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AIDS TO STUDY.

BY BRO. WM. CARPENTER, P.M. & P.Z. 177.  
 V.

Resuming the subject with which my last paper concluded, namely, the division of the human family into the three varieties—Caucasian, Mongolian, and Ethiopian, or Black, or Negro; it may be well to repeat, that the sacred record, in its account of the dispersion of mankind, and of the division of the earth (Gen. x.) confines itself to the primary settlements of the Caucasian race, so called, because the most perfect types are found among the natives of the Caucasian isthmus. The student of history must inform himself of the original families, their geographical position, and their political nationality, to be able to enter intelligently and profitably into their subsequent history and exploits, and to mark the peculiarities attaching to them. Be it remembered, then, that the *Caucasian* race occupies all Europe, except Lapland, Finland, and part of Hungary; America and Australia, as far as their population is of European origin; Asia Minor, Arabia, Persia, India, and the whole north of Africa, to the southern border of the Great Desert. The *Mongolian* race occupies all Asia, north of Persia and the Himalayas, and east of the Bramahpootra; Lapland, Finland, part of Hungary, in Europe; and the Arctic regions of North America. The *Ethiopian* race occupies the whole of the African continent south of the Great Desert; one half of Madagascar, together with Australia, Papua, and Borneo, so far as the population of these islands is aboriginal.

But, as intimated, it will be well that the student not only gets a clear view of the character of the *races* into which ethnologists and historians have divided the human family, but also of the families from which they originally sprung. It is on all hands admitted that there exists no more interesting record, ethnological and geographical, independent of its scriptural authority, than that contained in the tenth chapter of Genesis. "These are the generations of the sons of Noah; Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Without discussing the several names in detail, Mr. Philip Smith, whose "Ancient History of the East" I again commend to the student, suggests that we may be tolerably sure of these general results.

1. The *Hamite Race*, which seems first to have left their common home, is located in Africa

and South Arabia, in four branches:—1st the *Cushites* in Ethiopia and the southern part of Arabia, separated only by the straits of Bab-el-mandeb. 2nd, the Egyptians, under their historic name of Mizraim; with the kindred *Philistines* on the one side, and (probably) north African tribes on the other. 3rd. The *Libyans* (probably) designated by the name of *Phut*, 4th. The *Canaanites*, whose tribes are particularly enumerated. The mention of *Sidon* among these indicates that the first settlers in Phœnicia were Hamite; though the Phœnicians of history were undoubtedly Shemite. The like displacements clearly happened in Arabia, where the same names (*Havilah* and *Sheba*) occur among the sons of Cush, and again among those of the Shemite *Joktan*. Besides these nations, the record mentions a personal name among the sons of Cush, *Nimrod*, the founder of a kingdom, with four cities, in the plain of Babylonia; and there are later traces of Cushites in the east. They seem, in fact, to have spread over India and the Islands of the Eastern Archipelago. In all the countries of their abode the Hamite race seem to have been the pioneers of material civilisation, and the founders of States based on mere force. Their enduring monuments are gigantic buildings, the sculptures upon which attest the grossness of their worship of nature. Everywhere, except in Egypt (and there also at last), they gave way before the races of Shem and Japheth, fulfilling Noah's prophetic curse, that Ham should be the servant of his brethren. National grandeur yielded to spiritual power, and the active energy of political life.

2. The *Japhethite Race* extends from the Caucasian region to the south-east, across the table-land of Iran; to the west, over the peninsula of Asia Minor and the neighbouring islands, as far as Greece, (the "Isles of the Gentiles,") and to the north-west, all round the shores of the Black Sea. That the tribes enumerated in the record were the parents of those which over-spread all Europe on the one hand, and became masters of Northern India on the other, admits of no reasonable doubt.

3. Between the other two, the *Shemite Race* remained nearer its primeval seats, as the destined guardian of the primeval religion and traditions. Its nucleus in Armenia (probably represented by the name Arphaxed), forms the apex of a triangle, resting on the Arabian peninsula, along the east side of which we have the Assyrians (*Asshur*) and Elymæans, (*Elame*) the latter of whom gave way to the Japhethite Persians; and on its west side the Aramæan race (Aram, denoting *highland*) of Northern Mesopotamia and Syria, whose Hebrew descendants (*Eber*) afterwards possessed the land of Canaan. The middle space of the Syrian Desert, and the whole peninsula of Arabia is the seat of the Arab tribes, denoted by *Joktan*, the son of Eber, with whom were afterwards mingled other Semitic descendants of Abraham.

It has been intimated, in a former paper, that the two main sources of knowledge, as to the natural history of man, are human physiology and human language; lines of argument distinct in themselves, yet parallel in direction, and mutually giving force to every conclusion in which they concur. Through these channels alone can we proceed upwards, when history

deserts us, and tradition throws a light too flickering or false to be safely trusted. It was a profound saying of Wilhelm Humboldt, that man is man only by means of speech, but that in order to invent speech, he must be man already. This is a powerful argument for the unity of that race which is distinguished from all other animals, by the possession of articulate language. But, moreover, the greatest philologists of the present day seem to be approaching the conclusion, that the evidence of comparative grammar, so far as it goes, is in favour of the original unity of human language. "One of the grandest results of modern comparative philology," says Dr. Meyer, "has been to show that all languages belonging to one common stock—and we may say, enlarging this view, all languages of the earth—are but scattered indications of that primitive state of human intellect, and more particularly of the imitative faculty, under the higher excitement of poetical inspiration, in which the language originated, and with which every language remains connected, as well through the physiological unity of the human race, as through the historical unity of the family to which it more especially belongs. (Bunsen's Christianity of Mankind, iii., 163.) In like manner, Professor Max Muller says, "these two points comparative philology has gained (1.) Nothing necessitates the admission of different independent beginnings for the material elements of Turanian, Semitic, and Aryan branches of speech; nay, it is possible, even now, to point out radicals, which, under various changes and disguises, have been current in these three branches ever since their first separation. (2.) Nothing necessitates the admission of different beginnings for the formal elements of the Turanian, Semitic, and Aryan branches of speech; and though it is impossible to derive the Aryan system of grammar from the Semitic, or the Semitic from the Turanian, we can perfectly understand how, either through individual influences, or by the wear and tear of grammar in its own continuous working, the different systems of grammar of Asia and Europe may have been produced." (Ibid., pp. 479, 480.) Once more, although it may not be possible singly to assign all Semitic tongues to the descendants of Shem, Aryan to the descendants of Japheth, and Turanian to the descendants of Ham, it is still observable, that comparative philology seems to have reduced all languages to three distinct stocks, even the rapid degeneracy of barbarian dialects, not wholly obscuring their relationship to one of these three families. This is the more to be noticed, when we learn that in savage tribes those who speak the same dialect will sometimes, by separation and estrangement, become, in the course of a generation, unintelligible to each other. (See the "Speaker's Commentary," vol. i., p. 83.)

Languages are divided, according to their form, into three classes:—(1.) *Isolating*, consisting of monosyllabic roots, entirely destitute of composition and grammatical inflection; of which the great type is the Chinese. (2.) *Agglutinative*, in which grammatical changes are denoted by the mere juxtaposition of different roots, and which is spoken chiefly by the Nomad tribes of Asia, and Northern Europe, and by some of those

of Southern India, the Malay Peninsula, and the Indian and Pacific Archipelagos. Modern ethnologists regard these dialects as characteristic of what they call the Turanian family. (3.) *Inflecting*, in which the prefixes and terminations which modify the meaning and relations of the principal root are welded with it into one word, having lost their radical character.

The inflectional languages are divided into two families, the *Indo-European* and the *Semitic*. (1.) The *Indo-European*, or *Indo-Germanic* languages are so named from the two extremities of the chain in which they stretch from south-east to north-west, across Asia to Europe. They are sometimes also called *Aryan*, from the races which peopled Eastern Persia and Northern India. The sacred language of India, the *Sanskrit*, stands first in the series. Next comes the ancient and modern languages of Persia, and the other countries in the table-land of Iran; then those of Armenia and the Caucasian Isthmus; whence the family spreads out over all Europe, to the shores of the North Sea and the Atlantic. (2.) The *Semitic* languages are so called, because the most conspicuous members of the family are those whose Semitic descent is affirmed in Scripture; the Hebrews and Arabs, Syrians and Assyrians. These nations occupied, and for the most part, still occupy, the south-west corner of Asia, to the west of the Indo-Germanic zone; pent in between the highlands of Armenia and Iran, on the east; the Mediterranean and Red Sea, on the west, and the Gulf of Arabia, on the South.

As yet, comparative philology has not succeeded in establishing a distinct family of languages corresponding to the *Hamitic race*; and these languages are meanwhile classed as *Sub-Semitic*. Hence we have the division into (1) *Semitic Proper*, including Aramaean, Hebrew, Arabic, and Ethiopic; and (2) *Sub-Semitic*, including the Egyptian or Coptic, and, perhaps, the languages of the ancient Libyans, still preserved by the Kabyles and Touargs of North Africa, and some tribes the Upper Nile.

What has been said will show the striking general agreement of the record in Genesis with the results of comparative philology. The Indo-European family corresponds to the Japhethite races, not only as far as the range included in the biblical record; but the extensions of the former are what might be expected from the latter. The range of the Semitic family proper is precisely that assigned to Shemite races, with the addition of Ethiopia, where, as in the neighbouring parts of Arabia, they displaced the Cushites; while the more complicated relations of the Sub-Semitic languages are what we might have expected from the movements of the Hamites and Shemites. The whole result is to divide the nations of the ancient world into two great groups, of which the one expanded and made more free and powerful the civilisation begun by the other. The very names of Shem (*exultation*), and Japheth (*enlargement*), are symbolical of those destinies of the races which were foretold in Noah's prophecy, "God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tabernacles (inherit the power and high privileges) of Shem."

The course of history establishes another broad division of the ancient nations into the

*Eastern* and the *Western*; the latter representing the free energy of the Indo-European races; the former, not uninfluenced by the same element, as contributed by the Aryan stock, absorbed it into its own mass of immobility and deoptism. Thus the Median and Persian conquerors of the Babylonian empire, and, long afterwards, the Greek rulers of Egypt and Syria, conformed to the Oriental type. The attentive reader of history will not fail to note the great distinction which marks the two different streams, and the two antagonistic principles of ancient history—the eastern and the western—the civilisation of the Nile and the Euphrates, with the fixed principles of their great monarchies, and the higher civilisation, and noble, political, literary, and artistic life which grew up on the shores of the Mediterranean, and were destined to cover the whole world. Our early study of, and sympathy with the latter, is, however, left imperfect, unless we are familiar with what the former did to prepare its way, so as to understand the full significance of the ultimate triumph of the West.

#### CONSECRATION OF THE FRIENDS IN COUNCIL LODGE, No. 1383.

Another gratifying and interesting event occurred at the New Hall, 33, Golden-square, on Monday, the 3rd inst., which, like that which took place on the 8th ult., will not soon cease to be remembered by those brethren who participated in it, viz.: the constituting a new lodge, and installing the Earl of Carnarvon, as its first W.M.

There were present on the occasion, the following brethren:—The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Deputy Grand Master of England; the Earl of Limerick, Prov. Grand Master for Bristol; Lord Lindsay, Past Grand Warden of England, and Prov. Grand Master for Aberdeen; the Rev. John Huyshe, Prov. Grand Master for Devon, and Past Grand Chaplain of England; Dr. Robert Hamilton, District Grand Master for Jamaica; W. W. Beach, Prov. Grand Master for Hants and Isle of Wight, &c.; Chas. Hunter, Prov. Grand Master for Aberdeenshire East, Past Master 755, England; George Chatterton, No. 1 Ireland, and Deputy Prov. Grand Master for Munster; Le Docteur Verstraeten, P.M., Bruxelles; Rev. A. Bruce Frazer, Grand Chaplain, and Prov. G.S.W. for Cambridge; John Hervey, Grand Secretary; J. B. Monckton, Grand Senior Deacon, P.M. 197; Col. A. W. Adair, Past Prov. Grand Master for Somerset; Chas. Hutton Gregory, Past Grand Deacon of England, P.M. 197; Sir M. Costa, Past Grand Organist for England; W. Hickman, Past Grand A.D.C. of England; G. J. Vigne, Past S.G.W. Somerset; Capt. N. G. Philips, P.M. 311, 333, I.C.; General H. J. M. P. Montagu, Deputy Grand Master Dorset; Hyde Pullen, Past Grand S.B. of England, and Past Deputy Prov. Grand Master Isle of Wight; S. Rawson, Past Prov. Grand Master for China; Sir P. Mc C. de Colquhoun, P.M. 370; Rev. P. H. Newnham, Prov. Grand Chaplain Hants, Past Prov. Grand Chaplain for Dorset; C. A. Newnham, Past Prov. Grand Senior Warden Staffordshire, &c.; Dr. F. H. Woodford, Past Prov. Grand Senior Warden for Somerset; E. D. Hamill, W.M., 197; Henry Gr. P.M.

187, S.W. 197; Chas. E. Hollingsworth, P.M. and Sec. 197; Gen. H. E. Doherty, Past Prov. Grand Senior Deacon for Somerset; J. Glaisher, P.M. 33; R. Costa, P.M. 263; G. Kenning, Prov. G. Deacon, Mid'x, P.M. 192; J. MacGlashan, 354, Jamaica; Col. Guyon, P. G.S.B. Somerset; John Read, P.M. 88; T. W. Boord, W.M. 222; Cap. W. Portlock Dadson, 913; Robert De Lacy, 114; C. J. Burgess, 429, 1216, &c.; J. F. Starkey, S.W. 855; R. Spencer, P.M. and Treas. Grand Steward's Lodge; J. Keregidge, G. T. Carter, 173; John Hodges, 1319, &c.,

The brethren being arranged, Bro. the Earl of Limerick took the chair by virtue, of dispensation from the M.W.G.M. the Marquis of Ripon, and appointed Bro. Hutton Gregory, P.M. of the Jerusalem Lodge No. 197, as S.W. *pro tem.* and Bro. J. B. Monckton, also a P.M. of 197, as J.W. *pro tem.*—a graceful compliment being thus displayed to the Jerusalem Lodge—the W.M. (Bro. Gregory), Wardens and members of that lodge having recommended the petition of the Friends in Council Lodge, to the consideration of the M.W.G.M. The brethren of the new lodge were then introduced, bearing the consecrating elements, and arranged in their proper places.

The Grand Secretary read the warrant, and the brethren of the new lodge having given their approval of the officers named in the warrant to preside over them, the Officiating Brother, the Earl of Limerick, proceeded to constitute the brethren into a regular lodge, which was very efficiently and beautifully done with appropriate honours and musical accompaniments.

As soon as the ceremony of consecration was completed, the Grand Secretary, Bro. J. Hervey presented the R.W. Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon, with a few truly kind and complimentary remarks, as the W.M. designate for installation, who, after having duly given his assent to the ancient charges, and formally undertaken the duties of W.M. of the lodge, was invested, placed in his chair in ancient and solemn form, and saluted accordingly. The W.M. requested Bro. C. J. Vigne to act as his P. M. for the year, who was invested with the collar of the office.

The W.M. having been greeted and proclaimed in all regularity, was pleased to appoint the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Capt. N. G. Philips, S.W.; and Dr. R. Hamilton, J.W. J. Huyshe, who had acted as Chaplain during the ceremony of consecration with much solemnity, kindly received the collar of Chaplain for Bro. Rev. E. H. H. Vernon. Sir M. Costa was invested as Treasurer; Hyde Pullen was appointed and invested as Secretary; Col. A. W. Adair, as S.D.; Gen. H. Clerke, as J.D.; J. M. P. Montagu, as I.G.; Hyde Pullen undertook the additional duty of Director of Ceremonies; John Read was appointed Organist. Bro. Hyde Pullen, who had acted as Director of the Ceremonies during the consecration and installation, then delivered the usual addresses with the impressiveness for which he is so well known.

The W.M., in kind and appropriate terms, then proposed as joining members to the Lodge the following brethren:—Sir P. Colquhoun, R. Costa, the Rev. E. H. H. Vernon, Major S. H. Clerke, the Earl of Limerick, Gen. H. G.

Doherty, T. W. Boord, Col. H. T. Guyon, Capt. C. T. Burgess, the Rev. J. Huyshe, S. Rawson, John Hervey, C. C. Pole, J. Oxley Oxland, Lord Leigh, Lord Skelmersdale, James Glaisher, C. Hutton Gregory, Capt. G. A. Phayre, Joseph Gundry, W. W. Beach, Lord Lindsay, R. W. Falconer, Capt. W. Portlock Dadson, Christopher Atkinson Newnham, Rev. P. H. Newnham, Charles Fendelow, Capt. the Hon. A. W. A. N. Hood, J. Braddick Monckton, Rev. W. F. Short, J. H. Woodforde, and John Read.

The W.M. asked the brethren to pass a vote of thanks to the officiating brethren for the admirable manner in which they had, one and all, done their duties, which was responded to by acclamation, and Bro. the Earl of Limerick acknowledged the compliment for himself and those who had assisted him.

The Worshipful Master then addressed a few kind and affectionate remarks to the brethren, expressing his fervent hopes for the prosperity of the Lodge, and his own earnest determination to promote as far as possible, the happiness of the brethren.

The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated, highly gratified with the ceremonials as well as the beautiful decorations of this new hall.

#### HISTORICAL NOTICE OF THE ST. CLAIRS OF ROSSLYN, GRAND MASTER MASONS OF SCOTLAND.

BY BRO. CHALMERS I. PATON.

[Continued from page 332.]

He was succeeded by his son William. William, third Earl of Orkney, of this family, was one of the hostages for James I. of Scotland, when he was permitted to visit Scotland in 1421, after his captivity during his youth in England. This Earl was afterwards appointed Admiral of Scotland, and received a grant of the Earldom of Caithness on his renunciation of that of Nithsdale, to which he had a claim. King James III., having acquired the Orkney Islands, on his marriage with Margaret of Denmark, in 1489, the Earl of Orkney and Caithness resigned his Earldom of Orkney into the King's hands, and it was annexed to the crown by Act of Parliament in 1471, lands in life being bestowed upon him in compensation for it. Earldoms were not then, as now, mere dignities, but the possession of them implied territorial rights, revenues, and the duty of rendering military services.

The St. Clairs of Rosslyn descended from Sir Oliver St. Clair, son of the above-mentioned William, Earl of Orkney and Caithness. Sir Oliver is generally said to have been the eldest son of the Earl, by his second wife, although the Caithness family have always maintained that his brother William, from whom they derive their descent, was the elder. However, the Rosslyn estates were far greater than those of the Earldom of Caithness, and in those days, earldoms and baronies were often disposed of by will, like estates or other possessions.

In the Peerage of England, we have a remarkable example of the disregard of mere primogeniture in the settlement of the Duchy of Somerset on the male issue of the second marriage of the first Duke; and we have a somewhat similar instance in the present day in the peerage of Cromarty; created in favour of the present Duchess of Sutherland as the Countess of Cromarty, her second son being constituted her heir in that peerage, to the exclusion of her elder son, the heir of the dukedom. Still more to the point, however, is the case of the Earldom of Breadalbane, which was granted to the first earl, with a right to dispose of it by will, which right he exercised—apparently on account of the political troubles of the times—to the exclusion of his eldest son, giving the earldom by his will to his second son, whose descendants have long enjoyed it.

William, Earl of Orkney and Caithness, was the first of his family who held the office of Grand Master Mason of Scotland. The office was

granted by James II. of Scotland, to him and to his heirs, and successors in the Baronry of Rosslyn, on account of the attention which he had paid to the interests of the Order, the right of appointing to this office and to other high offices of the Masonic Brotherhood being at that time exercised by the Kings of Scotland. Sir Oliver St. Clair, and the St. Clairs of Rosslyn, his descendants, continued to hold the office till 1736. They held their principal annual meetings at Kilwinning, where Freemasonry in Scotland is commonly said to have had its origin, the Kilwinning Lodge being acknowledged as the Mother Lodge by almost all the Lodges in Scotland, and at least by all that have connected themselves with the Grand Lodge, although the Melrose St. John, which has never connected itself with the Grand Lodge, has perhaps in reality a better claim to be regarded as the most ancient. The Mother Kilwinning Lodge granted constitutions and charters of erection to lodges in all parts of Scotland.

After the accession of James VI. of Scotland to the English throne, he seems to have neglected the interests of the Masonic body in Scotland, and in his reign we find brethren of the Order exercising the right of appointing their own Grand Master, although only to this very limited extent, that they "agree and consent that William Saint Clair, now of Rosslyn, for himself and his heirs, purchase and obtain, at the hands of our Sovereign Lord, liberte, freedom, and jurisdiction, upon us and our successors, in all time coming, as patrons and judges to us, and the several professors of our Craft within this realm." The charter or deed by which the Scottish Masons, thus, as it were, ratify the hereditary authority of the St. Clairs of Rosslyn, is known to us by a copy existing in the Hay MSS. in the Advocates Library in Edinburgh, a copy which was certainly made before the year 1700, as the MSS. volume bears that date. The charter itself is without date, but with it is to be found another, dated in 1630, confirming it. The originals of these charters are now in the possession of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. These documents are very important as illustrating the condition of Freemasonry in Scotland in the beginning of the seventeenth century, and as conclusively disproving the assertion which some confidently, but ignorantly made, that Freemasonry, as distinguished from a mere Craft or Guild of working Masons, had no existence until it was devised and brought into existence by Elias Ashmole, and some of his literary friends in that century. Indeed, the appointment of William, Earl of Orkney and Caithness, to the office Grand Master Mason of Scotland—whatever the title was, of which it is of no importance to dispute—two centuries before, is of itself proof of the high position which Masonry had already attained.

It was through no mere court favouritism, however, that the Earl of Orkney and Caithness was appointed Grand Master Mason by James II., but really, as well as professedly, for his regard to the interests of Masonry. It was he who built the Chapel of Rosslyn, one of the most exquisitely beautiful specimens of Gothic architecture in Great Britain.

Sir Oliver St. Clair, son of William, Earl of Orkney and Caithness, and his successor in the Baronry of Rosslyn, as well as in the Grand Mastership, was succeeded by his grandson, Sir William, who was in great favour with James V., and was often summoned to Parliament by special writ, according to an exercise of royal prerogative, not known in more recent times. He died in the flower of his age, in 1540. His son and successor Sir William, died in the latter part of the reign of Queen Mary, and was succeeded by his son Edward, who died without issue, upon which the Rosslyn estates and Grand Mastership fell to his son, Sir William, whose successor was his son, Sir James, a distinguished loyalist. Sir James suffered much for his attachment to the royal family. He was followed by his son, Alexander, and he by his son, William.

Sir Oliver St. Clair, a younger son of Sir Oliver St. Clair of Rosslyn, was general of the Scottish army, under King James V., at the Raid of Solway Moss, in 1542. He was the especial favourite of the King, but his advancement to a position of such prominence as the King assigned him, gave great

offence to the nobles of Scotland, so that when proclamation of it was made, after the army had crossed the border and entered England, the greatest disorder immediately broke out amongst the Scots. The English, perceiving this, rushed forward and attacked them. The rout of the Scots was complete and terrible. Sir Oliver St. Clair was taken prisoner, and the King, who had remained at Lochmaben, was filled with consternation, continually repeating the cry, "O fled Oliver? Is Oliver taken? O fled Oliver?" and so on, from which he ceased not, until a few weeks afterwards he died at Falkland. This Sir Oliver St. Clair was a devoted adherent of the Roman Catholic party in Scotland, to which also all the St. Clairs of Rosslyn adhered throughout the sixteenth century, and during part of the seventeenth. Sir William St. Clair of Rosslyn, the second of that name, was made Lord Justice General by Francis and Mary, King and Queen of Scotland, in 1559.

He took part with Mary at Langside, in 1568, but for this he obtained a remission in 1570. He collected many manuscripts, which had been taken out of the monasteries, when they were plundered, at the time of the Reformation, although what has become of these manuscripts is unknown. They would, unquestionably, be of great value if they could now be recovered.

In the year 1736, William St. Clair of Rosslyn, being under the necessity of selling his estate, and having no children, thought it right to make provision that the office of Grand Master Mason of Scotland should not be left vacant at his death. He therefore assembled the Edinburgh and neighbouring lodges, and represented to them the advantage which would accrue to their order from having a nobleman or gentleman of their own choice, placed in the office of Grand Master, intimating at the same time his intention of resigning into the hands of the brethren, all title which he, his heirs and successors, possessed to that office. Letters were therefore addressed to all the lodges of Scotland, inviting them to appear by proper representatives, on next Saint Andrew's Day, for the election of a Grand Master. The result was the formation of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and William St. Clair, Esq., of Rosslyn, was himself elected First Grand Master, which office, however, he held in virtue of this election, only for one year, the Earl of Cromarty being elected as his successor in 1737; and for a considerable number of years, a new Grand Master was annually elected, the first instance of a re-election being that of Lord Aberdour, in 1756.

William St. Clair of Rosslyn died on 24th January, 1778, at the age of 78. The Grand Master, Sir William Forbes, ordered a funeral lodge to be held, when above four hundred brethren assembled, in deep morning, to pay the last tribute of respect to one whom they had long esteemed, loved, and revered, and to whose zeal for the interest of Freemasonry, its cause in Scotland had been much indebted.

"The last Rosslyn," says Bro. Sir Walter Scott, the novelist (for he was universally known by his patrimonial designation, and would probably have deemed it an insult in any one who had called him W. Sinclair), was a man considerably above six feet, with dark grey locks, a form upright, but gracefully so, thin-flanked and broad-shouldered, built, it would seem, for the business of the war or chace, a noble eye of chastened pride and undoubted authority, and features handsome and striking in their general effect, though somewhat harsh and exaggerated when considered in detail. His complexion was dark and grizzled, and as we schoolboys, who crowded to see him perform feats of strength and skill in the old Scottish games of golf and archery, used to think and say amongst ourselves, the whole figure resembled the famous founder of the Douglas race, pointed out, it is pretended to a Scottish monarch on a conquered field of battle, as the man whose arm had achieved the victory, by the expressive words, *Sholto Douglas*,—(Behold the dark grey man). In all the manly sports which require strength and dexterity, Rosslyn was unrivalled, but his particular delight was in archery.

This William St. Clair of Rosslyn appears to have sold what remained of his family estates to General St. Clair, second son of Henry, Lord St. Clair, the heir of line of William Earl of Orkney by his first marriage. General St. Clair,

by a deed executed on the 31st October, 1735, settled the estates thus acquired, failing issue of his own body, upon the heirs-male of his sisters, and was accordingly succeeded by his nephew, James Paterson, Esq., who assumed the name of St. Clair, the only son of the marriage of John Preston, Esq., of Preston Hall, and the Honourable Grizel St. Clair. He, dying unmarried in 1789, was succeeded by his nephew, Sir James St. Clair Erskine, afterwards second Earl of Rosslyn, in 1805, the grandson of Sir John Erskine, Bart., of Alva, who married the Honourable Barbara St. Clair, daughter of Henry, Lord St. Clair, and as heir male of this lady, he succeeded under this entail. His mother was a sister of Lord Loughborough, afterwards the first Earl of Rosslyn, whose peerage was created, with remainders to his nephews, Sir James St. Clair Erskine, and John Erskine, Esq. The first Earl of Rosslyn died in 1803, and was succeeded by his nephew, Sir James St. Clair Erskine, already mentioned.

The first Earl of Rosslyn was Alexander Wedderburn, born at Edinburgh, 13th February, 1733, eldest son of Peter Wedderburn, Esq., of Chesterhall, (known as a Lord of Session by the title of Lord Chesterhall.) The Wedderburns of Chesterhall were descended from Walter de Wedderburn, one of the great Barons of Scotland, who swore fealty in 1296, to Edward I. of England, for the lands which he possessed in County of Berwick. Alexander Wedderburn was early distinguished at the Scottish bar, to which he was called when only nineteen years of age; but a snubbing from the bench, such as was then too common, caused such disgust in his mind, that he tore off his gown and flung it down on the spot, declaring his intention of seeking another sphere. He went to London, where he became a member of Inner Temple in 1753. He was called to the English bar in 1757, and soon rose to high eminence. He was appointed Solicitor-General in 1771, was promoted to be Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas in 1780, and was then created Baron Loughborough. In 1793 he was appointed Lord Chancellor. In 1795 he obtained a new patent of peerage as Baron Loughborough, with the remainder to his nephew, Sir James St. Clair Erskine, and John Erskine, Esq., above-mentioned.

In 1801, he was advanced to the dignity of Earl of Rosslyn, with the remaindership. He died on 3rd January, 1805, and was succeeded by Sir James St. Clair Erskine, who then became second Earl of Rosslyn.

This second Earl of Rosslyn was descended in the male line from the ancient family of Erskine, and by maternal progenitors from the St. Clairs of Rosslyn, and the Wedderburns of Chesterhall. Sir Henry Erskine, Bart., son of Sir John Erskine of Alva, Bart., who was a younger son of the Hon. Sir Charles Erskine of Alva, who was a younger son of John, seventh Earl of Marr, was at his death in 1765, a Lieut.-General in the army. He married, in 1761, Janet, daughter of Peter Wedderburn of Chesterhall, sister of the first Earl of Rosslyn. Through her the present Earls of Rosslyn are connected with the old St. Clairs of Rosslyn, Sir John Erskine, his father, having married a daughter of Henry Lord Sinclair, or St. Clair. The second Earl of Rosslyn was succeeded by his eldest son, James Alexander, third Earl, on his death in 1837. The third Earl of Rosslyn died on the 16th June, 1866 and was succeeded by his son, Robert Francis, fourth and present Earl of Rosslyn, also Grand Master of Scotland, residing at Dysart Hall, Fifeshire, Scotland.

The family name is now St. Clair Erskine. The claims indicate the connection with the St. Clairs and the Wedderburns.

The present Earl of Rosslyn holds the high and honourable office of Grand Master Mason of Scotland. His Grand Mastership is of special interest as connecting the present time with the past of former centuries; and it is to be hoped under his reign, Freemasonry will regain its old high reputation for purity and honour.

The grant of the office of Grand Master Mason of Scotland by James II. to William St. Clair, Earl of Orkney, has been called in question, and some ingenuity has been displayed in the endeavour to make it appear improbable. As

has been already observed, it is by no means necessary to prove that the title of Grand Master Mason was given to the Earl of Orkney, or was ever assumed by his descendants, the Barons or Lairds of Rosslyn, during their tenure of their hereditary office, in order to maintain that this office was virtually the Grand Mastership. Titles and styles of address have, no doubt, varied in the Masonic body as in others. In the days of James II., of Scotland, and indeed much more recently, the king was not spoken of as His Majesty, but always as His Highness; and many other forms now in use are likewise of recent origin. The charter by which James II. granted the Grand Mastership to the Earl of Orkney is not, however, in existence, or at least, it is not known to be in existence, although a thorough search of the charter chests of the Rosslyn and Caithness families might possibly enough result in the finding of it, although it appears from the charter granted by the Masons of Scotland to Sir William St. Clair of Rosslyn in A.D. 1630, that it was then supposed to be lost, "being consumed in a flame of fire, within the Castle of Rosslyn," with other writs or charters belonging to the family. It has been pointed out, however, as a remarkable circumstance, and as calculated to throw doubt upon the story of this a "flame of fire," that there is no mention of it in the first charter granted by the Masons of Scotland to the Laird of Rosslyn in the reign of James VI., and of which the charter of 1630 is a confirmation. To this it may be replied, in the *first* place, that the charter of 1630 is longer and more particular in many things than the old charter, a fact which it seems strange that any fair historic inquirer should have failed to observe, and which makes it not wonderful that this statement concerning the destruction of the charters, by which the St. Clairs of Rosslyn obtained their rights from the crown, should appear only in the charter of 1630, and not in the older one, which it confirms. In the *second* place, it is to be observed that the argument, if such it may be called, against the truthfulness of the statement concerning the "flame of fire," in the charter of 1630, is founded on an assumption which cannot be admitted without the destruction of the very theory which it has evidently been devised to support. It has been alleged, with reckless confidence that to establish the antiquity of Freemasonry and give it a false glory, many falsehoods have been put forth as if they were historic verities; and men who were highly honoured in their own day, have been named as the framers of a system of imposture. It would not really serve the purpose, however, of those who maintain the entirely modern origin of Freemasonry, to prove, if they could prove it, or to make it appear probable, as they have evidently sought to do, that the Masons of Scotland in 1630 set down in their charter to Sir William St. Clair, a deliberate lie as to the burning of the old charters of his family. What motive can they be supposed to have had for so doing? Those who ascribe the invention of Freemasonry to Elias Ashmole, in the latter part of seventeenth century, or to Desaguliers, Anderson, and others in the year 1717, would find it little to their advantage in point of argument, for the support of either of these theories, even if they could prove that a false story for the advancement of the glory of Masonry was fabricated in 1630. They have caught at the argument too hastily, and without well considering its probable effects. However, they seem to imagine that it is desirable to throw doubt and discredit on whatever tends to make Freemasonry appear ancient, and therefore the statement of the charter of 1630, concerning the destruction of the old writs of the Rosslyn family, must be set aside if possible. And so we are asked, "By what strange fatality were particular writings consumed, when all the remaining charters, forming a complete charterlary of Rosslyn, escaped?" Now the charter of 1630, plainly declares that not only were the charters destroyed by which their rights to the Grand Mastership—or whatever it was termed—of the Masons of Scotland were granted by the crown, but that along with their "sundry other of the Laird of Rosslyn, his wreatts" were consumed.

As to the existence of a complete charterlary of Rosslyn, it is a mere gratuitous assumption. What charters may exist in the charter chests of the Rosslyn family, no one, of course, can tell; but we know that copies of certain charters are contained in the Hay MSS. in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh, and these have been published as "the Charterlary of Rosslyn," in the "Genealogie of the Sainteclaires of Rosslyn by Father Richard Augustin Hay, Prior of St. Pieremont," (Edinburgh: Thomas G. Stevens, 1835), but a glance at the volume is sufficient to show that it is far from containing a complete set of the family charters. To assume that we have in a "complete charterlary of Rosslyn," is utterly absurd. There is, however, in this volume, one charter to which it may be worth while to refer, in connection with the present subject. It is a charter granted by King James V. "for renewing some old charters of Rosslyn," and the reason assigned for their renewal, is that they have become worn out and almost illegible, so that they would probably soon be altogether useless, "quod una pars suarum evidendarum caduca, et ob netustatem elementarum vix lucide legenda, et tractu temporis, illius sigilla pene corrupta, sic quod in punctum consumptionis existit."

From this we may infer, that even in the Castle of Rosslyn, the charters were not kept with due care; and a charter granting authority among the Masons was not as likely to be more carefully preserved than those by which the estates of the family were conferred.

It seems proper here to give, in full, the two charters already mentioned, as granted by the Masons of Scotland to the St. Clairs of Rosslyn, in the beginning of the seventeenth century. Charter granted by the Masons of Scotland, to

William St. Clair of Rosslyn, (in the reign of James VI. of England, and after his accession to the English throne—as appears from other evidence—but without date), [some say probable date 1600—1.]

From Hay's MSS. in Advocates' Library. Originals in the Grand Lodge of Scotland:—

#### No. I.

Be it kend till all men be thir present Iris. We deacones maisteris and frie men of the Maissones w'tin the realme of Scotland with expres consente & assent of W'm Schaw Maister of Wark to our sou'ane lord ffor sa mekle as from aige to aige it hes bene observit amangs ws that the Laidis of ro ling hes ever bene patrones and protectors of ws and our privileges lyckas our predecessors hes obeyit and acknowledgeit thame as patrones and p'tectoris Quhill that w'in thir few yiers throwch negligence and slewthfulness the samyn hes past furth of vse Quhairby nocht onlie hes the Laird of Kosling lyne owt of his just vrycht bot also our hail craft hes bene destitute of ane patrone protectour and oversear q'lk hes genderit manyfauld corruptiones and imperfectiones baith amangis ourselvis and in our craft and hes gevin occasion to mony persones to consave evill opin'oun of ws and our craft and to leve off great inerpyses of pollecie Be ressonne of our great misbehaviour w'out correction Quhairby not onlie the comittairs of the faultis bot also the honest men ar disapoyntit of thair craft and p'fleit. As lyckwayes quhen dyvers and sindrie contraverses fallis out amangis ourselvis thair follows great & manyfauld inconveniences throw want of ane [patrone and protector] we nocht being abill to await vpoun the ordiner judges & judgement of this realme throw the occasion of our powertie and langsumnes of precess ffor remeid of q'r'of and for keeping of guid ordour amangis ws in all tymes cummyng and for advancement our craft and vocatioun within this realme and furtherens of policie w'tin the samin We for our selfis & in name of our hail bretherene and craftismen w't consent fairsaid aggreis and consentis that W'm Sinclair now of roslin for him self & his airis purches and obtaine at ye hands of our Sou'ane Lord libertie friedome and jurisdiction vpon ws and our successoures in all times cummyng as patrones & judges to us and the hail p'fessoris of our craft w'tin this realme quhom of we have power and commission Swa that heirefter we may acknowledge him and his airis as our patrones and judge vnder our Sou'ane Lord w'tout ony kynd of appellatioun or declynnyng from his judgement with

power to the said Willieme and his airis to depute judges ane or mae vnder him and to vse sick ampill and lairge jurisdictione vpon ws & our successors als weill as burghes as land as it sall pleis our souerane lord to grant to him and his airis

WILLIAM SCHAW.

Maistir of Wark.

Edinburgh  
Andro Symson  
Jhone Robesoun

Thomas Weir mason in Edr. Thomas Robertsoun wardane the Ludge of Dumfermling of and Sanct Androis and tak- and the burding vpon him for his bretherene of ye mason craft within they Lwdges and for the Commissionars efter mentionat viz David Skowgall Alexander Gilbert & David Spens for the Lwdge of Sanct Androis, Andro Alesoun and Archibald Angus Commissionars for the Lwdge of Dwnfermling & Rot. Balze and Johne Saw for the Lwdge of Heddington with o'r hands led on the pen be cause we can nocht write

St. Androis

Haddingtoun  
P. Campbell tak- and ye burding for Jon. Saw  
J. Vallance  
William Aittoun

Achievones Heavin  
George Aittoun  
Jo. Fwsetter  
Thomas Petticrwf

Ita est Laurentius Robesoun Notarius publicus adpremissa quisitus de specialibus mandatis dict. personarum scribere nescien vt aseruerunt testan. manu mea proprie

Dumfermling  
Robert Pest

[Ita est] Henricus Banna- [tunc] connotarius adpremissa [de mandatis] antedictarum personarum [scribere nescientium ut aseruerunt teste] manu mea propria

Charter granted by the Masons of Scotland, in the year 1630, to Sir William St. Clair of Rosslyn.

[Some say probable date May 1, 1628.] From the Hay MSS. in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh. Originals to be seen in the Grand Lodge of Scotland Hall, Edinburgh.

NO. II.

Be it kend till all men be thir present lres. We the Deacones maisteris and friemen of the maissions and hammermen within the kingdome of Scotland That forsamekill as from aidge to aidge it hes bene observet amangis ws and ovr predecessoris that the Lairds of Rosling hes ever bene patrones and pretectoris of ws & o'r priwledgis Lyk as our predecessores hes obeyit reverencet & acknowledged thame as patrones and protectoris q'rof they had letters of protection & vtheris richtis grantit be his ma'ties most no'll progenitors of worthie memorie q'lkis with sindrie vtheris of the Lairds of Rosling his writis being consumet & brunt in ane flame of fyre within the castle of Rosling in ane . . .

The consummation and burneing q'rof being clearlie knawin to ws and ovr predecessores deacones maisteris and friemen of the saidis vocationis, and our protection of the samyn and priwledgis thereof [be negligence] and slouthfulness being liklie to pass furth of wse q'rdrow not only wald the Lairds of Rosling lyne out of thair just richt but also our hail craftis wald haif bene destitute of ane patrone protector & oversear quhilk wald ingemner mony-fald imperfectiounes and corruptiounes baith amangis our selfis and in our craft and give occasioun to mony persones to conceave evill opinioun of ws and our craft and to leive af many and grit interprycees of policie q'lkis wald be vnder takin if our grit misbehaviour were sufferit to go on w'tout correction. For remeid q'rof and for keiping of guid ordour amangis ws in all tyme cuming and for advancement of our craft and vocationes within his hienes kingdome of Scotland and furduring of policie yairntill The maist part of our predecessoris for themselves and in name and behalfe of our

brethrene and craftismen w't advyse and consent of Willieme Schaw maister of wark to heines unq'le darrest father of worthie memorie All in ane voce agreit consentit and subscriyvet that Willieme Sinclar of Rosling father to S'r Willieme Sinclar now of Rosling for him self and his airis sould purches & obtaine at the hands of his ma'tie libertie friedome & jurisdictione upon ws & our predecessoris deacones maisteris & friemen of the saidis vocationes as patrones and judges to us and the hail professors y'r of within the said Kingdom q'r of they had power & commissioun Sua that they and we nicht yaireafter acknowledge him and his airis & as o'r patrone & judge under our souerane lord without ony kynd of appellation or declinatoure frome thair judgement forever, As the said agriement subscriyvet be the said m'r of wark and our predecessores at maire length [proportis] In the quhilk office privilege & jurisdictione over ws and our said [voca]tioun the said Willieme Sinclar of Rosling ever continewit to his going to Ireland q'r he presently remanes sen the quhilk [time] of his departure furth of this realme thair ar very mony corruptiounes & imperfectiounes rysin and ingennerit baith amangis ourselfis & in our saidis vocationes in defect of ane patrone and oversear over ws and the samyn Sua that the saidis vocationes ar altogietar liklie to decay And now for saiftie thair of we haifing full experience of the cfauld guid skill and judgement quhilk the said S'r Willieme Sinclar now of Rosling hes in our said craft and vocation and for reparation of the ruines and mony-fald corruptiounes and enormities done be unskillfull persones thairintill We all in ane voce haif ratifiet and approven and be thir presentis ratifies & approves the foresaid former l're of jurisdictione and libertie made and sub't be our bretherene and his heines unq'le M'r of wark for the tyme to the said Willieme Sinclar of Rosling father to the said Sir William quhairby he and his airis ar acknowledged as our patrones and judge under o'r souerane lord over ws & the hail professors of our said vocation w't in this his heines kingdome of Scotlande without any appellation or declinato'r from thair judgement in ony [time hereafter] forever And further we all in ane voce as said is of new haif maid constitute & ordainit and be thir presentis makis constitutes & ordanes the said S'r Willieme Sinclar now of Rosling and his airis mail our only patrones protectoris and oversearis under our souerane lord to ws & our successoris deacones maisteris and friemen of our saidis vocationes of maissions hammermen w't in the hail Kingdome of Scotland & of o'r hail priwledges and jurisdictiones belonging thairto q'r in he his father and yair predecessoris Lairds of Rosling haif bene in vse of of possessioun thir mony aidges bygane With full power to him and thame be thameselfis thair wardanis and deputtis to be constitute be thame to affix and appoynt places of meeting for keiping of guid ord'r in the said craft als olt and sua olt as neid sall requyre All and sindrie persones that may be knawin to be subject to the said vocation to be callit absentis to amercial transgressors to punish unlawis casualities and vtheris dewties quhatsoever pertaineing and belonging or that may fall to be pait be quhatsoever persone or persones subject to said craft to aske crave ressave intronect with and uplift and the samyn to thair awn propper vse to applo deputtis under thame in the said office with clerkis seruandis assisteris and all vtheris officiaris and ordene for quhom they sall be haldin to answer All & sindrie plaintis actiones & causes pertaineing to the said craft and vocation and againes quhatsoever persone or persones professors y'r of to heir discuss decerne & decyde actis decretis & sentences thairvpon to pronounce and the samyn to dew execution to cause be put and gaulie, all and sindrie vyeris priwledges liberties and immunities quhatsoever concerning the said craft to do vse & exercee and caus be done exercet and keipet siclyke and als friely in all respects as ony vyeris thair predecessores hes done or nicht haif done thameselfis in ony tyme bygane friely quietlie weill and in peace but ony revocation obstacle impediment or againe calling quhatsoever. In witness of the q'lk thing to thir p'entis w'tten be Alexander Aikinheid servitor to Andro Hao wrytter we haif sub't thir p'nts w't our hands at

The Ludge of Edinburgh  
William Wallace  
decon

Johne Watt

Thomas Paterson

The Ludge of Glasgow

Johne Boyd deakin

Rot. Boyd sne of the mestres

Hew Douok dekin of ye measoues and vrichtis off Ayr

George Lid[ell] decan of squaremen and nov quarter-maistir

The Ludge of Stirling  
Johne Thomsonsone  
James Rond

The Ludge of Dumfermling  
ne of . . .

The Ludge of Dundie  
Robert Strachowne  
maister

Thomas Fleming wardane in Andrew Wastand Ed'r and Hew David Quhyit Forrest w't o'r maisteris in Dunhandis at the die w't o'r hands at pen led be the the pen led be the notar vnder notar vnder sub-sub'd for wso'r cryveand at our command because we can not wryt  
Adow. Haynotarius asseruit  
Thomas Robertson notarius asseruit

Robert Caldwell in Glasgow with my hand at ye pen led by ye notar subscrywand for me because I cannot writ myself  
J. Henrysone Dawid Mesone notarius asseruit  
Robert Johnstone Mais . . .

I Jn. Serveite m'r of yet craftis in Stirling with my hand at ye pen led be ye notar vnder subscryvand for me becaus I can not writ  
J. Honryson notarius assaruit

I Jon Burne ane of the m'r's of Dumfermlinge w't my hand at ye pen led be ye notar vnder subscryvand for me at my command becaus I can not writ myself  
J. Henrysone notarius asseruit

David Robertson ane of ye mesteris Andrew Welsone master and Thomas [Wc]-one varden of the sed Lag of Sant Androis

They are of great importance in reference to the History of Freemasonry in Scotland. They throw great light on the progress of the Craft. They show that it was not a mere craft of working men, whilst yet they show that it had not attained the position which it has at the present day.

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## The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1872.

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## UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 5th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, the Marquis of Ripon, M.W. G.M., on the throne. Grand Lodge was numerously attended, there being present between 300 and 400 brethren. There was not a heavy paper of business for the evening, but the old stereotyped subject, with which the name of Bro. Cooke is associated stood in two or three forms on the paper, and as this subject always forbodes much discussion, the small amount of business was likely to be spun out over a large space of time. But for this, all the business which was to be transacted on Wednesday evening might have been disposed of in half-an-hour. It lasted however from seven till ten, although very little was said which was new. It having been hinted several times in the course of the debate, that to send back the report of the Board would be an insult to that body, Bro. Llewellyn Evans requested the Grand Master to relieve him of his office, which his Lordship accordingly did, and immediately afterwards invested Bro. Horace Lloyd, Q.C., with the collar and jewel of President.

The Grand Lodge having been formally opened, Grand Secretary read the minutes of the March Communication, of the Grand Festival of 24th of April, and of the Special Grand Lodge, held at Birmingham, on the 2nd of May.

Before putting these last for confirmation, the

Grand Master rose and said, I cannot resist, in a very few words, taking this public opportunity of expressing the deep regret which I felt in not being able to be present upon the occasion to which these minutes relate. It had been my hope, up to the very last moment, that it might have been possible for me to attend upon that occasion, although when I was first asked to undertake the duty of laying this first stone, I felt it my duty to point out how exceedingly uncertain it always must be, whether I can, as long as I hold the official situation which I have now the honour to fill, carry out any engagement which I may make, especially during the Session of Parliament, but at the same time, I should feel it my bounden duty to you, and especially to the brethren of Warwickshire and the adjoining counties, and I say this the more upon the present occasion because we are honoured with the presence of my noble friend and brother, the Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire, who, on that occasion, brought so large a number of brethren together, by his influence, to do honour to the Grand Lodge, and to him, we are indebted in a large measure for the zeal displayed by the numerous brethren then assembled—I say I should have felt it due to you and the provincial brethren to have attended on that occasion, if it had been in my power; but I was called on, suddenly and unexpectedly, to be present at an important Cabinet Council assembled in the middle of that day—a duty which I felt I could not, consistently with that which I owe to Her Majesty and the country in connection with the office which I have the honour to hold, put aside for any engagement whatsoever. Consequently I had no choice, in regard to my public duty, except to break, as I did, with the deepest regret, an engagement which, under all other circumstances, I should have felt a pleasure in keeping. I feel bound to offer this apology to the Grand Lodge, and to the provincial brethren who assembled on that occasion, and having done so, I put these minutes for confirmation.

The minutes of the Special Grand Lodge held at Birmingham were then confirmed.

The election of members of the Board of General Purposes was afterwards taken, and the scrutineers of votes were chosen and obligated. There was no election for the members of the Colonial Board or of the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, as the number of candidates did not exceed the number of vacancies. On the retirement of the scrutineers from Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary read the report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which were recommendation for the following grants, viz. :—

The Widow of the late Bro. W. H. A. of the Zetland Lodge, No. 511, London £100.

The Widow of the late Bro. H. S. F. of the Zetland Lodge, No. 1002, Cokermonth £50.

Bro. J. J. H. of the Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 877, Jersey, Past Provincial Grand Master £100.

Bro. J. M. Clabon moved, and Bro. Joshua Nunn seconded all these grants, which were separately put, and confirmed.

The following report of the Board of General Purposes was on the motion of Bro. L. Evans,

President of the board, taken as read :—

“The Board of General Purposes beg to report as follows :—

“The board have had under consideration the 5th paragraph of their report, submitted to Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication in March last, which paragraph was referred back to the board. For the convenience of Grand Lodge the board subjoin the paragraph in question.

“The Board have taken into consideration the resolution proposed by Bro. Matthew Cooke, P.M. in the Globe Lodge, No. 23; for adoption by Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication held on the 7th September, 1871, and referred to this Board to inquire into and report. The following is a copy of such proposed resolution :—

“That whilst this Grand Lodge recognises the private right of every brother to belong to any extraneous Masonic organisation he may choose, it as firmly forbids, now and at any future time, all brethren, while engaged as Salaried Officials under this Grand Lodge to mix themselves up in any way with such bodies as the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite; the Rites of Misraim and Memphis; the spurious orders of Rome and Constantine; the schismatic body styling itself the Grand Mark Lodge of England, or any other exterior Masonic organisation whatever (even that of the Order of Knights Templar, which is alone recognised by the Articles of Union) under the pain of immediate dismissal from employment by this Grand Lodge.”

“The charges made by Bro. Cooke at the above Quarterly Communication, against the officials in the Grand Secretary's office, have already been inquired into by this board, and a report thereon has been made to Grand Lodge, finding that such charges were in the main without foundation, and this report has been approved by Grand Lodge. The Board have come to the conclusion that the inquiry directed to be made by them had reference to the charges above referred to, and not to the several ‘Exterior Masonic Organisations’ mentioned in the proposed resolution of Bro. Cooke, and they have therefore not proceeded to inquire further into the matter. The board are of opinion, and submit to Grand Lodge, that inasmuch as Grand Lodge has full control, not only over the officials in its service, but over the whole Craft, and would undoubtedly exercise such control should any member, whether official or otherwise, be proved to have taken part in any degree or order denounced by Grand Lodge, or inimical to its principles; and inasmuch as the proposed resolution, if passed, would not add to the power and authority either of Grand Lodge or of this Board, such resolution is unnecessary, and the Board therefore do not recommend its adoption by Grand Lodge. The Board, however, are clearly of opinion, and submit to Grand Lodge, that no clerk or other subordinate officer in the employment of Grand Lodge should take a prominent part in any degree or order not recognised by Grand Lodge.”

The Board having carefully reconsidered the above paragraph, beg leave respectfully to state that they adhere to the opinions therein expressed.

(Signed) J. LLEWELLYN EVANS,  
President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, 21st May, 1872.

At the meeting of the Board held on Tuesday, the 21st instant, after the ordinary business had been disposed of it was unanimously

*Resolved*—"That this Board cannot separate without offering to the President, the V.W. Bro. John Llewellyn Evans, their sincere thanks not only for the undeviating courtesy and kindness which every member of the Board has received at his hands, but for the untiring zeal and attention which he has devoted to the business of the Craft, and the ability and discretion with which he has at all times conducted the proceedings of the Board."

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON,  
*Vice-President.*

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on the 17th May, 1872, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £4,209 10s. 7d. and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for Petty Cash £75.

Bro. L. Evans moved, and Bro. John B. Monckton seconded, the reception of this Report.

Bro. John M. Clabon asked the Grand Registrar what were the degrees or orders not recognised by Grand Lodge, and referred to a paragraph in the Articles of Union, which declared and pronounced that there were three degrees and no more in pure and ancient Masonry.

The Grand Registrar said those were the only degrees acknowledged by the Lodge of Reconciliation that preceded the Union. Still it was stated on the face of the article that it was not intended to prevent the lodges and chapters which had been in the habit of using and promulgating the degrees of chivalry from doing as they had done before. He was not himself a member of any degree beyond the Royal Arch, and whether the Ancient and Accepted Rite was or was not an order of chivalry he could not say; but he had made inquiries among those who were members of that order, and as far as he could learn, it was considered an order of chivalry. He was not able to give a fuller answer.

After some discussion as to the mode of procedure on the question of the reception of the Report, Bro. C. Hutton Gregory recommended that a portion of the Report be not received, viz., "The Board however are clearly of opinion and submit to Grand Lodge that no clerk or other subordinate office in the employment of Grand Lodge should take a prominent part in any degree or order not recognised by Grand Lodge. The Grand Registrar had indicated his belief that the body which was known as the Ancient and Accepted Rite, would be one of the bodies not recognised by Grand Lodge, and if for no others, especially for this reason that it assumed the power to make Masons. That opinion was based upon error. The Rules and Regulations of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, which he held in his hand, contained the following words, "This Council does not interfere with or militate against the authority of the Grand Lodge governing the three symbolic degrees, but distinctly recognises such authority, admitting none to the higher degrees unless previously raised as Master Masons in some regularly con-

stituted Lodge." Then the Articles of Union declared and pronounced pure and ancient Masonry to consist of three degrees and no more, but did not prevent any lodge or chapter from holding meetings in any of the Degrees and Orders of Chivalry according to the constitution of the said orders. It did not say the Orders of Chivalry now practised by lodges and chapters. Accepting the position Grand Registrar had taken, he (Bro. Gregory) would say what any Masons who were not members of the specified degrees, were not in a condition to speak as to their being inimical or not, to Masonry. Masonry was a progressive science, and after the three ceremonies and the Royal Arch, which we got by heart; we even got tired of the everlasting dinners. Some of us also went so far as to know by heart the beautiful lectures, which was the extreme height of knowledge in the Craft degrees. The inquiring mind wished to go further, and instead of that further knowledge doing damage to Masonry, it helped to instruct a man, and to make him a better and worthier Mason. It was not for him to denounce others of that proscribed body who might be present; they were marked by social respectability, and he would warn the Board of General Purposes that in trying to stop the progress of knowledge they would fail, for the denounced rites would go on in spite of their reprobation, and a schism would be created in Masonry. The proposition of the Board was self-condemned in the strongest way; it had the merit neither of courage nor consistency. It first said, "the Board are of opinion, and submit to Grand Lodge, that inasmuch as Grand Lodge has full control, not only over the officials in its service, but over the whole Craft, and would undoubtedly exercise such control, should any member, whether official or otherwise, be proved to have taken part in any degree or order denounced by Grand Lodge, or inimical to its principles; and inasmuch as the proposed resolution, if passed, would not add to the power and authority, either of Grand Lodge or of this Board, such resolution is unnecessary, and the Board therefore do not recommend its adoption by Grand Lodge." In this he (Bro. Gregory) agreed, but he disagreed with what followed, which the Board itself had just said was unnecessary, and he should move as an amendment, that all which followed this sentence should be omitted.

Bro. J. M. Clabon seconded the amendment, Grand Lodge had made two mistakes, Bro. Cooke's motion ought to have been negatived and it should not have been referred to the Board. He (Bro. Clabon) was a member of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and he considered he had ascended from pure Masonry to pure Masonry, and he wished the degree was acknowledged by Grand Lodge. It was a matter of history that, until the Union of the Grand Lodges, all these Orders were followed by the Duke of Sussex, and at the present time, the Deputy Grand Master was a member. All that they were now discussing was a miserable question of whether they should prevent any of the Grand Lodge clerks, who, although clerks, were still highly respectable men, joining the Ancient and Accepted Rite, when they left the Grand Secretary alone, and all the superior officers. It was quite right, that the

clerks should not do anything in opposition or inimical to the principles of Masonry, but there was no reason why they should not join harmless Orders. He hoped the Board would give up this clause, and have no more of these discussions upon the matter. If Grand Lodge adopted the last clause of the report, it would be derogatory to the clerks, and such a proceeding should not be tolerated.

Bro. Matthew Cooke would also move an amendment. The President of the Board still stuck to precisely the same phraseology which was objectionable to him (Bro. Cooke), and which he objected to at last meeting. "The charges made by Bro. Cooke" was an inaccurate expression. It was within the recollection of Grand Lodge that he made no charges at all, for he was called up to answer and when he answered certain things, there came out a series of charges, indirectly, but not made by him, for he was answerable to the Board. He was cited to the Board, and so far as that was concerned, he proved, on one point, what he asserted, except where the reticence of a brother whom he could not commit, prevented light being thrown. He was the last man in Grand Lodge to say a word against an Order of Chivalry. He had in his pocket a diploma, printed by the Mother Council of the World. There was one thing the brethren did not seem to understand; there was a great difference between the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and the old Templar Kadosh, and the series that were given as the Orders of Chivalry. It was the ruling powers of the Rites that did not seem to be understood in Grand Lodge. Certain people got a Rite up, or got hold of some disjointed pieces, and they formed them into a Rite, and placed themselves at its head. There could be no doubt that many of the degrees used in this country before 1813, had been floating about the country, but they had been under a Templar jurisdiction; almost everything was given under a Templar jurisdiction, and the consequence was that the Articles of Union spoke of the Orders of chivalry. That was a wide margin, which took in all kinds of things; and matters have now reached this point; there was now a struggle whether the Templar or the Ancient and Accepted Rite, should be crushed. (No, No.) He moved as an amendment, that the words "charges made by Bro. Cooke" should be expunged from the Report, or that the Report be rejected.

Bro. Bennoch quite approved of the exclusion of the words mentioned by Bro. Gregory from the Report, but he would go further, and would move in the event of Bro. Gregory's motion not being carried, the expunging of all words after "inquire further into the matter." Grand Lodge had no business to examine into the private movements of various Masonic bodies outside themselves. There was a strong current in favour of other Rites, which Grand Lodge could not control, and to attempt to do so would be absurd and futile. Their policy was not to interfere with the freedom of Masonry, and he had no business to inquire into these rites; this had been settled before; it was a waste of time, besides creating disunion to reopen it.

Bro. Gregory said he would consent to with-

draw his amendment, and would rely on Bro. Bennoch's.

After a few words from Bro. F. Roxburgh, *Q.C.*, in favour of the declaration that Pure and Ancient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more,

A Provincial Brother stated, that Masons in the country, when any question arose in their lodges, were in the habit of inquiring what was done in similar cases in Grand Lodge. If Grand Lodge passed this Report it was equivalent to a resolution that no brother, who happened to be a member of an extraneous Order, should hold office under Grand Lodge. This would impose a great difficulty in many cases, because before giving office, it would be necessary to inquire whether a man was a member of the prohibited degrees. All that Provincial Lodges required, was to know whether a man was a good Mason, and did his duty; and when they knew that, they knew of nothing which was a disqualification.

Bro. John Havers thought they had got into a great difficulty, they had either to accept or reject the terminal portion of the Report, which was a most unfortunate one, yet it contained in it the elements of a great truth. Bro. Gregory had said that we could go beyond the ancient degrees of Masonry. Now he (Bro. Havers) denied it. We were proud of our old degrees and, more, we meant to maintain them. But at the same time, while we maintained our ancient degrees, to which we had solemnly sworn fidelity, we would give the freest liberty to others. He did not agree in the Report of the Board of General Purposes; he thought it a mistake; but at the same time he should defend the Board. It had been said that they denounced other degrees. They had not. They had said that in their opinion it was very undesirable that any subordinate officer in the employment of Grand Lodge should take a prominent part in any degree or order not recognised by Grand Lodge. And so it was. Ask all the London merchants, bankers, men of business; ask the Colonel of a regiment, if a sergeant or servant, after having done his duty for the day, employs his leisure evenings in drilling some one else, whether he would allow it. (Cries of Yes, yes). But an Assistant at Grand Lodge, though he may belong to any order he pleases, should not go and hold a prominent place in that order. A brother had stated that in the provinces they were guided by the action of the Grand Lodge, and no doubt if they found that papers, connected with unrecognised degrees, went out from Grand Secretary's office, (general expressions of dissent) they would naturally look upon those degrees as not being unrecognised. But while we were all faithful to our solemn obligations, let us be generous to all those who choose to amuse themselves with other degrees. Let the proposition now made to Grand Lodge be the last of its kind. Let those who had read the History of Masonry remember the 50, 60, or 70 years of turmoil which prevailed before two Royal Dukes got a Lodge of Reconciliation. Brethren were to ask themselves whether the number of degrees existed at the time of the Union or did not. If they did exist, they were solemnly and intentionally left out. If they had been concocted since, they were of spurious origin. Somebody had said a large proportion

of these orders were given under spurious organisations. What had those spurious organisations brought us to? There were not less than six or seven, each claiming to be itself supreme, and let him remind the brethren that in giving allegiance to these smaller bodies we forgot to mention the allegiance due to the larger. These organisations, it should be borne in mind, offered no allegiance to our Grand Master and he entreated the brethren to maintain their own three degrees. He would moreover earnestly entreat them to consider, that if it were just to require subordinate servants to abstain from taking part in degrees which clashed with Masonry, it was just to require the superior officers. He would say, paid or unpaid, high or low, they should not take a prominent part in the unrecognised degrees, and though not agreeing with the Report, he recommended its adoption. If it were not adopted, it would be an insult to the Board. With regard to Bro. Clabon's remark, that many members of Grand Lodge were members of the higher degrees, he would say, in Heaven's name let them be. Every Mason had a right to join anything he liked; only he must not use the name, and the honour, and the position of Grand Lodge, in such a way as would confound it with them.

Bro. Radcliffe thought it would be illiberal to prevent any officer from joining other societies, after they had done their work. There was only one point in Bro. Havers's address that deserved the attention of Grand Lodge, which was that people in the country might consider that if officers of Grand Lodge sent out papers in the unrecognised degrees, those degrees had the approbation of Grand Lodge. He supported Bro. Gregory's amendment.

The Earl of Limerick took exception to the idea that there were competing jurisdictions in this country. They were independent. Freemasons were subject to the Grand Master in Grand Lodge; and if they were elsewhere, they were subject to whomsoever might be their President. He himself belonged to other societies, but he did not less attend to the interests of the Craft, of which he was most proud to be a member, and which was the original source and fount from which all the brethren seeking other degrees must spring. He did not think himself a less worthy member of the Craft for belonging to other degrees. He objected to the Report, and would support Bro. Bennoch's amendment.

Bro. Stebbing, in a powerful speech, also opposed the report.

Bros. Horace Lloyd and F. A. Philbrick supported the Board, and after a few words from Bros. Rev. R. J. Simpson, Lord Tenterden, and James Mason,

The Grand Master said:—Before this question is put to the vote, I am desirous of addressing one or two observations to Grand Lodge. It appears that the question which is raised by the paragraph of this Report, which it is proposed not to receive, is one which is entirely within the province and authority of this Grand Lodge themselves to deal, and I do not, therefore desire that any observations which I may make, and they will be very brief, should tend in any way to influence the vote to which Grand Lodge may come, or the view which may be taken, in the

exercise of their judgment, on this question; because the question that is raised really by this paragraph is what, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, ought to be laid down as regulations for guidance and conduct of certain persons who hold salaried offices under the Grand Lodge. Now, brethren, this question is not new; it has been now for some months before the Craft and this Grand Lodge; and as far back as the month of February last, the question having been then brought under the notice of Grand Lodge, and consequently under my own notice, I thought it right to express an opinion upon the subject, and to require that those who hold office in the Secretarial offices of this Lodge should conform to the views which were so expressed. Those views were embodied in a minute, which I am now about to read. That minute was to the following effect. "The Grand Master has directed that no meeting connected with unrecognised degrees be permitted to take place on the premises restricted to the use of the Craft, and that no business relating to such degrees be transacted by any gentleman employed in the Grand Secretary's office during office hours." That minute I am prepared strictly and fully to enforce and it would unquestionably be my duty to do so. The question before Grand Lodge now considered freely with regard to those of our servants—I use the term with all respect—in our employ, is whether it is thought desirable or not desirable to impose further restrictions upon those servants than are contained in this minute, which has been strictly and entirely adhered to since the day it was issued. The question, brethren, is this "That the Grand Lodge do not receive the following words contained in the Report. 'The Board, however, are clearly of opinion, and submit to Grand Lodge, that no clerk or other subordinate of officer in the employment of Grand Lodge should take a prominent part in any degree or Order not recognised by Grand Lodge.'"

Let Grand Lodge clearly understand. The original question was, "That this Report be received and entered upon the Minutes," since which the amendment or resolution has been moved, which I have read, the effect of which is to decline to receive the last sentence of that Report—"The Board, however, are clearly of opinion, and submit to Grand Lodge, that no clerk or other subordinate officer in the employment of Grand Lodge, should take a prominent part in any degree or Order not recognised by Grand Lodge."

On a show of hands, the Grand Master declared the amendment lost, the numbers however appearing to be nearly equal. The motion for receiving and entering the Report on the Minutes was then carried.

The Grand Master then announced that Bro. Ll. Evans, the President of the Board, had requested him to relieve him of his office, which he accordingly did, and appointed and invested Bro. Horace Lloyd, *Q.C.*, *P.G.D.*, in his place.

The Scrutineers having returned, the result of the election was announced.

The Annual Report of the "Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons," was laid before Grand Lodge, and the following alterations of the Laws, which were agreed to at the Annual General Meeting of the Institution held on Fri-

day, the 17th May, 1872, were submitted for the approval of Grand Lodge, and passed:—

1st. As an addition to Rule 19 as a separate paragraph:—

“A Vice-President, being an individual donor, who subscribes Five Pounds and upwards in one payment, shall be entitled to Four Votes for every Five Pounds so subscribed.”

2nd. As a new law, to follow Law 23:—

“Every Vice-President upon completion of a further donation of Fifty Pounds to either Fund, or partly to each fund, by one or more payments of not less than Five Pounds each, shall become a Vice-Patron of the Institution.”

3rd. To amend Article 22, by inserting, after the word “payment” in the seventh line, the following:—

“And every additional Ten Pounds to such particular Fund shall be further entitled to Four Votes at each election.”

4th. To amend Article 25 by substituting the word “four” for “two.”

The following motions by Bro. Matthew Cooke, P.M., in No. 23, fell through for want of a seconder.

To add to Section 1, treating of the Grand Secretary and his duties, in the Book of Constitutions (page 37, small edition), after the words “rights or privileges as a member of the Grand Lodge” line 18:—

“That whilst this Grand Lodge recognises the private right of every Brother to belong to any extraneous organisation he may choose, it as firmly forbids, now and at any future time, all brethren while engaged as salaried officials under this Grand Lodge to mix themselves up in any way with such bodies as the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rites; the Rites of Misraim and Memphis; the spurious Orders of Rome and Constantine; the Schismatic Body styling itself the Mark Grand Lodge of England, or any other exterior organisation whatever (even that of the Order of Knights Templar, which is alone renised by the Articles of Union) under pain of dismissal from employment by this Grand Lodge.”

The following motion by Bro. Benjamin Head, P.G.D., was carried:—

“That the sum of £50 be given from the Fund of General Purposes. That the money be placed in the hands of the Secretary of the Asylum of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, to supply the inmates at Croydon with coals during the winter season.”

Bro. W. Smith withdrew the following motion,

“It is desirable that the printed papers of the business to be transacted at each Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of England shall include a complete list or return of all the warrants for new lodges granted by the M.W. the Grand Master during the preceding three months, and that the M.W. the Grand Master be most respectfully requested to direct the said returns to be issued by the Grand Secretary.”

The Grand Master having stated that he thought it desirable that it should be withdrawn, said it was perfectly reasonable and natural that brethren should desire to know from time to time what were the new lodges. But at the same

time, the granting of new warrants was a matter strictly within the prerogative of the Grand Master. He had no desire, and certainly had no intention of resigning or diminishing the ancient prerogatives he had the honour to hold. It therefore appeared to him, that he ought not to consent to a motion which might be interpreted on some future occasion, as trenching upon the privileges of those who might come after him; but as he thought the desire of the brother a very natural one, and as he was most anxious to give information to the Craft at large, he would beg to inform Bro. Smith that he would give directions to the Grand Secretary to furnish the list desired.

Bro. W. Smith thanked his Lordship, and Grand Lodge was then closed.

#### GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS.

The Half Yearly Communication to Grand Lodge of English Mark Masters was made on Tuesday evening, at Freemasons' Tavern, the Grand Mark Master, the Rev. George Raymond Portal, M.A., presiding. There was a very large attendance of Mark brethren, larger indeed than has been witnessed before, the degree becoming at the present time very popular.

Among the brethren who supported the Grand Master we observed, Bros. W. W. B. Beach, Prov. G.M.; Eugene Cronin, G.S.D.; D. M. Dewar, M. Emanuel, C. R. Davy, W. S. Webster, F. W. Koch, Grand Stewards; the Earl of Limerick, Prov. G.S.W.; W. E. Gumbleton, Prov. G.S.W.; James Stevens, Prov. G.J.O.; D. Shaboe, T. F. Ravenshaw, Prov. G. Chaps.; W. Mann, Prov. G. Reg.; R. Spencer, Prov. G.S.B.; T. J. Sabine, Prov. G.A.D.C.; S. M. Lazarus, John Read, Prov. G. Orgs.; Chas. Hammerton, A. D. Loewenstark, H. Massey, Prov. G. Stewards; John Huyshe, Prov. G.M. Devon; Thos. Birchall, Prov. G.J.W. Lancashire; W. O. Walker, Prov. G.M.O. Lancashire; J. Chadwick, Prov. G. Sec. Lancashire; Thos. Hargreaves, F. Davison, Dep. Prov. G.M. Middlesex and Surrey; G. Barlow, Prov. G.J.W. Middlesex and Surrey; Wm. Worrell, Prov. G. Org., Middlesex and Surrey, George Kennieg, and numerous brethren from private lodges.

This was the day appointed for the installation of the new Grand Master, who was nominated at the last half-yearly communication for that office, the three years during which, by the Constitutions of Grand Mark Lodge, the Grand Master holds the position of Sovereign of the Degree, having expired since Bro. Portal first assumed the reins of office. In consequence however, of the serious illness of Earl Percy, the noble lord was not present, and his installation was postponed to a future day, though not without expressions of deep sympathy for his lordship, and of hope that he might soon be restored to health.

Previous to Grand Lodge being opened a Lodge of Improvement was held, at which Bro. James Stevens presided, and at its conclusion a vote of thanks to him was carried for the able manner in which he had performed the Master's duties.

Grand Lodge having been opened in proper form, the minutes of last Grand Lodge of 5th Decr. 1871, and of the Special Grand Lodge of 21st Feb., 1872, were read by Grand Secretary, Bro. F. Binckes, and confirmed.

Bro. Sabine, of Brighton, having first protested against some of the items in the accounts, and deprecated increasing expenditure.

The Grand Master, in answer to Bro. Sabine, said, no doubt Grand Lodge would be satisfied with their attention having been called to the subject, and the General Board would see if this expense could be kept down in any way. The brethren were much indebted to Bro. Sabine for bringing the matter forward.

The report of the General Board which dealt

with the question of an alteration in the ceremony of installation to such Masters as had not been installed in the Craft; the relation of Grand Chapter of Scotland to this Grand Lodge; the representation of foreign lodges in it; and announcing that Earl Bective would preside at the next summer festival for the Benevolent Fund of the degree; and recommending that an allowance of £200 be made to Grand Secretary on account of the increased work in his office; was read by Grand Secretary and received. He also read the diplomas from Grand Chapters of Iowa, and Pennsylvania, the former appointing Bro. Portal, and the latter Bro. W. J. Hughan as its representative in Grand Mark Lodge of England.

The Grand Master thereupon said he considered this a point of great importance, whose value it would be difficult to overrate, as it admitted this Grand Lodge into the great comity of supreme Masonic jurisdiction. It was an example also which could not fail to be followed by other American Grand Chapters. He believed Grand Lodge was indebted for this, very much to Bro. Hughan, who was well known both here and in America in the Masonic literary world. He (the Grand Master) would in consideration of Bro. Hughan's appointment by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, confer on him the rank of Past Junior Grand Warden. He had also to congratulate the brethren on the Union of the Scotch Provincial Lodge of Lancashire with this Grand Lodge, and it reflected great credit on the Scottish brethren of Lancashire, who had taken steps to effect it. He should therefore confirm to them the provincial rank they had hitherto enjoyed, and ask Grand Lodge to grant the rank of Past Junior Grand Warden to Bros. Brocklebank, White, and Birchall.

Bro. Beach, P.G.M., seconded the motion. It was a matter of very great gratification to hear the announcement the Grand Master had just made. Any difference of jurisdiction must mar the harmony of Masonry, and Grand Lodge was to be congratulated on the energy and success which had characterised the efforts of the Lancashire brethren in terminating such differences. Grand Lodge was also indebted to Grand Secretary for his efforts in the same direction. He (Bro. Beach) had had many opportunities of observing how energetically he devoted himself to any cause he took in hand, and he had great pleasure in thus publicly announcing it.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The report of the General Board was then submitted to Grand Lodge, and its recommendations separately put.

The Grand Master, with reference to the qualification for the Master's chair, said, that everything had been eliminated from the ceremony of installation, that was similar to the corresponding ceremony in a Craft Lodge.

After a few words from Bro. W. Mann against, and Bro. James Stevens in favour of the recommendation, it was put and carried. With regard to the revision and reprinting of the Book of Constitutions, Bro. Sabine inquired about the expense, and thought it best that it should be put up to competition.

Bro. Stebbing was of the same opinion, and suggested that a specimen sheet should be printed, and tenders invited.

The motion was carried.

The Earl of Limerick, G.S.W., in proposing that £200 be voted to the Grand Secretary said, that his work had greatly increased, and was likely still further to increase, and it was but fair that there should be a corresponding increase in his pay.

The Rev. J. Huyshe, Prov. G.M., Devon, supported the motion, knowing personally how greatly the Order had extended.

Bro. Sabine again opposed the Grant, (Bro. Binckes having requested permission to retire from Grand Lodge as it was a question personal to himself), and moved as an amendment, that it be referred back to the General Board.

Bro. J. H. Wilkins seconded the amendment.

[In consequence of the great demands on our space, we have been compelled to omit some of the addresses of prominent speakers in this debate, but hope to furnish them *in extenso* in our next.]

Bros. James Stevens, W. Beach, W. E. Gumbleton, J. R. Stebbing, J. H. Wynne, Ralph Benson, S. Rosenthal, all supported the original motion, and bore their testimony to the great diligence, skill, and administrative talent, which both Bro. Binckes and Bro. Henry Binckes, displayed in discharging their official duties. Bro. Benson however suggested that £100 should be voted to Bro. Binckes, and £100 to Bro. H. Binckes.

This was carried.

Bro. Sabine, P.G.S. who nominated Earl Percy as Grand Master at the last meeting, now proposed his election, regretting at the same time the cause of his lordship's absence.

Bro. H. C. Levander, G.M.O. seconded the motion, which was thereupon carried.

The Grand Master said he was charged by Earl Percy to assure Grand Lodge that he deeply regretted his inability to be present. He was so indisposed that he had been obliged to obtain leave of absence from the House of Commons, and by the advice of his medical attendant was going to spend a few months in a warmer climate. All his friends had reason to believe that this would result in his complete restoration to health; but he (the Grand Master) trusted that before his lordship left England he would be able at a special Grand Lodge to be installed. As his lordships *locum tenens* he should now proceed to invest the Grand Officers for the year, of whom Earl Percy had approved.

The following officers were then appointed, and those of them who were present were invested:—

The Earl of Limerick.....	Dep. G.M.
Lord Ferrers .....	S. Grand Warden
C. F. Matier .....	J. Grand Warden
Rev. P. H. Newnham } Rev. W. M. Heath }	Grand Chaplains
J. R. Stebbing.....	Grand Treasurer
Capt. Burgess .....	Grand Registrar
F. Binckes .....	Grand Secretary
W. Foulsham .....	Grand M.O.
L. W. Longstaff .....	Grand S.O.
Lawson.....	Grand J.O.
Porter .....	Grand S.D.
T. Hargreaves .....	Grand J.D.
George Neall .....	Grand Sup. of Wks.
C. Hammerton .....	Grand Dir. of Cers.
Clarence Harcourt .....	Grand Asst. D. of C.
J. K. Smith .....	Grand Swd. Bearer
J. W. H. Hawton .....	Grand Std. Bearer
Williamson .....	Grand J.O.

The following brethren were appointed Stewards:—Bros. A. Williams, Funkenstein, Kemp, James W. Smith, Austin and Hillier.

The members of the General Board were Bros. Portal, (G.M.), Capt. Burgess, T. Meggy, H. C. Levander, S. Rosenthal, James Stevens, C. Hammerton, J. H. Wynne, T. J. Sabine, F. Davison, and W. E. Gumbleton.

Bro. Morton Edwards, P.M. 118, G.J.D., P.Prov. G. Std., Somersetshire then brought on the following motion:—

"That a Committee be appointed by Grand Mark lodge, consisting of five of its members, to meet an equal number of members of the Grand Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners to carry out the attachment of the Royal Ark Mariners degrees, by an equitable arrangement based upon the treaty between the Grand Mark Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners, executed on July 6th, 1871, and agreed to be ratified on or before August 1st, 1871, but which treaty was not carried out, so as finally to dispose of all differences between the two bodies."

Bro. James Stevens, P.G.O. moved as an amendment "That the General Board be requested to entertain any communication that may be made to them by any brother claiming to work the Ark Mariner's degree, with a view to their coming under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge."

Bro. H. C. Levander, G.O., seconded it.

The amendment was carried.

Letters of apology for absence were received from:—Bros. Magnus Ohren, G.M.O.; Col. Fras. Burdett, P.G.M. Middlesex and Surrey; W. J. Luut, P.G. Insp. Wks.; C. F. Matier, G.J.W.; L. W. Longstaff, G.S.O.; Nathaniel Haycroft, G. Chap.; H. R. Trigg, G.Swd.Br.; W. J. Hugan, P.G.M.O., P.G.J.W.; W.

Foulsham, G.S.O.; Jas. Porter, G.S.O.; Geo. Hardy, P.G.S.O.; Thos. Perkington, Prov. G.M. West Yorkshire; Fred. Long, G.D.Cers.; Brockbank, P.G.J.W.; Irwin, P.J.M.O.

Bros. Bigg and Davison were presented with Steward's jewels, and Grand Lodge was then closed. The brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent banquet and then honoured a good list of toasts. The musical arrangements were very superior. Under the direction of Bro. John Read, Prov. G. Mark Organist, P.M., P.Z., 30°, &c., Bro. De Lacy, of St. Paul's Cathedral; Bro. John Hodges, Gentleman of the Chapel Royal; and Bros. Carter and Mason, of Westminster Abbey, sang some delightful music, which consisted of glees, songs, and duets. The Grace was Sir Michael Costa's "O Lord, we bless Thee," and the other compositions were the National Anthem, "Go, speed thy Flight," "Anita," "Come, let us join the Roundelay," "Norah, Darling," "By Celia's Arbor," "All's Well," "Sweetly Blows," "The Happy Muleteer," and "Life's a Bumper." The execution of all these pieces met with universal approbation.

## REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

### Craft Masonry.

#### METROPOLITAN.

EBURY LODGE (No. 1348).—This most prosperous lodge was held on Tuesday, the 4th inst., at the Morpeth Arms, Millbank, Bro. John Coutts, P.G.P., W.M., in the chair, who in a beautiful, correct, and impressive manner raised Bros. S. Jacobs and H. A. Potter, passed G. Harvey, and initiated Mr. J. Gildersleeve. Bros. H. Proskauer, 861; R. A. D. Bain, 87; S. Benjamin, 141; E. J. Barnett, 87; J. Elliott, and R. H. Muffitt, were unanimously elected joining members. There was a large number of members, including nearly all the officers. Although so young a lodge, yet for good working, splendid hospitality, and other good qualities, it is second to none. The usual number of candidates for joining and initiation were proposed, and the lodge was closed. Bro. Palmer placed before the brethren one of his superior banquets, which are always good alike and have contributed to the prosperity of the Lodge. The usual and happy harmonious evening was spent. The visitors were Bros. C. Barnett, I.G. 87, and J. Jeffrey, J.D. 453.

#### CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.—Lodge *La Césarée* (No. 590).—The twenty-first anniversary meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Temple on Thursday, May 30th, for the sole purpose of installing the re-elected W.M., when a large number of brethren assembled to congratulate him on his successful termination of his twelve months' labour and on the continuation of his career as a ruler of the Craft, under auspices so favourable, and with the affairs of the lodge in so prosperous a condition and perfect order. Soon after four o'clock the lodge was opened by Bro. Joseph Gregg, W.M., supported by Bros. J. Oatley, P.M., as S.W., Abraham Viel, P.M., acting as J.W.; G. J. Renouf, I.P.M.; A. Schmitt, P.M., P.Prov.G.S.W., Sec.; John Durrell, P.M., P.G.S.W.; John Th. du Jardin, P.M., P.Prov.G.S.W.; P. W. Binet, S.D.; and Jos. Pallot, J.D. &c. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous proceedings, which were unanimously confirmed. The lodge was opened in the second degree. Bro. A. Schmitt took the chair as Installing Master. Bro. Renouf presented then Bro. J. Gregg, as W.M. re-elect for installation. The customary enumeration of duties was made and acknowledged—the Ancient Charges were read and assented to and the Ob. of W.M. elect administered. The lodge was opened in the third degree when Bro. J. Gregg was placed in the chair of K.S. The several classes of Fellow Craft and E. Apprentices were in turn admitted and the processions, salutations and proclamations were gone through. The

following appointments were made, the I.P.M. in each case officiating, and offering appropriate addresses and observations:—Bros. Ph. Le Sueur, S.W.; Ph. W. Binet, J.W.; Js. Durrell, Treas. (elect); Jos. Pallot, S.D.; Ph. Blampied, J.D.; Ph. Pinel, Junr. Dir. of Cer.; H. Du Jardin, Tyler; Henry E. Le V. dit Durrell, Orator and Assistant Secretary; lastly the W.M. appointed Bro. A. Schmitt, Secretary. The Secretary read the report of the proceedings of the Audit Committee of the lodge, which contained a number of suggestions and recommendations, which was received, approved and ordered to be entered on the minutes. The Secretary also presented an elaborate account on the condition of the lodge, comprising the prominent events and prospects within it during the past year. The Secretary earnestly pleaded the noble and deserving cause of our Masonic Schools, and on his proposition, seconded by Bro. Jn. Blampied, it was unanimously resolved, "that a further sum of £5 5s. be granted towards the support of the Masonic School for Girls." There being no other business before the lodge, it was closed at six o'clock, in perfect harmony. The brethren adjourned to the banquetting room, and more than fifty sat down to an excellent dinner provided by the Stewards. The W.M. presided having on his right Bros. A. Schmitt, J. Durrell, P. W. Benham, P.M. P.G.Treas.; Ph. Binet, P.M.; H. E. le V. dit Durrell, on his left Bros. G. J. Renouf, Jn. Th. du Jardin, J. Oatley, Abr. Viel, B. Hastings, P.M. 34, (J.R.) &c. After the usual loyal toasts had been disposed of, that of the brethren absent was offered, and lastly the Secretary read the names of brethren departed (29) and their memory was solemnly commemorated. Thus a most enjoyable evening was spent, grave and gay alternating. The brethren separated about ten o'clock.

#### LINCOLNSHIRE.

##### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

On Thursday, the 30th ult., a Provincial Grand Lodge was held by the Antient Free and Accepted Masons of Lincolnshire, at the Corn Exchange, Sleaford, under the auspices of the St. Botolph's Lodge, No. 588. In the absence of His Grace, the Duke of St. Alban's, Prov. G.M., the meeting was presided over by W. Bro. Major Smyth, D.P.G.M., who was supported by numerous influential brethren of the Province, among whom were:—Bros. E. Locock, P. Prov. G.W., as P.G.S.W.; Chas. Harrison, J.G.W.; Rev. J. C. Browne, P.G. Chaplain; C. M. Nesbitt, P.G. Treasurer; F. D. Marsden, P.G. Secretary; M. Crowden, P.G.S.D.; W. Watkins, P.G.S. of W.; S. W. Johnson, P.G.D. of C.; J. M. Ramplen, P.G.S.B.; G. Young, P. Prov. S.G.W.; T. E. Jacobson, P. Prov. D.G. of C.; F. R. Larken, P. Prov. G.S.B.; W. E. Howlett, P. Prov. G.A.D. of C.; Thos. H. Oldman, P.G.S.; W. H. Bales, P. Prov. S.G.W. West Yorkshire; E. Binney, P. Prov. G.D.; and J. H. White, P. Prov. G.O.

Among the visitors were:—Bros. Dr. Lynes, P. Prov. G. Reg. Stafford; W. M. Wood, Thistle, 87, S.C.; J. W. Keyworth, Perseverance, 164; and one brother from the Truth Lodge, 521; whose name we were unable to ascertain.

The Grand Lodge was opened precisely at one o'clock, and reports from the several Committees were read and adopted.

Great regret was felt at the absence of W. Bro. W. H. Bradley, 838, the indefatigable Secretary of the Charity Committee, who was suffering from a severe attack of illness, which prevented his attendance. His report, however, read by Bro. Bland, 838, P. Prov. J.G.D., showed that Bro. Bradley had not been idle, and that more than one family had to thank him for his successful endeavours to "relieve the fatherless and widows in their affliction."

Congratulatory addresses were read and adopted, to Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, on the recovery of His Royal Highness from his late severe illness, testifying the loyalty of the brethren throughout the Province, and their sympathy with the Royal Family in the hour of their trial.

The following officers were duly invested for the ensuing year:—

J. R. Larken .....	Prov. S.G.W.
T. E. Jacobson .....	Prov. J.G.W.
Rev. J. R. Humble.....	Prov. G. Chap.
W. G. Moore .....	Prov. G. Reg.
C. M. Nesbitt.....	Prov. G. Treas.
F. D. Marsden.....	Prov. G. Sec.
H. E. Turner .....	Prov. S.G.D.
J. B. Hildred .....	Prov. J.G.D.
F. Long .....	Prov. G.S. of W.
T. J. Tomlinson .....	Prov. G.D. of C.
A. Bates .....	Prov. A.G.D. of C.
Geo. Jackson .....	Prov. G.S.B.
H. P. Wickenson.....	Prov. G.O.
J. S. Mossop .....	Prov. G.P.

In accordance with the usual custom of the lodge the Stewards of the Province of the year were elected in behalf of the Home for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, W. Bro. E. Locock, P. Prov. G.W., being chosen as Steward to represent the Province.

The lodge having been closed in form, a banquet was provided in the Corn Exchange by Bro. Sharpe, of the Bristol Arms Hotel, to which all did ample justice, and, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts being given, a pleasant and profitable evening was spent.

MIDDLESEX.

HARROW.—*Harrow Lodge* (No. 1310).—On Tuesday 4th ult., at Railway Hotel, Harrow, the regular meeting of this lodge was held. Bro. W. H. Green, W.M. presided, and in an able, correct, and impressive manner, rendered the beautiful ceremony of initiation to Dr. Thomas R. L. Hooper, and then to Mr. W. Butler, (both personal friends.) Some joining members and candidates for initiation were proposed, and the lodge was closed. The usual well-served banquet followed. There were present during the afternoon Bros. S. Homewood, S.W.; F. Harrison, J.W.; F. Walters, P.M., Sec.; Capt. G. A. Smith, S.D., W.M. 619; J. Cox, I.G.; F. Smith, P.M., W.S.; G. Pymm, P.M.; W. Spells, E. Rawson, J. A. Martin, J. M. Daly, T. R. L. Hooper, W. Butler. The visitors were Bros. G. Allen, 144; W. Kindon, 619, &c.

Royal Arch.

GIBRALTAR.

One of those gatherings, which, as they are peculiarly gratifying to old Masons, are none the less interesting and encouraging to younger brethren, took place in the rooms of the Irish Royal Arch Chapter, No 325, at Gibraltar, on the evening of the 22nd June.

The occasion which called forth the demonstration, was the approaching departure from the Rock, of one of the oldest Masons on the station, one who had worthily and most appropriately earned for himself the title of the Father of the Royal Arch Chapter, No 325.

To those Masons who know Gibraltar and its Lodges, the name of Brother Ellison must be as familiar as household words, and it was on the retirement of Brother Ellison from the important Government appointment which he had so long and so ably occupied, and his return to England, that the members of the Chapter 325 desired to express their feelings of respect, gratitude and fraternal affection, by inviting to a farewell banquet and presenting a lasting testimonial to one, who for so many years had been the leading spirit of their community.

Punctually at the hour appointed the Chapter was opened by the 1st Principal, Companion Beal, who was supported on his right by Companion Leslie and on his left by Companion Ellison. Companion Ross guarded the purple veil, Companion Cunningham the blue, and Companion Gillmore the scarlet veil. Companion Dallas occupied his accustomed post as Captain of the Hosts. Companion Holliday was Superintendent of the Tabernacle, Martalini, Prelate, and the indefatigable and ever-verdant Gaby, Principal Sojourner: The members of the Chapter mustered in great force and several visiting brethren from the various Chapters and Lodges of the tation, were also present.

The minutes of a former meeting, bearing special reference to the "Ellison Testimonial" having been read by the Registrar Companion Johnstone, and confirmed, the 1st Principal notified that the business of the evening was to present Companion Ellison with the testimonial which had been voted to him. Companion Ellison having been marshalled by two of the Senior Companions to the foot of the dais, 1st Principal Beal expressed his extreme gratification at being the vehicle of communication through whom the Chapter placed in the hands of Companion Ellison, the handsome testimonial which had been voted to him, he considered it a great privilege to be in a position to bestow so pleasing a token on one like Companion Ellison, who for upwards of a quarter of a century had been a constant attendant of the Chapter and a zealous supporter of all the rites and ceremonies of the order, and who for no less a period than eleven years had occupied the chair of 1st Principal, he had worked steadily up to that exalted position, passing through all the various subordinate offices, and in all displaying zeal, intelligence and integrity. Companion Beal concluded a most feeling address, by wishing Comp. Ellison a favourable voyage home, and many years of health and strength to enjoy the well-earned result of long years of faithful service to his Queen and his country. Companion Ellison having received the testimonial, which consisted of an elaborately chased silver inkstand, on which was engraved the following "Presented by the Members of the R.A. Chapter 325. I. C. Gibraltar to the Most Excellent Companion James Settle Ellison, who filled the office of 1st Principal for eleven consecutive years, as a mark of esteem for the very efficient and valuable services he rendered to the Chapter and to Masonry in general." Gibraltar April, 1872—Bro. Ellison was so deeply affected that it was some moments before he could sufficiently master his feelings to respond, he then briefly expressed how deeply he felt the honour that had that evening been conferred upon him and how carefully he would treasure the valuable souvenir which had that evening been placed in his hands, not alone for its intrinsic value, but for the many happy recollections which would always be associated with it and which would ever remain fresh and indelible on the tablet of his memory. If anything could have added to the value of the testimonial, it, was that he had received it from the hands of his good friend and brother mason, Beal, with whom he had worked on the most harmonious terms for upwards of 20 years.

Comp. Ellison having resumed his seat, the Deputy District Grand Master, Bro. the Rev. Geo. Alton, rose, and said that he experienced the most unalloyed satisfaction in being permitted to take a part in the interesting ceremony of the evening. The very important and onerous duties of his position in Gibraltar did not always allow of his visiting the various lodges as much as he would be desirous of doing. Nevertheless, his interest in Masonry was ever the same, and he trusted that in no way was he found wanting in the discharge of the duties attached to the high Masonic position that he held in the district. He eulogised in most eloquent terms, the past Masonic career of Bro. Ellison; he had known him for many years; he had worked with him not merely in the Craft degree, but also in many of those which were characterised as the "ineffable," and in all Bro. Ellison had been a zealous and energetic officer, holding distinguished positions, and ever gaining and retaining the respect and esteem of his brethren. He deplored the departure of Bro. Ellison, as thereby the office of District Grand Secretary would become vacant, a void which it would be found difficult to fill with another so able and efficient. The Deputy District Grand Master, who spoke with more than his usual eloquence and felicity of expression, concluded a long and most impressive address, by wishing Bro. Ellison a long continuance of health, and a full enjoyment of all the honours, Military, Social, and Masonic, which had been conferred upon him.

The M.E.Z. of the Calpean Chapter, Comp. Balfour Cockburn, then rose: He feared that after the exhaustive speech of his much esteemed Brother, the Deputy District Grand Master,

there was very little left for him to say; but as the 1st Principal of the R.A. Chapter, working under the English Constitution, he could not allow this opportunity to pass without testifying to the unwearied exertions of Comp. Ellison in the cause of Masonry, and how freely, and willingly, and cheerfully, he at all times had been ready to give the benefit of his advice and experience to the Calpean Chapter. The English and the Irish Chapters had always been on the most friendly terms with each other, and he trusted that such would ever be the case. It was too true that Comp. Ellison was about to leave the station, and his absence would throw a gloom over every lodge and chapter in Gibraltar, but there were few clouds which had not a silver lining, and this which now overshadowed them was no exception. Companion Ellison had lived for so long at Gibraltar, that perhaps when the sunny days of July and August were over in England, he might recollect that Gibraltar was after all not such a bad place, and they might yet hope to see their much esteemed brother winging his way south with the swallows, and returning to spend the evening of his life under the shade of the bright coloured oleanders and the sweet-scented orange groves of dear old Gib. Companion Balfour Cockburn concluded a most telling speech, by congratulating the 1st Principal, Companion Beal, on the success of the evening's proceedings, and wishing Comp. Ellison a long continuance of his happy and prosperous career. The chapter having been closed in due form—the Companions sat down to a sumptuous banquet, the enjoyment of which was much enhanced by the strains of a band composed entirely of brother Masons, who had most kindly volunteered to come and assist to the best of their power in making the evening's entertainment pass off agreeably to Companion Ellison.

Obituary.

BRO. DANIEL SCURR.

Our much esteemed friend, and Bro. Dan Scurr, suddenly departed this life on Saturday evening last at seven o'clock. There is now one good man and Mason less in this world, and one more in those blest mansions where we shall be eternally happy with God the Great Architect of the Universe.

Bro. Scurr has for some time past been a very great sufferer, and although the state of his health had given premonitions of a sudden decease, yet his family had hopes of his continued stay; a fragile constitution sometimes holding out longer than a robust one. Although his bodily health was at a very low ebb, it was full flood with his mental; he held his light to the last, bright and clear.

In the course of social duties, he was all that could be required of a man. In his Masonic round, he stood second to none; he was ever ready to give assistance and instruction, and an extensive circle of the craft, his friends, and pupils, were delighted to share his conversation, and profit by the advantage of his great store of Maonic knowledge.

At the time of his decease, two brethren were with him, and had been upwards of an hour in Masonic conversation, during which he had given a definition of Faith, and concluded with the words, (italicised above), he left them to attend to some business, saying he should return in a minute, but in the course of a few seconds, his soul had gone to everlasting life. He appeared to die without a spasm, as though he fell asleep.

"Three years ago this autumn I had a severe attack of gout, to which I had been subject 22 years. After being confined to my room under treatment two weeks, I was induced to try your Vegetable Pain Killer, and in little more than a week was able to be at business. Two years before I had a similar attack no worse, which, under the best of care laid me up more than four months.—THOS. PERRY, Red Lion Sq., London, Nov., 1868.—To Perry Davis & Son, London."

Original Correspondence.

BRO. EMRA HOLMES'S LECTURE ON FREEMASONRY AND THE ROYAL ARK MARINER DEGREE.

(To The Editor of the Freemason.)

SIR,—

As the within alludes to a lecture, part of which appeared in your columns, and as the matter may be of interest to some of the brethren, I forward the two letters for insertion, presuming Bro. Childe does not object.

Yours fraternally,  
EMRA HOLMES.

Cambridge, May 9th, 1872.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—

As the Chief Officer of the Order of Royal Ark Mariners in the Province of Suffolk, I have to draw your attention to a report of the able lecture you delivered at St. Luke's Chapter, Ipswich, on the 27th of March, which appears in the *Freemason*, of April 6th. You are reported to have stated, "In Scotland the candidate must be a Mark Master, as well as a P.M., (to be eligible for the Royal Arch Degree), and Chapters in Scotland also conferred the degree of Royal Ark Mariner, which is now given in England under the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters."

This statement, would you allow me to suggest, is erroneous, and I shall feel obliged if you will take steps to inform the brethren M.M.M. that such is not the case, for by Article 79, a Treaty signed on the 6th of July, 1871, by representatives of the Grand Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners, and of the G. L. Mark, it was expressly provided, "That pending the satisfaction of this Treaty, no further Warrants shall be issued by the Grand Mark Master for working the Royal Ark Mariners' Degree."

It is unnecessary for me to inform one, doubtless my senior, and apparently so learned in the science of Masonry, that the degree of Ark Mariners has been worked since 1772, if not before; that His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence was Grand Commander of the Order; that the Warrant has been transmitted from one to another, and that Bro. Dorrington invested Bro. Morton Edwards with full powers as Supreme Grand Commander.

I feel sure that the statement you made was unintentional, and was the result of a wish, which I have every reason to believe will soon be fulfilled, of seeing the Royal Ark Degree attached to the Mark. Such, however, is not the case at present, and till this happy conclusion is effected, the Order is entirely distinct, and the power of working the degree is vested in the Supreme Grand Commander alone, and the Officers and lodge acting under his authority.

I have the honour to be, Dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

CHRIS. V. CHILDE, 18<sup>o</sup>, P.M.  
Inspect. Gen. R.A.M. of Prov. of Suffolk,  
Mark Master Mason, Lodge 112.  
To Bro. Emra Holmes.

Ipswich, 30th May, 1872.

MY DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—

I am in receipt of your letter of the 9th inst., which I should have answered before, but I have been in communication with Bro. Binckes, the Grand Secretary of the Mark Grand Lodge, on the subject. I based my statement upon Bro. Bincke's official letter in the *Freemason*, and bearing in mind the inherent right of several of the old lodges to confer the degree of R.A.M. as a side degree, if they felt disposed.

I am afraid that, as a loyal member of the Mark Grand Lodge, and of the other Grand bodies, partners in the tri-partite treaty, I should not be doing my duty if I did not acknowledge the fact that the Mark Grand Lodge is the only recognised authority for conferring the Royal Ark Mariner Degree.

Bro. Binckes, in his letter to me, says "This Grand Lodge has the requisite authority to issue warrants of the Royal Ark Mariner's Degree, and those lodges and brethren holding under this jurisdiction as Mark Master Masons, and wishing to work the Ark Mariner Degree, are in honour and duty bound, to seek the power they wish to exercise from this Grand Lodge.

I cannot but agree with Bro. Binckes in this. The multiplication of Grand Bodies is detrimental to Masonry, besides, as I think, being wholly unnecessary.

I suppose you will admit that the formation of a Royal Ark Mariner's Grand Lodge is unknown anywhere else than in England; that such titles as Inspector General, which belong entirely to the 33<sup>o</sup> A. and A. Rite and no other, are new in the Royal Ark; that the Royal Ark Mariner Degree is generally admitted to be as much a side degree as the Mark itself was, until the formation of the Mark Grand Lodge, and without the shadow of a claim to its antiquity; that the ceremony itself is unworthy of the name, (I speak on the authority of some of your own chiefs), and that much unnecessary bickering and unpleasantness has been the consequence of the movement.

For my own part, I cannot understand how brethren, who have sworn allegiance, like myself, to the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters, can take a part in the propagation of the rite outside her pale, consistently with their obligation, but I do not pretend to judge their motives in the matter. As to Bro. Morton Edwards, I wish to say nothing, and for yourself, I feel sure that you are inspired by the purest intentions in wishing to correct my statements.

You must forgive me if I say, however, that I am not convinced as to the necessity for a Grand Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners; as to the impropriety of my own Grand Lodge assuming control over the degrees; nor even of the sufficiency of Bro. Morton Edwards' authority for the establishment of your order on an independent footing. I could tell you more, and about the conferring of other degrees, with a usurped authority, but I refrain. Hoping that I may some day have the pleasure of meeting you, when we can talk, better than write, on things Masonic, and that you will pardon me if I have said anything to annoy you on this subject.

Believe me fraternally yours,  
EMRA HOLMES, 31<sup>o</sup>, P.M.

W.M. Albert Victor Lodge of Mark Masters.  
Grand Provost Grand Conclave of Knights Templar, P.G.A.D.C. Suffolk.  
Member of the R. O. of Scotland.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

At a meeting of the General Committee of above Institution, held on Tuesday the 4th inst., Bro. J. R. Sheen in the chair, the following brethren were nominated as members of the House Committee for the ensuing year:—

Bro. William Roebuck .....	25
" W. Raynham Stewart .....	24
" Henry Browse .....	22
" George Cox .....	22
" J. Giles Chancellor .....	22
" Benjamin Head .....	22
" William Paas .....	22
" S. Rosenthal .....	21
" Benjamin Mallam .....	20
" George Plucknett .....	19
" Fred. A. Philbrick .....	17
" W. Sabben, M.D. ....	13
" Joseph Taylor .....	11
" Capt. J. Wordsworth .....	10

The first twelve were elected.  
The Audit Committee was re-elected.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, June 14th, 1872.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8.

Lodge 108, London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 176, Cavendish.
" 778, Bard of Avon Lodge, Angel Hotel, Staines.
" 1328, Granite, Freemasons' Hall.
" 1361, United Service, Swan Hotel, Wimbledon, Mark Lodge, 104, Macdonald, Head Quarters First Surrey Rifles, Brunswick-road, Camberwell.
Star Lodge of Instruction (1275), Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road, at 7; Bro. C. S. Dille, Preceptor.
Sphinx Lodge of Instruction (1329), Stirling Castle, Camberwell, at 7.30; Bros. Thomas and Worthington, Preceptors.
Mount Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, at 8; Comp. Brett, Preceptor.
Manchester Lodge of Instruction, Yorkshire Grey, London Street, Fitzroy-Square, at 8. Bro. Ash, P.M., Preceptor.

MONDAY, JUNE 10.

Lodge 29, St. Alban's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-st.
Sincerity Lodge of Instruction (174), Railway Tavern Fenchurch-street Station, at 7.
Strong Man Lodge of Instruction (45), Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 8; Bro. James Terry, Preceptor.
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. Gotthel, Preceptor.
British Oak Lodge of Instruction, Bank of Friendship Tavern, Mile End, at 7 for 8.
St. James's Union Lodge of Instruction (180), Horse and Groom Tavern, Winsley-street, (opposite the Pantheon), Oxford-street, at 8; Bro. J. R. Stacey, Preceptor.
Wellington Lodge of Instruction, White Swan Tavern, Deptford, at 8; Bro. C. G. Willey, P.M. 1155, Preceptor.
St. John of Wapping Lodge of Instruction (1306), Gun Tavern, High-street, Wapping, at 7; Bro. T. Mortlock, Preceptor.
West Kent Lodge of Improvement (1297), St. Saviour's College, Stansted-road, Forest-hill, at 7.30; Bro. H. W. Lindus, Preceptor.

TUESDAY, JUNE 11.

Lodge 548, Wellington, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.
" 834, Ranelagh, Royal Sussex Hotel, Hammersmith.
" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hotel, Anerley, Surrey.
Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Portugal Hotel Fleet-street, at 7; Comp. Brett, Preceptor.
Domestic Lodge of Instruction, Palmerston Tav., Grosvenor-park, Camberwell, at 8. Bro. John Thomas, Preceptor.
Faith Lodge of Instruction, Refreshment Rooms, Victoria-st. (opposite Westminster Palace Hotel) 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 Tavern, St. John's Wood Bro. F. G. Baker, Preceptor.
Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30. Bro. J. Saunders, Preceptor.
Sydney Lodge of Instruction (829), Cambridge Hotel, Upper Norwood, at 7.30.
Florence Nightingale Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich, at 7.30.
Prosperity Lodge of Instruction, Gladstone Tavern, Bishopsgate-st. Within, at 7.30; Bro. Bolton, (W.M. 1227), Preceptor.
St. Marylebone Lodge of Instruction (1305), British Stores Tavern, New-street, St. John's Wood, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12.

Committee of Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 3. Lodge 1017, Montefiore, Freemasons' Hall.
" 1216, Macdonald, Brunswick-st., Camberwell.
" 1228, Beacontree, Private Rooms, Leytonstone.
" 1260, Hervey, Swan Tavern, Waltham Green.
" 1305, St. Marylebone, Eyre Arms Tavern, St. John's Wood.
" 1306, St. John of Wapping, Gun Tavern, High-st. Wapping.
Pythagorean Lodge of Instruction (79), Prince of Orange, Greenwich, at 8; Bro. J. Robt. Nash, Preceptor.
United Strength Lodge of Instruction (228), the Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales' Road, Kentish Town, at 8; Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.
Israel Lodge of Instruction, Rising Sun Tavern, Globe-road, at 7.30; Bro. Isaac Saqui, Preceptor.
New Concord Lodge of Instruction, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, at 8.
Confidence Lodge of Instruction, Railway Tav., London-street, City, at 7.30.
Royal Union Lodge of Instruction, Horse and Groom Tavern, Winsley-street, Oxford-street, at 8. Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
Peckham Lodge of Instruction, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham at 8; Bro. David Rose, Preceptor.
Temperance in the East Lodge of Instruction, George the Fourth, Catherine-street, Poplar.
Stanhope Lodge of Instruction, Thicket Hotel, Anerly, at 7.30. p.m.; Bro. H. W. Lindus, Preceptor.

THURSDAY, JUNE 13.

Lodge 1227, Upton, Spotted Dog, Upton, Essex.
" 1288, Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tavern, Holloway. Chapter, 72, Royal Jubilee, Horns Tavern, Kennington.
" 619, Beadon, Greyhound Hotel, Dulwich.
The R.A. Chapter of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7; Comp. Brett, Preceptor. Ceremony, explanation of R.A. Jewel and Solids, part sections.
Fidelity Lodge of Instruction (3), Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Tottenham Court-road, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
Panmure Lodge of Instruction (720), Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7.30; Bro. John Thomas, Preceptor.
Finsbury Lodge of Instruction, Jolly Anglers' Tavern, Bath-street, City-road; Bro. Stean, Preceptor.
United Mariners' Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes Mile-end-road, at 8; Bro. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.
Whittington Lodge of Instruction (862), Crown Tavern, Holborn, at 8; Bro. Lewis Alexander, P.M. 188. Preceptor.
Chigwell Lodge of Instruction, Bald-faced Stag Hotel, Buckhurst Hill, at 7.30.

FRIDAY, JUNE 14.

Lodge 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st. Chapter 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's. Chapter 33, Britannic, Freemasons' Hall.
Unions Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.'s, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, at 7; Bro. Brett, Preceptor.  
 Belgrave Lodge of Instruction, Duke of Wellington Hotel, Spring-gardens, Charing-cross; Bro. Pulsford, Preceptor.  
 Doric Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8; Bro. Isaac Saqui, Preceptor.  
 Robert Burns Lodge of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8; Bro. W. Watson, Preceptor.  
 Burgoyne Lodge of Instruction, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales'-road, N.W., at 8.  
 St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction (144), Gladstone Tavern, Brompton-road, S.W.  
 United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, Duke of Edinburgh, Shepherd's-lane, Brixton, at 7; Bro. J. Thomas, P.M., Preceptor.  
 Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar, at 7; Br. D. S. Potts, Preceptor.  
 St. James's Lodge of Instruction, Gregorian Arms Tavern, Jamaica-road, Bermondsey, at 8. Bro. Howes, P.M., Preceptor.  
 Temperance Lodge of Instruction, Victoria Tav., Victoria road, Deptford, at 8.  
 Burdett Coutts Lodge of Instruction (1278), Approach Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria-park, at 8; Bro. Geo. W. Verry, Preceptor.  
 Clapton Lodge of Instruction, White Hart, Clapton, at 7.30; Bro. John Saunders, Preceptor.  
 Royal Standard Lodge of Instruction (1298), The Castle Tavern, Holloway, at 8; Bro. R. Lee, (P.M. 193, W.M. 1298), Preceptor.  
 Pythagorean Chapter of Instruction (No. 79), Prince of Orange, Greenwich-road, at 8; Comp. W. West Smith, Preceptor.  
 Westbourne Lodge of Instruction (733) Horse and Groom, Winsley-street, Oxford-Street, at 8.

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