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Vol. 6, No. 225.]

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F. Burdett, Yeoman, Original Mark Lodge No. 1., com-
posed by Bro. Henry Parker, Original Mark Lodge No.
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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LEBANON LODGE (No. 1326).—The regular meeting of this well-established lodge was held on Saturday, June 21st, at the Red Lion Hotel, Hampton. Bro. F. Walters, P.M., Sec., opened the lodge at the specified hour. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Ballots were unanimous in favour of the admission of Bros. J. C. Jessel, 414; H. J. Green, 1275; R. W. Williams, 1275; and C. W. Williams, 1275, as joining members; and for Messrs. J. Hurst, J. Morrison, and J. R. Craft, as candidates for initiation. Bro. J. T. Moss, P.G.S.D. Middlesex, W.M., initiated Mr. J. R. Craft; Bro. F. Walters initiated Messrs. Hurst and Morrison into Freemasonry. He then passed Bros. G. S. Streeton, B. Mayer, P. From, H. Jensen, and H. W. F. Fellows to the second degree; and raised Bros. G. Shott, J. Wallis, W. N. Williams, J. A. Simpson, (107), F. O. Roberts (1309), and W. Simmons (201), to the third degree. The work was well done. The elections proved unanimous for—W. Hammond, P.M., S.D., as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year; S. Wickens, P.M., as Treas. (re-elected); J. Gilbert, Tyler. Bro. W. Hammond, P.M., S.D., the W.M. elect, agreed to accept the office of Steward to represent the lodge at the Girls' School Festival in May. Several candidates for initiation, and brethren for joining, were proposed, which closed the business. There were present, besides those named.—Bros. H. A. Dubois, S.W.; J. W. Baldwin, J.W.; J. Gilbert, J.D.; J. Hayward, I.G.; H. Potter, P.M., W.S.; J. Hammond, P.M.; J. C. Woodrow, P.M.; J. E. H. Ross, E. Hopwood, P.M., C. W. Fox, E. H. Thiellay, R. Laurence, C. Heitzmann, W. Vine, and others. The visitors were Bros. T. Dand, P.G.S.B. Devonshire, P.M., 39; J. Sims, 834, and others. Refreshment followed labour.

LANCASTER.—*Duke of Lancaster Lodge* (No. 1353).—The regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Wednesday, the 11th inst., at the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, when the W.M., Bro. J. Barrow, presided, and was supported by Bro. Bell, S.W.; Bro. Heald, J.W.; Bro. J. Acton, S.D., Acting Secretary; Bro. Williams, Acting S.D.; Bro. Coulon, J.D.; Bro. Wolfenden, I.G.; and a goodly number of other brethren and visitors. Two brothers were passed, two initiated, and one candidate proposed. After other business, the brethren proceeded to the election of a W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year. The ballot was taken in the usual form. Bro. Bell, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M., and we congratulate Bro. Bell on his elevation to so distinguished a position. The Treasurer, Bro. Holmes, was re-elected.

Royal Arch.

BRADFORD.—*Chapter of Moravia* (No. 387).—The usual meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Shipley, on the 13th inst., Comp. J. Gaunt, M.E.Z., presiding, the other officers for the year being Comp. Wm. H. Holmes, H.; N. Walker, J.; Fred. W. Booth, S.E.; J. R. Riley, S.N.; F. Murgatroyd, P.S.; Chas. Roe-

buck, and G. G. Atkinson, Ass. Secs.; Thomas Denby, Treas.; and J. J. Holmes, Janitor. The business and working of the chapter was gone through in that admirable style which always characterises Comp. Grant, after which he invited the visitors and all other companions to supper, which was excellent, and well served in the refreshment-room. The visitors present were Comp. Wm. Beanland, M.E.Z., and William W. Barlow, of the Chapter of Charity, 302, and John Beanland, of the Chapter of Sincerity, 600. We are glad to hear that much new blood has been infused into this ancient chapter, and that it is in a fair way of again assuming its legitimate position in the provinces.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—*Lodge St. Mungo* (No. 27) held its usual monthly meeting on the 19th at 213, Buchanan-street, G. Sinclair, R.W.M., in the chair; D. Butler, S.W.; J. Stilter, J.W. The lodge having been raised to the third degree, Bros. J. Lawrence and A. Gregory were admitted, and a request having been preferred from St. John's No. 3 Bis., Bro. J. Adams of that lodge was also admitted to take this degree, which at the request of the R.W.M. was worked by Bros. Bain, P.M. 103; McDonald, R.W.M. of 73, acting as S.D., the work was admirably performed. At the conclusion of the ceremonies the Master intimated that they were honoured with a large deputation from the committee to receive the American brethren, and called on each to address the lodge. The object in view was then urged on the notice of the members—Bros. B. R. Bell, No. 0; G. B. Adams, No. 0; R. Fraser, 27; G. W. Wheeler, 73; J. Porteous, 360; and J. Johnson, 419. The lodge was then called to refreshment, when, after the usual loyal and Craft toasts had been duly honoured, the R.W.M. gave the health of Bro. F. Gadsby, of 260, Northampton, who, in reply, expressed the pleasure it had given him, as an English Mason to renew his visit to St. Mungo Lodge, where he had been so kindly received on a former occasion, also his gratification of witnessing such excellent working, at the same time regretting that there should exist so much difference in the modes of working on different sides of the Tweed. The toast of the "Visiting Brethren" was then responded to by Bro. Adam, of Mother Kilwinning, and Bro. Stracker, of 419, as representing the oldest and youngest lodges present. Bro. Johnson proposed the "Masonic Press." Bro. G. W. Wheeler, in his reply, while regretting with Bro. Gadsby the variation in the modes of working in the two countries yet, said that by the aid of the press, that, as well as other anomalies might be cured. Bro. Wheeler proposed "Prosperity to St. Mungo Lodge and long life to the R.W.M." The visitors, who at this stage of the proceedings equalled the members, having duly honoured this, Bro. Sinclair replied in suitable terms, and the Tyler's toast brought this pleasant evening to an agreeable termination.

GLASGOW.—*The St. Mungo Encampment* had their usual monthly meeting on June 16th. There was a large assemblage of the Knights present on the dais, the M.N.C., R. Bell; B. Butler, P.C.; Capt. Shanks, 18° P.E.C.; G. W. Wheeler, R; and J. Chalmers, M.D. The first business was, conferring the honour of Knighthood upon J. Chalmers, M.D. Further arrangements were then made for the reception of the American Fraters. The whole of the Sir Knights present appeared in the new clothing supplied by Sir Knt. Kenning, with which they were so well pleased, that they ordered an additional twenty, so as to be able to supply all the members who may wish to appear in the City Hall on the 27th. The case of the widow of a deceased Knight was brought before the Encampment, and her immediate necessities relieved by a small grant, and the Encampment closed in peace and harmony.

SURREY MASONIC HALL COMPANY.—A weekly contemporary states that Bro. Edwin Lillifant, public accountant, has been appointed auditor to the above company. The name should be Sillifant.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF SOMERSETSHIRE.

Some few months ago there was a very general opinion prevalent among the Mark Brethren of the Province, that a proper time had arrived when a new Mark Master Masons' Lodge might with propriety be formed for the brethren at Yeovil, accordingly as time advanced this feeling became so popular in the district, that it was at length determined to put this expressed wish of the brethren into a practical form, by presenting a petition to the M.W.G.M.M.M., Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal, praying for a warrant of constitution to open a new Mark Lodge at Yeovil, under the title of "William-de-Irwin" Lodge so named as a just compliment to the very W. Deputy P.G. Mark Master, Bro. Capt. F. G. Irwin, of the affectionate admiration of his many striking virtues as a just and upright man and true Mason, whose courteous manner, and willingness at all times to serve a brother or friend, have endeared him to all, whose privilege it is to know him. The M.W.G.M.M.M., responded to the petition by at once issuing his warrant and the R. W. the Prov. G. M.M. Master, Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, fixed Thursday, June 12th, for the consecration of the William-de Irwin Mark Lodge No. 162 on the roll of the G. M. Lodge of England. His lordship honoured the promoters of this new lodge by holding at the same place and on the same day his annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge, accordingly a very numerous assemblage of Grand Officers, Prov. Grand Officers, and other Mark brethren of the province, who were anxious to testify the high esteem in which they held his Lordship, mustered in strong numbers. His lordship's many public duties preventing him being present, the day's programme was efficiently carried out by the respected Deputy Prov. G. M.M.M., Bro. Capt. Irwin.

Shortly after high twelve the V.W.D.P.G.M., accompanied by the Prov. Grand Mark Officers, entered the lodge room in procession, and the Prov. Grand Lodge was then opened in solemn form.

There were present, Bro. Capt. F.G. Irwin, Deputy Prov. Grand Master; Major General Gore Boland Munbee (F.P.) P.M. 102, and P. Prov. S. G. Mark Warden of Somerset; F. Vizard, P.M., Prov. S.G. Mark Warden; W. S. Gillard, P.M., Prov. Grand Senior Mark Warden R. C. Else, W.M. of Lodge 156, Prov. G.M.O.; W. H. Davies, Prov. G.S.O.; Benjamin Cox, W.M. designate of Mark Lodge 162, Prov. G. Secretary; A. W. Butter, W.M. elect of Mark Lodge 128, Prov. S.G. Deacon; S. Jones, S.W. of Lodge 102, Prov. J.G. Deacon; B. Atwell, Prov. G. Sword Bearer; W. L. Gaskell, Prov. G. Organist; J. Fry, Prov. G. Steward; Himbury, and Skinner, P.G. Tylers; Bros. A. W. Scott, P.M. and Grand Steward, Grand Mark Lodge; Edmund White, P.M.; E. Earle, Thomas Sherring, the Rev. M. Shackleton, J. B. Colthurst, R. G. Long, Wm. Munro, R. S. Chant, D. Belfield, John Chaffin, Wilton Proors, Thos. H. Holroyd, H. Amor, Commander T. Townshend, J. H. Ryall, G. F. Tuckey, J. Skinner, J. J. Himbury, T. W. Male, and many other brethren.

The first business was the confirmation of the minutes of the previous lodge meeting, after which, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. E. T. Payne, Prov. Grand Mark Treasurer, the Prov. G. Secretary read the annual financial report, which had been audited and found correct.

In accordance with article 55, Grand Mark Lodge Constitutions, which provides that the M.W.G.M. and Prov. Grand Mark Masters shall be elected every three years, the Right Hon the Earl of Carnarvon's present term of office as Prov. Grand Mark Master of the province of Somerset, will expire at the next annual meeting. It was proposed by the V.W. Deputy Prov. Grand Mark Master, and seconded by the Prov. S. Grand Mark Warden, that the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, present Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Mark Master for the province of Somerset, be nominated (in accordance with article 55, Grand Mark Lodge Constitutions), as the Prov. Grand Mark Master Mason, for the year 1874-5-and-6, and that the Right Worshipful Brother be earnestly requested to continue to

preside over the Mark Master's degree in this province. On the motion being put to the meeting it was carried by acclamation.

The next motion was then made by the V.W.D.P.G.M. Master, and seconded by the Prov. Grand Junior Warden. "That a Charity Fund be established in connection with the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Somerset, and that a committee be appointed for working out the details, the maximum of each yearly subscription to be ten shillings." This resolution was carried unanimously.

It was then proposed by the M.W.D.P.G.M.M. and seconded and duly carried, that the Provincial Board for working out the details of the previous resolution, should consist of the V.W.D.P.G.M. Master, the P.G. Secretary, and Bro. W. H. Davies, assisted by the W. Masters and Past Masters of the Mark Lodges in the province.

The V.W.D.P.G.M. Master proposed, and Bro. Major General Munbee, acting Deputy P.G. Mark Master, seconded, the re-election of Bro. E. T. Payne as Prov. G. Mark Treasurer for the ensuing year 1873-4, and the same was unanimously carried.

The Deputy Prov. Grand Master then appointed and invested the following brethren to Prov. Grand Office, (such officers having been previously approved of by the Right Worshipful the Prov. G. Mark Master) Wor. Bros. B. Cox, (G. Steward) Prov. S.G. Mark Warden; Richard Charles Else, (W.M. 155) Prov. J.G. Mark Warden; Edmund White, (P.M.) Prov. G. Mark Master Overseer; A. W. Scott, (P.M. and G. Steward) Prov. G. Mark Senior Overseer; Sidney Jones, Prov. G. Mark Junior Overseer; Rev. M. Shackleton, (Vicar of Wincanton) Prov. G. Mark Chaplain; E. T. Payne, (Past G. Deacon) Prov. G. Mark Treasurer; Benjamin Atwell, (P.M.) Prov. G. Mark Registrar of Marks; A. W. Butler, Prov. G. Mark Secretary; G. F. Tuckey, Prov. G. Mark Assistant Secretary; H. Amor, Prov. G. S. Deacon, J. D. Colthurst, Prov. G. J. Deacon; J. A. Clerk, Prov. G. Inspector of Works; T. H. Holroyd, Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies; Wm. Munro, Prov. G. Assistant Director of Ceremonies; Dr. Hodges, Prov. G. Sword Bearer; R. G. Long, Prov. G. Standard Bearer; W. L. Gaskell, Prov. G. Organist; R. S. Chant, Prov. G. Inner Guard; E. E. Earle, D. Belfield and T. Stokes, Prov. G. Steward; John Himbury, Prov. G. Tyler. By the especial permission of the Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Mark Master, Bro. E. T. Inskip had conferred upon him the rank of Past P.G. Junior Mark Warden and Bro. Commander J. Townsend, the rank of Past Prov. Grand Master Overseer.

After a few other preliminary arrangements had been made, the consecration of the William-de-Irwin Lodge was then proceeded with, the brethren of the new lodge being present were arranged in order and having signified their approval of the officers named in the warrant in Masonic form, the Rev. Chaplain, Bro. Matthew Shackleton, (Vicar of Wincanton) offered up prayer to the G.A.O.T.U. Other preliminaries being over, three Prov. Grand Officers carried the cornucopia, wine, and oil, in ancient form, solemn music being performed during the ceremony, Bro. Major Gen. Gore Boland Munbee P.M., P. Prov. S.G. Mark Warden, scattering the corn of nourishment, Bro. W. S. Gillard, P.M., P. Prov. J.G. Mark Warden, and Grand Steward of Grand Mark Lodge, sprinkling the wine of refreshment, and Bro. Benjamin Cox, P.M., Prov. S. G. Mark Warden, and Grand Steward of Grand Mark Lodge, pouring the oil of joy, these elements are to Masons, symbolic of the many gifts and blessings for which we are indebted to the bounty of the G.A.O.T.U. for the first is emblematic in Masonic symbolism, of health, the second of plenty, and the third of peace. The lodge being now solemnly consecrated "to the honour of God's glory," the V.W.D.P.G. Mark Master, Bro. Capt. Irwin, Past Grand Master Overseer, dedicated it to the holy patron of our order, in proper form and declared the "William-de-Irwin" Mark Lodge No. 162, duly constituted. Bro. Capt. Irwin then proceeded with the installation. Bro. Benjamin Cox, the W.M. designate, was presented by Bro. W.S. Gillard, P.M., and being required to signify his assent to certain proposi-

tions, which contain as it were, the Masonic confession of faith, he received the benefit of installation at the hand of the V.W.D.P.G.M., in the presence of a large board of Installed Masters, Bro. Irwin, thus addressing the W.M.—Worshipful Sir, I now place in your hand this mallet, it has for a long time been the symbol of authority over the brethren, as the chisel demonstrates to us the advantage of discipline, and the mallet, when applied to it, lops off excrescences and smooths surfaces, we are thus taught to correct irregularities, and reduce man to a proper level; so that, by quiet deportment, he may in the school of discipline, learn to be content. What the mallet is to the workman, enlightened reason is to the passions; it curbs ambition, represses envy, moderates anger, and checks every rising faculty. I have now to wish you happiness and prosperity, and pray the G.A.O.T.U., of His infinite mercy and goodness, to guide and direct you in all your actions, and to preserve you from any breach of the duties of the high office to which you have been called. The new Master was then placed in the chair of Adoniram and the board of Installed Masters closed. This being done the other brethren were admitted, and Bro. Cox, the W.M., received the usual salutations, as in all past time Masons in his position have done, after which he appointed Bro. W. S. Gillard as the I.P.M.; Bro. John Howe Tarley, S.W.; Bro. John Chaffin, J.W.; and Bro. R. S. Chant, Secretary, (reserving the other appointment for a Lodge of Emergency), the W.M. then resigned the gavel to the V.W.D.P.G.M.M., and no further business being proposed the Prov. G. Mark Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the inaugural banquet. This was served up at the three Chough's Hotel, and reflected the highest credit on the catering abilities of Bro. Sharland, (the proprietor) most of the brethren who had attended Prov. G. Lodge and witnessed the ceremony of consecration and installation sat down to the banquet, under the presidency of the Deputy Prov. Mark Master, Bro. Capt. Irwin, who was supported immediately on his right by Bros. Major General Munbee, P. Prov. S.G. Mark W.; B. Cox, W.M. 162, Prov. G.S.W. and G. Steward; Commander J. Townsend, P. Prov. G.M.O.; W. S. Gillard, P.M., P. Prov. J.G.W. and Grand Steward; A. W. Scott, P.M., Prov. G.S.O. and Grand Steward; R. C. Else, W.M. Mark Lodge 155, Prov. G. Junior Warden, and on his left were the Rev. the Prov. Grand Chaplain; Shackleton E. White, P.M. and Prov. G.M.O.; W. H. Davies, P. Prov. G.S.O.; F. Vizard, P.M. and P. Prov. S.G.W.; S. Jones, Prov. G.J.O.; Dr. Earle, Prov. G. Steward, and other brethren of distinction.

We regret that we are unable to give more than a bare outline of the list of toasts which comprised "The Queen." "The Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," "The W.W.G.M.M., Bro. the Earl of Percy," "The P.M.W.G.M.M., Bro. Portal," "The D.G.M.M., and officers of Grand Mark Lodge." This toast was responded to by the W.M., Bro. Cox, Bros. Gillard and Scott, Grand Stewards of the Grand Lodge of England. The D.P.G.M. then gave the next toast, which was that of "The Rt. W. Prov. G.M.M., Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, (Past M.W.G.M.M.)" his lordship's name is a household word in the province over which he rules, ever ready, cheerfully to extend the right hand of fraternal affection to a brother in distress, zealously promoting at all times the prosperity of Masonry in general, he is of a singular merit in the eyes of his brethren, his large-hearted benevolence has endeared him to his brethren of every persuasion in the firm and pleasing bond of Masonic brotherhood. His lordship's name, the mere sound of which is as music to thousands of Masons, not only in the province of Somerset, but throughout England. The next toast was that of Bro. Capt. Irwin, D.P.G. Mark Master, given by Bro. Munbee, in a most elaborate speech, and responded to by Bro. Irwin, in his usual complimentary way, expressing his thanks to the brethren for the honour they had done him. "The health of the Prov. Grand Officers, Past and Present," was then responded to by Bro. Major General Munbee, P. Prov. G.W.

The V.W. D.P.G.M.M. said:—Brethren, I now

propose a toast to which I beg your earnest attention, and in which I am sure you will join with the utmost cordiality, it is "The health of the Newly Installed Master, Bro. Cox." I can assure you it is a toast which deserves your approbation, and in asking you to unite with me in drinking his health, I will express my greatest personal obligation to him, for on every occasion when I have required his assistance, he has been most ready to give it to me. He is one who really has the interest and the prosperity of Masonry at heart, and who has undertaken many arduous duties for years past. I initiated into Masonry, and have conferred upon him all the other degrees which he has received; he is a Royal Arch, member of the A. and A. Rite, Red Cross Knight, K.H.S. grade in Rosicrucianism, Knight of the Black Eagle, and a Cryptic Mason, indeed the degrees which he has received are so numerous that I can hardly name them, yet notwithstanding, he has worked zealously for the Craft and Mark degrees, and has given me kind and cordial assistance. It is therefore with great pleasure that I ask you to drink the health of Bro. Cox, the W.M. of the William-de-Irwin, Mark Lodge No. 162. Bro. Cox, who was warmly received, returned thanks, and spoke very much to the point, assuring the brethren that it should be his constant aim and earnest endeavour to fulfil the duties entrusted to his care, and with the able advice and assistance of their esteemed Bro. Gillard, the I.P.M., and that of his other officers, he would endeavour to carry on the work, the foundation of which had been laid that day, so as to raise a Masonic Mark Temple at Yeovil, which he hoped would meet with the approbation of the Right Worshipful the Prov. Mark Master and his excellent Deputy. As regards the Rainbow Ark Lodge, attached to the William-de-Irwin Mark Lodge, and which had been floated that day, it would be their duty sometimes to unmoor it, so that they may receive on board such noble Master Masons as might wish to see its interior beauty, and partake of the mysteries of their Craft, yet it behoves them ever to keep in mind a due selection of the quality of the cargo, otherwise it may cause the Ark to sink. Beyond all other duties, the first and foremost should be to seek the aid of the Supreme Grand Commander of the Universe to guide us in all our undertakings, to enable us to steer the Ark safely through the stormy billows of this life, so that when we arrive at the final port of our destination, we may be considered a fitting cargo, to be received into the blessed haven of rest. (Applause).

The rest of the programme was gone through, and the Tyler's Toast brought a happy evening to a close.

PRESENTATION AT STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Monday evening the 16th there was an interesting gathering in the Reading-room of the Freemasons' Club, at Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-street, Stockton, when a considerable number of the members assembled to present to the club a portrait of Bro. John Hunton, P.M., the president of the club, as a mark of esteem in which he is held by the brethren, and as an evidence of their appreciation of the services he has rendered to the club, and the warm interest he has evinced in its welfare. The proceedings were opened by Bro. J. H. Jackson, P.M., calling upon Bro. W. J. Watson to make the presentation. In doing so he referred at some length to the indebtedness of the club to the exertions and interest manifested by Bro. Hunton, and to the kindly fraternal feelings which had prompted that proof of their high regard for him. The portrait, which had been executed by Mr. Hopwood of Middlesbrough, was enclosed in a neat gilt frame, and was a very good likeness. Bro. Hunton returned thanks for the honour done to him in a very appropriate manner. The portrait was then suspended in the club-room, amid the hearty applause of the company.

SEBIDENT.—The only guaranteed cure for Toothache.—This extraordinary application, marvellous by its effects, gives immediate relief, without injuring the tooth, and forms a temporary stopping. Is. 1d.; post free 1s. 3d. The CORALITE TOOTH PASTE, for cleansing and improving the teeth, imparts a natural redness to the gums, and gives brilliancy to the enamel. Price 1s. 6d. The ROYAL DENTIFRICE, prepared from a recipe as used by her Majesty, gives the teeth a pearl-like whiteness, and imparts a delicious fragrance to the breath. Price 1s. 6d. Sold by all chemists and perfumers and by the proprietors, MESSRS. GABRIEL, the old-established Dentists, 72, Ludgate-hill, and 50, Hanley-street, Cavendish-square, London.

GRAND LODGE OF NEW YORK.

The ninetieth annual communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York was opened at the Grand Lodge-room, Masonic Temple, corner of Twenty-third-street, and Sixth-avenue, on Tuesday, 3rd inst. The representatives of several Grand Lodges, and delegates from at least six hundred and fifty subordinate lodges were present.

The Grand Marshal, R.W. Bro. Charles Roome formed the Grand Officers, according to rank, in the Grand Secretary's office, and the procession moved up the main aisle, Bro. William Keating's band playing, in magnificent style, the "Coronation March," from Mendelssohn, receiving at its close deserved applause.

The Grand Lodge was then opened in ample form, and with prayer by the Rev. R. L. Schoonmaker, Grand Chaplain, a select chorus from New and Brooklyn Lodges, under the lead of W. Bro. William F. Sherwin, P.M. of St. Cecile Lodge, No. 568, Grand Musical Director, singing in exquisite style, the ode, "Hail! Brother Mason, Hail."

The Most Wor. the Grand Master then delivered the following address:—

Officers and Representatives:—In conformity to a time-honoured custom, and obedient to a provision of the Constitution, we are again convened in annual communication, to deliberate upon questions of moment concerning the government of the Craft of this jurisdiction.

The auspicious event which characterises our present meeting marks a new era in the history of this Grand Lodge, now for the first time duly assembled within an edifice wholly the property of the brethren who compose its widely extended and influential jurisdiction, and, though the building is uncompleted, they regard it with pride, and justly esteem it the harbinger of the accomplishment of an undertaking dear to their hearts. Their zealous labour in the past has furnished the Grand Lodge a seat of government whence its laws will be promulgated and its judgements pronounced, and where its archives will be securely preserved to their posterity. And they will yet, in compliance with the original plan, build the Asylum—a refuge for the aged and indigent, and the widows and orphans dependent on them for protection and support. That work may be hindered and impeded by indifference and local prejudice, but their efforts will surmount all difficulties, and time, silent but inevitable, yet observant, will witness the consummation of the Hall and Asylum, projected generations since by the Grand Lodge of New York, when she will rank the first among her equals for benevolence and charity.

The warmth of your friendly and brotherly greetings, the mutual congratulations of the hour and the interest of the occasion, inspire a unity of action in respect to the matters that will be presented for your consideration, unusual to so large a body, and induce the hope that harmony will be the guide to word and deed.

The several lodges to which warrants were granted at the last Annual Communication, were duly constituted, and their officers installed either by the Deputy Grand Master or myself, or by virtue of special dispensations issued for the purpose.

Constellation Lodge, No. 404, to which the original warrant was restored, was recognised and its officers elected and installed under the supervision of R. W. William A. Brodie, District Deputy for the Nineteenth District—some questions growing out of the peculiar condition of its membership requiring official interposition.

In the matter of the petition of Bro. James R. Golding, praying the Grand Lodge to terminate the sentence of indefinite suspension inflicted by Pacific Lodge, No. 233, which was referred to the Grand Master with power, I found the facts to be as stated in the report of the Committee on Grievances, submitted at the last Annual Communication, and agreeing with the conclusions of that Committee in respect to the punishment inflicted, and the promise of future good behaviour on the part of the petitioner, I addressed a letter to his lodge, recommending his

restoration, which recommendation was complied with.

The relation of non-intercourse heretofore established between ourselves and the Grand Orient of France and the Grand Lodge of Hamburg still continues, neither of those bodies having retraced its steps respecting its unwarranted interference with our own and other Grand Lodge jurisdictions of this country. Our relations with other Grand Lodges of the world, recognised as legitimate governing bodies in Masonry, are of the most peaceful and fraternal character.

The usual variety of questions of law and privilege have been submitted for decision, and in their consideration I have kept steadily in view the provisions of the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, and rendered decisions accordingly; indeed, the field of Masonic law has been so thoroughly cultivated by my predecessors, that I found no occasion to propagate new theories or principles of law or practice.

During the year, seventeen new lodges were organised, under dispensations issued for the purpose, twelve having been granted by the Deputy Grand Master, and five by myself. The report of the Grand Secretary will show the order in which they are granted, and the location of the several lodges organised pursuant thereto.

The district deputies of the districts in which the new lodges are located, have submitted special reports in regard to them, by which it appears that all have complied with the regulations of the Grand Lodge respecting lodges U.D., and their applications for warrants are recommended to the favourable consideration of the Grand Lodge.

A sense of duty has constrained me to refuse to grant five applications for authority to form new lodges, although the papers presented were in due form, and the petitions properly recommended. The considerations which induced me to deny the applications were briefly these: The territory sought to be occupied was already supplied with a sufficient number of lodges; warranted lodges, weakened by dissensions growing out of the attempt to organise others, were likely to be materially injured, and their existence imperilled, by the establishment of another lodge in the immediate vicinity; or, if organised, there was a lack of good material to sustain a lodge properly beyond the first few months of its existence. For similar reasons, I have felt at liberty to discourage efforts to organise new lodges in several localities, and with gratifying success.

Dispensations to confer the Master's degree in less time than the Constitution provides, have been granted, in some instances, by the Deputy Grand Master. Applications to myself have been frequent, but denied in all cases, with one exception, and that was granted early in my term, and in consideration of the fact that the requisite time had nearly expired. In declining to grant the requests, I have endeavoured to dissipate the impression which prevails that the mere payment of the required fee was all that was necessary to dispense with the law regulating the conferring of the Master's degree, but that good and sufficient cause must exist to warrant the exercise of the dispensing power.

Two applications were presented for dispensations to confer all the degrees at one and the same time, and numerous requests preferred for permission to initiate persons physically disqualified; the former were denied, and the latter, which I had no power to grant, were dismissed with an intimation that a landmark of the fraternity absolutely forbade the practice.

The investigation of a number of appeals brought to me from the action of lodges in trials for alleged offences satisfied me that the brethren charged with their commission were improperly convicted, and punishments inflicted without just cause, and in each case the action of the lodge was reversed. It ought to be well understood, by this time, that no Mason can be unlawfully convicted on insufficient testimony, nor be tried by commissioners manifestly unfriendly to him; and that the extreme penalty of Masonic law, for comparatively trivial offences, will be set aside.

Death has not been wholly unmindful of those

high in authority elsewhere, or hitherto officially connected with this Grand Lodge. M.W. Gustavus Warnatz, Grand Master of Masons in the kingdom of Saxony, was stricken with apoplexy, and died suddenly at Berlin, on the 18th day of May, 1872, soon after his arrival there to attend the Constitutional Convention of the German Grand Lodge League, appointed to meet a few days afterwards. Bro. Warnatz was born at Kamentz, in Saxony, February 27th, 1810, and was a physician by profession. In civil life he was counsellor and medical member of the Provincial Government at Dresden. He was made a Mason in 1859, initiated in the Lodge of the Golden Apple at Dresden, and in 1866 he was elevated to the Grand Mastership. He was an enlightened and zealous Mason, prominent in the counsels of the Craft, and his death was severely felt, not only by the Grand Lodge of Saxony, but by the fraternity of Germany.

R.W. William Wagner, for many years connected with this Grand Lodge in various relations, died at his residence, near New York city, on the 30th May, 1872. He was born at Fuerstenberg, Germany, in 1804. He received the degrees of symbolic Masonry in German Union Lodge, No. 54, in 1835, with which he ever afterwards continued his membership. He was Master of that lodge in 1843 and 1850, and was for several years an officer of the Grand Steward's Lodge prior to the abolition of that body; and in 1846 was accredited to this Grand Lodge as the representative of the Grand Lodge of Saxony, and as such was well and favourably known to his brethren. His services as its representative near this Grand body were highly appreciated by the Grand Lodge of Saxony, and the utmost confidence was reposed in his discretion and ability. His death was sincerely mourned by his friends, and sundered his relation as the Representative of a Foreign Grand Lodge with which we are on terms of the most friendly nature.

In March last the sad intelligence of the death of R. W. Edward Barnett, representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, was officially communicated to the Grand Secretary. His death occurred at New Orleans, his place of residence, on the first of that month. He was born in New Orleans, March 15th, 1815, and from his long continued residence and upright character was well and favourably known to his fellow citizens. He was made a Mason about the year 1846, and subsequently became connected with the various bodies of the different Masonic rites, and ever had the love and respect of his brethren. He was Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana for two years, and in 1865 was elected Deputy Grand Master, in which positions he rendered faithful and able service to the Grand Lodge.

R. W. Charles B. Wade, one of the Grand Stewards, died at his home at Walton, on the 10th day of May last, after a brief illness—his health, however, was impaired for several years past. The late hour at which I learned of the said event, and the want of sufficient data respecting his personal and Masonic history, prevents a proper reference to it. He held the office of District Deputy under Grand Masters Gibson and Anthon, and acquitted himself in that capacity with marked success. My personal acquaintance with the deceased was limited to a casual intercourse in Grand Lodge and in the Chapter, and yet I came to esteem him for his manly character, modest demeanor, and amiable disposition; he seemed always ready to do an act of kindness, and his heart filled with love for his brethren. His death was indeed untimely, and his brethren mourn his loss with sincere sorrow.

The demand for the public ceremonies of the fraternity has been frequent and generally permitted; and I am gratified in being able to report that the solemn and impressive rites of the fraternity with their attendant festivities were in every case properly conducted, and with beneficial results to the Craft.

On the 24th of June, on the invitation of commissioners, the corner-stone of the City and County Hall, in connection with the City of Buffalo and County of Erie, was laid

at Buffalo, with the usual ceremonies, in the presence of a large and appreciative audience.

July 4th, R. W. Ellwood E. Thorne, Deputy Grand Master, laid the corner stone of the Soldier's Monument at Sing Sing.

On the 11th of July, R. W. John C. Boak, District Deputy for the Second District, acting under a dispensation issued by the Deputy Grand Master dedicated the fine hall erected by Wawarsing Lodge, No. 582, at Ellenville.

August 16th, the new and commodious hall of Blazing Star Lodge, No. 694, at East Aurora, was dedicated with appropriate ceremony.

September 10th, the rooms of Metropolitan Lodge, No. 273, in the City of New York, were solemnly dedicated by R. W. Ellwood B. Thorne, Deputy Grand Master.

On the 18th of September, at the request of the Board of Managers, the corner stone of the Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane, was held at Buffalo, in the presence of the chief magistrate, and other officials of the State Government and a large concourse of citizens.

October 4th, at high twelve, R. W. Elwood E. Thorne, Deputy Grand Master, officiated at the ceremony of placing the capstone of the Masonic Hall in the city of New York, in proper position. The local officers of the Grand Lodge, and many brethren were present, and participated in the exercises, which were of a very interesting character.

On the 10th November, R. W. Ellwood E. Thorne, Deputy Grand Master, in the presence of a large body of Masons and other citizens, dedicated and consecrated with solemn service the Burial Plot of the "Masonic Board of Relief of Williamsburgh," at Cypress Hill Cemetery.

November 14th, the new and elegant apartments designed for the use of the Craft of the city of Rochester, were appropriately dedicated to the purposes of Masonry.

Of the 6th December, R. W. George J. Gardner, District Deputy for the Sixteenth District dedicated a new hall suitably fitted up for the use of Centerville Lodge No. 648, at Centerville.

December 12th the new and beautiful hall of Oneida Lodge, No. 70, at Oneida, was dedicated with the usual ceremony.

On the 22nd of January, R. W. Norman Z. Baker, District Deputy for the Tenth District, dedicated the new and fine hall of Montgomery Lodge, No. 504, at Stilwater.

On the same day, R. W. and Rev. John G. Webster, Grand Chaplain, in the unavoidable absence of the District Deputy, and acting under my dispensation, dedicated a new hall for the use of Weedsport Lodge, No. 825, at Weedsport.

May 21, R. W. Ellwood E. Thorne, Deputy Grand Master, dedicated Euclid Lodge Rooms, at Stella Hall, in the city of Brooklyn.

May 28th, at the invitation of proper authority, the corner-stone of the new City Hall in the City of Rochester, was laid with the solemn and impressive ceremonies of Masonry. The large attendance of brethren and citizens attested the great interest in the proceedings.

On the 29th of May, the new and fine hall of Evans Lodge, No. 261, at Angola, was dedicated with the prescribed ceremonies of the Craft.

In March, 1872, complaint was preferred to my predecessor, through the Grand Master of Masons of the State of Pennsylvania, against Hancock Lodge, No. 552, for alleged violation of the jurisdictional rights of Freedom Lodge, No. 328, in the initiation of certain persons residing in the State of Pennsylvania, and within the jurisdiction of the said Freedom Lodge. The complaint was referred to the District Deputy for the Eighth District for investigation, who reported, "after careful search had been made, he was satisfied that Hancock Lodge was not at fault," and the report was forwarded to the Grand Master of Pennsylvania. That report, however, was not satisfactory to Freedom Lodge, and in July last, the complaint was renewed, with a demand for all moneys received by Hancock Lodge for the initiation of the persons named in the complaint.

An investigation of the alleged irregularity on

the part of Hancock Lodge, convinced me that it was in fault, and had not only violated the jurisdiction of Freedom Lodge, but also a regulation of the Grand Lodge. It appeared, however, that the offence was committed inadvertently, the officers at that time leading the lodge to suppose that it had permission from the neighbouring lodges in Pennsylvania to confer the degrees on persons residing nearer to it than to their own respective lodges. The consideration of that fact, and the disposition manifested by the present officers of Hancock Lodge to meet the question fairly, induced me to treat the lodge with some degree of lenience; it was, therefore, only required to pay over all moneys received by it for the acts complained of, and the requisition was promptly complied with, and the money was forwarded to the authorities of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for transmission to Freedom Lodge. The Grand Master, R. W. Samuel C. Perkins, while acknowledging the care and investigation of the matter in question, and fully appreciating the necessity of the infliction of some punishment upon the lodge for the violation of a regulation of the Grand Lodge, and of the Masonic courtesy due between sister jurisdictions, expressed his satisfaction that punishment had been inflicted on the offending lodge, but declined to receive the money, and returned the same, as it is not in accordance with the views and practises of that jurisdiction to regard the offence as a pecuniary wrong to be compensated by a return of the moneys received. It remains, therefore, with the Grand Lodge to make such disposition of it as may be deemed proper.

On the 14th of September last I received from M. W. Dewitt C. Cregier, Grand Master of Masons of Illinois, and chairman of the late Board of Masonic Relief of the City of Chicago, the sum of 3,404.17 dols., which was awarded this Grand Lodge on the dissolution of the Board, from the surplus of funds contributed by the fraternity in aid of their brethren of that city, rendered destitute by reason of the great conflagration of October, 1871. From the very kind and fraternal letter which accompanied the donation, I extract the following in explanation of the action referred to:—

"In addition to the disbursements by the Board, the several lodges were apportioned an amount of the surplus funds, in order to enable them to meet the demands referred to. This arrangement left a considerable amount of funds unexpended. Believing that we have carried out the instructions of the generous donors, it has been deemed proper to return *pro rata* the surplus funds. It would be impossible to make this return to each lodge; indeed, such an amount would be quite insignificant. Hence the amount due to each state has been aggregated, and, in your case, is for the benefit of your 'Hall and Asylum Fund,' or such other use as the Grand Lodge may apply it."

The expressed wish of the M. W. brother was partly complied with in the payment of the money to the Treasurer of the Hall and Asylum Fund, subject to such other disposition as the Grand Lodge may direct.

The money contributed by the Masons of this state was given to their brethren of Chicago in their hour of distress, with no wish or expectation that any portion of it was to be returned, and with no desire to enquire as to its disposition. Under these circumstances it seems proper, whether we regard the return of the money as a donation to the Hall and Asylum Fund, or as a contribution to the funds of Grand Lodge, that special action should be taken in recognition of this practical exemplification of an integrity inculcated by the teachings of Masonry, and a suitable acknowledgment of the liberality of the Masons of the city of Chicago.

In the month of October last, charges were preferred to me by the Wardens of Wildwood Lodge, No. 477, against David McKee, Master of the said lodge, for an offence of a serious nature. I immediately suspended him from office, and directed him to deliver the warrant of his lodge and the jewel of his station to the Senior Warden, which order was promptly complied with. The charges were referred to W. Alfred K. Jepson, Master of Gouverneur Lodge, No. 217; W. E. G. Seymour, Master of

Heron Lodge, No. 500; and W. Hiram Bartlett, Master of Russell Lodge, No. 566, who were appointed commissioners to hear and determine the said charges. The trial was heard, and the accused found guilty, and suspended from all the rights and privileges of the fraternity.

October 15th.—Permission was given Pulteneyville Lodge, No. 159, to remove from Pulteneyville to Williamson, in the same township; but as such removal affected the jurisdiction of other lodges, the consent was granted to subject to the approval of the Grand Lodge at its annual communication.

The most important subject that will engage your attention at this annual communication is that of the proposed revision of the Constitution which has been under consideration for the past two years. The question has excited a very general feeling of disappointment which will prevail if the Grand Lodge shall not at this time take some decided action in reference to it.

On the 12th of December last, the committee composed of delegates duly elected from the several Masonic districts, pursuant to the resolution adopted last year, and comprising many brethren specially adapted for that work, convened at Syracuse, to consider the proposed revised Constitution submitted at the last annual communication, and referred to it by Grand Lodge. Their meeting extended over a period of four days, and resulted in the report that has been distributed to the lodges in accordance with the terms of the resolution referred to. The proposed Constitution, as revised by that committee, is submitted with the hope that in the main it will be found well adapted to the wants of the Fraternity, and that whatever imperfections may be discovered in it your wisdom will correct.

The one great need of Fraternity of this State, perhaps the largest body of Masons in the world, is a code of laws, as comprehensive as the wants and diversified interests of the Craft demand, as concise as the nature of the subjects of which it treats will admit, consistent with the accepted landmarks and usages of the Fraternity and expressed so plainly that no one need err in the interpretation of its provisions; and I feel confident that temperate, discreet and just action on your part will secure these results.

On the 23rd of December last, I appointed R. W. and Rev. John G. Luke, Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, the Representative of this Grand Lodge near that Grand Body, feeling assured that no effort will be omitted on his part to secure a continuance of the friendly relations which have always existed between that Grand Lodge and our own.

Complaints were forwarded to me in March last by Ancient City Lodge, No. 452, against Blackford Lodge No. 106, of the jurisdiction of Indiana, and by Phillipstown Lodge, No. 236, against Bedford Lodge No. 320, of the State of Pennsylvania, for initiating persons rejected in those lodges. The complaints were promptly transmitted to the Grand Masters of those States respectively, and measures taken by them to investigate the complaints, but the results of their investigations have not yet been communicated to me.

On the 12th of April I issued a dispensation to the Master, Wardens, and brethren of Seneca River Lodge, No. 160, located at Baldwinsville, to enable them to maintain its organization, transact its business and conduct its work, with authority to hold its communications in Odd Fellows' Hall, in that village, until this time—its room, furniture and warrant having been destroyed by fire. The lodge will make application for a duplicate of the warrant destroyed, and I recommend that it be granted without fee.

The condition of the Hall and Asylum Fund will be presented in the report of its Trustees, which will be submitted to you in accordance with their usual custom, and I respectfully but earnestly invite a thoughtful consideration of its details. The trustees were hopeful, at the commencement of the official year, that they would be able to present to you at this time the building in which the Grand Lodge is now assembled, completed in all its strength and beauty, and they have laboured earnestly to that end; but the need of money has so far interfered with their

plans, that they are compelled to present, instead, an uncompleted structure. The sale of the bonds issued by the trustees for the purpose of raising money to prosecute the work on the building, has been limited to a small amount, owing to causes readily explained, and the contributions to the fund have been neither large nor frequent; and, in order to continue the work, the trustees were compelled to borrow money, and thus add a considerable amount to the debt previously reported, and they now appeal to you with confidence for such action as will tend to strengthen their funds and materially assist them to complete the building at the earliest moment.

In December last an appeal was made to the Fraternity throughout the State for aid in behalf of the Fund; but I regret to say that generally the appeal was not met with that spirit of liberality which was hoped for; in some parts of the jurisdiction, however, the responses were noble and generous. Soon after the close of the last annual communication, brethren representing lodges in the city of New York organized themselves into an Executive Committee, with the Deputy Grand Master as Chairman, for the purpose of holding a fair for the benefit of the Hall and Asylum Fund. Interesting the ladies in the project, they laboured dilligently for months to complete the necessary arrangements for holding the festival, which was formally opened on the 13th of March, and continued for a period of four weeks, resulting in an addition to the fund of nearly forty thousand dollars. The brethren and their ladies, who were interested in the good work of promoting the highest and best interests of the Fraternity, deserve richest guerdon for their unwearied exertions in that behalf; their reward is the consciousness of having aided a praiseworthy object in its greatest time of need. Their example is commended to the Craft everywhere in the jurisdiction.

My thanks are due and are heartily tendered to my associates of the Grand Officers and the District Deputies, for their uniform kindness and strict attention to their official duties. The Grand Secretary has placed me under renewed obligations for timely and valuable assistance in the discharge of my duties, and our official intercourse enables me to testify from personal knowledge of the value of his services to the Grand Lodge. To my brethren generally throughout the jurisdiction I tender heartfelt thanks for their many acts of kindness and courtesy.

In conclusion, brethren, permit me to remind you that the grave responsibilities which rest upon us as the representatives of the fraternity and the importance of the interests committed to our hands should make us earnest and faithful in the discharge of the duties which devolve upon us, to the end that the dignity of the institution may be preserved and its power for good increased. We have united in asking the Divine blessing on our labours—may its influence guide us aright in our intercourse at this time, that harmony may prevail in our counsels, and integrity of purpose and action be the aim of our endeavours.

On motion, the address was referred to a special committee of the three, for the purpose of subdividing its several parts, and referring its various subjects to appropriate committees.

The R. W. James M. Austin, Grand Secretary, presented his report, which, on motion, was received and referred to the Finance Committee. From it we make the following synopsis:

Amount received, 61,488.51 dols., as follows: Dues, 59,363 dols.; dispensations and warrants, 1,540 dols.; degrees, 110 dols.; certificates, &c., 453 dols.; from other sources, 25 dols. Nine lodges were granted warrants last year, and were numbered from 714 to 722, and one lodge, Constellation, No. 404, had its warrant restored.

The following lodges were granted dispensations during the year:—Rockland, Nyack, Rockland county; Ancient, New York city; Southern Light, Bureport, Chemung county; Cautious, Georgetown, Modena; Charity and Alma, New York city; Anchor, College Point, Queens; Sunnyside, Castleton, Rensselaer; Ezel, Brooklyn; Bethel, New York city; New Hope, Schenectady, Schenectady; Veritas and

Uhland, New York city; Nepperham, Yonkers, Westchester; Guttenberg, Albany; Mizpah, Newton, Queens; and Radiant, New York city.

Six hundred and thirty-five lodges have made returns. There were 5,690 initiations and 925 affiliations during the year—total, 6,615. Dismitted, 1,781; expelled, 54; suspended, 32; stricken from the roll for non-payment of dues, 2,403; restored to membership, 397; died, 806. Total number of Masons in the State, 79,079. Washington Heights Lodge, No. 530, surrendered its warrant, leaving 665 warranted lodges. Eleven lodges were incorporated during the year.

M. W. John W. Simons, Grand Treasurer, presented his annual report, showing receipts of moneys during the past year amounting to 64,886.69 dols., and expenditures of 58,646.84 dols., leaving a balance paid over to Hall and Asylum Fund of 2,269.85 dols. On account of the current year, the sum of 28,162.12 dols. has been thus far received.

R. W. James M. Austin presented the report of the Hall and Asylum Fund, showing receipts during the year, from all sources, to have been 167,386.72 dols., all of which has been expended except a balance of 18,101 dols. About one-quarter of this amount has been raised from the sale of bonds, and the remainder from private donations, lodge subscriptions, and from the Masonic Fair held a few weeks since, 41,005.85 dols. By the personal exertion of the R. W. Isaac H. Crown, of Puritan Lodge, of this city, since the building of the hall was begun, the sum of 3,500 dols. has been collected. For the six lots on which the new temple stands, 340,000 dols. were originally paid, and 479,237 dols. have been expended thus far in construction. The indebtedness on the building is 271,000 dols., viz., 70,000 dols. in loans from trust companies, and 201,000 dols. for bonds sold.

The Grand Master then appointed the standing committees.

The time for the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year was fixed for Thursday, at two o'clock.

M. W. John L. Lewis, in behalf of the Constitutional Convention, presented a copy of the constitution prepared. On motion, a select committee, consisting of M. W. Past Grand Master Lewis, M. W. James Gibson, and W. M. John W. Simons, was appointed, to which various amendments proposed should be submitted and classified.

On motion of R. W. E. E. Thorne, Bros. E. L. Gaul and John Mahon were appointed official reporters of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge then took a recess until Wednesday morning at nine o'clock.

On Wednesday the Grand Lodge resumed labour, pursuant to adjournment at nine a. m., the M. W. Christopher G. Fox in the East.

An impressive prayer was offered by the R. W. and Rev. Ferdinand C. Ewer, Grand Chaplain.

The report of the committee to whom was referred the Grand Master's address, was presented, with the following recommendations and resolutions. So much of the address as referred to lodges under dispensation, &c., to be referred to the Committee on Warrants. So much as referred to the decease of eminent brethren to a special committee of three.

Resolved—"That the sum of 3,604.17 dols., received from the Board of Masonic Relief of the City of Chicago, and the moneys received by reason of an irregularity in John Hancock Lodge, No. 552, be appropriated to the Hall and Asylum Fund.

Resolved—"That a special committee of three be appointed to prepare suitable resolutions expressive of the appreciation entertained by the Grand Lodge of New York for the generous conduct of the Masons of Chicago in making return to this Grand Lodge of monies heretofore appropriated by the Masons of New York for the relief of the sufferers by the Chicago fire.

Resolved, That the position maintained by the M. W. Grand Master, in reference to granting dispensations to confer the Third Degree within the time prescribed by the Constitution, merits the fullest approval of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of R. W. Ellwood E. Thorne, the report was received and adopted.

The W. John C. Baker, Librarian, presented his report: There are 1,200 volumes in the library, 900 of which are bound. The library is very valuable. Referred to appropriate committee.

The R. W. Fred W. Herring, Secretary, presented the report of the Board of Relief, by which it appears that the receipts from various sources were 6,168.49 dols.; that there were 508 applicants for charity, who received 3,714.36 dols. the largest amounts being paid to applicants as follows: from England, 418.12 dols.; Ireland, 423 dols.; Scotland, 364 dols.; Holland, 130 dols.; California, 246 dols.; Alabama, 155 dols.; Connecticut, 118.30 dols.; New York city, 1,558.71 dols.; New York State, 678.80 dols.; Pennsylvania, 184.38 dols.; Salaries, &c. amounted to 704.77 dols., leaving a balance in the treasury of 749.36 dols.

The R. W. Ellwood E. Thorne, D. G. M., presented the report of the Executive Committee of the Masonic Fair, which was opened on the 15th of March, and closed on the 19th of April. The receipts were 17,078.48 dols., and the expenses 5,791.73 dols. Net proceeds, 41,286.72 dols. Paid over to the Grand Secretary, 41,005.84 dols. Balance on hand, 280.91 dols. A supplementary report, handed in from two lodges, made 460 dols. additional.

The Grand Lecturer, R. W. George H. Raymond, presented his seventh annual report, in which he highly complimented his senior assistant, R. W. Isaac H. Brown, for the manner in which he had exemplified the several degrees in the various lodges by invitation. He found peace and harmony prevailing throughout the state, and the standard work in general use.

The following committees were appointed by the Grand Master:—

On the death of distinguished brethren—M. W. Joseph D. Evans, R. W. Seymour, H. Stone, and Sanford J. Thatcher.

On Chicago—R. W. and Rev. John G. Webster, R. W. Norman C. Baker, and Edwin M. Holbrook.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labour to refreshment.

The gavel sounded in the East to resume labour, at two o'clock p. m.

The M. W. John L. Lewis, from the Special Committee on amendments to the Constitution reported, apologising for the brevity of said report, as it took himself and colleagues a whole night to examine the large bundle of amendments submitted. The committee, he said, had carefully examined the votes of two hundred and thirty-one lodges, as well as the amendments and found that one hundred and seventy-one, in some form, voted in the affirmative, forty-six in the negative, three left the matter to judgment and discretion of representatives, and one was a tie vote. Out of those who voted in the affirmative, eighty-nine proposed amendments, the large majority of which, however, do not present any fundamental principle; so the committee deemed it their duty to present the amended Constitution, and leave the Grand Lodge to decide. They recommend, therefore, that the Constitution be adopted in committee of the whole, subject to amendments, as in legislative bodies. The following resolution was appended and adopted:

(To be continued.)

INSTITUTION OF A NEW ORDER BY THE SHAH.—We learn through Mr. Reuter's agency that since his departure from his native country his Majesty the Shah has instituted a new order called the "Order of the Sun," which is for ladies only. The recipients of this order are, up to the present, the Queen of England, the Princess of Wales, the Empress of Germany, the Princess Imperial of Germany, and the Czarina. The Shah has presented to her Majesty, and also to the Prince of Wales his portrait set in diamonds, which constitutes the highest Persian order existent.

The "audience question" in China is now settled. In the *Pekin Gazette* of the 14th there is an Imperial edict which announces that all duly accredited Foreign Ministers will be allowed to have audience of the Emperor.

NOTICE.

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

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All communications, letters, &c., to be addressed to the Editor, 198, Fleet-street, E.C.

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

NOTICE.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 6 o'clock on Wednesday evening.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTH.

COOPER.—June 14, at Oakhill-park, Old Swan, near Liverpool, the wife of Bro. J. B. Cooper, of a son.

Answers to Correspondents.

W. W. AUSTIN.—Richmond, Indiana.—Address as follows:—The Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of England, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London.—The Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of Scotland, Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, The Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of Ireland, Freemasons Hall, Dublin.

Reports of Lo ges 959 and 1593 stand over.

LIVERPOOL THEATRES, &c.

Week ending July 5.

ROYAL ALEXANDRA THEATRE, Lime-street.—Lessee Bro. E. Saker. Gaiety Company.

ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE, Great Charlotte-street.—Lessee Bro. H. Leslie. "The Poor of Liverpool."

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, Clayton-square.—Lessee. Mr. Selton Parry. Mr. Byron's new drama, "Chained to the Oar."

THEATRE ROYAL Williamson-square.—Lessee, Bro. De Frece. Burlesque of "The Forty Thieves," "The Sylphide," and Miscellaneous Entertainments.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Lime-street.—Proprietor, Bro. S. Hague. Special Artists and Programme.

NEW STAR MUSIC HALL, Williamson-square.—Manager, Bro. Saunders. Opera and Special Attractions.

ROTUNDA THEATRE and MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. D. Grannell. Miscellaneous Entertainments.

ROYAL CIRQUE.—William Brown-st.—Equestrian and other Performances.

NEWSOMES CIRCUS, Whitechapel.—Scenes of the Circus and other Entertainments.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 1873.

FREEMASONRY IN FRANCE.

Our brethren in France have recently sustained severe losses by the decease of several of our most distinguished confreres.

The last Grand Master of French Freemasonry, the Frère Babaud-Laribièrre, Prefect of the Pyrénées Orientales, died last month at Perpignan, aged only 54 years.

Brother Babaud-Laribièrre was an advocate of repute, a clever contributor to several journals, and a politician of progressive views. He had served as a member of the National Assembly some years, but retired after the *coup d'état*, when he wrote a history of that body. After the fall of the Empire he accepted the Prefec-

ture of the Department in which he died. Our deceased brother was an ardent and zealous Freemason, and attained the high position of Grand Master of the Grand Orient in 1870, upon the resignation of General Mellinet, the successor of Marshal Magnan. Soon after his election, and with his concurrence, the Grand Orient decided, by a majority of 168 votes, to abolish the Grand Mastership, a course of procedure against which we protested at the time as one calculated to produce a severance of the jurisdictional ties which link together the various recognised powers in Freemasonry. Upon relinquishing his office of Grand Master, Babaud Laribièrre was elected President of the Council of the Order, and continued to exercise the functions of that office down to September, 1872, when his failing health, amongst other causes, induced him to retire from active Masonic work. The respect in which the illustrious deceased was held was evidenced by the immense concourse of persons who attended his obsequies at Confolens, the place of his birth, and whither his body had been conveyed for interment.

Funeral orations were pronounced at his tomb by the Mayor of Confolens, M. Lavillauroy, and his Masonic brethren, MM. Dussolier and Duclaud.

The Supreme Council of France has suffered an equally severe bereavement in the death of the Viscount de la Jonquière, who had for a lengthened period well fulfilled the duties of Grand Chancellor and Secretary-General of the Council. This distinguished brother was descended from an ancient family, and many of his ancestors and connexions were renowned in the annals of their country. Jonquière, the intrepid leader of several voyages of discovery, D'Orvillers, the well-known admiral, and Montcalm, the famous and heroic defender of Quebec against General Wolfe's victorious attack, were all related to the late viscount.

Bro. de la Jonquière was initiated in the lodge Clémentine Amitié of Paris on the 20th October, 1839, and was elected Secretary General of the Supreme Council 33° in 1860. He was also Representative of the Supreme Council of Peru, and is described in the *Monde Maçonnique* as having been the soul of Ecossisme in France. His successor, Bro. George Maurice Guilfray, is however hailed by the *Chaine d'Union* as a brother worthy to wear the mantle of the lamented defunct.

We may also notice the decease of Frère Guépin, of Nantes, a medical man of great merit, and formerly Prefect of the Loire Inférieure; the Frère Cauchois, of Paris, author of several Masonic works, and the Frère Tellier, of Saint Germain-en-Laye, all of whose deaths are recorded with regret in the pages of our French exchanges.

The summer festival of the Lion and Lamb, (192) and the William Preston, (766) lodges will be held on Thursday next, July 3rd, at the Rosherville Hotel, Gravesend, proprietors, Bros. H. J. and W. J. Roberts.

Up to two o'clock on Saturday afternoon, the amount received at the Mansion-house on account of the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund was £21,428.

CONSECRATION OF THE SANDGATE LODGE, No. 1436.

This Lodge, to be held at the Royal Kent Hotel, Sandgate, was inaugurated by consecration on Tuesday, the 24th inst.

Amongst those present we recognised the following:—Bro. George Adamson, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., 199, 1208; Rev. W. A. Hill, M.A., P.G.S.; Captain Charles Coates, R.A., W.M.; James Slack, P.M. 1070; H. C. Foster, P.M., G.A.D.C., 1208; S. G. Fairtlough, of the Greta Lodge; E. Evans, 1096, of the Lord Warden Lodge; S. Davis, W.M. 125; W. Lucker, G.W. 125; G. Tomlin, P.M., A.D.C., 125; Isherwood, W.M. 558; H. Day, R.A.; R. W. Meckling, M.M.; Bro. Stacy, R. A.; Chap. Concord, Jas. Bennett, S.W., Temple, 558; C. Fagg, F.C.; A. Clement, Sec. 1426; R. Pledges, I.G. 266; William Knight, 700; W. Davies, M.M.; R. J. Ferrell, M.M. 488; John Williams, M.M. 699; and other brethren.

The brethren having entered the lodge-room in procession, Bro. Adamson (the presiding officer) took the chair, and appointed the Wardens, pro-tem.

The lodge was opened in the three degrees, after which, the Chaplain (the Rev. W. A. Hill) offered up a solemn prayer on the importance of the duties in which they were about to be engaged to the honour of God and the welfare of their fellow creatures, followed by a response chanted by the brethren. The presiding officer then addressed the brethren on the nature and object of the meeting for which they had been called together. The Secretary then read the petition and warrant of constitution. The brethren having signified their approval of the same, the Chaplain then delivered an oration on the nature and principles of the institution. He further remarked on the close adherence to its principles. He said: We are gathered together on the very day we celebrate the festival of St. John the Baptist. We are reminded, when we think of him, that he was remarkable for his faith and duty to all men, and at last died a martyr to his faith. Again, we look on St. John the Evangelist as the Apostle of love—love, to be carried round the churches. To-day we are gathered together to dedicate a house—not a house of stone, but a spiritual one, which shall last till time shall be no more. We cannot think of this without deep interest, because we think there is something connected with us that shall live for ever. I would urge upon all brethren the cultivation of the study of science, to search out its hidden mysteries which are veiled in allegory. I wish to say that religion has great tendencies to enlarge the mind, and opens the heart to feelings of love. Masonry is the handmaiden of Christianity. We have been taught to look upon the Bible as the rule of our faith and practice; never to take God's name in vain, and we must take the Divine word as our basis. May the Great Architect of the Universe assist us to carry out the glorious precepts contained therein, then we shall pass through the scenes and conflicts of this world to a higher and happier sphere, and live with the blessed Morning Star that shall shine for ever. Masonry is the handmaiden of religion. As regards our intelligence, all Masons are directed to make progress in everything that is good; they are to exercise their intellectual faculties amongst those with whom they live. The study of astronomy is sublime. Gaze on those heavenly stars, learn their courses, and let us, from nature, go up to nature's God! If we study and follow up the arts and sciences our intellectual faculties will become fully developed. Let us take, and reflect on the words of the apostle of love, "Little children, love one another," and we shall be able to sympathise with a poor and distressed brother; to soothe the widow and orphan, and all those with whom we are connected. Masonry improves the intellectual faculties. May the Great Architect of the Universe bless you with peace and harmony, and at last take you in the Grand Lodge above.

After a short prayer by the Chaplain, the lodge was uncovered, and the elements of consecration, corn, wine, and oil, were carried round by P.M.'s Slack, Sherwood, and

Tomlin, solemn music being performed during the procession. The consecrating officer performed the whole of the highly-imposing ceremony in the most efficient manner, after which the following anthem was sung:—

O Praise the Lord, and thou my soul,
For ever bless His name,
His wondrous love, while life shall last,
My constant praise shall claim.

After the anthem, the distinguished brother to whom the important duty of consecration had been entrusted then rose, and delivered a most impressive address, solemnly dedicating the Lodge to God, Masonry, and to benevolence and universal charity, and constituted it in form, concluding his remarks by asking the brethren to imitate the virtues of John the Baptist, and St. John the Evangelist, also wishing them every success. The National Anthem was then sung. This brought the consecration to a close, after which the installation of Bro. Charles Coutes, the W.M. designate, was proceeded with. After being duly installed as W.M. of 1426, he was saluted in due form. The W.M. appointed the officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. J. Day, S.W.; Gosby, J.W.; R. B. Genner, Treas.; C. H. Clements, Sec.; S. Davies, S.D.; Woodman, J.D.; Farren, I.G.; Davey, Tyler. Bro. Adamson then explained to each of the officers their respective duties. Bro. Tomalin said he had great pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to Bro. Adamson for his assistance in consecrating the lodge, and he was sure that the brethren fully endorsed his sentiments by having them recorded on the minutes.

The W.M. seconded the motion which was put and carried unanimously.

Bro. Adamson returned thanks, and said he was glad to assist at the consecration of the lodge, and he wished them the highest prosperity.

Thanks were then given to Bro. Hill for the able manner in which he performed the ceremony, which was put, and agreed to unanimously.

Bro. Hill thanked them for the compliment which they had been pleased to pay him. He was glad to have the opportunity of giving his service, and wished them every success. (Cheers).

Thanks were then given to the brethren for their attendance, the lodge was closed in due form, and with a solemn prayer.

The brethren adjourned to the Assembly Rooms, where a most profuse banquet was served, and which gave satisfaction.

On the withdrawal of the cloth, the W.M. proposed the following toasts—"The health of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and the Craft," "Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, the Marquess of Ripon." "The Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G." "The Provincial Grand Master, Prov. Grand Officers, Past and Present, Presiding Officers, Rev. W. A. Hill, M. A. P.G.S." The toast was cordially responded to.

Bro. Hill in responding said, Masonry is flourishing abundantly, I think it is convenient that there should be Prov. Grand Lodges, should our brethren here need any help, I will come to your assistance.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of Bro. Adamson.

Bro. Adamson. I rise with the greatest of pleasure to return you my thanks for the honour you have conferred upon me. Everything that I can do for the benefit of a brother Mason, I am always willing to come forward to help. I am pleased to say that Masonry is flourishing in Kent, in 1868 there were 16 lodges, now there are about 34. I am glad to see a new lodge formed here, it is convenient for you, I know you prefer getting near your own place. I congratulate the W.M. to-day, on the great number of persons he has been surrounded with; on all future occasions I shall be happy to serve you, I wish you prosperity to the lodge and originators. (Cheers)

Bro. Day proposed "The Health of the W.M." The W.M. responded in a very able manner. "The Health of the Visitors" was then drunk. Bro. Sherwood returned thanks for the visitors,

the W.M. next proposed "The Health of Bro. Goodban, Organist." This toast being drunk. Bro. Goodban returned thanks to the brethren for the compliment which they had been pleased to pay him; he said, I thank you heartily, and my assistance is always at your service.

Bro. Day next proposed "Bro. Past Master Slack." Bro. Slack responded in a very able manner. Bro. Clements gave "To all poor and distressed Masons." Bro. Clements gave great pleasure by one of his gallant songs, "The grasp of an honest hand."

The whole of the fittings of the lodge, as well as the clothing of the officers, were provided by Bro. George Kenning, and were greatly admired.

Not a single hitch was made during the ceremony, and so good a start speaks well for the success of the lodge.

THE ROYAL CHARTER.

BY BRO. JACOB NORTON.

Preston informs us that the "most remarkable occurrence during the administration of the Duke of Beaufort was the plan of an incorporation of the Society by Royal Charter." The plan was approved, not only by a majority in the Grand Lodge, but, "from the return of the different lodges, it appeared that one hundred and sixty-eight had voted for the incorporation, and only forty-three against it." "In 1771, a bill was brought into Parliament by the Hon. Charles Dillon, D. G. M., for incorporating the Society by Act of Parliament; but, on the second reading of the bill, it having been opposed by Mr. Onslow at the desire of several brethren who had petitioned the house against it, Mr. Dillon moved to postpone the consideration of it *sine die*, and the design of incorporation fell to the ground."

The same author also says that Arthur Beadmore, the then Grand Treasurer, who was opposed to the scheme of incorporation, went even so far as to refuse handing over £1,300 entrusted to his keeping, and that a lawsuit for the recovery of the money was contemplated.

Bro. Findel, in his history of Freemasonry, gives an insight into the rancorous feeling of the opponents to the incorporation scheme. A Bro. Muller, Master of the Caledonian Lodge, wrote to a friend at Frankfort, "We are woefully plagued with Jesuits. Dillon, who abjured his religion a short time ago that he might get elected into Parliament, and his father confessor, de Vignoles, have unlimited power in the Grand Lodge, which they maintain by innumerable intrigues, and an excessive abuse of influence which Dillon's position of Deputy Grand Master affords him. He wears the patience of many upright Masons who oppose him, disgusts others, employs force to expel those who will not suffer themselves either to be wearied out or disgusted when the welfare of Masonry is at stake, and blinds the rest."

The old documents, &c., submitted to my inspection by the P.G.M. Lewis, in 1869, gave me a still further insight into the mischief then brewing. Among those documents I found a letter from G. S. French, and several letters from G. S. Hesseltine, together with the printed documents issued by the Grand Lodge of England in 1769, &c. From all these sources I learn that excitement in both ranks run high, and that a split in the Grand Lodge would have ensued if the parties then in power had insisted in carrying their contemplated measure of incorporation. So far the history of the period is clear enough; but still I cannot understand all. For instance, if a clique in an American Grand Lodge proposed the building of an extensive temple, and I found some mystery about why, or wherefore the measure was strenuously opposed by a majority, or even by a minority of the brotherhood, I would naturally conclude that the said clique's motives were suspected, the brethren who opposed the scheme probably believed, and with good reason too, that the schemers designed to make a job *o it* of the operation. Such, however, could not have been imputed to the English authorities, and I firmly believe that the Duke of Beaufort, as well as D. G. M. Dillon, were

actuated by purely disinterested and honourable motives, and that their sole desire was to elevate the standard of the society. They, in common with all other Masons of that period, no doubt sincerely believed that Adam, Noah, Nimrod, Moses, Solomon, Julius Cæsar, Herod the Great, Edward the Third, &c., &c., were each or all either Grand Masters or Grand Patrons of the ancient brotherhood, and consequently they were fired with a laudable ambition of restoring (as they imagined), "the fraternity to its grandeur," and there may have been another cogent reason for their contemplated project. We all know that the so-called "Ancients," as well as the so-called "Grand Lodge of all England," not only pretended to superiority, but each even denounced the Grand Lodge of England as a spurious body. A Royal Charter at that time would certainly have served to put a stop to their audacity; with such a charter, the Grand Lodge of England would have become a Grand Lodge, *de jure*, in every acceptance of the term. It seems therefore to me that all its sincere adherents ought, and should have rallied around its grand officers in support of the measure. Supposing, however, that some wiseacres foresaw that such a charter would not be necessary; yet, I ask, what harm could have been feared from its adoption to have caused such a furious uproar? One reason only suggested itself to my mind, viz., perhaps there was something very objectionable in the conditions of the charter, but where to look for a copy of the said charter, I did not know.

Last week, however, amongst a lot of old books that were about to be disposed of at auction, I noticed a small old volume called, "The History of Masonry, or the Freemasons' Pocket Companion. Printed by William Auld, Edinburgh, 1772, third edition." In the appendix to the said edition I found the following:—"Since printing the foregoing work, we have been favored with a copy of the Charter of Incorporation granted by his present Majesty to the Grand Lodge of England," which is followed by a copy of the Charter.

The words, "granted by his Majesty," are undoubtedly erroneous, but as the Grand Lodge of England, (according to Preston) had printed the contemplated charter, we may reasonably suppose, that the copy in the aboved-named work is genuine. This, however, only served to increase my puzzle. The document itself, is a verbose piece of flummery, such as lawyers, and lawyers alone, love to revel in, but I could see nothing in it that could give rise to such unheard of, determined opposition. I therefore, threw out the above hints, not only to call attention to the whereabouts a copy of the document, which produced such a ferment in the Craft a century ago, may be found by Masonic Students; but also to ask for information as to the real cause, or causes of that ferment.

Yours fraternally,

JACOB NORTON.

Boston, U.S., April 21st, 1873.

THE NEW MASONIC TEMPLE AT PHILADELPHIA.

In August last The Press gave to the public a full account of the exterior of the new Masonic Temple at Broad and Filbert streets, which was then approaching completion, and in the present article it is proposed to give a general description of the interior as it appears at present.

The various rooms are now all in complete order, except that the furniture and carpets are not yet completed or in place. The plastering and painting are finished, the gas, water, and steam fittings are all in, and the ventilators are in working order. Around the outside a wide slate pavement is being laid, and a handsome iron-plate fence will surround the whole structure. Three ornamental lamps will be placed on Broad street three on Filbert street, and three on Juniper street. There will be three entrances to the temple, one each on Broad, Filbert, and Juniper streets, surrounding the building.

The edifice is the only one in the world devoted exclusively to Masonic uses, and it is the most magnificent as well as the largest and

costliest hall in Christendom. It is the property of Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, which is the wealthiest Masonic body in the world, and one of the most influential, its jurisdiction extending over the entire Commonwealth, and over three hundred and fifty lodges, with an aggregate membership of nearly forty thousand.

Thus far there has been expended upon the new building about 1,000,000 dols. and probably 300,000 dols. more will be required to pay for the work now in contractors' hands, such as for chandeliers, furniture, upholstery, etc. This will cover the entire outlay for the new Temple, which is considered very reasonable for so grand an edifice. Indeed, it is known that had the work been delayed even for a few months, the expense would have been at least twenty per centum in excess of the sum expended. Many of the contractors will reap very small profits, and some of them will lose upon their contracts, but they have all been fulfilled in the most perfect and satisfactory manner.

The old hall which is now for sale, will probably be disposed of during the coming summer, and will yield a sum of sufficient proportions to form an ample sinking fund for the payment of the new Temple loans as they mature, so that the permanent capital of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will remain always intact, which fact alone insures a credit of very extended proportions, should it ever be asked for. Most of the furniture of the old hall has been re-upholstered, and will be used in the new Temple, as well as the statuary and paintings, which latter will adorn the library room.

Arrangements will be perfected for the formal dedication of the building to Masonry in September. It was at first designed to have the dedication take place on St. John the Baptist's day, 24th June, but it was found that the interior work of the structure would have to be hurried to carry out this intention, and so it was abandoned.

The estimated revenue to be derived from the rentals, &c., of the new Temple is about 50,000 dols. per annum, which will be paid by forty-seven lodges, ten chapters, three Mark Lodges, the Grand Chapter, five commanderies two councils and one consistory. It is proposed to have the general management of the new building conducted by a committee of members of the Grand Lodge, with a superintendent and assistants, under a new code of regulations. In addition to these officers in charge there will be an engineer, firemen, night and day watchmen, and several assistants about the structure. Certain days will be set apart for visitations by the public, and it is not unlikely that the new hall will be thrown open to inspection generally some time after the dedication in September next.

The basement has been splendidly finished in white plaster, and besides containing a number of eligible apartments for offices, contains the engine, pump, gas, fire kitchen, and heater rooms. These are fitted up with every known modern appliance and convenience. There are two immense ranges fitted together for cooking in the kitchen. The spring water from the sub-cellar is utilised by being pumped into tanks situated in different parts of the building.

Altogether this basement floor is one of the most interesting portions of the edifice to the initiated visitor. The gas fixtures are now being made from appropriate designs and models by Baker, Arnold & Co., noted in their trade. The furnishing and upholstering is nearly completed, and reflects great credit upon the contractors, Messrs. Smith & Campton, South Third-street, above Spruce.

On the first or main floor are placed rooms for the Grand Lodge Officers, for the library, one lodge-room, and other rooms. The library will be handsomely fitted up and will contain a fine collection of books. All the magazines and periodicals of the day will be kept on file, as well as many of the most prominent newspapers of the country. It will no doubt prove a place of pleasant resort for the members of the Order. The idea of establishing a library for the use of Freemasons, under the direction of the Grand Lodge, was originated in the last century, but the first real success in the movement has just now been made by the Grand Lodge Committee on

Library, of which Mr. Charles Eugene Meyer is Chairman.

On the upper floors are the Corinthian or Grand Lodge-room, four lodge-rooms, the banqueting, conversation, and committee-rooms, the Grand and Subordinate Chapter and Commandery-rooms. These latter have been fitted up with the furniture taken from the old Grand Lodge-room, replaced by temporary furniture for use until the new temple is ready for occupation. The Corinthian-room is furnished most gorgeously in the Corinthian style, highly ornate with a seating capacity of nearly four hundred. This room will be occupied by the Grand Lodge and by about twelve of the subordinate lodges.

The next room in size is the Oriental, which seats over two hundred persons, and is furnished in a profusely ornate style, embracing a score of bright tints. Next in order come the Ionic, Norman, Egyptian, and Gothic, all appropriately fitted up from designs furnished by the architect. The banqueting-room is provided with seats and tables to accommodate three hundred and fifty persons. The chairs are constructed so as to fold up, and are seated with perforated cherry wood. The furniture and upholstery of the chapter and Commander's rooms are gorgeous and elaborate, but are not sufficiently complete yet to warrant a detailed description.

Thus far the only persons who have been privileged to view the interior of the structure were the members of City Council and a few strangers, the idea and intention being that before the official inspection should be made the rooms should be sufficiently prepared to indicate their future magnificence and accommodation.

RINGS AND SIGNET RINGS IN MASONRY.

The ring, as a symbol of the covenant entered into with the Order, as the wedding ring is the symbol of the covenant of marriage, is worn in some of the high degrees of Masonry. It is not used in Ancient Craft Masonry. In the Order of the Temple the "ring of profession," as it is called, is of gold, having on it the cross of the Order and the letters P. D. E. P., being the initials of "*Pro Deo et Patria*." It is worn on the index finger of the right hand. The Inspectors General of the thirty-third degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite wear a ring on the little finger of the right hand. Inside is the motto of the Order, "*DEUS MEUM QUE JUS*." In the fourteenth degree of the same Rite a ring is worn, which is described as "a plain gold ring," having inside the motto, "*Virtus junct mors non separabit*." It is worn in the Northern Jurisdiction on the fourth or ring finger of the left hand. In the Southern Jurisdiction it is worn on the same finger of the right hand.

The use of the ring as a symbol of a covenant may be traced very far back into antiquity. The Romans had a marriage ring, but, according to Swinbourne, the great canonist, it was of iron, with a jewel of adamant, "to signify the duration and perpetuity of the contract."

In reference to the rings worn in the high degrees of Masonry, it may be said that they partake of the double symbolism of power and affection. The ring, as a symbol of power and dignity, was worn in ancient times by kings and men of elevated rank and office. Thus Pharaoh bestowed a ring upon Joseph as a mark or token of the power he had bestowed upon him, for which reason the people bowed the knee to him. It is in this light that the ring is worn by the Inspectors of Scottish Masonry, as representing the sovereigns of the Rite. But those who receive only the fourteenth degree, in the same Rite, wear the ring as a symbol of the covenant of affection and fidelity into which they have entered.

While on the subject of the ring as a symbol of Masonic meaning, it will not be irrelevant to refer to the magic ring of King Solomon, of which both the Jews and the Mohammedans have abundant traditions. The latter, indeed, have a book on magic rings, entitled *Sealcutchal*, in which they trace the ring of Solomon from Jared, the father of Enoch. It was by means

of this ring, as a talisman of wisdom and power that Solomon was, they say, enabled to perform those wonderful acts and accomplish those vast enterprises that have made his name so celebrated as the wisest monarch of the earth.

The most prominent use of the ring among the ancients was as a signet or sign of power and authority. Signets are continually alluded to in Scripture, and the name by which they were known was expressive of their form and use; for rings were called *tabbaoth*, which also signified in its root "to impress a seal." That they were in use at a very early period is evident from the relation, in the 28th chapter of Genesis, where Tamar demands from Judah, as a pledge, his signet, his bracelets, and his staff.

These signet rings were worn always on the right hand, and generally on the index finger, which is illustrated by the passage in Jeremiaiah, (xxii: 24,) where we read: "As I live, saith the Lord, though Coniah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah were the "signet upon my right hand," yet would I pluck thee thence."

Signets always bore a device, which was usually a religious symbol. Among the Egyptians, the sphynx, as the symbol of secrecy, and the scarabæus, or sacred beetle, as the symbol of eternal life, were the most generally adopted. The signets of the Babylonians were beautifully sculptured with images of Baal-berith and other Chaldean gods.

It is not therefore surprising that we should find a reference to the signet in Masonry. Thus in the ritual of the Royal Arch, according to the American system, we find as one of the symbols the signet of Zerubbabel. This is taken from that passage in the prophet Haggi, where God is said to have promised that he would make Zerubbabel his signet. Jeremy Cross, whose knowledge of the principles of true symbolism, would not at this day be deemed respectable, gives in his "*Hieroglyphic Chart*" the form of the signet of Zerubbabel as a triangular plate, which is about as correct as if he had represented a Jewish shekel by a walking stick. As the ancient signet was, without any doubt, a finger ring, in the ceremony of the Royal Arch it should be so represented. What was its peculiar device we may presume from the usual nature of such devices, and we perhaps would not be wrong in making it a sacred symbol, such for instance, as the "Yod" within a triangle, the hieroglyphic form of the Tetragrammaton. This at least would be consistent with the teachings of the degree.

The signet of Zerubbabel, thus used in the ritual of the Royal Arch degree, is also there called the "Signet of Truth," to indicate that the neophyte who brings it to the Grand Council is in search of Divine Truth, and to give to him the promise that he will by its power speedily obtain his reward, in the possession of that for which he is seeking. The Signet of Truth is presented to the aspirant to assure him that he is advancing in his progress to the attainment of truth, and that he is thus invested with the power to pursue the search.—(*Mackay's National Freemason.*)

Original Correspondence.

TESTIMONIAL TO DR. ROGERS.

To the Editor of *The Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Your correspondent "F. Y." is quite right—I am fully aware that "the testimonial" "has nothing to do with Masonry."—But why refer to Masonry and Masonic feelings in a Masonic periodical, in an appeal for subscriptions for a non-Masonic purpose? I mean non-Masonic as regards Freemasonry. The proposed testimonial happens to be a house and therefore it rather concerns operative Masons, and should be advertised in *The Builder*.

If in the "plan," a garden be laid out and a maze projected, I may suggest applications to the "Royal Geographical Society" "the Horticultural," &c. Perhaps even the "Royal Geographical Society" might take up the Grampian claim. We Freemasons certainly encourage "Speculative Masonry," but then it is not in actual brick and mortar. We rear "Moral

edifices," and do not "go in" for "the Craft" business. Surely some hundreds of Scottish gentlemen, if unanimous, could raise the funds in question—or is this one of those "active minorities about which we hear so much?"

I thank F.Y. very sincerely for his compliment to my modest advocacy of real charity. It so happens however, that I did not write the paragraph to which he refers, although I might have done so, had his ingenious idea occurred to me, before another had saved me the exertion.

Yours fraternally,

B. B.

Multum in Parvo, or Masonic Notes and Queries.

SERVING BROTHERS.

Masons whose duty it is to serve the lodge as Tylers, waiters at the lodge table, and to perform other menial services, are called in European Lodges "serving brethren." They are not known in this country, but were long recognised as a distinct class in England and on the continent. In 1753 the Grand Lodge of England adopted a regulation for their initiation, which, slightly modified, is still in force. By it every lodge is empowered to initiate without charge "serving brethren," who cannot, however, become members of the lodge, although they may join another. In military lodges private soldiers may be received as serving brethren. On the continent, at one time, a separate and preliminary form of reception, with peculiar signs, &c., was appropriated to those who were initiated as serving brethren, and they were not permitted to advance beyond the first degree, which, however, worked no inconvenience, as all the business and refreshment of the lodges were done at that time in the Entered Apprentice's degree. The regulation for admitting serving brethren arose from the custom of lodges meeting at taverns; and as at that period labour and refreshment were intermixed, the waiters of the tavern were sometimes required to enter the room while the lodge was in session, and hence it became necessary to qualify them for such service by making them Masons. In France they are called "Frères Servants;" in Germany "Dienenden Brüder."

The Knights Templar had a class called serving brothers, who were not, however, introduced into the Order until it had greatly increased in wealth and numbers. The form of their reception varied very slightly from that of the Knights, but their habit was different, being black. They were designated for the performance of various services inside or outside of the Order. Many rich and well-born men belonged to this class. They were permitted to take part in the election of a Grand Master. The Treasurer of the Order was always a serving brother. Of these serving brothers there were two kinds: servants at arms and artificers. The former were the most highly esteemed, the latter being considered a very inferior class, except the armourers, who were held, on account of the importance of their occupation, in higher estimation.—*Mackay's National Freemason.*

MASONRY IN PERSIA.—Of the British officers who are at present in Berlin pursuing military studies and making themselves acquainted with Prussian military organization and arrangements, one belongs to the Masonic order. He is a Mussulman. He seems to have spontaneously sought recognition as a member of the Craft at a Berlin lodge, and his claim was allowed only after such an examination as satisfied the brethren that he was one of the brethren. From the statement of this Persian Mason it appears that nearly all the members of the Persian Court belong to the mystic order, even as German Masonry enjoys the honour of counting the Emperor and Crown Prince among its adherents. The appearance of this Mohammedan Mason in Berlin seems to have excited a little surprise among some of the brethren there, and the surprise would be natural enough to persons not aware of the extent to which Masonry has been diffused over the earth. Account for it is as one may, the truth is certain that the mysterious order was established in the Orient many ages ago. Nearly all of the old Mohammedan build-

ings in India, such as tombs, mosques, etc., are marked with the Masonic symbols, and many of these structures, still perfect, were built in the time of the Mogul Emperor Akbar, who died in 1605. Thus Masonry must have been introduced into India from Middle Asia by the Mohammedans, hundreds of years ago.

Reviews.

Prosper the Art. (New Edition). Masonic Song and Chorus. Words by Bro. James Stonehouse. Music by George Hargreaves. The words, as well as the music are original, comprehensive and effective, and are of that character that all Masons will be delighted with. All brethren who admire beautiful and lovely poetry, should hail with delight this brilliant production of Bro. Stonehouse.

We have received "Report of Special Convent General of the United Pilgrims and Military Orders of the Temple, held at Willis's Rooms King-street, St. James's, London, Monday 7th April, 1873, for the purpose of installing His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of the United Orders."

To hand, a calendar of the Great Priory of the United Orders of the Temple and Malta in England and Wales for 1873 and 1874. It gives the muster roll of Officers for the year commencing 9th May 1873. Page 6 shows the roll of Preceptories of the United, Religious, and Military Orders of the Temple, and of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes, and Malta. It shows at a glance the Title of Preceptory, Province, number, where stationed, when holden, date of warrant, Preceptor per last return. Again we have a list of Preceptories, &c. Great labour has been bestowed in its preparation, to make it complete as well as accurate. A copy ought to be kept in every Encampment and Priory, ready for reference when occasion requires.

A notice appears in the *Gazette* that, by Her Majesty's direction, the brothers and sisters of the present Earl of Zetland shall henceforth enjoy the same title and precedence as if their late father, the Hon. John Charles Dundas, had survived his elder brother, the second earl, and had succeeded to the title and dignity of Earl of Zetland.

COAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, the 10th inst., a conference was held in the Board-room of the "Agricultural and Horticultural Association," 47, Millbank-street, Westminster, when Dr. D. H. Rutherford, Chairman of the Ouseburne Co-operative Engine Works, and Mr. Burt, Secretary to the Northumberland Miners' Association, attended, and explained the cause of the extraordinary rise in the price of coal, and to suggest efficient means of protecting the public against its recurrence. Mr. Beale ably presided. After a few remarks, the chairman called on Mr. Burt to address the meeting. On rising, the gentleman said, that he should explain the cause of the rise in the price of coal. The evidence that has been given before the Committee of Enquiry has been attributed by all the gentlemen to the fact that the chief cause in the extraordinary rise in the price of coal is owing to the price of iron, and the quantity of coal which is required to be used in the manufacture of iron. At Cleveland there has been a strike, and the men were out of employment for some time, about one half whom were in the North of Durham began to manufacture iron.

Mr. Burt denied the mis-representations that had been given against the miners, such as laziness, &c., could not deny that the miners have asked for high wages, every care has preceded the price of coal to the miners. Before the rise in the prices the miners were satisfied with their pay, but when they saw that the markets were rising 5s. per ton, they considered that they should have a share in the price of coal, which resulted in an advance of wages to the miner. The rise per ton has been 9d. to 1s. Therefore it is absurd to charge the men as the cause of the high prices of coal.

Mr. Rutherford said the remedy would be for the people of London to join with the miners, and assist them to carry out their efforts. They have decided to form a "Co-Operative Mining Society," which shall have for its object, not only the interest of the miner, but that of the general community; it will also remove the great chasm that has existed between the employer and the employed.

Ten per cent. will, therefore, in the first instance be set aside for capital.

To give stability to the Society, a portion of the profits will be devoted to the formation of a reserve fund.

The remainder of the profits will be divided equally between labour, capital, and trade.

Everybody is a consumer of coals, and in dividing with all purchasers a portion of the profits, this Society adopts a principle which recognises a harmony of interest, and which, it is hoped, may promote a greater kindness of feeling.

Conflicts between capital and labour are costly, destructive, and wasteful. In this Society such conflicts will be impossible.

It is intended that every worker shall be a member: This, it is believed, will quicken intelligence, develop caution, stimulate activity and skill.

It was proposed and carried unanimously. That the sympathy of the conference be tendered to the working colliers of Northumberland and Durham in their efforts to establish an Industrial Co-operative Mining Society, and to the Coal Society of Westminster in its proposal to distribute the coals to the householders of London, on the most economical co-operative basis.

Capital to be raised in transferable shares of £5 each.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

A simple reproduction of the programme of the entertainments provided on Monday by the Crystal Palace Company in aid of the sufferers by the recent conflagration at the Alexandra Palace would, of itself, more than exhaust the space usually allotted to such subjects, so numerous and so varied have they been. The Alexandra Palace day at the Crystal Palace was a fête day in every sense of the word, for it was not only a display of its infinite variety, but afforded an example of human nature in its best aspects. When the Alexandra Palace was completed, the almost universal question which each one put to himself, or to his neighbour, was—what effect will it have on the Crystal Palace? And that question was as generally answered in a sense that regarded them as antagonistic. During the short-lived existence of the Alexandra in its completed glory, we believe it was a success, and gave promise of a healthy life, whilst its injurious effect on the Crystal Palace was found to be *nil*. The same phenomenon has been observed at the Crystal Palace with regard to the International Exhibition. The fact is, that the population of London is so vast that the demand for amusements is greatly ahead of the supply, and in one respect the Crystal Palace is unapproachable—viz., in its collections of art treasures. That the Palaces in the North and South were not antagonists in the bad sense of the word is likewise shown by the prompt spontaneousness with which the Crystal Palace Company came forward and offered its resources in aid of those who were thrown into distress by the calamity of its unfortunate rival, mindful, perhaps, of the similar, though less calamitous disaster which befel itself. Not only did the Crystal Palace exhibit its prompt and disinterested sympathy with the Alexandra Park sufferers on this occasion, but other establishments lent their assistance, and the services of all the artistes engaged were wholly gratuitous. The first thing to arrest the eye, and to inform the visitor of the object of the fête, was the exposition of relics saved from the fire, which were advertised to be on sale for the benefit of the sufferers. The circle of entertainments commenced at half-past eleven with an organ performance by Dr. Stainer, followed, at twelve, by an extract from the Oriental extravaganza of "Conrad and Medora," in which Miss Caroline Parkes, Mr. Atkins, Mr. W. Rowella, Mr. Yar-

nold, M. C. A. White, Mr. Sweetman, Miss E. Pitt, Miss E. Kemp, Miss Marlborough, and Miss Shelley, and others took part—the principal dancers being Mdlles Corrie and Collier. In the large stage, at one o'clock, was performed the second act of "The Wonderful Duck," in which Mr. George Honey, Mr. Perrini, Mr. Odell, Mdlle Rose Be'l, Miss Laverne, Miss H. Covey, Miss K. Ryan, and others, were assigned various rôles. The Globe company were to have performed the cottage scene in the third act of "The Lady of Lyons," but a message was received from them in the course of the day stating that at the last moment they were unable to come from London; but Mr. H. Jackson was ready with his entertainment, which supplied an amusing substitute. At three o'clock a flight of homing Antwerp pigeons was let off from the Upper Terrace for Alexandra Park, and at the same hour Mr. Mackney repeated some of his most comic songs; Mr. Milano gave selections from the Alexandra Park spectacular ballet, entitled "Azurine," followed by a comic ballet, on the large stage, by Mr. F. Evans and his troupe. The Strand company played in a selection from "Old Soldiers," by H. J. Byron, in which Messrs. Vernon, Terry, Wallace, Terriss, Stephenson, Carter, and Miss Ada Swanborough, Miss Gifford, and Mrs. Raymond appeared. There followed in succession a grand concert by the Alexandra band and a choir of 400 voices, conducted by Mr. H. Weist Hill, in which Madame Lemmens-Sherrington sang the solos. Later in the evening there was a piano recital by Master H. Walker; athletic exploits by Senor Romah; and, at seven o'clock, there was a grand vocal concert, in which Mr. G. Fox, Mr. Nordblom, Miss Hancock, Mdme. Ida and H. Corri, Mr. Celli, and Mr. George Perren, sang solos and duets, Mr. Manns conducting. The numbers in the Palace were not so great as might have been expected from the variety of the entertainments. We understand that vast preparations are being made in honour of the Shah.

LETTERS TO SHIPS OF WAR.—Much dissatisfaction having been expressed at the system hitherto pursued by the Post Office of forwarding private letters to the officers and crews of ships of war on foreign stations to the place where the ships were most likely to be found, the directions placed upon them by the writers being disregarded, it has been determined that in future all letters shall be forwarded strictly as addressed.

PENSION TO DR. LIVINGSTONE.—A meeting of the Royal Geographical Society was held on Monday, at Burlington House, when Sir Bartle Frere, the recently elected president, occupied the chair for the first time. In commencing the proceedings, Sir Bartle referred in eulogistic terms to the services of Dr. Livingstone, and intimated that, on the recommendation of Mr. Gladstone, the Queen had granted a pension of £300 per annum on the Civil list to the distinguished traveller, in recognition of the value of his researches in Central Africa. This announcement was received with general applause.

ITALIAN HONOURS TO NATIVE ENGLISHMEN.—The Workmanship Association, established for the recognition of good deeds in the cause of liberty, country, and the empire of the mind, in the Holy Name of God and the People of Italy, have promoted to the highest degree of honorary fellowship, this 8th day of June, 1873, Drs. William Hitchman, of Liverpool, and George Sexton, of London, graduates in philosophy and medicine, worthy labourers for the entire regeneration of mankind.

JOSEPH GARIBALDI, Senior Honorary Fellow.
JOSEPH CATALDI, Consul.
PAUL BONIFACE, Secretary.
Arpino, 8th June, 1873.

The Wigan Infirmary bazaar, which was opened by our illustrious brother the Prince of Wales, realised £6,000.

On Sunday week, the Dean of Chester preached the final sermon in the Choir of Chester Cathedral, prior to its being closed for restoration.

A WELCOME TO THE SHAH.

There comes a Royal Traveller
From a far and distant shore,
And we welcome him with cheering hosts,
And 'mid the cannons' roar;
But thro' the thunder of our guns,
And the cheers which never cease,
He moves on, calmly, kindly,
With friendly smiles of Peace!

The ruler of that Orient Realm
Of long and buried years,
Which still in historic freshness
On that mighty roll appears,
From which the great and gorgeous empires
Of a grand barbaric past
Have faded, with the feeble,
Like some still fading fast.

And we welcome him most joyfully
From that country strange and old,
Of which, in ancient annals,
Such wondrous tales are told;
Where, in its silent unity,
And in its calm array,
That nation, with its ancient laws,
Moves on its peaceful way.

We mind us, from that country,
Hafiz came, who still can charm;
That there Ferdousi flourished;
Those words of soothing balm
For wounded hearts,—and gentle hopes,
Seem still happily to inspire
The words of later poets,
But of no more poetic lyre.

And we joyfully remember, too,
How that, in years gone by,
From us, full friendly statesmen,
Soldiers with courage high,
Were sent in skill and power,
Tho' now of olden date,
To give the strength of discipline
*To that grave Persian State.

And we who often think at home
Of that far Indian clime,
Which in its magic marvel
And in its tales sublime,
Throws still a halo of romance
On every act and scene,
As well on each which greets us still,
As on all that once has been:

We feel in welcoming the Shah,
We forge but another link
Of that chain of true Cohesion,
Which, whatever others think,
Still binds old England to her lands
Thousands of miles away,
In all of zealous loyalty
And true and loving sway!

And thus our happy welcome
With which we gladly greet
The mighty Ruler from that land
Where past and present meet,
Will prove the bright foreshadowing
As years on years increase,
Between our Sovereign and her Visitor,
Of firm friendship, lasting Peace.

A. F. A. W.

June 23, 1872.

* Amid many distinguished officers Major-General Sir H. Rawlinson was sent, many years ago, a young officer, to aid in disciplining the Persian troops, and by his application and energy, not only mastered perfectly the present Persian language, but the old Persian or Zeud, and, by the discovery of the trilingual inscriptions, deciphered the long unknown cuneiform characters.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS:—Common Sense, ever the best of all learning, becomes invaluable, when its practice will renovate broken health and re-instate soundness, strength, and vigour. Summer is the season for removing coughs, shortness of breath, wheezing, asthma, and all pulmonary diseases, inflicted on the delicate and careless, by our rigorous winters, and Holloway's remedies are the means of effecting a happy transition from danger to safety. After the harassed chest has been fomented with sea water, or weak brine, and dried, this Ointment should be well rubbed into the skin, both in front and behind, between the blade bones.—Holloway's Pills should be taken to correct any functional irregularity, they will make each organ conform to health's requirements.—ADVT.

THE MASONIC TEMPLE.

BY BRO. WILLIAM CARPENTER, P.M. and
P.Z. 117.

May the Temple we build, by our united
labours,
Be in all parts cemented by brotherly love;
The foundation was laid by true Masons afore-
times,
While we build let us look for our help from
above.

May the Wisdom to guide us at all times be
given,
The Strength that is needed but never denied,
And the Beauty to crown all the work we're
engaged in,
From the source of all beauty was ever sup-
plied.

Thus, in wisdom conceived, and cemented by
Him
Who adorns, while He smiles on, the work
He approves;
Our Order shall stand, discharging all duties,
Involved in the mandate of brotherly love.

CONSECRATION OF A ROYAL ARK MARINERS LODGE.

Thursday, June 12th was a red-letter day, among the brethren of the Mark degree in Somersetshire. The occasion being the holding of a Provincial Grand Mark Lodge at the Three Choughs Hotel, Yeovil, and the consecration of a new Mark Lodge and Royal Ark Mariners' Lodge, in that town.

Under ordinary circumstances the meeting would have been one of an important character, but in this instance special interest attached to it, owing to the fact of this being the first occasion of any Royal Ark Mariners' Lodge, under the authority of the Grand Mark Lodge of England, being consecrated in the province of Somerset.

The proceedings commenced at 11 o'clock a.m., at the Three Choughs Hotel, by an Emergent Ark Lodge being opened by the Worshipful Brother Benjamin Cox, Past W.C.N. supported on his right by the V.W.D.P.G.M.M. Bro. Capt. Irwin, and on his left by Bro. Commander John Townshend, R.N., W. Henry Davies as J.; and F. Vizard, as S.; A. W. Scott, D.C.; Sidney Jones, S.D.; and F. G. Frickley, Guardian.

The business of the Royal Ark Lodge embraced the elevation of the following Mark Master, Masons Bros. Rev. M. Shackleton, Vicar of Wincanton, and M.M.M. of 128; W. S. Gillard, K.T., P.I.G. Mark W., and M.M. of 128; A. W. Batter, K.T., R.C., P.G.M.S.D. and W.M. elect 128; B. Atwell, P.M., P.G.M.S.B., and J.W. of 128; J. Fry, P.G.M. Steward, and M.M.M. 128; J. B. Colthurst, P.M., and M.M.M. 128; R. S. Chant, 128; R. G. Love, 128; T. Sherring, 128; J. Himbury, 128; E. E. Earle, M.M.M. 102; W. L. Gaskill, M.M.M. 102; and W. Munro, M.M.M. 119. The ceremony of elevation was worked in all its details by the W.C., Bro. Cox, and which elicited the warmest approval from the brethren. The W. Commander then handed the gavel to the V.W.D.P.G.M.M., Bro. Irwin, who installed as Worshipful Commanders, Bros. F. Vizard, K.T., R.T., Prov. P.S.G.M.W.; W. S. Gillard, K.T. P. Prov. G.S.M.O.; A. W. Butter, K.T., R.C., Prov. G.M. Sec.; and F. G. Tuckey, Prov. G.M. Asst. Secretary.

The V.W.D.P.G.M.M. then handed the warrant of the "Rainbow" Royal Ark Lodge No. 162, to Bro. B. Cox, the first W.C.N., who immediately invested Bro. W. S. Gillard, as his I.P.C.N. The other officers will be appointed at an Emergent Ark Lodge, which will be held shortly. The lodge was then closed in form. The room was re-arranged for the purpose of Provincial Grand Mark Lodge which was immediately opened in due form.

A BOON TO EVERY HOUSEHOLD.—Boots, with the celebrated wire-quilted soles, wearing twice as long as ordinary leather, for all ages; and children's boots with metallic tips, which never wear out at the toes, may be had at most shoe dealers. Insist on giving these a trial, and judge on their merits.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, July 4, 1873.

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

Saturday, June 28.

- Lily Lodge of Instruction (820), Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, Surrey, at 7.
- Monday, June 30.
- Lodge 831, British Oak, Bank of Friendship Tavern, Bancroft-place, Mile End.
- Strong Man Lodge of Instruction (45), Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell, at 8; Bro. Beckett, Preceptor.
- Sincerity Lodge of Instruction (174), Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street Station, at 7.
- 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. Dilley, P.M. 1155, Preceptor.
- St. John of Wapping Lodge of Instruction (1306), Gun Tavern, High-street, Wapping, at 8; 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.
- High Cross Lodge of Instruction, Coach and Horses Tavern, Lower Tottenham.

Tuesday, July 1.

- Colonial Board at 3.
- Lodge 171, Amity, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
- " 1257, Grosvenor, Victoria Metropolitan Station, Pimlico.
- " 1259, Duke of Edinburgh, 27, Old Street, London, road.
- " 1261, Golden Rule, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue.
- " 1381, Kennington, Surrey Club House, Kennington-oval.
- " 1397, Anerley, Thicket Hotel, Anerley.
- Chap. 169, Temperance, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.
- Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Portugal Hotel Fleet-street, at 7; Comp. Brett, Preceptor.
- Domestic Lodge of Instruction, Palmerston Tav., Grosvenor-park, Camberwell, at 8; Bro. John Thomas, Preceptor.
- Faith Lodge of Instruction, Refreshment Rooms, Victoria-st. (opposite Westminster Palace Hotel), at 8; Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Preceptor.
- 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.
- Constitutional Lodge of Instruction (55), Wheatsheaf Hotel, Hand-court, Holborn, at 7; Bro. J. R. Stacey (P.M. 180), Preceptor.

Wednesday, July 2.

- 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;
- 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, Anerley, at 7.30 p.m.; Bro. H. W. Lindus, Preceptor.

Thursday, July 3.

- Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall
- " 822, Victoria Rifles, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 1155, Excelsior, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-road.
- " 1351, St. Clements Danes, 265, Strand.
- " 1360, Royal Arthur, Duke of Edinburgh Hotel, New Wimbledon.

- Mark Lodge 144, Grosvenor, Caledonian Hotel, Adelphi.
- 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.
- Doric Chapter of Instruction, Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8; Comp. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.
- Ebury Lodge of Instruction, Bro. Palmer's, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
- Union Club of Instruction Windsor Castle, Victoria Station, at 8 p.m. H. Ash, P.M. Instructor.
- Highgate Lodge of Instruction (No. 1366), Bull and Gate, Kentish-town, Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor, at 8.
- Summer Festival Lion and Lamb (192) and William Preston (766) Lodges, Rosherville Hotel, Gravesend.

Friday, July 4.

- Robert Burns Lodge of Instruction, Union Tavern Air-st. Regent-st., at 8; Bro. W. Watson P.M
- 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. W. F. Rogers, 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-st., at 8.
- Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, at 7; Bro. Brett, Preceptor.
- United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, Antelope Tavern, Lorn-road, Brixton, at 7; Bro. J. Thomas, P.M. Preceptor.
- Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction, Silver Lion, Pimlico, at 7; Bro. D. S. Potts, Preceptor.
- St. James's Lodge of Instruction, Gregorian Arms Tavern, Jamaica-road, Bermondsey, at 8; Bro. Howes, P.M., 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.
- Burgoyne Lodge of Instruction, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W., at 8.
- St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction (144), Two Brewers, 33 Brompton-road, S.W
- Chigwell Lodge of Instruction, Bald-faced Stag Hotel, Buckhurst-hill, at 8.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN LIVERPOOL, &c.

For the Week ending Saturday, July 5, 1873.

Monday, June 30.

- Lodge 148, Lights, Masonic Rooms, Warrington, at 6.30.
- Tuesday, July 1.
- Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 6.
- Merchants' Lodge of Instruction (241), Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 6.
- Downshire Lodge of Instruction (594), 90, Duke-street, Liverpool, at 7.

Wednesday, July 2.

- Lodge 673, St. John's, 90, Duke-street, Liverpool, at 6.30.
- " 1013, Royal Victoria, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 6.
- " 1413, West Lancashire, Commercial Hotel, Ormskirk, at 6.
- De Grey and Ripon Lodge of Instruction (1356), 140 North Hill-street, Toxteth-park, Liverpool, at 7.30.

Thursday, July 4.

- Lodge 249, Mariners', Masonic Temple, Liverpool, 3.
- Chapter Bridgewater, Masonic Hall, Runcorn, at 6.
- Friday, July 5.
- Lodge 1264, Neptune, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 6.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW.

For the week ending Saturday, July 5, 1873.

Monday, June 30.

- Lodge 103, Union and Crown, 170, Buchanan-st.
- Chap. 122, Thetis, 25, James-street, Tradeston.
- Tuesday, July 1.
- Lodge 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-st.
- " 87, Thistle, 213, Buchanan-st.
- " 177, St. James, Masonic Hall, Coatbridge.
- " 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.

Wednesday, July 2

- Lodge 4, Kilwinning, 170, Buchanan-st.
- " 21, Old St. John's, Lanark.
- " 117, St. Mary's, Freemasons' Hall, Partick.
- " 444, Robert Burns, Bailiston.
- " 166, St. John's, 29, Graham-street, Airdrie.
- Thursday, July 3.
- Lodge 360, Commercial, 19, Croy-place.
- " 370, Renfrew, High-street, Paisley.

Friday, July 4.

- Lodge 219, Star, 12, Trongate.
- " 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-st.
- " 116, Royal Arch, Rutherglen.
- " 459, Kelbourne, Cumbrae Hotel, Milport.
- " 512, Thorntree, Thornliebank.

Advertisements.

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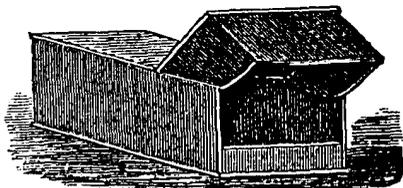
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