



1. The Procession Going to the Cathedral.—2. The Marquis of Londonderry, K.P.—3. Statue to the Fourth Marquis of Londonderry, Father of the Present Marquis.—4. The Town Hall, where the Banquet took place.

INSTALLATION OF THE MARQUIS OF LONDONDERRY AS PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF THE FREEMASONS AT DURILAM

MASONIC INSTALLATION AT DURHAM

ON Tuesday, last week, a grand Masonic ceremony was performed in the Hall of Durham Castle, the occasion being the installation of the Marquis of Londonderry, K.P., as Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Durham. On the dais were about 150 officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and in the body of the Hall some 800 Master Masons, from the various Lodges in the county and more distant localities, were assembled. The ceremony was performed by the Earl of Lathom, Deputy Grand Master of England, assisted by Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., Acting Deputy Provincial Grand Master. After the installation the Freemasons, wearing their official robes and insignia, went in procession to the cathedral, where a special service was held, and a sermon on the Principles of Freemasonry was preached by Brother the Rev. Canon Cundell, M.A., Acting Provincial Grand Treasurer. After the service the Freemasons returned in processional order to the Castle, where the ceremony of disrobing was performed, and the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed with the customary formalities. In the evening a grand Masonic banquet was given in the Town Hall.

It is forty years since a similar ceremony took place in Durham, the last Provincial Grand Master installed there being Brother John Fawcett, the oldest Grand Master, who in 1876 had the honour of installing H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England, under the protection of which there are more than 1,000 Lodges. English Freemasons profess to trace the origin of the craft as far back as the holding of a Convention of Masons in York in 926.