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AIDS TO STUDY.

BY BRO. WM. CARPENTER P.M. & P.Z. 717.

VIII.

It has often been said that Masonry is not religion. This, however, is only partially true. Masonry assumes that the true and only God has revealed His will as to human conduct, and to lay an adequate foundation for this, has revealed so much of His own being and character, and of His relation to us, as our Creator, Governor, and Redeemer, as to enable us to form a true conception of our obligation to worship Him; i.e. to love and serve Him, and to regard Him as the only object of our adoration, thanksgiving, and devotion. All this is comprised in the sacred writings, which, by way of eminence, are collectively called THE BIBLE, or THE BOOK. Masonry recognises this, and expressly declares, at every candidate's initiation, that "The sacred writings are to rule and govern our faith;" and, in addition, all its meetings are opened and closed by prayer, and all its ceremonies are interspersed with prayer, recognising these religious truths, and drawing their force, obligation, and appropriateness from them.

To the orthodox Mason—by which I mean a member of the Craft who really enters into, and appreciates its mysteries, usages, and ritual—it must be a matter of gratification to find that the studies and researches of recent times, especially in archaeology, ethnology, and philology, are continually multiplying the evidences and proofs of the verity of the history and events we find recorded in the Bible, and that what—some three-quarters of a century since—were urged as arguments subversive of the historical veracity of the Biblical history, by such writers as Volney and Palmer, are now revealing facts which furnish undoubted proofs of its authenticity and historical accuracy. While the scholars of Germany were building in the dimness of their closets, a theory to persuade themselves and others of the fictitious character of the Old Testament history, the well applied zeal and industry of travellers, historians, and linguists, opened up the chambers of Nineveh and Babylon, uncovered the rocks of Sinai, discovered the key for unlocking the hieroglyphic secrets of old Egypt, laid bare the foundations of the Temple at Jerusalem, brought into the light of day the veritable records of Monkish kings, and extorted, by patience of research, and mar-

vellous inductive skill, a thousand other corroborations of Hebrew history and prophecy. It cannot be gainsaid that the veracity of Scripture history is confirmed by almost every additional discovery of modern science and research, and that records of the past are almost daily exhumed, that attest the historical character of events and personages which transcendental criticism had boldly impugned, as simply mythical.

In a former paper, I glanced at the very scanty and altogether imperfect knowledge we have of Egypt's ancient history, in consequence of the paucity of its existing records, and the difficulties which long existed in deciphering such as are found in the hieroglyphics of her still preserved monuments of stone and papyri. Many of these inscriptions have now been deciphered, and if they do not afford the means of constructing an Egyptian history, they afford the most decided, as well as most unlooked for confirmation of biblical history and incidents, and thus justify the claims of the sacred volume to the character of authentic history.

Some writers have seriously given to Egypt a history of tens of thousands of years, and tried to show that some of the ancient monuments were erected long before the period fixed for the Deluge; but nothing has yet been discovered amongst its vast mass of ancient inscriptions which points to so remote a chronology, while there are many presumptive evidences that these monuments are all subsequent to the time of Noah. Herodotus, indeed, speaks of 341 kings, whose united reigns reached over 11,340 years, and in connection with this, he states that during his time the sun rose twice in the West and twice set in the East, and that these strange phenomena produced no particular effect on the inhabitants, the country, or the Nile! (B. ii. c. 42.) These statements are, probably, two fables which Herodotus picked up amongst the gossiping priests, and which he felt bound to give, because they were extraordinary. Often, when relating the strange tales of the sacerdotal order, he gives plain indications of his own want of faith, though, in his relation of the account of these 341 kings, he expresses no doubt of its accuracy.

But the alleged antiquity of Egypt has been satisfactorily accounted for by men who have carefully investigated the subject. At one period of Egyptian history, as suggested in a former paper, a considerable number of princes ruled at the same time, in different parts of the country. Each of these princes has been given a distinct period, and the whole years of each prince have been added together, and the sum total has shewn a chronology of tens of thousands of years. Besides this, Mr. Bryant has shewn that still falser reckonings have helped to make up this antiquity. All the Egyptian kings had a numerous list of names and titles. Each of these names and titles has been made into a separate person, and each person into a separate and independent sovereign, to which an appropriate number of years has been attached; thus the rule of a single dynasty has been multiplied many times over, and the chronology of Egypt has become utterly confused and uncertain.

The first rulers of Egypt being, according to their traditions, gods, and the accounts of their

reigns purely mythological, periods of twenty or thirty thousand years are matters of small consideration. During biblical times, beginning with Abram, the history, and the chronology too, have become more reliable; and had the Scripture accounts given the specific names of the kings who reigned, instead of the general name of Pharaoh, which simply means "monarch," the history and chronology of Egypt would have been considerably improved. But, taking the authority of Bunsen, it may be stated generally, that for about 1000 years B.C., there begins a series of contemporaneous events, of which evidence is found in the Bible and the Egyptian authorities (Egypteus Stelle.) All the statements of the Bible, in relation to Egypt, so far, are admitted, even by Bunsen, to be historically accurate, because they agree with the teachings of the monuments. Surely, then, it is presumable, that all the Scripture statements, as far down as Abraham, are equally reliable. Other, and equally careful students of history, indeed, have found points of contact between the Bible accounts and Egyptian monuments at a much more ancient date than that at which Bunsen finds them.

The key which has opened the literary treasures of the ancient Egyptians to the scientific world, is the famous Rosetta Stone, now to be seen in the British Museum. It is the fragment of an oblong slab of black basalt, from the "far Syene," and was found at Rosetta, in Lower Egypt, in 1799. It bears a trilingual inscription; the upper one in hieroglyphics, the lower one in Greek, while the centre one is in a character commonly known as the enchorial, or demotic; i.e., the writing of the people, as distinct from that of the priests. The Greek text showed that the tablet contained a recognition of the highest honours of the Pharaohs in the person of Ptolemy Epiphans, who reigned in Egypt at the close of the second century, B.C. As engraved copies of the stone became common in Europe, its decipherment appeared to scholars a problem capable of being solved. Seevne and Porson, by restoring and interpreting the Greek inscription, greatly facilitated this most difficult task. To an Englishman belongs the honour of having taken the first step towards reading the hieroglyphic portion of the tablet. Dr. Thomas Young, a learned physician, offered "A Conjectural Translation of the Egyptian Inscription of the Rosetta stone;" and the system which he originated has been more or less confirmed by the genius of such men as Champollion, De Rougé, and Mariette, amongst the French; Bunsen, Lepsius, and Brugsch, amongst the Germans; and of our own countrymen, the not less distinguished names of Birch, Osburn, Poole, Goodwyn, Sharpe, and others, who have all contributed their quota to the greatest philological triumph of the present century. Champollion's Egyptian grammar and vocabulary, enlarged by the labours of subsequent Egyptologists, have, as Brugsch observes, made the rules of hieroglyphic grammar the common property of science; and De Rougé, one of the most successful decipherers, attests that we can now translate three-quarters of the longest documents, sometimes more, and sometimes less, according to the

difficulty of the subject. It is evident, for instance, that a text on mythological mysteries, or the metaphors of poetry, will be far more obscure than a simple narrative, or a genealogy; and yet many of the former kinds have been satisfactorily translated.

The system of hieroglyphic interpretation has now stood the test of half-a-century, and not only has it received the adhesion, as well as exercised the utmost skill, of some of the acutest intellects of the day, but it has also confirmed, in no slight degree, the truth of Israel's history in Egypt, which must, therefore, commend itself to every believer in the authenticity of the earlier books of Scripture. Unhappily, some of the present Egyptologists have either denied or perverted this evidence, in disregard of the expressed opinion of the most famous of them all. Alluding to the adversaries of revelation in his own time, Champollion wrote: "They will here find an absolute reply to their calumnies, since I have demonstrated that no Egyptian monument is really older than the year 2200 before our era. This, certainly, is a very high antiquity, but it presents nothing contradictory to the sacred histories; and I venture to affirm that it establishes them on all points: for it is, in fact, by adopting the chronology and succession of kings given by the Egyptian monuments, that the Egyptian history wonderfully accords with the sacred writings."

SURREY MASONIC HALL.

It is with considerable satisfaction that we are enabled to announce the renewal of endeavours on the part of several influential members of the Craft in the South of London, to secure for the South Metropolitan District Lodges a suitable building for the purposes of Freemasonry. From various causes, former laudable efforts in this direction have not met with the success they deserved, but there now appears to be a strong expectation that a very different result will attend the present undertaking. Wisely deferring any public announcement until sufficient support to establish a company had been privately secured, the promoters of the new Masonic Hall are now about to commence operations in good earnest, and under the above title have registered the Company, and held their first meeting of *pro tem.* directors. In the course of a few days, we are informed, the project will be publicly announced, and the general support of the fraternity solicited. We cordially sympathise with the promoters in this matter, believing that it is most important to the progress of Freemasonry generally, that a building devoted to its purposes should be erected, and from present appearances, we are disposed to express our opinion that it will be not only most useful to the Craft, but will ultimately become successful in a commercial sense.

"Some months since, my wife was suffering with a bad cough and severe pains in the chest, and totally unable to attend to her ordinary duties. She was advised to try your Pain Killer, and after a few doses of it was restored to perfect health, which she still enjoys. I also use it for Piles, from which I have long suffered, and one dose taken internally invariably gives me entire relief.—Jas. Bradshaw."

FREEMASONRY IN THE NORTH OF IRELAND.

BELFAST.

Monday last being the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, divine service was celebrated in St. George's Church, Belfast, when, as on a similar occasion last year, a large number of the Masonic body, and of the general public, formed the congregation. In anticipation of the day, the following was issued on June 17, by Charles T. Walmisley, D.G.S., Grand Secretary's Office, Freemason's Hall, Dublin:—"It having been intimated to the Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master that some of the Masonic Lodges in the North of Ireland intend walking in procession on St. John's Day, I am directed to call attention to Rule 126 of the Book of Constitutions, viz.:—'A Masonic procession shall not take place, unless by permission of the Grand Lodge, or by dispensation from the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master.' Any Lodge taking part in any such procession, or permitting any of the collars of office, or other insignia, to be used upon such occasion, will be liable to have its warrant cancelled, or called in; and any brother joining in any such procession will be liable to suspension. I have, therefore, to caution all Brethren throughout the country against any violation of the above rule."

Accordingly, on Monday, there were no processions, but the brethren invested themselves with the insignia of the Order on their arrival at Church. There was a very large attendance of the clergy, including the following:—Revs. W. MacIlvane, D.D. (Rector of St. George's), W. Cottar, H. H. Burrowes, Edmund McClure, H. B. St. George, S. S. Frackleton, Benjamin N. White, John Wrixon, J. E. Costello, F. C. Young, G. R. Wynne, George Smith, J. Meighan, John Crossley, Augustus Byrne, A. Vesey, S. Brennan, Charles Ovenden, T. Rea, J. Gardner, William Kinahan, and J. Leonard. The choir appeared in surplices; and, with the clergy and the brethren of the Ancient Order, in full Masonic costume, gave great *éclat* to the occasion. An excellent discourse was delivered by the Rev. Thomas F. Welland, Rector of St. Thomas's, Belfast, who selected for his text, Galatians vi. 2, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ." The reverend gentleman made a forcible appeal on behalf of the two leading Masonic charities—the Boys' and Girls' Orphan Schools, Dublin. The offertory collection, which exceeded £25, was supplemented by several of the Brethren who were unable to attend; and, with the collection made on a similar occasion last year, will be employed in constituting four life governors of the Masonic Orphan Schools. The following will be the first life governors from this fund:—The Rev. Edmund McClure, Chaplain Lodge X. (who inaugurated these services); the Rev. Thomas F. Welland, Chaplain Lodge VII.; the Rev. S. S. Frackleton, Provincial Grand Chaplain; and the Rev. W. C. McCullagh, Chaplain Lodge XI.

In the evening a number of the lodges in Belfast celebrated the festival by meeting at the customary St. John's dinner. The Brethren of "106" went on an excursion to Shane's Castle, the grounds of which were thrown open to them.

CARRICKFERGUS.

It is many years since this town was honoured by such a large attendance of brethren as assembled here on Monday, 24th ult., in memory of the Patron Saint of the Order, on the invitation of Lodge No. 253. There were brethren present from the following lodges: 22, 54, and 106, Belfast; 41, Larne; 375, Aughnadnagh; 254, Holywood; 316, Ballycarry; 133, Comber; 276, Straid; 148, Cogrey; 160, Craigarogan; 43 and 253, Carrickfergus. The following lodges had flags: 253, 160, 148, 276, 316.

The brethren assembled in the Second Presbyterian Church, when Bro. the Rev. James Warwick delivered a lecture on Freemasonry. In addition to other flags, one was suspended in front of the pulpit, and it was examined with much curiosity, when the preacher gave a short sketch of its history. When General Shurot, a Frenchman, landed at Kilroot, more than one hundred years ago, and besieged the town and castle of Carrickfergus with success, amongst the trophies carried off was the flag belonging to the masons of the town. When Admiral Elliott defeated the French squadron off the Isle of Man, most of the articles were recaptured, and amongst them this flag, which he gallantly restored to its proper position in the Masonic Lodge of this old fortress town. Bro. Warwick, in concluding his discourse, made the following reference to Judge Keogh: "There is nothing more lamentable than the conduct of our countrymen in some parts of Ireland, burning the effigy of a distinguished and upright judge, who belongs to the ancient Craft of Freemasonry, because of the faithful discharge of his duty. No matter what political party is in authority, the executive should put all the power of law into force to prevent such insults to law and justice, and to teach the people respect to authority and submission to law; and every true Free and Accepted Mason will fearlessly assist them, as Judge Keogh is an honour to the brotherhood."

At the conclusion of the lecture, on the motion of Bro. J. W. McAlister, Mollusk, Cottonmount, a vote of thanks to Bro. Warwick was passed by acclamation. During the evening the brethren marched in procession through the principal streets, and there were upwards of 2,000 persons present.

FREEMASONRY IN NEW ZEALAND.

An emergency meeting of the brethren connected with Lodge Ara, No. 348, held under the Irish Constitution of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, was opened on the 9th April, at the Masonic Hotel, Princes-street, by direction of Bro. A. Russell, W.M., for the purpose of presenting testimonials to Brother the Rev. R. Kidd, L.L.D., and I.P.M. of the lodge, and to Bro. G. H. Lavers, the late Secretary. It was attended by most of the members, and by several Masters and officers of other Auckland Lodges, as well as other distinguished Masons as visitors.

The testimonial consisted of books, to be selected by himself. This resolution was carried into effect, and the books ("Chamber's Encyclopedia" in ten vols, and Webster's Dictionary" one vol), bore the following inscription:—

"Presented to Bro. the Rev. Robert Kidd, L.L.D., P.M. and V.W.P.G., Chaplain, by the W.M., Wardens, and brethren of Lodge Ara of Free and Accepted Masons, for his efficient and valuable services while performing the duties of W.M. from December, 1870, to December, 1871; and in token of the esteem in which he is held.

LODGE OF FORTITUDE, NO. 281, LANCASTER.

FESTIVAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST AND PRESENTATION TO BRO. DR. MOORE.

Wednesday, the 23rd inst., having been appointed for the celebration of the Festival of St. John the Baptist, the Brethren of the Lodge of Fortitude met at the North Western Hotel, Morecambe, in full Masonic clothing.

The Presidential Chair was occupied by Bro. William Hall, W.M., who was supported by his Wardens, Bros. William Fleming and Edward Airey; Past Masters—J. Daniel Moore, P. G. S. B. England, James Hatch, Edmund Simpson, Joseph Fenton, John Hatch, George Kelland, Edward Storey, W. King, and about thirty other Brethren. The Banquet provided was well worthy of the occasion, and ample justice was done to it by the brethren assembled. After the cloth had been drawn, the usual loyal toasts were given, that of the Army, Navy, &c., being responded to by Bro. Moore on behalf of the Yeomanry Cavalry; Captain-Commandant J. Storey for the Rifle Volunteers, and Lieut. Sly for the Artillery Volunteers.

The health of the M.W.G.M., the Marquis of Ripon, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge and of the Provincial Grand Lodge were duly honoured, and the I.P.M. proposed the health of the Presiding Officer of the Lodge, who had by his diligence and Masonic skill fully justified the choice of the Brethren in elevating him to the highest honour that the Lodge could confer upon its members, and trusted that during the remainder of his year of office as W.M. he would have plenty of work, and would accomplish what he took in hand in as exemplary a manner as he had done up to the present time. The W.M. in a suitable manner replied to the toast, and expressed his thanks to the Past Masters and Officers of the Lodge for the assistance that they had rendered to him in course of his Masonic duties.

He then, in somewhat eulogistic terms, proposed the health of the Immediate Past Master, Bro. Dr. Mr. Moore, who had three times been honoured by election to the chair of K.S., and who had risen to the high rank of a Grand Officer of England. After commenting upon the untiring zeal and energy of that well-known Brother, the W.M., in the name of the Brethren of the Lodge of Fortitude, presented him with a Past Grand Sword Bearer's Jewel, of eighteen-carat gold, which had been supplied by Bro. G. Kenning. The inscription was as follows:—"Presented to Bro. Dr. Moore, P.M. and P.G.S.B., by the Brethren of the Lodge of Fortitude, 281, as a testimony of their appreciation of his services as W.M., and the high position which he has attained in the Craft. 26 June, 1872."

Bro. Moore, on rising to respond, was received with great applause, and in thanking the W.M. and brethren for their handsome gift, remarked that its value, both intrinsically and as a testimonial, was greatly enhanced by the sum of money given by the lodge being supplemented by the voluntary subscriptions of individual members of the Craft. In course of his progress through the various degrees and offices in Masonry, he had always endeavoured to make him-

self as proficient as might be in the duties of those degrees or offices, and had ever been fortunate in receiving assistance from those who were more conversant with Masonic subjects than himself. He was much gratified to find that his humble endeavours had so far met with the approbation of the Lodge of Fortitude, as to dictate the presentation to him of so handsome a testimonial of their esteem, one which he should ever prize as amongst the most valuable of his Masonic decorations. Bro. Moore repeating his thanks, resumed his seat, carrying with him the good wishes of the brethren, that he might long be spared to wear the jewel of which he had just been the recipient.

The toasts of the Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary, and Officers of the Lodge of Fortitude were duly proposed by Past Masters G. Kelland, W. King, John Hatch, &c., and responded to. The toast of the Visitors was coupled with the name of Bro. James M. Moore, Prov. G. Steward of Derbyshire, and the proceedings of the evening were brought to a close with the Tyler's toast, proposed by Bro. Edmund Simpson, P.M.

OXFORDSHIRE. — CONSECRATION OF THE MARLBOROUGH LODGE, No. 1399.

This Lodge, held at the Bear Hotel, Woodstock, was inaugurated by consecration on Wednesday, the 19th inst. About fifty brethren, including visitors from other provinces, were present. Among the number were:—

R.W. Bro. R. J. Spiers, P.G.S.B. England, D.P.G. Master, Oxon; V.W. Bros. T. W. J. Goldsbro', P. Prov. G.S.W. North Wales and Salop (consecrating officer); Reginald Bird, M.A., W.M. of the Apollo Lodge, No. 357, Oxford, P.G.S.W. Oxon; W. G. Emberlin, P.M. 340, P. Prov. G.J.W. Oxon; William Park, P.M. 340, Prov. G. Steward Oxon; W. Bros. Christopher Park, W.M. 340, Prov. G. Reg. Oxon; Thomas Blakeman Brown, P.M. 998, Chap. 185, P. Prov. G. S. of W., W.M. designate; Albert Samman, P.M. 599, P. Prov. G. S. of W. Oxon; J. Scroggs, P.M. 559, P. Prov. G.S.D.; Charles Edwards, J.W. 357, Prov. G.S. of Wks. Oxon; Hugh Eldred, Prov. G. Pursuivant; Bros. F. Stockwell, M.D., Senior Warden designate; Mark Prior, 340, Junior Warden designate; A. Holliday, 340; J. G. Prior, 340; E. Elms, 340; Joseph Reade, 1036; Joseph Round, 340; J. G. Seeley, 340; William Scroggs, 340; W. H. Horn, 340; S. Harris, 340; F. L. Prior, 862; James Smith, 268; R. R. Pratt, 340; William Biggs, 478; J. Wheeler, 1036; C. Galpin, 340; T. Dyson, 771; J. Juggins, P.P.G.S.W. 340; John Meiers, 340; John Norwood, 322; R. Stephens, 340; Bayliss, and other brethren.

The brethren having entered the lodge-room in procession, Bro. Goldsbro' (the presiding officer), took the chair, and appointed the V.W. Bro. Reginald Bird, M.A., of the Apollo Lodge, Oxford, as Senior Warden, *pro tem*, and V.W. Bro. Christopher Park as the Junior Warden, *pro tem*.

Lodge was opened in the three degrees, and the petition and warrant of constitution were read. The brethren having signified their approval of the officers named in the warrant, Bro. Goldsbro' proceeded to perform the ceremony of consecration. Bro. T. Dyson, of the Windsor Castle Lodge, ably conducted the musical portion of the ceremonial, assisted by Bro. Brough, who presided at the harmonium.

On the conclusion of the ceremony of consecration, the brethren below the rank of I.M., retired, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Thomas B. Brown was duly installed first Master of the lodge, and proclaimed and saluted with the customary honours in the several degrees.

The W.M. then invested the Wardens designate, and the other officers, to whom he delivered the usual addresses on the nature and duties of their respective appointments, after which, Bro. Goldsbro' addressed the Wardens and brethren of the lodge.

The W.M. resumed the lodge in the second degree, for the purpose of testing Bro. Meiers, a candidate for the degree of M.M., which proving satisfactory, the candidate was intrusted, and then retired. Lodge was resumed in the third degree, Bro. Meiers was re-admitted, and raised to that sublime degree, the W.M. performing the ceremony in a most effective and solemn manner, in which he was admirably supported by the Wardens, Deacons, and other officers of the new lodge. Lodge was again resumed in the first degree, and the W.M. directed the Junior Warden to perform his duty and call the brethren to refreshment.

Between thirty and forty brethren sat down to an excellent and well served banquet, provided by Bro. Pratt, of the Bear Hotel.

After the banquet, the W.M. gave the usual toasts, all of which were right loyally and masonically honoured.

Bro. Spiers, D.P.G.M., in proposing the health of the R.W. Bro. Æneas J. McIntyre, said, "we cannot speak too highly of him, he is always ready to keep his engagements if possible, but his professional engagements, in full term, are very imperious, and he has written to me to express his great regret in not being here to day. I am sure you will, nevertheless, drink his health with the greatest enthusiasm."

Bro. Goldsbro' — "Most, if not all the brethren here, well know how much the success of Masonry in Oxfordshire has been due to the exertions of the R.W. the Deputy Provincial Grand Master; we all know how deep an interest he always takes in all that relates to the welfare of the Craft in general, more especially in those, its brightest ornaments, the Masonic Charities. I have had the pleasure of knowing Bro. Spiers for many years, and can safely say I have never attended the Grand Lodge of England without seeing him in his place there. With regard to the Masonic charities, Bro. Spiers is ever to be found in the front rank of their chief supporters. Long may he be spared among you. I call upon you to drink health and long life to your worthy and Right Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master."

Bro. Spiers: — Although I have had great experience in Masonry, I hardly remember any time which has affected me so much as this has done. The compliment you paid me, and your rejoicing when I entered the room, were so hearty, so cordial, that I want words to express all I feel at the present moment. I have been a Mason for twenty-eight years, and have always received kindness from my brethren; but you have consummated this by the reception you have given me this evening, shewing, as you have done, that I stand before you high in your estimation. Brother Goldsbro' has said he hoped I should be long among you as Deputy Provincial Grand Master. Brethren, you may feel assured how deeply I regret not being present to day in time to witness the ceremonies performed in that admirable manner, for which he is celebrated throughout England; unexpected circumstances prevented me, matters which required my personal attendance in Oxford, and when at last I went to the railway station, I found I had mistaken the time of the train; however here I am. When I first came into Masonry in this province, the attendance in the lodges was very small, perhaps some eight or ten members only attended. I felt how much good would arise if the merits of the Craft were better known, and I applied myself with diligence, and with some success. I was one of the first country Masons who had office in the Grand Lodge, and I was appointed in my sixth year in Masonry. I have never missed a single attendance at the Grand Lodge, having enjoyed good health and opportunities, and it has given me the power to serve my brethren in the Grand Lodge. Brethren, you owe a great deal to your Worshipful Master for what he has done—we know his great kindness and his great talents. There are few who possess the high qualifications he does, he is a most experienced Mason,

and it was felt when he took this lodge in hand, it would be a great success. Though this may be a summer lodge, I know from those who belong to it, that it will do credit to the province and to the Craft at large. After long experience (and I believe I am the senior Mason present), I must say that nothing has given me such pleasure as Freemasonry has. I thank you for your kind reception, which really deserves my best thanks, I thank my friend and Bro. Goldsbrough for the exceeding kind way he has spoken of me and I wish you all every prosperity."

Bro. Goldsbrough — It is with very sincere pleasure that I propose to you the next toast, which may be called the toast of the day, for it is the "Health of your Worshipful Master and the first Master of this lodge." I feel assured you must all feel deeply grateful to that distinguished brother for consenting to be your guiding star. It has been my pleasure to know Bro. Brown for many years past, and this is the second time I have had the privilege of installing him in the chair as the Worshipful Master of a lodge. I can fully endorse all that the Deputy Provincial Grand Master has said of his high qualifications as a Mason and as a friend and I call upon you to drink with full honours to the Health and prosperity of your Worshipful Master Brother Brown.

Bro. Brown—I am sure that my warmest thanks are due to my friend and brother Dr. Goldsbrough for the kind way he has proposed my health, and to you also, brethren, for accepting it in so hearty a manner. I have first to thank you all for your attendance here this evening; this town though not a very large place, is quite large enough for a Masonic lodge. It possesses many men of honourable and generous spirit, and I am happy to say the brethren in this town had the will to establish Masonry here, when money was mentioned, it was answered by "we have the whole of the money ready to put down and should; have, were double the amount required, the difficulty with us is to find a brother to attend as a Worshipful Master." When I was asked to become the first Master, I accepted the duty with pleasure. Every circumstance connected with the formation of this lodge encourages us to hope that this will be a most successful lodge.

Bro. Spiers:—I have a very important toast to propose. It is one of the greatest possible importance, for it is the health of the brother who has brought you into existence as a lodge. I have had the pleasure of knowing Bro. Goldsbrough for many years, and I value him very highly as a friend and a brother, and not only for his own sake but also on account of the high efficiency with which he discharges every duty he has to perform. I thank him especially for what he has done to-day for the lodge. I propose to you "The Health of Bro. Dr. Goldsbrough, and our best thanks to him for the great service he has rendered this lodge."

Bro. Goldsbrough having returned thanks, the W.M. proposed the "Health of the Visitors, and coupled with the toast, Bro. James Smith of the Margate Lodge."

Bro. Smith replied expressing the gratification he felt in being present at the opening of the Marlborough Lodge.

Bros. Parks, Reade, and Scroggs returned thanks on behalf of the "Sister Lodges" in the province.

In proposing the health of the officers, the W.M. paid a well merited compliment to Bros. Dr. Stockwell, and M. Prior, and the other officers, for the very efficient manner in which they had discharged the duties of their respective offices.

Bros. Mark Prior, and Stockwell acknowledged the compliment paid them by the W.M.

The remaining toast, "the Masonic Charities" &c., were duly honoured, after which the W.M. directed the Junior Warden to summon the brethren from refreshment to the duties of the lodge, when it was proposed by the W.M., seconded by Bro. M. Prior, and unanimously agreed that Bro. Goldsbrough be elected as Honorary Member of the lodge.

Bro. Spiers, intimated his intention to offer for the acceptance of the lodge a handsome alms box.

A large number of propositions were made

for brethren desirous of becoming joining members and on behalf of candidates for initiation.

The lodge was then closed in antient form, and with solemn prayer and adjourned.

CAPITULAR FREEMASONRY IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

BY COMPANION WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

The following interesting letter appeared in the appendix to the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania for 1871:—

In response to the invitation of my esteemed friend, M. E. Companion C. E. Meyer, I will endeavour, as the time permits, to afford the Companions in Pennsylvania a glimpse of British Capitular Freemasonry.

To commence the series, according to custom, the Mark degree should of course first receive notice.

In Ireland Mark Masonry is comparatively quiet at present.

Chapters are not compelled to give the degree as preparatory to the Royal Arch, and although it is under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter, but little attention is paid to its peculiar and impressive ceremonies. A distinctive mark may (not must) be adopted, and separate certificates are issued, if required. Six Mark Masters are required to be present at opening, who must be duly qualified to fill the offices of Master, Wardens, and Overseers. Members are accepted as Mark Masters under that Constitution without any intention of being exalted, just as with brethren who join the Mark Lodges in Philadelphia and in England, &c., being, of course, Master Masons.

Some of the foregoing remarks having been made by me, and questioned, I submitted the points in dispute to the Assistant Grand Secretary to the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and that most obliging Companion confirmed my statement in full. In a letter dated 1st July, 1871, he observes: "It is quite optional with brethren taking the Royal Arch to take the Mark degree; i. e., as far as Grand Chapter is concerned; but very many chapters, by their By-laws, make it a prerequisite." Hence it is clear that in Ireland.

(a) That Mark degree is not a prerequisite for the Royal Arch Masonry, according to the laws of the Grand Chapter.

(b) That some chapters do not work the degree.

(c) That lodges work under the Chapter warrants.

(d) That Mark Masonry has not the prominence as in other countries.

In Scotland the Mark degree is in a unique position. The Grand Lodge recognises it, and so does the Grand Chapter. Any Craft Lodge under its Constitution, has a right to work the degree in Scotland, as a Craft Lodge, and many exercise that privilege; and, in fact, all can. It is considered by some authorities to belong to the Second Degree, but no evidence in support of this position has been adduced. The earliest minute known which alludes to the degree is dated A. D. 1778, of which we have a copy, and unequivocally connects the Mark Master's degree with the Master Mason.

The "Mark" is a prerequisite for Royal Arch Masonry under the Grand Chapter, and candidates for exaltation who have been "advanced" in a Craft Lodge are accepted as members of the Fourth Degree.

The Grand Chapter has granted warrants to form Mark Lodges in England from A.D. 1856, but never many at any time have been working. Some of these, however, have been most successful, particularly one now working at Manchester. Some brethren, like the writer, belong to both jurisdictions, and hope soon to see all undue rivalry at an end. The warrants contain a proviso that in the event of any governing body being recognized for the degree in England, they should ipso facto be cancelled. It is believ-

ed by many that the time has come for these warrants to be recalled, as a properly constituted governing body exists in England for the present time, with more than one hundred Mark Lodges on its roll, and some thousands of members.

We anticipate ere long that the good understanding and fellowship always subsisting between the members of both organisations will be indissolubly cemented by the withdrawal of the warrants for Scottish Mark Lodges in England.

Companions in the United States can feelingly sympathise with those who are suffering from "invasion of jurisdiction," and although we in England, as Mark Masters, are content to wait patiently for free and full recognition of our claims by the Grand Chapter of Scotland, we nevertheless shall be glad of a prompt response.

In Scotland, then, the Mark degree

(a) Is recognised by the Grand Lodge and Chapter.

(b) It is a pre-requisite for Royal Arch Masonry.

(c) It can be given in a Craft Lodge, Mark Lodge, or as preparatory for the Chapter,

(d) The Grand Chapter has Lodges in England.

(e) Joining Companions not "marked," must be before the affiliation is complete.

In England the only degrees recognised by the Grand Lodge are the three first, the Past Master (viz., an installed Master of a Lodge only, who has been duly elected, and formerly served as Warden) and the Royal Arch.

The "articles of union" of 1813, which bound the two rival Grand Lodges to certain degrees, and no more, omitted any mention of Mark Masonry; and, although the Grand Chapter of Scotland and Mark Masters in England have endeavoured to secure the recognition of the degree by the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter of England, they have signally failed.

We say unhesitatingly, unless the Grand Lodge breaks its pledge, Mark Masonry cannot be recognized in England.

The solemn promise made in 1813 effectually shuts out the Mark degree, and it is of no service to inquire whether members were wise in so promising, as the pledge was given, and therefore must be honoured by all who value treaties among Masons.

This being so, the members of Mark Lodges were averse to remain as a body without a head, and, naturally objecting to any foreign rule, formed a Grand Lodge, A.D. 1856, with many Lodges under its jurisdiction. The degree has rapidly spread, and the Grand Lodge has prospered exceedingly—so much so that now the Lodges muster more than one hundred! Lord Leigh, the first Grand Master, is an esteemed Provincial Grand Master in the Craft. The next Grand Master was the Earl of Carnarvon, who is a Provincial Grand Master, and the present Deputy Grand Master of England, (i. e. the next in authority to the Marquis of Ripon). The third Grand Master was Viscount Holmesdale, also a Provincial Grand Master; and the Grand Master at the present time is a deservedly esteemed and respected well-known Craft Mason and estimable clergyman. Many well-known noblemen and brethren under the banner of English Freemasonry are proud to acknowledge their membership of this Grand Lodge, many of whom are Past Grand Wardens of the Craft Grand Lodge. Some of the Lodges are of "time immemorial" age, and have worked the degree no one knows how long, but certainly during the last century. Without such a Grand Lodge having been formed, the degree would have been little known in England, and although it is certainly a novel feature to have a Grand Lodge for the Mark degree, it is justifiable under the circumstances. The same novelty as a governing body was instituted for Royal Arch Masons about the middle of the last century. Before then there was not a Grand Chapter anywhere over the globe, and never had been. The Royal Arch Chapters had no governing body before A. D. 1750, and, in response to the wants of the Companions, the "Ancients" formed a Grand Chapter, and the "Moderns" followed about A. D. 1766—new bodies entirely, as much as the Mark Grand Lodge in 1856, but, like it, much wanted.

The Grand Lodge of Mark Masters has the pleasure of knowing all its certificates are recognized by the Grand Chapters of Ireland and Canada, and we feel sure that, whenever the ardent and enthusiastic Companions in the United States are asked to greet English Mark Masters with a friendly grasp, they will do so. Indeed, already we rejoice to know the Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania and Iowa have decided to do so.

LANCASHIRE.—BARROW-IN-FURNESS MASONIC CLUB.

For some time past the Masonic brethren of this rising locality, have felt the want of a meeting-place, apart from their regular lodges. A Masonic Hall, including Club arrangements, is contemplated; but some time will elapse before the details can be perfected. In the meantime, and as a preliminary effort, a large number of the body have instituted a Masonic Club, at the Hartington Hotel, Duke-street, and a very suitable room, completely furnished and neatly decorated, has been adapted for the purpose, by the proprietor, Mr. Taylor.

The rules of the Club are quite of a general character, and after much care and long consideration, been framed in conformity with the principles of order and thrift, and will, no doubt, secure the advantages which a temperate desire for sociability requires—on the basis of propriety and decorum, as observed amongst any respectable body of men.

The Club is in no respects an appendage to, or combined with any particular lodge; nor was it ever thought of as creating additional Masonic qualifications, or intended to aim at conferring privileges, which are inherent to lodges alone, and does not, in any effect, assimilate to the working or procedure of the same; and exclusive of the name of the Club, and the unexceptional requirements of individual registration—that of a Master Mason—it is as much distinguished from a regular lodge as any one associated coterie from another.

The inauguration of the Club took place on Thursday evening, the 20th inst., by a supper, of which about fifty members partook. The assembly was complimented by numerous visitors, amongst whom may be enumerated: Bros. M'Cass, Dodgson, and W.M. Pearson, of Ulverstone; Whiteside and Postlethwaite, of Dalton, and W.M. elect, Barrow of Lancaster.

The repast was well provided, and highly creditable to the hotel management. It was held in the large room of the building, which will hereafter be the lodge-room of Hinchwood, No. 1225.

After the cloth was drawn, the company retired to the club-room, and under the presidency of the chairman of the Club, Bro. Cornfield, P.M., and the vice-chairman, Bro. Silver, P.M., the following business was proceeded with.

The president gave "The Queen," which was drunk in the usual loyal and fervent manner, accompanied by the National Anthem.

The next toast was "Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," which was heartily responded to.

The vice-president proposed "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," remarking that fortunately the volunteers were practically an untried body, but he did not fear they would give a good account of themselves, even under the untoward circumstances of a "Battle of Dorking," spite of the lugubrious and gloomy manner it seems to have been fancied.

Bro. W. R. Ormandy responded—observing that Bro. Sergeant Case, who was present, had been thirteen years a volunteer, and ought to have had the honour of his name coupled with the toast. All had tried to do their duty, and, referring to the Vice-President's remark about untried, he said they had been on active service not far from the field of Waterloo, viz., at the Battle of Champagne. Alluding to the rifle contest in Belgium, where he could not tell how many were slain, but if the enemy did not run,

they knocked their necks off; and if the whole host were not *hors de combat*, at least they were sadly disorganised, as the following morning's muster unmistakably showed.

The next toast was given by the President, and may be considered the toast of the evening. He said:—"We have assembled to celebrate the opening of the Barrow-in-Furness Masonic Club—an institution long desired by our honourable fraternity in this prosperous district, and which will do much towards creating and fostering good feeling and personal regard, characteristic of the Craft. Owing to pressure of business in our lodges, and the consequent length of our beautiful ceremonies, the opportunity for sociable communion, as could be wished, is not attainable. This Club will remove that obstacle, or is so intended, as may be gathered from Rule 2, which sets forth the object, that "It is for the convenience of members being Freemasons for associating during leisure time from business, and for amusement, recreation, and any other purpose of a lawful, proper, and decorous character. There are too, a number of Masons daily visiting Barrow, in the pursuit of business or pleasure, and it has often been much regretted that we have not had an assembly-room to meet them. It has been said, perhaps no uncharitably, but precautionary, that encouragement to conviviality will be the ruling principle, or at least have a tendency that way; I venture to assert that the course of the club will be the very opposite to what the word is intended to convey; it is quite optional to partake or not of the articles, supplied by the house; the room is quite apart from the business, and, consequently, there will not be that expectancy to partake of refreshment, which is the case in respect of ordinary members; in fact, members will be at liberty to suit themselves in the clubroom as at their own houses, and as the rules are made very stringent, the same propriety of conduct will be exacted as if the place was as private as home. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

Bro. Dr. Bradley proposed "The Officers of the Club," coupling the toast with the name of the President; and said it was gratifying to see the meeting so well attended, thus testifying to the fidelity and zeal of the preliminary committee in forming the rules and perfecting the club; good feeling and unanimity, and the welfare and comfort of all the members being their guide.

The President returned thanks for the honour at present done him, and for his election as first President, being quite unexpected, and trusted that a pleasant year of office was before them all; nothing should be wanted to that end.

The Vice-President and other officers briefly replied by endorsing the remarks of the President, returning thanks, &c.

"The Town and Trade of Barrow," by the Vice-President, coupled with Bro. Morris, observing on the rapid progress and prosperity of the town, the principal reason of which was the almost inexhaustable deposits of the rich ore, which is the speciality in the manufacture of the now celebrated Barrow steel.

Bro. Morris, in reply, said a few years since the future of Barrow was looked to with hope, tempered with diffidence. It had now approached a period of prosperity, which, to his mind, stamped its future with the certainty of success and duty—a great and important place in the community of large manufacturing and maritime centres. He trusted it would not be long before Barrow would reach to, and absorb, the neighbouring towns of Dalton and Ulverstone. "The Visitors" were toasted by Bro. Worrall, P.M., who hoped they would often visit the Club, and if their business in the borough became more frequent, that they would become members. He also congratulated Bro. Barrow on being elected to the chair of the new Lancaster Lodge, No. 1353.

Bro. Pearson, P.M., responded. He was much indebted for the kind invitation, and he trusted to see the Barrow brethren visit their Club at Ulverstone, and they would have the same hearty welcome. After apologising for having to depart for the train, the company uprose, and making the chain complete in a most fervid manner, sang "Auld Lang Syne."

Bro. Barrow returned thanks for the compli-

ment paid him, and was pleased to see Barrow and Masonry flourish so well.

Bro. McKnight proposed "The Health of the Proprietor, Bro. Taylor," and glad his enterprising efforts were rewarded, as appeared.

Mr. Taylor returned thanks, and would always endeavour to deserve the kind feeling expressed towards him.

The manager and good lady was toasted by Bro. Hooker, and suitably replied to.

The toast, "Absent Brethren," concluded the very pleasant evening's proceedings.

The Club now numbers sixty members.

Masonic Tidings.

BRITISH, FOREIGN, AND COLONIAL.

TRINIDAD.

At a meeting of the Lodge Eastern Star, 368, held on the evening of Saturday, the 4th May, for the purpose of receiving the Depute and Substitute P.G. Masters, and other P.G. Officers, on a visit of inspection, a most imposing ceremony took place.

The Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. V. A. Davis, having retired, the W. Dep. P.G. Master, Bro. James M. Reid, rose and addressed the Lodge to the effect, "that it was a circumstance well known among the brethren that Bro. V. A. Davis, who had given such ample proof of his zeal for Freemasonry, and had rendered such good services to the Lodge in Port-of-Spain, was about to leave the Island for British Guiana, and that it had been resolved to present him with some suitable token of the esteem and appreciation in which he was held, especially among Scottish Masons."

Bro. Davis here re-entered the Temple, and was addressed by the Dep. P.G. Master, who, in a short, but effective speech, informed him that "the brethren of the Scottish Craft, desiring to testify their esteem for him, and their appreciation of his valuable services in the various offices he had filled, as well as his zeal in carrying out objects connected with Freemasonry generally, had determined to present him with some substantial token of their feeling towards him, and he (the D.P.G.M.) now presented him with a Regalia and Jewel of the Royal Arch Degree, and a purse, the contents of which he might apply to the purchase of some suitable article to commemorate this event.

Bro. Davis, in returning thanks to the brethren, said, that he thanked the Dep. P. G. M. and the brethren of the Scottish Craft, for the munificent present they had made him; it was indeed a substantial token of their affection and kindly feeling towards him, and as such, would serve to remind him, when at a distance, of the many loving friends he had left behind, and the agreeable hours he had spent, while participating in the pleasing labours of the fraternity in this Island. The pain he felt at parting with the brethren with whom he had lived on such happy terms, was mitigated by the thought that he carried away with him such testimony of their love as had that evening been bestowed upon him, and the assurance that he would continue with them in brotherly affection and remembrance. He now bid them a hearty adieu, in the hope that, should he be permitted some day to re-visit the Island, he would find them still progressing in prosperity as lodges, and as individual brethren in the practice of the blessed principles of the Order.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren were invited by the W.M. to the banqueting-room, where they found awaiting them a sumptuous supper, which was enjoyed amidst that harmonious feeling which always characterise them. The usual toasts were proposed and responded to, after which the brethren retired having expressed themselves fully satisfied with the evening's proceedings.

THE ORDER OF MALTA.

The death of Prince Borgia having left the office of Grand Master in the Order of Malta vacant, the Chapter has selected the Chevalier Cherchi de Santa Torre to fill the vacant post.

NOTICE.

The Subscription to THE FREEMASON is now 10s. per annum, post-free, payable in advance.

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The Office of THE FREEMASON is now transferred to 198, FLEET-STREET, E.C. All communications for the Editor or publisher should therefore be forwarded to that address.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

DEATH.

TAYLOR.—On the 10th ult., at his residence at Church-street, Hyde, Cheshire, Bro. Jesse Taylor, P.M. 361, aged 81.

Answers to Correspondents.

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

P.M. is thanked; his offer will be gratefully accepted.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1872.

The Freemason is published on Saturday Mornings in time for the early trains.

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

GRAND LODGE OF NEW YORK, U. S. A.

By Bro. W. J. HUGHAN.

The annual assembly of the Grand Lodge of New York was held on Tuesday, 4th June, and following days, the Grand Master, Bro. John H. Anthon, presiding.

By the kindness of Bro. F. J. Tisdall, the able Masonic Editor of "Pomeroy's Democrat" I have been favoured with a copy of the report in that well-known Democratic organ of the United States, and will summarize the interesting proceedings, for the information of the numerous readers of the *Freemason*. The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, and with prayer by Bro. the Rev. R. L. Schoomaker, Grand Chaplain. The musical arrangements were under the superintendence of the St. Cecile Lodge, and the words were composed by Bro. W. F. Sherwin, Mus. Dir. of Grand Lodge, as follows:

"Hail! Brother Masons, hail!
Let Friendship long prevail
And bind us fast.
May harmony and peace,
Our happiness increase,
And Friendship never cease,
While life shall last.

"Sincerity and love,
Descending from above,
Our minds employ.
Morality our pride,
And Trust our constant guide.
With us are close allied,
And crown our joy.

"We on the level meet,
And every brother greet,
Skilled in our art;
And when our labour's past,
Each brother's hands we'll grasp,
Then on the square at last,
Friendly we'll part.

"May wisdom be our care,
And virtue form the Square
By which we live;
That we at last may join,
Our God's Grand Lodge sublime,
Where we shall perfect shine,
With Him above."

The M. W. Grand Master then delivered the following address:

Brethren, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge: I am sincerely glad, on this opening of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, to be able to congratulate you upon a year of Masonic prosperity. Peace has generally prevailed among the Craft, and the disciplinary powers of the Grand Master have seldom been called into action. Where difficulties have occurred, they have generally been composed by my personal intervention, or by the action of one or the other of the District Deputy Grand Masters. To all of these officers I have to return my sincere thanks for the fraternal aid which they have rendered me in the arduous duties of my office, and to compliment them upon the truly Masonic manner in which they have administered justice, tempered by mercy.

The ceremonies performed during the year have been numerous, and are as follows: The corner-stone of the new Court-house at Owego was laid by M. W. Bro. Clinton F. Paige. The corner-stone of the Masonic Temple at Troy was laid by W. Bro. George Babcock. The corner-stone of the Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church at Buffalo was laid by R. W. Bro. Christopher G. Fox, Deputy Grand Master—a gratifying instance of the increasing toleration of many religious denominations of our fraternity, and even the interest that some are beginning to take in it. The corner-stone of a monument to the soldiers of Morris, Otsego county, N. Y., who died in the service of their country in the late war was laid by W. Bro. Cook, of that place.

On the day of the Festival of St. John the Baptist, the corner-stone of the new Capitol at Albany was laid in ample form, the Governor of the State delivering the address. The corner-stone of the Union Presbyterian Church, at Newburg, was laid by R. W. G. Frederick Wiltzie. Other services—the institution of Lodges, the installation of officers, were performed by the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the District Deputy Grand Masters, and other brethren delegated by the Grand Master. Noticeable services of the latter class were the dedication in ample form of the beautiful Temple at Troy (the corner-stone of which was laid nine months before) and the Masonic portion of the Hall at Staten Island, the work, largely, of Beacon Light Lodge, No. 761.

Passing from these ceremonies to a sadder topic, the Grand Master alluded to the deaths of M. W. Brothers Anderson and Taylor, of Texas, and R. W. Bro. Petersson, Representative of the Grand Lodge near the G. Lodge of the Three Globes, Prussia, and continued:

Immediately upon learning of the Chicago calamity, I issued a proclamation in the form annexed hereto, and contributions were sent in to me, which afterward extended to Michigan and Wisconsin, to the following amounts: Chicago, \$15,779.70; Michigan, \$3,313; Wisconsin, \$735; total \$19,827.70. In the case of Chicago, I sent \$1,000 in the form of women's and children's clothing, which, as I anticipated,

was found exceedingly welcome, and the rest, as in the case of Michigan and Wisconsin, in money and certificates of deposit. My account, which will be deposited with the Grand Secretary, will show date and amount of each contribution, and of each remittance to a Grand Master. There will also be placed in the hands of the Grand Secretary, receipts from the Grand Masters for each contribution, which will be delivered on request. In the statement of the Grand Master of Illinois, New York is credited with \$17,536.70, so that it appears that \$1,555 has been sent to the Grand Master without passing through my hands. I congratulate you my brethren, upon the fact that this is the largest sum received by the Masons of Illinois from the Masons of any of the States.

To one subject further I must call your attention. The Committee appointed for the purpose have sent to all the Lodges a proposed Revised Constitution. Since it has been sent, it has been, partly by revision of the Committee of their own motion, and partly on suggestion approved by them, amended. These amendments will be submitted, printed, to the Grand Lodge. I earnestly desire that this proposed Constitution be adopted as a whole, with as little change, and as little discussion as need be. It is my opinion, and that, I believe, of a majority of the Fraternity, that the proposed Constitution is substantially better than the existing one. If this be so, the most expedient plan for the Grand Lodge to pursue is to first, adopt it without material change for at least two years until you can find out how it works.

I feel it my duty, my brethren, to announce to you, that for many reasons, I must resign into your disposal the gavel, which you have twice confided to my care. In doing so, I feel it my duty also to leave a few parting words of advice on the record, as I hope, for your guidance in a few short propositions.

1. The prosperity and honor of the Fraternity cannot be maintained solely by Grand Masters or Grand Lodges; it must be sustained by the temperate, upright, pure lives and conduct, in and out of the Lodge, of all the brethren. The conduct of brethren in leaving the Lodge, or elsewhere, may do more injury to the Fraternity than any outward assault.

2. In lodges, perhaps the two most potent evils are, the misuse of the black ball. In either case, by ballot for an improper candidate, or blackballing a proper candidate, and in all cases where a ballot is cast with an unworthy motive, the lodge is defrauded by the act, and the obligation of a mason violated. The second great evil in the lodge is electioneering for office. Masonic office, to be honourable to the holder or useful to the Craft, must come unsought—certainly never intrigued for.

3. In the election of officers, and especially of Masters, there is a definite compact made. If the Master is bound by the charges of his office, the members are bound to love and respect him, and, above all things, to go to him with all their grievances as the first and best counsellor.

4. In the Grand Lodge. 1. Keep quiet and obey the gavel. 2. When business is going on, don't expect to be allowed to go in and out. 3. Don't debate on any question unless you understand both sides of it. 4. Refer to the second rule for lodges as to election of officers.

And now, my brethren, with this last scold to the Craft, whom in their lodges, and perhaps elsewhere, I have often scolded before, I add that in resigning my office, I shall not lose aught of my love for my brethren, aught of my interest in our noble Craft, or aught of willingness to labour in the cause of Masonry.

The Grand Master also, in his address, briefly alluded to the death of the Grand Master of Saxony, intelligence of which was received too late for more extended remark.

On motion the address was referred to a special committee of three.

Bro. James A. Austin then presented his report, showing that the number of Lodges which made returns, and paid dues for 1871, was 631. During the year, Bro. Austin tells us, there

were 6,142 imitated, and 812 affiliated from other Grand Lodges, making a total of 6,954, and the whole strength of the Grand Lodge was declared to be about 78,000 members. This, we believe, is by far the largest Grand Lodge in the States, if not in the world. The Grand Treasurer reported the receipt of over \$17,000, and the disbursements had amounted to nearly that amount. The Trustee of the "Hall and Asylum Fund" made the gratifying report of a most substantial balance of about £166,000. The expenditure on the new Masonic Temple, however, having cost to the present time some £150,000, there was only a *disposable* balance of about £16,000. For the information of our readers we should remark that the "Hall and Asylum Fund" originated in 1843, and from its first year of £1,000 has increased to an institution of colossal growth. The "Grand-street Property," bought in 1865 with these funds, was sold in 1868, and realized a handsome profit, and now the "Sixth Avenue Property" is to be the seat of the Grand Lodge.*

After the report had been read, a resolution, offered by M. W. Isaac Phillips was adopted, tendering thanks for donations to the fund, and particularly to R. W. Isaac H. Brown, who has been instrumental in raising nearly \$3,000 towards the erection of the new hall, designating him as the noblest Roman of them all.

R. W. E. P. Breed, from Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented their report; briefly reviewed the proceedings of 40 American, 5 Dominion of Canada, 5 European Grand Lodges, and the German Grand Masters' Conference, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Minnesota and West Virginia, were not received, which was regretted, though "Pomeroy's Democrat" could have supplied the three former from its files. The following resolutions were appended to the report:

1. *Resolved.* That the Grand Lodge of New York hereby extends to the Grand Lodge of Utah a fraternal recognition, and welcomes it to a place in the list of corresponding Grand Lodges.

2. *Resolved.* That the Grand Lodge of New York fraternally greets the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, and with pleasure accords it recognition as a regular Grand Lodge.

3. *Resolved.* That the Grand Lodge of New York again asserts its adherence to the doctrine of the supreme and exclusive jurisdiction of every regular Grand Lodge within the territorial limits of the State, Territory or Province wherein it is located; and therefore it will, under any and all circumstances, assert and aid in asserting, the rights of every such Grand Lodge, whenever its jurisdiction shall be infringed.

4. *Resolved.* That it be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence to inquire and report as to what action, if any, this Grand Lodge ought to take in reference to the countenance and support given by any Grand Lodge to such Grand Lodge, Grand Orient or Grand Council, as infringes upon the jurisdiction of any legally constituted, fully recognized, and Sovereign Grand Lodge.

The various Committees on Credentials, Jurisprudence, Warrants, Grievances, Finances, Constitution, Charity, Unfinished Business, Ap-

peals, Work and Lectures, Exemplification of Work, were appointed. We mention these just to afford a view of the work done by the committees, and to show how thoroughly well everything Masonic is attended to by our American brethren.

Of course several days were occupied in the duties of Masonry, and a vast amount of real Masonic labour was achieved. On looking over the report we could not help thinking of a Grand Lodge, with twice the number of Lodges, that meets only for a couple of hours four times a year! and which affords the Craft little or no information about the progress of Freemasonry abroad, and the changes that are always occurring in our institution. In the United States each Grand Lodge, though its Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presents to the members a well written and almost exhaustive report of the spread and influence of the Craft universal, and we know of few works we would rather read on Masonry than these so-called "Proceedings."

The Grand Lecturer, W. George H. Raymond, presented his report. He stated that nearly every Lodge in the State had adopted the standard work. A few still adhered to what they called the old work, and it was extremely difficult to get them to adopt the standard work. He had visited nearly every county in the State during the year, and was received with true Masonic courtesy. Nearly all the Lodges evinced a desire to use the standard work. He recommended Warrants to be granted to the Lodges under dispensation.

The appointment of Grand Lecturers is one of our pet schemes for the improvement of our "working" in England, and we hope yet to see some such Brethren appointed, or at least that the Provinces would delegate to one or more of their officers, the duties so ably filled by Grand Lecturers in the United States.

The period set apart for the election of officers for the ensuing year having arrived, the G. East was taken by M. W. Bro. John J. Crane, P. G. M., and the special order was preceeded with.

R. W. Bro. Christopher G. Fox was nominated for Grand Master, and elected by acclamation.

M. W. Bros. Isaac Phillips, Stephen H. Johnson, and James Gibson were appointed a committee to notify the Grand Master elect of his election to office. The committee retired, and on their return M. W. Isaac Phillips presented him to the Grand Lodge in a eulogistic speech, which was responded to by the Grand Master elect in a few well chosen and feeling remarks.

Four brethren were then nominated for the office of D. G. Master, including Wm. T. Woodruff, and Jerome Buck.

The G. Master appointed Wor. Bros. H. D. Walker, John H. Reed, and M. C. Addoms, tellers. On the first ballot there was no election; 2,378 votes were cast.

On the second ballot there was no choice, when the two lowest candidates, Woodruff and Buck, were withdrawn, the last-named having dwindled from 36 on 1st to 5 on 2nd ballot. Our prophecies in regard to these two office-seekers were fully verified. Pennsylvania ought to be proud of the popularity of its Representative.

On the third ballot R. W. Bro. Elwood E. Thorne was elected D. G. Master.

The R. W. Bros. Edmund L. Judson, S. G. Warden; James W. Husted, J. G. Warden; John W. Simons, G. Treasurer; James M. Austin, G. Secretary; Revs. R. L. Schoonmaker, Fred. L. Ewer, John G. Webster, G. Chaplains; Wors. J. Fountain, G. Pursuivant; John Hoole, G. Tyler; and George H. Raymond, G. Lecturer, were elected by acclamation.

A Petition, numerously signed, by Brethren of the Jewish faith was presented, asking for certain changes in the Ritual. It was ordered to be reported on next year.

The committee on Finances having delivered their report, and other matters of interest transacted, including 50 dollars each to the reporters, the Grand Lodge was closed with prayer by the Grand Chaplain, in ample form.

The following resolutions, we think, are worthy also of reproduction in the columns of the *Freemason*.

On motion, the action had on Thursday in relation to referring the proposed Constitution to a Committee to be appointed by the in-coming G. Master, was repealed.

M. W. John L. Lewis then offered a resolution, which was adopted, providing for a convention consisting of one delegate from each Masonic district to meet for the purpose of revising the Constitution, at such time and place after Jan. 1, 1873, as the Grand Master should direct. Delegates to be elected by a plurality of votes of Lodges in each district at elections held before Oct. 1. The sessions of the Convention to continue not longer than four days and the actual expenses to be borne by the Grand lodge.

The Grand Officers elect were then installed, in accordance with previously adopted ceremonial, and proclaimed South, West and East.

The M. W. C. G. Fox, G. Master, was pleased to appoint R. W. Stephen, S. Marshall, W. Josiah Shove, and R. W. Wm. A. Brodie, a Committee on Printing.

On motion, the necessity of Subordinate Lodges making financial statements annually, was abolished. An unwise inquisitorship, not within the proper scope of Grand Lodge legislation, was thus done away with.

M. W. James Gibson, from Committee on Jurisprudence, presented a report, and as recommended, the following subjects were adopted:

1. That no Lodge can divest itself of jurisdiction when charges are made in open Lodge by a member against a fellow-member, nor can it delegate its authority to a commission to be appointed by the Grand Lodge without the consent of the accused.

2. That a vote for the expulsion of a member of a Lodge on charges preferred, requires a majority vote of all brothers present in Lodge, and the requirement is enforced that all present must vote on the question at issue.

3. That while each Lodge has the right to select its own material, it is asserted to be unmasonic, unlawful, and a breach of Masonic courtesy, for a Lodge to initiate, pass or raise a candidate, after having been advised by a sister Lodge, or by brethren in good standing, that such candidate is unworthy or unfit to be made a Mason.

The Committee also reported in favor of taking strong and decisive action in the case of any Grand Lodge invading the territorial jurisdiction

*[For this information we are indebted to the Phoenix number of the burnt "Keystone" of Philadelphia, U.S.—We are glad to see this most racy and interesting Masonic Magazine has so soon reappeared from the ruins, and we hope that success is before the proprietors, and that soon they will be far removed from any difficulties.]

or another Grand Lodge, especially of those with which the G. Lodge of New York is in alliance, which was unanimously adopted.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN.

DORIC LODGE (No. 933).—A special emergency meeting of this Lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, on Tuesday evening, 25th ult., to testify the respect of the brethren to the memory of the late esteemed Treasurer, Bro. Daniel Scurr, P.M., whose sudden demise was lately recorded in these columns. The W.M., Bro. Jas. Griffin, having taken the chair, was supported by his Wardens, Bros. Austin and Marsh; Past Masters Hawkins, Barns, Gilchrist, Yetton, Wainwright; Bros. J. G. Stevens, P. M., Sec.; Ayton, S.D.; and Seeton, Organist; with a goodly assemblage of the members of the Lodge, and as visitors Bros. Newton, P.M. 174; Mortlock, P.M. 186; Chadwick, P.M. 554; Poynter, P.M. 902, and several other visitors. The business of the evening commenced with the ceremony of raising, admirably performed by the W.M., the candidates being Bros. Edney, Payne, and Pollock. The ceremony of passing followed, when Bro. Martin was advanced to the degree of a Fellow Craft, and the ritualistic labours of the meeting terminated by the initiation of Mr. Tadman, a ceremony which the W.M. performed with his accustomed and now well-known ability. The said duty, for the performance of which the brethren had been specially convened, now claimed the attention of the lodge, and was appropriately heralded by the mournful strains of Handel's sublime "Dead March," admirably rendered on the harmonium by the organist, Bro. Seddon. Bro. Hawkins, P.M., then rose, pursuant to notice, to move an address of condolence to the widow and family of their late respected Treasurer, and in doing so, paid a touching tribute to the excellent qualities of their departed brother. He concluded by moving "That this lodge fully and justly appreciating the manly, honest, and truly Masonic qualities of our late Bro. Daniel Scurr (who was one of the founders, a P.M., and the Treasurer of the lodge), desires to express its deep and heartfelt sorrow at the loss it has suffered by his death, and, in all sympathy with the widow and children, to condole with her and them in their great and irreparable bereavement; and this lodge prays the Great Architect of the Universe to enable the widow to bear her great trial with fortitude,—and that time, the great soother of all human sorrows, may soften the poignancy of the grief which now lays so heavy on her and her family." Bro. Barnes, P.M., in seconding the above resolution, alluded in feeling terms to the kindly nature and sterling goodness of heart of the subject of the motion. Although he, Bro. Barnes, had not joined the Doric Lodge immediately on its formation, he had become a member within three months of its consecration, and remained connected with it ever since. During that long period of ten years he had had many opportunities of observing the character of him whose loss they all deplored; and if, in addition to that Masonic proficiency for which he was conspicuous, both in its theory and exalted practice, there was another quality in which Bro. Scurr excelled, it was in that virtue which they were taught should be the predominant characteristic of every Freemason's heart, he meant charity,—and by charity he would be understood as not limiting the virtue as possessed by our late brother to its mere minor manifestation of alms-giving; but that broad and comprehensive spirit, which never imagined unkindly, or judged harshly of another—which

"Thought no evil, for it knew no ill!"

Although not initiated in the Doric Lodge, Bro. Scurr's hopes and affections were all centred in it; while during all his Masonic career, he

sought the good of the Craft in general, the happiness, the success, the renown, the prosperity of the Doric Lodge in particular, together with the comfort of every one of its members, was the object always dearest to his heart. Bro. Barnes, who had shown unmistakable signs of deep emotion while uttering this well-conceived panegyric, resumed his seat amidst the deepfelt, but silently expressed, appreciation of the brethren. Bro. Poynter, P.M. 902, could not allow the sad occasion to pass without offering his poor tribute as a visitor to the many excellences of their departed brother. This was his (Bro. Poynter's) first visit to the Doric Lodge, and melancholy as was the occasion, he was emboldened by the kind reception he had met with to assure them that other lodges participated with the Doric in the grief they felt at the loss Masonry in general, and that lodge in particular, had sustained. On the formation of his (Bro. Poynter's) mother lodge—the Burgoyne—now more than ten years ago many members of that lodge were resident in the neighbourhood of Bro. Scurr's place of business, and they found it a very great convenience to have a friend and a brother on the spot that they could run into at any time, and as most convenient to themselves, acquire, at odd moments, some addition to their store of Masonic knowledge. In this respect, Bro. Scurr was a well that never ran dry. Every draught was honoured, for Bro. Scurr, although as Bro. Barnes had said, the Doric Lodge stood first, and deservedly and properly first, in his affections, never failed in doing all he possibly could to promote the welfare of every other lodge, for he had from the first, of his becoming a Mason, realised the beautiful truth that in their beloved Craft, the most ardent emulation could exist without the slightest rivalry. This, indeed, as had been well pointed out, was the great feature of Bro. Scurr's character. That broad, that comprehensive, that catholic charity, compared to which the most ample benevolence was but a minor virtue. Yet, even in the exercise of that minor virtue, Bro. Scurr was not deficient, as many could testify. For the rest, said Bro. Poynter in conclusion, our Masonic profession bids us not to sorrow as those without hope; and even turning only to this sublunary sphere for consolation, we can find it in reflecting that the example, the virtues of our departed brother have afforded, must excite and inspire those yet remaining, to follow in his steps in promoting the happiness of their fellows, and the prosperity of our noble Order. We are the better that such men have lived. We are the better as men; we are the better as Masons, if, in the words of the poet,

"— we but remember only
Such as these have lived and died."

Bro. Poynter resumed his seat amidst the thanks and suppressed applause of the brethren, and was followed by Bro. Stevens, P.M. and Secretary, whose emotion was so poignant that it was several moments before he could proceed. He begged the lodge to excuse this display, which he was really unable to prevent. His feelings at this moment were beyond his control, which he was sure the brethren would believe, when he assured them that Daniel Scurr was his dearest friend. His emotion would allow him to add nothing to what had fallen from the lips of the previous speakers as to the character of the good friend the lodge had lost, but he was reluctantly compelled to make an appeal to the brethren on behalf of those their departed brother had left behind. That generosity of disposition, which numerous speakers had to-night eulogised, had had the not infrequent effect of preventing Bro. Scurr from making that provision for his family which would have precluded the necessity of bringing the pecuniary position in which they had been left before the eyes of the Craft at large. He (Bro. Stevens) would not dwell at length on this painful subject. Suffice it to say, that the widow earnestly desired to obtain for two of her children the benefits of that liberal education, provision for which was so liberally made by our Order. The kindness of an old friend of Bro. Scurr (Bro. Snow, a well-known member of the Craft, who was not present, but had sent a letter explaining his absence, expressing his sympathy with the objects of the

meeting, and enclosing a cheque), had guaranteed the reception of one of the two daughters into the Girls' School, but the boy still required the aid of his departed father's Masonic friends. The Doric Lodge could not aid him at the election in October, as all their votes had been promised for the child of another deceased member, before the death of Bro. Scurr, and at the ensuing election the lad would be too old for admission. It had, therefore, been resolved to raise a fund of one hundred and fifty guineas to buy an admission to the school, and Bro. Stevens concluded a pathetic address, with a powerful appeal to the members present, on behalf of this benevolent project. The W.M. (Bro. Jas. Griffin) also bore testimony to the esteem in which Bro. Scurr had been held, and expressed his full approval and best wishes for the success of the enterprise proposed to be taken by Bro. Stevens. Three of the visitors, Bros. Mortlock, Chadwick, and Newton, addressed the lodge to the same effect, and while bearing testimony to the general esteem in which the brother who had now gone to his reward had been held, promised the co-operation of their respective lodges in the proposed scheme, and Bro. Poynter, rising again, also pledged the participation of the Burgoyne Lodge, of which he was Treasurer, in so good a work. Indeed, the design had (he said) been informally mooted, and not unfavourably received, at an emergency meeting of that lodge, held on the previous evening. After a few remarks on the memory of the late brother, delivered in an impressive manner by Bro. Marsh, the J.W., the resolution of condolence was put to the meeting and carried unanimously, the brethren upstanding, and testifying every mark of respect and reverence. A copy was ordered to be forwarded by the Secretary to the widow. Before the brethren separated, it was resolved to constitute a committee, composed of members of the lodge and those brethren in the Craft who had known Bro. Scurr, and appreciated the excellence of his character, to co-operate in carrying out the admission of his son to the School at Wood Green, by the method suggested by Bro. Stevens, who will be very happy to receive the names of any brethren desirous of rendering assistance to this pious work, at his residence, 7, Upper-place, Romford-road, E.

LODGE OF ASAPH (No. 1319).—The brethren of this lodge held their last regular monthly meeting of the season at the Freemasons' Hall, W.C., on Monday, the 1st inst., and was but thinly attended, owing to the brethren being so much engaged at this season of the year. There were present Bros. C. Coote, P.M., W.M.; E. Stanton Jones, P.M., I.P.M.; J. M. Chamberlin, P.M., S.W.; J. Weaver, P.M., P. Prov. G. Org., Middlesex, J.W.; Edward Frewin, S.D.; Charles S. Jekyll, J.D.; William A. Tinney, I.G.; John Boatwright, Thos. Edgar, Henry Baker, William Maby, George Horton, John M. Ball, Henry Snyders, William A. Easton, Edward Terry, Leopold Silberberg, Joseph Horton, J. R. Egerton, and O. Svensden. The business consisted in initiating Mr. J. H. Maycock, which ceremony was very ably performed by the W.M. This being the meeting to elect a W.M. for the ensuing year, the W.M. proceeded with the ballot, which proved unanimously in favour of Bro. Chamberlin, S.W. Bro. Coote, jun., was re-elected Treasurer; the Officers and Committee of the Benevolent Fund attached to this lodge were re-elected as follows:—Bros. E. S. Jones, President; J. M. Chamberlin, Vice-President; C. Coote, jun., Treasurer; J. Weaver, Secretary; C. Coote, F. Ledger, and W. F. Cremer, Trustees. The Committee consists of six members:—Bros. E. Frewin, T. Edgar, C. S. Jekyll, E. Terry, W. H. Stevens, and G. A. Compton. An Audit Committee was appointed, to consist of three lay brethren—Bros. C. B. Wright, G. R. Egerton, and J. M. Ball. Bro. E. S. Jones proposed, seconded by Bro. J. M. Chamberlin, and carried unanimously, that a Past Master's Jewel, value ten guineas, be presented to Bro. C. Coote, for his very efficient services as W.M. during his year of office. Bro. J. Weaver proposed, seconded by Bro. T. Edgar, and carried unanimously, that a testimonial, engrossed on vellum, be presented to Bro. Coote, W.M., for his kind and good

qualities, both as a man and Freemason; also for the zeal he has shown in the establishment of the lodge as one of its founders. Br. J. Weaver proposed, seconded by Bro. E. S. Jones, and carried unanimously, that ten guineas be voted to purchase a Life Governorship of the Girls' School, thereby making the lodge Governors of all the Charities within twenty months of its consecration. The lodge was then closed and adjourned.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

BOLTON.—*Anchor and Hope Lodge* (No. 37).—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held in Freemasons' Hall, Church Institute, Bolton, on Monday, 1st July, when there were present Bros. Thos. H. Winder, P.M., P.Prov. G. Pursuivant, in the chair; Bros. Pilkington, S.W., Slater, J.W.; Walker, S.D.; Freeman, I.G., Robinson and Newton, P.M.'s; F. A. Winder, Rutter, E. Ainsworth, and Fielden. The Lodge being opened on the first degree, the minutes were confirmed, and the Lodge was then called from labour to refreshment, after which business was resumed. Bro. Fielden was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft by Brother Newton, P.M. The Lodge was then closed, after the reading of a portion of the ancient charges.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*John of Gaunt Lodge* (No. 523).—The Festival and installation meeting of this Lodge took place on Monday, the 24th June (St. John's Day), at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester. The Lodge was opened by Bro. Sculthorpe, W. M., who was supported by nearly all his officers, and a considerable number of brethren and visitors. The first business was to pass Bro. T. A. Wykes to the degree of Fellow Craft, and the W. M. concluded his year of office by performing the ceremony in a very correct and efficient manner. Bro. the Revd. N. Haycroft, D.D., P. Prov. G. Chaplain, the W. M. elect, was then presented for installation, and was duly installed into the chair, according to ancient form. The ceremony was performed in a most efficient manner by Bro. George Toller, jun., P.M. and Prov. G. Sec. The W.M. then appointed and invested the following brethren as officers for the present year; accompanying each investment with an appropriate address: Bros. Wm. Sculthorpe, I.P.M.; F. J. Baines, S.W.; S. S. Partidge, J.W.; the Revd. John Spittal, M.A., Chaplain; W. B. Smith, P.M., Treasurer (re-elected); John Y. Thorp, Secretary; Revd. W. T. Fry, S.D.; W. T. Rowlett, J.D.; Alfred Sargeant and J. F. Smith, Stewards; C. Bembridge and T. Dunn Tylers.—Votes of thanks were passed to Bro. Sculthorpe, I.P.M., for his efficient discharge of the duties of the chair during the past year, to the Stewards for their valuable services, and to Bro. Toller, for the admirable manner in which he had conducted the ceremony of the installation, the duties of which he had undertaken at an hour's notice. A resolution was carried, and ordered to be entered on the minutes, expressing the regret of the brethren, on hearing of the indisposition of the esteemed Provincial Grand Master, the R. W. Bro. W. Kelly. Other business, including the proposal of two candidates for initiation, having been transacted, the lodge was called from labour to refreshment, when the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, presided over by the newly-installed W.M. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. Bros. Palmer, Crow, Taylor, Rowlett, and Wykes contributed materially to the pleasure of the evening by their excellent singing, and Bro. Crow, *Mus. Bac. Cantab.*, and Bro. Rowlett, by their skilful performance on the pianoforte and oboe. At the close of the evening the brethren were recalled from refreshment to labour for a short period, when the lodge was closed, and the members separated in peace and harmony.

MIDDLESEX.

HARROW.—*Harrow Lodge* (No. 1310).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, 2nd ult., at the Railway Hotel, Harrow.—Bro. W. H. Green, P.G.D.C. Middlesex, W.M.,

presided. He was supported by Bros. E. Mallett, as S.W.; J. Harrison, J.W.; J. Coutts, P.G.P., P.M., Treasurer; F. Walters, P.M., Sec.; Captain G. A. Smith, S.D.; F. Harrison, J.D.; J. Cox, I.G.; G. Pymm, I.P.M.; W. Smeed, P.M., P.G.J.W.; W. Kipps, T. Brewer, &c. The visitors were Bros. E. Mallett, I.G. 141; T. F. Clarke, 1357; &c. The minutes read and confirmed—Ballots unanimous in favour of admission of Bros. G. Wilton, P. M. 171; and W. Kipps, Organist, 79 and 1275; as joining members, and Dr. T. T. Thompson, as a candidate for initiation, but professional duties prevented his attendance. The W.M., in his usual faultless style, passed Bro. Alfred Butler to the second degree. It was unanimously resolved that the lodge meetings, be altered in 1873 from 1st Tuesdays of May, June, July, and August, to April, May, July, and October. Some candidates were proposed for initiation, and the lodge was closed. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 6th, at four o'clock p.m. Banquet followed. The toasts were dispensed with. Some good songs were sung. It was announced that these members of the lodge were appointed as Provincial Grand Lodge Officers of Middlesex, viz., Bros. W. H. Green, W.M. as P.G.D.C.; Revd. C. J. Martyn, (Past Grand Chaplain) Prov. G. Chaplain, and W. Smeed, P.M., Prov. G.J.W.

LEBANON LODGE (No. 1326).—On Thursday, 20th ult., a meeting of this lodge was held at the Red Lion Hotel, Hampton. Bro. S. Wickens, W.M., raised Bro. Montgomery, passed Bros. Craven, Reynolds, Bremerkamp, Gloster, Marketis, and Harris (871), and initiated Mr. W. Cox, the work of the several ceremonies being well done. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year then took place, the choice of the brethren falling upon Bro. John T. Moss, Prov. G. Steward, Middlesex, Sec. Bro. F. Walters, P.M., Sec., was also elected Treasurer, and Bro. J. Bavin, P.M., Tyler. A Past Master's jewel, of the value of five guineas was unanimously voted from the lodge funds to the W.M. The lodge was then closed. A banquet followed. Several visitors were present.

SOUTH WALES.

CARDIFF.—*Glamorgan Lodge* (No. 36).—The annual installation of the Worshipful Master of this lodge took place at the lodge-room, Royal Arcade, Cardiff, on Monday, being the festival of St. John the Baptist. Bro. Cooper, who has efficiently filled the chair for the past year, performed the installation ceremony, and the newly installed Master, Bro. M. J. Almond, P.G.S., proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Senior Warden, Bro. F. C. Hill; Junior Warden, Bro. W. D. Blessley; Honorary Secretary, Bro. E. C. Hurley; Senior Deacon, Bro. J. Bingham; Junior Deacon, Bro. G. Strina; Inner Guard, Bro. Charles Cross; Stewards: J. Williams and Sanders.

At the close of the lodge a most cordial vote of thanks was given to the retiring W.M. for the assiduity and zeal with which he had applied himself to his duties. The installation banquet took place at the Royal Hotel, and was admirably provided by Bro. Tissot. The W.M., Bro. Almond, presided, supported by Bros. R. J. Langley, P.Prov. G.S.W.; S. Nash, P. Prov. G.D.; E. J. Thomas, P. Prov. G.D.C.; E. Robertson, P. Prov. G.D., J. Cooper, P. Prov. G.D.; T. Hodge, P. Prov. G.D.; and N. B. Calder, all P.M.'s. No. 36; Bros. F. Ware, P. Prov. G. Reg. and J. Hurman, P.G.D., P.M.'s; and S. Weichert, P. Prov. G.D.C., W.M. Bute Lodge, No. 960; Bro. F. P. Atkins, P.G. Organist, &c.

Dinner being over, the usual Masonic toasts were proposed and replied to, intermixed with vocal and instrumental music, and, altogether, a very pleasant evening was spent.

IRELAND.

LARNE.—*Royal Blue Lodge* (No. 515).—The members of Lodge 615 met in the Masonic Hall, Larne, on Monday, 24th ult., to commemorate the day set apart in memory of St. John, the Patron Saint of their ancient Order. After

devotional exercises, led by the Worshipful Master, P. M'Gregor, P.M., the members and their friends, to the number of about forty, sat down to dinner in the large room of the hall. When the cloth had been removed, the Secretary (Bro. Samuel Magill) read letters of apology for non-attendance from Bros. Robert M'Calmont, Thos. S. Dixon, and James M'Calmont, of Belfast. The Worshipful Master then gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were heartily received and responded to. Songs and recitations were given at intervals.

BELFAST.—*True Blue Lodge* (No. 272).—The members of True Blue Lodge, with their lady friends, celebrated St. John's Day by proceeding to Langford Lodge, the residence of the Hon. A. Pakenham, who granted special permission to visit the private grounds and gardens. After inspecting everything of interest around the place, the party assembled for dinner. A number of toasts having been proposed and responded to by the members, a hearty vote of thanks was given to the Hon. A. Pakenham, for his kindness in affording such opportunities for public enjoyment. The party reached home safely in the evening.

COOKSTOWN.—*Green Lodge* (No. 470).—According to annual custom, the members of this Lodge held their usual dinner in the Stewart Arms Hotel, in this town, on Monday evening. The Brethren appeared in the regalia of the order, several others being present as guests. About fifty sat down to dinner. Among the gentlemen present were—Bros. Henry Wilson, W.M.; W. J. Thompson, S.W.; T. M'Clelland, J.W.E.; J. Hanna, Charles James, S.D.; W. C. Holmes, J.D.; James Robinson, Treasurer; J. M'Dowell, Secretary; R. Develin, I.G. Among the general company and strangers were—Messrs. Noble, D. Smith, Parker, Bates, Gilmor, Ribbons, Rodgers, Smith, Stewart, Wilson, M'Intyre, Graham, M'Clelland, W. J. Develin, Dunseith, M'Elroy, Henderson, Milne, Graves, &c., &c. The chair was occupied by Bro. Wilson, the vice-chair by Bro. Thompson. Grace having been said by Bro. Wilson, the usual loyal toasts were proposed. Following these the "Three Grand Masters" was proposed and drunk with much applause. The Chairman then gave the "Health of Sir John Marcus Stewart," Provincial Grand Master. The sentiment was acknowledged with respect by Bro. M'Dowell, Provincial Grand Officer. The "New Officers" was next given, and acknowledged by Bros. W. J. Thompson and Thomas M'Clelland; and J. M'Dowell, Secretary, returned thanks for the compliment, and in doing so said he considered that if Masonry progressed in the same ratio for the next ten years as it had done since his connection with it, it would in a short time be the most flourishing lodge in the country. Mr. M'Dowell explained the object of Freemasonry, showing that it neither recognises politics nor sectarianism. After some other remarks, Mr. M'Dowell concluded by formally acknowledging the compliment paid to him in connection with the officers of the Lodge 470. The Chairman next gave the "Past Masters of the Lodge," which was acknowledged by Bros. Graham, Robinson, and Devlin. The next toast given was "Our Visiting Brethren," acknowledged by Bros. Rodgers, Milne, Smith, &c. Dr. Graves then proposed the "Health of Bro. W. J. Thompson." Mr. Thompson acknowledged the compliment in a few well-chosen words. In the intervals between the toasts, several songs were given by Messrs. Millar, Devlin, James Henderson, and James Ribbons. The toast of "Our Visitors, not Masons," was next given, and responded to by Messrs. Smith, Henderson, Bates, and Ribbons. The "Healths of Messrs. Rodgers, Devlin, and the host, Mr. Mullan," were proposed and aptly responded to, after which the company separated.

KILREA (COUNTY DERRY).—*Star Lodge* (No. 16).—The brethren of this lodge celebrated their anniversary in the following manner:—The brethren met at their lodge rooms at five o'clock p.m., for the purpose of installing officers for the ensuing six months. The following were the officers installed:—Bros. James Tomb, W.M.; Joseph M'Cahan, S.W.; James Browne, J.W.; Joseph Bamford, Sec.; James M'Cahan,

Treas.; Robert Hunter, S.D.; Adam G. Marks, J.D.; Gardner Marks, I.G. Labour being over, the brethren adjourned to Mr. Irwin's Commercial Hotel, at seven o'clock p.m., where they sat down to an excellent dinner, served up in capital style. The cloth being removed, the chairman gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were duly honoured and ably responded to by several of the brethren. The toasts of the several officers, past and present, having been given and duly responded to, the brethren separated at an early hour in peace, love, and harmony, having spent a very agreeable evening.

Royal Arch.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*Chapter of Fortitude* (No. 279).—This Chapter held its usual monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Thursday, June 27th. Present: M.E. Comp. W. Kelly, P. G. Supt. and P.Z.; E. Comp. Toller, M.E.Z.; E. Comp. Weare, P.Z.; E. Comp. Crow, J.; and Comps. Partridge, E.; Revd. Haycroft, P.S.; Rowlett, A.S.; Atkins, and Banes. Visitors, Comps. J. M. Moore, Rowley Chapter, Lancaster; and S. P. Ekin, Pythagoras Chapter, Cambridge. The business consisted in exalting Bros. J. B. Hall, W.M. 1391; A. Palmer, 279; Walter Wilkinson, S.D., 1391; and A. Sargeant, 523; as companions of the H.R.A., the ceremony being ably performed by the M. E. Z. Bro. J. T. Thorp, Secretary of John of Gaunt Lodge; No. 523, was proposed for exaltation, and Comp. S. P. Ekin as a joining member, after which the Chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to refreshment.

DORIC CHAPTER (No. 33).—The Doric Chapter of Instruction will meet on Thursday evening, July 11th, and every succeeding Thursday, at eight o'clock, at Comp. Yellons, the Rising Sun Tavern, Globe-road, Bethnal-green. Comps. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor; Rugg, Hon. Sec.

Mark Masonry.

DEVONSHIRE.

SOUTH MOLTON.—*Fortescue Lodge* (No. 9).—This Lodge held its usual monthly meeting at the Freemasons' Hall, on Monday, Bro. Edwin Furse occupying his position of W.M. An addition to its members has been recently made by the advancement of Bros. Shapland, Symons, and Pitowsky. After the business of the evening was ended, the W.M. invited the whole of the brethren present to his private residence, to supper, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

KENT.

RAMSGATE.—*Holmesdale Lodge* (No. 129).—A meeting of this young, but rapidly progressing, Lodge was held on Thursday evening (June 2nd), at Hiscocks' Royal Hotel, Ramsgate. There were three candidates for advancement, all of whom were unanimously approved. Two were, however, unavoidably absent, but the third (Bro. Richard J. Emmerson, W.M. of the Cinque Ports Lodge, Sandwich (No. 1206), was present, and advanced to the honourable degree of Mark Master by Bro. L. Finch, W.M. This is the first time that Bro. Finch has occupied the chair since his installation, and great credit is due to him for the very perfect manner in which he performed the ceremony; all the officers executed their work well, ably seconding the efforts of the W.M. Bro. James W. Smith, Grand Steward, delivered the lecture of the degree to the newly advanced Brother. Bro. Fairtlough, W.M. of the Dover and Cinque Ports Mark Lodge, with several of his officers, were present, and expressed their satisfaction with the work. Bro. Finch and some of his officers accepted the invitation of Bro. Fairtlough to pay a return-visit to the Dover Lodge, on Monday, the 18th instant.

GIBRALTAR.

GIBRALTAR.—*Mark Lodge* (No. 43).—The regular meeting of the above lodge, was held on

Friday evening, the 7th inst. The business notified in the summons was to appoint officers for the ensuing twelve months; to ballot for as joining member Bro. Oxley, Limited Service Lodge No. 69, and to advance Bros. Brownlee, Lackland, Little, and Haynes. The ceremony of installation of the W.M. was unnecessary, the W.M., Bro. Balfour Cockburn, having been unanimously re-elected to the chair. The lodge having been duly opened, the W.M. then appointed the following brethren to the respective offices opposite their names, making a few appropriate remarks to each, as the badge of office was placed on their breasts. Bros. Morgan, Senior Warden; W. Brown, Junior Warden; Wall, Master Overseer; Seath, Senior Overseer; Hepper, Junior Overseer; Marshall, Senior Deacon; Ashton, Junior Deacon; Trencery, Treasurer; Williamson, Secretary; Leys, Registrar of Marks; Arrowsmith, D of Cers; Michie, Inner Guard. Bros. Lackland, and Haynes, being in attendance, were then advanced to the honourable degree by the W.M. At the conclusion of the ceremony the W.M. rose and stated that he had hoped at the expiration of his year of office to have proposed that a jewel should be voted to an officer of the lodge who, during his tenure of office, had evinced an amount of zeal and industry worthy of the highest praise. Taking into consideration however, the peculiar position of the lodge just at present, he had felt that such a demand on the funds of the lodge would have been somewhat unjust, under these circumstances, and considering the great assistance he had personally received from the officers in question, he had taken the matter into his own hands and had ordered a jewel, at his own expense—and he now seized the opportunity of bestowing it, fully believing that presenting the same in his official capacity as W.M. and in open lodge assembled, it would clothe it with a value which its mere intrinsic worth could never convey. The W.M. then directed the Deacons to marshal the late Secretary, Bro. William Brown, to the foot of the dais, and after a few appropriate observations he suspended the jewel on his left breast. Bro. Brown expressed his thanks to the W.M., stating at the same time that he had been taken so greatly by surprise at this most unexpected proceeding, that he had felt utterly incapable of saying all that he could wish to do. The jewel, which was of a somewhat novel pattern, was from a design of the W.M. himself, and consisted of crossed plumes with a scroll above, bearing the inscription, and a keystone below. It had been executed in silver gilt by Bro. Geo. Kenning, of London. The elegant simplicity of the design and the extremely chaste workmanship of the ornament elicited the unqualified approbation of all the brethren present. After the transaction of some trifling business connected with the domestic economy of the lodge, the brethren retired to refreshment, and the evening was closed in harmony and much social enjoyment.

THE PROV. GRAND LODGE OF SUFFOLK met at Sudbury on Monday, the 1st July. About 100 were present, including the Provincial Grand Master, Col. Sir Shafto Adair, Bart. Seventy-five sat down to the banquet. A full report will appear in our next. Special service had been previously held at the magnificent old church at Long Milford, where an eloquent sermon was preached by the Rector, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past Grand Chaplain of England.

THE PRINCE IMPERIAL OF GERMANY, in his quality of Grand Master on the Masons of Prussia, has just given his assent to a project for unifying the eight societies now existing in the Empire.

THE PRINCE OF WALES, attended by Lord Skelmersdale, was yesterday inaugurated Commander of the Encampment of Faith and Fidelity, at the Freemasons' Hall. His Royal Highness, attended by Mr. F. Knollys, having been re-elected Master of the Royal Alpha Lodge, was installed at Willis's Rooms on Monday afternoon.

THE FREEMASONS AND THE REREDOS AT GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL.

The beautiful reredos now approaching the completion of its restoration will be unveiled to the public on the 25th September next, the Right Worshipful the Grand Master of the Freemasons of this province, Lord Sherborne, having accepted the invitation of the Dean and Chapter to take part in the proceedings.

The arrangements are in very good hands, and, in addition to a large assemblage from this and neighbouring counties, the display by the Freemasons will, doubtless, be as chaste as it will be effective.

We are reminded of two previous and memorable occasions in which the Freemasons appeared in full insignia in this venerable cathedral. On August 19, 1823, when Bro. the Rev. T. D. Fosbrooke, the county historian, preached the "Masonic Jennerian Sermon," in aid of the subscriptions for erecting a monument in honour of Dr. Jenner, and again when the Rev. R. Roberts occupied the pulpit, when the foundation-stone of the monument to Bishop Hooper was laid. The third occasion, three months hence, is to outstrip its predecessors, and promises to be an unusually marked red letter day in the calendar of the Craft.

Although the suggestion of the restoration of the Reredos originated with Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Bart., P.G.W. of England, Past Senior Warden of the province, much praise is due to the Royal Gloucestershire Lodge of this city, who will find three hundred pounds of the money required, and who, by their ardour, have stimulated others. Its sister lodge, the Lebanon, will also subscribe, it is to be hoped, one hundred pounds. But how much more praise is not due to brethren at a distance from the capital of the province, and who may naturally be supposed not to feel so keen an interest in the project as those resident on the spot, who will find the remainder of the money to make up over £1000?

The whole matter reflects great credit on the Masonic body, as well as it a work in which all may feel proud they have assisted. The restoration of the Cathedral, if a local, is also a national undertaking, and is worthy of support from whatever quarter sought.

BREAKFAST.—Epps's COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately-flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills."—*Civil Service Gazette*. Made simply with Boiling Water or Milk. Each packet is labelled—"JAMES EPPS & CO., Homœopathic Chemists, London."

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—This cooling medicine has the happiest effect. When the blood is overheated and a tendency to inflammatory action is set up in the system one pill, taken shortly before dinner, does away with the indigestion, fullness, and flatulency, indications of a weak stomach or disordered liver. A few Pills taken at bed time, act as alteratives, and aperients, they not only relieve the bowels, but regulate every organ connected with them, overcome all acrid humours and encourage a free supply of all the secretions essential to our well-being. Holloway's Pills thoroughly cleanse, and perfectly regulate the circulation and beget a feeling of comfort in hot climates and high temperatures, which is most desirable for preservation of health.—ADVT

Obituary.

BRO. ALFRED PICKUP.

Death has suddenly removed from the Masonic circle in Liverpool a brother whose name deserves a passing comment, as it will long retain its freshness in the memory of those who knew him best. At once a worthy Mason, a generous benefactor, and a firm friend, Bro. Pickup's place in Masonic esteem was one of which any brother might be proud; and although his natural modesty prevented him from seeking place or power within the lodge, yet by his unobtrusive fidelity to the sacred cause, a willingness to do his duty, and a readiness to help in every good cause, Bro. Pickup did much to make Masonry honourable, both in the eyes of his brethren and the world. At the comparatively early age of forty-seven, and under circumstances of a peculiarly affecting character, Bro. Pickup has been suddenly removed, and with the glistening tear of sympathy for those he has left, must come the tender tribute of words to his memory. Our deceased brother, at the time of his death, was I.G. of the Temple Lodge, No. 1094; Treasurer of St. John's Chapter, No. 673; and active supporter, and member of the Liverpool Conclave of the Knights of Rome and of the Red Cross of Constantine, and in connection with each of these, he secured every one's affection and esteem by his invariable good-nature and courtesy. He was also for many years an active and honest member of the Toxteth Board of Guardians, fighting the battle of the weak, and seeking to do justice as between one class and another. The surroundings of the "last scene" in Bro. Pickup's life are exceedingly painful. His only son, only child, in whom he had centred his fondest hopes, had just returned from Cambridge University with honours which must have gladdened his father's heart; and in celebration of his son's success Bro. Pickup, at his residence in Upper Parliament street, gave a dinner to a select circle of friends, on Thursday 20th ult. Immediately after dinner, while talking cheerily to his friends, he was suddenly seized with sleepiness, and before medical aid could be obtained the vital spark had gone out in darkness. The news of his death excited general surprise and regret; and the affection felt for him by the members of his mother lodge No. 1094, was shown in the attendance of the principal officers at his funeral, which took place at Smithdown-lane Cemetery, on Monday 24th ult. About sixty relatives and friends were present, and amongst the brethren of the Temple Lodge were Bros. Richard Danson, W.M.; D. W. Winstanley, I.P.M.; R. H. D. Johnson, P.M.; Richard R. Martin, S.W.; Thomas Gibson, J.W.; J. Wood, Treas.; R. Warlington, S.D.; R. C. Yelland, J.D.; F. Jeffery, S.S.; Joseph Clegg, W. Healing, &c., besides Bros. Jesse Banning, Kidd, and Widdows, as representing other lodges. The little mortuary chapel was about three parts filled with mourners, and as Bro. John Dunkley, P.Prov. G. C. of W.I., read the burial service in the most impressive manner, many an eye was moist with the tear of genuine sorrow for a departed brother. After the body had been committed to earth, the grand or royal sign was given over the grave by the assembled brethren, who then left the scenes evidently impressed by all they had witnessed that day.

BRO. JESSE TAYLOR, P.M. 361.

On Monday afternoon, the 10th ult., the remains of Bro. Jesse Taylor were interred at St. George's Church, Hyde, Cheshire, with Masonic honours. Bro. Taylor died at his residence in Church-street on the previous Tuesday, at the ripe age of eighty-one years. He was a P.M. of the Industry Lodge No. 361, and was well-known and highly respected among the Masonic body throughout the neighbourhood. His funeral card thus speaks of him:—"Our departed brother has been a member of this lodge for more than fifty years." The deceased has served all offices in the lodge, and that of Master no less than three times; he had been Tyler for a number of years, and held the office at the time of his death. On the occasion of the fiftieth year of his membership a grand jubilee was held in his honour by the members of the lodge, and

a splendid photographic portrait of the deceased was executed by Mr. Fernley, photographer, and presented to the lodge. About sixty brethren assembled in the Industry Lodge-room at 3 o'clock. The lodge was opened in the first, second, and third degrees (a dispensation having been obtained from the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, Lord de Tabley,) the brethren then formed in procession in the following order:—Master Masons, Officers of Lodges, Masters of Lodges, Past Masters, the Rev. C. J. Bowen, Chaplain to the Duke of Athol Lodge, No. 210, supported on each side by the Provincial Officers, Bros. Beriah Cooper, P.G.P., and Thomas Stafford, P. Prov. G.D.C., the rear being brought up by Bros. John Beech, W.M., and F. Drinkwater, I.P.M. The brethren appeared in full Masonic costume. They marched from the lodge to opposite the residence of the deceased, (where they opened out right and left to make room for the friends of the deceased) to the church gates, whence the body was borne into the church by the brethren. The Chaplain read the service, and after reading that portion appointed to be read in the Church, the coffin was again carried to the grave, where the service was completed. The Chaplain also read in a most impressive manner, the Masonic service, after which the brethren marched back to the Norfolk Arms, and the lodge was closed. An excellent tea was then served, after which the brethren separated. The procession was marshalled, and the arrangements carried out by Bros. R. T. Bowden, P.M. Industry Lodge, No. 361, and T. Fox, P.M. of the Clarendon Lodge, No. 1166.

WHAT IS THE GOOD OF MASONRY?

It is only right that Masons should be able to answer this question, in view of the *cui bono* spirit which pervades the whole ideas of this utilitarian age. It would require more space than we can command to treat this question exhaustively, but we would simply call attention to the following answers:—

1. Masonry begets a confidence between individuals that neither party nor sect ever could accomplish; this is a benefit that extends into every ramification of social life.

2. It confers authority upon its members to speak confidently yet prudently to an erring brother. It will never be known in this world how many dear brethren have been saved from temporal and spiritual ruin by a whispered counsel, sympathetic warning and proffered aid. The written and unwritten annals of our Order are full of illustrations of this fact.

3. Masonry possesses an universal language, understood in all countries by all races, of all tongues, of all colours and of all monotheistic creeds. That language is understood as well in the night season, as by day. The deaf, dumb, and blind can use it, as Masons can communicate with one another, so long as they possess the sense of seeing, hearing, feeling or speaking; so that it is strictly true, that Masons can communicate without seeing one another or hearing one another, or feeling one another, or speaking a word; either in the day time or night season, though of course one of these faculties must necessarily be used. There is nothing like this wonderful language for universality, so that amid all the vicissitudes of human life, the Mason feels that only one word of Masonic language is sufficient to call to his aid the good offices of brethren near and dear to his heart.

4. It gives men, irrespective of paltry considerations, a code of life principles, intensifying the noblest aspirations. It makes them cosmopolitan, breaking down the petty barriers of country, state, county town, sect, set, profession, business, family, and wealth. The highest of titles is, brother—no other can take its place. The talent of a hod-carrier may place him in the chair. The present Grand Master of Ireland, the Duke of Leinster, justly boasts of having risen through every grade, from that of Junior Deacon to the throne of a Grand Master.

5. It unites men in a common work for a common good, as broad and catholic as mankind. It reaches men that sects, parties and side issues never could influence beyond the narrow bounds of petty associations. It sternly

refuses to proselytise, as it wants no material untried. If mankind be unworthy of such a beneficent institution,—it can wait. It has taken centuries for mankind to arrive at its present state of imperfect moral life, perhaps the time may come when the whole earth shall have become one great lodge, the ideal of Masonry. Then there will be one government, one faith, one brotherhood, one nation, all brethren, because all the children of the Holy, Blessed and Glorious Supreme Architect of the Universe.

WHAT MASONRY IS AND IS NOT.

Freemasonry has never yet, as I have heard, attempted to work miracles. It never yet infused brains into a cranium that had no cavity for their reception, nor did it ever send human blood coursing through a heart of granite, nor make a man out of a natural-born beast, and I don't suppose it ever will. Its mission is to improve, not to create, and the material for its use must be capable of being moulded, or it cannot work it up. Again, Masonry is not religion in the sectarian sense, nor a substitute for it, and he who pretends that, or declares it to be "a good enough religion" for him, foists it out of its legitimate place, inflicts upon it a grievous wrong, and lays himself open to the suspicion of ignorance of its teachings. While it inculcates a firm faith in the being and divine attributes of God, almighty and eternal, and while it includes within its acknowledged brotherhood, standing side by side upon the same level of manhood, my Hebrew brother, who worships God in unity, and myself, who worship Him triune; and while it presents to me, as it does to him, the story of the Messiah in many of its ceremonies; and while it inculcates to both of us a like reverence of the Divine Being, attention to His word, and invocation for His aid in all our laudable undertakings, it imposes upon neither religious dogmas. It leaves that for a different department; it never was thus intended, and never will be pretended to be, by the well-instructed Mason.

I say this, because it seems to me very important that these facts should be well-grounded in our minds at this time. Masonry is charged with inculcating a Pagan religion, and binding its members in the trammels of infidelity, and with conspiring against Christianity, by obliging them to ignore its Founder. What we have to do is: first, to answer all such allegations, if at all, with a simple denial; and, second, to neutralise all such falsehoods with what is called the "truth of life." "Man loves acts, not words," and by our deeds, not promises or professions, we shall be judged by our fellow man. —REV. JOHN C. WEBSTER.

THE MASTER MASON.

When we reflect that the wisest and best men for many centuries have contributed of their labour and skill to perfect the institution of Freemasonry, and so mould and fashion its various parts as to constitute a perfect whole;—and as this institution has come down to our time, with the impress of antiquity deeply stamped upon it; approved and patronised by the sages of every country through thousands of years; surely we have a right to expect the profoundest wisdom centred in an institution, formed and perpetuated for some object, corresponding in magnitude to the time it has existed, and the distinguished men who have devoted their lives to its interests, and by their example recommended it to our favour.

To the practical, common sense mind, there is just ground to expect a great deal when the mysteries of the Order are unfolded to the intelligent novice; and if he is disappointed and deceived, he has just grounds upon which to charge falsehood upon the whole fraternity, and to renounce it in disgust, and retire from its circles.

The common reader has no means by which to determine the question of the genuineness and substantiality of the Order, further than to judge of its reality by the conduct of those who join it. Such as possess a force of intellect, and

moral qualities, well qualifying them to judge of its merits, if they enter its sacred halls, continue as members, and cheerfully conform to all its stern requirements; then the conclusion must be, that they have not been deceived, but find something there worthy of their approbation, and of sufficient value to engage their energies, and compensate them for all the time and money expended upon it.

It is far otherwise with the candidate who has diligently qualified himself for taking on him the "honourable degree of a Master Mason," and thereby attain to the full knowledge of the mysteries of Ancient Craft Masonry. He is lawfully and honourably brought into contact with the sublime institution, and enters upon the study and duties of his profession with growing interest. Under able and efficient teachers, with close application, he may soon become a Master Mason, in the full and proper sense of the term, which confers rights, honours and dignity, when duly appreciated, and worthily maintained, which no other institution has power to confer.

But we may be told, that every Master Mason does not place so high an estimate upon the honours and merits of the Order as the above remarks seem to indicate. This is unfortunately true; and it is true for the reason that every man who is admitted to these rights and honours, has not the heart and capacity to properly appreciate and comprehend the profound lessons brought to his view. The man who seeks to pass through the portals of our Order, with the expectation of gratifying a sensitive mind with curiosity and sensational scenes, finds himself quite disappointed, and is made to feel that the demands of Masonry are such that he has no qualifications for meeting—that there is no proper material in him to make a Mason of. Such men should never apply for our mysteries, and if they should, they ought to be rejected.—*Texas Masonic Mirror.*

Multum in Parvo, or Masonic Notes and Queries.

CHARTER OF THE BUILDERS OF STRASBURG.

Can any brother assist me with a confirmation of some statements made by Mr. Geo. Godwin, in a paper read before the Society of British Architects in 1868 or 1869? He then states apparently, on the authority of Ramee, 'Historie Generale d' l'architecture,' that in "1275 the Emperor Rhodolph granted a special charter to the builders at Strasburg," and that in 1278 the Pope Nicholas III. delivered them a brief, or indulgence, renewed from time to time, by his successors." Sir R. Westmacott, in the third volume of the "Archæological Journal," page 198, has said, which statement Mr. Geo. Godwin puts also forward in his able paper on Masons' Marks, that "a bull was issued prior to 1200, giving authority to heads of churches to build churches, and attaching to them a certain number of 'liberi muratores,' or Freemasons, to direct and execute the ornamental parts of the structure." What truth is there in these statements historically?

A MASONIC STUDENT.

LEARN FROM YOUR ELDERS.—*A love majori discit arare minor.* This adage (literally, the young ox learns to plow from his elder) applies with force to our young brethren whose attention is necessarily directed to the conduct of the older for that instruction in the art of Masonry so rare and so valued. In writing up the characteristics of the present age, one of the most disagreeable features is the neglect of precedent and experience. In the conduct of many Masons there seems absolutely no reference to what has gone before. And yet Freemasonry, in all its aims and works, is a perpetuation of *past things*. Throw out the idea of *antiquity*, and it degenerates at once into the *poorest of modern affiliations*, and the very fact that "its landmarks are unchangeable" is the worst feature about it. Then "let the young ox learn to plow from the elder one," and if "by reason of strength" the juvenile can excel the old one in the amount of work done, or the straightness of the furrows, or the ease with which his day's work is accomplished, all the better for the *result*.

SYMBOLISM OF THE CIRCLE.—The circle being a figure which returns into itself, and having therefore neither beginning nor end, it has been adopted in the symbology of all countries and times as a symbol, sometimes of the universe, and sometimes of eternity. With this idea, in the Zoroastrian Mysteries of Druidism; the temple of initiation was circular. In the obsolete lectures of the old English system it was said, that "the circle has ever been considered symbolical of the Deity; for as a circle appears to have neither beginning nor end, it may be justly viewed as a type of God, without either beginning of days or ending of years." It also reminds us of a future state, "where we hope to enjoy everlasting happiness and joy." Masonry consecrates the symbolism of the circle to itself in the teachings of its great emblem, the point within the circle; where the common explanation is, that the point is an individual brother, and the circle the boundary line of his duty; but whose true explanation is, that the symbol is derived from the ancient sun worship, where the point would represent the solar orb, and the circle the illimitable universe which he illumines and vivifies. But the sun is really a symbol of God, and the universe bears the same relation to space that eternity does to time; and hence we get back to the primitive symbolic idea, that the circle is a symbol of eternity.—*Mackey's Freemason.*

Poetry.

LINES OF GRATITUDE.

A Masonic brother acknowledging the generous conduct of some of the fraternity who had done him a great kindness, thus gives vent to his feelings in verse.

Long may your lodge-fires burn,
Workmen in mystic labours, "kind and good!"
And many a year return
To shed new lustre on your brotherhood!
You who the call of mercy heard and heeded,
And gave, in good supply, the bounty needed!
Foes may your work defame,
And call your acts "the offspring of the night;"
How often human blame
Has slandered those in generous doings bright!
The Lord of ALL bore to His home of bliss,
In hands and feet and side, the proofs of this.
But doubt ye not, dear friends,
There waits for you a certain full reward
The Lord will make amends
At the great pay-day, for *thus saith the Lord*;
"Because ye did it to the least, so free,
Come to my thorne! Ye did it unto me!"
A lasting blessing rest
Upon your work, increasing more and more!
God's largest gifts and best
Fill to the brim your basket and your store!
Till, from hard service, summoned by death's
voice,
You shall, in Lodge Celestial, all rejoice!

THE BUILDERS.

BY HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

All the architects of fate,
Working on the walls of time;
Some with massive deeds and great,
Some with ornaments of rhyme.
Nothing useless is, or low:
Each thing in its place is best;
And what seems but idle show
Strengthens and supports the rest.
For the structure that we raise,
Time is with materials filled;

Our to-days and yesterdays
Are the blocks with which we build.
Truly shape and fashion these;
Leave no yawning gap between;
Think not because no man sees
Such things will remain unseen.
In the elder days of art
Builders wrought with greatest care
Each minute and unseen part—
For the gods see everywhere.
Let us do our work as well,
Both the unseen and the seen;
Make the house where gods may dwell,
Beautiful, entire, and clean.
Else our lives are incomplete,
Standing in these walls of time,
Broken stairways, where the feet
Stumble as they seek to climb.
Build to-day, then, strong and sure,
With a firm and ample base;
And ascending and secure,
Shall to-morrow find a place.
Thus alone can we attain
To these turrets where the eye,
Sees the world as one vast plain,
And one boundless reach of sky.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, July 12, 1872.

The Editor will be glad to have notice from Secretaries of Lodges and Chapters of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JULY 6.

General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
Star Lodge of Instruction (1275), Marquis of Granby New Cross-road, at 7; Bro. C. S. Dilley, Preceptor.
Sphinx Lodge of Instruction (1329), Castle Tavern, Camberwell-road, at 7.30; Bros. Thomas and Worthington, Preceptors.
Mount Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Airstreet, at 8; Comp. Brett, Preceptor.
Manchester Lodge of Instruction, Yorkshire Grey, London Street, Fitzroy-square, at 8; Bro. Ash, P.M., Preceptor.

MONDAY, JULY 8.

Lodge 1366, Highgate, Gate House Hotel, Highgate.
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. Gottheil, 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, JULY 9.

Lodge 548, Wellington, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.
" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hotel, Anerley, Surrey.
Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, at 7; Comp. Brett, Preceptor.
Domestic Lodge of Instruction, Palmerston Tavern, 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.
 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, JULY 10.

Committee of Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 3,
 " 820, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound Hotel, Richmond.
 " 1228, Beacontree, Private Rooms, Leytonstone.
 " 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's 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, JULY 11.

Quarterly General Court Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall at 12.
 Lodge 1227, Upton, Spotted Dog, Upton, Essex.
 " 1288, Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tavern, Holloway.
 " 1321, Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hotel, Tulse Hill.
 Chap. 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
 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.
 Doric Chapter of Instruction, Rising Sun Tavern, Globe-road, Bethnal Green, at 8; Comp. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.

FRIDAY, JULY 12.

Rose Croix Chapter, Mount Calvary, Freemasons' Tavern Great Queen-st.
 Unions Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.'s, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 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.
 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's-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, Jannica-road, Bermondsey, at 8; Bro. Howes, P.M., Preceptor.



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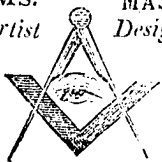
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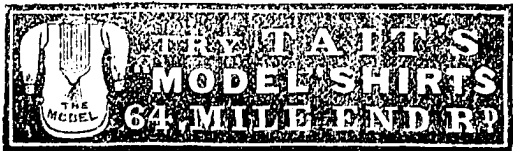
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