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IS POPE PIUS IX. A FREEMASON?

A correspondent in Liverpool writes to know if the Pope is a Freemason. The following from the *Philadelphia Keystone* will convey all that is known on the subject:—

The *New York World* of the 10th of the present month, contains the following statement. We have not seen the *Era Paoli Sarpi* of Venice, which is given as authority in the *World*, but we expect to receive it in a few days:—

“Freemasons will be interested to know that Mastai Ferretti, better known as Pope Pius IX., once belonged to their Order, having joined it in Philadelphia when he was a Papal Nuncio to this country, and that he continued to be a Mason two years after he became Pope. These assertions are made on the authority of the *Era Paoli Sarpi* of Venice, a Catholic journal devoted to ecclesiastical reform, and, if true, they are certainly very peculiar, especially when taken in connection with the well-known devotional character of the Pope in his earlier years.”

This is a very interesting question. The late syllabus of the Pope, in which the Freemasons and “Carbonari,” are classed as evil societies, and against which the terrors of the Papal bull are alike threatened, rather proves, that if the Pope was a Mason, he has backslidden. If he ever was, he has permitted the “light” he then received to become “darkness,” and “great is that darkness.” Were it not so, he never could have committed so great an error, as to describe the Fraternity of Freemasons with the same pen he drew the character of the “Carbonari,” or to have united them in one general condemnation.

In order to give such information as we could obtain on this subject, we present the following facts:—

In 1853, the Grand Master of Pennsylvania (R.W. Richard Vaux), received from the editor of the *Masonic World* (Le Monde Maconnique), published in Paris, the August copy of that periodical. In that number was an article, entitled *Initiation de Pie IX.* We translated the following statement which it contains. The editor of the *World* (Paris) introduces it as follows:—According to the promise we lay before our readers the first document, which we reprint from the *Umanitaris*, intended to prove the initiation of Pope Pius IX. into the mysteries of Freemasonry.

This document is a letter that the Masons of Messina addressed in 1855 to the Very Rev. M. Agosti, capitulary Vicar of that diocese. It asserts that Mastai Ferretti, while Gregory XVI. was Pope, was sent on a mission to America, North and South. After this mission was finished, M. Ferretti went to Philadelphia, and there remained some time. He was then made a Mason. The letter proceeds to give his speeches on Masonic occasions, in which

he extols Masonry, and thus expresses himself: “I am fully convinced that Masonry is one of the best ‘plus belles’ associations that is known in the world.” Again this letter gives on another occasion the following address spoken by M. Ferretti: “I shall ever be a warm defender of this Sublime Order, whose mission is to moralize the universe and to relieve and protect suffering (abandonnee) humanity.” These extracts will suffice for the present purpose.

Accompanying the *Masonic World*, a letter was also received by the Grand Master from its editor, calling his attention to the article, and asking him to forward to the *World* a certified copy of the facts and proceedings of the lodge initiating M. Ferretti. To this letter the Grand Master replied November 23rd, 1868.

In the reply it is stated, that “from time to time he had heard a report that the Pope was made a Mason in the United States, but that he had always regarded it as an idle story. Since, however, so respectable Masonic authority had published what purported to be the letter of the Freemasons of Messina, and vouched to be authentic, in which such statements were publicly made, an examination would be instituted by the R. W. Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Bro. John Thomson.”

The investigation was accordingly made when the records presented these facts:—

There was a lodge, *L'Temple des Vertus Thelogaes*, No. 103, held in the city of Havana, under a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, dated the 17th day of December, 1804. By a copy of the list of members of that lodge, it appears that January 15, 1815, Juan Aug. Ferretti, was made a Mason, and that March 21, 1817, he withdrew from said membership.

That there was also a lodge “Las Delicias de la Havana, No. 157,” held in Havana under a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; on March 27, 1818, J. A. Ferretti joined that lodge. That on November 17, 1819, Martin Ferretti, was made a Mason in No. 157.

The names are copied from the report of the Secretaries of these lodges, into a Register kept for that purpose in the Grand Secretary’s office, Masonic Hall, in this city. These names are, therefore, not copies of the original signatures, but probably written as pronounced in English.

These facts were sent to the Editor of the *Masonic World*, in Paris. We leave the question to be decided by further proof, if Martin Ferretti was the English version of Mastai Ferretti, which the Messina Masons state was the name of the present Pope, before he was raised to the Pontificate as Pius IX.

We expect yet to hear more of the question. “Is Pope Pius IX. a Freemason?” His holiness will be astonished when he reads this, so quickly following our former article, “The Pope, the Ecumenical Council and Freemasons,” in the January 22, number of the *Keystone*. Is the Pope a Freemason?

In connection with this we may quote the following from the *Echo*:—“English Freemasons may well believe that Cardinal Cullen’s edicts against their society in Ireland are dictated merely by the caprice of power, and do not point at any real evil in the society itself. It is a little strange that the Pope, who is a Freemason himself, and who, therefore, must know better, should favour the idea that there is anything very terrible in either the beliefs or the practices of the brethren of the mystic tie. But those who are astonished to find priests refusing to bury the Prince Henry of Bourbon, because they spied masonic insignia on his coffin, should remember that Freemasonry on the continent has, before now, been used as an organization for the spread of revolutionary doctrines, and that there may be a tendency among the male population in Roman Catholic countries to substitute the minimum of religious belief which is required for admission to the order, for the elaborate dogmas of the Romish Church.”

We have to direct the special attention of our readers to the advertisement on our front page, respecting the Public Night of the Chapter of Prudent Brethren on the 31st instant. We are informed that an oration will be delivered by Comp. Little, after which the ceremonies and lectures will be worked by Comps. Brett, Boyd, West Smith, Gilbert, Sharp, and Green. A strong muster of Royal Arch Masons is expected.

P o e t r y .

“SO MOTE IT BE.”

A Masonic Song, written and composed by Bro. CHAS. SLOMAN, Author and Composer of the “Maid of Judah,” &c., &c.

Where'er the sun shines, over ocean or land,
No matter the nation, we ever can find
Join'd in unity firmly, a brotherly band;
Freemasons in heart and in soul are combined,
In the north, in the south, in the east, in the west,
Its bright institution you're certain to see,
To aid charity's cause ever doing its best,
Wishing well to mankind, and still “So mote it be.”

Chorus.—Then with heart and with voice let us pour
forth the strain,
Here's the Craft, Heaven guard it, the
bless'd and the free,
May its efforts to succour be never in
vain,
While the motto of Masonry is, “So mote
it be.”

Its beauty, its wisdom, establish its laws;
And hold up its structure with firmness divine,
It needs not the aid of external applause,
But from its own brightness alone seeks to shine:
It fashions the Ashlar from quarry that's brought
Until on its surface perfection we see:
We mean by that symbol it educates thought,
And the wish of all Masons is “So mote it be.”

Chorus.

This lesson it teaches: we should not forget
The cause of the poor in our prosperous day,
And if the requirement chance to be met
May no Mason in apathy turn him away,
There are haply some men to the Craft a disgrace—
Tell me what institution from such e'er was free,
There are spots on the sun, that time cannot efface,
But our hope's from above, and still “So mote it be.”

Chorus.

March 8th, 1870.

ORDERS OF CHIVALRY.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

ROCHDALE.

The Grand Field Day of the Albert Encampment was celebrated on Thursday, the 17th inst., in the Masonic Rooms, Ann-street, when Sir Knt. Clement Molineux Roys, I.P., was installed as the E.C. for the ensuing year, by Sir Knt. Roberts, P.E.C. and P.E.G.D.C. Lanc., and P.G.C. Yorkshire, assisted by the following Past Eminent Commanders: Sir Knts. Yarker, Past Grand Marshal of England; Primer, Prov. Grand A.A.D.C., Lancashire; Wrigley, Past Prov. G.A.D.C., Lancashire; Hutchinson, Pro. Grand Chamberlain; Knight, Past Prov. Grand S.B., and Jones. The Eminent Commander appointed the following as his officers:—

Sir Knight Holroyd	..	Prelate.
Davis	...	1st Captain.
Schofield	...	2nd Captain.
Ashworth	...	Expert.
Turner	...	Captains of Lines.
Roberts	...	Registrar.
Jones	...	Treasurer.
Wrigley	...	D.C.
Woodcock	...	Almoner.
Briggs	...	Organist.
Fothergill	...	1st Standard-Bearer.
Whitworth	...	2nd Standard-Bearer.
Butterworth	...	1st Herakl.
Ashworth, jun.	...	Equerry

THE DOMATIC CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION will be re-opened, at Bro. Fisher's Restaurant, Victoria Station, on Monday, the 4th April, when the Ceremony of Consecration and Exaltation will be performed, the former by Comp. Brett and the latter by Comp. Little. Comp. Cottebrune will be the Preceptor.

The New Vade Mecum (invented and manufactured by Charles H. Vincent, optician, of 23, Windsor-street, Liverpool) consists of a telescope well adapted for tourists, &c., to which is added an excellent microscope of great power and first-class definition, quite equal to others sold at ten times the price. Wonderful as it may seem, the price of this ingenious combination is only 3s. 6d., and Mr. Vincent sends it (carriage free) anywhere, with printed directions, upon receipt of post-office order or stamps to the amount of 3s. 10d.—[Advt.]

LEAVES FROM MY LIBRARY.

BY MARMADUKE MAKEPEACE.

(Continued from page 141.)

"I choose the lot of slavery!—Who bore me in my cradle to the Castle of Aiguemar? Did I solicit an admission into the feudal castle?—Whose precepts have made me crouch from infancy beneath the dependence of a stranger? Have I of my own choice, and of the native baseness of my soul, bent beneath the caprices of a master?—Where have I been seen to creep? Do I at this moment obey the despotic order which forbade me to visit the Marsh of St. Chrisogone? I, a dependent! I, a parasite plant! Never! Alaméde will be a slave to no one—not even to Ipsiboé. I fear not misfortunes; they oppress only the base, they add a lustre to intrepid souls. Knowing as little of shame as of terror, I walk with a bold front. I do not seek the aid of mystery; I detest cunning and delusion; and if I ever should have friends, I will avow them openly—I will not have invisible ones."

Ipsiboé did not reply to this violent burst. Her black brows were knitted, and yet a gleam of satisfaction spread rapidly over her face. She resumed her shawl, which the falcon had dropped upon the grate, and wrapped its numerous folds around her tall form; occupying herself with some new mode of adjusting it, she arranged its drapery in the manner of the ancient statues, and seemed entirely devoted to the study of the picturesque.

The page of Aiguemar did not attempt to resist the ludicrous effect which the mysterious silence of the lady produced upon him. The laugh was again in his eyes, and his anger was past. He approached her with an air half mischievous and half serious; and raising with a humble reverence a part of her veil which was trailing on the ground, he threw it over her arm as she raised it, muttering half aloud, "Just such a figure, I am sure, must be the great Isis on the banks of the Nile."

But neither his movement nor his speech had been observed by Ipsiboé. With her eyes raised to Heaven, "I thank the Almighty God," she cried, "he has the soul of his fathers: my arrow has reached the mark. I know the sound of the chord which I have struck; the fire has issued from the stone; the living water is hidden beneath the rock: he is not a broken reed: he may be relied on."

She paused; and gazing intently upon the silver disk of the moon, the firmament, and the stars, she remained in profound meditation. Her thoughts were apparently devoted wholly to astrology.

But the words, *He has the soul of his fathers*, had struck the youth; and his jocund and playful humour had fled. In a tone full of emotion and apprehension he said,

"Then my family is known to you. Grant, I beseech, that boon which is nearest to my heart; disclose to me the secret of my birth. Say, does she to whom I owe existence?"

Ipsiboé uttered a profound sigh—"I must not yet break silence."

"Speak: for Heaven's sake, my benefactress, tell me but who gave me being. Never so much as in this hour did I feel the want of a mother."

"Have I not been one to you?" replied Ipsiboé, in a tone of reproach. "Ungrateful child! when I press you to my heart, can you feel the want of a mother?"

"Tell me, then, are you my mother?" interrupted Alaméde; and his fine eyes were fixed upon hers with an anxious expression of hope, of doubt and of tenderness.

"Happy mother of such a son!" cried the lady, with emotion; then in a more grave and solemn tone, she pursued, "She who bore you in her bosom was a being very different from Ipsiboé; she was a daughter of the stranger, and her country is not thine."

"And my father?" said the orphan.

"Your father sleeps with his ancestors; and the page in history which his life ought to fill remains a blank."

"My origin, then, is illustrious," replied the youth, proudly; "if history owes a page to the father, she may keep one for the son. Yes, I feel in the glowing ardour of my soul, in the elevation of my feelings, in the independence of my temper, that noble blood runs in my veins."

"Certain signs, and indisputable proofs," replied the inexplicable woman, with an ironical smile.—"Rash boy! do you think, then, that glowing ardour, elevated feelings, and independent minds, are not to be found but among the nobles? How often does an illustrious and renowned chieftain leave behind him a degenerate offspring? The most noble heroes of antiquity sprung from unknown origins; and who seeks to know the ancestors of those earthly demi-gods? He is unquestionably noble who is dignified by a succession of honourable progenitors; but he who makes his descendants illustrious is infinitely more honourable."

(To be continued).

Reviews.

The Freemason's Calendar for Oxfordshire; edited by Bro. R. J. SPIERS, F.S.A., D.P.G.M. Oxon., P.G.S.B. Eng.

We have received a copy of this useful and carefully compiled publication, which comprises the "meetings of the Masonic bodies of the province and of others connected with it, including those of the University of Cambridge, of the Grand Lodge, of the grand festivals, of the charity festivals, with other information, local and general."

Bro. Spiers deserves the thanks of all Oxford brethren, for the very creditable manner in which he edits this Calendar, now in the fourteenth year of its issue. It is a pattern of neatness, and a most reliable guide to the Masonic residents of the province. We may also notice that a list of the brethren members of Oxford lodges who have served the office of Steward to the various Masonic Charities is appended, and this must serve as a stimulus to younger Masons to follow so good an example; at any rate, no one who possesses the Calendar can plead ignorance of the claims of our noble institutions.

Copies may be obtained at 103, High-street, Oxford, price 1s. each.

Foreign Masonic Intelligence.

SPAIN.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

I am constrained to send you an account of a deplorable event. Our estimable brother Don Enrique de Bourbon, 33, has perished miserably in an encounter with the Orleanist Prince, Montpensier. A lover of liberty, he has fallen beneath the bullets of an oligarch and slave, and he who promised to become a star of freedom is now quenched for ever in the night of death. You will have heard all the particulars of his homicide, and it is therefore of his obsequies only I would now speak. The seventeen Masonic lodges in Madrid undertook the duty of interring the remains of the ill-fated Prince, and about 700 brethren assembled at the house of the deceased early in the forenoon on Tuesday, the 15th instant. On the door of the house was placed the following notice:—"Here lived a Bourbon, the only loyal one of his race, who for speaking the truth died on the field of honour. May his soul rest for ever in peace;" and crowds of people perused it in evident sympathy and indignation for his untimely end. The *Venerables* (Masters) and *Vigilantes* (Wardens) of each lodge formed their lodges in order and awaited the signal to proceed to the cemetery, having first placed upon the coffin of our much-lamented brother the emblems of Masonry, the broken columns of Rosa-Cruz (Rose Croix) and the eagle of the most respectable and sublime grade of the thirty-third. Don Enrique's military hat, sword, and sash were also laid on the coffin. At half-past twelve o'clock the ecclesiastics who came to celebrate the funeral rites, finding the symbols of our Craft were everywhere openly displayed, refused to remain, or allow the cross or blessed candles to accompany the procession. One honourable exception, in the person of Senor Pullido, was found; this excellent priest followed the corpse and celebrated the last rites of the Catholic Church. The cortege was of great length, numbering about 3000 persons with many carriages.

Four Grand Masters of Ceremonies walked besides the hearse bearing the black ribands of the coffin, and the other leading members of the deceased's lodge "Libertad," bore the mourning insignia of the Order. The bands of music played a funeral march, and the lugubrious sound found many an echo in the hearts of the vast multitude who lined the streets on the way to the cemetery of San Isidro.

The Freemasons marched six abreast, each lodge headed by its officers, wearing black cloaks and mourning badges. On arriving at the cemetery, Senor Pullido chanted the "De Profundis" and prayers for the dead, and amidst the visible sorrow of assembled thousands, the body of

Prince Enrique de Bourbon, a martyr to honesty and truth, was deposited in its last resting-place. May his memory be perpetuated in the hearts of all Spaniards and lovers of freedom.

PORTUGAL.

The Freemasons of Portugal have united under the Count de Paraty, who is now Grand Master of Lusitania, and reckons 18 lodges within the limits of his jurisdiction.

GERMANY.

On the 12th ult. there was a meeting of the "German Union of Freemasons," under the auspices of the Lodge "Three Cedars," at Stuttgart. This society, which was founded by the eminent *litterateur* Brother Findel, of Leipzig, advocates progress and reform in Freemasonry.

A lodge has been opened in Vienna by the indefatigable Brother Professor L. Lewis.

HUNGARY.

From the *Die Bauhütte*, edited by Brother Findel, of Leipzig, we learn that a Grand Lodge of Hungary has been formed at Pesth, with Bro. Franz Pulszky as Grand Master, and Bro. Dr. S. Rosenbaum as Corresponding Grand Secretary. The other officers' names are also given. The statutes of the Grand Lodge of the "Sun," at Baireuth, have been adopted as the basis of the laws for the new Grand Lodge. There are now seven lodges in Hungary, located at Pesth, Temesvar, Baja, Oedenburg, Arad and Presburg.

DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

The *Freimaurer-Zeitung*, edited by Brother Moritz Zille, Leipzig, contains an account of a lodge meeting at Jassy, and we are glad to find that Freemasonry is making great progress in the Principalities.

TURKEY.

It is asserted that H.H. the Prince Halim Pacha, D.G.M. for Egypt, is about to return to Egypt, a perfect reconciliation having been effected between himself and his nephew, H.H. Ismail Pacha, the Khedive of Egypt.

It is still fresh in our memory that Prince Halim was unjustly suspected of being a party to some conspiracy against the reigning Khedive, and was requested to quit Egypt. In spite of every possible explanation on the part of Halim Pacha, interested intrigue was so strong against him that no explanation would at that time be listened to, and Halim Pacha, an innocent victim of the wicked and almost incredible machinations of fortune and position-seekers at any price, retired from Egypt and withdrew to Constantinople, waiting patiently for the day when the voice of justice and truth should be heard, and the Khedive should be convinced of the utter impossibility of his uncle being the dangerous man that he was falsely represented to be.

The news of this reconciliation gives us great pleasure, as indeed it must do to all the members of our wide-spread brotherhood, amongst whom Halim Pacha is generally and deservedly esteemed. We are pleased to find that H.H. the Khedive has, at last, perceived that Halim Pacha has been an innocent and sacrificed victim, and we congratulate the Khedive on his just and magnanimous spirit in extending the hand of friendship to his uncle. This noble act goes more to corroborate the truth of the Khedive's generous and courageous mind than anything we have heard of late respecting this progressive ruler of Egypt. When any man shows himself ready to "forgive and forget," or to make up for any hasty or incorrect judgment or injustice, such conduct commands admiration and respect all over the world—the past is forgotten, and firm and useful friendship is cemented for the future.

"EVERY mother and housekeeper must often act as family physician in the numerous illnesses and accidents that occur among children and servants. For many of these cases I have used Davis's Pain Killer, and consider it indispensable in the family."
—N.Y. Examiner.

THE GRAND LODGE OF QUEBEC.

We have received the following circular from the Grand Master of Quebec, addressed to all Grand Lodges:—

Grand Lodge of Quebec, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons.
Office of the Grand Master,
Richmond, Province of Quebec, Dominion of Canada,
Jan. 21, 1870.

I have the honor to communicate to you the following additional information concerning the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

1st.—At the dates affixed, the five lodges mentioned below, declared their adherence to their Grand Lodge, viz: "The Clarenceville" Lodge, Clarenceville, District of Bedford, No. 152, Reg. of "Grand Lodge of Canada," (still so-called) on November 16. "The Albion" Lodge, City of Quebec, No. 17, Reg. of the United Grand Lodge of England, on the late festival of St. John the Evangelist, at its one hundred and nineteenth anniversary. "The Harrington" Lodge, City of Quebec, No. 49, Reg. of "Canada," on the same day as the preceding. "The Hoyle" Lodge, Lacolle, District of Montreal, No. 63, Reg. of "Canada," on the 4th January instant. "The Chateauguay" Lodge, Huntingdon, District of Montreal, No. 208, Reg. of "Canada" on the 6th January instant.

2nd.—Information has been received by me, that two other Lodges of different Grand Registers, are at present arranging to take the same action as above.

3rd.—It is confidently expected that the time is not far distant when the few remaining lodges will also voluntarily declare their adherence to the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

4th.—It is with profound satisfaction that I have the honor further to report, that at its late Communication on the 11th instant, the most Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of Columbia, extended fraternal recognition to this Grand Lodge as a sister Grand Lodge.

5th.—It now becomes my painful duty further to inform you, that at an early day, I will cause to be forwarded to your Grand Body, a refutation of the principal part of the published proceedings of the "Grand Lodge of Canada," at a special communication held on December 1st, 1869,—and an exposure of the conduct of a few of its officials, against the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and those who co-operated in its formation.

With the best wishes for the prosperity of your Grand Lodge, I have the honor to be,

M. W. Sir, Officers and Brethren, yours fraternally,
J. H. GRAHAM,
Grand Master of G. L. of Quebec.

EDSON KEMP, Grand Sec.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. SAMUEL WITTEY, V.W. D.G.M FOR WILTS.

On Wednesday last week the Lodge of Friendship and Unity, No. 1271, held their monthly meeting at the Town Hall, Bradford-on-Avon, at which there was a full attendance of the members. There was an unusual interest felt from its being known that the Worshipful Master, Richard de M. Lawson, Esq., would present to Bro. Samuel Wittey, the V.W. Deputy Grand Master for Wilts, a beautifully carved "Gavel" as a memorial of the dedication of the lodge in October last, and as a mark of esteem and respect. After the ordinary business of the evening had been transacted, the presentation was made by the W.M., in very kind and flattering terms, to which the D.P.G.M. made a suitable reply. There were also several brethren from Bath present to witness the ceremony. The carving on the Gavel is most exquisitely done, and is the work of the Worshipful Master, who is much celebrated as an amateur carver in wood. The Gavel is made of very old oak, taken from the ruins of a monastery in the neighbourhood of Bradford. Along the handle is entwined a wreath of acorns and leaves, while around the head and on the top of it are wreaths of the pomegranate and lotus. In the centre of the head and within a circle is carved the insignia of office of a D.P.G.M., with the name of the county, Wiltshire. The Gavel is enclosed in a handsome case lined with purple velvet.

We also understand that at the unanimous request of all the Royal Arch Chapters in Wiltshire, a patent has been granted by the Grand Lodge of England, appointing Companion Samuel Wittey, Provincial Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Masonry for Wiltshire. The installation is expected to take place in June next, at the Queen's Hotel, Swindon, when John Hervey, Esq., the Grand Secretary for England, has promised to preside, and a large attendance of the Companions of the Order is expected.

PRESENTATION TO AN OFFICER OF HINDPOOL LODGE.

On Tuesday evening last week, at the termination of the ordinary lodge business of the Lodge of Hindpool, No. 1225, W.M. Cornfield, in a valedictory address presented to Bro. Robert William Graham, Junior Warden, a purse of money, subscribed by the brethren of the lodge, the occasion of which will be seen from the following remarks:—

WORSHIPFUL MASTER CORNFIELD said: Last lodge night Bro. Graham announced his intention to leave England for Canada. As you well know, the lodge was greatly surprised, and we all felt very sorry that we were going so soon to lose him. I lost no time in calling the officers together to consult on the best means of showing our respect for Bro. Graham. We considered that, as he was about to enter upon a new enterprise, he would require something in addition to an expression of goodwill, a little monetary assistance would be the best manner of marking our esteem for him. A number of brethren at once put down their names for respectable sums. The time was certainly short, but I hope what is now presented will be received in the same spirit it is contri-

buted. I am sure I only repeat the opinion of the whole lodge when I say that we are all much indebted to Bro. Graham for the great amount of time he has devoted to the origin and continuance of the lodge, and we are very sorry he is parting from it. I beg his acceptance of this small testimony of esteem, and I hope he will keep the purse and spend the contents in improving his future condition, which I am sure none more than his brethren wish may be one of success.

Bro. GRAHAM then rose and said: Worshipful Master, Brother Officers, and Brethren of the Hindpool Lodge,—I beg to thank you very much for the kind testimonial you have presented me with this evening. Since I have heard of your kind intention I have many times asked myself the question, in what way or manner have I become deserving of such an honour? For, brethren, it is an honour, and a very great one, and as such I feel it; but, believe me, Worshipful Master and Brethren, it did not require such a proof on your part to make me believe that I was kindly remembered by you all. I have been acquainted with many of you for a long time, in fact I may say ever since I came to Barrow, and the pleasant hours I have spent with you will never be forgotten. In again alluding to your kind present I may say, brethren, I do not feel that I deserve it. If in the formation of this lodge (of which I am proud to say I was one of the originators), I did anything to meet your approbation I may say it was a labour of love, and the cordial co-operation of all helped to make the work much easier; and, brethren, I ask you to look at the great success we have achieved. We began only with eleven members (but every one as true as steel), and now, brethren, we number thirty-four. That in itself is enough to prove that we have been very successful, but there is a dearer and much warmer topic to me than that I have spoken of, and that is the manner of conducting the business and the working of the lodge. I may be wrong, but I believe it to be as near perfect as anything possibly can be; and I feel, brethren, that the day is not far distant when the lodge will be pointed out as one of at least as well worked lodges as any in the Western Division of Lancashire. And now, brethren, allow me to thank you all once more for the kindness and brotherly love I have always received at your hands, and be assured that in the new home I am going to in the Far West, I shall carry with me the feeling that I have left behind me many kind and well-wishing friends. And now, brethren, I wish you all farewell; for in all human probability, I shall never take part with you in lodge duties again, and if so, brethren, let us live that when our duties on this earth are over we may all meet in that Grand Lodge above where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Bro. GRAHAM then begged the lodge to accept his photograph, which was received with pleasure. It is a splendid work of art, 12in. by 10 on the enlarged process, and will in future be placed in the lodge room.

After the presentation, Bro. BAGOT, Secretary of the Lodge Harrington, No. 1021, wished to make a few remarks on behalf of his lodge. He said he had much pleasure in being able to witness the proceedings to-night. He said he had made it known to his lodge that Bro. Graham was leaving England, and was glad to say that the sentiments expressed by many members were highly complimentary to Bro. Graham. He was sure they wished him every success in his new undertaking.

P. L. EVERARD & Co.'s COLLECTION OF PICTURES. M. Everard has fitted up his gallery in anticipation of the coming season, and on the several walls hang nearly a thousand pictures, productions of the foreign schools; principally those of Belgium and Holland—examples of modern English art. The artists of France and Germany are also represented by some of their leading masters. M. Everard is a Belgian, highly esteemed and respected in his own country; he possesses the confidence of its principal painters; while with those of other kingdoms he has established the intimate relations that arise from experience and trust. As a dealer, he is well-known to collectors in England; in several of the principal cities and towns he holds annual exhibitions, and has thus formed a large and valuable connection among collectors in Great Britain, who have had "dealings" with him that have been entirely satisfactory to both. It would startle our readers to know how many pictures he has disposed of in England and Scotland during the past year. Those who desire the acquisition of works by foreign masters will be well pleased to know where may be seen such a collection as that under notice, and where they may obtain intercourse with a dealer whose professional integrity and general knowledge may be depended upon. The gallery, including several auxiliary rooms, is large, as it may well be to hang a number of pictures approaching a thousand; they are of various degrees and orders of merit, ranging in cost from comparatively small to high sums, and consisting of early efforts by artists seeking fame, and productions of those who have achieved it; so that various taste, as well as purses, may be considered and ministered to. It is scarcely necessary for us to do more than print a list of artists who have contributed to this exhibition:—Portaels, Auguste Bonheur, Ed. Frere, Duverger, Alma Tadema, Koekoek, Baumgartner, J. H. L. De Haas, Van Schendel, Trayer, F. Willems, Ary Scheffer, Verschuur, E. Pichel, Clays, Passan, Eugene, Verboeckhoven, Goupil, Leon Dansaert, Vanhove, Bourgeois, Henrietta Brown, Hugues Merle. The minor candidates for renown are numerous, and among them are some who will be sure to find patrons in England, not alone for the merit of their productions as Art-works, but for the interests of the subjects they select. A visit to the gallery of E. Everard will be amply repaid; it cannot fail to be accepted as one of the Art-treats of the British Metropolis. It is probable that we shall describe the collection at greater length in a future number, for among the productions here exhibited are several that demand more detailed notices than we can this week give them.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SOMERSET.

CONSECRATION OF THE VALE OF BRISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1296.

On Tuesday, the 15th inst., a Provincial Grand Lodge of Emergency was held at the White Hart Hotel, Brislington, when a very numerous assemblage of Grand Officers and other brethren from the provinces Somerset, Wilts, Bristol, and Wales attended. The chief feature on the agenda paper was the Consecration of the Vale of Brislington Lodge, No. 1296.

Amongst the brethren present we observed, Bros. Capt. Bridges, W.D.P.G.M. of Somerset; W. A. F. Powell, W.D.P.G.M. of Bristol; Saml. Wittey, W.D.P.G.M. of Wilts; Morris, W.D.P.G.M. of Wales; Bro. Major Genl. G. B. Munbee, J.P., P.S.G.W. of Somerset; Capt. F. G. Irwin, P.J.G.W. of Somerset; Rev. J. C. Pigot, B.D., and Rev. Wm. Hunt, M.A., Prov. G. Chaplains of Somerset; Wm. Parham, P.G.R. of the Province; R. C. Else, P.G. Sec. of Somerset; Samuel Cooper, P.G.S. of W.; Dr. Samuel Bryant, P.G.D.C. of Bristol, and W.M. designate of 1296; J. G. Sharpe, P.G.S.B.; I. W. Mosworthy, P.G.O.; E. S. Appleby, P.G. Purst.; B. Cox, T. E. Inskip, and Capt. W. Long, P.G. Stewards of Somerset; R. Hellier, P.G. Ty.; J. L. Stothert (53), P.P.S.G.W.; Thos. Moultrie, P.P.S.G.W.; G. Parfitt, P.P.S.G.W.; R. Purchell, P.P.S.G.W.; W. H. Bowden, P.P.G.W.; I. B. Marwood, P.P.G.R.; I. R. Bramble, P.P.G.R.; C. Milson, P.P.J.G.W.; J. A. Page, P.P.S.G.W. of Bristol; H. A. Low (103), Samuel Abbott (68), Capt. J. Townsend (1222), S. E. Taylor (686), W. Cooper (686), Thos. Clarke, S.W. (1222), J. A. Clarke (686), W. Benson (68), G. Hutchins (68), David Williams (686), Robt. Scott (68), C. J. Vizard (103), A. W. Butter (1222) Benjn. Gay (326), Robt. Gregory (1222), J. H. Mac Farlan (103), Dr. H. Swete (1222), W. Sage (86), Edwd. Gregory, Organist (1222), A. W. Scott (906), W. Lawrence (686), C. H. Whereat (1222), E. L. Hill (906), P. T. Dick (1222), Thos. Keene, S.W. (906), R. Packer (906), W. Pearce (610), J. Cornwall, P.M. (772), George Gay (326).

Shortly after one o'clock the W.D.P.G.M. of the province, accompanied by his Grand Officers, entered the lodge-room in procession, and proceeded to open the P.G. Lodge in due form.

It was unanimously resolved, on a motion made by the P.G. Sec., and seconded by Bro. White, "That a sum of 25 guineas be voted from the Benevolent Fund of the province in aid of the Masonic Boys' School, and that the said amount be placed on the R.W.P.G.M. Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon's list, he having kindly undertaken to represent the province as steward at the forthcoming festival.

The other business of the P.G.L. being disposed of, the W.D.P.G.M. closed the lodge in due form, and at once commenced with the Consecration of the Vale of Brislington Lodge, No. 1296, and, having appointed the Wardens (*pro tem.*), opened the lodge in the three degrees.

The P.G. CHAPLAIN offered up a prayer, and Bro. ELSE, P.G. Sec., addressed the W.D.P.G.M., who desired him to read the petition and warrant, and the brethren present approving of the officers named therein,

Bro. PIGOT, P.G. Chap., delivered an oration on the nature and principles of Masonry, as follows: Brethren, it is an ancient and valuable usage of our order never to permit meetings called together for an object such as now calls us together, to pass by unimproved; and in discharge of the duties now entrusted to me, I now address you, and I anxiously and earnestly, at this portion of the ceremonial, solicit your consideration of the subject to which I would direct attention. Did I not know, Brethren, that the once extended hand of brotherly friendship was still held out. I should indeed, as a young mason, hesitate to address the worshipful and venerable brethren whom I see around me, men who have wrought upon the blessed and holy structure of Masonry for years, where I have wrought but hours. I will at once assume, Brethren, that the object of our assembly this day is a cause of undoubted praise and thankfulness to T.G.A.O.T.U., and of joy and gratulation to every brother. It is scarcely two years since the lodge to which I belong, viz. 1222, was established, and I remark that the No. of the Vale of Brislington Lodge, upon the consecration of which we are now engaged, is numbered 1296, showing an increase in this time of 74 lodges. Whilst, then, we continually bless T.G.A.O.T.U. that He gives the strength we need—whilst we entreat Him to continue and adorn our brethren with such virtues, that He may be pleased to increase its ranks and extend its influence—bear we in mind that blessing is a consequent upon the fulfillment of duty, and the fulfillment of duty requires exertions; and it is "the necessity" of exertion in masonic knowledge, "objects, and duties," which I would embrace this opportunity to press upon our assembly, both collectively and individually, particularly in the present times and phases of our world's age. Exertion, masonically directed, is energy and endeavour directed to the increase of the knowledge and glory of the G.A.O.T.U., and of goodwill and blessing to men. A MS., reputed of the time of Henry VI., says of masonry, "Yett beeth the skylle of nature ye underdondynge of the myghte that ys therein." It also asserts that Masons have taught to mankind the arts of agriculture, architecture, astronomy, geometry, and others. One of the ancient precepts of Pythagoras is "sleep not at noon;" again, Anderson says, "The end, moral, and purpose of masonry is to subdue our passions, not to do our own will; to make a daily progress in a laudable art, and to promote morality, charity, good-fellowship, good nature, and humanity," and a reply, well known to us all is, "Masonry is a beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols." Not to multiply quotations, let us at once

ask, what gather we hence? From first to last we view masonry as opposed to inactivity and listlessness. In the first place we see inscribed thereon, light is life and life is light, even as was the frontlet of old with Holiness to the Lord. Over the entrance of each of its triple portals is prominently graven, "Inactivity is death." If of the body decrepitude supervenes, if of the mind mental darkness is deepened, mental lights decreased. In every progressive step it is required to rise somewhat more above the darkness of the outward world. Why is all this? Why are the truths, "Light is life," "Inactivity is death," pressed upon our attention? Why are we asked to dwell upon the subjects of the increase of mental darkness, the decrease of mental light, their converse and the consequences? Why at each progressive step is knowledge asked? For this reason: that in every period of our world's age mental darkness and mental ignorance have ever been too surely accompanied by shameless vice and active sin, and turn we our eyes to what page we please of the world's history, what can we trace as having been the recognized condition of they who have loved darkness rather than light? What but to have the thoughts of their hearts, the words of their mouths, and the deeds of their hands only evil continually? what but to be removed far from that knowledge of T. G. A. O. T. U., who is the true light and the true wisdom? To be as far as possible unsuited, either for the passing lodge of earth or that eternal one to which every mason looks forward. I will but ask you to take one short illustration of the continual, increasing, untiring exertion I urge, viz., that poverty of spirit, that practical working out of charity in its highest and most exalted view, which has its root in the love of the Eternal God. What are its characteristics?—mere nominal profession, mere listless inert profession?—are they not rather love likewise—love in its very best and brightest aspect—love to God first, love to man second, love full of energy, full of exertion both of soul and body—love working actively, producing self-forgetfulness, dispelling selfishness—love culminating in that glorious point, in this life, happiness diffused around from brother to brother, from man to man, and in the grand lodge above happiness unalloyed, eternal, with the G. A. O. T. U., even as He is God. A life passed as a masonic brother is a life of exertion to promote glory to God on high, and 'midst men brotherly love, goodwill and peace. All else is a life mispent, a life replete with opportunities wasted, with gifts and faculties either misused or misapplied, an existence wrested aside from the intention of that Supreme Almighty Architect whose will bade it exist. May, then, the Almighty Architect of all things grant that, in this lodge which we are now engaged in consecrating to His service, no day may be without exertion, guided by His Almighty wisdom, and directed by His Almighty skill, unto a progress which shall be now to His glory, and hereafter to the consummation of that eternal life which is the hope and prayer of every true mason.

The anthem was the sung, "Behold! how pleasant and how good," &c.

Bro. ELSE, the P. G. Sec., then presented the W. M. designate, Bro. Dr. Samuel Bryant, P. M. (E. C. of Knights Templar, of Bristol) to the W. D. P. G. Master, who heartily congratulated Bro. Bryant on his being selected to be the first W. M. of the new lodge. The brethren who signed the petition for the warrant then placed themselves on each side of the lodge-board, and W. D. P. G. M. offered up the first portion of the "dedication prayer."—Omnes, chant, "So mote it be." The P. G. Chap. then read a portion of the "Book of Kings," after which four P. M.'s uncovered the lodge board to solemn music. Anthem—"Glory be to God on high, Peace on earth, Good will towards men." Omnes—chant, "So Mote it be." The P. G. Chap. then took the Censer, containing incense, three times round the lodge-board during solemn music; the P. G. Chap. afterwards offered up the second portion of the Dedication Prayer: "Almighty and Everlasting God, Architect and Ruler of the Universe, look down we beseech Thee from Thy dwelling of Light and Glory, and be pleased to bless us in all the purposes of this, our present convocation. Endue us at this present and all other times with wisdom in all our doings, with strength and fortitude of mind for all our trials and difficulties, and the beauty of harmony in all our communications. Permit us, O Thou, who art the Author and Giver of Life and Light, of love and happiness to form this lodge, and now solemnly consecrate it to Thy Honour and Glory, and grant that the chief corner-stone of this lodge may ever be Holiness to the Lord." Omnes—chant—"So mote it be." An anthem was then sung, "Praise God in His holiness; Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord." Three P. M.'s carried Corn, Wine, and Oil three times round the lodge, and then the V. W. D. P. G. M. consecrated the lodge in due form.

Anthem—(Haydn), "The spacious firmament on high?" concluded the ceremony of consecration.

The W. D. P. G. M. then installed Bro. Dr. Bryant in the chair of K. S. in ancient form, and Bro. Bryant was saluted in the customary way, Bro. J. H. Macfarlan was invested with the Collar and Gavel of S. W., and Bro. E. T. Inskip obtained equal honour for the South. Bro. Capt. Irwin, Prov. J. G. Warden of Somerset, and W. M. of 1222, was unanimously elected as Treasurer. On his being invested with the collar of office, the presiding W. M. remarked that he knew no man whom he appreciated as a mason more than he did him; he was ever kind-hearted, just and firm—the chief characteristics of a man and mason. The other officers having been invested the W. M. closed the lodge with solemn prayer, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent Banquet, presided over by Dr. Samuel Bryant, W. M. of the new lodge, supported on his right by Bro. Bridges, D. P. G. M. of Somerset; Bro. G. B. Munbee, P. S. G. W.; Bro. Irwin, P. G. J. W.; Bros. Rev. J. C. Pigot, and Rev. W. Hunt, P. G. Chaplains; Bro. Else, P. G. Sec. On the left of the W. M. were Bro. Powell, D. P. G. M. of Bristol;

Bro. Wittey, D. P. G. M. of Wilts; Bro. Morris, D. P. G. M. of Wales, with about fifty other distinguished brethren. Grace having been said by Bro. Pigot, and the cloth cleared, Bro. Bryant proposed "The Queen and Craft," and "Bro. H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, M. W. P. G. M."

The CHAIRMAN then gave the health of the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M. W. G. M. of England, also that of the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey add Ripon, M. W. G. M. elect, and other G. O. of the Grand Lodge of England. The toast was well received. The next toast that of Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, P. G. M. of Somerset, was received with loud and continued cheering.

The W. M.: I now beg to propose to you the healths of Bro. Bridge's, W. D. P. G. M. and the rest of the Grand Officers of the province, thanking you all most sincerely for your attendance this day. (Cheers).

Bro. BRIDGES, in returning thanks, stated that the P. G. M. would have been amongst them that day, had it not been that his parliamentary duties required his attendance in House of Lords, and himself (Bro. Bridges) had come over from France, especially to be with them that day saying, brethren, let me congratulate you on having erected another temple for Freemasonry, not for the purpose of celebrating festivities, but a place where we can carry on the mysteries of our craft, and where those sacred mysteries will be practised within its walls by so able a Master as Bro. Bryant. I thank you sincerely for the cordial reception you have given me and my Grand Officers this day.

Bro. Capt. IRWIN, P. J. G. W., in a patriotic speech, paid a graceful compliment to the worthy chairman, and said there was something in Freemasonry superior to all buildings, palaces, and human institutions; all these might pass away, yet Freemasonry, being founded on truth, would endure for ever, and never decay.

The proceedings were very enthusiastic, and several toasts followed the above.

The meeting soon after separated.

Reports of Masonic Meetings.

THE CRAFT.

METROPOLITAN.

Lodge of Temperance, No. 169.—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 17th inst., at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford, Bro. John Thomas Moss, W. M., in the chair. The lodge being opened, and the minutes confirmed, a ballot was taken for the admission of Messrs. J. Frederick Potter Woodley, Arthur Llewellyn Devereux, Benjamin Martin Ingledew, and Samuel Copping, which proved unanimously in their favour, and Messrs. Woodley, Devereux and Copping, were duly initiated. Bro. George James Hillstead, John Thomas Holmes Moss, George Henry Leggett and Reece, having proved their proficiency were entrusted and retired. The lodge was opened in the second degree, and they were then passed to the degree of F. C. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the third Thursday in April next. The banquet which followed reflected great credit on Bro. Porter. The usual toasts were given, "The Initiates" was received with enthusiasm, and responded to by Bro. Woodley. The toast of "The Officers" was responded to very effectually by Bro. Alfred Pulley, S. W. The Tyler's toast brought to conclusion a very pleasant evening. Amongst the visitors present were Brothers W. H. Warr (P. M. 23), E. Harris (P. M. and Treas. 73), F. Walters (P. M. 73), H. Keeble (73, and S. D. 1275), T. D. Barnard (700), Smith (W. M. 829), J. Percival (W. M. 147), T. C. King, &c.

Lodge of Sincerity, No. 174.—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, on Wednesday evening, March 16. Bros. Gee, W. M.; Adkins, S. W.; Savage, J. W.; Crawley, S. D.; Tuck, J. D.; Moore, I. G.; Lacey, I. P. M.; Rawley, P. M.; Treas.; Barlow, P. M.; Norris, P. M.; Newton, P. M., Sec.; Allen, Cooper, Dellow, Deering, Buranelli, Farrow, Hilliard, Ives, Heather, Miller, Mortlock, P. M., Industry; Mann, Newman, Jas. Thomas, G. Thomas, Smith, Shortland, Stevenson, Wright, P. M., 781; Wood, Paddon. Visitors, Bros. H. G. Buss, P. M. 27, 1293, Prov. G. Treas. for Middlesex; Jas. Terry, P. M. 228, W. M. 1278, Prov. G. Sword Bearer for Herts; Emmott, Industry; Bright, 103; Levy, Joppa, Matthews, 537. The lodge having been opened, the minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. Cooper was passed to the F. C. degree, and Bros. Deering and Wood were raised to the degree of M. M. Two gentlemen's names were received for initiation. The sum of two guineas was voted to a distressed brother. A further sum of three guineas (in all five guineas,) was voted towards the fund now being raised for the purpose of purchasing a life boat to be presented to the National Life Boat Association. A petition on behalf of a deceased member's widow was signed by the W. M., Officers, and other brethren, previous to its submission to the Board of Benevolence. The lodge was then closed in perfect harmony, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. After the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to by the brethren. Other toasts were given including "The W. M.," "Past Masters and Officers," and the manner in which they were received was proof of the unanimity existing in the lodge. Bro. Rawley, P. M., in a complimentary and suitable speech, presented to Bro. Lacey, I. P. M., a handsome gold watch, which the members of Sincerity desired him to accept as a token of their appreciation of his services to the lodge.—Bro. Lacey, in reply, thanked the brethren for their valuable present, and said he was pleased to find that his services to the lodge were of such a character as to win the esteem of the members, and he trusted that for the future they would find that his zeal for the lodge's welfare

would not be diminished, but on the contrary; for with such a token of regard, he would always have a constant companion reminding him of the necessity of punctuality in all things, while the hours on its face would indicate to him the flight of time, and urge him on to perform his task while the day continues, and to perform that task well.—In replying to the toast of the "Visitors," Bro. Buss said he was pleased to have had this opportunity of visiting the Lodge of Sincerity, for it was the first lodge he visited after receiving the degree of M. M., and that was some years since, and from then till now he had always known the lodge as one in which the work was carried on in a true Masonic manner, and whose members were always regular in their support to the several charities. He said that it was in the Lodge of Sincerity that he first became impressed with the claims that the Masonic Institutions had upon the Craft, and he knew that to the late lamented Bro. H. Terry, P. M. and Treasurer to the lodge, much of the support now rendered to our noble institutions was due.—Bro. Jas. Terry, whose name is almost a household word in the Craft, and whose geniality is always welcome, responded to the toast of "The Masonic Institutions." He thanked the members of the lodge for their support to the several charities, and hoped that the day was far distant when the Lodge of Sincerity failed to send a Steward to one or the other of the festivals in aid of the funds of the different institutions. He also alluded to the commencement and working of the North Eastern Masonic Charitable Association, which sprung into existence only three months ago, and into which (by each member paying one shilling per week,) a sum of nearly sixty pounds has been paid. Already five of its members are eligible as Life Governors to one or the other of the institutions, and he expressed his pleasure to find that so many of the members of the Lodge of Sincerity had embraced the opportunity of joining the association, which so easily secures a Life Governorship to its members, and he trusted that before they separated other members would give their names in to Bro. Newton, P. M., who is the Honorary Treasurer to the association. After spending a very pleasant evening, the brethren separated at an early hour.

Israel Lodge, No. 205.—The members of this numerous and influential lodge met in their lodge-room, at Radley's (Bro. Jno. Hart's) Hotel, on Tuesday, under their much esteemed W. M., Bro. J. Emanuel, who in very superior style installed Messrs. Ladd, Boam, and Streather; passed to the 2nd degree Bros. Pinston, Hawthorn, Bowden, Moye, and Treble; he then conferred the sublime degree on Bros. Whitley, Morse, Bryen, Bucklands, Fowler, Henry Richardson, Smith, Haigh Richardson, Ward, Milton, and Boatwright. In all the ceremonies he was well supported by Bros. Emanuel, S. W.; Turner, J. W.; A. M. Cohen, P. M., Hon. Sec.; Hogard, J. D.; E. Stanton Jones, P. M. as Organist; and Emanuel, I. G., with the Worshipful P. M.'s Chamberlin, S. M. Harris, Littaur, and Coote. Previous to the election and installation of the present excellent Master it was thought he would not prove efficient, but we are happy to be in a position to assert that they have been most agreeably surprised, as no lodge can possibly wish for a more efficient and gentlemanly W. M. than the present occupant of the chair of K. S. We must add that the impressiveness of the ceremonies was much aided by the excellent manner in which the W. Bros. E. S. Jones and Coote presided at the harmonium.

New Concord Lodge, No. 813.—This prosperous lodge held its usual meeting at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, on Friday, the 18th inst., at 3 p. m., when the following officers and brethren were present: Bros. Hart, W. M.; Bartlett, S. W.; Atkins, J. W.; J. J. Wilson, P. M. and T.; W. H. Main, P. M. and Sec.; Emmens, P. M.; Bertram, P. M.; Byrce, P. M.; Nightingale, P. M.; Salisbury, S. D.; Blyth, J. D.; Sinclair, D. C.; McDavitt, O.; Absell, I. G.; Lloyd, Steward; and Hofbauer, A. Hill, Taylor, C. Hill, Phillips, Gallant, Gabb, Rhein, Webster, Brushin, Shellard, Gain, Spratt, Cusworth, Cain, Rands, Denning, Hubbard, Fancquey, Duke, Walker, Cheshire, Chant, Potter, and a numerous party of visitors, among whom were, Bros. Terry, P. G. S. B., Herts; Mather, W. M. 65; Forbes, J. W. 65; Stein, P. M. 212. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the preceding and audit meetings having been read and confirmed, after having substituted ten in lieu of five guineas to the Boys' School at the ensuing festival. The lodge balloted for the admission of Messrs. Pyne, King, Harris and Boyden, and they were unanimously elected. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bros. Shellard and Gallant, being candidates for the third, answered and retired. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and they were raised to the sublime degree of M. M. The lodge was resumed to the first degree, and Bro. Rhein being a candidate for the second, answered and retired. The lodge was resumed to the second, and he was passed to the degree of F. C. The ceremony of installation was then performed by Bro. Wilson, P. M. and T., who installed Bro. Bartlett into the chair of King Solomon in a most able and masterly manner, to the gratification of all present. Bro. Bartlett then invested his officers, the selection of whom was universally approved by the brethren, who testified their approval by their applause when the names were called. The W. M. bestowed some excellent advice to each brother on his investiture, and proceeded to initiate Messrs. Pyne, King, and Harris into the mysteries and privileges of Ancient Freemasonry. The lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren retired to a very sumptuous banquet, prepared by Bro. Gabb, in a manner worthy of the Freemasons' or any large tavern, and to which the brethren did ample justice. After grace had been sung, the W. M. gave the usual Masonic and loyal toasts. "The health of the P. M.'s" was given, and the W. M. had the pleasure of investing his I. P. M., Bro. Hart, with a P. M.'s jewel, voted to him by the lodge, and highly complimented him

for his zeal and ability during his year of office. The success to the "Masonic Charities" was acknowledged by Bro. Terry, who thanked the lodge for the very liberal aid they had afforded to the charities since its formation. The W.M. in reply to his health having been drunk, thanked the brethren and also his officers, and highly commended them for their admirable working immediately after appointment, a subscription was raised in behalf of a distressed brother, and realised nearly four pounds. A very pleasant evening was passed, enlivened by some excellent songs and glees from Bros. Blyth, Hubbard and Hunt, accompanied by Bro. McDavitt, in his usual happy manner.

Nelson Lodge, No. 700.—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting at the Masonic Hall, Woolwich, on Wednesday, 16th March, Bro. Edward Bowles, W.M., presiding. The lodge was opened in due form, and with solemn prayer. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed; the Treasurer's account was also read and approved. A ballot was taken for Mr. John McCaffery, Sergeant of the Royal Artillery as a candidate for initiation which proving unanimous in his favour he was duly received into Freemasonry. Bro. Hodder and Weston were duly raised to the sublime degree of M.M. In the course of the evening, one guinea was voted from the funds of the lodge, to the Freemasons' Life Boat Fund. It was proposed and seconded, that Quartermaster-Sergt. Morris, R.A., stand a candidate for initiation, and after a little private business was gone through, the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren adjourned to Bro. Norton's, the Red Lion Tavern, spent a very happy evening, and parted in perfect harmony.

Capper Lodge No. 1076.—This excellent working lodge held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, the 10th inst., at the Marine Hotel, Victoria Docks, under the very able management of the esteemed W.M., Bro. H. G. Sisley, supported by Bros. Gaskell, S.W.; Pincombe, J.W.; Park, Treas.; Henderson, P.M., Sec.; Ashdown, S.D.; Brown, J.D., and Brayshaw, I.G. The lodge was opened in due form, and with solemn prayer. The minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Messrs. Tytheridge, Stokvis and Watkins, candidates for initiation, which proved unanimous in their favour, and they were duly raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Bros. Stokes, Knox, Harness and Sharp, were admitted and duly passed to the degree of Fellow Craft Masons. Messrs. Tytheridge, Stokvis and Watkins, were then duly initiated into the first step in Freemasonry. Two gentlemen were proposed as candidates for initiation, and one brother resigned the lodge, which brought the business to a close; the brethren adjourned, and spent the remainder of the evening in a very pleasant manner, and parted in harmony. Amongst the visitors we noticed Bros. Lock, of the Union Waterloo Lodge, No. 13, and Burns, P.M. of lodge 25.

Great Northern Lodge, No. 1287.—This lodge met on Thursday, the 17th inst. Bros. S. Webb, W.M.; E. Moody, S.W.; H. T. Reed, J.W.; T. H. Staton, S.D.; R. Bescoby, J.D.; G. Hooper, I.G. The lodge was opened in due form, the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bros. Elliott, Lancaster, Verdon, Buckman and Hartley, proved their proficiency and retired. The lodge was opened in the third degree, and they were then separately raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The lodge was resumed to the first, and Bros. Jupe, Wrightson and Freeman, were examined and entrusted. The lodge was resumed to the second, and they were passed to the degree of F.C. The lodge was closed in due form, and adjourned to the third Thursday in April. Also present: Bros. Forbes, Sec. pro. tem., and Ritchie. Visitor, Bro. Tyrell, P.M.

PROVINCIAL.

LEICESTER.—*John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 523.*—On Thursday, the 17th instant, a regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, the W.M., Bro. George Toller, jun., Prov. G. Sec., in the chair, who was supported on the right by the P.G.M., and senior P.M., Bro. Kelly, and on the left by Bro. Duff, I.P.M. There were also present the following brethren:—Bros. F. Goodyer, P.M.; W. Beaumont Smith, P.M., Treasurer; Charles Johnson, P.M., Org.; T. H. Buzzard, S.W.; W. Sculthorpe, J.W.; Rev. Dr. Haycroft, S.D.; Partridge, J.D.; Atkins, Steward; Lewin, I.G.; Bembridge, Tyler; Sir Harry St. John Halford, Bart.; Albert Pell, M.P.; Rev. W. T. Fry, Baxwell, Richardson, C. A. Spencer, Moor, Whittaker, and Fletcher; visitors:—Bros. Stanley, W.M.; Crow, J.W., Halford, Stannard, J. F. Smith, Williams, Barber, and Overton, of St. John's Lodge, No. 279. After opening the lodge and confirming the minutes of the last meeting, the first business was to read a dispensation, granted by the Prov. G.M., for the initiation under age of a Lewis, Mr. Charles Stuart Thomson, twenty years, son of Bro. T. Harrower Thomson, formerly of this lodge. Bro. Sir Henry Halford and Albert Pell, M.P., being candidates for the second degree, were then examined as E.A.'s. A ballot was taken for Messrs. Charles Stuart Thomson, Frederick Torr, and Alexander Ross as candidates for Masonry, who were unanimously elected. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Charles Whittaker passed a highly satisfactory examination as a Fellow Craft, and was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The lodge having been resumed in the second degree, Bro. Pell and Sir H. Halford had the degree of F.C. conferred upon them. The lodge was then resumed in the first degree, and Messrs. Charles Stuart Thomson, Frederick Toore, and Alexander Ross were severally initiated, as was also Mr. William Penn Cox, who had been elected at the last lodge. There was another candidate who was not in attendance, and the Rev. John Halford, who was due for the third degree, was prevented being present by his clerical duties. Owing to the large

amount of business, it was found necessary to omit the lectures on the tracing-boards and the charge. The ceremonies throughout the evening were very efficiently performed by the W.M. and his officers, the effect being greatly enhanced by the musical chants, which were conducted by Bros. Crow and Johnson at the piano, assisted by Bros. Richardson, J. F. Smith, and Williams. An elegant silver-mounted cigar-case, with an appropriate inscription, was presented on behalf of the Committee for the late Masonic ball to Bro. T. H. Buzzard, S.W. of the lodge, for his indefatigable services as Honorary Secretary, and for which mark of their appreciation Bro. Buzzard expressed his thanks. This being the last meeting of the lodge before the election for the Boys' School, the brethren were reminded that there was a very deserving local candidate in the person of Alfred Nutt, son of the late Bro. John Nutt, of St. John's Lodge, in favour of whom the P.G.M. stated he had received promises of many votes out of the province, the brethren at Hull, and the Provinces of Warwickshire, Cornwall, and Hampshire being indebted to this province for the votes given on former occasions in favour of their candidates. The W.M. reported that it had been hoped the repairs and enlargement of the organ would have been completed in time for this meeting, but it had been promised to be again erected and completed by the meeting of the Fowke Lodge of Mark Masters the ensuing Thursday. On the conclusion of the business the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, and spent an hour or two very pleasantly after the long labours of the evening.

CHESTERFIELD.—*Scarsdale Lodge, No. 681.*—At the usual monthly meeting of this lodge held on Thursday, the 17th instant, the quarterly report of the proceedings of the lodge, made at the request of the D.P.G.M., was entered on the minutes along with the reply from Bro. Okeover expressing his satisfaction thereat. A discussion also took place respecting a proposition made by Bro. S. Foulds, P.G.S.W., at the preceding meeting to the effect that the annual subscription to the Masonic School for Boys should be increased in this and future years should the financial position of the lodge warrant such a course. The Treasurer's report being favourable to the proposition, it was proposed and carried unanimously that the annual subscription to the Masonic School for Boys be four guineas instead of two guineas as heretofore, and that a subscription of two guineas be paid annually to the Institution for Aged Freemasons. This is in addition to a Life-Governorship obtained for the lodge for the former institution by private subscription last year.

SCARBOROUGH.—*Denison Lodge, No. 1248.*—This lodge held its regular meeting at the Grand Hotel, on Thursday, the 10th inst. The following officers and brethren were present:—Bros. S. H. Armitage, (M.D.) W.M.; H. A. Williamson (P.M. 200), S.W.; J. Donner, J.W.; J. E. Green, Sec.; H. W. Garnett, S.D.; A. Fricour, J.D.; R. Sloman, Org.; V. Stewart, I.G.; J. Verity, Tyler; Martin, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; Rooke, P.M., P.P.G.J.W.; Smyth, P.M., D.P.G.M. Lincoln; Walshaw, Brearey, Foster, G. Taylor, Grover, S.D. 200; R. H. Peacock, W.M. 200, and Evans. The lodge was opened at 7.30 p.m. The minutes were read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the second degree. Bro. Foster passed in a very able manner the usual examination and retired; the lodge was opened in third degree, and Bro. Foster was re-admitted and raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. The principal part of the ceremony was performed by Bro. Rooke, P.M., &c., in his very impressive and correct manner. The lodge was now worked down to the first degree, and Mr. John Charles Seidenstriker, who had been duly elected, was admitted, and initiated into Masonry, the ceremony being correctly performed by the W.M. The accounts which had been audited were presented and adopted, and showed a very good balance in the hands of the Treasurer. The lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren spent an agreeable hour at the refreshment board.

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW.—*Lodge St. Mark, No. 102.*—The 104th annual festival of Lodge St. Mark, 102, was celebrated on the 7th instant, in the North British Imperial Hotel. Bro. Thomas Halket, R.W.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. Veitch, D.M.; W. M. Robertson, S.M.; W. J. Hamilton, R.W.M. 354; Miller, R.W.M. 413; and J. F. Mitchell, Secretary 102. Amongst those present were Bros. Baird, R.W.M. 305; Alex. Bain, R.W.M. 103; T. Granger, R.W.M. 117; M'Intyre, R.W.M. 333; A. M. Wright, S.W. 103; Andrew Hunter, G. J. Smith, W. A. Baillie, and Gillies, P.M. 103. After supper Bro. Halket intimated that it had been arranged that Major Barbor was to have been with them, and to be presented with a Past Master's gold jewel. The Major, however, had written a letter from Dublin stating that he was unable to leave that place to attend the festival, as he was confined to his house, and would not be out for some days. A letter of apology had also been received from Bro. Haddow. The lodge having been opened in the first degree, and the brethren called from labour to refreshment, R.W.M. Halket proposed "The Queen and the Craft," "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," and "The Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland." Bro. Hamilton, who belonged to a lodge in Ireland, replied to the last toast. The R.W.M., in proposing the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, said that the proficiency of the P.G. Lodge was an index of the proficiency of Masonry in the province. He did not know when the P.G. Lodge was in such good working order as it was at present. They might look upon the election of Bro. M. Neilson as a new era in the history of Masonry in the province. His appointment had given great satisfaction to the brethren. Bro. Gillies, with whose name the toast was coupled, replied to the toast. Bro. Mitchell proposed "The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of

Glasgow." Bro. Veitch, in submitting "Masonry all over the world," said that their Order was indeed a noble one, and craved every true Mason's earnest prayer that success might prevail wherever the banner of Masonry was unfurled. If all men were Freemasons, war, oppression, and slavery would be banished, and peace and goodwill would emanate from every heart. Let them manifest their principles—be true to one another—that Masonry all over the world might be successful. It could not fail to be so if they embodied Masonic principles in Masonic conduct. (Applause.) The R.W.M., in proposing "The Lodge St. Mark, 102," said that these annual meetings might be looked on as points from which they could take a retrospective view of the work of the past and obtain useful lessons for their guidance in the future. The only documents from which they had any data from the time of the formation of the lodge were the charter and their roll-book. From these they obtained a very good view of how the work was conducted during the first thirty years of the existence of the lodge. Though the members at that time were not in the habit of taking minutes such as was done now—this did not arise from carelessness. It was rather that the secret character of the lodge might be better maintained. At the beginning of the roll-book there was ample proof of this. A complete copy of the rules, 33 in number, was inscribed there. From these rules many useful lessons were got. The R.W.M. gave an interesting summary of these rules, and concluded by saying that a complete list of the Masters of the lodge from the time of its formation was obtainable. The toast was drunk with all honours. Other toasts suitable to the occasion followed. The lodge was closed in the usual manner. The proceedings were throughout very harmonious.

KILBARCHAN.—*Lodge of St. Barchan, No. 156.*—The quarterly meeting of this lodge was held here on Friday evening, the 4th inst. In the absence of Bro. O. G. Macgregor, R.W.M., who was prevented by indisposition from being present, Bro. William Purdon, S.M., presided. The other office-bearers present were Bros. Alex. Grant, S.W.; J. Robertson, J.W.; Andrew Grant, S.D.; R. Inglis, J.D.; J. Clark, Treas., and J. Gray, Sec. After the usual routine of business was gone through, the brethren proceeded to distribute presents of money to several old and infirm adherents of the Lodge. This closed the proceedings of the meeting.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

Rose of Denmark Chapter, No. 975.—The fifth anniversary meeting of this Chapter was held on Saturday, the 5th inst., at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew-bridge, and was numerously attended. Comp. A. A. Pendlebury, M.E.Z., assisted by Comps. Terry, P.Z. as H.; G. Powell, J.; Brett, Little, and Buss, P.Z.'s, opened the Chapter. In the course of the evening, Bros. J. B. Poole, W.M., 27; T. Shepherd, S.W., 27; E. Collins, 733; D. A. Chudleigh, 177, and G. Everett, 177, were exalted. Comps. J. Newton and T. Shortland were accepted as joining members, after which Comps. Powell was installed as H., and Tanner as J. The Z.-elect., Comp. W. F. Smith being unfortunately unable to attend, through severe illness. The officers invested were:—Comps. Little, E.; Price, N.; Dodd, P.S.; Walford, 1st Asst.; Quilty, 2nd Asst.; Tinkler, D.C.; Longhurst, C.S. When the Chapter was closed, thirty-one Companions sat down to a magnificent banquet, one worthy in every respect of the high reputation of Comp. Banks as a caterer, and the utmost good feeling prevailed throughout the evening. Comp. Pendlebury was presented with a splendid P.Z.'s jewel for his past services. We may also add that the musical abilities of our esteemed Comp., Charles Braid, were evinced on this occasion, much to the gratification of all present. Comps. W. Mann, P.Z. 186; B. P. Todd, P.Z., 382; M. Edwards 186, and W. Ashby, honoured the Chapter as visitors, and expressed their delight at its continued prosperity.

MARK MASONRY.

METROPOLITAN.

Carnarvon Mark Lodge, No. 7.—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, the 15th inst. The following brethren were proposed by M.W. Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal, Grand Master; seconded by V.W. Bro. F. Binckes, G.S., were elected joining members: Bros. the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick, a Mark Master under the Irish Constitution; Theodore Mansel Talbot, late of the Carnarvon Lodge; Capt. Alex. Wm. Adair (P.P. Grand Master, Somerset), late of the Bon Accord Lodge. Bro. R. W. Edis was ballotted for, and on being elected was advanced to the degree of Mark Master.

The Southwark Lodge of Mark Masters, No. 22.—This old and well established Mark lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday, the 19th inst., at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. The lodge was duly opened by the W.M., Bro. Meggy. The minutes of the last meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. The ballots were unanimous in favour of the admission of all the candidates for advancement, Bro. John Thomas Moss, W.M. No. 169, being in attendance, was regularly advanced to the ancient and honourable degree of a Mark Master Mason. The ceremony being beautifully rendered by Bro. T. Meggy, who presided as the W.M., supported in the Wardens' chairs by Bros. H. Massey and W. H. Warr. The other officers doing their work well. The lodge was duly closed, refreshment followed labour, and a few hours were pleasantly spent in social enjoyment.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTH.

SCHERLING.—On the 15th instant, at Hull, the wife of Bro. J. N. Scherling (J.W. Lodge 250, E. of Chapter 250), of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

DANCE—KENNEDY.—On the 15th instant, at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Colchester, Bro. George Dance, of Melbourne, Australia, son of Mr. R. Dance, of Ipswich, to Sarah, eldest daughter of Mr. Kennedy, Colchester.

Answers to Correspondents.

All communications for THE FREEMASON should be written legibly, on one side of the paper only, and, if intended for insertion in the current number must be received not later than 10 o'clock a.m. on Thursdays, unless in very special cases. The name and address of every writer must be sent to us in confidence.

We are indebted to an esteemed brother for an obituary of the late Bro. Nelson, but, as will have been observed, we had already given a notice of the deceased brother's masonic career.

ST. MARK.—The Masonic Insurance Company is, we believe, still in existence, its offices are in Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

"A Brother" is thanked for directing our attention to the subject, but as, we are told, the Grand Lodge authorities are now on the villain's track, it is better to leave the matter in their hands. Such publications merit the strongest condemnation.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1870.

THE FREEMASON is published on Saturday Mornings in time for the early trains.

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The Editor will pay careful attention to all MSS. entrusted to him, but cannot undertake to return them unless accompanied by postage stamps.

The ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION for BOYS.

ALL the arrangements are now completed for the Seventy-second Anniversary Festival of the Masonic School for Boys, which will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 30th inst., and it is well-known that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will upon that occasion preside for the first time as a Mason, over an assemblage of the brethren. A vast amount of interest has been naturally excited by the announcement of this forthcoming event, and we cannot do better than place before our readers as briefly as possible the regulations which have been adopted by the Board of Stewards to ensure the comfort of the ladies, and the numerous guests whose presence may be confidently expected at the Festival, premising that the regulations meet with our hearty approval, and we are also satisfied that they are rules which will commend themselves to the good judgment and approbation of all interested in the details:—

Every Brother, Stewards included, to present dinner ticket previous to entering the hall.

Brethren generally to clothe in the "De Grey," "Moir" and "Preston," on the second floor, and in the "Yarborough," on the first floor.

Ladies' Stewards and House Committee to assemble and clothe in the morning room adjoining the entrance to "Freemasons' Tavern." Other Stewards clothe in the "Dalhousie" on the first floor.

Brethren to enter at the Grand Entrance to Freemasons' Hall.

Ladies, on arrival to enter at Freemasons' Tavern entrance, and proceed direct to the Grand Hall, Drawing Room, or to the Galleries of the Dining Hall, and there wait until conducted to the rooms prepared for collation.

The band of the Coldstream Guards, under the direction of Mr. F. Godfrey, will be stationed on the dais in the Grand Hall, and will play selections from 4 to 6 o'clock, and afterwards until 8 o'clock in the corridor adjoining the banquet hall.

After collation Ladies to return to the Grand Hall, Galleries, or Drawing Room.

None but Ladies' Stewards to have access to the Ladies' Galleries, or refreshment rooms.

At 8 o'clock the concert will commence in the Grand Hall, to which will be admitted Ladies, Grand Officers, and Stewards only.

H.R.H. the Chairman will leave the banquet hall as early as practicable, and at once proceed to the concert hall.

The "Sussex" room, immediately opposite the entrance to the Grand Hall, will be open after 8 o'clock, and light refreshments may be obtained there throughout the evening.

No refreshments of any kind permitted in the concert hall.

We may add that it will greatly facilitate the labours of the Secretary, if the Stewards generally will forward their lists of subscriptions received to the office of the Institution before the day of the festival, in order that the announcement of the aggregate sum collected may be as correct as possible.

A short account of the origin of the Boys' Institution may not be deemed uninteresting at the present moment, and we therefore reproduce an extract from the account which was published by its benevolent founders:—

In the year 1798, the members of the lodge No. 23, on the registry of the R.W. Grand Lodge of England "according to the Old Institutions, His Grace John, Duke of Atholl, G.M.," observing with regret the deplorable state of the sons of several of their deceased and indigent brethren, humanely resolved on endeavouring to raise a fund for the benefit of objects of that description, and accordingly, with the aid of a number of brethren of other lodges, this institution was established. The assistance and encouragement which it has since received from its noble patron, His Grace the Duke of Atholl, the R.W. the Grand Lodge, and a number of the Grand Officers, lodges, and brethren of the ancient fraternity, have enabled the governors, &c., annually to clothe and educate 50 boys, to which number such augmentation will from time to time take place, as the funds of the charity will permit. Children are eligible to be admitted at seven, and are continued until they arrive at the age of fourteen, during which period they are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic; and when they quit school, are (in certain cases) bound apprentices to suitable trades, premiums being allowed towards placing them out to the best advantage.

The Governors, anxious to render the benefits of the charity as extensive and efficacious as possible, intend (as soon as a fund can be raised for the purpose) to purchase or build a School House, sufficiently capacious to contain the children, and wholly to maintain as well as clothe and educate them.

The members of the committee having briefly laid before the Craft at large and the public in general, the nature and design of this institution, and the principles upon which it is conducted, have only to express their anxious hope, that, by the laudable exertions of the London, country, foreign, and military lodges in particular, and the benevolent in general, in support of the charity, the kind and liberal views of the governors will speedily be realized. The members of the Ancient Craft may then congratulate themselves on having provided (chiefly by their own efforts) a comfortable asylum for the infant sons of their deceased and indigent brethren, in which they may be preserved from the dangers of vice, and furnished with such a portion of useful and religious knowledge as will qualify them to fill, with advantage to themselves and credit to the Craft, those situations in life in which it shall please divine providence to place them.

It was not, however, until 1857, that a school-house was provided for the children, and then only upon such a limited scale as to accommodate but twenty-five boys. Increased exertions, however, soon reaped a golden reward, and as the sympathies of the Craft in the proper maintenance of the school became generally aroused, it was resolved to extend the benefits of the Institution. The result was that in 1865 the present noble building, which is really a credit to the Masonic body, was formally inaugurated, and we believe no less than 200 children can be received therein pro-

vided the necessary funds for their support can be obtained from the liberality of the brethren in England.

The expense of constructing an edifice so admirably adapted for the objects required, and one which combines architectural excellence with every internal comfort, was, as might have been reasonably anticipated, large in proportion to the resources of the Institution.

But when we consider that in building the palatial structure at Wood Green, the committee of the school were bound to pay deference to the taste of the age, and the undoubted importance of the Masonic Fraternity, it may be fairly held that they were justified in the expenditure incurred, and that in their decision upon this point the public reputation of the Craft was to a great extent involved.

The committee felt that they were in a certain sense trustees for posterity; it was their belief that the building to be erected under their supervision ought to be one of a permanent character, likely to endure to future ages, a monument of the wise provision of its founders, the Freemasons of the nineteenth century. We are not advocates for extravagance, and there may unquestionably have been items in the building account of the Boys' School to which brethren have fairly taken exception. Still, setting aside possible errors of judgment, the broad fact remains that the English Craft now possess in the "Royal Masonic Institution for Boys" a building in which they can take both pride and pleasure; and it is, we hold, the duty of every brother to assist in establishing it upon a secure and permanent basis.

In this cause, the Heir Apparent to the British Crown will plead on Wednesday next; to effect this most desirable object he will for the first time appeal to English Masons, and we know that the appeal will not be made in vain, as the long list of Stewards recorded in our advertising columns will amply testify. And here we may make a most gratifying announcement, namely, that Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, who has ever been a most liberal patron of the Institution, will signalise the occasion by contributing the munificent sum of ONE HUNDRED GUINEAS. Under such royal patronage, and aided by the great and good men of the Order, who can doubt the result of the coming festival or fail to discern that it will prove a triumphant success?

To the zealous managers of the Institution, and especially to the indefatigable Secretary, Bro. Frederick Binckes, we must pay a due tribute of praise for the herculean exertions they have made to free the school from debt, and we are sure that one of the most cherished objects of their hearts will be realised when "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Past Grand Master," rises to announce, as Chairman of the festival of 1870, that debt, and difficulty and danger, shall no longer impede the progress and prosperity of "THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS."

Multum in Parbo, or Masonic Notes and Queries.

THE "RED CROSS" ORDER.

For the information of Bro. Hughan and those of your readers who may be interested in the subject, I may state that I am now preparing a report, which (if approved by the Executive Committee) will be submitted to the Grand Council in June next. This document will contain a full account of the conference between Bro. Edward Busher and myself on the one hand, and His Excellency the Count Maffei, Italian Chargè d' Affaires, on the other, respecting the Italian Order, and the Anglican branch, which is now the only legitimate representative of the Order in the world—the King of Italy having determined not to confer it, nor to permit any of his subjects to revive it under any pretence whatever. A personage claiming to be one of the Lascari, at present residing in Rome, asserts that he is the chief of the order, and the Papal Court supports his pretensions, but as it is well-known that the order became one of the public orders of Knighthood of the "Two Sicilies," now merged in the Kingdom of Italy, it follows that Victor Emmanuel as the supreme King is now the only lawful successor of the Parmese branch, and the source and foundation of honor in Italy. There are also Greek pretenders to the dignity, but they have never been recognized since the death of the last of the Comneni. The Report will also contain particulars of the documents discovered at Freemasons' Hall, London, and which comprise the ritual of the Knights of the Grand Cross, the cash book of the order from 1808 to 1814, various papers and letters of Sir Knights Waller Rodwell Wright, Hypolita Da Costa, and the Rev. George Adams Browne, of Cambridge, including transactions signed "Approved, Augustus Frederick, G.M." These MSS., it may be added, were delivered over to the Grand Council of the Red Cross by the kind permission of the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W. Grand Master, upon the application of Lord Kenlis. R. W. L.

In a short article (at p. 139) headed, "Bro. R. W. Little and the Mark," Bro. Hughan observes that he has seen a paper signed by the Duke of Sussex, which refers to the "Red Cross Degree" before the Union. Cannot this paper be published, so that we may see what "Red Cross" it refers to? Is there any document in existence, of more than a few years' age, which allies the Masonic "Red Cross" degree with the Constantinian name? LUPUS.

THE "HEREDITARY GRAND MASTER" OF SCOTLAND.

It has been for long quite customary to write and speak of the St. Clairs of Rosslyn as being "Hereditary Grand Masters" of the Scottish Masons. Now, I can find no real foundation for that idea, but consider it to be another of our masonic dreams. The first "Grand Master" of Scotland was a St. Clair, but that was not until the year 1736, when the Grand Lodge of Scotland was first constituted. The brethren who were intending to follow the example of England, and do so, in order, as I conceive, to give *clat* to their proceedings, and the better to further their intentions and pretensions, entered into a little plot, and having managed to get hold of St. Clair they first made him a Freemason and afterwards—having got him to go through the form of resigning his title of Patron and Judge of the *Operative* Masons, which by the way had nothing earthly to do with *Speculative* Freemasonry—as previously understood, they elected him Grand Master, the first of his race that I am aware of being such. In 1623 a charter or deed was granted to St. Clair by the *operative* masons and hammermen, constituting him the *Referee* of their Crafts, so that he might authoritatively settle all trade disputes, charges for work, and such like; but what had that to do with our Freemasonry? Certainly nothing: neither was there any Grand Master in the case until 1736. So much for masonic fables and manufactured legends; their name is legion! W. P. BUCHAN.

BRO. "LEO" AND "MOTHER LODGE KILWINNING" (page 139).

I read the remarks of your much esteemed correspondent, Bro. W. J. Hughan, on this subject, and am glad to find him stating that my letter is "substantially correct." However, I am astonished at his saying, "No one, to my knowledge, has ever pretended that 'Mother Kilwinning is the mother lodge of Scotland, all the others being offshoots from it,'" and he charges me with *imagining* this. Now I want several years of being 40, consequently I could have no hand in getting up the first edition of Lawrie's History of Freemasonry, in 1804, and it says "After the establishment of the Kilwinning and York lodges, the principles of Freemasonry were rapidly diffused throughout both kingdoms, and several lodges were erected in different parts of the island. As all these derived their authority and existence from the two mother lodges, they were likewise under their jurisdiction and control," &c. Who is the "dreamer" there? Certainly not I. Then, again, Lawrie says, in 1743, "A letter was read from the lodge of Kilwinning complaining that they were only second on the roll, while, as the mother lodge of Scotland, they were entitled to the first place." Then, again, in *The Freemasons' Magazine*, for May 30th, 1863, Bro. D. Murray Lyon, who was then giving a sketch of the history of "Mother Kilwinning," in alluding to certain ideas current regarding it, says "that the Scottish monarchs were the Grand Masters of the Mother Lodge, whose courts were usually held at Kilwinning," &c. Of course I do not consider Bro. Lyon believes this; he is only quoting the ideas or notions then current. Then, at page 85 of *The Freemasons' Vade Mecum*, Bro. A. O. Haye, the author, gives us another Kilwinning dream when alluding to the Freemasons "establishing in the parish of Kilwinning, where they were erecting an abbey, the germ of Scottish Freemasonry." I consider that the above quotations are quite sufficient to show that what Bro. Hughan alluded to was *imagined* long before Bro. "Leo" was born, consequently Bro. Hughan will have to acknowledge his mistake in saying "actually the dreamer is Bro. 'Leo' himself!" However, we both agree in asserting that the idea is a mere *dream*; although I am perhaps not far wrong in considering that many brethren, who know no better, still look upon the notion as a veritable *fact*! Bro. Hughan styles his remarks "hurried," and they must surely have been so when he made this *lapsus penne*. As to Kilwinning being "certainly the parent of more lodges than any other six independent lodges before the institution of Grand Lodge," I can say little at present, only the assertion is worthy of investigation as to its truth or otherwise. In *The Freemasons' Magazine* for December 12th, 1853, Bro. D. M. Lyon gives a list of 31 of "Mother Kilwinning's daughters, but only one of these is before 1717, viz., the Canongate-Kilwinning, and one other before 1736, viz., Torpichen-Kilwinning; all the rest are after 1737. The great point, therefore, especially is to find out how many more lodges, if any, hailed from Kilwinning before 1717; thereafter to find how many between 1717 and 1736. And also, of course, to find out what lodges were erected by "other independent lodges" before 1717, and before 1736. LEO.

Bro. W. J. Hughan says, "Bro. 'Leo' falls, I think into an error" in deciding the date which the Mother Lodge, Kilwinning claims to date from. Would Bro. W. J. Hughan say exactly what date this lodge claims its first existence in Scotland? I am of opinion they claim from 1140. On this point I am satisfied, and do not wish to raise any objections. Bro. W. J. Hughan again says, "This grand old lodge was the mother of very many lodges, not only in Scotland, but elsewhere; and hence from being one of the oldest, and most certainly the parent of more lodges than of any other six independent lodges before the institution of Grand Lodge or since." Would Bro. W. J. Hughan kindly say on what authority he makes this statement. There seems to be no recorded authority that the Mother Kilwinning Lodge ever granted charters until the Grand Lodge of Scotland was formed and had adopted the system of granting of charters.

I am aware that in 1743 the Lodge of Kilwinning receded from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, in consequence of its having been placed second on the roll of lodges, and that it held an independent position until October, 1807, when a reunion was effected by a committee of both lodges; when it then again came into the bosom of the Grand Lodge, along with all her daughter lodges, and accordingly renounced the right of granting charters, that being left in the power of the Grand Lodge alone. So that it seems it was only for the sixty-four years that she stood out against the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and had consequently assumed a sort of Masonic supreme power, that there appears to be any record of its having granted charters. But I shall feel pleased to know of any charter granted by the Mother Kilwinning Lodge prior to 1743. In the hope that Bro. W. J. Hughan will inform me as to the exact date Mother Kilwinning Lodge claims to date from in Scotland, mentioning at same time the name of the lodge or any lodge that received a charter from the Mother Kilwinning prior to 1743.

ONE WHO WISHES FACTS.

RISE AND PROGRESS OF SPECULATIVE FREEMASONRY.

There are now many thousand lodges in existence which practise on Speculative Masonry, with its beautiful and complete system of *three degrees* and its noble principles, yet taking the whole continent of Europe, the whole of Asia, Africa, America, and Australia, where can a single lodge be pointed to that was in existence and practised said Speculative Freemasonry in or before A.D. 1717? I know of none. All the lodges that afterwards sprang up upon these Continents adopted and copied the English system of Freemasonry manufactured in London in A.D. 1717. The Grand Lodge of London of that date is therefore the Mother of our Speculative Freemasonry throughout the world.

W. P. B.

THE "YORK" LODGE.

I have been much pleased to hear that the M.W. the Grand Master has consented for the "Union" Lodge, No. 236, to be called the "York" Lodge, as the latter name gives the lodge much more of a distinctive character than the former. The "Union" was granted before, and was active at the dissolution of, the "Grand Lodge of all England," held at York, and no doubt received as members several of the Ancient Body. There are now at York records preserved that are many years earlier than any produced by either of the lodges that assisted in the "Revival" at London. Although the title Grand Master does not occur until June 24th, 1729, yet a Grand Lodge virtually was in working order at York before then. I visited the ancient city on 10th July, 1867, and intend writing a sketch of the extinct Grand Lodge when time permits. Gentlemen were admitted and sworn as Masons before the Grand Lodge of England was formed at London. The Lodge at York was not a Grand Lodge before 1720, although it worked as an independent lodge long before then. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

ROSIERUCIAN SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.

I find that Bro. "Leo" wishes information about the above Society, and as many more desire the same, I hasten to say that the "Rosierucian Society of England," or the Society of Brethren of the Rosy Cross, is totally independent, being established on its own merits; and as a body is no otherwise connected with the Masonic Order than by having its members *selected* from that fraternity. There are *ninety-nine* members allowed for the first four degrees; thirty-six for the next three; six for the 8th; and three for the 9th. The Right Hon. Lord Kenlis is the Honorary President, and there are a number of most distinguished Masons who are proud to hold subordinate positions. *The Rosierucian* is a quarterly record, edited by my esteemed friends Robert Wentworth Little and William Robert Woodman, M.D. The Right Hon. the Earl of Jersey, Frederick Martyn Williams, M.P., and Colonel Francis Burdett are Vice Presidents. I write this much, not for

the purpose of discussion, but simply to afford intelligence about the society, which has been established for the study and exemplification of true Rosicrucian philosophy.

WM. J. HUGHAN, 9^o, Past Master-General.

ROYAL ARK WARRANT.

The following is a copy, *verbatim et liberatim*, of the draft of the Ark Warrant referred to in our last issue:—

To all whom it may concern.

We, the Grand and Royal Ark Lodge, of the most ancient and honourable fraternity of Ark Masons, held on Mount Ararat in Armenia, on the third day after the Ark rested, being the thirtieth of the second month in the first year after the flood, and by the constitution of the Old World 1655, handed down by faithful Noah, and then under the Almighty Grand Commander of the Universe. Fixed it then on earth, and formed the plan of the second world, and communicated His mind to His faithful Noah, having approved of his offerings and accepted of his sacrifices. And, as a safe pledge and token of Divine sanction to this our Masonry, the Great Architect of the Universe has condescended to place His bow in the cloud, and saith—"This is a token of My covenant with you (Ark Mariners) and your seed for ever."

And that the following superior degrees of Masonry be held under this Grand and Royal Ark Commission, viz.: Mark, Mark Master, Elect of Nine, Unknown, and fifteen Architects, Excellent and Super-Excellent Masons. Granted to the then Grand Commander Noah, and handed down by him to every succeeding Grand Commander Noah and sons on board the Royal Grand Ark's Commission throughout the known world.

To effect which laudable institution we do hereby grant this commission for our Grand Master's Ark Lodge, No. 1. To our worthy brethren, A.B.C., to hold a R. Ark Lodge at the Surry Tavern, Surry-street, Strand, or elsewhere, &c., &c., for the purpose of conferring the above-mentioned Superior degrees to such brethren as they, in their wisdom and prudence, may deem worthy. Concordant to the above stipulation, we do hereby authorise and appoint A. Commander Noah, B. Japhet, C. Shem, of this our Grand Master's Ark Lodge, No. 1. And we do further empower them to nominate and enstall their successors, for ever, providing they always pay due respect to the G. R. Ark Lodge.

Whilst the above instructions are properly adhered to, strictly pursued and duly executed, this commission remains in full power, force, and virtue; when violated, either by inattention, misuse, or abuse, then it's to be rendered null and void, and of no effect whatever.

Given under our hands and seal, this—day of—in the year of our Lord, 1796; in the year of Masonry, 1800; and of the Grand and Royal Ark, 4145.

Note.—This Warrant is registered in the Grand Lodge. Vol.—letter—.

QUERIES FOR "CIPES."

We extract the following from *The New York Dispatch*:—

"The attention of the 'Old Mason' is called to the following; the answers to which will be published by us as soon as received:—

"George Kenning, Esq., editor of *The Freemason*, London.

"Dear Sir and Brother,—Will you please request Bro. 'Cipes' to give answers to the following questions through *The Freemason*:

"I. What is the Eighth Masonic Landmark of Masonry in England, and how is it there construed at this time?

"II. How lately has a man been made a Mason 'at sight' in England, or in Ireland, or in Scotland?

"If there are no records within reach, please request him to state the best evidence of the facts that he may obtain. Yours fraternally,

"MASONIC EDITOR, *New York Dispatch*."

BREAKFAST. — EPPS'S COCOA. — Grateful and Comforting.—The very agreeable character of this preparation has rendered it a general favourite. The *Civil Service Gazette* remarks: "By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately-flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills." Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in tin-lined packets, labelled JAMES EPPS & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London.—[Adv.]

THE MASONIC LIFE BOAT FUND. — Amount acknowledged in THE FREEMASON of February 19th, £14 12s. Subsequent subscriptions received up to March 3rd:—Brethren of the Lodge of Faith (141), Hopwood, P.M., 10s.; Parks 2s. 6d.; Catwin 5s.; Valentine 5s.; Hind, 5s.; Wilcox 5s.; De Leur 2s. 6d.; Speed, 5s.; Thomas 2s. 6d.; Bolt 5s.; Willis 5s.; Carter (P.M.) 5s.; Abrahams 5s.; Jackson 2s. 6d.; Fromholz 5s.; James 2s. 6d.; Davy 5s.; Hes 2s. 6d.; Mallett 5s.; S. L. Jones 10s.; Johnson 10s.; M'Dowell 5s.; D. Davis 5s.; Stewart (P.M.) 2s. 6d.; M. Davis 5s.; Themans, 2s. 6d.; Per H. M. Levy, P.M. 18s.; £1; M'Intosh (18), 5s.; Goldberg (89S), 2s. 6d.; Whitley (205), 2s. 6d.; G. I., 3s. 6d.; A. Collins, 10s.; Hoffwing, 5s.; L. Marks, 5s.; Druff, 5s.; J. Musto (1227), 5s.; J. Stewart (35, Scotch), 5s.; M. A. De Grute (1180), 10s. 6d.; Lodge of Friendship (277), £2 2s.; St. Michael's Lodge (1097), £1 1s.; Royal Alfred Lodge (777) £1 1s.; Eastern Star Lodge (95), £2 2s.—E. GOTTHEL, II. Sec.

Original Correspondence.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

THE MASONIC LIFE BOAT.

(To the Editor of *The Freemason*.)

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In March 1867, in a letter addressed to the *Jewish Chronicle*, your correspondent from Lodge 141, with all the zeal possible of saving life from drowning, urges the cause of having what he then termed a Jewish Life Boat, but without success. Some three years pass, and on referring to the declaration book of the Lodge of Faith, I find he is admitted into our mysteries the latter part of 1869; he then immediately writes to the Jewish press, (some say to let his friends know what Order he had joined,) for a *Masonic Jewish Life Boat*, but still without effect; and although during the whole of 1867, 1868 and 1869, we do not find his name in the list of subscribers or donor to the National Life Boat Institution, still he continued *lifeboat-struck*, and now becomes the promoter of the present movement. May he succeed, as such perseverance deserves support; but from authentic accounts I find they have collected £31, out of which I find £12 have already gone in expenses. I hope it won't all go that way.

MICA

(To the Editor of *The Freemason*.)

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Bro. Gotthiel seems to think I know a good deal about an effort that was made some time ago to get up a Masonic Life Boat Fund, but I distinctly said I did not know how the matter had ended. I will, however, inform Bro. Gotthiel of all I know. Some two or three years ago (I don't remember the exact time,) thinking it was not creditable to the Craft that we should be without a Life Boat, I drew out an appeal addressed to the Craft in general, intending to proceed further in the matter. Not taking in at that time a Masonic publication, I was not aware that an effort was then being made to get up subscriptions for the same purpose. This, however, came to my knowledge, and at once stopped any further movement on my part. I wrote to a brother who I believe was one of the leaders in the movement, and I subsequently saw him. He informed me, that after various abortive efforts, the affair was at last going to be taken up in earnest, and that a committee was about to be formed of well-known and distinguished brethren from London and the Provinces. Since that time, I confess to my surprise, I have heard nothing more of the matter.

I think that when a committee has been formed and subscriptions collected for a specific purpose, I cannot be charged with a want of generosity if I assume that another committee, asking for subscriptions for the same purpose, and distinctly repudiating any connection with the original committee, is in fact acting in opposition to such former committee.

This seems also to be inferred from Bro. Gotthiel's own words, for he makes the extraordinary statement, that when he became aware of other efforts which had been made, he inserted the clause to which I called attention, on purpose to show that the present movement was "distinct."

Why did not Bro. Gotthiel and the other brethren at once communicate with the other committee, which I suppose exists, though as far as I know they have done nothing—at least, no circular has been read in our lodge on the subject. Bro. Gotthiel, however, evades the whole point at issue. I simply asked what he proposed doing with the money which had already been subscribed towards a Masonic Life Boat, inasmuch as he repudiated any connection with those who had received subscriptions for that purpose. To this query he returns no answer whatever, which I think he was bound to do. As he seems to be aware that money has been collected by other "individuals," why start another committee? Surely if the Masonic body is to present a Life Boat to the National Life Boat Institution, it must be done by *united* action on the part of the Craft, and not in the way it is now proposed, by anybody forming committees and endorsing their circulars with "no connection with the opposite shop."

Bro. Gotthiel is pleased to sneer at my allusion to "illustrious" brethren. I understood that the former committee intended getting the movement carried out under the highest Masonic support and patronage, and that it should command the confidence of the Craft in general.

Bro. Gotthiel is right in saying that his committee does not contain "illustrious" brethren, it seems lamentably deficient in this respect; the only "illustrious" brother, who is not on the committee, but promises his "support," is Bro. Stebbing.

Hoping that Bro. Gotthiel will yet answer my query, and at the same time inform me why his committee could not have put themselves in communication with the original committee and joined

them instead of acting in opposition, as I know that will be satisfactory to others besides myself, I am, yours fraternally,

W.M.

DATE OF MOTHER KILWINNING LODGE, No. 0.

(To the Editor of *The Freemason*.)

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Your correspondent "One who wishes Facts," at page 139, desires me to give an opinion upon this subject. I have already done so in *Freemasons' Magazine* for March 27th, 1869, page 250, but as what is there said may be rather long to quote here, perhaps you will kindly allow me to refer my Bro. to that paper, and I may here state that I am not aware of the least shadow of a substantial reason for stating that "Mother Kilwinning" is either the "Mother Lodge of Scotland" or even the oldest; I believe it is neither. I would also respectfully press upon all students of Scottish Masonry the necessity of remembering the effect produced by the Scottish War of Independence. The friendly intercourse with England was then severed, and in self-defence Scotland made friends with Continental nations, and held close intercourse with them after the 13th century.

My Brother understands that "1140" is the furthest back date that any Scotch Lodge claims from. Not so, the Lodge of Glasgow St. John, No. 3 bis, foolishly claims to have been "chartered by Malcolm III., King of Scots 1057!" but as alluded to by Bro. "Leo," page 139, said pretended charter is, I consider, a forgery executed in 1806, in order to further the pretensions of the lodge to precedence at the Masonic procession held in honour of the laying of the foundation-stone of Nelson's monument in Glasgow. Even Glasgow itself did not receive its charter of erection as a Bishop's Burgh until the reign of William the Lion, in 1175. Although all this has been well explained to the lodge, yet on last St. John's-day, it was advertised that the Lodge of Glasgow St. John, No. 3 bis, was to hold its "812th Anniversary!" As I considered this an imposition, I did not attend the "812th Anniversary," and Bro. D. Murray Lyon, with whom I have the pleasure of corresponding, afterwards, wrote to me as follows, viz.: "I honestly think that you would not have compromised yourself by attending the festival, seeing that you had before protested against 812 being used. Perpetration of the error should be arrested by a vote of the Lodge, that is if the members can be convinced of the error. I never think of stopping away from Mother Kilwinning because of the *stuff* that is propagated in regard to its antiquity and former position!" In regard to my staying away upon this occasion especially, I believe the circumstances of the case demanded it, and I trust that before long the lodge will cease "perpetration of the error" by setting it aside in a formal manner, more especially as it got its position of No. 3 bis upon other grounds.

As to Bro. Lyon's intended "History of Mother Kilwinning," in book form, I am afraid that Mary's Chapel records will keep it back for some time yet. However, when its does come it should be all the better for that, as he will be able to revise it more thoroughly. He has already published a number of articles on Mother Kilwinning, viz., in *Freemasons' Magazine* for 1863, dates April 18, May 30, Aug. 8 and 29, Sept. 26, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, Dec. 5 and 12, and in 1864, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, April 2, July 9, &c., &c., and I sincerely wish him long life and strength to prosecute his Masonic labours, and although we have sometimes differed in opinion, yet I trust our motto ever is—Success to Truth.

I am, yours fraternally,

W. P. BUCHAN.

SCOTCH MASONS.

(To the Editor of *The Freemason*.)

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—I am a young Mason, and have to ask you to grant me a small space in your magazine, to state an experience, as I am desirous to learn if it is an exceptional one.

Several years ago, I promised a Scotch friend, that if ever I was made a Mason I would be made one in Glasgow, a place I often visit.

I kept my promise, and allowed twelve months to elapse before making application (in the town in England, in which I reside,) to be affiliated by a lodge. No objection was taken except by two or three members, and that on the ground that I was a "Scotch Mason." My application was at once withdrawn. I was not tested or declared incompetent.

Yours, most fraternally,

A SUBSCRIBER.

(To the Editor of *The Freemason*.)

SIR,—I am a member of the Lodge 153, holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. At the last election of office-bearers, a brother was put in nomination who had never held office of any kind, and had only been a Mason for about three months. My

opinion is, that no brother can be elected to fill the chair of R.W.M., unless he has filled that of either the S.W. or J.W. I shall be glad that either yourself or any of your correspondents will give me their opinion on this subject. Another matter I wish to submit. In the event of a brother being a candidate for the chair, is he entitled to be the proposer of another for the chair; and in the event of that other member being second highest in the vote, is the proposer entitled to resign and allow his own friend to get the election? **RUSTICUS.**

AN APPEAL.

(To the Editor of The Freemason.)

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Allow me, through the medium of your very valuable paper, to call the attention of the brethren to the case of the child Jane Pertwee Pattison, who now applies for the second time as a candidate for the Institution.

I venture to affirm there are few cases so well deserving the sympathies of the subscribers, and am convinced that were relative claims of the different applications submitted to impartial judgement, the uncommon merits of the case which I advocate could not fail to make themselves conspicuous.

John Pattison, the father of the child, then a gentleman of affluent circumstances, was initiated in the Angel Lodge, No. 51, Colchester, in 1835, and continued a subscribing member for a period of 33 years, during which time he served all the offices and eventually was installed W.M. in 1843. He was then appointed P.G. Treasurer for Essex, which post he honorably held for several years.

Positions such as these imply an expenditure of a considerable sum for the benefit of the Craft. Indeed, the fact is well-known in the province, that none asked of him in vain, and he always gave freely. But affliction came, two years' suffering from softening of the brain, and he was called to rest, in 1869, leaving a wife and four little children totally unprovided for. I hope a case like this, where the father of the child has been so practically useful to, and has taken so active an interest in, the Craft, for a long series of years, will recommend itself to the earnest consideration of the brethren, and any further information will be gladly supplied by

Yours fraternally,
**N. GLUCKSTEIN, 141, P.M. 51,
P.P.S.G.W. Essex.**

6, Minerva-terrace, Brixton-road, S.W.

P.S.—Any votes will be thankfully received, as they can be exchanged.

(To the Editor of The Freemason.)

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I thank you sincerely for your kindness in inserting my appeal on behalf of the paralysed widow of Bro. Charles Buswell, P.M. of Industry Lodge, 186.

Will you kindly allow me to announce that the following subscriptions have been received, and also to hope that the Craft will not overlook this lamentable case:—Proceeds of Concert at Wood-Green, 12s.; J. O. (861), 10s.; W. G., 5s.; J. B. S. (538), 5s.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
**JESSE OWENS, Finsbury Lodge, 861,
40, Vorley-road, Junction-road, Upper Holloway.**

MASONIC STATIONERY is supplied advantageously by Bro. T. BEEDLE, High-street, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset, who executes Relief and Cameo stamping on his own premises. Bro. Beedle's Steel Pen is a really good pen, and he sends 12 dozen, per post, for twenty stamps.—[Advt.]

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—No False Security.—The diseases threatened by the blighting winds and ever recurrent storms can only be safely met by early and reliable remedies. The treatment invented by Professor Holloway possesses every merit that can be desirable in a medicine for the household. They are alike available for youth, maturity, and age, they extract from the blood and body all that is effete or harmful, they check all irregular or disordered action, and substitute pure blood, from which alone a sound structure can be formed or maintained. Stitches, pains in the side, shortness of breath, palpitation, bronchitis, chronic cough, sore throats, and diphtheria are reduced within the limits of safety by these remedies, used according to the directions.—[Advt.]

THE BLOOD PURIFIER.—Old Dr. Jacob Townsend's Sarsaparilla. Other Medical Testimony.—In speaking of the "Blood Purifier," old Dr. Jacob Townsend's Sarsaparilla, G. C. Kernott, M.D., L.S.A. Lond., says: "I strongly recommend it in cutaneous diseases and all impurities of the blood." March 24, 1869.—In a letter to the proprietors, June 6, 1869, Dr. Irvine, of Irvine's-town, says: "I have been in the habit of ordering your Sarsaparilla for my patients with the best results. Send me six quarts and six mammoth bottles."—For all skin diseases, for purifying the system of mercurial poisons, and building up the broken constitution it is the only safe and certain remedy. In bottles 2s. 6d., 4s., 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 11s. Sold by all Druggists. Pills and Ointment each in boxes, 1s. 1/2d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d. Testimonials also from the Hon. the Dean of Lismore; General William Gilbert, of the Indian Army; ordered also by Apothecaries' Hall, London. Caution—Get the red and blue wrappers, with the old Doctor's head in the centre. No other genuine.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending April 2, 1870.

MONDAY, MARCH 28.

- Lodge 4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 26, Castle of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.
- " 28, Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
- " 181, Universal, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 183, Unity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
- " 831, British Oak, Bank of Friendship Tavern, Bancroft-place, Mile-end.
- " 902, Burgoyne, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
- Chap. 25, Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.
- Kent Mark Masters' Lodge of Instruction, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand, at 7.30; Bro. C. Swan, Preceptor.
- Sincerity Lodge of Instruction (174), Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street Station, at 7.
- Wellington Lodge of Instruction, White Swan Tavern, Deptford, at 8.
- Camden Lodge of Instruction (704), Adelaide Tavern, Haverstock-hill, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
- Eastern Star Lodge of Instruction (95), Royal Hotel, Mile-end-road, at 7.30; Bro. E. Gottheil, Preceptor.
- British Oak Lodge of Instruction, Bank of Friendship Tavern, Mile End, at 7 for 8.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29.

- Audit Committee Girls' School, at 2.30.
- Lodge 141, Faith, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
- Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, George Hotel, Aldermanbury, at 7; Comp. Brett, Preceptor.
- Domestic Lodge of Instruction, Palmerston Tav., Grosvenor-park, Camberwell, at 7.30.
- Royal Union Lodge of Instruction (382), Hotel de Cologne, 60 and 61, Haymarket, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
- Faith Lodge of Instruction, Metropolitan Railway, Victoria Station, at 8; Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Preceptor.
- Yarborough Lodge of Instruction, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8; Bro. Isaac Saqui, Preceptor.
- Prince Fredk. William Lodge of Instruction (753) Knights of St. John's Tavern, St. John's-wood; Bro. F. G. Baker, Preceptor.
- Prestonian Club of Instruction (for M.M.'s only), Lyceum Tavern, Strand.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30.

- Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys (see advertisement).
- Lodge 898, Temperance in the East, private Assembly Rooms, Newby-place, Poplar.
- Pythagorean Lodge of Instruction (79), Prince of Orange, Greenwich, at 8.
- United Strength Lodge of Instruction (228), Bull & Gate, Kentish Town-road, at 8; Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.
- Israel Lodge of Instruction, Rising Sun Tavern, Globe-road, at 7.30; Bro. Isaac Saqui, Preceptor.
- Confidence Lodge of Instruction (193), Railway Tavern, Railway-place, Fenchurch-street, at 7.
- Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, The Grapes Tavern, Duke-street, Manchester-square, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, P.G.P., Preceptor.
- New Concord Lodge of Instruction, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, at 8; Bro. C. H. Peller, Preceptor.
- Sydney Lodge of Instruction (829), Cambridge Hotel, Upper Norwood, at 7.30.
- Peckham Lodge of Instruction, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham; Bro. David Rose, Preceptor.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31.

- General Committee of the Girls' School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
- Chapter of Prudent Brethren, public night for R. A. Masons (see advertisement).
- Lodge 22, Neptune, Radley's Hotel, Blackfriars.
- Fidelity Lodge of Instruction (3), Goat and Compasses, Easton-road, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
- Finsbury Club of Instruction, Jolly Anglers' Tavern, 42, Bath-street, City-road.
- United Mariners' Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes, Mile-end-road, at 8; Bro. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.
- St. George's Lodge of Instruction (140), Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich, at 8.
- Burdett Courts Lodge of Instruction (1278), Approach Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria-park, at 7.30; Bro. J. Terry, Preceptor.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1.

- Lodge 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
- " 1275, Star, Marquis of Granby Tav., New-cross-rd. Chap. 259, Prince of Wales, Willis' Rooms, St. James's.
- St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction (144), Pier Hill, Chelsea.
- Stability Lodge of Instruction, Guildhall Coffee House, Gresham-street, at 6.
- Unions Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.'s, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
- Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, George Hotel, Aldermanbury, at 7; Bro. Brett, Preceptor.
- United Pilgrims' Lodge of Instruction, Horns Tavern, Kennington, at 7.
- Belgrave Lodge of Instruction, Duke of Wellington Htl., Spring-gardens, Charing-cross; Br. Pulsford, Preceptor.
- Doric Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8; Bro. Isaac Saqui, Preceptor.
- Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar, at 7; Br. D. S. Potts, Preceptor.
- Temperance Lodge of Instruction, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford, at 8.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2.

- General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
- Lodge 1194, Villiers, Northumberland Hotel, Isleworth.
- Star Lodge of Instruction (1275), Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road, at 7.

A BEAUTIFUL EXTRACT.

The following waif, afloat on the "sea of reading," we cull from an exchange. We do not know its paternity, but it contains some wholesome truths beautifully set forth:—

"Men seldom think of the great event of death until the shadow falls across their own path, hiding for ever from their eyes the traces of the loved ones whose living smiles were the sunlight of their existence. Death is the great antagonist of life, and the cold thought of the tomb is the skeleton of all feasts. We do not want to go through the dark valley, although its passages may lead to paradise; and, with Charles Lamb, we do not want to lie down in the muddy grave, even with kings and princes for our bed-fellows.

"But the fiat of nature is inexorable. There is no appeal of relief from the great law which dooms us to dust. We flourish and we fade as the leaves of the forest, and the flower that blooms and withers in a day has not a frailer hold upon life than the mightiest monarch that ever shook the earth with his footsteps. Generations of men appear and vanish as the grass, and the countless multitude that throngs the world to-day will to-morrow disappear as the footsteps on the shore.

"In the beautiful drama of Ion, the instinct of immortality, so eloquently uttered by the death-devoted Greek, finds a deep response in every thoughtful soul. When about to yield his young existence as a sacrifice to fate, his beloved Clemanthe asks if they shall not meet again, to which he replies: 'I have asked that dreadful question of the hills that look eternal—of the clear streams that flow for ever—of the stars among whose fields of azure my raised spirit hath walked in glory. All were dumb. But while I gaze upon the living face, I feel that there is something in the love that mantles through its beauty that can not wholly perish. We shall meet again, Clemanthe.'"

Advertisements.

ROYAL Masonic Institution for Girls.

[ERRATUM.]

THE GIRL JESSICA JOHNSON (deceased) is No. 17 on the Balloting Paper for the Election on 14th April next, and not No. 11, as announced in last week's FREEMASON.

A YOUNG LADY, residing in Clapham, is desirous of obtaining JUNIOR MUSIC PUPILS (Instrumental). Terms, One Guinea per Quarter. Lessons given at her own or Pupil's residence.—Address, Office of this Paper.

A LADY, having met with much success in the tuition of English, French, and Music, desires a RE-ENGAGEMENT. First-class references can be given.—Address, A. B., office of this paper.

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ELIGIBLE INVESTMENTS.—BARTLETT and CHAPMAN'S INVESTMENT CIRCULAR for March contains tabular views of the price, rate of interest realized on present prices, and a notation of the difference of prices within six months, of Foreign and Colonial Bonds, Joint-Stock Banks, Railway Stock, and Mining Shares, with Remarks on their Respective Positions and Prospects, and a mass of information useful to investors. Handy-Book for Investors, post free, 11s. British Mines and Mining, post free, 3s. No. 36, Cornhill, E.C.

DO YOU KEEP YOUR OWN HORSES? No; we find we can do better by sending to POWELL, where we can get every description of Cart or Van, at five minutes' notice. He will contract to take goods of every description to or from any of the Docks or Wharves, at per ton, or any job you offer him. Address, POWELL, Carman and Contractor, 1, Carthusian-street, Aldersgate-street, City, E.C.

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The Committee meet at their Room on the first Thursday in every month, at 8 p.m. All subscriptions, together with the names of the donors, will be acknowledged in THE FREEMASON. In order to ensure success, it is hoped that every Brother will personally interest himself in the movement.

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