

members afterward partook of tea together.

Death of Past Grand Master Potter.

The Craft in Pennsylvania are called to mourn the loss of one of their best known members—one who had justly received the highest honors in Ancient Craft and Capitular Masonry—Past Grand Master and Past Grand High Priest, Brother Alfred R. Potter. Brother Potter died at his residence in Germantown, on Thursday, Dec. 22nd, at the age of sixty-five years, his death being the result, probably, of an accident that befell him over a year ago, on a street car, by which two of his ribs were fractured. He was widely known, and as widely esteemed and loved. He possessed marked traits of character, that fitted him for being a leader among men. While always kind and courteous, he was self-reliant, quick, and just in forming his judgments, and inflexible in carrying them into practice. Owing to his illness for a year past, he has not, during that period, been often seen in Masonic circles, but prior to that he was a very active Freemason, having been for thirty years a member of the Craft.—*Keystone*.

Mark Grand Lodge of England.

On Tuesday, the 6th ult., the Mark Grand Lodge of England and Wales was held in the Great Hall of the Freemasons' Tavern, and was indeed a red letter day to our English Mark Masters. In alluding to the coming event (Dec. 3rd) the *Freemason's Chronicle* says:—

Mark Masonry has been of late years extremely popular, and, what is still more satisfactory from our point of view, an eminently prosperous body. The Grand Lodge has been in existence only for a quarter of a century, though the degree in itself very justly lays claim to a most respectable antiquity. In Scotland the Mark is part and parcel of the Craft; in England it would have been, but for the conscientious objections of the then Grand Master, the late Earl of Zetland, who did not see his way clear to any de-

parture from the lines which were laid down in 1813 at the Union of the Ancients and Moderns as to the exact definition of Free, Antient and Accepted Masonry. At all events, there are now not far short of 15,500 registered Mark Masons, while the Lodges on the roll of the Grand Lodge are 291. There are a General Fund, a Benevolent Fund, and an Educational Fund, and the invested moneys are not far short of £1,000. There are no less than thirty-two Provincial and District Grand Lodges, those of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire and the Mediterranean having been constituted during the current year. The Degree of Ark Mariner, which is under the wing of the Mark, or, to speak more reverently, is attached to it much in the same way as a Royal Arch Chapter is to a Craft Lodge, has likewise made considerable progress during the year which is now on the eve of closing. Great, however, as has been the well-merited prosperity of the degree, it has not yet had the opportunity of enrolling amongst its magnates a Prince of the Blood Royal. Yet on Tuesday next, H. R. H. Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, K. G., will be installed as M. W. Past Grand Master, and doubtless the attendance will be in every respect worthy of the auspicious occasion. That the degree has prospered solely from its own deserts is undeniable, but it will not grudge the additional fame it will acquire in the world of Freemasonry by the installation of the youngest and justly popular son of Her Majesty the Queen. True, our men of Mark will be only one the stronger, but it will be a graceful, as well as a formidable addition, to their strength.

Jurisprudence Department.

EDITED BY R. W. BRO. HENRY ROBERTSON,
P. D. D. G. M.

Q.—Can the W. M.-elect (he not occupying either of the Wardens' chairs) rule the Lodge, previous to his installation, if any P. M. and the Wardens are present?

A.—No.

Q.—Has the W. M.-elect the right to choose his own installing officer, or does the choice remain in the hands of the retiring W. M.?

A.—The W. M.-elect has no choice in this matter. It is the prerogative of the retiring W. M. to install his successor, but he may request any other P. M. to perform the ceremony.

Would you be kind enough to inform me at your earliest convenience if it is regular