

THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.—No. 24.

SATURDAY, 12th JUNE 1875.

PRICE THREEPENCE.
[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

THE DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE OF THE MIDDLE AGES.

TO a Freemason who is interested in the archæology of the Craft, the domestic architecture of the middle ages is rich in materials for study and thought. To understand remote civilisation it is essential that we should know how the people were lodged, what were their domestic habits and manners, and to what extent the prevailing styles of architecture influenced the daily life of the cultivated classes. The historian has hitherto ignored archæology. He has been content to tell us of battles and sieges, or to retail the gossip or scandal of courts, but the materials which alone could afford an insight into the state of the people at any given period, have been held to be beneath the dignity of history. Macaulay was one of the first of historical writers who ventured to ignore these absurd canons of historic criticism, but his masterpiece is a mere fragment, and goes no further back than the reign of James II. We look in vain in more ambitious works for the details of the daily life of an Englishman 500 years ago, but happily the archæologist has come to our aid, and with his assistance much of the obscurity which has rested on this interesting subject is now being cleared away. Those amongst us who still believe in the "good old times," may perhaps carry away an erroneous impression from a mere superficial study of the domestic architecture of the middle ages. Evidence of the habits of the common people is difficult to find, since the dwellings in which they lived were mere hovels, which have not escaped the destroying hand of time. In the twelfth century, the period to which we refer, the middle classes had scarcely begun to exist. In walled cities, possessing charters, the citizen of the period was commonly a poor and mean person, whose dwelling was a mere den, built of timber and mud, and thatched with straw. There were no doubt a few wealthy merchants, who traded beyond the seas, and whose houses were built of more ambitious materials; but if we would learn aught of the manners and habits of the period, we must examine such remains of the manor houses of the nobles as time and the vandalism of ignorant persons have spared to us. Fortunately these remains are by no means scanty, and by their aid we may not only form a tolerable idea of the domestic habits of their original occupants, but some conception of the kind of work which was accomplished by the masons of the period. The custom of living and eating in common appears to have been a general practice with our Saxon and Norman ancestors, and accordingly the "Hall" was the principle, and indeed almost the only apartment in an ancient mansion. The Saxon nobles appear to have constructed their dwellings of timber, and in the more ambitious examples the Hall, with the kitchen, stables and sheds for the serfs, was surrounded by a fortified enclosure flanked by towers. The Norman castle of the twelfth century has been rendered familiar to us by the illuminated manuscripts of the period. Its lofty keep is still a marked feature of many a picturesque ruin, and the Hall often formed its chief apartment. We have, however, to deal with domestic rather than with military architecture. In the Hall the noble and his retainers took their meals in common. The furniture was of the rudest description, consisting merely of a few rough tables and benches, and the earthen or stone floor was strewn with straw or rushes. This primitive carpet was often in the foulest condition with the accumulated filth of weeks or months, and when it had become too noisome for the seasoned nostrils

of the inmates, it was usually carted away and used as manure. The retainers slept in the Hall, either on the tables and benches or upon the floor, while the lord and his lady occupied the only sleeping apartment in the mansion. This chamber, which was usually on the second story, was called the "solar" or "sollere," and the apartment beneath it on a level with the Hall was called the "cellar," and was used as such. The architecture of these mansions was of the most substantial kind; the masonry was always excellent, and the mouldings of the doors and windows were generally good. The roof was of open timber, substantially and artistically constructed, and in the earliest examples a central opening was provided for the escape of the smoke of the fire, which occupied the centre of the floor. The chimney appears to have been a very uncommon constructive feature in the dwellings of the period, but as wood was the chief, if not the only fuel used, the inconvenience arising from its absence was not much felt. Glass was a luxury which was but little known, and only sparingly used in Ecclesiastical buildings. The windows in the hall of a noble of the period were merely secured by strong shutters, and it was impossible to admit the light of heaven without permitting the rude winds of our boisterous climate to have free play through the apartment. At a later period, when glass came into fashion, the heads of the windows were glazed, but this luxury was only within reach of the richest of the upper classes. The masons who erected the halls and manor houses of the twelfth century appear to have been a wandering fraternity; and it would seem that they were intimately associated, and their work was, consequently, characterised by great uniformity. The mouldings and other details of the edifices they erected are all much alike, both in pattern and dimensions, and the carvings with which the heads of columns were enriched, present much uniformity of type. Writers on art, who insist upon "truth" as one of the essentials of good architecture, will be perhaps surprised to learn that the masons of the period did not scruple to use plaster and whitewash, while the decorator thought the additions of colour to stonework perfectly legitimate ornamentation. Towers decorated with bands of colour externally are frequently represented in the illuminated manuscripts of the period, and the specifications still existing amply prove that the internal walls of manor houses were gaily adorned with chromatic designs. The masons appear to have been separated into classes; there were cutters and sculptors of free-stone, and layers and setters. They worked either by the piece or for fixed daily wages. An inferior class of operatives were the "mud stickers," who filled up the framework of timber houses with mud or mud clay; in addition, there were the usual assistant labourers, excavators and barrow-men.

The remains of the mansions of the twelfth century rarely afford any traces of fortification in the strict sense of the term. The walls, indeed, were always of great thickness, but the high pitched roof was unfitted for defence, and it does not appear that any of the military features of domestic architecture was general before the thirteenth century. Licenses to embattle the walls of mansions are amongst the most frequent literary relics of this latter period, and the general anxiety which was displayed to adopt this, the then most effective means of fortifying a dwelling, is one of the collateral proofs of the disturbed state of society. The homes of the nobles now assumed the appearance of castles, for which they are often mistaken by ignorant tourists. The internal arrangements were much more complex than those which satisfied the wants of a former age. The hall was now no

longer the only apartment. Storey was piled on storey, and from the flat roof the retainers, sheltered by the battlements, could discharge their arrows at an attacking force. Some very fine examples of domestic castellated architecture belong to this period. The habits of the upper classes had become more refined, and their dwellings were accordingly constructed to satisfy the requirements of the age. The manor house of this century frequently had its keep or principal tower, as well as embattled walls, and a moat or ditch was not an uncommon defensive feature. The windows, which were usually small, were sometimes glazed either wholly or in part. The chimney was now a common feature, and the fire place was usually characterised by great boldness and artistic truth. The walls of a common manor house were usually four or five feet thick, and the masonry was admirably put together. The mason aimed to make the buildings he erected as substantial as possible, and we could point to examples which, after existing for four centuries, are as sound and as strong as they were when the scaffolding was removed from the walls. It requires no prophetic insight to enable us to say that four centuries hence very few of the more ambitious structures of our time will be standing as monuments of the skill and honesty of the builders of this age.

CHARITY.

THE virtue we most pride ourselves upon is Charity, and not without reason. Our charitable institutions are a credit to the Order. To assist over two hundred aged or distressed brethren or their widows, to maintain a Girls' School of about one hundred and fifty pupils, and a Boys' School which numbers within one or two of one hundred and eighty, is evidence that Masons are not unmindful of their obligation to assist the necessitous brother and his family. For the maintenance of these institutions considerably over £20,000 are subscribed annually, and, in addition, a vast amount of help is afforded to deserving brethren whose circumstances are for the time being distressed. Thus, as regards this branch of charity, we may reasonably, and with honest pride, justify ourselves before all the world. But Charity has a far wider significance than that of mere almsgiving. Men bestow alms from various motives, and some without thought or motive. We hardly like condemning those who give of their superfluous means without hesitation or stint, but clearly those who give thoughtlessly or ostentatiously are not exactly charitable in the usual acceptation of the word. Again, a man may give freely and even liberally; there may be a method in the bestowal of his alms, which does credit to his judgment, and he may studiously avoid all display or semblance of display in giving. Yet for all this his charity, he may be the very reverse of a charitable man. We have no intention of inflicting a sermon on our readers, but a few remarks on the least showy, but by no means the least important elements in this virtue may not be deemed inappropriate. The scriptural exposition of charity is familiar enough to our readers, so that we need not reproduce it now, but it strikes us that one or two of the points on which the writer lays the chief stress do not receive their full amount of consideration. Without charity, we are told, the bestowal of all our worldly goods upon the poor is nothing worth. Charity, in fact, is a combination of admirable qualities. To use a very homely illustration, it is like one of those delicious beverages which are so much sought after at this season of the year. Each of the constituent parts is excellent in itself, but they must be blended together, carefully and scientifically, so that no one constituent shall be perceptible to the detriment of the others. So in the virtue of which we are speaking, and which we claim, with a certain sense of justice, to possess, we must be careful that all the properties which belong to it are duly represented. "Charity suffereth long," and is kind. Take for instance the case of some one who is popularly considered to possess some weakness or even vice. Strong in his knowledge that the charge is unjust, he pursues the even tenour of his way through life, always acting up to the principles he has laid down for his guidance, evincing no enmity towards those who think him not all he, seems to be never claiming any special merit for strictly abiding by this standard of duty, and always handy and willing to assist even those who malign him. He suffereth long,

it may be not wholly without feeling; but certainly uncomplainingly, and in the end he is rewarded. The merit he possesses comes at length to be universally admitted, and his detractors are silenced. In this, as in all else, that he does, he is animated by one uniform sense of kindness, which recognises no distinction between friends and foes. There is no violence of language or demeanour towards those who differ with him. He is as considerate towards human frailty as towards human piety and devotion to duty. Again, the charitable man is not envious. Another is raised above him to some post of honour, but there is no soreness of feeling, no latent envy, at this preference over himself. He had sought the honour perhaps, and was worthy of it, but, some one else has been thought still worthier, and he yields contentedly to the choice. Then again charity, "thinketh no evil." Thus, experience tells us as plain men of the world that the ostensible is not always the real motive of a person's conduct, but the charitable man accepts it as such. It would never occur to him to attribute a good action to some unworthy motive. Nor does he feel aught but sorrow when misfortune overtakes a brother, even though the man's own folly may have induced it. There is no petty spite about him. He would far rather condole with the unfortunate and help him to repair his misfortune or folly. It is extreme meanness to chuckle over a man when he fails in his object or is alone in the world. The triumphant, "I told you so," "I foresaw the issue," may be an evidence of superior wisdom, but we pass over the wisdom, and think only of the spite that is shown.

There is human weakness among Masons as among other men. We can no more expect perfection in them than in others. But we have a right to expect that Masons shall approach more nearly to perfection, and for this reason; Masonry lays down certain special rules of life for the guidance of its members. These rules are very simple, and no more than every man, be he Mason or not, is bound to follow. But the one who enters our Order binds himself doubly, and in the most solemn manner, to their observance. It is a purely voluntary act on his part, this entrance into our Fraternity. No doubt the religion he professes enjoins upon him the practice of every virtue, the avoidance of every vice. But the duty of fulfilling these injunctions, of which charity in its widest sense is the most conspicuous, is certainly more imperative in the Mason, for as we have said before he voluntarily, and a second time, commits himself to their fulfilment. But, perhaps, we cannot close these few remarks better than by quoting a few lines from an eminent Masonic writer. Says Hutchinson, of Charity: "In order to exercise this virtue, both in the character of Masons and in common life, with propriety, and agreeable to good principles, we must forget every obligation but affection; for otherwise it were to confound charity with duty. The feelings of the heart ought to direct the hands of Charity. To this purpose we should be divested of every idea of superiority, and estimate ourselves as being of equality, the same rank and race of men; in this disposition of mind we may be susceptible of those sentiments which charity delighteth in, to feel the woes and miseries of others with a genuine and true sympathy of soul: Compassion is of heavenly birth; it is one of the first characteristics of humanity. Peculiar to our race, it distinguishes us from the rest of the creation." And again, of Brotherly Love, the same writer remarks: "The most material part of that brotherly love which should subsist among Masons, is that of speaking well of each other to the world; more especially it is expected of every member of his Fraternity, that he should not traduce his brother. Calumny and slander are detestable crimes against society. Nothing can be viler than to traduce a man behind his back; it is like the villany of an assassin, who has not virtue enough to give his adversary the means of self-defence, but, lurking in darkness, stabs him whilst he is unarmed, and has no suspicion of an enemy."

AN ULTRAMONTANE SQUIB.

OUR readers on both sides of St. George's Channel will estimate at its true worth the extract which we print below. It is culled from the columns of the *Freeman's Journal*, a paper whose recent attack upon Freemasonry we ventured to notice in our last impression. The *Freeman's Journal* has not improved in fairness and candour, and it is still indisposed to produce evidence in proof of its

reckless assertions. It has the impudence to quote a second hand extract from Mr. Heckethorn's book on Secret Societies, and as the passage in question has already figured in the *Saturday Review*, as well as in the paper from which it has been "lifted" by our critic, we are fully assured that he has not even seen the outside of the work upon which he comments. Such tactics as these may be regarded as legitimate by an Ultramontane, but we are certain that no journalist of reputation would condescend to imitate them. Mr. Heckethorn's book, for aught the *Freeman's Journal* can tell, may be a mere tissue of misstatements, but since it is hostile to Masonry, our contemporary has seized upon it, or, rather, so much of it as could be obtained in a poor paragraph from the *Pall Mall Budget*, and has flung his miserable squib into our camp. We assure the *Freeman's Journal* that the puny missile will not explode. Masons care little for the charges which may be trumped up against the Order by hostile prints. They are quite certain that Masons, as such, can never conspire against the government of any country. The moment a brother forgets or ignores his Civil allegiance he ceases to be a Mason. With respect to Mr. Heckethorn's assertion that the members of the Order are devoted to the pleasures of the table, we treat the assertion with the contempt it deserves. The *Freeman's Journal* evidently appears to think that a man who has dined well is likely to conspire against the State. Such an idea could only emanate from an ecclesiastic, and perhaps, after all, we shall not be far wrong in assuming that our critic wears the tonsure, and lives on pulse and water.

One often has to listen to shallow people who, with a great assumption of superior knowledge and wisdom, discourse confidently about the difference between the action of Freemasonry on the Continent, which has so often brought the society under the ban of the Holy See, and its operations in these kingdoms were, we are assured, it is "just for good fellowship, pleasant company, giving a fellow a lift," and no more. The deceitful nature of this view may be gathered from a summary which appears in the *Pall Mall Budget* of the matter relating to this body collected in a recently published work on secret societies of all ages and countries.

After going through the secret societies of the Roman Empire and Middle Ages, the most important, perhaps, of which were the Assassins of Persia, the Holy Vehm, and the Rosicrucians, the eighth book of the work is full of the Freemasons, and occupies one-third of the first volume, the writing of which has clearly been a labour of love. Here the curious may eat of the forbidden tree of knowledge. The number of rites and the number of degrees in each—the York rite, the French rite, the Ancient and Accepted Scotch rite, the rites of Memphis and Mizaim, and twelve other rites, are all dangled before the eyes of the aspirant to aprons and jewellery. Their history, too, is searched out. The Freemasons have coquetted with politicians, and *vice versa*; they schemed for the Pretender and for and against Napoleon I. and Napoleon III., and these schemed against them. At the instigation of the First Napoleon, Cambacérès was made Grand Master Adjunct, and accumulated more Masonic titles than any other person ever possessed. Napoleon III. appointed one of his own Marshals—Magnan—as Grand Master, by a decree in 1862. But, after probing the mystery and the history of Masonry, the author (Mr. Heckethorn) comes to the melancholy conclusion that it is utterly futile. "Selfishness, an eye to business, vanity, frivolity, gluttony, and a love of mystery-mongering, concealed under the specious pretence of brotherly love and a longing for instruction—these are the motives that lead men into the Lodge."

This conclusion may be commended to the serious consideration of those who have a tawdry taste for gew-gaws and a flunkey appetite for the fraternal companionship (at a distance) of royal and ducal "Grand Masters." It was significant that, with the solemn views of religious duty which the Marquis of Ripon formed, he came out at once from the "vanity, frivolity, gluttony, and mystery-mongering" in which he had previously taken part.

GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA.

WE have received the Abstract of the Proceedings of this Grand Chapter for the year 1874, and though but little that was eventful appears to have occurred during that period, there is evidence of health and prosperity throughout its entire jurisdiction. At the Quarterly Communication, held at Philadelphia, 5th Nov. 1874, were present Comp. Andrew Robeno jun. M.E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Robert H. Pattison M.E. Grand King, Comp. George E. Wagner M.E. Grand Scribe, Comp. Thorn R. Patton M.E. Grand Treasurer, Comp. John Thompson M.E. Grand Secretary, and several other Companions, Past G.H. Priests, &c., and representatives of twenty-six Chapters. The Committee on Finance reported that the receipts for the year ended 31st October 1874 (including balance in hand on November 1873 of 160 dols. 19 cents.), amounted to a frac-

tion over 7,750 dollars, while the expenditure somewhat exceeded 7,148 dollars, leaving a balance in hand of over 601 dollars, to which a further sum was to be added of 11 dols. 30 cents, being the difference between what yet remained due to G. Chapter by subordinate Chapters, and what by subordinate Chapters to G. Chapter, making in all over 613 dollars. But appropriations already made for expenses to 27th December, showed a total of 912½ dollars, leaving a deficiency of nearly 300 dollars to be made good, in order to clear all indebtedness to the last-mentioned date. The investments of Grand Chapter amounting to 17,000 dollars, are all in New Masonic Temple Loan, 7½% interest. The estimate of receipts for the year 1875 reached a sum of over 7,142 dollars, the expenses being reckoned at 6,862 and-a-half. The Committee close their report by recommending the appropriation of certain sums towards the expenditure of the ensuing year, and that M.E. Grand High Priest be authorised to draw on the M.E. Grand Treasurer for all such authorised sums. The election of officers then took place, the result of the ballot being that the same Companions were re-elected M.E. Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary.

At the Annual Grand Communication, held 28th December, Comp. Andrew Robeno jun. M.E. Grand High Priest, who presided, delivered an appropriate address. From this it appeared there were in the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter ninety-seven Chapters and three Mark Lodges, with a membership of ten thousand. Seven applications for new Chapters had been received, and to each a warrant had been granted. The M.E.G. High Priest then described the visitations he had made throughout his province, and expressed himself highly pleased both with what he had seen, and with the cordiality with which he and the other Grand Officers had been received. He then read an interesting letter from Comp. W. J. Hughan, Grand Representative of this Grand Chapter in England, in which the writer touches upon the recognition of the Mark Grand Lodge of England by the Craft Grand Lodge, and also as to the state of the Royal Arch Degree. The address closed with a few further remarks, and then, all but Past High Priests having retired, P.G. High Priest C. E. Meyer installed Comp. A. Robeno as M.E.G. High Priest for the ensuing year. The latter installed sundry of the G. officers, and afterwards announced the following appointments: Comps. David B. Taylor, No. 183, G. Captain of the Host, John J. Heisler, No. 91, G.P.S., William H. Burkhardt, No. 52, G.R.A. Captain, Edward Mathews, No. 91, G.M. of 3rd Vail, W. W. Allen, No. 248, G.M. of 2nd Vail, Hibbert P. John, No. 169, G.M. of 1st Vail, Edward Masson, No. 232, G. Marshal, William T. Reynolds, No. 183, S.G.M. of C., Robert H. Vaughn, No. 232, J.G.M. of C., William C. Hamilton, No. 52, G. Pursuivant, and Harrison G. Clark, No. 91, G. Tyler, with others too numerous to quote. A memorial notice of the late P.G.H.P. Comp. John C. Smith, who died in October of last year, was then read, giving a full account of the Masonic career of the deceased Companion. From this it appears that Comp. J. Conrad Smith was initiated 10th June 1825, crafted 8th July, and raised 13th August. It was not till the beginning of the year 1846 that he advanced to the Royal Arch Degree, being exalted in the Jerusalem Chapter, No. 3, at an adjourned meeting held 21st February. After passing through various grades he was elected M.E.G.H.P. in 1856. A resolution, expressing the sympathies of Grand Chapter with the widow of their deceased Companion, and their respect for the memory of her deceased husband, was submitted for consideration, and the Grand Chapter then closed in peace. In an Appendix to this abstract is a report of the Committee on correspondence, which gives a summary of the proceedings of various Grand Chapters, some for 1873, some for 1874, and in the case of the Grand Mark Lodge of England for the years 1872, 1873, 1874. For the particulars of these proceedings, and the comments of the Committee on every point which seemed to require comment, we beg to refer them to the Appendix itself.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—As Summer advances, and warmer weather sets in, it will be necessary for every one to exercise watchfulness and care, and the earliest symptoms of deranged health must be immediately checked and removed, or else a slight attack may run into some serious disease. Diarrhoea and Colic, with spasms of the bowels, are especially liable to occur during this season, and it is wonderful how quickly they are relieved by the immediate application of this Ointment externally, by means of rubbing it into the skin, and by the internal use of the Pills at the same time; irritating matter is thus removed from the intestinal canal, and all risk of Dysentery and Summer Cholera almost entirely removed.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire was held on Thursday, at the Assembly Rooms, Boston, and was remarkable as showing the great increase which has taken place in the numbers of the Craft last year. The number of Lodges now in the province is 19, and the enrolled number of members 713. The attendance at Grand Lodge last year was 147, while this year it amounted to 202 brethren. All the Lodges in the Province were represented.

Previous to the opening of Grand Lodge, morning prayers were read in the beautiful church of St. Botolph, and the brethren proceeded, at one o'clock, to the Assembly Rooms, where Lodge of Harmony, No. 272, was opened by the W.M., under the banner of which Lodge Grand Lodge was to be entertained. The procession of Grand Officers afterwards entered, and Major Smythe, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, opened Grand Lodge. The work was immediately proceeded with, the Provincial Grand Officers being very numerous. Among them were Bros. John Sutcliffe, Canon Ace, F. D. Marsden, W. H. Radley, T. Slator, F. Snaith, Rev. G. Coltman, C. M. Nesbitt, R. J. Boyle and W. G. Moore.

The minutes were first read by Bro. Marsden, and confirmed. After which Bro. Nesbitt, the Treasurer's, accounts were submitted by that Brother. From these it appeared that there was a balance in his hands to the general account of £39 11s 7d, after 20 guineas had been paid to the Masonic charities. The Fund of Benevolence showed a balance in the Treasurer's hands of £67 12s 7d, while £520 was invested. All petitioners to the Fund had been relieved, according to the report of Bro. Radley, who read the report of the Committee of Charity.

Bro. Pigott, the Steward for the year, representing the Province, then rose and thanked the brethren for the support which they had given him in that capacity. They had furnished him with £575 to take up to the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. He had certainly met with the greatest possible kindness.

The Deputy Grand Master said that Bro. Terry, the Secretary of the Benevolent Institution, was in attendance, and would say a few words on this subject.

Bro. Terry, who was received with applause, said he had been directed by the committee of management, who held their meeting the day before, to come to Boston for the purpose of returning their very grateful and sincere thanks to Bro. Pigott and the Deputy Stewards who assisted him at the Festival in January last, for the very handsome and liberal support they had given to the Benevolent Institution. At the same time he had to express regret that the candidates from Lincolnshire had not been successful at the election in May. He had also to thank the Deputy Grand Master for his donation of £100 for the purpose of endowing the Provincial Grand Master of the Province for the time being with votes; Bro. Sutcliffe also for his third or fourth donation; and Bro. Pigott and the other brethren who kindly attended the Festival. He hoped that whoever should be the Steward next year, and for whatever charity, he might be as true and hearty a Mason as was found in 1874-5. (Cheers.)

The Deputy Grand Master said he thought they must all be quite satisfied with the progress of the Province. From his own knowledge, he would state that the Lodges were getting on very well and steadily, but they did not wish only to swell their numbers. The brethren had before them the report of the Treasurer of Grand Lodge, and the report of the Benevolent Committee, which was still going on and prospering. They had also the report of Bro. Pigott, on the large sum he was enabled to take up as a Steward, in January, which was, no doubt, satisfactory to them all. On this he would ask Dr. Ace to say a few words.

The Rev. Dr. Ace, in obedience to the call of the D.G.M., said that as a Grand Lodge the brethren would not be discharging their duty, in his opinion, unless they tendered their cordial and unanimous thanks to Bro. Pigott for the exertions which he had made, during the past year, on behalf of one of their principal charities. Conversant himself with Bro. Pigott's diffidence in following so noble a Steward as the Province had the previous year, he yet knew that Bro. Pigott entered upon his work manfully. The work entailed much labour and correspondence, and Stewards met with many rebuffs in the pursuit of their design. He was, however, determined that Lincolnshire should take the lead, and he succeeded; for what? Not for an empty name, but to show that Masonry was alive in this Province. Bro. Pigott had discharged his duty, and he should therefore propose that the Grand Lodge present its cordial thanks to him for his unremitting and distinguished exertions on behalf of charity during the past year. (Cheers.)

The motion having been seconded and carried,—

Bro. Pigott thanked the brethren, both for their vote and for the assistance he received from them in the shape of contributions. During the next year he hoped that the brother who would succeed him would collect as much as £1,000.

The thanks of the brethren to Bro. Pigott were directed to be recorded on the minutes of Grand Lodge, and the different reports, which had been read, were ordered to be printed and circulated.

Bro. Hall said he was instructed by the subscribers to the "Oliver Memorial Fund," which was projected in remembrance of the late Dr. Oliver, to make an offer to the Provincial Grand Lodge that the sum collected, £197 7s 7d, should be handed over to the Provincial Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund, upon condition that the Provincial Grand Lodge added a similar sum to it, to be applied to some purpose to be determined on. The subject had been before the Benevolent Fund Committee, who thought that the interest of the money, when invested, should be devoted to the payment of small annuities to distressed brethren in the Province, until they could get their larger annuities from the Benevolent Institution. There was some objection to that, but he was sure he was speaking the sentiments of the subscribers when he said they would agree to anything the Provincial Grand Lodge might think right and proper, so long as the scheme was called after the late Dr. Oliver.

Grand Senior Warden asked whether the subscriptions to the fund were confined to brethren of this Province, or whether other brethren also subscribed.

Bro. Hall replied that the subscriptions came from other localities as well as from Lincolnshire. In answer to another question of Bro. G.S.W., Bro. Hall said the subject of the other subscribers' consent had been discussed at a meeting of the Committee held that morning.

Another brother asked the terms on which the offer was made. The brethren should be perfectly aware of them before they voted.

Bro. Mantell said the fund had been collected from Freemasons in various parts of the world, even from Australia, and he had not the slightest hesitation in saying that the offer the Oliver Memorial Committee were now making was a very handsome one. The only difficulty they had was one which Grand Treasurer had mooted, of how the money was to be spent. That difficulty, however, had always been got over when they had the money. (Laughter.) The brethren were very much pleased to find such an increase in the support of the Charities from year to year. He was pleased that they collected a Benevolent Fund, but he did not see why it should be saved. There was no reason why the brethren of 1874 should collect say £100, and lay it up whilst there were three institutions, which regarded the wants of young and old—when collected it ought to be spent. He had been present at the meeting of the Charity Committee that day, when it was seen that there were many pressing cases. Whatever Provincial Grand Lodge did now, he hoped it would not allow this sum, which was offered to it, to go into the Benevolent Fund, and be swallowed up in it without doing honour to Dr. Oliver. It should be applied in such a way that those who were benefitted by it should for ever after remember Dr. Oliver. A scholarship must be attached to the Masonic Boys' School, for such boy as may show talent, who might be called "The Oliver Memorial Boy."

Bro. Nesbitt (Grand Treasurer) said that with respect to cases of distress coming before the committee none ever came without having their wants generously and amply satisfied. No application for relief had been refused.

The resolution, "That the offer of the Oliver Memorial Committee be received with thanks by Provincial Grand Lodge," was then put, and carried unanimously.

The Deputy Grand Master then put to Grand Lodge the question of what Masonic Charitable Institution should be supported by the Province next year.

Bro. John Sutcliffe said that of late years the Girls' School had had the support of the Province only once. During seven years support was given to the Boys' School and the Benevolent Institution. They had but 99 votes in the Girls' School, while they had 400 in the Boys', and 400 in the Benevolent. They had four girls on the list of candidates and one boy. He thought they should increase their 99 votes by supporting the Girls' School.

Bro. Fountain, representing the Hundred of Elloe Lodge, called attention to the case of a widow, bordering on 70 years of age, and in delicate health, whose late husband had attained to the rank of Prov. G.S.W. She was unsuccessful at the election of the Benevolent Institution, and if she failed next year it would be very serious to her.

The Deputy Grand Master said he knew the case very well, and it was in excellent hands, so that Bro. Fountain need not be at all uneasy on the point.

Bro. Sutcliffe's motion was put and carried.

Bro. Boyle was selected as Steward, on the nomination of Bro. Pigott, and £21 was voted from the General Fund to be placed on his list.

The Deputy Grand Master then said he thought it right that the Installation of the Prince of Wales should not be allowed to pass without some expression, on the part of this Provincial Grand Lodge, of its sense of the honour he conferred on the Craft by accepting the office. From an examination of the records of proceedings on former occasions, he found that an address of congratulation had been presented to Royal Grand Masters on their Installation. A great many of the brethren present had had the opportunity of witnessing the very grandest ceremonial that had ever taken place in Masonry, and they would all remember the cheers which greeted the Prince of Wales at the Royal Albert Hall. They would also remember the intense feeling with which the Grand Master explained that he should never forget that day, and the way he reiterated the word "never," made a striking impression on the brethren who heard him. He (the Deputy Grand Master) had much pleasure in proposing "That an address from the Province of Lincolnshire be presented to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, congratulating him on his Installation as M.W. Grand Master." It was a great honour to be presided over by a future King; and, though he would not hold the position of Grand Master when he ascended the throne of these realms, he (the Deputy Grand Master) trusted he might long be spared to rule over Freemasons.

The Rev. George Coltman said he had been selected, as the oldest Mason in Lincolnshire, to second the proposition. He had not been able to attend for some time, but he could assure the brethren that the old Masonic spirit was still strong in him. He was pleased that the Prince of Wales had accepted the office of Grand Master, and he trusted that the tie His Royal Highness had thus formed with the Masons of England would not only unite his future subjects with him, but would open new fountains in his heart that would never be dried up. (Hear, hear.) He was sure the brethren would unanimously vote this address, and that the Prince of Wales would not look upon the people of Lincolnshire when he received it, as a former king of England did, when he said it was one of the most brutal and beastly counties in the country. (Laughter.) If he had been present to-day, and saw the splendid assemblage, he certainly would not say that it was the least county in England.

The motion was carried unanimously, and the address was directed to be presented by the Prov. G.M., the Deputy P.G.M., the Prov. G. Treasurer and the Prov. G. Secretary.

The following brethren were then appointed Grand Officers for the

year:—Bros. W. H. Smythe D.P.G.M., T. Slator jun. 838 G.S.W., J. A. Thomas 272 G.J.W., Rev. J. C. K. Saunders 1286 Chaplain, C. M. Nesbitt 712 G. Treasurer, H. Watson 1386 G. Registrar, F. D. Marsden 712 G. Secretary, G. Ford 271 G.S.D., T. W. Thimbleby 426 G.J.D., Alfred Parkin 1482 G. Sup. Wks., Wm. Pooles 838 Grand Director of Ceremonies, Geo. Nelson 1282 Grand Assistant Director of Ceremonies, W. Swallow 1482 G. Sword Bearer, Wm. Barraclough 1386 G. Organist, Alfred Kirk, 422 G. Pursuivant; J. W. Palmer 838, W. B. Batley 838, F. Watson 1386, Wm. Sissons 1447, Thos. Fryer 1282, W. S. Bladon 422, G. Stewards; Benj. Box G. Tyler, Bros. Fowler P.P.G.J.W., Griffin P.P.G.D.C., Auditors of Grand Lodge Funds.

The next Provincial Meeting is to be held at Brigg.

Bro. John Sutcliffe apologised, on behalf of Bro. F. Binckes, for his absence.

The Deputy Prov. Grand Master apologised for the absence of the Prov. Grand Master, and Grand Lodge was then closed.

The brethren afterwards dined at the Shodfriars Hall, presided over by the Deputy Grand Master, and honoured a very long list of toasts. The gallery was graced with the presence of over 100 ladies.

ANTAGONISM TO MASONRY.

(From the CANADIAN MASONIC NEWS.)

MASONRY, like everything else that is good, has always had its enemies—people who, whether they know anything about it or not, were ever ready to speak of it and against it, and who, in default of a specious reason for their opposition, have never hesitated to invent one. Of course an antagonism which cared nothing for the strength of logic or the weight of facts, but whose scepticism, like Tertullian's faith, often glorified in being founded on an absurdity, must have continually changed its point of attack to vary with the changing phases of character in those who maintained it. Sometimes these changing aspects of opposition to Masonry have been of a rather contradictory character to each other. It does seem to a rational and impartial mind that sometimes, if one of them was well founded, another urged at some past or subsequent period could not be false. But this has never made a particle of difference to the anti-Masons. Their war cry has always been "*Delendo est Carthago*," and it mattered but little to them how the destruction was brought about, so that it could at last be accomplished. Grave divines, learned lawyers, astute politicians, in their anxiety to obliterate Freemasonry from the catalogue of human institutions have not declined to embrace any falsehood or folly, however monstrous or absurd, and to retail it to gaping multitudes, with all theunction that they should have felt only in delivering a maxim of truth or a lesson of wisdom.

To take up the history of this moral crusade against the Institution only for more than the last half century, we shall find at least four different changes in the spirit and manner of the opposition.

In the beginning of the century, or just before it, Masonry was denounced by such men as Barruel and Robinson, as a conspiracy against all government and religion, and the Institution was flatly charged with encouraging rebellion to constituted authority, and with the unscrupulous inculcation of Atheism. "We cannot but suspect," said Pope Pius VII., "that the Freemasons wish to overthrow, not only thrones, but even religions, and especially the Christian." Hence edicts were issued by emperors and kings, and bulls fulminated by popes, forbidding the meeting of Lodges, and commanding the utter abolition of the Society. These things have died off among most intelligent people, but there are some men who can never get rid of an idea which has once taken possession of their minds; and, therefore, we still find many, even at this day, who believe as firmly in the bull of Pope Pius as they do in their own creed, and who cannot be persuaded that Freemasons are anything better than Atheists in disguise.

But the charge of Atheism against an Institution which publicly announced that a trust in God was an absolute necessary qualification for admission into its mysteries, was too absurd to be long believed even by fanatics; and the priests, while they still fulminate their anathemas against the Freemasons, and threaten them with excommunication, do not now deny them some sort of a religion, such as it is, and which is at all events better than to have no religion at all of which they accused them.

Accordingly, about the end of the first quarter of the century, the tactics of the anti-Masons were changed; and a belief in God being admitted as a part of the Masonic creed, because it was expedient to contend that his vengeance was most awfully invoked in the Lodges on all recalcants, the enemies of the Fraternity began to discover (for we are never sure that an anti-Mason means all that he says) that Masonry was an *imperium in imperio*; that the members sought to establish a commonwealth within themselves, which was to be in perpetual antagonism to the laws of the country in which they resided, and that political preferment, trial by jury, and even success in business, were all to be controlled and directed by Masonic influences which were to put the laws at defiance and bring to the support of the humblest member, in every affair of his life, even though it were a transgression against the laws, the whole weight and influence of the Fraternity.

But truth is great, and this opposition has all died away, except perhaps, in some few benighted spots and dark corners of the country adjoining us, where the name of Morgan is still heard with a shudder, and every Freemason is supposed to bear somewhere about his person a fac-simile of the brand of Cain.

And then there came another phase in the opposition. When men were obliged to admit that Masons were not Atheists, and to confess that they were very often excellent subjects or citizens, they began to discover that the secrets of the Institution were a "humbug"—for those anti-Masons are by no means choice in their expressions,

and very often sacrifice elegance to strength—they declared that its ceremonies were puerile, and unworthy of men of sense, and that a study of its principles was nothing less than a sheer loss of time. But as these philosophers, who, of course, always devoted *their* time and talents to something of more importance than the pursuit of Masonry—such, for instance, as making money or seeking office—very candidly acknowledged that they knew nothing about the Society, because they had always deemed it derogatory to their dignity to seek admission into the ranks of an Institution which, at best, could only be considered as a remnant of the dark ages, the world has paid less attention to their invectives than to either of the preceding classes, and, therefore, Masonry has continued to be cultivated and admired by some of the highest intellects of the age. The literature of the Institution as it now stands before the world, has been the most effective answer to the cavils of those would-be wits, who think that it, like their own heads, contains nothing of value or importance worthy it.

And now, lastly, there is beginning to be presented a new form and substance of objection, which, however, as it is equally unfounded in truth, will, we doubt not, like all others, meet with the same fate. That Masonry, which once was charged with being the teacher of Atheism, the violator of law; and the conservator of absurd trifles is now clothed with another garment, different from all these, and is accused of endeavouring to establish a religion for itself, and to teach its members how to get to Heaven in its own way.

Its object is now said to be, to offer itself as a substitute for true religion, and to present its own teachings exclusively as a way of salvation. Although this exchange of tactics is undoubtedly very absurd, it was a very natural change in a system of absurdity. When it was found that men would not believe that Masonry had no religion, it was a very absurd policy to endeavour to persuade them that it had too much. The accusation came out bran new; it is perhaps the last Parthian arrow from the quiver of anti-Masonry, and has already been shot too wide of its mark to effect any harm. The pious and intelligent clergymen of all faiths and denominations, who fill the ranks of Masonry, and who would long ago have abandoned it if it had sought in the most indirect manner to interfere with their hopes of eternal safety, is in itself the best answer to such a charge.

We do not intend making any sort of argument on this subject.

In a pleasant little story from the pen of Mrs. Inchbald, there is a character—a learned but arrogant priest—who once declined entering into an argument with a lady, on the ground that he never disputed with anybody under a doctor of divinity. We confess we are somewhat in favour of his views, so far at least, as never to argue with a man on a subject of which he is totally ignorant. No man who is at all acquainted with the nature, the history, and the true design of Freemasonry, would ever, for a single instant, undertake to sustain either of the four accusations which we have recapitulated. When, however, an opponent shall present himself armed with a knowledge of all that has been written in favour of Masonry by its disciples, as well as all that has been said against it by its enemies—when such an opponent will prelude his intended combat by the declaration that he has carefully studied its principles from the authority of its teachers, and knows them to be wrong, then will we consider such a foe as worthy of our lance, and will freely enter the lists. But for hearsay, scandal, and gratuitous abuse, no man or Mason should ever have any other answer than silent contempt.

And, after all, what has been and what will be ever the effect on Masonry of this absurd, if not always unconscious antagonism? The story of Galileo will give the response in the way of parable.

When Galileo was on his knees before the Inquisition of Rome, the greatest mind of the age prostrate before the least, and making the required recantation of his heretical dogma, that the sun stood still, and the earth moved around it, he turned to a friend, and whispered in his ear these words of solace: "Never mind, the world will keep moving!" and so whisper we, in spite of all that benighted popes, and despotic kings, and wily Jesuits, and cunning politicians, and frightened old women, may say about it or against it, "Masonry will still keep moving."

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open.		Receipts.	
	1875	1874	1875	1874
Caledonian	737½		54,801	52,571
Glasgow and South Western	315½		18,077	16,839
Great Eastern	763		48,277	44,605
Great Northern	523		54,052	49,023
Great Western	1,525		106,307	100,748
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430		66,786	60,725
London and Brighton	376¼		34,796	41,870
London, Chatham and Dover	153¼		20,149	17,602
London and North Western	1,582¾		176,314	168,304
London and South Western	626¾		43,057	40,970
London, Tilbury and Southend	45		1,951	3,407
Manchester and Sheffield	259		30,001	31,100
Midland	956¼		106,857	93,659
Metropolitan	8		9,516	8,304
" " District	8		5,313	4,482
" " St. John's Wood	1½		490	410
North British	839		43,592	39,315
North Eastern	1,393		126,286	103,322
North London	12		7,446	6,618
North Staffordshire Railway	190		9,960	9,177
" " Canal	118		1,684	1,625
South Eastern	350		39,338	36,166

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

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OUR FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Manchester, 7th June 1875.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I write you again, more fully, in explanation of my last week's letter, and in anticipation of any comments which may be made thereon.

At the commencement of my Masonic studies, I was inclined to account for the two principal and opposite views of Freemasonry, by supposing that what occurred in 1717 might have occurred in 1400, and that as the Rosicrucians were the originators of the high grades, so the former were but an early speculative branch of Freemasons, who again coalesced with the operative. But, upon more mature examination, I felt constrained to admit that no other ceremonial element than the operative one went to constitute the symbolical Masonry of the G.L. of 1717.

The doubts and difficulties which now beset earnest students of Freemasonry seem to arise in this way, and there is ample evidence of the reality of such explanation in the ancient MSS. and published documents upon Freemasonry.

Thus, two precisely opposite principles were in action in South and North Britain. Freemasonry in South Britain, that is a ceremonial which bound the operative Mason to his brethren, and created him free of his Craft, was laid hold upon by men of scientific education and refined manners, and consequently there is evidence, of an ample kind, between 1640 and 1740, that whilst these preserved unaltered the old landmarks, they gradually refined and improved the ceremonies and lectures. But in North Britain the reverse was the case, the ceremonial was pretty generally, if not entirely, in the hands of operatives of little education, who sunk the ceremonials as much as their Southern brethren had elevated their tendency. Besides this there were some little differences in the secrets, of no great moment. All this is upon evidence, which I must be spared the more particular specification of.

These records of the two parts of the country, however, prove these things:—

1. That the general basis of the Society was the same, and that both branches were ready to admit a speculative element. That the "Lodge" was an assembly of the Masters, Wardens, and Workmen employed upon any edifice.

2. That a ceremony was used at giving the "Mason word" which included all the elements of the present E.A.P.: that the next degree of Fellow-Craft required at least an interval of twelve months, and was (as we are specially informed) a repetition of the first, with different secrets. That a mark was given, but no ceremony.

3. That there was a Master Mason's word and secrets, and that the ceremony could be, and was, only given at the general assembly of Masters. There is no ancient evidence that these secrets had anything to do with the R.A. secrets.

We are informed that upon reception an apprentice in North Britain had two members given to him to explain the secrets afterwards, that the word was *shewn*, consequently it was possible to pass a F.C. in the presence even of E.A.P. I am inclined to think that Masonry in South Britain owed much of its condition to the publication of Bacon's *New Atlantis* and the works upon Rosicrucianism, which brought speculative Masons into it, as a similar Society.

We arrive at these results, and the sooner we recognise the facts the better for Freemasonry.

1. The E.A.P. of to-day is only a more polished version of the ceremony of swearing-in an apprentice Mason.

2. That the F.C. is simply a repetition of the same ceremony, with special signs, words, &c., some of which are of ancient operative derivation.

3. That the secrets and ceremony of a Master Mason are essentially those of the old operative Master Mason, and are the more exclusive property of the Grand Lodge.

4. That everything, no matter by what name known, not included in these three divisions, is modern and spurious.

Trusting your venture may long be spared in the exclusive advocacy of genuine Craft Masonry,

I remain, fraternally yours,

JOHN YARKER P.M. P.Z.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have read the letters upon this subject, from Bros. Walter Spencer and John Yarker, but in neither can I discover substantial evidence to disprove my ideas.

Bro. Spencer asserts that I make "no allowance for the nature of a secret society," but that is a mistake, for I do make allowance for that, and look into *little things* in my Masonic enquiries, and it is owing to the want of these little points amongst the pre-eighteenth century Masous that I propound and support the 1717 theory. From Bro. Spencer's remarks I fear he is but young in Masonic controversy, or he would not have written as he does, at page 341, about "the ceremony of choosing a mark." Had he, *e.g.* read and remembered what I published and said about the 1670 Aberdeen Records some years ago, he would have known that entered apprentices, *when being entered as such*, received their mark upon payment of "ane merk piece for their Mason's mark." Bro. Spencer

asserts that there exist "many antiquities which show acquaintance with our Freemasonry" before last century. If so, tell us all about them? I have been told before now that such existed at various places, but when I went to view them, with the aid of the best glasses I had, I could not see anything in them to support the statements made about them, but, instead, often the very opposite. As to Bro. Spencer's quotation:—

Q. "How was the Master clothed?"

A. "In a yellow jacket and a blue pair of breeches."

I have no objections to him dating it either in or before the seventeenth century, as it, in my opinion, does not affect the 1717 theory at all, unless in so far as that it seems to me to support it. Possibly Bro. Spencer will not see through this; if not, he is no worse off than some of those who rank amongst the first Masonic historians of the day who, unfortunately, have their analytic bump very poorly developed. Catholics and Protestants, *e.g.* both administer and receive the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, yet how different are they in their ideas thereon! As to Bro. Yarker's MS., which he says dates "about the year 1727," it is not worth a brass farthing *against* the 1717 theory. For, not to mention other points, it is ten years *after* 1717.

As to your own remarks, at page 337, I would beg to ask: How do you know that the old wooden figures you speak of really represent Masons? May they not have been carpenters? As to the oft repeated story of "scrupulous brethren" burning certain Masonic documents, I consider that to be a piece of unscrupulous humbug, and, if I am not mistaken, Bro. W. J. Hughan took the same view. In closing, I would ask some one of the many who oppose the 1717 theory, to give a proper explanation, if they can, of how the Popo, in 1738, came to say that the Society of Freemasons had only been recently formed?

I am, Sir,

Yours fraternally,

W. P. BUCHAN.

Glasgow, 5th June 1875.

MATERNAL INSTINCT IN SPARROWS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—The following incident may interest some of your readers. Nearly the whole of the back of my house is overrun with ivy and other creepers, in which are many sparrows' nests, and, to judge from the constant twittering, many families of sparrows. My cat, like the rest of her tribe, is the sworn enemy of all birds, and, being ignorant of the existence of a Small Birds' Protection Act, makes frequent and successful raids on the innocent little occupants of my ivy. One day last week my eldest boy found a young sparrow hopping about on the gravel. Evidently it had been disturbed, or perhaps toppled out of its nest, for the cat was visible high up in the ivy on the watch for prey. We put the bird into a disused canary cage, and hung it up in the sun, out of all danger. But how to feed it was the question, for it was too young to feed itself? This difficulty was soon solved, however; in a very short time the mother discovered the whereabouts of its young, and having provided the necessaries of bird life, kept flying to and fro, and feeding its offspring through the wires of the cage. Unfortunately a stiff breeze blew the cage down, and in the end the sparrow fell a prey to Miss Pussy. But later in the same afternoon an even younger bird was found hopping on the pathway, and this is still alive. Regularly during the last ten days the mother has come and fed it, and, though a prisoner, it seems to lead a very happy life, hopping about the cage in quite a lively manner, and chirping with greater vigour every day. I think this is pretty good evidence of the strength of maternal instinct even in so apparently insignificant an animal as the common sparrow.

Yours fraternally,

A.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I enclose you two clippings from Auckland (New Zealand) papers received last mail. They may interest your readers.

Yours fraternally,

T. B. WHITEHEAD.

In the shop window of Mr. Isidoro Alexander was exhibited, on Monday, an illuminated address, about to be presented to W. J. Rees, Esq., by the members of the Masonic Lodge Ara 348, (I.C.), of which Lodge that gentleman is a Past W.M. The address will be accompanied by a very handsome and artistically finished Masonic jewel (a square and compasses) in 18-carat gold, with the letter G in the centre, set with turquoises. The address is from the pen of Mr. E. B. Dickson, and the "jewel" the workmanship of Mr. Alexander; and both are highly creditable to those gentlemen. Since the above was written we have learned that a meeting of the Lodge Ara took place on Monday night, in the Masonic Hotel, and, after the business of the meeting had closed, the Worshipful Master, Brother Robinson, presented to Bro. W. J. Rees P.M. the Past Master's jewel, with the above illuminated address. Brother Rees responded in suitable terms, and the Worshipful Master then presented Brother W. L. Mitchell with an illuminated address (also prepared by Mr. E. B. Dickson), as a mark of recognition of his services as Secretary to the Lodge during the past Masonic term. After the Lodge was closed, the brethren sat down to a banquet provided by Bro. Avey, which was in the most *recherché* style. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the company then separated.

During the last few months various efforts have been made by the Masonic body in Auckland to have a Hall erected worthy of

the city and of the Craft. At times it was feared that those well-meant efforts would not be successful, but there is every reason to believe that the early part of 1876 will see the long desired Hall erected. A limited liability company is to be formed for the purpose. The want which the company proposes to fill is one which has long been felt in Auckland. Something more than the mere erection of a hall will be undertaken by the company. The site of the building chosen is that block of ground in Upper Queen Street, near the Army and Navy Hotel, running from Queen to Grey Streets. Besides the necessary accomodation for Masonic rites and ceremonies, it is intended to provide a large hall for concerts, public meetings, &c. The hall will also be used as a Masonic club. Masons from all parts of the colony may lodge there during their stay in Auckland, if they prefer to do so rather than go to an Hotel. The company is to have a capital of £10,000, in 5,000 shares of £2 each. It is intended that the company shall be started on a sound financial basis, and have no debt either on land or building when the hall is open. The Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1338, has been the chief moving agent in the matter, Bro. Seers P.M., the able secretary, having been unwearrying in his efforts to promote this end.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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Lives of the Engineers. The Steam Engine. Boulton and Watt. By Samuel Smiles, author of "Character," "Self Help," &c. A new and revised edition. London: John Murray, Albemarle Street, 1874.

It would have been somewhat difficult to find a man better able to fulfil the task of biographer to our great engineers, than the author of "Self Help." Biography requires a man of patient study, of deep research, possessing likewise a certain enthusiasm and liveliness of description, so that he may enlist the sympathies of the reader, at the same time that he does justice to the merits of the subject he is writing of. Mr. Smiles possesses these various qualities in an eminent degree. To judge from previous works of his, we should set him down as one who had read deeply, and who well digested what he had read. As for his style, we know full well that it is what is properly known as popular—not in the sense in which some novels are said to be popular, novels which everybody reads because everybody else has read them, and then forgets, as everybody else has forgotten them—but popular in so far as it will edify and attract the great mass of the reading public. In this sense Mr. Smiles may certainly be set down as a popular author, and consequently what comes from his pen may be set down, generally, as edifying and attractive. This is doubly the case as regards the volume before us. We have here the lives of two popular worthies narrated by a popular author. However consistent with patriotism some Englishmen may regard it to abuse our institutions, whatever doubts may exist as to the merits of this or that public man, there are very few among us who do not point with pride to the marvellous works and inventions of our great engineers. In respect of this particular class of great men, England may fairly claim to be far ahead of all other nations, France and Germany have had their statesmen and generals as well as we; in geographical discovery, Spain took the lead of all the nations of the old world, and Holland has done more than its share of geographical enterprise, as have we in the days of the great Queen and since, but no other country under the sun can boast with honest pride of such a glorious array of engineering genius as can England, and foremost in this array are the subjects of Mr. Smiles's present volume—James Watt, the inventor of the steam engine, and Matthew Boulton.

James Watt, born at Greenock, on the Clyde, on 19th January 1836, was of good parentage. His grandfather, Thomas Watt, had migrated to the neighbourhood from the county of Aberdeen, where his father had been a small farmer in the time of Charles I. In early years, James was extremely delicate, and required the greatest care in bringing up. His education therefore, was, at the outset, a home one. When sent at length to a commercial school, he proved at first a somewhat dull scholar, nor was it till he got into the mathematical class, that he gave evidence of possessing any great powers. His weak health frequently interrupted his studies, and obliged him to return home, but his progress in mathematics and mechanics was very great. On reaching the age of eighteen he was apprenticed to an optician in Glasgow, or rather to a worthy man who was so described, but who really sold and mended spectacles, repaired fiddles, and made and sold fishing-rods and fishing-tackle. Finding, however, that he gained but little additional knowledge here, he was sent to London, and became engaged to a Mr. John Morgan, a respectable mathematical instrument maker in Cornhill. Here he soon became proficient in all the branches of this delicate manufacture, so that by the end of the year he was able to write home to his father that he had made "a brass sector with a French joint, which is reckoned as nice a piece of framing work as is in the trade." In 1856, Watt returned to Greenock, in bad health, but well set up in knowledge of the business he had devoted himself to. He soon regained strength, however, and was sent to Glasgow to begin business for himself. Here, however, he experienced some difficulties. There were no mathematical instrument makers in the city, yet "Watt was opposed by the Corporation of Hammermen, on the ground that he was neither a son of a burghess nor had served an apprenticeship within the borough." He then sought permission of the Corporation to open a small workshop; but this also was peremptorily refused. At length he found a safe harbour of refuge within the precincts of Glasgow University, over which neither the hammermen nor the Corporation had the slightest influence or autho-

city, and in a workshop in the inner quadrangle of this venerable building, Watt passed the early years of his business career, and here he established that high reputation for mechanical skill and science, which in the end was to raise him to such a pinnacle of greatness. Here he was enabled to pursue his studies under far more favourable conditions, and here he contracted those early friendships with men of eminence, such as Dr. Joseph Black, the great chemist, Professor Dick, Professor Anderson, and John Robison, then a student, but afterwards Professor of Natural Philosophy at Edinburgh. The description by the last quoted in these pages, of his introduction to Watt will bear reproduction in our columns:—

"Robison's introduction to Watt has been described by himself. After feasting his eyes on the beautifully-finished instruments in his shop, Robison entered into conversation with the owner. Expecting to find only a workman, he was surprised to discover a philosopher. 'I had the vanity,' says Robison, 'to think myself a pretty good proficient in my favourite study (mathematical and mechanical philosophy), and was rather mortified at finding Mr. Watt so much my superior. But his own high relish for these things made him pleased with the chat of any person who had the same tastes with himself; and his innate complaisance made him indulge my curiosity, and even encourage my endeavours to form a more intimate acquaintance with him. I lounged much about him, and, I doubt not, was frequently teasing him. Thus our acquaintance began.'"

Nor can we do better than quote the opinion given of Watt at this period:—

"Watt soon came to be regarded as one of the ablest men about College. 'When to the superiority of knowledge in his own line,' said Robison, 'which every man confessed, there was joined the naïve simplicity and candour of his character, it is no wonder that the attachment of his acquaintances was so strong. I have seen something of the world,' he continued, 'and I am obliged to say that I never saw such another instance of general and cordial attachment to a person whom all acknowledged to be their superior. But this superiority was concealed under the most amiable candour, and liberal allowance of merit to every man. Mr. Watt was the first to ascribe to the ingenuity of a friend things which were very often nothing but his own surmises followed out and embodied by another. I am well entitled to say this, and have often experienced it in my own case.'"

(To be Continued.)

MASONIC ORPHAN BOYS' SCHOOL.

THE half-yearly general meeting of the Board of Governors of the Masonic Orphan Boys' School, was held at Freemasons' Hall, Molesworth Street, on Thursday, the 13th May.

R.W. Robert W. Shekleton, D.G.M., Vice-Patron, in the chair.

The Minutes of the previous half-yearly meeting having been read, were confirmed and signed.

The following report from the Scrutineers of the Ballot was then read:—

We, the undersigned Scrutineers of the Ballot for the election of Two Pupils into the Masonic Orphan Boys' School, have to report that, with the assistance of the Secretary, we have examined the several voting papers sent in.

The total number of papers received up to the time of the Scrutiny was 660, viz.:—21 from Vice-Patrons and Vice-Presidents; 106 from Life Governors; 352 from Annual Governors; and 178 from Official Governors. Of these 4 were not properly signed; 3 were duplicates; and 55 from Governors whose subscriptions were unpaid.

The total number of votes recorded was 1,466, viz.:—

Wills Ballantine	.	.	.	.	64
Thomas H. Blundell	.	.	.	.	29
George H. Gill	.	.	.	.	87
Francis W. Harvey	.	.	.	.	16
William H. Knight	.	.	.	.	196
William S. Little	.	.	.	.	232
Charles L. Mathews	.	.	.	.	122
William G. Orr	.	.	.	.	379
Eugene O'Reilly	.	.	.	.	264
Alexander L. Richardson	.	.	.	.	35
Alexander Robinson	.	.	.	.	42

Dated this 11th day of May 1875.

John A. Hogan, Lodge No. 6	} Scrutineers.
Samuel Dobbin, " 4	
John Vincent Legge, " 6	
Charles Foot, " 33	

SAMUEL B. OLDHAM, Assistant Secretary.

It was proposed by Brother George Hill Major; seconded by Brother J. C. Meredith, LL.D., and resolved—

"That William Gerald Orr, son of the late John Orr, stock broker, of Lodges 36 and 40, Belfast; and Eugene O'Reilly, son of the late Matthew George O'Reilly, Sub-Inspector Royal Irish Constabulary, of Lodges 217, Ballina, and 13, Limerick, be declared duly elected as Pupils of the Masonic Orphan Boys' School.

The following Resolution of the Committee having been read:— "That the Committee desire to bring before the Board of Governors, at its next meeting, the desirability of establishing a separate Institution, and the benefit likely to accrue to the School by so doing."

It was, after some discussion, proposed by Brother William Roper; seconded by Bro. J. C. Meredith, LL.D.; and resolved—

"That in the opinion of the Board of Governors, it is not expedient at present to take any active steps towards the establishing, as a separate Institution, the Masonic Orphan Boys' School."

[We insert the above at the request of an esteemed correspondent. At the same time we should feel obliged to our friends in Ireland if they would assist us in giving earlier publicity as to the events occurring in their respective districts.—[EDITOR, FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, DINORAH. On Monday, DON GIOVANNI. On Tuesday, UN BALLO IN MASCHERA. On Thursday, LOHENGRIN. On Friday, ROMEO E GIULIETTA. 8.30 each evening.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, LOHENGRIN. On Monday, FAUST. On Tuesday, NORMA. On Thursday, LOHENGRIN, at 8.30 each evening, except this evening, when the Opera will commence at 8.0. On Monday morning, at 2.30, and Friday evening, at 8.30, HAMLET. On Wednesday evening, at 8.30, OTHELLO.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, A FAIR ENCOUNTER, DAVID GARRICK, and THE SERIOUS FAMILY.

ADELPHI.—At 8.45, TWO HEADS ARE BETTER THAN ONE, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY and FUN IN A FOG.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.15, HEARTSEASE. At 9.15, ROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS.

LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET. On Saturday, a morning performance at 2.30 only.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. AT 8.0, THE SPENDTHRIFT.

STRAND.—At 7.30, AN EARNEST APPEAL. At 8.0, WEAK WOMEN and INTIMIDATION.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, MONEY.

GAIETY.—At 8.0, FRENCH OPERA.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE and BLUE BEARD. (Last Nights.)

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.30, THE DANCING BARBER. At 8.30, TOM COBB, At 10.15, THE ZOO.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A FEARFUL FOG.

CHARING CROSS.—JEANNE DUBARRY and CATTARINA.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS. At 8.15, THE DETECTIVE.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE ARTFUL DODGE and CHILPERIC.

CRITERION.—On Monday at 8.0, GIROFLE-GIROFLA.

COURT.—At 8.0, BOOK III, CHAPTER 1, AND A NINE DAY'S WONDER.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, SUMMER CONCERT. On Wednesday, FETE IN AID OF THE RAILWAY BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION. On Thursday, FIREWORK DISPLAY. Open daily. AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, ITALIAN CONCERT. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, HORSE SHOW. Open daily. HENGLE'S CIRCUS, &c.

POLYTECHNIC.—THE MAGICIAN AND THE GENII, with a NEW GHOST Scene.—ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS, Past and Present.—THE BESSEMER BOAT.—FOOD from AFAR, and ECONOMIC COOKING.—JANE CONQUEST.—THE MECHANICAL LEOPARD.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, and many other Entertainments. Open twice daily, at 12.0 and 7.0. Admission, 1s.

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EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 3.0 and 8.0.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place.—Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REED, at 8.0. Thursday and Saturday, at 3.0 only.

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PATRON, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

WITH THE SANCTION OF

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W. GRAND MASTER,
PRESIDENT OF THE INSTITUTION,

THE 77TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will be held at the ALEXANDRA PALACE, Muswell Hill, on WEDNESDAY, 7th July 1875, the Right Hon. the EARL OF CARNARVON, M.W. Pro Grand Master, and Prov. G.M. of Somersetshire, in the Chair.

BOARD OF STEWARDS:—President, R.W. Bro. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, P.G.W.; Acting President, W. Bro. J. A. Rucker, P.G.D., P.M. 68; Acting Vice-President, W. Bro. J. M. P. Montagu, D.Pr.G.M. Dorset, No. 1383; Treasurer, W. Bro. R. B. Webster, P.M. 140, No. 1320; and 227; Brethren representing Lodges in the Metropolis and in the Provinces.

The Musical Arrangements under the direction of Madame THADDEUS WELLS. The Names of Brethren desirous of serving as Stewards can still be received, and will be gratefully welcomed.

DINNER will be on the table at 5 o'clock. Brethren to appear in full Masonic Craft Clothing. Tickets—Ladies 15s, Gentlemen 21s; may be obtained of the Stewards, and at the Office.

The Stewards' Visit and Distribution of Prizes will take place at the Institution, Wood Green, on Wednesday, 30th June, at three p.m.

Right Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, R.W.P.G.S.W., President of the Board of Stewards, in the Chair.

FREDERICK BINCKES,

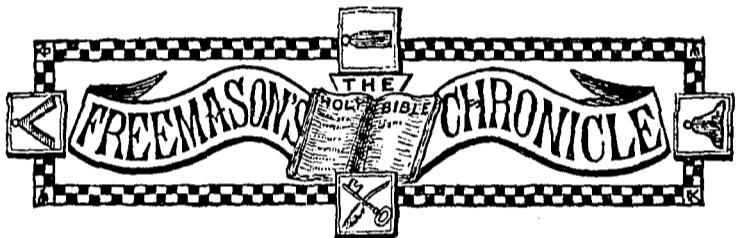
Hon. Sec. Board of Stewards.

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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

THE WEEK'S DOINGS.

ON Friday, the case of Mrs. Marks, as illustrating the compulsory powers of the London School Board, was brought under the notice of the House of Lords by Earl Delawarr. The Duke of Richmond pointed out that Mrs. Marks had been dealt with without unnecessary harshness, and, as regards the future, that every case must be determined on its own merits. Viscount Lifford then moved for a return of the names of those Boards of Guardians of the Poor in Ireland which had objected to the appointment of certain sanitary officers, a motion to which the Duke of Richmond, on the part of the government, raised no objection, and, accordingly, it was assented to. On the report of amendments on the Church Patronage Bill, Lord Houghton expressed a hope that the Bill would be withdrawn, but, on various grounds, the Bishop of Peterborough objected. Several verbal amendments were then inserted, and the report agreed to. Other Bills having been advanced a stage, the House adjourned. On Monday, the Sale of Food and Drugs Bill was read a second, and the Church Patronage Bill a third time, and passed. Other measures were dealt with, and the sitting terminated. Tuesday's was only a very brief sitting. On Thursday, after the Earl of Carnarvon had answered a question put by the Earl of Shaftesbury, respecting the recent terrible outbreak of measles in the Fiji Islands, the House considered the report on the Artisans' Dwellings Bill. An addition to the 12th clause was moved by Earl Beauchamp, and carried, on division, by 25 to 23. One or two other amendments were made, and the report was then agreed to, after which the House rose.

In the House of Commons, on Friday, at the morning sitting, the committee on the Friendly Societies Bill was resumed at Clause 28, and a concession was made by the Government allowing the insurance of £6 for the burial of a child to be made in one instead of in two societies. One or two other amendments on the same clause were agreed to. A discussion ensued on sundry of the other clauses, and the schedules and preamble having been agreed to, the Bill passed.

through Committee amid cheers, and was ordered to be reported on the 14th. The Attorney-General then moved that the House go into Committee on the Land Titles and Transfer Bill, a motion on which Mr. O. Morgan proposed an amendment, to the effect that the Bill in question would not prove effectual in carrying out the purpose for which it was designed. Mr. Golding, on the contrary, thought the Bill a good one, but the debate was adjourned by the rules of the House, at 10 minutes to 7 o'clock. At the evening sitting, Mr. Torrens brought forward a resolution as to the removal, without court martial, of officers below the rank of Major-General, who were not incapacitated by bodily or mental infirmity. Colonel Alexander moved as an amendment that it was neither wise nor expedient to interfere with the prerogative of the Crown. Mr. S. Cave offered a strenuous opposition to the motion. Several attempts were made, in the course of the debate, to count the House out, and at length, it being found that the requisite quorum of 40 was not present, the sitting was adjourned, at a quarter before midnight. Nearly the whole of Monday's sitting was devoted to the Committee on the Savings' Bank Bill. On Clause 1, which provides for a consolidation of the accounts of securities of the National Debt Commissioners, Mr. Childers moved an amendment, the object of which was to keep the accounts of the Savings' Banks, Post Office Savings' Banks, and the Friendly Societies' distinct, a long debate ensued, the Government resisting the amendment. Messrs. Gladstone, Fawcett, and Hubbard were opposed to the Clause, which was carried, however, by 199 to 161—majority 38. The Opposition hailed the result, for some unaccountable reason, with loud cheers. The Clauses of the Bill were then discussed *seriatim*; several amendments being proposed and negatived, and ultimately the Bill passed through committee amid cheers. The County Courts Bill was read a second time, and after the disposal of other business the House adjourned. The morning sitting on Tuesday was likewise devoted to a question of financial arrangements, the subject being the National Debt (Sinking Fund) Bill. On the motion for going into Committee on this Bill, Mr. Hubbard moved a certain amendment, which, however, after a long discussion, was withdrawn, and the House went into Committee. On Clause 1, Mr. Gladstone moved to omit all the words which provided for the reduction of the National Debt by the payment during the year of £185,000 out of the surplus, on the ground there was no surplus at all. This amendment was defeated by 189 to 122, majority 67. The remaining clauses were then agreed to, and the Bill passed through Committee. On Wednesday, Mr. Dixon moved the second reading of the Elementary Education (Compulsory Attendance) Bill, but Mr. Hamond moved an amendment that it be read that day three months. Several speakers for, and against the Bill followed, the principal being Lord Sandon, who hoped the House would negative it, and Mr. Forster who supported. The Bill was rejected by 255 to 164, majority 91. On Thursday, Mr. Whalley asked the Prime Minister a silly question as to the presence of Jesuits in this country, to which the latter gave a suitable reply. Other queries were put, and then the Attorney General moved the second reading of the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (1873) Amendment (No. 2) Bill. On the other hand, Mr. W. Williams moved that it be read a second time that day three months. Sir W. Harcourt supported the Bill, as did Sir J. Karslake, whose participation in the debates of the House was greeted with hearty cheers. Mr. O. Morgan, Mr. Bulwer, Sir G. Bowyer, Mr. Grantham, Mr. M. Lloyd, Mr. Charley and Mr. Jackson, the majority of whom are, we believe, gentlemen of the long robe, also addressed the House, after which Mr. Cross moved the adjournment of the debate, so that he might introduce his Labour Bills, the object of which is to improve the relations between master and servant, and to define what are criminal offences in connection with labour, and what civil. The Bills were brought in and read a first time, and after transacting some other business, the House adjourned.

There have been several deputations to ministers during the week, among them one consisting of delegates from the Boards and Vestries of the Westminster district, complaining of the expenditure of the London School Board, and another of the excessive cost of School Board Elections, especially in rural districts. The Duke of Richmond and Viscount Sandon addressed themselves in reply to the several points raised by the two deputations, pointing out, as regards the former, that the payments in London were at all events lower than in other large towns, and were

only what were deemed necessary. As regards the latter, the ministers were by no means anxious to see a higher rate of expenditure maintained than was required, and offered to give their best consideration to any suggestions that might be thrown out. Another deputation waited on Mr. Secretary Cross, in reference to sundry hardships in connection with the Petroleum trade. Mr. Cross received the deputation with his usual courtsey, and having explained the nature of their complaints and wishes they thanked him cordially and withdrew. On Saturday, a deputation waited upon Lord Salisbury, on the subject of the Pollution of Rivers Bill.

The fourth day of June, being the anniversary of his late Majesty George III.'s birthday, Eton, as usual, held high festival. Generally the effect of the day's proceedings is marred by wet weather, but this year, happily, was an exception to the rule, so that everything passed off most successfully. The first part of the programme included the "speeches" in the Upper School, delivered in presence of the Provost and Fellows and a great number of distinguished visitors, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of Oxford and Lincoln, Lord Skelmersdale, &c., &c., among other visitors during the day being the Duke of Manchester, the Marquis of Worcester, Lord Middleton. The speeches embraced scenes and extracts from standard English, French, Greek, and Latin authors, the delivery being in nearly every case admirable. At two o'clock some fifty of the most distinguished visitors were entertained at lunch in Hall by the Provost and Fellows. At four there was a full choral service in Chapel. In the evening, the usual procession of boats, headed by the "Monarch," 10 oar, from the Brocas to Surley Hall took place. Here followed the usual cold collation by the river side, after which the crews rowed leisurely back, and the evening was brought to a close with an exhibition of fireworks.

This being Commemoration week at Oxford, that ancient city has been the scene of one continuous round of *fêtes*. First came a concert, given by the Philharmonic Society, Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne, and Prince Leopold being present. In the evening followed the usual procession of boats, and then again the University Ball, held in the Town Hall, which was brilliantly decorated by Messrs. Defries. The Duke of Connaught and the other members of the Royal Family already mentioned were present, together with the Right Hon. J. R. Mowbray, one of the M.P.'s for the University, Mr. Hall, M.P. for the city, the Senior Proctor and other notabilities. Among other events must be mentioned the Royal Oxfordshire Horticultural Society's show in Worcester Gardens, the Ball given by the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, in the Town Hall, the decorations being similar to those used at the University Ball, the *fête* given by the same Lodge in the Gardens of New College, the Christchurch Ball, and the *Enceania*, with its recitation of prize poems, and bestowal of honorary degrees on leading men of eminence in science and literature, &c., &c.

Another principal feature of the week has been Ascot, with its four days' programme of racing, its brilliant attendance of rank and fashion, with the additional attraction of royalty, including the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the usual cavalcade, headed by the Master of the Buckhounds, and attended by whips and outriders in all the glories of scarlet and gold, reaching the course from Lord Yarborough's seat, Titness Park, shortly after noon, on Tuesday and Thursday. Of the events on Tuesday, the Ascot stakes fell to Organist, Mr. Saville's Earl of Dartrey won the Prince of Wales's stakes, and Mr. Merry's Marie Stuart the Gold Vase given by Her Majesty. On Wednesday, the Royal Hunt Cup was carried off by Mr. Dawson's Thuringian Prince, and on Thursday, the Ascot Gold Cup by Doncaster, *Aventurière* being second.

There has been some heavy scoring in recent cricket matches. In a match between gentlemen of M.C.C. and the Royal Artillery, the former won in one innings, with seven runs to spare, scoring 388 to the latter's 162 and 169; Messrs. Higgins and Herbert contributing to the M.C.C.'s total 113 and 100 respectively. In the Royal Marines and Royal Engineers the latter won by ten wickets, Mr. Renny-Tailyour making 80 of the total 274, while Captain Welch, 26 and 71, showed the best form for the Marines, who made 119 and 173 in their two innings. Cambridge University have beaten the Gentlemen of England, with seven wickets to spare; Messrs. Greenfield (77

and 18), Lucas (48), Blacker (46 and not out 64), Macan (47), and Patterson (not out 21, and not out 60). For the Gentlemen, Mr. I. D. Walker (29 and 26), C. J. Thornton (41 and 64), and A. F. Smith (not out 48 and 23), were the most effective batsmen. Scores: Gentlemen 262 and 198, Cambridge 302 and 159 for three wickets. This gives an average of runs made off the bat of slightly over 26 per wicket. In a twelve-a-side match between M.C.C. and Ground and Old Oxonians and Old Cantabs the latter were victorious by 10 wickets; Messrs. Green (107) and Booth (60), both late of Cambridge, being the chief operators with the willow, while for M.C.C., who made only 110 and 101, Mr. Vernon distinguished himself with a score of 74 not out. The result of the great County match, Surrey v. Gloucestershire, is a victory for the former by 26 runs. Surrey 161 and 106, Gloucestershire 99 and 142. Jupp (13 and 40), Mr. Game (25 and 23), Mr. Strachan (34 and 7), and Southerton (not out 32 and 3), played best for the former; Messrs. W. G. Grace (9 and 18), G. F. Grace (26 and 37), Crook (14 and 14), and Wyatt (10 and 37), best for the latter.

A grand sham fight took place at Aldershot on Friday last, H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, attended by a numerous staff, arriving on the ground a little after 10 in the morning. The troops formed two divisions, the northern and the southern, the former representing an invading force, and the latter acting on the defensive. The operations continued till the afternoon, when the invaders were driven back. The Commander-in-Chief expressed himself satisfied with the cavalry movements, after which the troops marched past, and returned to barracks about 2 p.m. After lunch at the Royal Pavilion, with the Duke of Connaught, the Royal visitors returned to London.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales presided on Saturday at the fifteenth anniversary banquet of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, held at Willis's Rooms, St. James's. Two hundred and fifty gentlemen sat down, including such prominent supporters of agriculture as the Marquis of Huntley, the Earl of Hardwicke, Earl Spencer, Lord Walsingham, Mr. H. Gerald Sturt, Colonel Loyd-Lindsay, Mr. Clare S. Read, Mr. Mechi. The toast of the evening "success to the Institution," was proposed in very felicitous term by His Royal Highness, and most enthusiastically received, after which the secretary read out a list of subscriptions—including one from Her Majesty of £25, and one of one hundred guineas from the Prince—to the amount of £8,000. The health of the ladies was afterwards proposed, and associated with it was the name of Mr. Mechi. Soon after this the Prince retired, amid great cheers. The same evening the Duke of Connaught presided at the ceremony of opening some new schools at Hoxton, in connection with the Haberdashers' Company; the Lord and Lady Mayoress, Mr. Alderman Cotton, Sir Charles Reed, Chairman of the London School Board, being also present. The Duke having made a tour of inspection round the building, which is intended to provide education for 600 children of the neighbourhood, and having expressed his approval of what he had seen, the simple ceremony of declaring the building open was then performed, after which the company adjourned to a pavilion erected for the occasion in the Girls' play ground. The usual toasts having been drunk, the Duke left, amid the hearty cheers of the crowds assembled. A guard of honour of 100 men from the Royal London Militia, under Captain Sewell, was in attendance, together with the bands of that regiment and the Honourable Artillery Company. H.R.H. the Duchess of Teck was present at the annual examination of, and distribution of prizes among the pupils of the Alexandra Orphanage, taking great interest in the proceedings, and being cordially thanked for attending on the occasion.

The annual dinner of the Newspaper Press Fund will be held this day, under the presidency of the Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster. It is expected the gathering will be a very distinguished one, and several eminent *artistes* will take part in the concert, which will be held under the direction of Sir Julius Benedict. We wish the fund all success.

We imagine Wells-street, South Hackney, must be an unpleasant locality to live in. A certain William Henson carries on there the business of a tripe boiler and fat melter. The South Hackneians, if partial to tripe and fat as articles of food, have evidently a strong, and not unnatural objection to the stench arising from their preparation. Accordingly, in consequence of several complaints made by sundry of the inhabitants, Dr. Tripe, the medical officer of the Hackney

District, called for the purpose of inspecting the tripe-seller's premises, and found them too filthy even for his accustomed stomach, so he beat a retreat. Hence the summons heard on Tuesday, before Mr. Hannay, at the Worship-street Police Court. The case was proved, and worse still, that a cowshed with some 20 or 30 cows, a pig-stye with 40 pigs, and a stable in which were kept about 60 horses, were in the neighbourhood of the offensive premises. Mr. Hannay said the defendant was liable to a penalty of £200, but he only inflicted a fine of £3, with 12s 6d costs, a rather inadequate punishment, we think, for poisoning the air of a large and populous district. Cannot some means be devised for compelling those who follow this and similar noxious trades to remove to uninhabited districts, where they will have at all events only themselves to injure in the matter of health.

In the musical world there has been nothing special to record. The performances at the two opera houses have been of the usual character. Semiramide was performed at Her Majesty's on Saturday, and, as usual, Mdlle. Titiens created a *furor* by her magnificent impersonation of the Assyrian Queen, while equally to be admired was Madame Trebelli-Bettini as Arsace. The opera was repeated on Thursday. The intermediate evenings here been devoted to Faust on Monday, and La Sonnambula on Friday. This evening will be produced Lohengrin, with Madame Christine Nilsson as Elsa di Brabante. At the Royal Italian, there have been played Lohengrin, La Traviata, Le Nozze di Figaro, La Figlia del Reggimento, and Il Flauto Magico. The New Philharmonic gave its fourth concert on Saturday, and the same evening Mr. Arthur Sullivan's "Musical Folly," entitled *The Zoo*, proved a decided success at the St. James's Theatre. Signor Salvini's impersonations of Hamlet and Othello alternate at Drury Lane, and there is a morning performance every Monday afternoon, Hamlet being fixed for Monday next.

Mrs. Giacometti Prodgers—the lady who so manfully and so often engages in disputes with the London cabmen—has just appeared in a new character. On Thursday, the publisher of the *Daily Telegraph* was summoned to answer a charge of assault brought against him by this lady. She appears to have entered his office, on the 26th ult., for the purpose of buying a copy of our contemporary. She was served with one, and at first refused to pay so much as the penny demanded for it. She at length put down half-a-sovereign, but the clerk would give her no change. She was then passing out with the paper, as well as the money, when the defendant stepped up and objected. In doing so he seems to have placed his hand on her shoulder, and also to have trodden on her dress, which was a very long one. He offered to apologise for the accident, but failed to recognise that he had committed any assault. Mrs. Prodgers thought otherwise, and hence the summons, which the worthy Alderman Besley dismissed. Moral for Mrs. Prodgers—condescend to pay for a penny newspaper when you buy one; "put *silver* in thy purse" if it is unladylike to carry copper, and don't wear too long a train; for the publisher of the *Daily Telegraph*—don't be too impressive in your remonstrances when ladies object to pay, at all events leave no impression on the backs of their dresses.

We were premature in our announcement last week of the death of the eminent French Academician and Statesman, M. C. de Remusat, but, unhappily, by a few days only, for the event has since happened, and France has lost the services of one of her ablest and most patriotic public men. It was M. de Remusat who presided at the Foreign Office when his friend, M. Thiers, was at the head of the Republic, and his labours to get rid of the occupying army were at length successful, and the Germans retired over the frontier sooner than had been stipulated. From India, we hear there has been a terrible conflagration at Peshawur, nearly one half of the city having been destroyed, in spite of the efforts of the European soldiery to stay the flames. Measles also has been raging horribly in our newly acquired dependency, the Fiji Islands. Germany is still talking about the conduct of our Government; the Sultan of Zanzibar has reached our shores on a visit, to learn what we are like. The Spanish Government is going, it is said, to commence a new attempt to overwhelm the Carlists, but the latter, we imagine, will take a good deal of overwhelming, while our friend the Pope—who does us so much more good by abusing us, than he would do if he left us alone—he, we suppose is hardly in the condition described in the song. We hope at least that "he leads a

happy life"—though we fear he occasionally makes acquaintance with not a few "cares" and not a little "strife," but much of this is his own fault.

The committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys met on Saturday, 5th June, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Bro. John Symonds P.G.D. in the chair. Bro. F. Binckes, secretary, read the minutes of the former meeting, also the report of the House Committee, which were confirmed. Five petitions were accepted. The election for brethren to serve on the House Committee took place, and the following were duly elected:—Brothers Henry Browse P.G.D., J. Giles Chancellor, Henry Dubosc sen., Benj. Head, Benj. Mallam, W. F. C. Montrie, W. Paas, W. H. Pullen P.G.D., William Roebuck, Sigismund Rosenthal, R. W. Stewart P.G.S.B., John Wordsworth. The following brethren, nominated on 1st May 1875, being the number required, became this day duly elected without ballot, to serve on the audit committee:—Bros. John Boyd P.G.P., J. W. Dosell, Benjamin Head P.G.D., W. Mann, D. W. Pearse, W. H. Pullen P.G.S.B., James Terry, Jesse Turner, R. B. Webster. Bros. T. Cubitt P.G.P., Webster, Jardine and Diaper were appointed Scrutineers. Votes of thanks to the Chairman and Scrutineers were unanimously accorded, and the meeting adjourned. We beg to state that the Right W. Bro. Lord Balfour of Burleigh P.G.S.W. will distribute the prizes on the 30th June, in place of the M.W. Earl of Carnarvon Pro G. M.

The regular meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held on Wednesday, the 9th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. Major Creaton P.G.D. V.P. in the chair. Bro. Jas. Terry, secretary, read the minutes of the former meeting, and the report of the House Committee, which was received and adopted. The Finance Committee was appointed, viz., Bro. Major Creaton P.G.D., J. Hervey G.S., H. G. Warren and W. Hale. The House Committee was re-elected, Bros. Major Creaton, B. Head, J. Smith, R. W. Stewart and J. A. Farnfield. The resignation of Mr. Jones, a junior clerk in the office, was accepted. There were also present Bros. Rawson, J. Nunn, J. A. Farnfield, T. Cubitt, G. Bolton, J. Smith, J. Stevens, J. M. Stedwell, W. Hale, L. Stean, W. Hall, H. G. Warren, A. W. Tattershall, Robert Wentworth Little, J. Bellerby, H. M. Levy, &c.

Bro. Sir Frederick Perkins, M.P. has been appointed by the R.W. the Earl of Limerick, M.W.G.M. Grand Mark Lodge, as Senior Grand Warden.

At the forthcoming election of Sheriffs for the City of London it is understood that Bro. Alderman Knight (Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1) is willing to accept office, if elected. The Right Hon the Lord Mayor, Bro. D. H. Stone G.J.W., has nominated Mr. G. Hamilton Fletcher, of 34 Leadenhall Street, ship owner, who is a freeman of the Fishmongers' Company.

With regret we have to announce the death of Bro. Sidney Spencer, late Proprietor of the Terminus Hotel, and of the Cliftonville Hotel, Margate, which took place at Shottendane, Margate, in the 49th year of his age. He was a member of the Lion and Lamb and William Preston Lodges. The funeral takes place at Maidstone, this day (Saturday).

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 67 Barbican, London, E.C.

SENIOR.—Many thanks for your kind offer. The suggestion shall be well considered.

W. W.—Our journal was established to promote the best principles of Freemasonry; to follow the course you advocate would be in direct opposition to those principles.

A. B. C. AND OTHERS.—We cannot undertake to reply to anonymous correspondents.

DE LA RUE'S INTERNATIONAL PLAYING CARDS.—Portraits of the Royalty of Europe. Post free, 2s 6d. W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, London, E.C.

THE DRAMA.

"Heartsease" at the Princess's Theatre—"The Zoo" at the St. James's.

La Dame aux Camélias is hardly an immoral drama, indeed it ought to be considered moral, inasmuch as the chief sinner of the piece receives the scriptural wages of sin, death; but for some reason, best known to the highly sensitive modesty of our Lord Chamberlain, its representation in England, except in an operatic form, has been prohibited. All playgoers, however, are familiar with the story, as all musical people know the music of *La Traviata*. It is this piece which Mr. Mortimer has attempted to adapt so that it shall not be offensive to British morals, and which he has re-named *Heartsease*. As is usual in adaptations from the French, in attempting to get rid of the immorality of the story much of its intelligibility and more of its point have been lost. Mr. Mortimer has removed his *Traviata*, Constance Hawthorne by name, from the regions of the demi-moude, and transformed her into an actress, living under suspicious circumstances it is true, and receiving, as gifts from her admirers, a large number of jewels, a practice which we hope is not common with virtuous ladies; but still, we are assured, she is perfectly pure, but by so changing her character Mr. Mortimer has destroyed the effect of the scene in which the father of her lover appeals to her not to cause the social ruin of his son by marrying him; a marriage with a courtesan would, in most cases, be discredit to a man, but no possible objection could be made to an union with an actress, so that Constance's resignation of her lover on these grounds is incomprehensible, and the motive of the play is lost. No doubt the piece could not have been played in London without this sacrifice at the shrine of morality, but why need it have been played at all? As it is, Mr. Mortimer's attempt at Bowdlerising has mangled an effective drama without producing a particularly good taste in the mouth. *Heartsease* is fairly acted by Miss Helen Barry, who plays Constance, and well by Mr. W. Rignold, who represents her lover. The want of success of the other performers ought perhaps to be ascribed to the shortcomings of the author, not to their own incompetency. The piece was received with some unusually strong expressions of disfavour, attributable in part, we believe, to Mr. Mortimer's unpopularity with a section of the audience, but the verdict of the public on any new drama is generally a just one, and there is no reason to believe that a mistake has been made in this instance. In justice to M. Dumas, any adaptation of his play should have been as faithful and unadulterated as possible, and should not have been subjected to any sham purifying process of Mr. Mortimer's invention.

Miss Litton has found a fitting pendant to the extravagant humour of *Tom Cobb* in a little musical piece, by Messrs. Sullivan and Rowe, called "The Zoo." Although much slighter in construction than "Trial by Jury," it belongs to the same class, and is in its way quite as admirable. The story is concerned with the doings of two pairs of lovers at the Zoo; the young lady at the refreshment counter, and the Duke of Islington, disguised as a footman, and eating all the tarts and buns in satisfying his amorous passion, being one couple, whilst two visitors to the Gardens form the other, the male of these being bent on committing suicide by a descent into the bear's den at feeding time. The vicissitudes incidental to the course of true love are funnily portrayed, and set to some charming music. The dialogue, of which not one word is spoken, is neat and witty, and the piece has the advantage of the assistance of Miss Henrietta Hodson, who plays the fascinating Hebe with all imaginable archness and grace. Such a pleasant musical folly is a fitting wind-up to an evening of pure comedy, and a most welcome substitute for the old fashioned wearisome farce.

THE FISHMONGER IN LEATHER LANE.—"Now!" roars the hatless thick-set trader, as he grasps a large plaice with his great thumb driven into its gills, and flops it into the water to give it a fresh appearance. "Here y' ar!" Then he roars again, as with three bangs of his knife on the block he cuts off the fish's tail and two side fins—"Who'll 'ave this lot? who'll 'ave it for sixpence—fivepence—fourpence?" This last as he chops off its head and throws it into half a sheet of newspaper, for the inspection of the public. "The whole bloomin' lot for fourpence," he adds, persuasively. It is promptly bought, and "Come on, come on!" shouts the merchant again, "as many as yer like; I'm ready for yer; who'll 'ave this lot for fourpence? any number on 'em 'ere, who'll 'ave this lot?"—(bang—bang—bang)—"ere y' ar for fourpence—fourpence!" (yelled out with crimson face and starting eyes)—"Here, take it away;" and he pitches it into the arms of a thin, wan woman, with a child at her breast, and gives her two fishy pennies in exchange for her sixpence. "Who's on again?"—(bang—bang—bang)—"who's for this lot? Oh, you may smell 'em, missus; and now go home and tell the old man there's a chap in Leather Lane selling fish as don't stink—fourpence. Will y' 'ave it?" And she does have it, as most of the crowd do eventually, for the man's fish are prodigiously cheap, and how he manages to sell them so is his business, and not Leather Lane's.—*Cassell's Family Magazine*.

A VALUABLE RELIC.—We have been shown by our esteemed Bro. William Steffe, P.M. of Mozart Lodge, No. 236, of this city (and some twenty years ago of Division II, 4, Central High School, where no one who was there can never forget him), a copy of the *Ulster County Gazette*, Kingston, New York, of date Saturday, January 4, A.D. 1800. It is an excellently preserved sheet, although the paper is thoroughly browned by age. Its inside pages are in deep mourning, on account of the death of Bro. General George Washington, which occurred on December 14th, 1799. An interesting account is given of the entombment of our distinguished Brother, at Mount Vernon, on Wednesday, December 17th, 1799. Among the mourners are mentioned his "Masonic Brethren." The proceedings in Congress, on December 29th, upon the announcement of his death, are also given. This is a valuable relic of the olden times, and Bro. Steffe justly values it highly.—*The Keystone*.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 12th JUNE.

- 176—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
1361—United Service, Greyhound, Richmond.
1416—Mount Edgecumbe, Swan Tavern, Bridge-road, Battersea.
308—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood.
K. T.—Faith, Masonic Rooms, Wigan.

SUNDAY, 13th JUNE.

- 50—Temperance, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
K. T.—Plains of Rama, Masonic Club, Keighley.

MONDAY, 14th JUNE.

- 29—St. Albans, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
45—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8. (Instruction).
R. A. 1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.
40—Derwent, Castle Hotel, High Street, Hastings.
61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
68—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
75—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth.
83—Scientific, Red Lion, Petty Cury, Cambridge.
89—Unanimity, Astley Arms Hotel, Dukinfield.
104—St. John's, Wellington Hotel, Stockport.
105—Fortitude, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
139—Britannia, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
151—Albany, Masonic Hall, Newport, I.W.
189—Sincerity, St. George's Hall, East Stonehouse.
210—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, South Shields.
264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, Batley.
292—Sincerity, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
293—King's Friends, Lamb Inn, Nantwich.
296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
314—Peace and Unity, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
408—Three Graces, Private Room, Haworth.
467—Tudor, Red Lion Hotel, Mumps, Oldham.
613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Stockport.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich.
661—Fawcett, New Masonic Hall, Seaburn Harbour.
665—Montagu, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis.
949—Williamson, Royal Hotel, Monkwearmouth, Sunderland.
1021—Hartington, Royal Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness.
1221—Defence, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1250—Gilbert Greenall, Masonic Rooms, Warrington.
1408—Stanford and Warrington, Drivers' Inn, Stalybridge.
1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley, Yorks.
R. A. 827—St. Johns, Masonic Temple, Dewsbury.
R. A.—Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

TUESDAY, 15th JUNE.

- Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
R. A. 186—Industry, Freemasons' Hall.
51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
57—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Hull.
126—Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley.
310—Union, Masonic Rooms, Carlisle.
452—Frederick Lodge of Unity, Station Hotel, Sutton.
667—Alliance, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
696—St. Bartholomew, Dartmouth Arms Hotel, Wednesbury.
897—Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helens.
979—Four Cardinal Virtues, Crewe Arms Hotel, Crewe.
986—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
1042—Excelsior, Freemasons' Hall, Leeds.
1075—St. Manghold, Masonic Rooms, Ramsey.
1166—Clarendon, Queen's Hotel, Hyde.
1214—Scarborough, Station Hotel, Southill, Batley.
1256—Fidelity, Black Bull, Poulton.
1276—Warren, Stanley Arms, Seacombe.
R. A. 11—Enoch, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 80—St. John's, Queen's Hotel, Sunderland.
R. A. 933—Doric, Auderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.

WEDNESDAY, 16th JUNE.

- 100—Oak, Freemasons' Hall.
193—Confidence, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, at 7.30. (Instruction).
1150—Buckingham and Chandos, Freemasons' Hall.
1382—Corinthian, George Inn, Glengall Road, Isle of Dogs.
R. A. 10—Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street.
R. A. 1345—St. Marylebone, British Stores, New Street, St. John's Wood.
86—Loyalty, Royal Hotel, Prescott.
116—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel, Colne.
125—Prince Edwin's, White Hart, Hythe, Kent.
123—Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bolton-street, Bury.
137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Poole.
221—St. John, Commercial Hotel, Bolton.
243—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
216—Royal Union, Freemasons' Hall, Cheltenham.
258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
277—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Oldham.
285—Love and Honour, George Hotel, Shepton Mallet.
287—Unanimity, Dog and Partridge, Stockport.
288—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
299—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford. (Instruction).
311—South Saxon, Freemasons' Hall, Lewes.
320—Loyalty, Junction Inn, Mottram.
323—Concord, Golden Bull Inn, Stockport.
325—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
329—Brotherly Love, Chough's Inn, Yeovil.
363—Samaritan, George Hotel, Sandbach.
380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley, Yorks.
387—Airdale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley.
461—Fortitude, Queen's Arms Inn, Newton Moor.
481—Faith, Gerard's Arms Inn, Ashton-in-Mark.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone. (Instruction).
533—Eaton, Bull's Head, Congleton.
580—Harmony, Wheatshaf Inn, Ormskirk.
581—Faith, Drover's Inn, Openshaw.
591—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury. (Festival).
610—Colston, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol. (Instruction).
625—Devonshire, Norfolk Arms, Glossop.
633—Yarborough, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
654—Peveril of Peak, Crown Hotel, New Mills.
679—St. Davids, Black Lion Hotel, Aberdare.
758—Ellesmere, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn.

WEDNESDAY, 16th JUNE—continued.

- 823—Everton, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
962—Sun and Sector, Portland-square, Workington.
1004—Athol, Douglas Hotel, Douglas, Isle of Man.
1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
1070—Starkie, Black Horse, Kirkham.
1086—Waltou, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale.
1129—St. Chad, Roebuck Hotel, Rochdale.
1161—De Grey and Ripon, Corporation Hotel, Ardwick.
1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Coffee House, Wavertree.
1218—Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Mossley.
1301—Brighouse, Masonic Rooms, Brighouse, Yorks.
1334—Norman, Freemasons' Hall, Durham.
1346—Victoria, Cross Keys Inn, Eccles.
1353—Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, St. Leonard's Gate, Lancaster.
R. A. 820—Lily Chapter of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
M.M. 31—Fidelity, Norfolk Arms Hotel, Hyde, Cheshire.

THURSDAY, 17th JUNE.

- House Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
1320—Blackheath, Crown Hotel, Blackheath.
42—Relief, Albion Hotel, Bury.
56—Howard, Town Hall, Arundel.
71—Unity, Masonic Hall, Lowestoft.
98—St. Martin's, Board Room, Town Hall, Burslem.
203—Ancient Union, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
267—Unity, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield.
268—Union, Queen's Arms Inn, Ashtou-under-Lyne.
275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
283—Amity, Swan Inn, Haslingden.
286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
336—Benevolence, Jolly Sailor, Marple.
337—Caudour, Commercial Inn, Uppermill, Yorks.
343—Concord, King's Arms Hotel, Preston.
344—Faith, Bull's Head, Radcliffe.
345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
346—United Brethren, Royal Oak Inn, Clayton le-Dale.
361—Industry, Norfolk Arms, Hyde.
369—Limestone Rock, Swan Hotel, Clitheroe.
462—Accrington, Hargreaves Hotel, Accrington.
531—St. Helen's, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool.
600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
605—Combermere, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe.
630—St. Cuthbert's, Parson Lane, Howden.
816—Royds, Spring Gardens Inn, Wardle, near Rochdale.
940—Philanthropy, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.
950—Hesketh, Fleetwood Hotel, Fleetwood.
1011—Richmond, Crown Hotel, Salford.
1032—Townley Parker, Howard's Arms Hotel, Whittle-Springs.
1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1125—St. Oswald, Wynnstay Arms Hotel, Oswestry.
1227—Upton, Spotted Dog Tavern, Upton, Essex.
1299—Pembroke, West Derby Hotel, West Derby.
R. A. 317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
K. T.—William de la More, New Court House, Prescott.

FRIDAY, 18th JUNE.

- House Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
6—Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.
1118—University, Freemasons' Hall.
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction).
R. A. 92—Moirs, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
318—True and Faithful, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.
401—Royal Forest, Hark-to-Bounty Inn, Slaidburn, Yorks.
516—Phoenix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket.
652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
830—Endeavour, Queen's Arms, Dukinfield.
975—Rose of Denmark, White Hart, Barnes.
993—Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme.
1034—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill, Yorks.
1108—Wharfedale, Private Room, Westgate, Otley.
1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1470—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans. (Emergency).
R. A. 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield.
R. A. 837—Marquess Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.

SATURDAY, 19th JUNE.

- 1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green.
149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.

IRELAND.

- MONDAY—154—Prince of Wales' Own Lodge, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
" 270—St. George's, Eniscorthy, Wexford.
" 297—Abercorn, Masonic Hall, Waterford.
" 431—Prince Frederick William of Prussia, Masonic Hall, Ballymena.
WEDNESDAY—9—Muses, Masonic Hall, Dungannon, Tyrone.
" 354—Coppagh, Masonic Hall, Omagh.
THURSDAY—12—Meridian, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
" 63—Dublin, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
" 129—Industry, Bundoran, Donegal.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

- MONDAY—145—St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writer's-court.
TUESDAY—36—St. David, Ship Hotel, East Register Street.
" 405—Rifle, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—160—Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, 62 Nicholson Street.
THURSDAY—48—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.
" 226—Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath Street.
" R. A. 152—Perseverance, Lodge Room, 86 Constitution Street.
FRIDAY—R. A. 83—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

United Industrious Lodge, No. 31, Canterbury.—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 3rd of June. Present—Bros. Capt. P. H. Knight W.M., Biggleston S.W., B. Browning J.W., Wiltshier S.D., Plant J.D., Tice Org., Dean I.G.; P.M.'s John R. Hall Hon. Sec., Higham, Holtum, Pilcher 972, White 972, Gardner 357, and several other brethren. The minutes of the last Lodge night were read and confirmed. The gavel having been placed in the hands of Bro. Hall P.M., Bro. Longhurst was raised to the sublime degree of M.M., according to ancient custom. Bro. John Green Hall was elected W.M. for the year ensuing, Bro.

Higham Treasurer, Bro. Holtum Almoner. A ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. D. T. Smith, yeoman, Littlebourne, into the mysteries and privileges of Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry, which the W.M. declared unanimous. Some other business was transacted, and the Lodge adjourned until Thursday, the 7th October next, emergencies excepted.

Royal Shamrock Lodge, No. 32.—The monthly meeting was held on 3rd of June, at Olaves Place, Waterford. Present:—Bros. Thomas Atherton W.M., Thomas Andrews S.W., Henry Waugh J.W., James W. Andrews S.D., George Hassett J.D., Peter Whalley D.C., Thomas Trizge Steward. David Atherton I.G., James Richardson Tyler, Samuel H. Perry Secretary. John Sunderland P.M. Treasurer; Past Masters Bros. H. D. Palmer, Thomas Slator, Robert Whalley sen., Robert Whalley jun.; Visitors, Bros. Elwin, Murray and Price 5, Hiscox 1420 (English), Vokes 297, and about 30 brethren. Business transacted:—Lodge opened in 1st degree; minutes read and confirmed; correspondence read, and one gentleman initiated; after which the Lodge was duly closed, and the brethren separated.

Warnesford Lodge, No. 70.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on 2nd June, at Tullyniskey, when the following brethren were duly elected officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Hugh Dennison W.M., Andrew Creighton S.W., Samuel Back J.W., John Lavery S.D., William Atheson J.D., James Rown D.C., Robt. Nelson I.G., John Dennison Tyler, Wm. Graham Secretary and Treasurer.

Prudent Brethren Lodge, No. 145.—The summer banquet will be held on the 13th of July, at the Alexandra Palace, under the presidency of Bro. G. Purkiss, the W.M., with the co-operation of Bros. John Boyd P.G.P., J. Last Treasurer, G. S. States P.G.S. Secretary, T. Bull I.P.M., and a numerous assemblage of the brethren who have signified their intention to be present. From the well-known qualifications of the W.M. a very happy and enjoyable day is anticipated.

Joppa Lodge, No. 188.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, 7th inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, City. Present:—Bros. S. Hickman W.M., A. G. Dodson S.W., L. Lazarus J.W., Miller S.D., H. Hymans D.C., M. Spiegel as I.G., E. P. Albert, Assistant Grand Pursuivant, Secretary; L. Auerhaan Treasurer, P. E. Van Noorden Org.; P.M.'s Bros. H. Berkowitz, L. Alexander, H. M. Levy, O. Roberts, E. H. Hunt, M. Van Diephencim, J. Phillips and Israel Abrahams. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Messrs. J. Creamer, H. Creamer and J. Bitton having been balloted for, were duly initiated into the Order. A notice of motion was given, by Bro. O. Roberts I.P.M., that in future the fees for initiation be £10 10s, and the joining fee £8 8s; this was seconded by Bro. H. M. Levy P.M., and was carried unanimously. The Lodge was then called off, and the brethren, 109 in number, sat down to an elegant banquet provided by Bro. W. G. Jennings, the worthy manager, and superintended by Bro. Keeping. The W.M. then proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. In proposing the toast of the Earl of Carnarvon and the rest of the Grand Officers, he spoke in eulogistic terms of one of their members who had been selected to fill the post of Grand Assistant Pursuivant. This brother was one who was well worthy to fill such an office, as every one present knew and appreciated his Masonic and other qualifications. Bro. E. P. Albert, in genial terms, returned thanks for the toast. The W.M., in proposing the Benevolent Fund, dilated on the benefits arising therefrom. He informed the brethren that it had in the hands of the Treasurer the sum of £1,100, and that amount had been increased by the contributions of the newly initiated brethren. Bros. Creamer and Dixon had contributed the sum of 21s each, Stransky 10s 6d, J. Rutherford (second donation) 21s, and Master M. Auerhaan and L. M. Auerhaan, sons of Bro. M. Auerhaan, 10s 6d each. (Cheers.) Bro. L. Alexander P.M. and V.P. responded to the toast, and informed the brethren that the sum of £50 had been added to the fund. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the newly initiated, gave a very excellent illustration of the duties required of them in their future Masonic career, for they had been so highly recommended that he was sure they would be a credit to the Order. Bros. Dixon and Creamer returned thanks for the toast. The toast of the visitors was received with prolonged cheers, the W.M. saying he was pleased to see among them one whom they were all proud to have present, viz. Bro. J. Sebag. (Cheers.) That brother had very disinterestedly done all he could to further the interests of the Joppa Benevolent Fund; his name was sufficient to ensure him individually, and also the visitors, a hearty welcome. For the former brother, although this was the first time he had been present, he hoped he (the W.M.), as well as the Lodge, would feel honoured by his presence. Bro. J. Sebag returned thanks for the visitors, and said he fully appreciated the kind words of the W.M. He thanked the brethren for their kind expressions; his services were always at their command in every capacity, and he had to thank them for the pleasant reception the visitors had met with this evening. He would, if any occasion should require it, be happy to contribute to the fund, and he would never forget the kindness shown to him and the visitors; he might say that the Lodge of Joppa may be proud of its Master, and also the Benevolent Fund. (Loud cheers.) Bro. O. Roberts proposed the toast of the W.M., whom he said had so perfectly, during his year of office, performed the ceremonies, and also had ably presided over the brethren. (Cheers.) The W.M., in responding, said how pleased he was to see that perfect harmony had prevailed during his year of office, and that was sufficient to show that his humble efforts had been crowned with success, to the satisfaction of the brethren. That was his aim on taking the chair, and he hoped on the expiration of office to meet their approbation. The toast of the P.M.'s was responded to by Bros. O. Roberts, I. Abrahams and H. M. Levy. The toast of

the Wardens, and that of the Treasurer and Secretary, Bros. E. P. Albert and L. Auerhaan, who returned thanks, followed. The toast of the Junior Officers followed, and Bros. L. Auerhaan and Stransky each gave an additional sum of 21s and 10s 6d, and Mrs. Auerhaan 10s 6d to the Benevolent Fund. The Lodge was then called on, and several propositions for joining and initiation were handed in. The Lodge was then closed until October. The W.M. provided a very excellent concert, under the management of Bro. P. E. Van Noorden, the Organist of the Lodge, and included the names of Bro. V. Thomas, the Misses Vere, Bacon and Stuart; Bro. P. E. Van Noorden accompanying on the piano, he also singing a very capital buffo song. The visitors were Bros. Hyde Pullen P.G.S.B., J. Sebag 113, Wills 144, King 1348, Morgan 1044, M. S. Larham 1216, J. M. Loewenstark 1360, Kemp 27 and 1340, Hine 1498, McDonald 1158, W. Holloway 1158, Beales 902, H. Myers 205, Dr. Ring 1017, R. Lester 389, W. A. Morgan 1044, Birch, &c.

St. John's Lodge, No. 279, Leicester.—The last meeting of the season was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Wednesday, 2nd June. There were present:—Bros. J. W. Smith W.M., A. Palmer I.P.M., J. M. MacAllister S.W., G. W. Statham J.W., W. Weare P.M. Treasurer, Clement Edwin Stretton Secretary, J. Ewing 1391 as J.D., J. Orlando Law I.G., Clement Stretton P.P.G.W., G. Toller P.P.G.S.W., S. S. Partridge 279, W.M. 523, F. J. Baines P.M. 523, J. T. Thorp W.M. Elect 523, The Rev. T. W. Gordon, J. Jessop 279, J. W. Gibson 73 Limerick, E. Mason S.W. 1391, S. Knight 1391, F. J. Smith 523, and others. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The W.M. appointed and invested Bro. the Rev. T. W. Gordon as Chaplain of the Lodge. He then proceeded to initiate two candidates, Mr. Crick and Mr. Manton, and recommended to their consideration the beauties of our mystic art in a manner which could not fail to impress their minds with a reverence for the grand principles upon which our Order is founded. The charge was very ably delivered by Bro. Partridge W.M. 523. The Lodge having been closed in due form, the brethren partook of refreshment, after which the Loyal and Masonic toasts followed in due order.

St. John's Lodge, No. 795.—The regular meeting of this summer Lodge was held on Tuesday, at the Ray Mead Hotel, Maidenhead. Present—Bros. C. Moule jun. W.M., T. A. Carr P.M. as S.W., Hubert Turner J.W., H. H. Hodges P.M. Secretary, J. R. Foulger P.M. C. Gammon P.M. and Treasurer was absent through indisposition. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. A ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. Deacon (the proprietor of the hotel), which was unanimously in his favour, and he, by the courtesy of the W.M., was duly initiated by Bro. J. R. Foulger P.M., in a very impressive style; several candidates were proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and the Lodge was closed. The brethren then adjourned to the banquet, supplied by the worthy host, the newly initiated brother. The usual toasts were given and responded to, and when the toast of "The Past Masters" was given, the W.M. regretted the absence of Bro. C. Gammon, who had met with a very severe accident, but added, he was pleased to inform the brethren Bro. Gammon was rapidly recovering, and he would only be too happy to see him among them on their next meeting. The Tyler's toast was given, and the brethren returned to town.

Clones Masonic Lodge, No. 881, Ireland.—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held in the Lodge Rooms, Thompson's Hotel. Bros. E. J. Elliott W.M., Rev. T. R. Conway S.W. *pro tem*, John Robinson J.W., J. W. Presho S.D., T. Lough J.D. *pro tem*, J. Elliott Treasurer, F. G. Fitzgerald Sec., Rev. A. Rea Chaplain, W. M. Fitzgerald I.G., W. Heaney Tyler. Past Masters Elliott, Fitzgerald, Martin and Patterson. Visitors—Bros. McCraslin, Higgins and Hurst. Business of a routine character being disposed of, a ballot was taken for Mr. James Armstrong, and found clear. Mr. Armstrong being in attendance, was duly initiated into the Order by Bro. P.M. J. Patterson, in his usual good style. The Lodge was then closed in due and ancient form, after which the brethren adjourned for refreshment, when the following toasts were given: "The Queen," "The Prince of Wales," "The Rest of the Royal Family," "The Newly Initiated," "Visitors," &c. The brethren separated, after spending a very enjoyable evening.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1012, Bury (Lancashire).—At the current monthly meeting of the above named Lodge, Bro. H. Heys P.M. in the chair, it was resolved, on the motion of Bro. Heys, seconded by Bro. W. Handley P.M., that Bro. Henry Maiden, Secretary, write letters of condolence to the families of deceased Brothers Robert Wright O'Neil and Richard Battersby, the former of whom was the last appointed Worshipful Master, and the latter Senior Deacon of the Lodge, and both of whom were accidentally thrown into the sea and drowned while on a yachting excursion in Morecombe Bay, on Whit Thursday. Brother Battersby's body has not been recovered. As a mark of respect to the departed brothers, the Lodge was closed immediately after the passing of the foregoing resolution, which was the only subject that engaged the attention of the meeting.

Royal Edward Lodge, No. 1088.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held at the house of Bro. Joe Byrom, Commercial Hotel, Melbourne Street, Stalybridge, on Thursday, the 3rd inst. A considerable number of members and visitors were present, including Bro. C. Goddard P.P.S.G.D. and P.M., T. Bowers P.P.A.G.D.C. and P.M., William Batchelor P.M., James Kirk P.M., William Davies P.M.; W. Emmett W.M.; S. Sykes S.W. and G. Wagstaff J.W. Bro. James Kirk announced that on Saturday, the 26th of June, he would lay the foundation stone of a Mechanics

Institution, at Whaley Bridge, and he invited the whole of the brethren in the borough to breakfast at his residence, and to join in the procession. The invitation was gratefully accepted. The ballot was then taken for the admission of Mr. Wm. H. Halton, Editor of the *Ashton and Stalybridge Reporter*, and, being unanimous, that gentleman was duly initiated into Freemasonry, by Bros. Batchelor and Davies, in the usual form.

De Shurland Lodge, No. 1089, Sheerness.—On Wednesday evening the installation meeting of this Lodge was held at Sheerness, when Bro. A. Bourne was installed Worshipful Master by Bro. J. D. Macdonald, Past Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, Kent, in the presence of a full Lodge, containing several Provincial Grand Officers. The brethren subsequently banquetted together at the Fountain Hotel.

Perfect Ashlar Lodge, No. 1178.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 3rd inst., at Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge. Present:—Bros. C. Deakin W.M., J. Ruse S.W., J. A. Smith J.W., W. Batchelor S.D., W. T. Lever J.D., J. Stock D.C., F. Garbett I.G., F. Walters, P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M. Secretary; F. H. Hebsworth P.M. Treasurer; P.M.'s Bros. G. J. Grace and J. H. Harnsworth; Visitors Bros. S. Pownby S.D. 55, Hughes 1309. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. G. J. Grace P.M., by the courtesy of the W.M., raised Bro. T. Simpson to the third degree, and the W.M. passed Bros. Bell, Hughes 1309 and Sparks to the degree of Fellow Craft; initiated Messrs. Nice and Eastbrook. Bro. F. Walters P.M. then gave notice of motion, that the sum of five guineas be given from the funds of the Lodge to present the W.M., Bro. Deakin, on his retirement from office, with a Past Master's jewel for his efficient services during the year. Several proposals for initiation were given to the Secretary, and the Lodge was closed. A banquet followed, provided by Bro. Spencer. The usual toasts were given, and the brethren separated.

Neptune Lodge, No. 1264, Liverpool.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday afternoon, at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, where there were was one of the largest gatherings of brethren seen at any Lodge for some time. The attendance numbered nearly 120, amongst those present being an unusually large array of W.M.'s, P.M.'s and officers from other Lodges in town, thus showing the popularity which the "Neptune" enjoys in the province. The retiring W.M., Bro. J. S. Dixon, occupied the chair at the commencement of the business; and after the usual opening some formal business was transacted. Bro. J. Healing P.M. Treasurer then took the chair, and proceeded to instal Bro. P. B. Geo as the W.M. of the Lodge for the ensuing year. This is the second time Bro. Geo has held that distinguished position, and his re-election to the office appeared to give the greatest satisfaction to the numerous brethren under his rule. The following were subsequently invested as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. S. Dixon I.P.M., W. Roberts S.W., A. Cotter J.W., Jos. Healing P.M. Treasurer (re-elected), A. C. Wylie Secretary, W. Royle S.D., J. Korn J.D., J. C. Fish I.G., W. C. Webb, J. P. Gamble, J. Caterall Stewards; A. Davies P.M. D.C., and W. H. Ball Tyler. Before the Lodge was closed a handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. J. S. Dixon as a mark of sincere regard felt by the brethren for him "as a man and a Mason." The brethren afterwards sat down to banquet, after which the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and received in a hearty manner.

Star Lodge, No. 1275.—The regular meeting was held on 4th June, at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich. Present—Bros. J. Smith P.G.P. P.M. and Treasurer, who occupied the chair as W.M., J. J. Limburne S.W. and W.M. elect, J. Green J.W., Rev. G. P. R. Colls Chaplain and W.M. designate 1538, F. Walters P.G.P. Middlesex P.M. and Secretary, R. W. Williams S.D., E. W. Chetwynd as I.G., B. Woodman D.C., and Past Masters W. Ough P.G.P.C., J. Hogg P.G.S., H. Keeble and above 40 brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. J. T. C. Brooks and E. H. Rand were raised to the 3rd degree; and Bros. F. J. Lindsay and W. Carter 1309, were passed to the second degree. The election for the W.M., Treasurer and Tyler followed, and the following brethren were elected to fill respectively the foregoing offices, viz. Bro. J. J. Limburne W.M., J. Smith P.G. Treasurer, and Gilbert P.G.T. (Middlesex) Tyler. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of a sumptuous banquet, under the able presidency of Bro. Smith, and enjoyed a very agreeable evening, where the usual loyal, Masonic and complimentary toasts were given and responded to,

including that of the W.M., Wardens, Officers and Visitors. Bro. W. B. Woodman, who is a Steward for the Boys' School Festival, made a powerful appeal on behalf of that Charity, which was liberally responded to. The visitors were Bros. G. Kenning P.P.G.S.D. Middlesex, and P.M. 162, &c., W. J. Johns P.M. 131, C. Sergeant 177, H. Jager P.M. 453, W. H. Stacey 1237, W. Carter 1309. A. Betts 1309, &c. It was a source of deep regret to the brethren that, since the last meeting of the Lodge, they had to deplore the sad loss of two of their members, whom all respected—Bros. G. Pym W.M. P.M. 749, and W. Bell I.G. who was shipwrecked off Bengal.

Hyde Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1425.—Meeting held Monday, 7th June, at the Westbourne Restaurant, Craven Road, Bayswater. Present—Bros. Savage W.M., Sido S.W., Scales J.W., Cole S.D., Gellion J.D., Stiles I.G., Read P.M. Secretary, and Bros. Death and Cuth. Lodge opened in first and second degrees. Bro. Death entrusted, &c., for raising. Lodge opened in third degree, and Bro. Death raised. The traditional history given in a very able manner by the W.M. Lodge resumed to first degree. First and second sections of first Lecture worked by the brethren, under direction of Bro. Read P.M.

Thames Valley Lodge, No. 1460.—The Rev. Dr. Brette of Christ's Hospital, and examiner to the University of London, presided at a meeting of this Lodge, held at the Ship Hotel, Halliford, on Saturday afternoon. The Lodge, of which the reverend Doctor is worshipful Master, after disposing of a large paper of business, and voting five guineas to the Masonic Girls' School, unanimously passed a resolution, recommending Mr. W. T. Howe, one of its members, to the Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex (Colonel Burdett) for the office of Provincial Grand Steward, in acknowledgment of his great services to the Lodge.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507.—On Friday, the 4th inst., a committee of the members of this Lodge met at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville-road. Bros. Jas. Willing jun. W.M. in the chair. Bros. Kingham, Rapkin, Tims P.M., Side, Sainsbury, Williams J.W., Cook, Stiles, Michael S.W. being present. The object of the meeting was to make arrangements for the summer banquet, which resulted in the brethren fixing it to take place on Friday, the 9th July, at the Rye House, near Broxbourne. Dinner will take place at four o'clock, when ladies and non-Masons, friends of the brethren, will be present. The meeting was then adjourned to the 5th July, when final arrangements will be made.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—Meeting at Metropolitan Club, King's Cross, on Friday, 4th June 1875. Bros. Willing W.M., Michael S.W., Williams J.W., Kingham S.D., Side J.D. Shand I.G., Adams P.G.P. Preceptor, Stiles Secretary, Tims P.M., and Bros. Scales, Cook, Sainsbury, Shankland, Cox, Rose, Read, Russe, Child, Jones, Tittenborn, and Gilbert. Lodge opened in due form, and minutes read and confirmed. Bro. Cook initiated, Bro. Read entrusted for passing. Lodge opened in second degree, Bro. Read passed, and Bro. Jones entrusted for raising. Lodge opened in third degree, and Bro. Jones raised. The W.M. called off for refreshment, and afterwards called on to labor, and closed down. The whole of the business most ably and creditably performed, and Bro. Michael S.W. elected unanimously W.M. at ensuing meeting.

The proceedings of the Gen. Gr. Chapter of the United States show that there are 37 Gr. Chapters, 2,014 R.A. Chapters and 123,779 R.A. Masons in the Union.—From a table recently published we find that there are 48 Gr. Lodges, 6,142 Lodges and 582,178 enrolled Master Masons in the United States.—The Gr. Lodge of Michigan has recently chosen the following officers for 1875: M.W. Bro. Geo. H. Durand, Flint, Gr. Master; R.W. Bro. M. H. Maynard, Marquette, Dep. Gr. Master; R.W. Bro. Wm. Dunham, Mainstec, Gr. Sen. Warden; R.W. Bro. J. W. Finch, Adrian, Gr. Jun. Warden; R.W. Bro. R. W. Landon, Niles, Gr. Treasurer; R.W. Bro. Foster Pratt, Kalamazoo, Gr. Secretary; R.W. Bro. A. M. Clark, Lexington Gr. Lecturer; R.W. Bro. J. S. Goodman, East Saginaw, Gr. Chaplain; R.W. Wm. Johnstone, Port Huron, Gr. Sen. Deacon; R.W. Bro. John P. Phillips, Woodland, Gr. Jun. Deacon, R.W. Bro. F. A. Potter, St. Joseph, Gr. Marshal; R.W. Bro. Alex. McGregor, Detroit, Gr. Tyler.—*New York Courier.*

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