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Vol. 6, No. 249.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1873.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

BOLTON.—Anchor and Hope Lodge (No. 37).—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held in Freemasons' Hall, Bolton, on Monday, 1st inst., when there were present Bros. J. Pilkington, W.M.; W. Slater, S.W.; J. Walker, J.W.; J. Tunnah, P.M., Prov. G. Sec.; G. P. Brockbank, P.M., P. Prov. G.D.; T. H. Winder, P.M., P. Prov. G. Purst.; Knowles, Robinson, Isherwood, Newton, Harwood and Wilson, P.M.'s; Sharples, Treas.; E. Ainsworth, Sec.; Horricks, S.D.; Freeman, J.D.; Brown I.G.; and others. The lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for the W.M., for the ensuing year, the result being the unanimous election of the S.W., Bro. Wm. Slater, to that office. The lodge was passed to the second degree, when Bro. Rooke Pennington was passed to the degree of F. C. by Bro. Robert Harwood, P.M. The lodge was then opened up in the third degree, when Bro. Wm. J. Challinor, was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. by Bro. Samuel Isherwood, P.M. The annual festival of the lodge was fixed to be held on the first Monday in January, when it was understood the ceremony of installing the W.M., would be performed by Bro. W. Romaine Callendar, Dep. Prov. G. Master. The lodge was then closed down to the first degree, and after a portion of the ancient charges had been read, was then closed.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 73).—At the Bridge House Hotel, Borough High-street, Southwark, on Tuesday, November 18th, this old lodge met. Bros. G. J. Grace, W.M.; A. L. Dussek, S.W.; J. S. Grame, S.D.; T. J. H. Wilkins, J.D.; J. H. Batten, I.G.; C. Rayden, D.C.; E. Harris, P.M. Treasurer; G. Free, P.M. Secretary; G. Morris, P.M.; D. Rose, P.M.; F. H. Ebsworth, P.M.; and others, were present. The visitors were Bros. A. Morgan, 254; J. W. Avery, P.M. 619; W. Angus, 919; E. Wright, 619; R. Meggitt, 890; J. Nutton, 890; and others. Bros. E. W. Sutton and E. Buckland were passed, and Mr. W. J. Heritage initiated, the work being done well. The usual six-guinea Past Master's jewel, was voted from the lodge funds to Bro. G. J. Grace, W.M. A banquet was served after the lodge was closed.

IPSWICH.—British Union Lodge (No. 114).—The usual monthly meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, on the 4th inst., present—Bros. E. J. Lockwood, D.P.G.M.; C. F. Long, P.M. (in the chair); Peter de Lande Long, P.M.; W. Boby, P.G.S.W.; Rev. R. N. Sanderson, P.P.G.C.; A. J. Barber, P.G.O.; P. Cornell, P.P.J.D.; Rev. T. G. Beaumont, P.G.C.; H. Moore, P.M.; W. Spalding, P.M., Sec.; S. Wright, S.W.; A. D. George, J.W.; J. Burton, S.D., and others. Visitors—Bros. J. D. Huson, P.P.G.W.; W. Stafford; A. Gamman, W.M. Perfect Friendship Lodge; and S. D. King. The lodge having been opened and the minutes read, Bro. C. F. Long, I.P.M., resigned the gavel to Bro. Sanderson. The ballot was taken for Mr. Sturgeon Nunn Brewster, gentle-

man, proposed by Bro. Emra Holmes, seconded by Bro. George, which was unanimous, and the candidate being in attendance, he was duly initiated into the mysteries of Masonry. On the lodge being raised to the third degree, Bro. Allen, having first proved his proficiency in the former degrees, was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason; both ceremonies being most impressively performed by Bro. Sanderson, who is the life and soul of Masonry in Suffolk. Bro. Peter de Lande Long was afterwards installed with all ceremonial into the chair of K.S. by Bro. Lockwood, D.P.G.M., and proceeded to appoint the following as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. A. D. George, S.W.; J. Burton, J.W.; Rev. A. W. G. Moore, S.D.; H. Miller, J.D.; Rev. J. Tweed, I.G.; Rev. R. N. Sanderson, Chap.; Emra Holmes, M.C. In consequence of a death in the family of the W.M., St. John's Festival, which was to have been celebrated on this occasion, was postponed *sine die*, but the usual supper was numerously attended.

WINDSOR.—Etonian Lodge (No. 209).—The regular meeting of this old and improving Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., at the Royal Adelaide Hotel. At the request of the W.M., Brother J. Wilson, P.M., presided. The lodge having been opened in the first degree, the minutes of the two previous meetings having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bro. A. Pears as a candidate for initiation, which having been unanimous, he was duly admitted into the light of Freemasonry. The ballot was then taken for Bros. Webster and Baker as joining members, which was declared by the W.M. to be unanimous. The lodge was then opened in the second degree when Bros. W. S. Nicholls and C. Barkshire were examined in the usual questions and intrusted with the passing grip and word leading from the second to the third degree. They then retired to be prepared. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and they were re-admitted and most impressively raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The lodge was then resumed to the first degree when the ballot was taken for the W.M. for the ensuing year. As Bro. W. Bladon the S.W., expressed a wish not to go into the chair on the present occasion, the ballot ended in favour of Bro. G. W. Dixon, Prov. G. Steward, Berks and Bucks, and J.W. of the lodge. Bro. Dixon then thanked the W.M. and brethren for the honour they had shewn him, and at the same time expressed his regret that Bro. Bladon had not accepted the honour he had so fairly earned. The ballot was then taken for the Treasurer, when Bro. J. S. Pullin, P.M., was unanimously re-elected. It was then proposed by Bro. Dixon and seconded by the W.M., Bro. J. Rein, that Bros. J. O. Carter and C. D. Hume be elected auditors of the current year's accounts. This was carried *nem. con.* The lodge was then closed in due form by the W.M., and the brethren adjourned for refreshments. There were present Bros. J. S. Reid, W.M.; W. Bladon, S.W.; J. W. Dixon, P.G.S. Berks and Bucks, J.W.; J. O. Carter, P.G.S. Berks and Bucks, S.D.; W. Denne, J.D.; J. Crowhurst I.G.; J. R. Gibbons, Sec.; G. Stacey, Organist. J. Strange, P.M.; J. Wilson, P.M.; L. Bryan, W.M. 785; C. D. Hume, R. Roberts, W. S. Nicholls, C. Barkshire, and A. Pears. Visitors, Bros. T. Hiscock, I.G. 865; W. E. Chorley, 865.

RIPON.—De Grey and Ripon Lodge (No. 837).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Town Hall, Ripon, on the 5th December, 1873. Present Captain George Kearsley, W.M.; Past Masters Evans, Collinson, Herring, and Ripley; Bros. Bradwell, Mountain, McConochie, Dunnington, Harrison, Smith, Calvert, Colley, J. Kearsley, Donaldson, Moss, Robinson, Sayer, James, Pratt, Harland, and Stork. Visitors Brothers Akrill, W.M., Pullan, P.M., Skiolan, England, P.M., and J. Pullan, of Lodge 1008. The lodge was opened in due form at 6 p.m., and after the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the second degree, and then raised to the third degree. The W.M., Capt. Kearsley, then proceeded to install his successor, the S.W., Bro. T. H. Bradwell, in the E. chair. The ceremony was admirably done, and the addresses to the W.M. and Wardens given

in his usual impressive manner. Brother Mountain was appointed S.W.; Harrison, J.W.; Smith, S.D.; Calvert, J.D.; Dunnington, Secretary, McConochie, Steward; Harland, Organist; and James, I.G. Bro. Stock, who was at the last meeting re-elected Tyler, was invested. Through the unavoidable absence of Bro. P.M. Kendall, who had been re-elected Treasurer, the W.M. was obliged to postpone the investing of him with the badge of his office. The lodge having been closed down to the first degree, the ballot was then taken for Lieutenant E. Fletcher, R.N., of Lodge Union of Malta, 407, and he was unanimously elected a joining member. The new W.M. at once proceeded to show his fitness for office by initiating in excellent style Captain J. S. Brougham. It could not have been better done, and the newly appointed officers also proved that they were up in their work. Captain Kearsley presented the lodge with a copy of the photographic group of the brethren, taken by Bro. Skeolan during last summer; it is in an appropriate frame of oak, carved with Masonic emblems. The lodge was closed about 8.30 in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the Unicorn Hotel, where an excellent supper was provided, and the evening passed off in the usual happy manner.

ST. HELEN'S.—Lodge of Loyalty (No. 897).—The annual Installation meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, 2nd ult., at the Fleece Hotel, St. Helen's, when a good attendance of members and visitors evinced the high esteem and respect in which is held the re-elected W.M., Bro. William Lesther. The lodge having been duly opened and some routine business disposed of, Bro. J. Hamer, P.P.G.T., proceeded to re-install the W.M. elect, and at its close received a warm vote of thanks for his efficient rendering of the ceremony. The W.M. then named and invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year. Bros. P. P. Dunn, S.W.; H. S. L. Gurney, J.W.; C. C. Wilson, S.D.; J. S. White, J.D.; W. J. Marion, Sec.; H. Rawlinson, S.S.; J. Molyneux, J.S. The banquet, which gave every satisfaction in its arrangements, was then held, and closed at about nine o'clock p.m. The W.M. in responding to the toast of the evening alluded to the great honour done to the lodge by the recent visit of Prov. G. Lodge, and spoke very hopefully of a successful future for Lodge 892. "The Visitors" was acknowledged by Bro. L. W. P. Fowler, P.P.A.D.C.; Bro. R. Young, W.M., 1384; and Bro. Cadman.

DENBIGH (NORTH WALES).—Royal Denbigh Lodge (No. 1143).—The brethren of this lodge held their installation meeting at the Town Hall, Denbigh, on the 28th ult., a large number of brethren greeting this important occasion by their presence. During the Mastership of Bro. Martin Underwood, the lodge has had the pleasure of obtaining for the widow and children of a gallant British officer named Rainer a grant of £20 from the Grand Lodge Fund of Benevolence, although the deceased brother had no connection with Denbigh, but had become a Freemason in England before going to Jamaica, and the family had recently come to reside in the town with a view to educational conveniences. Again, the oldest son of a deceased brother of the Lodge of St. Tudno, and a well-esteemed Welchman in Denbigh, as elsewhere (the late Mr. J. Willmott Rees), on the application of his devoted mother, Mrs. Wilmot Rees, obtained the unanimous vote of the lodge for admission to that noble Masonic Institution for orphan children at Woodgreen, with best wishes for success. The lodge also for the first time became a subscriber to the funds of that institution during the past year. Bro. M. Underwood can, therefore, upon leaving Denbigh for London, look with satisfaction to his period of office as having been a truly Masonic year, and as having brought into play all those qualities for which the Craft is so justly noted. The W.M. elect, Bro. Robert James Sisson, of Talardy, Flintshire, is really a Mason born of the Royal Denbigh Lodge, and a most worthy successor of those excellent Masters who have from the first installation filled the chair, once occupied by the illustrious Grand Master of England, the late Duke of Sussex, grand uncle to H.R.H. the Past Grand Master. That which speaks

a language for Masonry which may be understood by all brethren throughout the world in the fact that the eldest son of the new worthy Master, Mr. John Pope Sisson, connected by his mother's side with Cambridgeshire, has been proposed by the W.M. as a candidate for the mysteries of Masonry. We think, therefore, those who have a doubt of that status, that position and advantage which Masonry holds in the world, will, when this is brought before them, say that there is nothing in Masonry which a father need keep from his much beloved, but show him all in Masonry which widely should be known by everyone deserving of the privilege. The Board of Installed Masters on the present occasion included every Past Master of the lodge, viz., Bro. John Preece, P.P.G.S.W. North Wales and Shropshire, of the National Provincial Bank of England, Lichfield; Bro. Robert Vaughan Williams, M.A., P.P.G.S.W., North Wales and Shropshire, County Court Judge; Bro. John Copner Wynne Edwards, P.P.G.J.W., North Wales and Shropshire, Bro. John Ormiston, Wigfair, Flintshire; Bro. the Rev. John Henry Roberts, M.A., Head Master, Denbigh Grammar School; Bro. Richard Lloyd Williams, County Surveyor, and Bro. Mittiu Underwood, artist architect. Bro. Preece in due form proceeded with the installation, which was well performed, and elicited encomiums from all present. The lodge business being ended, the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet, Mrs. Lloyd, hostess of the Bull Hotel, being highly praised for her catering. The W.M. was supported on the right and left by the Past Masters of the lodge, Bro. the Rev. J. H. Roberts, being Chaplain, and amongst the rest of the company were:—Bros. Dr. J. R. Hughes, S.W.; Thomas Sleight, J.W.; Dr. Llewelyn Lodge, S.D.; Bro. Dr. Evan Pierce Williams, J.D.; John Davies, Vale-street, I.G.; J. Parry Jones, the Worshipful the Mayor of Denbigh, Treasurer; Robert Harrison, Steward; Stephen Rosse, Samuel Perks, Rhyl; Robert Davies, Leanfairtalhaiarn; Francis Wynne, Town Clerk of Denbigh; Peter Thompson, Coed Coch, Abercele; William Lloyd, Junior, Well-street, Ruthen; Edwin Shelton Jones, Denbighshire Infirmary; and others. The usual complimentary toasts and speeches followed the repast, including a bumper toast to the new W.M., and probably the happiest evening the lodge has ever known resulted, in the course of which Bro. P. M. Vaughan Williams paid a most deserving tribute to "the father of the lodge." He said, Worshipful Sir, I rise with a mixture of pleasure, and at the same time with fear, that I shall not do right justice to the toast which I have the honour to propose. It is the health of one I would sooner propose than of any other in this room. I propose to you "Health and success to the father of this lodge, Bro. Preece." (Great applause.) If any one deserves the name, Preece is the name that will always be thought of as that of the father of this lodge, for had it not been for worthy John Preece I do not think that the Royal Denbigh Lodge would have been reborn. (Great applause.) And certainly his devoted spirit is attached to it; so useful and so successful has the lodge become. (Renewed applause.) With full knowledge of the facts, I beg to say we are the most successful lodge in North Wales. (Great applause.) And that is owing to the time, to the earnestness, the devotion with which he tried to bring it up, and the anxiety with which he taught Masonry, and the principles of Masonry to the lodge. (Applause.) We all derived benefit from him. I had been a Mason, and others here had been Masons, but I say whatever we may have known, we knew but little of the practical principles of Masonry until this lodge was reborn of Bro. Preece. (Applause.) Under his tuition as first Master I learned a great deal, not, let me say, of the cant of Masonry—because there is cant in everything in this world—but of the true duty and principles which belong to Freemasonry, and I endeavoured to discharge that duty and observe those principles during my year of office, as my successors have done to the best of my ability. (Great applause.) We all gladly acknowledge that it is owing mainly to Bro. Preece that the true spirit of Masonry pervades this lodge; and that is why we

always ought, as we always do, show him the greatest welcome that we can show as Christians and Masons whenever he shows his bright masonic-looking face amongst us. (Great applause.) May he succeed in whatever part of the world he lives, and have time to come now and then to help to bring us up, and keep us in the way we should go in Masonry. (Great applause.) Brethren, I speak thus, not for the sake of simply saying complimentary words; but I speak the feelings of my inmost heart when I pray, long may he live, and strengthened for the day may he be, to raise up and help Masonry forward; and may he come here often, and have as good and cordial a welcome ever as I am sure every brother of the lodge present and absent most heartily gives him. The toast was drank with Masonic honours, and eloquently responded to by Bro. Preece. It may be mentioned that in connexion with the fund of benevolence raised in this lodge, the feeling of many of the members was to propose at the next meeting that a subscription of £10 be given to the fund which is now being most kindly collected by Mr. R. C. B. Clough, Borough Surveyor of Denbigh, on behalf of the respected widow and family of the late Bro. Minshall, of the Crown Hotel, who was a member of the Llandudno Lodge before coming to reside at Denbigh.

HAMPTON.—*Lebanon Lodge* (No. 1325).—On Thursday, November 20th, the regular meeting of this prosperous lodge was held. Brother William Hammond, P.M. 201, W.M., presided. There were present during the afternoon and evening Bros. H. T. Dubois, P.G. Steward, Middlesex, S.W.; J. W. Jackson, J.W.; S. Wickens, P.M., Treasurer; F. Walters, P.G. Steward, P.M., Secretary; E. Gilbert, S.D.; and some forty others. The only visitor was Bro. Davage, W.M. 201. The agenda paper was reduced by Bro. F. Walters, P.G. Steward Middlesex, P.M., Secretary, raising Bros. J. Johnson, J. V. Watkins, and J. Laurence, and initiating Messrs. Ellis and Stone. The W.M., Brother William Hammond, P.M. 201, resumed the throne of K.S., and initiated Messrs. Tagg and Larking and passed Brothers W. Mitchell and Josias Laurence. The privileges and rank of honorary Past Master were abolished, on account of the great expense they entailed on the lodge. The following Stewards were appointed Bros. J. Hurst and J. Newton, for Benevolent Institution; H. A. Dubois, P.G. Steward Middlesex, S.W., for Boys' School; William Hammond, P.M. 201, W.M., for Girls' School. It was arranged that no more meetings would be held until next May. The work was, as usual at this lodge, well done. Refreshment followed labour.

EBURY LODGE (No. 1348).—An emergency meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Friday, November 21st, for the purpose of relieving the agenda paper of Tuesday, November 25th, when the installation ceremony had to be done. There were present Brothers Bourne, P.M., W.M.; J. Summers, S.W., and W.M. elect; E. Jacobs, as J.W.; John Coutts, P.G.P., P.M., Treasurer; J. Elliott, Secretary; G. Stacey, Organist; T. J. Ireton, I.G.; F. Harrison, Steward; and a large number of other members. These following gentlemen were initiated, viz., Messrs. W. F. P. Maturin, W. W. Thomson, W. J. Gosden, W. H. Robinson, and W. Clifford. The ceremony was well rendered, the music adding much to its beauty. The lodge was adjourned to the following Tuesday. Nothing deterred by a notice on summons that those attending cold collation would have to pay for same, all present remained. The usual toasts were given. The W.M. elect and the Treasurer especially distinguishing themselves by the eloquent manner in which they proposed and responded to the toasts of the evening, some of them being special ones, which were received with enthusiasm. In consequence of the numerous applications for initiation at this lodge it is expected the fees will be increased to not less than ten, but probably fifteen guineas and eventually a higher sum. The lodge has been founded in such an excellent manner by its father, Brother John Coutts, and his friends, that a genuine success has been the result of the

labour bestowed. A very good and efficient lodge, well worthy of the Order, has been added to its roll.

MILLOM.—*Whitwell Lodge* (No. 1390).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic-room, Millom, on Tuesday evening, Nov. 18th. Bro. Thomas Dodgson, W.M., P.M. 945, and P.G.S.S. C. and W., in the chair, who was supported by Bros. Roger Dodgson, P.M. 1390, P. Prov. G.S.B. C. and W. and P.S.W. 995; John Mills, S.W., P.G.S.B. C. and W.; J. Meridith, J.W.; James Rostelthwaite, Sec.; H. M. Meakin, S.D.; W. Crook, J.D.; Holloway, Org.; Waiting, S.S.; Bell, J.S.; Whiteside, I.G., and P.M. 1398; with many more brethren, members of the lodge, and Bro. McKay, visitor, of Union Lodge, Kendal No. 120. The minutes of last regular lodge were read and duly confirmed; the lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bros. Lang, and George Smith, having satisfactorily answered the questions entitling them to be raised to the sublime degree, were fully entrusted and retired, the lodge was then raised, and Bro. Lance was admitted, and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason by Bro. T. Dodgson, the W.M., in a most impressive manner, Bro. Dodgson; then occupied the chair of K.S., and raised Bro. George Mills in a manner at which the brethren felt much surprised. Bro. T. Dodgson then took the chair for Union Lodge, No. 120, and finally closed the lodge with solemn prayer at 10.15.

Royal Arch.

SHEERNESS-ON-SEA.—*Adam's Chapter* (No. 158).—The annual meeting of this old and flourishing chapter, was held on Tuesday, the 25th of November, in the Masonic Hall, Sheerness-on-Sea, where a full attendance of officers, and a goodly number of companions attended, Comps. T. Hughes, M.E.Z.; J. Bagshaw, H.; S. L. Townsend, P.Z.; A. Spears, I.P.Z.; S. Townsend, P.Z.; T. Captain Sheppard, R.A., P.Z.; A. Oyston, Scribe E.; G. Beckwith, N.; Wm. Tailford, P.S.; and others. The chapter was opened in ancient form at 5 p.m. when, the minutes of the convocation held in August, were read and confirmed. All companions below the rank of Installed First Principals, then retired from the chapter, when the ceremony of installing the Three Principals, was proceeded with; Comps. J. Bagshaw, M.E.Z.; S. L. Townsend, P.Z.; Wm. Pennell, J. The companions were then admitted and the following officers duly invested:—Comps. J. Townsend, P.Z.; J. A. Oysten, Scribe E.; Wm. Tailford, Scribe N.; J. Woodyly, P.S.; S. Nunn, First Assistant; D. Ashforth, Second Assistant. The installation ceremony was performed by Comps. A. Spears, P.Z., in an efficient and impressive manner. Bro. Wigans, being a candidate for exaltation to this Supreme Degree, having been elected in the convocation in August, was duly brought forward, and exalted to the degree of a R.A. Mason: The exaltation ceremony was most ably performed by Comp. J. Bagshaw, the New M.E.Z., and the other two Principals, assisted by Comp. T. Hughes, I.P.Z. Great praise is due to Comp. Bagshaw, M.E.Z., for his energy and zeal, and in performing the duties of the First Principal's chair for the first time. The dues for the ensuing year were then taken, and the labours of the evening being thus ended, the chapter was closed in ancient form, Comp. A. Spears, P.Z., giving the parting address. The companions then adjourned to the Britannia Inn to banquet, provided by Mrs. Green (widow of our late lamented Comp. J. G. Green, P.Z.), in her usual excellent style, the viands and wines being of first-class quality, and gave great satisfaction to all. Eighteen companions sat down to table, presided over by the M.E.Z., Comp. Bagshaw. After the companions had done due justice to the excellent banquet, and the cloth removed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given in true R.A. style. After which several of the companions amused and entertained the company with several songs, recitations and speeches. Comp. A. Spears, P.Z., in proposing the toast of the Father of the Chapter, Comp. J. Townsend, P.Z., and

Treasurer, said that in proposing the health of our aged companion, it naturally leads the mind back to the early history of man, when our mysteries were blended in the secret rites and ceremonies of that worship rendered to the Deity in all the various forms then practised by the priests and magii of the different sects of philosophers, in the early ages; these handing them down through the long vista of time, were taken hold of by those craftsmen of the middle ages to bind themselves together for one grand object. Those men who erected those glorious cathedrals throughout Europe, and that stand to this day as monuments of their talents and zeal, and in later times these mysteries were made the foundation of this grand superstructure of morality and virtue now held by us. This toast was received with great applause, and feeling, responded to by Comp. S. L. Townsend, P.Z., and who is the next oldest member of the Chapter, in his usual excellent style. After spending a pleasant evening together, the companions separated, well pleased with their entertainment.

IPSWICH.—Royal Sussex Chapter (No. 376).—The usual quarterly convocation of the chapter was holden at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, Dec. 3rd, when there was an unusually large number of companions present. Comps. Cornell and Tracy were duly installed into the chairs of H. and J.; Comp. King remaining Z., Bros. A. Gamman, W.M., and E. Godbold, of the Perfect Friendship Lodge, were elected, received, obligated, and exalted as companions of the Holy Royal Arch, the deeply impressive ceremony being performed with his usual skill by Comp. S. B. King, M.E.Z., assisted by Comps. Cornell and Tracy, who gave the symbolical and historical lectures. Amongst others present were Comps. Lucia, P.Z.; S. H. Wright, P.Z.; Marriott, P.Z.; Dr. Mills, P.Z.; J. Pitcher, P.Z.; G. S. Finchley, P.Z.; D. Fraser, P.Z.; A. Smith, Richmond, &c. The usual supper was afterwards done ample justice to by the companions, and as is customary in meetings of the Royal Sussex, a most agreeable evening was enjoyed by all present.

WHITTINGTON CHAPTER (No. 862).—This new chapter held its first meeting since consecration, on the 28th ult., at Anderton's Hotel. Comp. J. Weaver, M.E.Z., officiated as Z; W. Hurlestone, H.; R. Wentworth Little, P.Z., as J.; W. F. Smith, P.Z., N.; T. Kingston, P.S. Bros. Alfred Moore, 862; G. C. Pritchard, 862; W. A. Tinney, 1319; and Pritchard, 1319, were duly exalted into the Royal Arch Chapter. Comps. Tinney and Pritchard were appointed Assistant Sojourners, and Comp. Little was elected honorary member. The chapter was then closed, and the companions sat down to a comfortable supper, and enjoyed a very pleasant evening.

Mark Masonry.

LEICESTER.—Fowke Lodge (No. 19).—The bi-monthly meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Thursday, the 27th ult., for the transaction of the regular lodge business, and also for the reception of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge. The Chair of A. was occupied by the W.M., Bro. William Weare, who was supported by his I.P.M., Bro. S. S. Partridge, Prov. G. Sec.; the S. and J. Wardens, Bros. Toller, and McAlister; the Treasurer, Bro. C. Stretton, Grand Steward; the Hon. Sec. Bro. Baines, and a fair attendance of the other officers and members. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge was received, and the business of that lodge was proceeded with, the present Provincial Grand Master, Bro. W. Kelly, whose time of office expires on the 5th inst., being unanimously chosen for re-appointment by the M.W.G.M.M.M. After the Grand Lodge had been closed, the Fowke Lodge was resumed and the remaining business of the meeting disposed of. Two brethren were proposed for advancement, and a vote of two guineas as a donation to the Girls' School, was voted to be placed on Bro. Waite's list, he having undertaken to represent the Craft

Provincial Grand Lodge as Steward at the next festival of the above Institution. The lodge was then closed in due form and in perfect harmony,

Knights of Malta.

IPSWICH.—Priory of Prudence.—On Wednesday the 29th ult., the annual meeting of this old priory was held at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, present Sir Knights Emra Holmes, Past Grand Provost of England; Prov. Rev. R. N. Sanderson, Sub Prior, Norfolk and Cambridge; J. Pitcher, Captain General; Dr. Mills, Lieutenant General; G. S. Findley, Chancellor, S. B. King, 2nd Lieutenant, &c. The minutes of the last meeting having been accepted as correctly recorded, the priory having first been duly opened and the muster roll called, the Sir Knights proceeded to ballot for Sir Knight George Richard Scopes, of the Prudence Preceptory, who being accepted, was duly admitted to the Mediterranean Pass, and afterwards conducted by the Marshal, was received and installed a Knight of Malta, the interesting ceremony being performed in his usual impressive manner by Sir Knight Sanderson. The Sir Knights having resumed their stalls the usual business was proceeded with, and Sir Knight Holmes suggested to the Fratres that after the next meeting of the Prudence Preceptory in January next, when Sir Knight Mills would be installed as Preceptor, a Priory should be holden for the purpose of installing him as Prior at the same time, as by the new statutes of the Convent General the Preceptor for the time being is *ipso facto* Prior of the Priory, if a Knight of Malta. The Sir Knights afterwards assembled round the festive board when the Prior proposed in due course "The Queen, Patron of the United Orders of the Temple and Hospital;" "The Prince of Wales, Grand Master," "The Earl of Limerick, Great Prior of England;" and "Captain Philips," the popular Prior of Norfolk and Cambridge, all of which toasts were duly honoured. He afterwards gave "The Health of the Sub-Prior, Sir Knight Sanderson," and spoke in the most eulogistic terms of that worthy and distinguished member of the Order, who replied as modestly as is his wont, and deprecated the flattering terms in which his health was given. Sir Knight Holmes then proposed the newly installed Companion-in-arms of the Order of Malta, Sir Knight Scopes, and impressed upon him the dignity of the Order he had now been privileged to join. Sir Knight Scopes responded briefly, and expressed the great pleasure he felt in being admitted as a Knight Templar and Knight of Malta. A very pleasant hour or two was spent discussing matters of interest to the assembled Fratres as to the regulations of Convent General and Great Priory, &c., and the Sir Knights separated at a reasonable hour.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

PALESTINE ROSE CROIX CHAPTER.—This chapter celebrated its third anniversary at the Masonic Hall, Golden-square, on Tuesday, the 25th ult., when the following members of the Order were present:—Ill. Bros. Capt. N. G. Philips, 33°, Lieut. G. Com.; Major-Gen. H. Clerk, 33°, G. Chan.; R. Hamilton, M.D., G. Sec. Gen.; Major S. W. Clerke, 33°, Dep. Sec. Gen.; Hyde Pullen, 33°, also—Colonel F. Burdett, 32° (Ireland), M.W.S.; John Hervey, P.M.W.S., and Treas.; R. Wentworth Little, 30°, P.M.W.S., and Rec., and many members of the 18°. Bro. George Kenning, 30°, M.W.S. Elect, was duly installed into the chair for the ensuing year, and the officers invested were as follows:—Bros. H. C. Levander, H.P.; T. L. Fox, 1st Gen.; C. Hammerton, 2nd Gen.; J. Hervey, Treas.; R. Wentworth Little, Rec.; S. Leith Tomkins, G.M.; J. T. Moss, Raph.; J. Dyer, Almoner; T. B. Yeoman, Herald; T. Cubitt, E.C.; E. Stanton, Org.; J. Dixon, M.D., D.C.. Bro. J. Read, 30°, officiated at the organ during the ceremony of perfecting Bro. Rev. J. Marychurch Vaughan, P.M. 907, Prov. G. Chap., Middlesex, which was the next business, and after a vote of thanks to the mem-

bers of the council for their attendance and assistance, the chapter was closed in due form, and the brethren proceeded to the new Royal Masonic Hall (*Café Royale*), where a splendid banquet was served, the *menu* surpassing anything of the kind usually provided at Masonic banquets. Several toasts were given during the evening, including the "Supreme Council," for whom Capt. Philips responded; the "Past M.W. Sovereigns," acknowledged by Col. Burdett; the "Visitors," by Major Clerke; and the "Officers," by Bros. Levander, Fox, and Little. During the financial year ending November, this chapter has given ten guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, constituting the M.W.S. a Governor in perpetuity.

Red Cross of Constantine.

ORIGINAL OR PREMIER CONCLAVE OF ENGLAND.—This conclave held its quarterly meeting at Freemasons' Tavern on Monday, the 1st inst., and was well attended, amongst those present being Sir Frederick Martin Williams, Bart, G.V.; Colonel Francis Burdett, G.S.G.; W. E. Gumbleton, J.P., G.H. Chancellor; R. Wentworth Little, G. Treas.; W. H. Hubbard, P.G. Treas.; J. G. Marsh, P.G. Architect; H. C. Levander, M.A., G.H. Almoner; J. Boyd' G. Hist.; T. W. White, G.A. Treas.; J. T. Moss, G. Herald; H. Parker, G. Org.; R. W. Stewart, G.O.; G. Kenning, G. Insp. of Regalia; T. Cubitt, G.P., Sir Gilbert E. Campbell, Bart. Int. Gen., Hants; E. Sillifant, V.E.; Rev. P. H. Ernest Brette, D.D., H. Prclate; Colonel James Peters, Hon. Sov.; John Dyer, K.G.C.; Jas. Pettengell, Hon. Sov.; T. Kingston, Hon. Sov.; Alfred Moore, Hon. Sov.; Herbert Dicketts, Treas., No. 2; Charles Horsley, S.G. Bective Conclave, No. 2a; J. Woodward Barrett, G.S.B.; Clement Stretton, V. No. 44; C. Hammerton, S.G. No. 2; E. S. Norris, No. 2; S. Muggeridge, No. 14, &c. The conclave having been duly opened ballots were taken for several candidates, and the following brethren being in attendance, were introduced and installed as Knights of the Order, viz., the Rev. Philip M. Holden, 907; Thomas Massa, P.M. 59; and Jean V. P. Cereche, 142. The honorary grade of Viceroy was subsequently conferred upon Sir Knts. Horsley, Hammerton, Norris, and Cereche, and that of Sovereign upon Sir Knts. C. Stretton, Horsley, Hammerton, Norris, and Cereche. It was intended to confer the K.H.S. and St. John degrees, but owing to the lateness of the hour, those ceremonies had to be omitted. The conclave was then closed, and the Knights adjourned to the banquet, after which the following toasts were duly honoured:—The Queen and the Christian Orders; The Earl of Bective, M. Ill. G. Sov.; The Grand Viceroy, Sir F. Williams, Bart.; The Grand Council, responded to by Colonel Burdett; The Intendant-General and Grand Senators (Sir G. E. Campbell); The M.P.S. (Sir Kt. Moss); The newly Installed Companions in Arms (Sir Knts. Rev. P.M. Holden, Massa, and Cereche); The Visitors (Sir Knts. Horsley, Hyde Pullen, Boyd, Stretton, Norris, &c.); The Past Sovereigns (Sir Knts. Hubbard, Kenning, Marsh, &c.); The Viceroy and Officers (Sir Knts. Sillifant, and Rev. Dr. Brette); The Hon. Sovereigns (Sir Knt. Col. Peters), The Organist (Sir Knt. Parker); and the Sentinel's toast by Comp. J. Gilbert. During the evening Sir Knt. Parker performed most brilliantly on the pianoforte and sang several songs. Sir Knts. Dyer and Marsh also favoured the company with some choice vocal harmony, and all three were very heartily applauded for their kind exertions to please. The next meeting of this conclave will be held on the 2nd March, 1874, on the same day that the Annual Assembly of the General Grand Conclave is convened, previous to which date a Red Cross Ball will take place for the benefit of the Masonic Charities and the Almoner's Fund of the Order.

LIVERPOOL.—Skelmersdale Conclave (No. 77).—An assembly of the Skelmersdale Conclave, was held on Monday, the 1st inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, and was one of the most successful which has yet been held in this section of the country. Eminent

Sir Knt. H. Nelson, M.P.S., occupied the throne; and amongst those present were Sir Knts. J. T. Callow, V.E.; W. Cottrell, J.G.; H. Jackson, H.P.; T. Ashmore, P.S., Treas.; J. McCarthy, Rec.; J. J. Rosa, S. Prefect; J. Skeaf, J. Prefect; C. Leighton, Org.; W. Quayle, Herald; J. Capell, S. Aide; Peter Ball, Sentinel; Dr. J. K. Smith, P.S., D. Int. Gen. for West Lancashire; J. Dawson, T. Large, J. Purvis, William Oldham, J. Wood (Treas. 55, Liverpool Conclave), T. Garrett, H. Burrows, E. Dutch, H. Jones, and J. Gordon. The visitors were Ill. Sir Knt. G. Turner, Int. Gen. for West Lancashire; Sir Knts. T. Clark, V.E., 55 (Liverpool Conclave); W. Cron, 55; and G. H. Turner, 55. After the usual preliminary business, Bros. Ysidore Alvarez, of Lodge 673; L. Johnson, of Lodge 673; and John Burgess, of Lodge 1356, were duly balloted for, and on being declared elected unanimously, were installed according to the impressive ritual of the Order. Very rarely has the working in any conclave been so complete and satisfactory in every respect, and therefore the greatest praise is due to every officer connected with the "Skelmersdale," especial notice being due to the delivery of the historical lecture by Sir Knt. H. Jackson, H.P. A veteran Mason said he was confident that the lodge-room of the Liverpool Temple never looked more striking than on this occasion, and this opinion was doubtless justified by the superb fitting and furnishing of the conclave chamber by Sir Knt. George Kenning, of London and Liverpool. There were several other installations due, and it was resolved that an emergency should be held before the Masonic ball on the 15th prox. The conclave was closed in the greatest harmony, and an excellent repast was subsequently served to about 30 knights of the Order.

FREEMASONRY IN THE MAURITIUS.

Monday, the fourteenth day of July, 1873, was a red letter day in the Masonic annals of Lodge Friendship, and the gathering of the brethren on this interesting occasion was both numerous and influential.

This happy day was due to the presentation of a Past Master's jewel to Right Worshipful Bro. George Dewison R.W.M. of Lodge Friendship for these last three years; to him its members are indebted that this lodge is still extant, for a few years ago when it was on the brink of decay the present Master, then W.S.M., with a Masonic generosity and with much ability, conducted its affairs, and has now raised it to that pitch of respectability which it at present possesses amongst the other lodges of the Island.

On that occasion the lodge was duly opened by Brother Joseph Isaac Cohen de Lissa, the R.W.I.P.M. assisted by Bros. White, S.W.; J. Furlong, J.W.; Nagle, Treasurer; Sharpe, Secretary; Rev. Geo. M'Irvine, Chaplain; V. Crew, S.D.; R. Jones, J.D.; Hawtree, D. of C.; Gelster, I.G.; Giloh, Tyler. There were also present on that auspicious day, Worshipful Bro. Jules Fery, together with many other members and visitors from other lodges.

The business of the evening then commenced with the reception of the Masters, Past Masters, and brethren of different lodges in the Colony and beyond the seas, in the following order.

1. The Worshipful Master, the Past Masters, Officers, and brethren of the British Lodge, No. 736, E.C.
2. The Presiding Brother, Officers, and brethren of Lodge La Paix, G.O. of France.
3. The Immediate Past Master and several brethren of the Lodge La Triple Esperance, G.O. of France.
4. Visiting Brethren of lodges beyond the seas.

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the last regular meeting, and as well as that of the emergency meeting of the 16th June last, were read letters from the Very Worshipful Bro. Williamson, P.G.J.W., of the Grand Lodge of England, Past Masters Bewsher, Kyshe, and Rickwood of lodges under the Irish Constitution, regretting their not being able to attend the meeting, and expressing their approval of the presentation of a Past Master's

jewel to the R.W. Bro. Levison, and congratulating him on the honour conferred upon him on that auspicious day. Letters of the same tenour and effect were also read from Bro. Sir Charles Farquhar Shand, Knt., Chief Justice, and Bro. Robertson, District Magistrate of Port Louis, as well as from several other distinguished brethren.

The R.W. Bro. in the chair next thanked the Masters, Past Masters, and visiting brethren for the honour of their attendance.

At this stage of the proceedings W.W.B.B. Aitchison, Butler, and Cannonville withdrew from the temple, and subsequently W. Bro. Levison, accompanied by the former, was duly announced, admitted, and received with ample honours, and conducted to his seat by the Masters and Past Masters present in lodge.

The R.W. Bro. De Lissa then addressed the R.W.M. in about the following terms: "R.W. Sir,—It is a most pleasing duty to me on this occasion to have been commissioned by the brethren of this lodge to present to you a testimony of their sympathy and esteem and believe me, Worshipful Sir, it is not through favour that this medal has been subscribed by the members of this lodge, but it is through merit and through the unrelenting zeal and exertion which you have at all times displayed in fulfilling the arduous duties that have devolved upon you for these past three years. It is to my personal knowledge that you joined the Craft in the "British Lodge" at the Cape; since then thirty-five years have elapsed. On your arrival at Mauritius, propelled by the Masonic principles which have since been one of the most distinguished features of your life; you have been one of the founders of the British Lodge, the name of your mother lodge, and have thereby introduced English Masonry in this Island. In that lodge you have already received testimony of the heartfelt sympathy of its members, for whilst Treasurer of that lodge you were presented with a jewel set in diamonds, for your able services during three years, subsequently you have been elected Master of that same lodge for three years, and through your impartiality and your amenity of character, and the display of your Masonic talents, the same voted to you a P.M.'s jewel made of massive gold, which I see at this moment adorns your breast. Another reward awaits your perseverance this evening, Worshipful Sir, for by your ability in conducting the proceedings of this lodge you have raised it to the height it now possesses, you have cast a lustre upon it and moreover have made it respected and revered by all the lodges of this island, for whilst Master of this lodge, from November 1869, to November 1872, you have attended sixty nine meetings, with the exception of one, and it grieves me to say it was owing to the sad calamity that had befallen you at that time, I mean the death of your beloved wife. Twenty-three committees you have presided over during that time, you have made sixty-seven initiations, fifty-three passings, fifty-four raisings, and fifteen affiliations. Judging from the amount of work accomplished by you, Worshipful Sir, we have been led to believe that with your usual modesty you will be pleased to accept this, the P.M.'s jewel subscribed by the members of this lodge for it affords to each and all of us great pleasure to honour him who has with such zeal and impartiality conducted the business of this lodge, for upwards of three years. May the Almighty ever keep you amongst our midst, and bestow every happiness on you.

Bro. de Lissa then advanced to the east, and invested him with P.M.'s jewel presented to him by Lodge Friendship. The jewel is a massive piece of work in gold, of beautiful design. It has three clasps for the three years' services, as R.W.M., of Bro. Levison, and on the back is engraved the following inscription:—"Presented to George Levison, R.W.M. No. 439, S.C., P.M. No. 736., by Lodge Friendship, in testimony of his able services as Right Worshipful Master during three years, and as a token of respect, esteem, and affection. Mauritius, 1873."

The R.W.M. then with emotion returned thanks to the worshipful and other brethren present for the honour of their attendance, in the following terms, addressing himself to Bro. De Lissa:—"R.W. Sir, it is difficult for me to thank

you sufficiently for having presided over the lodge on this occasion, and it is difficult for me to express my gratification at seeing so large a number of distinguished visitors at a meeting held in my honour; still more is it difficult for me to find becoming words to impart my sense of gratitude to the brethren of Lodge Friendship for the high distinction they have conferred upon me this evening. It would be affectation on my part were I to declare that I consider myself altogether unworthy of the testimony of respect and esteem which I have received in their name and at your hands, but I can sincerely assure you that I feel that so costly a recognition of the services I have, happily, been able to render the lodge is far beyond my real deserts. Certainly I have worked hard, and I do not think in vain, to maintain the dignity and honour of Lodge Friendship, to encourage fraternal affection among its members, and to promote, as far as laid in my power, the honour and progress of our beloved Craft. But I am fully aware that I have been sometimes wanting in that tact and judgment so necessary to the quiet and successful onward movement of a lodge in a country such as is Mauritius, and impressed with my occasional shortcomings in this respect, I can only appreciate the more the kind feeling and indulgence which, except in rare instances, have been evinced towards me, and the unanimity and hearty good will which have characterised the proceedings of the brethren when deciding to bestow on me the highest honour the Master of a lodge can hope to attain. I am the more happy and grateful at receiving from them so marked a proof of their satisfaction at the manner I have conducted the affairs and directed the working of the lodge, for now nearly four years, since, as is well known to you, my labours of late have, unfortunately been rendered more than usually onerous and anxious, owing to an individual case in our midst of insubordination and an imperfect knowledge of what the principles of Freemasonry demand of all and every one of its members. If I did not resign my position as your Master some time ago it was because I believed I had reason to be proud of what it had been acknowledged I had accomplished for Lodge Friendship, and because I was fully convinced although my decisions were at the moment looked upon as severe, that sooner or later it would be owned they were actually arrived at after an impartial examination of every circumstance connected with the matters brought under my notice, and that I persisted in them in a spirit of perfect honesty, and with a view to the continued honour and dignity of the lodge.—

I thank you most sincerely, Right Worshipful Sir, for your kind and flattering notice of my endeavours to be of use to this and other lodges, and to aid in the spread of the grand principles of our Order. I thank you most sincerely, Worshipful Masters and Past Masters, brethren of the sister lodges, and brethren of lodges beyond the seas, for your attendance at this meeting, and I thank you most sincerely, dear colleagues, officers, and brethren of Lodge Friendship, for the ever-to-be-valued jewel which you yourselves have characterised as a "memento" of esteem, respect, and affection.

In reply to the above address, W. Bro. James Cannonville S.P.R. and Immediate Past Master of the Lodge, La Triple Esperance, G.O. of France, spoke to the following effect:—

"Dear Brethren of Lodge Friendship, when I recollect the kind and fraternal reception I have always met at your hands, I find that I cannot remain silent on this occasion. It would be indeed very difficult for me, nay more, I may say impossible to add anything to the kind, fraternal, and friendly expressions which have just fallen from the lips of Bro. De Lissa, on presenting Bro. Levison, in your name, a jewel as a test of the ability with which he has governed your lodge for the last three or four years, and also as a proof of the high sense of your esteem and respect. Dear Bro. Levison, I beg you will accept these few words as an echo of the feeling I also entertain for you personally, and I hope that your successors in office will follow your good example and thereby obtain the same favour conferred on you on this occasion, and allow me to add that this testimonial cannot fail but to reflect great honour on you, especially as

being one of the founders of the Lodge Friendship in Mauritius. I salute you, Worshipful Master, with all honours."

Bro. Seerey, 32°, Consistory of La Triple Esperance, and honorary member of Lodge Friendship, stood up and spoke thus:—

"Brethren, I have made it my duty, and a most pleasing one it is, to come on this occasion to join with you in order to present to our worthy Bro. Levison, a testimony of our esteem and consideration for the services which he has rendered, not only to this lodge in particular, but to Masonry in general. Let me tell you brethren that I have known Bro. Levison for upwards of twenty-five years, and that I have had always with him the most fraternal intercourse, during which interval I have always witnessed the efforts he has made for the benefit of our noble Institution. You know as well as myself that he has been the promoter and one of the founders of the English, Irish, and Scotch lodges which have been established since fifteen years ago. In all those lodges he has already received testimonials of sympathy and esteem, of which we are about to gratify him again to-day. Let the Almighty grant him long life, and may he be at our head for many years to come."

Next to Bro. Seery, the worthy Chaplain of Lodge Friendship spoke to the following effect:—

"He felt it a privilege, and a very gratifying duty, to take part in the proceedings of that evening. He had of late years been less frequently present at lodge meetings than it was his duty to be, the duties of his profession having kept him very much occupied, often by night as well as by day, during seasons and scenes of sickness such as the colony had gone through. But as often as he found that his duty specially claimed his presence at lodge, he was anxious to hasten to the front. That was an occasion when he felt it his bounden duty to come forward and identify himself with those who sought to do honour to their R.W. Master. They had all heard already the varied and substantial grounds on which the brethren had chosen to assemble, and in a tangible way signify their respect for their R.W.M. His merits, his qualifications, his high attainments in Masonry, had been too clearly set forth for him (the speaker) to add many words on that subject. He might just be permitted to say, that he was indebted to R.W. Bro. Levison for his elementary education in Masonry; that he had no other tutor in the various steps of progress he had made in acquiring the mysteries of the Craft, and for the high and honoured position he held in the E. that evening as Chaplain to the lodge; he had the pleasure to acknowledge his indebtedness to the tutor, the professor, the skilful and Right Worshipful (Masonic) Master of Arts, whom they all are now delighted to honour. But he had more to say than that, he must speak of the private worth and social standing of their R.W. brother. Not alone within the circle of the initiated was the name of Levison appreciated and honoured. Not only did it carry its own weight with it in the council rooms of Masonic committees, and the inner temples of Masonic lodges. But among high and low, rich and poor, throughout the city of Port Louis, and the whole colony of Mauritius, no man was better known, and no man's deeds of kindness, friendship, generosity, charity, were more generally acknowledged and appreciated than their R.W.M.'s. For nearly twenty years he (the speaker) had known Brother L. to be regarded by a large circle of friends as little else than a book of reference—a sort of centre-post to whom strangers newly arrived were recommended, friends long tried were attracted, and from whose door the poor and needy were never sent away empty or feeling ungrateful. In fact, if the name of George Levison were to disappear for a single month from No. 16, Church-street;—if G. Levison himself were to plead "leave of absence" for the half of that period—if he were but to take himself off to Bourbon for a brief trip, why the poor of Port Louis would pout, to say the least, some of the rich would be put out a little, and all would say "strange how we do miss him, when is he to be back?" But he was not away to Bourbon on sickleave, or any other leave; he has had no need, thank God, to

leave the spot where his best energies had been spent in the advancement of many a good cause, and where his time and means had never been refused to those who needed and sought his counsel and advice; they had him there that evening to bear witness to the truth of the fact *virtuti est suum præmium.*" He felt sure it was the prayer of all present that their R.W.M. might be long spared in our midst to do honour to the name of Masonry, and to adorn the name citizen, friend, benefactor, as he had done in time past.

Bros. Britter, P.M., of the British Lodge, and Wheldon, I.P.M., of the same lodge spoke highly of Bro. Levison, and in eulogistic terms expressed their approval at the presentation of a P.M. jewel to him, and lastly Bro. Aitchison, W.M. of the British Lodge, No. 736, E.C., animated by his Masonic feelings, and furthermore being a colleague of Bro Levison, spoke to the following effect:—

Right Worthy Sir, as the youngest W. Master present, I have purposely deferred addressing my congratulations to you until now, and find that the W.B.B. who have already addressed you have left nothing for me to add, I shall therefore not take up the time of the meeting by reiterating what has been already so well expressed, but I shall content myself and you also, I doubt not, R.W. Sir, by simply endorsing their hearty good wishes and facilitations on this auspicious occasion. Permit me to express, on the part of the British Lodge generally, and of myself personally, the hope that although we cannot expect you to continue much longer that energy and perseverance in the working of the lodges with which you have been so long connected, still we trust that the G.A. of the Universe will long spare you the health to attend our meetings, and thus aid by your presence and advice when required.

A vote of thanks was then proposed by W. Britter P.M., to W. Bro. De Lissa, P.M., 736, and I.P.M. No. 439, S.C., for the able manner he has conducted the business of the evening, which on being put to the vote was carried unanimously.

The lodge was then closed in proper form, and an adjournment was made to the banquetting room, where the brethren mustered in great numbers to felicitate the W.M. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, the W.M., receiving the fraternal congratulations of the assembly.

The last toast brought the pleasant evening's proceedings to a close, and the brethren, happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again, dispersed before high twelve.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF LEICESTERSHIRE.

A special meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Thursday, the 27th ult., under the auspices of the Fowke Lodge, No. 19, Bro. the Rev. W. Langley, P.G. Chaplain, P.D.P.G.M. in the chair. The business for which the meeting was convened was for the purpose of electing a brother to be nominated to the M.W.G.M.M.M. for appointment as Provincial Grand Master for the ensuing three years, the term of office of the present R.W.P.G.M., Bro. William Kelly, F. R. Hist. S., expiring on the 5th inst. Bro. Alexander, M. Duff, Prov. G.J.W., in a very eulogistic speech, proposed that the R. W. Bro. W. Kelly be nominated for re-appointment, which was seconded by Bro. Clement Stretton, Grand Steward, Prov. G. Treasurer, supported by the acting P.G.M., and carried by acclamation, Apologies for absence were received from the Prov.G.M., and from other officers, after which the lodge was closed.

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Poetry.

BROTHERLY LOVE;

By Bro. WILLIAM CARPENTER, P.M. and P.Z.,

Let brotherly love and its blessings abound,
For our fellowship's more than a name;
The bond that unites us is far from a myth,
Then our unity let us maintain.

But the circle we move in is wide as the world,
Our regards no exclusiveness know,
Our dealings are ever within compass kept,
And the spirit of brotherhood show.

Though some in the byeways of vice may be found,
They are false to the pledges they gave,
They dishonour themselves, vice and virtue confound,
We disclaim them; but still would them save.

If all were but true to the truths they profess,
Neither sham'd nor reproach'd should we be;
The Craft would be honour'd, the world would us bless,
Being won by the virtues they see.

Then let us work on, each one as he can,
Though some may unfaithful be found;
Our duty's the same, though all should prove false,
Let our labours of love, then, abound!

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MASONIC BIBLIOGRAPHY.

I am glad to follow up my notice of last week with respect to the rare pamphlet, "Thoughts on Masonry," with the account of a very curious little work, which fell into my hands only a day or two ago. It is entitled

La Muse Philanthropique
ou
Collection d'Arettes et des Chansons
Composées
pour
L' T e des S s
en Hollande

It has a curious vignette on the title page, with this motto "Tandem fit surculus arbor." The songs are partly in French, and partly in Dutch, one song is dedicated to the Lodge of Hope, at Amsterdam, by N.N., and another by W.S., A.D. 1793. The date of the book is probably 1794 or 1795.

A. F. A. WOODFORD.

Masonic Tidings.

METROPOLITAN LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—The ceremony of installation will be worked at the above Lodge of Instruction on Friday the 19th inst., at 7 o'clock by Bro. C. F. Hogard, W.M., 205, S.W. 453, and from what we know of the working generally in this lodge we can recommend those brethren seeking knowledge to visit it. The meetings are held throughout the year at the Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, under the Preceptorship of Bro. Stacey, P.M. 80.

The "Bagshaw" Lodge No. 1457 will hold its next meeting this (Saturday) afternoon at 4 o'clock. The banquet will be held at 6.

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS.—A warrant for a council at East Stonehouse, Devon, has been granted by the M.P.G.M.

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Answers to Correspondents.

P. G., Barrow.—Certainly, if requested so to do by the Master in the chair. The following communications stand over:—Reports of Lodges 302, 1331, 1239; 73, S.C.; Victoria Chapter Rose Croix; Restoration of Waltham Abbey. ERRATUM.—Page 783, Dec. 6, under United Grand Lodge, for "Col. Whitwell, M.P., the J.W.," read "Capt. William Platt, J.W."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTH.

STEVENS.—On the 8th inst., at Clapham Common, the wife of Bro. James Stevens, W.M. Great City Lodge, No. 1426, of a daughter.

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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.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1873.

CHARITY VOTING.

We should not have returned to this subject, as we believed, that enough had been said about it, had it not been for the report of a meeting which took place at the Westminster Palace Hotel, on the 2nd inst., Sir R. A. Alcock, in the chair.

At that meeting, it appears from the fuller report in *The Times*, resolutions were even-

tually agreed to, or rather perhaps a resolution, embodying the following point:—

1. That in electing candidates to charitable institutions, it is desirable, in order to prevent trafficking in votes, that voting papers should be forwarded to each subscriber a short time before the elections, and that all such voting papers be returned direct to the managers of the charities; 2, that, as far as possible, canvassing for votes should be discouraged, but that the full description of each case and the names of the subscribers nominating the case be inserted in the voting paper; it is moreover expedient that the names of the candidates so nominated should be classified, after investigation, according to the best judgement of the Committee on their relative claims; 3, that the public polling day, involving the attendance of the candidates and their relatives and friends, should be discontinued, and that the result of each election, having been duly arrived at by proper scrutiny, be declared by publication in one or more of the principal journals, and by special circular addressed to each candidate, or to the nearest relative of each candidate."

During the discussion, a speech was made by Dr. Jabez Hogg, which is as follows, and which we consider deserves notice for his allusion to a Masonic Charity.

Bro. Jabez Hogg, in seconding the resolution, dwelt upon the demoralizing effect of the existing method of conducting the elections of charities. He pointed out that in the case of an institution with which he was connected, for the relief of the widows and orphans of medical men, the most deserving cases were selected for relief without any reference to the subscribers, adding that the charity was distributed in the most satisfactory manner. He mentioned also the case of a charity connected with the Masonic body, in which the system of open voting and that of selection of applicants by a committee prevailed, observing that the work done by the Committee was far more efficient where the sole object was to afford relief in the most deserving cases.

We should be extremely glad to know to which Masonic Charity Dr. Jabez Hogg alludes, as the fact, if it be a fact, is entirely new to us. We do not see that much of what is new or important was brought forward by the promoters of the meeting.

Our worthy Bro. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., made, we note, a very energetic speech, "more suo," but, which appears to us rather an undeserved attack on the managers of our charities, and the present voting system.

He said that in dealing with so grave a question, involving as it did, the happiness of their fellow-creatures, it was most desirable to avoid anything like petty personalities. It was by abstaining from all irritating language that they could best secure the co-operation of managers of the charities. A great many persons felt—and among the number was the Earl of Derby, whom he had seen only a few hours before—that it was not desirable, at all events for the present, to do anything more than to endeavour to remove the great abuses which attached to the system of working and which prevented anything like a healthy action. As to the system itself, he did not think any manager would contend that it was a pure and simple charity. It was, perhaps, at the same time necessary to make allowance for a system which had grown up for many years, and not at once to produce a revolution, which would not only unsettle the charities themselves, but which might diminish to some extent the sympathy with which they were regarded. Besides, the legal difficulties in the way of abolishing the existing system were very great, if not insuperable. Under those circumstances, the obvious course for those who were in favour of a change was simply to seek to reform that which they could not destroy. He must at the same time point out that those were no mere theorists who maintained that charities could stand without the

voting system, and in support of that view he might instance the national refuges and the Queen-street workshops and other institutions which had flourished 20 years without it, and which were increasing in prosperity. But what the promoters of the present movement proposed to do was, as he said, not to destroy, but reform, by allowing no trafficking in votes, no canvassing, and no public polling days. Canvassing was a gross abuse, for if one person sent out printed papers, the whole of the candidates must do the same, at a cost of at least £10 each. English independence had, he would add, been sadly sapped by the present pauperising system, and the whole proceedings were nothing but a travesty of charity. (Hear, hear.)

We all of us know what is said about the "zeal of converts," and we think that our good brother, in his excellent intention," overlooks somewhat the practical difficulties of the case. If his own resolution be carried out, the only effect will be, to give practically to the House Committee the selection of the candidates.

The "classification by the Committee," of the cases, after investigation, "according to their best judgment on their respective claims," is after all nothing more and nothing less than a recommendation of the Committee to the subscribers of certain special cases.

We have as much experience as our good brother R. J. Simpson in charitable associations, and we are quite certain of this, that, the proposed changes in the charities can only tend to the diminution of individual regard for, and individual interest in, the respective cases.

We also are equally certain that, many of the abuses are more sensational than real, and we have no hesitation in adding, that, the managers of the various charities are fully competent to manage their own affairs, and are also ready to reform any proved mistake, either in detail or practice,

The charities, as we have said before, have grown with the growth of our country, and are subjects of just pride to all patriotic Englishmen, and are certainly in no way deserving of being termed, as we see they are by our able Bro. R. J. Simpson, "a pauperizing system," and "a travesty of charity."

We hope that the charities will be left alone, despite all the great names of approving absentees at the recent meeting, to pursue the "even tenour of their way" in works of usefulness, beneficence, and of good.

THE IRISH GRAND LODGE CONSTITUTIONS.

It appears, that, in our last article on the subject we did not give quite the correct account of what took place at a recent discussion on the proposed revised laws, and especially as regards Law 133. What really took place appears to be as follows:

It was proposed and seconded when Law 133 was reached, that it should be expunged. Whereupon an amendment was proposed, but on a division was negatived by a decisive majority, and after a long and animated debate, the original question of expurgation was then put and carried by about the same majority. At the meeting of the Grand Lodge next night, (adjourned we presume,) a brother who had been absent at the discussion raised the point, that, as it had been distinctly stated in the notices,

no new matter should be raised after 10.30 p.m., the whole discussion was irregular and illegal.

The D.G.M., reserved the point, and finally ruled that the discussion was irregular, contrary to understanding, and the decision invalid. Upon this a protest was tendered, we are given to understand, and referred, we also believe, to the G.M. This no doubt is an entirely new phase of the affair, and if the G.M., as he probably may, holds, that, the proceedings after 10.30 that evening, were informal, and "ultra vires," the discussion on Clause 133 will have to be commenced "de novo."

We have great confidence in the good sense and sound Masonic feelings of our Irish Brethren, and we feel little doubt, but that the result will be the distinct rejection of this most unmasonic Clause. We cannot pretend to conceive or understand, how such a provision ever got into Craft Regulations, or what good purpose it is supposed to serve. It is contrary to every principle of Masonic or civil jurisprudence, and is as retrograde a principle as it ever has been our lot to peruse or to criticise. Let us hope that we have heard the last of it, and that we may witness the assertion of the simple and equitable laws of Craft Masonry, instead of this most untenable proposal, and the unprecedented introduction of alien jurisdictions, among the constitutions and within the portals of a Craft Grand Lodge.

WEEKLY SUMMARY.

Her Majesty the Queen has continued at Windsor, surrounded by a small family circle, including Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, and H.R.H. Prince Arthur.

The Prince and Princess of Wales are at Sandringham, where the birthday of the Princess was duly observed, both in a family gathering, and by a large assembly of distinguished visitors, H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, and H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge being amongst the number. The festivities were very happily closed by an entertainment to the tenants of Sandringham, and to the tenants of the estates adjacent to that property. The best wishes of the country and of the Masonic body go with that august lady.

Sir Thomas Freemantle, after a long and meritorious public service of nearly fifty years, has resigned the Chairmanship of the Board of Customs, and the name of his successor will be awaited with interest by all who are connected with trade, and by the community at large.

The School Board elections have all, we believe, now closed, except Sheffield which has had no election, and some of the new boards have already commenced their important duties, others will commence them this week.

Sir Garnet Wolseley has been ill of fever, but is better, great preparations are being made for an advance." May good luck attend them, and those two other gallant corps which have left for the Ashantee War!

The 42nd Highlanders, the old "Black Watch" have sailed in the Sarmatian, a large hired transport for the Gold Coast. This fine regiment left Portsmouth and embarked amidst great enthusiasm, H.R.H. Prince Arthur running out in a steam launch, with some officers to bid them farewell off Spithead. Sir A. Alison, and several officers for special service accompanied the 42nd.

The Sacred Harmonic Society has had a most successful representation of Israel in Egypt, under the skilful "Baton" of Sir Michael Costa, and purposes to give the Messiah at Christmas. They are also talking of producing ere long Palestine, by Dr. Crotch, and John the Baptist by Mr. Macfarren.

The Tichborne trial continues, and much admiration is expressed for the exemplary patience of those three distinguished members of the judicial bench who preside over the proceedings, which seem interminable.

Great efforts are made to lighten the effects of the apprehended famine in Bengal, which it is hoped will be successful. Sir George Campbell's resignation is, however, a matter of deep regret.

Lord Colville, who had met with an accident out shooting—it is hoped is doing well, though the surgeons have had to remove an eye which had been struck with the shot.

In foreign news there is not a great deal to record.

France is tranquil, though the debates are many, and that good old soldier, Marshal MacMahon, evidently intends to keep before him General Changarnier's famous declaration, "L'ordre surtout." Some further proceedings have taken place as regards the submarine tunnel between France and England, which, if completed, will certainly constitute a remarkable guarantee for the preservation of peace. The case for the prosecution in the trial of Marshal Bazaine is over, and Maître Lachaud has commenced an eloquent defence for the accused.

The Duke de la Rochefoucauld-Bissaccia has been appointed French Ambassador to London.

The Emperor of Austria has commemorated the 25th anniversary of his accession the throne, amid the enthusiastic plaudits of his people. He came to the supreme power in very troubled times, and has ever maintained the promise of his youth—spent under old Radetzky's care—in the graver and darker scenes of trial and storm. The Empress has left for Godollo, in Hungary, where the Emperor will join her for Christmas. An era of peaceful prosperity seems, happily, to be opening out for the Austrian Empire.

The Virginius case is settled, as between the Spanish Government and the American Administration, but not, it seems, with the authorities at Havannah. If this be so, further complications will inevitably arise. One great and sad fact is, that 16 English subjects, non-combatants, have been illegally sentenced and put to death. Seven remained in prison on October 8th, of whom one was a boy of 10, one of 13 years, one of 15, one of 16, two 19, and one 22 years old.

We have to record the death of Sir George Rose, former a Master in Chancery, and a judge of the Court of Review, and the only survivor of the "Old Westminsters" of the last century. Lord Athlumney's death is also mentioned, better known as Sir William Somerville.

THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The first meeting of the Board of Stewards, appointed to carry out the arrangements for the forthcoming Festival of the above Institution, was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, 5th inst. The Rev. Bro. Cochrane presided. The Rev. C. Martyn was appointed Chairman of the Board of Stewards; Bro. Richards, Treasurer; Bro. Terry, Secretary. A musical committee was also appointed, the amount voted for music being £30; the Stewards' fee, £3 3s.; and the price of the dinner tickets, 21s. Ninety-five brethren have given their names as Stewards, twenty of whom have volunteered as Ladies' Stewards. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting was adjourned to January 7th, at 4 o'clock.

The Editor of the "Bauhütte" has founded at Florence an establishment for the sale of German and English books. We have much pleasure in introducing the same to the notice of our many readers who may visit the fair city, feeling assured that they will meet with every attention from those in charge. The address is—Messrs. Flor and Findel, German and Foreign Booksellers, 24, Lung Arno Acciajoli, Florence, Italy. Prints, photographs, pictures, and English stationery, are also kept in stock.—ADVT.

CONSECRATION OF THE BURDETT CHAPTER, No. 1293.

On Saturday, the 29th ult., the Burdett Chapter, No. 1293, was consecrated at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, by Comps. J. Hervey, G.S.E., assisted by Comps. R. Hamilton, M.D., District G. Supt., East Jamaica, as H.; J. Boyd, P.Z., 145 and 534, as J.; and J. W. White, J. elect, 21, as D.C.

The usual ceremonies having been observed, the presiding officers installed Comp. Col. F. Burdett, P.Z., Prov. G. Supt., as the first Z.; R. Wentworth Little, P.Z., Prov. G.S.E. as H.; and Frederick Davison, as J.; Comps. H. C. Levander, P.Z.; D. R. Still, and H. G. Buss, P.Z., were elected and invested as E.N., and Treasurer respectively.

The rank of honorary member was conferred upon Comps. Hervey, Hamilton, Boyd, and White for their efficient services, after which Comp. Little proposed seventeen candidates for exaltation, and three for joining. The chapter was then closed and the Provincial Grand Chapter of Middlesex was opened by M.E. Comp. Col. Burdett, Prov. G. Supt.; W. Roebuck, C.E., H.; Major S. H. Clerke, as J.; and the other officers.

The minutes of the 1872 meetings were read and verified, and the reports of the audit and bye-laws committees were approved. The following companions were appointed Prov. G. Officers for the ensuing year, R. W. Stewart, H.; A. J. Codner, J.; Wentworth Little, E.; J. Coutts, N.; W. Smeed, P.S.; G. Cattell, 1st Asst. J.; H. Edmunds, 2nd Asst.; H. G. Buss, Treas.; Chas. Horsley, Registrar; Sir G. E. Campbell, Bart., S.B.; S. Rosenthal, Standard Bearer; H. Parker, Organist; Fred Davison, D.C.; J. Gilbert, Janitor.

The fees approved by the Provincial Grand Chapter are three shillings for every exaltation, and one shilling for every joining member since the 20th of April, 1872, the date of the foundation of the Province in the Order of the Royal Arch. No annual dues are required, but returns from the subordinate chapters must be sent in every year, shewing the names of new members.

A vote of thanks to Comps. G. Elliott, M.P., Z.; J. C. Parkinson, H.; the Earl of Limerick, J.; and the members of the Bard of Avon Chapter, No. 771, for the loan of their magnificent furniture, was carried by acclamation, and the P.G. Chapter was then closed. The Prov. G. Supt., Col. Burdett, presided at the banquet which followed, and was supported by Comps. Hamilton, Hervey, Roebuck, Hyde Pullen, Codner, Major Clerke, Little, Coutts, Horsley, Buss, Boyd, White, Barrett, Kenning, Levander, Still, Parker, Smeed, Rosenthal, Davison, and others.

The dinner was well served, and gave every satisfaction to the members and visitors.

A FORESTER'S FUNERAL.—On Saturday last, the 29th ult., the mortal remains of Bro. Arthur Wellesley Weldon, A.O.F., Court Vulcan, 3,245; A.O.S., Sanctuary Knaresborough Castle, and late editor of "The Foresters' Journal," were interred at Norwood Cemetery. Notwithstanding the drenching rain, the procession was most impressive. Headed by the Chief Ranger and Secretaries of Court and Sanctuary, together with the splendid brass band of the City Police, and followed by the other officers of the District and Order in general, in mourning regalia, the cortege was made up with mourning coaches, private carriages, and cabs, containing the relatives of the deceased, and several opulent tradesmen with whom he had been connected in business. About 2,000 residents of the neighbourhood and suburbs, despite the rain, followed as far as Denmark-hill.—*The Foresters' Journal.*

We would draw the attention of our many readers to the fact that the Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar for 1874, is now ready, price 2s. od. post free 2s. 2d., and may be had at Bro. Kenning's Masonic Depots, or through any respectable bookseller or newsagent.

MASONIC ORPHAN BOYS' SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

The half-yearly general meeting of the Board of Governors of the Masonic Orphan Boys' School, was held at Freemasons' Hall, Molesworth-street, on Thursday, 13th November, 1873, the R.W. the Deputy Grand Master, as Senior Vice-President, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous half-yearly meeting having been read, Bro. George H. Major, Hon. Sec., read the following half-yearly report of the Committee.

"The Committee of the Masonic Orphan Boys' School are happy to be in a position to state that since their last report was laid before the Governors the Institution has made satisfactory progress.

"The abstract of accounts cannot of course be laid before the Governors at the present meeting, as the accounts for the year have not yet been closed; but the Committee are able to say that the life donations and annual subscriptions have, during the present year, been much increased, many brethren who were not previously Governors having become so.

"The Committee have also much pleasure in stating, that during the present year, they have invested the sum of £1,180.

"The Committee have every reason to be satisfied with the care and attention which the boys receive from Bro. the Rev. S. S. Skeen, at whose establishment 16 of the pupils are at present placed, and they are also enabled to report most favourably as to the progress in education the boys have made during the present year. A special examination for prizes, conducted by Bro. Rev. J. A. Galbraith, F.T.C.D., and Bro. Rev. Benjamin Gibson, was held in the month of June last, and the answering of the boys on that occasion was most creditable.

"The Committee regret to state that there are two vacancies among the Trustees of the institution, caused by the deaths of Bros. W. S. Tracy, and E. R. Dignes La Touche, and they would beg to recommend that Bros. Phillip C. Smyle, and Richard O. Armstrong be appointed to fill those vacancies.

"Bro. W. E. Gumbleton, V.P., at a meeting of the Governors of the Masonic Female Orphan School, held in the month of June last, moved that certain additions to, or alterations in the rules of that Institution, should be made, and such having been approved of, the Committee strongly recommend that similar alterations should be made in the rules of this Institution. The following are the new rules, as carried at the meeting of the Governors of the Masonic Female Orphan School:—

"Vice Patrons—Every individual donor of £60 in one sum, or in two sums of £30 each, or of £100 in payments of £10 each, shall be a Vice-Patron.

"Vice-Presidents—Every individual donor of £30 in one sum, or of £50 in sums of not less than £10 each, shall be a Vice-President.

"Extra Votes—All payments made by any brother after he has become a Vice-President shall entitle him to double the number of votes, which such payments would usually give.

"Signed on behalf of the Committee,
"James A. Tyrrell, V.P., Chairman.
"10th November, 1873."

Proposed by Bro. G. S. Eves, seconded by Bro. F. W. Scott, and resolved—"that the Report now read be received."

Proposed by Bro. G. H. Major, seconded by Bro. Dr. Duane, G.O.—"that Bros. Phillip C. Smyly, and Richard Owen Armstrong, be elected Trustees of the institution, in room of William S. Tracy, and E. R. D. La Touche, deceased."

The proposed alterations in the rules were taken as a notice of motion.

Proposed by Bro. C. Foot, seconded by Bro. R. W. Gamble, Q.C., and resolved:—"that the following be the Honorary Officers and Committee of the Institution, for 1874.—

President: His Grace the Duke of Leinster, G.M.

Senior Vice-President: Robert William Shekleton, D.G.M.

Committee: Samuel H. Bolton; Maxwell Close, D.L.; the Right Hon. H. E. Chatterton, Vice-Chancellor; Robert Courtenay; Capt. A.

Vesey Davoren; Alexander Dickson, J.P.; John H. Edge; The Rev. Joseph A. Galbraith, F.T.C.D.; John G. Gibbon; W. E. Gumbleton J.P.; Harry Hodges; J. Stewart Kincaid; Stuart N. Lane; the Rev. J. J. Macsorley; E. William Maunsell; the Right Hon. and Rev. Lord Plunkett; Francis Quin; Theophilus E. St. George; Charles G. Stanuall; George A. Stephens; Sir John M. Stewart, Bart; the Hon. Judge Townshend, LL.D.; James Tyrrell; Thomas Valentine, J.P.; Charles T. Walmisley; Robert Warren, D.L.; Henry Wilson, F.R.C.S.I.; Charles H. Woodroffe, Q.C.

Honorary Secretaries: Philip C. Smyly, M.D.; George Hill Major.

Trustees: The Hon. Judge Townshend, LL.D.; Edward H. Kinahan, J.P.; Robert Warren, D.L.; Philip C. Smyly; Richard Owen Armstrong.

Medical Officers: George H. Porter, Surgeon in Ordinary to her Majesty; John H. Chapman, M.D.

Assistant Secretary: Samuel B. Oldham.

The following report from the Scrutineers of the ballot for the election of three pupils was then read:—

"We, the undersigned Scrutineers of the Ballot, for the election of three pupils, into the Masonic Orphan Boys' School, have to report that with the aid of the Assistant Secretary, we have examined the several voting papers sent in. The total number of papers received was 751, viz:—141 from Life Governors, 450 from Annual Governors, and 161 from Official Governors, of these 25 were from Governors whose subscriptions were unpaid, 5 not being properly signed, 7 received in duplicate, and 3 received late. The total number of votes recorded was 2481.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Wills Ballantine..... | 59 |
| Thomas H. Blundell..... | 33 |
| Robert C. Burton..... | 382 |
| Frederick S. Clayton..... | 378 |
| Edward L. Coleman..... | 255 |
| Frederick Ferguson..... | 125 |
| William H. Knight..... | 103 |
| William F. O'Neill..... | 105 |
| Alexander L. Richardson..... | 42 |
| Edward T. Sheilds..... | 154 |
| Frederick A. E. Skeen..... | 190 |
| Isaac Strahan..... | 281 |
| Julian H. Verdon..... | 301 |
| Malcolm Wallace..... | 73 |

Dated 12th November, 1873.

John A. Hogan, Samuel Dubbin, Charles Foot, R. T. Bourn, Scrutineers."

Proposed by Bro. C. H. Major; seconded by Bro. Captain Maxwell, and resolved—"that Robert C. Burton, son of the late Howard Burton, banker, formerly of lodges 411, 127, and 9; Frederick S. Clayton, son of the late William B. Clayton, M.B., T.C.D., of Lodge 167, Athy and Julian Howard Verdon, son of the late Theodore B. Verdon, solicitor, of Lodge 2, Dublin, and grandson of the late John Fowler, P.D.G.M., be declared duly elected as pupils of the School.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF ARMAGH.

PROPOSED NEW MASONIC HALL.

The 27th of November, 1873, will long be remembered as a Masonic red letter day in the history of the brotherhood in and around Armagh. On that day the Provincial Grand Lodge of Monaghan, Louth, and Armagh met in the Tontine Rooms, Armagh, and if interesting business, true fraternity of spirit and feeling, and enthusiasm of the most decided character can make a meeting pleasant, then the gathering on this occasion deserves to be ranked as the best and most memorable of the Masonic Order which has ever been held in this section of the emerald isle. The Irish Mason at his best is a pattern of all that is good, loyal, true, energetic, and harmonious, and every brother present on this occasion—representatives from every portion of the province—displayed all their qualities in a high degree. As a consequence, while there was a noble work to be inaugurated, there was also a harmony and fraternal feeling characterising the whole assembly which made the meet-

ing something like the realisation of a "happy family." The meeting was called for a noble purpose, and that seems likely to be inaugurated and carried out with an enthusiasm and cordiality worthy of the noble name of Freemasonry.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened by Bro. Maxwell C. Close, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, who was supported by an imposing array of P.G. officers, and many of the W.M's., P.M's., Wardens, and brethren of his province. The chief business of the meeting was the proposal to erect a new Masonic Hall in Armagh, and the universal feeling of the brethren was unanimously in favour of the scheme being carried out without delay. Plans for the new building were submitted, and a committee was appointed to report on the subject to the Grand Lodge at its meeting in Clones, in February next.

At five o'clock about seventy of the brethren again assembled in the Tontine, and sat down to a splendid banquet, prepared by Bro. Bright. The room was tastefully decorated with evergreens, interspersed with various Masonic emblems; and as the brethren marched in from the ante-room two-and-two, wearing their regalia, while Bro. Marks discoursed music on the harmonium, the sight was grand indeed, so much so, that one of the oldest Masons present—indeed, we should say, the oldest—informed us that he did not remember such a splendid gathering of Craft for forty years previous.

The R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. Maxwell C. Close, presided.

The dinner, which was of a *recherché* character, and served up in Bro. Bright's usual elegant style, was done ample justice to, after which the R.W.P.G.M. rose and proposed the usual loyal toasts. "The Queen," air—"National Anthem," was warmly received.

In proposing the toast of Bro. "H.R.H. Prince of Wales, Past G.M.," the R.W.P.G.M. observed that the Prince had always shown his attachment to Masonry by the cordial and generous support he had invariably given to the interests of the Craft. Air—"God bless the Prince of Wales."

The toast was received with Masonic salute and cheers.

The next toast was "The Most Worshipful the Grand Master of Ireland," was received very heartily with Masonic salute and cheers.

A part song, specially written for the occasion by Bro. G. H. Smith, Lodge 39, and set to music with quartette arrangement by Bro. T. O. Marks, Mus. Bac., P.G.O., Armagh, entitled "The Grand Old Lights of Masonry," was beautifully rendered by Bros. Clements, Nelson, and Marks, and enthusiastically applauded. An encore was demanded and complied with. The R.W.P.G.M. requested that, as the harmony and music were so good, Bros. Smith and Marks should have the song published at the expense of the Grand Lodge, which they agreed to do. By special permission, obtained by Bro. C. F. Tranter, S.W. 623, we subjoin a copy of the words of the song, which is dedicated to the Duke of Leinster, M.W.G.M. of Ireland.

THE GRAND OLD LIGHTS OF MASONRY.
I.

The grand old lights of Masonry
Still guide us on our way,—
Though rugged be the path we tread
And gloomy be our day;
So still we hail with welcome shout
That good old charter cry,
And drink to Leinster's honoured name
With glass uplifted high.
For we are all true Masons,
Good Masons every one,
Gathered here for pleasure
When our work is done.

Here's to our good Grand Master—long may he live.

II.

For many a year he still has been
Our sure and trusty friend—
For many a year we wish him spared
Our ancient Craft to tend;
With him we'll work in 'peace' and 'love,'
In 'harmony' be blended;
And sorrow deep shall fill our breasts
Whene'er his days are ended.
For we are, &c.

III.

As Masons then we proudly claim
The Duke as "one of ours"—
Long may he lead a happy life
'Mid Carton's lovely flowers:
And when Acacia branch is reared,
Where cold his ashes lie,
May he have joined that Lodge above
Where brethren never die.
For we are, &c.

"The Most Worshipful the Grand Masters of England and Scotland" was next given. Glee—"Lady of Beauty."

Bro. Nicholson proposed "The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Lodge." Trio—"Life's a Bumper." The toast was enthusiastically received.

The R.W. Prov. G.M., in acknowledging the toast, observed that he had to return thanks for the hearty co-operation he had always received from the brethren and officers who had charge of the administration of the affairs of the Craft. It was a great pleasure to him to be present there that evening, and to see such a muster of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Armagh. He hoped that it would be an annual meeting, as he believed social re-union helped to foster good fellowship and kindly sympathies between one another. (Applause.)

"The Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge," and "Our Visiting Brethren," having been given and responded to, the company separated at an early hour, all seeming to have thoroughly enjoyed the proceedings of the evening.

We may mention that the musical portion of the proceedings, which consisted of glees and songs, was admirably rendered by Bros. Clements, Nelson, and Marks. Bro. Wood's name had also appeared in the programme; but the death of a near relative obliged him to be absent. The appreciation of the audience was conveyed to those who had so kindly given their services, by the toast of their health being warmly received.

Original Correspondence.

SURREPTITIOUS CRAFT RITUALS.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The authors of the surreptitious ritual are not Masons, except in name. The real truth about the matter being that their father was a Mason, who had thrown together certain notes for his own guidance, as I have ascertained. His manuscript became the property of his widow, and was offered to but not purchased by the Wakefield Lodge. The brothers afterwards published it, I wrote to you as soon as your leader on it appeared, but you did not think it desirable to publish my letter.

Of course the Craft would disavow such a publication, and Masonry need not fear such presumed exposures. Masonry does not depend upon ritual, or other publications would long since have been hunted down, and done away with.

The object of these men is only to trade upon the credulity of the masses; but I trust my warning may be felt useful when I say that secret societies, however harmless, should take greater care as to whom they admit into their ranks.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,
KENNETH R. H. MACKENZIE,
Known as "Cryptonimus."

FRUGALITY AND PHILANTHROPY.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The letter of Bro. H. B. Hodges under the above heading, which appeared in your last issue, contains an imputation upon the members of our honourable fraternity, ascribed as emanating from our universally esteemed Bro. W. Hughan, which in my humble estimation ought not to be permitted to be passed unchallenged. The brethren are charged with using the lodge funds for the purposes of conviviality and are

advised to "gratify their tastes in eating and drinking out of their own pockets."

Now, with all due respect to Bros. Hughan and Hodges, I cannot admit, and strongly protest against, such a charge, and deem that advice gratuitous, and even (however unintentionally) offensive.

The bye-laws of every lodge regulate the annual subscriptions in proportion to the number and quality of banquets or suppers the members shall be annually entitled to, and such lodges who deprecate conviviality fix their charges so as to procure only a sufficiency to defray current expenses. This being the case, how can the charge of employing the lodge funds in "eating and drinking" be sustained. Fully recognising the benevolent feelings which prompted Bro. Hodges to pen his remarks, I cannot help accusing him of having permitted his sympathies to override his better judgment, and cause him to make or endorse a statement which cannot in any sense be said to be within the boundaries of truth.

We may safely assume that every brother in the Craft, with scarcely an exception, would cordially assist in any scheme having for its object the augmentation of the Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund, to enable its administrators to extend their operations, but the vast majority would certainly object, and justly too, to any attempt to deprive them of such enjoyments they think proper to subscribe to.

The prevalent mania for curtailing the amusements of people, and the principles which are sought to be enforced to make man solemn whether they like it or not, should not be allowed to creep in amongst us. God knows, most of us are worked hard enough, and enjoy but scant opportunities for holiday making, therefore I should be sorry to see the end of those rare occasions which tended to enliven the drooping spirit, and under whose influence many friendships have been formed and cemented—aye, and through the medium of which, many charitable contributions are procured. It would be out of place, in this communication, to discuss the question as to whether, in any case, money so spent in conviviality, could not be better employed in charitable gifts; that is a matter which each individual must determine. I only wished to protest against an unfounded accusation, and point out that those brethren who delight in the pleasant social gathering which takes place after the business of the lodge is over, and whose health and appetite permit them to enjoy the viands and delicacies which are then provided for them, do not squander the subscriptions appertaining to their lodge, but actually and truly pay for their own pleasures "out of their own pocket."

Yours fraternally,
E. GOTTHEIL, P.M., P.Z.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir, and Brother,—

Will you or any of your numerous correspondents please to inform me in your next or future issue, in what relation do honorary members of lodges stand with regard to balloting for candidates for admission, they not being subscribing members of the lodge, or in other words "have they the power of voting on such occasions" if not subscribers,

AN ENQUIRER,
Duke of Lancaster Lodge, 1353,
West Lancashire.

BRO. BIGG AND THE MIDDLESEX LODGE.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,

I am a perfect stranger (so far as brethren in the Craft can be strangers to each other) to both the Golden Rule and the Middlesex Lodge, and have never had the advantage of enjoying the hospitality of either, therefore my endeavour on my part to procure an explanation which may have the effect of restoring harmony between Bros. Bigg and Salmon, must be perfectly, (which is as much as to say) fraternally impartial.

May I then ask two questions, replies to which I cannot gather from Bro. Bigg's eloquent address as reported in your columns, but upon

the answers thus desiderated I take it Masonic judgment must be based.

1. Assuming that Bro. Bigg was personally unknown to every brother present did he volunteer to undergo examination at the hands of the W.M. or any delegate he might find, and so prove his knowledge of the noble science?

2. Did the W.M. of the Middlesex evince any intention of his wish that the formula usual in such cases should not be departed from, viz., that the Junior Warden should retire with the visiting brother to the ante-room, and there prove his proficiency?

3. Did Bro. Bigg, relying on his rank and experience in the Craft, resent the doubts implied by a proposal that he should undergo the usual examination.

The duties of the W.M. and J.W. are so explicitly enforced, and expressly explained, and specified upon these points that until the Masonic public obtains further information respecting the exact facts of the course pursued on the occasion when Bro. Bigg took offence, it is impossible to say whether Bro. Salmon's conduct deserves censure as boorish and inhospitable, or praise for caution and fidelity.

P.M.

READING THE SCRIPTURES.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I think the repeating "from memory Ecclesiastes xii., verses 1 to 7 inclusive," by the Chaplain, is very appropriate, as noticed by "A P.M.," and worked in the Hertford Lodge, No. 403. But according to the working of all the lodges I have seen, the senior P.M., or any one else, could not possibly "read" that passage, or any other; so that there must be quite a different working in the 403.

I enclose my card, and shall be obliged by your forwarding it to "A P.M.;" and I shall be obliged by your correspondent explaining how anyone may "read" the appropriate passage referred to.

I am, yours fraternally,
W.M. 402.

NOT GENERALLY KNOWN.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The notice in the November number of the "Masonic Magazine" of Bro. Paton's book on Symbolism reminds me that I have something to communicate in that line which is not generally known.

Credulous Masons are not quite so numerous as they used to be, but, nevertheless, we have still quite a number who believe that our ceremonies, symbols, &c., have descended to us, unaltered, from the days of King Solomon. These brethren argue thus: Did not the R.W. Bro. Smith exhort me at my initiation, "as you received it, so you must impart it." Well, and was not Bro. Smith exhorted in the same manner by the R.W. Bro. Jones; and was not Bro. Jones exhorted in like manner by Bro. Robinson. And so on, and so on, each W.M. was exhorted by his predecessor to impart only what was communicated to him. Such being the case, how then was it possible for any Worshipful Master ever to have dared to add, or to subtract a solitary word from the Ritual or Tracing Board marked out by King Solomon himself?

Dr. Winslow Lewis, P.G.M. of Massachusetts, once humourously remarked, when alluding to that class of credulous brethren, "These men," said he, "not only believe that our Ritual was composed by King Solomon, but they are even persuaded that King Solomon composed the Ritual in the English language." Tell one of these men that the Massachusetts Ritual differs, not only from the English Ritual, but also from those in vogue in New York, Philadelphia, &c., and he will answer with a "Bah!" and with a "suppose they do differ a little?" And if you point to a number of symbols on the American tracing board, not found on any other tracing board, and ask who manufactured those symbols, they are either apt to manifest vexation, or they may civilly acknowledge their inability to answer.

Now, if any of my London readers would call at

Bro. Kenning's office, and examine an American Masonic Monitor, Manual, or trestle board, decorated with woodcuts, they will see among the woodcuts a group, consisting of a winged angel, a female, and a broken column. I have repeatedly enquired for the origin of that group, and how it came into the American ritual, &c., but with no satisfactory result. Recently, however, I obtained the desired information from P.G.M., John W. Simons, who is also editor of the Masonic department of the *New York Dispatch*.

But before communicating the information, I may premise that American Masonry is mainly indebted to the genius of Thomas Smith Webb for the rituals of most of our Masonic degrees, and in some instances we are even indebted to the said Bro. Webb for the degrees also, Bro. Webb manufactured the American Royal Arch degrees, which differ from every other R.A. under the sun, he also manufactured the American Knight Templar degrees, and was the author of the first Masonic Monitor ever printed in America. In short, he was looked up to as the most luminous shining light in the United States, and many still believe, that Webb's Monitor approaches nearer to the original manual composed by King Solomon himself, than any other Monitor that has since then been printed.

Bro. Webb was the great instructor of a school of "bright and well-informed Masons," (so-called by one of his scholars). About thirty years ago I remember spending an hour with Bro. Gleeson, at Bro. Charles W. Moore's house, who was introduced to me as one of Webb's disciples, and whose exclusive business was, to travel all over the land and lecture on Masonry. He told me that he had visited England, where he illumed some lodge with an American lecture, and that he was well remunerated by his delighted audience. Bro. Gleeson was really the only one of Webb's pupils who received a college education, but he was either incapable, or too indolent to write an article for a magazine. Bro. Gleeson probably never added, and never omitted a word, from the lectures, &c., he received from Webb; his vocation was that of a lecturer and instructor in all the works appertaining to all the degrees he received from his master, and probably reading Monitors at the same time.

But Bro. Jeremy L. Cross, though he received but an ordinary school education, was the most successful of the whole Masonic arena, including the S. and A. Rite, but was also the originator of that part of the (so-called) "York Rite," known as the "Council degrees." This Bro. Cross, first conceived the fortunate idea of improving his Monitor with pictorial illustrations. I do not know how many editions of his Monitor Bro. Cross disposed of, but I see in one of Bro. W. S. Gardner's orations a quotation from the 16th edition of Cross's Monitor. Well, it was while Bro. Cross was pondering in his mind as to what kind of engravings would be most suitable to adorn his forthcoming work; he happened to stray into the Trinity Church-yard, located in Broadway, New York, and there he noticed placed over one of the graves, a broken column, and I know not what else besides; and it struck him, that some such a picture would make a useful addition to help the sale of his book, and so he had a drawing taken from it, and after making some alterations, had it placed in his book as a Masonic symbol, and Masters in all American Lodges now address the neophytes when conferring the third degree, thus,—“And Masonic tradition informs us that there was erected to his memory a marble monument on which was delineated a broken column, a virgin weeping; before her lay a book open; in her right hand she held a sprig of acacia, her left encircled an urn, and Time behind her, with his hands enfolded in the ringlets of her hair.” And I have no doubt, that we may now find, between Maine and Florida, and between the Atlantic and Pacific seaboard, thousands and tens of thousands of credulous brethren, ready to swear that the group as described above, and as delineated on the American tracing boards, was designed by King Solomon, and made by his order.

The fact of Bro. Cross having been the

originator of that symbol, as above stated, was obtained by Bro. J. W. Simons from Dr. Robert B. Folger, well known as the author of the history of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and Bro. Folger has received the information direct from Bro. Jeremy L. Cross himself. On referring to Bro. Folger's history, page 248, and so forth, we find that in 1850 Bros. Folger and Cross conjointly took an active part in one of the Scotch Rite factions which was then battling with other Scotch Rite factions for the mastery of what they called "the Northern jurisdiction of the U.S.," so that there can be no doubt that a clear intimacy subsisted between Bros. Folger and Cross. Besides which, Bro. Folger stands deservedly high as a candid writer and a man of integrity, and I strongly suspect that he is even now combating weekly in Bro. Simon's paper, a ridiculous law passed by the G.L. of New York at its last session. And furthermore, I believe, that Bro. Folger is the author of the interesting article headed "Ancient Accepted Rite," reprinted from the "New York Dispatch," in the November number of your "Masonic Magazine; there can therefore remain no doubt of the correctness of the information.

We have many other strange symbols on the American tracing board, such as for instance, as the hourglass, scythe, anchor and ark, a beehive, a smoking pot, etc.; whether Cross was also the author of all these pictures, I have not as yet taken the trouble to find out, sufficient, however, has been made known to undermine the belief in the Solomonic authorship of our symbology, and also to show the worthlessness of the so-called Masonic traditions.

Fraternally and respectfully yours,

JACOB NORTON.

CONSECRATION OF A NEW MASONIC HALL IN GLASGOW.

The new Masonic Hall in Trongate, belonging to Lodge Star, (No. 219), was consecrated on the 8th inst., by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow. There was a very large attendance of brethren. Bro. F. A. Barrow, Deputy Prov. G.M., occupied the chair, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. W. W. Neilson, Prov. G.M., and was assisted by the following members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, viz:—Bros. William Phillips, acting P.G.S.W.; John Fraser, acting P.G.J.W.; George Thallon, P.G.J.D.; A. McTaggart, M.A., P.G., Sec.; James Walker, P.G. Treas.; Bain, P.G. Bible-bearer; George Sinclair, Treas. to the Benevolent Fund of the P.G. Lodge; Balfour, P.G. Master of Ceremonies; Miller, P.G. Director of Music, &c. Bro. McDonald acted as V.W.P.G. Chaplain. The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened in due form, the solemn and impressive ceremony of consecration was proceeded with, during which Bro. Barrow delivered an eloquent oration on Masonry. The anthems, psalms, hymns, &c., appropriate to the occasion were ably led by a very efficient choir, under the leadership of Bro. Miller, P.G. Dir. of Music; Bro. A. W. Banks, presiding at the harmonium. The consecration over, the R.W.M., Bro. Wilson, took occasion to thank the D.P.G.M. and members of the P.G. Lodge for their attendance and kindness in officiating in such a masterly style; after which the P.G. Lodge was closed. Immediately thereafter the Lodge "Star" was opened in due form, when the following office-bearers were elected and installed for the ensuing year, viz:—Joseph Wilson, R.W.M.; C. S. Alston, D.M.; William Anderson, S.M.; James A. Logan, S.W.; John Garth, J.W.; P. McDonald, Treasurer; George Miller, Secretary; John White, Chaplain; John Lawrence, B.B.; Ross Rennie, S.D.; Sydney Smith, J.D.; John Gardner, S.S.; James Park, J.S.; John Morgan, P.G.S.; Colin Campbell, Dir. of Mus.; David Mearns, Arch.; A. McNicol, Jeweller; J. Harper, Standard-bearer; J. Wight, Dir. of Cer.; William Elliot, I.G.; James Pearson, J. and T. The Sec. read an elaborate report, from which it appeared that notwithstanding the expense of fitting up this new hall the lodge was out of debt.

Since the opening of the hall they had received no less than fifty-one candidates which proved

that the change of locality had been beneficial. Bro. A. T. Barnard, D.P.G.M., then in a very impressive manner installed the R.W.M.; as well at the Depute and Substitute Masters. Bro. A. M. Taggart, M.A., P.G.S., then installed and delivered the charge to the remaining office-bearers. The thanks of the lodge were given to both these distinguished brethren, as well as to the remainder of the P.G.L., for their services in double event.

Bro. Banks replied on behalf of the musical talent and Bro. J. Stuart, of 405, Rifle Lodge of Edinburgh, one of the singers, on behalf of the visiting brethren. The toast of the Press having been given from the chair it was suitably acknowledged by Bros. Wheeler for *The Freemason*, Furge, for the "Glasgow News," and Mr. Thackeray for the "Daily Mail."

The choir, which had rendered such service in the early part of the preceding evening, then took part in some excellent solo singing, particularly Bros. J. Miller, Stubbs, Good, Alexander, Robertson, M. Taggart, and Custance. The Star Lodge will doubtless shine with renewed brilliancy after that truly successful meeting.

At the close of the installation ceremonies the lodge was called to refreshment. Bro. W. Phillips, acting P.G.S.W., replied to the toast of the "Provincial Grand Lodge," Bro. Alson, P.M., gave "The Health of Bro. Robertson," of St. George's, 333, who had on many occasions rendered valuable services to the Star Lodge.

Bro. Robinson, in reply, trusted that while the Star would have a prosperous year, her officers would look more to the quality of her new members than the quantity that might offer themselves for candidates, as that was the way to retain the high position in which they now stood. He concluded by proposing "Prosperity to the Star Lodge, and its R.W.M."

Bro. Wilson briefly replied, and then said it was not often he was supported right and left by two Bros. John Miller's, both R.W.M.'s, in this province, the Masters of 87 and 413. Bro. Miller, 87, said the Thistle and the Star were old friends, the Star had often shed its light on his lodge, while the Thistle, he believed, had helped to defend the Star. (Cheers.) Bro. J. Miller, of the Athol, could not boast of old acquaintance, as this was his first visit, but from the cordial reception he had received they might often expect a visit from the Athol men. (Cheers.)

AN INTERESTING PRESENTATION TO THE FREEMASONS OF LIVERPOOL.—The following circular, which has either been or will be sent to and read at all the meetings of lodges in Liverpool, speaks for itself:—"Dear Sir and Brother, at the Town Hall, Nov. 5th, Bro. Samuelson, P.P.G.S.D. of Cheshire, the Mayor of Liverpool, presented to the Masons of Liverpool, through me, and the W.M. of Lodge 32, the chair which was given to him on the occasion of the Installation of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master of West Lancashire, the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale. The inscription on the chair, which is as follows, sufficiently indicates the wishes of Bro. Samuelson with regard to it. Presented by Brother Edward Samuelson, Mayor of Liverpool, through Brother Joseph Hornby Birley, J.P. Lancashire, W.M. of the Sefton Lodge, 680, to the Freemasons of Liverpool, to be kept at the Masonic Temple, and to be in the joint custody, and under the joint control of the Worshipful Masters for the time being of St. George's Lodge of Harmony, No. 32, and the Sefton Lodge, 680, of which last-mentioned Lodge the Mayor is a member. Town Hall, Liverpool, Nov. 5th 1873. I shall be much obliged if you will read this communication at your next lodge meeting. I am, sir, yours fraternally, Joseph H Birley, W.M., 683."

The will of Bro. Jabez Samuel Gower, of Leicester Lodge, West Brighton, was proved on the 27th ult., by Mrs. Mary Holford Gower, the relict, Mr. Thomas Watney, and Mr. Edward Henry Sanderson, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £70,000. The testator leaves a pecuniary legacy and his furniture to his wife, legacies of £100 to each of his executors, and portions to his three daughters; the residue he gives to his wife for life, and at her death, as she shall appoint among the children.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, December 19, 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, December 13.

- Lodge 108, London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
- " 173, Phoenix, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 176, Caveac, Westminster Palace Hotel, Westminster.
- " 1328, Granite, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hotel, Richmond.
- " 1423, Era, King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court.
- " 1426, The Great City, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
- " 1457, Bagshaw, Bald Faced Stag, Buckhurst Hill.
- Chap. 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, at 3.30 (Emergency.)
- Mark Lodge, 104, Macdonald, Head-Quarters 1st Surrey Rifles, Brunswick-rd., Camberwell.
- " " 144, Grosvenor, Caledonian Hotel, Adelphi.
- Lily Lodge of Instruction (820), Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, Surrey.
- Star Lodge of Instruction (1275), Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road, at 7; Bro. C. G. Dilley, Preceptor.

Monday, December 15.

- Lodge 1, Grand Master's, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 8, British, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 21, Emulation, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
- " 58, Felicity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
- " 185, Tranquility, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-st.
- " 720, Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
- " 1201, Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall.
- Prince Leopold Lodge of Instruction (1445), Lord Stanley Tavern, Sandringham-road, Kingsland, at 7. Bro. T. Austin, Preceptor.
- 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.
- Metropolitan Mark Lodge of Instruction, Coach and Horses, Hotel, 323, Strand, at 8.

Tuesday, December 16.

- Board of General Purposes, at 3.
- Lodge 30, United Mariners', Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
- " 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge.
- " 95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
- " 162, Cadogan, Freemasons' Hall.
- Chap. 11, Enoch, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 19, Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
- " 186, Industry, Freemasons' Hall.
- Yarborough Lodge of Instruction, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8; Bro. Barnes, P.M., Preceptor.
- Domestic Lodge of Instruction, Palmerston Tavern, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell, at 8.
- 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), Lord's Hotel, Lord's Cricket Ground, St. John's-wood, at 8; Bro. F. G. Baker, Preceptor.
- Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, King Edward, Triangle Hackney, at 7.30; Bro. J. Saunders, Preceptor.
- 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, December 17.

- Lodge 143, St. George's, Trafalgar Hotel, Greenwich.
- " 709, Nelson, Masonic Hall, William-st., Woolwich.
- " 909, Maybury, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Hotel, New Wandsworth.
- " 1349, Friars, Cheshire Cheese Tavern, Crutched Friars.
- " 1382, Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town.
- Chap. 217, Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
- Mark Lodge, Bon Accord, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street.
- 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 Tavern, 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.
- Fidelity Lodge of Instruction (3), Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Tottenham Court-road, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
- Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction (1288), Finsbury Park Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, N. at 8; Bro. P. Dickinson, Acting Preceptor.

Thursday, December 18.

- Lodge 49, Gihon, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
- " 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-street, Deptford.
- " 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
- " 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.
- " 1139, South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.
- " 1287, Great Northern, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 1339, Stockwell, Half Moon, Herne-hill.
- " 1421, Langthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford.
- Chap. 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
- Mark Lodge 7, Carnarvon, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street.
- K.T. Precep. E. Ooservance, 14, Bedford-row, Holborn.
- 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, Pensonby-st., Millbank.
- Union Club of Instruction, Windsor Castle, Victoria Station, at 8 p.m.; H. Ash, P.M., Instructor.
- Highgate Lodge of Instruction (1366), Bull and Gate, Kentish-town, at 8; Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.

Friday, December 19.

- House Committee, Boys' School, at 4.
- Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.
- " 201, Jordan, Freemasons' Hall.
- Chap. 862, Whittington, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
- K.T. Precep. 43, St. Georges, Albion Hotel, Aldersgate-st.
- Rose Croix Chap. Invicta, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich.
- Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
- St. George's Lodge of Instruction (140), Globe Tavern, Royal-hill, Greenwich.
- Robert Burns Lodge of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
- Belgrave Lodge of Instruction, (749), Coach and Horses, Strand, at 8; Bro. Pulsford, Preceptor.
- Stability Lodge of Instruction (217), Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-st., at 6 p.m.; Bro. H. Muggeridge, Preceptor.
- Panmure Lodge of Instruction (720), Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7.30.
- Unions Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.'s, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
- Temperance Lodge of Instruction, Victoria Tavern, 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. James Brett, P.G.P., &c., Preceptor.
- Royal Standard Lodge of Instruction (1298), the Castle Tavern, Holloway, at 8; Bro. W. F. Rogers, Preceptor.
- Pythagorean Chapter of Instruction (79), Prince of Orange, Greenwich-road, at 8; Comp. W. West Smith, Preceptor.
- Westbourne Lodge of Instruction (733), Horse and Groom, Winsley-street, Oxford-street, at 8.
- Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, at 7; Bro. Stacey, P.M. 180, Preceptor.
- United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, Antelope Tavern, Lorn-road, Brixton, at 7.
- St. James's Lodge of Instruction, New Tanners' Arms Grange-road, Bermondsey, at 8; Bro. Howes, P.M. Preceptor.
- Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar, at 7; Bro. D. S. Potts, Preceptor.
- Doric Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8.
- Burgoyne Lodge of Instruction, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W., at 8; Bro. P. M. Wuest, Preceptor.
- St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction (144), Rose Tavern, Fulham-road, S.W.
- Chigwell Lodge of Instruction, Bald-faced Stag Hotel, Buckhurst-hill, at 8.
- High Cross Lodge of Instruction (754), Coach and Horses Tavern, High Road, Tottenham, at 8.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN LIVERPOOL, &c.
For the Week ending Saturday, December 20, 1873.

Monday, December 15.
Lodge 721, Independence, Barr's Hotel, Chester, at 6.
Chap. 32, Jerusalem, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 5.
Everton Lodge of Instruction, (823), Masonic Temple,
Liverpool, at 7.30.
Tuesday, December 16.
Lodge 667, Alliance, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 6.
" 1276, Warren, Stanley Arms Hotel, Seacombe, at 6.
Merchants' Lodge of Instruction (241), Masonic Temple,
Liverpool, at 6.
Downshire Lodge of Instruction (594), 90, Duke-street,
Liverpool, at 7.
Wednesday, December 17.
Lodge 823, Everton, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 6.
" 527, Zetland, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead, at 5.
" 1086, Walton, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, at 6.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, Coffee House, Wavertree,
at 3.
Harmonic Lodge of Instruction (210), Mona Hotel,
James-street, Liverpool, at 8.
Thursday, December 18.
Lodge 203, Ancient Union, Masonic Temple, Liverpool,
at 6.
" 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe, at 6.
" 1299, Pembroke, West Derby Hotel, West Derby, at 5.
Encampment of William de la More, New Court House,
Prescot.
Friday, December 19.
Lodge 1350, Fermor-Hesketh, Masonic Temple, Liverpool,
at 6.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW.
For the week ending Saturday, December 20, 1873.
All the Meetings take place at 8 o'clock.

Monday, December 15.
Lodge 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-st.
St. Mungo Encampment, K.T., 213, Buchanan-street.
Tuesday, December 16.
Lodge 33, St. John's, St. John's Hall, 213, Buchanan-st.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-st.
" 87, Thistle, 213, Buchanan-st.
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-street.
Wednesday, December 17.
Lodge 117, Partick St. Mary's, Freemasons' Hall, Partick.
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 213, Buchanan-st.
Thursday, December 18.
Lodge 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-street.
" 360, Commercial, 19, Croy-place.
" 465, St. Andrew's, Freemasons' Hall, Garn-gad-
road.
Friday, December 19.
Lodge 31, St. Mary Cotness, Scott Hall, Wishaw.
" 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-st.
Chap. 109, Sir William Wallace, Cross Keys, Johnstone.
" 87, Shamrock and Thistle, 22, Struthers-street.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH.
For the Week ending Saturday, December 20, 1873.

Monday, December 15.
Lodge 44, St. Luke's, Freemason's Hall, George-st., at 8.
Tuesday, December 16.
Lodge 36, St. David's, Ship Hotel, E. Register-street, at 8.
" 405, Rifle, Freemasons' Hall, George-street, at 8.30.
Wednesday, December 17.
Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, Nelson-street, at 8.
Thursday, December 18.
Lodge 48, St. Andrew's, Freemasons' Hall, George-street,
at 8.
" 226, Portobello, Town Hall, Portobello, at 8.
Red Cross Conclave, 103, St. Giles', Masonic Hall, Black-
friars-street, at 8.
Friday, December 19.
Chapter 83, St. Andrew's, Freemasons' Hall, George-
street, at 8.

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