

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

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SILENCE, OR A TONGUE OF GOOD REPORT.

WE have no intention of inflicting a sermon on our readers, but it is meet for us occasionally to advert to one of the Masonic Virtues, which brethren are not always careful to observe. We do not know how it would have fared with some of us moderns had we lived in the South of Italy in the days of Pythagoras, and sought admission into the school of philosophy, which that venerable sage established at Croton. It strikes us that a very respectable majority would have experienced almost insuperable difficulties in obeying the prescriptions of that learned man during the first period of their novitiate, which lasted two years, and during the whole of which they were bound to observe the strictest silence. True, we have in these degenerate days, a most wise precept which enunciates emphatically a most obvious truth, namely, that "Speech is silver, silence is golden." Unhappily we do not always exhibit that respect which it has a right to look for from men in general, and from Masons in particular. We recognise its merits, but only as it were, through a glass darkly. We quote it freely, but do we obey it always, and unhesitatingly? There are cases, also, which come under our observation from time to time, and require us, in very truth, to answer this formidable question in the negative. We are not obedient to this invaluable maxim, and we purpose glancing on this occasion, and in general terms, at the more prominent illustrations of this disobedience.

One of the first and most important lessons we are taught at our entrance into Freemasonry is to speak well of a brother both in his absence and in his presence; and if, unfortunately, that cannot be done honestly and truthfully, we are enjoined to observe that special virtue of the Craft—SILENCE. If we cannot honourably speak well in praise of a brother, we must say nothing to his dispraise. This is a charming precept, but how fares it when it comes to be reduced to practice? In what is Masonically known as the profane world, there prevails very commonly the habit of talking scandal. This, it is needless to say, is a most pernicious habit, and one to which much evil is directly traceable. Is it asking too much of those who join our ranks that they should cast it aside when they come among us, not in theory only, but likewise in practice, and that the solemn obligation they contract at their initiation should be reverently observed, not flung to the winds when their purpose is gained, and they have received the honours of the first degree? We are very far from expecting that a man will become perfect simply by reason of his Masonry, but it is not unreasonable we should require of him to be as diligent in the fulfilment of his Masonic duties as he is in satisfying the claims of society in his ordinary avocations. There are times when it is necessary that a man should present himself for admission into the society of his acquaintance in the full dress of the day. He obeys this law, because he knows that admission in any other garb would be impossible. A man is charged to fulfil certain duties at particular hours of the day. He does so, because he knows that any dereliction of his duty will be visited with condign punishment. To put the matter plainly, his services will be dispensed with after repeated trials and disapprobations, oftentimes, indeed, after one only, and those of one willing to fulfil such duties punctually will be engaged instead. But if it is *de rigueur* to attend a ball or the opera in the conventional white tie and swallow-tail; if when we enter upon the duties of a certain post, we so

far worship prescription and morality as to do what is required, *à fortiori* is it incumbent on us to observe the obligations imposed upon us by Freemasonry, seeing that it is we who go to Freemasonry, not Freemasonry which comes to us. Society says white ties and swallow-tails at certain seasons, or we forbid your presence. Business obligation says, duty at certain times of a given quality, or we need you not. Freemasonry says nothing in the way of invitation. It is we who seek admission. It warns us, before entrance, that we are about contracting certain solemn obligations. Query, are we not equally in duty bound to fulfil them, just as we are the obligations of business or of fashion? Fashion prescribes a blue coat and brass buttons or nankeen inexpressibles, or the afore-mentioned tie, and swallow-tail coat, and we obey the prescription in fear and trembling, lest the tie or inexpressibles, or buttons, should differ to the extent of a hair's breadth from the size and shape required. In this matter we are the most despicable of slaves; yet in a matter of plain Masonic honour we are guilty of every kind of prevarication, equivocation, and mental reservation, in order to shirk a duty voluntarily undertaken, not undertaken of necessity. There are those brethren who do speak differently behind a brother's back, than when they are in his presence; who do not observe silence as to his faults, when Masonry prescribes they should be silent. Many there are who enlarge on the infirmities of a brother's nature, who talk scandal of him when occasion offers, and who create a scandal where there is none. There is no doubt that Masonry, which includes charity, covers a multitude of sins; but that is no reason for making the multitude more multitudinous. Let us cultivate a tongue of good report, or let us, in the name of all we hold sacred, have a tongue of no report at all. We have our wits about us, and we trust a sense of honour. Let us exercise our wit and satisfy our sense of honour, when both alike forbid us violating our duty. It is surely no hardship to be discreetly silent. Let us drop scandal at the portals of the Lodge. There is no room for it in pure and unadulterated Freemasonry. If men have not the courage to commit themselves unreservedly to the dictates of honour, let them forbear seeking admission to our temples. Neither the backbiter nor the scandal-monger has any appointed place within these.

THE CRAFT AND THE HIGH GRADES.

WE adduce the two following cases in which Craft and Arch Masonry took part together in the consecration of a Craft Lodge. In the first in order of date it will be noticed further that members of the Order of Masonic Knights Templar were present wearing their regalia. It is clear then there was not the same strict observance in those days as now, and that in the commingling of different Masonic bodies in a Craft ceremonial pure and simple, our United States brethren adhere more closely to the practice of last century than we do in England. R.A. jewels are very properly worn in Craft Lodges, for the Arch is recognised of Grand Lodge; but it would be a departure from the law if on the occasion of the consecration of a new Lodge and the installation of its W.M., brethren appeared in any other capacity than as Craft Masons. As to Templarism, it is, doubtless, not unknown to our readers that some years since one of our Provincial Grand Masters was summarily dismissed from his office by the late Earl of Zetland for attending P.G. Lodge clothed in the habili-

ments of a Knight Templar—we have seen it stated, in the gorgeous regalia of a S.G.I.G. of the 33°, but the point is immaterial—in addition to his provincial clothing. Therefore the mention of Knights Templar in this case and that cited by Bro. Whytehead are the more noteworthy.

The first occasion was a Provincial Grand Lodge held at Chelmsford on 16th August 1793, for the purpose of celebrating the anniversary of the birth of the Grand Master H.R.H. George Prince of Wales, to regulate the Masonic business of the county, and to constitute the Lodge of Good Fellowship at the Saracen's Head. Bro. Thomas Dunckerley, P.G.M., presided. The Lodge having been opened "in ample form"—we are quoting from the *Freemasons' Magazine or General and complete Library*—the P.G.M. appointed his officers for the Province. A procession took place to the church. In it and following the Craft Lodges we find the list thus continued :

A Janitor.

Royal Arch Masons with Sashes and Medals, two and two.

An Equerry, K.T.

The Grand Register (? Registrar) of the Order in uniform, with black silk sashes, with a silver star of five points, a cross of gold, and an appendage of white satin.

The Grand Lodge of Essex, in the following order,

Grand Tyler.

Past Grand Officers, two and two.

Grand Stewards.

Grand Chaplain, and Grand Architect.

Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer.

The Two Grand Wardens.

The Grand Master, preceded by the Grand Sword Bearer, and

Supported on the right by the Provincial Deputy

Grand Master, and on the left by

Capt. Sir W. Hannam,

Acting Grand Master for England of K.T.

In the report of the Constitution of the new Lodge there is no evidence that the Royal Arch and Knights Templar Masons took any part as such, but the fact of their joining in a Craft procession fully bears out Bro. Whytehead's statement in his letter, which appeared a fortnight since in these columns, to the effect that "in those days, there was no desire on the part of any of those bodies (*i.e.*, the 'High Grades') or Craft Masons, to separate or hold aloof from one another."

The second case is recorded in the same magazine for February 1795, as having occurred "at the consecration of the Lodge of Unanimity, No. 136, at Coltishall, Norfolk," on the 14th October 1793. In the brief account of this event, we read that after the new Lodge had been consecrated "in ample form," "the P.G.M. Sir Edward Astley, the Most Excellent Superintendent of Royal Arch Masons, the Hon. Henry Hobart, attended by their respective Grand and Excellent Officers, together with the Masters, Wardens and brethren of several visiting Lodges, the Masters, Wardens and brethren of the Coltishall Lodge, &c., went in grand procession from the Lodge-room to church, preceded by a band of music." In the procession we find that after the Craftsmen of the various Lodges followed "Janitor—three Principals of Royal Arch Chapter—Royal Arch Masons, two and two," and then the Grand Tyler, &c., &c. This is less remarkable than the previous case, or that quoted by Bro. Whytehead, but we have thought it sufficiently interesting to introduce it in the course of these few observations.

ODDS AND ENDS.

By WALTER SPENCER, F.R.G.S., &c.

THE first permanent Chinese Legation established in Europe is naturally a source of considerable interest. The biographies of the Ambassador and of the Attaché Lieu, which appeared in the *Illustrated London News*, are rather inaccurate. There are, I believe, but four men of rank in the Legation, viz.—H. E. — Kuoh; Lieu, the attaché; Fêh, the secretary; and Fung, the interpreter, beside Dr. Macartney and his assistant. But they are accompanied by a horde of retainers and domestics. It is the third visit to Europe of the Chinese Interpreter and Secretary, Messieurs Fung and Têh, gentlemen of much polish and acquaintance with Western manners. The Consular officers mentioned in some newspapers is not attached to the Legation, but acts as interpreter for Lord

Derby. London is naturally not the pleasantest place of residence which would have been selected by the strangers, but they will, it is hoped, gradually feel more at home.

Dr. Macartney, who accompanies them, is an old resident in China, a perfect master of the Chinese language and etiquette. Shortly after the capture of Soochow from the rebels, I was his guest in the house where the threshold was yet wet with the blood of the Mo-Wang. He founded in Soochow the first Arsenal established upon European principles; all was in disorder, and motley materials were being hurriedly assembled for commencement of the undertaking. When he ushered me to rest on the first night spent in his hospitable *yamen*, I remember his pointing in a jocular way to a receptacle in the room with the remark, "Take care of your light, that's *fulminate of mercury*."

When the Arsenal was fairly started, of course great excitement arose amongst the Celestials. Troops of them came from towns in the surrounding country to adore respectfully the steam-engines and blazing furnaces, and pilgrims eager in the worship of *Fung-Shui* were, later on, attracted from afar. Macartney ranked as a *Taon-tai*, or Prefect of a town, and administered justice amongst his numerous retainers upon patriarchal principles. His name was paraphrased into *Ma-Ka-Lee*, and, in accordance with Chinese custom, he was supposed to belong to the great family of *Ma*; for, amongst Chinese, the surname goes first. Thus, the names of the Interpreter and Secretary to the present Legation are *Fung-Yee* and *Têh-Ming*, but it would be impolite to style them otherwise than as Mr. Fung and Mr. Têh. They regret not having brought hither sedan chairs, which, borne by four coolies (four others following as relay), with red visiting cards, well displayed, suspended from a loop at its side, would, they think, be so much more convenient and comfortable than the dangerous and jerky conveyances in which the English enjoy locomotion.

I remember Macartney's giving an official dinner at Soochow, at which the guests gravely pocketed and retained their dinner napkins, deeming them graceful presents of the host to commemorate the occasion. One of them explained to him the reasons why European manners were so barbarous, and showing his own inoffensive *chop-sticks*, remarked, in mild remonstrance, that Europeans could not even sit down to eat without having a sword and spear beside them—*i.e.*, knife and fork, dangerous instruments of the sort being an abomination to quiet family life in the "Flowery Land."

Certain Chinese officers, who are serving for instruction with the Prussian army, having sent in a complaint to His Excellency, as to the treatment they receive, Mr. Têh is gone over to Berlin to investigate the circumstances and to report.

The Fifteen Sections were worked on Thursday, 8th March, at the Fidelity Lodge of Instruction No. 3, Yorkshire Grey Tavern, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square. Bros. Koester P.M. and Preceptor as W.M., W. Mard S.W., Buche J.W., Blakemore S.D., A. Cooper I.G., C. W. Davis I.P.M., and a numerous assemblage of brethren. The following are the brethren who worked the various sections :—

FIRST LECTURE.

1st Section	Bro. Blakemore
2nd "	" Davis W.M. 382
3rd "	" Busche
4th "	" Cook Secretary
5th "	" Zahrenbach P.M.
6th "	" Koester P.M.
7th "	" Long

SECOND LECTURE.

1st Section	Bro. Maillard
2nd "	" Long
3rd "	" Koester P.M.
4th "	" Coulton P.M.
5th "	" Sedgewick P.M.

THIRD LECTURE.

1st Section	Bro. T. Brown
2nd "	" Sedgewick P.M.
3rd "	" Coulton P.M.

INDIA.

We learn from the *Masonic Record of Western India* that an Emergent Meeting of the District Grand Lodge of the Punjab was held at Freemasons' Hall, Lahore, on St. John the Evangelist's Day, the 27th December last. Bro. Major W. H. Mackesy, Deputy D.G.M., presided, and the different Lodges in the district were fairly represented. The Lodge having been opened, a procession was formed, and the brethren, to the number of between forty and fifty, attended Divine service in the parish church of Lahore, where a sermon on the building of the Walls of Jerusalem, was delivered by the Rev. W. Hooker. After service, the procession was reformed, and the brethren marched back to the Hall, when the District Grand Lodge was closed. In the evening, our Lahore brethren and their guests dined together in the banquet hall, to the number of forty-two. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to, and the evening passed off most agreeably. A Quarterly Communication of the same District Grand Lodge was held at the same Hall on the 13th January last. Bro. Major Mackesy presided as Grand Master. There were present Bros. A. Stewart as Dep. D.G.M., C. A. Goodman D.G.S. Warden, W. Bath as D.G.J.W., C. H. Chetham D.G. Treasurer, George Davis D.G. Secretary, and other District Grand or acting D.G. Officers, together with several representatives of Lodges. Before the minutes of the previous Regular Communication, held on the 30th October last, were put for confirmation, a remonstrance was read from Lodge Mooltan against the vote of 200 rupees towards the Lahore New Church, on the usual ground of Denominationalism; the funds being collected from men of all creeds should not be expended for the benefit of one creed. In the course of the discussion that followed, Bros. Major Gorham and Chetham, in supporting the vote, expressed their willingness to support a grant, if one were proposed, towards the erection of a Mosque, or any similar institution which conferred blessings upon suffering humanity. The proposition that the minutes be confirmed was then put to the vote and carried *nem. con.* The minutes of the Emergent Meeting on the 27th December having been likewise confirmed, the D.D.G.M. addressed the D. Grand Lodge. He announced the approaching return to India of the D.G.M. Major Marmaduke Ramsay, who would therefore be able to preside at the next Quarterly Communication. He also said that Masonry in the District was prosperous, and that most of the Lodges continued to make their returns with commendable regularity. He alluded in feeling terms to the premature death of W. Bro. Captain W. C. Clayton, of the 9th Lancers, who was accidentally killed by a fall from his pony, when playing polo at Delhi. Having announced his own reappointment for the current year as Dep. D.G.M., Bro. Major Mackesy, appointed the following as his officers, the position of D.G.S.W. being kept open, at the request of Major Ramsay, in order to be filled by a worthy brother, whose arrival from England is shortly expected, Bro. Chalmers temporarily taking the office. Bro. Chetham having been unanimously re-elected G. Treasurer, the names of the new appointees were read out. Bro. J. W. Goldney D.G.J.W., Bro. Rev. W. J. Hunt, D. Grand Chaplain, Bro. G. Davis, D.G. Secretary, Bro. L. W. Taylor, D. Grand Registrar; Bros. W. Freeman and Capt. H. J. Brownrigge D. Senior and Junior Grand Deacons respectively; Bro. R. Blake D.G. Sup. of Works, Bros. Dhanjibhoy D.G.D. of C. and W. C. Wilson Ass. ditto; Bro. H. W. Whymps D.G.S.B., E. Gillson D.G. Organist, Sinder Bikrame Singh D.G. Purs., and Lord Ossinstone, Garrioch, Dinshaw Hesjee, T. J. Symonds, B. T. Hill, and R. Kerr D.G. Stewards. Those of the foregoing who were present were then invested. An estimate of rupees 1,000 was then sanctioned towards enlarging the Hall building, and it was agreed to invite the bodies using it to contribute rupees 500. The report of the Fund of Benevolence, recommending the grant of 25 rupees per annum to the widow of a deceased brother, was submitted and confirmed. The proceedings of the Board of General Purposes was next submitted, and confirmed; and several resolutions, among which was one recommending the loan of 500 rupees from the D.G.L. Fund, free of interest, to the Freemasons' Hall Fund,—adopted. The D.G. Lodge was then closed in the usual manner, at 10 p.m.

The *Standard* contains an interesting account of the celebration of St. John the Evangelist's day in Lodge St. Andrew No. 500, Bro. Hodgson W.M. presiding. Bros. Robertson, Jefferson, and Jenkins were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The Lodge was then adjourned during a short period for refreshment, after which Bro. Conor was passed. Bro. Cartois S.W. and W.M. elect, was then duly installed in the chair of K.S. The board of installed Masters comprising W. Bros. Louth, Hodgson, Etty and Easdon. W. Bro. Cartois then appointed and invested the following officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Hodgson I.P.M., Vicary S.W., Thayte J.W., Ross S.D., Amos J.D. and Treasurer, Jefferson Secretary, Etty Chaplain, Mitchell M.C., Robertson S. and Howes Tyler. Bro. Hodgson then recapitulated the chief events that had marked his term of office, pointing with justifiable pride, to the improved state of the finances, there having been in the preceding December, on his appointment to the Mastership, a cash balance in hand of a little over 40 rupees, with outstanding debts amounting to over 143 rupees. The latter had all been cleared off in the interim. Moreover, the property of the Lodge had been increased by the purchase of a new harmonium for 135 Rs., and a new banner for 105 Rs. 150 Rs. had been expending on improving the premises, the present estimated value of which, allowing for deterioration was 2,456 Rs. The cash balance in hand was 300 Rs. During the year there had been nine initiations, eight passings, seven raisings, seven affiliations and only two resignations; both caused by the brethren being called away through the exigencies of the service. Lectures had also been given not only on the different Tracing Boards, but likewise on subjects of interest to the Craft. Having expressed his thanks to the brethren who had, as officers, supported him during his year of office and to whose zeal and ability he acknowledged himself deeply indebted, Bro. Hodgson resumed his seat, amid the congratulations of all present.

Several brethren were then proposed for affiliation, and on the motion of Bro. Amos, seconded by the W.M., it was unanimously agreed to have a large-sized photograph taken of the I.P.M. Bro. Hodgson, one copy of which should be presented to him, and another hung up in the Lodge-room, as a memorial of the eminent services he had rendered to the Lodge. Having further resolved, on the motion of Bro. Amos, seconded by Bro. Hodgson, that the sermon preached by the Rev. Bro. Etty during the day at Christ's Church, should be printed and published at the expense of the Lodge, the Lodge was closed with the usual formalities.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. JAMES HANNAH, OF WARRINGTON.

ON Friday the 9th an interesting meeting of the Freemasons of Warrington was held at the Lion Hotel. The chair was occupied by Bro. John Bowes P.M. P.Z. P.J.G.W. of Cumberland and Westmoreland. The following brethren, forming the Testimonial Committee, were present:—Bros. Thomas Tunstall W.M. No. 148, Charles Crosier W.M. No. 1250, W. S. Hawkins P.M., W. Richardson P.M., B. W. Finney P.M. P.Z., W. Woods P.M., R. Brierley P.M., Joseph Pickthall S.W. 148, John Armstrong S.W. 1250, J. R. Young J.W. 148, Galloway S.D. 1250, Thos. Sutton Treas. 1250, S. E. Johnson; and James Hannah. After a substantial tea, the Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, after which Bro. Bowes made the presentation, in doing which he said:—Brethren, I am charged with a very pleasurable duty this evening. I believe I have received the compliment on the ground that I am the oldest Mason present. In any case, and whatever may be the reason of the selection, I very willingly undertake the task. We have in our midst to-night a brother whom we one and all wish to honour. True, that brother is not of rank and opulence, but he is a brother who has done his duty, and we wish to prove to him that in the eyes of Masons there are occasions when all are equal if they *deserve* to be so. Acting for the then W.M. (Bro. Henherd), well do I remember admitting our friend, James Hannah, to Masonic light. In due course I passed and raised him, and from that time to the present he has deserved well at our hands. Faithfully and zealously he served us in the humble, but highly important capacity of Outer Guard and Janitor, and now when his ordinary avocations press so heavily upon him that he feels he can no longer serve us with credit to himself, like a good man and true he resigns into the hands of the rulers of the Craft his emblem of office. As a man and as a Mason, Bro. Hannah has won the good opinion of us all, and we determined therefore that he should not sever his official connection with us without some mark—some substantial mark—of our sincere esteem. The feeling is spontaneous and general, and does not emanate from individuals, but collectively from brethren in a corporate capacity. Bro. Hannah, I know you will believe me when I say it affords me extreme gratification to be the mouthpiece of the brethren on this occasion, and also the medium of handing to you this handsome gold watch, which bears the following inscription:—

"Presented to Bro. James Hannah by the Freemasons of Warrington, in recognition of many years faithful service as Tyler and Janitor.

WM. SHARP Z. 148.

W. H. ROBINSON W.M. 148

CHAS. CROSIER W.M. 1250."

May you long be spared to wear it! and when time with us shall be no more, may we all meet together in the Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for ever!—The chairman's remarks were endorsed and echoed by the gentlemen present, they one and all warmly testifying to Bro. Hannah's obliging manners and gentlemanly bearing. Bro. Hannah, with evident emotion, acknowledged the handsome testimonial at length, and most feelingly. He assured the brethren that he was deeply grateful for the many kindnesses he had experienced at their hands. He had always striven to do his duty, and was truly thankful that in his endeavours he had met with the approbation of the brethren seated round the table. Some of those present had come some distance to take part in the proceedings of the evening, and however much he tried, he should utterly fail to express in words his deep and heartfelt gratitude to them. It would be invidious to mention friends individually, when he had so many, but he knew they would excuse him if he singled out the chairman. He thanked them, and in the heartiest possible manner, for the handsome and costly gift they had that night presented to him. He sat down amidst general cheering. After a number of personal toasts had been proposed and duly honoured, the brethren separated in harmony.

CONFIDENCE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 193

THIS Lodge appears to be undergoing transition, it is not long since we reported the removal from the Mason's Hall Tavern to the Blue Anchor Tavern in Coleman-street, where we hoped it would have enjoyed a long uninterrupted existence; but Lodges of Instruction like human beings, are things of circumstance. Upon the meeting being convened on Wednesday last, the brethren were informed by the host that unless each member agreed to pay thirteen pence—receiving in return refreshments to the amount of sixpence—he could not permit the Lodge to meet again under his roof. A committee was immediately organized, and quarters have been secured at the Whittington, Moor-lane, Fore-street, where Bro. Edwards is the host. We hope it may be long hence ere we have to record another removal. The Lodge will meet at its new abode on Wednesday next at 7 p.m. presided over by Bro. J. T. Miller S.W. 188.

REVIEWS.

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

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Early History and Transactions of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, 1781-1815. Part IX. Published by authority of the Grand Lodge. Granted to Kane Lodge, No. 454, June 1874. New York: Masonic and Miscellaneous Publishers, No. 2 Bleecker-street: D. Sickels and Co., Managers. 1876.

PURSUING our analysis of the Proceedings, we find that on the 5th December 1810, the Committee appointed on the previous March to visit the different Lodges in New York city and regulate their work with a view to produce uniformity, reported that, after repeated meetings and discussions, they had come to the persuasion that there was no likelihood whatever of their delivering a satisfactory report, and accordingly they begged to be discharged. It was therefore agreed that the Committee be discharged, but, at the same time, it was arranged that the subject be referred to the Grand Officers, with full power to prescribe and enforce such regulations as they may think desirable. The Committee on unpublished resolutions likewise delivered a report, which was accepted and ordered to be filed. At the meeting on the 11th March 1811, we note the case of a brother who was restored to his rights as a Mason, though not to his seat in the Lodge of which he was a member. On the same occasion an application by the proprietors and editor of the *Masons' Magazine and General Miscellany*, about to be published in Philadelphia, requesting Grand Lodge to furnish to them such charges, addresses, odes, songs, &c., as might be deemed worthy of publication, was referred to the Grand Secretary, with instructions to comply with the request. At the Grand Stewards' Lodge, on the 29th May of the same year, the petition of an insolvent debtor confined in prison for assistance "to enable him to get the benefit of the Insolvent Act" was referred to a committee, with power to afford him such relief as they might think fit. On the 5th June the M.W.G.M. the Hon. De Witt Clinton and other Grand Officers were re-elected. A report on the funds of the Grand Lodge was likewise presented. There was also read a communication from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania "requesting the honour of the company of the Grand Officers at the consecration of the new hall, and at their Grand Masonic banquet on the 20th June instant," to which a respectful answer was directed to be sent. We note, further, that "a circular letter from a committee of correspondence of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee, on the subject of a National Grand Lodge," was read, and referred to certain brethren. Disapprobation was also expressed at a sum of money being handed over "for the payment of a lecturer" by a Lodge when it was in arrear as to its dues. The Grand Secretary having expressed doubts "whether he ought to grant certificates to brethren who were made by dispensations, and were not members of the Lodge in which they were made," the subject was referred to a committee. Other business having been discharged, and communications from the Grand Lodges of England and New Hampshire having been read, the Lodge was closed. The finances of Grand Lodge occupied its attention on the 4th September, after which the Committee appointed to consider the question of certificates granted to persons under dispensation reported that they saw no reason why any alteration should be made. At this meeting, also, the Grand Lodge School Committee delivered a report as to the progress of the children under their superintendence. On the 16th October it was resolved that everyone, with the exception of Grand Officers and Proxies, who claimed a seat in Grand Lodge, should produce to the Grand Secretary a certificate exhibiting the nature of his claim. The Committee on the subject of a National Grand Lodge reported that, as they had not had submitted to them any advantages that would result from such a proposition, and as they saw none likely to result, they thought that Grand Lodge should not appoint delegates, and the report was accepted. A very silly question was then determined, namely, that a person with a stiff knee was not ineligible to be received into the ranks of Masonry. A resolution of thanks to Bro. William Cocks, Grand Treasurer, and a jewel, not to exceed in cost one hundred dollars, having been voted, the Lodge was closed. On the 4th December, Bro. Sampson Simson was elected Grand Treasurer, in succession to Bro. William Cocks, resigned. A communication from a Naples Lodge was not entertained till it had been first ascertained that the Lodge in question had been duly constituted "under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Masons." Vacancies were also reported by the School Committee, and that the children were making satisfactory progress. The Committee on fiscal concerns made a report, and also another, at an Emergency Meeting of Grand Lodge, held on the 11th of the same month. On the 4th March, 1812, in the School Committee Report, it was announced that there were forty-five pupils in the school, and four vacancies, and, further, that the children had made excellent progress, and great praise was due to the teacher for the order and regularity he maintained. On the 3rd June, 1812, Bro. De Witt Clinton and his Principal Grand Officers were re-elected, after which the Deputy G.M. presented Bro. W. Cocks, Past Grand Treasurer, with the jewel previously voted to him. A petition for a Warrant for a new Lodge having been refused, on the ground that the recommending Lodges had not paid up their dues, the Committee of Grand Stewards' Lodge, appointed to consider the financial condition of Grand Lodge having delivered their report, and communications from the Grand Lodges of Vermont and Ohio having been read and ordered to be filed, Grand Lodge was closed with the customary formalities. On the 2nd September, sundry petitions for new warrants were disposed of, and communications from the Grand Lodges of Maryland and England and were read and ordered to be filed. A Grand Lodge of Emergency was held on the 13th November, in

order that the intelligence of the death of Past Grand Treasurer W. Cocks, might be formally communicated. In order to testify to the respect due to that worthy brother, it was determined to bury him with full Masonic honours, and a Committee was thereupon appointed to make the needful arrangements. At the meeting on the 2nd December letters from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and New Jersey on the subject of initiating sojourners by virtue of a dispensation, "were referred to a Committee." Subsequently, at the same meeting, an informal report from the Grand Lodge Free School Committee having been handed in, it was resolved to continue the Committee appointed to report a plan for the extension of the school. On the 3rd of March 1813, after considering the statement of accounts of the School Fund, Grand Lodge on receipt of report as to the initiation of sojourners resolved that no candidates should be initiated till they had satisfied the Lodge as to the propriety of their antecedents. The question of increasing or reducing the number of Grand Deacons and Grand Stewards was referred for consideration, and the report was to be brought up at the next meeting of Grand Lodge. On the 2nd June occurred the annual elections, the majority of the Grand Officers, including the Grand Master, being re-elected. Petitions for warrants were referred, and communications from the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and Virginia, were read and ordered to be filed. It is noteworthy that at the meeting of the 1st September, Lodge La Sincérité No. 122, finding it impossible, owing to the absence of many of its members to hold its regular meetings, prayed it might discontinue the same till it could collect a sufficient number, and the prayer was granted. It was likewise resolved that, in the event of the honour of a public funeral being accorded to the gallant Captain Laurence, measures should be taken for the Masonic Lodges to join in the procession. It is doubtless in the recollection of our readers, that Capt. Laurence died gallantly fighting for his country in a certain memorable action at sea. The last minute of any importance will be found amongst those relating to the Grand Lodge held on the 1st December, and describes very circumstantially, the appearance of a Masonic impostor who is, of course, very properly denounced. We have omitted to draw attention to one record. Three brethren, passengers on board the British brig *Peacock*, were found to be in such a destitute condition, that twenty dollars were at once disbursed on their account, and further forty-eight dollars were promised to be paid. The Grand Stewards' Lodge unanimously endorsed this liberal action of the Committee of Charity, and ordered the draft for the latter amount to be at once honoured by the Grand Treasurer. This concludes our notice of the 9th part, which terminates somewhat abruptly in the middle of a statement of accounts.

IN *Cassell's Family Magazine* the two serial stories "Paul Knox Pitman," and "My Guardian," progress most favourably. Paul is being fashioned into a splendid character, and May is simply delightful. Then there are directions, "How to become an Engineer in the Royal Navy" and hints by Phillis Browne, "How we made both ends meet." A Chat about Coffee" is in the highest degree interesting, while "A story about Twenty Pounds" is capitally told, though it is a pity Staining is not spared to make amends for his misdeed. "A Kaffir Sham-fight" takes us back to the visit to South Africa in 1860 of the Duke of Edinburgh, then Prince Alfred, and there is a very good review by Mr. Arthur Arnold of "Mr. Mackenzie Wallace's sojourn in Russia." The notes on "Gardening in March" are excellent, as usual; indeed, we do not know where better information more lucidly compiled is to be found. The ladies will, as a matter of course, be pleased with the paper on "Art Needlework for Ladies," and "Chit-Chat on Dress," and they will likewise find much to interest them among the notes culled by "the Gatherer." A Family Doctor pursues his plan of tendering profitable advice, and in the current number gives "Seasonable Advice for the Spring Months." Mr. Richard Proctor explains in a clear and comprehensive manner, "How Great Storms Arise," and as the weather during the last few months has been of a stormier character than usual, it will probably be a consolation to our readers to know why this has been the case. We have enumerated nearly all the contents of the March number, but bare enumeration conveys only a very indifferent idea of its merits.

We notice in the *Leisure Hour* the continuation of several previous papers. The serial, "A Young Wife's Story," is, of course, among the number, and in addition we have noted Nos. III. and IV. of Miss Isabella Bird's "Anstralia Felix: Impressions of Victoria," and Mr. E. Paxton Hood's "The Great Smith Family: Lineal and Collateral." "Cable-Laying in the Tropics" is interesting, and so, too, is the account of a "Sale of Rare Books in New York." Those who have read the account of Mr. Margary's Journey through China to the Burmese Frontier will fully appreciate the brief biographical sketch of him contained in these pages. It is necessarily brief, but opportunity has been taken to bring prominently forward the excellent qualities by which Mr. Margary was distinguished. Immediately following this is a sketch of "The Rainbow Coffee House, Fleet-street," which has recently disappeared, and of "A Winter's Night on a Locomotive;" and considering the prominence that has been given during the last four years to the subject of window gardening, we have read with as much pleasure as profit the article on "Window and Balcony Gardens." "Cyclones and Cyclone-Waves" is another instructive paper, while in the way of art contribution, we have remarked a notice of the "Winter Exhibition at the Royal Academy." The illustrations are numerous, and to be highly commended; especially "Anxious Mothers," which serves as the "Frontispiece."

The illustrations in Part 7 of the *Countries of the World* are well executed. Among the most interesting are those of "The First House erected in Quebec," the "View of Quebec," and "The Monument to Wolfe at Quebec." That of "An Old Squaw pounding wild Cherries" is capital. Of Dr. Brown's narrative we need say little beyond what we have said already. Let those read it who would gauge its merits.

CONSECRATION OF THE SKELMERSDALE LODGE (No. 1658).

ON Friday, the 9th inst., the above Lodge was consecrated at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, S.E., by Bro. John Horvey, Grand Secretary, assisted by the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Rector of St. Clement Danes, P.G. Chap. of England, and by Bro. H. J. Bass P.J.G.W. of Middlesex. Bro. Mark S. Larham W.M. 1216 P.M. 1539 occupied the Senior Warden's chair, while that of Junior Warden was taken by Bro. David Rose W.M. 1622, both brethren being widely known throughout the district as able and esteemed Preceptors in the Craft. The beautiful and imposing ceremony was admirably performed by the Consecrating Officers in presence of a distinguished assemblage of guests and visitors; and the Grand Secretary, in his address, gave much sound and excellent counsel to the brethren with regard to their duties and privileges as Masons. He told them that great care and caution ought to be used in the selection of candidates for admission to the Order, as it was too much to be feared that many sought the privileges of Freemasonry for other purposes, and in pursuit of other objects than those which the Institution recognises and approves. For this reason he could hardly look upon the rapid increase in the number of Lodges as an unmixt good, and said that an additional responsibility rested upon members of the Craft on that account. He strongly deprecated, however, the practice, which has become too common, of members striving to exclude candidates, of whom they may know nothing whatever, in order to gratify private and personal feelings of pique against their proposers. Such conduct was reprehensible in the last degree, antagonistic to the very spirit of Masonry, and could not be too strongly condemned. He moreover regretted the tendency now-a-days to give publicity to all that goes on in Masonic Lodges. He could well remember the time when this was not so, when Masons were content to "do good by stealth and blush to find it fame," but now every charitable vote was published abroad to be seen and read of all men. The Grand Chaplain delivered a magnificent oration upon the principles which should guide Masonic life, and the relation which ought to subsist between brethren within the Lodge and without it. He remarked that there was sometimes a tendency on the part of brethren in office to stand too much upon their rights and privileges, and this he thought ought to be strongly discouraged. There was also a disposition on the part of many to consider too much the differences of social position which might exist between them and others of their brethren in Freemasonry, and to adhere too rigidly to class distinctions and the prejudices of caste. This was wrong, for all such matters ought to be laid aside and forgotten in Lodge, where all brethren met on terms of perfect equality. The brethren of the new Lodge were exhorted by the Chaplain to remember the high and honourable name which he was sure they were proud to bear, and he expressed his conviction that they would so act in the future that the M.W. Deputy Grand Master would never have reason to regret having stood as their "Godfather," and allowed their Lodge to be called by his name.

The Grand Secretary thereafter installed Bro. S. J. Harvey as 1st W.M., and he in turn invested his officers. Bros. T. Edmundston as S.W., W. H. Cass J.W., and J. Davin P.M. 72 Secretary. Several brethren were proposed as joining members, and the names of five candidates for initiation were announced. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren afterwards dined together in the banqueting hall.

In giving the health of the M.W. Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, the W.M. alluded in felicitous terms to the gracious and ready consent which his lordship had given to their Lodge bearing his name, and echoed the sentiments of the Rev. Bro. Simpson in hoping that the brethren connected with the Skelmersdale Lodge would ever bear in mind the duty which devolved upon them in keeping that name free from all stain or blemish in so far as related to themselves.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson, in replying to the toast of Past and Present Officers of Grand Lodge, congratulated the W.M. on the very favourable auspices under which the new Lodge was started on its way; and, alluding to the W. Master's name, said that there was only the difference of one vowel between it and that of his old and valued friend, the V.W. Grand Secretary. He trusted that the difference between them in other respects might be found to be equally slight, and in that case he augured a brilliant career for the Skelmersdale Lodge while under its present Master's direction. The V.W. Grand Secretary, in replying to the toast of the Consecrating Officers, complimented the W.M. on the way in which he and his officers had performed their part of the work; he expressed his strong conviction that the Skelmersdale Lodge would attain a foremost place in the ranks of the Craft. To the toast of the Visitors, Bro. the Rev. P. M. Holden P.G.C. Middlesex responded; that of the Masonic Charities was replied to by Bro. H. A. Dubois P.G.S.D. Middlesex, a member of the House Committee of the Masonic School for Girls. Bro. Past Master Larham, in replying to the toast of Preceptors in the Craft, wished to bear testimony to the zeal and efficiency of the officers of the Skelmersdale Lodge, as exemplified by the assiduous attendance and very excellent working at the Lodges of Instruction, with which he was connected. He warmly congratulated the W.M., who is also one of his people, upon having secured their assistance and co-operation. To the toast of the Officers the S.W. Bro. Edmundston replied; and giving a free translation of the motto of the House of Skelmersdale, said that it might be read as meaning, "Peace within our gates." He trusted that such might ever be, in spirit as in fact, the motto of the Skelmersdale Lodge, and then their course, whether prosperous or the reverse, would at least be in accordance with the principles of their Masonry. Among the guests present at the ceremony and the subsequent banquet there were, in addition to those already mentioned, Bros. G. Earney 467, Dr. E. Pinder 7, J. H. Hastie I.P.M. 1216, J. Nann P.M. 72, Newington Bridges P.M. 1216, C. T. Danford 1216, W. S. Cackett W.M. 1538, F. G. B. Wells 1539, J. Newton W.M. 1607, F. W. Koch P.M. 829, E. Dodson P.M. 72, Dr.

H. M. Simmonds 186, J. Allsopp P.M. 1475, G. F. Harris 1541, E. W. Devereux J.W. 1423, A. Middlemass S.W. 1641, W. S. Daniel J.D. 1541, J. W. T. Chapman 1622, S. M. Redmond 72, W. Pernewan 1329, F. G. Longley S.W. 1261, E. G. Webster 72, and T. L. Green S.W. 1539.

CONSECRATION OF THE CROYDON MARK MASTERS' LODGE, NO. 198.

AN important addition to the number of Lodges on the roll of the Grand Mark Lodge of England was made on Friday, the 9th inst., at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon. On the strong recommendation of the R.W. Provincial Grand Mark Master for Middlesex and Surrey, Bro. Col. Francis Birdett, a Charter or Warrant was granted to several members of the Macdonald Mark Lodge No. 104, whose residences are in the locality of Croydon, and the V.W. Bro. Frederick Binckes P.G.W., Grand Mark Secretary, &c. was appointed by the M.W.G.M.M. to consecrate the new Lodge. An influential gathering of distinguished members of the Order, attended to support the consecrating officer, amongst whom were the V.W. Bros. Frederick Davison Dep. Prov. G.M.M., Thomas Meggy P.G.M.O. and P.M. 104, James Stevens P.G.J.D., P.M. 104 and 139, S. C. Dibdin P.G.O., W.H. Binckes, Assist. Grand Secretary, W. Spencer, Poore, and F. Cozens, G. Yaxley, J. Close, J. K. Pitt, and G. Lilley; Past and Present Grand Officers—Bros. Smeadd, Nicholls, Brown, Griffiths, Legg, Puckock, Purvis, Long, Lake, Haddock and others. The brethren having assembled in the Lodge-room, Bro. Binckes, as W.M., appointed Bro. Meggy as S.W. and Bro. Stevens as J.W., and then proceeded to open a Mark Masters' Lodge, calling upon the Assistant Grand Secretary to read the new Warrant, and inform the brethren as to the proceedings taken in respect of the formation of the Lodge. The principal officers designate having been approved of by those present, Bro. Binckes, in his customary effective style, performed the full ceremony of Consecration, and completed his work by formally dedicating and constituting the "Croydon" Lodge to the purposes of Mark Masonry. Bro. F. H. Cozens, Grand Organist, then played the concluding ("Hallelujah") chorus. After a brief interval, the ceremony of Installation was commenced, and Bros. George Yaxley, the W.M. designate, was duly installed into the chair of A. by Bro. Binckes. The S.W. designate, John Close, and J.W. designate, Bro. J. K. Pitt, were severally invested, and the offices of Overseers and Deacons were filled. Bro. Thomas Meggy assisted the Installing Master in the delivery of the addresses to the officers. A list of thirteen candidates was placed on the summons, of whom nine brethren were in attendance, and these were introduced, and at the request of the W.M. advanced to the honourable degree by Bro. James Stevens, with full ceremonial and musical accompaniment. The whole of the impressive business of the Consecration, Installation, and Advancement, was carried out with all that perfection which the well-known working ability of Bros. Binckes, Meggy, Stevens, Poore, and Dibdin would ensure, and the satisfaction of the brethren of the new Lodge was not only heartily expressed in words, but was confirmed by the unanimous election of those brethren as honorary members. The presence of the Deputy Prov. G.M.M. was suitably acknowledged, and Bro. Davison received a cordial Masonic salute. The thanks of the Lodge were voted to Bro. H. W. Binckes for his services as Acting Secretary. Several propositions for advancement were received, and after some few matters of routine business had been disposed of, the brethren adjourned to partake of banquet. Under the able presidency of the W.M., Bro. Yaxley, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and a very agreeable evening spent by the numerous brethren who had the good fortune to be present on this auspicious occasion. The increase of Lodges connected with the order of Mark Masonry has been, under the genial sway of several noble and eminent Grand Masters, very great during the past few years; and from the zeal and efficiency of the Master and Wardens of the "Croydon" Lodge, we augur that the new addition to the strength of the Order, though the last on the muster-roll, will not be the least in point of importance to the degree.

POLISH NATIONAL LODGE, No. 434.

THE regular meeting was held on the 8th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, W.C. Bros. Ráth W.M., J. H. Cumming S.W., J. F. Ebner J.W., W. Paas Sec., John Boyd Treas., J. Aspinall S.D., J. S. Taylor J.D., Dr. G. E. C. Jackson D.C., Dr. A. V. Jagielski I.G. Visitors—Bros. J. Blum, M. Blum, Dr. Wills, H. Price, J. C. Cox, T. A. Thompson, &c., &c. Business—The preliminaries having been disposed of, Mr. J. J. Rüntz was initiated, after which a motion by Bro. Dr. Jagielski was carried unanimously. The W.M., Treasurer, Tyler and Audit Committee were severally elected for the coming year, the present S.W. being chosen to fill the chair. During the evening the W.M., Bro. Ráth, who is a Steward for the approaching festival of the Girl's School, appealed most forcibly on behalf of that Charity. The object for which he addressed the Lodge, he said, was one of the most difficult a man could possibly bring forward. He was not exactly engaged on a begging expedition, but as it must needs be a tax on the benevolence of those around him, he felt he must awaken them to a sense of its importance. He considered he had a powerful ally, and that was the sex of those for whom he asked support. Had any of the brethren taken the trouble to go to Battersea and see how their children were getting on? Although they could not appeal for themselves he considered it was not necessary to go that distance, for we need only look into the face of any little orphan we meet in the street to arouse our sympathy. He must come to what he considered

hard facts, hard facts as involving the question of hard cash, and implore of them, collectively and individually—as do the begging friars in his native land—to hand in a coin for the benefit of the orphan girls. On the return of the list we were pleased to see that it contained items amounting to over fifty guineas, but even this, we hear, will not content our energetic Brother, who hopes before the day arrives for announcing the lists to have at least double that amount. We wish him every success, and feel sure that if energy on his part can accomplish it, the amount will be forthcoming. The Lodge having been formally closed, the brethren adjourned for refreshment, after which the usual toasts were honoured. In proposing the Queen, the W.M. remarked that not only did she occupy the first position as owing to her by right and rank, but also, he trusted, in all our hearts. This he followed by asking the brethren to drink to the Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family. He was sure that if any emergency presented itself, requiring that His Royal Highness should devote his time, he would be as ready as he had proved himself on previous occasions. He considered we ought to feel happy in possessing such a Royal family, and hoped the brethren would give them a hearty cheer. The M.W.G.M. will be for ever dear to us in having stepped forward to our rescue at a time when we were deserted by a former ruler; he could only ask them to greet the toast with the enthusiasm it deserved. He next asked for the best attention of the brethren for the working rulers of the Craft, the M.W. the Pro. Grand Master, the Dep. G. Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, who he considered were living examples of all that is good and true. The toast of the Worshipful Master was next proposed by the I.P.M., Bro. Moore, and was heartily responded to, the W.M. replying in the following terms: Brethren,—Say whatever you will, it is always a gratifying fact whenever you have the good fortune to be called upon to respond to your own health. Perhaps some of the brethren in their kindness of heart have overdone the thing, and drank my health *too much*, which is the cause of my health likewise losing its balance, and going the other way. However that may be there is the fact that, at the present moment, I am rather a sufferer, and ought not to speak too lengthily; you will therefore pardon me when I reply with all brevity, but no less heartily to your kindness. My bodily strength may seem to fail me for a moment, but be sure of my hearty sentiments when it is a question of responding to yours. I am on such occasions like a "Grey parrot with a green tail," ancient looking, but vigorous withal. Brethren,—I own that I am anxious to leave some impression on your minds and hearts of my year of office, by my constant and earnest efforts to elevate the ideas of the brethren of this Lodge to that degree where they may become pleasantly conscious that they have a great and noble calling to fulfil in Freemasonry. This is my last evening in office, and I hope that I have not been altogether unsuccessful. I always compare my Lodge with the Temple of Jerusalem, surrounded by a strong castle, and as I am passing on my nightly rounds, and looking in the eyes of every single watchman on the castle walls, I find him to be awake, then, with a nod and a wink, we exchange a grip and a word—and I am satisfied that we understand one another well, and that we all work for the safety of our Temple. Not many words are needed to demonstrate to any one the fact that between Master and Brethren of this Lodge there prevails that reciprocity of goodwill and friendship, which is best expressed in the word "Brotherhood." Bro. Moore—I thank you very much for the feeling manner with which you have referred to my health, and you, my brethren, for the heartiness with which you have seconded the same. He then proceeded to propose the Immediate P.M.; he was thankful that he had a subject much easier to speak on than the preceding one, he could dilate more coolly and contentedly on the merits of others, than on his own poor achievements; whenever he spoke of Bro. Moore, he could not help being in good spirits, for he considered him the embodiment of "Peace and goodwill towards men." The toast was well received and responded to by Bro. Moore, after which, in proposing "The Initiate," the W.M. said—I believe I am expressing the convictions of all present, when I say that the welcome which we give to our newly received brethren, by pledging them in a cup of sack, has a peculiarly interesting and always fresh flavour about it. We all look eagerly towards the corner where the brother Initiates are habitually placed, and we all smile a welcome to them which they cannot mistake. Freemasons are not eager to make converts, which in itself is a contradiction, because those who seek us are already converted; but Freemasons, when they find that their fellow-men are anxious and glad to join their ranks, and to follow their principles, give them such a reception as no other body of men are known to extend to new comers. On the very first night of their participation in our rights and usages they receive a pretty good instalment of the nature of our Order, inasmuch as the first or solemn part of it shows them the dark and grave side of life, which makes them stop and reflect, and the second or convivial part of it teaches them that T.G.A.O.T.U. has endowed our nature with an appetite for pleasure. Truly, my brethren, as sure as a strong and contented man is almost always a liberal and generous one, so is a joyous and convivial man a good and honest one. It is no use separating human nature into a weeping and a laughing being. Both these dispositions being inseparably united, they ought to be recognised and treated as such, and this it is my brethren which forms the keystone of the Masonic principles. The toast was answered in a most spirited manner by Bro. Rüntz. "*Le roi est mort,—Vive le roi*," a sentiment doubtless known to most of you with regard to royalty, but which also serves to illustrate my present position. In asking you to drink to the W.M. elect, it may be said I am proclaiming my own demise, and the advent of a new king. It would be a sorry mistake and utterly untrue to say that I have pleasure in proclaiming this fact. There is, on the contrary, no satisfaction in it whatever. I know I must die as your W.M., but I trust that after I am gone you shall have cause to forget me, very, very soon (cries of "No, no,") because of the superior excellence of my successors. Napoleon used to say, "No one is indispensable in this world, and every one can easily

be replaced, even myself!" Let us hope that in the case of the W.M. elect this will prove true, and as he has given sufficient signs of worth and merit as to secure your suffrages for the exalted place for which he is elected, I feel confident that he will faithfully fulfil all our legitimate expectations. Bro. Cumming, the W.M. elect, having briefly responded, the W.M. proposed the Past Masters, who he regretted were not more numerous represented, he especially referred to Bro. Diosy, who never failed in attending, and would couple his name with the toast. He having responded, the W.M., with the following remarks, called on the brethren to toast the Visitors. To go about visiting Lodges is not a practice fostered by idle curiosity. It is a time-sanctioned usage, and a privilege of which Freemasons are justly proud; if brethren of the same town visit each other, they not only widen their own knowledge of the Craft, but also spin and weave those single threads, the accumulation of which produces the finest tissue of friendship and brotherhood which unite the scattered Lodges of the Order into one powerful and imposing fabric. But when brethren of different and sometimes far-distant towns and countries visit each other, then the true effect of this organisation, whose branches are spread over the four quarters of the globe, comes into more prominent display. I need not enumerate the different circumstances under which poor brethren and rich brethren of different races and creeds, and brethren of friendly and hostile nations, may thus meet; all I can say is that the good which such meetings, under the all-protecting banner of Freemasonry may do, and are daily and hourly doing, is *immense*. Let us, therefore, cherish this highest and noblest quality of Freemasons and extend hospitality to all brethren, and let us drink a joyful good health to our brother Visitors. Bro. J. Blum P.M. 1017 replied to the toast, which was followed by that of the Treasurer and Secretary. The brethren need only look to the right and to the left of the table, and they must rejoice to see firmly rooted there two great pillars of the Lodge. There is a very great sense of security in knowing that these two important branches of our little household are so well attended to. So long as our affairs remain in the faithful hands of the present distinguished brethren, our life in this Lodge will be happy. The W.M. considered his officers were his little well-drilled and well-disciplined body guard; expressed his thanks to them for their faithful and loyal services, and hoped in due course they would meet with the reward they so richly deserved. Bros. Cummings and Taylor replied to this toast, which was followed by the Tyler.

Hemming Lodge, No. 1512.—The last regular meeting of this Lodge for the present session, was held under the presidency of Bro. John Hurst W.M. on Thursday evening, the 15th inst., at the Lodge-room, Red Lion Hotel, Hampton. There were present—Bros. E. Hopwood I.P.M. and Treasurer, J. Hammond S.W., W. Hammond Secretary, B. Sharp acting J.W., Fox J.D., Jessett J.D., J. W. Ockenden I.G., S. C. Walls D.C., Gutteridge W.S., Kent A.W.S., and Bros. J. Chilcott, John E. Hunt, T. Errington, Thos. Moody, J. W. Hiscox, &c., &c. The Lodge having been opened, Bro. W. Kidentler J.W. 1503, was unanimously elected a joining member. A gentleman, whose name appeared in the summons, was prevented from attending for initiation, through unavoidable circumstances, and Bro. C. Hore, a candidate for passing was absent, through severe indisposition. It was then announced that Bro. T. Phillips, also a candidate for the 2nd degree had died during the past few days. The sad intelligence was received with very deep regret by the brethren, to most of whom he was well known. Bro. John Hammond S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. E. Hopwood re-elected Treasurer. The names of two candidates for initiation were handed in, and five guineas having been voted from the funds of the Lodge, to the widow of a brother, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts followed. In responding on behalf of the Deputy Prov. G.M. and the other P.G. Officers. Bro. W. Hammond Past Prov. G.D. referred at some length to Bro. Little's recent elevation, an appointment which has afforded universal satisfaction throughout the Province. The health of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. Hopwood, who was warmly congratulated on his successful year of office. The toast of the W.M. elect was also enthusiastically received, Bro. John Hammond, in responding, made an excellent speech. For the Visitors, Bro. Scott, one of the first initiates of the recently consecrated Wolsey Lodge, 1656, responded in a short and effective manner. The officers having severally acknowledged the next toast, that of the Charities was given, and Bro. Ockenden I.G., Steward for the Girls' School, replied. During the evening the ballot box was handed round, and a very creditable amount collected, to supplement the sum voted by the Lodge on behalf of the widow. The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close. The brethren were indebted to Bros. W. Hammond, Walls, T. Tagg, Jessett, and Kent for some capital songs.

The Great City Lodge of Instruction, No. 1426.—This Lodge met on Thursday evening, 15th inst., at Masons' Hall, E.C. Present—Bros. A. E. Gladwell W.M., Bisset S.W., Goodman J.W., Harper S.D., Saul J.D., Cumner I.G., Blackie Hon. Secretary, Spiegel, A. T. Gladwell, Hunter, Payne. The Lodge was opened in the 1st degree, and the minutes of last meeting confirmed. Bro. Gladwell vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Blackie, who opened the Lodge in the 2nd degree. Bro. Spiegel, having answered the usual questions, was entrusted and withdrew. The Lodge was opened in the 3rd, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed. Bro. Saul worked the 1st section of the lecture. The Lodge was then closed down to the 1st degree. Bro. Hunter, 1-98, was elected a member. And Bro. Bisset, W.M. for Thursday week next, the 29th; he appointed his officers in rotation. The 15 Sections will be worked on Thursday evening next, the 22nd inst., when Bro. Poore, the Preceptor, will occupy the chair.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

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THE FESTIVALS OF THE MASONIC SCHOOLS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Permit me to throw out a suggestion which may affect three objects.

- 1st. To promote economy in the expenditure of our Charities.
- 2nd. To give a pleasing variety to our Festival entertainments.
- 3rd. To further the improvement of our Boys' and Girls' Schools.

The engagements of skilled professionals to conduct the musical portion of the entertainments at our three Festivals costs the Charities close on £100 a year.

Instead of this arrangement, why should we not have, say a dozen of our boys and six of our girls, previously well-trained, brought in to sing part-songs, &c., with a simplicity and sacredness for which children's voices are pre-eminently proverbial?

And as a large portion of the company on such occasions consists of ladies, and all the company have many opportunities of hearing professional performances, it is to be supposed that the presence and the efforts of our Masonic children would awaken special interest, and produce a most pleasing variety. To the children themselves it would be a great treat, and a stimulus to their progress in music, while to the funds of each Charity it would certainly be a great relief. The adoption of this plan would probably add to the funds of the Charity, rather than take from them. And I may add that an institution with which I am connected effected this change with great pleasure to the children and their friends, and decided profit to its funds.

I am, Dear Sir and Bro.,

Faternally yours,

R. J. SIMPSON, P.G.C.

THE JEWISH QUESTION.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is now about eight years since I wished a friend to introduce me into Freemasonry, and he being a member of the Montefiore Lodge, gave my name to the Secretary of that Lodge for that purpose; but the thing could not be done, as my friend was informed that none but Jews would be admitted.

Kindly inform me if such is still the practice in that Lodge, or if abolished since when this happy change took place.

I remain, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

EQUITY.

THE GRAND SECRETARYSHIP OF SCOTLAND.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In the CHRONICLE you have stated that the Lodge Kilwinning is reputed the oldest Lodge in the world, or, at least, in Scotland. From your position in the Craft, one would have expected that you would have been better informed upon a matter of so singular interest. The records of the Kilwinning Lodge open in December 1612. The records of the Lodge of Edinburgh open in July 1559, and they contain the original minutes of a convention of the Scotch Lodges held at Edinburgh in 1598.

Besides these minutes we find, from an original document recently found in the charter chest of the late Earl of Eglington, that in December 1599, the statutes regulating the Lodges of Scotland at that date declared that the Lodge Kilwinning was the second Lodge in Scotland.

You will find the whole of this interesting question very ably discussed in Bro. Murray Lyon's *Freemasonry in Scotland*—a work beyond all praise.

Yours fraternally,

Edinburgh, 7th March 1877.

A P.M.

[We are at a loss to see in what particular we have erred. There is nothing in Bro. Lyon's history, which we have read with as much profit as pleasure, and to which "A P.M." will find frequent reference made in these columns, to which our statement is opposed. Mother Kilwinning is, undoubtedly, "the reputed oldest existing Lodge in the world, or, at least, in Scotland." But mere reputation is not fact, and, therefore, the wording of the sentence, as received from one of our representatives in Scotland, was left undisturbed. If "A P.M." will kindly excuse us referring to such over profane things as quart and pint bottles, we may illustrate our meaning without much difficulty. He is, doubtless, aware there are quart and reputed quarts, pints and reputed pints, and in both cases the distinction is really because quarts and pints are, and reputed quarts and pints are not, quarts and pints. We not go the length of saying that Mother Kilwinning is not the oldest Lodge in Scotland, because it is the reputed oldest, but we do say that "oldest"

and "reputed oldest" are not equivalent, and in technical terms we confess that our views are the views of Bro. Lyon, to whom, indeed, we are greatly indebted for the light he has thrown on the history of Scottish Freemasonry. However, in a matter which has been so bitterly controverted, we have no mind to intervene. We are content to leave the case as it stood in our issue of the 3rd instant, when we stated that Mother Kilwinning had a certain reputation, but did not stop to analyse its merits.—[ED. FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ORAL INSTRUCTION OF THE DEAF AND DUMB.

A DINNER was given on the 13th inst., at Willis's Rooms, in aid of the Funds of this Association. H.R.H. our M.W.G.M., who takes a lively interest in this noble Institution, occupied the chair. There were also present Earl Granville, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Bro. Sir William Knollys, Lord Hampton, the R.W. Bro. Lord Suffield, Bros. John Sutcliffe, H. A. Isaacs, W. A. Barrett, Z. Adolphus, J. Gears, H. M. Levy, &c. We are sure that this Institution only needs to be known to receive the support it deserves. It works on the theory adopted some years since by Mr. W. Van Praagh, in Holland, that the reason of persons being dumb is owing to their being born deaf, and thereby unable to distinguish various sounds, and is now a great success, only wanting funds to enable the committee to further extend its usefulness. The noble Chairman gave the usual toasts, and in proposing that of "Success to the Institution," particularly alluded to the exertions of Mr. Van Praagh, who had that morning taken ten of the children to Marlborough House, when he was gratified to hear the fluent manner in which they all conversed. More particularly he referred to one child, who had been only three months in the School. The Right Hon. Earl Granville proposed the toast of "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," who, in responding, alluded to the death of the late respected Baroness Rothschild. She had, previous to her death, ordered a bouquet to be placed on the table for His Royal Highness, and he had great pleasure in taking care of it to present it to the Princess. The worthy Secretary, Mr. Assur Moses, announced, amidst great cheering, that the donations amounted to £2,000. The dinner, dessert, and decorations reflected great credit to Mr. Willis. Bro. M. Silver very ably superintended.

The Grand Committee of the Grand Lodge of Scotland met on Tuesday, the 13th inst., to consider and report on the merits of the various candidates for the vacant office of Grand Secretary. There was a full attendance of the members. Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Grand Master of Scotland, presided. The names of 15 candidates were laid before the meeting, and it was resolved to select the three most eligible to recommend to the Special Grand Lodge on Monday next, when the election is to take place. Those selected were Bros. R. Wylie P.P.G.M., of Ayrshire, who has been P.G. Sec. for the largest Province of Scotland for fifteen years, and has therefore obtained considerable experience in the practical duties required; D. Murray Lyon, the Masonic historian, who is also an Ayrshire man, to whom Bro. Wylie had given testimonials before the earnest solicitations of his friends had induced him to stand himself; the third on the short list is Bro. W. B. Heath, of London, who brought with him first-class testimonials from some leading members of the Craft in England. The Grand Lodge, on Monday, cannot well go wrong, as all three appear to possess many of the qualifications required for a good Secretary.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

BRO. CONSTABLE'S Tickets, entitling the holder to a chance in the drawing for

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ELIGIBLE FOR THE APRIL (1877) ELECTION ONLY.

To the Vice-Presidents, Governors, & Subscribers to the

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The favour of your Votes and Interest is respectfully and most earnestly solicited on behalf of

MARIA GERTRUDE GODDIN,

AGED 10 YEARS,

Daughter of our late Bro. DAVID GODDIN, of Lodges 1076 and 1437, who was a subscribing member up to the time of his death, which took place very suddenly on the 16th January 1875, leaving a Widow and Seven young Children (one being a posthumous child), wholly unprovided for.

The case is strongly recommended by the following Brothers:—

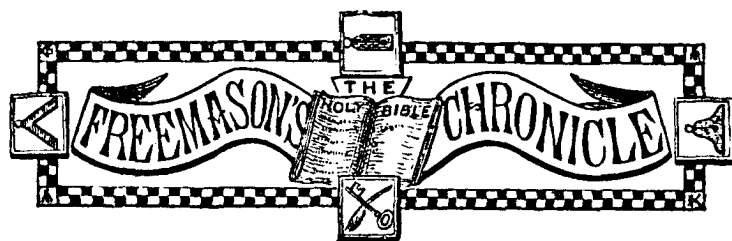
- *Bro. JOHN J. WILSON, P.P.G.D. Middlesex, P.P.J.W. Essex, P.M. 25, 813, 241, 1237, 1437, P.Z. 23, Home Cottage, Enfield Highway, N.
- *Bro. CHARLES LACKY, P.P.G.D. Herts, P.M. 173, 1527, 1421, 4 Exmouth-street, Commercial-road, E.
- *Bro. CHARLES ASHDOWN, P.M. 1076, Lime-villas, Gurney-road, Stratford, E.
- Bro. T. G. DAY, W.N. 1076, S.W. 1437, 1 Tavistock-place, Plumstead common.
- *Bro. A. KNOX, P.M. 1076, D.C. 1437, Vine Cottage, Romford.
- Bro. B. BRUSHAW, P.M. 1076, 1422, S.W. 1437, 14 Windmill-lane, Stratford, E.
- *Bro. J. CUMBERLAND, P.M. 473, Park-square, Luton, Beds.
- *Bro. W. GODDIN, 830, Melrose-villa, Northam-road, Park, N.
- *Bro. D. ROBERTS, P.M. 734, High-road, Tottenham, N.
- Bro. ROBERT ORD, J.W. 830, 30 Upper East Smithfield.
- Bro. R. CHILLINGWORTH, P.M. 1223, 26 Spital-square, E.
- Bro. C. HIGGINSON, 15, 1 Hackney-road, E.
- Bro. J. TYDEMAN, P.M. 1437, P.P.P.P. Essex, S.W. 1327, and Secretary 1437, The Firs, Waltham Cross.
- Bro. J. MALLER, P.M. 754, High-road, Tottenham, N.

*Those marked * will thankfully receive proxies.*

THE MASONIC QUARTETTE.

BROS. BURGESS PERRY, ARTHUR THOMAS, EDWIN MOSS and GEORGE MUSGRAVE undertake the Musical arrangements of the Ceremonies and Banquets.

For Terms:—Address, BRO. E. MOSS, 147 Aldersgate Street, E.C.



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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.

NOT much in the way of business has been done this week in the House of Lords. The Duke of Richmond and Gordon on behalf of the Government introduced a Burials Bill, which received a first reading, and Lord Dorchester asked a question of our Foreign Secretary as to the compulsory return from Khiva, of Captain Burnaby, an officer in the Royal Horse Guards, who has narrated his experiences of his "Ride to Khiva," in a most enjoyable volume, and in the course of it explains by what mishap he was forced to give up his journey home through Central Asia, and return by the same route he had taken on his journey out. In the Commons some progress has been made, but not in proportion to the amount of talkee-talkee which is considered necessary. A Treasury and Exchequer Bills having passed its second reading on Thursday of last week, on the following evening a resolution proposed by Mr. Clare S. Read for the establishment of County Boards was accepted by the Government after a very full debate. On Monday, after several delays interposed by different members, the House went into Committee of Supply on the Navy Estimates, and the number of men and boys for the service of the year was voted. On Tuesday, a motion was brought forward by Mr. Chamberlain, one of the members for Birmingham, having for object the regulation of the sale of intoxicating liquors, according to what is known as the Gothenburg scheme, but the honourable member was defeated by a majority of more than two to one. The greater part of Wednesday afternoon was occupied in considering whether an Intoxicating Liquors' Bill for Scotland should receive a second reading. In the result the Bill was rejected by the very considerable majority of 253 to 90.

On Monday, the Queen held a levee at Buckingham Palace. The Prince of Wales, attended by Lord Suffield and others of his suite, the Princess Beatrice, Prince Christian, and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar were present. A very large number of presentations was made and the attendance in the general and diplomatic circles was great. On Wednesday, Her Majesty held a Drawing Room, when the Prince of Wales, the Princesses Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) and Beatrice, Prince Christian, and the Duke of Teck were present. Several ladies were presented, and the attendance otherwise was on a large scale. On both these occasions, the Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms under their Captain, the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, and the Yeomen of the Guard under Captain Lord Skelmersdale were on duty. The morning of the latter day, Her Majesty and the Princess Beatrice visited the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park, and inspected the collection of animals brought from India by the Prince of Wales. Mr. A. Bartlett, the superintendent, conducted Her Majesty over the establishment. The Prince of Wales left Melton Mowbray on his return to Marlborough House on Friday night, having had, during the day, an exciting day's sport with the Quorn.

On Saturday evening, the Prince and Princess with their two boys, the Princes Albert Victor and George, honoured the Opéra Comique with a visit. On Sunday, they attended divine service in the Royal Chapel, St. James's.

The Oxford crew reached their quarters at Putney on Monday. Since then they have been closely engaged in the usual practice, and as the day of the race more nearly approaches, the public excitement becomes greater. They are a heavier crew than their rivals from the Cam, the average weight per man being 12st 5 lbs, against an average of 12st 0½ lbs. Both crews appear to possess certain points of weakness and of strength, and a critic in one of our daily contemporaries rules that the case is which of the two will be most hampered by their weaknesses. However, as we said last week, we shall be prepared to solve this question for the benefit of our readers about noon next Saturday, or probably a little earlier. It only remains to add the expression of our good wishes for fine weather, both for the sake of those who will test their powers, and the thousands and thousands who will line the banks of the river between Putney and Mortlake to witness the struggle.

It will be in the recollection of our readers, that amongst the many banquets which occurred during the Lord Mayoralty of Alderman Cotton, none was so highly appreciated as that which he gave in honour of the dramatic profession, and the authors and writers connected therewith. On Friday last a complimentary return banquet was given to the worthy Alderman and Mrs. Cotton. The veteran Mr. Benjamin Webster occupied the chair, and there were present about 200 guests, amongst whom were Alderman Sir R. W. Carden, Mr. F. B. Chatterton, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Wigan, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Toole, Messrs. A. and E. Swanborough, and W. Creswick, E. Righton, J. Douglas, H. Neville, A. Halliday, E. L. Blanchard, and Miss Ada Cavendish. After the usual loyal toasts, that of the guests of the occasion was proposed, amid the heartiest applause. Alderman Cotton's response was a thoroughly good after-dinner speech, such as is not often spoken on these occasions, and was right worthily received by his 180 or 190 hosts. Subsequently it devolved upon him to propose the health of the Chairman, and this too, was most cordially responded to by all present. The toast of "the Ladies" was acknowledged by Mr. Alfred Wigan, shortly after which the company dispersed.

A notable man of the day has passed from amongst us, Mr. George Odger, one, who, though in the humblest sphere of life, yet exercised a considerable amount of influence on the working classes of this country. Mr. Odger was a man of unquestionable ability, and those to whose well-being he had devoted so much of his time, labour, and energy, resolved to show their respect for his memory by giving him a kind of public funeral. Measures were accordingly taken to this end, and on the appointed day a vast concourse of people assembled to witness the progress of the funeral cortege from Bloomsbury to the Brompton cemetery. Professors Beesley and Fawcett, M.P., were amongst those who accompanied the procession, and the former delivered a funeral oration at the grave. The latter also addressed those present on the virtues of the deceased. In thus showing their respect for the great services of one of their leaders, the working classes of London have done themselves much honour.

The cattle plague is extending—in London, at least. A few days since it made its appearance on the premises of a dairyman at Stepney, where there were no less than 130 cows. Those who were found, on examination, to be suffering from incipient rinderpest were immediately isolated, but others were subsequently attacked, and at length it became necessary to slaughter the whole of the stock, which were in fine condition, and in the care of which all possible precautions had been taken by their owner, Mr. Alexander. With the experience of the terrible outbreak of 1865-6, this wholesale slaughter is the only way to prevent the spread of the disease to other parts of London and the provinces; but none the less serious is the loss to their owner, with whose misfortune we sympathise most fully, and all the more fully that it was through no absence of precautionary measures that his stock have fallen victims to this dreadful scourge.

The report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the outbreak of scurvy in the crews of the Arctic Expedition has been submitted to the First Lord of the Admiralty. The Committee have found that the outbreak was due to the fact that limejuice was not supplied to the men

sent out on the sledging expeditions, and it added that the ships had a full supply of this antiscorbutic, and that Sir George Nares did not give proper orders for provisioning his sledge parties, or have sound reasons for departing from the instructions addressed to him through the Admiralty by the Director General of the Navy Medical Department. This is a serious censure on the conduct of the gallant officer in command of the late expedition.

News of three fatal disasters at sea have been received this week. On Monday, the *Consett* arrived at Sunderland, bringing with her three survivors of the crew of the brig *Leonie*, of Whitstable, which had been run into by her, in Robin Hood's Bay. The master and five of the crew perished, but the mate and two others were saved. Every effort was made to rescue more lives, but unsuccessfully. On Sunday, a collision occurred off the Skerries between the schooner *Ann Alice*, and the steamer *Armenian*, the former sinking almost immediately. All the crew, however, were saved, with the exception of the mate. In a third case, the captain of the barque *Ilva*, in a fit of drunkenness, had shot a boy, and fired at the mate and others of the crew, but when the latter attempted to secure him, he jumped overboard and was drowned. The Mansion House Fund, for the relief of the widows and children by the wreck of so many smacks, &c., in the North Sea, had already reached £1,300 on Monday, but as the number of lives lost is greater than was at first supposed, a very large sum will be required. We trust the necessary funds will be forthcoming.

An alarming gas explosion occurred on Wednesday at Brighton, by which property of the estimated value of £3,000 was destroyed. A steam roller was rolling a Macadam road, and is believed to have caused the fracture of a gas pipe. The gas found its way into an under-ground kitchen of a lodging-house, and in due time came in contact with the fire and caused the accident. The partition walls were blown down and other property in the neighbourhood damaged to the extent we have stated, but fortunately no lives were lost.

The question of peace and war is still undetermined. Russia appears to think she cannot retreat with honour from the advanced position she elected to take up towards the end of last year, and Turkey seems stubbornly bent on resenting any interference with her sovereign independence. What reply will be made by our cabinet to the circular note of Russia is not yet decided, but an attempt is being made by Russia to induce the other Great Powers to join in a Collective Note to the Porte, calling upon it to execute the promised reforms within a stated time. Of course all sorts of rumours are abroad, but the public is as much in the dark as ever. General Ignatieff has visited Paris for the purpose of taking counsel with the French Government, and Count Schouvaloff, the Russian Ambassador, in London, crossed over in order to meet his Excellency. It is now said the British Cabinet has agreed to the proposal of Russia, and that the General will at once visit the Court of St. James's. Whatever difficulties have arisen, it is no fault of our Ministers that a peaceful solution of the question was not arrived at long since. The negotiations between Turkey and Montenegro proceed but slowly, the demands of the latter State being exorbitant. In Germany the path of the Imperial Chancellor, Prince Bismarck, appears to be none of the smoothest. Some of his measures seem to have provoked a considerable amount of opposition in the Imperial Parliament. Indeed, a proposition for increasing the salary of the German Ambassador in London was rejected by 157 to 147. Other foreign news is of no great interest.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE regular committee meeting was held on the 14th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C. and was numerously attended. Bro. Colonel Creaton V.P., occupied the chair. The Secretary, Bro. Terry, read the minutes of the meeting of the 14th February, and of the House Committee, which were duly confirmed. The grant of £100 to the widow of the late Collector (Bro. Lane) was unanimously confirmed. The death was announced of

two male and one female annuitants. The question of electing a Collector, in the place of the late Bro. Lane was then discussed, and the report of the committee appointed "to inquire into the duties and emoluments of the future Collector" was read. It was therein recommended that the Collector to be appointed shall be a Master Mason not exceeding the age of 40 years; that his duties be to collect all subscriptions and donations announced by the annual Stewards, which shall remain unpaid after the regular settling day following the Festival. He shall attend at the offices when required by the Secretary, keep an alphabetical list of the subscribers, donors, &c., to the Institution, and give security for £500. His remuneration to be 4 per cent. upon all amounts actually received by him. The whole of these recommendations received attention, and after some discussion were carried, excepting the question of commission, which was increased to 5 per cent. There were nine candidates—viz., Bros. Ayling, S. Bragg, W. H. Hubbard, Geo. Knill, James A. Milne, W. J. Murlis, W. J. Nash, Robinson, and W. H. Snelling. Out of these only three were eligible in accordance with the above resolutions—viz., Bros. Knill, Milne, and Snelling, and from this number Bro. Knill was eventually selected, the vote being unanimous in his favour. He acknowledged, in feeling terms, his gratitude, and promised to use his best endeavours to promote the interests of the Institution, and he hoped to do so to the entire satisfaction of the Craft. Bro. R. W. Stewart proposed that the annual gathering of the Stewards be held at Croydon as usual, on a day to be fixed hereafter. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

The *Masonic Jewel*, for February, publishes a long and very valuable letter from Bro. John Carlowitz, in which he furnishes a tabular statement showing the total amount expended annually, by the different Grand Bodies, in printing and publishing reports of their several proceedings. This, it seems, reaches the sum of dollars 52,325 65c., and Bro. Carlowitz considers it not unreasonable to suppose that "the large mass of miscellaneous printing annually needed in the offices of the various Grand Officers," must swell the total to dollars 60,000. Taking this fact for his text, Bro. Carlowitz advocates the establishment of a National Grand Lodge, and with it that of a National Grand Lodge Library; or, if this should not prove feasible, a General or National Masonic Printing House, where the annals of every Grand Masonic body, and all Masonic literature, "now out of print, and for which, at present, fabulous prices are asked and paid," should be published. In such case, Bro. Carlowitz thinks that, in due time, every Lodge could become possessed of a complete library of proceedings, as well as reprints of old magazines and literary works. He further points out that if each Mason in the United States contributed a quarter dollar, the sum of dollars 142,550 would be raised, or if a dollar each, over dollars 570,000. If this sum were invested in the names of the different Grand Masters and their successors, as Trustees of the Fund, there would be an annual income arising from it of little short of dollars 29,000—reckoning the interest at 5 per cent. Without entering further into particulars, we may state that the idea, whence the scheme has originated, is a worthy and a generous one. We are, ourselves, constantly urging all Craftsmen to take a deeper interest in Masonic literature. We must not, however, be led astray by our enthusiasm. We confess we do not see how such a scheme could be carried out; in fact, Bro. Carlowitz, in the early part of his letter, declares that "Fifty-three Grand Lodges will have fifty-three different opinions," and in a sentence afterwards, he says, "Some States have invited the Grand Masters of other Jurisdictions to come and compare work; but I have not read that any one has ever complied with this request;" and he asks very pointedly, "Why is this so?" We think we can answer the question without much difficulty. With all our boasted enthusiasm and fraternal feeling, we Masons of different existing jurisdictions are as jealous of each other as possible; as much so, in fact, as the great military powers of Europe, who never weary of preaching about the lion and the lamb lying down together in peace, yet each of them must play the lion. In Masonry, the idea of a uniform ritual is not only a very beautiful, but a very proper one likewise,

but we each think our own should be practised uniformly throughout the world. This is very far from being the first time, Bro. Carlowitz, the idea of a Supreme Grand Lodge for the whole of the United States has been mooted. You deserve great credit for the force with which you advocate it in the present instance, but we do not think you will live to see your idea realised. However, we tender you our hearty good wishes for your success.

The *Keystone* announces that the Grand Council of Royal, Super-Excellent and Select Masters, Pennsylvania, met on the evening of the 21st ult., in the hall of Lebanon Lodge, Lebanon, Pa., the attendance being far greater than on any previous occasion in this jurisdiction. The proposal to change the title of the Grand Council was rejected. The following were elected officers for the ensuing year—namely, Ill. Comps. Peter C. Shidle, M.P.G.M., M. Richard Muckle R.P.D.G.M., William J. Fordney L.G.M., H. Stanley Goodwin G.P.C. of W., James Brown G.T., and Charles E. Meyer Grand Recorder. These were all installed by P.G.M. Ill. Comp. Christian F. Knapp, and duly proclaimed. The next annual assembly will be held in Allighany city. Ill. Comp. Will. F. McCully, of Philadelphia, Council No. 11, the retiring Master, was presented with a Past T.P.G.M. jewel. In the same estimable journal is an article by Bro. Hughan, entitled "Freemasonry in America early last Century." Bro. Hughan discusses the constitution of sundry Lodges in various of the now United States, which held under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and of others warranted by Mother Kilwinning, then acting apart from the Scottish Grand Lodge. Among the former is included "No. 177, St. John's, Philadelphia," which, on the authority of our worthy brother, must have been established in 1774. Respecting this, Bro. Hughan is anxious to obtain further information from our Philadelphia brethren, as no mention of or allusion to it is made in the Memorial volume, in the *Keystone*, or elsewhere. He believes it quite possible that an examination into this may open up a fresh link with the past history of Freemasonry in the premier Masonic City of America."

We wish to direct the attention of those of our brethren who are enrolled under the banner of Mark Masonry, to the meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of Middlesex and Surrey, which will be held on Wednesday next, at the Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street, W.C., when we hope to see a strong muster of the brethren to do honour to their respected Prov. G.M., Bro. Col. Burdett. The Provincial Grand Lodge will be opened at six o'clock, and the Grosvenor Lodge (for the advancement of brethren, &c.) at four.

We are informed that the next Meeting of the Members of the Pan-Anglican Club will take place this day, Saturday, at the Freemasons' Tavern, to determine upon the future location of the Club. The President will take the Chair at 2 p.m.

We make it a rule to show no favours to the various candidates for the benefits of our Institutions, but at the earnest solicitation of Bro. Lacey P.M. of 174 1827 and 1241, have so far departed from it as to specially mention the case of Maria Gertrude Goddin, who is a candidate for the Girl's School. She is one of a family of seven who are left entirely dependent on the exertions of their mother, and if any of our friends have not yet promised their votes we would ask them to support Bro. Lacey.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Disorder of the Throat and Chest.—Who ever has once made trial of these invaluable remedies can truthfully bear testimony to their astonishing efficacy, their curative and preservative power, against the many maladies of winter. The Ointment, rubbed on the chest acts most beneficially in averting inflammation, irritation, congestion, and all pectoral complaints. In ulcerated sore throat, diphtheria, mumps, quinsy and similar ailments, the Ointment should be well rubbed upon the throat and summit of the chest at least twice a day, while the Pills are taken internally according to the plainly printed directions. Holloway's remedies constitute in themselves a perfect safeguard against most diseases dependent upon changeable or inclement weather. They counteract the sources of disease.

Old Warrants.

—:o:—

No. 59.

No. 222, "Ancients;" No. 279 at the "Union A.D. 1813," No. 197 from A.D. 1832, and No. 168 from A.D. 1863.

ANTRIM GRAND MASTER.

LAURENCE DERMOTT, D.G.M.

JAMES READ, S.G.W.

PETER FEHR, J.G.W.

To all whom it may concern.

WE, the Grand Lodge of the most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free & Accepted Masons (according to the Old Constitutions granted by His Royal Highness Prince EDWIN, at York, Anno Domini Nine hundred twenty & six, and in the year of Masonry Four thousand Nine hundred twenty and six), in ample Form assembled, viz., The Right Worshipful, Most Potent & Puissant Lord, The Right Honourable William Randell, Earl of Antrim, Lord Viscount Dumbica, Knight Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor of Antrim, &c., &c., Grand Master of Masons, The Right Worshipful Laurence Dermott, Esq., Deputy Grand Master, The Right Worshipful James Read, Esq., Senior Grand Warden, & the Right Worshipful Peter Fehr Junior Grand Warden (with the Approbation and Consent of the Warranted Lodges held within the Cities and Suburbs of London and Westminster), Do hereby authorize and empower our Trusty & No. 222 well beloved Brethren, viz., The Worshipful Robert Mitchell, one of our Master Masons, The Worshipful John Nelson, his Senior Warden, & the Worshipful Peter Arive, his Junior Warden, to Form and Hold a Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons aforesaid, at the sign of the Royal George, in Saint Peter's Port, or elsewhere, in the Island of Guernsey, on the Second & Fourth Wednesday in every Calendar Month, & on all seasonable Times & lawful Occasions, & according to the most Ancient & Honorable Custom of the Royal Craft, in all ages & nations throughout the known World. And we do hereby farther authorize & empower our said Trusty & well beloved Brethren, Robert Mitchell, John Nelson, & Peter Arive (with the consent of the members of their Lodge) to nominate, chuse, and install their Successors, to whom they shall deliver this Warrant, & invest them with their Powers & Dignities as Free Masons, &c. And such Successors shall in like Manner nominate, chuse, & install their Successors, &c. &c. &c. Such Installations to be upon (or near) every ST. JOHN'S DAY, during the continuance of this Lodge for ever. Providing the above named Brethren & all their Successors always pay due Respect to this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, otherwise this Warrant to be of no Force or Virtue.

Given under our Hands & the Seal of our Grand Lodge in London, this Ninth day of March, in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred & Eighty Four, & in the Year of Masonry Five Thousand Seven Hundred & Eighty Four.

ROBERT LESLIE,

Grand Secretary.

NOTE.—This Warrant is Registered
in the Grand Lodge, Vol. 8,
Letter H.

[SEAL.]

[SEAL.]

The present title, No., &c. are, The Mariners' Lodge, No. 168, Guernsey.

* MASONS AND THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.—On the second day of the late session of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, a fraternal reunion was held at the Court House, Milwaukee, at which addresses were delivered by Mayor A. R. R. Butler and Rev. Bro. Samuel Fallows. The latter took for his subject the "Tree of Masonry," and showed the character and extent of its roots. The following is interesting and suggestive:—"In that city of brotherly love, where our grand Centennial Exhibition is now being held, in that celebrated Hall where once sat the men 'who pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honour,' to maintain the glorious principles of the Declaration of Independence, there is yet to be seen the chair in which John Hancock sat when he presided over that immortal band, and signed his name so that John Bull could read it without spectacles. That chair has on it, marked so boldly that it arrests first the visitor's attention, the Masonic symbol of the All-Seeing Eye. How many of this heroic number of patriots, 'who, in the days that tried men's souls,' ventured their all for their country's welfare—how many, I ask, were Masons? Our children know the number of signers; they are familiar with the fac-simile of their signatures. They know that fifty-six perilled their lives in putting down their names. Fifty out of the fifty-six were members of the Masonic Fraternity, and he who is familiar with Masonic thoughts, sentiments and language, knows that the *favour*, the *spirit*, nay, the very *verbiage* of that magnificent protest against tyranny, and assertion of the just, inalienable rights of man, are thoroughly Masonic. These were the men who, banded together, in 'the upper room,' had learned the meaning of true liberty and equality, and knew how to give and vindicate these precious truths to the world."—Bro. Rev. Samuel Fallows, of Wisconsin.—*Keystone*.

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.

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SATURDAY, 17th MARCH.

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

MONDAY, 19th MARCH.

45—Strong Man, Old Rodney's Head, 12 Old-st., near Goswell-rd., at 8. (Inst.)
174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
185—Tranquillity, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, at 4.
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.)
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
331—Phoenix of Honour and Prudence, Public Rooms, Truro.
359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
382—Royal Union, Belmont Hall, Uxbridge.
466—Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Baron, Northampton.
622—St. Cuthbert, 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.
1199—Agriculture, Honey Hall, Congresbury.
1502—Israel, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.
R. A. 1051—Rowley, Athenæum, Lancaster.

TUESDAY, 20th MARCH.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
30—United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
55—Constitutional, Wheatshaf, Hand Court, W.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
65—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.)
1635—Canterbury, 33 Golden-square, W.
R.A.—Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.

213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich.
243—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon.
384—St. David, Masonic Rooms, Bangor.
960—Bate, Masonic Hall, 9 Woking-street, Cardiff.
1006—Tregulow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day, Scorrier, Cornwall.
1113—Anglesea, Bull Hotel, Llanellyn.
1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.

WEDNESDAY, 21st MARCH.

Grand Steward's Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, W.C. at 6.
174—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
190—Oak, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
193—Confidence, Whittington Tavern, Moor-lane, Fore-st., at 7. (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.)
1298—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—Domestic, 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.
176—East Medina, Masonic Hall, John-street, Ryde, I.W.
193—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.
693—Isca, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Monmouthshire.
859—Dobie, 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. Germans, Cornwall.
1337—Anchor, Masonic Rooms, Durham House, Northallerton.
1353—Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster.
1443—Saem, Town Hall, Dawlish, Devon.
1611—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea.

THURSDAY, 22nd MARCH.

House Committee, Girls' School, Battersea Rise, 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.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Albion, Albion-road, Dalston, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
78—Imperial George, Assheaton Arms Hotel, Middleton, Lancashire.
100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Quay, Great Yarmouth.
1612—West Middlesex, Railway Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

FRIDAY, 23rd MARCH.

House Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
569—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, City-road, E.C.
766—William Preston, Feathers Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. (Inst.)
844—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.)
1260—Hervey, Punch's Tavern, 99 Fleet-street, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1273—Burdett Courts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1294—Royal Standard, Castle Tavern, Highbury, at 8. (Instruction.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1443—Royal Denbigh, Council Room, Denbigh.
1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet.

SATURDAY, 24th MARCH.

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

WEST YORKSHIRE.

MONDAY.

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

WEDNESDAY.

1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.
1311—Brighouse, Masonic Room, Bradford-road, Brighouse.

FRIDAY.

K. T.—De Furnival, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.

SATURDAY.

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

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.

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.

129—St. Mirren's, 5 Moss-street, Paisley.

581—Plantation, 207 Craighall-street.

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, 106 Rose-street, Glasgow.

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

117—St. Mary, Freemasons' Hall, Douglas-street, Partick.

354—Caledonian Railway, 30 Hope-street, Glasgow.

R.A. 150—St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Shettleston.

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

FRIDAY—408—Clyde, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Albion Lodge, No. 9.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 14th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street. Bros. W. T. Scott W.M., F. Macarthy S.W., S. Coste P.M. as J.W., I. Moring P.M. Treasurer, J. A. Abbott Secretary, Harvey S.D., Robey J.D., Blackman I.G., Rawles Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. Marsh, Willey, Vallentine, E. Costa, S. Costa, H. Friend, Storr, and Cater; Bros. Thompson, E. Willey, Forbes, Redfern, Salisbury, Pollard, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed. Bro. F. Coles was raised. The sum of five guineas was voted from the Benevolent Fund attached to the Lodge, to the widow of a deceased brother. Pursuant to notice of motion, Bro. Chifferiel proposed, and Bro. Macarthy S.W. seconded, that the Lodge meet, in future, at Freemasons' Tavern; after some discussion, it was carried. The W.M. then said it had been the custom to have a summer banquet, and he hoped they would have one as usual; a committee was appointed to carry out that object. The Lodge was then closed until the 1st Tuesday in October, instead of the 2nd Wednesday, and the brethren sat down to a very excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Nicols. Grace having been said, the W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. Marsh I.P.M., in proposing the W.M., said it was very gratifying to see the able manner in which he had performed the ceremonies. When, at the end of his year of office, he leaves the chair, he will be able to do so with the knowledge that he has not only discharged his duty, but will leave it with the approbation of every member of the Lodge. The W.M. thanked the brethren for the cordial manner they had received the toast. When he took office, it was with a determination to do his duty. He then proposed the Past Masters. Their qualifications in every capacity entitles them to respect, not only in their own Lodge, but wherever they visit. Bro. Marsh I.P.M. assured the brethren he, as well as every Past Master, would be only too happy to render their assistance whenever required. Bro. H. Webb, P.M. Nos. 72 and 193, returned thanks for the Visitors, and alluded to the Masonic Boys' School; he would, however, leave that question, he said, to one whom he was sure would do justice to it; he referred to the worthy Secretary of the Institution, Bro. Binckes, who, in one of those speeches he is so famous for, spoke on the merits and requirements of the School. Bro. Chifferiel, who is a Steward for the next Festival of the Boys, also pleaded on their behalf; he stated that the brethren had that evening promised him 40 guineas; he felt sure from such evidences of their liberality, the sum he should take up would be worthy of the Albion Lodge. The Officers of the Lodge was next proposed, and was followed by the Tyler's toast. In addition to those already mentioned, Bro. H. M. Levy was present as a visitor.

Kent Lodge, No. 15.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Thursday, the 15th inst., at the Chequers Tavern, Marsh-street, Walthamstow. Present—Bros. Saunders W.M., W. G. Hallows S.W., W. J. Brand J.W., T. Franklin S.D., F. Hallows J.D., Appleby I.G., Pinder Preceptor, and several others. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Delvalle acting as candidate. The 1st and 2nd sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Pinder, assisted by the brethren. Bros. Brown and Claridge of 1598, R. J. Brand 59, Laverack 917, Delvalle and Dendy 1662, were elected members. Bro. W. G. Hallows was chosen as W.M. for the ensuing week. The Lodge was then closed.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—This Lodge met as usual on Thursday evening, 15th March, at Bro. Maidwell's, the Hercules, Leadenhall-street. Present—Bros. Hewlett W.M., Powell S.W., Wharman J.W., Grammer Sec., Atkins P.M. Treasurer, Hilliard S.D., Pennell J.D., Lipscombe I.G., and several other brethren. The ceremony of the 1st degree was rehearsed, Bro. W. Lipscomb acting as candidate. The ceremony of the 3rd was rehearsed, Bro. Maidwell acting as candidate. The 1st section of the lecture was worked by the W.M., assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was then closed in the 3rd and 2nd degrees, and the 1st section of the lecture was worked by Bro. Grammer, assisted by the brethren. Bros. Walker 429 and W. Lipscombe 15 were elected members. The Lodge was then closed. The annual supper will be held on Thursday evening, 12th April, and the number is limited to twenty.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—Held at the Old Rodney's Head, Old-street, Goswell-road, on Monday, the 12th inst. Bros. Halford W.M., Powell S.W., Read J.W., Robison S.D., Moseley J.D., R. Percy Acting Preceptor, Fenner Sec., Christopher I.G., Millward, W. W. Morgan, jun., Weedon, Isaac, Stock. Lodge opened, minutes read and confirmed. Bro. Millward having answered the necessary questions, was entrusted. Lodge opened in the 2nd degree. The ceremony of passing was very ably rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Millward acting as candidate. Bro. Percy worked the 1st and 2nd sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge resumed to the 1st degree. Bro. Percy worked the 4th section of the 1st lecture, assisted by the brethren. It was proposed by Bro. A. W. Fenner, and seconded by Bro. R. Percy, that Bro. W. W. Morgan, jun., of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, become honorary member of the Lodge, which was carried unanimously. Bro. Powell was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodge was then closed and adjourned. We are requested to state, for the information of those members of the Lodge who have not attended regularly, that the room now used by the Lodge has every convenience for a Masonic meeting, and the Executive hope to have a good muster at their future meetings, which take place every Monday evening at 8 o'clock.

Prosperity Lodge of Instruction, No. 65.—Held at Bro. Maidwell's, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, on 13th inst. Bro. Wharman W.M., Maidwell S.W., Haller J.W., Powell S.D., Posner J.D., Hollands Sec., Rudderforth Preceptor, Hewlett Cand., and Bros. Webb, West, Cambridge, Baxter. The Lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed. Bro. Hewlett answered the questions leading to the 2nd, and was entrusted. The Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, and Bro. Hewlett duly passed. The Lodge was resumed to the 1st. The Ceremony of Initiation was rehearsed. Bro. Wharman vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Hewlett. The Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree. Bro. Powell answered the question leading to the 3rd, and was entrusted. The Lodge was opened in the 3rd, and Bro. Powell duly raised. Bro. Wharman resumed the chair, and closed down to the 1st degree. Bro. Maidwell was elected as W.M. for the ensuing Tuesday. It was carried unanimously that the votes at the disposal of this Lodge of Instruction should be placed on the list of the Preceptor, Bro. Rudderforth. Nothing further offering, the Lodge was closed.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73, Glasgow.—Celebrated their 119th anniversary, by a supper and ball, at the Star Hall, on Friday, 2nd March, Bro. J. Kinnaird R.W.M. presiding, with his Wardens, Bros. A. McLeod and W. J. Kay, as Cronpiers. He was supported by Bros. G. McDonald I.P.M., J. Stewart P.M., J. Bannerman D.M., J. S. Ampleford T., R. Richards Sec., F. Smith Chaplain, and the rest of his officers. Amongst the visitors we noticed Bros. J. Kyle R.W.M. 3½, J. Smilie P.M. 3½, J. McNairn Sec. 4, W. B. Pattison 27, J. Booth R.W.M. 87, Wm. Boag and J. Aitkin, of Partick 117 A. Mickles, of St. Mireus, Paisley, J. Block, of Busby, St. John's, W. H. Bickerton P.G.S., J. Martin R.W.M., and J. Morgan I.P.M. 219 P.G.D., G. Innis S.W. 292 Rothesay, and John Innis R.W.M. 408. A most excellent repast was furnished by Bro. Galloway, after which the Chairman gave "The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family." He then called on Bro. G. W. Wheeler to respond for the "Three Grand Lodges." Bro. Wheeler dwelt on the humanising influences of the Craft, as furnishing a common ground on which those who held diverging views on theology or politics could meet in harmony, and learn to respect those whom otherwise they might have regarded as adversaries or opponents. He also showed what had been done for the cause of benevolence, urging the Scotch brethren to try to emulate the English Masons in this respect. Bro. A. McLeod gave "The P.G. Lodge," which was ably responded to by J. Morgan P.G. Deacon. He stated they were doing their best, by constant visitation of the 29 Lodges in the Province, to urge them on in the good path; and though they could not boast of giving away thousands, as their English friends did, still they gave double what they did a few years since. They had now about £700 in the bank, and hoped soon to make it up to £1,000, when it would form the nucleus for some good object. Bro. Ampleford proposed "The Lord Provost and Magistrates," suitably acknowledged by Bro. J. Bannerman D.M. W. B. Patterson gave "The Army, Navy and Volunteers," showing that the blessings we now enjoy were largely owing to their efforts in the past. Bro. Smilie P.M. St. John replied. The old spirit was still the same; our Navy was still as ready for service, for war, or for humanity; witness the trip to rescue the shipwrecked foreigners from the barren shores of St. Kilda. Bro. Kyle R.W.M. St. John's felt honoured at being allowed to propose the toast of the evening—"Prosperity to Thistle and Rose 73." She had prospered in the past, and he was sure she would continue to do so under her new Master, whom he had known nearly all his life, they having been schoolmates together; he was sure he was the right man in the right place. Bro. Kinnaird, in reply, gave a synopsis of the history of the Lodge

for the past 119 years, causing considerable amusement by giving extracts from some of the old Lodge minutes. The inference he drew was that their Lodge, along with the Craft in Scotland at large, was progressing, not only numerically but socially, and he hoped to be able to assist in the good work till the time might come when there would no longer be any need for secrecy or mystery, and the keystone be withdrawn; when "man to man the wide world o'er shall brothers be and a' that." (Cheers). P.M. T. Stewart gave the Sister Lodges. Bro. G. Innis said he was pleased to respond for the sister Lodge in a sister isle. There had always been a great friendship between the brethren in the Island of Bute and the Thistle and Rose, and he hoped shortly to have the pleasure of welcoming a deputation from them to Rothesay St. John. Bro. Bickerton P.G.S. briefly proposed the Ladies. Bro. Richards replied for them. P.M. G. McDonald proposed the Strangers. It was pleasant to see some gentlemen there without aprons; they would be able to see, at any rate, that Masons were not such very terrible fellows as their adversaries sometimes represented them to be. Dr. Cameron was glad that he had accepted the invitation to be present, for he felt that he was no longer a stranger. A meeting like this was calculated to dispel prejudice and disperse illusions. He had often thought of joining, but circumstances had hitherto caused him to delay. J. M. Wheeler could endorse all that Dr. Cameron had said. He thought these occasional social meetings of use, not that he had any of the absurd prejudices spoken of to remove, for he was the son of a Mason, nay, the grandson, and, he was glad to add, the great grandson of a Mason, yet he was only a visitor to-night. He could scarcely call himself a stranger, yet he thanked them for their hospitality and good wishes. The Chairman gave the Masonic Press. Bro. G. W. Wheeler, FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, replied. Thanks to the Chair, Cronpiers, and Committee concluded this part of the entertainment, it having been agreeably interspersed with songs from two ladies, sisters of Masons, and Bros. McLeod, McInnis, Ampleford, Meigle, McNair, Peiston, and Peribur jun., only nine years of age, a little prodigy. Dancing was then commenced, and continued till the morning light showed the happy couples the way home. The officers congratulated themselves on the success of this festival, as there were five other Masonic Festivals the same night in the city and suburbs—viz., Shamrock and Thistle, 275, St. George, 333, St. John, 347, St. Clair, 362, and Kenmuir, 571, all of which were well attended by members and friends.

Ancient Ebor Preceptory of K. T. No. 101.—This Preceptory held its regular meeting on Tuesday last, when Sir Knt. T. B. Whytehead was installed as E.P. for the ensuing year, the V.E. Sir Knt. J. F. Holden, Sub-Prior (N. and E. Yorkshire) assisted by the V.E. Sir Knt. W. Reynolds P.G. aid de comp. officiating on the occasion.

Elias Ashmole Chapter, No. 148.—The Annual Convocation of this Chapter was held at Warrington on Monday last. The Chapter was opened by the Principals—E. Comps. W. Sharp Z., P. J. Edelsten H., and R. Brierley J., after which the Companions were admitted, numbering amongst them Comps. John Bowes P.Z., &c., D. W. Finney P.Z., &c., Charles Crosier S.E. and J. elect, James Jackson J., L. Wilson, Thos. Tunstall, R. Galloway, Jno. Armstrong, W. Woods, James Hannah, W. S. Hawkins P.Z., Knight, Joseph Pickthall, W. Read, W. Barlow, T. C. Pierpoint, and Thos. Domville Janitor. The minutes of the last Convocation were read and confirmed, when the M.E.Z. invited E. Comp. John Bowes to take the chair as Installing Principal. E. Comps. P. J. Edelsten, R. Brierley, and Charles Crosier were then installed as Z., H. and J. respectively, in ample form, after which they were greeted, saluted, and proclaimed according to ancient custom. The other officers having been invested, a vote of thanks to Comp. Bowes was ordered to be recorded on the minutes, and, there being no further business, the Chapter was closed. The Comps. adjourned to the banqueting-room, where, under the presidency of the newly installed Principals, an excellent dinner was justly dealt with. The Loyal and Masonic Toasts were fully honoured, and the Installing Principal came in for a large share of compliments. The evening was enlivened by some excellent singing, in which Comps. Tunstall, Woods, Brierley, and T. C. Pierpoint took part.

Pollockshaws' Royal Arch Lodge, No. 153.—This Lodge celebrated their Festival in the School-room, Bro. W. M. G. Adam R.W.M. presiding, supported by Bros. L. McKellan R.M.W. 512, R. W. Grant R.W.M., Busby St. John, and the Rev. Wm. Dunlop. There was a large attendance of the brethren. The principal interest of the evening consisted in the presentation of a service of silver plate to Bro. J. Peters the I.P.M., for services rendered to the Lodge for the past three years. Bro. Hart S.W., in making it, dwelt on the many excellent qualities of Bro. Peters, both as a man and Mason. The recipient gracefully acknowledged the gift, which, though not deserved, would be nevertheless prized as marking their approbation of his conduct towards the Lodge.

Domestic Lodge, No. 177.—A very numerous assemblage of the brethren of this flourishing Lodge met on Friday, the 9th inst., at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bros. J. Willing jun. W.M., W. Palmer S.W., Buscall J.W., J. Smith P.G.P. Treasurer, T. Williams Secretary, Pintrey Asst. Secretary, White S.D., Spink J.D., W. Harris I.G., McLean D.C., and P.M.'s T. A. Adams, P.G.P., Treadwell, G. Everett, J. E. Walford and W. J. Ferguson; Bros. J. Abram, G. Plummer, Pierpoint, Scard, White, Jones, J. H. Plummer, C. Sargeant, H. Potter, Hunt, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed. Bros. Cohen and Piper were raised to the 3rd degree. Pursuant to a notice of motion by Bro. W. Palmer S.W., seconded by Bro. Buscall J.W., a sum of five guineas was voted from the Lodge to the testimonial about to be presented to Bro. W. Smith,

head waiter at Anderton's Hotel. A committee was appointed to arrange for the Summer Festival. The W.M. proposed two gentlemen for initiation. A sum of ten guineas was voted to head the list of the W.M., who is Steward at the next Anniversary Festival for the Boys School. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, 89 in number, sat down to a very excellent banquet, which was supplied by Bro. Clemow at a very short notice. Bro. W. Smith superintended, and every brother and visitor was made comfortable. The cloth having been removed, the W.M. gave the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. In proposing that of the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, he was pleased to see two brethren of the Lodge. Grand Officers, present; he regretted the absence of Bro. Jas. Brett P.G.P., but they had a very able representative present in Bro. J. Smith P.G.P. The toast was appropriately responded to. Bro. Treadwell I.P.M. then rose. He was very pleased to have the honour of proposing the health of the W.M.; he is of world-wide fame, he had gained their good opinions in every respect; he is a thorough good Mason, and he hoped they would drink his health with the enthusiasm it merited. (Cheers). Bro. Foxcroft then sang the "Stirrup Cup." The W.M. in reply said that every brother who occupied the chair had passed a very severe ordeal. He thanked them for their kind expressions. He then proposed the Visitors; there were many among them whom they were all pleased to see. The Visitors severally returned thanks in excellent speeches, and all complimented the W.M. on his excellent working. The W.M. then proposed the Past Masters; they are always present to render any assistance required of them; they had many among them. Bro. J. Smith P.G.P. has such experience; they know how his valuable assistance is always appreciated. Bro. Walford was a C.O. of the City of London. They all look upon these P.M.'s with respect. Bro. Palmer S.W. then sang a capital song. Bro. Treadwell the I.P.M. responded to the toast, and spoke of the Past Masters in a very humorous way. Bro. G. Everett followed, and said he was pleased to perform any duties required of him. The toast of the Treasurer and Secretary, also that of the Wardens and Officers were given, and duly responded to, and after passing a very agreeable evening the brethren separated. The visitors were:—A. C. Gale, 715, S. Brooks, 1608, J. Walters, 188, G. Wilson P.M. 173, C. W. Hudson J.W., 315, G. Goodley 1608, J. Lane 180, G. W. Knight 1507, E. A. Russ 538, H. M. Levy P.M. 188.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—This Lodge held its usual weekly meeting on Saturday, the 10th inst., at the Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road. Present:—Bros. A. W. Fenner W.M., Goode S.W., Ross J.W., Killick Secretary, Halford Treasurer, Anshell S.D., Brasted J.D., Staley I.G. The Lodge was opened in regular order, and the minutes confirmed. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Hewlett acting as candidate. Bro. Percy worked the 1st, and Bro. Hewlett the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th sections of the 2nd lecture. Bros. C. K. Crouch 1278, and M. L. W. Albrecht 861 were elected members, and Bro. Goode was appointed W.M. for the ensuing week.

Shamrock and Thistle Lodge, No. 275.—This Lodge held their annual Festival in their own Hall on Friday the 2nd March, Bro. D. Ronald R.W.M. presiding. He was well supported by the brethren and their friends. The usual loyal and Masonic sentiments were fully responded to, the principal speaker, Bro. the Rev. R. Thomson, of Ladywell Church, eloquently explaining the principles of the Order.

St. George's, No. 333, Glasgow.—Held their Festival on the 2nd inst. It was attended by the members and their lady friends. Bro. J. Findley was well supported by the whole of his office-bearers, and also by several of the Past Masters. The toast of the Provincial Grand Lodge was ably responded to by Bro. G. Cronshaw P.G.S. Bro. Findley responded to that of Prosperity of St. George, expressing his determination to uphold the present high prestige of the Lodge. He afterwards presented, on behalf of the members, a handsome service of silver plate to Bro. A. Thompson I.P.M. Bro. Findley remarked he had known him some years, and had always found him a worthy Mason. There were many widows and orphans of Masons who could testify to his goodness of heart. Charity with him had been more than a name—it was a living, active principle; while in Lodge matters he had, for four years as Treasurer, and since for two years as Master, laboured incessantly for the good of the Lodge. Bro. Thompson thanked the brethren for the unexpected but valuable proof of their regard; it would stimulate him, if possible, to do more in the future. The proceedings, which were highly enjoyable, wound up with a ball, which was also very successful.

Salisbury Lodge of Instruction, No. 435.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Thursday, the 8th of March, at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street W. Present—Bros. Corneliason W.M., Wray S.W., T. O. Davis J.W., T. Cull Secretary, G. Davis S.D., Farwig J.D., Belfrage I.G.; also Bros. Docker, Tolmie, Lloyd, Solomons, Irnith, Knight, Pearce, Reddie, Collens, and Mander (Preceptor). The Lodge was opened in due form, and minutes confirmed. Bro. Lloyd having answered the usual questions, the Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. The 1st section was worked by Bro. Farwig, the 2nd by Bro. G. Davis, 3rd by Bro. Mander, 4th by Bro. Tolmie, and 5th by Bro. Cull. The Lodge being resumed, Bro. Wray was elected W.M. for the next meeting. A vote of thanks having been given to the W.M. for performing the duties of the chair so efficiently for the first time, the Lodge was closed.

St. John's Lodge, No. 437, Rutherglen.—This Lodge celebrated their annual Festival soiree and concert in the Town Hall, at which above 300 were present. Bro. Smart was supported by B. J. Cunningham I.P.M. and every officer of the Lodge, and the proceedings were of a highly satisfactory nature; they terminated with a ball, thus affording the fair sex an opportunity of thoroughly enjoying themselves with their Masonic friends.

William Preston Lodge of Instruction, No. 766.—This Lodge held its meeting on Friday, the 9th of March, at the Feathers' Tavern, Upper George-street, Edgware-road. Present—Bros. Tate W.M., Nichols S.W., Evans J.W., Hawkins Secretary pro tem, Rudderforth Preceptor, Hayes S.D., Godden J.D., Tribbel I.G.; also Bros. West, Reddie, Parsons, Ridley, Jackson, Kinnard, Chinnory, Reid, and Thompson. Visitors—Bros. Tolmie and Fowler. Business—The Lodge was opened in due form, minutes read and confirmed. Ceremony of initiation worked, Bro. Hawkins as candidate. The questions for passing were then answered by Bros. Reid and Thompson. Bro. Rudderforth, assisted by the brethren, worked the 1st section of the lecture, the W.M. the 2nd, and Bro. Tolmie the 3rd. Bro. Nichols was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. This being the first time that Bro. Tate has occupied the chair in this Lodge of Instruction, a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded him for his efficient performance of the duties annexed thereto. The Lodge was then closed in due form.

Lily Lodge, No. 820.—This Lodge held its meeting on Wednesday, the 14th March, at the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond. Present—Bros. James Bateman C.E. W.M., Thomas Weaver S.W., Charles Hubbard J.W., William F. Reynolds Sec., Thomas Giles P.M., Treasurer, Edwin Wells S.D., Thomas Lamb J.D., W. H. Myers P.M. D.C., Louis Conrlander Steward, Henry Kyezor I.G., Gilbert Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. E. Perkins, F.W. Koch, J. Jones, J. Tolley, Bros. Puttick, Brown, Thomes, Phillips, Newman, Wood, Gray, Deane, Summer, Palmer, Samson, Young, Ingram, &c. Visitors—Bros. F. Buckland P.M. 889, Hopwood P.M. 144, Stiles P.M. 889, Macaulay P.M. 462, Barham W.M. 754, Littlewood P.M. 780, Phillips S.W. 975, Porter J.W. 839, and several others. Business—Messrs. C. P. Deane, J. Summer, D. Gray and F. Samson, were initiated. Bros. E. J. Ingram was passed and Joseph Brown raised. The ceremonies were ably performed by the W.M., who obligated the candidates for initiation singly. It was proposed by the W.M., seconded by the S.W., and carried unanimously, that this Lodge begs to express its sincere sympathy with Bro. Henry Kyezor in the severe loss he has sustained in the early death of his son (the late Bro. Henry James Kyezor), and that this vote of condolence be recorded on the minutes. The music was under the direction of Bro. Tolley of Windsor Castle, musical director to the "Lily" Lodge; an excellent banquet followed the proceedings, served in Bro. Palmer's excellent manner, to which forty-two brethren sat down.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—Held its weekly meeting on the 13th inst., at Bro. Allen's, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney. Present—Bros. W. J. Smith W.M., Saunders S.W., Perrin J.W., E. T. Worsley Secretary, Johnson S.D., Perry J.D., P.M. Wallington Preceptor, Weige I.G.; Past Master Bro. Wright, and Bros. Appleby, Wright, Christian, Wardell, Macklin, Barker, Lovelock, Ould, Watkins, Bonner, Crouch, &c. Business—The Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed. Bro. Appleby having answered the necessary questions, the Lodge was opened in the 3rd degree, when the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. The Preceptor worked the installation ceremony, and invested the above officers with their respective collars; he was listened to very attentively by all rendering the ceremonies in a perfect manner, and was applauded at the finish. The W.M. worked the 1st section of the Lecture, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was closed to the 1st degree, when Bro. Worsley worked the 1st and 2nd sections. Bro. Christian 860 was unanimously elected a member of the Lodge, and Bro. Saunders W.M. for the ensuing week; he appointed his officers in rotation. There being no other business, the Lodge was closed in due form. We would remind brethren that the annual supper of this Lodge of Instruction takes place next Tuesday week, the 27th inst., at 7½ o'clock precisely. Brothers wishing to be present will please forward their names to the Secretary.

Grey Friars Lodge No. 1101.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 14th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Reading. Present—Bros. Edwd. Margrett W.M., A. Welch S.W., W. G. Flanagan J.W., W. P. Ivey P.M. Sec., J. T. Stransom Treasurer, J. Early Danks S.D., W. Ferguson J.D., T. Newman Steward, E. J. Blackwell I.G., W. Hemmings Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. Hurley, Weightman, Howlett, Hilder, Pulley, Rose, Hunt, Cottrell, Barnicoat, Hawkes, Bailey, Phillips, Robinson, T. Simonds, Creed. Visitors—Bros. Martin 414, Herbert P.M. 574. The minutes of the last regular Lodge were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Bro. R. E. Jones 442, Peterborough, as a joining member, and he was declared to be elected. The Treasurer's accounts as audited by the permanent committee were duly passed, upon the motion of Bro. Hurley P.M., seconded by Bro. Banks S.D., who complimented the Treasurer on the satisfactory balance sheet. The Tracing Board in the first degree having been placed on the Lewis support, the W.M. delivered the Lecture in a most correct and impressive manner, for which a vote of thanks was recorded on the minutes. It was proposed that the Lodge co-operate with No. 1017, with respect to the Jewish question, and an interesting discussion on the subject followed between the W.M., and some of the members, resulting in a unanimous vote. Bro. Weightman P.M., announced that it was his intention to attend the festival of the R.M.J.B. as Steward, principally to assist in securing the election of the son of the founder of the Wycombe Lodge, the late Bro. Owens.

Bro. Bailey proposed and the Chaplain seconded, "that the sum of five guineas from the funds of the Lodge be added to Bro. Weightman's list,—carried unanimously. Bro. Weightman returned thanks for this unexpected kindness. A letter of congratulation to the I.P.M. of 414. Bro. Yetts on his recovery from dangerous illness, was ordered to be sent by the Secretary. The labours of the evening being ended, the Lodge was closed according to ancient form. The brethren retired for refreshment to Bro. Robinson's, the Broad Face Hotel, when a very agreeable evening was spent.

Eclectic Lodge, No. 1201.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Friday, the 9th inst. Bros. E. J. Harty W.M., A. E. Taylor S.W., G. Saul J.W., Mander P.M. Treasurer, Barber Secretary, Lee S.D., Dobbin J.D., G. Moss I.G., Higgs P.M. Organist, Pochin D.C., Dr. Lloyd W.S. The Lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed. A ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. T. J. Hamp, of 218 High Holborn. Bro. Dr. Pearce was raised to the 3rd degree. Bros. Absalon and Madell were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. A sum of ten guineas was voted on the list of Bro. Barber Secretary, who is a Steward for the "Boys" in June next. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren were entertained at the Holborn Restaurant, where a sumptuous banquet and dessert was provided by Bro. Gordon, and superintended by Bro. T. J. Hamp, the viands and wines being of first-rate quality. After the regular toasts had been honoured, the W.M. rose and said he had much pleasure in proposing the Initiate. He was one whom they were all pleased to see, he being so instrumental in looking after their creature comforts. He informed the Initiate he was on the threshold of universal religion that knew no distinction; it binds all by one universal bond. As he progresses so he would appreciate it. He hoped they would drink that toast as it deserved. Bro. Hamp returned thanks for the toast, and said he was fully impressed with the words so beautifully spoken by the W.M.; he hoped sincerely to be among them for many years. Bro. H. Watts I.P.M., then said he had to propose the health of the W.M. During an experience of 23 years he never saw one who had so admirably discharged the duties. It is barely four years since their W.M. had been initiated; he is a credit to Freemasonry, and he hoped they would give the toast a hearty welcome. Bro. Watts I.P.M. then sang a very excellent song. The W.M., in reply, said the position he occupied was very onerous; theory was one thing and practice was another; he had done the work to the best of his abilities. It is generally at the conclusion of the W.M.'s year of office that he is nearest perfection; he hoped, at the expiration of his year of office, to have the same sentiments uttered; he would do his utmost to give them satisfaction. There would be a Lodge of Emergency in May, and he hoped that the change in the arrangements made would meet with their approbation. He thanked them for their kind expressions, and then proposed the Visitors; he was pleased to see they had nearly 20 present. Many had left, but those that remained they were pleased to see. He would couple with the toast the names of the Rev. Bro. Gordon, and Bros. Taylor and Shepherd. The Rev. Bro. Gordon rose:—For seventeen years he had been connected with the Fraternity. He was pleased to respond to the call of kind and fraternal hearts. He responded with much pleasure. The W.M. then proposed the P.M.'s. Whatever the W.M. may require, the Past Masters are all ready to render their assistance. There were two of these brethren present. As for Bro. Watts, they had seen how ably he had installed him into the chair. They know also what Bro. Mander has done in Freemasonry, for many brethren had received the benefit of Masonic instruction at his hands, himself among the number. Bro. H. Watts returned thanks for the toast of the Past Masters. Bro. Mander had set a very good example, which all would be pleased to follow. A loving cup was handed round, that was presented to Bro. T. J. Hamp, the new initiate. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Treasurer and Secretary of the Lodge, he said that since the former Bro. had occupied the position of Treasurer, he had conducted those duties to their satisfaction, and he was sure that in conjunction with the worthy Secretary, a satisfactory account would be shown them. Bro. Mander P.M. and Treasurer responded; he said, we are now in a very efficient state; we have given to the Masonic Charities, and hope we may do so in the future. Bro. Barber followed, and said he thanked them for their kind expressions, and also for the £10 10s placed on his list; he hoped that he would be able to put more on his account than Bro. Watts. The W.M. then said it was his intention to act as Steward for the Boys' Festival, but his engagement on the picture of the "Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M.," would take up most of his time. Before

leaving his chair he would be pleased to act as Steward for the three Charities. (Cheers). The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Officers; he stated they were all qualified to fill any office required of them; he would also mention the names of Bro. Higgs Organist. This having been responded to, the Tyler's toast concluded a very harmonious and fraternal meeting. The Visitors were Bros. J. Norton W.M. 969, Dr. J. F. Stains 60, P. Robinson 201, B. Taylor W.M. 1273, R. H. Burnham 1624, Blackie 1426, E. Taylor 379, R. Gordon 186, P. J. Ireton 1348, J. Henderson 352, H. Godfrey W.M. 1261, T. White 428, Shepherd 27, T. H. Sims 1351, Wilson 1330, H. T. Hooper 435, S. Botibol 188, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188.

Upton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1227.—Held at Bro. Bolton's, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, on Friday, 9th instant. Present—Bros. Crouch W.M., Oldroyd S.W., R. W. Pearcey J.W., A. W. Smith S.D., Cooper J.D. Lane I.G., Fenner, Townsend, Bolton, Andrews, Kent, Crellin. Lodge opened and minutes confirmed. Lodge opened in 2nd degree. Bro. Smith answered the necessary questions, and was entrusted. Lodge opened in 3rd. Ceremony of raising was impressively rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. A. W. Smith acting as candidate. The 1st section of the lecture was worked by Bro. A. W. Fenner, assisted by the Brethren. Lodge was resumed to 1st degree, when Bro. Oldroyd was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodge was then closed in due form and adjourned.

Royal Standard Lodge of Instruction, No. 1298.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Friday, the 9th of March, at the Castle Tavern, Holloway-road, N. Present—Bros. Hall W.M., Simpson S.W., Eldridge J.W., Hunter S.D., Passingham J.D., Humphreys I.G. Past Masters:—Bros. T. Cull (Preceptor), Wright, Yeomans, Shackle, and several other brethren. The Lodge being opened in due form, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Yeomans having been interrogated and entrusted, the Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Yeomans acting as candidate. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th sections were then worked by Bro. Cull. The Lodge was closed down, and Bro. Simpson S.W. unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A vote of thanks having been accorded to the W.M. for so ably carrying out the duties of the chair for the first time, the Lodge was closed in due form.

Loyalty Lodge, No. 1607.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday, the 10th inst., at the Alexandra Palace, Muswell-hill. The W.M. Bro. John Newton, supported by his officers, opened the Lodge punctually at 3 o'clock. The business consisted of passing Bro. Jones, and a proposition for initiation. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren proceeded to the private residence of the Treasurer, Bro. Legge, at Finsbury-park, who had invited the wives and lady friends of the members there to join them. A delightful evening was spent, and all separated, highly pleased with the hospitality and truly Masonic spirit displayed by the worthy host and his amiable wife.

Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, No. 1642.—The regular meeting of this newly-consecrated Lodge was held on Thursday, the 8th inst., at Ladbroke-hall, Ladbroke-grove, Notting-hill. Present—Bros. W. J. Murlis W.M., W. Grist 1489 as S.W., Parkhouse J.W., W. Stephens P.M. Treas., J. Pushman Sec., Clench J.D., Lander I.G., Smout D.C., Smout jun. W.S., &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed. The business consisted of initiating Messrs. W. Hawes, F. Crabb, W. Bartle, W. H. Woods, and N. G. Collett, and the passing of Bros. Swift, Linscott, J. Bartle, Woodmason, Hook and Buckland, the ceremonies being excellently rendered. Bro. E. J. Cave was elected a joining member. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of a very excellent banquet. The W.M. proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, Bro. E. P. Albert G.P. responding to that of the Grand Officers. The toast of the W.M. was proposed, and very appropriately responded to. Several of the Initiates returned thanks. The Visitors, Treasurer, Secretary, Wardens, and Officers were given, and the Tyler's toast brought a very harmonious evening to a close.

In our report of the Panmure Mark Lodge last week, Bro. James Salmon, of the Earl of Chester Lodge, No. 196, Chester, present as a visitor, was incorrectly described as Bro. James Sutmore.

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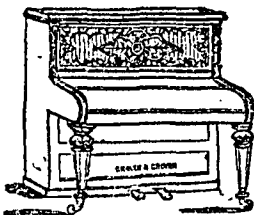
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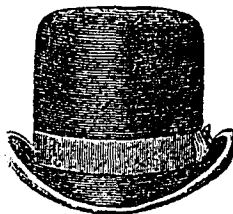
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LOMBARD DEPOSIT BANK LIMITED.

(Extract from the Directors' Report, presented to the
 Shareholders at the Fourth Ordinary General Meeting,
 held at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Saturday, the 3rd
 March 1877).

THE LOMBARD DEPOSIT BANK LIM.

TED having completed its second year, the
 Directors have the pleasure of presenting to the
 Shareholders and Depositors their usual Report and
 Balance Sheet, this being the Annual one, but the
 fourth since the Bank's incorporation, and it having
 been the most prosperous year the Bank has had,
 the particulars cannot fail to prove satisfactory to
 all who are interested in the Company's progress.

From the following figures, which are duly certi-
 fied by the Auditors as correct, it will be seen that
 during this year the Directors have received appli-
 cations for advances of sums amounting in the
 aggregate to £214,000; of these a considerable
 portion fell through, because, on investigation, the
 security offered was found to be insufficient in
 value, or defective in title, but your Directors suc-
 ceeded in completing advances to the amount of
 £64,653, being more than double the amount
 advanced during the initial year of the Bank's
 existence.

During the past six months, the Directors have
 made, in addition to temporary loans, 421 advances
 of a more permanent character (making a total of
 822 advances for the year), on securities amounting
 to £33,360, upon which the interest and bonus
 amount to £5,760, and after defraying the expenses
 of Management, and writing off to Suspense Fund
 £488, and £500 to increase the Reserve Fund to
 £1,000 it leaves a balance of £1,425 to be carried
 forward. These figures show at once the satisfactory
 condition of the Company.

During the same period the receipts from deposits
 have been £3,543, and the withdrawals £3,763, so
 that we have received £1,785 more than we have
 paid out. We have advanced £34,064, and we have
 received back £12,715. Our advances, therefore,
 are larger than the repayments.

If the above figures are compared with those in
 the preceding balance sheet, you will observe that
 we have continued our usual satisfactory course of
 business—every department showing a steady
 increase in the number and extent of our transac-
 tions. Some idea of the magnitude of this young
 institution may be formed from the fact that the
 total turn over for the year amounts to nearly
 £224,100, while the amount due to the Company,
 and for which ample security is held, has now
 reached the sum of £21,349. In addition to this,
 the Directors call attention to the fact—a most im-
 portant one—that within two years of the Bank's
 establishment, the reserve amounts to £1,000. This
 large increase in each department of the Company's
 business during the past year, evidences the grow-
 ing and steadfast confidence of the public in the
 management of the Bank; is most encouraging to
 the Board, and will be a source of great gratifica-
 tion to the Shareholders. That confidence the
 Board has sought by constant and conscientious
 efforts in conducting the business of the Company
 on the soundest principles, by investing the moneys
 intrusted to their charge with the utmost caution
 and care, by refusing all off-ered securities which
 were either speculative or risky, and accepting only
 such as were legitimate and of ample value.

The Directors also desire to draw the Share-
 holders' attention to the fact that the whole of the
 shares are allotted except 5300. They now offer
 3300 to the present Shareholders and the public at
 par, the remainder 2,000 at a premium (to be placed
 to Reserve Fund) of 5s per share. The Directors
 believe that the present position of the Bank justifies
 them in adopting this course.

AT the FOURTH ORDINARY GENERAL
MEETING of the Shareholders of the Lom-
 bard Deposit Bank Limited, held at the Cannon-
 street Hotel, on Saturday, the 3rd March 1877,
 Colonel Mahon in the chair, the Directors' Report
 and statement of Accounts were unanimously
 approved, and a dividend at the rate of 12½ per cent.
 was declared.

The cordial thanks of the meeting were unani-
 mously passed to Mr. James Pryor, the Manager of
 the Company, and to the Chairman and Directors.

By Order of the Board,

RICHARD TYLER, Secretary.

35 Lombard-street,
 6th March 1877.

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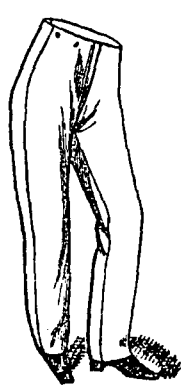
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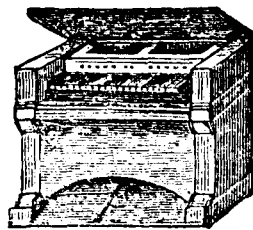
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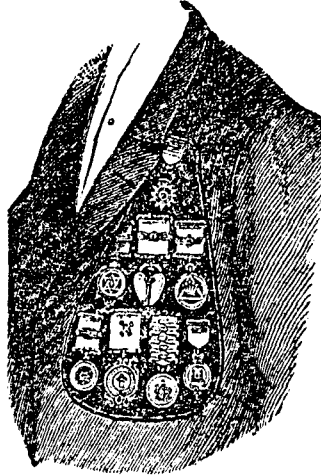
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