

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

VOL. VII.—No. 170.

SATURDAY, 30th MARCH 1878.

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

MILITARY LODGES.

ELSEWHERE in our columns will be found an interesting report of the Installation Meeting of the Meridian Lodge, No. 743, attached to the 31st Regiment. Reference was made on that occasion, by Bro. R. F. Gould, to the List of Lodges on the Roll of the United

Grand Lodge of England A.D. 1814, as compiled by Bro. W. J. Hughan, of which nearly one in twelve was working under a Military Warrant. The following extract from the list alluded to, showing the fifty Military Lodges then existing, may be found interesting by our readers:—

No. in 1874	Description in 1874	No. in 1814	Description in 1814	Ancients	Moderns
		17	Royal Artillery, Quebec	1756	—
		125	5th Battalion Royal Artillery	1762	—
		137	50th Regiment	1763	—
		144	2nd Regiment Lancashire Militia	1763	—
113	Unanimity, Preston	179	3rd Royal Lancashire Militia	1767	—
115	St. John's, Gibraltar	181	2nd Royal Battalion Royal Artillery	1774	—
117	Salopian Lodge of Charity, Shrewsbury	186	In Shropshire Militia	1771-1810	—
		189	Royal Horse Artillery, Colchester	1770	—
131	Fortitude, Truro	213	Royal Regiment of Cornish Miners	1772	—
		221	9th Regiment of Foot	1773	—
		228	9th Battalion Royal Artillery	1774	—
		233	1st Battalion 91st Regiment	1774	—
		262	Royal Regiment Stafford Militia	1778	—
		270	Royal Cumberland Militia	1782	—
		272	East Devon Regiment of Militia	1782	—
		286	North Devon Militia	1785	—
		297	Hirsel Lodge, Berwickshire Militia	1786	—
		313	76th Regiment	1788	—
		318	23rd Regiment	1789	—
		328	Royal Marine, Chatham	1790	—
		331	7th Regiment Light Dragoons	1790	—
		356	Wiltshire Regiment of Militia	1794	—
		361	17th Regiment Light Dragoons	1794	—
		369	Parkhurst Barracks, Isle of Wight	1795	—
212	Euphrates, London	370	In West London Militia	1795-1812	—
		379	85th Regiment	1796	—
		396	6th Regiment Inniskilling Dragoons	1798	—
		404	Lisbon in Garrison	1799	—
		406	91st Regiment	1799	—
		408	78th Regiment	1800	—
		415	In Garrison, Cape Breton, North America	1801	—
		418	Royal Marine Lodge, Woolwich	1802	—
		419	6th Battalion Royal Artillery	1802	—
		424	2nd Battalion 58th Regiment	1805	—
		426	92nd Regiment	1806	—
		432	1st Battalion 14th Regiment	1807	—
		434	2nd Battalion 34th Regiment	1807	—
		439	4th Garrison Battalion, Guernsey	1809	—
		443	4th Battalion Royal Artillery	1810	—
		445	2nd Battalion 14th Regiment	1810	—
		446	68th Regiment	1810	—
		449	Lodge of Charity, Royal Artificers, Jersey	1810	—
		454	5th Regiment of Foot	1812	—
		456	10th Battalion Royal Artillery	1812	—
		459	10th Battalion Royal Artillery	1813	—
		460	St. George's, East York Militia	—	1782
		567	Royal Regiment of Cheshire Militia	—	1794
		590	Lodge of Truth, 1st Regiment Life Guards	—	1798
330	One and All, Bodmin	625	Royal Cornwall Lodge, in Cornwall Regiment Militia	—	1810
		634	Union York, 2nd Regiment W. Yorkshire Militia	—	1811

The dates of constitution in Bro. Hughan's list are only given in the case of the "Moderns," the dates therefore assigned to the "Ancient" Lodges have been kindly approximately fixed by him, in response to our request. It is a curious circumstance that up to the year 1813, though fifty English Military Lodges were in existence, with few exceptions these were working under "Ancient" warrants, the first Military Lodge in the above list constituted by the "Moderns" being St. George, in the East York Militia, A.D. 1782. It will be seen that only six of the above Lodges are now in existence, also that all of these are working under Civil Warrants.* The following are the Military Lodges now on the Roll:—

No.	Date
316	1st Royal (originally a Civil Warrant) 1798
352	6th Regiment ... 1817
497	89th Regiment ... 1844
528	14th Regiment ... 1816
743	31st Regiment ... 1858
824	12th Regiment ... 1860

And of these, No. 316, though dating from 1798, was not attached to the 1st (Royal Regiment) until after 1814, in which year it was located at Madras, working, presumably, under a Civil Warrant.

* Nos. 117, 131 and 212 Warrants have been published in our columns.

An analysis of the above list shows the following result:—

REGULAR FORCES.			
Lodges in Royal Artillery	...	...	9
" Infantry Regiments	...	...	15
" Cavalry do	...	...	4
" Royal Marines	...	...	2
" In Barracks and Garrisons	...	...	4
" Royal Artificers	...	...	1
			— ... 35
MILITIA.			
Lodges in Lancashire Regiments	...	...	2
" Shropshire do	...	...	1
" Cornwall	...	...	2
" Staffordshire	...	...	1
" Cumberland	...	...	1
" Devon	...	...	2
" Berwickshire	...	...	1
" Wiltshire	...	...	1
" London	...	...	2
" York	...	...	1
" Cheshire	...	...	1
			— ... 15
Grand Total	...	...	50

At first sight, the decadence of Military Masonry would seem to be due to the operation of very natural causes, the reduction of the army from a war to a peace footing after the Battle of Waterloo in 1815, leading, not only to the disembodiment of the entire force of Militia, which had been employed in garrison duties in Great Britain, during the absence on foreign service of the bulk of our regular army, but also resulting in the disbandment of many regiments of Infantry and Cavalry, and the reduction of all that were retained on the fixed establishment, to a much lower strength than had hitherto prevailed. A closer examination, however, reveals a very different cause for such decay; the prosperity of Military Lodges, as a body, culminated in 1813, when fifty were in existence, which, with only six exceptions, were *all working under "Ancient" Warrants.*

It would therefore appear that the progress of Military Masonry was arrested in 1814, after the Grand Lodge of "Ancients" ceased to exist as an independent institution, as at no time during our history as a nation did our Military establishments swell to larger proportions than between 1782 and 1815.

The decay of Military Masonry in its class aspect, as evidenced by the proportion of Military to Civil Lodges falling off from one in twelve in 1814 to one in three hundred in 1878, has, we think, scarcely been noticed before in any Masonic journal.

Lodge "Fort George," under the Scotch Constitution, referred to by Bro. Gould as having been at work in the 31st Regiment in 1816, was chartered in 1760, and struck off the Roll in 1852.

HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY IN LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

(Continued from page 194.)

On the death of Lord Raneliffe in 1851, the office of Prov. Grand Master was conferred on Sir F. G. Fowke, who had performed the duties of Deputy for eighteen years; and on the 23rd April of that year, Sir Frederick was duly installed in office, Bro. W. Dobie, Grand Registrar and Prov. G. Master of Surrey, presiding as Prov. G. Master, Bro. W. H. White Grand Secretary as Deputy G.M., and Bros. Pettifor and Kelly as Prov. Grand Wardens, about fifty brethren being present. One of the earliest acts of the new chief was the appointment of a commission, consisting of Bros. Wheeler, Kelly, and the P.G. Secretary, to inquire into the irregular proceedings of the Knights of Malta Lodge at Hinckley, which is now, we rejoice to hear, one of the best ordered Lodges in the country, instead of, as it was then, a small but ill-conducted Lodge, consisting mostly of operatives, who were constantly applying for relief to the Grand Lodge of Benevolence. Indeed, from a list which appears in this sketch, —the names, however, being very properly suppressed, and only initials given—it appears that between 1828 and 1851, the members had obtained relief to the extent of £100, their annual contributions to the funds of Grand Lodge varying from a pound to thirty shillings. Indeed, we are told that but for the services of the late Bro. Need-

ham, an old P.M. of the Lodge, it would have been extinct long before. It must be borne in mind that the Knights of Malta Lodge was originally an Athole Lodge. Its Warrant is dated 1764, but it was originally held at Macclesfield, and it was not till 1803 that the Warrant was transferred to Hinckley. Yet, in spite of the articles of the Union, which declared that Masonry consisted only of the three degrees, including the Royal Arch, the Lodge, acting on the sole authority of its Warrant, had gone on granting the Ark, Mark, Arch, and Templar degrees. Specimens of the Lodge certificates for the Craft, Arch, and Templar degrees are given, that of the last-mentioned being as follows:—

"In the name of the Most Holy, Glorious, and Undivided Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

"We, the Capt. General, &c., &c., &c. of the General Assembly of Knight Templars, held under the Sanction of Lodge 66 of the English Regestry, Do Hereby certify that the Bearer, our faithful true, and well-beloved Brother, Sir William Lee, was by us, Dub'd a Knight of the Most Holy and Magnanimous Order of Knight Templars, the true and faithful Soldier in Jesus Christ, he having with due honour and fortitude, supported the Amazing Tryals attending his admission, and as such we recommend him to all true Knight Templars on the face of the Globe.

"Given under our own hands and seal of our general assembly at Hinckley, this 8th day of May 1822, and of the Order of Malta.

L. S. Henry Granger, Capt. General,
Mical McKenny, Grand Warden,
James Goode, Dept. Grand Warden."

On the 28th April 1852 the statue erected in Leicester to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Lord Lieutenancy of the "Good" Duke of Rutland, was formally inaugurated with Masonic ceremony by the Prov. G. Master and his Grand Officers, the brethren present numbering some eighty, the mallet used on the occasion being afterwards presented to the John of Gaunt Lodge. The Duke conveyed his thanks for the honour thus done by the brethren in a letter to the Prov. G. Master. On this occasion Bro. Kelly was appointed Dep. G.M., though it was not till 1856 that he received his regular patent of appointment. On 15th November 1854, Bro. W. Cooke, who had held the office of Prov. G. Secretary since 1833, and who in 1850 had been presented by the St. John's Lodge with a full dress suit of P.G. Secretary's clothing and P.M.'s jewel, as a mark of their affection, resigned his office, and Bro. Kelly was appointed in his stead. In 1855 the Prov. G. Master's health was such that he was unable to preside in P.G. Lodge, and early in 1856 he issued, as we have said, a regular patent of appointment, by virtue of which Bro. Kelly ruled the Province as Dep. P.G. Master, and on the 19th May of the same year it was announced in P.G. Lodge that two days previously Sir F. G. Fowke had died, being then in the 74th year of his age. A resolution of regret and sympathy with the family of the deceased was adopted unanimously, and it was further determined that the brethren of the Province should wear Masonic mourning for twelve months as a mark of respect for their late chief. On the 18th June of this year Earl Howe was appointed Prov. G. Master, and in October he appointed Bro. Kelly his Deputy. In November his Lordship was installed in office by Bro. Kelly, in the presence of over a hundred brethren, among whom were Bro. Sir A. G. Hazlerigg, Bro. C. R. Colville M.P. D.P.G.M. for Derbyshire, and other distinguished brethren from the adjoining Provinces. On this occasion the brethren went in procession to church, and here a collection, amounting to £50, was made, for the joint benefit of the St. John's District Schools and the Leicester Infirmary. On leaving church, the P. G. Master, assisted by his Officers, laid the foundation stone of the adjoining schools. On reaching the P.G. Lodge, an illuminated address of congratulation was presented to his Lordship, who gratefully acknowledged it, and then, after the appointment of a Committee to prepare a code of bye laws, the P.G. Lodge was closed, and the brethren met again at banquet, a few non-Masons, including Lord Curzon, now Lord Howe, the Mayor and Town Clerk of Leicester, and the Vicar of St. Margaret's, being present. The year 1857 was marked by two events—Lord Howe's presentation to the P.G. Lodge of four jewels of office, those of the D.P.G.M., the P.G. Secretary, and the two P.G. Stewards, together with his banner as P.G.M., and the adoption of the Provincial bye laws. This year is further distinguished by the revived fortunes of the Knights of Malta Lodge at Hinckley, and in 1858 a Prov. G. Lodge was held in that town, and Lord Howe

was installed as W.M. of the Lodge. In 1859 the Ferrers and Ivanhoe Lodge, No. 1081—now No. 779—was constituted, Earl Ferrers being its first W. Master, who also was appointed Prov. G. Junior Warden, vice Bro. W. Beaumont Smith resigned. His Lordship, however, died during his year, and was succeeded in both his offices by Bro. Edward Mammatt. In this year a third and successful attempt was made to raise funds for the erection of a Masonic Hall in Leicester, the first stone being laid, by the P.G.M., on the 15th February, and the building consecrated and dedicated to Masonry on the 15th September. On the 6th October, the Ferrers and Ivanhoe, which had been opened without consecration, and had continued to work under dispensation, was duly consecrated on the 6th October, and, by a strange coincidence, the death of Earl Ferrers, who had not lived to be installed its first W.M., was followed by that of Bro. Edward Mammatt, when he had only completed six months of his term of office. In 1860, in accordance with a unanimous resolution of Prov. G. Lodge, the portrait of Earl Howe as Prov. G. Master was painted, the artist being Bro. T. James Barker, and on 9th October of that year it was formally presented, and hung in the Masonic Hall, an illuminated address being, at the same, handed to his Lordship. In 1864, two Lodges were added to the roll of the P.G. Lodge, namely: the Howe and Charnwood Lodge, No. 1007, at Loughborough, and the Rutland Lodge, No. 1130, at Melton Mowbray. The former was consecrated, and Lord Howe installed first W.M., on 2nd August; the latter was consecrated by Bro. Kelly, and Bro. George Bowman installed W.M., on 19th October. About this time the P.G.M. expressed a wish to resign his office, but at the unanimously expressed wish of the brethren, he consented to remain at his post, and on 30th August 1867 he presided, though, unfortunately for the last time, over the P.G. Lodge held at the Town Hall, Ashby de la Zouch. On the 30th September 1869, the Province was enlarged, a new Lodge, the "Vale of Catmos Lodge," No. 1265, being consecrated at Oakham, and the County of Rutland was conjoined with that of Leicester as a Masonic Province. At their meeting of P.G. Lodge, a letter from Earl Howe was read, again pressing the brethren to accept his resignation. This was done with great regret, and his lordship having sent in his resignation as Master on the 6th December 1869, Bro. Kelly received his patent of appointment as his successor on the 3rd January following. The installation of the new P.G. Master took place on the 18th February, the event being celebrated by a banquet, followed by a Masonic ball. On the 12th May Earl Howe died, and on the 18th of the month the foundation stones of two new churches were laid with Masonic ceremonies, that of St. Mark being laid by Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., who officiated for Lord Curzon, absent by reason of his father's death. At this meeting of P.G. Lodge, an address of condolence with Lord Howe's family was unanimously adopted, and it was resolved to wear Masonic mourning for six months, as a tribute of respect to his memory. On the 18th July, a new Lodge, the St. Peter's, No. 133, was consecrated at Market Harborough. In 1872, a third Leicester Lodge, the Commercial, No. 1391, was consecrated. In 1873, Bro. Kelly resigned the P.G. Mastership, and was succeeded by Earl Ferrers, who still holds the appointment, Bro. Sir Henry St. J. Halford, Bart., being his Deputy. Since then, in 1875, a fourth Leicester Lodge, the Albert Edward, No. 1560, has been added to the roll, so that the Province now boasts ten Lodges, while before 1846 it had only three, of which two, the Knights of Malta and the Raneliffe (since defunct) were in a very unsatisfactory condition. If we add that a Prov. G. Chapter of Royal Arch Masonry was constituted in 1858, with Earl Howe as P.G. Superintendent, and that there are now four R.A. Chapters; and that on the 23rd June of the same year Bro. Kelly was appointed, by Lord Leigh, Prov. G. Master of Mark Masons, who are also in a flourishing state, we shall have said enough to show how well the Craft is prospering in the Province which has occupied our attention for some time past.

In our report of the Francis Bardett Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 181, last week, we announced that "Bro. J. M. Steven" was unanimously elected an honorary member: this should have read "Bro. James Stevens." We are pleased to make this correction, as our worthy brother (of Clapham) well deserves such an honour as this the members of the Bardett Lodge of M.M.M. have conferred upon him.

A NEW LODGE.

FROM THE "KEYSTONE."

HOW full of meaning are those three little words—a New Lodge! A volume might be written upon them, without unnecessary multiplying words. The subject is again and again brought to our notice, by every constitution of a new body of the Craft.

In the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania we have witnessed, during the present week, the consecration and constitution of another member of the great Masonic family—Spring City Lodge, No. 553, F. and A.M. We may, therefore, appropriately refer at this time to some thoughts germane to the occasion.

A New Lodge! What a host of possibilities and probabilities it suggests. "To us a child is born, to us a son is given." To-day it be small and weak, but it possesses within itself, and through its mystic and magnetic force of attraction, a power to double, triple and quadruple its size and strength. It is a *giant in embryo*. If founded in wisdom, it will surely develop in strength and beauty. It possesses the Solomonic virility, and will unfailingly reproduce its like. Like father, like son, is the law of Masonry as it is of humanity.

A new Lodge! Another beacon light of Faith, Hope and Charity, of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. There is the same Altar, the same Great Lights, the same symbolism, and the same impressive ceremonies, that have always characterized the Craft. It is a new Lodge, and yet there is really nothing new about it, except its name. Its members are old, its principles are old, and its ceremonials are old. It affords another demonstration of the truth that there is nothing new under the sun.

A new Lodge! Another quarry, whence shall be taken, and where shall be fashioned, rough stones into perfect ashlar. Masons are first to be "made," and then continuously instructed. The work is a life-work. Living stones are to be built into a spiritual Temple. The cement of Brotherly Love is to be spread, to unite the building into a common mass. The Ancient Abbeys and Cathedrals of Europe, the work of our forefathers in the Craft—that were so honestly built that they have defied the crumbling hands of time, are, in their way, no napt types of the Temple that is to be—"not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

A new Lodge! Another fountain of Charity opened. Another bourse for the weary, unfortunate Brother. Another refuge for the widow and the orphan. Can you estimate its value, measure its usefulness, or determine its expectation of life? It might take an angel's eye to see to the end of its existence. Its life-principle is Freemasonry, which is an *elixir vite*.

A new Lodge! Another almost magical power for developing men of every nation, tongue, kindred and religion, into Brethren—a power more valuable than that of the long sought philosopher's stone for turning whatever it touched into gold. A good man and true is invaluable. He cannot be bought or sold.

A new Lodge! Another champion of the Truth—the truth of God—His existence, unity and omnipotence; the truth of man, his possession of an immortal soul. The representatives of these two truths shall one day be brought face to face, and both shall exist somewhere, for ever.

A new Lodge! Another microcosm, a world in miniature, with the starry canopy over head, and the chequered floor under foot. Another oblong square—a figure only known to Masonry. We still perpetuate, in figure, the world as it was supposed to be at the Solomonic era. Then the inhabited portions of the globe were contained within boundary lines that on a chart of Mercator's projection would have come within an oblong square—that is a parallelogram. The Lodge to this day is a symbol of the world as it was, or was generally supposed to be, in the days of King Solomon.

A new Lodge! but *practically* of what character? Shall the members be only *represented* at its meetings, say but one out of ten regularly present? Shall it open and close in the same breath, with no work, no interest, no funds? Is it living or dead at the outset? Stillborn, or alive for evermore? We should like to know, for this is an all-important inquiry.

A new Lodge! How many sides has it—individually we mean? Is there unity or diversity among its members? Do they naturally "take sides" as soon as any new measure is proposed? Do they love to debate, dispute, wrangle? Are they nothing unless they are argumentative? Another important inquiry.

A new Lodge! Are the members sociable or distant in their intercourse with each other? When they meet do they simply nod, or speak, or shake hands? Are they friends or strangers among themselves? Do they *know* each other outside of the Lodge? Do they leave all of their Masonry in the Lodge Room with their aprons, or do they carry it home with them, and charm the domestic circle and the world with its happy influence?

A new Lodge? Shall it go up or down? That depends upon itself, and itself is its members. The officers alone cannot make or mar it—there must be a following, that is, mutual aid and support. Every Brother who has cast his lot within its mystic boundaries must identify himself with its life and prosperity if he would see it reflect honor upon the Craft. There must be identity of interest and unity of plan. Bear and forbear. Labour for it in and out of season. Think of the welfare of your Lodge as you think of your own welfare. Introduce to it no improper or discordant elements. Recommend ignorantly or carelessly no applicant. Be persuaded that a grave responsibility ever rests upon you. You are your Brother's keeper. You are your Lodge's keeper. You are a scion of the royal lineage of Freemasons. You have learned a royal art, and right royally should you think, speak and act whenever Masonic interests are at stake. Be true to your Lodge and yourself, and then your Lodge, if new, will be destined to be old, and if old, will be for ever renewing the vigour of its youth.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

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GRAND ORIENT AND ENGLISH FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The controversy upon this subject, intensely interesting as it undoubtedly is, appears to me somewhat out of date to serve any useful or practical purpose. The proper time would have been during the deliberations of the Committee, and before the last meeting of Grand Lodge. Not that I for a moment suppose any amount of correspondence, either *pro* or *con*, would have exercised the slightest influence as regards the result. The most eloquent advocacy in favour of the delinquent would have been of no effect, or had any chance of success in the slightest degree to alter the foregone conclusion. It was from the beginning the intention to proclaim that members of the Grand Orient have forfeited all claim to participate in English Masonic privileges. By the unanimous voice of the representatives of numerous English Lodges that intention has been carried into effect. Right or wrong, prudent or injudicious, in whichever light it is taken, the decree has gone forth, and loyalty demands due, unhesitating, and unqualified submission. The past cannot be recalled, and if this discussion is to have any value it should be directed towards the elucidation of such points as might tend towards re-union, and the re-establishment of what cannot now be justly termed a Universal Brotherhood. The subject has already been dealt with in a variety of ways, and the social, moral and historical bearings thereof, have received ample consideration. But there is a view of which, hitherto, no notice has been taken, meriting, as it appears to me, some amount of attention. I allude to what I must claim permission to call its psychological aspect. The Grand Orient is accused of a crime which, to my humble apprehension, it would be difficult to substantiate. It is charged with the offence of removing the barrier erected to exclude those who are opposed to the popular conception of a deity, and are supposed to cherish atheistic opinion. Now, I start with the axiom that atheism is a moral impossibility, and consequently that what is intended to be conveyed by the term atheist does not in reality exist. The mere assertion of disbelief does in no way militate against this proposition, for it may arise from an abnormal peculiarity of mental condition. The religious faculty eminently belongs to men, and is the most powerful and abiding. It is not to be suppressed, however much it might for a time be disregarded, its influence will ever predominate, and there is no process capable of bringing about its annihilation. The negationist no doubt fancies himself the votary of truth, while in reality he prostrates his intellect before vain imaginings and offers incense upon the altar of falsehood and deceit. But that condition of mind is fleeting and unsubstantial. The natural instinct of men is prone to self examination during the progress of which it is speedily made clear, that what seemed conscientious conviction, is but a phantom offspring of a vain conceit, and that in the innermost recesses of our being, there lurks the conscientiousness of weakness and dependence, and a yearning towards a higher power on whom to rely for strength, support and safety. To simply say men believe in God is not a correct expression. It is absolute and perfect knowledge, more or less clear to every understanding. If, therefore, all men know God, the term atheist is meaningless in the sense in which it is generally understood. The question therefore narrows itself to this. Ought we, having due regard to that "charity which thinketh no evil," to refuse friendship and fraternal intercourse to one who, while refusing verbal professions, acts in conformity with laws of God, or would it not be wiser to judge principle by conduct. One, at the mention of whose name millions bare the head and bend the knee, has taught, ages ago, "Ye shall know them by their fruits," and has assured his disciples that "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but he that doeth the will of the Father which is in Heaven." High authority this for accepting conduct as the true test. But in our days hypocrisy enjoys immense advantage over conscientiousness. Undoubted integrity, unremitting benevolence, and blameless life, avail nought against ostentatious declarations of faith, and the ceaseless prattle of canting theological verbiage, the standard by which, now-a-days, man's character is gauged. If a man doeth the will of the Father, though he might assert unbelief, and object to pronounce the most sacred of all formulas, I hold him to be truly religious in the very best sense of the word. From this point of view the offence, if so it is to be called, of the Grand Orient will, I think, appear in a somewhat softer light. For if it can be shown that the irreproachable only are accepted, whose virtues indicate harmony with the divine law; then the crime about which such an outcry has been raised, and for which the barbarous penalty of excommunication has been hurled with more or less precipitancy upon that unfortunate body is, after all, reduced to the elimination of a formulated set of words, the spirit of which still guides its labours as of yore.

Yours fraternally,

E. GOTTHEIL,

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In my letter of last week, my remarks were directed chiefly to a consideration of the change introduced into French Masonry by the recent alteration in the Constitutions

of the Grand Orient. I endeavoured to show that this change was a very real as well as a very important one. I strove to the best of my ability to meet the assertion of Bro. Thévenot, apparently endorsed by Bro. "M. B.," to the effect that nothing whatever is changed in the practices of French Masonry, and to this end I used arguments based on statements contained in a well known history of French Masonry, and on words and illustrations derived from, or explanatory of, the French ritual. I also said a few words in justification of Lord Carnarvon's assumption that Grand Lodge would unanimously accept the Report of the Grand Committee, of which he was the leading member. I will now, with your kind permission, touch on sundry points raised by "A Free-Mason and P.M." in his letter of the 12th inst.

Premising, of course, that I willingly accord him that "credit for sincerity and good faith" which I claim for myself, I must in the first place point out that his letter would have had greater weight with me had he employed more argument and less assertion, and if, in the one or two cases in which he has descended into the arena of argument, he had started on just premises. For instance, he justifies the conduct of the Grand Orient in its alteration of the first article of its Constitutions on the ground that "every one believes in God in some form or other." Bro. Thévenot had previously affirmed that the Grand Orient did not believe there were atheists in the absolute sense of the word—whatever that may be; while Bro. Norton allows that there are atheists, but considers the number of such persons is very small. I must leave Bro. Thévenot to interpret his own statements. Bro. Norton, I think, is very probably right in his belief, and supposing "A Free-Mason and P.M.'s" assumption were correct, there would probably be no great harm in omitting the words which indicate a belief in the existence of God. But while Bro. Norton expresses an opinion on this matter, "A Free-Mason and P.M." dogmatically asserts that there is no such person as an atheist, and that, too, in contradiction of Bro. Thévenot's statement "that G.O. formerly counted among its illustrious members the eminent astronomer Lalande, and the great philosopher Helvétius, and others, who openly professed atheistic principles." (N.B.—The italics are mine.) I repeat, I do not pretend to explain the statements of Bro. Thévenot, who apparently draws a distinction between "atheists in the absolute sense of the word," and persons "who openly profess atheistic principles." But here, at all events, we have three brethren who justify the recent conduct of the Grand Orient widely differing amongst themselves at the very threshold of the case. Bro. Norton allows that there are atheists; Bro. Thévenot denies there are "atheists in the absolute sense of the word," though he admits there have been persons "who openly professed atheistic principles;" and "A Free-Mason and P.M." affirms that "every one believes in God in some form or other." But if Bro. Norton is right, then it seems to me the whole of "A Free-Mason and P.M.'s" case falls to the ground, for he starts on the assumption that all men are theists. If, however, the latter is right, then Bro. Thévenot's statement, that there have been members of the Grand Orient "who openly professed atheistic principles," must be erroneous. One thing is very certain, these three brethren, differing as they do so radically, cannot all be in the right.

In the next place, I think Bro. Thévenot is a more trustworthy exponent of the principles which actuated the Grand Orient in its recent change than my English brother. The latter says all men believe in God, "but a man who believes in Buddha would doubtless hesitate in an English or French Lodge to declare such belief," and "upon this principle the Grand Orient has resolved to 'eliminate the name of the G.A.O.T.U. from its Ritual.'" On the other hand, Bro. Thévenot, writing under a due sense of official responsibility, tells us that the Grand Orient has resolved not to require from a candidate any declaration "whether he believes or not in God," since it would have been "necessary to make some sort of definition in reference to the matter (a thing which has always led to some very regrettable discussions)." "A Free-Mason and P.M." affirms that all men believe in God, while Bro. Thévenot when he says the G. Orient does not require a candidate to declare "whether he believes or not in God," virtually allows that there are persons who do not so believe. The former says that Grand Orient has adopted the recent change on the principle that a religiousist of this or that persuasion might hesitate to express his belief in God in a French or English Lodge; the latter assigns as the reason that if such a declaration were required it would be necessary "to make some sort of definition in reference to the matter." It is impossible to reconcile such statements as these, except it be on the ground that "A Free-Mason and P.M.'s" principle and Bro. Thévenot's definition must necessarily be of a sectarian character. In such case, however, our Grand Lodge, which is strongly opposed to sectarianism, would have had no ground of action against the G. Orient. The truth is, there has been a real difficulty in defining God, because there are many men anxious to become, or who have already become members of the Grand Orient, who deny His existence. So this belief or unbelief is left an open question, as is the case with the question of the admission of women to the franchise among our Liberal and Conservative politicians.

Whether "the enemies of Freemasonry will hail with delight" what "A Free-Mason and P.M." is pleased to designate as an "act of dictatorial harshness, as well as weakness, emanating from a body whose charity and freedom ought to be paramount," is a question which has yet to be decided. The principal enemy of Freemasonry has always been the Roman Catholic Church, and the reason of its hostility the fancied irreligious tendencies of Freemasonry. I incline to think our friends, the Romish bigots of the Dupanloup school, will be delighted to find their asseverations as to the godless character of French Masonry are proved, while the conduct of our Grand Lodge in affirming there is no Freemasonry which does not include a sense of religion, will command their respect, if not their unqualified approval. This, however, is only the expression of an opinion, and, as I have said already, has yet to be decided. As regards the objection of our Grand Lodge to "absolute liberty of conscience," it is

justifiable on the ground that this grandisonant phrase means nothing but "absolute license" in the matter of religion. But if this absolute liberty is so very precious in this particular respect, why may we not take exception to the limits imposed on it in respect of morals. Our Grand Lodge is, at all events, consistent. It excludes irreligious as well as immoral men. The Grand Orient admits the former, but excludes the latter, yet both are the disciples of "license" as contradistinguished from "liberty." Let us remember one important particular, in which the Emperor Augustus's conduct as a ruler extorted praise from the poet Horace,—

"Ordinem
Rectum evaganti fraena Licentia
Injecit."

I am almost ashamed to quote so trite a passage, but its appositeness in connection with the distinction I have raised must be my justification.

I demur to the statement that Grand Lodge has "broken through that estimable rule" which forbids religious discussions in our Lodges. What we hold to be a fundamental principle of Freemasonry was broken last autumn by the French Grand Orient. A Committee of Inquiry was appointed in December. That Committee reported, in March, that it was true this fundamental principle had been broken. It reiterated that principle as emphatically as possible, and in order to vindicate the purity of English Freemasonry it recommended that French brethren visiting our Lodges should, among other proofs of their being true and genuine Masons, declare their belief, not in the God of the Christians, or in the God of the Jews, or in the God of the Mahomedans, but in the Great Architect of the Universe. There was no discussion about forms of religious worship. It was simply laid down, and Grand Lodge unanimously endorsed it, that the essential principle of Freemasonry is belief in the existence of God and the immortality of the soul. No attempt was made to express any ideas or opinions respecting the "G.A.O.T.U.," and therefore "A Free-Mason and P.M." need be under no alarm about the terrible consequences he has pictured to him as likely to result from the action of our Grand Lodge. It has simply but emphatically re-announced a fundamental principle, which is entirely different from discussing a form.

The works of the late John Stuart Mill are the last I should dream of consulting on a question of religion. The phrase "whose God is their belly," is a mere figure of speech. "A Free-Mason and P.M.'s" letter would have been better and stronger had he left Mill and the belly-God out.

I am afraid there are none so blind as those who will not see, and though "A Free-Mason and P.M.'s" letter is evidently that of an able and experienced Craftsman, I imagine it will be of little use arguing this question with him till he recognises the important distinction that exists between requiring a foreign brother to declare his belief in the G.A.O.T.U., and asking what are "his ideas and opinions of the G.A.O.T.U." In the former case we are acting in obedience to our Grand Lodge, and for the maintenance of the essential principle of Freemasonry. In the latter case, we should be acting in direct opposition to the laws of Grand Lodge, and be guilty of a most unmasonic act of impertinence.

Having said thus much, which I fear is much too much, having regard to the limited space at your disposal,

I remain, Dear Sir and Brother,

Fraternally yours,

"Q."

A SUGGESTION.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It has occurred to me that as H.R.H. the Prince of Wales our M.W.G.M., is about to open the new wing of the Girls' School, and eighteen girls are to be elected out of twenty-four candidates at the next election in April, it would be well to commemorate the great event in a graceful and appropriate way. This could be done by the Committee of the Girls' School sanctioning the election of all the twenty-four girls, without a poll, and with that view I have taken the liberty to write you, that the matter may be brought before the consideration of the Governors.

If you have room for this in your next issue I shall be obliged, and am, Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

R. THORPE W.M. 588.

Sleaford, 19th March 1878.

SHREWSBURY FREEMASONS AND A MASONIC CHART SELLER, FROM BRISTOL.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Recently there arrived in this town a "Traveller" from "Bristol," who offered for sale among the members of the Craft a Masonic Chart. The advent of this unfortunate individual in the flourishing town of Salop has caused a lively time among some of the "Salopians," who have not been edified or gratified by his visit. The trouble may be explained briefly thus. The vendor of the Chart, in his rounds, called upon a good-natured brother, who indiscreetly gave him a circular on which was the names of three candidates. Without loss of time the "Bristolian" called upon each of the aspirants for our glorious Order, making sure of effecting a sale of his wares. Not finding them eager to entertain his application, and they declaring they had not received Masonic light, or any signification that they ever would, the circular was produced, backed up by the assertion that all was right, and that they had been bal-

loted for and accepted. It is needless to add each of the candidates purchased a Chart, the price being 10s 6d. Now the facts are, that only one candidate was balloted for, and he was under a cloud; consequently, the other two candidates were withdrawn. The indignation of the worthy brethren of Shrewsbury has been aroused, and it must be apparent to every Mason that such conduct is very reprehensible, to use a mild term, especially if the party alluded to can claim the honour of being a Mason. This somewhat unpleasant occurrence somewhat affects you, inasmuch as your Mr. S. M. Davies has arrived in this town on a Masonic tour, to give the brethren a complete idea of your able journal, and the name of the Chart vendor being Davies there has been a fixed impression that the two individuals are in some way connected, or that the Bristolian has re-appeared as a Londoner, and your representative. Of course, those who have seen both individuals do not labour under such a mistake, but there may be a "feeling" on your Mr. Davies presenting his card, and there is a conviction that this matter ought to be made public, through the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, and by this means give you a chance to protect a member of your staff.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother, Yours truly and fraternally,

ONE WHO KNOWS.

Shrewsbury, 28th March 1878.

[We have no knowledge whatever of the Mr. Davies, of Bristol, who sells Masonic Charts, but we know that Bro. S. M. Davies is in Shrewsbury, on business connected with the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, and we sincerely trust that our esteemed brethren in that town, and indeed throughout the Province, will extend to him a fraternal greeting, and facilitate his object, as far as in them lies.]—ED. FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

LODGE VICTORIA IN BURMAH.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—You will not fail to recollect that on the 5th December 1877 the Grand Lodge was, on the appeal of Bros. A. L. Vaillant, T. N. Seymour, E. Dover, J. C. Jordan and W. Marsh, against a sentence of exclusion passed by Lodge Victoria in Burmah, No. 832, Rangoon, for having opposed the election of Bro. the Rev. J. E. Marks, and for daring to appeal to the then Deputy District Grand Master of British Burmah, as is known to you to no purpose, pleased to annul the sentence of exclusion.

On the 10th of January last, Bro. A. Vaillant received a copy of the two resolutions of the Grand Lodge, of the 5th December, which decided that Bro. Marks's election was invalid, and that these brethren should be restored; and on the 11th idem. they presented themselves at the Lodge, in a becoming manner, there being the usual monthly regular meeting on that evening, when they were refused admission (though it was admitted that orders had been received from the Grand Secretary to admit them), and all the excluded had to go back very disconsolate at the pronounced hostility with which they were met.

An appeal was made to the D.G.M., and though the result is known to the brethren, their appeal has not been acknowledged, or the decision thereon communicated to them; yet it is fair to state that the District Grand Master has given the Worshipful Master distinct orders to receive these brethren into the Lodge, and restore them to their privileges as members. To evade opening the Lodge, and to frustrate as long as possible the orders of the Grand Lodge, plain and unmistakable as they are, the Worshipful Master, Bro. C. T. Baxendale, now professes to have qualms of conscience as to the validity of his election, and his right to sit in the chair, and has declined to open his Lodge till the validity of his election and installation has been decided, though he it known that not a soul has challenged it (but with this question I have nought to do), and so has closed his Lodge. But this is not all; a Circular, headed "Confidential," has issued from the Lodge, of which the following is a copy: I enclose also one of the printed copies circulated.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Lodge Victoria in Burma, No. 832, E.C.,

Bro. C. T. BAXENDALE W.M.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

Several brethren having expressed that they have conscientious scruples, and cannot, in conformity with their obligation, sit in Lodge with Bros. Vaillant, Seymour, Dover, Jordan and Marsh, in the event of their re-admission; the W. Master, in order to ascertain the feelings of the brethren, requests that you will be good enough to inform him, under sealed cover, without delay, your decision on the subject.

I am,

Masonic Temple,
Rangoon,
1st February 1878.

Dear Sir and Bro.,
Yours fraternally,
ANDREW BALD,
Secretary No. 832.
Address Loco. Supts. Office.

The circular was not sent to all the members of the Lodge, but to those only who were presumed to belong to the party of aggression against the excluded, and in opposition to the edict of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England. Sir and Brother, I feel too indignant and sad to proceed to dilate upon the treatment these brethren have received, and now seek again the aid of your valuable paper and pen.

Yours fraternally,

16th February 1878.

A LOOKER-ON,

CONSECRATION OF THE WANDERERS CHAPTER, No. 1604.

SOME time since an application was made by the members of the Wanderers' Lodge for a warrant for a Chapter. The application was, however, deferred, as the Lodge had not been established long enough to accord with the regulations of Grand Chapter. At the same time it was clearly shown that the majority of the members of the Lodge were anxious for the formation of the Chapter. The members were mostly military men, and non-commissioned officers, who might at any time be required to go on foreign service. Under these exceptional circumstances Grand Chapter reconsidered the matter, and the warrant was granted. The M.E. Comp. Lieut.-Gen. J. S. Brownrigg, C.B., G.S. Surroy, was appointed as Consecrating Officer, and he was assisted by Ex. Comp. Rev. R. J. Simpson P.A.S. S.G. Chapter. The Principals designate were Comps. T. H. Meredith M.E.Z., W. J. Parish II., and T. R. McIlwham J. The Comps. assembled on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Comp. Lieut.-Gen. J. S. Brownrigg, C.B., occupied the chair of M.E.Z., H. Reed H., and Rev. R. J. Simpson J., while Comp. C. A. Cottebruno P.Z. acted as D.C. The Chapter was then formally consecrated, and Comp. Brownrigg proceeded to instal the Principals. Comps. T. H. Meredith M.E.Z., W. J. Parish II., and T. R. McIlwham J. On the re-admission of the Comps., the appointment of Officers took place:—W. H. Bird S.E., G. Boulton S.N., F. J. Wray P.S., Barten 1st Asst., Leslie 2nd Asst., Fuller Treas., Lachlan Janitor. The M.E.Z. said he was pleased to see Comp. John Hervey G.S.E. They were now a constituted chapter, and he would be pleased to propose that M.E. Comp. Lieut.-General Brownrigg be elected an honorary member, and that the best thanks of the Chapter be accorded to him; the same to be recorded on the minutes. This proposition was seconded by Comp. Parish, who personally thanked Comp. Brownrigg for the assistance given by him at Grand Chapter in procuring the warrant for their Chapter. Comp. Brownrigg warmly thanked the Companions for their kindness; he had had 46 years of soldiering, and his association with this Chapter would be to him a source of gratification. It was then proposed by the M.E.Z. and seconded by Comp. Parish that the Rev. R. J. Simpson be elected an honorary member. The beautiful words uttered by that Rev. Companion had been a source of pleasure to every one present, and would never be effaced from their memories. Rev. R. J. Simpson thanked the Companions for the compliment. Comp. C. A. Cottebruno and John Hervey G.S.E. were also elected honorary members. Ten propositions for exaltation and two for joining were announced, and the Chapter was closed. An excellent banquet was provided by Bro. A. Best, ably superintended by Bro. E. Dawkins. The M.E.Z. presided, and proposed the customary toasts. Whatever may be our rank or station we owe a debt of gratitude to our Order and to our Queen, and this we should ever be mindful of. In giving the health of the Grand Officers the M.E.Z. said they had a distinguished member of Grand Chapter present, whose name would be prominently and deservedly brought forward as the Consecrating Officer; they had also present, Comp. Hervey G.S.E., who it was always a pleasure to meet. Comp. Hervey thanked the M.E.Z. He regretted not having been present at the ceremony. Two years since he consecrated the Wanderers' Lodge; it had been well conducted, and the work had been efficiently carried out. If the Chapter would follow in the footsteps of the Lodge, he was sure it also would be a success. The health of the Consecrating Officer and his Assistants was next most happily given by the M.E.Z. Lieut.-Gen. Brownrigg held a distinguished position in Her Majesty's Service; he had had the valuable assistance of Comps. Simpson and Cottebruno. Each had rendered help in procuring the Warrant, which he trusted would never be sullied while in the possession of those to whom it had been entrusted. He then referred to the exceptional circumstances under which the Warrant had been granted, and concluded by calling on those present to do full honour to the toast. Comp. Lieut.-Gen. Brownrigg responded; he explained the rule of Grand Chapter, which required that a Lodge should be in existence three years before an application for a Chapter in connection with it could be entertained. He considered this a wise rule, and had not the members shown him substantial reasons he could not have supported their application. As military men, they knew the advantages of discipline, and he trusted they would carry out the duties of the Chapter as well as they had done those of the Lodge. Before taking his seat he would propose the health of the M.E.Z., Comp. T. H. Meredith, and Prosperity to the Wanderers' Chapter. Comp. Meredith said the kind remarks of Lieut.-General Brownrigg had been a source of sincere pleasure to him. With the assistance of those who were associated with him in the Chapter, he had endeavoured to make the occasion of their Consecration Meeting a success and personally he was much gratified at the result. The next toast given was that of the H. and J., Comps. Parish and McIlwham; and both acknowledged the compliment. The health of the Visitors was responded to by Comps. Lindus and E. P. Albert. After several other compliments had been paid and acknowledged, the Companions separated. The following is a list of the Visitors:—Comps. Hacker Z. 722, Reed P.Z. 733, L. Beck, H. Massey P.Z. 619, H. Wood H. 538, E. P. Albert P.Z. 188, C. B. Payne P.Z., Carter 771, C. Burmeister Z. 538, C. W. Parsons Z. elect 180, Lindus P.Z. 538, Dr. Kempster, J. 766, H. M. Levy P.Z. 188, &c.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Multitudes suffering under a complication of disorders might obtain relief through these healing and purifying remedies, which should be employed without a day's delay. When the weather is variable and colds and influenzae are prevalent, this Ointment, well rubbed upon the throat and chest, gives the greatest ease, and checks all tendency to inflammation in the lungs and other organs. The Pills assist the curative action of the Ointment, inasmuch as they purify the blood and so quicken its circulation that congestion is rendered almost impossible. Holloway's treatment deals most successfully, too, with that very troublesome and often tedious ailment, indigestion, which is the bane of thousands, from over work and fast living in the present day.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE BRO. BENTLEY SHAW, J.P., P.G.D., P.D.G.M. WEST YORKS, &c.

THE Freemasons of West Yorkshire assembled in large numbers on Saturday last to attend the funeral of our departed brother. Most of the Lodges of the Province were represented by some of their members, many travelling considerable distances to pay a last tribute of respect to the memory of this distinguished Mason. Before being marshalled into processional order, the brethren were addressed by the Provincial Grand Master, Sir Henry Edwards, who after stating that he did not intend to formally open a Lodge, said:—I cannot allow this occasion to pass without first saying a word or two with regard to the very sad loss we have sustained by the death of our friend and brother Bentley Shaw. I do not know any man in the county of York who was more respected than he was, especially in his own immediate district, where he was so thoroughly beloved by all men, women, and children, and more especially by his Masonic brethren, that I do not see that we can ever "look upon his like again." He was always kind and courteous to everybody. If a man had him for his friend he had secured a friend for life. But we all know perfectly that what has happened to him must happen to us all—in a very short span, probably, every one of us will be called hence to the presence of his Maker, and I do beseech you all—I entreat you—I do not want to read you a sermon—to make the best of your time whilst it remains to you. The time is short, and the nearer we approach to our destinies the more seriously we ought to think. This is indeed a very sad ceremony, for we have been accustomed so long to look upon his benevolent face, and to see the manner in which he treated us. As a father no man ever surpassed him in affection. One of the greatest blows he ever received in life was by the death of his eldest son, and I do not think he ever got over it. I am now about to go and see his widow—I dread the ordeal. We are all subject to unpleasantness of this kind; I say unpleasantness, because it is peculiarly painful to my feelings; but it is our duty that we should submit to everything Providence has fore-ordered. All I can say is that I shall give to the widow an assurance of the best feeling towards her and her children; I shall give her an assurance that each and all of you; that no class of men on the face of the earth more truly sympathise and condole with her than the brethren of West Yorkshire. With these few words, Brethren, I think for the present we will say adieu.

Bro. T. W. Tew J.P. D.P.G.M.: I can only say that the words of the Grand Master will find a responsive echo in the hearts of every one of us. The Masonic career of Bro. Shaw, since he became a member of the Craft in 1846, has been one of pleasure, joy, and satisfaction. However, it has pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to take him suddenly away. But he has left to all of us a legacy, the worth of which I hope we shall imitate, and that his virtues will ever be remembered by every one of us. I am sure we are all pleased to see so many rally round the Grand Master this morning, to accompany the remains of our dear Brother Bentley Shaw to their last resting place.

Bro. John Wordsworth P.P.G.D.C. and Bro. Joseph Bottomley P.M. then marshalled the brethren into processional order, and they proceeded to Woodfield House, Lockwood, the residence of the deceased, where they joined the relatives and friends already assembled there. At noon the complete procession was formed, and proceeded to Lockwood Churchyard. The assembly comprised, besides the Freemasons, representatives of the Licensed Victuallers Protection Association, the employes of the firm of which Bro. Shaw was a member, several of the Clergy of the district, the Churchwardens of Lockwood, representatives of the Lockwood Mechanics' Institute, the Borough and County Magistrates, and several other influential gentlemen of the district, as well as numerous carriages of ladies and gentlemen who were unable personally to attend.

The greater part of the route to the church was lined with people, and at most of the houses the blinds were drawn down out of respect for the deceased gentleman. On arriving at the church, the procession opened out, and while the body was being conveyed into the building the "Dead March" was played. After the service the coffin was conveyed to the family vault, and the remains of the deceased placed therein, the service at the grave side being read by the Rev. D. J. Mackimm.

The annual meeting of the Loyal Brunswick Preceptory of Masonic Knights Templar was held, on the 21st inst., at the Masonic Chapter Room, St. George's Hall, Stonehouse. The E.P. elect, Sir Kt. J. J. Dawe, was installed by the retiring E.P., Colonel Fitzgerald, Past G. 2nd Cap. and P.P.G. 1st C., assisted by Fraters R. R. Rodd P.G.St.B.; R. Rodda Past G. Almoner and P.P.G. Chan., and I Watts P.P.G.T., with the following board of Past E.C. and E.P. Fraters:—J. E. Carteis, Arch. Treas. P.P.G. Reg.; E. Aitken Davies, P.P.G.V. Chan.; Jos. Matthews P.P.G.A.; F. P. Tomes P.P.G.A.; J. B. Gover P.P.G. Treas. At the close of the installation the following Fraters were invested as Officers for the ensuing year:—Colonel Fitzgerald I.P. E.P.; the Rev. T.W. Lemon P.G. Prel. 1st C.; the Hon. W. Hylton-Jolliffe P.G.P. of Malta 2nd C.; the Rev. J. E. Risk Prel.; Elliot Square Sub-M.; J. H. Square C.G.; I. Watts Treas.; J. E. Carteis Reg.; W. M. St. Anbyn 1st H.; H. Bartlett 2nd H.; T. W. Coffin 1st St. B.; J. F. Matthews 2nd St. B.; R. R. Rodd Alm.; J. Rogers, Guard. In the evening the Fraters dined together at the Globe Hotel.—*Western Morning News.*

H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, accompanied by two of the young Princesses, attended divine service at St. Anne's Church, Soho, on Sunday morning last, the 24th inst. H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge was also present.

COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

THE monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, was held on Thursday, at Freemasons' Hall, when there were present Bros. S. Rawson, Col. James Peters, J. M. P. Montagu, S. H. Tattershall, Griffiths Smith, John Boyd, Thos. W. White, Major E. H. Finney, R. B. Webster, H. T. Thompson, H. Massey, and F. R. Hedges, in the absence, through illness, of Bro. Little, the Sec. Bro. T. W. White presided. Four candidates were placed on the list for election, and after Bro. Hedges had read the letter from Lawrance and Co., announcing the stoppage of Messrs. Willis, Percival and Co., it was resolved that the account of the Institution, which had been temporarily opened at the Holborn Branch of the London and Westminster Bank, should remain there at present. Cheques for salaries, &c., were then authorised to be signed by the chairman, and the chairman announced that through age and infirmity Bro. Henry Browso had resigned his post on the House Committee. Notice of motion was given by Col. Creaton for transferring the funded property of the Institution into the names of the present trustees; for authority for the necessary expenditure in laying out the grounds of the Institution; and that nineteen girls instead of eighteen (making up the number in the Institution to 200) be elected in April. The chairman gave notice of motion to authorise and request Bro. J. Bond Cabbell to execute the necessary documents for vesting the property of the Institution in the present trustees, Lords Carnarvon, Leigh, and Skelmersdale, and Col. Creaton. The Committee then adjourned.

THE OWL CLUB.

THIS Club, to quote the words of the prospectus now before us, "was established to afford to its members two hours of social and agreeable intercourse on alternate Monday evenings, from seven to nine o'clock, throughout the winter, while listening to the performance, in the best manner, by the following gentlemen, of glees, madrigals, &c., of the highest class:—Messrs. Burgess Perry, Edward Collins, Edwin Moss, Albert James, A. J. Thompson, George Musgrave, Albert Hubbard; Pianists, Messrs. Fountain Meen and W. H. Harper." The meetings hitherto have been held at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, and it has been our pleasure during the season to record some very happy and successful gatherings. The last assembly of the season 1877-78 was held on Monday last, at the Cannon-street Hotel, and was what the members are pleased to term a "Ladies' Night," and we need scarcely add that a very inviting programme was put forth. The first part of the entertainment was entirely devoted to the works of the late Sir Henry Bishop, and comprised the Quartette and Chorus, "Hart and Hind;" Sestet, "Give me a Cup;" Recitative and Air, "The Pilgrim of Love;" Round, "When the Wind Blows;" Serenade, "Sleep, gentle Lady;" Song, "Oh, Firm as Oak;" Trio and Chorus, "Push the Red Wine About;" and Chorus, "The Tiger Couches." Each of these pieces was admirably rendered, and it would almost appear invidious for us to select any one for special praise. Mr. Albert James sang the "Pilgrim of Love" so well on the evening that was specially devoted to the works of Sir H. Bishop, that we were not at all surprised to find it here for repetition, and we can justly reiterate the praise we gave him on that occasion. Mr. Albert Hubbard was effective in "Oh, Firm as Oak," while the Chorus, "The Tiger Couches" successfully concluded the First Part.

The Second Part opened with the Madrigal, "All ye who Music Love;" this was followed by "The Horn of Chase," which scored a success to Mr. Edwin Moss; the Part Song, "The Image of the Rose," with humming accompaniment and solo for Tenor—Mr. Albert James—was, to our mind, the gem of the evening. Mr. George Musgrave was forcible in "Sigh no more, Ladies," and then came the Glee, "Oh! the Summer Night." Mr. Fountain Meen next played a Pianoforte Solo, which was re-demanded, as also was the Song, "Thinking of Home," by Mr. Edward Collins. Then came a Part Song, "The Dance," which seemed to take the fancy of the fairer portion of the audience. Mr. Arthur Thompson was very happy in the Serenade, "I arise from Dreams of Thee;" and the Glees, "Lo, on you long Resounding Shore," and "King Canute," concluded the entertainment; in the latter Mr. Hubbard sang the solo. One special feature we must not forget to mention; that is, the strict attention paid by the large audience—nearly 800 being present. Every word was distinctly heard all over the Hall, and the whole arrangements reflected credit on the Committee. The Club will re-assemble on Monday, 14th October.

We are pleased to announce the inauguration of the Second Tottenham and Enfield Masonic Charitable Association. The first meeting was announced to take place on Thursday last. The efforts of the founders of the first Association have proved eminently successful, and we hope that the second attempt will be the means of adding a still larger sum to the funds of our Charities. Bro. J. H. Thompson P.M. 1237 P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, &c., who so ably performed the duties of Secretary for the previous Association, acts as Treasurer for this. Bros. David Roberts and John Maller, P.M.'s of 751, are President and Vice President respectively, and the Committee consists of twelve brethren whose position in the Craft would ensure their part of the work being well done. Bro. James Garrod, of Holly Cottage, Bruce Grove, Tottenham, is Secretary, and will be pleased to receive the names of any brethren wishing to join.

Bro. Jas. Francis, of the Mohawk Minstrels, announces his annual benefit for Tuesday, the 9th of April. On that occasion special performances will take place at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, at three and eight o'clock.

THE FIFTEEN SECTIONS

Will be worked as under.

On Tuesday, 2nd April, at the Royal Arthur Lodge of Instruction, No. 1360, held at The Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea, at 7 p.m. precisely. Bros. Collings W.M., Pulsford S.W., Ratcliff J.W. FIRST LECTURE—Bros. Fane, Carter, Tosey, Oliver, Alais, Hancock, and Pulsford. SECOND LECTURE—Bros. Smith, McKay, Leaper, Cole, and Davis. THIRD LECTURE—Bros. Ratcliff, Holloway, and Colegrave. Bro. A. Withers is the Secretary.

On Wednesday, 3rd April, at the Jordan Lodge of Instruction, No. 201, Devonshire Arms, Portland-place.

On Monday, 8th April, at the London Masonic Club Lodge of Instruction (held at the Club), 101 Queen Victoria-street, E.C., at 6 o'clock p.m. Bro. W. Smallpeice P.M. 1395 (Secretary Emulation Lodge of Instruction) W.M., assisted by the following brethren. FIRST LECTURE—Bros. C. J. Turner, E. Legg, J. E. Shand, E. G. Tattershall, G. Brooke, C. A. Woods, and A. Marvine. SECOND LECTURE—Bros. W. A. Dawson, F. R. Spaul, E. G. Tattershall, J. Muzio, and G. B. Smallpeice. THIRD LECTURE—Bros. T. W. Ockenden, W. Sharrett, and C. P. Cobham. This will be the first time that an attempt has been made in this Lodge of Instruction to work the whole of the sections on the Emulation Lodge of Improvement system.

On Good Friday evening, the 19th proximo, at St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction, White Hart Tavern, King's-road, Chelsea. Bro. P.M. Ardin, Zeland 511, will take the chair at 6.30 p.m. Brethren are invited to attend. The names of any one wishing to assist will be thankfully received by the Hon. Sec.

PROV. GRAND LODGE OF KENT.—On Tuesday last Bros. the Rev. W. A. Hill, Vicar of Throwley Prov. Grand Chaplain, the Rev. P. J. Syré P.A.P.G.C., J. Plant W.M. 31, Dr. Loughurst S.D. 31, and J. R. Hall P.M., the Hon. Sec. to the P.G.L. Reception Committee, waited upon the Very Rev. the Dean, as a deputation from the Canterbury Lodges, with the view of obtaining the use of the Chapter House for the purposes of the forthcoming Annual Meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge, and also for arranging for a special service in the Cathedral. The Dean received the deputation very courteously, and informed them that he would willingly accord the use of the Chapter House and would, moreover, be happy to render them any assistance. Bro. the Rev. C. J. Hort, one of the deputation, was unavoidably absent, in consequence of his suffering from an attack of bronchitis.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall will probably be held either in July or August at Redruth. There will be no lack of business, for, in addition to the ordinary work, there will be the dedication of the Masonic Hall in that town, one of the most handsome and commodious buildings of the kind in the West, and a credit to the members of the Druids' Lodge of "Love and Liberality," No. 589. There are now twenty-seven Lodges in the Province. Under the genial rule of the Earl of Mount Edgemore, Prov. G.M. the Craft is in a prosperous state, there being about 1,570 members on the Roll, or fully 100 members in excess of the last return. There are also ten Royal Arch Chapters, with about 240 members, and a new Chapter to consecrate at Bodmin, No. 330. Nearly all the Lodges and Chapters meet in halls of their own, and, doubtless, ere long the twenty-seven Lodges will assemble only in Masonic rooms dedicated exclusively to the uses of the Craft.—*Western Morning News.*

The Eighth Annual Ball of the City and Metropolitan Police Orphanage, under the patronage of the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor, the Sheriff, under-Sheriffs, and an influential body of stewards, will take place at Cannon-street Hotel, on Thursday, the 25th of April. Dancing will be under the direction of Bro. T. Butler, and the general arrangements will be carried out by Major H. S. Bowman, Bro. C. Borlase Childs F.R.C.S., and Mr. Supt. Foster.

According to the *Masonic Jewel*, the Grand Lodge of Mississippi held its Annual Communication, at Grenada, on the 6th February, and two following days. The following are the principal Grand Officers for the ensuing year, namely: Bros. Dr. Chas. T. Murphy G. Master, Oliver Clifton Dep. G. Master, Frank Burkitt S.G. Warden, H. Denis J.G. Warden, A. P. Barry G. Treasurer, J. L. Power G. Secretary. At the same time and place the Grand Chapter of R.A. Masonry in the same State met in annual Convocation, and the Grand Officers were appointed for the new year, among them being Comps. John S. Jones G.H.P., R. B. Brennin D.G.H.P., Frederic Speed G.H., Frank Burkitt G.S., A. P. Barry G. Treasurer, and J. L. Power G. Secretary.

We read in the *Keystone* that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania held its Quarterly Communication at the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, on Wednesday, the 6th inst., the chair being occupied by D.G. Master Bro. Michael Nisbet, in the absence, through illness, of G. Master Bro. Porter. There was a numerous gathering of brethren, and the reports of the several Committees, on Finance, Appeals, &c., were satisfactory. We are glad to hear that Bro. Nisbet announced that Bro. Porter's health was gradually improving, and that it was hoped and expected he would soon be among them once again.

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Is too well known to need comment. The entire management has been changed, and the Establishment in all its branches thoroughly re-organised.

The attention of the Masonic Body is directed to the many advantages offered.

CUISINE OF THE HIGHEST CHARACTER.**WINES PERFECT IN CONDITION AND QUALITY.****N.B.—DINNERS PROVIDED FROM 3.—****RESTAURANT, WINE, SMOKING & RETIRING ROOMS.**

The fullest measure of public confidence and support ensured.

ALFRED BEST, PROPRIETOR.**TO OPEN MONDAY, 8th APRIL.
THE OXFORD RESTAURANT, OXFORD STREET, W.**An arrangement has been entered into with the Proprietors of the Oxford Music Hall, by which its *habitués* and the public can be served with Luncheons and Dinners in the**OLD ENGLISH STYLE.**

A SKILLED CHEF HAS BEEN ENGAGED.

DINNERS AND SUPPERS AT ALL TIMES.**TABLE D'HOTE**, including 2 Soups, 2 sorts of Fish, 2 Entrées, Poultry, Sweets, Ice Pudding, Cheese, and Salad (according to season),**2s 6d PER HEAD.****BRO. GIANNELLI, Chef.****FISH DINNERS in PERFECTION**, 2s each, including entrées, poultry, joints, cheese, and salad. Served from Twelve to Four daily.—**GEORGE TAVERN**, Billingsgate Market.
Sole Proprietor, **GEORGE SMITH**, from Anderton's Hotel.**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.**URBAN LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.**

THE W.M. and Officers of the Mother Lodge will officially visit this Lodge of Instruction, at the Three Bucks Tavern, Gresham-street, on Wednesday Next, the 3rd April.

SIXTH APPLICATION.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.**APRIL ELECTION, 1878.**

The favour of the Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers is earnestly solicited on behalf of

SOLOMON HIRAM SHURY,

AGED TEN YEARS.

Son of Bro. **WILLIAM SHURY**, of Myland, Colchester, who died on the 25th of February last, after two years of great suffering, in his 75th year. Bro. **SHURY** was formerly engaged in the Circulation Department of the Post Office, but, owing to severe attacks of neuralgia in the head, and defective vision, consequent upon cataract, he was compelled to resign his position when at the age of 54 years. His only permanent income since that time had been a pension of £44 a year, to which he was entitled on account of his service, and he had to encroach continually upon his savings, till they were quite exhausted. Consequently he had been unable to provide for the boy's education, as he did for his children by his first marriage, and his declining days were comforted with the thought that the lad would eventually be elected into the Institution.

When in the full possession of health Bro. **SHURY** was a most active Mason. He was initiated in the Saint John's Lodge, Hampstead, No. 196 (now 167), in 1848, and, after passing through the intermediate offices, eventually became W.M. When, in 1861, the state of his health compelled him to remove from the District, he tendered his resignation, and the brethren at once elected him an honorary member, in recognition of his valuable services to his Mother Lodge. Bro. **SHURY** afterwards joined the Wellington, 518, as a country member; and became a member of the Angel Lodge, Colchester, No. 51, in 1869. He was exalted in the Domestic Chapter, No. 177, in 1852, and was elected to the Third Chair, but the continued unsatisfactory state of his health compelled him to resign. He was also one of the Founders of the Mount Lebanon Chapter, No. 73. When the present applicant was a child in arms, Bro. **SHURY**'s position enabled him to make himself, wife, and child, Life Subscribers of the Boy's Institution, not thinking at the time that he should ever be compelled to avail himself of its benefits and he has besides this, done all in his power to excite in others an interest in the Masonic Charities. Altogether he had contributed to the funds of Grand Lodge for the long period of TWENTY-NINE YEARS.

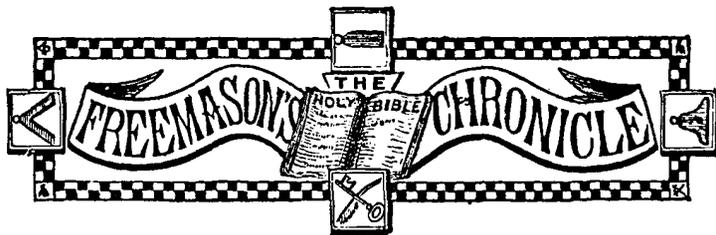
The case is strongly recommended (among others) by

The Right Worshipful Bro. **R. J. BAGSHAW** Prov. Grand Master Essex.
R. W. Bro. RICHARD BOLTON BARTON LL.D. P.P.G.M. for Western India.
R. W. Bro. MATTHEW E. CLARK Dep. P.G.M. Essex.
V. W. Bro. Rev. C. J. MARTIN V.P. D.P.G.M. Suffolk, &c.
V. W. Bro. FRED. A. PHILBRICK Q.C., Recdr. of Colchester, P.G.J.W., &c.
 * **W. Bro. A. D. LOEWENSTARK** P.M. 548, 733, 107, and P.Z. 73, 185.
W. Bro. FREDERICK WALTERS V.P. P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M. and P.Z. 73.
W. Bro. WILLIAM PRATTART Steward R.M.L.G. P.M. 1326 and 1351.
W. Bro. GRIFFITHS SMITH Past Grand Steward, P.M. No. 21.

W. Bro. F. ADLARD V.P. P.M. No. 7.
 * **W. Bro. JOHN BOSWORTH** P.M. 170 and 349, P.P.J.G.W. Dorset.
W. Bro. SAMUEL COLE, Life Governor, R.M.L.B., P.M. 184 and 124, Past P.G.P. Kent.
 * **W. Bro. HENRY T. R. WARR** L.G., R.M.L.B., P.M. Albion Lodge, No. 9.
Bro. M. D. LOEWENSTARK J.W., 1360, S.N. Chapter 73.
 * **Bro. THOMAS J. RALLING** W.M. Angel Lodge, No. 51, P.G. Sec. Essex.
 * **W. Bro. the Rev. C. L. ACLAID** P.M. 558, P. Prov. Gd. Chaplain, Oxford. P. Prov. Grand Chaplain, Essex.
W. Bro. the Rev. R. T. WHITTINGTON, Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, and Angel Lodge, No. 51.

Proxies will be thankfully received by those Brethren whose names are marked with an asterisk.

Proxies of other Masonic or National Institutions are most valuable for the purposes of Exchange.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE Conference and the terms of peace formed the subject of a debate in the House of Lords on Thursday, 21st inst. It was initiated by Lord Stratheden and Campbell, and Earl Granville, Lord Hammond, the Duke of Argyll, and the Earl of Derby, took part in it, and, in consequence, their Lordships did not adjourn till half-past seven o'clock. On Friday, the Duke of Richmond and Gordon presented a bill for the amendment of the Scotch Education Act, and, in doing so, His Grace sketched the character of the measure which the Government had resolved upon submitting. After this, the Earl of Galloway drew attention to the Mutiny Act, and several noble Lords took part in the conversation which followed. On Monday, Lord Elphinstone made a statement respecting the loss of the Eurydice on Sunday, and then Earl Granville asked a question relative to the enlargement of Dover Harbour, and moved for certain papers bearing on the subject. After some remarks from the Duke of Cambridge, which bore on the Naval and Military aspect of the question, the Earl of Beaconsfield consented to the papers, &c. being laid on the table of the House, but declined to commit the country to heavy expenditure in respect of the harbour, though he fully admitted the importance of the question. On Tuesday, after a further statement from Lord Elphinstone respecting the loss of the Eurydice, the second reading of the Bishoprics Bill was agreed to, among those who took part in the debate being Lord Houghton, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Bishop of Durham.

On Thursday, in the House of Commons, after a variety of questions had been disposed of, the House went into Committee on the Roads and Bridges (Scotland) Bill. When clause 12 was reached, progress was reported, and the House resumed, and shortly afterwards adjourned. On Friday, there was a long debate on a motion by Sir John Lubbock, on the subject of Maritime Belligerent Rights, which occupied the greater part of the sitting. The motion was negatived. The Mutiny Bill and Marine Mutiny Bill were read a second time, and the Ecclesiastical Buildings (Fire Insurance) Bill, after receiving a second reading, was referred to a Select Committee. On Monday, after sundry questions relating to Turkey, the Dardanelles, and the Congress, and a statement by Mr. Smith as to the loss of the Eurydice, the House went into Committee on the Mutiny Bill, in spite of an attempt to prevent so desirable a consummation. And when this stage had been reached, clause after clause was opposed, so that only a small portion of this important measure was dealt with. In consequence of this, there was a morning sitting on Tuesday, but the same kind of resistance was offered, and the twenty-sixth clause was reached only after the greatest obstruction. On resuming at nine o'clock, there was a count out. Wednesday afternoon was occupied with Irish business relating to municipal elections.

The Queen returned to Windsor Castle on Friday afternoon, after a sojourn of three days at Buckingham Palace, for the purpose of holding a *Levee* and a Drawing Room. Previous to her return, the Earl of Beaconsfield had an audience of Her Majesty. On Monday, the Christ's Hospital Boys on the Royal Foundation of King Charles II. travelled from London to Windsor. After luncheon, at the Castle, the Queen, accompanied by the Princess Christian, and attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, entered the corridor, and there inspected the charts and drawings of the Boys. The Duke of Cambridge, President of the Institution, was in attendance, and presented to Her Majesty Mr. John Derby Allcroft, Treasurer; Messrs. Gassiot and Thompson, Governors; the Rev. E. S. Carlos, Head Mathematical Master; Mr. Mason, Head Drawing Master; and Mr. M. L. S. Dipnall, Clerk of the Hospital. On Tuesday, the Queen held a Council at Windsor, at

which were present the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, President, the Duke of Northumberland, the Marquis of Hertford, and the Earl of Derby. The Duke of Devonshire and the Lord Advocate were introduced and sworn in members of the Council. Mr. Charles Lennox Peel, Clerk of the Council, was in attendance. The Duke of Richmond and Gordon and the Lord Chamberlain had audiences of Her Majesty. General Camargo, the Columbian Minister, was introduced by the Earl of Derby, and presented his credentials.

On Monday, the Prince and Princess of Wales paid a visit to the Empress Eugenie and the Prince Imperial, at Camden House, Chislehurst. In the afternoon the Prince left London on a visit to Mr. and Lady Florence Chaplin, at Blankney Hall, Sleaford. His Royal Highness was present on Wednesday at the Lincoln meeting, and saw the race for the Lincoln Handicap, won by Kaleidoscope, with Rosy Cross and Cradle second and third respectively. The Duchess of Edinburgh, after visiting Palermo on board H.M.'s ironclad Minotaur, has returned to Malta, where she has been joined by His Royal Highness the Duke.

On Sunday, a most terrible disaster occurred to our navy. H.M.S. Eurydice, returning home from a cruise to the West Indies, was overtaken by a fearful squall, and in five minutes sunk with all on board. Out of a crew, numbering all told, over three hundred officers and men, only two have been saved—an able seaman, named Cuddiford, and a first class boy, of the name of Fletcher. These, with First Lieutenant Tabor, Captain Ferrier, R.E., who was a passenger, and one other, were picked up by the coal brig Emma, but the last three were so exhausted that it was found impossible to restore them to animation. The inquest has been held, and the jury have returned a verdict of accidental death, at the same time absolving all the officers and men on board from any blame in respect of the catastrophe. Nothing so calamitous has happened since the loss of the Captain in the summer of 1870, in the Bay of Biscay, when only between forty and fifty were saved out of a crew of five hundred. Indeed, the circumstances under which the Eurydice was lost, are, if possible, more lamentable. The vessel was returning home, after a successful voyage, and in another half hour would have been brought safely to anchor. We may imagine the joy that was present in the breast of every one at the idea of returning home again to their families. But a mighty wind laid the ill-fated ship on her beam ends, and in five minutes all but two of three hundred souls had gone to their last rest. It is needless to say the occurrence has caused the most profound grief throughout the country, and the first to express her sympathy with the parents and relatives of the lost seamen is Her Majesty the Queen, a message from whom was at once despatched to the Admiral Superintendent at Portsmouth, and was subsequently read in the House of Commons by Mr. Smith, at Her Majesty's special request. It should be added that the majority of the crew were young lads, who had been placed on board and sent to the West Indies, in order that they might acquire a practical knowledge of seamanship.

The Walking Match terminated at an earlier hour than was expected on Saturday. The prize of £500 and the Champion Belt fell to O'Leary, of Chicago, who covered 520½ miles in the six days, Vaughan, of Chester, who did exactly 500 miles being second, and Brown, with over 477 miles, third. Vaughan accordingly received the second prize of £100, and Brown the third, value £50. Only one other of the competitors succeeded in walking over 400 miles in the appointed time. It is said that Weston has challenged O'Leary to walk for £500 aside.

The Cambridge Crew have already arrived at Putney for the inter-University race, and have been practising under the careful supervision of their experienced coach, Mr. Close. The weather, however, has been anything but favourable. The Oxford Crew may be expected to take up their quarters at Putney early next week, and the race will be rowed this day fortnight.

According to the *Standard*, this country has at the present moment, ready or almost ready for immediate commission, no less than eighteen armour-clad vessels, having an aggregate tonnage of 135,800 tons, mounting 229 guns, and carrying 8,600 officers and men, and twelve unarmoured vessels, with a gross tonnage of 30,000 tons, carrying 128 guns, and manned by 3,200 officers and men; or, in other words, a fleet of thirty vessels, of 165,800 gross tonnage, and carrying 357 guns and nearly 12,000 men. Among

these are the Inflexible, with its four eighty-one ton guns, which on an emergency might be commissioned in the summer, the Dreadnought, the Thunderer, the Invincible, the Monarch, the Neptune (lately the Independencia), the Belleisle, the Superb, the Nelson, the Northampton, and the Hercules. In addition, there are available for home defence seven heavily armed turret ships, and thirty-two gun-boats.

There is little to be said as to the Eastern Question. The terms of the Treaty of Peace between Russia and Turkey are now known, and the more we read them, the less do we and the other powers appear to like them. The prospect of a Congress being held appears to be further removed than ever, in fact, Russia has categorically refused to meet the demands of our Government, and the project may be regarded as having fallen through. Consequently, we say this, the outlook is far from encouraging. However, there is this satisfaction, that all Continental political organs of repute most vigorously approve the policy which our Government is pursuing, and if there are further difficulties and dangers, the blame will rest with Russia and not with England.

The Annual General Meeting of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution was held, on Tuesday, 19th inst., at Willis's Rooms, St. James's. In the unavoidable absence of the Duke of Northumberland, President of the Institution, the chair was taken by Mr. Thomas Chapman, who was supported by Admirals Sir E. Phillimore, Sir W. Tarleton, Ryder, Sir R. Collinson, Capt. Hozier, Col. Fitzroy Clayton, Major Iredell, Col. Sir C. Rowley, and many other gentlemen. After a short address from the chair, the Secretary read the Report, from which it appeared there were 268 lifeboats under the Society's management. During the year 1877 these boats had saved the lives of 841 persons, and had helped to rescue 35 vessels from destruction. For these services, and for saving 200 lives, by fishing boats and other means, ten silver medals, seventeen votes of thanks on vellum, and £4,069 in money had been granted. The amount received in the way of subscriptions, donations, &c., during this period amounted to £42,442, of which £10,295 was in the form of special gifts to defray the cost of thirteen lifeboats. The expenditure, including liabilities, had been £47,309. The Report was adopted unanimously. Other resolutions were agreed to, and the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

According to the latest statement in the *Masonic Record of Western India*, the subscription for the widows and orphans of the late Bro. Bease, editor of that journal at the time of his death, has reached the sum of 2,615 rupees 14 annas.

We learn from the same contemporary that a meeting of the General Committee of Management of the Greenlaw Masonic Orphan Fund, Burmah, had been held at the Masonic Temple, Rangoon, on the 5th December. The Treasurer's statement of accounts showed receipts, including a balance brought forward from previous meeting of over 1,246 rupees, amounting to over 3,816 rupees. The disbursements, including over 1,007 rupees, amounted to over 2,314 rupees, so there remained a balance in hand of over 1,501 rupees. The capital account shows 15,091 rupees invested in Government paper. Three children of a late brother of the Star of Burmah Lodge, No. 614, were admitted to the benefits of the Fund, and it was recommended they should receive 20 rupees per month from the 1st January 1878. One application from Moulmein was not entertained, on the ground that the orphan in question had no claims on the fund. A proposal to invest the funds in other than Government Securities was negatived, and a new bye law on the subject was formulated, recommending that moneys be invested in the names of the Trustees in Government Securities. This and other alterations in the bye laws were to be submitted at the next meeting of the Committee, for confirmation.

The *Voice of Masonry* for the current month contains an interesting article by the veteran Bro. Cornelius Moore, entitled "Freemasonry Should and Will Live." The article is worth reading, as is an historical paper by Bro. W. J. Hughan on "Grand Lodges in England and Bro. Hyneman," in which that learned brother refutes a number of errors into which Bro. Hyneman has fallen in regard to Freemasonry in this country.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

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

SATURDAY, 30th MARCH.

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7. (Instruction.)
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.
820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

MONDAY, 1st APRIL.

- 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. (Instruction.)
180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction.)
704—Camden, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8. (Instruction.)
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8. (Instruction.)
1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 8. (Instruction.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30. (Inst.)
1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King-st., Snow-hill, at 8. (Inst.)
1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road.
London Masonic Club Lodge of Instruction, 101 Queen Victoria-st., E.C., at 6, on 2nd and 4th Mondays in each month.
37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Church Institute, Bolton-le-Moors.
53—Royal Sussex, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath.
119—Sun, Square and Compasses, Freemasons' Hall, Whitehaven.
133—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Faversham.
156—Harmony, Hayshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover.
338—Vitruvian, Royal Hotel, Ross, Herefordshire.
395—Guy, Crown Hotel, Leamington Priors.
431—St. George, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, N. Shields.
441—Three Grand Principles, Red Lion Hotel, Petty Curry, Cambridge.
482—St. James, New Inn, Handsworth, Staffordshire.
597—St. Cybi, Town Hall, Holyhead.
622—St. Cuthbert, Masonic Hall, Wimborne.
651—Brecknock, Castle Hotel, Brecon.
694—Oakley, Masonic Hall, Church-street, Basingstoke.
850—St. Oswald, Assembly Rooms, Ashbourne, Derbyshire.
1009—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham, Cheshire.
1050—Gundulph, Kings' Head Hotel, Rochester.
1051—Rowley, Athenæum, Lancaster.
1054—Southam, Railway Hotel, Wilmslow, Cheshire.
1077—Wilton, Red Lion Inn, Blackley, Lancashire.
1124—St. Oswald, Wynnstay Arms Hotel, Oswestry.
1264—Neptune, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.
1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8 p.m. (Instruction.)
1573—Caradoc, Masonic Hall, Caer-street, Swansea.
1578—Merlin, New Inn Hotel, Pontypridd, South Wales.
M. M. 37—Wyndham, Masonic Hall, Church-street, Basingstoke.

TUESDAY, 2nd APRIL.

- Colonial Board, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
7—Royal York of Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7. (Inst.)
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
101—Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
141—Faith, 2 Westminster-chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)
177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
217—Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney. (Instruction.)
753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (Inst.)
765—St. James, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
860—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
1261—Golden Rule, Café Royal, Regent-street, W.
1293—Royal Standard, Wellington Club, Upper-street, N.
1381—Keenington, Surrey Tavern, Kennington Oval.
1446—Mount Edgecombe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)
1471—Islington, Three Bucks, Gresham-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
1472—Henley, Railway Tavern, Stratford New Town, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-street-rd., at 8. (Inst.)
Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 7.0.
70—St. John, Hayshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
120—Palladian, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford.
124—Marquis of Granby, Freemasons' Hall, Durham.
163—Adams, Masonic Rooms, Victoria Hall, Trinity-road, Sherness-on-Sea.
209—Etonian, Masonic Hall, Windsor.
248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon.
393—St. David, Freemasons' Hall, The Parade, Berwick-on-Tweed.
493—Royal Lebanon, Spread Eagle, Gloucester.
558—Temple, Town Hall, Folkestone.
673—St. John, Masonic Temple, Hope-street, Liverpool.
702—Sherborne, Subscription Rooms, Stroud, Gloucestershire.
734—Londesborough, Masonic Hall, Bridlington.
804—Carnarvon, Lodge Rooms, Waterloo-road, Havant.
847—Fortescue, Manor House, Honiton, Devon.
923—Friendship, Masonic Hall, Petersfield, Hampshire.
943—St. Barnabas, Masonic Room, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard.
960—Bute, Masonic Hall, 9 Woking-street, Cardiff.
1002—Skiddaw, Lodge Room, Market-place, Cokermonth.
1214—Marwood, Freemasons' Hall, Reicar.
1322—Waverley, Caledonia Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1336—Square and Compass, Corn Exchange, Wrexham.
1489—St. Eleth, Castle Hotel, Amble.
1549—Abercorn, Abercorn Arms Hotel, Great Stanmore, Middlesex.

WEDNESDAY, 3rd APRIL.

- 193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, Toulou-street, at 7. (Instruction.)
201—Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
538—La Tolerance, Horse and Groan, Winsley-street, W., at 7.15. (Inst.)
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
892—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8. (Instruction.)
1155—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7. (Instruction.)
1196—Urban, The Three Bucks, Gresham-street, at 6.30. (Instruction.)
1278—Burdett Courts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8.30. (Inst.)
1288—Finsbury Park, Finsbury Pk. Tav., Seven Sisters-rd., at 8.0. (Instruction.)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
1585—Royal Commemoration, Star and Garter Hotel, Putney.
1677—Rothsay, Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's-inn-fields.
1707—Eleanor, Angel Hotel, Edmonton, at 8. (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.)
K. T.—Holy Palestine, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square,

- 81—Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
298—Harmony, Masonic Room, Ann-street, Rochdale.
326—Moirs, Freemasons' Hall, Park-street, Bristol.
327—Wigton St. John, Lion and Lamb, Wigton.
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
417—Faith and Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Dorchester.
423—Sincerity, Angel Inn, Northwich, Cheshire.
471—Silurian, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Mon.
615—Humphrey Chetham, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction.)
1010—Kingston, Masonic Hall, Worship-street, Hull.
1063—Malling Abbey, Bear Inn, West Malling, Kent.
1085—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby.
1091—Ernie, Ernie House, Ivy Bridge, Devon.
1114—Milton, Commercial Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1167—Alnwick, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Alnwick.
1274—Earl of Durham, Freemasons' Hall, Chester-le-Street.
1323—Talbot, Masonic Rooms, Wind-street, Swansea.
1354—Marquis of Lorne, Masonic Rooms, Leigh, Lancashire.
1363—Tyndall, Town Hall, Chipping Sodbury, Gloucester.
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, at 7.0. (Instruction.)

THURSDAY, 4th APRIL.

- 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., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8. (Instruction.)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
1349—Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, E.C. at 6.30. (Instruction.)
1445—Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tavern, Sandringham-road, Kingsland.
1612—West Middlesex, Feathers Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
R. A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (Inst.)
M. M. 107—Studholme, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square.
M. M.—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.30. (Inst.)
24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle.
31—United Industrious, Guildhall, Canterbury.
33—Union, Council Chamber, Chichester.
41—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath.
50—Knights of Malta, George Hotel, Hinckley, Leicestershire.
123—Lennox, Freemasons' Hall, Richmond, Yorkshire.
249—Mariners, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.
294—Constitutional, Assembly Rooms, Beverley, Yorks.
295—Combermere Union, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield.
300—Minerva, Pitt and Nelson, Ashton-under-Lyne.
309—Harmony, Red Lion, Farnham.
317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
360—Pomfret, Masonic Building, Abingdon-street, Northampton.
442—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Boroughbury, Peterborough.
446—Benevolent, Town Hall, Wells, Somersetshire.
463—East Surrey of Concord, Greyhound, Croydon.
509—Teas, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton, Durham.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich. (Instruction.)
792—Pelham Pillar, Masonic Hall, Bullring-lane, Grimsby.
913—Pattison, Lord Raglan Tavern, Plumstead.
1012—Prince of Wales, Derby Hotel, Bury, Lancashire.
1074—Underly, Masonic Room, Market-place, Kirkby Lonsdale.
1282—Anchoime, Foresters' Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire.
1284—Brent, Globe Hotel, Topsham, Devonshire.
1304—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Horncastle, Lincolnshire.
1473—Bootle, Molyneux's Assembly Rooms, Bootle, Lancashire.
1500—Walpole, Bell Hotel, Norwich.
1639—Waring-street, Cock Hotel, Stony Stratford, Bucks.

FRIDAY, 5th APRIL.

- Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
25—Robert Burns, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
766—William Preston, Feathers Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. (Inst.)
844—Ranelagh, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-road. (Instruction.)
902—Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales-road, Kentish Town. (Inst.)
933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (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.)
1288—Finsbury Park Master Masons' Lodge of Inst. Finsbury Park Tavern, at 8.
1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (Inst.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Metropolitan Societies Asylum, Balls Pond Road, N.
1613—Cripplegate, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
1627—Royal Kensington, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1642—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-rd, N. Kensington, at 7.30. (Inst.)
R. A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8. (Inst.)
127—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate.
539—St. Matthew, Dragon Hotel, Walsall.
574—Loyal Berkshire of Hope, White Hart Hotel, Newbury.
601—St. John's, Wrekin Hotel, Wellington, Salop.
630—Sefton, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
709—Invicta, Corn Exchange, Queen-street, Ashford.
780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
839—Royal Gloucestershire, Bell Hotel, Gloucester.
1096—Lord Warden, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal.
1333—Athelstan, Town Hall, Atherstone, Warwick.
1387—Chorlton, Masonic Rooms, Chorlton Cuan Hardy.
1528—Fort, Red Lion Hotel, Newquay, Cornwall.
1557—Albert Edward, Bush Hotel, Hexham, Northumberland.
1561—Morecambe, Masonic Hall, Edward-street, Morecambe, Lancashire.

SATURDAY, 6th APRIL.

- General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7. (Instruction.)
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.
820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1223—Amherst, Kings Arms Hotel, Westerham, Kent.
1453—Truth, Private Rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath, Manchester.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

SATURDAY.

- 1462—Wharfedale, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone.

MONDAY.

- 154—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.
1103—Wharfedale, Private Room, Boroughgate, Osley, York.
1211—Goderich, Masonic Hall, St. George-street, Leeds.
1239—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
1392—De Warren, Masonic Hall, Hotel, Halifax.
R. A. 350—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley, near Leeds.

TUESDAY.

- 265—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Club, Hanover-street, Keighley.
R. A. 266—Loyalty, Freemasons' Hall, Salfield.
R. A. 609—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.

WEDNESDAY.

- R. A. 394—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds

THURSDAY.

259—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds.
 974—Pentalpha, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford.
 1231—Savile, Royal Hotel, Elland.
 1513—Friendly, King's Head Hotel, Barnsley.
 M.M. 53—Britannia, Freemason's Hall, Sheffield.

FRIDAY.

242—St. George, Guildhall, Doncaster.
 306—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds.
 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.
 837—De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.
 1613—Prince of Wales, 69 Little Horton-lane, Bradford.
 R. A. 61—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.

SATURDAY.

R. A. 309—Affability, Station Hotel, Bottoms, Eastwood.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—429—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.
 TUESDAY—5—Canongate and Leith (L. and C.), 86 Constitution-street.
 THURSDAY—97—St. James, St. James' Hall, Writer's-court.
 FRIDAY—291—Celtic of Edinburgh and Leith, Ship, E. Register-street.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—At the Old Rodney's Head, 12 Old-street, Goswell-road, on Monday, the 25th instant. Present—Bros. Powell W.M., Wing S.W., Kidder J.W., Tolmie Preceptor, Fenner Secretary, Woolley S.D., Pearcy J.D., H. Hall I.G., Christopher Tyler; also Bros. Stock, Trewinward, Currey, Millington, Parkinson, Alford, G. E. Cook, Halham, Dybdahl, &c. The minutes of last Lodge meeting read and confirmed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Millington candidate. Bro. Alford answered the questions leading to the second degree, was entrusted. Lodge was advanced to the second degree and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, both being capitally rendered by the W.M. Lodge was resumed to the first degree. Bro. Tolmie worked the fifth, sixth, and seventh sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Millington, of Lodge, No. 867, was elected a member. Bro. Wing will preside at next meeting.

Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, No. 55.—On Tuesday, the 26th of March, at Bro. Bond's, the Bedford Hotel, Southampton-buildings, Holborn. Present—Bros. W. H. Marston W.M., J. H. Dodson S.W., Dwarber J.W., W. G. Dickins Sec., J. S. Brown S.D., E. Abell J.D., T. B. Linscott I.G. Past Master Bro. J. Bingham P.M. Preceptor, and a goodly number of brethren who had met to hear Bro. Marston rehearse the ceremony of installation. After preliminaries had been observed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Soper being candidate. The installation ceremony was afterwards worked by the W.M. in a very able manner. Several brethren were elected members, and it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously that a vote of thanks be recorded, and honorary membership conferred on Bro. Marston for the very excellent manner in which he had worked the installation ceremony. The Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony, and adjourned to Tuesday, 2nd April.

Prosperity Lodge of Instruction, No. 65.—Held at Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, on Tuesday, the 26th inst. Present—Bros. Daniel W.M., Brown S.W., Maidwell J.W., Sayer S.D., Lipscomb J.D.; P.M. Leins; Bros. Gabb, Drew, Hollands, West, James, W. H. Rudderforth, A. Posener, Roberts, Jarvis, &c. The Lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. The Lodge was opened up, and resumed to the second degree, when the ceremony of installation was rehearsed by Bro. P.M. Leins, Bro. Brown W.M. elect. The investiture was done by Bro. Brown in a perfect and pleasant manner. The Lodge was closed down, and Bros. James and Jarvis, of the Prosperity Lodge No. 65, Bro. Gabb P.M. of the New Concord Lodge, Bro. Drew P.M. of the Hornsey Lodge, and Bro. West P.M. of the Wellington Lodge, were elected members. Bro. Maidwell was elected W.M. for the ensuing Tuesday. A vote of thanks to Bro. Brown, for the efficient manner in which he had performed his duties, was carried unanimously.

Joppa Chapter, No. 188.—The regular convocation was held on the 25th inst., at the Albion Hotel, Aldersgate-street. Comps. W. Littaur M.E.Z., L. Jacobs H., P. Dickinson J., S. V. Abrahams P.Z. Treas., H. Gulliford S.E., L. Lazarus S.N., H. P. Isaac as P.S.; P.Z.'s E. P. Albert, S. Lazarus, H. M. Levy, M. J. Emmanuel; Comps. J. W. Dewsnap, Grove Ellis, Botibol, Reibold, W. G. Jennings, Haines, J. S. Lyon, Snelling, L. M. Auerhaan, C. Roberts, N. Baum, W. A. Barrett, Bockbiuder, &c. Visitors—Comps. J. Constable Z. 141, C. F. Hogard P.Z. 141, W. W. Morgan 141, C. Burmeister Z. 538, H. Fisher 657, L. R. Rogers Z. 1250, A. M. Cohen P.Z. late 188, E. S. Jones P.Z. late 188. The Chapter was opened and the minutes confirmed. Bros. Buck, No. 188, and G. T. Mann, No. 1017, were balloted for and unanimously elected. Comp. H. M. Levy announced his intention to act as Steward for the Anniversary Festival of the Boys' School, in June next, on which occasion H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, K.G., Grand Senior Warden, will take the chair. A sum of £2 2s was voted from the funds of the Chapter, to be placed on his list. The ceremony of exaltation was conducted by the M.E.Z. in a most impressive and masterly style; indeed, we never heard it more effectively rendered; this opinion of ours was endorsed by all present. After the Chapter was closed, the Companions partook of a sumptuous banquet, provided

by Comp. W. G. Jennings, and superintended by Comp. M. Silver. The M.E.Z. proposed the Loyal and R.A. toasts. Comp. E. P. Albert P.Z. proposed the health of the M.E.Z., and alluded to the able and impressive manner in which he had exalted the two candidates. The M.E.Z. thanked the Companions for the hearty reception the toast had received. He had had every assistance from his Officers; he hoped at the expiration of his year to hear the same acknowledgment of his services. The next toast was the health of the newly exalted Companions, and the M.E.Z. gave them some excellent advice regarding their duties as R.A. Masons. Comps. Buck and Mann returned thanks. In proposing the health of the Visitors the M.E.Z. said the members of the Chapters felt honoured by their visit; many were distinguished in Masonry. He regretted some had been compelled to leave. He was pleased to see Comps. Cohen and Hogard; both were ready and willing to render assistance to advance Freemasonry, and held distinguished positions. The same remark applies to others. They were gratified to see Comp. Burmeister; he hoped all might be seen again in the Chapter. Comp. A. M. Cohen replied; and the M.E.Z. proposed the health of the H. and J. Comp. Dickinson replied; he thanked the Companions and the M.E.Z. for the manner the toast had been received; he hoped to pass both chairs with credit to himself and satisfaction to the Chapter. The Janitor's toast was then given. Bros. Rogers and Fisher contributed to the harmony of the evening.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—Met on Wednesday, 27th March, at the Railway Tavern, London-street, Fenchurch-street, E.C., Bro. T. W. C. Bush in the chair, Biddle S.W., Staley J.W., E. Gottheit P.M., J. Constable Treas., J. K. Pitt Sec., W. Lipscombe S.D., J. B. Boae J.D., T. J. Barnes, D. Posoner, Davis, Pelton, Moss, Gomm, Woodward, Fells, and Harris. The first ceremony and three of the sections were rehearsed. A vote of thanks was unanimously carried in favour of Bro. Bush. This being his maiden attempt to occupy the Master's chair, in which he did the duties thereto appertaining to the entire satisfaction of the brethren, and indeed manifested qualities which promise well for his becoming in due time an efficient Craftsman. Bro. Biddle was elected W.M. for the next meeting.

La Tolerance Lodge of Instruction, No. 538.—The annual supper of this Lodge was held on Wednesday last, at the Horse and Groom, Winsley-street, W. Bro. T. Adams P.G.P. Preceptor occupied the chair, and at the conclusion of the supper proposed the usual toasts. Being obliged to leave early, he deputed his position to Bro. Davis P.M. Royal Union Lodge, and under his presidency the brethren remained till a late hour. A most enjoyable evening was spent, most of the brethren immediately answering to the calls of the W.M. for songs, in fact a continuous round of harmony was kept up.

Fitzroy Lodge, No. 569.—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, the 22nd instant, at the Head Quarters of the Hon. Artillery Company, Finsbury, when the following Officers were present:—Bros. R. G. Webster W.M., J. D. Everingham S.W., J. Sanderson J.W., Ensign F. J. Stohwasser S.D., Quarter Master Brighton J.D., W. Birdseye I.G., Captain J. Egleso P.M., Secretary, W. Jolliffe D.C., and Ensign W. I. Spicer I.P.M. The Lodge was opened in due form with solemn prayer, and after disposing of the usual formal business, Bro. Dadswell, Parr, Elam and Ratto were severally raised to the sublime degree of M.M.'s. The Lodge was then closed and adjourned. The Visitors were Bros. Rosenblum 1339 and Scholey 1216.

Buckingham Lodge, No. 591.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 27th of March, at the George Hotel, Aylesbury. Present—Bros. George T. de Fraine W.M., J. Adams S.W., John Lawson P.M. as J.W., John Williams P.M. Secretary, Thomas Horwood P.M. Treas., G. A. Jefferies S.D., Lewis Ponton J.D., T. W. Robinson I.G., T. Cheshire Tyler; P.M. Bro. A. L. Taylor. The Lodge was opened in ancient and solemn form, raised to the third degree, and regularly closed down to the first, when some formal business was discussed; a candidate proposed for initiation, and the communication from Grand Lodge was read respecting the step taken by the Grand Orient of France. The resolutions were ordered to be entered on the minutes. All business ended, the Lodge was closed in ancient and solemn form.

Buckingham Chapter, No. 591.—This Chapter held its quarterly meeting on Wednesday, the 27th March, at the George Hotel, Aylesbury. Present—Comps. John Williams P.Z. as Z., John Palmer P.Z. H., A. L. Taylor as J., and other officers. P.Z.'s Rev. O. J. Grace, Thomas Horwood, and John Lawson. The Chapter was opened in due form; two candidates were unanimously elected, and Bro. James D. Coates, of No. 591 being in attendance, was duly exalted by Comp. John Williams P.Z. The historical and symbolical lectures were given by Comp. John Palmer. All business ended, the Chapter was closed in ancient and solemn form and adjourned.

Camden Lodge of Instruction, No. 704.—Held at the Mother Red Cap, Camden Town, on Monday, 25th March. Bro. L. R. Rogers P.M. Preceptor. Present—Bros. H. B. D. Dann W.M., Collier S.W., Carter J.W., Sterne S.D., Kemp J.D., Blank I.G., and Bros. Pringle, Pogson, Robart, Soper, Walton, &c. Lodge opened; minutes read and confirmed. Bro. Robart, candidate for initiation, presented himself, and the ceremony was rehearsed. Bro. Kemp, candidate for passing, was examined and entrusted. Lodge opened up, and the ceremony was rehearsed. Bro. Carter was elected W.M. for ensuing week.

Meridian Lodge, No. 743, 31st Huntingdonshire Regiment.—The brethren of this Lodge met in the Assembly Rooms, at Aldershot, at 6.30 p.m., on the 18th March, to instal Bro. Lient. Montagu, 31st Regiment, P.G.S.B. Dorset, as W.M. for the ensuing year. The brethren present were Bros. H. Wilkinson W.M., P. Montagu S.W., W. Barron J.W., J. Herbert Treas., W. Vines Sec., C. Newington S.D., W. Franklin J.D., J. Magillagan I.G.; P.M.'s W. Deverell, F. Fisher, W. Woodward; and Bros. H. Rowe and W. Foss. Visitors—Bros. R. Eve P. Prov. S.G.W. Hants, H. N. C. Smith P. Prov. G.W. Oxford, H. Hacken P.P.G.J.D., A. E. Richardson P.P.G.S.D., Robt. F. Gould P.M. 92; Captain H. Barton W.M. 1724 Kaiser-i-Hind, W. Sheldrake P.M. 723 Panmure, F. Adnett 723, J. Wisham 1331 Camp Lodge, W. Hill late 743, J. Pomeroy P.M. 723, T. Benham W.M. 723, G. Godfrey S.W. 723, J. Ingfield St. John 434 Madras, T. Chesterton 1331, G. W. Hyatt 1331, T. Adams 1331, G. Douglas P.M. 395, J. Williams P.M. 215, W. Burns 723, H. Whale P.M. 723, D. Phillips S.D. 723, A. Paterson W.M. 322, R. Featherstone 723, W. Douglas 322, H. Asute W.M. 434 St. John, W. Sellwood 723. The Lodge presented a very animated appearance, the scarlet uniforms of the Military contrasting vividly with the sombre dress of the Civilian brethren, many of whom wore the insignia of Provincial Officers. The Lodge having been opened in ancient and solemn form by the Worshipful Master, Bro. Wilkinson, the installation ceremony was impressively performed by Past Master Bro. R. F. Gould, the "Founder of the Lodge," who kindly attended at the express invitation of the members of Meridian Lodge. It has been our happy lot to have witnessed many such ceremonies, but never have we seen such fervour displayed, nor can we sufficiently describe the fire and enthusiasm engendered in the bosoms of the hearers at the eloquence of the skilled Master who indelibly impressed that reverence which should always be felt by the performance of this truly religious ceremony. We venture to predict that many years will elapse ere the solemn thoughts experienced on this occasion will be effaced from the memory of those who listened to the inspired words. The newly installed Master having appointed his officers for the year, the Lodge was closed in ancient and solemn form, with prayer, and the brethren adjourned to the Wellington Hotel, where a *vécheré* repast awaited them, to which ample justice was done, the catering of Bro. Sellwood being highly satisfactory. The health of the Installing Master was proposed by Bro. Deverell P.M., and was received in the warmest manner. Bro. Gould, in an able speech, commented on the great falling off in the number of Military Lodges which had occurred since 1814. In that year, as appeared from a list of Lodges at the Union, which had been presented to him by the compiler, Bro. W. J. Hughan, out of a total of about 600 Lodges on the Roll of the Grand Lodge of England, 50, or one in twelve, were Military Lodges; whereas, at the present time, though the aggregate of Lodges had increased to nearly 1,800, instead of 150 of these being worked under Military warrants, as would have been the case had the progress of Military Masonry kept pace with the general prosperity of the Craft, the number of Military Lodges altogether in existence only amounted to six, or one in three hundred, amongst which, moreover, none of the fifty existing in 1814 were now to be found, these being all defunct, except six, each of which was now working under a Civil warrant. No Military Lodges whatever were now in existence under the registry of Scotland, although in 1816 Lodge St. George was at work in the 31st Regiment. Under the Irish registry there were now ten Military Lodges, but one very distinguished Lodge under this Constitution, No. 227, in the 46th Regiment, seemed to have died out. It was during the service of this corps in America that the celebrated General Washington was initiated into Masonry, in No. 227. The 46th Regiment twice had the misfortune to lose its Masonic chest. On the first occasion it was captured by the Americans, when General Washington sent it back, escorted by a guard of honour. Secondly, in Dominica, in 1805, it fell into the hands of a French force, and three years afterwards the French Government, at the earnest request of the Officers who had commanded the Expedition, returned the chest, with several complimentary presents. Bro. Gould deeply regretted the gradual decay of Military Masonry, as he thought its continuance went a great way in cementing the good understanding which should exist between the Military and Civil population either in England or the Colonies, and he was quite at a loss to attribute it to any cause except the prohibition of Military Lodges to initiate Civilians. The speech of Bro. Gould was replete with edifying matter regarding Freemasonry, and was intently listened to by the brethren. The Worshipful Brother took occasion to enlarge on the excellent manner in which the duties were conducted by the Officers of the Meridian Lodge, but expressed his regret at being able to recognise only one face amongst those present of the old members with whom he had been associated, and this was Bro. Woodward, concerning whom he related an anecdote of having ridden with him and Bro. Swettenham a distance of 40 miles, in a terrific snowstorm, to attend a meeting of the Meridian Lodge at Tien Tsin, during the campaign in the North of China. Bro. Gould concluded by warmly praising the young members, and wishing prosperity and happiness to all present. Bro. Eve replied to the toast of the Visiting Brethren. He also offered some able remarks on Military Lodges, and surprised all present when he stated that the Bible on which General Washington was obligated in the 46th Regimental Lodge, was now in the possession of the Colonel of that regiment, who recently lent it to the Panmure Lodge to obligate three officers of the 46th, and that duty was performed by Bro. Eve in his capacity of W.M. The brethren having once more thanked Bro. Gould for his kindness in coming so far to attend the meeting, expressed a desire that they might have the pleasure of seeing him at future installations. Several of the brethren enlivened the proceedings by singing some excellent songs. We must not omit to mention the sweet voice of Bro. Barron, in "Kitty of Coleraine;" and the superb voice of Bro. Eve, in the "Miller of the Dee." Altogether, one of the most pleasant evenings we have ever passed in Freemasonry was the result of our visit to the Meridian Lodge.

William Preston Lodge, No. 766.—This Lodge held its

regular meeting on Thursday, the 28th inst., at Cannon-street Hotel. Present—Bros. S. D. Ewins W.M., C. R. Cutmore S.W., E. Kidman J.W., W. Worrell P.M. Sec., Capt. G. J. Kain P.M. Treas., W. Drake S.D., W. J. Collens D.C., G. Newman P.M. Steward, W. F. Smart I.G., W. Grant Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. Newton, B. Abbott, A. Braun, J. Pringle, and several Visitors. Business—After the formal opening of the Lodge, the W.M. proceed to raise Bros. Charles Pay, Eugene Wood, and William J. Heath, which ceremony he performed in a most impressive manner. The members now proceeded to the election of an Audit Committee. After which the Committee appointed at the last meeting, for the purpose of revising the Bye Laws, handed in their report, which was freely discussed by the brethren. The members of the Lodge appeared in mourning, in token of respect to the memory of Bro. George John Paull. On the motion of Bro. P.M. G. Newman, a vote of condolence with the family was passed, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes of the Lodge. After other business the W.M. closed the Lodge, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. On its conclusion, the usual toasts were given and responded to. The W.M. specially referred to the Past Masters, complimenting the Lodge on having such good Masons among them. Bro. Capt. Kain responded, on behalf of himself and the other Past Masters, thanking the W.M. and brethren for the cordial way in which they were received. Several songs were sung during the evening, and all present appeared to thoroughly enjoy the meeting.

Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 780.—The regular meeting was held on Friday, 22nd inst., at the Star and Garter, Kew Bridge. Present—Bros. Walter Goss W.M., Charles May S.W., W. Gomm J.W., W. Hilton P.M. Secretary, J. Smith P.M. P.G.P. Treas., Tarling D.C., Costelow I.G., Gilbert Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. J. Chambers Roe, Gardiner, Beasley, Hale, Brown, Potter, &c. Visitors—Bros. H. Stephens 73, J. Whiffin 147, N. W. Hammond 163, G. Phillips 186, W. W. Morgan 211, Rev. T. W. Morris 300, G. W. Lay 569, Thomas Butt 907, R. E. Clarke P.M. 1158, Neville Parker 1428, H. Day, Acworth, and W. Nye 1612, and McC. Butt 1623, &c. It has become proverbial that, at the regular meetings of this prosperous Lodge, those who attend should be prepared for a heavy's day's work, and on this occasion the rule was fully observed. The brethren assembled at Two o'clock, when Bro. Goss proceeded to open his Lodge. The minutes of the last regular meeting, and those of the emergency held in February, were read and confirmed. There were present two candidates for raising, and one for passing. The two former, Bros. Thomas Talbot and Charles Coombes, passed a satisfactory examination, and duly received their third step in Freemasonry. Previous to this ceremony being performed the ballot was taken for Bro. Arnold, of the Royal Union Lodge, No. 382, who was proposed as a joining member by Bro. Woodward P.M., and who had for a seconder Bro. Tarling. Bro. Arnold was unanimously accepted. Bro. William Eydmann was the candidate for the second degree, and this brother, by the way in which he answered the questions, evidenced that he had lost no time in making himself conversant with the preliminary knowledge required of brethren ere they seek advancement. Bro. Eydmann informed us that he was indebted to Bro. Clarke P.M. for the knowledge he was enabled to display, and we must congratulate the master on having so apt a pupil. The ceremony of the second degree was then carefully and correctly performed by Bro. Goss. The ballot was taken for three candidates for initiation, Messrs. A. T. Secker, Frederick Botley, and E. H. Collett; the result was favourable, and Mr. Botley took his first step in the Order. There were three notices of motion on the paper, and these were now brought on for discussion; the first, by Bro. Tarling, "That no moneys be voted on the funds of the Lodge without notice being previously inserted in the summons calling the meeting," was calmly and fairly argued by the proposer, who stated that he did not wish for a vexatious application of the rule, should it be carried. He knew they had a careful Treasurer, who would not let the moneys of the Lodge be squandered; still, they had members who were more lax in their attendance than he thought desirable, and this would not give such as he referred to an opportunity for complaining about what might be done in their absence. He assured the members he did not bring the motion forward in a spirit of hostility, but solely for the best interests of the Lodge. Bro. Smith addressed the brethren; he suggested that circumstances might arise where immediate relief was necessary, and then the delay that must occur would be most regrettable. He, at the same time, held with the spirit of the proposition, and would ask Bro. Tarling to add to his motion the rider, "Except moneys for charitable purposes, or for providing the customary P.M.'s jewel." After a few words from Bro. Atlee, Bro. Tarling adopted the suggestion of Bro. Smith, and the motion in its amended form was put and carried. The next question for discussion was in reference to the future quarters of the Lodge. Bro. Hale P.M. explained his reasons for having placed his notice on the paper, but as it seemed to be the almost universal wish of the members, he would withdraw it. The third motion referred to the increase of the fees for initiation and joining, and this was fully discussed *pro and con*. It, however, resulted in an advance being made in both cases. Routine business was then proceeded with. Bro. Tarling announced the death of an old and respected member of the Lodge, Bro. Barnes, and on his suggestion the Secretary was requested to send a letter of condolence to the widow. The Lodge was then closed, and after a short interval the brethren sat down to a capital banquet, provided and personally superintended by Host Stanbury. The good things provided were ably discussed, and thoroughly enjoyed. The toast list was fully honoured, but brevity with the several speakers was the rule of the evening. The proceedings were enlivened by some capital songs, &c., and when the hour for parting came, felicitations were expressed as to the success of the meeting.

Merchant Navy Lodge of Instruction, No. 781.—On Wednesday, the 20th inst., at the Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limehouse. Present—Bros. Schecboom W.M., Robinson S.W., Maxwell

J.W., Breden Sec., Ives Treas., Clegg S.D., Pringle I.G., Turquand Preceptor; Marnes, Maxwell sen., Maxwell jun., W. O. Coleman 1306, Andrews, Kent, Lewis, Day, Rowe. Lodge opened and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Mauns was passed, the ceremony was worked by the W.M. in an efficient manner. The 1st and 3rd sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Ould, and the 2nd and 4th by Bro. Andrews, assisted by the brethren. Bros. Maxwell sen. 1604, and W. O. Coleman 1306, were elected members. The excellence of this Lodge of Instruction is now becoming recognised at the East End of London. Several brethren competent to instruct are always in attendance, and the Preceptor is ever ready to impart his Masonic knowledge to any brother who may be anxious to learn.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—Held its weekly meeting on Tuesday evening, the 26th instant, at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston. Bros. F. Brown W.M., Williams S.W., Young J.W., Slaughter S.D., Wardell J.D., M. Christian I.G., Dallas Sec., Smyth Treas., P.M. Wallington Preceptor; Bros. G. Brown, C. Lorkin, J. Lorkin, Bigg, Allen, Bedwell, Wyman, and others. The Lodge was opened, and minutes of last meeting read. Lodge was opened in the second degree. Bro. Brasted answered the questions leading to the third degree, and was passed. The Preceptor, in his usual impressive manner, installed Bro. F. Brown. Bro. Williams was elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017.—The regular meeting was held on Wednesday, the 27th inst., at the Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street. Bro. Gulliford W.M., J. Lazarus P.M. S.W., Grunbaum P.M. as J.W., E. P. Albert P.G.P. Sec., L. Jacobs Treas., M. Levy S.D., Syer J.D., Simmonds I.G.; and P.M.'s S. V. Abrahams, V. Myers, and S. Pollitzer. The Lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed. A ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. P. Feeney, who was duly initiated into the Order; Bro. Pasta was raised. Both ceremonies were carefully performed by the W.M. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of a sumptuous banquet provided by Bro. Nicols. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given. That of the Grand Officers was responded to by Bros. Rev. R. J. Simpson P.G.C. and E. P. Albert. Bro. Victor Myers, in felicitous terms, proposed the health of the W.M., and paid him deserved compliments for his working. This having been responded to, the P.M.'s and Officers came next, Bro. M. Levy returning thanks for the latter. The Visitors severally responded; they comprised Bros. W. Webb, R. Stephens, E. Jacobs, H. Oppenheimer, L. H. Leon, E. S. Loewe, and A. J. Parkhouse.

Urban Lodge, No. 1196.—This Lodge held its regular meeting at St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, on Tuesday last, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. E. G. Legge. It will be remembered that at the meeting in February, the first, second, and third sections of the first lecture were worked in open Lodge, and in continuation of these the fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh sections were now worked by the W.M., who was very ably assisted by Bro. C. H. Webb D.C., Bro. Blatchford S.W., and Bro. Eckstein acting J.W. Amongst other business, Bro. H. Marsh was made honorary member of the Lodge, showing the great regard entertained for him, and it was announced that Wednesday, the 3rd April, was fixed for the visit of the W.M. and Officers to the Urban Lodge of Instruction, held at the Three Bucks Tavern, Gresham-street. The brethren then adjourned to supper, and a very jovial and pleasant evening was spent, several Visitors being present, including Bros. Dr. Barringer, Rev. — Jones, Watts, &c.

Upton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1227.—At Bros. Bolton and Lane's, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, on Friday, the 22nd instant. Present—Bros. Hine W.M., Crouch S.W., Smith J.W., Fenner Preceptor, Townsend Secretary, Posener jun. S.D., Simpson J.D., Lane I.G.; also Bros. Simmonds, Bolton, Pearcey, Powell, &c. All formalities being gone through, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M. in a very able manner, Bro. Simmonds acting as candidate. Bro. Fenner worked the first, second, and third sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Crouch was elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Finsbury Park Master Masons Lodge of Instruction, No. 1288.—Finsbury Park Tavern, Holloway, Friday, 22nd March. Bros. L. R. Rogers P.M. Preceptor, Pottle W.M., Dunn jun. S.W., Press S.W., Edmunds S.D., Bee J.D., Cutbertson I.G., H. B. Dunn Secretary, Beattie, and others. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Beattie candidate. Bro. Beattie also offered himself as candidate to be passed, and that ceremony was rehearsed. Lodge closed in the second degree. Bro. Rogers worked the first and second sections of the lecture. Bro. Dunn jun. was elected to preside next week. Bro. Dr. Pottle, of Gresham Lodge No. 869, was elected a member. A vote of thanks was presented to Bro. Dr. Pottle for the able manner in which he had performed the duties of the chair, the same to be recorded on the minutes.

St. John of Wapping Lodge of Instruction, No. 1306.—At the Gun Hotel, High-street, Wapping, on Monday evening, 25th instant. Bro. Horsley W.M., Cox S.W., Greely J.W., Brame Sec., Baldwin J.D., Mortlock I.G., Taylor, and several others. After Lodge had been opened, and formalities complied with, Bro. Smith, candidate for raising, answered the usual questions, and the ceremony was rehearsed by the W.M. Bro. Taylor 554 was elected a member. Bro. Cox will preside at next meeting.

Clapton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1365.—At the White Hart Hotel, on Friday, 22nd inst. Present—Bros. Cogan W.M., McMillan S.W., Slaughter J.W., McDowell S.D., King J.D., Paynter I.G., Cusworth Preceptor; also Bros. Stephens, Giles, Sopor, J. Badkin, W. Clennell, and Goddard Hon. Sec. The Lodge was duly opened; the preliminary business over, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Gibbs being candidate; after which Bro. W. Stephens answered the questions of the second, and the Lodge being opened in that degree, was duly passed; both the ceremonies being well rendered by the W.M. On the Lodge being resumed in the first degree, Bro. W. C. Clennell, of the Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 60, was elected a member. The Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony.

Islington Lodge of Instruction, No. 1471.—At the Three Bucks, Gresham-street, E.C., on Tuesday, 26th inst. Present—Bros. J. L. Mather W.M., Corner S.W., Cotton J.W., Holness Treasurer, Braine Sec., Sparrow S.D., Le Crew I.G. Bros. Thompson, Seaman, G. Corner, Bonsor, Shipley, Miller, Hunt, Petch, Matthews, Modwin, Orme, Mounsey, Hall. The Lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. Shipley answered the questions for passing. The Lodge was opened in the second, and the ceremony was rehearsed by Bro. Preceptor Mather, Bro. Shipley acting as candidate. The Lodge was afterwards opened in the third, and the ceremony of installation was rehearsed in its entirety by Bro. Mather, who performed his duties in a very effective style. Bro. W. Corner was installed: he duly invested his Officers. On the Lodge resuming, Bros. Seaman, Thompson, Orme and Mounsey were duly elected members, and Bro. Shipley was chosen W.M. for the ensuing week. A vote of thanks to Bro. Mather for the great amount of pleasure and instruction the brethren had derived from his exertions was proposed by Bro. Braine, seconded, and carried unanimously. Bro. Seaman tendered his thanks personally to Bro. Mather for the enjoyable evening he had spent; this had induced him to join the Lodge.

Marquess of Ripon Lodge of Instruction, No. 1489.—At the Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-road, Hackney on Monday, the 25th inst. Present—Bro. E. Bishop W.M., Slaughter S.W., Goddard J.W., McDowell S.D., Garrod J.D., Jacob I.G., Blunt acting Preceptor; also Bros. Lockett, Dietrich, Blant, F. Badkin, Morgan jun., Mann, &c. Lodge was opened in ancient form with prayer, and after the usual preliminary business Bro. Lockett offered himself as candidate for initiation. Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. F. Badkin was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Bro. F. Badkin then answered the questions leading from the second to the third degree, and was entrusted. Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of raising was ably rehearsed, Bro. F. Badkin being candidate. The W.M. gave the traditional history and lecture in a careful and impressive manner. Lodge was closed in the third and second degrees. Bro. E. Dietrich, J.D. Duke of Connaught Lodge 1527, was balloted for as a member. Lodge was closed in harmony, and adjourned till Monday, 1st April, at 7.30.

Hemming Lodge, No. 1512. The election meeting of this Lodge took place at the Lodge-room, Hampton, on Thursday, the 21st inst. The W.M. Bro. John Hammond called for the assistance of the brethren for the opening soon after 5 p.m., in the presence of the R.W. Brother Colonel Burdett Prov. Grand Master. The W.M. was also supported by Past Masters E. Hopwood Treas., D. B. Raw late Treas., W. Hammond Sec., and J. Wilson of the Etonian 209. Other Officers were—C. W. Fox W.M. 1326 S.W., J. C. Jessett J.W., T. W. Ockenden S.D., T. C. Walls J.D., F. W. Kent I.G., J. W. Hiscox and T. Moody Senior and Junior Stewards. The W.M. first initiated Mr. Wm. Beauchamp, in his usual effective style, then passed Bro. Papworth, and lastly raised Bro. W. C. Davey to the sublime degree. During the recess, for the preparation and preliminaries of the initiation, the W.M. called upon the Secretary to read the Communication from Grand Lodge having reference to the assailed fundamental principles of the Craft by the Grand Orient of France. The report of the Committee appointed by Grand Lodge having claimed the entire sympathy of the assembled brethren, and the express support of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master and W.M. and Past Masters present, was ordered to be entered on the minutes of the Lodge, and its spirit fully acted upon as far as the Hemming Lodge is concerned. Among other features of the meeting should be mentioned the vote of ten guineas to the Masonic Institution for Girls; a Past Master's jewel to the W.M. for the excellent manner in which he had conducted the duties of his office during his year's service; the announcement of the election of the Prov. Grand Master as an Hon. Member of the Lodge; a vote of condolence with Bro. P.M. Sharp in his severe illness; and several propositions for the ensuing meeting. The S.W. Bro. Fox received the unanimous suffrages of the brethren as W.M. elect, and acknowledged the high honour and mark of esteem in neat and suitable terms. Among the other brethren present were J. A. Scott of the Wolsey Lodge No. 1656, A. D. Tozer, C. Hole, J. Chilcott, W. Knowles, H. Murphy, H. J. Jones, E. Andrews, Harry Tagg, and J. Gilbert. At the modest, but excellently served banquet which followed, provided by the host, Bro. Murphy, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given, with great spirit, and responded to with excellent *fire*. In the course of his remarks as Past Grand Warden, Prov. Grand Master, and an Hon. Member of the Lodge, Col. Burdett passed a high encomium upon the able manner in which the W.M. performed all three of the ceremonies of the Craft, congratulating the Lodge upon its happy possession of a Master whose energy and ability augured continued success for the Lodge, presenting a model for the aspirations of the "coming men" as occupants of the chair. After a most enjoyable evening the brethren separated, at ten o'clock. Bros. T. C. Walls Prov. G. Org. and others interspersed the proceedings at the banquet table with some excellent songs.

Duke of Connaught Lodge of Instruction, No. 1526.
—At the Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, on Wednesday evening, 27th inst., at 8 p.m. Present—Bro. McMillan W.M., Slaiter S.W., Dignam J.W., J. Lorkin S.D., Maples I.G., E. Dietrich J.D. and Sec., Fieldwick Preceptor, G. Ferrar Treas., and Bros. J. B. Shackleton, F. Beensen, R. Olly, &c. After formalities had been observed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. F. Beensen candidate. The Lodge was opened in the second, and Bro. Rolly, who had previously been interrogated and entrusted, was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree. Bro. Shackleton worked the first and second sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Slaiter was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting.

Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, at the Queen's Hotel, York. Present—Bros. T. B. Whytehead W.M., T. Cooper I.P.M., Rev. J. Metcalfe Chaplain, J. S. Cumberland S.W., C. G. Padel J.W., G. Balmford P.M. Treas., J. Kay Sec., M. Cooper S.D., J. T. Sellar J.D., M. Millington I.G., T. D. Smith Steward, A. T. B. Turner as Organist, P. Pearson Tyler. There were also a number of Visitors, including Bros. S. Maltby P.M. 236, Haffner P.M., W. H. Wyatt P.M., T. Camidge P.P.G.O., and several brethren from Hull and other places. A special invitation had been forwarded to the brethren of the York Lodge 236, to be present, and the W.M. read a note from the W.M. of that Lodge, stating that severe illness prevented his attendance. Other letters were read from brethren, including Bros. S. B. Ellis P.M., Sheffield, Bro. Varey (Lord Mayor of York), and others, regretting inability to attend. Soon after the opening of the Lodge, the W.D.P.G. Master for North and East Yorkshire (Bro. J. P. Bell) was announced, and on his admission to the Lodge, he was saluted by the brethren with the honours due to his rank. The business of the meeting was the initiation of the Rev. R. P. T. Tennent, which was worked by the W.M., ably assisted by his Officers. The Communication from Grand Lodge respecting the decision arrived at about the French Orient was read, and it was resolved that the substance of the same should be printed in the next Lodge circular. The D.P.G.M. then gave a most interesting address on the subject of the explorations in Palestine under the superintendence of Bro. Lieut. Warren, and their bearing on the History of Masonry, and illustrated his remarks by a collection of photographs. On the motion of the W.M., seconded by the I.P.M., a vote of thanks to the P.G.M., was carried by acclamation. After the close of the Lodge, the brethren entertained their Visitors at an excellent supper, provided in Bro. Churchill's well-known and reliable style. After which a short toast list was gone through. In proposing the Earl of Zetland and the Prov. Grand Lodge, the W.M. expressed the pleasure it gave the Lodge to see amongst them their excellent and worthy Bro. Dr. Bell, to whose interesting and lucid remarks they had listened with such pleasure that evening, and he could only express a wish that they could see him oftener in York. In reply, the D.P.G.M. said it had given him great pleasure to be present that evening, and to see the excellent manner in which the Lodge was conducted and worked. He knew of no Lodge in his Province which was better managed, and which showed more plainly the discretion and high aims of its rulers. In proposing the health of the W.M., the D.P.G.M. spoke in the highest terms of Bro. T. B. Whytehead, who he was sure would be an honour to the Lodge and to Masonry at large. He was glad to see that he was making such efforts to extend an intelligent study of Masonry, and from what he had seen that evening he felt certain that great good was resulting from those efforts. The Dep. Prov. G.M. also expressed a hope that the time was not far distant when arrangements might be made for the Lodge to meet at the Masonic Hall, York, though as far as accommodation and convenience were concerned, nothing could be more comfortable than the rooms in which they were then assembled; at the same time, it was universally admitted that it was preferable for Lodges to meet on premises specially set apart for the purpose. Replying to the toast of the Visitors, Bro. S. Maltby P.M. 236 endorsed the remarks of the D.P.G.M. regarding the place of meeting, and hoped that it might be possible to come to some arrangement by which the two Lodges in York might occupy the same premises. The evening was enlivened by songs and recitations, given by Bros. J. S. Cumberland, T. Humphries, W. H. Wyatt, and others, Bro. C. G. Padel acting as accompanist on the piano. During the evening, a set of very curious old Masonic plates, published in 1812, and portraying various ceremonies in Lodges, and which had lately been discovered in an old house in York, and rescued from destruction, were exhibited, and excited much admiration and curiosity. The meeting was of a most pleasant and social character, and will long be remembered as such by the brethren.

West Middlesex Lodge of Instruction, No. 1612.—The weekly meeting was held at the Feathers Hotel, Ealing, on Thursday evening, the 21st inst. Bros. A. Jones W.M., Porter S.W., Seward J.W., A. J. Barr Sec., Johnson S.D., Pooley J.D., Owen I.G., Wright Steward; also Bros. Clark, Stephens, Tucker, Tink, Brown, Edmeston, and others. Lodge having been regularly opened and the minutes confirmed, it was advanced to the second degree, when the W.M. placed the gavel in the hands of Bro. Tucker, who rehearsed the ceremony of passing, Bro. Edmeston candidate. Bro. Tucker then delivered, in an able manner, the lecture on the Tracing Board, and opened in the 3rd degree. Bro. Clark was then raised to the sublime degree. The Lodge closed down, and formal business was transacted. Lodge was adjourned until the 28th inst., at 7.30 p.m.

Earl of Carnarvon Lodge of Instruction, No. 1642.
—On Friday, the 22nd March, at the Mitre Hotel, Goulborne Road,

Notting Hill. Bros. Spiegel W.M., B. Penn S.W., Smout sen. J.W., Smout jun. S.D., Adkins J.D., Webster I.G., Savage P.M. Preceptor, Murlis P.M., Estell, Oldrey, Wood, Pocock, Hatton, Robarts, Williams, Wise, &c. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Dr. Pocock being the candidate; after which the W.M. worked the first, second, third and fourth sections of the lecture, ably assisted by Bro. Savage P.M. Next meeting Bro. Penn will take the chair, and, according to bye laws, the installation ceremony will be worked. A large meeting is expected. Bro. Williams, of Phoenix Lodge, and Wise, of New Cross Lodge No. 1559, were elected members of this Lodge of Instruction.

THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—Opening night, Tuesday next.
HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, FARCE. At 8.15, THE LADY OF LYONS.
ADELPHI.—CARL ROSA OPERA COMPANY.
PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, OUT TO NURSE. At 7.45, JANE SHORE.
OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, THE LITTLE VIKENS. At 8.15, THE VAGABOND.
STRAND.—At 7. OVER THE WAY. At 7.30, FAMILY TIES. At 9.30, DORA AND DIPLUNACY.
GAIETY.—At 7.15, A MERE BLIND. At 7.45, OLD SOLDIERS. At 9.30, FAUST.
GLOBE.—At 7.0, MY WIFE'S OUT. At 7.45, A FOOL AND HIS MONEY and A NATIONAL QUESTION.
VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG. At 8.0, OUR BOYS, and A FEARFUL FOG.
PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 9.0, DIPLOMACY.
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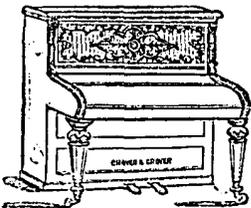
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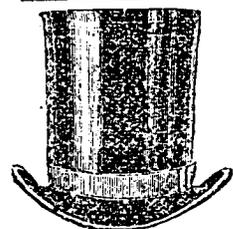
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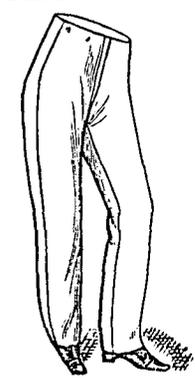
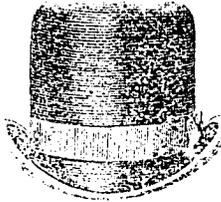
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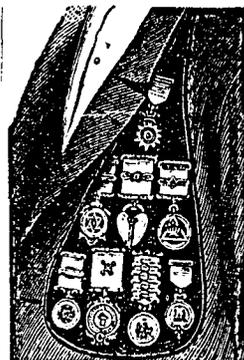


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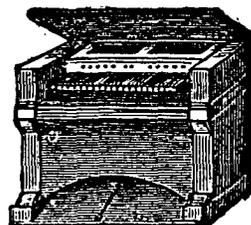
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