

THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE IRISH FREEMASONS.

During the Royal visit to Ireland not the least interesting portion of the proceedings is that relating to the visit of Bro. H. R. H. the Prince of Wales to the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and his investiture as the Grand Patron of the Masonic Order in that country.

On Friday, August 4th, the Grand Lodge of Ireland was summoned to meet at 4 o'clock, and was opened in ample form at a quarter to five by the Duke of Leinster, who occupied the throne as Grand Master.

The following grand Officers were present:—

- M. W. Bro. Duke of Leinster, Grand Master.
- R. W. Bro. Robert William Shekleton, Deputy Grand Master.
- R. W. Bro. Lord Athlumney, Senior Grand Warden.
- R. W. Bro. Viscount Powerscourt, Junior Grand Warden.
- R. W. Bro. Arthur Bushe, Grand Treasurer.
- R. W. Bro. Maxwell C. Close, Grand Secretary.
- R. W. Bro. the Rev. John James Macsorley, Grand Chaplain.
- W. Bro. Charles A. Cameron, Senior Grand Deacon.
- W. Bro. Charles D. Astley, Grand Superintendent of Works, as Junior Grand Deacon.
- W. Bro. Joseph Manning, Grand Director of Ceremonies.
- W. Bro. Theophilus E. St. George, Grand Steward.
- W. Bro. A. M. Baird, Grd. Sec. Midland Counties, as Grand Sword Bearer.
- W. Bro. F. Quin, Organist.
- W. Bro. Stuart Nassau Lane, Grand Inner Guard.
- W. Bro. Charles T. Walmisley, Deputy Grand Secretary and Treasurer.
- Bro. Samuel B. Oldham, Assistant Secretary.

Representatives from various Grand Lodges and the Provinces.

The Duke of Leinster, who has been the Grand Master of Irish Masons more than fifty years, and who therefore filled his present position during George the Fourth's visit to Ireland, presided with genial cordiality. The reception of the Royal Brother was full of heartiness, tempered with respect, and the proceedings passed off without a single hitch from first to last. The Duke of Manchester was announced a short time before the Prince, and as Provincial Grand Master of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire (under the English Constitution), was received with fitting honors. The Irish Masons were bent on giving a cordial reception to their English brethren, and it was the subject of much regret that more of these were not present.

A deputation of Grand Officers then proceeded from the Grand Lodge Room to wait upon his Royal Highness in the Robing Room, and conduct him to the Grand Lodge Room. The Prince was then led by deputation to his chair, on the left of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, the Grand Organist playing the National Anthem. The brethren on the Prince's entering, rose and stood to order in silence. Upon the Prince taking his seat, his Royal Highness was saluted with full Masonic honours as past Grand Master of England and Wales.

The Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Shekleton read the following address:—

May it please your Royal Highness,—We, the Grand Master and brethren of the most ancient and honourable society of Freemasons of Ireland, in Grand Lodge assembled, do most cordially and fraternally welcome your Royal Highness to the Grand Lodge of Dublin. We hail with the highest gratification your Royal Highness's accession as a brother of the Order. Your Royal Highness, in following the example of your Royal and illustrious relatives, by affording your patronage to our Order, has conferred upon it the highest honor it is possible for it