

THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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THE FESTIVAL OF MONDAY LAST.

WE heartily congratulate Bro. Terry on the brilliant success of Monday. Had no more been done this year than last, that "Zealous Officer" would still have been as fully entitled to our thanks. It is impossible for any one to exhibit more than the maximum amount of zeal. Bro. Terry has always laboured to the utmost of his power, and always merits therefore the congratulations of the Craft. When, however, his labours are productive of such magnificent results as they were on Monday, the duty of expressing our obligations has in it a large admixture of pleasure. Just as he rejoices over the success of his efforts—though these latter would have been as great had their success been more limited—so must we feel additional gratification in the performance of our duty, though the same duty must have been fulfilled under any circumstances. But to pass at once to the Festival itself. As briefly and unexpectedly announced in these columns last week, H.R.H. Prince Leopold, the new Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire, was at the last moment prevented, by the delicate state of his health, from presiding in person. We sincerely regret the indisposition from which his Royal Highness is suffering. Still we cannot refrain from expressing the pleasure we feel at finding how firm is the position he has already established among the Craft. It must be obvious to every one of our readers that the mere announcement of his presidency exercised a most salutary influence on the subscription list. Had he been able to attend, it would have been his first public appearance among the Craft in London since his elevation to the Grand Mastership of Oxfordshire. That is, on the first opportunity that presented itself, Prince Leopold gave proof of the sterling character of his Masonry. No one ever, of course, doubted that he was as truly loyal to the principles of our Fraternity as the plainest and most unassuming of its members, or as the oldest and most respected of our veterans. Still, it is in the highest degree creditable to the Prince that, in his first public act as a Mason, he should have shown himself worthy of his exalted rank and the distinguished position to which his brother, the Grand Master, so recently appointed him. And it is still more creditable to him that in this first Masonic act of his he should have associated himself so conspicuously with what all true Freemasons regard as their first and most important duty—the duty of advancing the cause of Charity. There are many among us who are reckoned as being good men and true, who contribute of their means to the support of these or those charitable institutions. But it requires some courage to undertake the duty of presiding at one of our Festivals. There is a considerable amount of responsibility attached to the fulfilment of such a duty, and, as we said in a recent article, many an older and more experienced man has before now excused himself from undertaking it. We do not for one moment imagine any proof was needed that the Prince was a zealous as well as a loyal Craftsman; but it is pleasing to find our expectations realised, nor doubt we the splendid subscription list of Monday is all the more splendid, because the Craft were resolved on showing their sense of the Prince's courage and kindness. His first act was to show himself the zealous partisan of one of our Charities, and the Craft were determined his partisanship should be a brilliant success. Hence, no doubt, in great measure, the magnificent collection of £12,656 13s, with fourteen lists still outstanding.

But just as this was only one of the reasons we urged, why the subscriptions should present a higher total than at

any previous Festival, so, doubtless, was it only one of several motives which stirred the brethren to this grand display of munificence. We pointed out in the article already referred to, that a larger amount of subscriptions than usual was absolutely necessary. The Male Fund at the end of the year showed only a small balance in hand, indeed, not more than sufficient to provide for four additional annuitants, on the assumption, of course, that the Festival of this year would be as productive as that of last year was. But, worse still, the Female Fund showed a deficit, representing in fact, the aggregate of nine annuities. Taking the several sets of annuitants together, that is, the men, the widows, and the widows receiving half their late husbands' annuities, the Benevolent Institution stands committed at this present time to an annual outlay in excess of £9000, irrespective of office and other heads of expenditure. Therefore, every year the Craft is bound to make the most determined efforts to realise as large a list as possible; for it is only by means of such efforts that it will be able to keep faith with the annuitants it has placed on its pension list. But this was only the second of our reasons. There was yet a third, and even more important one still. At the present time there are only nine vacancies on the Male Fund, and three on the Female, to be filled at the election in May next, but the number of approved candidates already on the list to compete for these vacancies is in the case of the Males thirty-four, and Females thirty-six. Other vacancies may arise between now and the election, and the number of candidates will also, perhaps, be increased. Be this as it may, there are at this moment, taking the two funds together, seventy candidates to compete for twelve vacancies, which differs in no appreciable degree from what we said a fortnight since, "a ratio of six and a half of the one to one of the other." We do not for one moment hesitate to place among the motives which have operated so successfully on this occasion, the absolute need there is to provide for a large annual outlay, and the immoderate excess of candidates for admission to the benefits of the Institution over vacancies. There was yet a fourth reason we urged in behalf of the good cause. A high authority had publicly stated in Grand Lodge that no one of our Charities would ever appeal in vain to the Craft for the needful support. We said this statement must be regarded as "evidence of a wise prescience in the eminent brother who made it," and that his confidence in the readiness of the Craft at all times to fulfil its duty, must be taken as "ominous of good in the year we have just entered upon." We are aware there are many brethren who have questioned his wisdom in making such an announcement. Here, at all events, we have the clearest evidence of its justice. The very first occasion, since this announcement, on which an appeal has been made to the Craft for its support is more fruitful of good than any previous occasion, that is, as regards this particular Charity. The sum collected last year, when Lord Skelmersdale presided, was £9,174 10s 6d. This year, with Prince Leopold announced as chairman, the amount realised is £12,656 13s, with sundry returns yet to be made. Thus the excess of the latter collection over the former is £3,482 2s 6d. The increase, therefore, is about 38 per cent. on the year 1876. In fact, if we bear in mind that the Festival of 1876 was in round figures £2,000 in excess of 1875, and that 1875 surpassed 1874 to the extent of close upon £1,500, we have every reason to be proud of the success achieved in the cause of this particular Charity. In 1874, with Lord Waveney as president, the Festival realised £5,220; in 1875, £6,630 13s 6d, with eleven lists

outstanding; in 1876, as we have said above, £9,174 10s 6d, and now, on Monday last, the still greater sum of £12,656 13s. That is to say, the support accorded to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution has considerably more than doubled itself in the short space of four years. We shall add nothing more in the way of colouring to this splendid picture.

As regards the occasion itself, we need say little here. Lord Shrewsbury and Talbot, Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire, occupied the chair in the unavoidable absence of Prince Leopold. In 1875, his Lordship gave us a taste of his quality—as the saying is—as a chairman, and his second Presidency at this Festival was as great a success as, if not a greater success than, his first. He was geniality itself, and it would be an act of injustice to his Lordship if we allowed this opportunity to pass without offering him our tribute of thanks, not only for the readiness with which he came forward at the very last moment to undertake a serious responsibility, but likewise for the kindness and ability with which he fulfilled his trust. Nor must we pass unnoticed the signal services of the Board of Stewards. On them devolved the oftentimes unpleasant duty of canvassing for funds. But they undertook the office spontaneously, and discharged it diligently and with unexampled energy. In the success of their labours lies their chief reward, but none the less are they entitled to our thanks, and these we tender to them with the utmost cordiality. May succeeding Boards of Stewards be as successful as have been the Stewards at the Festival in 1877 of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution!

Since the above remarks were written, the gratifying intelligence has reached us that, at their monthly meeting on Wednesday, the General Committee were so satisfied with the amount obtained at this Festival, that they then and there resolved upon increasing the number of annuitants by thirty, namely, fifteen men and fifteen women. Thus, the number of vacancies to be filled at the election in May will be forty-two, instead of twelve, as stated; namely, twenty-four on the male, and eighteen on the female fund. It must be mentioned, however, that this addition is only provisional. If the amount of subscriptions in future years falls short of the sum just realised, the Committee will be necessarily unable to provide for the increased number of annuitants.

Seven of the fourteen lists have since been received. These yield a total of £167, so that the Festival has, already, produced £12,823 13s.

ANALYSIS OF THE SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

IN accordance with our usual practice, we set before our readers the following analysis of the subscription list. As the total amount subscribed is great beyond all precedent in the history of the Benevolent Institution, so will it be found, on a careful examination of the several items of which the list is composed, that the Festival of 1877 presents certain features which, heretofore, have been wanting in similar lists. The most important of these is the unmistakable evidence it affords that the sacred duty of being charitable is not only becoming every year more and more generally appreciated, but likewise more and more generally practised. We all know full well the difference between appreciation and practice. It is undoubtedly a feather in a man's cap when he is able to appreciate a virtue, but his cap is full of feathers when he is advanced enough to practise it. Year after year have the Chairmen at our different Festivals pointed out to those whom they were immediately addressing, and through them to the Craft universal, that Charity, to be really effective, must be distributed over the widest possible area, that more real good is done by a number of small subscriptions than by a few of considerable amount. The meaning of this will be obvious to all our readers. The kindlier feelings of our nature are more thoroughly and more generally aroused when there is a multitude of participants in an act of charity than when it is the act of a single person. This, of course, is to a certain extent, merely a sentimental view of the case we have in view. No one would ever be so silly as to affirm that a thousand pounds, given by one man, would have less effect in relieving distress than the same sum if contributed by twenty or a hundred men.

All we mean to say is, that its distribution among many donors proves incontestably that sympathy with distress is spread over a wider surface. There is, however, this undoubted advantage to be gained when a subscription list proceeds from many instead of from a few. Sympathy, like most other affections of the human mind, is contagious. When men of moderate means find their modest donations are not only sought after but appreciated, immediately other men who are similarly circumstanced follow suit, and in the end the aggregate of these numerous small donations mounts up to and exceeds the aggregate of a few large ones. It is, then, with these feelings influencing us, that we express our unfeigned delight at finding that the number of participants in the work of charity on this occasion is greatly in excess of what it has been in former years. The total amount contributed by the Metropolitan District is within a few shillings of £6,680, and in this contribution no less than 112 Lodges, or but little short of one-half the number in the whole district, participate. In addition, two Royal Arch Chapters, a Rose Croix Chapter, a Mark Lodge, and two individual donors contribute. As our readers are aware, there are forty-one Provincial Grand Lodges under the Grand Lodge of England, together with Beds, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man; that is, in all, forty-four groups of Lodges outside the Metropolitan District. No less than twenty-nine of these are represented in the present list, and the aggregate of their subscriptions is a few shillings under £5,978. In addition, must be mentioned a contribution of £50 from the district of Hong Kong. The following are the Provinces included in the list. Berks and Berks, with its sixteen Lodges is represented by four Stewards, from four different Lodges, and is entered for £173 19s 6d. Bristol, with its eight Lodges, has its Provincial Grand Master, the Earl of Limerick, as its representative, and contributes through him the sum of £161 8s. Under Cheshire there appear eight Stewards, on behalf of five out of its thirty-nine Lodges, the result being a subscription of £139 3s. The Province of Cumberland and Westmoreland has a single representative, namely, from the Union Lodge, Kendal, and he has been the means of importing into the coffers of the Institution the very comfortable sum of £63. Derbyshire has one representative for its seventeen Lodges, with a donation of £10. Devonshire, with five Stewards for three of its forty-six Lodges, contributes the handsome sum of £596 0s 6d. Dorsetshire and its thirteen Lodges has Bro. Montague J. Guest for its Charity Commissioner. He must have worked hard, for the sum appearing against his name is £305. Four of the sixteen Essex Lodges sent Stewards, and their united efforts resulted in a donation of £113 13s. Gloucestershire, with fourteen Lodges, contributes £28 7s, by the hands of a single Steward, acting for the Royal Forest of Dean Lodge, No. 1067, Newnham. Hants and the Isle of Wight, with twenty-nine Lodges, has four Stewards, from four distinct Lodges, £171 5s being the amount of their joint contributions. Hertfordshire is but a small province, with only ten Lodges. Six of these are represented, and together subscribe £155 8s 6d. It may be remarked that Kent is invariably an important contributor. This is not surprising, perhaps, for it has forty Lodges. Ten of these sent Stewards to this Festival, and the extent of their exertions produced £478 3s. A Bolton Lodge is the only one of the eighty-four East Lancashire Lodges which is represented; but Brother Hine, who occupies a foremost position in connection with the Provincial Charity Fund, must be taken as doing duty for the whole Province. His contribution, and those of the four Bolton Stewards, amount together to £330 5s. The Western Division of Lancashire has seventy-four Lodges. Seven of these are represented, by eight Stewards, and subscribe among them £149 17s 6d. It must be remembered, however, that at the Festival of this Institution, in 1876, the Grand Master of this Province, Lord Skelmersdale, presided as Chairman, and then the Province supported him magnificently, contributing over £1,500, or only a little short of one-sixth part of the total subscribed. Provincial Grand Master Earl Ferrers represents the ten Lodges of his Province of Leicestershire and Rutland, the amount of his list being £15 8s. Lincolnshire is an important Province, having within its limits just twenty Lodges. Bro. John Sutcliffe, as Steward of No. 1294, is down for £35. But the contributions of Lincolnshire are both frequent and considerable, and a breathing space is allowable even in the work of Charity. There are twenty-four Lodges in Middlesex,

which is presided over by a worthy chief, whose name is intimately associated with all kinds of charitable deeds. Nine Lodges send among them ten Stewards, and there is also on the list a Middlesex R.A. Chapter, the aggregate of their contributions being £339 5s. Monmouthshire has but eight Lodges, and these are represented by the Deputy Provincial G.M., S. G. Homfray, whose list bore fruit to the extent of £210. Norfolk, with fourteen Lodges, sent three Stewards, one each for as many Lodges, £82 17s being the product of their united efforts. Oxfordshire is certainly a most influential province, and as its Provincial Grand Master, but for the delicate state of his health, would have occupied the chair, naturally great things were expected of it, and the result has not belied these expectations. Ten Stewards, with Prince Leopold at their head, did duty for six out of its seven Lodges, the total of their joint subscriptions amounting to £279 13s. Somersetshire, with its nineteen Lodges, contributed £253 14s, two Lodges being represented, each by a single Steward. A subscription of £145 emanated from Staffordshire, the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, its Provincial Grand Master, who presided at the Festival, being one of the two Stewards who did duty for the twenty-one Lodges of the Province, the other Steward representing a Wolverhampton Lodge. Suffolk, with eighteen Lodges, has one representative only, in the person of a Steward from one of our Ipswich Lodges. His list amounted to £111 14s. Three of the seventeen Surrey Lodges sent each one a Steward, and among them they raised the sum of £111 0s 6d. Two of the nineteen Sussex Lodges contributed between them £150 13s, one being a Brighton, the other a Lewes Lodge. Warwickshire, with Lord Leigh, its Provincial Grand Master, at the head of the six Stewards who represented it, figures for the handsome sum of £467 5s 6d, the two Lodges who appear in the list, out of twenty-nine, being both located at Birmingham. If we bear in mind that when Lord Leigh presided at the Boys' Festival last year, the Province contributed exactly Two Thousand Pounds, it will be universally acknowledged that this Province has fulfilled its duty in a manner that may be equalled, but cannot be surpassed. The Province of Wilts, with its ten Lodges, has as its representative, Lord Methuen, its Grand Master, and through him contributes the sum of £273 1s. A Hull Lodge and the new York Lodge represent the Province of North and East Yorkshire, £39 5s being the sum of their joint subscription lists. £550 is the amount contributed by the West Yorkshire Lodges, or rather by twenty-six Stewards acting on their behalf, at the head of whom, as usual, is to be found the respected Provincial Grand Master, Sir Henry Edwards. Sixteen out of its sixty-three Lodges are directly represented, and four of these are entered directly as contributors. The absentees among the Provinces are as follow: Beds (5 Lodges), Cambridgeshire (4 Lodges), Cornwall (27 Lodges), Durham (24 Lodges), Herefordshire (4 Lodges), Northamptonshire and Hunts (8 Lodges), Northumberland (15 Lodges), Notts (8 Lodges), North Wales and Shropshire (24 Lodges), South Wales E. (10 Lodges), South Wales W. (9 Lodges), Worcester (10 Lodges), Channel Islands (4 Lodges), Jersey (7 Lodges), Isle of Man (3 Lodges). Of these, however, Herefordshire, Northumberland, and the two Divisions of South Wales figure in last years' list, while several of the others have contributed at the Festivals of our other Charities. It must be remarked further, as a hint to the energetic Secretaries of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, that Beds, Cambridgeshire, Worcestershire, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man do not figure, at least directly, so far as we have any means of knowing, in any of the Festival lists, either in 1876 or 1875, though, of course, it is quite possible that some of them may have contributed at other periods of the year. Moreover, there are still certain lists to be added, and these may, to some extent, alter the complexion of the list, as we have described it from the materials till now at our disposal.

Turn we now to the London Lodges, of which, according to Grand Lodge Calendar for the current year, there are 253, though we also know that this number has been slightly increased since the 1st of January. Nearly one-half of these, or, to be literal, 112 of these contribute, among them a sum just a trifle short of £6,510. In the Calendar for 1876 will be found 224 Lodges in this District, and of these 71, together with two others subsequently warranted, figured at the Festival for that year. From this we gather that the proportion of contributing Lodges was

a little over one-third of the total number. This year over 44 per cent. of the total has subscribed. It is, however, in the aggregate amount contributed by them that the progress made is the most noticeable. Last year London gave £4,067 out of the £9,174 raised, or less than one-half by between £500 and £600. This year it gives, as we have said, £6,680 out of a total of £12,656, that is, between £300 and £400 more than one-half. Therefore, not only are the London contributors spread over a wider area, but the proportion of its subscription to the general total is even higher still. Of the 112 on this year's list no less than 36 are contributing Lodges in 1875, 1876, and 1877; twenty-five of the remaining 76 contributed either last year or the year before, while of the yet remaining 51 there are 15 which have only been in existence a year, and have had no previous opportunity of subscribing to this Charity. This is an admirable proportion of the 26 or 27 Lodges which have been constituted during the past twelvemonths.

Our task is now done. We are sensible of the many imperfections to which these analyses are necessarily subject, but they serve, in a measure, to point out where there is new ground for the energy of future Boards of Stewards. We do our utmost to promote the cause of our three Charities, and, in doing so, we use our best endeavours to avoid giving offence even to the most sensitive. We cannot hope to please everybody, and we are not silly enough to make the experiment; but we have a clear conscience, void of all intentional offence in this and all other matters which come under our cognisance.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE, No. 1614.

THE Consecration and Installation Ceremony was held on Tuesday, 13th inst., at Ashley's Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, and was honoured by the presence of several Grand and Provincial officers, and many brethren distinguished in the Order. The brethren assembled in the ante-room, and walked in procession to the Lodge-room. Bro. W. W. Watson P.G.S., the presiding officer, took the chair, and appointed Bros. J. Smith P.G.P. S.W., and W. Hilton P.M. 780 J.W. The Lodge was opened in the three degrees, and the anthems were sung by Bro. Matthew Cooke P.G.S. The brethren of the new Lodge were then arranged in order, and the acting Secretary read the petition and warrant from the Ebury Lodge. An oration on the nature and principles of the institution was given by Bro. the Rev. P. M. Holden, with great power; at the conclusion he recited some appropriate verses. The presiding officer then constituted the Lodge, and installed Bro. John Coutts P.G.P. as the first Worshipful Master. The newly installed W.M. having been saluted in antient form, invested his officers. Bro. W. Watson P.G.S. I.P.M., E. Jacobs 1348 S.W., A. J. Ireton 1348 J.W., Potter Tyler. The W.M. informed the brethren that although it had been arranged who were to be officers, yet as they were not at present members of the Lodge, their investiture would not take place until the next meeting. The furniture was very elegant, and the room artistically arrayed with floral decorations by Mr. W. Stone. Bro. W. Bourns P.M. 749, Secretary and P.M. 1348, efficiently acted as director of ceremonies. Several propositions were given to the Secretary for initiation, and the names of seven brethren as joining members. Hearty good wishes were given from the visitors to the W.M., and success for the future of the Lodge. After the Lodge was closed, the brethren, 49 in number, sat down to a banquet and dessert, *a la Russe*. The wines and viands were of first-rate description, and gave great satisfaction. Grace having been said, the W.M. proposed the Queen and the Craft. After the National Anthem, the health of the M.W.G.M. was given, and enthusiastically received; this was followed by God Bless the Prince of Wales. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, spoke of their Masonic qualifications. He felt honoured by the presence of three Grand Officers, and he would couple the toast with the name of a brother who is esteemed throughout the Craft. He referred to Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary. (Loud cheers). The glee, "Blow Gentle Gales," was admirably rendered by Bros. G. T. Carter, Montem Smith, J. Hodges, and R. Wilkinson. Bro. John Henry then rose to return thanks. While we had such noblemen as the Earl of Carnarvon and Lord Skelmersdale as Grand Officers, we never can be tired in speaking of their qualities. The Pro Grand Master is a thorough good Mason, and a Minister of the Crown, yet he can always find a few minutes to spare for the interests of the Craft. The same may be applied to the R.W. Lord Skelmersdale, who is one who eventually will hold a higher position; he is Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, and holds a responsible position in the House of Lords. He had two Grand Officers on his right hand—Bros. Jabez Hogg and J. Smith—whose excellent suggestions and advice are always for the benefit of the Craft; in their name he thanked the W.M. and the brethren for their kind expressions and hospitality, and hoped to be present on a future occasion. Before resuming his seat, he had a toast to propose that he was sure would be pleasing to them. We have seen the Good Ship in Covent Garden fairly launched, and properly manned. Bro. Watson has discharged his duty ably; every one has been gratified; all has gone well; we have been well catered for; at the head of that fraternal feeling is one who is a true Mason, and one

who is highly respected. I give you the health of your Worshipful Master, Brother John Coutts—(loud cheers)—and with it success to the Covent Garden Lodge, not only wishing him long life, but many years of happiness on his leaving the chair. The W.M. thanked the Grand Secretary for his kind expressions, and the brethren for the enthusiastic manner in which his name had been received. The Covent Garden Lodge was now fairly launched. By the assistance of a few brethren, the matter was speedily settled, but the Lodge would have been in existence before this evening, but for the fact that the brethren wished to pay him the compliment of making him the first W.M., and this could not be done until he had passed the chair in another Lodge. He informed the brethren that there had been a Covent Garden Lodge some 80 years since. This held its meetings on Sundays; that would not do in the present age. The warrant, however, went into abeyance; but he argued well for the success of the Covent Garden Lodge of 1877. He had several brethren proposed as officers, most of them from Covent Garden, and they would be invested on the next occasion. He hoped the Lodge would be a model one, and eventually occupy a larger room than the one they now met in. Bro. R. Wilkinson here sang "The Brave Old Temerlane," and was loudly applauded. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Visitors, they had been honoured by the presence of many distinguished Masons. The Lodge would always be pleased to see visitors, he would call on Bros. H. G. Buss, W. Smeed, W. Hilton and Hunt to respond. The duet, "Excelsior," was splendidly sung by Bros. Cartor and Montem Smith. The brethren enumerated above then severally returned thanks. The W.M. said he had another pleasing duty to perform, and that was to propose the health of the veteran Consecrating Officer, Bro. W. Watson. They had seen how perfectly he had performed the ceremonies of Consecration and Installation; his working in Lodges and Chapters was well known; he (Bro. Watson) had installed him twice into the chair, and he hoped he would be spared for many years to perform a similar duty for others. It was to him he owed his position in the Craft, and, on the next occasion, he would propose him as an honorary member. Bro. Watson replied. He felt proud in installing the W.M.; he had been an active member of the Craft for 38 years; he was in his 78th year now, and while he lived his services were always at command. The W.M. then gave the toast of "The Senior and Junior Wardens." They were well worthy of their respect, not only on account of their social position, but also for their excellent working in another Lodge; they were as capable of filling the chair as he was, and he hoped, in due course, to see them in the chair he now occupied. Bro. E. Jacobs S.W. thanked the W.M. for his kind expressions; if he acted with zeal, it was under the able guidance of the W.M., by whom he was initiated five years since. The impression that ceremony made on him would never be effaced. His motto was—"Deeds, not words." Bro. Ireton J.W. followed, with a very able speech. The W.M. next had much pleasure in proposing the toast of "The Director of Ceremonies, Bro. S. Jacobs," who had so ably discharged his duties. Whatever office he holds is filled to their satisfaction. Bro. S. Jacobs returned thanks. The W.M. said before he left the chair he had to propose a health, that of one who had well and satisfactorily catered for them; the worthy host, Mr. Mitchell, whom at the next meeting they would be pleased to hail as a Bro. Mr. Mitchell returned thanks; if he had given them satisfaction he was gratified, nothing should be wanting on his part to merit their approbation. The Tyler's toast was given, and a delightful and harmonious evening's enjoyment terminated. The visitors were Bros. John Hervey G.S., J. Smith P.G.P., J. Boyd P.G.P., John Hogg P.G.D., J. Nicolls P.P.G.S.W. Kent, G. Stacey P.P.G.P. Berks and Bucks, Rev. P. M. Holden, B. Solomon, W. Smeed, B. Swallow, A. D. Loewenstark, M. D. Loewenstark, H. Gloster, T. Skinner, W. Barringer, E. Jacobs, W. Gulliford, J. Somers, J. Wright, H. G. Buss, Treadwell, Edmonds, Ponsford, White, Elliot, Benjamin, J. Jacobs, W. Murlis, F. Binckes P.G.S., Capt. J. Wordsworth, J. Mason, E. G. Holbrook, P. Parsons, Brand, Hunt, H. M. Levy, &c.

NEW CONCORD BALL, No. 813.

A BALL was held on Thursday, the 8th, at the Town Hall, Shore-ditch, in connection with the above Lodge, under the presidency of the W.M. Bro. J. Gallant, T. Bartlett P.M. V.P., H. Gabb V.P., T. J. Casworth S.W., R. R. Harper J.W., C. Sinclair, H. Gabb P.M., J. Taylor, S. George J.D., J. Taylor, J. Stilwell, W. Pierpoint, F. W. Smales, and W. H. Main P.M. Hon. Secretary. The proceeds being devoted to Masonic Charity, a dispensation had been given to enable the brethren to wear Masonic Craft clothing. This was fully appreciated, and many brethren wore some elegant and valuable decorations. There were about 150 present, and dancing was kept up with great spirit, until an early hour, under the management of Bro. Johnson M.C. A sumptuous supper was provided by Mr. Allardye, of Southgate-road. The wines, by Messrs. Leek and Son, and the floral decorations, by Mr. Smith, of Kingsland. During the interval a very elegant diamond ring was presented to Mrs. Jas. Terry by Bro. T. Bartlett P.M., as a mark of respect, in recognition of the valuable services rendered by Bro. Terry to the North London Masonic Association.

The anniversary meeting of the Langthorne Masonic Charitable Association will be held on Wednesday, 23th February, at the Swan Hotel, Stratford, at 6 o'clock, to be followed by a dinner, at 7 o'clock. Application for tickets, the number of which is limited, should be made to Bro. T. S. Taylor, Hon. Secretary, Westbury Villas, Upton, E.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DEVONSHIRE.

THE Committee of Petitions for Devon met for the half-yearly business of the Province, at St. John's Lodge-rooms, Exeter, on the 5th inst.

Present—the R. Wor. Rev. John Huyshe P.G.M. P.G.C. England, V. Wor. Bro. Walter G. Rogers P.G. Sec. P.P.G.S.W., Chairman of the Committee *pro tem* for the V.W. Bro. L. P. Metham D.P.G.M., who was absent through illness, to the regret of all present, Wor. Bro. J. B. Gover P.P.G.A.D.C., Secretary to the Committee, Wor. Bro. Charles Godtschalk P.G.D., Representative of the Committee of Petitions in London, John Way P.G.T. Lodge 106, L. D. Westcott P.P.G.S.W. 70, J. Page W.M. 39, R. B. Twose P.M. 105, W. Browning P.P.G.D.C. 223, H. S. Gill W.M. 1125, W. E. Stone P.G.W. 372, J. Y. Avery W.M. 156, S. J. Loram P.M. 1443, A. Lethbridge P.M. 159, F. J. Pratt W.M. 1396, Bro. Tomes P.M. 232, J. P. Rogers W.M. 1550, W. E. Warren P.M. 1358, G. Evans P.M. 1181, J. Baxter Sec. 954, G. Huxham W.M. 1254, &c.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Metham was re-elected Chairman, Bro. Gover was re-elected Secretary, Bro. Godtschalk re-elected representative in London.

A sum of £15 was granted to the widow of a deceased brother, and the committee was pledged to support the candidature of the son of Mrs. Furze, in April 1878.

Votes of thanks were presented to Bro. Metham for past services as Chairman; to Bro. Gover for services as Secretary; to Bro. Godtschalk for past services and kindness in again undertaking office; to Bro. W. G. Rogers for conduct in the chair during Bro. Metham's absence.

These propositions being carried unanimously, were responded to severally. It was then proposed that a suitable testimonial be presented to Bro. J. B. Gover for his past very able and energetic services as Secretary to the Committee of Petitions. To carry this out, a committee was appointed as follows:—Bros. John Way P.G. Treasurer, L. D. Westcott P.G.S. Works, R. Twose.

Upon the conclusion of the business, Bro. John Way P.P.G. Treasurer, by previous invitation, entertained the following brethren at a private banquet:—Bros. the Rev. John Huyshe P.G.M., P.G.C. England, Walter G. Rogers P.G. Secretary, J. B. Gover, Charles Godtschalk, L. D. Westcott, R. B. Twose, J. Y. Avery, Somes, Maynard, &c. The elegance of this entertainment, combined with the choice character of the wines, did honour to the generosity and good taste of the worthy brother. This social gathering was graced by the presence of Mrs. Way.

LINES ON A BASKET OF FERNS.

A kind hand sought out rarest ferns,
From nook and bank their beauty graced;
And, with the choice true taste discerns,
Were deftly in a basket placed.

The basket, too, a work of skill,
The same kind hands prepared with care;
It fitly holds and nurtures still
Sweet Nature's children planted there.

This offering was, of friendship, made
To one who treasures gifts long past;
And though on earth such things must fade,
In Heaven their mem'ry still will last.

By M. A. BAINES; from *Colburn's New Monthly*.

The *Keystone* of the 3rd instant announces the appointment, on the 19th ultimo, of the following, as the principal Grand officers of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, namely:—Bro. Edward B. Rowe Grand Master, Bro. Dwight Phelps Deputy Grand Master, Bros. Israel M. Bullock and John H. Barlow Senior and Junior Grand Wardens respectively, Bro. Geo. Lee Grand Treasurer, and Bro. Joseph K. Wheeler Grand Secretary. It further records a rule of this jurisdiction to the effect that no brother of twenty-one years' good and regular standing shall be subject to any punishment for the non-payment of his dues. We gather from the same source, that at the stated meeting of St. John's Commandery, held recently in the Gothic Hall of the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, visits were paid by the Mary and St. Alban Commanderies, Nos. 36 and 37, there being a very full attendance of officers and members. On this occasion, also, the Detroit Commandery, Michigan, presented No. 4 Commandery with an elaborate banner, bearing a suitable inscription in token of its appreciation of the courtesy and hospitality shown it when visiting Philadelphia in June of last year. Our contemporary describes the scene as a very brilliant one, and as offering the best evidence of the fraternal feeling existing among the different Commanderies of the city of Brotherly Love.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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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.

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LORD CARNARVON AND OUR CHARITIES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I was pleased to read an article in a recent issue of the CHRONICLE on the subject of Lord Carnarvon's proposal. True, you inserted it only as a communication, and this freed you from any responsibility for the opinions expressed therein, but it dealt fairly and clearly with the important question of the Memorial.

As illustrating the justice of the conclusions at which the writer of the article arrived, I may state that, in my canvass, as a Steward for the APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL, I have been met with such responses as these:—

"You have all you want for your Masonic Charities. Look at the enormous sums obtained for the three Institutions during the past year. More than sufficient for all purposes. Lord Carnarvon declared the Charities did not want money."

Thus my duty as a Steward, owing to the (in my humble opinion) ill-advised declaration of the Pro Grand Master, is in many instances of no service.

My friends in the City will not support me when they hear on such high authority that support is not necessary. I ask you, Sir, how can I efficiently discharge my trust if the declaration of one of my chiefs forms the main obstacle to my success?

Will Lord Carnarvon make good the amount of which I am thus deprived through his indiscreet announcement?

I am,

yours fraternally,

JOHN CONSTABLE P.M. 185.

13 Sise-lane, E.C., 14th February 1877.

"THINGS NEW AND OLD."

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am one of those who derive no little pleasure from the study of the past, and especially with reference to the curious and the rare. Had our forefathers dreamed of the interest that would be manifested by succeeding generations in their actions, their sayings, and their written thoughts, it may be they would have left more food for the curious soul to devour, but it might have been wanting in that freshness which is the delight of the modern student. My scrapbook is the result of many years of research, and in it may be found many curious bits, both "New and Old." To-day I have added the following, cut from a local paper:—

PROV. G. ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF CORNWALL.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcombe, Prov. G.M., will be installed as Grand Superintendent of the Provincial Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Cornwall, at the Masonic Hall, Public Rooms, Truro, on Tuesday, the 20th inst., at 3 p.m. M.E. Comp. L. P. Metham, Prov. Grand H. of Devonshire, has kindly undertaken to perform the ceremony, as the Representative of the Grand First Principal.

This is an event to be recorded, and perchance it may, at some remote period, prove of interest to some curious old quiz like myself. But taking a proud peep at my treasures, I make a discovery of a faded scrap, "which tells of years gone by," and I am led further to the perusal of several letters, addressed to the Most E.G.P. and Grand Superintendent for the County of Cornwall, and as they appear to contradict the notion that Cornwall has never had a Prov. Grand Superintendent, I will bring them to the light at once.

The first R.A. Chapter formed in Cornwall, was the Druids Chapter of Love and Liberality, Redruth, 15th July 1791. A copy of the dispensation has already appeared in THE CHRONICLE, Vol. 4, page 218, and the following letter shows that the G.S. of R.A.M., Comp. Thos. Dunckerley, appointed himself to the office of Prov. Grand Superintendent of Cornwall immediately after the formation of this Chapter, and his appointment was duly registered.

Hampton Court Palace,
24th November 1791.

Most Excellent Comp.,—It is with great pleasure that I can now send your Patent for the Royal Arch Chapter, with a Book of the Statutes, and also those of the Order of Knights Templars, with an impression of the Great Seal. I shall (in the next printed list) insert the County of Cornwall under my Superintendance, and shall, at all times, take pleasure in doing every service in my power for the Druids Chapter.

Please to acknowledge the receipt of your Patent by a letter in return (post paid). Present my affectionate regards to all the Companions, and believe me your faithful Companion, &c.

Thos. Dunckerley.

About a month after the formation of this R.A. Chapter, the brethren at Redruth, applied for a patent for a K.T. Encampment, and this was also granted, dated 16th August 1791, and thus was formed the First Encampment in Cornwall, The Conclave of St. John of Jerusalem, No. 8, Redruth,

The great interest manifested at Redruth, as those old records testify, has continued almost unabated, and it can claim the prestige of a Masonic history such as no other town in Cornwall can do. It is true that Falmouth can boast of being the Mother Lodge (Craft) of the Province, but Redruth was the Father, for there they taught their sons actually to square and to polish the rough ashlar. It is at Redruth, too, that they have the oldest Mark Lodge.

Let these few revelations from my old scrap book suffice for the present, but I may, perhaps, re-open it at no distant date.

I am,

Dear Sir and Companion,

"Quiz."

DEMOLITION OF THE FIRST MASONIC LODGE IN PARIS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Permit me to offer a few remarks on the article bearing the above title, extracted by you from the columns of the *Builder*. The writer of the article is indebted for the Masonic portion of his sketch to the historian Rebold. Indeed, this sketch of early French Masonry is translated from that author's *Histoire des Trois Grands Loges*. Of course, it is none the less interesting on this account, but the question I am anxious to bring prominently under the notice of your readers concerns the trustworthiness of the account. Thory, another French historian of Freemasonry, in speaking of this first Lodge in Paris, says, "It has left no historic monument of its existence, a fact which tends to throw a certain degree of obscurity on the early rise and progress of Freemasonry in Paris." Our German brother Findel is doubtful as to the date when Freemasonry found its way into France. Our Grand Lodge Archives, I believe, contain no record of the 1725 Lodge, while Pino's list for 1734, published under the sanction of Grand Lodge, includes only the Lodge held "An Louis D'Argent, Dans la Rue de Boucherie à Paris," which met every Wednesday, and was constituted 3rd April 1732. For my own part, I am inclined to believe that Freemasonry found its way to the French capital at an early date after its constitution in London in 1717 as a corporate body. My reasons for this belief are as follow:—

In the first place, I do not attach a very grave importance to the silence of our own records. Others more conversant with the subject than I can ever pretend to be, will, I think, bear me out in the assertion that these records were very indifferently kept in the early days of our modern or speculative system of Freemasonry. Therefore I am very disinclined to doubt the existence of the 1725 Lodge, on the ground that no mention is made of it in our own Grand Lodge records.

In the next place, I deduce from the circumstances of the period the extreme probability, amounting, I may almost venture to say, to a certainty, that a now—new that is in its latest form—mysterious, and, as we know it was from the very outset, an attractive institution would not have been established for any great length of time in London without finding many admirers in the capital city of our Gallic neighbours. The Parisians then, as now, very closely resembled the Athenians of old, in this particular at least, that they were and are eager in their rage for novelties. Moreover, there were special circumstances at the time which make me think that Freemasonry may easily have found its way to Paris as early as 1725, if not indeed earlier. The second titled personage who presided over our Craft as Grand Master was the eccentric Duke of Wharton, in 1722-3. He had visited Paris during his travels in 1716, had seen the Pretender privately at Avignon, and the widow of James II. at St. Germain in the same year. When of age he took his seat in the House of Lords, having some time before been created a Duke for his zealous support of the ministry in Ireland, and having taken his seat while yet a minor in the Irish House of Peers. But in England he soon fell into disgrace with the Court. Through his extravagance he became involved financially, and some time after went abroad to the Imperial Court and the Court of Spain, and openly espoused the cause of the Pretender. In May 1728, he set out to Paris, and thence to Rouen, where for some time he resided. The Lord Derwentwater, who is said to have been one of the founders of the 1725 Lodge, was also a supporter of the Stuarts,—and perished for his attachment to their cause. He was a brother of the Lord Derwentwater executed in 1716, and the Mr. Radcliffe who was tried and executed for his participation in the rebellion of 1745-6. Is it not most probable, I ask, that Wharton, being a supporter of the same political cause as this Lord Derwentwater, may have been in some way connected with, if not responsible for the introduction of Freemasonry into Paris? Again, the two countries were at peace, and had a short time previously been members of the Quadruple Alliance against the ambitious designs of the then Prime Minister of Spain, Cardinal Alberoni. Moreover, intercommunications between the two capitals was, taking all circumstances into account, quite as frequent then as now. And then with so many English nobles enrolled in Freemasonry, would not the French nobles follow suit? Lastly, if Freemasonry found its way so far southward as Madrid, where—see Pino's and other lists—a Lodge was erected in November 1728, is it not fair to suppose it would have reached the French capital at a still earlier date? It is allowable, I think, in a case of this kind, to argue from extreme probabilities, in the absence of positive and direct testimony, especially when we know how carelessly the early records of the Craft in England were kept.

Mind, I do not say there was a Lodge in Paris in 1725, but only that the probability there was one is very great. Perhaps, however, some of your readers—Bro. HUGHAN for instance, or Bro. CAUBET, the enlightened secretary of the Supreme Council of the French Grand Orient, and Editor of *le Monde Maçonique*, may be able to throw some light on this obscure portion of French Masonic history. I should like to hear their opinion on the subject I have ventilated.

Fraternally yours,

"Q."

FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE first Grand Masonic event of the year 1877 took place on Monday evening last, and may be chronicled as an unqualified success. The attendance was large, notwithstanding it had become pretty generally known that H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Provincial Grand Master for Oxfordshire, through illness, had been compelled to abandon his intention of taking the chair. The Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, however, was an able substitute, and he was supported by Lord Leigh, the Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire; Lord Methuen, Provincial Grand Master of Wilts; the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Suffolk; Colonel Creaton; Bro. Samuel Tomkins, Grand Treasurer; the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Past Grand Chaplain; Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary; Bro. Nicholas Bradford, Captain Homfray, Bro. R. Wentworth Little, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex; Bro. F. Binckes, Bro. James Terry, Bro. Robert Griggs, &c. So soon as the distinguished company had taken their seats the banquet was served, and, considering the immense number who had to be catered for, reflected the greatest credit upon the new manager, Bro. Dawkins. On the removal of the cloth, the Rt. Worshipful Chairman prefaced his remarks by saying that it was with great regret he was in the chair on the present occasion, owing to the absence of His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, who only that morning was enforced to abandon the intention of being present. However, I think I may say, amongst brother Masons, that you know I will endeavour to do my best. (Cheers.) From the acclamations which greeted the first petticoat that appeared in the gallery, I am sure few remarks only will be necessary from me to ask you to drink the health of the first lady in the land. Amongst Englishmen, and especially amongst Freemasons, it is only necessary to mention the name of Her Majesty the Queen to ensure that toast the hearty reception which it deserves. I should be wasting your time, therefore, if I were to dilate on the merits of Her Majesty. Long may she reign in the affections of her people. The "National Anthem" was then sung. The Chairman next proposed "the health of the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," he had now a Masonic secret to impart; when they had done their business there, their fair sisters were anxiously awaiting their presence in the Temple. He would therefore recommend the brethren at once to put their hands into their pockets and "stump up." With no other object than that of saving time, he would, without wishing to weary them, propose this toast. The merits of the Prince of Wales were too well known to require observation. All thoroughly appreciated him, and he left it in their hands to do honour to the toast. With it he coupled the name of Prince Leopold. The Chairman next gave "the health of the Pro Grand Master, the Dep. Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and called upon the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Past Grand Chaplain, to reply. The Rev. R. J. Simpson thanked the brethren most

unfeignedly for the compliment which had been paid to the past and present officers of Grand Lodge. With regard to Lord Carnarvon and Lord Skelmersdale, it would be presumption in him to mention even names which have become household words among Masons, not only for their public excellence, but for their private worth. The words past and present suggest a very happy idea with regard to our present gathering. The present are assembled together to support the past, and to give aid to our brethren in the decline of years; and to assist the widows of our brethren is a very fitting occasion on which Grand Officers may assemble together; on no fitter occasion could Grand Officers appear than for the purpose of strengthening the feeble knees of age, and making "the widow's heart sing for joy." On this occasion we are not the less strengthened by the fact that the sisters of charity attend, not merely as an accident, but openly, essentially claiming their place in a grand and noble charity. On behalf of the Officers Past and Present of Grand Lodge, he hoped that they might have the privilege of assembling on many similar occasions. In giving the toast of the evening, "Success to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution," the noble earl said that the Institution had a very small income, and if it were not for the brethren's generosity it could not go on. At the next election there were 72 applicants, and only ten could be elected. He had, however, heard rumours that the subscriptions on this occasion would be large. Next year he hoped they would be still larger. Every one of the brethren present would be glad to assist the old and infirm, and he was proud to say that this was the second time he had advocated their cause. Masons had great faith in charity above all things, and they were particularly proud of their three especial charities—The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. Masons had great power in assisting those who were in distress, and in looking at the cases of distress which came before them they wished that they had larger means at their disposal for helping them. Prince Leopold had subscribed liberally, and the brethren of the Apollo Lodge of Oxford, the mother Lodge of His Royal Highness, and likewise of myself, had also sent up a large subscription. He then proposed the toast, and called upon Bro. Tomkins, Grand Treasurer, to respond. After a few words from Bro. Tomkins, Bro. Terry announced the amounts of the several lists received from the Stewards, at the conclusion receiving the loudest expressions of approval from all present. The health of the Chairman was proposed by Lord Leigh, and was briefly responded to. Amongst the other toasts were "Prosperity to the two Schools, the Boys' and the Girls'," to which Bro. Little replied. "The Ladies," by Lord Methuen; "The health of our Board of Stewards," by Col. Creaton, and replied to by Bro. J. M. Case. An adjournment then took place to the Temple, where an excellent concert was given, the musical artistes being Bros. Henry Parker, Baxter, Thornton, and Caravoglia; Miss Rose Sherrington, Miss Helen Heath, Miss Agnes Larkcom; and Messrs. Lewis Thomas and T. Harper; the whole under the superintendance of Bro. T. Lawler.

The following are the several Stewards' Lists, together with the numbers of the Lodges and Chapters contributing, and the amount contributed by each, to the above Institution:—

LONDON.			Lodge			Chapter				
The Marquis of Londonderry	25	0 0	79	John Dennis	22	0 0	720	Comp. Levander	70	0 0
1 Bro. J. March Case	43	0 0	87	Bro. C. Creecy	54	0 0	Lodge.			
... " Alderman Ellis	10	0 0	92	" R. F. Gould	33	3 6	742	Bro. W. W. Baxter	16	10 0
2 " Samuel Tomkins	10	0 0	95	" Edwin Bonner	25	9 0	" "	Thomas Foxall	122	0 0
... " Stephen Pearce	86	1 0	99	" W. R. Winch	125	0 0	749	" Peter Parsons	45	0 0
4 " U. Mackintosh	15	15 0	140	" Edward Johnson	25	10 0	754	" C. F. Barham	94	0 0
5 " Horace Scriven	71	3 0	144	" I. G. Unite	49	16 0	765	" R. Pawson Hooton	7	11 0
7 " John Hervey	126	15 0	147	" Wm. Andrews	52	15 0	780	" J. Chambers Roe	22	10 0
8 " J. P. Probert	9	0 0	167	" George Davis	52	0 0	822	" Lewis Phillips jun.	33	12 0
9 " W. T. Scott	38	10 0	171	" Joseph Clever	28	18 0	860	" Wm. H. Wallington	40	0 0
10 " Rev. R. J. Simpson	56	14 0	172	" John Hancock	61	15 0	871	" Henry J. Tuson	45	0 0
11 " W. F. Collard Moutrie	29	5 0	174	" S. H. Rawley	89	0 0	898	" Benjamin Carter	100	0 0
12 " W. B. Kidder	12	0 0	Chap.				902	" G. Brooks	42	5 0
14 " W. F. Nettleship	10	0 0	174	Comp. John Newton	116	0 0	907	" R. E. Stevenson	50	10 0
... " Charles H. Turner	12	12 0	Lodge				957	" Craven P. Cobham	27	4 0
18 " H. G. Huggins	31	0 0	177	Bro. W. J. Ferguson	56	15 0	1076	" H. B. Holliday	59	11 0
21 " Robert Berridge	65	0 0	179	" Z. D. Berry	36	12 0	1178	" Isaac Quincey	25	3 0
22 " Charles W. Gray	45	0 0	180	" H. A. Stacey	70	5 0	1185	" Alfred Durrant	19	0 0
23 " Charles Martin	33	10 0	188	" H. M. Levy	15	0 0	...	" Geo. J. Row	17	10 6
25 " J. Hutchinson	32	5 0	192	" Geo. Newman	58	0 0	1201	" Jno. H. Watts	60	0 0
27 " Samuel R. Lamblo	100	0 0	193	" Henry Leah	36	5 0	1228	" Geo. M. E. Snow	50	0 0
28 " George H. Wright	46	0 0	197	" Thomas G. Bullen	31	1 0	1259	" J. W. Buchan	110	0 0
29 " A. J. R. Trendell	26	0 0	198	" J. M. Lockwood	28	0 0	1260	" E. Spooner	32	0 0
33 " Francis Pendered	34	0 0	228	" Robert Griggs	107	10 0	1278	" Wm. Toye	86	5 0
49 " W. A. Tharp	134	13 0	256	" Rev. J. Amos	52	5 6	1287	" Edwin Lancaster	110	0 0
... " John S. Mercer	17	0 0	259	" John Scott	17	5 0	1288	" Robt. V. Davies	25	4 0
55 " J. T. Robertson	40	5 0	435	" Robert Secker	42	0 0	1305	" Edward White	75	0 0
58 " James Ford	38	17 0	511	" Asher Barfield	24	10 0	1348	" John Ellicott	40	0 0
59 " Captain Dence	47	19 0	554	" J. G. Stevens	211	5 0	1351	" C. J. Livett	63	0 0
65 " Charles Daniel	53	10 0	569	" H. J. Adams	45	0 0	1365	" G. R. Soper	69	18 6
69 " Dr. George Roper	56	18 0	657	" G. P. Gillard	106	5 0	1366	" Charles G. Hill	107	0 0
72 " W. G. Brighten	20	0 0	704	" W. W. Gray	30	10 0	1381	" Henry Higgins	50	1 6
73 " W. Klungenstein	25	0 0	715	" John Jonas	75	5 0	1383	" Colonel Randolph	107	10 0
			720	" Maurice Spiegel	14	0 0	1471	" E. W. Braine	28	0 0

Lodge			
1506	Bro. James Robertson	16	10 0
1507	" J. J. Michael	39	0 0
1538	" Captain R. W. Williams	29	15 0
1540	" T. J. Sabine	62	10 0
1541	" J. R. Stacey	137	0 0
1558	" Wm. Snowden	20	0 0
1559	" Louis Beck	20	0 0
1572	" Nelson Reed	75	0 0
1585	" Joseph Wright	93	0 0
1589	" Walter Wellsman	33	10 0
1601	" Rev. W. Taylor Jones	72	0 0
1602	" Elias Somers	31	5 0
1607	" Charles H. Webb	160	0 0
1608	" George Kiallmark	115	0 0
1610	" R. D. M. Littler, Q.C.	50	0 0
1613	" John Corke	67	2 0
1615	" Lieut.-Col. Burney	118	10 0
1624	" Henry A. Hunt	26	15 0
1625	" George Ward Verry	97	15 0
1629	" Rev. C. J. Martyn	34	2 0
1641	" J. H. Vookins	24	0 0
1642	" William J. Murlis	200	0 0
1657	" Rev. P. H. E. Brette	100	0 0
Invicta Ch.	Rose Croix, G. Powell	30	0 0
Mark Lodge,	176, Wm. Prattent	10	0 0
	J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.	10	0 0

BERKS AND BUCKS.

574	Bro. William Knight	37	5 0
945	" J. Heber Clarke	30	0 0
1101	" Edward Margrett	38	9 0
1501	" W. S. Cantrell	68	5 6

BRISTOL.

Rt. Hon. Earl of Limerick	161	8 0
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CHESHIRE.

321	Bro. Francis Smith	33	13 0
537	" W. S. Sutton	10	0 0
...	" Thomas Marwood	20	0 0
...	" Walter Milner	10	0 0
...	" William Marquis	10	0 0
605	" Richard C. Mellor	10	0 0
1045	" William Goodacre	30	10 0
1576	" Thomas Chesworth	15	0 0

CUMBERLAND AND WEST-MORELAND.

129	Bro. George J. McKay	63	0 0
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PROVINCE OF DERBYSHIRE.

850	Bro. A. Stubbs	10	0 0
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DEVONSHIRE.

580	Bro. J. E. Curteis	365	0 0
...	" Charles Godtschalk	200	0 0
112	" Edgar Tozer	26	0 6
666	" W. J. Rowe	5	0 0

DORSETSHIRE.

Bro. Montague J. Guest	305	0 0
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ESSEX.

Lodge			
160	Bro. Rev. H. J. Hatch	25	0 0
453	" Geo. Corble	31	13 0
1000	" J. H. Wardell	38	0 0
1457	" Joseph Tanner	19	0 0

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

1067	" Russell J. Kerr	28	7 0
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HANTS and ISLE OF WIGHT.

257	Bro. J. Lillywhite	12	10 0
804	" John Harrison	83	15 0
903	" G. F. Lancaster	25	0 0
1428	" J. R. Willson	50	0 0

HERTFORDSHIRE.

Lodge			
403	Bro. W. P. Willson	32	2 0
449	" James Shilcock	25	0 0
504	" Geo. Lambert	10	0 0
1327	" James Knight	47	11 0
1385	" John Livingston, M.D.	50	0 0
1479	" John Purrott	11	15 6

KENT.

77	Bro. W. Hicks	65	10 0
784	" A. F. S. Bird	26	10 0
829	" Thomas Smith		
913	" T. W. Hastings	84	10 0
1206	" R. J. Emmerson	10	0 0
1208	" H. M. Baker	83	0 0
1209	" T. H. Grove Snowden	87	10 0
1314	" Edward Coste	77	10 0
1464	" J. A. Farnfield	26	3 0
1531	" William Kippis	37	10 0

LANCASHIRE (Eastern Division).

Bro. Joseph L. Hine	300	0 0	
37	" G. P. Brockbank	10	0 0
221	" Charles Stanley	10	0 0
221	" James Richardson	5	0 0
221	" Job H. Greenhalgh	5	5 0
221	" Henry Stead	10	0 0

LANCASHIRE (Western Division).

281	Bro. J. Daniel Moore M.D.	24	2 6
613	" T. S. Cory	10	10 0
724	" William Shortis	10	0 0
1086	" J. C. Lunt	6	5 0
1313	" John Barratt	10	10 0
1313	" Thomas Whitehead	10	10 0
1375	" G. Davenport Pochin	20	0 0
1473	" J. P. M'Arthur	40	0 0

LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND.

Rt. Hon. The Earl Ferrers	15	8 0
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LINCOLNSHIRE.

1294	Bro. John Sutcliffe	35	0 0
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MIDDLESEX.

Lodge			
778	Bro. E. B. Bright	28	3 0
1237	" Charles S. Brown	105	0 0
1326	" D. Steinhauer	5	0 0
1423	" T. W. Baldwin	12	1 0
1423	" John Faulkner	15	16 0
Chap.			
1423	Comp. J. B Langley LL.D.	25	0 0
Lodge			
1460	Bro. J. Ll. Jones	35	0 0
1494	" E. B. Grabham	54	0 0
1567	" John Mason	10	10 0
1579	" E. Letchworth	25	15 0
1637	" E. C. Woodward	13	0 0

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

Bro. Capt. S. G. Homfray	210	0 0
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NORFOLK.

807	Bro. G. Baxter	20	0 0
943	" Henry Burgess	35	0 0
1500	" T. Lord	27	17 0

OXFORDSHIRE.

H.R.H. Prince Leopold P.G.M.	20	0 0	
340	Bro. Jules Bué, M.A.	27	1 0
357	" Rev. Hy. Deane	10	0 0
...	" Reginald Bird	65	10 0
...	" H. R. Cooper-Smith	10	0 0
478	" Henry O. Wakeman	30	0 0
599	" John Potts	16	12 0
874	" H. H. Riach	30	10 0

Lodge			
1036	Bro. Julius Sladden	34	0 0
...	University Chapter of Rose		
	Croix, Bro. Fentham Hedges	36	0 0

SOMERSETSHIRE.

446	Bro. Capt. A. T. Perkins	53	2 0
906	" Genl. H. E. Doherty	195	12 0

STAFFORDSHIRE.

Rt. Hon. Earl of Shrewsbury	25	0 0	
1419	Bro. James Walker	120	0 0

SUFFOLK.

114	Bro. Wm. Boby	111	14 0
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SURREY.

463	Bro. Wm. Sharp	52	10 0
889	" Thomas Long	42	10 6
1046	" Charles Anderson	16	0 0

SUSSEX.

732	Bro. John M. Kidd	120	0 0
1303	" W. Webb Turner	30	13 0
1619	" Wm. Hale	8	0 0

WARWICKSHIRE.

Right Hon. Lord Leigh			
468	Bro. J. T. Collins		
...	" John Archer		
...	" Spurrier	467	5 6
938	" Thomas Howkins		
...	" H. G. Quilter		

WILTSHIRE.

Right Hon. Lord Methuen	273	1 0
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YORKSHIRE (N. and E. Division.)

Lodge			
57	Bro. John Thompson	20	0 0
1611	" George Simpson	19	5 0

YORKSHIRE (West Division.)

Lieut.-Col. Sir H. Edwards, Bart.			
Lodge			
139	Bro. W. H. Brittain		
...	" G. E. Webster		
...	" Dr. F. Griffiths		
154	" J. H. Cadman		
208	" R. J. Critchley, J.P.		
290	" Wm. Harrop		
296	" John Ridal		
302	" Henry Smith		
...	" Benjamin Broughton		
304	" Robert Craig		
...	" James Bedford		
...	" Charles Lowrey		
...	" J. L. Oates		
...	" C. L. Mason		
337	" John Hirst jun., J.P.		
603	The Lodge		
...	" Bro. W. D. Hall		
380	" Captain J. Wordsworth		
495	" John Craven		
...	The Lodge		
910	Bro. T. W. Tew, J.P.		
...	" John Simpson		
...	603 Lodge		
974	Bro. T. W. Holmes		
1001	" John Richardson jun.		
...	The Lodge		
1019	Bro. W. H. Gill		
1102	" Jo. Ibberson		
1542	" T. J. Kassell		
Total		550	0 0
Hong Kong, Bro. C. P. Chater	50	0 0	

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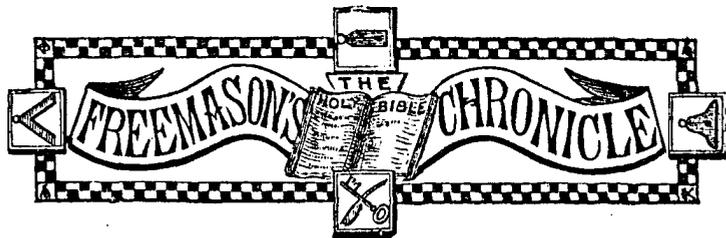
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NOTICE.—BACK NUMBERS.

Brethren who desire to complete their sets of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, should make early application for Back Numbers. At present all are in print, but of some we have only a few copies left. Cases for binding the several volumes can be had at the Office, 67 Barbican.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE debates in both Houses of Parliament on the first night of the Session excited a strong feeling of interest, the public being naturally anxious to learn what indications Ministers would give of the policy they had pursued, and would pursue, in reference to the Eastern Question. There was a further degree of interest attending the meeting of the House of Lords, as the Earl of Beaconsfield would certainly take the oath and his seat. Accordingly, when the new Earl was ushered, with some form, into the august assembly, the cheering which greeted him from both sides of the House was both spontaneous and hearty. This episode over, the debate on the Address was opened by Viscount Grey de Wilton, followed by the Earl of Haddington. Among the other Peers who took part in it were Earl Granville and the Earl of Derby, the Duke of Argyll, who introduced a little warmth into the discussion, and the Earl of Beaconsfield, who spoke very briefly, but in admirable taste. The proceedings since then call for no remark. In the House of Commons, the debate was opened by Lord Galway, who moved, and Mr. Torr, who seconded, the Address; the other principal speakers being the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Hartington, and Mr. Hardy. On Friday the usual array of questions was submitted. On Monday, in the course of the sitting, Mr. Sclater-Booth obtained leave to introduce a Property Valuation Bill, the Attorney-General a Patents of Inventions Bill, the Lord Advocate a Roads and Bridges (Scotland) Bill, and the Solicitor-General for Ireland a Supreme Court of Judicature Bill, and County Officers and Courts Bill for Ireland. These were subsequently read a first time. On Tuesday, Mr. Fawcett moved a resolution on Indian Finance, but the Government opposed him, and he was defeated by 173 to 123. On Wednesday afternoon, the question whether an Irish Church Acts Amendment Bill should be read a second time or not, was decided in the negative, by 150 votes to 110. Some opposition was then raised to the introduction of a Bill, having for its object the regulation of the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday. It was introduced, however, and read a first time.

The Queen left Buckingham Palace on her return to Osborne on Friday morning, accompanied by the Princess Beatrice. The Prince and Princess Christian have also left London for Cumberland Lodge, Windsor. The Prince and Princess of Wales are still at Marlborough. As regards Prince Leopold, we announced, last week, that his Royal Highness would be prevented, by considerations of health, from presiding at the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution Festival on Monday. As to other members of the Royal Family, we may state that the Duke of Connaught has recovered from the slight accident he met with when starting to hunt with the Duballow Hounds, that the Duchess of Edinburgh has left Athens, to return to Malta,

whither her husband has also sailed, in H.M.S. Sultan, to join her.

The medical profession has lost one of its brightest ornaments. Sir William Fergusson died at his residence in George Street, Hanover Square, on Saturday morning, at the comparatively early age of 68. Sir William was born at Preston Pans in 1808, and having studied at the High School and University of Edinburgh, resolved on the study and practice of surgery, for which purpose he became a pupil of Dr. Thomas, the famous teacher of anatomy. It is almost needless to say that there has been no more skilful operator in our time, and as years passed on Sir W. Fergusson obtained the highest honours in his profession. In 1840 he became professor of Surgery in King's College, London, and shortly afterwards a Fellow of the Royal Society. In 1849 he was appointed surgeon in ordinary to the late Prince Consort, and surgeon extraordinary to the Queen in 1855; was raised to a baronetcy in 1866, and became sergeant surgeon to Her Majesty the year following. He was a Fellow of the College of Surgeons, and its President in the year 1870-1. Death resulted from exhaustion supervening on dropsy and Bright's disease. On Wednesday his remains were removed from London to Spittlehaugh, near West Lindon, Peeblesshire, and were there interred in the family vault yesterday.

The annual meeting of the Barristers' Benevolent Association was held on Tuesday, in Middle Temple Hall, under the presidency of Sir John Karlake, in support of whom there were present Lord Coleridge, Lord Justice Amphlett, Mr. Baron Pollock, Mr. Justice Manisty, the Solicitor-General, and other distinguished members of the profession. From the report it appears that the invested funds now accumulated from donations amount to £3,232, that ninety-four members joined the Association during the past year, and that the annual subscriptions now amount to £852, being £160 in excess of last year's total. In the same period grants have been made to the extent of £586, and £151 since the beginning of this year. The chairman, on moving the adoption of the report, made strong appeals to all present to assist in the work of the society. Baron Pollock seconded the motion, which was agreed to *nem con.* A vote of thanks to Sir John Karlake for presiding brought the proceedings to a close.

A shocking case of cruelty is reported from the Slough Petty Sessions. A farmer and his wife were brought up for dreadfully ill-treating a nurse girl in their employment, one Caroline Carter, aged seventeen years. Evidence was given that the pair had habitually beaten the girl, and that when she escaped from the house she was in a dreadfully exhausted condition, that one of her arms was broken, and her body covered with bruises. The prisoners were remanded, bail being refused. A large number of people were present to hear the case, and hissed and groaned at Mr. and Mrs. Morris both on their arrival and in court.

There are at the present moment no less than sixteen fishing smacks missing from Yarmouth, and seven from Lowestoft, and this is said to be the greatest casualty that has befallen the district since the gale in December 1867, when 319 lives were lost, and 326 vessels lost or damaged on the coast of England. The number of men on board the now missing smacks is about one hundred and fifty; but as the safety of four of them has been established, one of which had been driven no less than two hundred miles from the fishery, hopes are entertained that a large majority of the remainder may yet be found. We cordially echo these wishes.

Matters do not look quite so promising in the East as they did a short time since. It is said that Russia has determined on her course of action, that six more *corps d'armée* will be mobilised forthwith, and that war will certainly break out at an early date. Meanwhile, the negotiations for peace between Turkey on the one part, and Servia and Montenegro on the other, are reported to be progressing, though not, perhaps, as rapidly and satisfactorily as could be wished. Turkey, however, seems in earnest, and is extremely modest in the terms she proposes for acceptance. From other capitals of Europe rumours reach this country nearly every day, which are, to say the least, conflicting. Austria and Russia are going hand in hand, and Germany, it is said, will soon adopt their policy. On the other side, all this is as strenuously denied. The one thing certain is, that the political horizon in the East is very far from being clear. What will be the outcome of it all, no one can foresee. We can only hope that peace will be preserved.

The regular meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons was held on Wednesday, the 14th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Bro. Col. Creaton V.P. and P.G.D. in the chair. The Secretary, Bro. James Terry, read the minutes of the former meeting, which were confirmed. He also reported the result of the Anniversary Festival. The amount announced was £12,656 13s, with fourteen lists to come in. Seven lists had since been received, with sums amounting to £140. The next meeting of the Board of Stewards will be held on the 26th inst. It had been decided that twelve candidates be placed on the list for the next election, but owing to the success of the Festival, Bro. Col. Creaton proposed that an addition of twenty-four male and eighteen female candidates be made; he stated, however, that if in future years the subscriptions and donations should fall off, we might not be able to maintain this increased number, but he sincerely hoped this would never be the case. It was proposed by Bro. H. M. Levy, and seconded by Bro. Captain Wordsworth, that a special and cordial vote of thanks be accorded to the R.W. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, P.G.M. for Staffordshire, who under the unfortunate circumstance of H.R.H. Prince Leopold, P.G.M. for Oxfordshire, being unable to be present, had at so short a notice come forward to preside at the Anniversary Festival. Votes of thanks were also accorded to the President, Vice-President, and the Board of Stewards; to Bro. Cutbush, for his gift of plants and bulbs. The Secretary informed the brethren of the sudden death of the late collector, Bro. Lane, an announcement which was received with great regret, and a letter of condolence was ordered to be sent to the widow. Bro. Terry said that the late Bro. Lane, up to the time of his death, had paid the utmost attention to every detail in connection with his duties, and the Institution had lost a most efficient officer. It was then proposed that a committee, consisting of Colonel Creaton, Benjamin Head, J. Smith, J. A. Farnfield, and Griffiths Smith, be formed, for the purpose of appointing a Collector; meanwhile, it was resolved that Bro. Knill be empowered to collect the amounts due. Bro. J. Nunn, P.G.S.B., gave notice of motion, that a sum of £100 be granted to the widow of the late Bro. Lane, in recognition of the valuable services rendered by him during his term of office. After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting was adjourned. There were present—Bros. S. Rawson, J. Nunn, Captain J. Wordsworth, Hyde Pullen, R. W. Little, G. Bolton, F. Adlard, H. J. Warren, T. Cubitt, R. W. Little, W. Hale, J. Brett, B. Head, A. H. Tattershall, J. Stevens, W. Stephens, J. Constable, L. Stean, W. Hilton, H. Massey, J. W. White, Dr. Erasmus Wilson, C. Hogard, H. M. Levy, C. J. Perceval, &c.

We are indebted to the kindness of Bro. Haigh, of the firm of Haigh and Hemery, of 213 Regent-street, for a view of Bro. Captain Charles Mercier's grand historical picture, "Her Majesty's Ministers in Council," now on view in their gallery, and the engraving of which, by Mr. Henry Lemon, they are shortly about to publish. More than one previous attempt has been made at producing a picture of this character, but in each case the work has been of a cabinet size, while the likenesses have been obtained from photographic portraits. Bro. Captain Mercier has enjoyed, however, many exceptional advantages, and it is almost needless for us to point out that he has turned them to excellent account. In the first place, he had free access at all convenient seasons to the Council Chamber, Whitehall, in which Ministers are wont to assemble in order to rule and direct the destinies of the mighty empire for the time being entrusted to their charge. Then Ministers themselves have not only manifested the greatest interest in the work; they have likewise given special sittings at their several private or official residences, or at the artists' own studio. The result is that Captain Mercier, whose name is already known in the world of art, has succeeded in producing a picture which, in our humble judgment, will obtain for him the highest praise, not only from the general public, who are prone to judge of these matters casually, and somewhat fancifully, but likewise in artistic circles, where people are competent to form a judgment. The work is on a large scale—ten feet by seven. All the members of the Cabinet—as it was constituted before the retirement of Earl of Malmesbury—are represented. The grouping is admirable, the posing of the several figures natural. The Premier, now the Earl of

Beaconsfield, is standing up, and occupies, of course, the central position. To his right, as we face the picture, are the Lord Chancellor and the portly form of the First Lord of the Admiralty, both seated. Behind them stands Lord John Manners, and still further to the right is the Marquis of Salisbury. To the left are placed the Earl of Malmesbury, seated on the other side of the table, and next to him, standing, are the Earl of Carnarvon, Mr. Cross, the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, and Mr. Gathorne Hardy. Seated in front, and in what we may call a left central position, is the Earl of Derby, note-book in hand, in the act of making sundry memoranda of the conference, and still further to the left is the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the new leader of the House of Commons, busy returning certain papers to his despatch-box. The great merit of the work is the unmistakable air of reality there is in the scene portrayed. There is an earnest deliberation noticeable in the different faces which fits well with the occasion. There is an entire absence of anything at all approaching the theatrical in the attitude assigned to each minister. In fact, the artist has achieved a great success, not only in the more difficult portion of his work—namely, the grouping and arrangement of his figures—but also in all its minor details. That the artist has succeeded in producing better and more life-like portraits in the case of some of the ministers than in others, is not to be doubted; for all faces and figures are not reproducible in an equal degree of perfection. But he has done what he set himself to do well, and we hope and believe that his picture will be as generally appreciated and admired as it deserves to be. The engraving, in pure line, is the work of Mr. Henry Lemon, who, it is needless to say, occupies a foremost place among the engravers of the day. The prices are as follow:—Artists' Proofs, on India paper, signed, fifteen guineas; proofs before letters ditto, ten guineas; lettered proofs, ditto, five guineas; and prints on plain paper, three guineas. It remains for us to add that the picture has already been seen at Marlborough House, where all who saw it, saw it but to admire. That the picture will find its way into one of our many National Collections is not improbable. That the publishers will find the task they have undertaken successful, we do not doubt.

Bro. R. Wentworth Little, P.P.S.G. Warden, and Prov. G. Sec. Middlesex, has been appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, in succession to Sir G. Elliot, Bart., M.P., appointed R.W. Prov. G.M. East Division South Wales.

Early in the spring will appear a new volume of poems, from the well known Ionian Poet, Bro. J. Dionysius Loverdo. This collection, we are informed, will largely consist of translations in the Romaic, or Modern Greek, from some of our best authors—viz., Shakespeare, Burns, Cowper, Dryden, Moore, &c.

On Wednesday, an amateur concert was given at Hayworth Hall, Norfolk, by Mrs. Windham Walker, in aid of the Cromer Cottage Hospital. Under the able direction of Bro. F. T. Dawson, a capital programme was prepared, and some excellent songs were rendered. Refreshments were liberally supplied, and about thirty guests sat down to supper, the hostess bore all the expenses, and there was over £20 handed to the Charity. Several brethren were present from Aylsham.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked on Monday evening next, at the Wellington Lodge of Instruction, which meets at the White Swan Tavern, High Street, Deptford. Bro. J. T. Barnes will preside, and the Lodge will be opened at 7 o'clock.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

G. B. V.—It has frequently been so stated, but there appear to be considerable doubts about the matter. He may possibly have been enrolled member of one of those secret societies having a similar organisation to ours, but resembling ours in no other respect. You can hardly take up a Masonic periodical which does not every now and then contain some statement about this point.

G. K.—Apply to Bro. A. W. Fenner, who is the manager of the business of the late John Lillywhite; he will give you the information you require. His address is 10 Seymour-street, N.W.

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.

—:0:—

SATURDAY, 17th FEBRUARY.

198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.
1656—Wolsey, White Hart Hotel, Hampton Wick. (Consecration at 3.30.)

MONDAY, 19th FEBRUARY.

45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem, St. John's-sq., Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)
174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
185—Tranquillity, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C., at 5.
1159—Marquess of Dalhousie, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street.
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8. (Instruction.)
1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road. (Inst.)
London Masonic Club Lodge of Instruction, 101 Queen Victoria-street, E.C.
meet 2nd and 4th Monday in every Month, at 8 o'clock.

236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
331—Phoenix of Honour and Prudence, Public Rooms, Truro.
359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
466—Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Baron, Northampton.
622—St. Cuthberga, Masonic Hall, Wimborne.
720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
725—Stoneleigh, King's Arms Hotel, Kenilworth.
985—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Holbeach.
1037—Portland, Royal Breakwater Hotel, Portland.
1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.
1502—Israel, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.
1199—Agriculture, Honey Hall, Congresbury.
1238—Gooch, Prince Alfred Hotel, Southall.
R. A. 1051—Rowley, Athenaeum, Lancaster.

TUESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
30—United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
65—Constitutional, Wheatshaf, Hand-court, W.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
66—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
95—Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
194—St. Paul's, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
860—Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1472—Henley, Railway Tavern, Stratford New Town, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
R.A.—Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 8.30.
213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich.
248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon.
384—St. David, Masonic Rooms, Bangor.
960—Bute, Masonic Hall, 9 Woking-street, Cardiff.
1006—Tregulow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day, Scourier, Cornwall.
1113—Anglesea, Bull Hotel, Llanelglyn.
1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.

WEDNESDAY, 21st FEBRUARY.

General Committee Grand Lodge and Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.
174—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
190—Oak, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
193—Confidence, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, at 7.0. (Instruction.)
862—Whittington, Black Bull, Holborn, at 8. (Instruction.)
1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7. (Instruction.)
1196—Urban, The Three Bucks, Gresham-street, at 6.30. (Instruction.)
1288—Finsbury Park, Finsbury Pk. Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd., at 8.0. (Instruction.)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
R. A. 177—Domatic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8.0. (Instruction.)
R. A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
121—Mount Sinai, Public-buildings, Penzance.
175—East Medina, Masonic Hall, John-street, Ryde, I.W.
199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover. (Instruction.)
200—Old Globe, Private Rooms, Globe-street, Scarborough.
221—St. John's, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall Square, Bolton.
592—Cotteswold, King's Head Hotel, Cirencester.
683—Isca, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Monmouthshire.
755—St. Tudno, Freemasons' Hall, Llandudno.
889—Dobio, Griffin Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames.
969—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Workington.
1040—Sykes, Masonic Hall, Great Driffield.
1086—Walton, St. Lawrence Boys' School, Kirkdale.
1129—St. Chad's, Roebuck Hotel, Rochdale.
1164—Eliot, Private Rooms, St. Germain's, Cornwall.
1937—Anchor, Masonic Rooms, Durham House, Northallerton.
1353—Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
1443—Salem, Town Hall, Dawlish, Devon.
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea.
M.M. 38—St. David, Freemasons' Hall, Llandudno.

THURSDAY, 22nd FEBRUARY.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 7. (Instruction.)
15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8. (Instruction.)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, E.C. at 6.30. (Instruction.)
1459—Marquess of Ripon, Albion, Albion-road, Dalston, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
78—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton, Lancashire.
100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Quay, Great Yarmouth.
807—Cabbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich.
960—St. Edward's, Literary Institute, Leek, Stafford.
1612—West Middlesex, Railway Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

FRIDAY, 23rd FEBRUARY.

569—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, City-road, E.C.
766—William Preston, Feathers Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. (Inst.)
834—Ranelagh, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-road. (Instruction.)
933—Doric, Earl Grey Tavern, Mile End-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1227—Upton, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1250—Hervey, Punch's Tavern, 99 Fleet-street, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1278—Burdett Courts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1293—Royal Standard, Castle Tavern, Highbury, at 8. (Instruction.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1143—Royal Denbigh, Council Room, Denbigh.
1335—Gladsmair, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet.

SATURDAY, 24th FEBRUARY.

193—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

MONDAY.

R. A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.

WEDNESDAY.

253—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.
1301—Brighouse, Masonic Room, Bradford-road, Brighouse.

THURSDAY.

208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, South-parade, Huddersfield.
337—Candour, Private Rooms, Commercial Inn, Uppermill.
810—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton.
904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Rotherham.

FRIDAY.

401—Royal Forest, Hark to Bounty Inn, Slaidburn.
652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
1034—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill.
R. A. 242—Magdalen, Guildhall, Doncaster.
K. T. 7—De Furnival, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.

SATURDAY.

149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.
308—Prince George, Station House, Bottoms, Eastwood.
1462—Wharnccliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—44—St. Luke, Freemasons' Hall.

TUESDAY—36—St. David, Ship Hotel, East Register-street.
405—Rifle, Freemasons' Hall.

WEDNESDAY—160—Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, 82 Nicolson-street.

THURSDAY—392—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.

FRIDAY—223—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

GLASGOW AND THE WEST OF SCOTLAND.

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

MONDAY—332—Union, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
581—Plantation, 207 Craighall-street, Plantation.

TUESDAY—3 bis.—St. John's, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.

73—Thistle and Rose, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
87—Thistle, Freemasons' Hall, Cathedral-street, Glasgow.
437—Govandale, Partland Hall, Govan-road, Glasgow.
556—Clydesdale, 108 Rose-street, Glasgow.
579—St. Brydcs, Freemasons Hall, Udderstone, at 7.

WEDNESDAY—4—Kilwinning, 241 Dumbarton-road, Glasgow.

117—St. Mary, Freemasons' Hall, Douglas-street, Partick.
354—Caledonian Railway, 30 Hope-street, Glasgow.
R. A.—Provincial Festival, 213 Buchanan-street. 7.

THURSDAY—570—Kenmuir, Freemasons' Hall, Springbourne, Glasgow.

R. A. 117—Govan, Partland Hall, Govan.
R. A.—Provincial Grand Chapter, 213 Buchanan-street.

SATURDAY—St. John Woodhall, Freemasons' Hall, Holytown.

MEETINGS HELD, &c.

The Studholme Chapter Rose Croix, 18°, met at the Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square, W., on Wednesday, 7th February, at 4.30. Lieut-General J. Studholme Brownrigg C.B. 32° M.W.S. Present—Captain Philips 33°, Major Shadwell Clarke 33°, Hugh D. Sandeman 33°, Raphael Costa 33°, Samuel Rawson 33°, W. Hyde Pullen 33°, Captain Portlock Dadson 32°, Lieut-Colonel King 31°, Lieut-Colonel the Hon. W. Sackville-West 31°, the Earl of Donoughmore 31°, H. H. Riach 31°, C. Grillion 31°, Colonel Somerville Burney 31°, H. R. Cooper Smith 30°, Rev. Ambrose Hall 30°, Colonel Randolph 30°, Captain Leopold Swaine 30°, &c., &c. Bro. Sir Thomas Douglas Forsyth C.B. K.C.S.I., Bengal Civil Service, was perfected in the 18°. The Grand Secretary General, Major Shadwell H. Clerke 33° then installed Colonel C. W. Randolph 30° as the M.W. Sov. for the year, who appointed as his officers H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught K.G. as 1st General, the Earl of Donoughmore as 2nd General, the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg as Prelate, Captain M. Studholme Brownrigg as Raphael, Bro. C. Grillion as Recorder, Bro. Dobree as Treasurer, Captain Swaine as Almoner, &c. A past jewel was presented to General Brownrigg by the Chapter.

The Canterbury Chapter Rose Croix, 18°, met at the Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square, W., on Tuesday, 6th February, at 5 p.m. Bro. the Rev. Dr. J. Robbins D.D. 18° as M.W.S. Present—Captain Philips 33°, R. Costa 33°, W. Hyde Pullen 33°, Captain Portlock Dadson 32°, Colonel Somerville Burney 31°, James Keene 30° 1st General, J. Chynoweth 18° 2nd General, the Rev. and Hon. Francis E. C. Byng 18° as Prelate, Howie McEvan Treasurer, T. Holme Davis Recorder, &c. Bros. Octavius H. Pearson, Henry Evill, and Reginald J. Mare were perfected in 18°.

The Canterbury Lodge met at the Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square, on Tuesday, 13th February, under W. Bro. the Rev. Dr. John Robbins W.M. Present—Captain Philips P.M., Colonel Somerville Burney P.M., Lieut-General Doherty C.B. P.M., Raphael Costa P.M., W. Hyde Pullen P.M., Rev. F. K. Harford S.W., James Keene J.W., Captain Portlock Dadson, &c., &c. Several candidates were initiated, passed and raised.

The Grand Metropolitan Chapter Rose Croix met at the Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square, on Wednesday, 14th February. Ill. Bro. the Rev. Ambrose W. Hall 30° M.W.S. Present—Ill. Bros. R. Costa 33°, W. Hyde Pullen 33°, Raymond H. Thrupp 31°, Charles Grillion 31°, &c. Seven brethren were perfected in the 18°.

The Friends in Council Royal Arch Chapter met at the Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square, on Thursday, 15th February, under Comp. Dr. Robert Hamilton Z., P. Superintendent of Jamaica. There was a large attendance, and several brethren were duly exalted as Royal Arch Masons.

York Mark Lodge (Time Immemorial).—This Lodge, which has lately given in its adhesion to the Grand Mark Lodge of England, and is now working under a warrant from Grand Lodge, held its regular meeting on Tuesday, at York. The W.M., Bro. Geo. Balmford, presided, and was supported by Bros. Thos. Cooper P.M., T. B. Whytehead S.W., the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett J.W., the Rev. W. Valentine Chaplain, M. Cooper M.O., T. W. Wilson S.O., Tissiman J.O., J. Hollins S.D., Garbutt Sec., M. Millington I.G., &c. Bros. C. G. Padel and J. Morgan, of the Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611, were duly advanced to the honourable degree of Mark Masters, and a letter from the Secretary of the Britannia Mark Lodge, Sheffield, was read, congratulating the brethren of the York Mark Lodge upon the step they had taken in acknowledging the supremacy of the Grand Mark Lodge of England. About twenty of the brethren subsequently met at supper, when the W.M. presided, and the usual Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

Kent Lodge of Instruction, No. 15.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Thursday, the 15th February, at Bro. Hallows, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow. Present—Bros. Groome W.M., W. G. Hallows S.W., Oldroyd J.W., Saunders Sec., Pinder Preceptor, Franklin S.D., Mumford I.G.; also Bros. Grist, Upward, Brown, Evennett, Field, &c. The Lodge was opened in due form, with solemn prayer. The minutes of the last Lodge meeting were read and confirmed. The Lodge was opened in the second and third degrees, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Pinder acting as candidate. The Lodge was closed in the third and second degrees. Bro. Pinder worked the second section of the lecture. Bro. W. Grist, of Marquis of Ripon Lodge, was unanimously elected a member of the Lodge of Instruction. Bro. W. G. Hallows was appointed W.M. for the ensuing week.

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, 15th February, at 7.30. Present—Bros. Horsley W.M., Hogarth S.W., Maidwell J.W., Grammer Secretary, Richards S.D., Hewlett J.D., Hollands I.G., &c. The third ceremony was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Andrews of No. 1227 acting as candidate. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Hewlett. The Lodge was closed in the 3rd and 2nd degrees, and Bro. Hewlett worked the 6th section. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed in ancient form.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—At Bro. Gay's, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, on Monday the 12th inst. Present—Bros. Powell W.M., Stock S.W., Millward J.W., Gardner S.D., Piercy J.D., Robinson I.G., Tolmie acting as Preceptor, A. W. Fenner Sec., Christopher Tyler. Read, Fairbank, Alford, Moseley, Leber, Garbett, Curry, Cook, &c. Lodge opened in due form, with solemn prayer. Minutes read and confirmed. Bro. Gardner, having answered the usual questions leading to 2nd degree, was entrusted; Lodge was opened in 2nd degree, when the ceremony of passing was rehearsed by the W.M. in his usual excellent manner, Bro. Gardner acting as candidate. Bro. Stock worked the 1st and 2nd sections of the lecture. Bro. Piercy worked the 3rd, and Bro. Tolmie worked the 4th and 5th, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was closed in the 2nd degree. Bro. Stock S.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. All business being ended, Lodge closed in due form and adjourned.

St. John's Lodge, No. 90.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, 12th February, at the Albion, Aldersgate-street. Present—Bros. Stormer W.M., Henderson S.W. Margetson J.W., J. Griffin Secretary, Eglese Treasurer, Pearce S.D., Colpoys J.D., Stephens P.M. D.C., Brown I.G., Goddard Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. T. P. Griffin, Venn, McDougall. Visitors—Bros. Fawcett, Tickell, Ramsdill. Business—The minutes were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Bro. Knight, of Stour Valley Lodge, as a joining member, which was unanimous in his favour. The Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet.

United Strength Lodge, No. 228.—Held their meeting at the Guildhall Tavern on Tuesday, 13th inst., it being for the first time at its new quarters, they having outgrown their old Lodge-room at the St. John's Gate. The Lodge was opened at half-past three, under the presidency of Bro. Robt. Griggs; the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. raised Bro. J. R. Green to the sublime degree, and passed Bro. H. Langley. Bro. Griggs, who during his year of office has performed the duties of the chair in a thoroughly efficient manner, completed them by installing his successor. Bro. James Hill invested his officers as follow:—Bro. Snare S.W., Halford J.W., Crump P.M. Secretary, Davies P.M. Assistant Secretary, Winsland P.M. Treasurer, Piercy S.D., Todd J.D., Flaws I.G., Harty Organist. The W.M. then initiated Messrs. Quartly and Yarnold into the mysteries of Freemasonry. The Lodge was closed in due form, when the brethren repaired to the banqueting room, where a most sumptuous repast was awaiting them. After the usual loyal toasts, Bro. Jas. Terry responded on behalf of the Charities. The W.M.'s health was proposed by P.M. Griggs, and was received in an enthusiastic manner. The W.M. having replied, an interesting incident took place—the presentation to Bro. Griggs of a Past Master's jewel, for the able manner in which he had performed his duties during the past year. Amongst the numerous visiting brethren were John Townsend P.G.P., Alford 475, Rev. Darby Reid Chaplain 1196, Rev. Casely, Maidwell 27, Mallett 141, Baxter 174, J. D. Loverdo J.D. 1196, L. L. Constantimides. There were also

present Past Masters Terry, Colston, Bottrill 1009, Robards, Wickens, Hillhouse, and about sixty others. The brethren, when they separated, all agreed that they had spent a very enjoyable evening.

Doric Lodge, No. 933.—On Tuesday last, the 13th inst., the members of this important and well worked Lodge assembled in great strength, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, for the installation of our respected brother, John G. Stevens ("An Eastern Star"). Bro. Stevens has for many years acted as Secretary in this Lodge, and in that capacity has won the respect and goodwill of all with whom he has been brought into business relations, and this was fully borne out by the number of distinguished brethren who assembled on this occasion to see him installed. A very wholesome rule in this Lodge, and one which we should like to see more fully carried out elsewhere, is, that each W.M., before being elected to the chair, is required to show his proficiency and capability to perform satisfactorily the duties that may be required of him, and, in addition, that when he shall have completed his year of office, that he should instal his successor. By this wise rule, all the Junior officers are careful to perfect themselves in their respective duties, and a thorough state of efficiency throughout the Lodge is thus secured. Bro. J. G. Stevens has already filled the chair in the Yarborough Lodge, No. 554, and is well known as a skilful Mason. On the formal opening of the Lodge, Bro. William Yetton, P.M., who acted as Director of the Ceremonies, presented Bro. Stevens to Bro. J. Taylor to receive at his hands the benefit of installation. The Board of Installed Masters was a large one, and the ceremony was performed in an impressive and highly dignified manner. On the brethren being re-admitted, the new W.M. was saluted, and he then appointed the following as his officers:—Bros. J. Taylor I.P.M., A. J. Tucker S.W., C. Digby J.W., T. J. Barnes Treasurer, W. Yetton P.M. Secretary, Geo. Hollington S.D., W. J. Edney J.D., Thomas Yetton I.G., Berton D.C., Pain W.S., Seddon Organist, W. Grant (15th time) Tyler. The addresses were capitally given, and on their conclusion a highly spirited Installation March, which had been specially composed by Bro. Seddon, was played by him, and afforded the greatest gratification to all present. We understand it is Bro. Seddon's intention to publish this, so doubtless we shall have the pleasure of hearing this able composition on a future occasion. The W.M. then presented Bro. Taylor with a P.M.'s jewel, and, in the name of all present, thanked him for the way in which he had conducted the proceedings of the day. After hearty good wishes had been tendered, the Lodge was closed. A banquet, to which ample justice was done, followed, Bro. W. Smith catering with his usual skill. On the removal of the cloth, the toasts were given: "The Queen and the Craft," followed by the National Anthem; "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales K.G., M.W. Grand Master," followed by God Bless the Prince of Wales, which was sung by Bro. Steadman; "The Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master." The W.M. said that Lord Carnarvon had proved himself to be a thorough Mason; he had many an onerous duty to perform; but yet, in spite of the multifarious calls on his time, he managed to attend his Masonic duties. After the health of Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers Past and Present, Bro. Davy gave a capital performance on the cornet, in which he was ably accompanied by Bro. Seddon; all assembled expressed their unqualified approval. Bro. I.P.M. Taylor gave the health of the W.M. It was his honour and his privilege that evening to propose the health of Bro. Stevens. He succeeded him some eleven years back as Secretary in the Lodge, and he did not then anticipate that he should follow him in the Masonic Chair. Bro. Taylor paid a just compliment to Bro. Stevens for the manner in which he had always attended to the duties of any office he had to fulfil in the Lodge. He referred to the distinguished Masons who were around him, both on his right and on his left. He spoke of the way in which Bro. Stevens had served the office of Master in the Yarborough Lodge, to the satisfaction of every one, and he felt assured that this might be taken as an estimate of what he would do in his present position. After a humorous song from Bro. Digby, Bro. Stevens, in reply, thanked the brethren for the way in which they had received the toast. Some reference had been made to his services nine years ago; since then he had served as W.M. in the Yarborough Lodge. He assured them that on finding himself at the head of the Doric Lodge, he fully realised his responsibilities. He referred to the high position held by the Doric Lodge in the Craft. He was, though not an old man, certainly not a young one. He was sure that, in placing him there, they felt confident he would carry out the duties of the Lodge satisfactorily. He spoke of the distinguished men who had gone before, and assured them he would endeavour to follow in their footsteps, and that his aim would be to study the interests of every member of the Lodge. In proposing "The Past Masters," Bro. Stevens said he was the 15th W.M. of the Doric Lodge; they had lost two Past Masters by death, and three had resigned. They had had present that evening nine Past Masters—viz., Bros. Barnes, who served in 1868, Bowring in 1869, Wainwright in 1870, Yetton in 1871, Griffin in 1872, Austin in 1873, Marsh in 1874, Ayton in 1875, and J. Taylor in 1876. What could be better than the work of the I.P.M., who had completed his task that night, than the way in which he had performed the installation ceremony? Bro. Steadman here sang most sweetly "The Anchor's Weighed." The P.M.'s replied in well chosen sentences, and the W.M. gave the remaining toasts, which comprised the Masonic Institutions, the Visitors, the Officers of the Lodge, to each of these suitable replies were made. The call for the Tyler brought the evening's proceedings to a close.

Commercial Chapter, No. 69.—The regular meeting was held at 30 Hope-street, Glasgow, on Friday, 10th inst. A Mark Lodge was opened by J. Duthie as Master, G. W. Wheeler as S.W., and J. M. Oliver J.W. Letters excusing their absence were read from Comps. D. Lamb Z., and J. Munro D.W. After the transaction of some private business, the Lodge was closed in harmony.

Era Mark Lodge, No. 176.—The regular meeting of this long-established Lodge was held on Friday, the 9th February, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Bro. John Baxter Langley P.G.J.W. Middlesex and Surrey presided. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. Ballots taken separately were unanimous in favour of the admission of Bros. Louis Beck S.D. 1559, and E. Dietrich. The work was done in an able manner by the Worshipful Master for the advancement of Bros. Louis Beck, Ernest Dietrich 1524, and Thomas Williams Adams S.W. 1623, who seemed fully impressed by the beautiful ancient ceremony. Bro. F. Walters P.G.P. P.M. Secretary read the bye-laws. The ballot was unanimous in favour of Bro. the Rev. P. M. Holden S.W. being W.M. H. A. Dubois was re-elected Treasurer. W. Y. Laing, on a show of hands being taken, was re-elected Tyler. On motion made by Bro. Holden P.M., seconded by Bro. T. Horton J.W., and unanimously confirmed, it was resolved the usual five guinea Past Master's Jewel be given to Bro. J. Baxter Langley W.M. for services rendered to the Lodge as the third W.M., and one of the founders. Bros. J. B. Shackleton, B. Meyer, H. Meyer, and C. Beck were recommended by the Lodge for Provincial Grand Lodge honours. Some candidates were proposed for advancement. The Lodge was closed, and adjourned to Friday, 8th June, to meet at six p.m. Banquet followed. There were not any visitors present.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting at Bro. Fysh's, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, Islington, on Saturday, 10th February. Bros. H. P. Isaac W.M., A. Rowley S.W., Bidwell J.W., Read S.D., Fenner J.D., Groner I.G., Percy Preceptor, Halford Treasurer, Killick Hon. Sec. There was a large muster of members, including P.M.'s Moss, J. Constable, Purday, Mackey, Vanderlyn, &c. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Ross acting as candidate. The W.M. worked the 1st section, Bro. Percy the 2nd, and Bro. Hewlett the 3rd and 5th. Bros. Ives 781 and Roberts 192 were elected members. Bro. A. Rowley was appointed W.M. for the ensuing week. It was unanimously agreed that the sum of £5 from the Lodge funds be placed on the list of the W.M. of the United Strength Lodge, No. 228, for the R.M.B.I. for Aged Freemasons. The annual supper of the Lodge will take place at the above address on Saturday, the 24th inst., Bro. G. Cooper, W.M. Percy Lodge, will preside.

Panmure Chapter, No. 720.—This Chapter held its regular quarterly meeting on Monday, the 12th of February, at the Horns' Tavern, Kennington, S.E. Present—Ex-Comps. the Rev. W. B. Church M.E.Z., Newington Bridges H., George Waterall J., James Stevens P.Z. and Scribe E., M. S. Larham Scribe N., Thomas Poore P.S., R. N. Field 1st A.S., A. C. Burrell 2nd A.S., Gilbert Janitor. Also Past First Principals Charles Hammerton, Henry Smith and R. H. Harvey, and Comps. Thomas Meggy, F. W. Levander, S. Poynter, &c. Visitor Ex-Comp. S. H. Wagstaff H. of the Macdonald Chapter, No. 1216. The Chapter having been duly opened by the principals and the companions assembled, a ballot was taken for Bro. M. Keith Frith, barrister, of the Great City Lodge, No. 1426, and that proving unanimous, Bro. Frith was duly introduced and exalted into the order. The officers for the ensuing year were then elected, with the following results—viz., Ex-Comps. Bridges M.E.Z., Waterall H., Larham J., James Stevens P.Z. (ninth re-election) Scribe E., Thomas Poore Scribe N., H. C. Levander P.Z. (eighth re-election) Treasurer, R. N. Field P.S., Thomas Meggy Steward, and John Gilbert Janitor. The jewel of the Chapter was unanimously voted to the retiring M.E.Z., the Rev. W. B. Church. Propositions for exaltation at ensuing convocation were received, and the Chapter was duly closed. Refreshment followed labour, and a most enjoyable evening was, as is usual, whenever the Panmure Companions meet, spent before separating.

William Preston Lodge of Instruction, No. 766.—his Lodge held its usual meeting on Friday, the 9th of February, at Bro. Kennard's, Upper George-street, Edgware-road. Present—Bros. Geo. Tribble W.M., Godden S.W., Hayes J.W., Braun Sec., Rudderforth Preceptor, Reddie S.D., Nichols J.D., West I.G. Also present Bros. Murch, Kennard, Cleghorn, Coates, Davison, Parsous, Ridley, Webster. Business—The Lodge was opened in due form, with solemn prayer. The minutes were read and confirmed. The Preceptor worked the first section of the lecture. The W.M. then rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Murch being the candidate. Bro. Coates next answered the questions for passing, and was entrusted. Bro. Rudderforth then worked the second section of the lecture. Bro. Reddie was elected a member of the Lodge of Instruction. Bro. S. W. Godden was appointed W.M. for the ensuing Friday. Bro. West proposed, and Bro. Reddie seconded, that the subject of establishing a Benevolent Fund in connection with this Lodge of Instruction should be taken into consideration at the next meeting. The Secretary announced the Masonic Charity Ball to be held at the Agricultural Hall, on the 28th inst., and invited the brethren to attend. Before closing, the W.M. complimented the Lodge upon the solemn attention paid by the brethren to the working of the beautiful ceremonies and lectures. The Lodge was then closed.

Windsor Castle Lodge, No. 771.—The annual Festival of this Lodge took place on Tuesday, the 13th of February, in the Masonic Hall, St. Albans-street, Windsor, when Bro. Thomas Edward Scott, the S.W. of the Lodge, was installed as W.M. Bro. Scott has long been identified with Freemasonry, and, from his connection with the members of the Royal Family, both at Frogmore House and Cumberland Lodge, it was most gratifying to his friends here to know that his Masonic exertions had finally brought him to occupy

the highest honour that his Lodge could bestow upon him. The retiring Master, Bro. W. H. Cutler, of Salt-hill, Bucks, was invested with the collar of I.P.M., and was presented with a most beautiful P.M.'s jewel. The officers for the ensuing year were appointed in rotation, Bro. the Rev. Arthur Robins being the only officer that was re-elected, as Chaplain of the Lodge. The ceremonial of installation was earnestly rendered by Bro. John S. Tolly, Sec. and P.M. The banquet was served at the Castle Hotel, by Bro. Fleck. The meeting throughout was characterised by the greatest unanimity of feeling, not only by the members of the Lodge, but by the numerous and distinguished brethren from the neighbouring provinces who honoured the Festival by their presence.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—The weekly meeting of the above Lodge took place at Bro. Allen's, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, on Tuesday, 13th February. Bro. Defriez W.M., Barker S.W., Johnson J.W., Lovelock S.D., Smith J.D., Perrin I.G., Worsley Secretary, P.M. Wallington Preceptor; also Bros. Wardell, Bonner, Hewlett, Crossby, Saunders, Wright, Williams, &c. The Lodge was opened with solemn prayer. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Crossby having answered the necessary questions, the Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, when the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. Bro. Hewlett worked the 1st section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren, and the 3rd with the W.M. The Lodge was closed in the 2nd degree. Bro. Hewlett worked the 3rd and 4th sections of the lecture. Bro. Barker was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation; he will work the 3rd ceremony, for the first time. We hope he will have a good attendance; he has been but eight months a Mason, and has gone through the other two ceremonies with credit, and there is no doubt that his presidency next week will bring a good muster. Bro. Saunders gave notice of motion respecting the 4th bye-law, which will come on for discussion. The Lodge was closed in due form, and adjourned till Tuesday, the 20th inst. The W.M. stated that Bro. Hewlett would work the 15 sections on the 25th inst., at Bro. Yetton's, Rising Sun, Globe-road, Bethnal Green, at 7 precisely. The well-known preceptor, Bro. T. J. Barnes P.M. 554 and 933 as S.W., and Bro. T. Austin P.M. 933 and 1445 as I.P.M.

Tyne Lodge, No. 991.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 8th of February, at the Masonic Hall, Willington Quay. Present—Bros. C. Jarvis W.M., Jas. Montgomery S.W., Wm. Gladstone J.W., Wm. Morton Secretary, Michael Guthrie Treasurer, M. W. Grundy S.D., Jas. Brown J.D., Geo. Turnbull and J. Turner Stewards, Aaron Sagar I.G., Geo. Heslop Tyler. Past Masters Bros. Allan, Guthrie and Robertson. The business consisted of the installation of W.M., and appointment of officers for the ensuing year.

Grey Friars, Lodge No. 1101.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 14th of February, at the Masonic Hall, Reading. Present—Bros. Edward Margrett W.M., Arthur Welch S.W., Wm. George Flanagan J.W., Wm. P. Ivey P.M. Secretary, John Stransom Treasurer, Jno. Early Danks S.D., Wm. Ferguson J.D., Thomas Newman Steward, Edwd. J. Blackwell I.G., Wm. Hemmings Tyler. Past Masters Bros. G. Chancellor, Prov. G. Treas. Berks and Bucks, J. T. Brown P.P.G.S. of W. Berks and Bucks. Members—Bros. Hunt, Hilder, Creed, Bailey, Rose, Pulley, Rhind, Tabor, Hawkes, Brigham. Visitors from the Alfred Lodge, 340, Oxford, Bro. J. Pratt W.M., Juggins P.M., C. Park P.M., F. W. Ansell S.D., F. F. B. Evans Secretary, J. M. Dormor, W. Park; ditto from Union 414, Bro. S. A. Pocock W.M., S. Bradley S.D., M. J. Withers; other visitors, Bros. C. C. Gold 723, Benham S.W. 723, E. Nichols 1046, J. C. Jessett 1512, A. Mitchell 65, Grand Lodge Scotland. On the W.M. taking the chair, and opening the Lodge, the hall had more the appearance of an installation meeting than that of a regular monthly. The brethren from Oxford, Aldershot, and the Mother Lodge, with the other visitors, in their provincial grand regalia, gave the assembly a brilliant appearance. After the minutes of the last regular Lodge were read and confirmed, the Lodge was opened in the second degree. Bro. Edwin Hunt replied to the questions leading to the third degree in a most satisfactory manner, and retired. The Lodge was opened in the third degree. Bro. Hunt was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. It is almost superfluous to say that the W.M. performed this ceremony in the most perfect manner, and he was well supported by his officers. The lecture was given in a masterly manner, and called forth the acclamations of the assembly; indeed, from the first time Bro. Margrett commenced his duties, it was evident that first-class working would mark his year of office. The Lodge was closed down to the second and the first degrees, when the W.M. announced the unprecedented success of the Festival of the R.M.B.I., at which he attended as Steward to represent the Lodge. By the contributions of the members and other brethren, he was enabled to obtain a V.P. in the name of the Master of 1101 for the "old men," and leaving 15 guineas as a nest egg towards making the W.M. a V.P. of the "widows." This announcement was received with cheers. Bro. Juggins P.M. 340 expressed the great pleasure experienced by his brothers and himself at this visit; he felt that Sir Daniel Gooch, the P.G.M. of Berks and Bucks, may well be proud of such a Lodge as the Grey Friars. After receiving nominations for joining and initiations, the Lodge was closed.

Israel Lodge of Instruction.—The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the Rising Sun, Globe-road, Bethnal-green, on Sunday evening, 25th February, at seven o'clock precisely. Bros. Howlett W.M., 141; T. J. Barnes S.W., P.M. 544 and 933; Appleby J.W., S.W. 174; T. Austin I.P.M., P.M. 933 and 1445. First lecture by Bros. Lovelock, Calver, Appleby, Ashburner, Rudderforth, Webb, Williams. Second lecture by Bros. Taylor, Burr, Defriez, Myers, Baxter. Third lecture by Bros. Lazarus, Job, Cohen. Bro. W. Musto Hon. Sec.

Upton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1227.—Met at Bro. Bolton's, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, on Friday, the 9th inst. Present—Bros. Andrews W.M., Oldroyd S.W., Cooper J.W., Cloverley S.D., A. W. Fenner J.D., Simpson I.G., Townsend Sec.; Kent Bolton, Scales, Barnett, &c. Lodge was opened in due form, minutes read and confirmed. Bro. Kent, having answered the necessary questions leading to the 2nd degree, was entrusted. Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, when Bro. Kent was passed by the W.M., in a very excellent manner. The 1st and 2nd sections were worked by Bro. Oldroyd, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was resumed to the 1st degree, when Bros. Kent, No. 1297, and Cooper, No. 212, were elected members of this rapidly rising Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Oldroyd S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. It was unanimously carried that a cordial vote of thanks be entered on the minutes to the W.M., for the very able and effective manner he had filled the honourable position for the first time. Lodge was closed in due form, and adjourned.

Hervey Lodge of Instruction, No. 1260.—A meeting was held at Bro. Beeton's, Punch's Tavern, Fleet-street, on Friday, 9th February, for the purpose of examining the S.W. of the Mother Lodge previous to the election of W.M. Bros. Southwood S.W. 1260 W.M., Radcliffe S.W., Portway J.W., Burley S.D., Withers J.D., Rosenthal I.G., King jun. P.M. Secretary, King, Spender, Butler, Beeton, Wells, Atkins, J. Sandilands Ward, Green, Saunders, &c. The Lodge was opened and the minutes read, when the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, when the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. The Lodge was closed in the third and second degrees. Bros. W. Arnold No. 902, Rosenthal No. 1260, and A. Arnold No. 1541 were elected members; Bro. Radcliffe was appointed W.M. for next Friday evening. It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that the Secretary be requested to inform the W.M. of the Mother Lodge of the very perfect manner in which Bro. Southwood had worked the three ceremonies, and that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes for his having done so. Bro. Southwood responded in a very feeling speech. He was pleased he had given satisfaction in his examination, and if they did him the honour to elect him W.M. of their Lodge, they might depend upon his endeavouring to promote the best interests of the Craft. The Lodge was then closed in due form.

Langthorne Lodge, No. 1421.—The annual meeting of this Lodge, for the purpose of installing the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, was held at the Swan Hotel, Straiford, E., on Thursday, the 25th ult., upon which occasion a large number of brethren, members of various local and other Lodges, assembled for the purpose of witnessing the induction of Bro. Benjamin Cundick S.W. and W.M. elect (a well-known and highly esteemed brother amongst the Craft in the east end of London) into the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom. Punctually at 4 p.m. the Lodge was opened by Bro. Charles Lacey P.M., assisted by the following officers—viz., Bros. B. Cundick S.W., H. Carter J.W., George Levick Treasurer, C. W. Ashdown Secretary, T. S. Taylor S.D., H. N. Taylor J.D., G. F. Dix I.G., S. Morris W.S., M. W. Sherwin Organist, W. Steedman Tyler, and a number of brethren. The Lodge was opened in due form, with solemn prayer. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and duly confirmed, the Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Baxter being a candidate for the third degree was, after the usual examination, duly raised, the ceremony being admirably performed by Bro. Lacey, the acting W.M. The Lodge was then resumed in the first degree, and the report of the Audit Committee, together with the balance sheet, having been received and approved, the Lodge was resumed in the second degree, and the chair vacated by Bro. Lacey in favour of Bro. Barnes P.M. 554, an old and esteemed friend of the W.M. elect, to whom Bro. Cundick was presented by Bro. J. G. Stevens for the benefit of installation. The usual formalities having been observed, Bro. Cundick was duly installed in the chair of K.S. in the presence of a board of Installed Masters, amongst whom were the following—viz., Bros. E. West P.M. 1327 and P.P.G.D. Herts, T. J. Barnes P.M. 554, P. A. Bianchi W.M. 1598, J. Ives W.M. 1472, W. Mundy P.M. 1228, W. A. Thorp P.M. 49, W. H. Myers P.M. 820, T. Austin P.M. 933, A. Rumsey P.M. 206, J. Dorton W.M. 1076, P. Edinger P.M. 95, G. J. Hilliard W.M. 174, S. Watkins P.M. 212, J. Taylor W.M. 933. The Board of Installed Masters being closed, the brethren were re-admitted, and the new Master duly proclaimed, and saluted, Bro. J. G. Stevens acting as Dir. Cer. The W.M. appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year—viz., Bros. G. Hollington S.W., T. S. Taylor J.W., G. Levick P.M. (re-elected) Treasurer, C. W. Ashdown P.M. (re-invested) Secretary, H. N. Taylor S.D., G. F. Dix J.D., J. F. Proctor I.G., S. Morris W.S., M. Sherwin Organist, and W. Steedman Tyler. The ceremony throughout was most impressively rendered by Bro. Barnes, and the brethren present enjoyed a thorough Masonic treat. The Lodge being closed in due form, the brethren adjourned to another room where an excellent banquet awaited them, served in Bro. Morley's best style, and to which, it is needless to add, ample justice was done. Under the presidency of the newly-installed and genial W.M., a most enjoyable evening was spent, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts being given from the chair and responded to with the greatest enthusiasm. The harmony of the evening was also enhanced by the presence of Bro. J. G. Stevens, who contributed an excellent recitation, and Bro. M. Sherwin Organist, who, in addition to his usual duties as accompanist, sang several excellent songs. The brethren separated at 11 p.m. after spending a most enjoyable evening. The visitors present in addition to the P.M.'s previously recorded were—Bros. W. Steele S.W. and W.M. elect 1472, J. White S.W. 1076, W. Cobb 1237, G. Taylor 1598.

Era Lodge, No. 1423.—Installation Meeting.—The fifth anniversary of this well established Lodge was held on Saturday, the 10th inst., at the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court. Bro. John Baxter Langley W.M. opened the Lodge. He, in an able manner, initiated Messrs. W. G. Hurlstone and E. Woelcke into Freemasonry. Bro. J. W. Baldwin A.G.P. Middlesex P.M. installed Bro. E. H. Thiellay P.G.S.B. Middlesex P.M. 145 as W.M. The officers appointed are Bros. T. J. Sabine P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex P.M. 73 S.W., E. W. Deverex J.W., C. A. Dubois P.G.S.D. Middlesex P.M. Treasurer (re-invested), F. Walters P.G.J.D. Middlesex P.M. Secretary (re-invested for fifth time), S. Wolff S.D., A. F. Loos J.D., J. Mason P.G. Steward Middlesex P.M. 1567 Organist (re-invested), J. Johnson I.G., M. Underwood D.C., J. Faulkner W.S., J. H. Pearson C.S., J. Gilbert P.G. Tyler Middlesex Tyler (re-invested for fifth time). At the conclusion of the ceremony of installation, a vote of thanks (and the same to be recorded on the minutes) was given to Bro. J. W. Baldwin, for the admirable manner he had done the all important ceremony of installation. It being a pleasure and treat to all present to hear him do the work. The W.M., Bro. E. H. Thiellay, on behalf of the Lodge and those friends who had subscribed the amounts (in addition to the Twelve Guineas voted from the Lodge funds for that purpose), presented Bro. J. Baxter Langley I.P.M. with a splendid Past Master's jewel, enriched with diamonds and other precious stones, set in the 18 carat hall-marked gold of which the jewel was made of. Then Bro. F. Walters P.G.J.D. Middlesex P.M. Secretary, on behalf of a few friends, members of the Lodge, presented Bro. J. Baxter Langley I.P.M. with a Past Master's collar and a silver jewel, to prove how well and faithfully the Master's duties had been done, and the great satisfaction and pleasure every one had felt during his year of office. Bro. J. Baxter Langley I.P.M., in a telling speech, acknowledged the gifts. The Past Master's jewel was universally admired by all who witnessed its presentation. The next business was the nomination of the members whom the Lodge would like to see selected for Provincial Grand Lodge honours at the next Provincial Grand Lodge. Bro. F. Walters P.G.J.D. Middlesex, in an exhaustive and feeling speech, in which he alluded to the very many virtues and excellencies of the Provincial Grand Secretary, proposed that as the D.P.G.M. Middlesex was elevated to the position of R.W.G.M. S. Wales, that Bro. R. W. Little P.P.G.S.W. Middlesex, past and present Provincial Grand Secretary Middlesex, be recommended to the R.W.P.G.M., Bro. Col. F. Bardett, as the member of the Province who ought to be selected to fill the vacant office of D.P.G.M. Middlesex, which was seconded by Bro. J. T. Moss P.P.G.R. Middlesex P.M., and carried unanimously. The vote was spontaneous and enthusiastic in favour of Bro. R. W. Little, who is so deservedly popular in the Province. On motions duly made and seconded, Bros. T. J. Sabine P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex S.W., and J. W. Baldwin P.M. A.G.P. Middlesex, were recommended for promotion, Bros. F. Mason P.G. Steward Middlesex for P.G.S.W., and J. Baxter Langley I.P.M. for Provincial Grand Steward at the next Provincial Grand Lodge. All those members have been and are liberal subscribers to the Masonic Charities. All are present and past Stewards of the Charities. On motions, duly made and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that Bro. J. Mason P.M. P.G. Steward Middlesex, Organist, to represent this Lodge as its Steward at the forthcoming Festival of the Girls' School. Notice of motion by the Treasurer to vote from Lodge funds ten guineas to Boys' and Girls' Schools so as to keep up the subscription of thirty guineas a year to the Masonic Charities which this Lodge has subscribed every year to those Institutions during its existence. Some candidates were proposed for initiation. The Lodge was closed and adjourned till Saturday, 4th April, to meet at three o'clock p.m. Banquet and dessert followed. The usual toasts were given and responded to. Bros. Porrin and Elmore entertained the brethren with some exquisite singing. There were present as visitors Bros. J. Boyd P.G.P. P.M. 145, F. Elmore 12, F. Ponna 211, J. Hammond P.M. 201, J. H. Becker 238, Wray 1604, T. Fenn 1288, C. Graham 1540, G. Dore 376, C. Nicholes 192, T. Ockenden 1512, C. G. Rushworth W.M. 1309, H. Massey P.M. 619, &c.

Great City Lodge, No. 1426.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday, 10th February, at the Cannon-street Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C. Present—Bros. John Seex W.M., Richard Stanway S.W., James Freeman J.W., Edward Moody P.M. and Secretary, N. B. Headon P.M. and Treasurer, G. W. Blackie S.D., W. H. Catchpole J.D., Charles Taylor D.C., W. F. Kibble and W. H. Hook Stewards, T. Hamer I.G., W. Steadman Tyler. Past Masters Bros. J. H. Townend and James Stevens, and about sixty or seventy other members and visitors. The Lodge having been opened, and the previous minutes confirmed, Bro. Moody, acting for the W.M. in his absence, raised Bros. Cumner and Brooks to the sublime degree. The W.M., Bro. Seex, subsequently passed Bros. Walker, Denbigh, Maynard, Greening, and Groom to the degree of F.C., and initiated Messrs. C. A. Blechley, T. G. Whitehouse, and W. Lucas into the Order. The sum of fifty guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and placed on the list of the W.M., who serves as Steward, and who had several other individual and very liberal donations added to his list before the Lodge was closed. Propositions for initiation were taken, and the W.M. then closed his Lodge. The brethren adjourned for light refreshment, and separated at an early hour in the evening.

Royal Commemoration Lodge, No. 1585.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 7th February, at the Star and Garter Hotel, Putney. Present—Bros. J. Wright P.M. 1158 W.M., J. W. Robinson S.W., C. Jackson jun. J.W., F. H. Smith Assist. Sec., G. Watkins Treasurer, W. Morphew S.D., J. Holland J.D., J. Collins D.C., A. Boehr I.G., J. Steed Tyler. Past Master Bro. G. Stacey Organist. Visitors—Bros. P.M. C. Wise, W.M. C.

F. Barham, Hammond, Potter, Fowler and Rose. Business—Minutes of December meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. Matthews, Eykyn, Rowe, Breach and Barrett were raised. Bros. Thomson Bury and Read were passed to the degree of F.C. Bro. Stokes was balloted for and initiated. The sum to qualify the Lodge for a Life Governorship was voted to the W.M.'s list; he is Steward for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

Islington Lodge, No. 1471.—The installation meeting was held on Thursday, the 8th inst., at Bro. Baker's, the Cock Tavern, Highbury. Bro. Louis A. Leins W.M. in the chair, T. Davy S.W., E. W. Braine J.W., Cook P.M. Treasurer, W. Bausor Secretary, F. S. Holness S.D., Knell J.D., Saunders I.G., and Past Masters Bros. E. Bowyer I.P.M., J. L. Mather, Jas. Terry P.P.G.S.B. Herts. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Mr. J. D. Spiers was balloted for and initiated into the order; Bros. Napper and Buckworth were passed to the 2nd degree; Bro. Murray was raised to the 3rd degree by the W.M. A Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Davy, S.W. and W.M. elect, was presented to the Lodge, and duly installed into the chair by Bro. L. A. Leins, the retiring W.M., in a very perfect and impressive manner, Bro. J. L. Mather P.M. efficiently acting as D.C. The W.M. then invested his officers:—L. A. Leins I.P.M., E. W. Braine S.W., W. Bausor J.W., G. F. Cook P.M. 65 Treasurer, F. S. Holness Secretary, Knell S.D., Saunders J.D., Blinkhorn I.G., D. P. Holness D.C., Cox P.M. W.S., Steedman Tyler. The report of the Audit Committee was read; it showed a balance of £19 17s in favour of the Benevolent Fund. The Lodge funds were equally satisfactory, and Bro. Cook, Past Treasurer, proposed, and Bro. J. L. Mather seconded, that the sum of £5 be taken from the Benevolent Fund, making the sum of £10, to be placed on the list of Bro. Braine S.W., who is a Steward for the Anniversary Festival for the R.M.B.I. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet, *a la Russe*, provided by Mr. Baker. The W.M., after grace had been said, proposed the health of the Queen and the Craft, H.R.H. the M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales, the Pro G.M., the Right Worshipful Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers Past and Present. In reply to the Masonic Charities, Bro. Braine S.W. returned thanks. He felt proud to represent the Lodge as Steward on Monday next. Bro. James Terry also thanked the W.M. for having proposed this toast at so early a period of the evening. He gave a very interesting account of the numbers of the boys and girls at the Institutions, and also of the aged, and the amounts given during the past year. We, as Masons, are a comparatively small body, and the brethren had liberally subscribed. He hoped at the next Festival to have to record a larger amount than had ever been received. He hoped they would continue their support to the Aged, and also the Boys' and Girls' Schools, who urgently need their kind support. Bro. L. A. Leins I.P.M. then rose and said he had a very pleasing duty to perform; to propose, for the first time in this Lodge, the health of the W.M. He is thoroughly conversant with his work, and will discharge his duties zealously and faithfully. The W.M. thanked the proposer for his kind expressions; if he proved as good a W.M. as his predecessor he would be perfectly satisfied. He hoped to carry out every duty required of him to their satisfaction. The W.M. next gave the health of the newly initiated Bro., he was worthy of their regard, and he hoped to see him among them for many years. The toast was responded to by Bro. Spiers, in a manner that justified the remarks of the W.M. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the visitors. They were always pleased to see them, and he would call on Bro. S. M. Lazarus P.P.G.W. Wilts and H. M. Levy P.M. 188 to respond. Both these brethren thanked the W.M. for the pleasure they had received by the able manner the ceremony of installation had been performed, and the cordial reception they had met with. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the I.P.M., Bro. A. L. Leins; he had performed his duties admirably, and they had witnessed how excellently he had performed the ceremony of installation. He was the fourth Master of the Lodge, and to whatever duty he was delegated, he discharged it faithfully. In token of the appreciation he is held in, he had much pleasure in presenting him, in the name of the Lodge, with a very elegant Past Master's jewel. In placing it on his breast he hoped he might live long to wear it. In their name, also, he begged his acceptance of a pair of diamond and pearl earrings for his amiable wife, which he hoped she would be spared for many years to wear. Bro. L. A. Leins, in feeling and eloquent terms responded for the valuable gifts. He, as well as his wife, fully appreciated them, and these kind expressions could never be effaced from their memory. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the Past Masters, said they were but three in number, but they were a host in themselves, and a pattern to the Craft. This having been responded to, the W.M. proposed the toast of the Treasurer and Secretary, and the Wardens. Bro. Braine, the S.W., was well qualified to perform any duty required of him. Bro. Bausor had always discharged his duties as Secretary to their satisfaction. He was now the J.W., and he was sure no better selection could have been made. He hoped in due course to see him occupy the chair. The toast of the Junior Officers was given, and the Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable and harmonious evening. The visitors were—Bros. T. Whiffin 548, H. Davis 865, J. T. Briggs P.M. 157, A. Grinwade 1381, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, Halford 223, Daniel J.W. 65, E. Edwards 788, L. Hester 1075, H. H. Whale 172, E. Preston 65.

Duke of Connaught Lodge of Instruction, No. 1524.—The usual weekly meeting of the above Lodge was held at the Havelock Tavern, Albion Road, Dalston, on Wednesday, 14th, at 8 p.m. Present—Bros. Brasted W.M., R. Coombs S.W., Anshell J.W., Hewlett S.D., J. Lorkin J.D., Dignam I.G., Fieldwick Preceptor, and Bros. Hill, George, G. Ferrar, Appleby, C. Lorkin, O. Dietrich, J. Lowe, Polack, Shackleton, B. Meyer, G. Streecon, Bonner, &c. Lodge opened in due form with prayer, minutes read and confirmed. Bro. O. Dietrich was interrogated and entrusted. Lodge opened in 2nd degree. Bro. Dietrich was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft.

The 1st section of the lecture was worked by Bro. Shackleton, assisted by the brethren; the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th by Bro. Hewlett, assisted by the brethren. Lodge closed in the 2nd degree. The 1st and 2nd sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Hewlett, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Appleby S.W. 174 was unanimously elected a joining member. Bro. Coombs was appointed W.M. for the ensuing week. Nothing else offering, the Lodge was closed in ancient form, and adjourned to Wednesday, 21st, at 8 p.m.

The Lodge of Loyalty, No. 1607.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday, the 10th inst., at the Alexandra Palace, Muswell-hill, where, by the kindness of Bros. Bertram and Roberts, the Lodge-room had been comfortably prepared. The brethren assembled punctually at three o'clock, which enabled the W.M. to perform the work with that regularity and precision which is his wonted custom. It consisted in raising Bro. Hodges, and initiating Mr. Thomas Jones into the mysteries of our Order. This done, letters were read from the family of Bro. E. Beedell, stating that he was seriously ill; also from Bro. Samnda, stating that in consequence of the death of his first-born, he was unable to be present; these were ordered to be entered on the minutes, and a resolution passed that replies be sent, expressing the sympathy of the Lodge with these brethren in their affliction. The Lodge was then closed and the brethren returned to town, where, at 59 Old Broad-street, the W.M. had thoughtfully arranged an elegant banquet, served by the proprietor, Bro. Hyde in his well known admirable style. The cloth being cleared, the customary toasts followed,—to that of the charities our worthy Bro. Terry responded, and in the course of his remarks, complimented the Lodge upon the fact that, not having yet completed its first year's existence, it had already sent up two stewards, with lists amounting in the aggregate to £200. The Tyler's toast brought a very agreeable evening to a close. The brethren separating shortly after nine o'clock. Sorry to part, but happy to meet again.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Glad Tidings.—Some constitutions have a tendency to rheumatism, and are throughout the year borne down by its protracted tortures. Let all sufferers bathe the affected parts with warm brine, and afterwards rub in this soothing Ointment. They will find it the best means of lessening their agony, and, assisted by Holloway's Pills, the surest way of overcoming their disease. More need not be said than to request a few days' trial of this safe and soothing treatment, by which the disease will ultimately be completely swept away. Pains that would make a giant shudder are assuaged without difficulty by Holloway's easy and inexpensive remedies, which comfort by moderating the throbbing vessels and calming the excited nerves.

THE DRAMA.

Mr. Irving as "Richard the III"—"The Bohemian Gyurl."

THE latest Shakspearian revival at the Lyceum is *Richard the Third*, with Mr. Irving, of course, in the part of the crook-backed usurper. The play has been shorn of Colley Cibber's interpolations, and also, we regret to say, of a great deal of the original text. The version employed in this revival forms a somewhat less effective stage play than the ordinary acting version; but it has the merit of introducing the fine character of Queen Margaret, which is usually omitted in representation. Concerning the merits of Mr. Irving's impersonation of Richard, there will probably be some conflict of opinion amongst the best judges; but it may be pronounced decidedly inferior to his Hamlet, though an improvement upon his Macbeth and Othello. Mr. Irving's mannerisms unfortunately grow upon him, and his affectations of voice and peculiarities of pronunciation make it a difficult matter to follow him in his more rapid utterances. Sometimes his voice is made to change capriciously from a low to a high key, or *vice versa*. In many instances, he gives an unnatural shortness to his vowel sounds, biting the words off as if they stung him. In the last act, he fails to rise to the height of the occasion, and his voice is manifestly unequal to the task imposed upon it. The performance is unquestionably an intellectual one, and its shortcomings arise chiefly out of the physical idiosyncracies of the actor. Miss Bateman, who appears in the character of Queen Margaret, acts with great force, and renders her declamatory speeches with fine effect. Miss Isabel Bateman is also a sufficiently good exponent of Lady Anne. A Mr. Walter Bentley represents Clarence with great power and intelligence, and the other parts are all adequately cast.

THE OPERA COMIQUE has registered a success in the *Bohemian Gyurl*, a capital burlesque on Balfe's well known opera. The piece is briskly written, some excellent fun is made out of the peculiarities of the original work, and it is acted with spirit throughout. Miss Nelly Farren, who appears as Thaddeus of Warsaw, is, of course, the life and soul of the performance, and she is ably seconded by the efforts of Messrs. Royce and Terry, and Miss Kate Vaughan.

At the annual banquet of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, in Freemason's Hall, on Monday, there were present, including ladies and brethren, no less than 732 guests, of whom 470 were members of the Craft, and the remainder members of the fair sex. Bro. Dawkins, manager, exerted himself to the utmost to cater successfully for this unusually large number, and succeeded admirably, the *menu* being extremely well chosen, and the wines of the choicest vintages.

"O, LET ME DREAM THAT DREAM AGAIN."—We understand that these stanzas, which we noticed on the 10th inst. (by Mrs. M. A. Baines), have already been set to music for a tenor voice, by William Metcalle (composer of the "Songs of Cumberland"), and can be obtained from Messrs. Cramer, 201 Regent-street, W. In the second line of the stanza quoted in our columns, last week, there was a slight error; instead of "By fancy's art," read, "By fancy's aid."

THE THEATRES, &c.

COVENT GARDEN.—At 7.0, THAT RASCAL PAT. At 7.45, ROBINSON CRUSOE. Also this afternoon, at 2.0. (Last times.)
DRURY LANE.—At 7.0, HIDE AND SEEK, and THE FORTY THIEVES. Also Monday, Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, at 2.0.
QUEEN'S.—At 8, BIORN.
ADELPHI.—At 6.45, LITTLE GOODY TWO SHOES. At 8.45, SHAUGRAUN.
HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, FOLLOW THE LEADER. At 8.30, PYGMALION AND GALATEA, and BIRDS IN THEIR LITTLE NESTS AGREE.
STRAND.—At 7.0, RELY ON MY DISCRETION, A LESSON IN LOVE, and THE LYING DUTCHMAN.
PRINCESS'S.—At 6.45, THE DAY AFTER THE FAIR. At 7.30, LOST IN LONDON. At 10.0, THE MAGIC FLUTE.
OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, RAISING THE WIND. At 7.45, THE QUEEN OF CONNAUGHT. At 10.30, CLOCKWORK.
PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, PERIL.
LYCEUM.—At 7.0., THE LOTTERY TICKET. At 7.45, KING RICHARD III.
GAIETY.—At 7.10, FARCE. At 7.45, DOMESTIC ECONOMY. At 8.30, ROBERT MACAIRE. At 9.30, THE CRITIC.
GLOBE.—At 7.0, THE WAY OF THE WIND. At 7.45, SQUABBLES. At 9.0, THE INVISIBLE PRINCE.
VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG. At 8.0, OUR BOYS, and A FEARFUL FOG.
ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.30, FARCE. At 8.15, THE DANISCHEFFS.
ROYALTY.—At 8.0, ORPHEE AUX ENFERS. At 9.0, AWFULLY AWFUL. At 10.0, THE THREE CONSPIRATORS.

CRITERION.—At 7.30, DOROTHY'S STRATAGEM. At 8.45, ON BAIL.
FOLLY.—At 7.30, CHECKMATE. At 8.45, ROBINSON CRUSOE.
OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.30, THE PROMPTER'S BOX. At 9.15, THE BOHEMIAN GYURL.
ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, FARCE. At 8.0, FLEDERMAUS. At 9.15, THE GIRARDS. At 10.15, THE FAIRIES' HOME. At 11.0, COMIC BALLET.
COURT.—At 8.0, NEW MEN AND OLD ACRES.
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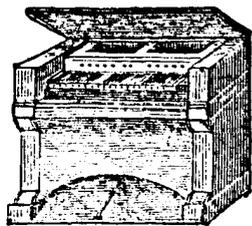
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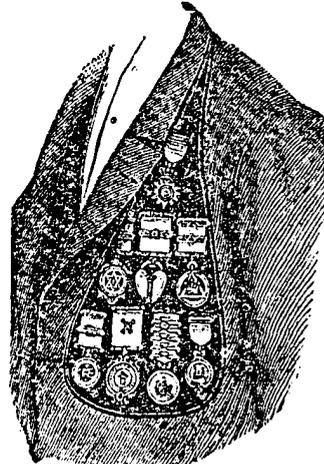
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