

Photo by Lafayette, London.

The Late Bro. Richard Seddon, Past Grand Master New Zealand, Past Grand Warden England.

The late Bro. Richard Seddon

(P.G.M. NEW ZEALAND, P.G.W. ENGLAND).

THE New Zealand Craftsman of 2nd July in common with the press of New Zealand generally appears in deep mourning on account of the death of the Prime Minister of that Colony, and in an article on the deceased our contemporary eulogises him as a man, a statesman, and a brother. His personality was of that order which appeals to all sections of the community, and we make no apology to our readers for reproducing such a warm and heartfelt appreciation in our columns:—

"Triumpho morte tam vità."

"This shows, methinks, God's plan
And measure of a stalwart man,
Limbed like the old heroic breeds,
Who stands self-poised on manhood's solid earth,
Not forced to frame excuses for his birth,
Fed from within with all the strength he needs."

Such a man was he for whom to-day a great people "weeps with the passion of an angry grief." A prince has fallen in Israel-a prince not by accident of birth or the favour of a king, but by the divine right of noble manhood, of devoted service to his country, and of stainless honour. And the people who loved him so well, and whom he loved and served, are sick at heart with grief. A thrill of horror and despair went through "God's own Country" on Monday, 11th June, when it became known that Bro. Richard John Seddon had passed hence, horror at the tragic ending, and despair at the calamity that had overtaken the country by the removal of the Master Craftsman. For twenty-seven years he had stood in the white light of Parliamentary life, and to-day his political opponents vie with his friends in bearing testimony to his blameless life and spotless honour. Not one voice is lifted to charge him that he ever wronged any man, that he abused the high trusts confided to him, or that he used the great power he so long wielded for any other than unselfish and patriotic ends. Surely he realised the ideal of the poet—

" Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy, Men whom the lust of office cannot kill; Men who have opinions and a will, Men who love honour and will not lie.'

He was probably the most capable party leader and the most accomplished master of men this colony has ever know. If the popular voice was with him, well! If it clamoured against him he was in no way dismayed, and, as an example, the manner in which he faced a hostile audience in the City of Christchurch shortly before the last general election, and ultimately quelled the demonstration against him, will long be remembered.

Though a Freemason of overy forty years' standing, he was not, in Masonic acceptation, an active member, as, though a regular attendant, he took little or no part in the administration of the affairs of his Lodge or the Craft for a quarter of a century, and it was not until the year 1895 that he was installed by the writer of this article as W.M. of Westland Kil. Lodge. In 1898 he was elected M.W.G.M., and in that capacity controlled the destinies of New Zealand Freemasonry for a period of two years. Affairs of State naturally prevented a close attention to the duties of the office, but his general interest never abated, and the assistance of able coadjutors carried the term to a successful issue

A brief analysis will not be out of place here to show how our late brother carried our Masonic principles into the outside world and into his every day life. As a husband and father his conduct needs no enlogy, as the harmony and affection of his home life were proverbial, and in his strenuous political life and arduous work he never omitted the opportunity of rendering a faithful tribute to the services of his dear wife and companion. May God comfort her in her distress. The number who can give practical testimony to his loyalty to his friends is legion, and during his recent and

last work in Australia he was called upon to defend his Cabinet colleagues in the public press, and the whole-souled manner in which this was done indicates a depth of loyalty and friendship which passeth all understanding. His loyalty to the Throne and his acute interest in the affairs of the Empire gained for him the title of an Imperialist, which he no doubt counted as an honour. "Vincit amor patriae." The love for his country overcame him, and he gave up his life for it. How better can that love be appraised when it is realised that he went to Australia for rest and relaxation, and to use his own words, he put in the hardest month's work he had ever done, to secure the future and enhance the prosperity of his beloved country. Do not all these things testify that Bro. Seddon squared his actions by Masonic line and rule, and though not on the active list of Freemasonry, was still a Freemason all the time? It is meet that on such an occasion we should study the lessons of the life that is ended, and that we should pledge one another that this death should not have been died in vain. And yet—to slightly paraphrase the eulogy over an American President—and yet all this cannot comfort us. Through it all we see the black trappings of a country's woe, we hear the knell of funeral bells and the sound of muffled drums, and in our hearts the words are saying themselves over and over again, "The Premier is dead! the Premier is dead!" Dead at the crown and summit of his career, when all the world seemed to wish him well, when his fellow men seemed united in their love and reverence for him, when the happiest and serenest and most peaceful years of his life appeared to await him.

> " Dead, and we needed him so; Dead, and we loved him so!"

What can we say? Whither shall we turn for comfort? Where, but to the Volume of the Sacred Law, wherein it stands written for a perpetual tribute and memorial to all heroic souls: "He hath fought the good fight, he hath finished his course, he hath kept the faith."

A PAST GRAND MASTER.

M.W. Bro. R. J. Seddon, P.G.M., was a Freemason of long standing, having been initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, over forty years ago, in the Pacific Lodge, No. 1229, E.C., Hokitika. He subsequently affiliated himself to another Westland Lodge—the Westland Kil. Lodge, No. 467, S.C. Of that Lodge he was a member continuously for thirty-five years. In December, 1895, he was elected W.M. (the Lodge being then under the Grand Lodge of New Zealand), and was installed at Hokitika by R.W. Bro. H. J. Williams, of Wellington. Bro. Seddon was a founder of the Lazar Lodge, at Kumara, and subsequently one of its Wardens. He received the R.A. Degree in the Pacific Chapter, Hokitika, and afterwards in the Westland Kil. Chapter he took the Mark and Excellent Degrees. For many years the distinguished brother took a very active part and lively interest in Freemasonry, travelling long distances to attend various meetings. Of later years, though his interest had not waned, his removal from his district and the pressure of State duties prevented him working as actively as formerly. It was in Christchurch, on 28th April, 1898, that Bro. Seddon was installed with great eclat as G.M. of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand. For two years from that time the Craft had the advantage of his high administrative ability, and that indefatigable energy which was characteristic of him. The most important event of his term of office was the recognition of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand by the Grand Lodge of England.

THE FUNERAL.

The assemblage of visitors from all parts of the colony desirous of participating in the last sad offices of respect

was exceedingly large—in fact the largest ever gathered together in any one part of the colony—and the general demeanour strikingly evinced not only that our late brother was held in the highest esteem, but how he had entwined himself in the deepest affections of the people. Every governing body, from the Parliamentary Legislature to the

smallest borough council, the various professions and trades, and every association of importance, thought it incumbent to be fittingly represented on the sad occasion, the one exception being the body of which our late brother was so distinguished a member, and which he held in such high esteem.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Northumberlana.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. MAJOR A. E. BURDON AS PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

A SPECIAL Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Northumberland was held at the Assembly Rooms, Westgate Road, Newcastle, on July 26th. There was a very large attendance of brethren, both of the home and neighbouring provinces, to witness the installation of W. Bro. Major Augustus Edward Burdon, Past Grand Deacon of England, as Provincial Grand Master of Northumberland, in succession to the late W. Bro. Viscount Ridley, P.G.M. The installation of Bro. Major Augustus Edward

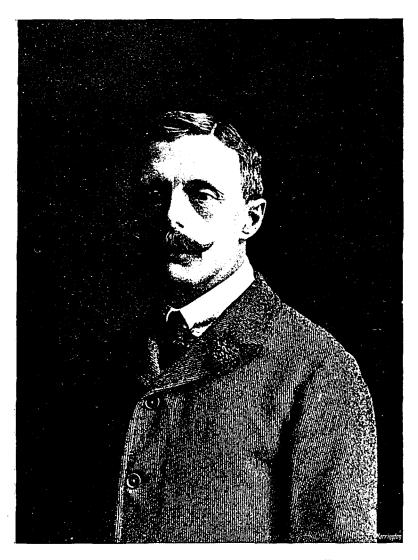


Photo Jus. Bacon & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne. BRO. MAJOR A. E. BURDON.

Burdon was undertaken by Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Barnard, D.C.L., Provincial Grand Master of Durham, who was accompanied by many officers of his Province.

Provincial Grand Lodge was opened by V.W. Bro. R. H. Holmes, P.G.D. Eng., Deputy Provincial Grand Master-in-Charge, and a large number of Provincial Grand Officers and brethren were present.

Lord Barnard and the Grand Officers of England entered the hall, and the P.G.M. of Durham, taking the chair, commenced the installation proceedings, and called upon Bros. J. Cartmel Ridley, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Arthur C. Richardson, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Capt. G. Lisle, P. Prov. G.W.; G. Charlton, P. Prov. G.W.; R. Weddell, P. Prov. G.W.; and J. Thompson, P. Prov. G.W., to introduce Bro. Major A. E. Burdon, and he

was duly installed as Prov. G.M. of Northumberland by Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Barnard, according to the ancient usages of the Craft.

Bro. Major A. E. Burdon, Prov. G.M., then appointed Bro. Ald. Richard Henry Holmes, J.P., as Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and in doing so stated that Bro. Holmes would now have served under three Prov. Grand Masters.

The new R.W. Prov. Grand Master announced that the present officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Northumberland would be re-appointed, and retain their positions until their next regular annual meeting later in the year.

A vote of sympathy with the Prov. D. of C., Bro. T. Pickering, who was prevented attending owing to a serious illness, was approved on the motion of Bro. Major A. E. Burdon, seconded by Bro. R. H. Holmes.

Addressing the brethren, R.W. Bro. Major A. E. Burdon, Prov. Grand Master, said it was undoubtedly the proudest moment of his life. He appreciated very much the high honour conferred upon him by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, the Grand Master of England, and would continue to do so as long as he lived. The career of the late R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Northumberland was a brilliant chapter in Masonic history in this country. He lent dignity to all the work he undertook, and he was known to them all for many years as a true ornament to Masonry. It was a great comfort also to him to know that he was to have the support of Bro. R. H. Holmes, and his appointment as Dep. Prov. Grand Master must be very acceptable to them all. He also commented upon the fact that a new lodge bearing his (Major Burdon's) name was shortly to be consecrated.

The proceedings soon afterwards terminated. During the ceremony music was provided by a choir consisting of Bro. C. Catcheside, Organist of Lord Armstrong Lodge and Provincial Grand Organist, and Bros. E. Craven, W. Self, J. W. Stoker, Taylor-Wood, E. J. Gibbon, L. C. Guthrie, Stuart McIntosh, and T. P. Vinton. Solos were sung by Bro. Stuart McIntosh. An ode, set to music specially composed by the Provincial Grand Organist, and dedicated to the W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master (Bro. Ald. Richard Henry Holmes), was also given.

In the evening a banquet was held in the Assembly Rooms, the R.W. Provincial Grand Master (Bro. Major Augustus Edward Burdon) presiding over a large company, supported by the Right Hon. Lord Barnard and many other prominent Masons.

[From a Correspondent.]

It seems but yesterday that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Northumberland was called upon to cast the sprig of acacia in reverent homage to the memory of their late Provincial Grand Master, Lord Ridley; and we all remember the sorrow felt and expressed by Freemasons everywhere for the loss of so distinguished, loyal, and courtly a leader as men knew him to be. His place was hard to fill, and perhaps will never be filled. But the building of the temple never stops for the lack of any one leader, however great and statesmanlike. As the building reaches new stages on the way to completion, new kinds of mankind are required to attack new difficulties and solve new problems by new forces and attitudes.

And while appreciating the splendid work of our deceased right worshipful brother, and still mourning his loss to Freemasonry at large, it is with great expectation and real confidence that we welcome the accession to power in the Northern County of our brother Major Burdon, who, in 1892, when he was appointed by Viscount Ridley, so ably served the county Freemasons as Provincial Senior Grand Warden. Bro. Burdon's Masonic progress has been rapid but wisely ordered and real. Indeed, it is just the record we like to see in one who may be called to a position of such rank and responsibility. The danger which springs from the phenomenal prosperity of Freemasonry demands that enthusiasm and progress shall be linked with a thorough knowledge and appreciation of Masonic methods. Such conditions apply in a special sense and degree in the case of the new Northumbrian Provincial Grand Master. Initiated in 1888 in St. Cuthbert's Lodge, No. 1902, at Bedlington, Bro. Major Burdon passed on to the second and third degrees, and after serving as Inner Guard, Junior Warden, and Senior Warden, became Worshipful Master of his mother lodge.

He then took up the study of Mark Masonry and was advanced in the Tristram Lodge, December 11th, 1893, and served in the same lodge as Overseer, etc. Upon the con-

secration of the Hartford Lodge he became W.M., and served as I.G. and S.W. in the Provincial Grand Lodge (M.M.M.) from 1899 to 1902. He was exalted to the Royal Arch Degree in 1898, and serving first as Sojourner, etc., he eventually occupied the chair of Z., and also the post of H., in the Provincial Royal Arch Grand Chapter. We hear also that our Bro. Burdon is to be appointed Grand Superintendent of Northumberland Royal Arch Chapter, and is already Grand Deacon in the R.M.M.M. Grand Lodge.

It will be seen at once from the foregoing that while Bro. Major Burdon's motto appears to have been "Thorough" in matters Masonic, he has already a brilliant record of attainment. And considering the prominence and emphasis given of late to both Mark and Royal Arch Masonry, it is probable that the accession of our Bro. Burdon may see a still greater increase in the interest already taken in the work of these degrees. We are hoping that Masonic study will receive a very real impetus from the election to the highest position Northumbrian Masons can give, of one already experienced beyond the common, and yet young enough, vigorous enough, and enthusiastic enough for another long period of splendid service. Vive le Roi!—J. G. G., P. Prov. G. Chap., Northumberland.

Masonry over the Border.

TE now propose to refer in some little detail to several of the grades and Orders referred to in our last article on this subject (May, 1966), and we commence with the Secret Monitor, perhaps the youngest of them. The youngest, that is to say, with a constitution, for the Order flourished as a "side show" in the United States for a long time before it became known in this country. It is not dependent on any other Order, nor does any other flow from it. A few words as to its alleged antiquity. It is claimed that it has existed in the United States for more than a century, and was originally known as the Order of David and Jonathan. Some hold that the formation of this particular fraternal tie was due to the rebellion which in the 18th Century led to the secession of the American Colonies. Briefly, the Order extends the Masonic obligation which enforces the duties of brothely love, relief and truth. It says in effect that our duty to a brother Mason is not exhausted when we have ministered to his material necessities. It is our duty to warn him when he appears to be embarking on a course of conduct which may lead to undesirable results, and incidently prejudice his Masonic standing. No one will quarrel with this application of the principle that prevention is better than cure. Students of Biblical history will remember that in the course of the friendship which existed between David and Jonathan, it became necessary to invent some form of warning whereby the former might be notified of any possible danger arising from the jealousy of King Saul (1 Samuel xx. 18, etc.). This beautiful little story furnishes the Order with its legend and to some extent its ritual. As the latter is published by authority, and therefore is not unaccessible to the profane, there can be no impropriety in referring to it.

There are three degrees—Member of the Order, Prince of the Order, and Supreme Ruler. The processes of entry are respectively described as induction, admission and commission. The governing body comprises the Grand Supreme Ruler and eleven other officers, many of whom perform duties analogous to those of Grand Lodge officers. The G.S.R. may in addition nominate four Councillors, one of whom shall be Grand Organist. The above, together with all Past Grand Officers, form what is called the Grand Council. This body meets every six months. Much more democratic is the Grand Conclave, which meets once a year. We might say in passing that all private "lodges" are described as "conclaves." Grand Conclave comprises all members, present and past, of Grand

Council, all Grand Stewards, present and past, all past Supreme Rulers, and the four chief officers of every private conclave. Although widely spread, the number of conclaves is not sufficient to demand such local government as in the Craft is provided by Provincial and District Grand Lodges. The premier conclave is the "Alfred Meadows," No. 1, which meets in London, No. 3, is in Penang, and thence we go to Madras, Natal, Jamaica etc., etc.

There is no clothing which it is obligatory for brethren to wear, the insignia comprising jewels only, suspended by ribands which vary with the rank of the wearer. officers of private conclaves are the Supreme Ruler, Counsellor and Guide, corresponding with the Wardens, Secretary and Treasurer, Visiting Deacons not exceeding four, Director of Ceremonies, Guarder and Sentinel (Inner and Outer Guard). It is interesting to note that the officers appointed by the G.S.R. to assist him are described as Councillors, the difference according to etymologists being that the latter have only a corporate entity, the former are known individually. It would not occur to the ordinary person to make these purist and subject distinctions. There is a peculiarity about the ballot. For the first degree, three black balls are fatal, but by-laws may reduce this number to two. For the second degree no number is specified, but on the contrary the provision exists, that "no person may be admitted a Prince of the Order, if any Prince object thereto." Not necessarily in a ballot box, and the objector is not necessarily a member of the conclave concerned. This provision is peculiar to the Order we are describing.

The sun never sets on the Secret Monitor. Its conclaves are scattered over the face of the whole earth. They are not many in number, but numbers are the last thing considered. The Order is as select in its way as is the A. & A. Rite, and a perusal of the names of distinguished brethren who have been admitted bears witness to the estimation in which it is held. We find such names as Shadwell Clerke, C. F. Matier, W. W. B. Beach. Lord Halsbury, the Earl of Warwick, G. Kenning, N. G. Philips, F. A. Philbrick, General J. Studholme Brownrigg, Frank Richardson, Richard Eve, Thomas Fenn, and a host of others no less distinguished. Whilst it is not impossible for one to enter into Craft Masonry, whom with some better knowledge we should have kept out, no such excuse exists for admitting brethren to the concomitant Orders who are not to be a credit, for the members have the

whole of the candidate's Masonic career before them, and as far as the Secret Monitor is concerned that career has to be a particularly unblemished one to justify admission. The constitutions are few in number, but the last article provides that in all cases not specially met in the rules, the Order shall be bound by the Craft Constitutions, and the rights and privileges of members and the proceedings of conclaves shall be regulated thereby as nearly as circumstances will permit. The social board is usually in evidence. The jewel of the Order,

which, as explained, is the only official clothing, might be mistaken in the distance for that of the Royal Arch. It is made up of super-imposed equilateral triangles, into which are worked three arrows. Inside are the initials "D.J."—David and Jonathan. An interesting feature of the ritual is the employment of the bow. In this connection irreverent outsiders have been heard to ask how a society could be said to be founded on the eternal principle of truth, which was addicted to drawing the long bow at every meeting.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

THE annual meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight was held at the Guildhall, Winchester, on July 25th, and was very largely attended. The P.G. Master, R.W. Bro. Sir Augustus Webster, Bart., presided, and was supported by the D.P.G.M. (W. Bro. Goble), W. Bro. Le Feuvre, P.D.P.G.M., and a large array of past and present Prov. Grand Officers. Col. du Pre Powney, P.P.G.S.W., acted as S.W., in the absence of Major Seeley, M.P., Dr. A. B. Wade, of Southampton, filling his own chair as J.G.W.

The roll of lodges was called, and all but four responded. The minutes of the P.G. Lodge held at Gosport were taken as read, and duly confirmed.

The Prov. Grand Treasurer submitted his accounts, and the D.P.G.M. proposed that the same be received and adopted. He said he could not but congratulate Provincial Grand Lodge on the satisfactory condition of things shown, for whereas the balance at the bank at the beginning of the year was £116 13s. 1d., it amounted at the end of it to £408 14s. 11d., and this though they had not stayed their hands in grants to the charities and in other ways. He thought their warmest thanks were due to the Provincial Grand Treasurer for the services he had rendered in that office for many years, and for the excellent statement of accounts he had now placed before them.

Bro. Le Feuvre, P.D.P.G.M., seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

Bro. Gieve was unanimously re-elected Prov. G. Treas. on the proposition of Bro. Le Feuvre, seconded by Bro. Franklin Simmons, and briefly returned thanks.

The Prov. Grand Secretary reported that the Provincial Grand Lodge Committee had held three meetings during the year, a fourth not being convened, as there was no business to bring before it. Three boys, two girls, one aged brother, and one aged widow had been elected to the Royal Masonic Institutions. Two of the boys were elected by the efforts of military brethren in London and the Provinces. One of the girls was a case also of a military character, and she was given the Beach Presentation, the case being a last chance one. In addition to these there were two cases carrying forward over a thousand votes towards their future election. The total increase of members for the year, after allowing for the reduction made under the automatic action of the Rule was 31, the total subscribing members on the roll numbering 5,019.

The Prov. Grand Master nominated Bros. Le Feuvre and Cecil Powney as extra members of the P.G.L. Committee, and Bros. F. C. Simmons and Powney as members of the Executive Committee.

Bro. Le Feuvre was nominated to represent the Province on the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the nomination was duly accepted.

The Provincial Grand Treasurer, in view of the presidency of Sir Augustus Webster at the annual Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in 1908, moved that the sum of £500 be voted from P.G.L. funds to be placed on deposit—this was seconded by Bro. Le Feuvre, and carried.

The Provincial Grand Master said he had received letters of apology for non-attendance from many brethren. He

reminded the Secretaries of certain lodges of some remarks he made at a former P.G.L. meeting of the importance of keeping in their minute books the printed code of instructions. He suggested that the management of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Masonic Benevolent Institution should now be vested in Provincial Grand Lodge. It was an excellent Institution, but the amount administered by it was very small, and if his suggestion was adopted it would save time and trouble to brethren who were called together now and again to discuss matters which sometimes were comparatively trivial. He did not mean that any change should be made in the secretarial or ordinary routine work of the Institution. He then appointed his officers for the year.

The Deputy Prov. Grand Master said he had now in the name of the Lodges and Chapters of the Province to perform a most pleasing duty, and that was to make a presentation to the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master, on behalf of his daughter, Evelyn Webster. They had for some time thought how they might give to their worthy chief something which would be acceptable to him for the work he had done in the Province since 1901, when he was so nobly installed by Earl Amherst as Provincial Grand Master. He was pleased to say they had now been given that opportunity, for a daughter had been born to him and Lady Webster. They had a great Masonic affection for their Provincial Grand Master, and had the greatest possible pleasure in asking him to accept on behalf of his beautiful little daughter miniatures of himself and of Lady Webster, the child herself being also shown in Lady Webster's picture. He was sure they all hoped that the young lady would be preserved, and grow up a worthy daughter of her parents.

Bro. Sir Augustus Webster, who spoke with some emotion, said he thanked the Deputy Provincial Grand Master and the brethren generally on behalf of Lady Webster, himself, and their youngest daughter for the very kind gift they had made his daughter through him, to commemorate her birth while he was Grand Master and Grand Superintendent of the Province. Their kindness was an honour to him, which he greatly felt, and he hoped, having been at the head of the Province for only a comparative short time, that he should be able to conduct its affairs as always to be worthy of their confidence. He again thanked them on behalf of Lady Webster and his little daughter, and he hoped in due course when the young lady had learned to walk and to talk, and to behave herself properly, she would have the opportunity of expressing her own grateful thanks to the brethren for their kindness.

The Prov. Grand Secretary said there was a sum of about £20 in hand in this Presentation Fund, and he would propose that this be made up to 25 guineas to qualify their Grand Master's daughter as a Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. It would be a fitting climax to the gift they had made her father for her that day.

Bro. Lancaster seconded the proposition, which he said was a very happy one, and it was carried unanimously, and with acclamation.

After some formalities, Provincial Grand Lodge was closed in ancient form.

Visit of the British Association to York.

THE brethren of the four York Lodges, namely York Lodge, No. 236, Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611, Agricola Lodge, No. 1991, and Albert Victor, No. 2328, decided some time ago that during the visit to York of the members of the British Association its Masonic members should be entertained. The Worshipful Masters of the four lodges met and a Committee was formed to carry out the details of the entertainment. It was decided that a Lodge should be held at the York Lodge, and this took place on the afternoon of Friday, the 3rd August. There were present on the occasion a large number of members of the four York Lodges, viz.: the York Lodge, No. 236, the Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611, the Agricola Lodge, No. 1991, and the Albert Victor Lodge, No. 2328, as well as those of other neighbouring lodges.

The Lodge having been opened the Officers selected W. Bro. T. C. Thompson to read an address of welcome as follows:—

"Brethren,—It is but fitting that upon the occasion when the British Association for the Advancement of Science, holds its meeting within our Ancient City the right hand of fellowship should be extended by York Freemasons to visiting members of the Craft. It has, therefore, afforded the greatest satisfaction to the Masters of the four lodges in York to accede to the wishes of their members and extend a hearty invitation to our brethren to be present this afternoon.



Photo F. M. Sutcliffe, Whitby. BRO. T. C. THOMPSON, W.M. YORK LODGE, No. 236.

There appear to my mind to be several points of analogy between the British Association and the Craft of Freemasonry, more particularly as it appertains to York. In the first place the City of York was the birthplace of the British Association. Bro. Hughan in his History of the Apollo Lodge, York, alludes to the "Apollo" having been located at York The Masonic City of England, hence such a famous birthplace, he continues, has invested its records with more than ordinary significance and value. It is, perhaps, but natural that each Institution should remember that nature has implanted in its breast a sacred and an indissoluble attachment towards that City whence it derived its birth and infant nurture.

Again both Institutions have made most substantial progress since the last occasion on which they met in York twenty-five years ago. The Craftsmen of this City have to congratulate the British Association upon the magnificent progress of their movement during that period; whilst they feel sure that the British Association on their part will be

interested to note, that, whereas on the occasion of their last visit there were but *lwo* lodges in the City, there are now *four* healthy and vigorous for the performance of the duties of the Craft.

A further point of similarity between the two bodies will be found in the fact that both Institutions are labouring for the benefit of mankind.

The labours of the British Association for the Advancement of Science can have but one result—namely, the perfecting of the means whereby man shall be enabled to eliminate disease, and generally improve his knowledge and surroundings. And so the Mason also strives to eliminate distress, by extending relief to the helpless, the widow, and the fatherless; by teaching and clothing the little ones and caring for the helpless; and the last point of similarity between the two Institutions to which I shall direct your attention is that we both have our Great Annual Meetings or Festivals at which we present the first fruits of our year's labours, and by which both the Institutions in question and also the individual are benefited and encouraged.

Surely, brethren, upon this occasion we may one and all claim an especial Brotherhood, children of one birthplace, hearty and vigorous to carry forward one common aimnamely, the amelioration of distress and disease and the advancement of mankind. This, brethren, is the spirit in which the four lodges of York beg to tender a hearty welcome to the visiting brethren of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. It has been instilled intoour minds that Freemasonry is universally spread over the surface of the earth. It necessarily follows that whenever the Masonic members of the British Association in their "much wanderings" should happen to pitch their tents, a Masonic welcome is assured, and yet I venture to think (and trust my sentiment finds a responsive echo in their hearts) that in no other locality shall they find sohearty a welcome as that which, in the name of the four lodges of York, I tender them this afternoon."

The address was supported by W. Bros. Pfluger, W.M. of the Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611; Cutforth, W.M. of the Agricola Lodge, No. 1991; and Sir Joseph Sykes Rymer, P.M. of the York Lodge. Each of whom endorsed the words of welcome spoken by W. Bro. T. C. Thompson.

The following visiting brethren replied, and in suitable terms thanked the brethren of the York Lodge for the hearty welcome accorded to them, namely:—W. Bros. W. Briggs, M.A., L.LD., P.M., L.D.C., No. 45, P.M., No. 1492, P.P.G.D. Cambridge; Professor Smith, Asylum Board Lodge, No. 2416, Mayor of Holborn, London; H. T. Strong, Cape Town, South Africa, No. 398, P.A.G.D.C. England; and H. Marsh, P.M. 1221, P.P.G. Treas. West Yorks.

W. Bro. A. Proctor, P.M. of the York Lodge, had promised to read a paper on the History of Freemasonry in relation to the City of York, but he could not be present, and in his absence W. Bro. E. Fox Thomas, P.G. Std. B. Eng., and Charity Representative of North and East Yorkshire read such paper, and of which the following is a copy:—

"The Reception Committee have asked me to give you a sketch of Freemasonry in relation to the City of York.

The subject is a large one, and to be treated properly and in detail would absorb much more time than there is at our disposal this afternoon, so in these notes I have referred to the subject in the briefest outline.

We shall be glad to speak round the table in more detail as you have the opportunity of seeing our documents and other articles of Masonic interest.

The British Association for the Advancement of Science in assembling at York this year, is returning to the place of its birth 75 years ago, and it is justly regarded as an interesting feature of this meeting.

To those Members of the Association who have seen the light of Masonry it must be doubly interesting, because they

are visiting not only the birthplace of the Association but the ancient city which is the 'Mecca' of English Freemasonry, having Masonic traditions, more or less authentic, reaching so far back as the 10th century.

We shall show this afternoon five MS. copies of the Ancient Charges, of which there are upwards of twenty known to be in existence, and in nearly all of these the tradition is recited that Prince Edwin, son of King Athelstan, 'loved well Masons,' and 'delited . . .'-Read (pp. 39-40 York Rolls.)* This Prince Edwin had his seat at Auldby, which is about nine miles from York, and tradition says that he built the first stone church in York on the site of the present Minster. The Masons of Ireland still call themselves Ancient York Masons, and their universal tradition is that the brethren of this name originated at Auldby. York is the only place having any tradition of General Assemblies of Masons exercising authority and control over the Masonic Body in ancient times. In the Fabric Rolls of York Minster, mention is made of the lodge wherein the Masons were 'atte your werke atte ye son rysing' according to the Rules of 1370 fixed by 'ye Chapitre of ye Kirk of Saint Petyr' and as carried out by the 'Maistyr Masons.' There was a bell in the Minster tower known as the Masons' Bell, which doubtless rang out at high time and past high time. It is recorded that in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, Sir Thomas Sackville being G.M. at York, the fraternity was so numerous and influential that the Queen, being jealous of secret associations, sent an armed force to York to break up the Annual Communication. Some of the officers were however initiated, and found the true objects of the Fraternity, which were reported to the Queen, and the Masons were not afterwards disturbed. The famous Historian of York, Francis Drale, was J.G.W., and in 1726, on St. John's Day, he delivered a noted speech at the Festival, in which he claimed for the Old Lodge at York the title of 'Grand Lodge of All England.' This ancient and important body continued until 1792, when it finally became extinct.

Most of the documents and articles which will be shown to you then came into the possession of the York Lodge, then called the Union Lodge, which had been warranted from London in 1777. The most important of these are the five MS. copies of Ancient Charges before referred to; a Parchment Roll beginning with 19th March, 1712; the Old Rules of Grand Lodge of 1726; a List of M.M's.; and a book of 1705 containing accounts. Amongst the articles of furniture are some which you see around you, notably the old banner, the obligation pedestal and the three candlesticks on the three pedestals, and the tracing board hanging on the wall of the staircase. These relics are displayed for your inspection, and the brethren will be delighted to give further information round the table.

It may be interesting to mention the various lodges which have existed in the city in addition to the Old Time Immemorial Grand Lodge of All England. In 1761 there was founded by authority of the Grand Lodge in London, the lodge at 'The Punch Bowl' an inn which still survives in Stonegate. This lodge only worked until 1764, and its records are in our possession. The second lodge was the Apollo, warranted in 1773, which flourished till 1805 and met in the 'George' Inn in Coney Street, an ancient hostelry which was demolished about thirty years ago. Its records are in the possession of the Humber Lodge, at Hull. The York Lodge was warranted by the London Grand Lodge in 1777 as the Union Lodge, No. 504, meeting at Lockwood's

Coffee House. In 1792 it became No. 331, and in 1833 No. 287, and in 1863 it took its present No. 236. In 1870 the name was changed to the York Lodge to more completely identify it with the Masonic city in which it has flourished. The Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611, was founded in 1876; the Agricola Lodge, No. 1991, in 1883, and the Albert Victor Lodge, No. 2328, in 1889, all being strong and prosperous, so that it can truly be said that our 'Mecca' has kept the light of Masonry brightly burning, and maintained the long and honourable traditions of the Craft which we York Masons regard as such a priceless heritage."

Regrets for absence were received from Bros. J. B. Whytehead, P.M. Nos. 1611 and 2328, P.G. Std. Br. England; J. Hughes; Canon Watson, W.M. Albert Victor, No. 2328, P.P.G.C.; J. G. Butcher, K.C., York Lodge, No. 236; G. D. Faber, C.B., M.P., York Lodge, No. 236; and several other brethren.

The lodge was duly closed, and then followed an exhibition of ancient documents and other Masonic treasures belonging to the York Lodge, No. 236, and afterwards the brethren were entertained to light refreshments in the banqueting room of the York Lodge.

It was felt that this had been a most interesting and successful gathering, and one which would be appreciated and long remembered, especially by the visiting brethren of the British Association.

*Extract from York Roll, No. 1.

"The Constitutions of Masonrie."

"King Athelfton who was a worthy King of England & brought this land in good reft & peace & builded many great workes as Abbyes Toures & othr mann's of Buildings & loved well masons & he had a Son named Edwin & he loved mafons much more than his Father & he was a great praction in Geomatrie & he delited much to talke & commune with Mafons & to learn of them Ikill & cunning & afterward for love he bore to masons & to their Science he was made a mason & he peured for them of yo King his father a chart-& Comission to hold every yeare an assembly wheresoev they would within ye Realm of England & to correct within themselves defaults & trespasses yt were done within ye craft & he himfelf held an Assemblie at YORK and there he made mafons & gave them the charge & taught them y" manners & commanded yt rule to be kept ever after & also tooke for them ye charter to keep & also gave ord yt it should be renued from King to King. And when ye Afsembly was gathered together he made pelamation y' all old Mafons or young yt had any writeings or undr ftanding of yo charge & yo mannrs concerning yo fd Science y' were made before in this Land or any oth y' they flould bring them forth & when they had viewed & examined there found fome in french, fome in Greek, fome in English & fome in oth Languages & yo intent & meaning of them was found all out & he had made a book thereof how y Craft was founded & he himfelf gave command yt it should be read or told when yt any Mafons should be made & to give them y" charge And from yt day to this day Manrs of Masons have been kept & observed in yt forme as well as men might Obferve & governe it."

Note.—This Roll is of the date of 1600 or thereabouts and is the oldest of the York MSS. It is endorsed "Found in Pontefract Castle at the demolishing, and given to the Lodge by Francis Drake 1732."

It is reported from Chicago that eight hundred Masons of Illinois, Ohio, Indiana and Wisconsin assembled at the Englewood Masonic Temple recently to witness the presentation of the Masonic silver trowel to the Mystic Star Lodge of Englewood. The trowel, which is to travel around the globe, as a symbol of brotherly love and affection in the Order, is to remain in the possession of the local lodge for

thirty days, and then continue on its long journey. The trowel was started on its trip by the Justice Lodge of New York city last October, and already has passed to seven different Grand Jurisdictions and states in the United States and Canada. Twelve years will be required for it to go the entire journey. The emblem came to Chicago from Elkhart, Ind.

The Grand Lodge of Canada.

THE Grand Lodge of Canada assembled recently in Massey Hall, Toronto, for the Fifty-first Annual Communication. The "Toronto Freemason" states that over 1,000 delegates from all parts of the province were in attendance. On the opening of the Grand Lodge, Controller Shaw and Ald. Graham, with local brethren, welcomed the delegates to Toronto on behalf of the city. The Grand Master, on behalf of the Grand Lodge, expressed his thanks for the civic welcome. An illuminated address of welcome to the M.W. Grand Master was presented by the various Masonic Lodges of the city. W. Bro. A. E. Hageman, W.M. St. Andrew's Lodge, made the presentation and read the address.

Then followed the presentation of a gold medal on behalf of the Grand Lodge to the M.W. Bro. Col. Stevenson, Past Grand Master, on his 50th anniversary as a Mason. For 38 years of the 50 years he has been a member of the Grand Lodge. The medal bore the inscription: "Presented to the M.W. Col. A. A. Stevenson by Grand Lodge of Canada, on his 50th anniversary." The presentation was made by Hon. Senator J. K. Kerr, who referred to the devotion of Col. Stevenson to Masonry and the great services he had rendered to the Order. Col. Stevenson thanked the donors very warmly and referred briefly to his connection with the Grand Lodge.

M.W. Bro. Burritt then read his annual address, from which we give the leading features:—Our Semi-Centennial year has passed into history, though not forgotten, and we are again assembled, in our Fifty-first Annual Communication, to review the work of the past year, deal with such matters as are brought before us for present action, and prepare for the future, and I extend to you all my sincere and fraternal greetings. Before going into the record of the year, so far as my part of the work therein is concerned allow me to say how greatly I appreciate the honour you conferred upon me last year by electing me to the position of Grand Master. The position of Grand Master is the summit of Masonic ambition, and the highest in your gift to bestow, and no one has been able to adequately express his appreciation of it; and when it comes with such a lavish hand as it came to me,

you can readily see how hard it is for me to cover the ground with thanks. Our jubilee year closed with a record of unexampled prosperity. I was preceded in this high office, for the last 50 years, by men whom it is very hard to follow, if our record is to be even preserved, if not advanced; and for this reason, if no other, I have felt the magnitude of the position. My sole object is and shall be the general welfare of the Craft, and in the administration of the office it shall be my constant effort to deal with persons and matters with justice and impartiality and with the one object before stated.

The general state of the Craft in the jurisdiction is healthy; our net membership has increased by about 2,000, making our total membership over 37,000. Our income for the year, to the 31st of May last was 34,377.19 dols., as against 33,011.18 dols. last year, showing a net increase of 1,366.01 dols. This is very gratifying, as our jubilee year was the largest in our history to that time evidencing that we are making that progress which we all desire. There is now, I believe, absolute uniformity in the authorised work throughout the jurisdiction, and the ancient landmarks were never more strictly adhered to than at the present time.

There is one matter, however, which is not one for an expression of thankfulness, and one which is difficult of reasonable solution to do justice to the lodge and to the brethren concerned: I refer to the large accumulation of arrears for dues. From the statistical information returned by the District Deputy Grand Masters and published in our Annual Proceedings, it would appear we are not making much progress towards better conditions, and I would ask each Worshipful Master to make this question one of prominence during his terms of office. My own opinion is, if you can be assured of any brother's inability to pay his indebtedness, it would be better to remit his arrears and retain his membership. A Mason suspended from his lodge for non-payment is in a very regretable position; probably from no fault of his, he is ostracised from a society whose associations for good are unquestioned, and it is far more in accordance with our teachings of charity to give him the benefit of the doubt and still call him brother.

"HISTORY OF CRESCENT LODGE, NO. 25, CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, 1906" (Republican Printing Company, Cedar Rapids, Iowa).—This is a fine volume, of considerable interest, especially to the members of the Lodge, and has been written by Bro. J. E. Morecambe, the Historian of the Grand Lodge, "prepared under the supervision of the Committee on History, and published by authority of the Lodge," so the work is well attested and most reliable, "true and square."

Numerically the Lodge is strong, having 334 on the register at the end of 1905, with total assets of some £470. The membership of the American lodges usually runs into several hundreds, not a few being over a thousand each; in this respect being quite different to the usage in this country, so that there are fewer lodges in proportion to the number of members in the U.S.A.

The Historian has had to piece out his work from various sources owing to "the ruthless hand of time," aided by the carelessness of men, "have wrought destruction of such early documents as would have made the narrative complete. Crescent Lodge has reason to be proud of its history. Upon its past and present lists of membership are to be found the names of those best known and most highly honoured in the community. In the dark days of civil strife one-half its membership gave willing patriot service, and some of these returned no more to the altar where they had made pledge of loyalty."

We agree with Bro. Morecambe in the opinion that "Masonry has been a strong factor in the life of Cedar Rapids," and in the belief that "the future history of the

Lodge and of the fraternity will reveal yet greater and nobler things."

The volume is divided into eighteen chapters, in which the "Rise of the Fraternity," "Masonry in America," "The Grand Lodge of Iowa," and the organization and progress of the Lodge from its organization on 23rd November, 1850, by dispensation, are duly treated. The Warrant was issued 4th June, 1851.

An excellent illustration appears of the first Masonic Hall in which the brethren assembled, and a view of the interior, which at that time was severely plain but roomy. A portrait is given of the first initiate, who was W.M. in 1853. In fact, there is quite a portrait gallery of the Masters from the first—Bro. G. Greene—to the present time, as well as other officers and prominent brethren, including the lamented Grand Secretary, M.W. Bro. T. S. Parvin, P.G.M., and a number of views of the several homes of the Lodge, etc.

The "Rise of the Fraternity" is ably sketched by the Author, who utilizes the researches of Bros. Hughan, Gould, and others, and gracefully refers to their value and importance. The second chapter deals with "Masonry in America," but far too briefly, and is followed by one on "The Grand Lodge of Iowa," after which the History of the Lodge occurs in several chapters.

In evidence of the thoroughness of the work, it may be stated that nearly 150 pages are devoted to biographies of the members, and nothing is omitted from the History that could possibly be furnished. It needs, however, a full Index to make it perfect.

W. J. H.

Lodge Benevolence, No. 666, Frincefown (Devon).

THE Annual Installation Meeting of the above Lodge was held at Princetown, on July 11th, when Bro. Harry Halfyard, S.W., was duly installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, which is the Jubilee of the Lodge, the Warrant dating from 1856. The brother of the W.M. Elect being the retiring Master, most ably presided at the Installation, being assisted by W. Bros. Gill and Ellis, and supported by a numerous company of Past and Present Prov. Officers, Past Masters and Brethren of the Province, who are always accorded a most cordial welcome on visiting this moorland lodge, as although the brethren cannot claim to be the richest lodge, they can certainly claim to be the "highest lodge" under the English Constitution, being



BRO. HARRY HALFYARD.

1,400 feet above sea level. One of the founders of the lodge is still a resident in Princetown, and although through age he was unable to be present at the meeting, did not forget to send congratulations to the W.M. elect, whom he has known from childhood. After the ceremony the W. Master and several P.M.'s visited the W. Bro. at his house with something substantial that gave the W. Bro. very great satisfaction.

The banquet was held as usual at W. Bro. Rowe's Duchy Hotel, a most sumptuous repast being provided. The usual Masonic toasts were duly given and honoured. Before separating, the visiting brethren, of which to many it was their first visit to Princetown Lodge, heartily thanked the W. Master and brethren for the kind hospitality extended to them, and trusted to be present with them on other occasions.

Masonic Festival at Chester.

A JOINT Festival on behalf of the Cheshire Benevolent Institution and the Cheshire Educational Masonic Institution was held at Chester on the enclosure on the Roodee in front of the County Stand on Saturday, August 18th, the Right Worshipful Grand Master the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, presiding. Among those present were Bro. F. K. Stevenson (Secretary of the Cheshire Masonic Educational Institution), Bro. T. H. Annett (Treasurer of the Benevolent Institution), Bro. Lilley Ellis, P.A.G.D.C. (Chairman

of the Executive Committee), Bro. James Cookson, P.P.G.W. (Vice-Chairman), and Bro. George Ibeson (Secretary of the Festival). The local arrangements of the festival were carried out by a committee of the members of the four Chester lodges, the Chairman of the Committee being Bro. J. Mayers, and the Secretary Bro. G. W. Haswell.

Between five and six hundred sat down to the banquet, which was served in a marquee erected in front of the stand.

Bro. Ibbetson announced the contributions received from various lodges in the provinces on behalf of the charities, amounting in the aggregate to £3,921 18s. 6d., and he hoped that by the next provincial meeting, at Stalybridge, it would be made into £4,000. This was in addition to £613 received for Stewards' fees.

The Chairman, in proposing "Success to the Cheshire Masonic Charitable Institutions," referred to the growth of the festivals, the first of which was held in 1865. At the last festival, at Knutsford, a sum of over £2,000 was subscribed, whilst this year a sum of nearly £4,000 would be divided between the two charities. At the time of the first festival there were only fifty-five lodges, whilst at the present time there were sixty-seven, and no less than eighty-two children were receiving education and clothing at an annual cost of £700. They also had several annuitants receiving £20 a year.

Bro. Stevenson and Bro. Annett responded on behalf of their respective institutions.

Other toasts were "The President," proposed by Bro. Lilley Ellis, and "The Festival Committee," proposed by the Chairman, and "The Chairman and the Directors of the Roodee Company, and the Educational Committee of the Chester City Council," proposed by Bro. John Mayers; responded to by Councillor George Barlow.

A splendid musical programme had been arranged under the direction of Bro. Butterworth, and the following artistes took part:—Madame Agnes Croxton, Bro. A. M. Proctor, Bro. Loni Parry, and Bro. A. J. Armstrong.

The Annual Meeting of the British Association, at York, this year recalls the memorable Masonic gathering which took place on the last occasion of the Association visiting that ancient city. On that occasion, as on the present, great efforts were made by the local lodges to do honour to those of its members who were also Masons, and to justify the claims of York to pre-eminence, not only on architectural and other grounds, but to be considered as the city of all others the most suitable to tender a Masonic reception to its visitors, and the meeting was wholly successful from beginning to end.

The previous few years had witnessed great advances in Masonic criticism, thanks to the zeal and erudition of a school of masters of whom Bros. W. J. Hughan, R. F. Gould and Rev. A. F. A. Woodford were among the pioneers, and in consequence many of our cherished idols had then already began to topple over and cast aside among the rubbish. The real and the good, however, have not departed, and tradition of York being the home of English Freemasonry has still its many defenders and numerous witnesses.

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"The Old Charges of British Freemasons" generally speak of York as the place of the Ancient Assemblies of the Craft according to a Charter granted many centuries ago. Then, again, York was the headquarters of the "Grand Lodge of all England" until its extinction about the end of the eighteenth century, and it still possesses in the custody of the York Lodge, No. 236, the old records and other MSS. of almost priceless value, among which are no less than five out of the six copies of the MS. Constitutions which were in possession of the Grand Lodge of all England in 1779.

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The Constitution and the Constitutions.

THE Masonic atmosphere seems to be charged with rumours of reform, and reform of a kind that, to the conservative old Past Master, appears to approach the limits of revolution. The old Past Master is after all the backbone of the Craft, and it will be a bad day for the Order when his counsels cease to have weight. He has acquiesced in the additions to and alterations in the Constitutions, that are now so frequent, recognizing that legislation is after all but the crystallization of public opinion, and that each alteration in our laws is but a putting into permanent form public opinion up to that point, marking progress in fact. Therefore there is no innovation involved. The Craft is not involved in experiments, nor is it committed to treading a hitherto untrodden path. But we have now reached a point it is felt, and admitted by those who ought to know best, at which a new constitution, rather than new constitutions, may be necessary, and whatever is done in accordance with that feeling is bound to be experimental, and, worse still from the old Past Master's view, there will be no possibility of

To put it briefly, Grand Lodge has ceased to be representative of the Craft in general. Conscious of this, Grand Lodge shews a tendency, more and more noticeable every year, to be guided by those of its officers whose tenure, is, for all practical purposes, a permanent one, and whereas in days gone by there used to be a disposition to question the limits of the Grand Master's prerogative, its assertion is now

submitted to without cavil. All this means that brethren admit that the only continuity in Grand Lodge is the opinion of its permanent officers, and the prerogative. We do not for a moment question the wisdom with which either of these has been exercised. The Craft has never been more wisely advised or governed than it has been during the present generation. All this is however a poor apology for maintaining a system that every one admits is an anachronism. It was argued for instance, when the abolition of the slave trade was proposed, that the slaves would never be as happy in their free state as when they had all found. And equally it is quite possible to imagine the Craft to be worse off under a new Constitution than it has been under the present benevolent despotism.

All the same, we shall still have the priceless advantage of the presence and advice of those who do the work to-day, whatever happens, and so we can have less hesitation in thinking about a recasting of the Constitution. In an article in this journal (September, 1905), there was hinted at what has since been freely talked about.

Under the present system there is no limit to the possible membership of Grand Lodge. Its numbers are increasing by nearly 3,000 every year. We want a smaller and more business-like body, made up of those who will attend as a matter of course, who will represent, not their own interests, but those of lodges or provinces. Under present rules. there are added every year to Grand Lodge 3,000 who really have no axe to grind but their own. They are responsible to no constituency. No one cares whether they go or not, except those who are responsible for the seating arrangements, who would rather they stopped away. Perhaps we should explain. There are every year 2,700 new Worshipful Masters, members in a representative capacity, all of whom, the year after, retain their membership, but in a private capacity. It is suggested that the Wardens should lose their right to sit and speak in Grand Lodge, and also that the Past Masters as such should lose theirs. This would reduce Grand Lodge to the Masters, an impossible proposition, for there would be absolutely no continuity. Then it is suggested, with more wisdom, to leave Grand Lodge where it is, but only consult it when a plebiscite is necessary, and for working purposes have a chamber of delegates. Incidentally, this would make Grand Lodge membership a highly prized privilege. Whom should the delegates represent? We should unhesitatingly say the Provinces and Districts abroad, but there is one important consideration. The private lodge is the unit of the Order, and it is a landmark. The Province or the District is but an emanation from the Provincial or the District Grand Master, who in his turn holds under the Grand Master's pleasure. The Craft could get on without the Province or the District, but it cannot dispense with the private lodge. The Province, as the electoral unit, presents many advantages, and possibly, if our constitution ever became so assimilated to the political constitution as to demand it, the Provinces could supply us with a second chamber. But this is a long way off. To have the lodges represented, would mean an assembly of more than 3,000 members at least, which would do little to relieve one of the present difficulties. Whereas a scale of representation could be devised by which the Provinces and Districts could be allowed one delegate for, say, each ten lodges on the register, and we should then have a Grand Council of 246 members, supposing London be so divided up as to permit of its fullest representation on the scale suggested. There are still forty-one lodges which make their returns direct. For these it would not be difficult to make provision. The Districts would arrange to be effectively represented by electing only such brethren as possessed knowledge of Colonial conditions and were likely to be able to attend.

Probably our readers will by this time agree with our opening remark, that all this would mean a revolution. But even if it be so, it must be admitted that no tinkering with the present state of things will suffice. If things are to be put on a different footing, the process must be an effective one, and whatever is suggested will involve the disfranchisement of some 33,000 brethren. That is a very large order

doubtless, but what does it really mean? Half that number have never been to Grand Lodge and probably never intend to go, and, to such, disfranchisement means little or nothing. Of the rest, the great majority have possibly been once, just as when they visit the metropolis they probably go to the theatre or Earl's Court, and with little or no appreciation of the fact that they are assisting at the final court of Freemasonry, and may have to record an intelligent vote on matters they have never before heard of.

To all these brethren, the right to sit and speak in Grand Lodge is little but a sentiment. When that right comes to be of more limited application, then its value will be enhanced, and, incidentally, the right to sit and speak in Provincial Grand Lodge will be more appreciated. Hitherto the latter has commanded just so much regard as was due to the fact that the Provincial purple was involved. But under the condition of things we are describing, Grand Lodge-the new Grand Lodge we mean-will delegate many of its present powers to the Provincial assembly, and thus a career will be offered to the brethren who cannot attend Grand Lodge, and find nothing open to them in Provincial Grand Ladge. devolution of the powers of Grand Lodge is no new thing. It obtains already in District Grand Lodges, and membership of the District Boards is in consequence as highly prized as the District purple. With the establishment of Provincial Boards possessing similar delegated powers, we should have the conferment of a valued and useful franchise, in the place of one often unvalued, more often useless, and wholly sentimental, and Grand Lodge would become in reality Grand, as well as distinctively imperial.



An important step was decided upon on July 12th in connection with the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, the quarterly court of which was held at Freemasons' Hall under the presidency of the Chairman of the Board of Management, Bro. C. E. Keyser, patron and trustee of the institution. The object is to create a new series of scholarships, value £25 a year each, and available for outside education, with transfer to the schools at Bushey as vacancies occur, to be granted to lads from seven years upwards. It is proposed to add 100 of these "outsides" at once, thereby increasing the number on the charity to 500. The existing schools cannot accommodate more than 400, and the course agreed to has been decided upon in preference to extending the buildings, on which and their equipment upwards of £150,000 has been expended during the last few years.

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The Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls has also recommended the creation of from 200 to 250 new scholarships for out education, the grants to be £15 per annum for girls between the age of six and nine, £20 per annum from nine to twelve, and £25 per annum from twelve to fifteen, with power to increase the payments up to £10 per annum, and extend them to the age of seventeen. These new scholarships will be divided among the different divisions of the Craft, in accordance with the number of votes held by lodges in their corporate capacity, and elections will thereby be obviated.

Viscount Valentia, M.P., Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire, acting on behalf of the Provincial Grand Master the Earl of Jersey, officiated at the laying of the memorial stone of the John Hampden Hall, which is in course of erection at Chalgrove. The ceremony was per-

formed with full Masonic honours, and among those who assisted Viscount Valentia were many prominent Masons, including the Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. P. Colville Smith, P.G.D., and Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Cornwall.

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The death has taken place of Bro. Samuel Taylor of Kidderminster, at a very advanced age. He was one of the oldest Freemasons in the country, having been a member of the Craft for considerably over half-a-century. He was a professional musician, and held in the highest esteem in Kidderminster. For some years he was Organist of the Hope and Charity Lodge. He took also a great interest in the Foresters' Order, and had filled various important offices in the body.

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The Grand Lodge of Liberia is one of the few Grand Lodges composed of our colored brethren recognised by the Grand Lodge of England, although not to the extent of exchanging representatives. Formed about twenty years



BRO. THE HON. T. C. O. KING.

since, it has pursued the even tenor of its way to the advantage of the Craft in the little republic. The first Grand Master was M.W. Bro. the Hon. C. T. O. King, and our illustration is from a sketch taken when on a visit to London some years since.

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The Constitution of the new Mark Lodge, the "Torbay," at Paignton, by the R.W. Bro. Major Strode, D.L., J.P., &c., on the 18th July, was of a very interesting character, and a source of great gratification to the founders. The first Master and Wardens of No. 586 are the V.W. Bro. John Taylor,

J.P., P. Grand Overseer of England, &c.; W. Bro. J. M. Cole, P.M., P. Prov. G.D., and W. Bro. Fred Sarson, W.M. 215, respectively; the major portion of the excellent initial arrangements being due to Bros. J. M. Cole and John Taylor, whose services in this respect cannot be too highly praised. There was a large attendance of the Prov. Grand Lodge, which met later on in the same hall; the founders of the new Lodge being warmly thanked for their hearty reception of the members. The Province is one of the largest in England. The R.W. Bro. W. J. Hughan, Past Grand Warden of England, delivered the Oration, which was much appreciated, as it was historical and reminiscent of the custom of selecting Marks by speculative as well as operative brethren back to the sixteenth century and possibly earlier. The meeting was remarkable for the attendance of prominent and distinguished members of the Craft, including the R.W. Bro. the Hon. Sir William Burkitt, District G.M. of Bengal; and the W. Bro. M. Fortescue, J.P., the D. Prov. G.M. of Devon.

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A Past Grand Master of Texas whom the Tyler-Keystone describes as "something of a student of Masonic history, independent in thought, and accustomed to draw his own conclusions," has, according to the same authority, made a vigorous attack upon what he terms the erroneous deductions of the widely known and highly regarded William James Hughan. Our Texas brother certainly displays no little courage in his undertaking, for Bro. Hughan is a distinguished representative of a school of latter-day Masonic historians who hold a position which has come to be regarded as well-nigh unassailable. If our brother from Texas can make good his position, we shall hail him as a star of great magnitude, whom American Masons will be proud We greet him the more enthusiastically to honour. because he will do much to arouse in America, where at present there is all too little of it, a strong liking for Masonic research. If he shall prove to be the founder of a distinctive American school of Masonic students, our enthusiasm will exceed our power of expression. We await the results of his temerity with the greatest interest.

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The installation of Comp. Harry Courtenay Luck as Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Freemasons of England in Queensland was carried out recently at the Masonic Hall, Brisbane, in the presence of a large gathering of the English and Scottish Craft. The District Grand Chapter was opened at 8 o'clock punctually, Comps. Robert Harris Mills, the Hon. C. Holmes Court, and A. H. Hunt occupying the three principal chairs, and Comp. R. V. Pines acting as Director of Ceremonies. Comp. R. H. Mills discharged the duty of installing officer. After the meeting the assembly adjourned to the banquet room, where the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and congratulations tendered to the newly-installed Grand Superintendent by the representatives of the Scottish District Grand Chapter. Bro. Courtenay Luck, as District Grand Secretary of Queensland, has done yeoman service to Freemasonry, loyally supporting the claims of the Grand Lodge of England as well as of the Sister Grand Lodges, who have for so long a period exercised concurrent jurisdiction in that Colony as against the pretentions of the spurious and irregular organisation which has recently formed itself into a so-called Grand Lodge.

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The Brooklyn Times it appears does not approve of New York Masons spending their money on a monument to a bye-gone statesman, and thus expresses itself: "It is very funny to have a Masonic journal refer to Past Grand Master Daniel D. Tompkins as 'David,' but before one gets through with the spasm of laughter and gets down to sober, serious reflection, he marvels that they did not forget his name altogether, since he died in 1825, and left it to his enthusiastic brethren of the present day and generation to unearth him and place him on a pedestal for future generations to refer to his greatness, Masonically and politically. When the

massive memorial of bronze and granite is erected and dedicated and the orators have orated to their hearts' content, it will not be possible to suppress the smiles that will be evoked when the inscription is read. Of course, the tablet will declare about as follows: "In memory of Daniel D. Tompkins, Vice-President of the United States, Governor of the State of New York, Grand Master of Masons of the State of New York, who passed from the scenes of usefulness to more than four decades of obscurity, and then his fame was resurrected by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, his grave was found and a grateful fraternity, who knew nothing whatever of his fame and work, except from encyclopedias, caused this beautiful memorial to be erected.' Then, of course, it will be in order to give the names of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York at the time the tribute was erected. After reading the inscription through and setting your thinking apparatus in order, it will be time to finish the laugh. All this time there are series of aged and decrepit Craftesmen knocking for admission to the Masonic Home at Utica and the money that will go to erect this costly memorial to one so long dead that it was a pity to resurrect him, would have been sufficient to have added a wing to the home that would be large enough to have supplied the present demand."

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The Cathedral Lodge, No. 2741 entered upon the eighth year of its career at the last meeting held before the adjournment for the summer months. It was also the occasion of the Installation of Bro. Frank Wilkinson. Formed for the purpose of supplying the means by which the Members of the Metropolitan Cathedral body, past and present, clerical and lay, could meet on the common ground of social intercourse and benevolence which Masonry so abundantly provides, the Lodge is steadily progressing, and a large number of brethren and visitors assembled at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel, at the



BRO. FRANK WILKINSON. (Photo Elite Portrait Co.)

Installation Ceremony, and which was admirably performed by W. Bro. W. H. Pocklington, in the presence of the V.W. Bros. Rev. Canon Horsley, Rev. Canon Childe, Past Grand Chaplains, and the Rev. Prebendary Ingram, Grand Chaplain, also W. Bros. Dr. R. Gooding, P.G.D., Henry Times, P.D.G.D.C., Major C. J. Knightley, P.G.S.B., C. Sheath, P.G.D., Dr. Samuel West, W.M. 2546, J. Songhurst, P.M. 2076, and many others.

V.W. Bro. the Right Rev. H. C. Potter, the Bishop of New York, was also present at part of the ceremony. A banquet followed the termination of Lodge business.

M.W. Bro. Frank H. Robinson, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, sounded a timely note of alarm in his address to the Grand Lodge.

"It is not a pleasure, he says, to sound an alarm; but some times it is wise to do so, to prevent misfortune or destruction. More than ten thousand brethren were initiated during the year 1905, in the lodges of this State. Truly a great army, the initiations of a single year. Masonry is popular, and because of its present popularity many are knocking at its doors for admission. The time has come when it is absolutely necessary to exercise the closest scrutiny in the character and qualifications of those who seek membership with us.

The year following the Civil war saw the greatest number initiated during any one year of the existence of this Grand Lodge. That growth was not a healthy growth, as subsequent unaffiliations three or four years thereafter for non-payment of dues amply testified.

All our lodges, with few exceptions, are strong numerically, and therefore, in the additions to be made to membership quality alone should be the standard. If this rule be observed the admissions to our Home in years to come will be fewer in number, and the candidates accepted become contributors to that Home rather than inmates. Why compel yourselves to apologize for brethren admitted through inefficient and careless examinations? Why not daily elevate the standard of the fraternity in which, in spite of all our mistakes, membership is sought by the wise, the good, and the great?"

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"No thinking Mason will deny for a moment that a great many lodges are making Masons altogether too fast and that in certain localities this has proved a great detriment to the Craft, and has considerably lowered its prestige. The remedies for this condition are obvious and need not be dwelt upon; but another and, it seems to me, equally deplorable condition arises from the fact that the majority of Masons are ignorant in regard to the history, philosophy, ethics and laws of the fraternity. The average brother is supposed to learn, and I feel sure does learn his lectures, but beyond that his ignorance regarding our institution is in many cases appalling. It may be, and probably is, a Utopian idea, but I would like to see every Entered Apprentice required to pass an examination on the above subjects before being passed. It would be a comparatively easy matter for each grand lecturer to prepare a series of questions and answers covering most of the important points, and if each candidate were required to at least get the gist of the answers, we would in a few years have raised the standard of Masonic education to a very considerable degree. As an alternative to this plan, special communications might be held with compulsory attendance on the part of the Entered Apprentices and lectures given by competent instructors. If either of these courses were followed, a reaction, I believe, would be noticed very quickly on the part of the old members, for very few Master Masons would care to have Entered Apprentices better instructed than they were. As I said before, this idea may be Utopian, but we must certainly sooner or later adopt it, or something like it, if we are to have lodges composed of brothers educated in Masonry rather than to allow the Craft to drift into a state wherein lodges will be simply organizations devoted to social purposes in which the history and traditions of the Craft will be largely lost sight of .- Bro. Geo. C. Baker in the "Tyler-Keystone."

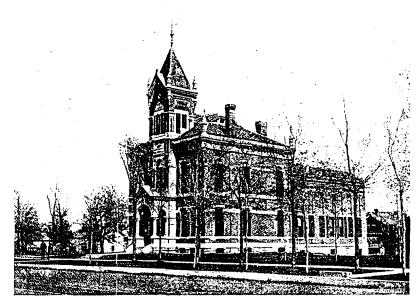
There is a Freemasonry of a sort amongst motorists, and one will go to the others assistance unhesitatingly. There is a delightful little story told of an heroine stranded with ignition troubles. To rescue this Andromeda from the claws of the monster of mechanical difficulties came a motoring Perseus, clad in all the regalia of the chauffeur. Afterwards telling the story at a club tea-table, the heroine said to her friends: "When he had made the thing buzz, you know, he then said in his most gentlemanly manner, 'Now what are you going to give me for all the trouble I have taken?"" The ladies in the party looked shocked, and the gentlemen glanced at one another with comprehending smiles. "And so I gave him twopence," concluded la chauffeuse, with a delightful air of innocence.

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We understand that the design initiated by the German Freemasons of striking a medal to commemorate the Masonic Jubilee of Mr. Robert Freke Gould, of Woking, has been very beautifully and artistically carried out; and that presentation copies of the medal will be formally handed over to Mr. Gould at the next meeting of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, on October 5th.

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The Grand Lodge of Iowa, U.S.A. is unique among its fellows in one respect in that it possesses a Library, which, according to the legend gartered around a view of the structure printed on the cover of its Grand Lodge report is "the only Masonic Library Building in the world." The brethren of that jurisdiction are fairly entitled to be proud of such a structure, and it does them immense credit, but "the Book's

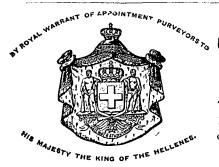


MASONIC LIBRARY, CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

the thing," and the possession of the largest and best selected Masonic Library is, we think, the greater achievement. There appears to be no particular virtue in a Library being housed in a building "all to itself." It would be equally useful and imposing when forming a part of the Hall or other official head-quarters of Freemasonry.

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The New Palace Steamers Limited announce that their daily sea trips by the "Royal Sovereign" and "Koh-i-noor" to Southend, Margate, Ramsgate, Deal and Dover will terminate for this season on Monday, the 10th September—the Husband's boat, which has proved popular with city men and others, will make her last trip to Margate on Saturday, the 8th September.



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Grand Lodge of Scotland.

THE quarterly meeting of the Grand Lodge of Scottish Freemasons was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on Friday, August 3rd. It was unanimously agreed to confirm the appointment of Bro. John L. Officer, W.S., as Law Agent to Grand Lodge in succession to his father, the late Bro. William Officer. Bros. J. L. Michie, Joseph W. Freeman, Robert C. Baird, and Walter M. Daniel, were appointed representatives of the Grand Lodge of Scotland to the Grand Lodges of South Carolina, Rhode Island, Costa Rica, and the Island of Cuba respectively. The following Provincial Grand Masters were re-appointed-Bros. John Macpherson-Grant, Junr., of Ballindalloch, Inverness-shire; Colonel Sir Hector Munro of Foulis, Bart., Ross and Cromarty; James Middleton, M.D., Broxburgh, Peebles and Selkirk shires. Charters were granted to Lodges Boswell St. James, Auchinleck, Ayrshire; St. Andrew, Antofagasta, Chili; Thistle, Colon, Republic of Panama; Thistle, Barbados; and St. Modan, Roseneath, Dumbartonshire. It was reported that grants amounting to £224 13s. 6d. had been made from the Benevolent Fund during the past two months.

Colonel Sir Hector Munro of Foulis, Provincial Grand Master of Ross and Cromarty, reported that every lodge in his province had been visited during the past year. The lodges worked with enthusiasm, due care was taken in the selection of suitable candidates, the books were well kept, and the lodge rooms were comfortable and commodious.

Bro. John Macpherson-Grant, Junr., of Ballindalloch, Provincial Grand Master of Inverness-shire, in his report at the close of his second quinquennial period of office, said—"Of the six lodges in Inverness-shire, it can be said that no more eager supporters of the Scottish Craft exist, and from the old lodge in Inverness down to its youngest sister in the

'misty isle' there is a warmth and an enthusiasm which knits the whole into a very happy family.

A remit was made last February to the Grand Architect (Bro. Alexander Ross, Inverness) to make a thorough examination of the Grand Lodge premises, and report upon the present condition of the building in all respects, and how it might best be made suitable for Grand Lodge purposes. Bro. Ross gave it as his opinion that the best possible solution was to entirely rebuild the premises. After examining the building and consulting with members of the committee, Bro. Ross came to the conclusion that the present premises could not be altered or improved in such a way as to give the full extent of the requirements. A strong feeling was expressed by the committee that the present hall should be retained; keeping that in view, he suggested throwing in the corridor, thus adding to its length eleven feet and improving the gallery. The enlargement of the entrance and vestibule could be done with advantage, and a new staircase put in to give spacious vestibule landings and lounge, using the centre shop as an entrance hall. The special committee on the subject, after having considered the Grand Architect's report and plans, did not feel warranted in advising Grand Committee to carry out the suggested alterations. They agreed with the Grand Architect that the cost would be very considerable, while the result would not be commensurate with the outlay. The additional accommodation gained at meetings of Grand Lodge would not be large-including the gallery, only about 100 more members would be accommodated than at present. The loss of revenue owing to alterations in shops alone would be over £200 per annum, and there would be a further loss on hall lettings.

The Anglo-Golonial Lodge, No. 3175.

THE above Lodge was consecrated in the Great Hall of Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, W.C., on Friday, July 20th, 1906. The ceremony was performed by V.W. Bro. Sir Edward Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Secretary, in his usual dignified and impressive manner, and he was assisted by the following Consecrating Officers:—V.W. Bro. John Strachan, K.C., Grand Registrar, as S. Warden; W. Bro. W. F. Lamonby, P.A.G.D. Cerms., as J. Warden; V.W. Bro. The Rev. Canon Horsley, M.A., Grand Chaplain, as Chaplain; V.W. Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G.D. Reg., G.D. Cerms., as D. of Cerms.; W. Bro. A. C. A. Higerty, P.G. Std. Br., as Inner Guard.

After the opening of Lodge, the Grand Secretary addressed the brethren on the nature of the ceremony that was about to take place which, was followed by an oration by the Grand Chaplain.

The new lodge was then solemnly dedicated and constituted with the usual formalities, after which Bro. R. J. Godson, P.M., was installed as the first W.M. by the Grand Secretary, and the Officers were invested. The Consecrating Officers were asked to accept the Honorary Membership of the Lodge and a replica of the Founders' Jewel. Several names were proposed for initiation and joining, the first submitted by the W.M. being that of Bro. Viscount Milner as a joining member.

Bro. E. Hungerford, P.S.G.W., N.S.W., in a brief address, said he was told upon his arrival in London that it was not customary for the Lodges to meet in the summer. He understood that this Lodge would meet all the year round, and the visitors, at any rate, would consider they were taking a wise course. On behalf of his Grand Lodge, he congratulated Bro. Godson most heartily upon being the first W.M., and wished the Lodge every success.

Lodge was closed, and a banquet was afterwards held at the Holborn Restaurant.

"The King" having been given, Bro. P. J. Dudgeon, J.W., proposed "The M.W. Grand Master." The W.M. next submitted the health of "The Grand Officers," and said they were honoured with the presence of many to witness the inauguration of the Lodge. Their presence was appreciated very highly. As a young Mason he used to think that the G. Officers were ornamental only, but he had since found that they were also of some use. To be a Grand Officer one had to devote a good deal of time to the work, and if the brethren looked at those at the head of the table they would find they were those who did good work.

Bro. Rev. Canon Horsley, G. Chap., in his response, said he had just finished a paper on the Grand Chaplains to read in the Quatuor Coronati Lodge. A few days after his appointment they welcomed home the M.W.G.M. at the Mansion House, and listened with great interest to H.R.H.'s remarks as to the advantage Masonry had been in the Colonies and the warm welcome he received from all sections of Masons. This week, with other G. Officers, he had been to Liverpool in connection with the new Chapter House in honour of one whose name would ever live in the memory of Masonry, and they rejoiced that the son was following in the steps of his father. Having related some of his experiences as a Prison Chaplain, where because he talked straight he was regarded as "one of us," he said the same idea occurred to him with regard to the Grand Master, who had proved himself to be "one of us" in Freemasonry. They welcomed this Lodge, and gave it every good wish for its work. He was I.P.M. of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, which had 3,000 members, of whom half were living in the Colonies. Some lodges met for work and some for pleasure, but in that Lodge they always found something to do and something to eat. He was quite sure the new Lodge was doing a sensible thing in meeting every month, and every brother coming home to Mother England would visit and appreciate it.

Bro. J. Strachan, K.C., G. Reg., also replied, and said they would not expect him to give any prison experiences as Canon Horsley had done, or to look into the lives of the Grand Chaplains. The Prov. G.M. and Dep. G.M. went down to Liverpool and took part in the ceremony and supported the Grand Master. It was a grand sight, and it was a grand thing for them as Masons to know how much it was appreciated by the people outside. Coming more particularly to the connection of the G. Officers with the Colonies, they had in Grand Lodge quite as much work with the Colonies as with England and Wales. He was certain that the formation of such a Lodge as this, where the colonial brethren would be able to attend the Lodge meetings whatever month they happened to visit here, and learn something about English Masonry-which they could only previously learn by writing to Freemasons' Hall and asking how things were done—such a Lodge must do a vast amount of good. He had been a Colonist himself, and had lived in Canada and knew the colonial feeling, and he tried to bring that knowledge to bear as much as possible and avoid the corners which might prevent perfect harmony. They had less friction than in any society in the world. They had often felt sorry when unable to show brethren from India or the Colonies any working, because most of the London lodges were dining lodges, and the brethren did not like to go to them and ask for an invite. They could now come to this Lodge and enjoy the fraternal intercourse and then enjoy their own affairs. He regarded it as a great honour to be elected an honorary member, and should watch with fraternal interest their working, and wished them every happiness and prosperity.

Bro. W. O. Welsford, P.M., S.W., said the W.M., with characteristic unselfishness, had honoured him by placing with him the toast of the evening, "The Consecrating Officers." He claimed for it that distinction because but for the able services of those eminent Masons they could not be at the present time a real live Lodge. The Grand Secretary received them with that urbanity, kindness, and courtesy for which he was so distinguished, and favoured them by consecrating the Lodge. The Grand Registrar had a reputation for austerity which he did not deserve, and performed his professional and judicial duties in that thoughtful manner which they all knew. The other Consecrating Officers had not been slow to show that there was merit in the idea of this Lodge to draw closer in the bonds of brotherly love and Masonic affection those who were domiciled under the British Crown. The ceremonial work could not have been rendered with more solemnity or greater dignity. The Consecrating Officer, who had been aptly described in the words of the old song as "a fine old English gentleman," added fresh grace and dignity to the ceremony of consecration every time he performed it. He had seen the G. Sec. consecrate about 200 lodges, but was never more impressed than in this Lodge, of which he was a founder and the first S.W. In Bro. Frank Richardson they had a D.C. who had no equal, and they were extremely sorry he had been obliged to leave. The oration from the G. Chap. (Canon Horsley) had never been surpassed for sincerity, and he hoped the exhortation to unity in this Lodge would never be lost. They needed it because they started with 57 founders and a large number proposed, and the G. Chap, recognised this. Bro. Lamonby had been bound up with Colonial Masonry for very many years, and his name was well known. Another Brother popular amongst them was Bro. Higerty, who was connected with a Lodge of Instruction to which he belonged, and who was a sound Mason. In this Lodge they would struggle to reach their highest ideals, and if they did not succeed in reaching them they would do their best, and none could do more.

Bro. Sir E. Letchworth, G. Sec., who was accorded a very hearty reception, said that after the eloquent, instructive, and interesting speeches to which they had listened with so much pleasure from two of the Consecrating Officers, they would imagine that he appreciated the great honour done him in associating his name with the toast. He desired in words as sincere as they would be brief to tender, on behalf of those with whom he had been associated, their warm thanks for their more than kind recognition of the small services it had been their great pleasure to render to this Lodge. It had given one and all the greatest possible pleasure to assist in starting into existence a Lodge which he felt sure had a great future before it. They wished the Lodge every possible prosperity, and trusted that its members would be the means of uniting more closely those Colonials who were members of their great Order.

Bro. J. Strachan, K.C., G. Reg., proposed "The W.M.," which required no words to ensure for it a hearty reception. He had known Bro. Godson for some years, and was not sure whether he had not known him all his Masonic life, because he assisted in the initiation of the W.M. He had watched the W.M.'s progress in Masonry with very great pleasure, and they all knew he was an excellent and enthusiastic Mason. He believed it was very largely due to Bro. Godson's efforts that this Anglo-Colonial Lodge had started so successfully. The W.M. would rule with kindness and firmness, and unless they had the two combined they could not have the typical and really good Master. He must be a man with some tact and also some ability to command the respect of his Lodge. He might not be as austere as he (Bro. Strachan) was, but he had won the goodwill, love, and affection of all who knew him.

Bro. R. J. Godson, W.M., thanked the G. Reg. If he were unmindful of their kindness in placing him in the position of W.M. he would have a heart of stone, but he hoped during his year to prove that he was not stony-hearted. He appreciated to the full the kindness extended to him. At the meeting of Founders the Brethren knew it was not his wish that the position of W.M. should be made different to that of other Officers, but it seemed to him there had been a preliminary meeting, because he was at once called upon to preside, and proceed to ballot for the rest of the Officers. He had no idea when they started working that there was so much to do in getting ready for the inauguration, but he could assure them they intended to work at each Lodge meeting, even if there were no candidates, so that the position of the Officers would not be a sinecure. They wished to make it as interesting as possible. In most lodges the P.M.'s had not much to do, but they intended that the work should not be confined to the W.M. alone, but that the P.M.'s should be given something to do, and thus keep up their interest in the Lodge. The inauguration of this Lodge was not one man's idea, and he did not want to take too much credit to himself. All those who visited or joined the Lodge would feel they had a home in England. It was a non-dining Lodge, and would not put others to expense for Visitors' fees, and the fees were as small as possible for those in the Colonies—a nominal subscription of 10s. 6d. Of the six Brethren who had put their names down as joining members, five were living in the Colonies or in India. He felt assured that they would not have placed him in the position of W.M. if he had not gained their confidence, and he hoped at the end of his year he should be able to say he had not only their confidence but also their love and esteem.

The toast of "The Visitors" received a hearty reception, and was responded to by R.W. Bro. E. Hungerford, P.S.G. Warden N.S. Wales, W. Bro. E. L. Vinden, W.M. 2455, and Bro. the Rev. H. T. York, Lodge 1453 New Zealand.

The toast of "The Officers" was duly honoured, and the Tyler's toast brought a memorable evening to a close.

For the conveniene of our Colonial and Indian readers wishing to get in touch with the Lodge we give the name of the Secretary, Bro. Walter Dance, 121, Inderwick Road, Stroud Green, London, N., who will be pleased to give further information to any inquiring Brother.

Provincial Grand Lodge of North Wales.

THE Annual Provincial Grand Lodge of North Wales was held at Carnarvon on Thursday, July 26th, under the presidency of the genial Provincial Grand Master, the R.W. Bro. Col. Henry Platt, when over 150 brethren from all parts of the province attended.

At the subsequent roll-call, it was found that every lodge in the province was represented with the exception of one, which had recently lost its most honoured secretary.

The Secretary's annual report of his examination of the minute-books of the several lodges was read, and proved to be most interesting, and was adopted.

The Treasurer's report was also found to be a satisfactory document, and was adopted.

Bro. James Porter submitted reports of the North Wales Masonic Charitable Association, and also read reports respecting the children sent to the Schools from this province, which were excellent, and the reports were adopted.

On the motion of Bro. Porter it was decided that the sum of 50 guineas be voted out of the funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

W. Bro. James George Tuxford was, for the twelfth year

in succession, and with enthusiastic acclamation, re-elected Provincial Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year. The Prov. Grand Master then appointed and invested his officers.

On the motion of Prov. Grand Master, the following resolution was passed with acclamation:—"That the Provincial Grand Lodge of North Wales, assembled this day at Carnarvon, under the auspices and banner of the Segontium Lodge, No. 606, send their fraternal regards and hearty good wishes to Bro. Hugh McKie, a highly-respected member of the Segontium Lodge, the oldest Mason in the province, in his 94th year." The Worshipful Grand Secretary was requested to send a telegram to Bro. McKie, conveying the above resolution.

W. Bro. J. E. Greaves, in a short address, at the request of the Prov. Grand Master, called attention to certain matters concerning the Royal Arch, and suggested the convening of a conference of Worshipful Masters for the purpose of considering those matters.

Votes of thanks having been passed to the Secretary, Treasurer, Auditors and others, the Grand Lodge was closed in due form.



FREEMASONS' HALL, PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

History of the Lodge of Emulation, No. 21.

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

EB. 18th, 1901.—"Before entering upon the business of the Lodge the W.M. rose and referred to the decease of Her Majesty the Queen, Patroness of the Order, of blessed memory, and moved the following Resolution:—

'That the Brethren at this their first meeting since the lamented death of Her late Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, desire to place on record their heartfelt sorrow at that most melancholy event, and also their profound and most respectful sympathy with His Majesty the King, and the rest of the Royal Family, in their deep affliction, and that this Resolution be entered on the Minutes of the Lodge.' The Resolution was seconded by P. M. Evans and carried nem. con."

May, 20th.—The Lodge was held, on this occasion, by Dispensation, at *The Mitre Hotel*, Hampton Court.

Oct. 21st.—The W.M. having given notice of Motion at the previous Meeting, now proposed "That Past Masters' Jewels be presented by the Lodge to Bro. Grellier, P.M., Treasurer, and Bro. Truman, P.M., Secretary, which was declared carried."

A Circular Letter from the Grand Secretary, having reference to an alleged irregular Lodge meeting at Copenhagen, was read and entered on the Minutes of this meeting.

Nov. 18th.—"The W.M. proposed, and W. Bro. Hovenden seconded, the Resolution: following 'That the Brethren of this Lodge having heard with much pleasure of W. Bro. C. Swinfen Eady's appointment as Judge of the High Court, hereby tender to him their most hearty congratulations and sincere good wishes for his health and happiness, and express the hope that he may often find it convenient to be present among them?; which was carried by acclamation, and a copy ordered to be engrossed and forwarded to Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady."

Dec. 16th.—"The W.M. presented to W. Bro. Grellier, P.M., Treasurer, and W. Bro. Truman, P.M., Secretary, the Past Master's Jewels voted them by the Lodge.

Both these brethren expressed their thanks to the Lodge for this mark of favour."

"A vote of thanks was duly carried to Bro. T. J. Grylls, Organist, for designing the Jewels."

1902, Feb. 17th.—"Bro. Bartlett enquired what progress was being made with the History of the Lodge, and the W. Master undertook to make the necessary enquiry, and report, if possible, at the next meeting."

March 17th.—"The W.M., in felicitous terms, presented a P.M. Jewel to Bro. Badham, I.P.M. which had been voted to him by the Lodge, and the W.M. mentioned that Bro. Badham had been selected by the Grand Secretary to second

the nomination of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught as Grand Master, Bro. Badham returned thanks for the honour conferred on him by the Lodge."

Nov. 19th.—"A letter was read from Bro. R. Berridge, P.M., P.G.D., announcing his resignation, which was accepted with regret. The Secretary was requested to ascertain whether Bro. Berridge was eligible, and if so, would like to become an Honorary Member.

"Bro. Berridge also referred in his letter to the History of the Lodge on which he had been engaged; and the Secretary was requested to ask Bro. P.M. Hovenden to arrange with Bro. Berridge and report to the Audit Committee as to the cost of publishing the History."

1903, Jan. 19th.—The death of Bro. Berridge on 25th December, 1902, was announced at this meeting, and the Lodge passed a vote of sincere sympathy and condolence with his widow. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. H. L. Truman, the retiring Secretary, for his services to the Lodge.

May 18th.—A hearty vote of congratulation was passed to Bro. P. Master

May 18th.—A hearty vote of congratulation was passed to Bro. P. Master Badham on his appointment to the office of Dep. G. Director of Ceremonies. The W. Master (R. C.Grant), in seconding the motion, "expressed the opinion that the pleasure which the Brethren felt at Bro. Badham's promotion was greatly enhanced by the fact that he was initiated in the Lodge and had ever since been an active member of it,"

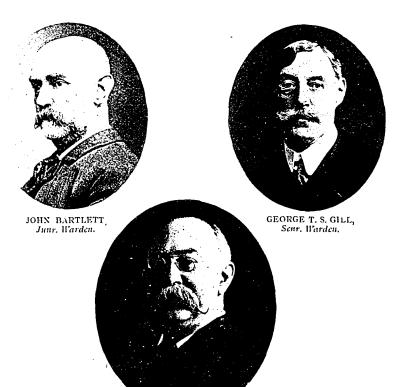
Oct. 19th.—" Bro. Truman reported that he had received from Mrs. Berridge the volume of the Minutes (being the one previous to that now in use), together with a précis of the Minutes prepared by the late Bro. Berridge. It was decided to hand these to the Sub-Committee, viz., Hovenden and Truman, in order that they might preparea history from them, and that Bro. H. W. Brooke be

added to the Committee in the place of the late Bro. Berridge." Nov. 16th.—The death of P. Master George Singer, who

had been a member of the Lodge since 1850, was announced at this meeting, and the Lodge passed "a sincere vote of sympathy and condolence with Mrs. Singer and her family in their bereavement."

1904, Jan. 18th.—"A Letter was read from Bro. Poole asking the Lodge to accept a copy of the History of the Old King's Arms Lodge, No. 28. The W. Master proposed, and the W. Bro. Hovenden seconded, and it was carried unanimously, that the Book be accepted with pleasure, and that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to Bro. Poole for his kindness in presenting it to the Lodge."

Feb. 15th.—"The Treasurer proposed, and the Secretary seconded, the following resolution, which was carried with



HENRY W. BROOKE, G.S., W. Master. acclamation, 'That a P.M. Jewel be presented by the Lodge to W. Bro. R. C. Grant, I.P.M.' The W.M. then presented the Jewel to W. Bro. Grant, thanking him for the services he had rendered to the Lodge and alluding to the fact that Bro. Grant had occupied the Chair of the Lodge in 1885 as well as last year.

W. Bro. Grant expressed his thanks to the Lodge."

March 21st.—A Petition to the Board of Benevolence, on behalf of the widow of a former member, was recommended at this meeting, and the Lodge generously voted Ten Guineas for her immediate relief.

The application to the Grand Lodge, which was supported by Bro. Badham in person, resulted in a sum of Fifty Pounds being given to the applicant.

Nov. 21st.—"A letter was read from Bro. P.M. Hovenden (who had been seriously ill), thanking the Lodge for the vote of sympathy passed at the previous meeting, and stating that he was now progressing favourably."

1905, March 20th.— "Bro. Brooke, S.W., called the attention of the Brethren to the very slow progress that had been made with regard to the proposed History of the Lodge, and moved: 'That a Committee consisting of Bros. W. J. Lancaster, T. J. Grylls, and H. W. Brooke, be appointed for the purpose of consulting with Bro. Sadler, Grand Tyler, and Sub-Librarian of Grand Lodge, with a view to his undertaking the work.' This was seconded by Bro. Gill, J.W., and carried unanimously."

Oct. 16th - "Bro. Secretary informed the Brethren of the death of W. Bro. P.M. Dr. Thomas S. Howell, which took place on the 5th September last. Bro. Treasurer moved a sincere vote of sympathy and condolence with the widow and family of the late Bro. Howell, and alluded to the fact that he was the oldest member of the Lodge, having been W. Master in the year 1858, and having continued a subscribing member until his death. The motion was carried unanimously, and the Secretary was directed to convey the same to Mrs. Howell.'

This highly respected brother, who died at the

venerable age of 82, had a remarkable Masonic career. He had been a subscribing member upwards of fifty-three years, as he was initiated in the Lodge in May, 1852, and having served in the various subordinate offices, including that of Secretary, he was installed in the Master's Chair, on 18th January, 1858. The following year he served as Grand Steward for the Lodge.

Bro. Howell had acted as Steward for the Masonic Boys' School in 1853, and during his Mastership he did a similar service for that of the Girls'; on which occasion a vote of thanks was passed to him by the brethren, for this "and the many other valuable services he has rendered to that Institution." Dr. Howell was Honorary Medical Officer to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls from 1852 to 1886, when he resigned and was succeeded by his son, Thomas A. Ives Howell, who was also initiated in the Lodge of

Emulation, and who still holds the office so long and worthily filled by his respected father.

1906, Jan. 15th—An exceptionally large number of brethren attended this meeting, there being twenty-seven Members and thirty-six visitors, including thirteen Grand Officers present. The W. Master Elect, Henry W. Brooke, having been regularly installed, invested the following brethren with the Jewels of their respective offices, viz.:—

WILLIAM HODSON, Grand Steward, I.P. Master.
GEORGE T. S. GILL, S. Warden.
JOHN BARTLETT, J. Warden.
WILLIAM GRELLIER, P.M., P.G.S., Treasurer.
Major Richard L. S. Badham, P.D.G.D.C.,
P.M., P.G.S., Secretary.
EDMUND POOLE, S. Deacon.
THOMAS J. GRYLLS, J. Deacon.
ERNEST TODD, I. Guard.
ROBERT C. GRANT, P.M., P.G.S., D. Ceremonies.
THOMAS H. GRYLLS, Organist.
JOHN P. SOMERS and THOMAS C. MANSFIELD, Stewards.

Bro. Charles Patrick, P.M., was, for the sixteenth year, invested as Tyler.

After a brief interval, the

After a brief interval, the newly-installed W. Master initiated Mr. Harold Littleton Brooke, his second son (the first being already a member of the Lodge), delivering the usual Charge appertaining to the degree of an Apprentice.

The business of the evening concluded with the customary vote of Ten Guineas to each of the three Masonic Charities.

Since the foregoing was written I have been favoured by Mr. Charles Norris with five portraits of former members of the Lodge of Emulation, all of whom have figured conspicuously in its history.

Taken in chronological order they are (1) Stephen Clark, born, 1742, initiated, 1773, and Treasurer of the Lodge from 1775 until his death in 1799.

Mr. Norris has been good enough to furnish a few biographical notes on this distinguished brother which are interesting. He was Captain and Adjutant of the Hon. Artillery Company of London, Lt.-Col. of the Blue Regiment of Militia, Master of the Loriners'

Company in 1783, and appointed City Marshal in 1786. (2) William Phillips Norris, son-in-law of the former, who succeeded him in the Treasurership of the Lodge, and also in his business as an engraver in Moorfields. (3) Stephen Clark Norris, son of the aforementioned, who was appointed Junior Grand Deacon in 1839. (4) Stephen Perceval Norris, his son. (5) Brackstone Baker, who, as well as the members of the Norris family, has been frequently mentioned in these pages.





MAJOR W. C. WOOLLETT, P.G.S., W.M., 1895.

H. LINDLEY TRUMAN, P.G.S., W.M., 1897.

PAST MASTERS OF THE LODGE OF EMULATION, No. 21.

SOME NOTABLE FEATURES IN THE HISTORY OF THE LODGE OF EMULATION.

"In Faith and Hope the world will disagree, But all mankind's concern is Charity."—Porc.

Having finished with the Lodge records I will conclude my labours by directing attention to some of the more prominent features that have left impressions on my mind during my researches therein. Probably the most striking of these has reference to the charitable disposition of the brethren, exemplifying in its fullest sense the well-known Masonic mandate, "A Mason's Charity should know no bounds save those of Prudence." The instances already recorded of the benevolence of the members extended to their less fortunate brethren are comparatively few in number as will hereafter be seen.

In the opening chapter of this book I have adverted at considerable length to the voluntary support given by the Lodge to the General Fund of Charity in its early infancy, I find, however, that I omitted to mention that prior to the actual formation of this Fund, in 1729, the usual mode of relieving applicants to the Grand Lodge for pecuniary assistance was by a collection amongst the members present,

and this old practice was doubtless continued in private lodges long after it had been relinquished by the Grand Lodge. Hence it is not until thirty years after the Lodge was constituted that we find the first record in the Treasurer's Book of a donation from the Lodge Funds to a distressed brother. The item appears under date 27th May, 1753, "By Charity to Bro. Floyd 10,6."

By the aid of Bro. Joseph Taylor's Index of the Lodge Records, I find that during the next 100 years—say till about 1853—upwards of a hundred applications for relief were considered, and only in one instance was the petitioner "sent empty away." I think it highly probable, that if the members of the Lodge were consulted, they might object to the good deeds of either themselves or their Masonic ancestors being made public, but they must bear in mind that "example is better than precept," and that this history is not for their exclusive perusal. Possibly it mayand I earnestly hope it will -come under the notice of others of our fraternity who have not had brought so forcibly before them that virtue which we are taught

"is the brightest ornament that can adorn our Masonic Profession," and may tend to create and foster a spirit of emulation with beneficial results to the Charitable Institutions of our Order.

The oldest of our Voluntary Charities was established in 1788, as The Royal Cumberland Freemasons' School, so named after the Duchess of Cumberland, the wife of the then Grand Master, and its first Patroness, but its chief promoter, first Treasurer, and staunch supporter for many years was the Chevalier Ruspini, a former member of this Lodge, a brief sketch of whom may be found on page 51 of this book. For the first few years the support given to the school by the Craft was not of a very ardent character, and although a plan of the undertaking was placed before the Lodge of Emulation, and its patronage solicited on 21st April, 1788, the matter was then deferred for further consideration. On the 20th September, 1790, the Lodge unanimously voted £10 10s. to the School, and this, so far as I have been able to

learn from official records, was amongst the earliest contributions received from Lodges. Since this period the Lodge has warmly supported the School whenever its funds admitted, but as previously stated, there were certain periods of financial depression when nothing could be spared for outside charity.

For many years it has been customary for the Lodge of Emulation to be represented by a steward at each of the charitable Festivals, on which occasions a donation from its funds has invariably been voted for the steward's list.

It may interest the brethren to know that during the last thirty years an approximate sum of £1,775 has been contributed to the Girls' School alone by the aid of the stewards, either representing the Lodge or unattached, whose names, as well as those who have served for the other Charities, will be recorded at a later stage of this work; and

that during the same period the Boys' School has benefitted to the extent of £1,540 and the R.M.B. Institution has received upwards of £1,260 by similar means.

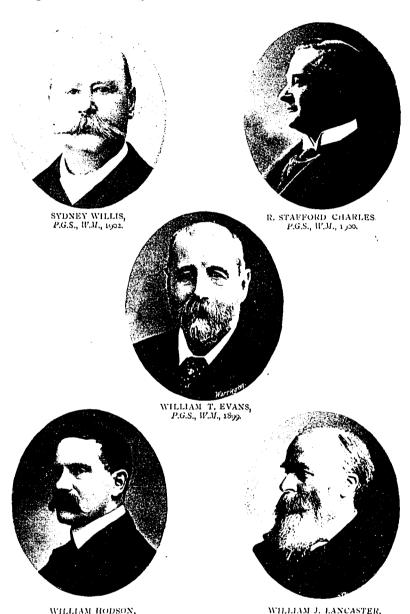
Another striking feature of the Lodge,-one that indicates plainly its harmonious character, - is the large number of its members bearing the same surname, many of whom were evidently connected by family ties, although it is now somewhat difficult to define, in every case, the exact relationship. We may, however, fairly assume that in this respect the members of the present day are anxious to follow the example of their Masonic ancestors in endeavouring to continue the Lodge of Emulation as a "Family Lodge."

Thanks to the excellent Index of the Proceedings, we have little difficulty in ascertaining the names of the members from the beginning of the existing records. Deeming it inadvisable to enter into too many details, I may merely mention that numerous instances are recorded of fathers proposing their sons, and brothers proposing brothers or other relatives for membership. The

for membership. The earliest Lists of Members returned to the Grand Lodge are for the years 1723, 1725 and 1730, and although the names of these brethren are not in the Index of Members beginning in 1756, I have thought it not unlikely, judging from the character of the Lodge, that some of their descendants were members of it at that time, and have included these old returns in my examination, the result of which has been somewhat surprising.

As may be expected, the time honoured name of Smith heads the list, there being no less than twenty-one different individuals answering to that familiar cognomen. The Jones's come next with a list of fifteen; followed by the celebrated family of the Whites who number—len, and another, I believe, shortly expected.

Edwards and Taylor have *nine* each; Scott and Williams,—*cight*; Baker, Brown, Davis, Evans and Hill,—*seven*; Brooke, Cook, Harris, King, Moore, Morgan, Newman, Roberts and Wilson,—*six*; Chapman, Clark, Cooper, Hum-



PAST MASTERS OF THE LODGE OF EMULATION, No. 21.

phreys, Lewis, Price, Robinson, Thomas, Willis and Wood,—five; Anderson, Andrews, Butler, Campbell, Carter, Cox, Green, Heming, Hutchinson, Jackson, Kent, Lancaster, Norris, Read, Ross, Thompson, Turner and Wright,—four.

I have not thought it worth while to enumerate the twos and threes of the same surname or the list might have been considerably extended, and I venture to think that enough has been done to indicate that from its earliest days the Lodge of Emulation may be considered as a "Family Lodge." Amongst the present members, the W. Master has two sons, P.M. W. J. Lancaster has three, while John Bartlett, J.W., Frederick Fisher, P.G.S., and Thomas J. Grylls, J.D., have each a son in the Lodge.

The reader of the preceding pages will doubtless have noted that during the latter half of the 18th Century, several Aldermen of the City of London were members of the Lodge, one,—Sir Watkin Lewes—having been initiated while occupying the civic chair in 1781. Owing to the absence of the Lodge records prior to 1756, and the gap in the Grand Lodge Register between 1730 and about 1770, it is impossible to state definitely that the Honourable Thomas Harley, initiated in 1761, was the first Lord Mayor to become a member of the Lodge. Sir Richard Glynn, Lord Mayor in 1758, joined the Lodge in 1761. Alderman Nathaniel Newnham (Lord Mayor in 1782-3), was initiated in 1781, on the same evening as Alderman Barnard Turner, of the Lodge of Rural Friendship, was raised to the third degree. Claudius Stephen Hunter (Lord Mayor in 1811-12), joined the Lodge in 1810, and caused some little commotion by his resignation of membership the following year, for which action he received a somewhat sharp, and not undeserved rebuke from the Lodge.

The membership of these eminent civic dignitaries does not appear to have occasioned any unusual excitement or jubilation, such as marked the advent of their two successors in more recent times, probably because neither of them were elected to the Master's Chair, although it no doubt had some influence on the fortunes of the Lodge, paving the way to its becoming what may be termed a city official Lodge. Hence we have Stephen Clark, initated in 1773, afterwards City Marshal; Henry Woodthorpe, initated in 1789, who was Town Clerk in 1801; George Pepys, Surveyor, initiated in 1789, whose address is given as the Guildhall; William L. Newman, Solicitor, Guildhall, initiated 1795; John Holmes, Gent., Guildhall, initiated in 1803; James and Robert Newman, subsequently became members, both Solicitors, also of the Guildhall; William Jones, Attorney, the Mayor's Court; and several officials in the Bank of England. It will thus be seen that there was a fair sprinkling of corporation officials in the Lodge, although a majority of its members were merchants, stockbrokers, and others engaged in some business or profession in the city or its vicinity, whilst a considerable number who probably having "no visible means of subsistence," are simply described as "Gentlemen."

In our own time we have, in addition to Lord Mayors De Keyser and Savory, George Singer, fifty-three years a member of the Lodge, who was auditor of the City and Bridge House Accounts; Major Campbell, City Marshal; Thomas Davies Sewell, of the Chamberlain's Court; Alfred Norris, Bridge Master; and probably others.

Very few lodges have passed their centenary without material changes in their membership, some have declined while others have ascended in the social scale, but a remarkable feature in the history of the Lodge of Emulation is that it appears to have always maintained about the same level. True, on some very rare occasions it has languished from a scarcity of members but has soon recovered its usual vigour without the slightest change in the character and social status of its members, of which no more conclusive evidence can be given than the fact that, so far as we can judge from incomplete records, it appears to have always jealously preserved the privileges of the "Red Apron," and to have contributed with fair regularity to the General Fund of Charity.

(To be continued.)

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