# Kneemason's Chnonigle;

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# THE MASONIC AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

THE great additions made during the past few years to the ranks of Freemasonry has wrought many changes in the constitution and social position of the Order, which, though beneficial in some instances, cannot be looked upon as universally so. It is questionable whether the system, so prevalent, of appealing to Freemasons as a body in matters of business can be defended on any ground, but it is certain that it is productive of no benefit to the Order, for the simple reason that as a rule the better class of society does not parade Freemasonry in business, and thus, through its being made use of by the lower class only, so much discredit arises. Still we may console ourselves on one point; the evil is brought about by the sufferers themselves, who should certainly know better than to alter their terms or conditions of business simply because a customer introduces himself as a Mason; again, why should any one assume a meeting in Lodge to be a sufficient reference?—we admit this should be so were Freemasonry not a human institu-Alas! too many, who have neglected their usual precautions, have eventually had reason to be dissatisfied with their experience of Freemasons. It is certainly unjust to our Institution to lay these disasters at its door. Why should a customer who is in the habit of using discretion in his dealings take no pains to examine his purchases when buying of one who blazons forth his Masonic connection? or why should he blame the Institution if he has been deceived? We hold that business is business, and Freemasonry an entirely distinct thing; and if this were a little better explained to initiates, and the principle more fully carried out, it would prevent half the unworthy members who find their way into our Order ever reaping advantage from their act. For our own part, we look with suspicion on tradesmen who introduce themselves as Masons simply in the hope of gaining an order, for the very reason we have before given, that if they were creditable members of the Craft they would know better. We are aware there are many institutions in the States of America and Canada which look for support mainly, if not entirely, to Freemasons, but however it may work in those more extended fields, it can never succeed in this country, where an institution which relies on Freemasonry, and on that alone for its support, has but a poor prospect of succeeding. We are not sure but that it is an advantage to the Craft that such is the case, for if we once stamped a Masonic trading company as a success, we should be flooded with prospectuses from every "promoter" in the city, who would soon make common property of our signs and symbols. Still, the evil does exist, and, we suppose, will continue, so long as victims can be found on whom to prey. All we can do is to advise brethren not to accept any business statement simply because vouched for Masonically, nor to relax one iota of their caution on account of a Masonic introduction; if they do, they had better complete the job Masonically, which would resolve itself into that excellent virtue of the Craft—Silence provided they could not speak well of the venture.

Thus far our remarks have been general, we now intend to make them personal, and for this purpose refer our readers to the Jersey Express of the past month, in the pages of which a correspondence has been carried on in reference to "The Masonic and General Life Assurance Company." The writer of the first letter, which is sent "for the information of the public," states that "a Local Board having

been established in Jersey by the above-named Company, and he having been led to believe that this was a Company formed under the auspices of the Freemasons, he was induced to buy One Hundred Shares." Later on, "being displeased with the management of the Company, he looked closer into the matter, and to his great surprise found that the company was not a Masonic Institution at all;" the following letter from our Grand Secretary helping to dispel his doubts on the subject:—

[Copy.]

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C., 17th January 1879.

SIR AND BROTHER,—I beg to inform you, in answer to your letter of the 15th instant, that the Grand Lodge of England has no connection, in any way, with the Masonic General Life Insurance Company Limited.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN HERVEY.

After the receipt of this epistle our brother appears to have taken fright, and in a later letter he tells us he has sold his shares, at a loss of 75 per cent. We do not question his right to take this course, but we would point out that he is very much to blame for his conduct; and, as we learn from a further communication, he has not only rushed on blindly himself, but, by advocating the claims of the Company at a Provincial Grand Lodge meeting, had been the means of inducing others to transact business with it. If he had considered for one moment his own interests, and the interests of those whom he had induced to follow his example, he would have taken advice before he published to the world these unmistakable proofs of his folly. Does he know that if a Company has such a charge as he makes substantiated against it, it is very likely to be seriously injured, at least for a time. We hold that he is in a sense answerable for the money his friends have invested, on his official recommendation; and that even if he likes to sell his shares, "at 75 per cent. loss," he has no right to still further depreciate the value of the speculation by trying to place his co-investors in a similar or worse position. His letter is supplemented in the following issue by one from a brother who likewise appears to have entered into business relations with the Company under a mistaken idea of its constitution. This correspondent does not attempt to stifle his feelings, as the following extract from his letter will show :-

"Many appear to have been entirely misled by the impression that this was a Masonic Institution, countenanced and supervised by Masonic authority, and what conduced materially to strengthen such a belief was the fact that the advertisements of this comparatively insignificant commercial venture were arrogantly exhibited on the vivid representation of one of the most sacred emblems of Freemasonry. Whether this was done intentionally, for the special purpose of deceiving and misleading a somewhat extensive class of men, is a question victims know best how to answer. wուcu unwilling The idea seems to have been to identify this particular Society with the Craft, and to induce inexperienced and trusting novitiates, and other unsuspicious members, to take shares or policies in this concern, and so far, I believe, they have in a great measure succeeded. I quite sympathise with those who have been duped, and who, after confidingly investing their money, on the distinct understanding that they were to receive a certain small and fixed rate of interest, see this their promised interest stopped, and their capital unrealisable; except at a loss, and all this under the garb of Masonry, or rather the catch-word Masonic. I, as a Mason, and a contributing member of Grand Lodge, am indignant at this state of things, more especially as the public have identified this Masonic Insurance with the Masonic Fraternity. It is high time that people should be undeceived, and know far and wide that Freemasonry, at least, has nothing whatever to do with this struggling commercial enterprise. If we do any business let it at least not be done under false colours."

To these two letters a reply is sent by the Jersey agent

of the Company, who explains that although the Association in question is not a Masonic Institution, its directors, and other officials are Freemasons, who have won the confidence of Freemasons, and all who assure with them. He explains that the first-named correspondent, "in a moment of displeasure and irritation," voluntarily offered his shares, on which £100 was paid, to any one who would take them for £25, which offer the writer immediately accepted, and the transfer was duly signed. Thus he considers the loss can hardly be termed necessary. The second epistle he prefers to leave to answer for itself, merely remarking that the Company may be congratulated on having, as is therein stated, done some business. The writer of this latter sentence takes the agent to task in an after communication, and points out that such business, in his opinion, had been obtained through the Company, "advertising on Masonic insignia, thereby causing it to be thought and accepted as officially and authoritatively Masonic, supported and guaranteed by Grand Lodge." On what ground can any Mason form such an opinion as is manifested in these letters? Or, why should be assume that the use of a Masonic emblem should make Grand Lodge liable for all that may arise by reason of brethren neglecting common business caution? Were such to be the case, we fancy our governing body would soon have such a list of claims before them as would drain their resources, even if they had the wealth of Crossus at their call. No; for some reason or other, our brethren are disappointed, and now they seem hardly able to make their abuse loud or strong enough. As they appear to attach so much importance to things being done Masonically, we would ask them how they justify such a course of action.

In answer to the charges made by these shareholder of Jersey, the Managing Director of the Company sends a tabulated statement, wherein he shows that "The Masonic and General Life Assurance Company Limited" occupies a most favourable position among the various offices who carry on a similar class of business. The figures which he gives are, with the exception of those of his own Company, taken from a lately issued Blue Book, so that we have Government guarantee that these are correct. While in the case of "The Masonic and General" they are taken from the valuation report of Mr. W. S. B. Woolhouse, whose statement is characterised as a strictly independent We would rather have had all the figures from the same source, as by that means we should have been able to form a better opinion of the standing of the Society, which by its title tries to identify itself with the Craft; we might then be in a position to judge whether it should be supported for the sake of such connection. As it is, we can only ask our friends to give it the preference if, after due enquiry, they find it bears comparison with those offices whose titles are not Masonic; but we assure the Directors that so long as they make use of the name and symbols of Freemasonry simply to advance business ends, it will be impossible for them to justify themselves in the eyes of Freemasons.

#### GRAND CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIA.

THE book of Proceedings of this grand body for 1878 contains particulars of the Quarterly Communications that were held during the past year, and the various questions that were discussed, as also those of the Annual Communication held at Philadelphia on 27th December, when Alfred R. Potter Grand High Priest presided, supported by several Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, and representatives of subordinate Chapters. Grand Chapter was opened in solemn form, and various matters of local interest were disposed of. The Grand High Priest, in reviewing the two years of his official connection with the Grand Chapter, summarised the various acts he had performed in the discharge of the duties appertaining to the office. He had personally constituted three new Chapters, and two others had been formally opened by dispensation. In reading the reports of the several D. D. Grand High Priests, he had been pained to learn from them of the indifference on the part of Companions, members of Chapters, to the voluntary duties they assumed when entering the Institution. He was aware that Capitular Freemisonry, like all other institutions, was suffering from the depression of the times, but that should be no reason

Chapters, if for no other purpose than to encourage each other in the work of life before them, to develop the principles taught, and to do good unto all men. He had learned that in some instances Chapters had not met for months, simply because there was no work; but he was pleased to be able to record other cases where great interest had been taken in the duties of the degree. He had visited all the Chapters and Mark Lodges meeting in the Philadelphia Temple, and had also travelled some thousands of miles in his work of inspection of the Chapters of the Jurisdiction. He desired to express his thanks for the honour which had been done him in electing him to the high office, and also for the support he had received both from the members and subordinate officers. William C. Hamilton was now duly installed as Grand High Priest, as were also the following:—Companions H. P. John G. King, A. R. Hall G. Scribe, T. R. Patton G. Treas., J. Thompson G. Sec. The newly installed G.H.P. then delivered an address, thanking the companions for entrusting the Royal Craft to his supervision for the ensuing Masonic year, and referring to matters of interest which came under his notice. He then appointed the subordinate Officers, and various Committees of Grand Other formal business was disposed of, and Chapter. among the items which form the Appendix we may mention the Report on Correspondence, which deals with forty-one Grand Chapters, being all that the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania is in correspondence with, except that of the Grand Mark Lodge of England, and ends with a brief summary of the whole.

#### GRAND LODGE OF TENNESSEE.

THIS Grand Lodge held a Lodge of Sorrow, in the Concert Room of the Masonic Temple, Nashville, on the 12th November 1878, to the memory of the late A. J. Wheeler P.G.M. and to "their Dead" of the past year. M.W. Americus V. Warr, Grand Master, presided, and was supported by Jonathan S. Dawson P.G.M. S.W., J. C. Cawood P.G.M. J.W., Rev. Robert A. Young Chaplain, George H. Morgan S.D., M. H. Webb J.D., Benjamin F. Haller and Thomas O. Morris Stewards; other Officers. Past Grand Officers and members of the Grand Lodge being present. The Hall was heavily draped in mourning, and in the centre of the stage was a catafalque, at the angles of which were seated four brothren in charge of lights. Immediately above hung the portrait of M.W. A. J. Wheeler P.G.M., the frame of which was covered with crape. In the rear, and hanging upon the stage scenery, were three white shields with black borders. On the one on the right was the name "Slover," in the centre "Our Dead," and on the left "Worsham." Every seat was occupied, a large number of ladies being present. At the conclusion of the usual ceremonies an address was delivered by Bro. Henry J. Lynn P.M., Memphis, on "The Life, Masonic Character and Death of A. J. Wheeler P.G.M., and from it we extract the following:—

Andrew J. Wheeler was born 4th February 1833, in the town of Norridgewock, near Portland, in the State of Maine. His father, who was an active Mason, as was his father before him, died but three years since, at his home, at the age of 89. These brethren have handed down a tribute to our Order in the form of an old Masonic apron, which was worn in Lodge by our Brother, and which, please God, his surviving son hopes to wear some day with equal honour. At the age of fourteen he left the parental roof, to learn the trade of a printer. In 1851 he left his native State, went West, and located in the town of Evansville, Indiana, where he carried on the business of bookselling with his oldest brother. In his twentieth year he came South, and located in Memphis, Tennessee. where he at once secured work as a printer in the office of the Appeal. Here he remained several years, rising in due season to the position of local editor on that famous journal, then under the management of McClanahan, Trousdale and Dill; and it was here he learned the use of his vigorous and spicy pen. After this he secured the position of chief clerk, or deputy in the office of Marcus J. Wright, Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Shelby county, and remained in this office for eight years. While employed in this office, on the 20th of October 1858, he was initiated into the mysteries of Masonry, and on 25th March 1859 he was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. About the year 1870 there were brought to public notice two enterprises of stirring moment to the Masonic Fraternity. For many years the Masons of Memphis had entertained the hope of building a grand Masonic Temple, and Bro. Wheeler was the master-spirit of that great enterprise; the work on the building, which was so sadly broken up by the epidemic of 1873, was but just the depression of the times, but that should be no reason resumed, under our brother's general care, in July last, with the why Companions ought not to assemble in their respective brightest prospects for completion ere this time, when Memphis

was again overtaken with the sad calamity of another epidemic. Eight years ago Bro. Wheeler entered upon the work of founding, and has since regularly published and zealously pushed forward the "idol of his heart," the Masonic Jewel. He has made it a welcome visitor in many a brother's home, the official organ of this and several neighbouring Grand Jurisdictions, and a standard authority on Masonic law and usage in them all. He loved this Jewel, and it was his great wish and trust that it might fall into some good and able hands, and be carried on for the good of the Craft, for many long years to come.

Bro. Wheeler married, on 22nd December 1859, Miss Jennie S. Chadwick. By this marriage there were born to him three childrentwo sons and one daughter-of whom the two last survive him. In less than two years after his initiation, so remarkable was his zeal, and so singular his mastery of the work, he was, by almost unanimous choice, made Worshipful Master of his Lodge, and he filled this office no less than seven times during his membership of twenty years, also fulfilling the duties of the other offices. It was then that his great powers as an able and accomplished Mason had full play, and shone forth with such remarkable brilliancy. conferring of a degree by Bro. Wheeler was sure to fill his Lodge. room. Nor was he less apt in the thorough mastery of the laws and usages of our Order than in his wonderful power and ability in conferring the degrees. His devotion and sympathy to the sick, the needy, and the distressed was unwearying. The widow's wail and the orphan's cry never reached him in vain.

At the session of the Grand Lodge in 1868, Bro. Wheeler represented South Memphis Lodge No. 118; served on the Committee on Examinations, and was elected Senior Grand Warden. In 1871-2 he served on the Committee on Dispensations and By-laws. At the latter session the Masonic Jewel was indorsed by the Grand Lodge. In 1874 he was elected Grand Master, and delivered an eloquent eulogy on the life of Past Grand Master Bro. Samuel McManus, in a Lodge of Sorrow. In 1875 he presided as Grand Master; and in 1876 and 1877 he attended as Past Grand Master, and served with singular ability and influence as a member of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence. This is our distinguished brother's Grand Lodge record; and it leaves a legacy of incalculable worth to all the brethren of this G. Jurisdiction.

Near the middle of last August, Bro. Wheeler moved his family into Memphis, having been living some two miles out of the city. On surprise being expressed at this step, in consequence of the terrible plague in that city, Bro. Wheeler remarked "that he and his wife considered it their duty, and that they must keep together, and do all the good they could." Armed with his noble spirit, he threw himself right in the very face and forefront of danger, heedless of himself, and careful only that a friend, or a brother, or a little child, perhaps, might be saved. The grim and insatiate yellow-fever monster laid his deadly hand upon him, and on 7th September 1878, he yielded up his brave, heroic, and manful spirit, and returned to the bosom of his Father and his God. He sleeps his last sleep in Elm. wood, the silent city of our sacred dead.

At the conclusion of the address, M. W. James D. Richardson P.G.M. delivered one on "Our Dead" of the past year, from which we summarise the following -

The Masonic year just closing has in truth been one in which Sorrow has spread her raven wing about ns, and Affliction folded us in her heavy mantle. From the Ohio to the Gulf the Great Valley of the Mississippi has recently been overwhelmed with an affliction Pestilence and death hung like a unparalleled in its history. sombre pall over this section of our land for more than seventy days, devastating its cities, villages, and hamlets, bearing away with remorseless touch hundreds, ay, thousands, of unfortunate victims. Families who, when they came together at the hearthstone each day or night, had hitherto beheld no vacant chair, within the short period of one week were annihilated-not one left to tell the sad story of their fate. In many cases entire households have lost those who earned each day their bread, and widows and orphans have been plunged into peril of death by actual famine. Amid this ordeal, these trying scenes, the situation in many places was such as to develop and bring into action the manliest traits of character of the human heart. Friend, terrorised and dismayed at the severity and fatality of the attacks of the relentless ravager, abandoned friend; parents deserted their children; children their parents; brother fled from the presence of brother; and even the husband, forgetful of his vows, administered not to the necessities of the dying wife; yet on this field of woe, desolation, and death, glorious specimens of manhood stood bravely forth and bade the devourer stay his slaughter.

Prominent among the forces actively employed to turn the tide of battle against the fell destroyer was our own plague-tried and timehonoured Order. Wherever the conflict raged with greatest severity, and the lines of the stubborn foe were strongest and most difficult to overcome, there were marshalled the veterans of Freemasonry. Inspired by the sublime principles of the Order, with no bugle blast nor trumpet sound, no shout of the populace to impel them forward, earnestly they gave battle for the relief of grief-stricken humanity. Under the leadership of the kind-hearted but brave and heroic Wheeler, and the comrades who succeeded him when he fell, this band of brethren discharged a noble duty; and while the struggle cost nearly one hundred of them their lives, they fell at the post of duty and of honour, and so sure as there is truth in divine promise they have gone to a glorious reward. Our anxiety, however, need not be for them. The lone mariner far out on the ocean, seeing one by one the lights of heaven go out before the rising storm, does not ask what has become of those lights, or whether they shall shine again with brighter lustre, but rather he asks, What is to become of me? and how am I to guide my bark in safety to the shore after these natural pilots of the sky have disappeared? By proper calculations, however, prepared by wise and skilful men, when the lights did shine

darkness, but safely, to his desired port. And such consolation is ours on occasions like this. If the heroic deeds and bright examples of our lamented dead were buried with them, how terribly deepened would be our sense of their loss to our Order! But it is not so. Such men do not wholly die. They are survived by the recollections of their worthy achievements; they live in their deeds of true heroism—though unrecorded—which time can never disturb, and which will plead for them in eternity; they live in the respect and gratitude of mankind; they live in that peculiar influence by which the thought of one single commanding deed, as it runs along the electric chain of human affairs, inspires others to similar deeds in endless progression, and thus makes its author an active and powerful agent in the events of life long after his mortal remains shall have crumbled in the tomb.

Time forbids that I should particularize as to the life, character, and death of each of our brethren who thus fell, and who have gone to such rewards. Many there were who, without estentation, heroically met the enemy by day and by night, a recital of whose deeds of love would fill volumes. It is not expected that all of these should be mentioned by name; it is not necessary. God knows them, and when this is said all his comprehended. If not a sparrow falls without his knowledge, it cannot be that one of his creatures can lay down his life in the cause of suffering humanity and his devotion not be recognized. I will not be charged, then, with making invidious distinctions when I mention only the names of a few of the brave men who went down in the struggle. And in doing this I feel that an apology is almost due them, lest my words of praise serve to detract from the true measure of their renown.

No words, however carefully prepared and eloquently spoken, can add one tittle to the esteem in which not only our Order but the civilised world holds the memory and character of the heroic Butler P. Anderson. Whenever his name is mentioned every Freemason in the land, and every lover of humanity as well, should stand forth uncovered, and with bowed head reverently thank God that it ever entered into his heart to create such a man, and endow him with such

godlike faculties.

The ties of blood are strong, and are often recognized when we witness the spectacle of man enduring privations, and undergoing great personal inconveniences for the sake of others. Mere pecuniary considerations sometimes incite men to seemingly commendable deeds of love; but when we see a man leave home, friends, relatives, those to whom he is bound by the nearest and closest ties of blood, to fly to the relief of a strange people, and voluntarily lay down his life for them, as did this noble man when the first wave of the rising tide struck an ill-fated but once happy and prosperous little city in an adjoining State who can contemplate the scene and not have stirred within him the deepest and tenderest emotions of the heart? Not for a moment standing to estimate the fearful consequences of the sacrifice he was about to make, but inspired by a zealous desire to aid his dying countrymen, he sped to their relief. By day and by night he softened their pillows, watched by their lonely bedsides and desolate hearth-stones, until he himself fell a victim to the scourge. This real hero died in accordance with the prevailing spirit of his life-in the spirit of prayer to God and of love to man. Well may a nation that watched his dying bed each day with anxious and trembling hearts, say, in the words which the greatest English poet applies to a legendary hero who had been the stay of his people in peril:-

> Nothing is here for tears; nothing to wail Or knock the breast; no weakness, no contempt, Dispraise or blame; nothing but well and fair, And what may comfort us in a death so noble.

His death was shortly followed by that of his bereaved widow, thus leaving in double orphanage the little ones with whom they had been blessed.

But there was another noble spirit lost to earth to whom I will briefly refer, one who had not yet reached the prime of life. Young, generous, courageous, he freely laid down his life that others might The ardent, soul-felt prayers of a loving mother and fond sisters could avail nothing as against the unyielding demands of the despoiler, and thus the kind-hearted Worsham passed away. Edward R. T. Worsham was born on the 24th December 1844, in Cincinnati, and died on the 15th day of September 1878, in the city of Memphis, He was a most devoted zealous lover of Freemasonry, especially of the Orders of Christian Knighthood. By his knowledge of the science and theory of the Order he had attained already its highest honors. He was a member of De Soto Lodge 299, of Memphis. In 1875 he was its Master, having prior to that time filled all the other stations of the Lodge. He was a member of Penn Chapter 22 R.A.M., and of Eureka Council No. 6 Royal and Select Masters, and of Cyrene Commandery No. 3 Knights Templar, all of Memphis, and was frequently complimented with official positions in those bodies. In 1876 he was the E. Commander of Cyrene Commandery No. 3 K.T In 1874 he was elected E. G. Captain General of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee; the next year was promoted to the station of E. Grand Generalissimo. In 1876 he was elected V.E. Dept. Grand Commander, and in 1877, in his own city, surrounded by his friends, and with their unanimous approval, was chosen to the highest and most honourable post in the gift of the Grand Commandery of the State. Long and vividly will the Templars of Tennessee, who were in that hospitable city, remember how the heart of that estimable woman, his doting and affectionate mother, was made glad with rejoicing when the information was communicated to her that her boy, as she fondly called him, had been thus honoured. This exalted position is not often conferred upon one so young; but for twelve months he faithfully met and discharged the duties of the trust committed to him, and at the expiration of his term, in this city last May, surrendered to the same distinguished body which had thus honoured him, untarnished the jewel he had worn. His death will be keenly felt by the Masons of the whole State, but especially of his and when no tempest raged, he is enabled, it may be, to grope in lown city, where he was prompt in his attendance upon the meetings

of the Order, and where he contributed so much to its advancement and prosperity.

I can only mention by name one other fallen hero and martyr, Bro. Dr. James B. Norris, of Chattanooga Lodge, No. 199. Prompted by the same manly instincts which characterised the lamented Anderson, like him Bro. Norris awaited not the coming of the terrible ravager to his own door or that of his immediate neighbours and friends. It was, indeed, heroic for one to meet the destroyer at home, and there defy his power, but it was in the highest degree sublime to see one leave his own home and go away hundred of miles to labour for and die among strangers. Very soon after the people of Vicksburg, Mississippi, were attacked by the plague, they appealed to lovers of humanity for aid, their cries were heard, and prompted by the dictates of a Mason, good and true, one of the first volunteers to go to their relief was this lamented brother. Full of hope for the future, and with promise of a long life of usefulness in his profession, his manly heart gave way under the call for help, though in a distant State, and leaving behind him brilliant hopes, warm friends, a happy home, and tender, loving relatives, he bravely went forth to encounter the fierce pestilence. On the 31st of August he left his home at Chattanooga; the next day he arrived in Vicksburg; was taken sick 6th September, and breathed his last 9th September. O God! can it be that for such martyrs there is beyond this vale of tears no eternal, everlasting rest? Bro. Norris was born near Delaware, Ohio, and graduated from Kenyon College, in that State, in the year 1869. He was educated as a physician at Miami Medical College, Cincinnati. While at this college as a student, he united with the Episcopal Church, and continued a member to the date of his death. From Cincinnati he went to Detroit, and graduated from the Detroit Medical College in 1872, and in the same year located at Chattanooga, and entered upon the practice of his profession. At the date of his death he was a little over twenty-nine years of age. His mortal remains now temporarily rest in quiet solitude in the city of Vicksburg, on the field where he fell, clad in full armour, but his noble spirit is sweetly sleeping in the bosom of his God.

While we strew the graves of our dead brethren who have fallen victims to the pestilence we have described with immortelles, and bid them bloom in perennial beauty and freshness, we must pause at the grave of another brother, and drop a sympathetic tear. on the banks of the great Father of Waters, nor as a victim to any infectious pestilence, but beyond and in sight of the mountains of East Tennessee, which he loved so well, on the 19th day of August 1878, at his own home, surrounded by his loving wife and children, Brother John Fletcher Slover paid the debt to time and mortal custom. This brother needs no introduction to the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. As far back as I can remember, his was a familiar face to this body. In 1854 he made his first appearance in the Grand Lodge as the representative of his Lodge, Meridian Sun, No. 50, located at Athens, East Tennessee. He attended every session of the Grand Lodge from that date to the date of his death-except two occurring during the war, when it was not possible for him to do so -travelling each year for this purpose nearly four hundred miles. In the G.L. he always filled the place of a laborious worker on some one of its leading committees. Modest and unpretending in his demeanour, he was not often found addressing the Lodge, but with a face always beaming with kindness, and generally wreathed with a smile, he preferred quietly to labour with the committees, and there make his influence for good felt. Bro. Slover was born 13th March 1825; was made a Mason in Meridian Sun Lodge, 5th November 1846. In 1859 he was exalted to the Royal Arch degree, and received other degrees subsequently. At the meeting of the Grand Lodge in 1858, he was elected Senior Grand Warden, and the next year was reelected to that office. In 1860 he was made Deputy Grand Master, and was re-elected the following year. Again, in 1864 and in 1868, he was elected to the same position, thus making four terms filled by as Deputy G. Master. As a citizen he was useful and highly e teemed. For nearly twenty years he was Clerk of the Circuit Court of his county, an office for which he was peculiarly fitted, and which he filled to the entire satisfaction of his people. He was a enscientious, devoted Mason, and his loss is not only a grievous one to his immediate family circle, but is a severe one to our Fraternity. The brethren in Tennessee, as in all other jurisdictions, can poorly offord to lose such a man as Bro. Slover from their ranks, and it is of the very utmost concern that we inquire on whom his mantle

I now desire to speak of another brother who died during the past year. On the 17th of June last Brother and Sir Knight David Cook, of Lebanon, crossed over to the shores of immortality. Brother Cook was born 6th September 1795, and was therefore nearly eighty-three years of age at the date of his death. was the oldest Templar in Tennessee, having received the Orders in 1825. For several years he was the Eminent Commander of Baldwin Commandery, No. 7, K.T., and was an active worker in all the other Masonic bodies. His zeal and love for Masonry did not, as is frequently the case with our members, grow less in his declining years, but it was truly said of him that to the date of his death he knew everything in all of the degrees, from the Entered Apprentice to the Knight of Malta. In 1867 he was elected Eminent Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee, and in 1870 was elected Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, which stations he filled for the constitutional term each of one year. The history of this aged brother is finished, and in it there is much to admire, much to emulate.

The grim monster Death has made fearful inroads in our ranks during the past year, and the places of our missing brethren are to be filled by others. We should devoutly pray that there be raised up for these stations men equal to those who have heretofore filled them, who have adorned the Fraternity, and, by the lustre of their names and examples, adorned and elevated Masonry in Tennessee.

Some of those mentioned were active participants in the stirring and sorrowful events of the recent epidemic, and while we detract ling Master.

in no way from them or from their memories, as individuals, we desire to call attention to the fact that they were Masons, and that the Order to which they belonged is entitled to much credit for their deeds of heroism. Masonry claims that its teachings and theories serve but to educate men to the high standard of duty and Christian philanthrophy so beautifully exemplified in the lives of our lamented dead. It is designed that its ritual, its principles and restraints, shall all combine to make men purer and better. The Order would fall far short of its aim and purpose if it failed to develop, among its membership everywhere, large-hearted, liberal-minded, and whole-souled men—men who have only to see and know their duty, and who will at once, at any cost, even of life itself, perform it—men who are the exemplars of that charity which teaches that

The drying up a single tear hath more Of honest fame than shedding seas of gore.

Masonry furnishes us weapons with which not only to successfully combat pestilence, but with which to meet its long train of evil fol-The afterclaps of such an epedemic as the recent one are not its least dreadful features, and these remain to afflict us through many years. How often will it be the case that many sufferers who barely escaped with their lives will find themselves on the ragged edge of want, burdened with expenses which they can poorly afford to meet, their occupations lost, their employers dead, or rendered by the results of the plague too poor to give them employment; widows left without husbands, and orphans without parents, mothers with not sufficient strength themselves work, their little children, who have not tasted food for a day, in the streets begging bread, and crying with hunger as they are refused, cast off, and frowned upon by a cold-hearted world. In the midst of these soul-stirring afflictions, how timely, how grateful, will be the relief afforded by ours and kindred Orders! This terrible affliction has already called forth from our brethren of more favoured communities large contributions, but thank God no draft drawn upon their munificent charity has been dishonoured. The public presses of the land were filled daily for weeks with long lists of gifts and contributions to the sufferers from their sympathising countrymen. Even across the great deep, our wailings were heard and met by generous responses, and for a season the Old World daily poured tribute into our midst. These blessings were public, and necessarily so; but O how much sweeter and more commendable in the sight of Heaven will be the untold, the innumerable contributions of our membeship after the fell destroyer is gone! made, too, without publicity, and with no eye (save the giver and receiver) but Heaven's to witness them. These, indeed, will be blessings in disguise. Masonry, as heretofore, will again demonstrate the fact that it is the friend of the friendless, a husband to the widow, a father to the fatherless, an employer to those who are willing to work, and a blessing to mankind.

It is only a few days since the career of the plague was ended. Fugitives have returned to their homes, which, during the first days of the epidemic, they abandoned hurriedly with heavy hearts; the deserted houses and empty streets of our great cities are again occupied; sundered families, or all that remain of them, are reunited; the hum of industry is again heard, and the casual observer sees nothing remaining to tell the sickening story of the ravages of the destroyer save the long rows of new-made graves, and the still sad and mournful countenances of the hereaved who mourn their absent ones. Again "the solem train of care plods on," and "each one as before chases his favourite phantom." Unseen and unadvertised, Unseen and unadvertised, amid all these things, our brethren are daily called to answer the demands of the destitute and needy. From their inexhaustible mine of charity innumerable wants are supplied, the hungry fed, and despairing hearts made happy. No matter how humble the applicant, nor how often the demand is repeated, by the experience of a past full of renown, reaching so far back that "the memory of man runneth not to the contrary," we know, and can therefore tell with certainty, what the answer will be to every appeal addressed to them for succour.

O glorious Order. How devoted to thee should be thy followers. Standing near the new-made graves of our buried dead, with melting hearts, and eyes overflowing with tears of gratitude for the generous responses made to the demands of our brethren in affliction, with abundant assurance of thy increasing usefulness through all coming ages, we here and now renew our vows of undying constancy to thee and thy heaven born principles, and pray God thou mayest withstand every pestilence and endure for ever; that though

The stars shall fade away, the sun himself Grow dim with age, and Nature sink in years, Thou shalt flourish in immortal youth, Unburt amid the war of elements, The wreck of matter, and the crash of worlds.

The Lodge of Sorrow was then duly closed.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked on Thursday, the 20th, at 7 p.m. punctually, at the Feathers Hotel, adjoining the Great Western Station at Ealing, to and from which there is a convenient service of trains. Several well-known Metropolitan brethren have promised to attend, and from our friends at Ealing we are convinced they will receive a hearty greeting.

The installation meeting of the West Kent Lodge, No. 1297 will take place on Saturday next, the 22nd, at the Forest Hill Hotel, Forest Hill, at 4 o'clock. Bro. Crouch P.M. of the Lodge, and present W.M. of the Burdett Coutts Lodge, No. 1278, will perform the duties of Iustalling Master.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Cor

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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#### FREEMASONRY AND ITS CHARITIES.

HOW THEY ARE CONDUCTED, AND HOW THEY SHOULD BE. To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,-Your correspondent Bro. Charles Perceval certainly makes a rather bold statement when, in his letter last week, he says, that by judicious management of the votes not one of the candidates (for our Schools) need ever have gone away in despair, and I must say I felt some anxiety to know the modus operandic which would bring about so desirable an end. On reading the remainder of Bro. Perceval's letter, I came to the conclusion that that Brother must have been led away by his enthusiasm, or else that, like many inventors, he only looked at the benefits which would arise from the adoption of his scheme, without considering the difficulty of

carrying it into execution.

At the last election of the Girls' School, there were twenty-nine candidates, and, as only four could be elected, twenty-five had to be sent away. Since that time the Committee, according to the reports published in your paper, have additional cases for the April election which brings the number of approved candidates for that ballot up to 48, and this with only 18 vacancies, so that 30 will have to be sent away on that occasion—an increase of five unsuccessful. Surely, Bro. Perceval, under such circumstances, you cannot wish us to believe that any system, save one, which will enable the committee to declare more vacancies, will ever clear off the list. The Boy's School may shew a small decrease in the number of candidates rejected after the April election than was the case in October last; as on that occasion there were 13 vacancies, for which 67 candidates competed, and thus 54 went away unsuccessful. For the April election there are 68, if not 71, candidates, and 16 vacancies, so that on that occasion we shall have to disappoint fifty-two, or it may be fifty-five; if the latter, it will be seen that the result is an increase, although of one only; while if the former proves to be the number, we shall have a decrease of two, at which rate we should be able to appounce "all elected without ballot" some time about the year 2000. I think Bro. Perceval hardly makes out his case.

The other part of his subject is virtually whether it is policy to continue the present system of election by subscriber's own discretion, or by an appointed committee, and I think the case has been frequently decided in favour of combining the present system with

all its abuses and defects.

I beg to remain,

Yours fraternally,

L.G.

#### ROYAL STANDARD LODGE, No 1298.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, -- I have read your report of the meeting of this Lodge, and can hardly agree with you in some of the conclusions you draw.

You say, "it is impossible to form any opinion of the financial state of the Lodge, as no account is given of its assets and liabilities."

Permit me to state that after a thorough examination of the books and accounts by the whole of the auditors, a balance-sheet was prepared, and a copy sent to each member, and in this balance-sheet was shown the assets. The liabilities on the other hand were nil, as the auditors' report read in the Lodge distinctly stated that the Lodge owed nothing to any one.

I agree with you generally that too little information is frequently given to the members of a Lodge as to its solvency, but in the instance of the Royal Standard Lodge this is not so, and I may truly say that since I have had the honour of holding the collar of Secretary, now five years, the members have, at each audit, been fully informed of the state of their affairs.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally.

GEO. S. BIGLEY,

Honorary Secretary Royal Standard Lodge No. 1298

London, 11th March 1879.

The Special Lenten Services at St. Anne's Church, Soho, are now regularly looked forward to. Bach's Passion St. John will be sung during Lent, at 8 o'clock every Friday evening, under the direction of Mr. Barnby, with full by sending stamped addressed envelope to Bro. J. G. Shand (Churchwarden). 2 Albert Mansions Victoria street S W orchestral accompaniment. Admission tickets may be had,

#### EVERTON CHAPTER, No. 823.

THE regular Convocation was held at the Masonic Temple, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Tuesday, the 25th ult. Present.

Comps. T. Shaw M.E.Z., W. Cottrell I.P.Z., J. W. Ballard H., W.

Boulton J., T. Webster S.E., W. Wilson P.S., J. M. King A.S., P. Ball and Comps. G. Turner P.Z., Jesse Banning P.Z. P.P.G.P.S., J. Holland P.Z. P.P.A.S., J. Pendleton, J. Jacobs, E. Morgan, W. T. Everitt, J. A. Barrow, H. Ashmore, J. P. Forster, E. Kelly, J. G. Hassell, D. Callow, W. Brassey, W. H. Russell, Duncan E. Ross, J. D. Griffiths, J. Jenaway, &c., &c. Visitors—Hugh Williams P.Z. 580 P.P.G.S.B., J. W. Burgess H. 1094, John Pemberton P.Z. 1094 P.P.G.S.B., W. Woods 249, R. P. France M.E.Z. 594, Richard Washington P.Z. 1094, Henry Dutton 292, A. Wylie S.E. 292, S. Schonstadt 203, J. T. Callow P.Z. 673 P.P.G.S.B., R. Whiteside 203, T. Gray 220, R. R. Martin P.Z. 1094, D. A. Davis P.S. 1094, J. Harding A. Cotter J. 249, H. Madrell 220, S. M. Davies FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, &c., &c. The Chapter was opened in due and ancient form. The minutes of last Convocation were read and ratified, and with as much despatch as possible Ex. Companion Turner proceeded to instal the first Principal for the ensuing year. Ex. Comp. Banning invested the second and third Principals. The Comps., having been re-admitted, saluted the Chiefs in ancient form, and Ex. Comp. Ballard proceeded at once to invest his Officers, the roll of the Chapter standing as follows:—J. W. Ballard M.E.Z., W. Boulton H., Henry Ashmore J., S. E. Brassey S.E., S. N. Trevitt S.N., J. M. King P.S., D. Callow Trea. Comp. King then invested his Assistant Sojourners, and expressed the pleasure he experienced in doing so. He directed attention to their duties and posts in Chapter and at refreshment, and made Comp. James Pendleton Sen. Asst., and T. Webster the Jun. Asst. This having been accomplished, the ballot was taken for Bros. Asher Hart WM. 724, James Brown 724, J. Sharples 724, and Brother W. Hindhaugh 1490, India. In each case it proved favourable, and these brethren were exalted to the supreme degree of Holy Royal Arch. Nothing can be more interesting in this report than to bear record to the admirable working of Comp. J. M. King, the newly appointed P.S. of this Chapter. The zeal and love of Freemasonry which so strikingly characterizes this worthy Companion is only equalled by his great ability to carry out its teachings, and demonstrate with that dramatic force which illustrates our glorious ritual so charmingly to a beholder. The M.E.Z. performed his part of the ceremony with evident ability, and there is no doubt left on our mind but that he will discharge his duties as ably as any of his gifted predecessors. The lecture of the second Principal was dispensed with, in consequence of Comp. Boulton having to leave through domestic affliction. all heard with sincere regret, and we take the opportunity to tender our warmest sympathy with our worthy Companion. His chair was taken by Brether Banning. The pressure of business and the delay in opening the Chapter prevented the M.E.Z. giving the Symbolic Lecture. The working of the Officers of this Chapter is now and has ever been good, and at next Convocation doubtless each Officer will be at his post in good form to discharge his duty. Before closing the Chapter, Ex. Comp. Ballard presented a magnificent P.Z.'s jewel to the I.P.Z., subscribed for by the Comps. of No. 823. Comp. Ballard presented the jewel with very appropriate remarks, as Comp. Shaw had merited the esteem of the Chapter by his strict puntuality to his duties and indefatigable zeal in the discharge of the same. Comp. Shaw very neatly responded for so valuable a mark of esteem. The M.E. proposed that a letter of condolence be sent to the widow and family of our late Comp. Cuthbert, whose death all greatly regretted, and many deplored. Ex. Comp. Banning seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. The labours of the evening being ended, the M.E.Z. received the hearty good wishes of the visiting Companions, and the Chapter was closed in due and ancient form. By request of the M.E.Z. the Comps. adjourned to supper, when, on removal of the cloth, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were heartily proposed and received. The M.E.Z. proposed the health of Lord Skelmersdale. the R.W. Prov. G. Sup. of W. Lancashire, and the rest of the Grand Officers of Prov. G. Chapter. In offering the toast for the acceptance of the Companions, the Ex. Chief said all Masons in W. Laucashire appreciated his Lordship for his excellent Masonic virtues, and as the head of their Province, but he was highly esteemed by all the Masonic Fraternity because of the deep interest he took in the a vancement of the Craft. He was very pleased to see representative of Prov. Grand Chapter present that evening at his installation, a felt it an honour to unite with the toast Comps. Callow, Burn Holland and Williams, whose names would be warmly welcom all present. The toast was heartily received. Comp. As obliged with a song. Comp. Banning felt proud to respond to Prov. Rulers of the Arch, especially so for their noble Prov. who had endeared himself to all Masons. Comp. Ho land f he returned thanks for the honour done, and was succe Comp. H. Williams, who, in turn, gave way to Com. . Calsaid he had great pleasure in visiting the Everton Chapter: happy to feel that the Comps. were in such pleasing accord w Prov. G. Officers, and trusted it might long continue so, at the Chapter might prosper. This it undoubtedly would do the able ruling of such competent Officers as had that day placed in charge. Companion Principal Sojourner rose to pr the next toast; he said: Companions,-The gavel having placed in my hands, it affords me infinite pleasure to propose toast of the evening, which is the health of our M. Ex. Chiefs. sure I only echo your feelings when I say we have been delighted. well as instructed, by the proofs they each have afforded us evening that they are well worthy of the positions they occupy. 1 (Churchwarden), 2 Albert Mansions, Victoria-street, S.W. of its banner will add additional lastre to its fame. I feel that it is

somewhat presumptive and out of place for a Mason so young as I am to attempt to speak of our Chiefs as they deserve, but this much I will venture to say, that both by report and experience, I have been taught to look up to each one of them as safe and sure guiding stars for an ambitious Mason to steer by should he wish to attain Masonic distinction. I trust they will be spared for many years to come, in perfect health, and that their present year of office may be one productive of good to Royal Arch Masonry in general, and this Chapter in particular. Comps. I ask you to drink to the health of our Most Excellent Chief. The toast was drank with enthusiasm, and full Masonic honours. After Comp. Jacobs had favoured with a song the M.E.Z. rose to return thanks for the honour done him, and the Excellent Comps. in the last toast. Personally, he felt very grateful for the compliment paid by Comp. King. It would be his aim to do his work ably. If he fell short, it would not be through indifference to the claims the Chapter had upon him as its first Principal. He had looked forward for years to the post he now occupied, and felt it to be one of great honour, and as such he would ever esteem it. His desire was to cultivate for the future what had long existed in the Everton Chapter, viz., a correct ritual, well worked. Comp. Banning, in the unavoidable absence of Comp. Boulton, returned thanks for the second Principal, and Comp. Ashmore, on his own behalf, thanked the Comps. for the honour conferred on him in his being elected to the chair of J. He would do his utmost to discharge his duty, and hoped his health would enable him to attend the duties, and when the gloom of this dreary winter had passed, which, he regretted to say, had been productive of death in the homes of many of the brethren, he trusted the spring would again bring all joy and prosperity. Comp. Ballard proposed the health of the Installing Officers, without whose abilities the ceremony would not have been performed with such success. The excellent qualities of Comps. Banning and Turner are well known and appreciated by all, therefore there was nothing requisite but to announce the toast, and ask the Comps. to honour the same in a bumper. This was done with musical honours. Comp. M. Hart kindly favoured the company with a song. Comp. Turner then returned thanks; he was proud of being the first P.Z. of the Chapter. There was no great credit due to him for the performance of any ceremony in the Chapter, he hoped he might long be spared to devote any ability he might possess to the service of the Comps. and the welfare of the Chapter. He was happy to know that the zeal for the Craft and the ability to perform its rites was fully maintained in the Chapter; yet he could not avoid expressing regret that the ability of officers enrolled under 823 was not recognised by the bestowal of that Provincial distinction which ought to be the reward of merit. He did not speak for himself, because he enjoyed the honours which the votes of brethren alone could confer. He congratulated the M.E.Z. on his accession to his high appointment, and felt sure it was a trust reposed in a Comp. well worthy the distinction. Comp. Banning rose with great pleasure to respond to the last toast. He did not expect to be called upon to officiate in the installation that day; however, it would prove an incentive for every Comp. to hold himself in readiness to do what might be justly expected of him. The M.E.Z. rose to propose a toast which in the highest degree would be acceptable to all present. Every one who knew Comp. Shaw the I.P.Z. bore testimony to the fidelity with which he discharged every trust confided to him, and as first Principal of this Chapter he had been greatly esteemed; now that he had passed through its chair he felt sure the Chapter would receive valuable aid. Comp. Shaw was one whom they knew to be capable of rendering it. Therefore he would ask the Comps. to do honour to the toast. At this stage of the proceedings Comps. King, Pendleton and Russell gave a selection from "The Lady of Lyons," much to the enjoyment of those present. The I.P.Z. then returned thanks for the honour done him; he reverted to the tangible emblem of appreciation which he had received in the Chapter. Everything he did was for the best interests of Freemasonry. He had been actuated to do his utmost for the Chapter in the past, and would do so in the future. He hoped to be spared, in health, to render long service to the Everton, and his exertions were at the disposal of the Comps., who had always treated him kindly; both in, and on his retiring from office. The kindness shown him would prompt every officer to secure the esteem of the Companions, who were ready to acknowledge merit so bountifully. Comp. Ballard proposed the health of the Past Principals in a very handsome manner, attributing to their zeal, talents and discipline the splendid legacy of a happy, prosperous and well-worked Chapter. To enumerate the Masonic virtues of one more than another would be invidious in its character, and very difficult to transcribe; all possess such good traits, which make the Masonic heart complete. He therefore called on the Comps. to drink to the very good health of Past Principals Shaw, Cottrell and Holland, as the only Comps. remaining to represent this toast. Comp. Dr. Callow favoured with the next song, and then Comp. Holland returned th the next song, and then Comp. thanks for the Past Principals; he felt the honour of being included in that list. The Comps. knew that every Past Principal had done his duty to the atmost, and would be ever ready to aid with their advice and presence in the well conducting of the Chapter. He congratulated the members on having such able officers filling the chairs; under their administration the dignity and prosperity of 823 would not suffer. Comp. Cottrell followed, to the same purport, after which Comp. Shaw briefly acknowledged the honour done those mentioned in the toast. The M.E.Z. rose with great pleasure to propose the health of the newly-exalted Comps. During the interval Comp. Washington obliged with a song. Comp. Hart, as one of the exaltees, returned thanks; he intimated that he had kept a promise made some time ago that when Comp. Ballard attained the post he now occupied he would seek the mysteries of Holy Royal Arch. Comps. Sharples, Brown and Hindhaugh also returned thanks for the privilege of being exalted. The M.E.Z. rose; as time was on the early in December. With the concurrence of the D.G.M., St. John

held, could not be surpassed. He felt sure that every Officer would efficiently perform his part, as each had competency and zeal to do so. Comp. Jacobs kindly gave the next song, and Comp. D. Callow, Treas., replied, on his own behalf, for the honour done the Officers. He had no ambition for office, but the post of Treasurer he accepted with pleasure; and he would discharge the functions attached thereto with every consideration. On coming into office he was happy to find 93 subscribing members on the roll; a good amount in hand, with a large sum to come in, which he supposed would be received in due time. Comp. King felt very pleased to be invested with his collar. He felt the responsibility of his office, especially as he followed in the footsteps of so competent a Comp. as his predecessor. It was pleasing to say that the further he advanced in Freemasonry, the happier he felt himself; therefore, the duties of office were the reverse of irksome. Comp. Pendleton, as the Assist. Soj.. felt it his duty to aid his Principal, and would do so by making himself proficient. Comp. Webster responded, to the same effect. The M.E.Z. next proposed a toast which he said was always received with acclamation in the Chapter. He had been greatly honoured by so many distinguished visitors at his installation. He could not refrain from expressing his deepest gratitude for their presence. He thanked Comps. Callow, Washington, Williams, Burgess, Davis, Jacobs, Pearson, Madrell, Archdeacon, and many others for their attendance, and trusted that during his year of office they would visit the Chapter as often as possible, as there was always a welcome for them. The toast was heartily drunk. Comp. Williams thanked the members for the kindness shown the Visitors, and angured success for the Chapter in the future, where there was such competency displayed in every office. Comp. Callow thanked the Chief for the kind remarks in reference to himself. He prized the honour conferred on him in the Craft, and congratulated Comp. Ballard on attaining his high office; likewise the Chapter on its being so fortunate as to possess so many talented Officers. He was sure under such rule and assistance the Chapter would continue to prosper. Comp. Pearson was much struck with the ability displayed in the administration of the Chapter; also at the large attendance of Comps. Comp. Washington heartily thanked the Chapter for the very many kind receptions given him. He hoped to be spared to often attend, as there was such mutual accord between his Chapter and the Everton; he trusted it would ever He had been much pleased and edified. Comp. continue so. Burgess endorsed all that had been said by the previous speakers, and intimated that all who favoured his (the Temple) Chapter with a visit would meet with an equally cordial reception, and be as well entertained as on this occasion. What he had seen of the working fally satisfied him as to the future prosperity of the Chapter. Many other Companious returned their thanks for the honour done them, both on this and former occasions, and wished the Everton undiminished prosperity in its glorious career. The last toast of the evening ushcred in the time for separating, and so closed a most delightful evening.

#### STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

And the second s

#### CONSECRATION OF A NEW FREEMASONS' HALL AT PENANG.

DENANG may safely claim the honour of being one of the first places in the Far East in which English Freemasonry was planted; the old Neptune Lodge having been consecrated at an earlier date than either of those now existing in Hong Kong or Singapore. But like most of our colonies and dependencies in this part of the world, the foreign community is a very transient one, and subject to continual change. In consequence of this, the Neptune Lodge, which at one time had a goodly number of members on its books, but who unfortunately, were for the most part military, nonresident or sea-faring—fell into abeyance, and ultimately died a natural death, prior, we believe, to 1863, the year in which the revision of numbers took place. For about thirteen years-although the Craft was fairly represented amongst the European portion of the population—this "fair isle" was destitute of a Lodge. In 1875 efforts were made to establish one; the usual petition was drawn up and signed, and the R.W.D.G.M. Eastern Archipelago granted a dispensation, empowering the petitioners to meet as a Lodge, and appointing W. Bros. R. C. Woods, A. Ainslie and T. A. Fox to act as W.M., S.W. and J.W. respectively. The warrant of the new Lodge bearing the name and number, Royal Prince of Wales 1555, is believed to have been almost, if not the very first signed by our Royal Grand Master after his installation to the high office he now holds; it being dated 5th July 1875. The cremony of consecration ·forme on the 4th )ecemb Right Worshipful Bro. W. H. Read D.G.M. Eastern Archipelago, and the W.M. and Officers for the ensuing year duly installed and invested. Since that time, notwithstanding frequent changes in the list of its members, the young Lodge has enjoyed a prosperous career. One great want, however, was always felt-a proper place of meeting. The rooms temporarily hired were singularly inconvenient, both as regards construction and locality; moreover, the rent demanded was far too exorbitant. At the close of 1877 a suggestion was made that a hall should be built, and at the commencement of the new year three or four brethren, with a princely liberality, subscribed more than half the amount required; the example of generosity shown by them was speedily followed, and contributions soon poured in from all sides. Some delay was caused by the difficulty of obtaining a suitable site, but this was eventually got over, and the work of erection commenced at last in real earnest, and was completed wing he briefly but very cordially proposed the health of the Officers; the Evangelist's Day (27th December 1878) was fixed for the cere-he paid a just meed of praise to Comp. King P.S., whose working, he mony of consecration and dedication. On that day, the members of

the Lodge and visiting brethren, in consequence of the remote distance of the old Lodge Room from the New Hall, assembled at the house of Bro. A. Huttenbach, which, on account of its convenient situation, he had most kindly placed at the disposal of the R.W.D.G.M., who, on arrival, shortly after three p.m., was received with all dno honours. A temporary or occasional Lodge was then formed, duly tyled, and opened in the first degree. A procession was formed in the order prescribed by the Book of Censtitutions; the several Lodges (with their banners) were duly represented, and the places of absent District Grand Officers were temporarily filled by brethren appointed by the D.G.M., and the brethren moved in full costume towards the New Hall. After the brethren had taken their places in the Lodge Room, the solemn and impressive ceremony of consecration was proceeded with. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. T. A. Fox S.W. was inducted into the Oriental Chair of K.S., with the usual mystic rites and ceremonies, by the D.G.M., assisted by the R.W. Bro. F. H. Gottlieb P.D.D.G.M. The brethren were recalled, and the W.M. was saluted in the three degrees, after which he appointed and invested his Officers as follows: -Bros. D. Comrie S.W., G. Lavino J.W., A. Huttenbach Trea., J. M. Anthony Sec., G. Griffin S.D., H. T. Newton J.D., J. A. Sandilands Stoward, W. Spencer Organist, R. Dennard I.G., E. S. Cohen Tyler. The Lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet. room, where, under the presidency of the R.W.D.G.M., ample justice was done to the good things provided. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and an agrecable and pleasant evening was passed. On the 31st December a grand ball was given in the banquet-room in honour of the opening of the new Hall, which was honoured by the presence of the Hon. the Lieut.-Governor (Colonel Anson, R.A.), Mrs. and Miss Anson, many of the leading residents, both official and private, Masonic and non-Masonic. The decorations were magnificent, and what further added to the success of the affair was the presence of the band of the 28th Regiment, which, through the kindness and courtesy of the commanding officer, had been sent from Singapore for the occasion. At midnight the dawn of the new year was heralded by a splendid display of firoworks; the guests then retired to supper, after which dancing was resumed and continued till the small hours of morning. To W. Bro. Fox and the committee appointed to carry out the arrangements too much praise cannot be given for the satisfactory manner in which everything passed off. St. John the Evangelist's Day 1878 will hereafter be a red-letter day in the memories of the Freemasons of Penang. Lodge Royal Prince of Wales is yet in its infancy, but it numbers in its ranks many brethren of zeal and ability, who have the highest interests of the craft at heart, by whose exertions it has overcome grave difficulties in the past, and by whose presence and assistance it may hopefully look forward to a bright future. Clinging to the traditions of the past and closely adhering to the ancient landwarks of the Order, we trust that in years to come this Lodge may rise to rank and eminence on the long roll of the Grand Lodge of England. So shall the work now consummated bring forth good fruit in due season, and the labours of those who bore the heat and burden of the day-labours dedicated to the glory of T.G.A.O.T.U. and the interests of our beloved Order-will not have been in vain.

> "Hence, midst the ruin of three thousand years, Unhurt, unchang'd, Freemasonry appears; Her fair towers and monuments may fade away, Her truth and social love shall ne'er decay."

The first annual ball of the Burdett Coutts Lodge, No. 1278, took place on Wednesday, at the New Manor Rooms, Mare-street, Hackney. A select party of brethren and ladies were present, and spent a very enjoyable evening, all seeming alike anxious to add to the comfort of their friends. We understand that the result, financially, is such as will enable the Committee to place a goodly sum on the list of Bro. Crouch, their W.M., who is acting as Steward for the Lodge; this will serve as an incentive to renewed efforts in years to come. Bro. Sturtevant, the Hon. Sec., and the Board of Stewards deserve thanks for their efforts to make the ball a success, and we hope the Lodge will long have their assistance in any cause it may undertake.

The regular meeting of the The Great City Lodge, No. 1,426, was held on Saturday, 8th inst., at the Cannon-street Hotel. A report shall appear in our next issue. We must ask the indulgence of the members until then.

A dramatic performance under the auspices of the members of the Mersey Lodge, No. 477, in aid of the funds of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, London, and of the Cheshire Masonic Educational Institution, has been fixed to take place on Wednesday the 26th inst., at the Theatre Royal Birkenhead.

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#### THE EARL OF CARNARVON.

T the regular meeting of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, No. 1642, held at the Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, on Thursday, the 13th inst., Bro. W. J. Murlis P.M. Hon. Sec. reported that, in accordance with the vote of the Lodge at its provious meeting, he had sent, in the name of the members, a letter of congratulation to the Pro G. Master on his marriage, and that he had received a reply from his, Lordship, thanking the members, and expressing the interest he felt in the Lodge. Both of these letters were then read, and on the proposition of the S.W. Bro. E. M. Lander, seconded by Bro. W. Stephens P.M., were ordered to be recorded on the minutes of the Lodge. We are compelled to hold over our report of the other proceedings of the evening, in consequence of the pressure on our space. Among other items it was proposed, and carried unanimously, that a letter be sent to the Queen, in the name of the Lodge, congratulating Her Majesty on the marriage that day of her son, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught; the members, meeting on the wedding-day of their Royal Brother, desiring to offer testimony of their fraternal regard. We append a copy of the letter sent to the Earl of Carnaryon, and his Lordship's reply thereto.

[COPY].

154 Lancaster-road, Notting-hill, W., 20th January 1879.

To the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvou, K.G., Pro G. Master, G.M. of Somersetshire, &c., &c.

MY LORD,—At our last meeting of the Earl of Carnarron Lodge 1642, it was duly proposed and carried unanimously in open Lodge assembled, that the congratulations and greetings of the members of this Lodge should be sent to your Lordship upon your recent marriage, wishing you very many years of happiness.

I am sure your Lordship will excuse me, as a Somersetshire man, if I give you a brief description of this young and prosperous Lodge, bearing your esteemed name, and, by your kindness, the coat of arms used on all our notices of meetings.

This Lodge was consecrated 4th November 1876, the writer being the first W.M. and a Founder; we now number 70 members, nearly all highly respectable men and masons of Kensington. We have four honorary members who are officers of Grand Lodge.

It will, I am sure, be most gratifying for your Lordship to know that the first year of the Lodge's existence a Steward went from this Lodge for the Girls' Masonic Institution, taking up £150. Last year a Steward for the Aged Masons' Institution with £276, and this year no less a sum than 300 guineas; 200 guineas is already subscribed towards that sum.

While we have much to be thankful for, I feel quite sure you will never regret this Lodge bearing so good a name, which we all trust will never be tarnished, but always remain as bright and prosperous as we have begun.

Apologising for troubling your Lordship with such a long letter, I hope you will receive the hearty congratulatious of this Lodge.

I remain,

Your Lordship's humble

And obedient Servant,

W. J. Murlis,

Hon. Sec.

[Corr.]

Highelere Castle, Newbury, 27th January 1879.

SIR,—I have received with very much gratification your letter of the 21st., and I request that you will take the earliest opportunity of expressing to the brethren of the Carnarvon Lodge how sensible I am of their kindly feeling towards me.

I appreciate much the evidence of friendliness and regard which your letter contains.

I have read with great pleasure the satisfactory account which you gave me of the progress of the Lodge, in which, both on its own account, and as bearing my name, I shall always feel an interest.

I remain, Sir,

Yours very faithfully,

CABNARVON.

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#### LIST OF PORTRAITS.

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THE TREASURER

(Bro. F. Adlard, P.M. and Treasurer Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, No. 7).

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#### MARRIAGE OF THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, PAST S.G.W.

THE marriage of our royal brother with the Princess Louise Margaret, daughter of Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia took place at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, on Thursday; the ceremony being one of great splendour. The guests from London reached Windsor a little after eleven, by special train from Paddington, and at once proceeded to the Castle, the streets being lined by the Berkshire Volunteers under the command of Colonel Loyd-Lindsay, V.C., M.P. Within the gates of the Castle the Rifle Brigade formed a guard of honour, Captain Burnell in command. Shortly before twelve the organ at St. George's Chapel pealed forth the Minuet from the Overture to Samson, Sir George Elvey presiding at the instrument, and the officiating clergy took their place within the rails of the altar, the building by this time being filled in all parts, except those reserved for Her Majesty and the principal visitors. The wedding guests having left Windsor Castle by the State entrance, proceeded down Castle Hill, attended by a detachment of Royal Horse Guards, and entered the Chapel from the cloisters; Handel's march from "Hercules" being played during their progress up the Chapel. Among the party were the Princess of Wales, with her three daughters, and Prince George of Wales; the King and Queen of the Belgians, Princess Frederick Charles of Prussia, mother of the bride, accompanied by her son, Prince Frederick Leopold, the Crown Princess and Prince William of Prussia following; the Duke and Duchess of Teck, Prince of Leiningen, Princes and Princesses Philip and Augustus of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief escorting the Duchess of Edinburgh, Prince and Princess Christian, the Maharajah and Maharanee Duleep Singh, &c. Those forming this

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procession having taken their seats, the Lord Chamberlain and Lord Barrington returned to the State entry to await the arrival of Her Majesty, whose coming was shortly announced by the cheers of the assembled multitude. The Queen was accompanied by the Princess Beatrice and Prince Albert Victor of Wales. Shortly after the arrival of Her Majesty, the cheers of the people announced the appearance of the bridegroom, who was attended by his brothers, the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh. The bride was the next to arrive, Her Royal Highness being escorted by Lord Hertford and the Vice-Chamberlain. The father of the bride marched close by her on the one side and the Crown Prince of Germany and Prussia on the other. On reaching the dais she was met by the bridegroom, and the couple knelt before the altar. The ceremony was commenced by the Archbishop of Canterbury and carried out without interruption. The Primate having given the benediction, the bride was saluted by her mother and the Queen, and the happy couple returned to the Castle, amid the thunder of artillery and rounds of applause from the multitudes in the streets. The other guests followed. Later in the day the Duke and Duchess left for Claremont.

## COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Committee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was hold and Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held on Wednesday, in the Board Room, Freemasons' Hall. There were present Bros. Col. Creaton (in the chair), Griffiths Smith, Raynham W. Stewart, Dr. Jabez Hogg, L. Stean, J. M. Case, S. Rawson, A. H. Tattershall, R. Warner Wheeler, F. Adlard, C. A. Cottebrune, Edgar Bowyer, William Stephens, Thomas Cubitt, J. G. Stevens, James Brett, Charles Lacey, James Willing, W. Hilton, W. F. Nettleship, and James Terry (Secretary). Bro. Terry reported that three of the annuitants had died. Grants were made to some widows of half their late husband's annuities; and after the discussion of a new petition, and authority given to the chairman to sign cheques, Col. Creaton gave notice of a motion he would make at next meeting, to raise the Secretary's salary £100 a year. It was resolved to invite the Stewards of the late Festival of the Institution to pay a visit to the annuitants at Croy. don, and the proceedings were concluded with the usual compliment to the Chairman.

#### ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.

#### Provincial Grand Lodge of Lancashire and Cheshire.

MEETING of this Provincial Grand Chapter and Lodge was A held at the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on Thursday, 6th March 1879, at three o'clock in the afternoon. The R.W. Bro. R. H. Hutchinson Prov. G.M. presided, supported by the following present and P. Prov. G. Officers-Bros. C. Fitz Gerald Matier Dep Prov. G.M., G. P. Brockbank P. Prov. S.G.W. as Prov. G.S.W. Thos. Entwisle P. Prov. J.G.W. as Prov. J.G.W., John Chadwick Prov. G. Sec., John Duffield Prov. G. Treas., Thos. Chorlton P. Prov. G.W. of T., Samuel Spratley Prov. G. Marshall, Jack Sutcliffe Prov. G.B.B., J. McKie Prov. G. Recorder, and Geo. Mellor, R. Butterworth, Townsend, Jaffrey, Cumberland, Hoffgaard, Pollitt, &c., &c. Visitor-Rev. W. Spencer Stanhope. The minutes of the last meeting of the Prov. G. Chapter and Lodge having been confirmed. The ballot was taken for Captain Murphy of the Barracks, York, Major Henry Plass of Goeddinog, Bangor, and Thos. S. Ainsworth of Blackburn, which resulted in the unanimous election of the candidates. These brethren being in attendance were introduced, and admitted to the degree of H.D.M. by their respective characteristics, the ceremony induction being presided over by the Deputy Prov. G.M. Bro. Matie the T.W.R. guarded by Bro. Chorlton, Bro. Spratley being G.Marsha; the lectures given in extenso, the Warden chairs occupied b Bros. Brockbank and Entwisle.

A Provincial G. Lodge of Knights of the R.S.Y.C.S. was forthwit opened, and the brethren before-named, being admitted, were presented to the Prov. G. Master, and by him exalted to the rank of Knights of the R.S.Y.C.S. Bros. Geo. Higgin: and R. McE. Smitt were appointed auditors of the accounts for the past year. Bro. J. Duffield was manimously re-elected Prov. G. Teasurer. The annual meeting and Festival was fixed for Thursday the 3rd July. At the conclusion of business the brethren adjourned to bauquet, which was presided over by the Prov. G. Master, after which the usual Loyathousts were given. Bro. Matier proposed the lealth of the Prov. G. Master, and expressing a hope that he might hong be spared to give the benefit of his services to the Order. Bro. Hutchinson in reply warmly thanked the brethren for their kindness, and expressed himself much indebted to the various Officers who so efficiently supported him in the discharge

of his duties. Bro. Chorlton proposed the health of the Deputy Prov. G.M. Bro. Matier, and remarked that the formation of the Prov. G. Lodge and its continued prosperous existence, had been mainly due to the zeal and ability with which Bro. Matier had conducted its proceedings, his unvarying promptitude in attending at the meetings, and his felicitous rendering of the quaint and interesting ritual of the Order. Bro. Matier in reply expressed his thanks to the brethren for their kindness to him on all occasions he had to come amongst them; he stated that he had now served as Deputy to the three Provincial Grand Masters, the first, a Lancashire man, known to all the Province as a sterling man and Mason, honoured and respected by everybody, viz., Bro. W. Romaine Callender, who died in harness as Member of Parliament for his native city of Manchester. The second, the kindly, benevolent and genial Bro. John Sutcliffe, whose death so soon after his appointment was so deeply to be deplored; and lastly, Bro. Hutchinson, who now ruled the Province, and long might be continue to occupy and adorn the position. Bro. Matier intimated that he thought some other brother should now be called upon to occupy the position he filled, as his residence was some considerable distance from the Province, but he would always give to the Order and the Province a loyal and earnest support. The Prov. G.M. proposed the health of Bros. Brockbank and Entwisle, and the past Officers of the Prov. G. Lodge; he warmly thanked those brethren for regular attendance and assistance at all the ceremonials of the Order. The toast having been suitably responded to, the Candidates was proposed and responded to by Bros. Ainsworth and Major Platt. The Masonic Charities were recognised, and the Visitors kindly remembered. The last toast was given at 9 p.m., and the pleasant meeting termi-

## BRO. HENRY MURRAY'S READING OF "OTHELLO."

LARGE number of the members of the Order, many of whom wore Masonic decorations, and their friends assembled in the Masonic Hall, Birmingham, on Thursday evening, 6th March, to listen to a reading of Othello by Right Worshipful H. Murray. To attempt to sustain the attention of an audience for over two hours by a simple reading, no matter how splendid the subject, is at all times an ambitious task, Bro. Murray, however, acquitted himself to the complete satisfaction of his numerous hearers in his delineation, by the music and variation of the human voice, of the varied characters and passions in the tragedy of Othello. In the first act the scenes in which Roderigo, Iago, and Brabantio take part gave a fair specimen of Bro. Murray's elocutionary ability. The lines of Roderigo were read lightly, and the interpreter did not fall into the common error of making Roderigo, who is simply a foolish gentleman, into the stage buffoon. Iago was a blunt soldier, and only in the last scene of this act did the audience get the first glimpse of the subtle villain who is to wreck the happiness of the noble Moor. In this act the reader gave special prominence to the speeches of Brabautio, the powerful grief of the wronged and deceived father being rendered with telling effect, and receiving hearty marks of approval from the The fine speeches of Othello before the Senate were delivered with much taste, not in a loud tone, but with a voice capable of great modulation. The quiet dignity of manner was improved by the skilful use of emphasis in some of the best-known passages, the words of which are probably as well known to a Warwickshire audience as to the elocationist himself. The reading of the second act was chiefly noticeable for the accomplished manner in which the chief character in the play was brought into his place, the speeches of Othello being rendered with increasing power, and eliciting hearty applause. The story of the confiding and weakminded Cassio's temptation to drink by Iago was also a cleverly rendered scene, the part of the Moor's lieutenant being given with taste, and the subtle craft of his tempter showing in well-defined contrast. The closing speech of the wily Antient was read with spirit, which finely illustrated the hidden hatred rankling in his breast. The third act, always a favourite with readers and audiences, showed Bro. Murray to full advantage. The well-known lines in which the Moor is first taught to suspect the fair Venetian whom he has made his wife were not given, as we are so apt to hear them on the stage, in the half hiss, half whisper of the melodramatic villain, but in a subdued conversational tone, every word having its due effect and significance, whilst the gradual breaking of the meaning of the story on the mind of the Moor was shown with a quiet power which was fully acknowledged by the stillness of the audience during the long scene. All through Iago never let his triumphs appear, but was the plain blant soldier and the seeming friend. Nor did Othello's grief take the form of boisterous rant, but was portrayed with a sympathy which was effective because it was natural. When at last, h wever, the full light of his position is realised, then Bro. Murray rese to the occasion, and the burst of passion at the end of the third are showed that the read r possessed a reserve of dramatic power which the andience had not suspected. The spirit of this scene was finely illustrated, and the dramatic vigour of the reader was heartily applauded. Much of the four hact was omitted-the incident of the handkerchief and the parts of Desdemon and Emilia were equal to any part of the reading. The opening speech in the fifth act was a masterpiece of pathetic el cution-in fact, it was the gem of the entertainment, every word having its full weight in each sentence, and the deeply sympathetic tone pictured finely the storm of passion and pity struggling for ma tery in the bosom of the Moor. death of Desdemona, and the poetical justice which is meted out to the fiendish Iago were also very effective. The final speech of Othello was the signal for long continued applause, in response to which Bro. Murray thanked his audience for the attention they had given to his efforts, and trusted that that evening would be" the fair beginning of a time," and that he should be again permitted to read to Birmingham audience, whose kindnes he should long remember.-

#### 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, 15th MARCH.

198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.) 1329—Sphinx, Surroy Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E. 1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Marc-street, Hackney. 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7. (Instruction.) 1732—King's Cross, Metropolitan Club, King's Cross. Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.

#### MONDAY, 17th MARCH.

MONDAY, 17th MARCH.

1—Grand Master's, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
45—Strong Man, Sportsman, City-road, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
185—Tranquillity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
186—Industry, Bell Tavern, Carter-lane, Doctor's-commons, at 6.30. (Instruct.)
548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction.)
704—Camden, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8. (Instruction.)
720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
1260—John Hervey, Albion Hall, London Wall, E.C., at 7.30. (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. (In.)
1623—West Smithfield, Now Market Hotel, King-st., Snow-hill, at 8. (Inst.)
17—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend. 1625—West Smithfield, Now Market Hotel, King-st., Show-nill, at S. (Inst.)
1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road. (Inst.)
77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
331—Phœnix of Honour and Prudence, Public Rooms, Truro.
359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
382—Royal Union, Belmont Hall, Uxbridge.
224—Borough, Half Moon Hotel, Gateshead.
466—Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Baron, Northampton.
622—St. Cuthberga, Masonic Hall, Wimborne.
725—Stoneleigh, King's Arms Hotel, Kenilworth.
823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
925—Bedford, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham.
934—Merit, Deeby Hotel, Whitefield.
985—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Holbeach.
1030—Egerton, George Hotel, Wellington Road, Heaton Norris, near Stockport 1037—Portland, Royal Breakwater Hotel, Portland.
1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.
1170—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
1199—Agriculture, Honey Hall, Congresbury.
1208—Corintbian, Royal Hotel, Dover.
1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8 p.m. (Instruction.)
1502—Israel, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
R. A. 130—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Shoffleld.
R. A. 302—Charity, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford.
R. A. 482—St. James, New Inn, Handsworth.
R. A. 1051—Rowley, Atheneum, Lancaster.
M. M. 141—Skelmersdale, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
K. T.—Edmund Plantagenet, Knowsley Hotel, Haymarket-street, Bury.

#### TUESDAY, 18th MARCH.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.

30—United Mariners. Guildhall Tavorn, Gresham-street, E.C.,

55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7. (Inst.)

65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)

73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.

95—Eastern Star. Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.

141—Fatth, 2 Westminster-chambers, Valtora-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)

177—Domatic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

194—St. Paul, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.

554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney. (Instruction.)

753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, S.. John's Wood, at 8. (Inst.)

857—St. Mark, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.

860—Dalhousie. Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)

1360—Roval Arthur, Prince's Head, Battersea Park, at 3. (Instruction.)

1420—Earl Spencer, Swan Hotel, Battersea Old Bridge, S.W.

1446—Mount Edgeumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)

1471—Islington, Three Bucks, 23 Gresham-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)

1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-st.-rd., at 8. (In.)

R. A. 933—Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.

R. A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 8. (Instruction.) Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4. R. A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 8. (Instruction.)

117—Wynnstay, Raven Hotel, Shrowsbury, at 8. (Instruction.)

213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatro-street, Norwich.

241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.30. (Instruction.)

248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon.

384—St. David, Masonic Rooms, Bangor.

414—Union, Masonic Hall, Reading.

418—Menturia, Mechanics Institute, Hanley.

469—Light, Great Western Hotel, Birmingham.

667—Alliance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.

820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

960—Bute, Masonic Hall, 9 Working-street, Cardiff.

1062—Callender, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

1089—De Shurland, Fountain Hotel, Sheerness.

1113—Anglesca, Bull Hotel, Llangefni.

1276—Warren, Stanley Arms Hotel, Seacombe, Cheshire.

1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.

1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle.

1473—Bootle, 146 Berry-street, Bootle, at 6.0. (Instruction.)

1531—Concord, George Hotel, Prestwich. 1473—Bootle, 146 Berry-street, Bootle, at 6.0. (Instruction.)
1531—Concord, George Hotel, Prestwich.
1551—Charity, Masonic Hall, New-street. Birmingham.
1570—Prince Arthur, 140 North Hill-street, Liverpool.
1764—Eleanor Cross, Masonic Hall, Abington-street, Northampton.
R. A. 419.—St. Peter, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhamp on.

#### WEDNESDAY, 19th MARCH.

Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, W.C. at 6. Grand Stewards' Lodge, Freemasons' Hall, W.C. 173—Sincerty, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C. 174—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
190—Oak, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7. (Instruction.)
201—Jordan, Devoushire Arms, Devoushire-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
228—United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8. (In.)
535—La Tolerance, Green Dragon, Maddox-street, W., at 7.45. (Inst.)
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E., at 7.30. (Instruction)
813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. at 8. (Instruction.)
862—Whitington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8. (Instruction.)
1186—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7. (Instruction.)
1196—Urban, The Three Bucks, Gresham-street, at 8.30. (Instruction.)
1278—Burdett Coutts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8. (Inst.)

1288—Finsbury Park, Earl Russell, Isledon-road, Holloway, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8. (Instruction.)
1553—Duke of Connaught, Faunce Arms, Kennington Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1673—Langton, London Masonic Club, 101 Queen Victoria-street, E.C.
1707—Eleanor, Angel Hotel, Edmonton, at 8. (Instruction.)
R. A. 177—Domatic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8. (Instruction) 1673—Langton, London Missonic Club, 101 Queen Victoria-street, E.C. 1707—Eleanor, Angel Hotel, Edmonton, at S. (Instruction)
R. A. 177—Domatic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8. (Instruction)
20—Royal Kent of Antiquity, Sun Hotel, Chatham.
121—Mount Sinai, Public-buildings, Penzance.
110—St. George, Trafalgar Tuvern, Greeuwich.
175—East Medina, Masonic Hall, John-street, Ryde, I.W.
200—Old Globe, Private Rooms, Globe-street, Scarborough.
221—St. John, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall Square, Bolton.
325—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Islusjon-square, Salford.
428—Sincerity, Angel Inn, Northwich, Cheshire.
451—Sutherland, Town Hall, Burslem.
537—Zetland, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
581—Faith, Drover's Inn, Openshaw.
691—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury.
692—Cotteswold, King's Head Hotel, Cirencester.
684—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction.)
683—Itsa, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
683—Itsa, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Nowport, Monmouthshire.
823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
683—Itsa, Freemasons' Hall, Liverpool.
874—Holmosdale, Royal Sussex Hotel, Tunbridge Wells.
889—Dobie, Griffin Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames.
938—Grosvenor, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham.
969—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Workington.
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction.)
1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.
1040—Syke, Masonic Hall, Drillield, Yorks.
1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hull, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
1129—St. Chad's, Roebuck Hotel, Rochdale.
1161—De Grey and Ripon, Denmark Hotel, Lioyd-street, Greenheys, Mancheste
1164—Eliot, Private Rooms, St. Germains, Cornwall.
1129—St. Chad's, Roebuck Hotel, Rochdale.
1161—De Grey and Ripon, Denmark Hotel, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Inst.)
1443—Salem, Town Hall, Dawlish, Devon.
1317—Anchor, Masonic Room, Bradford-road, Brighouse,
1337—Anchor, Masonic Room, Bradford-road, Brighouse,
1335—Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster, Liverpool, R

#### THURSDAY, 20th MARCH.

House Committee, Girls' School, at 4.

3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8. (Instruction.)

15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

23—Globe, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)

63—St. Marv, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8. (Instruction.)

169—Temperance, White Swan, High-street, Deptford.

181—Universal, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

211—St. Michael, George, Australian Avenue, Barbican, E.C., at 8. (Inst.)

435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Inst.)

754—High Cross, Couch and Herses, Lower Tottenham, at 8. (Instruction.)

813—New Concord, Guildhall Tavern, Grest un-street, E.C.

1139—South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.

1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park.

1287—Great Northern, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

1319—Frans, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)

1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, E.C. at 6.30. (Instruction.)

1475—Peckham, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell

1614—Covent Garden, Ashley's Hotel, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, 8. (Inst.)

1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate, Clerkonwell, at 9. (In.)

R. A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's-Wood, at 8. (Inst.)

48—Relief, Albion Hotel, Haymarket-street, Bury, Lanc.

48—Industry, 31 Deguark-street, Gatesham, (Fatterstice) R. A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at S. (Inst.)

M. M.—Duke of Connanght, Havelock, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.30. (Inst.)

42—Retief, Albion Hotel, Haymarket-street, Bury, Lanc.

48—Industry, 34 Denmark-street, Gateshead. (Instruction.)

56—Howard, High-street, Arundel.

98—St. Martin, Town Hall, Burslem.

100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Quay, Great Yarmouth.

203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.

268—Union, Queen's Arms Inn, George-street. Ashton-under-Lync.

343—Concord, Militia Officers' Mess Rooms, Starkic-street, Preston.

345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Church-street, Blackburn.

367—Probity and Freedom, Red Lion Inn. Smallbridge.

523—John of Gaunt, Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, Leicester.

600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.

605—Combermere, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe.

663—Wiltshire of Fidelity, Town Hall, Devizes.

1011—Richmond, Crown Hotel, Blackfriars-street, Salford.

1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.

1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

1299—Pembroke, West Derby Hotel, West Derby, near Liverpool.

1327—King Harold, Britannia Hotel, Waltham New Town.

1332—Unity, Masonic Hall, Crediton, Devon.

1332—Fitzalan, Wynnstay Arms, Oswestry.

1512—Hemming, Lion Hotel, Hampton.

1412—West Middlesex, Feathers Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

R. A. 204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.

R. A. 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool

R. A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool

R. A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool

R. A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Caledonia-road, Batley.

K. T.—Albert, Masonic Rooms, 23 Ann-street, Rochdale.

K. T.—William de la More, Town Hall, Bootlo.

#### FRIDAY, 21st MARCH.

House Committee, Boys' School, at 4.

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. 8. (Inst.)

834—Ranelagh, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-road. (Instruction.)

902—Burgoyno, Red Cap, Camder Tovn, at 8. (Instruction.)

933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction.)

1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction.)

1158—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)

1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, N. at 8. (Instruction.)

1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)

1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

1842—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-rd. N. Kensington, at 7.30. (Inst.)

London Masonic Club Lodge of Instruction, 101 Queen Victoria-street, E.C., at 6.

R. A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8. (Inst.)

K. T.—St. George, Albion, Aldersgate-street, E.C.

127—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate.

127-Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate. 152-Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

347—Noah's Ark, Wagon and Horses Hotel, Tipton.
516—Phænix. Fox Hotel, Stowmarket.
541—De Loraine, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne
780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
993—Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme.
1096—Lord Warden, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal.
1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.
1393—Hamer, Musonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
1644—Alma Mater, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham.
General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, Now-street, Birmingham, at 7.
R. A. 403—Hertford, Shire Hall, Hertford.
R. A. 631—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.
R. A. 837—Marquess of Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.
R. A.—General Chapter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham, at 5.30.
K. T.—Jacques de Molay, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
R. C.—Talbot, Freemason's Hall, Sheffield.

#### SATURDAY, 22nd 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.

1464—Erasmus Wilson, Pier Hotel, Greenhithe.
1531—Chislehurst, Bull's Head Hotel, Chislehurst.
1777—Royal Hanover, Town Hall, Hounslow.
R. A. 308—Affability, Station House Hotel, Bottoms, Stansfield.

#### NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Fidelity Lodge of Instruction, No. 3.—A meeting was held on 6th March, at the Yorkshiro Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-square. Present—Bros. Koester P.M. W.M., H. Ash P.M. S.W., Besley J.W., Cook Sec., Sibley S.D., Burgess J.D., S. Read I.G. Maclaren Tyler. Lodge was opened in due form, the minutes read and confirmed. The Fifteen Sections were worked as follows: FIRST LECTURE-Bros. R. T. Cook, P. Recknell, J. W. Smith, Knight, R. T. Cook, H. Ash, Koester. Second Lecture-Burgess, Koester, Koester, H. Ash, H. Ash. THIRD LECTURE-R. T. Cook, H. Ash, Koester. Lodge was resumed to the first degree. It was proposed by Bro. Cook, seconded by Bro. Maclaren, that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to the W.M. for the very able manner in which he had presided over the Lodge throughout the eveningcarried. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed in perfect Harmony.

Kent Lodge, No. 15.—At Freemasons' Hall, Great Queenstreet, on Wednesday last. The meeting of the Lodge was called for 5 p.m. At six, but seven brethren, including one Visitor, were present. The W.M., after complaining of the absence of most of his Officers, and every one of his Past Masters, except the Treasurer and Secretary, bravely proceeded to open the Lodge. The minutes of the last meeting and Auditors' report were confirmed. By the latter there appeared a balance of £126 in favour of the Lodge. About £30 to the Benevolent Fund, a satisfactory feature being that during the past year £45 was voted to the Institutions. The next business was to confer the Third Degree upon Bro. A. Wiley; the W.M., though evidently suffering from indisposition, performing the ceremony most creditably. At this point a number of brethren entered, amongst whom were Past Masters S. Wharman, H. Martin, J. P. May, James Pinder. Mr. Thomas Borer having been ballotted for, was duly initiated. The W.M. again did his work well, but it must be stated that with the exception of Bros. Levy and Wells, the Masonic education of the rest of the Officers seems to have The W.M., after stating that physical been sadly neglected. suffering, to which he has been subject for many weeks past, alone had prevented him from perfecting himself so as to do justice to the ceremony of Installation, and that upon his request Bro. Pinder had kindly consented to act as Installing Master, -vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Pinder, who at once warmed to his work, and installed Bro. C. Ginman, the W.M. elect, according to ancient custom, in a manner rarely surpassed. The last address, which is in itself an epitome of Masonic principle, was rendered with a simple eloquence which rivetted attention, and at the conclusion induced cordial applause. Even Past Master May's general taciturnity forsook him for the time; it made him rise, and in a few well chosen words, he complimented Bro. Pinder, and moved a vote of thanks to that Brother, to be entered on the minutes. This was seconded and unanimously carried. Bro. Pinder baving expressed his thanks, the Lodge was closed. Previous to that the new W.M. invested his Officers as follow:—C. E. Ball S.W., W. Levy J.W., J. Sleeman P.M. Treas., W. P. Dukes Sec., S. P. Lipscombe S.D., E. A. Wells J.D., A. Posener I.G., E. P. Barlow P.M. (in his absence) Steward. A. Wiley D.C. The Visitors present in the Lodge were-T. Robertson 1538, T. Harmer 1426, J. Morton 91, T. C. W. Penn 171, W. Brooks 545, A. Chishelm 1602, G. Clark 1662, E. Gottheil P.M. 185. The brothren proceeded to the Holborn, where ample a freshment awaited them, and when it is added that besides the ger rous hospisality of the Kent Lodge, Bro. Hamp, the courteous man jer, was there personally to superintend, it will be understood that othing was wanted to bring the evening to a successful end. But, alas! for human hopes and desires. The cup of joy must have its drop of gall. Everything went on well until Bro. Pinder, spe king in response to the health of the Past Masters, took the oppor unity to say that some personal friends, members of the Lodge, being desirous to testify their esteem for Bro. J. H. Cambridge, the retiring W.M., had thought fit to supplement the usual P.M. jew il which had that evening been presented by the Lodge, by a silve salver, upon which was inscribed :- "Presented to Bro. J. H. Can ridge P.M. No. 15, in testimony of the energy and ability displayed by him during his year of office, 12th March 1879." Upon this the & orm, the symptoms of which were discernible even in the Lodge, brol 3 loose, a venerable

he and his compeers were actuated in creating the hubbub. Of course there was an end to the harmony of the evening, and without waiting for the conclusion of the fraternal strife, which, from what is known of the generally genial dispositions of the brethren of the Kent Lodge, was doubtless at last amicably arranged, and inexorable time having arrived to nearly 11 p.m., with many toasts still to be done, your reporter, who has an absolute horror of late hours, quietly slid away.

Strong Man Lodge, No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 6th instant, at Masons' Hall, Mason's avenue, Basinghall-street, under the presidency of Bro. A. W. Wing. who was efficiently supported by the following brethren:—Symons S.W., Halle J.W., Dyer P.M. Sec., Follett P.M. Treasurer, Cordingly S.D., Horne J.D., Dean I.G., Steed Tyler, W. A. S. Humphries D.C., Defriez I.P.M., and Past Masters Vass, Moss, Driver, Pilbeam; with a fair assemblage of brethren. Visitor-A. W. Fenner S.D. 1227. Lodge was opened in ancient form. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. Sharpe, who was a candidate for Masonic light. This proved in his favour, and he, being in attendance, was initiated into the mysteries by the W.M., in a very impressive manner. business was the election of W.M. for the ensuing year; this proved unanimous in favour of the S.W. (Bro. Symons). The Treasurer was unanimous in favour of the S.W. (Bro. Symons). re-elected, and a show of hands resulted in Bro. Stood being re-elected Tyler; after which the statutory number of auditors was proposed and elected. A small sum was voted out of Lodge funds to a distressed foreign brother. Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony, and adjourned. A substantial supper was provided for the brothren, which was duly appreciated. On the cloth being removed, the W.M. proposed the loyal toasts, in a condensed form, the Initiate's toast was responded to by Bro. Sharpo in a neat speech. The health of the W.M. was received with great cordiality by the brethren; in acknowledgment, the W.M. descanted upon the high honour of being W.M. of one of the oldest Lodges in London, more particularly as the Lodge had obtained the Centenary Jewel during his Mastership; in obtaining which he had exerted himself, and he was proud at being successful in his endeavours. He assured the brothren he would ever use his influence in furthering the interests, as well as sustaining the high honour of the Strong Man Lodge. The Visitor's toast was proposed in a very flattering speech; eulogising the good which emanated from brethren attending Lodges of Instruction, particularly the one working under the authority of Strong Man Lodge, of which Bro. Fenner was Secretary. The W.M. also strongly exhorted those brethren who were anxions to work up in the beautiful rituals of Freemasonry to attend Strong Man Lodge, where they would attain all the knowledge they required. Bro. Fenner, in thanking the W.M. and brothren for the kind manner they had received the toast, observed that he had obtained all the knowledge he possessed of Freemasonry by assidnously attending Lodges of Instruction; he should feel very proud to enrol the names of any brethren present on the list of members of the Strong Man Lodge of Instruction. The P.M.'s health was proposed by Bro. Wing, who referred to the valuable assistance he had received, and thanked them very much; the toast was received with acclamation. Bro. Defriez I.P.M., responded; he remarked that this was the last time he should have the honour of holding the position of I.P.M.; after that evening he would have to retire and take "a back seat;" he assured the brothren that should ever his services be required in the Ladge, he would cheerfully give them. He congratulated the brethren on having such an excellent Master to preside over them. The health of the W.M. elect, Treas., and Sec. was then severally proposed and honoured. The Tyler's toast brought an enjoyable evening to an end. The following brethren contributed to the evening's amusement:-Bros. Symons, Halle, P.M. Defriez, Neil, Bigg, and the Initiate, who favoured the company with a French ditty.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—At Bro. Spurgin's, the Sportsman, City-road, on Monday, the 10th inst. Present:—Bros. Gush W.M., Wing S.W., Fox J.W., Tolmie Preceptor, Fenner Secretary, W. Rowley S.D., Gyer J.D., Hallam sen. I.G., also Bros. Trewinnard, Hirst, Powell, William, J.W. Smith, Pelikan, Simpson, Gieseke, Lane, Byott, Humpbrey, Ross, Gibbs, Payne, Balls, Cleverly, Isaac, &c. Lodge was opened and the minutes were read. Bro. Willison proved his efficiency, was entrusted, and in due course passed to the degree of F.C., by the W.M., who performed this duty in a very effective manner. The W.M. worked the first and second, Bro. Fenner the third, Bro. Isaac the fourth, and Bro. Tolmie the fifth sections of the Lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was resumed, and Bros. Lane and Gieseke of the Upton Lodge 1227 were elected members. Bro. Wing were elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A vote of thanks was awarded to the W.M. for presiding, for the first time, after which the Lodge was closed and adjourned.

Ancient Ebor Preceptory, No. 101. (K.T.)-The annual meeting of this body for the installation of E. Preceptor took place at York on Tuesday last. The Precoptory was opened by E. Sir Kut. Wm. Valentine E.P., who was ably supported by several of his Officers and members, many however not being able to be present through illness. Comp. J. F. Taylor having been installed a Knight of the Order, the Precepter Elect, Sir Knt. J. S. Cumberland, was introduced and duly installed in the chair, the ceremonies of the evening being worked by E. Sir Kut. T. B. Whytehead P.E.P. G. Capt. of Guards Eng. The E.P. then appointed his Officers as follow: --Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett C., Geo. Simpson M., P. H. Rowland S.M., Rev. W. Valentine Chap., T. B. Whitehead Reg., A. G. Duncombe Herald, J. G. of which were discernible even in the Lodge, brol a loose, a venerable Croft Sword Bearer, C. Palliser St. Bearer, G. H. Simpson Org., M. Past Master taking the lead, and although tryin his utmost to conditional tryin bis utmost to conditional tryin bis

dence reposed in him. The Registrar stated that the certificates of hon, membership had been supplied to all those who had been elected both in America and in England, and had been much admired. Amongst the visitors present were E. Sir Knights W. Hill Sub. Prior of West Yorkshire, C. L. Mason E.P. Fidelity (Leeds), S. E. Scanor P.E.P., W. Beanland P.E.P. Faith (Bradford), Andrews P.E.P. and several others. A Priory of Malta was opened at the close of the Preceptory, and E. Sir Knight Cumberland was installed as E.P. by E. Sir Knight Whytehead. The members and their visitors afterwards met at supper, and passed a most enjoyable evening.

Lodge of Peace, No. 149, Meltham.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday, 8th March 1879, in the Masonio Rooms. Present-Bro. A. W. Derbyshire W.M., H. W. Wrigley S.W., James Haigh P.M. as J.W., D. Wood P.M. Treasurer, C. H. Redfearn P.M. Secretary, William Sugg S.D., John Heywood J.D., James Wilkinson P.M. as I.G., John Kenyon P.M. Tyler, David Cairns I.P.M., W. Haigh P.M., Charles Rayner P.M., Edwin Foster, J. W. Sykes and other brethren. After the minutes of last Lodge meeting had been read and confirmed, Bro. Charles Rayner P.M. rose and said: Worshipful Master and Brethren,-We are assembled here this evening under mournful circumstances. "In the midst of life we are in death;" "Man that is born of a woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery; he cometh up, and is cut down like a flower; he fleeth as it were a shadow, and never continueth in oue These are solemn and impressive words, which are used in that grand old Church of England burial service of ours, and I think that they are not inappropriate for use on the present occasion. We had a startling proof of their truthfulness whilst assembled round the festive board at our last Lodge meeting, for it was then that we received the telegram from our absent W.M., informing us of the unexpected death of our lamented Bro. George Haigh P.M. and Whilst acting as his S.W. during his year of office as W.M. of this Lodge, I had many opportunities of eulogising his Masonic zeal and eminent talents. And now, brethren, as a last tribute of respect to his memory, and as a mark of our deep and heartfelt sympathy with his sorrowing widow in her bereavement, I take this opportunity of proposing that a letter of condolence be sent to her, expressive of that sympathy. In taking upon myself to do this, I feel sure that my action is in harmony with your own feelings, and that my proposition will meet with your entire approbation and receive your warm support. The loss to his widow is no ordinary one. She has been deprived of her partner in life, and the father of her children; the sharer of her sorrows and her joys; and although he has left wealth behind him, he has also left behind him a proportionate amount of care, anxiety, and responsibility, much of which must of necessity fall upon her. As we all know, our deceased brother has been a most successful man in life. It was in the year 1858 that he first commenced business on his own account, at the age of 21 years; he was then a poor man, comparatively speaking. In the year 1878, after a lapse of 20 years, he was generally acknowledged to have been one of the most successful woollen cloth manufacturers in the Huddersfield district. But, alas! After only five short weeks of the new year 1879 had passed, he had to succumb to a dire disease, which had seized upon him with unrelenting severity, and carried him off at the early age of 41 years. The best medical skill was of no avail to stop the progress of that fell disease. He was cut off in in the very flower of manhood — in the prime of life. died, in full harness; his hands filled with the chief control and principal management of large concerns of various kinds. Since our last Lodge meeting his remains been committed to the grave, and we shall never more hear his voice within these walls. We shall never again have the opportunity of evjoying such happy, social evenings with him in this room as those which some of us have reason to remember so well. But although his body is now enclosed within the cold tomb, we have a sure and a certain hope that his spirit bas ascended to that magnificent temple from whence all goodness emanates. It can truly be said of him that he was both a great and a good man. He could not boost of a high classical education, but he was a man that had great aptitude for self-improvement. His leisure hours were spent in pursuits of an intellectual and an elevating kind. His energy of character, his quiet and unobtrusive perseverance in any thing that he took in hand, and his well-known general abilities won for him the confidence, respect, and admiration of all who knew him. Ontside his family circle his loss will be severely felt, not alone by us, but by hundreds of other people, some of whom were his bosom friends, others who were intimately acquainted with him in business, and other matters, and a great many who had had the good fortune to participate in the great benefits which he had been the means of bestowing upon the village of Sla hwaite. His Masonic career, like his general career in life, has been a successful one. He was initiated into Masonry in this room, by Brother nitiated into Masonry in Doctor Haig P.M., in July 1869. He was possed in August, and raised in September of the same year, I believe by the same brother. In 1870 he did duty for Bro. Preston as I.G., an I was appointed S.D. for 1871. In 1872 he had no office, but he was always ready to take the place of any Officer who might happen to be absent. He was appointed J.W. for 1873, S.W. for 1874, and was unanimously elected W.M. for 1875. The same year he was appointed a P.G. Steward, and a Steward for the R.M. Benevolent Institution. During his year of Office as W.M. he had two initiations, two passings, and two raisings, and received great praise for the able manner in which he performed the ceremonies. I followed him in the W.M.'s chair for 1876, and he was I.P.M. It was during this year that the movement was commenced, and successfully carried out, of establishing a new Masonic Lodge at Slaithwaite. It was consecrated at the end of the year, on the 23rd December, by the W.D.P. Grand Master Bro.

Tew, J.P., under the name of Colne Valley Lodge, No. 1645, and I had the honour of installing him as the first W.M. In the year 1877 introduced and initiated into our mysteries by the W.M., who perhe was appointed P.G.D. of C. During the first two years of the formed the ceremony in a most perfect manner. Lodge was then

existence of the Colne Valley Lodge his duties in connection with it as W.M. and I.P.M. were very arduous. He himself performed no less than 45 ceremonies, besides taking part in others in which I and several friends went over to give him assistance. He had 13 initiations, 21 passings, and 11 raisings, the whole of which ceremonies he gave in a most efficient manner, and with remarkable impressiveness. The last time that he attended this, his Mother Lodge, was at the Festival of St. John's, and the installation of his friend Bro. Derbyshire as W.M., on the 21st of last December. I have now traced his Masonic career in detail up to the end of 1878, and the beginning of 1879; a career which, for its energy and usefulness we may say has been an extraordinary one. In conclusion, brethren, seeing that our dear departed brother is now no more—that it has pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to take him away from us, let us never forget that we too have but a short time to live. Let us ever remember that-

> "A few more years shall roll, A few more seasons come, And we shall be with those that rest, Asleep within the tomb."

And when that great day shall arrive, let us all hope, aye, and fervently pray, that we may be found with him in that Grand Lodge above where the world's great Architect lives and reigns for ever. The motion was seconded by Bro. H. W. Wrigley S.W., and feelingly supported by Bro. Edwin Foster and the W.M.

Humber Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 182, Hull.—The regular meeting of this very prosperous Lodge was held on Tuesday last, the 11th inst. Bro. Preston W.M. occupied the chair, and was supported by the following Officers: -Bros. Boggett I.P.M. P.P.G.S.O. Lincolnshire, T. Thompson S.W., M. Haberland J.W., J. Wilson Treas., E. Kidd Hon. Sec., C. W. Cheesman Org., J. D. Wing S.O., J. R. Ansdell J.O., G. D. Storry S.D., F. Lancaster J.D., B. Cohen I.G., T. Taylor Steward; Bros. T. Proctor, G. Wilson, T. MacKaill, &c. Visitors—Bro. C. F. Matier P.G.W. of England, Bro. Potter, and Bro. Stevens No. 12. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the meeting, and Lodge of Emergency, altering the days of meeting from the second Tuesday to the second Thursday in every month, were read and confirmed. The ceremony of advancement was then worked by the W.M., assisted by Bro. Boggett P.M. The Lodge was then closed, when the brethren adjourned to a banquet, provided by the Chief Steward. After the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts had been duly honoured, Bro. C. F. Matier proposed success to the Mark Benevolent Fund, and made an earnest appeal to the brethren for support. Bro. Boggett P.M. responded, and stated that it was his intention to represent the Humber Lodge at the next Festival; he hoped the brethren would give him the same support they did on previous occasions, this being the third time he had served as Steward. The result was the brethren subscribed £5 as a start for Bro. Boggett's list.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—On Wednesday, at the Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street, Bro. D. Moss W.M., Thos. Wm. Bono S.W., G. S. Walker J.W., Smith S.D., Woodward J.D., Bush Treas., J. K. Pitt Sec., Biddle I.G., Christopher Tyler. The Lodge was opened in due form with prayer. The minutes were read and confirmed, Bro. Pitt offered himself as a candidate for passing, and the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony. The W.M. worked the sections of the degree, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Bone, the S.W. was elected W.M. for next Wednesday. The Lodge was closed in due form with prayer, and adjourned to Wednesday, 19th March, at 7 o'clock.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—On Saturday, the 8th instant, at Bro. Fysh's, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road. Present Bros. Lewis W.M., Brasted S.W., J. Lorkin J.W., Pearcy Preceptor, R. H. Halford Treasurer, A. W. Fenner Sec., Cuthbertson S.D., Byott J.D., Gilham I.G.; also Bros. Stock, Williams, T. Goode, Ross, Braud, J. Millington, Byng, Garrod, Phillips, Fysh, Forss, Killick sen., H. P. Isaac, H. Hall, C. K. Killick jun., Trewinnard, and others. Lodge being opened, the minutes wer read. Bro. Brand answered the questions in a satisfactory manner, was entrusted, and in due course passed to the degree of F.C. Aro. Brasted worked the first, Bro. Pearcy the second sections of the Lecture. Lodge was closed in the second degree. A presentation of a testimonial, together with a handsome gold ring and set of studs, was then handed, by Bro. R. H. Halford, the Treasurer of the Lodge of Instruction, to Bro. C. K. Killick jun.; he tendered the gift, in the name of the Lodge, as a testimony of the high esteem in which Bro. Killick is held by its members. Bro. Killick returned thanks in an eloquent speech. Brasted was unanimously elected W.M. for next Saturday; and a vote of thanks was cordially given to the W.M. for the very efficient manner he had filled the chair of K.S., this being his maiden effort in any Lodge, for which he returned thanks. Lodge was then closed, and adjourned.

St. Michael's Lodge, No. 211.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, on Tuesday last. The Lodge was opened by Bro. Alfred Withers the W.M., who was supported by Bros. Alfred Green I.P.M.; P.M.'s John Laver, C. Greenwood Treasurer, G. Parsons; W. Radcliffe S.W., Dr. Waters J.W., W. W. Morgan Secretary, Usher Bach S.D., W. E. Young J.D., F. Hentsch I.G., T. C. Speight Tyler; Bros. Peirce, Martin, Green opened in the second and third degrees, and closed down to the first. The initiate of the evening was then re-admitted. Bro. P.M. Laver reported that he had paid over to a distressed brother the amount of £2 2s which had been voted at last meeting. After other routine business, Lodge was closed. The brethren afterwards partook of light refreshment, and spent an hour in social converse.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—On Tuesday last, at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston. Bro. Wardell W.M., Polak S.W., Smyth J.W., Lovelock S.D., J. Lorkin J.D., Clark I.C., Dallas Sec., Smyth Treas., P.M. Brasted Preceptor; Bros. Wyman, Christian, Collins, Weige, Forss, J. Lorkin, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting confirmed. W.M. worked the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Carr as candidate. Bro. Carr answered questions leading to the second degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. Bros. C. Lorkin worked the first section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was closed to the first degree. Bros. C. Lorkin worked the first and second sections of the Lecture, assisted by the members. Bro. Polak was elected W.M. for next Tuesday evening. The Annual Supper will take place on the 25th inst. at eight o'clock precisely.

Wandsworth Lodge of Instruction, No. 1044.—There was only athin attendance at the Spread Lagle Hotel, Wandsworth on Tuesday. This is to be regretted, as the Lodge has an able and willing Preceptor in Bro. J. G. Carter, and is also now in possession of a complete set of working tools. The brethren present were:-Bros. J. Frost W.M., A. N. Newens S.W., J. J. Holland J.W., P. V. Denham S.D., W. A. Morgan I.G., A. B. Blackmore, F. Reed, and A. A. Denham, &c. Bro. Frost was complimented for his working of the first degree, with Bro. Blackmore as candidate. The W.M.'s chair was then taken by Bro. W. A. Morgan (the W.M. of 1044), who ably rehearsed the second and third degrees, Bros. Blackmore and Reed being the candidates. Bro. A. N. Newens was unanimously chosen W.M. for the ensuing meeting.

Gilbert Greenhall Lodgo, No. 1250.—The regular monthly meeting was held at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, Warrington, on Tuesday the 11th inst. Present:-Bros. D. W. Finney P.G.S. W.M., T. Auckland S.W., T. Sutton J.W., Spencer Wallhead Sec., J. H. Galloway Treas., T. Hutchinson J.D., W. Bolton as I.G., W. H. Cropper Organist, T. Domville Tyler. Past Masters Bros. P. J. Edelston, R. Brierly, W. S. Hawkins, W. Richardson, and Bros. J. Smethurst, J. R. Jones, J. O'Brien, J. Baird, A. Potter, W. H. Jenkins, J. Hannah, Geo. Mackey, F. Wall, W. Reid, F. Massey, W. Taylor, A. F. G. Potter, A. G. Webster, T. Barber, J. Farrington, &c. Visitors:—T. Jones 241, S. M. Davies Freemason's Chronicle. The Lodge was opened with solemn prayer, and the minutes of last regular meeting were read and ratified. The W.M. informed the brethren of the progress made by the committee appointed to further the means of attaining a new Masonic temple or hall in Warrington. Matters of a private nature were discussed, and a sum of two guineas was voted from the funds of the Lodge for a benevolent purpose, in which was exhibited the generous disposition of the brethren and thus realising the universal aspect of Masonic benevolence. The business of the evening being ended, the Lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren, by request of the W.M., adjourned to supper. The repast was well served, and every brother was amply provided with those good things which makes the recipient truly thankful. After grace, the cloth was removed and the W.M. proposed the toast of the Queen; followed by that of H.R.H. the Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family; both toasts were duly and loyally The next toast which Bro. Finney had the pleasure to propose related to the Sovereign Head of the Craft, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and it mat with a cordial reception. The W.M. had now the gratification of directing the brethren to their own Province; without making a speech, he would briefly call the attention of those present to the nobleman who ruled over their Province. It was cheering that the appreciation of the brethren for the services of Prov. Grand Officers was well deserved, therefore the W.M. called upon the brethren to drink to the health of Lord Skelmersdale Prov. G.M. West Lancashire, and Prov. G. Officers Past and Present. The toast was heartily received, after which Bro. Cropper kindly favoured with a The W.M. next proposed a very important toast; one which would have the cheerful appreciation of all. He felt highly favoured to-night in having the presence of their estimable P.M.'s, who were ever ready to do their utmost for the good of the Lodge, and were capable of rendering such aid to a Lodge as made its administration happy and complete. He was proud of their company, and very grateful for the invaluable assistance they had given him. He asked st of the P.M.'s heartily, and he called on Bros. Hawkins and Richardson to respond. The toast was very warmly received. Bros. Jones kindly favoured with a song. Bro. Hawkins deferred making a speech; the time was rapidly passing away when many must leave by train. He thanked the W.M. for the kind expressions towards the P.M.'s; he duly appreciated the kindness of the brethren in responding to the toast. Bro. Brierly also returned thanks; he was very pleased to see so many brethren together in accord and harmony. Bro. Richardson was gratified at the evening's proceedings. The honour done the toast shewed great kindness on the part of the brethren. He had felt happy in attending the Lodge during the past years, and would continue to do all he could for its welfare in the future. It now afforded him great pleasure to propose a toast which would be acceptable to all. Every Stocks, of 1250 knows how ably the Worshipful Master does his duty; vices since its constitution in 1876." Several letters were real, many with despatch, yet with due consideration and courtesy. He asked the brothren to drink to the health of the worthy Master. (Bro. J. P. Bell), the Prov. G.S., and other leading Masons, expressing the brothren to drink to the health of the worthy Master. to propose a toast which would be acceptable to all. Every brother

the warm reception given this toast. He was glad to state that the Lodge progressed favourably. The prosperity of 1250 did not depend on the increase in its numbers. The main object to be looked at was to promote harmony of feeling and perfect accord in administering the affairs of the Lodge. These objects he had tried to carry out, and he would continue to cultivate and mature them; he hoped his successors would study the same good purpose, and transmit it to future generations. He exhorted every brother to cultivate, and practise daily, with all they may come in contact, the true and noble principles taught in the Craft. No Mason could err in following the precepts of Freemasonry. He finally rejoiced in the knowledge that there was good material to make a strong and well working Lodge, and to those at present holding office he looked with great hope; as he bore testimony to the efficiency and zeal with which they all, from the S.W. downwards, did their work. He therefore asked the brethren to receive the toast of the Officers of the Lodge, which he proposed with great pleasure, and trusted they would drink it with all honours. This was done, and three times seven were given. Bro. Webster kindly favoured with a song, and then Bro. S.W. expressed his thanks for the kind manner in which the toast had been received. mised to do all he could to further the interests of the Craft; indeed, this would be his chief study. Bro. J.W. expressed his readiness to advance the interests of the Lodge. He was happy Bro. J.W. expressed to corroborate what had been said; the Lodge was happy in itself, and in all its members; each was in perfect harmony with the other; this could not well be otherwise. Bro. Treasurer was much gratified with the remarks of the W.M. He felt proud of the Lodge, which in his opinion was equal to any he had ever visited. The duties devolving on him were carried out to the best of his ability and cheerfully, and the little he could do would be done with pleasure. Richardson and Cropper followed, and each expressed his entire concurrence in the sentiments of the previous speakers. Both expressed their readiness to do all they could to facilitate the harmonious working of the Lodge. Bro. Sutton proposed the health of the Visitors, in his usually happy and genial manner, and Bros. Jones and Davies responded. Bro. Richardson, by permission of the W.M., assumed the gavel, and proposed the toast of the Masonic Charities; these he designated as the brightest gems of our Order. With reference to the Provincial Charity, there were a goodly number of supporters in the Lodge, and he hoped others would follow the example set, as it was patent that by the united efforts of the many a great boon could be conferred on those who required aid in time of need. This appeal was crowned with success, as a few additional subscribers were added, and the toast was heartily drank. The Tyler's toast was called for and given, after which the brethren separated, very much pleased with a most enjoyable evening.

Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611.—On Monday last there was an unusually large gathering of members and visitors at the Queen's Hotel, York, the attraction being a Masonic presentation to be made to the I.P.M. of the Lodge. Bro. J. S. Camberland W.M. presided. supported by his Wardens, Bros. C. G. Padel and J. T. Seller and the rest of the Officers; whilst among the many members and visitors present we noticed Bros. T. Cooper P.M. P.P.G.D.C., W. Beanland P.M. P.P.G. Supt. Works, A. Buckle W.M. York 236, W. C. Lukis W.M. 837, G. Balmford P.M. and Treasurer, C. Foster P.M., with other brethren from Manchester, Lancaster, Leeds, &c. The first business was the raising of Bro. York to the third degree, the ceremony being worked by the W.M., and the traditional history, tracing board and tools explained by the I.P.M. A sum of £5 5s from the Lodge Benevolent Fund List was voted to be paid in to the name of the W.M in recognition of his services in the cause of the Charities, and the remainder was ordered to be expended in votes for the support of the Lodge's candidate at the next election. The W.M., in thanking the brethren, took occasion to mention the services in the same cause of Charity of Bro. George Simpson M.C., who had served as Steward during the first year of the Lodge's existence, and had taken up a most handsome list under circumstances of special difficulty. W.M. then said that he had a most pleasing duty to perform, that of presenting their I.P.M. Bro. T. B. Whytehead with a beautiful P.M.'s jewel, on behalf of the members of the Lodge. He need not enlarge upon the services their brother had rendered to the Lodge, for they were well known, but he might say, for the benefit of the younger members. that Bro. Whytehead had probably done more for the welfare of the Lodge than any other member of it. The W.M. concluded by calling upon Bro. T. Cooper, the first P.M. of the Lodge, The W.M. concluded to affix the jewel to Bro. Whytchead's breast, which was done amid the hearty acclamations of the brethren. Bro. Whytehead, in thanking the brethren, said he was at a loss for words to express the feelings with which he regarded the kind recognition of his services by the brethren of his Lodge. Some of the happiest hours of his life had been spent amongst the members he now saw surrounding him, and he always felt that the sympathy and kindly feeling engendered in that Lodge enabled its members to carry out with them periodically into the world a fresh supply of those pure teachings which were the backbone of Masonry. In working for the prosperity of one Lodge, he felt that they advanced the cause of the Order generally, but whilst labouring in that noble field, in its widest sense, he could never forget to reserve a warm corner in his affections for the little Eboracum and its brethren. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a capital supper, after which the usual toasts were duly proposed and honoured, and songs and speeches enlivened the evening. The presentation jewel was of gold, and bore the following inscription:-"Presented to Bro. T. B. Whytehead P.M. Prov. G.D.C. by the members of the Eboracum Lodge No. 1611, in recognition of his services since its constitution in 1876." Several letters were read, from The toast was received with Masonic honours. Bro. Jenkins kindly regret at being unable to be present, and speaking in high terms favoured with the next song. The W.M. briefly returned thanks for of the recipient of the jewel. Bro. W. J. Hughan also forwarded,

through the W.M., his congratulations, and a framed copy of his nent, they have an assistant in the Bromley St. Leonard's Lodge. blazon of arms of the Freemasons for presentation to Bro. Whyte-

West Middlesex Lodge of Instruction, 1612.—The usual weekly meeting was held at the Feathers, Ealing, on Thursday the 6th inst. Present-Bros. Gunner W.M., Seward S.W., Burr J.W. Clark S.D., Gasson J.D., Fernee I.G.; also Bro. Tucker Preceptor and Treas.; and Bros. Wilton Stephens, Youens, Wills, Murch, &c. After preliminaries, the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Youens candidate. The Lodge was called off for refreshment, and on resuming Bro. Preceptor Tucker took the chair, and the Lodge having been duly opened in the superior degrees, at the request of the W.M., performed the ceremony of raising, Bro. Youens candidate; Bro. Tucker also delivered the lecture on the tracing board of the degree. The Lodge was closed down to the first degree, and the W.M. having resumed the chair, Bro. Seward was elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, No. 55.—Held its meeting at Bro. Bond's, The Bedford Hotel, Southampton Buildings, Holborn, on Tuesday 11th March. Present—Bros. W. G. Dickens W.M., R. P. Tate S.W., J. S. Brown J.W., H. C. Soper S.D., Kendall J.D., T. B. Dodson I.G., P.M. Bingeman Preceptor; Bros. Cornu, Todd, Jackson, Tompkins, Jones, White, May, Gruggen, and upwards of 30 other brethren. The Lodge was opened in the several degrees, the minutes read and confirmed, and resumed to the first. The following brethren then assisted the W.M. in working the 15 sections-1st, T. Gates; 2nd, J. Soper; 3rd, T. B. Dodson; 4th, E. Abell; 5th, J. H. Watts; 6th, H. C. Soper; 7th, J. G. Thompson; 8th, S. Pownceby; 9th, W. H. Marston; 10th, R. P. Tate; 11th, J. Bingemann; 12th, J. S. Brown; 13th, W. II. Marston; 14th, J. S. Brown; 15th, II. R. Hallam. The Lodge was resumed, and Bros. C. Kendall, Sedgwick, Rosenberg, Toupkins, Snowden, Ray, Willey, Press, and G. Kendall were unanimously elected members. A vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded on the minutes, and honorary Membership conferred on Bro. W. G. Dickins for his working of the 15 sections; and, on the proposition of the W.M. a vote of thanks was passed to those brothren who had assisted him. The Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony, and adjourned to Tuesday, 18th March, at the hour of seven, on which occasion Bro. J. Soper will preside, and work the third ceremony.

Grey Friars Lodge, No. 1101.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 12th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Reading. Present—Bros. William George Flanagan W.M., John Early Danks S.W., Wm. Ferguson J.W., Wm. P. Ivey P.M. Sec., E. J. Blackwell S.D., R. Dowsett J.D., J. H. Hawkes Steward, Rev. R.C. Honey I.G.. P.M.'s Bros. Welch I.P.M., Hurley, Margrett. Members—Bros. Pully, Bailey, Hunt, Prickett, Tegg, Cordrey, Ravenscroft. Visitors—Bros. C. Oades W.M. 414, S. Bradley S.W. 414, M. J. Withers Sec. 414, T. McDonald 1076. The Lodge was opened in the first degree. The minutes of the last regular Lodge were read and confirmed. The candidates for initiation, for the second time, did not put in an appearance. Bro. Ravenscroft having proved his efficiency, was entrusted and retired. Lodge was opened in the second, and Bro. Ravenscroft was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The Lodge was resumed in the first degree, the Secretary produced the returns for the Clerk of the Peace, which were signed by the W.M. In consequence Lodge in the province of Kent, had it included in his list. W.M. of 414, Bro. Charles Oades, announced that he had been requested by the widow of late Bro. Botly to return her sincere thanks to the members of 1101 for their kind sympathy in attending the funeral. Bro. Lodge was closed, according to ancient form.

and send such a communication to a local newspaper, which, how- he gave the final toast. ever well conducted in other matters, has little experience of Freemasonry, and still less the need to take pains to get the letter widely circulated and made as public as possible. With the view of satisfying ourselves on the point, we decided to pay an early visit to No. 1805; and, if possible, form an unbiassed opinion on the subject. We therefore had pleasure in attending the first regular meeting on Wednesday. The result is, we are convinced the charge made by members of No. 1805, against the writer, of unmasonic conduct is a justifiable one, and that his remarks as to their Lodge were altogether uncalled for. During the evening reference was made to the matter, but all remarks tended to prove that 1805 entertained no feelings of rivalry or jealousy towards its neighbour, but would really be pleased to help them, and work with them in promoting the welfare of Free-masony. If the members of 1804 are only actuated by as worthy motives as are their neighbours of 1805, we feel sure their Lodge

Any one who is acquainted with the founders of this Lodge will agree with us they are not the class of men to profess one thing and act in direct opposition thereto. We are therefore the more annoyed that our columns, which are at all times open to free and fair discussion, have, on this occasion, been made use of in order to serve the purpose of a correspondent who, for some pique of his own, has made a most unmasonic statement. We would advise him to look round, and see what he now can do to atone for the insult he has offered. Bro. Marsh P.M. 9, 933, 1672, the W.M. of the new Lodge, presided on Wednesday, the meeting taking place at the Black Swan Tavern, High-street, Bromley. He was supported by Bro. C. H. Webb W.M. 1607, S.W. 174, who assumed the collar of Past Master; Bro. G. Robey S.W., W. Brambam J.W., J. M. Knight Treas., W. J. Rawley Sec., R. T. Fennell S.D., A. Peterken J.D., M. Liell I.G., and the following Visitors:—Bros. G. J. Hilliard P.M. and J. Wilson 17t, T. West 700, J. B. Hogarth 1107, W. W. Morgan jun. 1385, J. H. Bellamy 1567 and W. Clarke 1625. The usual preliminaries having been observed, the ballot was taken for five gentlemen for initiation, Messrs. John McLaren, George Morton, Robert B. Brinkley, James Bryant and Georgo Bond. It being unanimous in their favour, they were severally initiated by the W.M., who throughont the ceremonies was ably assisted by the various Officers. A vote of condolence with the widow of the late Bro. Clarke, who recently met with an accident, which terminated fatally, was proposed from the chair and unanimously passed. Two candidates for joining were proposed, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to suppor, which was provided by the host, Bro. Morton, in a most creditable manner. After grace had been said, the W.M. proposed the Loyal toasts, which, to save time, he on this occasion united. These having been heartily received. Bro. Webb offered that of the W.M. Although a visitor to the Lodge, he had the pleasure of acting as its Past Master, and in that capacity was happy to be able to propose the health of Bro. Marsh. The W.M. was so well known in the Craft as to require no eulogy from him. He had carried out the duties which thus far had been required of him in such a manner as to leave no doubt but that the members had acted most wisely in placing him in the position of first Master of their Lodge, which if conducted in such a way as it had started, must prove a great success. The W.M., in his reply, expressed the pleasure he felt in having among his visitors brethren who, from their position in the Craft, could form an opinion of the working of the Lodge thus far. He felt a pleasure in being in a position to perform the first ceremonies in connection with a new Lodge, and should have liked to have made a few remarks bearing on their position if time would have permitted. He now had the pleasure of proposing the health of the Initiates. The Lodge had started fair and well, and was in a position that night to hoist the flag high. The bark had been fairly launched, and he hoped the new members would unite in guiding it safely in its onward course. Bro. Morton replied. He considered the initiates were highly privileged in being allowed to join the Order, and sincerely believed they would reap a benefit from their connection with the members of the Craft. He had been very much impressed with the ceremony of the evening, and thought his friends had likewise. The toast of the Visitors was next given. The Lodge had been highly favoured, both at its consecration, and on this, its first meeting, in having so many visitors; the W.M. hoped they had derived some pleasure from their visit. Each of the guests responded, and then the Master proposed Success to the Masonic Charities. He trusted their claims would never be forgotten in the Lodge, but that it might prove one of the foremost supporters of the Institutions. had done good service at all times, and he doubted not would do of absence of the Treasurer through indisposition, the fluances of the so in the future. He thought Charity would be a good Lodge were not entered into. The Secretary announced that the vote cause for the two new Lodges of Bow to unite in, and by their of Prov. C. Lodge was included in the list of the Prov. C. Sec., this combined efforts, raise such a sum as would entitle them to a announcement gave great satisfaction, as there was an impression on place in the list of true Masons. As for his Lodge, it was not the minds of many members, that Bro. Pulley, who represented a established in opposition to any other, but to work hand in hand for one common good. Although so close to another, he could see no need for opposition, and was determined there should not be any, so far as he was concerned. He offered to represent the Lodge at the next Festival for the Girls' School, and solicited Oades also expressed his great pleasure in witnessing the excellent the assistance of the brethren. The Officers of the Lodge were working of the Lodge. The labours of the evening being ended, the next toasted. Their conduct of the ceremonies that evening had stamped them as worthy in every respect of the position occupied. It was evident from their manner that they had their hearts in the work, and would doutless prove of great help to Bromley St. Leonard's Lodge, No. 1805.—In our corre- the Lodge. Bro. S.W. was the first to reply. The Officers could spondence column last week appeared a letter, under the heading not do less than endeavour to carry out the duties as perfectly "Freemasonry at the East-end," which has called forth disapproval as did the W.M., and he for one should have felt very much from the brethren of this Lodge which is therein described as "an ashamed if, with such a President, the Ceremonies had been opposition shop." Had our correspondent confined his remarks to marred by the Junior Officers. Bro. I.G. also replied. It would the columns of a Masonic journal, he would not have laid himself open to the charge, now substantiated, that he has imparted malice into the question. There certainly can be no need to act as he has done, to the general credit of the Lodge. The Tyler was summoned, and

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motives as are their neighbours of 1805, we feel sure their Lodge will prove a success. They will soon find that, instead of an oppo- Barbican Office. Cheques crossed "London and County."

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The Provincial Grand Longs will be opened at Six o'clock.

By command of the

R.W.P.G.M.M.,

WM. G. BRIGHTEN, P.M., &c., Provincial Grand Secretary.

4 Bishopsgate-street-without, E.C.

4th March 1879.

#### BUSINESS.

To read and (if approved) confirm the Minutes of the previous Provincial Grand Lodge Meeting, held at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, on 29th June 1878.

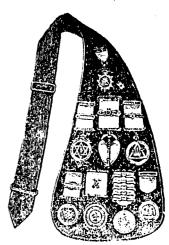
To call over the Roll of Lodges and Report thereon. To read and pass new Bye-Lawsas recommended by the Committee of general purposes.

To receive Propositions, and consider any other Business.

Banquet at Seven o'clock. Tickets One Guinea each, including wine.

Brethren intending to be present should notify their intention to the Prov. Grand Secretary on or before Thursday, the 20th March.

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