

**THE INSTALLATION OF SIR EDMUND LECHMERE AS PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF WORCESTERSHIRE.**

To-morrow (Wednesday) will be a notable festival in the annals of the Freemasons of Worcestershire, for on that day the R.W. Bro. Sir Edmund A. H. Lechmere, Bart., M.P., will be installed as Grand Master of the Province. The brethren will assemble at half-past eleven o'clock at the College Hall, where a craft lodge having been opened in the third degree by the W.M. of the Worcester Lodge, No. 280. The Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Grand Officers will enter the lodge, and having been received with the customary honours, the Provincial Grand Lodge will be opened in form at 12.30 p.m. After the transaction of some business the Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master will request seven Provincial Grand Officers to attend the Installing Master, the R.W. Brother the Right Honourable Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master of England, who will enter the lodge and assume the chair and be saluted with Royal honours. The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of England will then depute seven Installed Masters of the seven senior lodges in the province to introduce the Right Worshipful Brother Sir Edmund A. H. Lechmere, Bart., M.P., the Provincial Grand Master designate for the province of Worcester, who has been appointed by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W. Grand Master, in the room of the R.W. Brother Albert Hudson Royds, who had resigned that office. The R.W. Provincial Grand Master designate will be presented in due form by the Worshipful Brother W. Masefield, D.P.G., the senior Past Master of the Harmonic Lodge, No. 252, the senior lodge in the province. The R.W. Deputy Grand Master of England will then call upon the Provincial Grand Secretary to read the R.W. Brother Sir E. A. H. Lechmere's patent of appointment, and afterwards a summary of the ancient charges, and the Provincial Grand Master designate having given his unqualified assent thereto, a Board of Past Masters will be opened in a convenient room adjoining the lodge, and the R.W. Provincial Grand Master designate will be only obligated to the faithful discharge of the duties of his office and invested with the insignia of a Provincial Grand Master. The R.W. Provincial Grand Master, attended by the Provincial Grand Officers, visitors of distinction, and Past Masters, will then re-enter the lodge room, and the R.W. Brother Sir E. A. H. Lechmere will be formally placed in the chair by the R.W. Deputy Grand Master of England, and be saluted with Royal honours. After the election of a Provincial Grand Treasurer, and other business, the brethren will walk in procession along the cloisters, and enter the Cathedral at the west door, to attend Divine service at 3.15 p.m. This arrangement is a delicate compliment to Sir Edmund, the west door having been one of his contributions to the restoration of the Cathedral. The sermon will be preached by the V.W. Brother the Rev. C. E. Martyr, M.A., Past Grand Chaplain of England, and Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Suffolk, after which a collection will be made for charitable purposes. The brethren will return in procession from the Cathedral to the College Hall, and the Provincial Grand Lodge will be closed in due form. A banquet will afterwards be served at the Shire Hall.

A very large number of the members of the craft are expected to be present, and Lord Leigh, Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire, has signified his intention of attending the ceremony. Bro. Godson will be P.G. Senior Warden; Bro. W. Stallard, Junior Warden; and Bro. George King Patten, one of the seven W. Masters appointed to present Sir Edmund Lechmere to Lord Skelmersdale for the benefit of installation. A notice, it may be added, has been issued by the W.M. and members of the Worcester Lodge, No. 280, inviting the brethren from a distance to partake of light refreshments at the Masonic Hall, 95, High Street, on their arrival in Worcester.