, and we congratulate the Grand Registrar on the result of his manifestly painstaking consideration of the subject.

It cannot but be regretted that Freemasonry is practically dormant at this time of the year in London. The many members of the Order at present in the metropolis from the provinces and abroad can have had few opportunities of partaking of the hospitality of their London brethren or of witnessing the working of the lodges in the centre of Masonry. It is hardly necessary, however, to point out in this connection that many of the functions which had been planned for the entertainment of distinguished visitors had, in consequence of the altered date of the Coronation, to be altogether abandoned.

The recent meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire was marked by a pleasing incident. To commemorate the accession of their Provincial Grand Master to the high rank of Third Grand Principal, it was determined to make him a presentation, and a representative meeting being called, the lodges set to work to make the gift worthy of both donor and donee. A liberal response enabled the Committee to select three very handsome pieces of old plate. Two were silver-gilt salvers, one of the date of 1739 and the other 1741, which has been made to match the former. The third was a beautifully chased and elegant

loving cup and cover of silver-gilt, made in the year 1761. The total weight is about 322 ounces. These were presented to the Provincial Grand Master in Provincial Grand Lodge on 25th July by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. F. Sumner Knyvett, who, from his long connection with the province and his close acquaintance with R.W. Bro. Halsey, was well able to voice the unanimous and deep feeling of respect and affection which the province feel for their long tried chief. This feeling was embodied in an illuminated address which accompanied the plate.

Bro. Halsey, to whom the gift came as a surprise, in a few touching words, expressed his appreciation of the kind regard in which the province held him as testified by that gift, and the pleasure which the presentation afforded him.

The announcement of the appointment of R.W. Bro. the Earl of Stradbroke as Provincial Grand Master for Suffolk, in succession to the late Bro. Lord Henniker, cannot fail to be received with satisfaction by the province concerned. The new Provincial Grand Master is a distinguished Mason, having been appointed Senior Grand Warden in 1899. He is a Vice-Admiral as well as Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Suffolk.

It has been for some time known that Bro. S. Wellcome has been desirous of presenting to Grand Lodge a portrait of George Washington in commemoration of the centenary of the death of that great man, and to exemplify alike to Masons and non-Masons the strength of those ties which bind the two great English-speaking nations together. The generous offer was readily accepted by Grand Lodge, and on the 8th of August, at the invitation of the Deputy Grand Master, the American Ambassador unveiled the picture in the presence of a numerous gathering of Present and Past Grand Officers, as well as American brethren resident in England.

The painting is the work of one of the most celebrated of America's portrait painters, Mr. R. Gordon Hardie, of Vermont, and represents Washington in the dress of the period with full Masonic regalia. In the corner is the arms of the Washington family, the origin of the national flag—the Stars and Stripes.

The Earl of Warwick, who occupied the chair, was particularly happy in introducing His Excellency the Ambassador. He said, on behalf of all the Masons there assembled—and he felt he could speak for them—he offered Mr. Choate a most hearty and cordial welcome. They thanked him most warmly for coming amongst them that day, in the midst of his many and important engagements, for the purpose of unveiling that picture, most generously presented to them by their American Brother Wellcome. Amongst all the representatives who had visited their shores from the far distant country of America, able and distinguished as those representatives had been, he could safely say that not one had been more prominent than his friend, Mr. Choate, in endeavouring to cement the kindly feelings that ought to exist between the two great nations of America and Great Britain. Not only had Mr. Choate been prominent in that respect, but everyone of them who had been present when he had been good enough to attend large meetings in this country had been impressed by the eloquence with which he had addressed them on those occasions. The knowledge he had exhibited of everything connected with topics of the day and past history had struck them most forcibly. There was very little worth knowing that Mr. Choate did not know. He said that with one reservation only, and that was that Mr. Choate was ignorant of the great secrets of the Masonic Craft. But he felt sure that, if he could be so kindly disposed, they were perfectly ready to complete his education in that respect. He referred to the present ceremony, coming as it did in such close proximity to that other great ceremony, the

Coronation, as being most appropriate, for it indicated the kindly feelings which existed between their two great countries, showing as it did that they recognised the fact that the great Washington, even when arrayed against Britain, maintained those proper feelings towards the Masonic Craft which would appeal to them all; he drew attention to the fact that on two occasions the Bible on which he took the Masonic obligation had been captured by the American forces and returned with due Masonic honours, and was now in possession of the 46th Regiment.



The admirable address of Mr. Choate on unveiling the portrait was that of a polished and cultured speaker. Although not a member of the Ancient Order, he said he could not decline the invitation of Lord Warwick to attend the presentation of that fine portrait of George Washington to the Grand Lodge of England. He congratulated the Grand Lodge, of which his Majesty was for so many years Grand Master, and in which office he had been succeeded by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, and on whose roll appeared the names of so many of the great men of England, on becoming the fortunate possessor of so fine a portrait of that illustrious champion of liberty and justice, about whom among all who speak the English tongue there was no doubt or dissent. After an eloquent appreciation of the character and career of the great patriot and statesman, he concluded by congratulating the Grand Lodge of England on thus accepting George Washington as one of their patron saints, and he trusted that his memory would be cherished in England, as in America, to the end of time.



The proceedings closed by a vote of thanks, proposed by Bro. Passmore Edwards, to the donor, Bro. Wellcome, who, in his reply, referred to the infinite trouble which the artist had taken in obtaining an authentic reproduction of the regalia of Freemasonry as it existed in Washington's days. The artist, he said, had gone so far as to obtain his replica from the actual Masonic clothing which Washington wore.



Hampshire and the Isle of Wight brethren have no reason to complain of inactivity on the part of their new Provincial Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Bro. Sir Augustus Webster, Bart. A week or two since, supplementing many other visits of a similar kind, he was present at the Lodge of Peace and Harmony at Southampton, on the following day he presided at the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting at Andover, and on the next day, at Brighton, he installed the Earl of March as Provincial Grand Master of Sussex, in succession to the present Grand Master, the Duke of Connaught.



Of the many noteworthy functions at which R.W. Bro. Viscount Kitchener has attended since his triumphant arrival in this country, not the least interesting has been that of the meeting of the Welbeck Tenants Agricultural Society, at which our distinguished brother was the guest of the Provincial Grand Master for Nottinghamshire, His Grace the Duke of Portland. Bro. Lord Kitchener eulogised on the occasion the services of His Grace to the Army during the War in connection with the Portland Hospital, as well as those of Lord and Lady Charles Bentinck and Lord and Lady Henry Bentinck.



An amusing incident, states a contemporary, was recently witnessed at Waterloo Station, when a body of Indian troops were leaving on the first stage of their long journey to the East. One of the number, attracted by the splendid coloured plate of *Madame* Coronation Souvenir, showed it to his fellows, with the result that in two or three minutes they bought up every copy on the bookstall. The plate in question, it is interesting to observe, was an excellent reproduction of a portrait of His Majesty the King in Masonic regalia, entitled "The King as a Freemason."

R.W. Bro. Sir Frederick Milner, M.P., will have no more sincere sympathisers than the members of our Order in the sad bereavement which has befallen him in the death of his wife. It will be remembered that our distinguished brother was appointed Past Grand Warden at the installation of the Duke of Connaught as Grand Master. The following account of his interesting personality from the columns of a popular contemporary is not uninteresting:—"Sir Frederick is a born political fighter, and despite a slight deafness, which is sometimes inconvenient to both hearer and speaker in a public meeting, he has a wonderful power of grasping a point, enlarging on it and thrusting it home in the way that seems best suited to his argument. His well-knit frame, commanding figure, handsome features, and military moustache, all contribute to his fine presence on the platform. York people have a strong admiration for him, though they kept him as their Member only two years after he first entered Parliament in 1883. In 1890, on the death of his father-in-law, Mr. William Beckett, he was elected Member for the Bassetlaw division of Notts, the constituency which he still represents in the House of Commons."



The King's gracious announcement some time since of his intention to visit Southwark will give pleasure to all South London Freemasons, who will not miss this opportunity of presenting to His Majesty the loyal address which had been prepared for him before the sad postponement of his Coronation.



R.W. Bro. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, M.P., whose familiar figure is inevitably becoming less prominent on the political horizon, has been the Provincial Grand Master for Gloucestershire for the past twenty-two years. Our distinguished brother followed in the footsteps of another eminent Mason and relative, the late lamented R.W. Bro. W. B. Beach, M.P., when he became the Father of the House of Commons.



It is our sad duty to have to record, since the appearance of our last issue, a further augmentation of the obituary list of Grand Officers, by the death of Bro. Dr. George Mickley, Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies; Bro. the Rev. William Whittle, Past Grand Deacon; and Bro. Frederick Mead, Past Grand Deacon. It was to London Masonry that each of these brethren had devoted their energies, although Bro. Whittle was a well-known and active member of the Craft in Devon before his removal to London. The news of their decease will be received with no little regret in Metropolitan Masonic circles.



The lately installed Provincial Grand Master for Sussex, R.W. Bro. the Earl of March and Darnley, has recently been appointed Lord-Lieutenant for Elgin and Nairn in succession to the Duke of Fife, who has vacated that position.



Sir W. J. Soulsby whose recent knighthood was not the least well-deserved of the Coronation honours, has been relating in the columns of a contemporary some reminiscences of his early career. It is not generally known that before Sir William occupied the position he has so long and faithfully held as Private Secretary at the Mansion House, he was a journalist on the staff of one of the great London dailies. His acquaintance with civic life may be said to have commenced with his reporting experience at the Old Bailey, where he afterwards for some time practiced as a barrister.



The splendid service provided for the Londoner of nautical proclivities by the New Palace Steamers is now, with the improving weather prospects, taken advantage of very fully, and few more enjoyable trips could be imagined than those to Boulogne, Ostend, and Calais, and, for the less adventurous, to Margate, to which place the popular "Husband's Boat" continues to convey large numbers for the week-end and family re-union.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master of Victoria (Australia), is included in the Coronation honours list, his title now being the Hon. Sir A. J. Peacock, K.C.M.G. He was installed Grand Master for the third time in April, and was recently Premier of the State of Victoria.

\* \* \*

Bro. Alfred Greenham, P.M. of the Chine Lodge, No. 1884, Isle of Wight, writes as follows:—"On Thursday, January 30th, 1902, Bro. A. H. Atherley was initiated in Chine Lodge, No. 1884, by the Provincial Grand Master of West Aberdeenshire (Colonel H. Lumsden), and on May 29th last he was raised to the Third Degree by the Provincial Grand Master of Hants and the Isle of Wight, Sir Augustus Webster, Bart. For one candidate to have the exceptional honour of two degrees conferred on him by two Provincial Grand Masters is surely unique in the history of Freemasonry."

\* \* \*

The lodges in Chester are exceptionally fortunate in securing the services of the Chief Constable of the City, Bro. J. H. Laybourne, as Almoner. An old offender, one Alfred Studdy Owen, an ex-convict, was charged at the police court with attempting to collect alms under false pretences. Prisoner went to Chief Constable Laybourne, and, representing that he was a Freemason, asked for assistance. The Chief Constable, however, recognised Owen as having reported himself to him ten years ago in Liverpool as a convict, and he discovered he was not a Mason. He was sentenced to a month's hard labour. We would recommend all lodges possessing such a valuable asset as a chief constable amongst its members to forthwith create him Almoner of the lodge.

\* \* \*

According to the *Star*, an advertisement appears in a contemporary to the effect that "the Widow of a Freemason having eight near relatives, one a Grand Master (?), implores immediate help." The *Star* considers the "eight near relatives" are behaving in a very un-Masonic way, and we entirely agree. It is unnecessary for us to add that the claims of a widow of a Mason who himself was eligible for relief would receive proper consideration at the hands of the Board of Benevolence if a petition were presented to that body.

\* \* \*

We have received a communication from Bro. D. Edwards Radclyffe whose signature is somewhat reminiscent of the Bro. Dick Radclyffe who some years ago so strenuously but unsuccessfully advocated the formation of an Institution called the Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund, which its promoters thought would act as a useful adjunct to the Girls' and Boys' Schools. The Craft, however, thought otherwise, and it failed to obtain the support necessary to carry their views into effect. A similar fate befell the promoters of the scheme for dividing the Metropolis into Districts or Provinces—a sort of *Imperium in Imperio*—which Bro. Radclyffe now wishes to revive. We fear our good brother is destined to be a champion of lost causes, at least as far as these two schemes are concerned, for each has been weighed in the balance and found wanting.

\* \* \*

It is to be regretted that pressure of space prevented a reference in our last issue to the lamented death of Bro. Dr. Curnow, who was a Past Master of the University of London Lodge, No. 2033, and of the Cornish Lodge, No. 2369. Our late brother was no less distinguished in his profession than he was zealous in all that concerned Masonry. His medical attainments were of a rare order, and as a good fellow and a sterling Mason also the late Bro. Dr. Curnow will not soon be forgotten.

\* \* \*

Since the initiation of the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth, of ancient memory, little has, we believe, been heard of lady Freemasons in the British Isles. The well-known Order of the Eastern Star, however, continues to flourish "on the other side." The rumour that any such innovation is contemplated in this country cannot be considered with any degree of seriousness.

The latest addition to the roll of lodges, the Richard Clowes Lodge, No. 2936, named after Bro. Richard Clowes, P.G. Std. Br., will not fail to be received with the hearty congratulations of the Craft. The popularity of Bro. Clowes has long been admitted, and no worthier way of acclaiming the fact can, we think, be found than by the formation of a lodge to bear his name.

\* \* \*

Many changes have been witnessed by playgoers at the Theatre Royal Drury Lane, but not since the death of Bro. Sir Augustus Harris has there been a more remarkable happening than the contemplated opening of Bro. Sir Henry Irving at our National Theatre. Both the distinguished actor and Bro. Arthur Collins will receive the good wishes of the Craft in the venture which the public will shortly be privileged to witness.

\* \* \*

A correspondent of *The Guardian*, in which some letters have appeared asking for information respecting Freemasonry, writes:—"No one has any right to expect from Freemasonry more than it is prepared to give. Although the bulk of its members are Christians, yet in no sense is it a substitute for the Church of Christ. The religious test is simply a belief in the Deity. Regarded as a social and moral force it is capable, in the hands of right-minded men, of exercising a tremendous influence for good in any parish. For years I was a member of the C.B.S. and E.C.U. I claim to be a good Catholic. In the place where I reside there exists a lodge; formerly its reputation was decidedly bad, so much so that I considered it my duty not to enter the lodge. But it was pointed out to me that under proper supervision a reform could be easily accomplished. As an earnest of the desire for reform I was elected Master of the lodge, and the result has exceeded my most sanguine expectations. Men who had never worshipped in our church began to attend, and the lodge to-day is a power for good. I know of a similar case where the church was built up entirely through the agency of Freemasonry. The question is simple. Freemasonry is a wonderful organisation spread throughout the world. Is it good policy for the Church to allow its influence to be entirely in the hands of the enemies of the Church?"

\* \* \*

One of our most fondly cherished beliefs, that a sense of the humorous was not one of the mental deficiencies of which we could be fairly accused, has received a rude shock at the hands of our contemporary, the *American Tyler*. The editor of that journal had quoted a despatch from Nebraska stating that William J. Bryan, the defeated candidate at the last election for the presidency, was a short time before elected a member of the Order, and that "not a single black ball was cast against him, although the lodge was largely republican." This was followed up by an editorial comment that "members of a lodge as a rule cast their votes strictly on party lines." Upon this we proceeded to deliver a homily on the heinous sin of permitting political dissensions within the sacred precincts of the lodge.

\* \* \*

It appears, however, that we were dealing with a specimen of American humor, and that the paragraph in question was "rote sarcastic." Mark Twain we knew, and the immortal showman we knew, to say nothing of lesser literary lights, but we had not hitherto made the acquaintance of the Masonic humorist, and his sudden appearance in the pages of our sober contemporary was an apparition for which we were unprepared, hence the momentary lapse. If our brother editor will be good enough to label his "goaks" for a time until we become used to the subtle character of his humor we shall hope to avoid similar pitfalls in future.

\* \* \*

It will be noticed with interest that the portrait of the late Bro. Sir Arthur Sullivan, Past Grand Organist, painted by Sir J. E. Millais, R.A., which was bequeathed to the National Portrait Gallery, has been received by the Trustees, who, in this special instance, decided to suspend their usual rule as to the expiration of ten years from the date of the deceased.

## *Installation of the Provincial Grand Master of Essex.*

THE installation of R.W. Bro. Colonel Lockwood, M.P., P.G.D., as Provincial Grand Master of Essex, in succession to R.W. Bro. the Earl of Warwick, Deputy Grand Master of England, took place at the Shire Hall, Chelmsford, on the 29th July. There were present the Provincial Grand Masters of Somerset, Norths and Hunts, Worcester, and Norfolk, and about 400 brethren.

Before installing his successor, R.W. Bro. the Earl of Warwick said he succeeded a good man and brother in Lord Tenterden, but at that time he knew little of Freemasonry. He now handed over office to his successor after twenty years. During that time he had been greatly assisted by many Grand Officers, but mentioned particularly V.W. Bro. Philbrick. He was sure that no other province possessed a better class of workers than that of Essex. The province had always held its head high in Charity, and would continue to do so. During his Grand Mastership he had made a large number of friends, many of whom he was proud to see present. He gave the province over to his successor in a better state than he received it. He should always remain the friend of the province. The R.W. Brother's remarks were received with hearty applause.

R.W. Bro. Colonel Lockwood was then introduced, installed, and invested.

The Provincial Grand Master then appointed W. Bro. Claude E. Egerton-Green, P.D.G.D.C., as Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

W. Bro. Turner expressed the genuine regret of the brethren at the retirement of Bro. the Earl of Warwick, and congratulated Bro. Colonel Lockwood, to whom the province would give a hearty welcome.

The Provincial Grand Master said he hoped to keep up the old traditions. He found the province flourishing in a very marked degree, and urged the brethren not only to follow up Masonry in the spirit and in the letter, but to enter into the duties of each succeeding office to which they might be appointed with a zeal and enthusiasm which would show to the world at large how deeply they appreciated and how

earnestly they were filled with the importance of Freemasonry. With such feelings towards the Craft, and with the continued practice of its tenets as they had up to now carried it on, he was perfectly convinced that Masonry would continue to flourish in the province. He need hardly say that he was filled with a sense of the deep responsibility that rested upon him in accepting his present high office; but he was nevertheless perfectly ready to assume it in the firm knowledge and belief that the brethren would afford him that generous sympathy and kindly support which had never been wanting in years gone by. With such support as that, and with such brotherly love, he felt that he might carry on the high and honourable office that he had taken upon his shoulders with credit to the province.

W. Bro. Willoughby John Bean, P.M. 51, was elected Provincial Grand Treasurer.

The Provincial Grand Master then appointed and invested his officers for the year. One or two of the brethren did not answer to their names when called, and the Provincial Grand Master said he should have to consider the question of the confirmation of their appointments, as, unless some very good reason could be shown for their non-attendance, he felt that they had been lacking in courtesy to the Provincial Grand Lodge.

The Provincial Grand Master then announced that he had conferred Past Grand rank on certain brethren, whose names he announced, in commemoration of the installation of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught as Most Worshipful Grand Master, and in view of the Coronation of His Majesty the King.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

A dinner afterwards took place in the Corn Exchange. The Provincial Grand Master presided, supported by R.W. Bros. the Earl of Warwick, Viscount Dungarvan, the Earl of Euston, Sir A. F. Godson, V.W. Bro. E. Letchworth (Grand Secretary), and the majority of those present at the installation.

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## *The Scottish Masonic Club, Edinburgh.*

EDINBURGH has for years past possessed an Institution connected with the Masonic Craft, viz., a club, which, as the preamble of its rules states, was "instituted for the purpose of promoting social intercourse among the members of the Masonic Fraternity."

Established in 1893, it took up its quarters in premises at No. 1A, Hill Street, for long famous to the elite of Edinburgh as Lowe's Dancing Academy. These premises consisted of a large hall, which served as club room, billiard room, and card room, and the club rapidly became a Masonic rendezvous of great popularity, the result of which has been the formation of many lasting friendships among members who would probably not otherwise have met. With the advance of time, however, it became apparent that expansion was needed in order to develop the club to its proper extent, and the committee were successful in obtaining on lease the self-contained premises at 85A, George Street, Edinburgh, in which the reorganised club is now housed. The accommodation is a large handsomely furnished club room, with dining room and annexe, and above this the billiard room, card room, committee room, and lavatories, with club steward's and kitchen accommodation on top floor.

The membership is restricted to 400, and already a very substantial list has been secured, there being at present nearly 200 on the roll, while the Committee confidently look forward to this number being largely added to as soon as the Masonic session commences in October. The roll includes Freemasons of all degrees, including the Grand Master and nearly all his Grand Lodge Office bearers, while a special feature of the reorganised club has been the establishment of country membership, which has been taken advantage of in a most satisfactory manner by the country members of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, who find it more convenient to meet under one roof and discuss business matters before proceeding to the Grand Lodge meetings.

The Grand Master of Scotland, Bro. the Hon. James Hozier, M.P., and Honorary President of the club, having kindly consented to perform the opening ceremony, the date was fixed for 7th August, and great was the disappointment of the members when he telegraphed the day before that he was detained in London by the illness of his charming wife Lady Mary Hozier. He, however, suggested that his Substitute Grand Master should be asked to represent him at the ceremony, and having agreed to do this, the Acting Grand

Master, Bro. J. D. G. Dalrymple, of Woodhead, opened the new premises, after the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, on the date named. Bro. Samuel Duncan, the

headquarters of the Craft in Scotland, and Masons came through for the quarterly communications of Grand Lodge from all parts of the country. The club was formed some nine years ago, with Bro. the Earl of Haddington as its first President, and it now had at its head the present Grand Master, Bro. Hozier, who during his reign of office—which,



BRO. W. DRUMMOND YOUNG, FIRST CHAIRMAN.

chairman of the club, having welcomed the company, appealed to the brethren to support the club by increasing the membership and by taking out debentures. Bro.



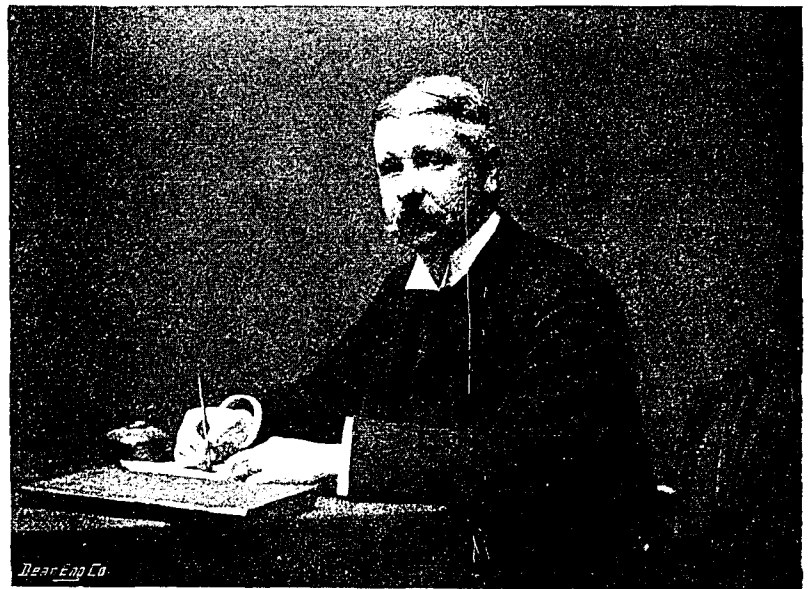
BRO. SAMUEL DUNCAN, CHAIRMAN.

Dalrymple expressed regret at the absence of the Grand Master. He quite agreed with the chairman as to the advantage of a club of that kind, because Edinburgh was the



PRESENTATION PORTRAIT OF THE HON. JAMES HOZIER, M.P., GRAND MASTER MASON.

he regretted to say, would shortly come to an end—had earned golden opinions from Masons in all parts of Scotland. The club could not have secured better or more central premises for the convenience of Masons, and as he believed it would supply a felt want, he hoped it would be well supported by the Masons, not only of Edinburgh, but throughout Scotland. In formally declaring the club open, he congratulated the committee on the admirable arrangement of the rooms.



BRO. WILLIAM A. DAVIS, F.S.A.A., SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

At the close of the proceedings, Bro. Dalrymple unveiled a life-size portrait in oils of the Grand Master of Scotland, painted and presented to the club by Bro. W. Drummond Young, artist. The unveiling was received with loud applause and the chairman cordially thanked Bro. Young for his handsome gift.

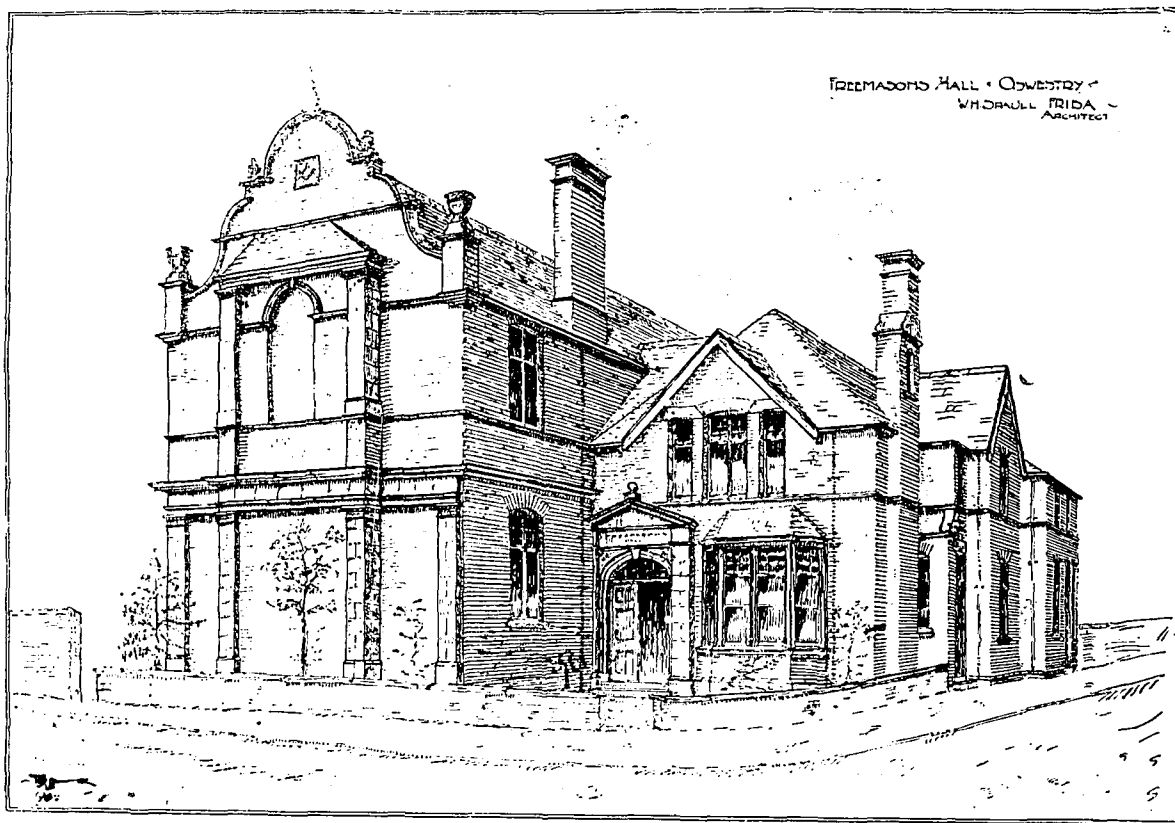
## Dedication of a New Masonic Hall at Oswestry.

AN interesting feature at the annual communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Shropshire, held recently at Oswestry, was the dedication of a new Masonic Hall for the use of the brethren of the two prosperous lodges meeting in that town. The building consists of a hall (33 feet by 22 feet) and a dining room (23 feet by 18 feet), so arranged as to be capable of being thrown into one large room, with retiring rooms and other conveniences. Viewed from the exterior, the hall presents an imposing appearance, the frontage being in the Renaissance style and faced with red brick and buff terracotta dressings. The building is from the designs of the Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. W. H. Spaul, F.R.I.B.A.

After the usual preliminary business of Provincial Grand Lodge had been transacted, the dedication was proceeded with. The ceremony began with prayer by the Provincial Grand Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. Reginald W. Williams. The R.W. Provincial Grand Master of North Wales, Bro. Lord Harlech, as Chairman of the Board of Directors, was to have given an explanation of the commencement, progress,

and completion of the building; but, still suffering from his recent accident, his lordship was unable to be present, and the explanation, in his absence, was given by Dr. O'Connor. The ordinary business of Provincial Grand Lodge was then resumed and concluded.

isation, with its ever accumulating stores of knowledge, should attract to itself men of other trades and professions, even kings and princes eagerly seeking admission into an Order of so high a renown for the sake of companionship with the illustrious masters of art and science who enobled it, and whose splendid labours did so much for the national pride and glory. By degrees, however, these "Speculative" Masons, who at first by special favour only were accepted to the freedom of the Craft, so far outnumbered their "Operative" brethren, that—as it had been put—cuckoo-like, they ousted the original owners from the Masonic nest and stayed in it themselves, retaining the outward shape and form of the Masonic guild, with its working tools and badges, its stringent vows, secrecy, fidelity, and obedience, its elaborate and impressive ritual, turning it all into parable and metaphor, so that as they had it now it was simply a beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols. Such, said our brother, was Masonry in the past, and in eloquent terms he went on to describe what should be the aims of all precious jewel, which demanded a goodly setting, and they



THE NEW MASONIC HALL.

and completion of the building; but, still suffering from his recent accident, his lordship was unable to be present, and the explanation, in his absence, was given by Dr. O'Connor.

The Provincial Grand Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. T. Redfern, then delivered an oration. The consummation of their hopes that day, in the building and dedication of that lodge-room to the purposes of Freemasonry, and of Freemasonry only, he said, was a matter of the greatest satisfaction to them, and, they believed, would redound materially to the advancement of the Craft in their town and neighbourhood. The appearance of a new house amongst them naturally led the beholder to speculate upon the character and condition of the owner, and the solemn dedication of a new lodge-room seemed equally to call for remarks upon the time-honoured institution which was thenceforward to have its home there. The rev. brother then entered on an able and exhaustive history of the origin and aims of Freemasonry. Originally, no doubt, a guild of artificers, to whom the world was indebted for its great buildings of the middle ages, it was good Masons in the future. Masonry, he said, was a not to be wondered at that such a powerful organ-

could confidently invite their brethren to rejoice with them upon the completion of that admirable hall which was now to be consecrated to its use. Our reverend brother strongly urged on the brethren the importance of providing such buildings as they were then assembled in, in preference to meeting at hotels and other places of public resort. The more lodges—even at some material sacrifice to their members—meet in their own independent lodge rooms, away and entirely apart from everything and everybody unconnected with Masonry, the more would the Craft win upon the esteem of the outside world, and the more would it deepen its hold on the admiration of its own members. In concluding, the Provincial Grand Chaplain said they all hoped that the lodges which henceforward would meet in that home, dedicated that day, would do their utmost to realise the high ideals of their Order, and to hand on unimpaired to those who succeeded them as Freemasons in Oswestry the glorious heritage which had hitherto been entrusted to their keeping in that town and district.

The ordinary business of Provincial Grand Lodge was then resumed and concluded.



### *Provincial Grand Lodge of Bucks.*

THERE was a very large gathering of Bucks brethren at Aylesbury on the 9th July, when Provincial Grand Lodge was held under the banner of the Buckingham Lodge, No. 591, which this year celebrates its jubilee, having been consecrated as far back as 1851, and is thus by far the oldest lodge in the province. Grand Lodge was opened at three o'clock in the Masonic Hall by Bro. Lord Addington, Provincial Grand Master, who was supported by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master (Bro. J. E. Bowen), the Provincial Grand Secretary (Bro. Rev. C. E. Roberts), and many well-known brethren.

After the usual preliminary business, Bro. Stephens presented the report of the Charity Committee, which was passed.

On the motion of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, seconded by Bro. Simcox, the bye-laws and regulations of the Provincial Benevolent Fund, formulated by the Committee appointed for that purpose at the Provincial Grand Lodge, 1901, were confirmed.

The Provincial Grand Treasurer submitted his report and statement of accounts, which showed a substantial balance in hand, and these were passed.

The Provincial Grand Officers were then appointed and invested by the Provincial Grand Master.

Past Provincial Grand rank of Senior Warden was conferred upon Bros. F. J. Hubbard, W. J. Cannon, A. Bullock, and R. W. Locke.

A very handsome service of silver plate, purse, cheque, and illuminated address were presented to Bro. Woollett in recognition of his services as Provincial Grand Secretary, a post he resigned last year; and Bro. Woollett suitably returned thanks.

Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed, and the brethren dined together at the Town Hall, under the presidency of the Provincial Grand Master.

### *Presentation to Bro. Brazier.*

A VERY interesting function took place in the Masonic Hall, Bournemouth, at the regular meeting of the Horsa Lodge, No. 2208, on Monday, 18th August. Bro. J. J. Brazier (the Secretary), who has been intimately associated with the lodge from its consecration fifteen years ago, is this month celebrating his silver wedding, and the Worshipful Master (Bro. H. T. Pottle) and the brethren decided to mark the occasion in an appropriate manner. At the conclusion of the general business the Worshipful Master presented the Secretary with a sterling silver tea and coffee service, suitably inscribed, and a set of silver spoons as a separate gift to Mrs. Brazier. In doing so he referred to the services rendered by Bro. Brazier as founder, Worshipful Master, and particularly during the last seven years as Secretary, and mentioned as a record that would be hard to beat that of the 164 meetings held since the consecration of the lodge, the Secretary had attended all save ten. Several officers and brethren, each speaking in a highly appreciative manner of some different phases of the work of the Secretary, confirmed the remarks made by the Worshipful Master.

In returning thanks, Bro. Brazier said that although he had received an intimation of their kind intentions he felt quite unable to thank them as he would like. Indeed, he had seldom found it so difficult to express himself. Such proof of fraternal regard was sufficient to move the most stolid and phlegmatic brother. It was most gratifying to receive an honour of this kind from brethren whose sincerity could not be questioned, and to whom he was so well known, and who, moreover, had always been generous to his faults and failings. He thanked them for their kind references to the services it had been his privilege to perform, and to the number of years he had been permitted to serve. Although he accepted the post

of Secretary seven years ago with considerable diffidence, it said much for their forbearance that he had never regretted the step. It would be mere affectation to say that the duties were not arduous, because many of them knew better. Still, the work had its compensations. In Freemasonry he had made many good and valued friends, whose kindness could not be acknowledged through the poor medium of words. He felt fortunate in having won and retained the goodwill and esteem of the brethren, which that evening had found expression in such a valuable gift as fell to the lot of few Secretaries. He appreciated the kind reference to his wife, which was richly deserved, as she was as much a Mason at heart as he himself, and he was sure she would be delighted to know that she was remembered.

The service bore the following inscription:—"Presented by the members of the Horsa Lodge, 2208, to W. Bro. J. J. Brazier, P.M., P.P.S.G.D. Hants and Isle of Wight, in commemoration of his silver wedding, and in appreciation of his valuable services as Secretary for a period of seven years. August 6th, 1902. Fundator Horsa, 2208."

### *Rising Star Lodge, Bloemfontein.*

THE installation of Bro. Ivan Haarburger, P.A.G.D.C. England, as Worshipful Master for the fourth time of the Rising Star Lodge, Bloemfontein, took place recently in the presence of a large and distinguished gathering of the Craft in the Masonic Temple, Bloemfontein. Before the proceedings commenced a cable was read from His Majesty the King, the brethren standing the while. A telegram was also received from R.W. Bro. Lord Kitchener. W. Bro. H. F. Gill installed W. Bro. Haarburger as Worshipful Master, who then installed his officers for the year.

At the banquet, the speech of Bro. Rev. J. Craig, who proposed "The health of the Worshipful Master," was listened to with great attention by the brethren present. He emphasised the interesting fact that Bro. Haarburger, a German subject, held the distinguished post of a Past Grand Officer of the Grand Lodge of England, an honour of which the Rising Star Lodge was justly proud.

Bro. Haarburger, who replied in an admirable speech, reminded the brethren of a clever oration by Lord Goschen, who complained that men were too busy in these days for thinking. But Bro. Haarburger appealed to the brethren to think of the important work before them in the near future, and exhorted them to aid the authorities in the gigantic task of reconstruction and reconciliation. He quoted some stirring passages from Wordsworth and Robert Louis Stevenson, and concluded a masterly speech by calling upon the members of the Masonic fraternity "to be foremost in character and the sense of duty, the Alpha and Omega of Masonic aspirations, and to evince to the world that Freemasons would never be found wanting in the right attitude of man to man." Bro. Haarburger's remarks were received with deafening applause.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—A special court of the governors and subscribers of the institution was held on August 11th at Freemasons' Hall, for the purpose of passing a resolution approving of negotiations which had taken place between the House Committee and Dr. Conroy and others for the purchase of the house, buildings, and land adjoining the junior school of the institution and authorising the trustees to carry the same into effect. Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G. Registrar, who was voted to the chair, explained the steps which had been taken for acquiring the property in question, and said as there were sufficient funds in hand to pay the price it might be desirable to close with the vendors. He then moved the resolution, and Bro. Letchworth, Grand Secretary, in seconding it, expressed his satisfaction with the proposal. The motion was carried, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

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

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

ON the 3rd of July, "Bro. Pike stated that Bro. Hervey had been twenty-four years Treasurer of the Lodge, that knowing how much he was esteemed by the brethren, he had no doubt he would be elected for the twenty-fifth time in October next, and suggested the propriety of presenting him with a suitable Testimonial at the next Annual Festival to mark the brethren's appreciation of his valuable services."

Bro. Pike's suggestion was readily adopted, and a committee immediately appointed to carry it into effect.

On the 21st of August, "the hearty congratulations of the Lodge" were given to Bro. Hervey on his appointment to the important office of Grand Secretary.



VICTOR A. WILLIAMSON, C.M.G., PAST GRAND WARDEN.  
*Chairman of the Festival in 1867.*

The loss of the old minute books was brought to the notice of the Lodge on the 30th of October, and it was resolved to offer a reward of Five Guineas for their recovery.

The Festival this year was held on the 27th of November, when the First Lecture was worked by James Pike, assisted by Bros. H. W. Lindus, T. Cochrane, J. A. Rucker, J. A. Berger, A. Green, I. C. Dowsing, and A. A. Richards; 101 members and 91 visitors were present. Twenty-three propositions for membership having been made, the Lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to the "Banquet, at which Lord Eliot, Past Senior Grand Warden, presided." In the course of the evening a Testimonial was presented to John Hervey, consisting of a silver tea and coffee service and gold pencil case.

1869. In the minutes of the 5th of March we find the following:—"A request having been made by Bro. R. R. Nelson, P.G. Secretary for West Yorkshire, on the part of several Brethren of that Province that the Three Degrees should be worked on Friday evening, the 12th inst., it was proposed by Bro. J. Pike, seconded by Bro. J. A. Rucker, and carried unanimously, that Bro. J. Hervey, Treasurer, be requested to take the chair and appoint his officers for that occasion."

"Bro. Hervey appointed Bros. A. A. Richards, S.W.; F. Hockley, J.W.; J. A. Rucker, S.D.; A. Green, J.D.; and I. C. Dowsing, I.G.; and, in deference to the wish expressed by the Brethren of West Yorkshire, announced that the Three Ceremonies would be worked."

In consequence of the foregoing announcement, a goodly number of members and visitors attended the following meeting in the hope of witnessing the three degrees worked by the Grand Secretary, but "previously to the opening of the Lodge, the W.M. stated that in consequence of the Bradford election taking place this day, the Brethren at whose request the Three Degrees were appointed to be worked had been obliged to return to Yorkshire, and that he had been desired to express their regret at the circumstance, and to apologize on their behalf to the members of the Lodge for their non-attendance."

Bro. C. A. Murton sat as W.M. at the Festival meeting on the 26th of November, when the Second Lecture was worked by Bros. Thomas Fenn, J. F. Huggins, H. V. Crassweller, H. W. Lindus, and J. A. Rucker. Ninety-six members and seventy-two visitors were present; twenty-eight of the latter were proposed for ballot at the next meeting.

The R.W. Bro. Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Berks. and Bucks., presided at the banquet.

On the 31st of December, "It was proposed by Br. Pike and carried unanimously, that a Committee be formed for the purpose of presenting a Testimonial to Br. C. A. Murton in acknowledgement of his services as Secretary for the past seven years, and of his devotion, both of his time and personal attention, to the Lodge and its many members."

The members present, who were most regular in their attendance, at once volunteered to form a committee (with power to add to their number) for carrying into effect the foregoing proposition. The committee was considerably increased at subsequent meetings of the Lodge.

1870. On January 7th it was proposed by Bro. Murton and carried, that the three brass candlesticks which had been submitted for the approval of the members should be purchased of Bro. R. Spencer for the sum of £25.

On the 4th of February the compiler of this history had the good fortune to be elected a member of the Lodge.

The 6th of May witnessed the last attendance of the veteran brother, James Pike, who had joined the Lodge in 1833, and until within a few days of his decease had been constant in his attendance at, and most assiduous for its welfare and progress.

It is recorded on the 20th May that "Bro. J. Hervey announced the decease of Bro. James Pike, which occurred on the 14th instant, and proposed that the Ceremony and Lecture appointed for the evening should be deferred until the next meeting, as a mark of respect to his memory."

A vote of condolence and sympathy with the widow and family of the deceased was passed.

Bro. James Pike was a member of the Grenadiers' Lodge, No. 66, in which Lodge he was initiated in January, 1833. On the 12th of April following he joined the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, and, in all probability, he made more attendances at the Lodge than anyone, either during his time or subsequently, not excepting the indefatigable Wilson. His name is mentioned in the early reports of the Festivals, and as far back as 1840 he is referred to as one of the leaders in the Lodge. A notable feature in this connection is the regular attendance of many of the old members, long after they had perfected themselves in the ceremonies

and lectures, for no other purpose than that of instructing others. It is with peculiar pleasure that we note the survival of this very laudable practice down to the present day. The earliest attendance book now in possession of the Lodge was begun on the 7th of August, 1857, from which date until his decease we find that Bro. Pike has a record of 582 attendances, while his colleague and fellow worker, S. B. Wilson, from the same date to the 22nd of December, 1865—his last appearance at the Lodge—made 292 attendances. As senior



LORD ELIOT (AFTERWARDS EARL OF ST. GERMANS), P.S.G.W.,  
Chairman of the Festival in 1868.

member, he naturally succeeded Wilson in the leadership of the Lodge, although the office of President was discontinued at the death of that brother; hence, apart from his having been for many years a member of the Committee of General Purposes, Bro. Pike does not appear to have held any permanent office in the Lodge, which is probably the reason he did not receive the usual Testimonial.

On the 24th of June Bro. Thomas Fenn resumed his attendance at the weekly meetings, and was appointed Junior Warden for the following Friday.

A sum of Five Guineas was voted on the 2nd of September, towards the Murton Testimonial. On the 4th of November the following proposition by Bro. Murton was carried unanimously:—"That in order to ensure correctness in the work, and to prevent unnecessary interruptions, it is expedient that the Past Master's chair be occupied by a member of the committee, who shall act as Preceptor for the evening." Previous to the passing of this resolution, the Past Master's chair had been occupied by the brother who had filled the Master's chair on the preceding lodge night, but in the absence of such brother, one of the committee took his place.

The Annual Festival was held on the 25th of November, when five sections of the First Lecture were worked by Bro. John Hervey, as W.M., assisted by Bros. T. W. Boord, H. V. Crassweller, A. Green, H. W. Lindus, and J. A. Rucker, there being 105 members and 78 visitors present on this occasion.

Thirty-six brethren having been proposed for joining, the company adjourned to the banquet, at which Bro. Horace Lloyd, Q.C., Senior Grand Deacon, presided. In the course of the evening the chairman presented to the Secretary, C. A. Murton, a Secretary's Jewel, voted from the funds of the lodge, for his services as Secretary for seven years, and a silver Epergne as a testimonial, subscribed for by the members as a mark of their esteem.

Bro. Murton was deservedly popular in the Lodge, and, in the absence of any other member of the Committee, always

acted as Preceptor, frequently eliciting the admiration of the brethren by his readiness to correct and instruct the officers, even while engaged in his secretarial duties.

1871. On the 31st of March the decease of Bro. John Daly, who had acted as Tyler for a number of years, was reported to the lodge by Bro. Hervey, and an expression of regret was ordered to be recorded on the minutes.

It was resolved: "that Bro. Daly, Junr., be appointed Tyler *pro tem.*, and that the Committee be requested to enquire and report to the brethren as to a fit candidate for the office." April the 21st: Bro. Fenn gave notice of motion to make certain alterations in the By-Laws. One of the alterations proposed was an addition to By-Law 4, which had for a number of years read as follows: "That no Brother shall be eligible to be elected to the Office of Master unless he is fully acquainted with the method of opening and closing the Lodge in the three Degrees and of working the Ceremony intended for the occasion on which he is to preside, agreeably to the recognised system of this Lodge." Bro. Fenn proposed to add the following: "That this By-Law be read by the Secretary at each meeting, immediately before the election of Master."

In those days it was a common practice for brethren to repeatedly work through the subordinate offices up to that of Senior Warden, and then retire, declining election to the office of Master on account of their inability to comply with the fourth By-Law. Occasionally, however, it happened that a brother, endued with more zeal than discretion, or being ignorant of what was expected of him as a Master of the Lodge, allowed himself to be elected to the chair, much to the regret of the committee and the members generally. Hence the proposed addition was obviously intended to prevent such occurrences, or, at all events, to render them less frequent, and no doubt it had the desired effect. Strange to say, when brought before the Lodge on the 12th of May as a recommendation of the Committee, the addition was strongly opposed by two of the most regular attendants, and an amendment was moved that it be omitted; the original motion was, however, carried by a considerable majority.

The Annual Festival was held on the 24th of November, Bro. Fenn as W.M., who worked the Second Lecture, assisted J. F. Huggins, J. A. Rucker, T. E. Hardy, J. Steward, and A. Green. There were present on this occasion 90 members and 85 visitors, besides several invited guests. Thirty-one brethren were proposed as members and duly elected at the following meeting.



JAMES PIKE, P.M. No. 66.  
A Member of the Committee.

The Grand Treasurer, Samuel Tomkins, presided at the banquet in the absence of Sir Francis Burdett, Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex, who was prevented from attending in consequence of a domestic affliction. This meeting was not reported.

On December the 15th, it was "Proposed by Bro. Hervey, seconded by Bro. Fenn, and carried unanimously, that the

sum of Ten Pounds be given from the funds of the Lodge towards the subscription for the relief of three of the daughters of the late Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson."

**1872.** Nothing of importance is recorded in the minutes of this year beyond a change in the office of Secretary, Bro. Alfred Green, of Lodge No. 7, being elected to that post vacated by Bro. C. A. Murton, who was elected on the Committee.



CHAS. A. MURTON, P.G.D.,  
Secretary, and Member of the Committee.

The Annual Festival was held on the 29th of November, John Hervey in the chair of W.M., when part of the First Lecture was worked by the following:—J. F. Huggins, No. 18; G. E. Wainwright, No. 370; W. Smallpiece, No. 1395; H. Wood, No. 1159; and J. A. Rucker, No. 66. The members present numbered 112, and the visitors 70, besides several distinguished brethren who were invited as guests of the Lodge.

The usual vote of thanks to the workers of the sections was passed on the proposition of Lord Tenterden, C.B., Senior Grand Warden, who subsequently presided at the banquet. Thirty brethren were proposed to become members, all of whom were elected at the next meeting of the Lodge.

A brief notice of the meeting appears in *The Freemason* of December 14th, wherein the writer comments on the workers. "The earnest delivery, and the elocutionary ability of these brethren were most marked, and richly deserved the enthusiastic applause with which their efforts were received."

**1873.** A most unusual event, which is probably quite unique in the annals of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, is recorded in the minutes of the 14th of March, namely, the rejection of a brother on the ballot. The incident is the more remarkable as the brother in question was a member of a very celebrated Lodge, and had been proposed and seconded at the previous meeting by two of the most prominent members of the Committee. As a matter of course, no reason was assigned for this extraordinary action, but from certain remarks overheard in the ante-room by the writer, he concluded that the objection was purely personal and not of a nature to justify the rejection of a brother who was at the same time deemed eligible for membership by one of the oldest and most reputable lodges in London.

On the 2nd of May, "It was proposed by C. A. Murton, seconded by Erasmus Wilson, and carried unanimously, that the Tracing Boards be lent to the Grand Lodge for the purpose of being copied." At the following meeting the death of the Earl of Zetland, Past Grand Master, was announced, and it was resolved "That an expression of deep

regret be recorded on the Minutes for the serious loss the Craft have sustained thereby."

May the 30th: "Bro. J. Hervey alluded to an innovation which had recently been adopted in this Lodge, viz., of applauding brethren who assist in the work, and remarked that although such demonstrations were made at the Annual Festivals, and could not easily be prevented, yet it was not desirable for such a custom to prevail at the ordinary meetings, and he suggested that it should be discontinued."

The Annual Festival was held on the 28th of November, John Hervey presiding as W.M., who worked the Second Lecture, assisted by Bros. William Smallpiece, James Muzio, Erasmus Wilson, G. E. Wainwright, and Thomas Fenn. There were present 102 members, 71 visitors, and several invited guests. Twenty-eight propositions for membership having been received, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, at which Lieut.-Col. Francis Burdett, Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex, presided.

On the 5th of December a vote of thanks was passed to Bro. C. A. Swinburne for presenting to the Lodge a set of collars for the officers.

**1874.** Nothing is recorded in the minutes during the year 1874 beyond the usual routine work of the Lodge. Bros. T. Fenn, C. A. Murton, and A. A. Richards were re-elected on the Committee, and Bros. John Hervey and Alfred Green continued in the offices of Treasurer and Secretary. Bro. Henry Sadler, P.M. of No. 147, was elected Tyler.

The Annual Festival was held on the 27th of November, and was even better attended than the preceding year, 119 members and 90 visitors being present, 52 of whom were proposed to become members.

Bro. Thomas Fenn presided in the Lodge and conducted the work arranged for the occasion, which was the last four sections of the First Lecture and the three sections of the Third Lecture, in which he was ably assisted by Bros. J. F. Huggins, P.M. No. 18; H. T. Wood, S.W. No. 1159; G. E. Eachus, W.M. No. 33; H. Bishop, J.W. No. 66; Erasmus Wilson, J.W. No. 2; Montague Gosset, P.M. No. 66; and W. Smallpiece, P.M. No. 1395.

Æneas J. McIntyre, Grand Registrar, presided at the banquet, and was supported by a considerable number of Grand Officers and old members of the Lodge.



SAMUEL TOMKINS, GRAND TREASURER,  
Chairman of the Festival in 1871.

In the course of the evening several good speeches were delivered, but as they appear in print in the Masonic papers of the following week we can well dispense with them here.

(To be Continued.)