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ANTIEN T AND HONOURABLE FRATERNITY OF
Free and Accepted Masons.

ANNUAL MEETING OF PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE
OF THE
Eastern Division of the County of Lancaster,

Held in the Town Hall, Blackburn,
On Thursday, the 5th day of May, 1881.

Present:

THE R.W. BROTHER COL. LE GENDRE N. STARKIE, PROV. G. MASTER,
and Past Grand Warden of England,

THE W. BROTHER GEORGE MELLOR, DEPUTY PROV. G. MASTER,
and Past Grand Deacon of England,

Wor. Bro. EDMUND ASHWORTH, 62, P. Prov. S. G. Warden,
as S. G. Warden.

„ JOHN COLLINGE 167, Prov. J. G. Warden.
„ JOSEPH L. HINE, 317, P. Prov. S. G. Warden.
„ ROBERT H. HUTCHINSON, 64, P. Prov. S. G. Warden.
„ C. R. N. BESWICKE-ROYDS, 226, P. Prov. S. G. Warden.
„ JAMES ARTHUR BIRCH, 1170, P. Prov. J. G. Warden.
„ W. O. WALKER, 191, P. Prov. J. G. Warden.
„ REVD. G. F. ROBERTS, E.D., 1218, Prov. G. Chaplain.
„ ELLIS JONES, 1147, Prov. G. Treasurer.
„ JOHN BARKER, 1134, P. Prov. G. Treasurer.
„ SAMUEL STATHAM, 1773, P. Prov. G. Treasurer.
„ THOMAS J. LOOPER, 1633, P. Prov. G. Treasurer.
„ BENJAMIN TAYLOR, 935, P. Prov. G. Treasurer.
„ J. F. TWEEDALE, 64, P. Prov. G. Registrar.
„ W. S. AINSWORTH, 346, P. Prov. G. Registrar.
„ W. E. ANDERTON, 369, P. Prov. G. Registrar.
„ JOHN CHADWICK, 44, Prov. G. Secretary.
„ JAMES NEWTON, 37, Prov. S. G. Deacon.
„ G. P. BROCKBANK, 37, P. Prov. S. G. Deacon.
„ PETER ROYLE, 44, P. Prov. S. G. Deacon.
„ EDWIN HARDEN, 1030, P. Prov. S. G. Deacon.
„ JAMES HADFIELD, 1129, Prov. J. G. Deacon.

Wor. Bro.	FRANKLIN THOMAS,	345, P. Prov. J. G. Deacon.
"	EDMUND HEYWOOD,	1519, P. Prov. J. G. Deacon.
"	JAMES LEES PAGE,	467, Prov. G. Sup. of Works.
"	THOMAS ENTWISLE,	64, P. Prov. G. Sup. of Wks
"	WILLIAM ALMOND,	381, P. Prov. G. Sup. of Wks.
"	HENRY HEYS,	1634, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.
"	JAMES POLLITT,	1144, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.
"	ROBERT WHITTAKER,	350, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.
"	W. H. HOPKINS,	633, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.
"	CHRIS. M. JONES,	54, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.
"	J. W. P. SALMON,	163, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.
"	DENIS TOWERS,	381, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.
"	GEO. A. PACKWOOD,	852, Prov. G. Asst. Dir. of C.
"	GFORGE LOFTHOUSE,	369, P. Prov. G. Asst. D. of C.
"	THOS. GRIME,	381, P. Prov. G. Asst. D. of C.
"	JOHN TENNANT,	1516, P. Prov. G. Asst. D. of C.
"	BENTLEY STEPHENSON,	238, P. Prov. G. Sword Br.
"	JOHN HALLIWEEL,	64, P. Prov. G. Sword Br.
"	JAS. VARLEY,	350, P. Prov. G. Organist.
"	THOS. LAW,	219, P. Prov. G. Organist.
"	JOS. W. NAYLOR,	221, P. Prov. G. Organist.
"	EDWIN HALLIWELL,	345, P. Prov. G. Organist.
"	THOMAS HARGREAVES,	215, P. Prov. G. Organist.
"	WM. HENRY CUMIFFE,	269, P. Prov. G. Pursuivant.
"	CHARLES WOOD,	128, P. Prov. G. Pursuivant.
"	JULIUS ARENSBERG,	1161, P. Prov. G. Pursuivant.
"	EDWARD DIDDLE,	126, Pro. G. Asst. Pursuivant.
"	R. C. J. DUCKWORTH,	345, P. Pro. G. Asst. do.
"	WESTRAY BENN,	286, P. Pro. G. Asst. do.
"	GEORGE PILLING,	274, P. Pro. G. Asst. do.
"	JAMES A. BROADBENT,	992, Prov. G. Steward.
"	THOMAS MITCHELL,	221, Prov. G. Tyler.
"	JAMES BLACKA,	226, Prov. G. Master's Standard Bearer.

Visitors :

Wor. Bro.	JOHN WORDSWORTH,	Prov. J. G. Warden, West Yorkshire.
"	HENRY SMITH,	Prov. G. Secretary, West Yorkshire.

Wor. Bro. Rev. HENRY GEORGE VERNON, M.A., P. Prov. G.
Chap. West Lancashire.

” GEORGE BURROWS, P. Prov. Jun. G. Deacon, Cheshire

” H. JACKSON, P. Prov. G. Pursuivant, Cheshire.

” Rev. W. J. MOONEY, P. Prov. G. Chaplain, Somerset, and
Brothers J. M. Smythe, St. John Lodge No. 98, Belfast; Wm. Pollitt,
Gilbert Greenall Lodge 1250, Warrington; E. C. Hindley, Lodge of
Lights.

Also Representatives from 90 out of the 31 Lodges in the Province.

A Craft Lodge was opened in the three degrees, at one o'clock, by the W.M. of the Fidelity Lodge, No. 269, assisted by the W.M. and officers of the Perseverance Lodge, No. 345.

At half-past one o'clock the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge were admitted, and the Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master (Bro. COLONEL LE GENDRE N. STARKIE) took his place on the throne, the other Provincial Grand Officers also taking their assigned places.

The Prov. Grand Lodge having been opened in due form and with solemn prayer, the Prov. G. Secretary (Bro. JOHN CHADWICK) called over the roll of Lodges, when it appeared that representatives from every Lodge in the Province were present with the exception of the Roysds Lodge, No. 816, Wardle, and with respect to this Lodge the Prov. G. Master remitted the fine, good and satisfactory reasons being given for their absence.

The roll of Provincial Grand Officers was then called over, and letters read by the Prov. G. Secretary apologizing for their absence from Bros. J. Crompton Lees, Prov. Sen. G. Warden, Rev. Henry Cottam, Prov. G. Chap., and Bro. J. L. Vaughan, Prov. G. Registrar.

The minutes of the meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge held on the 5th May, 1880, were submitted by the Prov. G. Secretary, and printed copies having been sent to the Worshipful Masters of the several Lodges in the Province, it was resolved that they should be taken as read, and a resolution for their confirmation was then adopted.

The report of the Audit Committee appointed to examine the Provincial Grand Treasurer's Accounts for the past year was submitted, and Bro. HENRY LEES HOLLINGWORTH, P.M. 277, one of the auditors, moved its adoption, which was seconded by Bro. J. E. LEES, P.M. 645, and supported by Bro. S. B. PRIESTLEY, P.M. 219, the other auditors. The principal items were explained by the Prov. G. Treasurer (Bro. ELLIS JONES), and the resolution for the adoption of the report was passed unanimously.

Proposed by Bro. W. O. Walker, Past Prov. G. Warden, seconde
by Bro. Thos. Hargreaves, Past Prov. G. Organist, and carried unani-
mously, that the best thanks of this Provincial Grand Lodge be and are
hereby given to the Prov. Grand Treasurer and Auditors for their
services during the past year.

The Prov. G. Lodge then proceeded to the election of the Provincial
Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year, and Bro. C. R. N. Beswicke
Royds, Past Prov. G. Warden, proposed for that office Bro. HENRY
LEES HOLLINGWORTH, P.M., 277, seconded by Bro. George Parker
Brockbank, Past Prov. G. Deacon, and supported by Bro. A. Meadow-
croft, S.W., Wilton Lodge, No. 1077, and Bro. Jas. A. Rice, Past
Prov. G. Warden.

Bro. R. Hopwood Hutchinson, Past Prov. G. Warden, proposed
Bro. JOHN RIGBY, P.M., Perseverance Lodge, 345, seconded by Bro.
Thomas Hargreaves, Past Prov. G. Organist, and supported by Bros.
Dennis Towers, Past Prov. G. Dir. of Cer., and Thos. Grime, Past Pro.
G. Asst. Dir. of Ceremonies.

Bro. John Bury, P.M., St. John's, No. 325, proposed Bro. E. B.
WARNER, P.M., St. John's Lodge, No. 325, which was seconded by
Bro. Henry Holder, P. Prov. G. Standard Bearer, but the candidature
was at once withdrawn.

The room was then cleared for the election, those Brethren entitled
to vote only remaining,—the friends of the two candidates taking the
different sides of the room, when the R.W. Prov. G. Master declared
the election in favour of Bro. HENRY LEES HOLLINGWORTH.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master then appointed the following
as the Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year, and duly invested
them with their respective badges (Bro. Edmund Ashworth, Past Prov.
G. Warden, being invested for Brother Coddington, M.P., absent through
illness, and Bro. Ainsworth, Past Prov. G. Registrar, being invested for
Bro. NASH, whose duties at the assizes prevented his attendance):—

Provincial Grand Officers, 5 May. 1881.

	NAME.	RANK.
Wor. Bro.	WILLIAM CODDINGTON, M.P., 269,	Prov. S. G. Warden.
"	THOMAS HARGREAVES, 215, 283,	Prov. J. G. Warden.
"	REV. J. E. ROBERTS, B.D., 1218,	} Prov. G. Chaplains.
"	REV. ED. HUGHES THOMAS, 369,	
"	HY. LEES HOLLINGWORTH, 277,	Prov. G. Treasurer.
"	THOS. NASH, 1253,	Prov. G. Registrar.

- Wor. Bro. JOHN. CHADWICK, 44, Prov. G. Secretary.
- ” CHAS. H. BRADDON, M.D., 62, Prov. S. G. Deacon.
- ” HENRY THOMAS, 277, Prov. J. G. Deacon.
- ” SAML. LAWTON BUCKLEY, 269, Prov. G. Supt. of Works.
- ” SAMUEL HAWORTH, 345, Prov. G. Direc. of Ceremonies.
- ” JOHN BLADON, 317, Prov. G. Assit. Direc. of Ceremonies.
- ” JOHN SMETHURST, 191, Prov. G. Sword Bearer.
- ” JOSEPH C. WHITTINGTON, 999, Prov. G. Organist.
- ” JAMES BLACKA, 226, Prov. G. Pursuivant.
- ” EDMD. SOURBUTTS, 346, Prov. G. Assistant Pursuivant.
- ” EDMUND ASHWORTH, 1392,
- ” JOHN GIBB SMITH, 44,
- ” W. O. WALKER, 191,
- ” ALLEN BLENKHORN, 269,
- ” H. J. PLATTS, 345,
- ” THOS. WHITTAKER, 346,
- ” THOMAS MITCHELL, 221, Prov. G. Tyler.
- ” JAMES KERSHAW, 300, Prov. G. Masters Standard Bearer.

} Prov. G. Stewards.

The Provincial Grand Officers having been invested were saluted in due form.

The proceedings of the Charity Committee were then read by the Prov. G. Secretary as follows :—

Minutes of Meeting of General Committee,

HELD 1st APRIL 1881.

PRESENT

“ Brother J. L. HINE, P. Prov. S. G. Warden, the President in the Chair, and there were representatives from 69 out of the 91 Lodges in the Province.

“ The Election Committee presented their report in reference to the last Election in London on the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls and Boys.

The Deputation consisted of Bros. J. L. HINE, Chairman, James Arthur BIRCH, Vice-Chairman, and John CHADWICK, Prov. Grand Secretary. Assistance being also cheerfully rendered by Bro. Geo. PARKER Brockbank.

There were three Girls on the list of Candidates for Election on Saturday, 9th October 1880, namely, Gertrude Ashworth, Mildred Okell, and Lelia Williamson, with a total of 42 Girls to be elected out of 54 candidates.

Your deputation were successful in placing Gertrude Ashworth 34th on the poll with 609 votes and Mildred O'Kell " 35th " " " 605 " and also polled 532 votes for our third Candidate Lelia Williamson but were not successful in electing her. The Election Committee, however, feel confident they will be able to secure her election in April next.

For the highest elected Candidate there were 1422 votes polled, and for the lowest 576 votes.

At the election of Boys on Monday, the 11th of October, there were 73 Candidates and 16 vacancies, two of which were from this province namely, William Henry Palmer and Allan Talbot Howarth, both of whom your Deputation were successful in electing, placing Palmer 1st on the poll with 1994 votes, and Howarth 3rd on the poll with 1833 votes. For the highest elected Candidate there were 1994 votes polled, and for the lowest 1498 votes.

The total result of the years' work has been the election of three Girls, three Boys, 2 Aged Freemasons and 1 Widow.

Read Petitions from Mrs. Legge, widow of the late Bro. Wm. John Legge, Caledonian Lodge No. 204 on behalf of her son Vernon Guest Legge, aged 11 years, a Candidate on the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

"Resolved" That the petition be received and that he be adopted by this Committee.

Read a petition from Miss Bottomley, sister of the late Thos. Robert Bottomley, P.M., Harmony Lodge No. 288, on behalf of her nephew Albert William Bottomley, Aged 7 years, a Candidate on the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

"Resolved" That the petition be received and that he be adopted by this Committee.

"Resolved" That Vernon Guest Legge be placed for presentation under the nomination to which the Province is entitled by the Blair Presentation Fund—the same being vacant—and that Albert Wm. Bottomley be supported by the Province at the election, on Monday, April 11th.

The Province has one Girl on the list of Candidates coming forward for election on Saturday, 9th April last, and as there is a reserve of 532 votes in her favour, the Chairman said he had little doubt of her election.

Petitions were read by the Provincial Grand Secretary on behalf of the following Candidates on the list for election on Royal Benevolent Institution.

Bro. Jno. Mannington	...	...	Caledonian Lodge	204.
„ James Jackson	...	...	Royds Lodge	816.
„ Charles Sutcliffe	...	...	Borough Lodge	1064.
„ Joseph Burton	...	...	Minerva Lodge	300.
„ Thomas Higson	...	...	St. John's Lodge	348.

“Resolved” That with the exception of Bro. Jno. Mannington, the same be received and adopted.

“Resolved” That the Candidates be placed for election in following order.

- 1st Bro. Charles Sutcliffe,
- 2nd „ James Jackson,
- 3rd „ Thomas Higson,
- 4th „ Joseph Burton.

Petitions were read also on behalf of the following Widows of Freemasons.

Mrs. Moorhouse supported by Commerce Lodge No. 215,

Mrs. Wilkinson „ „ St. John's Lodge „ 325.

“Resolved” That the beforementioned Candidates be placed in the following order for election.

- 1st Mrs. Wilkinson,
- 2nd Mrs. Moorhouse.

“Resolved” That grants of ten pounds each be recommended to Prov. Grand Lodge to be made to the unsuccessful Candidates on the Royal Benevolent Institution.

“Resolved” That the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Prov. G. Secretary be a Deputation to attend the coming elections on the various Institutions.

Bro. Hine and Birch were unanimously re-elected Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Charity Committee.

“Resolved” That the best thanks of the Committee are due and are hereby tendered to Bros. Hine and Birch for their services during the past year.”

“Resolved” That the Minutes of the Charity Committee just read by the Prov. G. Secretary be confirmed by Provl. G. Lodge and that they be entered upon the minutes of this day's proceedings.”

Brothers J. W. P. SALMON, P.M., 163 ; JOHN LEIGH ALDRED, W.M. 221, and J. E. LEES, P.M. 645, were elected Auditors of the Provincial Grand Treasurer's accounts for the ensuing year.

1888/45.56

On the motion of Bro. JAS. A. BIRCH, Past Prov. Grand Warden, seconded by Bro. TWEEDALE, P. PROV. G. Reg., and supported by Bro. J. HARGREAVES, PROV. G. J. Warden, it was resolved that the sum of £50 be contributed from the Prov. Grand Lodge Fund in aid of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution.

There was one Invitation with respect to the place for holding the next meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge—namely from Haslingden—when the PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER said the invitation should have his best consideration and the result should be communicated in due course.

The business of the Meeting being concluded the Prov. C. Lodge was closed in due form and with prayer at 3-40, when the E. W. Prov. G. Master and the Prov. G. Officers retired, and the Grand Lodge was closed in peace and harmony, by the W. Masters, Officers and Brethren of the Fidelity and Perseverance Lodges.

The Brethren, to the number of 170 afterwards dined at the EXCHANGE, under the Presidency of the E. W. Prov. G. Master, Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie.

JOHN CHADWICK.

PROV. G. SECRETARY.

