

THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. III.—No. 75.

SATURDAY, 3rd JUNE 1876.

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

THANKOFFERINGS.

BRO. HAVERS'S AND THE REV. BRO. SIMPSON'S PROPOSALS.

OUR readers, doubtless, have seen the letter published last week, from Bro. Constable, and likewise the report quoted from our Masonic contemporary by the *Daily News*, which formed the subject of our esteemed brother's denunciation. Those of them who have the *entrée* to Grand Lodge know also, by this time, that two propositions are included in the agenda paper for the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, which will be held on Wednesday, the 7th inst. These propositions emanate from Bros. John Havers and the Rev. R. J. Simpson respectively, the motive in each case being the same, namely, to give substantial evidence of the real and unaffected joy which Masonry feels at the safe return home from India of the Prince of Wales. The manner, however, in which it is proposed to convey that evidence differs materially in the two resolutions. Bro. Havers invites Grand Lodge to devote a sum of £2,000, "in aid of the restoration of the two churches which are most intimately connected with the history of Freemasonry in England," that is to say, £1,000 towards the restoration of St. Paul's Cathedral, and £1,000 towards that of St. Alban's Abbey. Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson will move that a service of thanksgiving be held by the Craft, in St. Paul's Cathedral, on some convenient day, and that £1,000 be voted from the moneys of Grand Lodge towards the funds of such charitable object in India as may be recommended by the Grand Master. It was the latter part of this second motion which evoked, from Bro. Constable, an objection so instant; and having given admission to his strong expostulation against our Rev. Brother's idea, we purpose, on the present occasion, offering a few remarks on the subject of Grand Lodge Charity, and these proposed exceptional applications of its funds.

In the first place, we recognise the propriety of Grand Lodge, as the Diet of English Freemasons, expressing officially its hearty congratulations at the safe return, from foreign travel, of the Prince who presides over that Diet. In the next place, we see no well founded objection to the rejoicing at so auspicious an event taking a substantial turn; or, in other words, to a sum of money, more or less considerable, being voted from Grand Lodge funds towards some charitable object, as a meet token of the joy we experience, that His Royal Highness has been restored to us in full and vigorous health, after accomplishing so successful a progress through the Indian dominions of the Queen, his mother. There, however, we fear our accord with either Bro. Havers or his Reverend Grand colleague is, in some measure, at an end. In dealing with the proposed motions, we shall give priority to that of Bro. Havers. It is first in order of the business to be transacted next Wednesday, and our comments on it will be briefer than on its rival, Bro. Simpson's motion.

Assuming that our Charitable Institutions are sufficiently well provided with money to meet all requirements, actual and prospective, and that there is a large surplus at the disposal of Grand Lodge, with no imminent chance of any demand being made upon it; assuming, further, that, as far as human foresight can suggest, there is little likelihood of Grand Lodge available funds being reduced in the future, but rather a hope that they may go on increasing, then we say, we know of no worthier object to which English Freemasonry can contribute than towards the

restoration of our metropolitan Cathedral of St. Paul's, or rather—and we presume this is the real aim of Bro. Havers's motion—the completion of its original designs, as contemplated by the great architect, Sir Christopher Wren. Without committing ourselves to an opinion as to whether Wren was a Mason in the sense in which we use the word now, we think there is little doubt that, but for his very advanced age, he would have played a prominent, perhaps the most prominent, part in the revival of Masonry as a speculative science. He was a great architect, a man of great scientific attainments; moreover, he was a good man. He was certainly a prince among architects and geometri- cians, if not a master of our Craft in a speculative sense; and as such he is worthy of all the honours which modern Freemasonry can bestow upon his memory. The comple- tion of St. Paul's Cathedral according to his design may be regarded almost as a national work, and Freemasonry must not lag behind the rest of the world in contributing to works of national importance. Assuming then that there are, momentarily, no worthier objects on which Grand Lodge can expend its surplus funds, we see no reason why so much of Bro. Havers's motion as relates to the Cathedral of St. Paul's should not find favour, nor do we think £1,000 too large a sum to vote for such a purpose. As regards the restoration of St. Alban's Abbey, we are not of the same mind as Bro. Havers. That St. Alban's is a very ancient town, that its Abbey dates back to very early times, and that the Abbot thereof was granted precedence of all other Abbots in England, we have seen stated in historical works more or less trustworthy. Whether, how- ever, there really ever was a St. Alban, who was a worthy Knight and Steward to the King, and had the making of the Town Walls of Verulam, since named after him, St. Alban's; whether he loved Masons well and cherished them, paying them "every week three shillings sixpence to their double wages," and obtaining for them "a Charter of the King," and gave them "Charges;" whether, we say, a St. Alban ever lived, and if so, whether he did or did not do all these things which are ascribed to him—these are points we decline, on the evidence of a few MSS. of indeterminate value, to accept. We have a deep reverence for the past, but we do not "swallow" unproven all that is said or written about it. From a Masonic point of view, perhaps, there is no great harm done if we set down St. Alban as our first Grand Master of England. It is a pretty name, and the story reads prettily enough; but we must be careful to make mention, be it sportive or serious, of this interesting myth only among ourselves. If we announce publicly that we have voted £1,000 towards the restoration of St. Alban's Abbey, because of a connection with our Order which never existed, the world, perhaps, may cynically quote a well known proverb, about fools and their money being soon parted; and, worse still, we shall deserve the rebuke. If, however, Bro. Havers can prove that St. Alban's Abbey is one of "the two churches which are most intimately connected with the history of Free- masonry in England," we should be inclined to add a rider to his resolution, to the effect that a sum of £1,000 be pre- sented to him for having made so wonderful a discovery. So much for Bro. Havers's motion. Let Grand Lodge satisfy itself there is no place within the domains proper of Masonry which stands in need of charity, and no likeli- hood of a call upon its funds for such purpose being made in the immediate or more distant future, and then, if it seem fit, let it vote £1,000 towards the completion of Wren's great masterpiece; but with the St. Alban's part of his proposition, we have little, if any, sympathy.

We come now to Rev. Bro. Simpson's motion, that £1,000 be voted towards "such charitable objects in India as may be recommended by the Most Worshipful Grand Master." We say at once, we are more directly opposed to this motion than to the former. In the first place it is utterly uncalled for, and for this reason alone we trust Grand Lodge will reject it offhand. India is wealthy enough to promote its own charitable objects. There might have been some reason in making some such proposition when, a short time since, there was a famine in that country. Famine is one of the direst calamities that can befall the human race, and India and England are parts of one and the same empire. Yet if no aid were thought necessary in such a crisis, no contribution towards a local Indian charity can be needed now. But over and above this important primary objection, there are eminent reasons why the funds of Grand Lodge should not be thus carelessly disbursed. It may tickle the vanity of Bro. Simpson to have his name associated with a proposed thankoffering of this character. Some there are, perhaps, who may even go further, and suggest that a desire for personal fame is at the root of his proposal; while a few may exceed this limit, and contrive to evolve out of his motion something of that spirit of flunkeyism for which the true Mason has so utter a detestation. We, of course, being perfectly impartial critics in this and all other cases, and not unmindful of our obligation, not even to hint at, much less to think any evil of our fellows—we say, we very properly scout the existence of such ideas in our reverend brother's mind. We take his proposition as it stands. We deal with it on its merits as they present themselves to men of common sense who are perfectly unprejudiced. Emphatically we urge on Grand Lodge not even to entertain the idea of such a disbursement. There is absolutely not the shadow of a reason why it should. India, we have said, is wealthy enough to look after its own charities. True, there is enormous wealth in England, but, unhappily, there is a terrible amount of poverty likewise. There was reason in Grand Lodge contributing £1000 towards the Patriotic Fund. That fund was started to help ameliorate the condition of British men, women, and children whom the misfortune of war had disabled, or who were so deprived of their natural guardians and protectors. The Prince of Wales's visit to India was a royal progress, undertaken for the purpose of cementing more closely the bonds which unite India and England under the same sovereign Lady. Indians and Anglo-Indians have done much in the way of charity in that country in honour of that visit, and we here have rejoiced and are rejoicing that the Prince is home again. For this reason was it the City of London recently held high festival, and formally congratulated him on his return. If a grand Masonic celebration of the event is thought desirable, by all means let there be one. Or if an enduring Masonic memorial of the visit is considered more appropriate, let one be established. But, in the latter case, let the memorial be a home one, and if it take the form of a charitable contribution, let us bear in mind the very old yet very true saying, which Bro. Constable so pertinently quoted in his letter, that "Charity begins at home." True charity knows no distinction, either of race or creed; it is bounded by no geographical limits; it characterises all peoples. But true charity likewise takes heed of that which is nearer, before it deals with that which is more remote. While then there remains any English Masonic poverty to relieve, Indian or Anglo-Indian Masonic poverty has no claim whatever upon us in this country. Let it be borne in mind that this home Masonic poverty grows with the growth of our home Masonry. The more numerous we become, the more likely are we to have demands made upon our resources for charity. Bro. Constable indicated, with sufficient clearness, in his short letter, the purposes to which Grand Lodge might appropriately devote a portion of any available surplus it may have in its power to bestow. Said he: "If Grand Lodge determines to make a thankoffering at this particular time, let it take the form of a contribution to one of our own charities—say the Boys' or Girls' School; the former has hardly any invested funds, and a large outlay; close upon £10,000 is being incurred in enlarging the latter." This was an essentially practical suggestion, founded on reasons which are obviously sound. Let us go a little further. If we take only the last three elections to these charities, we shall find the number of candidates on each occasion was very largely in excess of the number

of vacancies. At the spring elections, in 1875, there were thirty-one girl and forty-eight boy candidates for thirteen and eight vacancies respectively; at last autumn elections there were thirty candidates for six vacancies in the girls', and fifty-eight for ten vacancies in the boys'; at the elections held last month the numbers were forty-three for eleven vacancies in the former, and fifty-nine for sixteen vacancies in the latter. In other words, for every candidate chosen at one of these six elections there were, on an average, at the very lowest computation, about three for whom it was impossible to make any provision. Would it be just, we ask, with such pressing necessities at home, to give so considerable a sum as £1,000 to some local charity in India? If we have spare money to bestow in charity, let us give at home first, and abroad afterwards. While there is a single Mason's son or daughter in this country who stands in need of help, let his or her claims be first satisfied, and let us disburse what then remains in assisting the indigent of other parts of the empire. If we were able to congratulate our Rev. Bro. Simpson—which we are not—on the very active part he takes in the working of our home charitable institutions, we should imagine he was induced to bring forward this motion of his in the belief that further pecuniary assistance was not needed on their behalf. We do not find his name among the Vice-Patrons and Vice-Presidents, or on the Governing Committees of either of our own institutions. We conclude, therefore, that, in his enthusiasm for India, he has quite forgotten there are such pressing wants at home. If he merely wishes his proposed memorial should possess some distinctive Indian feature, let him move a gift to the Boys' and Girls' School to be called, as Bro. Constable suggests, "The Prince of Wales's Indian Commemoration Gift," or by some such title. Or, if he thinks these are already in sufficient funds, there are many other deserving charities in England which sorely need assistance. Under any circumstances, we say again, there is absolutely no shadow of a reason why the moneys of Grand Lodge should be dispensed on any charitable institution in India.

Bro. Simpson's motion, though in a certain sense concrete in form, is, in fact, an abstract resolution. He really invites Grand Lodge to bestow £1,000 on some Indian charity, of which in all probability the Prince will know little beyond the name, and Masonry not even that much. We condemn all such vague unsatisfactory propositions in the strongest possible terms, and we trust Grand Lodge will reject it by an overwhelming majority. The honour of having obtained from Grand Lodge a vote of £100 towards exploring the site of King Solomon's Temple is enough for one brother to have achieved, even in this country of untold wealth and unrelieved indigence crying aloud for help.

MASONIC PORTRAITS (No. 30.)

FORTUNE'S CONQUEROR.

"I care not, Fortune, what you me deny;
 You cannot rob me of free Nature's grace,
 You cannot shut the windows of the sky,
 Through which Aurora shows her brightening face;
 * * * * *
 Let health my nerves and finer fibres brace,
 And I their toys to the great children leave;
 Of fancy, reason, virtue, nought can me bereave."

NATURE in spite of her acknowledged graces, is but a blind nursing mother; she is constantly attempting to do coarse work with the finest tools, and she often uses the coarsest and most clumsy weapons in her armoury for the most delicate and difficult operations. We should think ill indeed of a watchmaker who should attempt to separate the beautiful mechanism of a watch with the turn-screw of a carpenter, or who should venture to lubricate its wheels and pinions with cart grease; but Dame Nature is ever doing something of this sort. She places the men, who should rule, in lowly stations, and governs us with intellects which would find more fitting employment at the bench or the plough. The square men are constantly and persistently placed in the round holes; the commanding brains are usually subject to the will of fools, and the world jogs on without ever reflecting upon the enormous waste of talent and power which the existing condition of things entails. Occasionally a man of genius pushes his way from the workshop to the forum, or from the furrowed field to the

university, but few men of native talent possess force sufficient to overcome the obstacles that are placed in the way of their march upwards. Many a man spends his day behind a counter who is fitted for a nobler sphere of action; many a so-called statesman could confer a lasting benefit upon his country if he would consent to give up politics and turn his attention to trade. But life is a lottery, and he is the truest philosopher who can consent to accept the inevitable, and make the best of it. Few men, however, are gifted with patience sufficient to bear the evil chances of the world easily. A man who finds himself in a false position, either sinks under his difficulties, or runs riot in a career which eventually leads to ruin. Some sturdy hearted people, however, appear to defy the adverse strokes of fortune, and achieve success in spite of the difficulties which may surround them. Though fate be never so cruel, they are sure to triumph, and let the starting point of their career be never so humble, they are sure to come, sooner or later, to the surface. But the mass of men who feel that they have that within them which in happier circumstances might have won them renown, are too sensitive to fight their way out of the ranks. They may accept their lot with apparent indifference, but the harness of servitude galls to the quick, and they either sink under their sufferings, or recklessly fling aside the realities of life for the pleasure of following an *ignis fatuus*, which sooner or later leads them into the mire. Such men sometimes awake to a just sense of their true sphere in life at the very first stumble, and many a man has reason to date his good fortune from the day when he lost his all in attempting to follow the supposed bent of his genius. The sudden plunge head over ears into adversity often acts like a charm. The man comes out of his cold bath a philosopher, ready to accept his fate with cheerfulness, and with his heart and mind steeled against the trials of the world.

The brother whose portrait we shall attempt to sketch has known some of the difficulties and the trials of life, and has borne a few of the adverse strokes of fortune. Nature fashioned him of finer clay than common, and then, in accordance with her usual practice, she placed him in a sphere in which he was ill fitted to shine. His tastes and the whole bent of his mind were strongly opposed to the mere drudgery of buying and selling. He would have made an admirable country gentleman, or an excellent soldier. If his father had started him in life with a commission, he might have accepted his lot thankfully, and at this moment he might have been performing the dry duties of an adjutant with the zeal of a man who had found his true vocation in life. Born to be a soldier, and fashioned of the stuff out of which men of the sword should be made, he might have passed his life happily and contentedly in the daily round of regimental duties. He has an eye for the details of military affairs, and perhaps even now if he had his way he would rather cast his critical glance over a battalion of tall fellows than give his opinion of a master piece of the studio. As a Lieutenant of Volunteers he has proved that he possesses military knowledge and tact. He was born in Halifax, Yorkshire and his father was in business at Bradford, as a manufacturer of woollen stuffs. The Yorkshire "makers," as they are called in the trade, have long been characterised by a spirit of restless enterprise, and they have taken the manufacture of fancy woollens entirely out of the hands of their rivals of the West of England. Yorkshire "goods" are known all over the world, and the superfine cloths of this great county are but little inferior to those of Gloucestershire. Our brother was apprenticed to his father's business, and, upon the expiration of his "time," he started for himself. But he was not fitted for the humdrum calling of a manufacturer. He possessed mental qualities which attracted attention, and he was courted by men who were in a position of life superior to his own. The pleasures of society attracted him from his counting-house to the hunting-field, where he distinguished himself as a bold and fearless rider. But one cannot follow the hounds and attend closely to the details of a woollen mill. While his workmen were toiling, or skulking, amid the clatter of machinery, he was putting in the woof of a web which the grim sisters in due time severed with their merciless scissors. The blow fell, and he retired from his business, after having suffered a loss of £15,000. The shock of this catastrophe helped to bring out all the resolution which had hitherto lain dormant in his nature, and he faced fortune with the calm courage

of a true man. Finding that the curtain had fallen for ever upon his life in the manufacturing hive of industry in which his lot had been cast, he turned manfully away from old scenes and associations, and sought scope for a career at the Antipodes. While the civil war was raging in the United States, our brother sailed for Australia. Here he devoted himself to photography, an art which he had practised as an amateur, without any idea that it would one day help him to fight the battle of life. He appears to have distinguished himself at Melbourne as a photographic artist, but he found colonial life distasteful, and returned to England and set up his studio in the metropolis. His skill was soon recognised, and he received much patronage from Royal and distinguished persons who soon made his studio fashionable. Lord Palmerston, with the majority of his Cabinet, submitted to the keen glance of his *Camera*, and quite recently H.R.H. Prince Leopold honoured him with a sitting. His photographs are all works of great artistic merit, and his carbon portraits are acknowledged to be unequalled in this country. He has assisted Bro. Harty in the preparation of materials for the installation picture, upon which that artist is now expending all the resources of his art, and has photographed nearly all the brethren whose faces and forms are to figure in the work. He has, we need scarcely say, achieved high pecuniary, as well as artistic success, and can look back upon his early losses with few regrets. Surrounded by warm friends, the idol of a select circle of society, he has little cause to reproach the fates for their severity. The scourge which was once raised to strike, has turned into a wand of good fortune; and the gold which was lost, pours back into his coffers.

His Masonic career need not detain us long. He was initiated in the Airedale Lodge, 387, in 1859, at Baldon, near Leeds, and was exalted in Chapter in 1860. In the same year he joined the St. Albans, No. 29, a red apron Lodge, and served all the offices, from Deacon to Master. He here distinguished himself, amid somewhat languid brothers, by his hearty zeal for good work. The St. Albans Lodge is blessed with too many of the good things of this life, and has not made itself conspicuous in the philanthropic sphere of Masonry. Prosperity is good in its way, but a touch of adversity might rouse its slumbering giants to a just appreciation of their responsibilities. Our brother is a life governor of all the charities, and has served all the stewardships. His mental characteristics are strongly marked. He possesses great force of mind and vast determination. He is warm-hearted and frank. A brother indeed who cares not to conceal the thoughts that spring for utterance to his lips. Genial and good, a conqueror in its best sense, for he has conquered the difficulties of life, we leave him, with sincere wishes for his future happiness and prosperity.

The annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire will be held, under the presidency of His Grace the Duke of St. Alban's, in the Corn Exchange, Brigg (under the banner of Ancholme Lodge, No. 1282), on Tuesday, the 6th June, at 12.30.

List of Lodges for which warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge:—

- 1598.—Ley Spring Lodge, Leytonstone, Essex.
- 1599.—Skelmersdale Lodge, Basinghall Street.
- 1600.—Hamilton Lodge, Alford, Lincolnshire.
- 1601.—Ravensbourne Lodge, Lewisham.
- 1602.—Sir Hugh Myddelton Lodge, Islington.
- 1603.—Worcester Lodge, Worcester, Cape of Good Hope.
- 1604.—Wanderers' Lodge, Freemasons' Hall, London.
- 1605.—De La Pole Lodge, Hull.
- 1606.—Lodge of Industry, Deesa, Bombay.
- 1607.—Lodge of Loyalty, Muswell Hill.
- 1608.—Kilburn Lodge, Kilburn Gate.
- 1609.—Liverpool Dramatic Lodge, Liverpool.
- 1610.—Northern Bar Lodge, Golden Square.
- 1611.—Eboracum Lodge, York.
- 1612.—West Middlesex Lodge, Ealing.
- 1613.—Cripplegate Lodge, Aldersgate Street.
- 1614.—Covent Garden Lodge, Covent Garden.
- 1615.—Bayard Lodge, Golden Square.
- 1616.—Lodge of Friendship and Harmony, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.
- 1617.—Aparima Lodge, Riverton, Otago, New Zealand.
- 1618.—Handyside Lodge, Saltburn-by-the-Sea, Yorks.
- 1619.—Sackville Lodge, East Grinstead, Sussex.

GRAND LODGE.

THE following is the business to be transacted in Grand Lodge on Wednesday, 7th June 1876.

1. The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 1st March for Confirmation.

2. The Minutes of the Grand Festival of the 26th April for Confirmation.

3. The M.W. Grand Master will make an announcement with reference to certain alterations and additions which it is the pleasure of His Royal Highness to make in relation to the Charity Jewel.

4. Election of Members of the Board of General Purposes.

5. Election of Members of the Colonial Board.

6. Election of Members for the Committee of Management of the "Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons."

7. Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz. :—

The Widow of a Brother of St. Bartholomew's Lodge, No. 696, Wednesbury ...	£50	0	0
The Widow of a Brother of the Lodge of Nine Muses, No. 235, London ...	£50	0	0
A Brother of the De Grey and Ripon Lodge, No. 905, London ...	£100	0	0
The Daughter of a late Brother of the St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 222, London ...	£50	0	0
The Daughters of a late Brother of the Royal Forest Lodge, No. 401, Slaidburn	£50	0	0
A Brother of the Star of Hope Lodge, No. 520, Agra, Bengal ...	£50	0	0

8. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board of General Purposes have to report as follows :—

Several questions bearing on the interpretation of the Book of Constitutions have been, during the past quarter, brought under the notice of the Board, which, having been duly considered, have been satisfactorily dealt with, no specific report to Grand Lodge upon or in connection with them becoming necessary. Some important matters connected with the buildings of the Society have been dealt with by the Premises Committee, and approved by the Board.

The question of a re-arrangement of the seating accommodation for the Brethren in Grand Lodge has received considerable attention, resulting in the addition of upwards of one hundred seats, which, in the opinion of the Board, is the utmost that can be done in the existing area.

The Board have been for a long period engaged in correspondence with the Lessees of Freemasons' Tavern with reference to the question of rent, and in result recommend to Grand Lodge that if a thoroughly responsible Tenant or Tenants can be found by the Tavern Company (the present lessees), who would be willing to take over the lease, Grand Lodge should assent to a reduction of the Rent of the Tavern from £1,500, at which it at present stands, to £1,200 per annum, and to such re-adjustment of the Term as may appear fair and reasonable, and that the Board of General Purposes be empowered to negotiate and act accordingly.

The President will therefore move to that effect.

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON,
FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C. President.
16th May 1876.

At the Meeting on the 16th May, after the ordinary business was concluded, it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that the best thanks of the Members of the Board are eminently merited by the President for the great attention he has paid to the duties of his office, for the admirable manner in which he has discharged them, and the great courtesy and kindness he has on all occasions evinced to his colleagues, and they are therefore fraternally tendered to him.

(Signed) PETER DE LANDE LONG,
Vice-President.

To the Report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts at the last Meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 12th May instant, shewing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £6172 12s 8d; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, for Petty Cash, £75; and for Servants' Wages, £96 15s.

9. APPEAL.

Appeal of Brother W. C. ROWE, W. Master of the Lodge of Truth, No. 944, Bombay, against the decision of the R.W. District Grand Master of Bombay, censuring the Lodge for having passed and raised a Brother at once and the same meeting.

N.B.—The papers relating to this Appeal will be in the Grand Secretary's Office till the meeting of Grand Lodge, and open for the inspection of the Brethren during Office hours.

10. The Report of a Special General Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, held at Freemasons' Hall, on Tuesday, the 25th day of April 1876, will be laid before Grand Lodge, and the following proposed alterations in the Rules which were then agreed to will, in accordance with the Laws of the Institution, be submitted for the approval of Grand Lodge.

That Law 4, page 12, be altered by substituting the figures "£40"

for £36, and that Law 4, page 13, be also altered by substituting the figures "£32" for £28.

The Laws as altered now read thus :—

"The amount of the Annuity shall be £10 per annum," and
"The amount of the Annuity shall be £32 per annum."

11. The Annual Report of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, dated the 19th of May 1876, will be laid before Grand Lodge.

12. PROPOSED MOTIONS.

1.—By R.W. Brother JOHN HAVERS, P.G.W. :—

That this Grand Lodge desires to return its humble and hearty thanks to the Almighty Architect of the Universe for the safe return to his native land of their beloved Grand Master, His Royal Highness the PRINCE OF WALES, and in memory of that happy event, determine to devote the sum of £2,000 in aid of the restoration of the two Churches which are most intimately connected with the history of Freemasonry in England.

Resolved therefore—

(1st.) "That a sum of £1,000 be granted from the Fund for "General Purposes towards the restoration of St. Paul's Cathedral, and the like sum of £1,000 from the same Fund towards "the restoration of St. Alban's Abbey."

(2nd.) "That a Committee, to consist of the Pro Grand "Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Treasurer, Grand "Registrar, President of the Board of General Purposes, and the "Grand Superintendent of Works, be and is hereby appointed, "and such Committee (after conference with the Restoration "Committee of the respective Churches) shall decide in what "manner the gifts can best be made so as to carry out the wishes "of Grand Lodge."

2.—By W. Brother BENJAMIN HEAD, P.G.D. :—

That the sum of £70 be given from the Fund of General Purposes; that the money be placed in the hands of the Secretary of the "Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons," to supply the inmates of the Asylum at Croydon with Coals during the winter months.

3.—By Brother HENRY GREENE, P.M. No. 256 :—

That the death of the late Brother William Farnfield, Past Assistant Grand Secretary, having left his widow and two daughters in very restricted circumstances, he having been unable—in consequence of the expenses incidental to the bringing up of his numerous family (ten)—to make suitable provision for them, that an annuity of £100 per annum be granted to Mrs. Farnfield during the pleasure of Grand Lodge.

4.—By V.W. Brother the Rev. ROBERT JAMES SIMPSON, P.G. Chaplain.

Resolved—

(1) "That this Grand Lodge desires to record its humble and "hearty thanks to Almighty God for the preservation and safe "return of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand "Master of English Freemasons, and that with a view to testi- "fying to this loyal and devout feeling in a more united, public, "and solemn manner, this Grand Lodge Resolves (with the "approval of The Most Worshipful The Grand Master, and with "the kind permission of the proper authorities) to hold on some "convenient day a service of praise and thanksgiving in St. "Paul's Cathedral."

(2) "That as a Thankoffering on this occasion this Grand "Lodge votes from its fund the sum of £1,000, which, together "with the offerings made at the service at St. Paul's, shall be "devoted to the benefit of such charitable object in India as "may be recommended by the Most Worshipful Grand Master."

In the event of the above resolutions being passed,

Resolved—

(3) That the following brethren constitute a special Committee to carry out the Resolutions, viz. :—

R.W. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale ...	...	D.G.M.
R.W. Bro. Earl of Donoughmore ...	...	G.S.W.
R.W. Bro. Hon. William W. Vernon ...	...	G.J.W.
V.W. Bro. Æneas J. McIntyre, Q.C. ...	...	G.R.
R.W. Bro. John Havers ...	...	P.G.W.
V.W. Bro. John B. Monckton ...	...	Pres. B.G.P.
W. Bro. John M. Clabon ...	...	P.G.D.
R.W. Bro. Sir Albert W. Woods, Garter, P.G.W. and G.D.C.	...	G. Sec.
V.W. Bro. John Hervey ...	...	G. Chap.
V.W. Bro. Rev. Spencer R. Wigram ...	...	Dept. W.M. No. 2.
W. Bro. Erasmus Wilson ...	...	P.M. No. 14.
W. Bro. Standish Grove Grady ...	...	P.M. No. 706.
W. Bro. General Clerke ...	...	P.G. Chap.
V.W. Bro. Rev. R. J. Simpson ...	...

Two Amateur Dramatic Performances will be given by members of the Craft at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, (the use of which has been kindly granted by Bro. Newcombe), on Wednesday the 14th, and Friday the 16th of June next. One moiety of the proceeds will be devoted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the other to secure the election of orphans of Freemasons in the Royal British Female Orphan Asylum, of whom there are no less than five on the present list of candidates.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

—:o:—

A THANKOFFERING.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

TOWER OF OBSERVATION,
27th May 1876.

DEAR SIR AND BRO.,—I am surprised to note the contents of Bro. John Constable's letter in the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE of to-day. Really, I had no idea that a Grand Officer would make such a serious mistake as to suppose the members of our ancient and benevolent society would be desirous of voting £1,000 for such an object as the Rev. Bro. Simpson contemplates. I know many are anxious to spend money they have never earned, and to devote it to purposes foreign to the objects for which the sums have been contributed, but I have yet to learn that the strange fancy of an individual is to be the law for the Grand Lodge; and I trust Bro. Constable's timely warning will direct the attention of the English Craft to Bro. Simpson's most unmasonic motion. Surely, when eleven widows were denied annuities this month, and last month many dear boys and girls were refused admission into our Institutions, from want of funds, there are many ways to devote £1,000 as a thanksgiving offering for the safety of our M.W. Grand Master without adopting anything like Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson's suggestion. Already Lodges are objecting to such a shameful waste of our money as the proposition contemplates. We hardly fancy it will have a seconder, and at all events we feel almost sure it will be negatived, as it deserves, without a division. Let us remember the proposition does not come from one of the many generous supporters of our Charities, for they know well how we want the money for our own distressed and destitute orphans, who plead for our aid.

I am, Dear Sir, yours, &c.

PAST MASTER.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens would do well to take note of Bro. Constable's letter in the last number of the "FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE." In it he directs attention to a highly important proposition to be submitted for consideration at the next meeting of Grand Lodge. One thousand pounds is to be voted as a thankoffering to be applied to some charitable object in India. Nothing so easy as to be liberal and charitable with other people's money, or at any rate when it does not affect our own pockets. His Reverence whose name appears in connection with this motion could not have given the matter serious consideration. He should have reflected that "Charity begins at home," and that any superfluous funds the Grand Lodge is able or willing to dispose of might be much more judiciously, and with greater advantage, bestowed upon either of the Masonic Institutions. It is scarcely necessary to point out that Masonic funds are (with rare exceptions) intended for strictly Masonic purposes. This rule was laid down by Bro. Havers, and endorsed by a majority in Grand Lodge assembled at the time when this same Bro. John Constable asked for a vote of £100 towards raising a fund for the purpose of endowing the "Freemasons' Life Boat." The whole of the Grand Officers then present voted with the majority. It would be irrelevant to this matter to question the justice of the opinion that to stretch forth a helping hand to ameliorate the deadly casualties at sea was not a "strictly Masonic object." Logically, however, £1,000 cannot justly be voted to an Indian Charity when £100 was refused towards one of the most deserving benevolent objects in England. I therefore trust the brethren will perceive the desirability of attending the meeting, and see that the funds are not mis-applied and diverted from their legitimate channel by any pressure which might be brought to bear by sycophantic or even over sincere and gushing loyalty. The plea urged by Bro. Havers and others against Bro. Constable's motion must surely hold good in this instance. Our own Charities stand in sore need of all the help they can possibly get. And even if it were not so, and if Grand Lodge had the power to apply the fund upon other than "strictly Masonic purposes," would it be necessary to go all the way to India to make this "Thankoffering?" Is there no real poverty, sickness, distress and starvation in its most literal and horrifying sense at home? I only hope the reverend proposer will be induced to withdraw his motion, as I fear he will meet with but little support.

Yours fraternally,

MISTER YARDLEY.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—I read the question of "a country P.M." in your last number but one, and would have replied to it last week if I had not expected that some brother with more experience and authority than myself would have answered it.

Your Chronicle of last Saturday fulfils my expectation, but it is with some surprise that I find all your correspondents maintain that it is allowable for a W.M. to vacate his chair in favour of a brother who is not the I.P.M., or failing him the senior P.M. present. I admit that the Master can ask for, and use the assistance of any qualified brother during the working of the ceremonies; but he cannot

give up his chair to him. The moment the W.M. leaves his chair he is to all intents and purposes absent, and his authority ceases until his resumption of his proper position. If the W.M. wishes to avail himself of the talents of any brother out of the regular succession he may allow him to work the degrees from a chair at his side, but he cannot place him in the chair itself—to do this would be as irregular and illogical as for the speaker of the House of Commons or the Chairman of any other meeting to depute his authority to any one else not regularly appointed to take his place in case of need.

The P.M.'s are in effect vice-chairmen, and the W.M. cannot supersede their authority by an appointment of his own.

I should not have ventured to oppose the opinion of such eminent brethren as your correspondents of last week if I was not anxious to elicit further remarks upon this very important point of Masonic Jurisprudence.

Yours fraternally,

P.M. 425.

PROPOSED ANNUITY TO BRO. FARNFIELD'S WIDOW.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I see that Bro. Henry Greene P.M., No. 256, will move a resolution in Grand Lodge on Wednesday next to the effect that an annuity of £100 be granted to Mrs. Farnfield during pleasure, in token of the eminent services rendered by her late husband as Assistant Grand Secretary and Secretary to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. It may seem churlish in any one to question the propriety of such a motion, but it occurs to me that Bro. Greene, from a motive which is very honourable, is oblivious of the recognition those services have already evoked, both from Grand Lodge and the governing body of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, as well as of one or two other not unimportant circumstances bearing upon the case. That our late Bro. Farnfield, with a family of ten children to maintain and educate, may have experienced some financial pressure at times is not improbable. When incapable, however, of further active duty, Bro. Farnfield received handsome superannuations in respect of both the offices he had filled, and during the latter part of his life he must have been relieved of the necessity of supporting so numerous a family of children. All of them happily survive him, to cherish their remaining parent in the time of her bereavement. Of the seven sons, all are either well provided with means—so I am told, at least—or following some honourable occupation. Of the three daughters, one is married, while the remaining two are over twenty-one years of age. That Mrs. Farnfield and her unmarried daughters are not as favourably circumstanced as they were in Bro. Farnfield's lifetime is most likely. It is only the very few who do not suffer pecuniarily, in a greater or less degree, when the father dies. In Masonry, theoretically if not practically, the sons are supposed to support their parents when no longer able, through age, infirmity, or misfortune, to support themselves. If the seven sons of the late Bro. Farnfield are not in a position to assist their mother and unmarried sisters, then great credit is due to Bro. Greene for bringing the case of the widow under the notice of Grand Lodge, and I dare say Grand Lodge will not prove itself unmindful of the zeal and energy displayed by their late Assistant Secretary during a service extending over forty years. But the well-to-do sons of so excellent a man and Mason should never allow their mother and sisters to be dependent on the bounty of Grand Lodge, when it is in their own power to support them honourably.

Considering the very large number of deserving cases which are being constantly brought under the notice of Grand Lodge, I think it most important that all the circumstances connected with each should be made public. Otherwise, I repeat, it must seem churlish to question a motion of so delicate a nature as Bro. Greene's.

Fraternally yours,

"Q."

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

I observe, from the agenda paper of Grand Lodge, that it is the intention of Bro. Greene to move, That an annuity of £100 per annum be granted to the widow of our late Bro. Farnfield, during the pleasure of Grand Lodge. Permit me to enquire if the children of our late brother are aware of this step? I scarcely think they are.

Yours fraternally

A PAST MASTER.

EARLY HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY IN IRELAND.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Can nothing be done to discover the whereabouts and character of the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster, which are alluded to by Bro. M. Furnell in an article entitled "The Traditions and Recorded History of the Irish Constitution," inserted in the *Freemason's Calendar*, Dublin, 1848?

Bro. Furnell states that these records preserve the important facts that the Hon. Colonel James O'Brien was G.M., Springett Perm D.G.M., A.D. 1726. Also that in 1728, Robert Lougfield was D.G.M., and in 1730, Colonel William Maynard was G.M., and Thomas Riggs D.G.M.

The archives of the Grand Lodge state that, 3rd February 1728, the Order assisted Lord Carteret in laying the foundation stone of the Parliament House, Dublin. Our Furnell's Constitutions of 1730 are

silent on this point, but Spratt's Constitutions of 1751 confirm the fact.

Will our distinguished Bro. J. H. Neilson, of Dublin (of whom we as Irish Masons are justly proud), give this important matter his attention, and seek to clear up the early history of our Grand or Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster, which apparently existed prior to the Grand Lodge of Dublin.

In a catalogue of Masonic works for sale by the veteran Craftsman (The "Father of the Lodge"), Bro. Spencer, published about 1860, I find the following:—

"Transactions of the Grand Lodge of Munster 1726 to 1733, 18 pages 4to. Extracts from the Transactions of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster, 60 pages 4to. Sundry MS. and printed papers relating to the Grand Lodge of Munster;" I should think these are the actual records noticed by Bro. Farnell, and probably came into Bro. Spencer's possession subsequently to 1848.

Would Bro. R. Spencer, or his son and Bro. Walter Spencer (whose able sketches in the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE delight so many) kindly say what was done with these MSS. They were not for sale lately, I know, from enquiries I made, and I cannot find out that any of my friends have them under our Grand Lodge.

I anxiously await a reply,

Yours fraternally,

MASONIC INVESTIGATOR.

OLD WARRANTS.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—On referring to the Book of Constitutions, 1807 (Ancients), I find Doyle's Lodge of Fellowship numbered 336, yet in Hughan's Memorials it is given as No. 98, under both Ancients and Moderns, with a foot note stating that it was warranted by the "Moderns" in 1753, but I suppose the Lodge did not secede till 1807, when it received a warrant from the "Ancients," and I conclude its number was altered, previous to the Union, to No. 98 Ancients, owing to senior Lodges having ceased to exist. Am I right in my supposition?

Would not a list of all the Lodges, and the towns and places of meeting which have been warranted by either Grand Lodge from the Revival 1717, say to 1832, if published be interesting. For instance, at Havant there was a Lodge about 1760, there was also one which ceased working some 40 years since; there was also one at Hambledon, in this County (Hants.), some years back. I have no doubt scores of extinct Lodges might be traced.

Apologising for thus troubling you,

I remain, yours fraternally,

P.M. 804.

[We have much pleasure in answering our correspondent's letter, as it raises a curious study, and the reply herewith will serve to furnish a key to elucidate several others of a similar character. Bro. Hughan, in our contemporary sometime since, had a friendly discussion with Bro. W. T. Kinnersley W.M. 84, and pointed out the facts which are now asked for.

Doyle's Lodge of Fellowship, No. 336, of 22nd September 1806, was changed to No. 98, 14th September 1807, by the Lodge assuming the position on the Roll of a Lodge formerly meeting at Elizabeth Castle, Jersey, and the new warrant, with Sir John Doyle as the first Master, bears the new number (98) A.D. 1807, as Bro. Constable kindly gave in THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE last week. A new Lodge, bearing No. 336 in 1806, would not be distinguished with the No. 98 in 1807, unless it had purchased, or obtained by some other means (as with the "Ancients" prior to the Union), the position of an older Lodge. This the "Doyle's Lodge of Fellowship" did, and that fact explains the date mentioned in the note, "17th March 1762," which was the period of constitution originally of No. 98. No. 336 was transferred to another Lodge, and hence arise all the difficulties of tracing these "ancient" Lodges, difficulties unravelled only by brethren like Bros. Hughan and Buss, who are often solicited to give the key to inexplicable Masonic problems. Long may they be spared so to do.—ED. F. C.]

BIRTH.

WILLING.—On the 18th ultimo, at Springfield Lodge, Junction-road, Kentish Town, the wife of Bro. James Willing jun. of a daughter.

The next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall will be held at Falmouth, under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, P.G.M., and it is expected there will be a very strong muster on the occasion. The town is already "in arms" to receive the brethren, the worthy and esteemed Mayor, Bro. Thomas Webster, W.M. No. 75, taking a conspicuously active part in the preparations.

At the meeting of the Hayle Chapter to be held on Tuesday next, E. Comps. John Coombe, John S. Smith, and E. H. Pool, will be severally installed 1st, 2nd and 3rd Principals, Comp. N. J. West M.E.Z. fulfilling the duties of installing Z.

HOLLOWAY'S REMEDIES surpass all others in the treatment of those cases which have their origin in loss of nerve power. Hysteria, melancholy forebodings, and feebleness of the vital powers, with a general feeling of languor, lassitude and depression, are frequent and common evidences of this condition of loss of nerve force. If this impairment of nerve power is not counteracted, a multitude of evils ensue, and it is on this account that it is so imperatively necessary for steps to be taken to restore the power before the loss has become almost irreparable. Holloway's twin remedies are remarkably adapted for cases of the foregoing character, and no one who suffers in such a way should refrain from fairly trying them.

REVIEWS.

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

—:o:—

Clouds in the East.—Travels and Adventures on the Perso-Turkoman Frontier. By VALENTINE BAKER. London: Chatto and Windus.

At the present time, when what is termed the Eastern question is once more upon the tapis, and while the attention of far-seeing politicians in this country is being directed towards our Indian possessions, with apprehension and misgiving, this work deserves, and will probably obtain, peculiar notice and consideration. It was in the early part of 1873, during the excitement occasioned in England by the Russian expedition against Khiva, that the journey here narrated was projected by the author; and but little time was lost in carrying his plans into execution. Without aid or encouragement from Government, influenced solely by the patriotic desire of serving their country, Colonel Baker, of the 10th Hussars, Lieutenant Gill, R.E., and Captain Clayton, of the 9th Lancers, set off to traverse and survey strategically the entire mountainous district lying between the Southern shore of the Caspian on the one hand, and the north-western boundary of India on the other. When it is considered that a great portion of their route lay through a country where European had never trod before, over wide expanses of desert, infested by hordes of warlike barbarians, and in a climate excessively trying to the most robust constitutions, it will be seen that the expedition must have been attended with considerable difficulty and discomfort, and by no small degree of danger. The party proceeded by direct route to Astrabad on the south-eastern coast of the Caspian, from thence on horseback to Teheran, and from Teheran in an easterly direction as far as the town of Sangbust, which lies near to the north-eastern boundary of Persia. Here they were met by an insurmountable difficulty, which prevented them from continuing their journey into Afghanistan, and they were accordingly obliged to turn back. Their return route however was fruitful in important discoveries, traversing as it did a district almost at that time entirely unknown to geographers. Having discovered the source of the Attrek, a river about which the most vague and inaccurate accounts had hitherto been given, they followed its course almost to its outlet in the Caspian Sea. During the expedition both Colonel Baker and Lieutenant Gill (Captain Clayton was early disabled by sickness) laboured hard to obtain the most accurate information as to the physical features of the country, and the manners, customs and opinions of the inhabitants. Much of the information may not be over palatable to the peace-at-any-price party in England, but all of it is valuable. It appears that the rivalry of Russia and England in the East is regarded with the greatest possible interest by the semi-independent governors of Northern Persia, and that England has been somewhat discredited by recent events. "We hear," observed one, "that England is no longer the power she used to be; that you have got great riches and think of nothing else, but that you never fight now." "If we do not fight," replies our author, "it is not from any loss of power, but because we have no desire to increase our territory." "But if you are strong," rejoins the other, "and if you can still fight, why did you the other day pay tribute to America?" To give a reply to this question, through an oriental interpreter, that would satisfy a fighting Khoord chief was not an easy matter. Colonel Baker is of opinion that an army of valuable auxiliaries might be raised in Central Asia with very little trouble. He found large numbers of men who, under European leadership, and with the advantages of drill and discipline, would make splendid soldiers. Horses, too, might be obtained in large numbers, and at a moderate cost, from the Turkomans. At an average price of £20 he could have obtained something like 15,000 fine cavalry horses in three months. The author himself tested the powers of one of them, and found them of a very high order. During the latter part of the expedition the Colonel suffered severely from fever, and was many times tempted to retrace his steps. A voice, he tells us, seemed to say to him, "Return, while yet there is time, and reach the Caspian Sea; air alone can save you. Why rush to certain death? You are not on duty, you are merely trying to carry out a useful work for your country. Will your country ever thank you for it?" Nevertheless, he persevered, getting weaker and weaker every day, until, at last, within sight almost of the sea shore, he was unable to sit on his horse, and had to be carried into Reshdt on a tracteravan or Persian palanquin. It is impossible to read this interesting narrative without feeling that Colonel Baker and his companions have placed England under great obligations for the skill, energy and perseverance they displayed in their expedition. It is certain that the work will be closely studied by all interested in geographical research, or, in the important question of the strategical defensibility of our great Indian possessions. We may add that the work is illustrated with three excellent maps, and some very fair chromo sketches.

Cook's Tourists' Handbook for Switzerland.—London: THOMAS COOK & SON, Ludgate-circus, E.C.; SIMPKIN, MARSHALL & Co. New York; COOK, SON & JENKINS, 261 Broadway; Geneva, THOMAS COOK & SON, 90 Rue du Rhône. 1876.

WE can strongly recommend this as a most useful book to any of our readers who may be contemplating a trip to Switzerland this summer, and who are not already furnished with anything in the way of a guide. The directions in the introductory matter, as to luggage, Custom House examinations, passports, and money, are very simple and very clear, and speaking from our own limited experience, the traveller will do well to follow them. The coupon system, for which we are indebted to the enterprise of Messrs. Cook and Son, is well calculated to smooth away many of those difficulties which an Englishman so often encounters on his first visit to a European country. Our full-grown British tourist is not generally a man of many languages. He speaks

his own in a manner more or less civilised, but as to French, German, and other foreign tongues, he is seldom either an apt or a willing scholar. Such of our countrymen will find the coupon for rail, boat, and hotel of infinite service. By the exercise of a little patience they will be able, with the proper number of such documents, to traverse any Continental country in any direction with ease and comfort. However, the system is well enough known, and has been well enough tried, not to need any encomiums from us. This particular guide-book is the theme of the moment, and if the reader who has already marked out Switzerland for his holiday trip will provide himself with a copy of it, he will save himself a world of trouble. Not only will he, as we have already pointed out, obtain information which is absolutely necessary if he is to travel with any degree of comfort, but he will find also all else recounted which is likely to attract his interest. The cities and towns, the lakes, mountains, valleys, and passes, sites having connected with them a historical association, and the like—all are described herein, or at least mentioned, so that visitors may stop and inspect them, or pass on their way to scenes of greater attraction. There are also a very good map and an appendix, containing full particulars about festivals, *fêtes*, &c., the time and cost of a tour, with a series of tours already planned, and last, but not least, a list of hotels, both in Europe and the East, where coupons will be accepted as payment for accommodation. In addition, there is a good index, and the reader, by consulting it, will be able to find immediately what he is in search of. In fact, this handbook contains the kind of information to be found in the ordinary guide, and corrected to present date, with a number of simple yet necessary directions, and full particulars of the working of the coupon system. To the tourist, therefore, who means travelling in accordance with its provisions, the guide will be not only serviceable but necessary.

The Englishman's Illustrated Guide Book to the United States and Canada. Especially adapted to the use of British Tourists and Settlers visiting those countries. With full information as to the best routes to travel, most attractive scenery, hunting and fishing grounds, recommendable hotels, fares, prices, &c. Third Edition. With Appendix, containing a description of the buildings and grounds of the International Exhibition of 1876, at Philadelphia. London: Longman, Green, Reader and Dyer. 1876.

THE paramount object of this Guide Book is to give, within modest compass, such precise information as will enable the tourist to move about from place to place, and see what is worth seeing, without inconvenience, or with as little inconvenience as possible. But this is not the only merit it possesses. The author has compiled from numerous sources a large amount of information, which any one contemplating a residence in either country, or designing to purchase landed or other property, will find very useful. We shall best illustrate its value, however, by briefly describing the contents of Ronte I.—“New York and vicinity.” First are mentioned the leading hotels on the American and European Plans; then the particulars about post offices, hackney cabs or carriages, omnibuses or “Stages,” as they are called, and horse-cars, theatres, and railways. These are followed by a short history, topography and description of the city, showing its leading thoroughfares, its most important public buildings, its eleemosynary institutions, its libraries, churches, principal places of resort, the Central Park with its terraces, promenades, reservoirs, lakes, &c., &c., together with the environs and all places and buildings of interest they contain. Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, Portland, Washington, and Chicago are described with the same amount of detail, full particulars being given of the great fire which consumed so considerable a portion of the last mentioned. As we go further westward, the resources and scenic wonders of the country are detailed at some length, and as it is to these districts that a great part of the immigrants wend their way with a view to settling down, this portion of the guide will prove invaluable. At the end we have, in the form of an appendix, a full account of the Great International Exhibition, just inaugurated by President Grant with so much ceremony. The several buildings and their uses are first of all described, then the grounds in which they are erected. But the most useful part of this is the ground plan, showing the position of the several buildings and the roads that intersect the park in which they stand, as well as the chief thoroughfares leading from the city. Any of our brethren who may be going over to witness or take part in the Grand Templar Re-union on the 1st prox., will do well to furnish themselves with a copy of this guide-book, containing, as it does, so much trustworthy information as to travelling, and in addition, this most interesting, and, we may add, important appendix. The illustrations are numerous and convey a fair idea of what they are intended to represent; and there is also a carefully prepared index, so that nothing has been omitted to make the guide as complete as possible.

“A suitable gift from a Master to his Lodge.”

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Old Warrants.—No. 2.

No. 208 (Ancients); 260, A.D. 1814 (at the Union); 185, A.D. 1832, and 159 from 1863. Now held at Plymouth.

ATHOLL, GRAND MASTER.

WM. DICKEY, D.G.M. R. DAVY, S.G.W. J. STEWART, J.G.W.

To all whom it may concern. We, the GRAND LODGE of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, according to the Old Constitutions granted by his Royal Highness Prince Edwin, at York, Anno Domini Nine Hundred Twenty and Six, and in the year of Masonry Four Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty and Six, in ample form assembled, viz.—The Right Worshipful and Most Noble Prince John (the 3rd) Duke, Marquis, and Earl of Atholl, Marquis and Earl of Tullibardine, Earl of Strathtay and Strathardle, Viscount of Balquider, Glenalmond and Glenlyon, Lord Murray, Belveny, and Gask, Heritable Captain and Constable of the Castle and Constabulary of Hincleaven, Hereditary Keeper of the Palace of Falkland, and in that part of Great Britain called England, and Masonical Jurisdiction thereto belonging, Grand Master of Masons; the Right Worshipful William Dickey, Esquire, Deputy Grand Master; the Right Worshipful Robert Davey, Esquire, Senior Grand Warden; and the Right Worshipful George Stewart, Esquire, Junior Grand Warden (with the approbation and consent of the Warranted Lodges held within the Cities and Suburbs of London and Westminster) do hereby authorise and empower our trusty and well-beloved Brethren, viz: The Worshipful Henry Fearon, one of our Master Masons; The Worshipful William Grayson, his Senior Warden; and the Worshipful Daniel Ritson, his Junior Warden, to form and hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, aforesaid, at the Square and Compass (or any other convenient place), in Workington, in the County of Cumberland, on the first and fourth Monday in each Calendar Month, on all seasonable times and lawful occasions; and in the said Lodge (when duly congregated) to admit and make Free Masons, according to the most Ancient and Honourable Custom of the Royal Craft, in all ages and nations throughout the known world. And we do hereby further authorise and empower our said trusty and well-beloved Brethren, Henry Fearon, William Grayson, and Daniel Ritson (with the consent of the Members of their Lodge), to nominate, chuse, and install their successors, to whom they shall deliver this Warrant, and invest them with their Powers and Dignities, as Free Masons, &c. And such successors shall in like manner nominate, chuse, and install their successors, &c. &c. &c.; such installations to be upon (or near) every St. John's Day, during the continuance of this Lodge, for ever. Providing the above named Brethren, and all their successors, always pay due respect to this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, otherwise this Warrant to be of no Force or Virtue.

Given under our Hand, and the Seal of our GRAND LODGE in London, this Sixteenth Day of February, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy and Nine, and in the Year of Masonry Five Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy and Nine.

JAMES JONES, Grand Secretary.

NOTE.—This Warrant is Registered in the Grand Lodge, Vol. 3, Letter C.

The present title and number, &c., are, “The Brunswick Lodge, No. 159, Plymouth.” The titles of the M.W.G.M. are copied *verbatim et literatim* from the transcript of the Warrant sent us, and as we have not seen transcripts of any two charters exactly alike in their description of His Grace the Duke of Atholl, we prefer to let them appear as they are forwarded, leaving our readers to make the necessary corrections.—J. CONSTABLE.

In reply to a Correspondent, C. H. L., the *New York Dispatch* gives the following:—

We have your favour in reply to our note of last week, and reiterate that our reply to an “English Freemason,” in a previous issue, is strictly and literally correct. The Lodges and Grand Lodges of colored men in this country are all irregular and clandestine, from the simple fact that not one of them holds a warrant from any just and lawfully constituted Grand Lodge. It is quite true that the Prince Hall Lodge of colored men at Boston was originally chartered by the Grand Lodge of England, but the warrant was merely that of a subordinate Lodge, and gave them no power but to make Masons, and regulate their own private affairs; nevertheless, they assumed the powers of a Grand Lodge, and issued charters to Lodges in other places than Boston or Massachusetts, which it requires no argument to show, was totally unlawful and irregular. More than this, the Grand Lodge of England recalled the original warrant, which was surrendered, and the document now in possession of the Lodge is only a copy. 2. E. D. We repeat, there is no law, open or secret, in Masonry, which makes a distinction in candidates on account of race, religion, color, or politics, but it is the right of every member of a Lodge to object to the initiation of a candidate for any reason sufficient to himself, and to object to the presence of any visitor he may not choose to sit with, and these reasons cannot be inquired into by any one man or any body of men. That a majority of men in our Lodges are governed by the prejudices of birth, education, and social habits, is not to be denied, but that is not a matter to be overcome by legislation, but only by the effects of time, patience, and perseverance. It is not probable that either our correspondent or ourself will live to see the time when these prejudices will be got rid of, but that time will come in due order, and it will not be hastened by discussions tending to awake passion instead of appealing to reason and surrounding equities.

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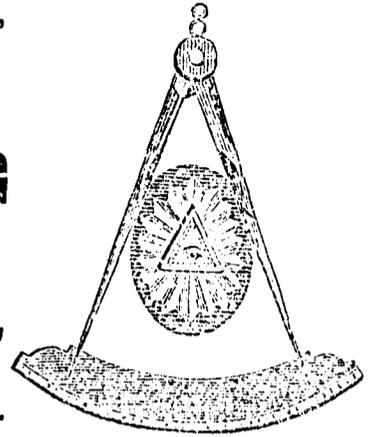
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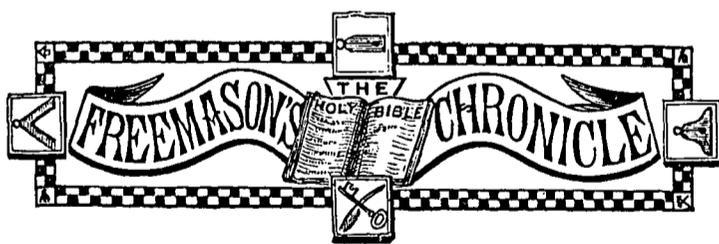
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OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THERE has been little stirring this week in Parliament. Sundry questions respecting Yeomanry trumpeters, promotion in the Navy, and Foreign decorations, were asked in the House of Lords on Friday. On Monday, the Merchant Shipping Bill, the Consolidated Fund Bill, and the Customs and Inland Revenue Bill, were read a first time, and on Tuesday, the last two of these were passed through their remaining stages. Earl Derby having announced that the Sultan of Turkey had been dethroned, the House shortly after adjourned. On Thursday, the situation in Turkey called forth a few remarks.

On Friday, in the House of Commons, a resolution, by Dr. Cameron, on the tenants of the Duchy of Lancaster, was rejected, the murder of Mr. Birch was discussed, a vote on account of the High Courts of Justice was agreed to in Committee of Supply, and the Merchant Shipping Bill was read a third time. On Monday, after reading the Customs and Inland Revenue Bill a third time, the House went into Committee on the Commons Bill, and made some progress with it. On Tuesday, Sir W. Lawson objected to

the usual adjournment over the Derby Day, but was beaten by 207 to 118. Mr. Bruce made, and afterwards withdrew, a motion on the Royal Irish Constabulary. Mr. Trevelyan then sought to convince the House that the borough and county franchise should be the same, but the House, by 264 votes to 165, determined not to be convinced, and shortly afterwards rose. On Thursday, further progress was made in Committee with the Commons Bill, and Mr. Disraeli expressed a hope that the Berlin memorandum would not be presented.

The Queen's Birthday was publicly celebrated on Saturday, but the weather was anything but Queen's weather. The streets were dirty, and it threatened, if it did not rain pretty nearly the day long. But this did not damp the loyalty of the London citizen or his country cousins. They ventured forth to see whatever was to be seen. The very pretty ceremony of "trooping the colours," at the Horse Guards, was witnessed by a few thousands. The Artillery Ground in Finsbury Square had its quota of visitors; and when evening approached, a foreigner might have fancied that all London had turned out, in spite of the weather, to see the illuminations, which were, as usual, principally at the West End. The political world dined, in honour of the event, after the manner of English political personages, while royalty itself, as represented by the Princess of Wales and her children, the commander-in-chief, and sundry members of the Hanoverian family, witnessed part of the display. Had the weather been at all propitious, no doubt the rejoicing would have been more pronounced. It is something to boast of, however, that our demonstrations of loyalty are both hearty and spontaneous, not made to order. Our Sovereign rules the hearts, others only the body of the people.

Wednesday was the Derby, when all London enjoyed their annual outing. Save, as regards the weather, which was even more brilliant than usual, there were no special features connected with this year's race. The Prince and Princess of Wales were not present, but the Dukes of Connaught and Cambridge, and the Duke and Duchess of Teck were among the principal occupants of the box set apart for royal visitors. The field of runners was less numerous than usual, and consisted of fifteen only. The winner turned up in the shape of Kisber, or the Mineral Colt as he is more generally known, while Forerunner as regards the prize he contended for is unworthy of his name, was placed second, and Julius Cæsar had to content himself with only third place. The favourite, Petrarch, was fourth, a few lengths behind Cæsar. As regards the crowd on Epsom Downs, we are not prepared to say if it were greater, equal to, or less than similar crowds in previous years, but we may surely venture to affirm there was as much horseplay and as much rampant blackguardism as ever. The glory of horse-racing has departed. It is no longer the breed of horses and legitimate sport that people care about, but winning pots of money. Racing is now little else than a game of speculation, in which the most unscrupulous speculator has the greatest amount of good fortune. Why it is the horse and dog, the noblest of the brute creation should, almost of necessity, as it seems, be associated, chiefly, with all that is villainous and low in man, we know not. We love sport of all kinds, but not when it

promotes the growth of ruffianism. The Oaks was run yesterday, and the ladies' day was as well favoured in respect of weather as its more important companion of Wednesday. It had the advantage of being, however, quieter and more enjoyable.

A very unusual robbery was committed towards the end of last week. A well-known picture, by Gainsborough, of Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, was recently bought at Messrs. Christie and Manson's auction-rooms, for 10,000 guineas, Messrs. Agnew of Manchester and London being the purchasers. It was removed to the Art Gallery, 39 Bond-street, and there exhibited, the public being charged a shilling each for admission. On Friday morning the picture *non est*. The attendant, on entering the Exhibition-room, found the frame, but the Duchess of Devonshire had eloped, and left no trace behind. The mystery was soon solved. A clever thief had stolen the valuable canvas, and made off with it, in spite of our guardians of public property, the care of special watchmen, and the precautions of attendants. A reward of £1,000 is offered for the recovery of the painting. One matter there is for congratulation. Whoever has it will find some difficulty in disposing of it either here or abroad. There is greater likelihood, therefore, of its being recovered.

The fireworks at the Alexandra Palace, on Saturday last, were spoiled by the unfortunate weather, but on Thursday there was a special display in honour of the Derby, and nothing could have been more enjoyable. Yesterday there was a ballad and instrumental concert, at which the celebrated violinist, Wieniawski, quite enchanted the audience by his marvellous execution and artistic feeling. To-day, Mr. Sims Reeves, having recovered from his recent illness, is announced to appear as Edgardo in the last act of *Lucia di Lammermoor*, and as Tom Tug in the *Waterman*, with Signor Foli and Mdle. Ida Corani among the other artistes. Next week, provision is being made on a grand scale for the Whitsun Holiday folk. Whit Monday being one of the Bank Holidays, a very large attendance may be anticipated. Last year, we believe, there were over 94,000 visitors to the Palace, and if the weather be as delightful as it is now, the numbers may show equally as well, perhaps. There will be no lack of entertainment for those who visit it, be they seventy or ninety thousand. A grand ballad and instrumental concert, with Mdme. Lemmens-Sherrington, Mr. Vernon Rigby and Signor Foli among the vocalists; a grand entertainment in the theatre with the Payne Family, Mr. G. Conquest and Company, the Great Mackney, and M. and Mdme. Espinosa in a ballet *Divertissement*, Broekmann's Circus, eight military bands, and the Colleen Bawn, with balloon ascent, trotting races, and other out-door amusements—these are on the programme for Monday, so that those who go to Muswell Hill ought to have enough pleasure, at least for one day. Let us hope the railway people may be equal to the demands which will be made on their resources. At the Sydenham Palace, will be held to-day, and till Wednesday of next week, the annual dog show, for which there are over 1300 entries; while Monday will have a special series of entertainments, including a grand vocal and instrumental concert, and a balloon ascent. At the Agricultural Hall there will be the annual horse show, which opens to-day, and will form one of the principal attractions for the greater part of next week. The Royal Westminster Aquarium offers a tempting programme to those who are not already pledged to go elsewhere; the Railway Companies have made all needful preparations to take any number of excursionists to convenient sea-side and inland country resorts, so that every inducement is being held out to the weary Londoner to make the most of his Whitsun Holidays. May he enjoy them! may his shadow never grow less!

The revelations in the action against Mr. Albert Grant, commonly known as Baron Grant, are not pleasant. It is extremely unsatisfactory to learn that sundry gentlemen have taken money of Mr. Grant as a solatium for the non-allotment to them of shares in sundry of his more promising speculations. The old saying about Cæsar's wife applies with equal force to members of the press. They should not only be unsuspected, but above suspicion. The acceptance of money and favourable notices in this or that money article of Mr. Albert Grant's companies, "look dickey," as the saying is, though it is quite possible the conjunction may be quite harmless.

Lord Mayor Cotton is determined not to be behind his predecessors in hospitality. Not long since the lights of

science, English and Foreign, were entertained at the Mansion House. The ball and banquet by the corporation to the Prince and Princess of Wales is still fresh in our memory. Next Saturday there will be given a banquet in honour of members of the Royal Academy. On the Wednesday following, the bench and the bar will be similarly honoured. Early in July the customary banquet to the archbishops and bishops will follow, and about the same time will be given a banquet to the leading representatives in England of trade and commerce, at which will be present the committees of the Stock Exchange, Lloyd's, the Baltic, and other similar institutions. We congratulate the Lord Mayor on his princely hospitality. He is clearly the right man in the right place.

The annual ball in aid of the funds of the Yorkshire Society was held on Monday, at Willis's Rooms, St. James's. The patronesses included the Duchess of Roxburgh, the Marchioness of Abergavenny, the Countess of Scarborough, the Countess of Dartmouth, &c., &c., and among the principal attractions were the two quadrilles of the Hon. Mrs. Dundas and the Marchioness of Abergavenny, the latter being of the period of our Edward III. during his Queen Philippa's regency. The ball was a great success, and the company did not separate till a late hour. Coote and Tinney's band attended, and right well discharged the duty required of them. We trust the Yorkshire Society's funds reaped substantial benefit from the ball.

The news from abroad is confined almost wholly to the situation in Turkey. The Sultan Abdul Aziz, he who visited this country in 1867, has been dethroned and Sultan Mourad V. reigns in his stead. How this revolution has been effected is not clearly known as yet, but one thing seems certain, the dethronement of the Sultan was effected quietly, and there has been happily no bloodshed. There is a new Ministry, headed by Midhat Pacha, who is said to be a man of vigorous intellect, but what the effect will be as regards the particular crisis, which has caused such general excitement throughout Europe, is not yet apparent. It may smooth the way to a settlement, or it may tend to complicate matters. The change of sovereigns will put no more money into the national purse of Turkey; the insurgents will probably be as ready to burn villages now that Mourad is Sultan as they were a few days since, and the demands of the Berlin conference are still a menace to the independence of the Moslem. Meantime, the British fleet in the Mediterranean is being rapidly re-inforced; the defences of Malta and Gibraltar are being rapidly strengthened, and in all our dockyards the greatest energy is being shown, so that we may be in a position to meet any emergency that may arise. This is as it should be when a European crisis threatens, but is none the less creditable to the Ministry in power. We trust, however, there may be no disturbance of the peace of Europe. One other matter has attracted some attention in this country, and that is, the Winslow Extradition Case, about which a difference has arisen between us and the United States. No doubt the points which have caused this difference will be amicably arranged. Thursday was fixed for the Grand Templar Parade at Philadelphia, and we hope shortly to be in a position to lay before our readers a full account of the meeting. We trust everything passed off as well as such Templar displays usually have done among our American brethren. We doubt not we shall have another grand success to chronicle.

It has been decided to continue the Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement during the summer months. We earnestly solicit the support of the Companions to this end, as we are convinced that the only opportunity for becoming conversant with this portion of our ritual occurs to many during the warmer and genial portion of the year.

We have to express our very hearty thanks to Bro. Henry Stiles, for a very excellent photograph of the "Octogenarian." The portrait does great credit to Bro. Stiles's artistic ability. The pose is easy and graceful, and the likeness, which is full face, is a very pleasant one, and taken, we should imagine, in one of the Octogenarian's happiest moments. In short, it is a worthy picture of a most worthy member of our Order.

Bro. Theodore Distin announces a Ballad Concert at the Horns Tavern, Kennington Road, on Wednesday, the 7th

June, on which occasion he will have the valuable assistance of Mademoiselle Bartkowska, Miss Emily Dones, Miss Kate Wild, the Misses Laura Davies, Florence Levander, Gertrude Willoughby; Messrs. H. Guy, A. Hart, A. J. Thompson, T. W. Delamere, J. Wood, Duncan James, J. T. Hutchinson; solo concertina, Mr. R. Blagrove, and pianoforte, Miss Louisa R. Distin; accompanists, Miss J. T. Lee and F. Cozens.

On Saturday evening, 10th June, at St. James's Hall, Bro. Captain Webb (No. 22), the Channel hero, will deliver a Lecture on his Life and Exploits. He will be assisted by Bro. Dr. J. J. Pope, late Staff Surgeon of the Royal Artillery. We understand it is in contemplation to deliver similar lectures in all the principal towns throughout the kingdom, the object being to encourage the art of swimming.

The St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction, No. 144, has been removed to the White Hart Tavern, 49 King's Road, Chelsea. The meetings are held every Friday at 7.30.

By an advertisement in another column it will be seen that, on holidays, and on occasions when special excursion traffic is provided, overcrowding and rushing to obtain tickets may be avoided, as they can be obtained for Brighton, and all the principal stations on the Great Western and Midland Railways, and for the Crystal Palace, at Bro. T. Kingston's Universal Railway Booking Office, Fitzroy-square.

PROVINCIAL MEETING IN EAST LANCASHIRE.

ON Thursday, 25th May, the annual meeting of the officers and brethren of the East Lancashire Province was held at Bacup. It is now a period of 28 years since a similar Masonic gathering was held in this town, and though there are many people who have a lively recollection of that event, it is a sad commentary upon the uncertainty and shortness of human life to reflect that there are only some half dozen brethren who were members of our local Lodge at that time still living, and of these Bro. John Earnshaw is senior, he having joined the Lodge about ten years previously. The arrangements for the meeting naturally devolved upon the officers and brethren of the Samaritan Lodge, 286, held at the Green Man Hotel, Bacup, who immediately they were honoured with the notification of Col. Le Gendre Starkie, the R.W.P.G.M., that the meeting was to be held in their midst, formed themselves into a committee, with Bro. James Pilling, W.M., at their head, and Bros. James Barker and Daniel Lord as Hon. Secretaries. The meeting of the Grand Lodge was held at St. Saviour's School, the use of which was readily granted by the Rev. W. Johnson, M.A., Vicar.

The brethren began to assemble at half-past twelve o'clock, and the Craft Lodge was opened in the three degrees by Bro. James Pilling W.M., assisted by Bros. Henry Taylor S.W., and John Wilson J.W. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers arrived shortly after one o'clock, and Grand Lodge was at once opened. On the Lodge roll being called over it was found that every Lodge in the province—numbering altogether about 80—was represented. The Grand Master then announced that he had received letters of apology from several Provincial Officers.

The R.W.P.G.M. then proceeded to instal Bro. George Mellor, of Ashton-under-Lyne, as D.P.G.M., and alluded to the loss the province had sustained by the death of Bro. W. Romaine Callender. Bro. George Mellor briefly returned thanks for the honour the Provincial Grand Master had done him.

Bro. Statham, G. Treasurer, presented his statement of the accounts of the Provincial Grand Lodge, which were found to be in a highly satisfactory condition. Bro. John Thomas Hooper, of Blakeley, near Manchester, was elected G. Treasurer for the ensuing year.

The Provincial Grand Master then proceeded to invest the Prov. Grand Officers with their insignia and jewels of office, as follows:—Prov. S.W., Bro. W. Harrison, Blackburn; Prov. J.W., Bro. Thomas Rhodes, Manchester; Prov. G. Chaplains, the Rev. A. Salts, LL.D., Littleborough, and the Rev. S. Y. Bradshaw, Manchester; Prov. G. Treasurer, Bro. J. T. Hooper, Manchester; Prov. G. Registrar, Bro. Thos. Chorlton, Manchester; Prov. G. Secretary, Bro. J. Tunnah, Bolton; Prov. G.S.D., Bro. W. O. Walker, Bury; Prov. G.J.D., Bro. A. Wolstenholme, Heywood; Prov. G. Supt. of Works, Bro. John Pilling, Bacup; Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., Bro. C. M. Jones, Rochdale; Prov. Asst. G. Dir. of Cers., Bro. James Shillito, Manchester; Prov. G. Sword Bearer, Bro. James Mills, Heywood; Prov. G. Organist, Bro. Thos. Hargreaves, Haslingden; Prov. G. Pursuivant, Bro. W. Cunliffe, Blackburn; Prov. Asst. G. Pursuivant, Bro. Westray Benn, Bacup; Prov. G. Stewards, Bros. Robert Crossley jun., John Crossley, James Barker, William Blackledge, John Wilson, and Rawdon Ashworth, all of Bacup; Prov. G. Tyler, Bro. Charles Walker; Prov. G. Standard Bearer, Bro. Hobson Wadsworth, Burnley.

The business of the Grand Lodge was then transacted, and it was agreed that Bro. Tunnah, the Prov. G. Secretary, should be paid the sum of £100 per annum for the services of an Assistant.

The Grand Secretary then announced that Bro. N. Chadwick, of the Samaritan Lodge, No. 286, had to perform what he had no doubt would prove a very pleasing duty. Bro. Chadwick then said he had

been requested by the officers and brethren of the Samaritan Lodge, No. 286, to undertake what was to him a most pleasant duty. It was to present to the R.W.G.M. some acknowledgment of his great kindness in causing this memorable meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire to be held at Bacup.

He then read an address, which was beautifully illuminated, and was enclosed in a massive gilt frame. The R.W. Provincial Grand Master, in acknowledging the compliment, said it gave him great pleasure to find that his Masonic conduct had so far commended itself to the approval of the brethren of the Samaritan Lodge as to elicit from them such a tangible mark of their confidence. It was the first testimonial he had received since he entered upon the duties of his present high and distinguished position, and he should treasure it as a memento of one of the most pleasant provincial meetings he had ever attended.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed, after which the officers and brethren were marshalled into processional order to the Mechanics' Institution, where the usual banquet was to be held, but which, we regret to say, was very badly served.

The Grand Master gave the toasts of the Queen, and the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master. In proposing the toast of the Prince of Wales, the Grand Master referred to the fact that our future sovereign had become a member of the Order, and had become Worshipful Grand Master of this country and the colonies. The toast was received with "three times nine."

The Grand Master next proposed the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family. Her fame, her goodness, and her beauty went before her before she arrived in this country. No princess ever came to this country who had more identified herself with the people. The rest of the Royal Family fulfilled their duty in a manner creditable to themselves and satisfactory to all.

The Deputy Grand Master, Bro. George Mellor, proposed the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Provincial Grand Master, the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Officers, present and past. When they saw noblemen like these becoming members of the Craft, and doing their best for the good of the Order, they ought to be very proud. (Applause, and "three times nine.")

Bro. James A. Birch proposed "Col. Le Gendre Starkie, R.W. Provincial Grand Master," which was received with loud cheers. In another portion of the county the name of Starkie was revered. He ventured to assert that the prestige of that house had never been more highly sustained than in the person of the Provincial Grand Master. (Applause.) The manner in which he performed suit and service in the Grand Lodge showed how fit he was for the position. The progress of Freemasonry in the province during his rule had been most rapid. He referred to the successful exertions which the Grand Master had made to establish a Masonic charity in East Lancashire, and said he ventured to think that in future days the rule of the Provincial Grand Master would be blessed by the families of indigent Masons. (Applause.) The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm.

The Grand Master returned his heartfelt thanks for the manner in which Bro. Birch had proposed his health, and said he only wished he was half as good a Mason as their brother had represented him to be. Though he was a stranger in this part of Lancashire, the manner in which he had been received would ever remain impressed on his mind. (Applause.) He simply wished, as a man and a Mason, to do his duty, and he hoped they would excuse his deficiencies. He had been brought up in the cradle of Freemasonry, and had the example of his father, as a Mason, before him. (Applause.) He sought neither honour nor glory. The true Mason did not seek honour or glory, but endeavoured to do his duty. (Applause.) They were a body of people who wished to do good. Friendship, love, and truth were the elements they held by. He loved his Province as a father loved his family—(applause)—and if he enforced the laws he would endeavour to do so justly, but as leniently as possible. (Applause.) He thanked the brethren of Bacup for the hearty manner in which they had received him, and the testimonial which they had presented to him.

The Grand Master, after passing a warm tribute to the memory of Bro. W. R. Callender, M.P., proposed "George Mellor, Esq., Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Officers, present and past." He trusted Bro. Mellor would long have the pleasure of working in harmony and unity with him for the good of the Order. (Applause.) He trusted Bro. Mellor would have happiness in his new office.

Bro. Mellor briefly returned thanks. He said he had been 35 years connected with the Craft, and he had always tried to do his best for the interest of the Order. He thanked them for the great honour they had conferred upon him, stating that he would do all in his power for the good of the Craft.

The Grand Master gave the next toast, "the Samaritan Lodge, No. 286, Bacup." He expressed the delight of himself and the other members on the manner in which they had received the Grand Lodge. He was glad there was a Lodge of Freemasons in Bacup. He did not know how they managed their meetings, or whether they got blown up when they went home. (Laughter.) He could assure them he never got blown up when he went home. (Renewed laughter.) He wished prosperity to the Bacup Lodge, and he hoped to meet many of them in future Grand Lodges. (Applause.)

Bro. the Rev. A. J. Harrison returned thanks for the W.M. He spoke only the sentiments of the Brethren of the Lodge when he said it was a proud day for the Freemasons of Bacup. The coming among them that day of so many men of high intelligence was a proof that Freemasonry was worthy of respect. Not only would the 70 or 80 members in Bacup be stimulated by the events of the day, but all the brethren of the Craft in Rossendale. (Applause.)

The other toasts were the "Masonic Charities," proposed by Bro. W. Harrison, the "Visiting Brethren," proposed by Bro. W. Blackledge, and acknowledged by Bro. Helliwell of Bury, "the Ladies," proposed by Bro. J. T. Barcroft, "the Army, Navy, and Volunteers," proposed by Bro. R. H. Hardman, and "All Poor and Distressed Masons." The appropriate glee, "Good Night to the Day," exhausted the programme, after which the meeting broke up.—*Bacup Times*.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the Kingdom will favour us with a list of their Days of Meeting, &c. as we have decided to insert only those that are verified by the Officers of the several Lodges.

—:—

SATURDAY, 3rd JUNE.

General Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
108—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.
R. A. 975—Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.

MONDAY, 5th JUNE.

37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Church Institute, Bolton-le-Moors.
119—Sun, Square and Compasses, Freemasons' Hall, Whitehaven.
133—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Faversham.
156—Harmony, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover.
441—Three Grand Principles, Red Lion Hotel, Petty Curry, Cambridge.
478—Churchill, Masonic Hall, Alfred-street, Oxford.
1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham.
1051—Rowley, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
1264—Neptune, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.

TUESDAY, 6th JUNE.

55—Constitutional, Wheatsheaf, Hand-court, W.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
860—Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
R.A.—Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michaels'-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.

51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
120—Paladin, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford.
158—Adams, Masonic Rooms, Victoria Hall, Trinity-road, Sheerness-on-Sea.
558—Temple, Town Hall, Folkestone.
734—Londesborough, Victoria Hotel, Bridlington Quay.
847—Fortescue, Masonic Hall, High-street, Honiton, Devon.
948—St. Barnabas, Masonic Room, Linsdale, Leighton Buzzard.
1002—Skiddaw, Lodge Room, Market-place, Cockermouth.
1034—Nowall, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford.
1138—Devon, Masonic Hall, Devon-square, Newton Abbot.
1228—Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
1322—Waveley, Caledonia Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

WEDNESDAY, 7th JUNE.

Grand Lodge, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.0 for 7.0.
193—Confidence, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, at 7. (Instruction.)
1283—Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd., at 8.0. (Instruction.)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
R. A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
293—Harmony, Masonic Room, Ann-street, Rochdale.
326—Moira, Freemasons' Hall, Park-street, Bristol.
471—Silurian, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport.
645—Humphrey Chetham, Masonic Room, Cross-street, Manchester.
1008—Royal St. Edmund's, Angel Hotel, Bury St. Edmunds.
1063—Malling Abbey, Bear Inn, West Malling, Kent.
1144—Milton, Commercial Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1167—Alnwick, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Alnwick.
1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich.
1323—Talbot, Masonic Rooms, Wind-street, Swansea.
1363—Tyndall, Town Hall, Chipping Sodbury, Gloucester.
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, at 7.0. (Instruction.)

THURSDAY, 8th JUNE.

3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Fitzroy-sq., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
10—Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1326—Lebanon, Red Lion Hotel, Hampton. (Emergency.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Albion, Albion-road, Dalston, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

35—Medium, 85 High-street, Cowes.
339—Unanimity, Crown Hotel, Penrith, Cumberland.
489—Benevolence, Masonic Hall, Bridgeland-street, Bideford, Devon.
546—Etruscan, Masonic Hall, Caroline-street, Lington, Stafford.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich. (Instruction.)
732—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
739—Temperance, Masonic Room, New-street, Birmingham.
945—Abbey, Abbey Council Chamber, Abingdon, Berks.
1055—Derby, Knowsley's Hotel, Chichester, Lancashire.
1093—St. George's, Private Room, Temperance Hall, Trade-gate, Mon.
1204—Royal's, Belle Vue Hotel, Malvern, Worcestershire.
1429—Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Newport, Mon.
Grand Lodge M.M.M., 33 Golden-square, at 5.0.

FRIDAY, 9th JUNE.

933—Doric, Earl Grey Tavern, Mile End-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Clapton, 7.30. (Instruction.)
R.A. 10—Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arcade, St. Mary-street, Cardiff.
697—United, George Hotel, Colchester.
1087—Beaudesert, Assembly Rooms, Corn Exchange, Leighton Buzzard.
1536—United Military, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.
Cheshire and North Wales Provincial Grand Lodge M.M.M., Town Hall, Altrincham, Cheshire.
M. M.—Era, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge. (Installation.)

SATURDAY, 10th JUNE.

198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
1391—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.
R. A. 1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood-green. (Consecration.)

WEST YORKSHIRE.

SATURDAY.

308—Prince George, Station House, Bottoms, Eastwood.

MONDAY.

61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.
154—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.
264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, New-road, Batley.
302—Hope, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford.
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hobden Bridge.
408—Three Graces, Private Room, Haworth.
1108—Wharfedale, Private Room, Boroughgate, Otley, York.
1211—Goderich, Masonic Hall, Gt. George-street, Leeds.
1239—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
1302—De Warren, White Swan Hotel, Halifax.
1542—Legiolium, Masonic Hall, Carlton-street, Castleford.
R. A. 380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley.
1514—Thornhill, Masonic Hall, Carlton-street, Castleford.

TUESDAY.

265—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Hall, Hanover-street, Keighley.
1214—Scarborough, Wilton Arms Hotel, Batley.
R. A. 296—Loyalty, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
R. A. 600—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.

WEDNESDAY.

258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield.
380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley.
387—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Ropergate, Pontefract.
R. A. 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.

THURSDAY.

139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
439—Scientific, Private Room, Bingley.
971—Trafalgar, Private Room, Commercial-street, Batley.
R. A. 208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
R. A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse Hotel, Hobden Bridge.
R. A. 337—Confidence, Private Rooms, Commercial Inn, Uppermill.

FRIDAY.

401—Royal Forest, Hark-to-Bounty Inn, Slaiburn.
458—Airo and Calder, Private Rooms, Ouse-street, Goole.
652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
1001—Harrogate and Clare, Masonic Rooms, Parliament-street, Harrogate.
1034—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill.
1102—Mirfield, Assembly Rooms, Eastthorpe, Mirfield.

SATURDAY.

149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.

DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND.

MONDAY.

431—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, North Shields.

TUESDAY.

124—Marquis of Granby, Freemasons' Hall, Old Elvet, Durham.
393—St. David's, Freemasons' Hall, The Parade, Berwick-on-Tweed.

WEDNESDAY.

94—Phoenix, Freemasons' Hall, Queen-street, Sunderland.
406—Northern Counties, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
1274—Earl of Durham, Freemasons' Hall, Chester-le-street.

THURSDAY.

97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Park Terrace, Sunderland.
991—Tyne, Masonic Hall, Wellington-quay.
R. A. 509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-road, Stockton-on-Tees.

FRIDAY.

1121—Wear Valley, King's Arms Hotel, Bishop Auckland.
R. A. 406—De Sussex, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

IRELAND.

FRIDAY—178—St. John's, Castle-street, Lisburn, County Antrim.

SCOTLAND.

TUESDAY—41—St. Cuthbert Kilwinning, Masonic Lodge, Kirkcudbright.
WEDNESDAY—0—Mother of Kilwinning, Masonic Hall, Kilwinning.
" 21—Old St. John, Masonic Hall, Lanark.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—429—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicik.
TUESDAY—5—Canongate and Leith (L. & C.), 86 Constitution-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.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

All the Meetings are at 8.0 p.m., unless otherwise stated.

MONDAY—124—Kilwinning, Union Tavern, Ayr.
" 129—St. Mirren, St. Mirren's Hall, Paisley.
" 138—Operative, The Bell, Hotel, Ayr.
" 322—Union, 213 Buchanan-street.
" R. A. 119—Rosslyn, 25 Robertson-street.
TUESDAY—3 bis.—St. John's, St. John's Hall, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 63—Dunrie, 41 Church-street, Port Glasgow.
" 73—Thistle and Rose, St. Mark's Hall, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 87—Thistle, 30 Hope-street.
" 417—St. John, Breves's Hall, Catrine.
" 637—Govanale, Portland Hall, Govan.
WEDNESDAY—4—Kilwinning, 162 Kent-road.
" 123—St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Shettleston.
" 173—Scots, 12 Trongate.
" 251—Caledonian Railway, 80 Hope-street.
" 571—Dramatic, 213 Buchanan-street, at 4 p.m.
" K. T.—St. Mungo Encampment, 213 Buchanan-street.
" R. A. 87—Shamrock and Thistle, 12 Trongate.
THURSDAY—109—St. Marnock, Crown Hotel, Kilmarnock.
" 135—Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.
" 320—St. John, Masonic Hall, Ardrossan.
FRIDAY—18—Kilwinning, Mission Hall, Dumbaron.
" 170—Leven St. John's, Black Bull Inn, Renton.
SATURDAY—28—St. John's, Black Bull, Kirkintilloch.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Royal Lodge, Jamaica.—The installation of officers took place at Sussex Hall, Kingston, on the 2nd May, at 7 p.m. The following officers were invested by the W.M., Bro. A. E. Burke, viz., Bros. Duff S.W., J. Melville J.W., G. Campbell Treasurer, J. Thompson S.D., — Thorsell J.D., W. Duff I.G., E. Leon and — Garcia Stowards, G. Magnus Tyler. Several Past Masters assisted, the installing officer being W. Bro. Wm. Garcia. After the ceremony the brethren adjourned to a well-spread banquet, where the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were heartily responded to. The Lodge's Charter is now a century old. The W.M., Bro. A. E. Burke, is also P.M. of a Scottish Lodge established in the island.

Phoenix Chapter, Port Royal, Jamaica.—Having obtained a charter from the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, the consecration and installation took place on 6th April, at Phoenix Hall, Port Royal. M.E. Comp. J. W. Whitbourne D.P.G.M. attended, amongst others. The following were installed:—M.E. Comp. G. J. De Cordova Z., O. Delgado sen. H., D. Baund J., O. Delgado jun. Principal Sojourner. The other officers will have been invested on 11th May. The Chapter is intended for the especial benefit of H.M.'s Army and Navy, of which it already numbers several members.

Hamilton Lodge, Spanish Town, Jamaica.—On 4th May, W. Bro. Reid was installed as W.M. for the year.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—This Lodge held its usual weekly meeting at Bro. Maidwell's, the Hercules, Leadenhall-street, on Thursday evening last, at half-past seven. Present—Bros. Blackhall W.M., Ellis S.W., Hocking J.W., Austin P.M. Preceptor, Grammer Hon. Secretary, Hill S.D., Lamb J.D., Hogarth I.G., and several other brethren. The Lodge was opened in the first degree, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Lipscombe being the candidate. The first section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Ellis, the second by Bro. Webb, and the third and fourth by Bro. Ellis, assisted by the brethren. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed in ancient form.

Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, No. 55.—At the meeting of this Lodge, held at Bro. Worth's, Wheatsheaf Hotel, Hand-court, Holborn, on Tuesday, the 30th ult., the Fifteen Sections were worked by the following brethren, from the Salisbury Lodge of Instruction, No. 435, under the direction of their Preceptor, Bro. J. Mander, P.M. 1201:—

FIRST LECTURE.

1st Section	...	...	Bro. G. Allcott, 525, Hong Kong.
2nd "	...	...	Bro. G. Davis, 167.
3rd "	...	...	Bro. G. W. Saul, S.D. 1201.
4th "	...	...	Bro. D. M. Belfrage, J.D. 179.
5th "	...	...	Bro. A. Cameron, P.M. 180.
6th "	...	...	Bro. J. W. Bentley, P.M. 193.
7th "	...	...	Bro. J. Wheeler, 1446.

SECOND LECTURE.

1st Section	...	...	Bro. E. S. Harrison, J.D. 180.
2nd "	...	...	Bro. J. H. Watts, W.M. 1201.
3rd "	...	...	Bro. T. Cull, I.G. 1446.
4th "	...	...	Bro. A. Stewart, 1158.
5th "	...	...	Bro. A. Bchr.

THIRD LECTURE.

1st Section	...	...	Bro. F. Honeyman, W.M. 1238.
2nd "	...	...	Bro. W. Neighbour, 771.
3rd "	...	...	Bro. E. Farwig, 180.

Cordial votes of thanks were given to Bro. Mander and Bro. Wheeler, and to those brethren who had so ably worked the sections. Several new members were elected.

Friendship Lodge, No. 100.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on 25th May, at the Crown and Anchor Hotel, Yarmouth. Present—Bros. E. J. Bonfellow W.M., R. Martins S.W., R. W. Hubbard J.W., H. B. Mason acting S.D., John Hammond acting J.D., C. M. Kirkham Steward, L. Spence I.G., James Holt Tyler, D. R. Fowler Secretary; P.M.'s Bros. Bond and Franklin. Visitor—Bro. A. D. Stone, 1452. Business—The minutes of previous Lodge were read and adopted, Bros. Harvey and Brooks were duly passed to 2nd degree, and Bros. Blyth and Bode were raised to the sublime degree.

St. John's Lodge, No. 178.—This Lodge held its regular monthly meeting on Friday, 12th May, in the Masonic Hall, Castle-street, Lisburn, County Antrim, Ireland. There was a numerous and enthusiastic attendance of members, which included the following—Bros. R. M. Tilly W.M., Wm. Graham S.W., J. Higginson J.W., W. J. Gilliland Sec., J. Vernon J.D., A. McClelland I.G., W. Wilson, A. Massen, J. McBride, W. Johnston, A. Boyd, J. Pryde, J. Jefferson, F. Duffin, G. G. Tew, M. D. Duncan, S. J. Belson, R. Macartney, J. Flynn, W. Hawthorne, John Ruddy. Visitors—Bros. T. Tallentire 24, and J. Darling 384. The Lodge was opened to the 3rd degree, Bro. R. M. Tilly W.M. presiding. Bro. G. G. Tew, who was in attendance, was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, by Bro. Tallentire. Bro. Higginson's motion respecting Lodge clothing was postponed till next night of meeting. A committee of the three principal officers, Secretary, and three members of the Lodge, were appointed to revise the bye-laws, and report the result on next night of meeting. A large proportion of the members having procured tickets of admission to the presentation of address to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, in the Music Hall, Belfast,

the making of final arrangements for attending same was left to the discretion of the W.M. and Secretary. The Lodge closed, and adjourned for refreshment, Bro. R. M. Tilly presided. After the usual Loyal and Charter toasts were given, several excellent songs were sung by the members, and after spending an hour socially the brethren separated.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—The meeting on Wednesday last, taking into consideration the counter attractions of the Derby day, was fairly attended. Bro. Blackhall was W.M., Pare S.W., Seyer J.W., Pelton S.D., Abell J.D., Hollands I.G., Christopher Tyler. P.M.'s Gottheil Preceptor, J. Constable Treasurer, Bro. J. K. Pitt Secretary. The Lodge having been opened, the ceremony of initiation was re-hearsed, Bro. Batyie acting as candidate. The 1st and 2nd sections of the lecture were worked by the brethren. Bro. Lipscombe, No. 15, was elected a member of the Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Pare was appointed W.M. for next meeting.

Salisbury Lodge of Instruction, No. 435.—This Lodge held its usual weekly meeting on Thursday, 1st June, at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. Present—Bros. Farwig W.M., Allcott S.W., Willis J.W., T. Cull Secretary, Leo S.D., Dutton J.D., Docker I.G., also Bros. Mander Preceptor, S. Lloyd, G. Davis, Bentley, &c. Business—Lodge opened and minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Lloyd acting as candidate. The 1st, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th sections were worked by Bros. Mander, Cull, Farwig and Leo. Bro. Allcott was elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Lodge La Tolerance, No. 538.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, the 26th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Present—Bros. C. Burmeister W.M., H. Wood S.W., H. L. Wolters J.W., J. Kench P.M. Treasurer, G. Y. Simon Hon. Secretary, J. Quitman S.D., J. W. Cooper J.D., J. Marshall I.G., H. W. Lindus P.M., G. F. Creamer, Child, J. Skinner, E. Kennedy, R. Palumbo, G. B. Mickle, H. Millward, &c. A ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. E. Humphrey, and it being unanimous he was, by the courtesy of the W.M., initiated by Bro. J. Kench P.M. and Treasurer. Mr. H. F. Swears was then initiated by the W.M., who afterwards passed Bro. Gustav Baumann to the 2nd degree. All the ceremonies were very perfectly worked. A report was read from Bro. J. Kench, who had been appointed Steward to represent the Lodge on the last Festival for Girls on 8th May. It showed the amounts received from the brethren. The Lodge is endowed in perpetuity in the name of the S.W. The chair of the J.W. and the chair of the 1st Principal of the Chapter is also severally endowed with the sum of £10 10s each. The chair of the W.M., Bro. C. Burmeister, is already endowed, also Bros. J. Kench and D. Cormack, who have qualified themselves as Life Governors of the Institution, and the total amount on his list was £63. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Inns of Court Hotel, Holborn, where a very excellent banquet was provided. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. Harmony prevailed, which was materially assisted by the excellent singing of Bros. Wood, Davis, Kerne, Mickle, Kench and Earley. The visitors were Bros. H. Green, St. Andrews Lodge, C. J. W. Davis W.M. 332, J. Jackson 1287, H. Liddall 157, E. H. Stannivitz W.M. 435, T. Sampson late 250 New York, H. Kern 40, J. Hughes 145, G. J. Wimperis 91, and S. Yearsley 417.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—This Lodge was held at Bro. Allen's, Royal Edward, Triangle, on Tuesday, 30th May. Present—Bros. Worsley W.M., Wiege S.W. Johnson J.W., Barker S.D., Dallas I.G., P.M. Wallington Preceptor, also P.M.'s Ashburner, Wright, and other brethren. Lodge opened in duo form, and Bro. Harding having answered the necessary questions was passed to the 2nd degree, and thereafter to the 3rd, both ceremonies being rendered by the W.M. in a very impressive manner; it is satisfactory to see so young a Mason, who has just attained the position of J.D. in his mother Lodge, work the ceremonies so creditably; it augurs well for the prosperity of the Lodge, where, in due course, he hopes to attain the proud position of W.M. The Lodge was closed down in the three degrees, and adjourned until Tuesday, 13th June. Bro. Wiege was unanimously elected W.M. for that occasion.

Whittington Chapter, No. 862.—A Convocation of this Chapter met on Friday, the 26th ultimo, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Comps. H. Jones M.E.Z., W. Stephens II., T. Kingston J., J. Weaver P.Z. S.E., Cooté P.Z., Tinney P.S., Murlis Steward; and Comps. High, Gluckstein, Moore, Paul, Parkhouse, Jessett, &c. The Chapter was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Comps. Parker, Marquis of Ripon Lodge, and Benn, Zetland Lodge, were duly exalted into R.A. Masonry. The 1st Principal's chair being occupied by Comp. W. Stephens, Cooté H., and Jas. Weaver P.Z. as J. The ceremony and addresses were very perfectly and impressively delivered by those Companions. The election for Principals and Officers then took place, and Comp. W. Stephens was elected M.E.Z. T. Kingston II., Tinney J., Robert Wentworth Little Treasurer, Jas. Weaver P.Z. S.E., Moore S.N., Murlis P.S. The Chapter was then closed until November next, and the Companions partook of a very excellent banquet. The usual Loyal and R.A. toasts were given, and the Companions departed.

Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017.—The usual monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, 24th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street. Present—Bros. J. Blam W.M., V. Myers S.W., Gulliford J.W., L. Jacobs Treasurer, E. P. Albert, Grand Pursuivant, Secretary, L. Salomons S.D., W. Brall J.D., Hand I.G., and P.M.'s Grunebaum I.P.M., S. Pollitzer, J. De Solla, J. Lazarus and S. V. Abrahams. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Guttman

was raised to the 3rd degree, and Mr. M. Barnett, who had been previously accepted, was duly initiated. The Lodge was then closed and the brethren separated. There was no banquet. Bro. S. M. Harris, No. 406, was present as a visitor.

Acacia Lodge, No. 1309.—The election meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 23rd ult., at the Prince Alfred Hotel, Southall. Bro. F. Walters P.M. P.G.P. Middlesex and Treasurer, opened the Lodge, in the absence of the W.M. Bro. C. Horsley P.P.G.R. Middlesex. Bros. C. A. Ferrier S.W., C. G. Rushworth J.W., the Rev. Thos. Wells Cave, LL.D., Secretary, J. M. George S.D., C. G. Stahr J.D., R. P. Tebb D.C., W. Laing P.M. 45 Tyler. Ballots having been taken for the admission of the Rev. J. Fothergill, M.A., and Mr. A. Horsley, nephew of the W.M., these gentlemen were initiated by Bro. C. Horsley, and Mr. Huller by Bro. Stahr. By the courtesy of the W.M., Bro. F. Walters P.M. and Treasurer passed Bro. R. Brown to the 2nd degree. The bye-laws were then read, and the election for W.M. took place, which resulted in Bro. C. G. Rushworth being chosen, Bros. F. Walters P.M. Treasurer, and Laing Tyler. On the notice of motion by Bro. F. Walters, it was unanimously resolved that the sum of £10 10s be voted from the funds of the Lodge, for the purpose of presenting the retiring W.M. with a Past Master's jewel, as a slight recognition of the valuable services rendered to the Lodge during his year of office. The following brethren were elected to represent the Masonic Charities:—Bro. R. P. Bobb, the Boys' School in 1876, Dr. S. Wills Cave the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution 1877, C. G. Rushworth, W.M. Elect, Boys' School 1877, Dr. J. Sutcliffe the Girls' School in 1877. These brethren, upon motions duly proposed, were recommended for Provincial Grand Honors at the next meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge. Several propositions for initiation were handed in, and the Lodge was adjourned until Tuesday, 22nd August, that being the installation night. The Lodge was then closed, and the usual banquet followed, where the regular toasts were given and responded to. After enjoying a very agreeable evening, the brethren returned to town.

Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Friday the 26th of May, at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, Herts. Present—Bros. J. Cutbush W.M., Livingston S.W., R. F. Young J.W., G. Askew Secretary, C. Grey as S.D., W. Newman D.C., Brown and Allen Stewards, J. Enerby I.G., Goddard Tyler; P.M.'s J. Lowthin and H. Edwards. In consequence of the recent death of Bro. W. Cutbush (brother of the W.M.), Bro. Lowthin P.S.G.W. acted as W.M. The minutes having been confirmed, Bro. W. W. Morgan jun. was passed to the 2nd degree, after which the ballot was taken for Bro. John Parrott, of 1479, as a joining member, and he was duly elected. The Report of the Benevolent Fund Committee was then presented, and after some discussion the suggestions therein were agreed to. The same committee was then appointed to frame Bye-laws for the regulation of the fund, these to be presented at the next meeting. A ballot to fill the post of Treasurer (vacant by the death of P.M. W. Cutbush) was then taken, and Bro. Lowthin P.M., Prov. S.G.W., was unanimously elected. A vote of condolence with the widow was passed, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes. Bro. Terry (Sec. R.M.B.I.) delivered a short eulogy in memory of our departed brother. A candidate having been proposed for initiation the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. Bro. Lowthin gave the various toasts, and in proposing that of the Charities remarked that charity could not be attended to too soon. Bro. Cutbush the W.M. (Steward for the approaching Festival of the Boys' School) had left his list, with the hope that the amount would reach 50 guineas before it was returned to him. Bro. Terry said he hoped the wish of the W.M. would be realised, and he thought from the way the card was being received that there was every chance of it. Let the brethren subscribe on this occasion in memory of their late brother, who had done so much for the Charities, and who was ever ready to help. At the Asylum at Croydon the old people expressed great regret at the loss they had suffered, they all had occasion to remember him. On a visit some short time since Bro. Cutbush had selected a spot, for which he sent a truck load of trees in order to form, a few years hence, a shady spot for the inmates. He concluded by expressing a hope that the good deeds he had done would long live after him, and tendered his thanks to the Lodge for their support, not only of his own institution, but of the Charities generally, and hoped they would continue in the future as in the past. The W.M. then announced that the subscriptions reached the sum of £53 9s, in addition to the 10 guineas subscribed by the W.M. Bro. Terry then gave the health of the presiding W.M., who had worked his way up to the position of third Mason in the Province. He was a P.M. of three Lodges, and a credit to all. Bro. Lowthin responded. The toasts of the P.M.'s and Officers were duly honoured, and the Tyler's toast closed the meeting.

Metropolitan Lodge No. 1507.—This Lodge held an Emergency meeting on Tuesday, the 30th of May, at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville-road. Present—Bros. J. J. Michael W.M., Thos. Williams S.W., Kingham J.W., Geo. Tims P.M. Sec., Scales as S.D., Stiles D.C., Side I.G., Daly Tyler. Past Master Bro. James Willing jun. Visitors—Bros. Bull P.M. 115, McDougle I.P.M. 913, A. W. Fenner 1227, and W. W. Morgan 1385. The hour fixed in the summons for commencement of the business was half-past four, and by that time there was a good attendance of the members. The Lodge was opened in regular form, and Bros. Edwards, Hewison, E. Van Camp, Robins, and Iriuth were introduced, and examined as to their proficiency, they being candidates for the third degree. The several questions were answered by these brethren in a satisfactory manner, and in due course the ceremony of raising was proceeded with. The next part of the proceedings was the passing of Bro. Bosshart, which was also conducted in a highly gratifying way. Ballots were then taken for Messrs. Debonf and Lefevre, which were pronounced clear, and these gentlemen, with two others, Messrs. Knight and Tuck, who had been balloted for at a previous meeting, were initiated into the

mysteries of our ancient Craft. Motions, of which notice had been regularly given, were then thoroughly discussed, and will receive further attention on a future occasion. After routine business the Lodge was formally closed. The whole of the business proceedings were conducted by the W.M., and considering the fact that this might emphatically be called the first day of summer, and having regard to the small space the members of this flourishing Lodge have at their command, the thanks of the brethren are due to Bro. Michael for the able manner in which he performed his heavy and responsible duties. After a slight adjournment, the brethren and their guests sat down to a most substantial repast, which was served in elegant style. Bro. Michael presided, and on the removal of the cloth proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. He stated that on the last occasion he had the pleasure of meeting the brethren he thought it would be the last time he should have the pleasure of presiding over them in the capacity of W.M. It had, however, been considered necessary to hold this Lodge of Emergency, and he was therefore once more at their head. On the last occasion he had a lively recollection of having trespassed on their time by the length to which he considered it necessary to extend his remarks, but on this occasion he would be as brief as he consistently could. Without more preface he would give the health of Her Majesty the Queen, who he was convinced had the respect and esteem of every brother present. The W.M. next gave the toast of the M.W.G.M. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. All Masons were glad to know that he had returned safely from his Indian journey, and all would be pleased to see him at Grand Lodge at the meeting to be held next week. The next toast was that of the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, past and present. These toasts were duly honoured. Bro. James Willing jun. then rose. He said there is an old saying that the garret is the topmost room in the house, and after that comes the roof. Their last meeting was supposed to have been the last of their season, so he supposed this ought to be called the one over the top, or should he say their sky meeting? However that might be, their W.M., Bro. Michael, had reached the summit of his ambition, and had given satisfaction to the brethren of his Lodge. He had been ever willing and ever ready to further the interests of the Lodge, and he was sure all present would heartily welcome the toast he had to propose, and that was the health of their Worshipful Master. Bro. Evison then sang a highly humorous song. The W.M. on rising to reply was received with cheers. He said when he last had the opportunity of addressing them he had spoken so fully that to-night he would merely thank them. He would carry with him a lively recollection of the kindness he had always received during his occupancy of the chair. If his speech on the last occasion had been too long, it was because he had been anxious to clear his mind; and he thought all would agree with him that on that occasion he effectually did so. On the present occasion he would merely say that he thanked all present for the hearty way in which the toast had been received. Bro. Michael then proposed the health of the I.P.M., Bro. Jas. Willing jun., after which Bro. Stiles favoured the company with an excellent song. Bro. Jas. Willing jun., whose rising was a signal for hearty cheers, said at present he was the only Past Master of the Lodge, but in a very short space of time he should have their worthy Brother Michael alongside of him. They would then be two very nice fellows, for what one lacked the other would doubtless be able to supply. The brethren must, however, allow him a little latitude, and he would just take a peep at matters that were passing around. Whenever they met, the spirit of Charity should be amongst them, and he hoped that spirit would be with them to-night. Their Lodge had something in connection with its history which would cause it to be remembered, inasmuch as it was the first Lodge consecrated under the present Most Worshipful Grand Master. Bro. Willing next referred to the recent election of candidates for our several Institutions, and directed the attention of the brethren to the approaching Festival of the Boys' School, at the Alexandra Palace, and hoped he might be gratified by meeting a large contingent of the members of the Metropolitan Lodge. The Institution for Boys was worthy the support of every member of the Craft, while in Bro. Binckes "Our Boys" had a sincere and hard working friend. He concluded by trusting that the Herculean efforts of our worthy Secretary would receive ample recognition by the way his Charity would be supported at the Festival, on the 28th June next. The W.M. here called attention to the Charity Box, which had been so kindly presented to the Lodge by Bro. Kingham. This box was not obtrusively thrust before the brethren, but was placed on a convenient shelf in the room, and if any brother had a spare Five Pound Note or a spare Five Shillings to place in it, he might be sure it would be gratefully received and faithfully applied. Bro. Read here sang "Kitty Clyde's Sister." The W.M. next proposed the health of the Visitors, and called on each to respond. Bro. Bull thanked the brethren for their hospitality; he had been greatly gratified at the way in which the working had been done, and he was pleased to find the Lodge in so flourishing a condition. Bro. McDougle followed; he had come there at the request of two of the initiates of the evening, in whom he was personally interested, and he was exceedingly gratified to find that his young friends had joined a Lodge where the members were so proficient in their duties. Bro. Morgan said he did not know whether he ought to feel aggrieved or not; the two brethren who preceded him had been favoured with a musical accompaniment from a street band; the music had now ceased, and he supposed he must do without it. Brevity had been the order of the evening for all remarks, and he would not detain them. Bro. Bull had spoken of their working, and Bro. McDougle had referred to the capabilities of the members of the Lodge; he was pleased to see they did not overlook the claims of Charity. Our noble institutions were worthy of support, and it was gratifying to note the success that had attended the two Festivals that had been already held. That of the Boys' was fixed for the 28th of June, and he agreed with Bro. Willing in his remarks respecting "Our Hercules." Bro. Binckes was most enthusiastic in the arduous work he was engaged in, and all present, he was sure, heartily wished him success. Bro. Fenner thanked the brethren for

the kind way in which they had received his name in connection with the toast. He was but a young Mason; he had however received immense benefit by attending the Lodge of Instruction associated with them. The toast of the Initiates was replied to by each, in turn, after which the health of Bro. P.M. Tims, the respected Secretary, the W.M. Elect, and the rest of the Officers were given and duly responded to. Several songs were sung in addition to those already mentioned; the efforts of Bros. Side, Stiles, and others giving great satisfaction. The Tyler's toast concluded a most successful meeting.

Duke of Connaught Lodge of Instruction, No. 1524.—This Lodge held its usual weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 31st of May, at the Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston. Present—Bros. Henry Meyer W.M., F. Brasted S.W., E. Dietrich J.W., W. H. Lee S.D., Fieldwick J.D., O. Dietrich I.G., and Bros. Terrar, Sims, Spencer, Hill, J. B. Shackleton, &c. Business—Lodge was opened in duo form, minutes of last Lodge meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Spencer acting as candidate. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Lee, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Brasted was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodge was then closed and adjourned to Wednesday, 7th June, at 8 p.m.

THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

THE half-yearly communication of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Corn Exchange, Melton Mowbray, on Monday, when there was a large attendance of the Fraternity. The Right Hon. the Earl Ferrers, Provincial Grand Master, presided, supported by the Rev. W. Langley P.P.S.G.W., acting as D.P.G.M., the Rev. Canon Burfield, Prov. Grand Chaplain, the Prov. Grand Wardens (the Rev. John Halford and J. C. Duncombe, Esq.), and the Prov. Grand Secretary (S. S. Partridge, Esq.) A Provincial Charity Committee was established, and the necessary bye-laws and regulations for working it agreed upon, other business of the Province transacted, and the following address to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, proposed by Bro. Canon Burfield, in an effective speech, and seconded by the Prov. S. Grand Warden (the Rev. J. Halford), passed by acclamation:

To His Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Ancient and Honourable Order of Free and Accepted Masons of England and Wales.

May it please your Royal Highness,—We, the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Officers, Past Officers, and brethren of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Leicestershire and Rutland, in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, desire to embrace the opportunity which our half-yearly communication, this day, held at Melton Mowbray, affords us, of offering to your Royal Highness our warmest congratulations upon your safe and happy return to your native land. We have heard with feelings of unbounded satisfaction that on all sides you have been received with that respect and devotion which your exalted position justly entitled you to, and at the same time with a thorough heartiness which the generous nature of your character so naturally inspires.

We are confident that the journey so wisely undertaken by your Royal Highness, and now prosperously terminated, has been fraught with immense advantage to the Princes and people of India, and that the judicious and conciliatory manner in which you have treated those with whom you have come in contact has left an impression which will not easily be effaced.

We feel that our heartfelt gratitude is due to the Great Architect of the Universe for safely carrying you through the dangers and difficulties of your journey, for the preservation of your health in the changes of temperature and climate to which you have been subjected, and for giving you strength to carry out the arduous duties you have everywhere so ably and willingly performed. Our fervent prayer will ever be that He will have you in His keeping, and give you health and much happiness that you may be a blessing to your country, your family, and the Ancient Craft over which you so worthily preside.

(Signed) FERRERS, P.G.M. Leicestershire and Rutland.

(Countersigned) S. S. PARTRIDGE, P.G. Secretary.

The usual dinner was served at the George Hotel, under the presidency of the Prov. Grand Master, and upon his leaving for an early train, by Bro. Langley. A most successful meeting was brought to a close at nine o'clock, when the brethren separated.—*Leicester Daily Post.*

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ESSEX PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

THE Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex for 1876 was held last Tuesday at Dovercourt, under the banner of Star in the East Lodge, No. 650, and passed off with great éclat. The only matter of regret on the occasion was that, owing to continued physical weakness, the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master (Bro. Robert J. Bagshaw) was unable to be present. His duties were, however, most ably filled by the R.W. Bro. Matthew E. Clark, D.P.G.M.

The proceedings commenced shortly after 2 p.m., in the Mission Hall, Dovercourt (which had been kindly lent for the occasion), where Grand Lodge was opened in form by the W. Bro. Joseph Burton, P.G. Treasurer. The R.W. the D.P.G.M. was then conducted to the dais by the past and present P.G. Officers, and after prayer by Bro. the Rev. A. Pertwee, the business of Grand Lodge proceeded. A letter from the R.W.P.G.M., regretting his inability to be present, was read; and letters were also received from Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary (one of the founders and first W.M. of Star in the East Lodge), Bro. Lord Waveney P.G.M. Suffolk, Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past Grand Chaplain, England, &c., &c. The Grand Secretary called over the list of Lodges, and it was found that all were represented but the Rosslyn (a new Lodge at Dunmow), but on a communication being read from the W.M. that he was prevented from attending by domestic affliction, Byo-law No. VI. was suspended. The Grand Officers for the year were appointed and invested as follows:—

Senior Grand Warden	...	W. Bro. A. R. Clench W.M. 697.
Junior Grand Warden	...	„ Alfred Welch W.M. 51.
Chaplain	...	Bro. Arthur Pertwee 433.
Grand Treasurer	...	W. Bro. Joseph Burton P.M. 276.
„ Secretary	...	„ John Wright Carr P.M. 160.
„ Registrar	...	„ Joseph Clarkson W.M. 1457.
Senior Grand Deacon	...	„ Frank Whitmore P.M. 276.
Junior Grand Deacon	...	„ E. E. Phillips W.M. 1000.
Grand Supt. of Works	...	„ W. J. Burgess W.M. 214.
„ Director of Ceremonies	...	„ Peter Matthews P.M. 276.
„ Assist. Dir. of Cere...	...	„ A. Lucking P.M. 1000.
„ Sword Bearer	...	Bro. Basham Secy. 650.
„ Organist	...	„ Alfred Rogers J.D. 433.
„ Pursuivant	...	„ Bishop 276.
„ Stewards	...	{ Bros. R. Dickson, Watts, Shedd, T. W. Naylor, W. Richey, and F. B. Capon.

The usual votes of thanks were unanimously passed, and the special thanks of the Grand Lodge were accorded to the W.M. and brethren of Star in the East Lodge for their very excellent arrangements. It was also proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that a sum of £10 10s be given out of the Funds of the Grand Lodge to the Endowment Fund of the Lifeboat recently presented to the port of Harwich by Miss Burmester. After the transaction of some other business Grand Lodge was closed.

The attendance book showed that the following were present on the occasion:—

Officers of Grand Lodge.—W. Bros. Matthew, E. Clark D.P.G.M., J. Self S.G.W., Alfred Jones J.G.W., J. Burton G. Treas., John Wright Carr G. Sec., A. Lucking A.D.C., A. Portway G.P., T. S. Sarol, G. Tyler.

The following members of Lodges were also in attendance:—Angel (Colchester), No. 51, A. Welch W.M., Fred. A. Cole P.M., P.P.G. Registrar, Samuel Chaplin P.M. P.P.G.S.W. W. P. Lewis P.M. and P.Z., Henry Samuel P.M., John Coppin P.M., P.P.G.J.W., T. R. Quilter P.M. and P.Z., T. J. Ralling Sec., J. Hanly I.G., P. G. Steward, Francis B. Capon, W. Brightwell, T. Mothersole, G. Mercer, W. H. Ablitt, W. Richey, C. Gunner, and W. S. Spent P.G.S.B. Hope and Unity (Romford) No. 214: W. J. Burgess W.M. Good Fellowship (Chelmsford) No. 276: E. Shedd W.M., A. C. Veley P.M. P.G.J.W., F. Adlard P.M. P.A.D.C., Thos. Smce P.M. P.G.D., T. F. Bishop, A. Hunt, Frank Whitmore P.M., and D. M. Wheeler J.W. Hope (Brightlingsea) No. 433: W. Clarry P.M., C. Blyth P.M., G. Richey P.M., J. E. Wiseman P.M. and Secretary P.P.S.G.D., B. York P.M. John Ward P.M., Wm. Balls, A. G. Rogers S.D., Wm. Nichols, and H. Foulger; Star-in-the-East (Harwich) No. 650: G. Gard Pye W.M. P.P.G.S. of W., James Durrant P.M. P.P.S.G.D., A. Dickson P.M., J. Dunlop S.W., W. Basham Secretary, W. Oxenham J.D., W. H. Walker, Walter Balls, J. Howard, Thos. Jennings, W. H. Butcher, G. Jackson, Chas. Pratt, Alfred A. Watts, D. Howard, T. Water, R. Thackeray, A. T. Chambers, J. Brice, and C. Lucas. Chigwell (Woodford) No. 453: D. Reed W.M. United (Colchester) No. 697: R. A. Clench W.M., T. Rix P.M. and Secretary, P.P.G.S.B. T. Eustace P.M., T. W. Naylor S.W., W. H. Bateman J.W., J. H. Boulton D.C., F. Wright, E. Heunemeyer, A. Richardson, T. Downing, and W. G. Sigger. Priory (Southend) No. 1,000: E. E. Phillips W.M. (P.M. 379). St. Peter (Maldon) No. 1,024: F. Standingford. Walden (Saffron Walden) No. 1,280: The Senior Warden. St. Mary (Bockin) No. 1,312: A. Portway Secretary, W. F. Hasler S.W., and W. Bright. St. John's (Grays) No. 1,343: Alfred Sturgeon S.W. Liberty of Havering (Romford) No. 1,437: E. West W.M. Bagshaw (Buckhurst Hill), No. 1,457: T. Malcolm. Visitors—Bros. Joseph Clarkson P.M. 145, Fred. Edwards 1,091, Wm. Barratt 213, W. Murray 225, J. H. Staddon W.M. 376, J. R. Foulger P.M. 177 and 795 and P.Z. 177, and Robt. Berwick.

About five o'clock between seventy and eighty brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet at the Great Eastern Hotel, under the presidency of the D.P.G.M. In the course of the evening the Masonic toasts usual on such occasions were given and heartily responded to, and some brethren present contributed to the enjoyment of the gathering by some excellent singing. It only remains to state that every possible arrangement for the comfort of the brethren was made by the W.M. and members of the Star-in-the-East Lodge, and the Lodge-room and dinner-tables were adorned with some choice plants from the nursery of Bro. W. O. Ward, of Ramsey.—*Essex Standard.*

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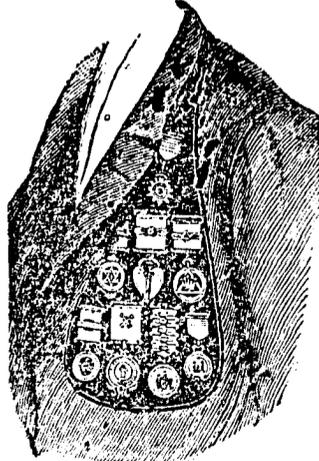
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Right Hon. LORD SKELMERSDALE, Prov. G.M.M.M.
of Lancashire, R.W.D.G.M.M.M.

Installation of M.W.G. Master, Appointment and Investiture of Grand Officers.

THE Summer Half-yearly Communication of this Grand Lodge will be held at the Hall, 33 Golden-square, London, on Tuesday, the 6th of June 1876, when and where all Grand Officers (past and present), W. Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and Overseers of Private Lodges, are hereby summoned to attend, and at which, by permission, all regularly registered Mark Master Masons may be present.

Grand Lodge will be opened at 5 o'clock p.m. The Banquet will be provided at Seven o'clock, at the Café Royal, Air-street, Regent-street, W. Tickets, Fifteen shillings (inclusive of Wine and Dessert).

Brethren intending to be present, are requested to send their names to the Grand Stewards, care of the Grand Secretary, as under.

By command,
FREDERICK BINCKES,
Grand Secretary.

Office: 2 Red Lion-Square,
Holborn, London, W.C.
24th May 1876.

The Public are informed that TICKETS for Excursions on the

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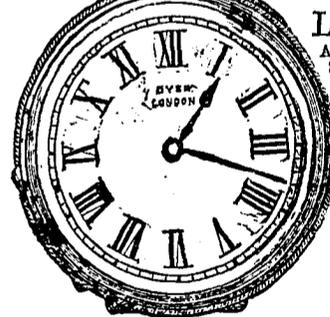
Arrangements have also been made for the issue of Tickets for EXCURSION TRAINS on the

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This is done to enable the Public to avoid annoyance and difficulty at Stations before the departure of
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Printed and Published for the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE PUBLISHING COMPANY LIMITED, by Bro. WILLIAM WRAY MORGAN, at 67 Barbican, London, E.C., Saturday 3rd June 1876.